



# PROGRESS REPORT 2014



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA  
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS



United Nations  
ALBANIA





REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA  
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS



GOVERNMENT OF ALBANIA AND UNITED NATIONS

# PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION 2012-2016 PROGRESS REPORT 2014



**Layout & Infographics**

Henrik Lezi

**Photo for the Cover**

Adnan Beci

**Photos Inside**

Adnan Beci

Roland Tasho

UN Albania Archives

**Print**

AlbDesign

# Table of Contents

Foreword	6
Executive Summary	8
<b>Chapter 1: Development trends in Albania</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Chapter 2: Delivering Results for Albania</b>	<b>18</b>
Outcome 1.1 Public Oversight	19
Outcome 1.2 Public Administration	22
Outcome 1.3 Juvenile Justice, Migration and Fight against Crime	24
Outcome 2.1 Economic Governance	27
Outcome 2.2 Environment and Climate Change	28
Outcome 3.1 Regional and Rural Development	31
Outcome 3.2 Decentralization and Local Governance	35
Outcome 4.1 Social Inclusion	38
Outcome 4.2 Education	42
Outcome 4.3 Health	45
Outcome 4.4 Labour	48
<b>Chapter 3: The UN Delivering as One in Albania</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Chapter 4: Lessons learned and future prospects</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Annexes</b>	<b>70</b>
Annex A - Progress against PoC Results Framework	72
Annex B - Administrative Agent Financial Report on One UN Coherence Fund for 2014	88
Annex C - Financial overview of 2014 total budget including all sources of funding	99
Annex D - National implementing partners and participating UN organizations	100

## FOREWORD

### **Dear Partners and Colleagues,**

In our capacity as the Co-chairs of the Joint Executive Committee, we are very pleased to present to you the 2014 Progress Report for the Government of Albania–United Nations Programme of Cooperation 2012–2016.

This report outlines an array of results achieved over the course of the year, ranging from the rule of law, governance, to the economy, environment, regional and local development, and inclusive policies.

The report highlights the increasingly dynamic partnership between the government, the UN and a large array of actors in implementation of the programme.

Albania's progress over the past few years has been remarkable, with ambitious and comprehensive reforms made in many areas, including rule of law, public services delivery and fight against corruption, while in 2014, Albania received EU candidate status, a major step towards achievement of the country's European aspirations.

During 2014, the government, in partnership with a number of national and international partners, including the UN, headed towards a highly complex reform to consolidate the country's 373 local government units into 61. Today an important milestone is reached to create a local governance system that provides the services that Albanian citizens need and is accountable to them. Such a local governance system is critical for Albania's European integration.

In the third year of the programme implementation, we embarked on a dynamic process to reflect on progress achieved and the lessons learned. This has led to a comprehensive set of recommendations for the programme implementation in the future.

When we look at progress achieved over the years, we deepen our conviction that Delivering as One as a business model is making our work more relevant, more effective, more transparent and more accountable.

We are increasingly looking to the power of partnerships to achieve results. Our gratitude extends to our international development

partners who have worked hand in hand with us to advance common goals, catalyse commitments and bring tangible differences to people's lives in Albania. We value greatly our partnership with Albania's non-governmental organisations, scholars, businesses and citizens. Such partnerships have proven critical to our success.

As joint chairs of the One UN Steering Committee, we are committed to provide leadership, strategic guidance and oversight over implementation of the programme and to strive for better impact. We trust you will find the information contained in this report useful and illustrative of the impact we have achieved.



Majlinda Dhuka  
Deputy Secretary General  
Director  
Department of Development Programming  
Financing and Foreign Aid  
Prime Minister's Office



Zineb Touimi-Benjelloun  
Resident Coordinator  
United Nations in Albania

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*This Annual* Progress Report for Albania covers the period January–December 2014. The report, prepared jointly by the Government of Albania (GoA) and the United Nations (UN), reflects tangible development results accomplished and lessons learned in 2014 from implementation of the Programme of Cooperation (PoC) 2012–2016.

Albania has made significant progress towards achieving the vision, as set out in its National Strategy for Development and Integration (NSDI) 2007–2013 to be “A country with high living standards, which is integrated in the European and Euro–Atlantic structures, is democratic and guarantees the fundamental human rights and liberties.” In recognition of the reform steps undertaken, the country gained EU candidate status on 24 June, 2014.

In response to Albania’s national priorities, the UN in Albania supports the country’s government in four inter-linked and mutually reinforcing priority areas: 1, Governance and Rule of Law; 2, Economy and Environment; 3, Regional and Local Development; and 4, Inclusive Social Policy. These pillars are bound together by UN Albania’s goal to promote sustainable and equitable development, social inclusion and adherence to international

norms and fulfilment of international obligations, in support of the integration of the country into the EU. Steered by the programme’s focus, the UN has also played a critical role in supporting policy dialogue on a broad range of issues between the donor community and government. The UN co-chaired the sector working groups on territorial reform, anti-corruption and social inclusion, a role that is very important for forward-looking, upstream planning of assistance, joint actions and the strengthening of line ministries’ capacities.

### Pillar 1 - Governance and Rule of Law

GoA recognises that good governance is critical to achieving its development goals and meeting international commitments. Broader reform of public administration, strengthened system-wide capacities and greater cooperation across ministries are required to make progress in the areas of rule of law and accountable governance. The UN ensured that governance is mainstreamed in the new NSDI 2014–2020 and other related sectoral strategies. This exercise is part and parcel of the global process of testing the Governance Sustainable Development Goal in the framework of the Post-2015 development agenda.

With regards to fighting corruption, in 2014, gov-



ernment satisfactorily prepared and rolled out its national anti-corruption strategy but further efforts are required in the short term to implement it. Since national capacities devoted to the fight against illicit trafficking in narcotics are still unsteady, the UN extended its cooperation, especially for land border control operations. Also, authorities' efforts to mainstream migration into national policies and foster dialogue with EU member states in order to prevent further irregular immigration of Albanian citizens were backed by the UN.

Technical support has been provided for reporting on key international obligations deriving from the Beijing Conference and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), from which the national Beijing+20 report was finalised and submitted in April 2014 and the CEDAW 4th periodic report in November 2014. A human rights-based approach was used in the preparation and implementation of the 2014 annual work plans, where several interventions focused on supporting government to protect and advocate for human rights, including those of vulnerable groups in Albanian society, inter alia women suffering from domestic violence, children subjected to abuse, violence and exploitation, Roma communities, and people living with disabilities or HIV / AIDS.

Continuous UN efforts, systematic guidance and advice over the year contributed to greater recognition of the public oversight bodies as gender advocates, taking actions against gender-based discrimination in the public and private spheres, as well as ensuring that the authorities are more accountable to the public and better able to safeguard de facto implementation of international

standards. Likewise, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), including women's organisations, have increased their networking capacities and improved dialogue with central and local governments in identifying and addressing needs, as well as in their fundraising and advocating ability for human rights and gender equality.

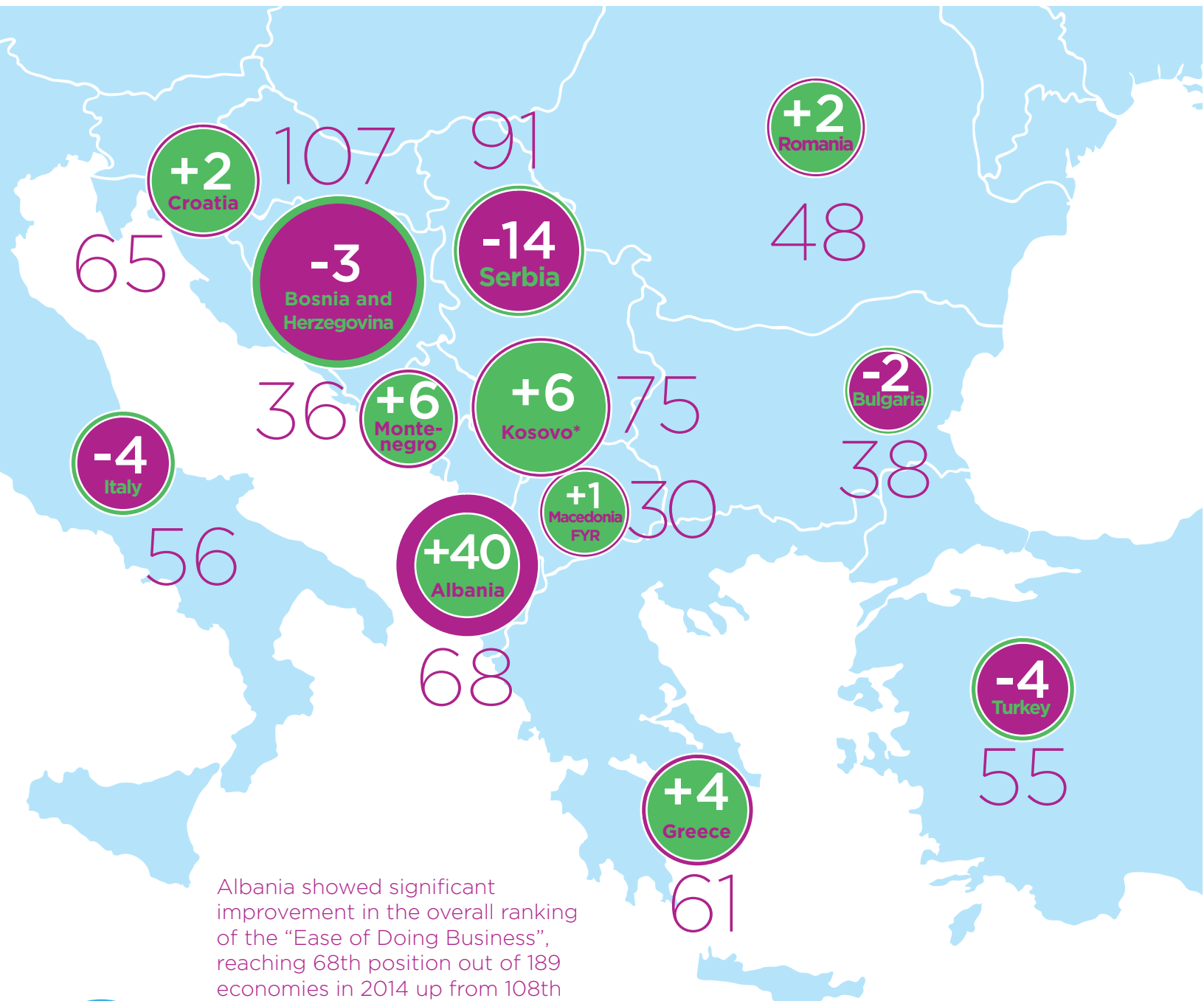
## **Pillar 2 - Economy and Environment**

The global economic crisis continued to have a negative impact on Albania's economic growth in 2014. Among other issues, the crisis exposed the need to enhance competitiveness, including by attracting foreign direct investments. Meanwhile, Albania prepared its first Annual Report on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), to be implemented starting in 2015. This document and the promotion and implementation of CSR standards becomes even more relevant in light of the country's integration agenda, as Albanian businesses will face increased competition and will have to adapt to a more sustainable way of doing business. The CSR was aligned and guided by the UN Global Compact, a principle-based framework for businesses, stating ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

In the environmental sector, Albania has put in place sound policy, legal and institutional frameworks but lack of enforcement and insufficient implementation persist. In the framework of the third national report to climate change conventions, the greenhouse gas inventory has been completed and climate change scenarios, together with adaptation measures, developed. Promotion of legal and market-based approaches to increase the use of energy efficient and innovative solar water heat-

## Ease of doing business

● Year 2014 ● Year 2013 Source of data: World Bank (<http://www.doingbusiness.org/rankings>)



Albania showed significant improvement in the overall ranking of the “Ease of Doing Business”, reaching 68th position out of 189 economies in 2014 up from 108th the year earlier.

Kosovo\* as per UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999)

ing technology continues. Successful initiatives in the promotion of solar energy for hot water are being implemented in six municipalities coupled with monitoring activities to ensure the timely data gathering for multiple benefits of this source of energy. Also, Albania started preparations of the Third National Communication to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change with UN support. Meanwhile, surplus ammunition, unexploded ordnance and explosive remnants of war contamination are still an urgent priority and a nationwide problem for the country. For this reason, the UN continued closely its work with relevant authorities in conducting quality control of clearance operations, inspections and certifications.

### **Pillar 3 - Regional and Local Development**

The country's territorial-administrative reform process, supported by a multi-donor fund known as STAR (Support to Territorial and Administrative Reform), attained concrete results, namely a new administrative territorial division of 61 larger local government units instead of the current 373 Local Government Units (LGUs), to be used for the 2015 local elections. The institutional capacities of the Minister of State for Local Government benefited from UN expertise in producing a number of analytical assessments on the situation and in running an extensive campaign of public consultations on the options for the new administrative division. Government is also working in revising and reformulating the decentralisation strategy and action plan in close consultation with a broad spectrum of stakeholders.

Revision of the local government fiscal package and development of new legislation on local gov-

ernment and local finances is a major objective for the year 2015. UN involvement in this area addresses sectors including agriculture and rural development, tourism, culture and natural heritage management while promoting local development and entrepreneurship. This includes strategic support, capacity building and capital investments delivered through various agencies in accordance with their mandates and specialisations. The UN worked with Albanian institutions to boost agriculture production by finalising a package of quick measures aimed at improving the business climate and relaxing the fiscal burdens to agriculture operators for promoting production and exports. The Mountain Area Development Agency facilitated vocational training grants, thus providing incentives for creating and upgrading skills. This initiative enhanced the opportunities for people living in decentralised areas to access employment and increase their income. In the area of culture, key stakeholders were supported to better monitor, safeguard, preserve, restore and protect the country's cultural heritage as a means to encourage sustainable development and economic growth. The UN continued its support for local development by piloting a model of tourism hospitality in selected rural mountainous hamlets and by planning small-scale infrastructure projects to be realised during 2015.

### **Pillar 4 - Inclusive Social Policy**

During 2014, one of GoA's priorities was the reform of social sectors to promote the welfare of citizens and spur economic growth. The impact of UN work in the country is noticeable in the delivery of results in the social sector, for social inclusion and protection, education, health and labour, where such support has become a tool for national stakeholders to

discuss, prioritise and advocate for system-wide changes and sector modernisation. The UN supported interventions to improve and develop the policy and legislative framework, build professional capacities for implementation, provide government with monitoring tools, help local structures establish a functional coordination and referral mechanism against domestic violence and strengthen the national system protecting children from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

A renewed commitment of Albanian legislators to children's rights was sealed by the establishment of a Child Rights Caucus in Parliament, announced in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. With regard to education, UN advocacy for early childhood development and for making pre-primary schooling mandatory has been successful in convincing the Ministry of Education and Sports that the Pre-University Education Law may need to be revised in that regard. In addition, efforts were made to enhance the employability of the Albanian labour force with special focus on youth and vulnerable groups, to empower women economically, to strengthen the social protection system and to improve the vocational education and training system. The UN equally encouraged the consideration of offenders as part of Albania's social inclusion policy, including through a comprehensive assessment and technical guidance on the issue of rehabilitation programmes in institutions for the Execution of Criminal Sentences.

Strong political ownership has been demonstrated in the area of inclusion of the Roma and Egyptian (R&E) community. While there are no available data to demonstrate that living conditions for these

communities in Albania have improved, some policy documents and action plans have been prepared through an unprecedented consultative and participatory process. Besides outlining actions and financial resources needed to facilitate R&E access to education, health, employment and justice, specific infrastructure interventions were realised in R&E neighbourhoods—kindergartens, intercultural community centres, inner roads, sewerage, among others—and start-up income generation activities were launched.

### Common Budgetary Framework

The total budget of PoC for 2014 was USD 26 million, while available funds amounted to USD 19.5 million with a funding shortfall of USD 6.5 million. Total expenditure for the year was USD 15 million, a delivery rate of 75<sup>1</sup> percent. Over the course of the year, resource mobilisation initiatives were carried out either jointly, through the One UN Coherence Fund (CF), or through individual agency efforts. Joint resource mobilisation initiatives resulted in a USD 1.5 million contribution from the Delivering Results Together Fund (DRT-F) and USD 1.4 million from Swedish International Development Cooperation (SIDA) in support of unfunded deliverables and gender initiatives of the PoC.

### Mid-Term Review of the PoC 2012-2016

2014 marked an important cornerstone for UN

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1. Delivering Results Together Fund and Swedish contribution to the One UN Coherence Fund were allocated to UN agencies in December 2014 and subsequently influenced the annual delivery rate. If these funds are not taken into consideration, the 2014 annual delivery rate would be 90%. Unspent CF allocations in 2014 were carried over to the 2015 Annual Work Plans (AWPs).

cooperation with GoA. The new government decreed new programmatic opportunities. Hence, during the first half of the year, UN Albania, in partnership with GoA, conducted a Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the PoC 2012–2016 with the aim of looking back at the first two years of implementation and drawing lessons and recommendations from the work done. The MTR, finalised in June 2014, concluded with a revised results framework that significantly reduced the number of outcomes (from 11–4) and outputs (from 41–15) and lifted the overall strategic level of each result. Subsequently, the UN Country Team Retreat held in December 2014 concluded on revision of the PoC management arrangements, involving a more effective and efficient functioning of the results and theme groups, to become effective in January 2015.

The UN will continue playing an important role in supporting Albania address its key national priorities, the EU integration process, fulfilment of international obligations and integration of human rights principles into government policies and actions. In 2015, implementation of the PoC will focus on four re-shaped pillars, namely i) human rights, ii) inclusive social policies, iii) governance and rule of law, and iv) regional and local development, in line with the reform priorities of GoA. Additional opportunities to collaborate across sectors and agencies will be explored to deepen and broaden the scope of the UN's results at the country level, especially regarding the strategic engagement with local governments following the local elections. Furthermore, 2015 will be devoted to preparation of a new GoA–UN Development Programme of Cooperation for the period 2017–2021.

## Post-2015 Agenda

Albania has actively participated in the Post-2015 development agenda consultation. The focus in the second phase, June–July 2014, was on transparency, accountability and readiness of the governance processes to better serve the citizens. Participation of 350 people in face-to-face consultations (local government 30%; CSOs 30%; community members 40%) and 1,000 other people through social media platforms characterised the second phase of consultations in the country. The outputs and findings of the national consultations on the Post-2015 agenda were compiled into a report, the contents of which were shared widely with national and international stakeholders. Also, the Global UN Development Group Report “Delivering the Post-2015 Agenda” featured findings and recommendations from Albania. Following these consultations, GoA agreed to pilot the Governance Sustainable Development Goal.

The UN will continue engaging with the national counterparts on the Post-2015 development agenda and the process of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Beyond 2014, issues related to the Millennium Development Goals advocacy and reporting, and the way forward to the Sustainable Development Goals. Additionally, the UN will continue exploring new possibilities to reinforce existing or create new partnerships with development partners in order to serve better the country's development priorities. Similarly, focus will be placed on strengthening the partnerships with UN at the regional and global levels and on synchronising common efforts for effective and efficient delivery of development assistance in Albania.



CHAPTER 1

# Development trends in Albania

*In 2014* Albania recorded several important achievements and notable events. Aware that the prospect of EU membership can be a powerful motor for change, particularly in support of the country's own reform programme, the Government of Albania (GoA) engaged actively with the European Commission (EC) in the High Level Dialogue on the key priorities detailed in the comprehensive roadmap finalised in May 2014. In June, the country gained its long-sought European Union (EU) candidate status and the following month the government adopted the National Plan for European Integration 2014–20. However, successfully addressing the EU integration priorities will require time, continued funding and sustained external support. Nevertheless, GoA is committed to its EU integration agenda, and so far the evidence shows that it is progressing in a number of key areas.

Throughout the year, the government advanced its political reform agenda of the rule of law through i) a thorough re-organisation of the administration, focusing on territorial administration with the aim of concentrating service delivery capacity in rationally sized administration units (down in number from 373 to 61) for effectiveness in the provision of public services, and ii) the launch of a fight against corruption through enforcement. Police raids on cannabis plantations, electricity bill collection, and a moratorium on hunting in protected areas are some of the policies that are being pursued to transform the country, from one with a lax implementation of basic rules in daily life to one with a modern approach to the application of the law.

In terms of the economy, although Albania maintained macroeconomic stability with a slight increase on real GDP growth from 1.4% in 2013 to 2.1% in 2014<sup>2</sup>, it still faces significant challenges. Persistent fiscal imbalances up to 2013

2. IMF, World Economic Outlook, April 2015 - Table A4. Emerging Market and Developing Economies: Real GDP

have caused public debt to reach high levels (72.6% of GDP, reported on a cash basis)<sup>3</sup> while poor tax revenue performance, slower economic growth and continued infrastructure spending have resulted in a high share of nonperforming loans at a level of 24%<sup>4</sup>. Unemployment registered 17.9%<sup>5</sup> in 2014, while informal employment remained widespread, hindering company development, impacting fiscal revenues, reducing job security and affecting social security entitlements.

Against this background, the government's fiscal policy orientation in the medium term will be strictly towards fiscal consolidation and reduction of the public debt, essential to reduce debt-related vulnerabilities that hamper growth and cause macroeconomic instability. In this regard, relying on the support of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, GoA adopted in January 2014 an arrears prevention and clearance strategy, which envisages clearing the existing stock by the end of 2017, and measures to prevent a new build-up of arrears. Specifically for 2014, the arrears disbursed to the private sector amounted to 33.8 billion ALL, equaling 97% of the sum foreseen at the beginning of the year, while for 2015 and 2016 the amount to be disbursed is respectively 20 billion ALL and 16.5 billion ALL<sup>6</sup>. Government has taken steps to consolidate public finances and reduce the level of debt by revising its tax policy and reforming the tax and customs administrations to increase efficiency in the collection of revenues, decrease the tax gap, and fight tax evasion and the informal economy. GoA began implementation of a major long-term reform of the entire social insurance system, particularly of the pension scheme, where fiscal sustainability is considered one of the most important elements

3. IMF, Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe – Regional Economic issues, May 2015, Annex III. CESEE: Evolution of Public Debt and General Government Balance, 2013–16

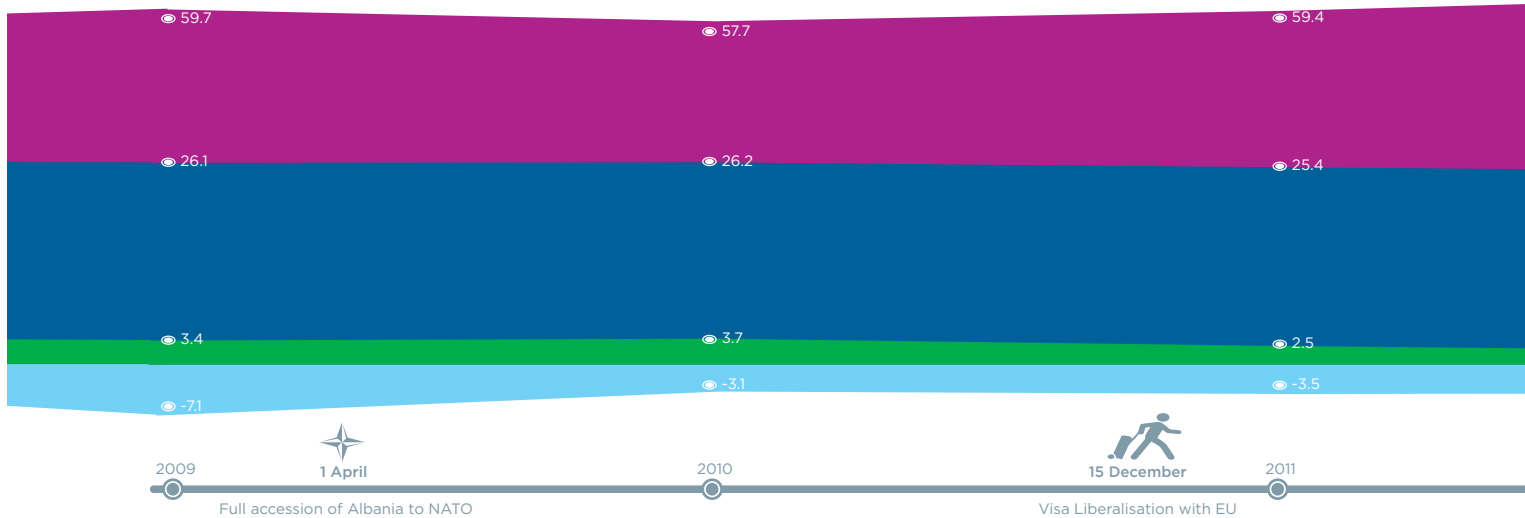
4. IMF, Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe – Regional Economic issues, May 2015

5. INSTAT, Group age 15–64, Labour Force Surveys 2007–2014

6. MoEDT, National Economic Reform Program of Albania 2015 – 2017, January 2015

## Albania from A to Z

▲ Total public debt (% of GDP)
 ▲ Revenue (% of GDP)
 ▲ Real GDP growth (%)
 ▲ Overall deficit (% of GDP)



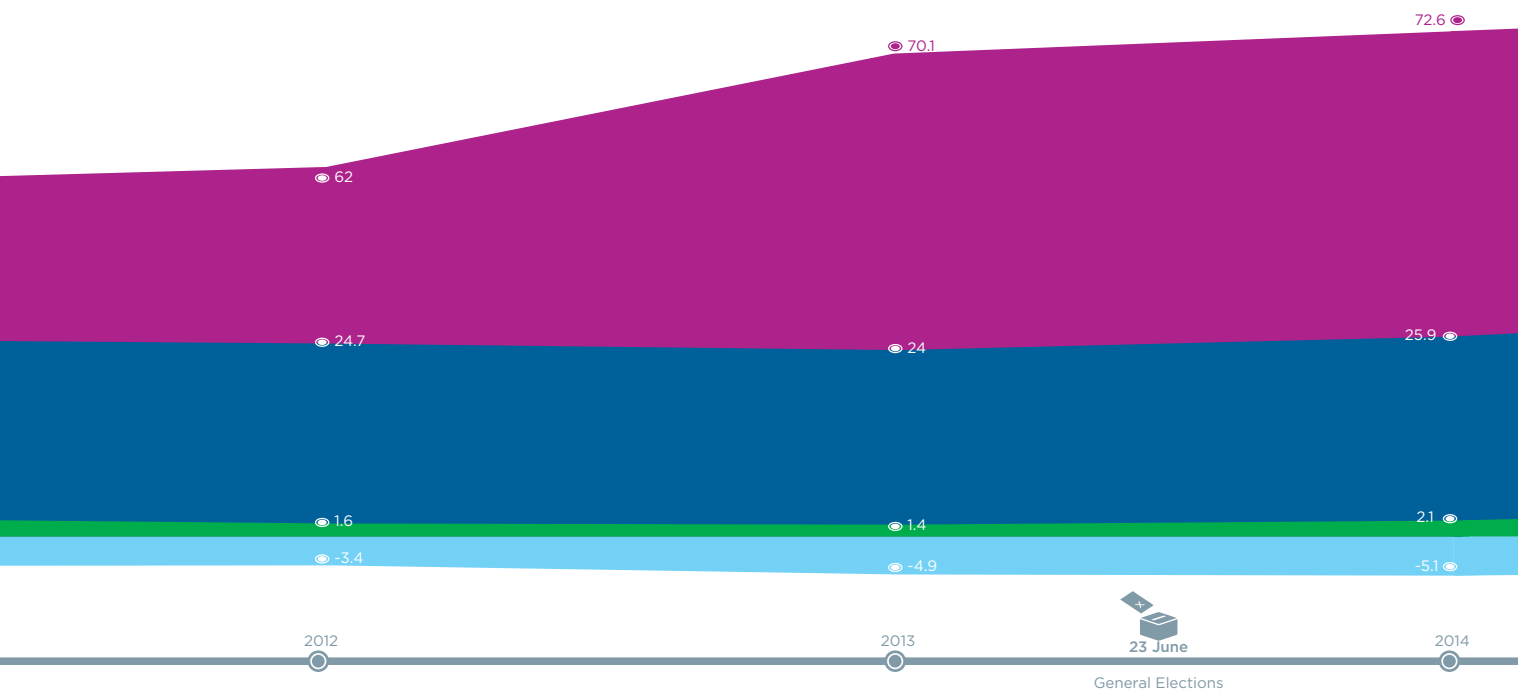
of public finance stability. Along these lines, GoA continued to address the fiscal risks in the energy sector by addressing the sector’s main problems—e.g. institutional changes, tariff adjustments, improvements in electricity collection and legal enforcement. Likewise, enforcement of the new health insurance law, which envisages new contribution rates that will increase revenues, is another long-term reform undertaken in 2014.

Developments have also been noted in other important areas of the economy. For example, government has increased funds allocated to agriculture and agro-processing. The sector accounts for 21 percent of GDP and employs up to 43.3 percent of the country’s total active workforce. It has the potential for a significant productivity increase when policy steps are taken to support small farmers and diversify the rural economy. In addition, completion of the legislation process that is currently under way will be critical to economic growth and investor confidence.

Recognising that sustained economic growth in the medium term is largely dependent on private sector development and on attracting foreign direct investment, government has directed its attention to sectors with unexploited potential in terms of natural resources, as well as those that are yet not performing to their full potential, such as renewable energy, tourism, agribusiness, infrastructure and services. The target is to lift business confidence and also contribute to a turnaround in private investments. The Doing Business report 2015 (referred to 2014 performances) shows significant improvement in Albania’s overall ranking, especially with the ease of doing business. Albania reached 68th position out of 189 economies, up from 108th the year earlier.

Meanwhile, the country’s increased regional co-operation is contributing towards boosting investor confidence and providing access to multilateral funding for Albania, besides helping to bring stability to the region and offering the prospect of EU membership. A notable example was the visit of the prime minister to Belgrade, the first in 69





years, to foster cooperation and good relations between Albania and Serbia.

The government has engaged in numerous agreements with its neighbours throughout the year, including, among others, the following: a memorandum of cooperation on tourism with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and with Montenegro; a cooperation agreement for strengthening economic and trade relations with Slovakia; a strategic partnership and high-level cooperation with Turkey in the areas of foreign policy, justice and home affairs, defence and security, economy, energy, environmental protection, culture, education and science; a bilateral agreement on mutual protection of classified information with Bosnia and Herzegovina; a joint declaration with Greece to pave the way for a solution on the use of place names in official documents; a new declaration on cooperation and strategic partnership with Kosovo aiming to boost economic growth with bilateral agreements in the areas of health, tourism, culture, taxation, use of joint border cus-

toms points, energy, unification of the employment market, the opening of joint consular offices, and on collaboration on the use of the *acquis communautaire*<sup>7</sup>; and intensified bilateral cooperation with Italy in the area of rule of law.

In terms of the Gender Inequality Index, which reflects inequality in achievement between women and men in reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market, Albania ranks 95 out of 187 countries. More specifically, Albania has invested in closing the gender employment gap, which has substantial economic implications at the national level, ranking 85th out of 136 countries on the labour force participation indicator with a female-to-male ratio of 0.72. There is a noticeable engagement from the country's policy-makers on gender equality, whose ultimate goal is to ensure that women's and men's rights, responsibilities and opportunities, will not depend on whether they are born male or female.

7. [http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/policy/conditions-membership/chapters-of-the-acquis/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/policy/conditions-membership/chapters-of-the-acquis/index_en.htm)



CHAPTER 2

# Delivering results for Albania



## Outcome 1.1

### Public Oversight Bodies and Institutions

*Strengthen public oversight, civil society and media institutions, make authorities more accountable to the public and better able to enforce gender equality commitments in planning, programming and budgeting processes.*

Within the framework of the GoA–UN Programme of Cooperation (PoC) 2012–2016, work under this outcome involves efforts to support, firstly, the public oversight bodies (Parliament, Central Election Commission, Ombudsman, Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination, Child Observatories) to ensure that authorities are more accountable to the public and better able to safeguard de facto implementation of international standards. Secondly, it also supports civil society organisations (CSOs), including women’s organisations and networks, to increase their networking capacities at the national and regional levels, as well as their fundraising and advocating ability for human rights and gender equality.

Continuous UN technical support, systematic guidance and advice over the years in fulfilling the normative standards and international and national legal commitments on gender equality have contributed to a greater recognition of public oversight institutions as gender advocates, and the implementation of actions against gender-based discrimination in the public and private spheres. At the same time, women’s groups and youth organisations advocating for gender equality and women’s rights have improved their dialogue with both central and local governments in identifying and addressing women’s needs, and

in supporting the monitoring and overseeing role of public oversight bodies.

The number of cases going to the Ombudsman and the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination (CPD) is on the increase. Whereas the CPD handled 15 complaints in 2011, 172 citizens brought new cases in 2014. In addition, the Commissioner initiated 12 ex officio cases this year. Meanwhile, the Ombudsman took a more visible role in advocating for the human rights of, among others, Roma (41 cases), LGBT<sup>8</sup> (3) and people living with disabilities (28). At the same time, the quality of decisions has shown improvements due to improved tracking and monitoring, as well as partnerships with the private sector<sup>9</sup>. Parliamentary groups and sub-groups, including the newly established Women’s Alliance in Parliament, have taken several initiatives to discuss and amend the legislation on gender equality through hearings and broader consultative meetings<sup>10</sup>. The capacities of the Central Elections Commission (CEC) have strengthened significantly in improving the implementation and enforcement of the gender

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8. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender

9. In June 2014, the Commissioner issued a landmark decision that considered the mark on a birth certificate indicating paternity of a child born out of wedlock is discriminatory against both the child and their unwed mother.

10. Two meetings of the parliamentary group on the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Beyond 2014 global report and inclusion of the topics of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Standard Reference Reporting in school curricula, one hearing session in the Parliament on the elderly, joint parliamentary session of women MPs with Kosovo and Macedonian women groups on IWD, and several consultative meetings with the Women’s Alliance with regard to the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+20) national report, CEDAW 4th periodic report and changes to the electoral code

quota, as well as in designing strategies to advance free and equal women's participation in electoral processes.

Civil society is at the forefront of demanding women's and other human rights in courts and in utilising oversight mechanisms, as well as in playing a monitoring role over the executive and the judiciary. Shortly after one CSO issued a monitoring study of court decisions from the gender equality perspective, the High Council of Justice was prompted to address the issue of domestic violence legislation and initiate a thematic monitoring report. This will likely be reflected in potential changes and improvements in judicial practices on upholding women's rights and holding perpetrators to account.

Media institutions have become increasingly involved through public-private partnerships (PPPs) and significantly strengthened in their reporting of development issues by linking them to the international commitments and observance of human rights, such as the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and other agreements on discrimination, violence, health and equality. The Albanian translation of the UNESCO Gender Sensitive Indicators for the Media acted as a catalyst for several Albanian media to experiment with these indicators. Youth organisations and networks have proven to be a very powerful public oversight mechanism in the fight against Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Violence against Women (VAW) in their efforts to engage young men and boys, as well as to empower all

young people, to advocate for and hold government accountable for their promises on gender equality and human rights. The work with CSOs and media in the framework of ICPD Beyond 2014 and the Post-2015 development agenda will continue along the same lines.

Tangible results under this outcome include the establishment of an online gender-disaggregated database to support the CPD in monitoring and generating various reports on, e.g., cases of discrimination and types of complaint. Also, a resource guide (bench reference book) was developed to help staff address cases of gender discrimination in the private sector. The CEC was technically supported to prepare a set of recommendations for the electoral code to improve the application of the gender quota, to disaggregate data collection and tackle family voting. Similarly, using the national study Freedom to vote and family voting CEC will improve its voters' education strategy and target women voters in the 2015 local elections. For the first time, child rights were supported on a pro-bono basis by private media companies, sharing child rights concerns to mass audiences, for example, during the 2014 FIFA World Cup.

Meanwhile, as a result of the Community Based Scorecard approach to strengthening women's voices in raising their priorities to politicians and local government, four social businesses were established, in Paskuqan (Tirana), Shkodra, Vlore and Elbasan. Established as a mix of PPP between CSOs and local authorities, these social businesses provide space, equipment and training for disadvantaged women to establish functioning businesses. Another result in gender mainstreaming



and women's empowerment was achieved when eight new Albanian women experts joined the Albanian Association for Women in Science (AWIS) network.

Moreover, CSOs, in particular women's groups, were supported by the UN with capacity building activities on the protection of reporting persons, culminated in two sequenced events held in Tirana in April and June 2014. The outcome of such process was a list of concrete recommendations on the draft Albanian Whistle-blower Act (still under discussion at the end of 2014).

Despite the ongoing progress particular challenges remain and these concern the following: 1- Young public oversight bodies are in need of further support to strengthen their capacities on systematic oversight and case identification,

monitoring and litigation within a significantly reduced timeframe. 2- Limited national women's networks with extended membership are generally weak and regionally focused in Tirana; these groups need significantly stronger coordination around shared concerns and common issues and long-term support to provide an enabling environment, to empower and support effective collaborative efforts of CSOs and, particularly, involve and partner with youth organisations and networks. 3- Little investigative journalism or analysis is conducted by media and generally associated with a lack of social responsibility in reporting; also, since advocacy is generally weak, and there is little grasp of the concept of communication for development, it is difficult to effectively utilise media and advocacy to build awareness. 4- There exists an under-utilised business community that, with its extensive reach

*Young people discussing their priorities with government representatives and international development partners in Tirana*

through employees, products and services, can potentially play a significant role in influencing human development.

[With financial contribution from: UN core and other non-core resources, un-earmarked and soft-earmarked Coherence Fund (DRT-F and Sweden)]

## Outcome 1.2

### Public Administration

*Support public administration to enhance capacities, practices and systems for effective delivery of national development priorities and international obligations.*

The Public Administration Reform (PAR) remains one of the EU's key priorities to be pursued by Albania. The country has shown progress in a number of areas, such as adoption of a new Civil Service Law, establishment of the Albanian School for Public Administration, introduction of new concepts and practices of governance, and efforts for the modernisation of public service delivery. In addition, GoA is finalising a cross-sectoral strategy on PAR as part

of the new National Strategy for Development and Integration (NSDI) 2014–2020, based on its strategic priorities.

A major achievement during 2014 was the adoption of the Civil Service Law and the relevant legislation that contribute to improvement of recruitment procedures in public administration. Several analyses have been carried out with regard to the way central government delivers public services, and options have been identified on how to increase efficiency and access to the services through modernisation and innovation. There exists a close linkage between such policy developments and the ongoing territorial-administrative reform (TAR) and consolidation that will affect and change radically the way local governments service their jurisdictions and administer the territory. These linkages will become more necessary with the adoption of the reform following the June 2015 local elections.

There are observable improvements in the capacity of administrative staff on collection, analysis and dissemination of disaggregated data, child social exclusion data, environmental data, gender statistics, and the population and housing census, among others. For instance, in March 2014, the Ministry of Finance introduced new gender equality requirements in the Mid-Term Budget Programme (MTBP) 2015–2017. It also introduced eight budgetary programmes—on employment, vocational training and education, agriculture subsidy, agriculture information and technology, social protection, state police, education, and ranks in the armed forces—as well as on entrepreneurship and the environment, with respective policies improved from the gender perspective.

*H.E Minister  
Ditmir Bushati  
inaugurating the  
Albanian Center of  
Excellence*





Meanwhile, in April, Lezha Municipality published its Sustainable Development Strategy 2013–2030 with clear gender mainstreaming objectives. And, in October, a two-day Regional conference on gender statistics was held with the participation of 60 representatives from the countries of the region, from government, academia, civil society and statistics institutions, among others.

UN support in this area mainly relates to capacity development and the promotion of transparency and accountability. Key achievements include assistance to the preparation of various chapters of NSDI 2014–2020 and the introduction of possible governance indicators and a governance monitoring framework for the national strategy. The last of these forms part of the process of testing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of governance that will feed into the

global process of defining the Post-2015 development agenda.

A Centre of Excellence was established by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), in cooperation with the UN, as part of government efforts to engage advanced expertise in EU integration affairs and to attract qualified knowledge and know-how from individuals and specialised non-government organisations in support of national policy formulation. The Centre was inaugurated in October 2014 with participation from MoFA, the donor community and the diplomatic corps in the country.

Technical support has been provided on reporting on key international obligations deriving from the Beijing Conference and CEDAW. Led by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth (MSWY) in cooperation

*Center of Excellence  
hosted at the  
Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs in Tirana*

with MoFA, two reports have been prepared, consulted and completed. The Beijing+20 national report was finalised and submitted in April 2014. The 4th periodic report on CEDAW has also been prepared, and was submitted in November 2014. The assistance provided by the UN has been instrumental in guiding the long consultative process of both reports, as well as ensuring that the technical content is in line with international requirements.

The Magistrates School published two analyses of the case law in family and labour disputes, from the gender equality perspective. The studies showed a number of issues with judges' application of the law and stereotypical stands undermining women's legal rights. These two studies hold the potential to influence incorrect practices established in the judiciary, particularly as pointed out in the concluding observations of CEDAW. Similarly, students of the Magistrates School that form part of the legal clinic finalised a set of elaborate analysis and recommendations for courts in guaranteeing women's rights and gender equality. Moreover, software that enables compilation of an electronic index of all human rights conventions has been successfully developed.

UN support was also provided to strengthen Science, Technology and Innovation systems in Albania, while a survey released statistics on the costs of Research, Development and Innovation in the country. All related interventions facilitated further approximation of Albania's Science, Technology and Innovation statistics towards international standards. [With financial contribution from: Austria (GRB Fund), Italy, UN core and other non-core resources, un-earmarked and soft-earmarked Coherence Fund (DRT-F and Sweden)]

### Outcome 1.3

#### Juvenile Justice, Migration and the Fight against Crime

*Government to meet international obligations and standards for juvenile justice, managing migration and the fight against organised crime and corruption.*

In line with the objectives of the Programme of Cooperation 2012–2016 and ongoing institutional reform processes, several achievements were realised under this outcome during 2014.

Implementation of alternatives to detention for juveniles has been progressing well with probation services covering the whole territory of Albania. Two-thirds of court sentences for juveniles are referred for probation or community services work or both. Meanwhile, victim–offender mediation has continued to be implemented for juveniles, and progress is noted in guaranteeing the right to education for juveniles in detention. Still, much needs to be done in allocating resources and teaching materials to guarantee compulsory education is completed. A new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Education and Sports (MES) was revised and adopted to address quality education and incentives for teachers.

Although a relatively new institution in Albania, the national Probation Service handled some 300 probation sentences for young law offenders in 2014, compared to 109 in 2009 when it was established. In total, across all ages, the service has processed more than 11,000 cases as alternative sentences since 2009.





GIS mapping<sup>11</sup> of all organisations accepting juveniles sentenced to community works instead of imprisonment was launched by the service and made possible through UN support. More than 60 organisations have been mapped as possible assignment sites to follow up on alternative verdicts, including 22 local offices of the service itself, with a total capacity to follow up more than 500 cases. However, little progress was noted with regard to the length of detention or investigation of juveniles. According to the latest data available, of 234 juveniles awaiting trial in pre-detention in 2013, 68 percent stayed in prison for more than 90 days, including 46 percent for more than half a year. And still there are no specific and sustainable measures taken by government to address this issue.

A number of challenges remain with the juvenile justice system. Revision of the Code of Criminal Procedure is stalled, while long delays in investigations and court procedures result in 64 percent of juvenile offenders spending the term of their sentence in pretrial detention. In the absence of a computerised information system, follow up and monitoring of the movement of cases within the judicial system is difficult and tends to mask the systemic inefficiencies. The present functioning of only six sections for juveniles across the entire country has hampered access to justice for juveniles and their families. Establishment of a section for juveniles in all upper courts would be a quick-fix requiring no extra funding while having a direct impact, in particular on marginalised and rural communities.

*Officers of the  
Joint Port Control  
Unit inspecting a  
container arriving  
in Durres*

11. <http://www.sherbimiproves.gov.al/index.php/en/publications/events/129-launch-of-map>

With regard to organised crime, the legal framework in the area of anti-trafficking is advancing (e.g. chang-

es in the Criminal Code, Law 144/2013), though challenges remain in relation to victim compensation and protection. A new country strategy on the fight against trafficking in persons was approved and launched by government in December 2014. Local identification of victims of trafficking has increased thanks to effective support of civil society actors, though the need to further enhance this service remains.

As Albania continues to be a country of concern in terms of its national capacities in the fight against illicit trafficking in narcotics, UN support for green (land) border control and piloting cooperation for blue (sea) borders under a container control intervention is extended to address further challenges in this area. The major objective of the Container Control Programme (CCP) in 2014 was to build local capacity in the law enforcement agencies. This was done through an inter-agency approach where units comprising all relevant agencies received training and equipment. One major element was joint training workshops, work study tours and exchange of officials among operating CCP units globally, aiming to increase trust, information sharing and communication among officials on criminal intelligence in the region and further afield. As a result of the technical assistance, in 2014 the numbers of seizures at Durres Port increased by 80 percent compared to the year earlier. According to the national data and statistics reported by the police and customs the CCP at Durres Port has, since its inception, increased detections and confiscation of drugs and other illicit goods, including 23 kg of heroin, more than 5.6 tons of marijuana, and counterfeit goods valued at USD 203,000.

Meanwhile, the legislative framework for asylum is advancing with approval of a new law. The number

of irregular migrants, including asylum seekers entering Albania, despite border police efforts to curb the phenomenon, is increasing, bringing an additional burden on the limited reception capacity of the country and on proper implementation of relevant pre-screening procedures. Nevertheless, Albania is engaged in a continuous process of relocation from Iraq of a number of Iranians with international protection needs. Future needs in the areas of asylum concern improvement of capacities for reception and treatment of asylum seekers and refugees in the country, and the need to improve the capacities of border and migration police for pre-screening of foreigners and better treatment of refugees and persons in need of protection.

Migration issues were mainstreamed into the country's policy development, namely the new Strategy on Employment and Skills and the Strategy on Business and Investment Development 2014–2020. In addition, the process of data collection and analysis, and preparation of the country's extended migration profile for the year 2013 was supported, while dialogue with the national authorities and EU member states was initiated on joint actions to prevent further irregular immigration of Albanian citizens into the EU under the visa-free regime. Capacity strengthening support to local migration counters to orient returning migrants towards income generating activities continued throughout 2014.

Finally, the UN supported the development of a new National Strategy on the fight against human trafficking and trafficking in children (2014-2017), as well as helped to launch a 24-hour free telephone line 116006 which offers support and services to victims of crime, primary victims, potential victims of traf-

ficking with the ultimate goal of curbing the number of trafficked women and children in Albania.

[With financial contribution from: UN core and other non-core resources, and un-earmarked Coherence Fund]

## Outcome 2.1

### Economic Governance

**Government, trade organisations and the private sector support inclusive and sustainable economic growth through enhanced regulatory frameworks, trade facilitation and investment promotion.**

Economic governance processes in the country, encompassing a series of instructions and subject areas, fall under the umbrella of the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Entrepreneurship (MEDTE). The key achievements are mainly reported in support of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and relate to i) the establishment of a national consensus on the measurement of CSR performance as a priority of the National Action Plan on CSR, ii) the development of a framework for measurement of CSR performance at the national level, identifying indicators according to three main stakeholder groups, namely government, the private sector and civil society, and iii) the compilation of a first national report on CSR and its publication in June 2014. CSR was aligned and guided by the UN Global Compact—a principle-based framework for businesses stating ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

Rewarding good practices in CSR creates incentives and knowledge sharing on best practices, and also contributes to awareness raising. In 2014, CSR award guidelines were elaborated focusing

on rewarding responsible practices. The first National CSR Awards were launched in May 2014 with the participation of 20 applicant leading companies, presented at a multi-stakeholder forum on CSR held on 12 June 2014. Moreover, the capacities of 86 businesses and private sector representative associations have been enhanced through the provisioning of CSR trainings in the fields of occupation health and safety, environment and community engagement.

Work in this area has consisted mainly in one or two drives with limited outcome impact where poor formulation of indicators, missing baselines and lack of funding produced rather thin evidence of results. Inherently it was decided that this outcome should no longer be standalone and the mid-term review of the PoC in 2014 channelled the work of this outcome under one separate output, where work can be more productive and less diluted.

[With financial contribution from: Czech Republic, Switzerland, UN core resources, un-earmarked and soft-earmarked Coherence Fund (DRT-F)]

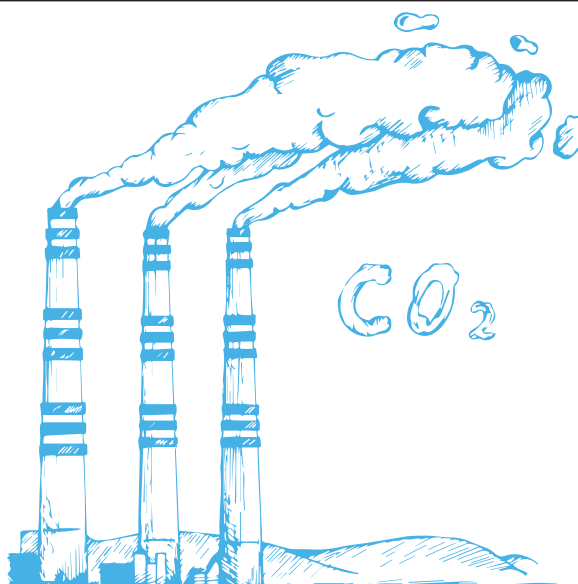
*Corporate Social  
Responsibility  
Awards ceremony  
in Tirana*



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# 595

THOUSAND TONS  
REDUCTION



## Outcome 2.2

### Environment

*National authorities and institutions, the private sector and the general public protect, preserve and use natural resources more sustainably, with consideration of the impacts of climate change and the achievement of European environmental standards.*

In recent years, the prospect of EU accession has determined the progress made in legislation and policy work in the environmental sector, but still lack of enforcement and insufficient implementation persists. In the area of nature protection and biodiversity, investments are supporting basic infrastructure in protected areas and an important step is marked by the two-year moratorium declared on hunting along with a national action plan endorsed in cooperation with state institutions to ensure further implementation. The management plan of the first

and so far only marine protected area, Karaburun-Sazan, is finalised and two more marine areas are being assessed for designation, complying with the country's obligations. Ohrid-Prespa has been proclaimed as the first Transboundary Biosphere Reserve and is poised as a model for environmentally and socially sustainable development of the region through improved cross-border cooperation.

Another important step in increasing institutional efficiency and preventing dysfunctional competencies was taken through reorganising the National Environment Agency and the National Inspectorate of Environment, Water and Forests. Moreover, the establishment of two inter-ministerial committees, Waste and Climate Change, aims at fostering coordination and cooperation among ministries for implementation of policies in those areas. In the field of climate change, Albania associated itself with the majority of the formal EU positions in the

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## SOLAR WATER HEATING

# 144,565

square metres installed surface area

# 22,400

square metres that cover annual sales



international context and, in line with its obligations, is finalising the preparation of two National Appropriate Mitigation Actions. In the framework of the third national report to Climate Change Conventions, the Greenhouse Gas inventory has been completed and climate change scenarios, together with adaptation measures, developed. Promotion of legal and market-based approaches to increasing the use of energy efficient and innovative solar water heating technology continues. A small grants scheme, co-funded at the municipal level and associated with advocacy and capacity building activities, yielded very good results, with 144,565 m<sup>2</sup> of installed surface area, annual sales that cover 22,400 m<sup>2</sup> and a reduction of 595,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Civil Protection 2014–2018 is yet to be adopted. Capacity building activities have been associated with the development of a system for flood

risk exposure, maps and three different dam failure scenarios for the area of Lake Shkodra. In addition, an end-user committee has been established, aiming at developing an early alert system for flooding around Lake Shkodra interfaced with current operating systems. Moreover, the country has joined the European Flood Awareness System under the Copernicus Emergency Management Service.

Assistance has been provided to Albania in monitoring of the pine processionary, a moth that is the most aggressive and destructive pine tree pest in the region and that has infested a large area of black pine forests planted throughout the country, for soil protection and landscape restoration. An initial assessment has been carried out with 449 pheromone traps set up in southern and northern parts of the country. The results will serve as a basis for future broader monitoring activities in all contiguous black pine stands in Albania to enable

countrywide control.

Surplus ammunition, unexploded ordnance (UXO) and explosive remains of war contamination are still an urgent priority and a nationwide problem for Albania. However, due to shortage of funding, the Albanian Mine and Munitions Coordination Office (AMMCO) suspended its activities from January–June 2014. In July, financial contributions were mobilised through the UN, allowing AMMCO to resume its main functions of coordination and monitoring of UXO hotspots clearance under the supervision of the Ministry of Defence. The delay affected the formulation of annual targets and the UN's ability to address the government's priorities in a timely fashion. Nevertheless, quality control of clearance operations, inspections and certifications at five hotspots and three former military ammunition sites were conducted. Some 101,238 m<sup>2</sup> have been certified as areas free of explosives. In order to support GoA in dealing

with the urgent priority of UXO hotspots clearance, as part of its plan of action for disposal of all surplus ammunition in the armed forces and clearing all hotspots in the country, the UN, in cooperation with government counterparts, contributed to upgrading of UXO disposal and clearance standards to international humanitarian standards. The process was accompanied by risk education and community liaison activities.

An almost exclusive reliance on hydropower exposes Albania to risks of large fluctuations in power generation, resulting in large electricity imports in years of low rainfall. An inter-ministerial task force on improving bill collection rates and reducing losses in the power distribution network has been set up and the Criminal Code amended, classifying electricity theft as a criminal offence. In parallel with a reduction in commercial losses, a power system development framework is being prepared. Entry into force of the Renewable Energy Law has been postponed until 2015, while the National Renewable Energy Action Plan is being reviewed in compliance with the methodology of the Secretariat for the Energy Community. In addition, the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan is under review. Successful initiatives for promotion of solar energy for hot water are being implemented in six municipalities, coupled with monitoring activities to ensure timely data gathering for multiple benefits from this source of energy.

[With financial contribution from: European Union, Germany, Global Environment Facility, Government of Albania cost sharing, UN core resources, and un-earmarked Coherence Fund]

*School pupils in Orikum celebrating the International Biodiversity Day*



### Outcome 3.1

#### Regional and Rural Development

*Institutional capacities, frameworks and policies meeting international standards promote equitable and sustainable regional development focusing on land use and livelihoods for women and men, agriculture, tourism and cultural and natural heritage management.*

Agriculture is one of the fastest growing economic sectors of Albania, recording a three percent growth in 2014 and expected to reach five percent in 2015, contributing to 21 percent of GDP in 2014<sup>12</sup>. Several support schemes and policies for farmers have been set up, including the establishment of warehouses for agricultural and livestock produce. Additional fiscal measures will be introduced in 2015, while implementation of the cross-cutting Inter-Sectoral Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy (ISARD) 2014–2020 will support expansion of areas of greenhouses, increasing production and standardising exports, especially to EU countries.

UN involvement in regional and rural development addresses agriculture, tourism, culture and natural heritage management while promoting rural and local development and entrepreneurship. The coverage includes strategic support, capacity building and capital investments delivered through various agencies in accordance with their mandates and areas of specialisation. Results achieved during 2014 have contributed towards reaching this outcome's annual targets,



*Farmers in Kavaja  
being happy about  
their products*

mostly related to the provision of specialised trainings, support to businesses and the completion of agricultural infrastructure schemes.

The UN worked with Albania's institutions to produce several key documents, including ISARD 2014–2020, the major policy document aligned with the overall EU approximation process, a framework for the Europe 2020 strategy, an approach for strategic planning in the EU for CAP 2014–2020, and within the context of specific development needs of agriculture and rural areas in Albania. In order to boost production a package of quick measures, aimed at improving the business climate and relaxing fiscal burdens to agriculture operators for promoting production and exports, was identified and finalised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration.

With the aim of building capacities within the

12. Albania–World Bank Group Partnership Program Snapshot, October 2014

# Agriculture

Main source of employment and income in the rural areas

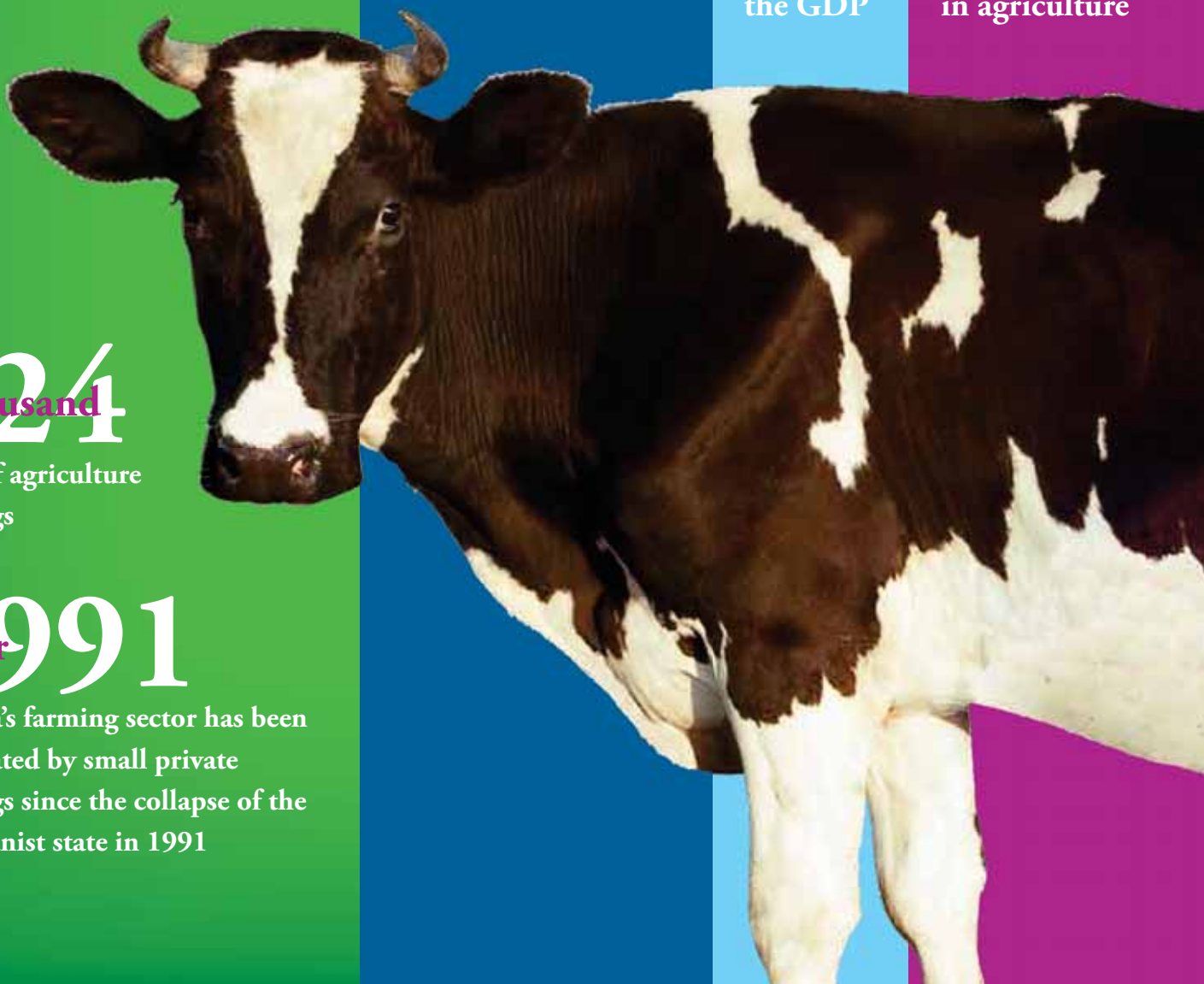
**70**  
percent  
of farms also  
have livestock

**21**  
percent  
is the  
contribution  
of it for  
the GDP

**43.3**  
percent  
of people living  
in rural areas  
are employed  
in agriculture

**324**  
thousand  
Total of agriculture  
holdings

**1991**  
year  
Albania's farming sector has been  
dominated by small private  
holdings since the collapse of the  
communist state in 1991





fisheries industry, the UN supported coordination of scientific investigations, data gathering and joint and multi-disciplinary analysis of fisheries within the wider regional context. Technical assistance has grown in importance in human resource development of the agricultural advisory services and in strengthening the capacity of the agriculture technology transfer centres, enabling them to better contribute to agricultural innovations and rural development. Three regions (Korca, Berat and Shkodra) benefited from agricultural pilot rural development programmes.

Meanwhile, national capacities for nuclear-related techniques have been enhanced in order to increase agricultural productivity through improved plant breeding and pest prevention and control. Procurement of specialist laboratory equipment for the Agricultural University of Tirana was finalised with UN support, while local researchers participated in regional network activities, including training sessions aimed at extending and diversifying application of nuclear technology for cultural heritage preservation.

Local capacities have been developed to promote management of endangered and locally adapted crop varieties in the country. Collection of threatened crop varieties and wild relatives has targeted different agro-ecosystems in about 80 remote areas of the country. Collected samples have been characterised and secured in medium- to long-term conservation facilities installed to international standards where the total germplasm holdings of local origin in the

National Gene Bank have increased by almost 20 percent. A country-based system for monitoring and reporting on the state of diversity of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture is being implemented and will be accessible on the Internet in the first half of 2015.

The Mountain Area Development Agency (MADA) Mountain to Market Programme (MMP) facilitated vocational training grants, thus providing incentives for creating new skills and professions or upgrading current ones, leading to increasing employment and generation of income. Capacity building programmes covered a wide range of topics, including dairy processing, tailoring, cookery, farm management, wine processing, marketing and promotion, handicrafts, medicinal herbs and nuts-crop management, among others. In 2014, 36 courses were delivered, training 1,177 people of whom 481 were women. MMP has also been instrumental in promoting a commercial platform for investment through alleviation of environmental damage and resulting in economic opportunities and benefits for 7,000 households, or some 30,400 individuals. More specifically, in 2014, the programme enabled completion of an environmental plan for each of the communes of Rrape and Gjegjan near Puka, in Shkodra County (Qark), and completion of 25 civil works in the counties of Shkodra, Lezha, Kukes and Diber. Moreover, a Credit Guarantee Facility (CGF)<sup>13</sup>, operational since 2010, has been implemented

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13. CGF consists in issuing loans when collateral is not provided.



*Women farmers supported by Mountain to Market Programme in Puka*

in cooperation with local financial institutions<sup>14</sup>, from whom 19 loans amounting to USD 829,000 have been issued in those counties.

Albania has benefited from regional projects aiming to foster closer cooperation and long-term stable relationships between policy makers and academics in South-Eastern Europe (SEE). Rounds of national and regional workshops were held with the aim of bridging the information gap among SEE policy makers, the respective agriculture ministries and researchers, and between the EC and SEE countries. As a result, country-specific recommendations have been elaborated, streamlining agricultural and

rural development policies for EU accession and better planning of budgetary support to the sector.

In the area of culture, key stakeholders were supported to better monitor, safeguard, preserve, restore and protect the country's cultural heritage as a means of encouraging sustainable development and economic growth and further promoting culture as a driver of development. Implementation of the UN projects "Towards strengthened governance of the shared trans-boundary natural and cultural heritage of the Lake Ohrid Region" (funded by the EU) and "Centre for restoration of monuments in Tirana" were important steps in this regard.

[With financial contribution from: European Union, Italy, and UN core resources]

14. Provided by two financial institutions: Credins Bank (9 loans) and FAF-DC (10 loans).

## Outcome 3.2

### Decentralisation and Local Governance

*The public, including marginalised groups and communities, receive better equitable, inclusive and accountable decentralised services from regional and local governments.*

The government's political agenda has been focused on the development of Territorial Administrative Reform (TAR) and reformulation of the decentralisation strategy, which are expected to have a tremendous impact on the role of Local Government Units (LGUs), as well as the scope of services delivered by many central institutions. The upcoming local elections of June 2015 will be organised on the basis of the new administrative division, presenting a major challenge for government with regard to i) smooth management of the merger processes of the different systems and structures in place, ii) re-organisation and consolidation of the human resources, and iii) preservation and delivery of public services, provided through conventional and innovative approaches, in order to avoid and mitigate disruption. GoA is working on revising and reformulating the decentralisation strategy and action plan in close consultation with a broad spectrum of stakeholders. Revision of the local government fiscal package and the development of new legislation on local government and local finances is a major objective set for the year 2015.

Political will and ownership of the reform agenda greatly facilitated the finalisation of the TAR roadmap, a key document designed with the support of the UN and enabling government to pursue a structured reform process and adopt a coherent scheme for donor coordination and support.

Other key elements include thorough consultations across the country, clear and precise communication, standards and criteria on the reform objectives of government and of the support of the international partnership through UNDP management of a multi-donor pooled fund project.

The institutional capacities of the Minister of State for Local Government benefited from UN expertise for the production of a number of analytical assessments on the situation and the running of an extensive campaign of public consultations on various options for the new administrative division. The UN also facilitated organisation of an extensive nationwide public awareness campaign on the new administrative division, the impact, challenges and benefits, including i) 20 structured meetings that gathered together 1,075 representatives of the country's LGUs, 245 of whom were women, ii) 42 meetings with civil society and business organisations gathering 1,984 people, and iii) a national opinion poll of a sample of 16,000 people. The territorial reform and consolidation and the revision of the administrative and fiscal decentralisation strategy will further define and clar-

*A handshake after the signature of the Support Territorial Administrative Reform project*



# ROADMAP TO 61 MUNICIPALITIES

**B** BEST NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXPERTISE

**A** PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION

**C** 12 REGIONAL WORKING GROUPS CREATED

**E** 42 CONSULTATION MEETINGS ON THE DRAFT MAPS

**D** 2088 STAKEHOLDERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY CONSULTED ON THE TECHNICAL CRITERIA

**16 000** SURVEYED ABOUT THE NEW TERRITORIAL MAP

THE LARGEST NATIONAL SURVEY IN THE HISTORY

**67%** IN FAVOR

OF THE NEW TERRITORIAL DIVISION



ify the complementary roles of different levels of government including the capacity needs for local development.

The first key milestone in this process was the formulation of the reform legal package, subsequently approved as Law 115/2014 of 31.7.2014 in the Official Journal, formalising the new Territorial-Administrative division of Albania. The reform was boycotted by the opposition, who sought a Constitutional Court decision declaring both the process and legislation anti-constitutional. Nevertheless, the court verdict, made public in mid-December 2014, was in favour of the process and this green light marked the reform's second key milestone. In parallel, following approval of the Law, the UN focused its support on development of an amalgamation model. To this end, twelve local governments were engaged in a pilot exercise of due diligence and modelling of instructions and approaches for assessing and merging finances, assets, liabilities and human resources. The resulting models will guide replication of the analysis and development of specific action plans of amalgamation for all of the new LGUs.

Additionally, the UN continued its support in the area of local development, through its ongoing ArtGold 2 programme, by piloting a model of tourism hospitality in the rural mountain hamlets of Kelmend commune, in Shkodra County. Local action plans, including a strong community mobilisation component and the planning of small-scale infrastructure projects to be implemented in 2015, were developed during 2014. Furthermore, the UN has contributed to preservation of the Marubi<sup>15</sup> ar-



chive—Albania's oldest photographic archive of cultural and historical value—through digitisation and systematisation of surviving negatives, which are in danger of being damaged irreparably. The support provided to the archive, coordinated closely with the Ministry of Culture and the Albanian Development Fund, enabled digitisation by the end of 2014 of 40,000 negatives from the 19th century, some 40 percent of the ambitious goal of 100,000 negatives, which comprise about eight percent of this massive archive of almost half a million photographs. The National Photographic Archive and the Ministry of Culture are planning to implement a number of activities aiming to preserve the methodology and retain the highly trained personnel. The two initiatives were coordinated with the technical expertise and financial support of the Italian Autonomous Region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia.

[With financial contribution from: Italy (Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region), Sweden, Switzerland, USA, UN core and other non-core resources, and soft-earmarked Coherence Fund (Switzerland)]

*A photo from  
Marubi Archive  
taken in 1868 and  
being preserved in  
Shkodra*

15. Pietro (Pjetër) Marubi, painter and photographer, born in Piacenza (1834) and died in Shkodra (1903)

## Outcome 4.1

### Social Inclusion

*The rights of disadvantaged individuals and groups are equally ensured through legislation, inclusive policies, social protection mechanisms and special interventions.*

The year 2014 saw major reforms of Albania's social sectors. Technical assistance was provided by the UN to strengthen institutional capacities for policy implementation and to equip government with monitoring tools aimed at supporting civil society initiatives and at providing better services to vulnerable groups.

The UN contributed to drafting a Social Inclusion Policy Document 2015–2020, which will be discussed and broadly consulted before its adoption by the end of June 2015. The new national draft Strategy for Social Protection 2015–2020, also developed with UN support and in close consultation with civil society and other stakeholders, reflects the strong political commitment of government to offer effective social support—in the form of both cash assistance and care services—to the most vulnerable categories of the population, be they families struggling with economic hardship, persons with disability, marginalised Roma communities, women suffering from domestic violence, street children, unemployed youth or any individual or family living in difficult circumstances. Preparation of the strategy will be followed later on in the year by a detailed and budgeted action plan, to operationalise the provisions of the strategy. Additionally, a new points-based scheme for awarding economic aid (ndihma ekonomike) started being piloted in Tirana, Elbasan and Durres

with the support of the World Bank. With a stricter system of eligibility assessment, the number of eligible recipients has decreased, generating certain tensions around this form of social assistance in the piloted regions.

Strong political ownership has been demonstrated in the area of Roma inclusion. Whereas there are no data available to demonstrate that the living conditions of Roma and Egyptians (R&E) in Albania have improved, some policy documents have been prepared and several government institutions at central and local levels have integrated Roma issues into their work.

A new R&E action plan for communities in Albania, aligned to the EU platform for Roma integration, has been developed by MSWY through an unprecedented consultative and participatory process. Several LGUs have developed Roma and Egyptian Inclusion Development Plans outlining actions and financial resources needed in support of R&E access to education, health, employment and justice, among other things. Nine infrastructure interventions in R&E neighbourhoods (e.g. kindergartens, intercultural community centres, health centres, inner roads and sewerage systems) in Berat, Korca and Vlora counties have increased access for these communities to public services, leading to better integration into mainstream society. Around 100 R&E households have been assisted with starting up income generation activities across a variety of fields, including cultivation of medicinal plants, animal husbandry, music, hairdressing, ambulant trading and tattooing. Success has been achieved through training and coaching sessions, in preparation of individual in-



vestment plans and provision of start-up kits, with special focus placed on Roma women.

A number of nationwide databases have been produced or updated, including a map of social care services, Roma settlements and maternity facilities. This work has provided policy makers with detailed evidence for policy planning and monitoring. Expansion of community-based social care services, the growing enrolment of Roma children in kindergartens, and national plans for electronic registration of births are a few examples of achievements made possible thanks to better data supply and utilisation. During the year, the UN partnered with Albanian institutions ensuring home visits and patronage supporting 240 Roma families in the outskirts of Tirana and Durrës. Home visit protocols incorporating parenting education

components have been approved by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and will become part of the routine practices applied by healthcare personnel working in women and child consulting centres.

Meanwhile, Roma families have been assisted with paperwork related to the registration of newborn children, with some 111 children registered. Moreover, 180 staff members from maternity homes and civil registration offices received training in direct online reporting of births from maternity homes onto the civil registry system, for timely capturing of cases that would require birth certificate issuance. Access to civil rights through legal and paralegal services has been obtained for individuals or extended family members seeking, e.g., custody support for abandoned children. Thus, 75 vulnerable Roma families in Berat and Kor-

*Children enjoying  
their new  
kindergarten  
in Berat*

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75  
111

*vulnerable Roma families in Berat and Korca have been supported in court proceedings and other necessary intermediary proceedings, whether administrative or judicial.*

*newborn Roma children registered. During the year, the UN partnered with Albanian institutions ensuring home visits and patronage supporting 240 Roma families.*

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ca have been supported in court proceedings and other necessary intermediary proceedings, whether administrative or judicial. Consequently, local authority accountability for offering proper support to Roma families in their constituencies has increased, and special communication initiatives are being designed to influence the attitudes and behaviour of local policy makers towards the Roma population.

Similarly, emphasis on such accountability is at the heart of the nationwide initiative Every Roma Child in Kindergarten, which promoted Roma children access to early education. As a result, out of 1,061 Roma children of early or primary school age identified in October 2013 as missing schooling, 409 were enrolled by end-2014 in pre-school and 74 in primary school. A newly issued MES regulation will further institutionalise work facilitating access to early childhood development (ECD) for Roma children.

(MUDT) conducted a needs assessment and a situation analysis of social housing in Albania. The results informed the new Social Housing Strategy being developed by MUDT with expert support from UN and in coordination with relevant ministries and institutions at both national and local levels. This document will enable the institutional, legal and financial framework necessary for provision of available, accessible and affordable minimum standard housing solutions to low and middle income Albanian families who cannot afford a house on the open market, and in particular, to those with vulnerability indicators that result in housing exclusion.

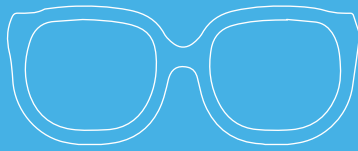
The Law on Social Enterprises<sup>16</sup>, an integral part of NSDI 2014–2020 and a response to the EU 2020 perspective of Increased Social Inclusion through Development of Labour Market and Social Welfare, and

The Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism

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16. In the finalisation phase but also dependent on the finalisation of NSDI 2014–2020.





## NEW VISION

The new vision of the SSS in the context of Albania's redressed system of social protection is being shaped with the help of high-calibre technical expertise mobilised internationally, regionally and nationally.

### PREVENTING BABY ABANDONMENT

Measures to prevent the institutionalisation of children in the age group 0–3 years (representing 37%—the largest cohort—among residential-care clients) are already in place. Preventing abandonment of babies and institutionalisation of children with disabilities, currently representing 16 percent of those in institutional care, will be the priority of a comprehensive plan to be developed by the UN and MSWY.



in alignment with EU Assistance (IPA 2014–2020), is another important policy framework prepared in cooperation with the UN in 2014.

The Law on the Order of Social Workers, approved in December 2014, represents an important step towards institutionalisation of the profession of social worker and clarifies differences from the existing social administrator functions, mainly related to disbursement of economic aid and other cash allowances. The future of the profession is inseparable from the role and functions of the State Social Services (SSS). This was thoroughly discussed during a two-day national convention, organised in December 2014, at which the prime minister highlighted the importance that government places on the social protection sector.

The new vision of the SSS in the context of Albania's redressed system of social protection is being shaped with the help of high-calibre technical ex-

pertise mobilised internationally, regionally and nationally.

Following ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), Parliament adopted in July 2014 the Law on Inclusion of and Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities, developed with UN support. This law transposes the provisions of UNCRPD into the national legislation focusing on requirements with relevance to inclusion and accessibility. Moreover, the approval by the Council of Ministers of sign language in Albanian, aiming to reduce exclusion of people with hearing disabilities, marks a positive development. To tackle challenges related to accessibility of buildings, the inter-ministerial working group on implementation of accessibility standards in public institutions, established by order of the prime minister, is considering the planning of funds for this purpose by undertaking assessment of the level of accessibility of more than 60 government buildings in Tirana.

To close the remaining gaps in relation to child protection needs and responses, a stock and flow analysis of the child populations in all of Albania's 32 residential institutions was finalised in 2014. A total of 989 children were identified in residential care, including 154 with disability. Very few of the children have benefited from other forms of care. The UN is working closely with MSWY to develop a comprehensive national plan of de-institutionalisation to transform the present residential institutions into community- or family-based services, or both, such as foster care already tested in the Albanian context. Measures to prevent the institutionalisation of children in the age group 0–3 years (representing 37%—the largest cohort—among residential-care clients) are already in place. Preventing abandonment of babies and institutionalisation of children with disabilities, currently representing 16 percent of those in institutional care, will be the priority of the plan.

An in-depth assessment of the situation of children with disabilities, totalling 18,500 persons in 2013, was conducted by the UN in 2014. The analysis identified a number of priority areas for intervention, such as early identification and assessment, access to integrated services, overcoming barriers toward social inclusion, the regulatory framework and data gathering. Based on the findings, an intervention plan is being designed and will be launched in 2015.

An online tracking system of domestic violence cases established in mid-2014 constitutes an important cornerstone in monitoring and ensuring that pertinent legislation is implemented and that cases receive due inter-disciplinary attention. Police re-

porting of domestic violence (DV) increased to 3,094 cases in 2014 from 3,020 in 2013. The online system installed to track multi-disciplinary response to DV represents a 42 percent increase in system use and reporting. Meanwhile, 42 percent of municipalities report a response to DV. UN-supported municipalities account for two-thirds of cases reported in the system.

Adoption of the national action plan on involvement of men and boys as partners to women and girls in challenging gender stereotypes and combating Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and its implementation as part of the UNiTE campaign of the Secretary General (SG), is breaking the myth that GBV is a woman's issue.

[With financial contribution from: Austria, European Union, Switzerland, USA (US-JTIP), UK National Committees for UNICEF, UN core and other non-core resources, un-earmarked and soft-earmarked Coherence Fund (DRT-F, Sweden and Switzerland)]

## Outcome 4.2 Education

*Youths and boys and girls over the age of three years, especially from marginalised groups, participate in quality formal and informal education.*

The interventions under this outcome aim at improving selected policies or mechanisms, or both, at MES and the Regional Education Directorates. The UN contribution focuses on early learning, education statistics, school standards and practices, social outreach and inclusion, arts and culture education and life competency aspects of the school curriculum.



In the academic year 2013–2014, 377,000 students<sup>17</sup> were enrolled in basic education (Grades 1–9) in Albania, while the State Agency for Child Rights Protection annual report<sup>18</sup> indicates the basic education enrolment rate was 92 percent. The student to teacher ratio was approximately 1:16. The number of private schools offering basic education constituted 8.5 percent of the number in the country, while the number of students attending private education accounted for about seven percent of the total. However, the existing statistics of school attendance only reflect the contingent of students enrolled at the beginning of the school year, while concern remains about the children who are invisible, i.e. those who have never been identified as due to attend school.

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17. INSTAT

18. Prepared in November 2014 based on information provided by the line ministries.

Internal migration of the population has led to increased pressure on the capacity of schools in urban centres and a reduction in the number of students in rural areas. In small schools this has led to a situation where students of various grades are taught together in the same classroom, thus calling for school capacity optimisation measures. In many schools, physical conditions pose a serious challenge. According to MES data supplied to the State Agency for Child Rights Protection, about 1,500 educational facilities require immediate repair interventions of different levels due to their dilapidated condition.

In terms of curriculum content, MES is planning to align it more closely with life skills and competencies. Respective upgrades in teacher capacities are also envisaged. In 2014, the development of Albania's new Strategy for Pre-University Education De-

*All eyes and ears  
on the teacher  
at "Demokracia  
school" in Korça*

velopment up until 2020 was launched. The draft strategy complies with the main education development trends in Europe and the rest of the world. As such it aims at i) improving the quality of education for all, ii) identifying main action points and planning necessary budgetary resources for their implementation, and iii) facilitating cooperation among government agencies and other interest groups to expand support to and investment in education within a cohesive conceptual, planning and funding framework. The draft strategy embraces a broad spectrum of the national education system challenges. It will be informed by, among other sources, the ongoing assessment of the education system undertaken by the UN, scheduled for completion in 2015.

Educational attainment and the employability of young school graduates have been central to the recent initiatives of government in the area of general and vocational education. In 2014, another important shift occurred, with the increased focus of the MES on early learning, recognising that investment in ECD is the most effective and efficient approach in terms of later socio-economic returns.

Only about one-half of young children in the country attend kindergartens or other early education facilities (in contrast with the OECD<sup>19</sup> average of 84%)<sup>20</sup>, while their school readiness remains below the level a demanding school curriculum would require. Also, there is no regular measurement of early learning, while the development achievements, standards and tools for such monitoring are also missing.

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19. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

20. Albania: Education Reforms. World Bank Policy Brief. July, 2013.

Pre-school facilities use fragmented methodologies in their work, the quality of their services is uneven and overall capacity insufficient to insure equitable access for all children, especially for the Roma minority and others with difficult family backgrounds. In relation to the basic schooling cycle, reaching out to the most vulnerable (out-of-school children, Roma, children with disabilities) is an equal challenge, both in terms of access (including statistically monitored net enrolment) and appropriate quality (culturally adapted education materials, child-friendly physical infrastructure, attention to low performers, etc.).

In 2014, Albania's public expenditure on education, at around three percent of GDP, is only about half of what the other countries in the region spend for the same sector<sup>21</sup>. As in the previous year, early (pre-school) education has been the most underfinanced, with no separate budgeting category (the estimated share of early education does not exceed 7% of the total education budget).

Adoption of a child-friendly school framework by the Law on Pre-university Education (2012) and the national 'school as a community centre' (SCC) initiative, where a guideline package aligned with normative provisions and child-friendly school standards to ensure effective implementation of the SCC piloted in 68 schools across the country, were important achievements developed with UN support.

Two new enhanced MES instructions on the issue of free transportation and free textbooks, aiming to ensure school attendance by the most margin-

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21. Ibid.

alised students, were developed and turned into a Council of Ministers Order. Advocacy for ECD and for making the pre-primary year mandatory have been successful in convincing the MES that the Law on Pre-University Education may need to be revised in that regard. The scenarios on standardisation and costing of ECD programmes to expand into the mandatory schooling cycle have been produced. The MES commitment to develop and introduce Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS) on a national scale and the provision of a technical agreement and action plan with the Institute for Development of Education (IDE; IZHA) have led to the preparation of a comprehensive set of national ELDS standards, to be followed by a comprehensive re-design of the entire pre-school curriculum.

The inter-sectoral collaboration among the ministries of Education and Science, Health and Interior was translated into an MoU, marking the second round of cooperation among these institutions in support of unified data collection mechanisms and tools for tracking out-of-school children.

Other achievements include the introduction of comprehensive sexuality education modules in the school curriculum and promotion of an approach based on life skills and competencies, and an increase of 30 percent in the access of Roma children to early learning through the national initiative Every Roma Child in Kindergarten.

[With financial contribution from: Austria, Switzerland, UK National Committees for UNICEF, United Arab Emirates, UN core and other non-core resources, and soft-earmarked Coherence Fund (DRFT-F)]

## Outcome 4.3

### Health

*Health insurance is universal, and quality, gender sensitive and age appropriate public health services available to all including at-risk populations.*

GoA has continuously expressed its commitment to move towards universal health coverage. At the moment however, according to MoH and the World Bank, only 50 percent of the population is covered by health insurance. The focus of interventions in the sector during 2014 was on i) planning and implementation of check-up for 40–65 year-olds, ii) cancer prevention and provision of quality cancer care, and iii) a stronger system of monitoring enforcement of the anti-tobacco law, accompanied by public awareness campaigns.

The work of the UN agencies in the framework of the health reform process in Albania has been conducted with actions targeting more effective and sustainable reforms. Numerous activities have been implemented in order to advance progressive health policies and reforms through strengthening human resources, addressing social exclusion patterns and increasing access to healthcare services for the most vulnerable groups in society.

Key achievements include promotion of evidence-based policy making along with improved institutional capacities to provide quality healthcare services and identify and plan services for the most vulnerable. The supply-side interventions have been complemented with community-based interventions to ensure participation and to empower communities to improve their



*Two premature newborns' parents benefiting from medical advice at "Kožo Gliozheni" maternity hospital in Tirana*

own health. Encouraging results have been achieved in the area of breast and cervical cancer prevention and control, including early detection and treatment. In addition, the availability, accessibility, diversity and quality of drug dependence treatment and case services have been improved and expanded.

Communication for behavioural change interventions at the community level has contributed towards improved key family practices for child care and nutrition, prevention of HIV and AIDS with special focus on pregnant women, improved reproductive and sexual health outcomes, road safety and indoor air pollution prevention, among others. A renewed commitment of Albanian legislators to child rights was sealed by establishment of a child rights caucus in Par-

liament, announced in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the CRC.

In addition, support was provided for evidence-based policy development in the areas of contraceptive security, cancer prevention and control, and HIV and AIDS. The national strategy on prevention and control of HIV in Albania has been updated, and an action plan has been developed and budgeted through a participatory and consultative process with key stakeholders. Important forums, such as the conferences on public health, universal health coverage and national perinatology, as well as the breast cancer international meeting have been organised as a result of strong partnerships between the UN and the country's healthcare institutions. October was set as the awareness month for prevention

of breast cancer. Around 8,500 mammographies were completed during this period, equalling the annual coverage in previous years. A national conference with the participation of the prime minister and other high-level officials was held at the end of the same month to highlight the importance of the issue. Meanwhile, the Albanian Tobacco Control Law was amended for improvements to its enforcement and implementation. UN technical support was provided to the Institute of Public Health in Albania for the development and implementation of a study on problematic drug use: data made available is under analysis and will be consolidated during 2015.

Support was provided to the MoH, Health Insurance Institute and the National Centre for Quality Control and Accreditation to develop a set of new service standards and protocols for Mother and Child Health (MCH) care facilities. Fully endorsed and owned by the nation's policy makers and practitioners, the new standards combine a preventive public healthcare approach with elements of child protection, probing the front-line care providers to look at the well-being of the child in a comprehensive manner (in, e.g., health, nutrition, growth, likely treatment in the family). Efficient enforcement mechanisms for implementation of the new standards and protocols in MCH remain a challenge for the year ahead.

During 2014, revision of the basic package of primary healthcare (PHC) services was completed. The newly revised package introduces important changes in the provision of services aiming at improvement in quality and increased access to

these services, especially by the most vulnerable groups in society. According to the Health Insurance Fund, utilisation of PHC services increased in 2014 compared to the previous year: the total number of consultations increased by eight percent, and the number of doctor visits increased from 10.3 to 11.2 per day.

Furthermore, strengthened surveillance and monitoring for issues related to healthy behaviours of school children, sexually transmitted infections, infant and young child feeding, and tobacco consumption among youth, have helped to address issues of public health importance. Critical analysis of the health information system was completed and a national list of core health indicators developed, contributing to strengthening the system and aligning it with European Community health indicators.

The national capacity to provide specialised care for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of non-communicable (i.e. cancer and cardiovascular) diseases was enhanced through the hands-on training of ten key professionals, the procurement and upgrading of specialist equipment and the provision of technical guidance of international experts. The quality and capacity of the centres of Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine at Mother Teresa University Hospital Centre were significantly improved, while support was provided for the operationalisation of a national cancer registry.

[With financial contribution from: Government of Albania cost sharing, UN core resources, un-earmarked and soft-earmarked Coherence Fund (DRT-F)]

## Outcome 4.4

### Labour

*All people better realise fundamental rights at work, have greater and inclusive employment opportunities, and can engage in comprehensive social dialogue.*

This outcome encompasses the support of UN agencies to the Decent Work Agenda, including employment, social dialogue and vocational education and training (VET). This agenda received the necessary attention of the Albanian government, being well elaborated in the NSDI, the National Strategy on Employment and Skills 2014–2020, and also in other relevant important national documents.

During 2014, UN technical assistance strengthened the capacity of government institutions and social partners to improve governance of the labour market. Moreover, efforts were made to enhance the employability of the Albanian labour force with special focus on youth and vulnerable groups, to empower women economically, to strengthen the social protection system, and to improve the VET system; all this in a gender responsive manner.

GoA adopted key policy documents providing a more encouraging climate for sustainable business development, employment, social business and women's cooperatives, as well as for other entrepreneurial activities. More specifically, in 2014, the National Strategy on Employment and Skills 2020 and its related action plan were prepared, in compliance with the vision and directives of the EU, the European Strategy on Employment 2020 and the goals of Albania's integration into the EU. The Employment and Skills Strategy is gender aware and includes clear

objectives, targets and indicators on women's employment and employability.

Moreover, UN support targeted rural women and women entrepreneurs running SMEs, a sector with the highest level of informality in the country, aiming to i) improve policies and approaches that create a favourable environment for women-led businesses, ii) capture information and data to support business development, and iii) support mentor programmes and business networks. In this context, the Economic Cluster of Women in Diber, a pilot initiative promoting women's economic development in rural areas, was successfully established. At the policy level, the National Action Plan for Women Entrepreneurs 2014–2020, which accompanies the government's Strategy on Business and Investments 2014–2020, was finalised and endorsed by MEDTE.

In 2014, MSWY successfully inaugurated nine employment offices throughout the country, operating along the lines of the New Service Model, offering new services to the unemployed and to businesses. Large and strong partnerships among both state and non-state local-level actors (such as the Territorial Employment Pact, TEP) were created with UN support. TEPs had already reached Kukës County and were replicated successfully during 2014 in Shkodra and Lezha, where Regional Employment Boards were established with the task of identifying the local economic development priorities that provide the most significant employment generation potentials.

UN support to the National Employment Service introduced extensive changes in the governance of Active Labour Market Measures (ALMM), partic-





ularly in setting new transparency standards in their operationalisation. It also helped design a scoring-card system for evaluating and selecting applicant enterprises for ALMMs, aiming at a) maximising the number of beneficiaries, b) ensuring proportionality and equal access to all applicant enterprises, and c) giving priority to enterprises that provide sustainable employment with a long-lasting socio-economic impact. In addition, the state Labour Inspectorate prepared for the adoption of legislation in the field of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in line with the EU acquis, transposing 17 EU OSH directives into the national legislation. Seven directives have already been adopted by the Council of Ministers while the others are going through the legislative process.

GoA benefited from UN, GIZ and Kulturkontakt

Austria technical support in the preparation of institutional arrangements for the transfer of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) competences from MES to MSWY. To facilitate the transfer 19 TVET legal-acts have been prepared, as per the amended VET Law approved by Parliament in July. Furthermore, much has been done in promoting a culture of social dialogue in the country, as a pre-condition for social peace. Special focus was given in the year to the process of building an effective labour disputes resolution system. Finally, tripartite constituents have been trained in the prevention and settlement of labour disputes as an important mechanism for promoting dialogue between social partners in the workplace.

[With financial contribution from: European Union, Switzerland, UN core resources, un-earmarked and soft-earmarked Coherence Fund (Sweden)]

*The best Jufka  
is produced by  
women in Diber*



CHAPTER 3

# UN Delivering as One in Albania

*Following* a request from the Albanian government to the United Nations, Albania became one of eight countries selected in January 2007 to pilot the One UN initiative. Since then, Albania has developed two United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) adopting this approach and covering the periods 2007–2011 and 2012–2016. In 2014, Albania initiated work for preparation of the next UNDAF related to 2017–2021. The Delivering as One (DaO) approach therefore continues to be implemented in the country through the components One Programme, One Budgetary Framework, One Leader, One Voice, and One House.

### One Programme

In 2014, the PoC Results Framework was operationalised through 33 joint Annual Work Plans (AWPs), co-signed and implemented by UN agencies and the Government of Albania signing authorities. The joint AWP were designed, implemented and monitored by the output working groups through supportive coordination provided by the Results-Based Management Advisory Committee under the overall guidance of the UN Country Team (UNCT).

The implementing partners and UN agencies specified in the 2014 AWP are shown in the figure below, which gives a graphical overview of the number of plans signed by the implementing partners and the UN agencies.

At the strategic level, the overall direction of programme implementation was overseen by the Joint Executive Committee (JEC) chaired by the

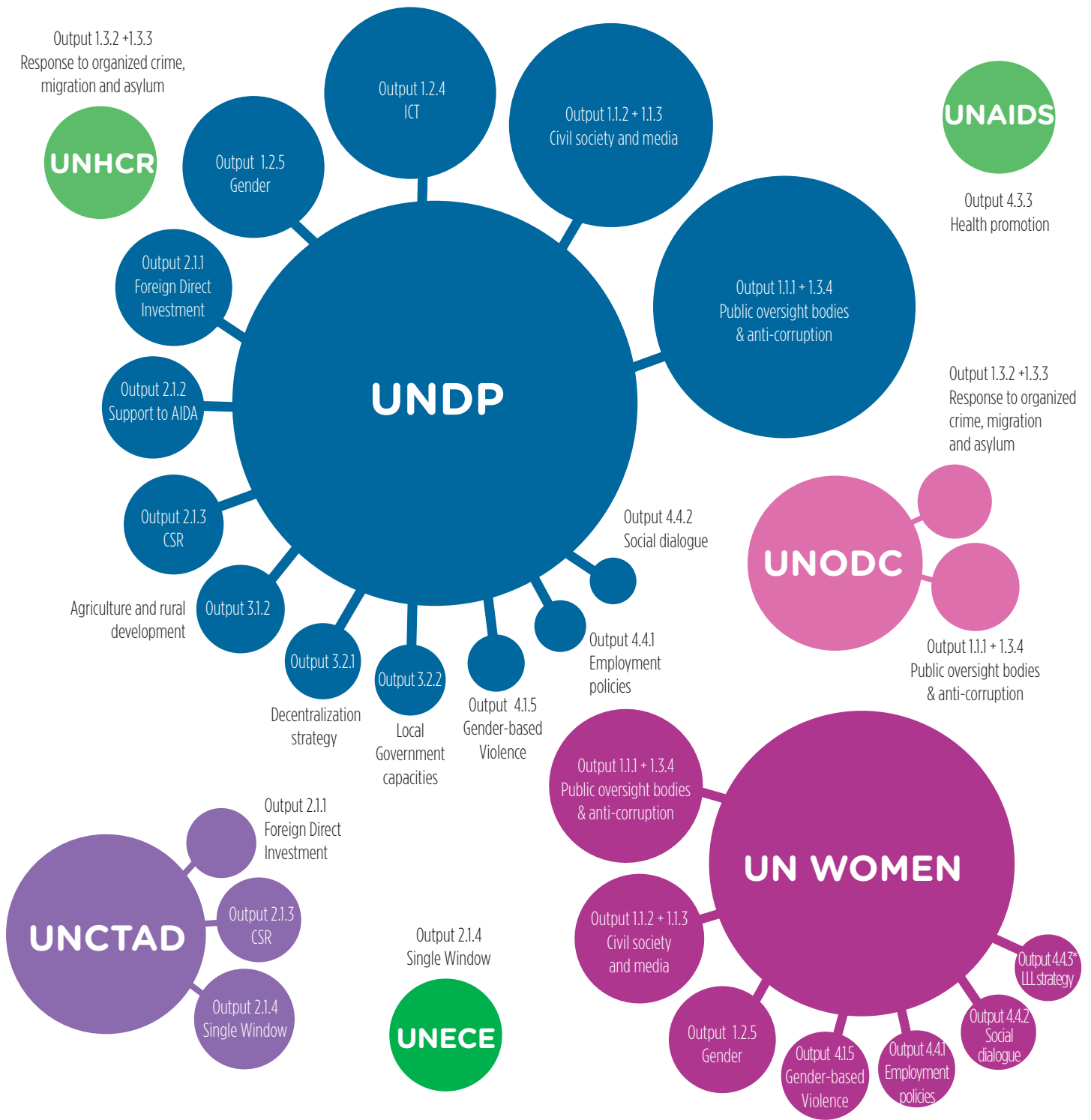
Director of the Department of Development Programming Financing and Foreign Aid and the UN Resident Coordinator (RC).

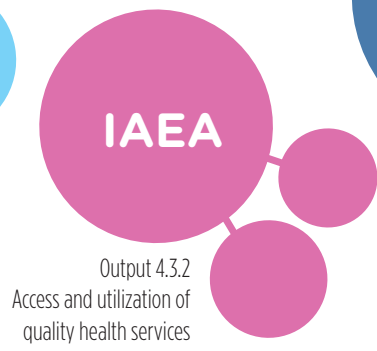
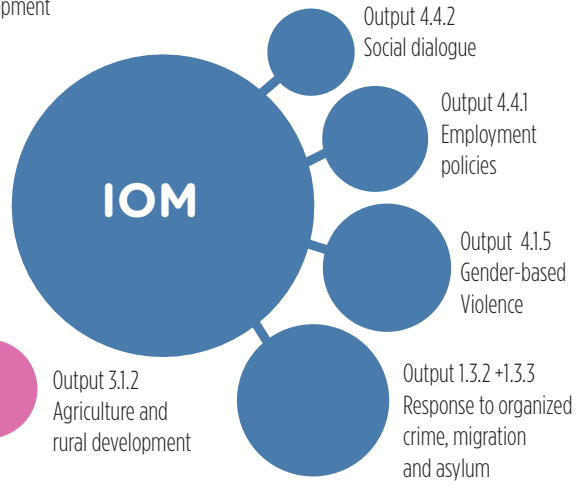
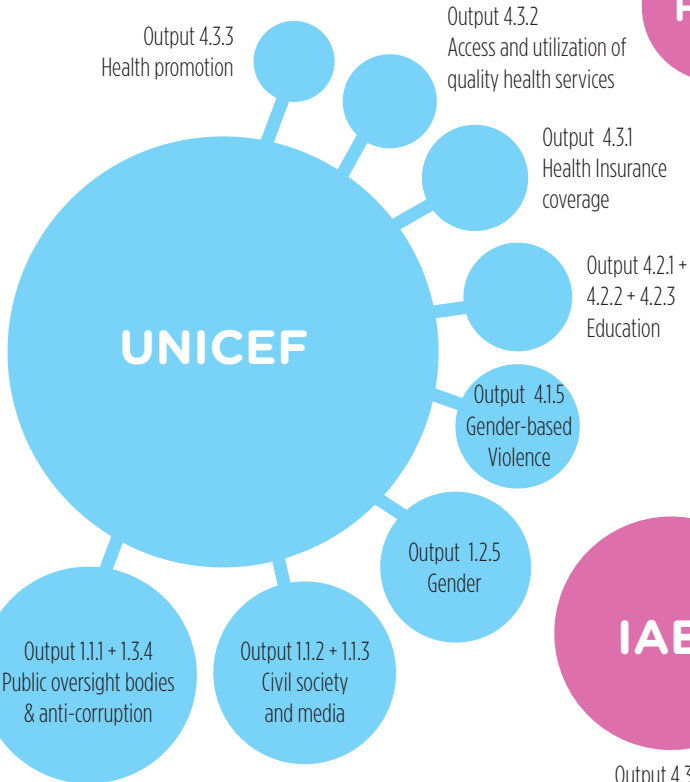
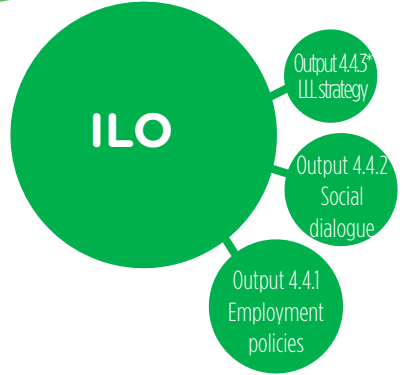
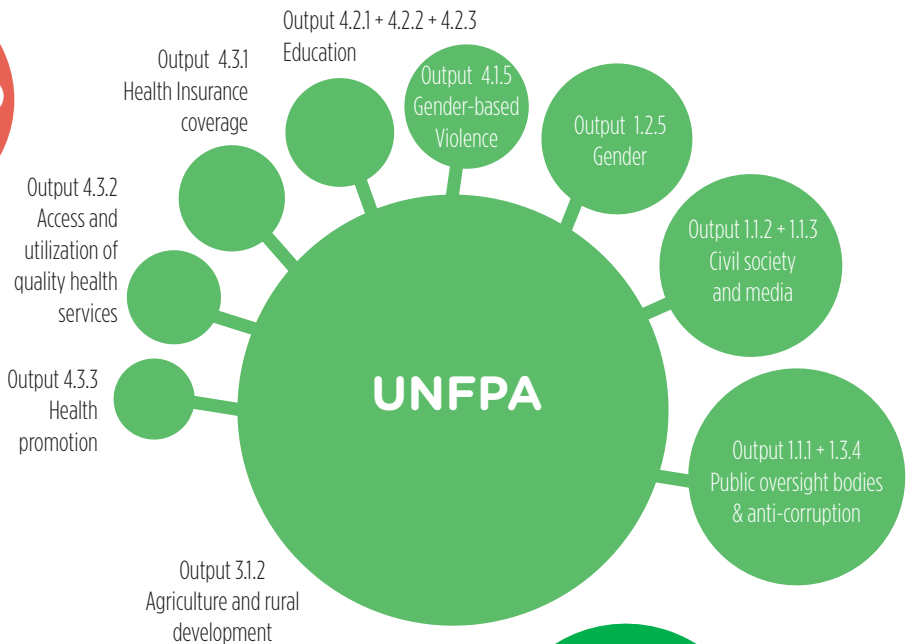
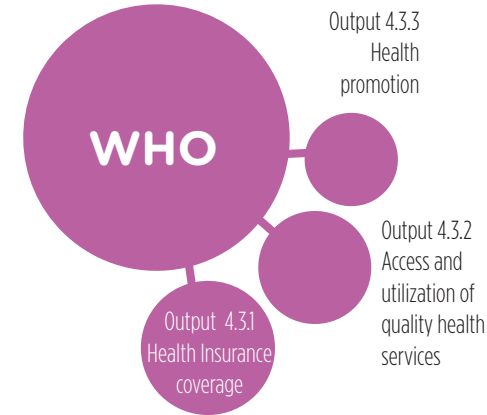
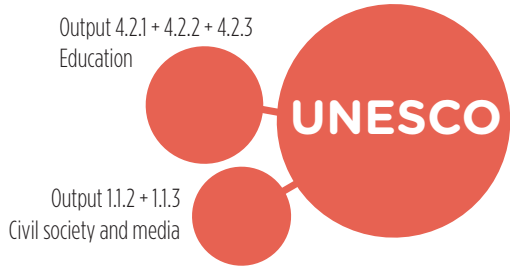
During the first half of 2014, UN Albania, in close collaboration with government, conducted a Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the PoC 2012–2016 with the aim of assessing the first two years of implementation of the programme and to draw appropriate lessons and recommendations. The MTR, finalised in June 2014, concluded with a more dynamic and enabling results framework than existed hitherto, significantly reducing the number of outcomes (from 11–4) and outputs (from 41–15) and lifting the overall strategic level of each result. Sequentially, in 2015 and 2016, implementation of the PoC will focus on four re-shaped outcomes: i) human rights, ii) inclusive social policies, iii) governance and the rule of law, and iv) regional and local development, in line with the emerging priorities of government.

The MTR was a dynamic process involving many different actors including line ministries and government counterparts and culminating in formulation of a final report, endorsed by GoA and the UN agencies, documenting the various dynamics and steps taken that led to the final set of conclusions and recommendations for implementation.

The higher strategic level of content of each outcome and output called for modification of the programme's management arrangements. Consequently, during a UNCT retreat held in December 2014, four outcome groups, one for each outcome of the new Results Framework 2015–2016, were established to substitute the Results-Based

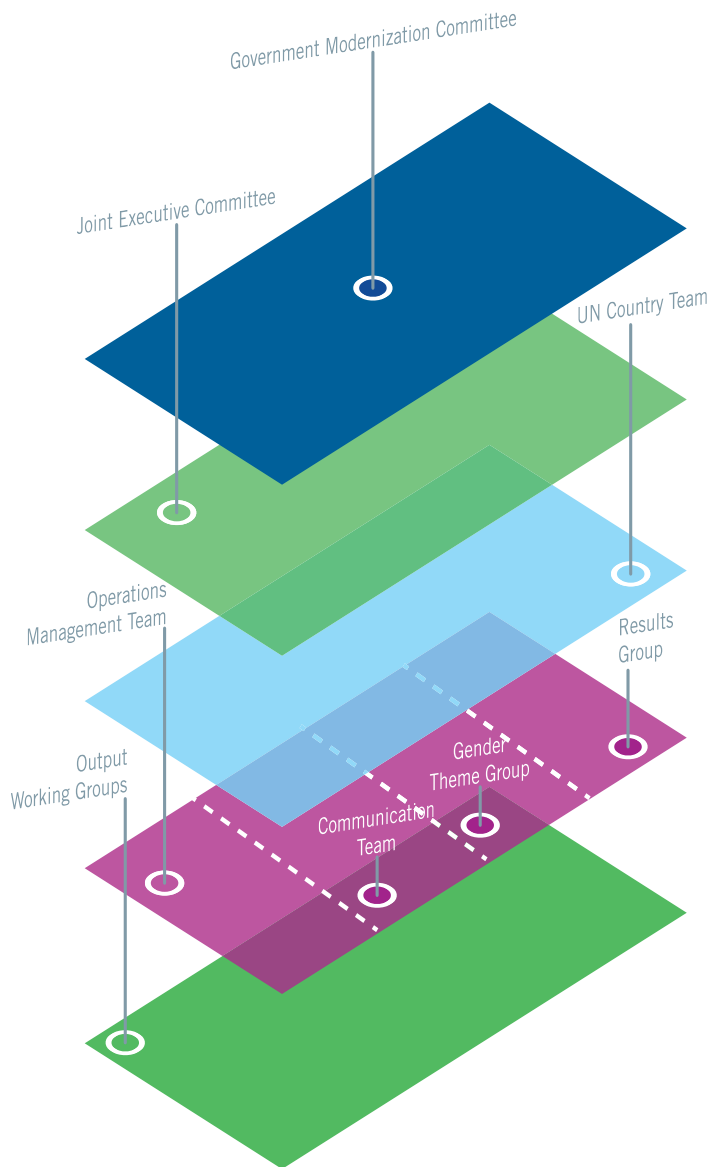
2014 signed AWP's per UN Organizations





## The new PoC management arrangements

- Government of Albania Leadership
- Government of Albania and United Nations Coordination
- United Nations Management
- Advisory bodies to the UN Country Team Advice



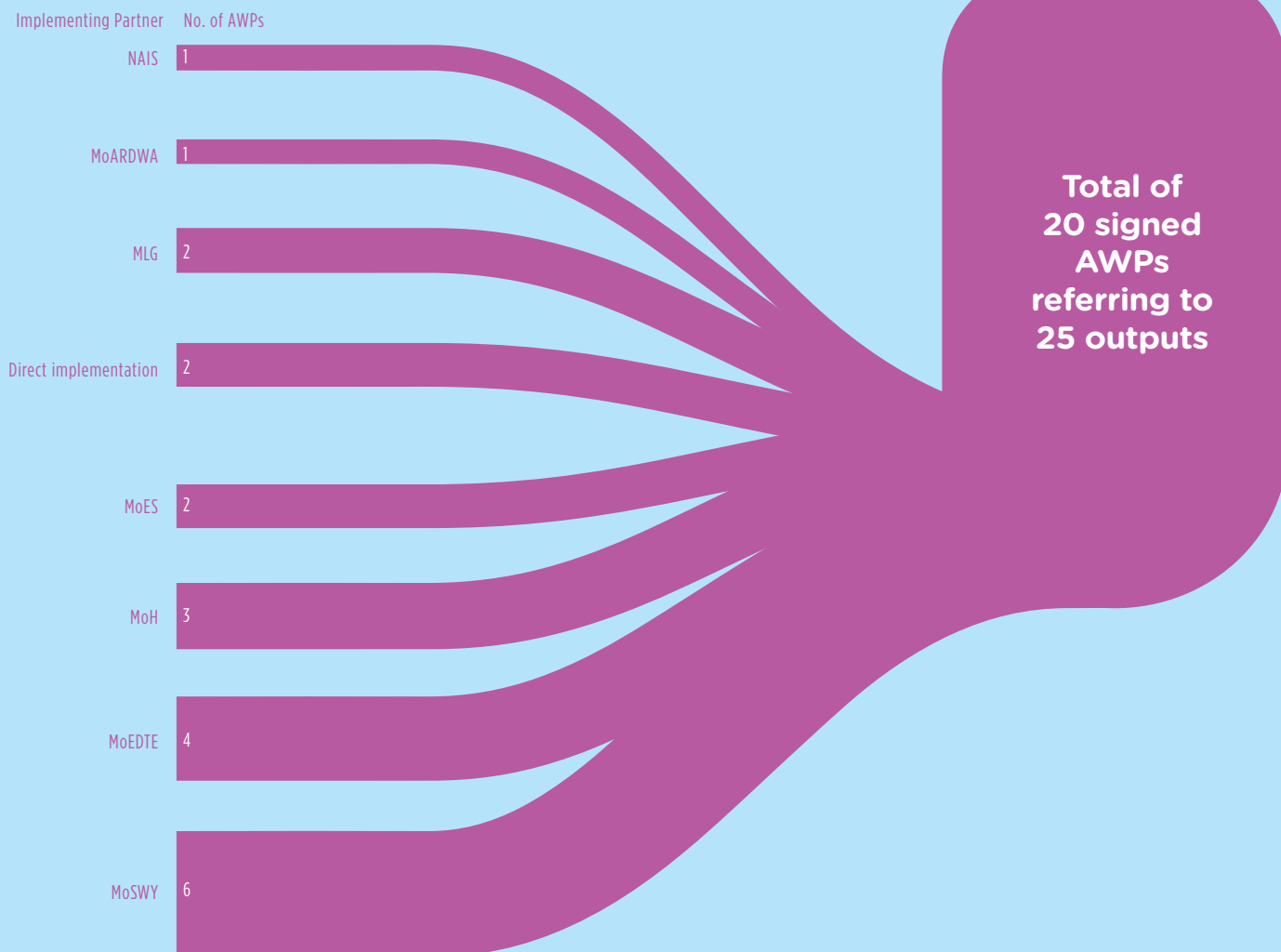
Management Advisory Committee. As per the standard operating procedures released by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) in August 2014, these new results groups are chaired by a head of agency with an increased leadership role compared to previous arrangements. The outcome groups include the UN co-chairs of output working groups, who will take on greater tasks in planning, monitoring and reporting exercises related to implementation of the PoC.

The PoC management arrangements are presented in the chart on the left.

The PoC annual review process, carried out in December 2014, examined the extent to which the results have been achieved, their contribution to the national development priorities, and the lessons exposed and learned from and for being undertaken. The participants at the annual programme review meeting were the GoA signatory authorities for the joint AWP, the JEC members, and the outcome coordinators. The outcome reports, put together in a participatory manner in preparation for the high level review meeting, informed the discussions and also provided a critical opportunity to articulate emerging priorities for reflection in the work planning process for 2015.

In the last quarter of the year, UNCT Albania began preparations for development of a new UN-DAF / Development Programme of Cooperation for 2017–2021. Preparative steps were identified, including development of a comprehensive process roadmap.

## 2014 signed AWP's per implementing partners

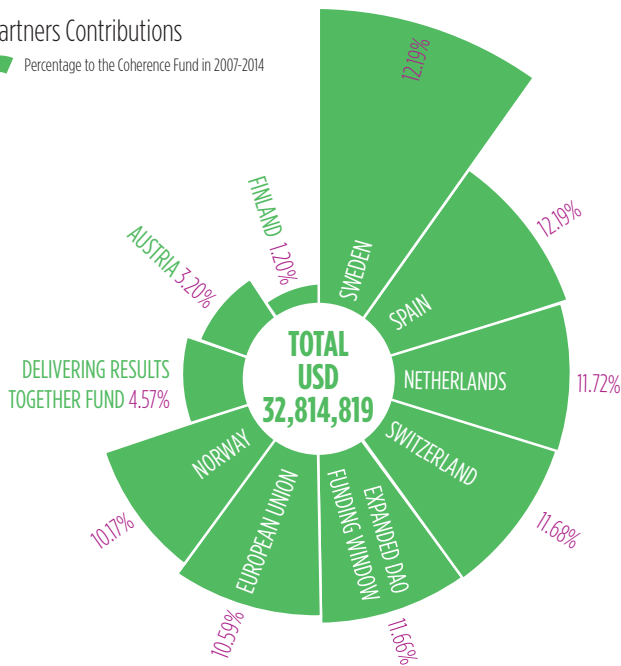


2014 Implementing partners	acronym	no. of AWP's
Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth	MoSWY	6
Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Entrepreneurship	MoEDTE	4
Ministry of Health	MoH	3
Minister of State for Local Government	MLG	2
Direct Implementation (Oversight Bodies & civil society)	Direct implementation	2
Ministry of Education and Sports	MoES	2
National Agency for Information Society	NAIS	1
Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration	MoARDWA	1

NOTE: AWP for Output 4.4.3 has two signatories

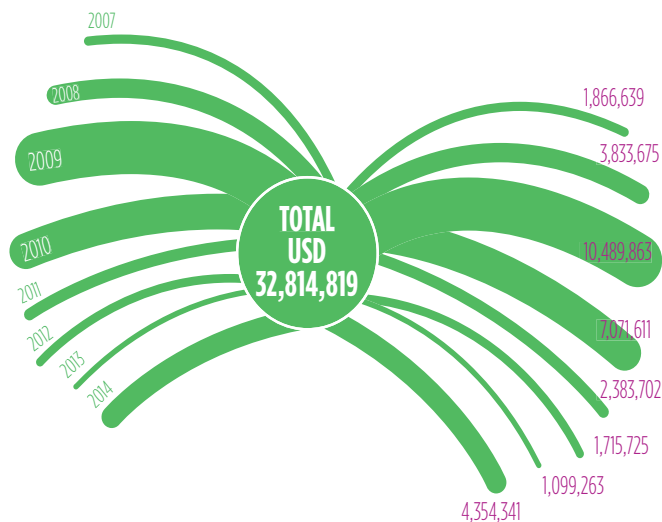
## Partners Contributions

Percentage to the Coherence Fund in 2007-2014



## Partners contributions to the Coherence Fund

Total by year in USD (2007-2014)



## One Budgetary Framework

The One Budgetary Framework provides a financial overview on available funds, both core and non-core, and the funding gaps to support delivery over the entire duration of the GoA–UN PoC 2012–2016. It is the strategic medium-term results framework that describes the collective vision and response of the UN system to the national development priorities and results on the basis of the normative programming principles. The budgetary framework is updated at the end of each year when UN agencies provide information on the progress made in comparison with the planned results and actual expenditures. For a financial overview of the 2014 total budget, including all sources of funding, see Annex C.

Among the sources of contribution to the PoC there is the One UN Coherence Fund (CF)<sup>22</sup> established to maximise the effectiveness of the UN agencies delivery, by pooling resources into a common fund to support national strategic top priorities.

As shown in the chart on the left, several development partners together provided 32.8 million USD to the UN CF since its establishment in January 2007 up until the end of 2014. Sweden is the largest contributor (22.5%) followed by Spain (12%), and the Netherlands and Switzerland (>11.5% each).

With regard to annual partner contributions to the CF, 2014 marked a positive turning point compared to the previous four years, which had seen contributions steadily falling, reaching the largest amount of pooled resources since 2011 with a total of 4.35 million USD, as the chart on the side shows. Since 2007, the amount of the fund in 2014 has only been exceeded in 2009 and 2010.

Over the course of the year, resource mobilisation initiatives

22. Refer to Annex B for detailed information on the Coherence Fund.



were carried out either jointly through the UN CF or through individual agency efforts in order to achieve results as stated in the joint AWP. Despite the resource constrained environment, UNCT Albania successfully mobilised USD 1.5 million from the Delivering Results Together Fund and twenty million Swedish Krona (~USD 2.7 million) from the Government of Sweden for the Coherence Fund. This funding was provided in support of joint initiatives in the areas of public oversight, public administration, economic governance, social inclusion, education, health and gender equality.

Overall, the CF resources allocated in December 2014 represent approximately 46 percent of the total funding gap of the PoC in 2014. This funding was carried over to 2015 AWP.

The total financial value of the AWP is USD 21.6 million, while funds received as of 31 December 2014 increased to USD 26 million<sup>23</sup>. In 2014, the sources of funds for these plans included core funds<sup>24</sup>, government cost sharing, bilateral and multilateral agreements with development partners and the CF. An overview of these contributions to the AWP of 2014, and the subsequent expenditures over the course of the year, is reported on the right.

The overall expenditures in 2014 amounted to 15 million USD, at an average delivery rate of 75 percent<sup>25</sup>. There were, however, significant variations among the different technical outcome areas (see table aside).

23. The reason for these budget differences varies: increased availability in core funding, budget re-phasing of activities with a late start up in 2014, additional resources mobilized or additional contributions from government, or both, or re-allocation of funds by either government or relevant UN agency.

24. Core funds are resources coming directly from the core budgets of UN agencies, funds and programmes and can include agency-specific regional or thematic trust funds.

25. Delivering Results Together Fund and Swedish contribution to the CF were allocated to UN agencies in December 2014 and subsequently influenced the annual delivery rate. If these funds are not taken into consideration, the 2014 annual delivery rate would be 90%. Unspent CF allocations in 2014 were carried over to the 2015 AWP.

Source of Funds for Annual Work Plans in 2014 (in USD)

Source	Contributions	Expenditures
<b>Core</b>	7,347,538	5,754,322
<b>Coherence Fund</b>	4,023,516	2,103,735
<b>EU</b>	3,192,536	2,412,593
<b>Switzerland</b>	1,815,010	1,777,933
<b>Sweden</b>	746,837	685,496
<b>GEF</b>	517,177	505,858
<b>USA</b>	478,523	476,095
<b>Austria</b>	333,649	304,201
<b>Italy</b>	216,897	232,849
<b>Government Cost Sharing</b>	180,971	179,529
<b>Germany</b>	135,870	134,285
<b>UK</b>	130,455	130,455
<b>Czech Republic</b>	84,000	84,000
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	14,804	14,804
<b>Other non-core</b>	359,050	336,272
<b>Total 2014</b>	<b>19,576,833</b>	<b>15,132,427</b>

2014 Delivery rate in % per outcome

Source	Expenditures
<b>1.1 Public Oversight Bodies and Institutions</b>	59%
<b>1.2 Public Administration</b>	69%
<b>1.3 Juvenile Justice, Migration and Fight against Crime</b>	97%
<b>2.1 Economic Governance</b>	49%
<b>2.2 Environment</b>	91%
<b>3.1 Regional and Rural Development</b>	59%
<b>3.2 Decentralization and Local Governance</b>	93%
<b>4.1 Social Inclusion</b>	84%
<b>4.2 Education</b>	68%
<b>4.3 Health</b>	63%
<b>4.4 Labour</b>	96%
<b>Programme of Cooperation</b>	<b>75%</b>

## One Leader

Overall coordination of the Delivering as One (DaO) approach is provided by the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) and the UN Country Team (UNCT) in close collaboration with the Government Coordinating Authority. The UNRC provided strategic leadership and brought together analytical capacities to enhance synergies among the various UN agencies involved in implementation of the PoC in 2014. To this end, the RC has drawn on the expertise and comparative advantages of the various resident and non-resident UN agencies. In fact, throughout the year, the RC ensured that the interests of non-resident agencies are adequately represented and, in consultation with them, acted on their behalf. Moreover, the RC has led successful joint resource mobilisation efforts and supported agency resource mobilisation initiatives.

*Riding against domestic violence in Tirana*

## Communicating as One

The UN Communication team worked to build conversation with a wide array of partners to show the impact of the UN's work on beneficiaries, advocating for issues

of national concern and positioning the UN as a trusted partner in Albania's development journey.

Youth advocacy was one main highlight of the year. A video documentary *Youth of Albania Speak Out* was produced and shared widely across the country through traditional and social media platforms. The video advocates for inclusion of youth priorities in the Post-2015 development agenda. To reinforce this message, the UNCT dedicated the UN Day to the country's youth, thus spreading further awareness that youth—a most vibrant part of Albanian society—should have a say in the decisions that affect their lives and be partners in their country's development. The UN brought together more than a thousand youths from across the country to participate in discussions around the Post-2015 agenda. Events such as Balkan Film Festival, 4th International Conference of the European Youth Parliament and the State of World Population Youth Forum brought forth the main concerns of youths and provided the UN and other stakeholders with a comprehensive picture of the world they want to live in, with better job opportunities, better education and access to better and affordable healthcare services. Around 3,000 selfies were collected in Albania through the Show Your Selfie Campaign in support of including youth priorities in the Post-2015 development agenda.

The UN engaged large segments of Albanian society in discussions during the second phase of consultations of *Voices from Albania: Monitoring for Accountability*. Discussions looked into participatory monitoring for accountability as a central feature of the new development agenda, and ways to strengthen the voices of citizens. The UN





deployed several communication channels including traditional and social media, media briefings and interviews. More than ten video materials from consultations were shared in real time on UN social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter. Social media accounts registered more than 15,000 visitors per week, thus helping spread awareness and the message of the campaign and generate further support for the cause.

Simultaneously with the ongoing consultations, the UN encouraged Albanian citizens to choose their priorities through an Albanian version of MY World Survey. A partnership was established with Vodafone Albania to encourage more people to vote. As a result around 3,500 people voted for better healthcare, a good education, better job opportunities and an honest and responsive government.

Besides face-to-face consultations, the voices of citizens were also captured through video materials where individuals from all walks of life asked for ways to elicit their voices on issues that affect their lives.

To commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), around 200 youths (of 15–18 years of age) from seven regions of Albania participated in a series of consultations under the theme *Is Albania now a better place for children?* A Parliamentary plenary session was convened by the speaker to celebrate the convention. During the event the establishment of a Child Rights Caucus was announced.

Thousands of youth were engaged in a conversation related to The International Conference on

*The United Nations  
Country Team in  
Albania going  
orange to say  
NO TO VIOLENCE  
to mark the  
annual 16 days of  
activism against  
gender based  
violence*

Population and Development Beyond 2014 with a focus on human rights. The conversation also looked into the existing synergies with the Post-2015 agenda with an emphasis on sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality and non-discrimination as critical elements of the future development agenda.

Civil society joined the UN SG's campaign Unite to End Violence against Women. The campaign turned into a solidarity movement to engage men and boys, women and girls to change attitudes towards gender discrimination and domestic violence, as well as to inform citizens of their rights pursuant to gender equality and domestic violence legislation.

The focus of the campaign shifted from 'know your rights' activities towards a movement for involvement of men and boys. Albanian young men stood up as role models to educate other males and drive broader awareness in challenging gender stereotypes and in combating violence against women. Through social media platforms, the UN reached more than 400,000 people from the community. Well-known artists took to the stage to add their voices and talents to this solidarity movement to end this phenomenon in Albania.

### Operating as One

Eight UN Agencies - UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO, UNHCR, UNODC, UNAIDS and UNDSS - several UN agency projects reside in the common premises designated by the UN Secretary General as UN House on 25 November 2013. UN Women is located in satellite premises close to the central building.

During 2014, the Operations Management Team

(OMT) took an active role in better harmonising the business practices and reviewing progress made in implementing common services and client satisfaction and the costs within a changing market. OMT is composed of sub-committees tasked to monitor and evaluate the performance of common services related to user satisfaction, to advise UNCT on specific measures needed to upgrade efficiency and to recommend sanctions for unsatisfactory performance. As a result, the team brought about better harmonisation of business practices with multiple benefits, such as enhanced collaboration, a unified image at the country level, reduction of costs, savings in staff time and increased quality and timeliness of procurement. The potential tangible and intangible benefits of common services identified to date include i) reduction in parallel processes and transaction costs, ii) increased value for money through improved planning, requirements gathering, bulk discounts and better negotiation power, iii) faster programme implementation, and iv) better procurement risk management. Moreover, two types of cost reductions are now applied to increase savings and avoid costs: i) lowered cost of procuring goods or services, both in terms of transaction cost and price, and ii) reduced need for project specific capacity (staff, equipment, facilities), resulting in lower costs and redeployment of capacities and resources to other activity areas.

Additionally, individual UN agencies offered their own comparative advantages in different areas of procurement to examine the potential for cost savings from collective negotiations and joint procurements, through long-term agreements. By the end of 2014, nine joint long-term agreements were actively in use with a total savings reaching an



amount of 50,000 USD, in the following areas: communications, travel services, interpretation, translation, fuel consumption, event management, security, banking and office stationery. Evaluations are under way for common agreements for vehicle fleets, for which cost benefit assessments are being made.

By adopting a common approach, the UN in Albania has made tremendous strides towards integration of key services including, among others, an Information Communications Technology (ICT) platform, security, human resources and financial management. In the area of ICT, the UN House continues to benefit from an exceptionally reliable and fast Internet connection with Wi-Fi access information placed in all common areas and conference rooms for ease of access. Social media are occasionally used to share links on UN websites for re-

cruitment. Progress in the area of human resources management includes: i) a common salary scale for staff and service contract holders, ii) a recruitment process for Joint Programmes and agency positions dealing with UN system, and iii) vacant project positions at times advertised internally among UN agencies present in the country. UN staff vacancies have been announced internally among the different agencies. Meanwhile, progress in the area of financial management has been made with effective management of the function and role of the Administrative Agent. Potential reform initiatives in these areas relate to preparation of a Business Operation Strategy, aligning and standardising further operational procedures in order to reduce transaction costs, as well as continuous consolidation of common services: IT, procurement, human resources and financial management.

*Students of Tirana high schools orange the National Assembly as part of the HeForShe campaign*

CHAPTER 4

## Lessons Learned and Future Prospects



## Lessons Learned

Major lessons have been learned from implementation of the PoC in 2014. In the first half of the year, GoA and UNCT carried out a review of the progress made over the previous two years, with the following observations forwarded to justify the necessary changes:

- The current framework was experienced as fragmented with too many and too narrowly defined outputs, leading to programmatic interventions being spread out over several outputs and related management processes.
- The current framework was considered financially unviable; only about 24 million USD of the anticipated five-year budget of approximately 132 million USD had been delivered by June 2013, with only 18 percent having been spent within a duration of the PoC of 30 percent.
- As there was a newly elected government and new programmatic opportunities, a need was felt to strengthen the UN's position at the policy table; the current results framework did not always provide enough focus for this to happen.

The MTR 2014 was conducted as a home-made iterative process with contributions from staff at all levels, as well as guidance and support provided by various line ministries and other government counterparts. The subsequent PoC annual review, held at the end of the year, facilitated a participatory reflection on the prog-

ress made towards reaching the outcomes, and observed the following challenges in almost all areas of intervention:

Progress under Outcome 1.1 Public Oversight Bodies and Institutions has been slow due to the multitude of counterparts involved and lack of a homogenous stand on gender equality or other human rights causes. Consistent and continued UN support should be provided to reinforce media understanding on human rights issues and their unique role in empowering citizens to claim their rights through accurate and informative reporting, monitoring and advocacy. In order to develop and strengthen government accountability in implementing normative standards, a tracking mechanism, to enable step-by-step monitoring of work done and progress achieved, is a priority.

Outcome 1.2 Public Administration notes that national ownership of governance indicators, and thereby the piloting of pertinent SDGs, is linked to EU accession priorities. UN support should continue to mainstream gender at the policy level and to foster public policy implementation. In addition, as delivery of public e-Services remain high on the government's agenda, the UN agencies should pay specific attention to the government's direction in this reform including the introduction of One-Stop-Services.

Major challenges in the area of Juvenile Justice under Outcome 1.3 Juvenile Justice, Migration and the Fight against Crime include i) the absence of a computerised information system,

making the following up and monitoring of the movement of cases within the judicial system difficult and tending to mask the system's inefficiencies, and ii) lack of budgetary support to alternatives to detention, professional legal aid, education and vocational opportunities for young people in detention, as well as limited opportunities for social re-integration.

In the area of the fight against organised crime, local identification of victims of trafficking (VoT) through support of civil society actors is crucial and needs to continue in the near future. Moreover, enhanced efforts in relation to compensation and protection of VoT, along improved efforts for investigating and prosecuting trafficking offences are key in the fight against trafficking in human beings in Albania. Likewise, a unified national response from all entities committed to the fight against illicit trafficking is critical along with enhanced capacities to sustain the response to illicit trafficking.

In the area of migration and asylum, concerns continue with the low rates of registration of returnees to the country's migration counters, reflecting the weaknesses of migration-related services provided by public institutions. Albania could benefit from a broad national policy on migration management, while the country's limited capacities to conduct adequate pre-screening of third country nationals and to provide reception in compliance with international standards prevent the authorities from efficiently responding to the phenomenon of migration.

Work under Outcome 2.1 Economic Governance

combines efforts of resident and non-resident UN agencies. Coordination in this area has been a challenge as roles and activities are guided and oriented through a variety of channels that include government entities and independent institutions, as well as the Albanian diplomatic mission to Geneva. In order to maximise the impacts, efforts should combine the technical expertise of specialist non-resident UN agencies with the implementation ability of UN agencies present in the country.

Key challenges under Outcome 2.2 Environment remain. Even though a wide range of policies have been implemented in the field of environmental protection and natural resources management, which are gradually being approximated to the EU legislation, enforcement remains limited due to constant reshuffling and weak capacity of the environment authorities at both central and regional levels, as well as lack of resources for monitoring and ensuring full compliance with environmental standards. Although the active engagement and commitment of government at the highest levels has undoubtedly provided the necessary leadership for continued progress, there is a need to strengthen the existing coordination mechanisms within government structures in order to avoid overlapping and increase efficiency of the interventions in this area.

Experience so far has confirmed the crucial importance of the national ownership and of duly involving the relevant national authorities in the design and implementation of activities. Outcome 3.1 Regional and Rural Development emphasises



cooperation among technical experts and national end users as fundamental in optimising the impact of capacity building activities.

The main factor of success of Outcome 3.2 Decentralisation and Local Governance was the political will and the ownership of the reform agenda, thorough consultations across the country, clear and precise communication by the government on the reform objectives, standards and criteria, and critically the commitment of the international partnership that supported this reform. There is potential for the UN to apply the model of multi-donor fund management used under this outcome as a supporting tool for other possible areas of reform. Similarly, the partnerships developed under this outcome will be called upon to generate support to the newly established Local Government Units (LGUs) in 2015 by leveraging the territorial reform experience for further capacity development programmes related to municipal services.

Under Outcome 4.1 Social Inclusion, capacity building interventions up to now in Albania's development have filled an immense gap in understanding national and international legal standards and purpose, thus improving considerably their implementation. Meanwhile, the time is ripe to gradually strengthening the monitoring and accountability mechanisms for all public offices, in order to address efficiently implementation of these laws. Moreover, social inclusion and social protection interventions have a major chance of success and meaningful impact if spread across many fronts, e.g. through

legislative improvements, strengthening implementation and increasing accountability. There is still a long way forward to mainstream social inclusion through all sectorial policies, action plans, results frameworks and budgets. MSWY has a fundamental role in inducing this new vision, supporting planning and implementation capacities and coordinating all government actions. Coordination, establishment of technical working groups and alignment with other processes require sound planning and substantive contribution, from various departments.

Outcome 4.2 Education acknowledges the successful advancement of sectoral cooperation (MES–MoI–MSWY–MoH) as a key area for ensuring access to schools and good education for the most marginalised students. However, the availability and quality of education statistics continues to be a concern, reflective of the overall national challenge of administrative data collection and management. For example, calculation of the enrolment rates or comparison between the number of registered children in school and all eligible children in a given locality are very difficult, with the latter not routinely matched against information collected by the schools. Moreover, in previous years, early education was not a priority and as a result, the degree of young children's readiness for school is low and their performance suffers, which in turn has a long-term impact on educational achievements in later years. In this regard, the recent policy initiatives of MES to boost early education are commendable.

Challenging aspects under Outcome 4.3 Health

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# 2017 2021

## PoC Formulation

*Primary focus will be placed on initiating activities associated with preparation of a new GoA-UN PoC 2017-2021, which will address the current development challenges in Albania in line with the mid-term national sustainable development priority needs.*

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concern progress of work in a changing political environment and in a context where priorities have been re-defined. The weak protection of households from high out-of-pocket expenses remains a concern with such payments among the highest in the region and accounting for 55 percent of total expenditures on health. Moreover, the challenge of data collection and monitoring within the health sector in general was one of the most pressing priorities of the MoH in 2014. The current health information system does not allow for disaggregation of data and analysis of the impact of social determinants in the health and well-being outcomes for the Albanian population, while national averages can mask regional disparities. Additionally, the valuable support and commitment of Albania's MoH, demonstrated inter alia through the time-

ly provision of the government's costs sharing extra-budgetary contribution to the national tobacco control programme, was instrumental to achieving the set objectives. Enforcement of the regulatory and legislative frameworks in this area requires well established enforcement mechanisms and regular monitoring. In order to see results from cross-sector collaboration, there is a need for an established institutional mechanism for coordination.

The main challenge under Outcome 4.4 Labour relates to the need for maintaining close communication with government and its implementing agencies in order to develop and sustain an effective and systemic impact on policies and interventions carried out by technical assistance projects. Once close cooperation

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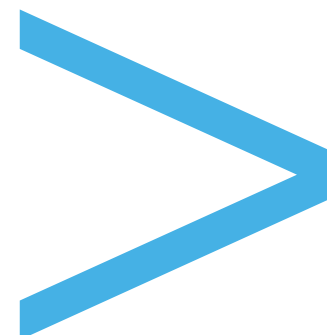
### Evaluation of the current programme, March to June 2015

This assessment will evaluate progress of the current programme, understand how effective UN efforts have been and inform the design of the next programme of cooperation for the period 2017–2021. The purpose of the evaluation is to i) present conclusions on the progress of PoC implementation and demonstrate the UN's accountability to GoA for its contributions to national development priorities and targets, and ii) identify important lessons that can strengthen

the design of the next programme for the period 2017–2021.

### Common Country Assessment, June to August 2015

The CCA will enable all partners to achieve a deeper knowledge of the key development challenges facing Albania, based on a shared in-depth understanding of the country's development situation, focusing on the MDGs and other commitments, goals and targets that Albania has committed to. The process will be participatory,



is achieved, it may enable a stronger and more efficient role of the UN in the country's reform processes currently under way. Moreover, interventions seeking to support women's economic empowerment in Albania need to follow prior carefully thought-out plans in order, as in any business start-up or pilot, to well prepare new businesses for success and sustainability.

## Future Prospects

### 1. PoC Implementation 2015–2016

The 2014 MTR exercise of the PoC informed the development of the new four outcomes i) human rights, ii) inclusive social policies, iii) governance and rule of law, and iv) regional and local development, and their related 15 outputs in line with the reform priorities of GoA. The focus

of UN support will be in the following engagement areas and strategies of support for the period 2015 and 2016.

In the area of Human Rights, UN will provide support to human rights and gender equality considerations to guide interactions between citizens and institutions. More specifically, UN will support Albania to adhere to its international human rights commitments, including normative reporting (CRC, CEDAW, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol, and Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers) and contribution to periodic reviews, national tracking mechanisms, integration of recommendations in the NSDI and sectoral plans and effective ongoing dialogue to change practices.



inclusive, dynamic, innovative and iterative. The overall objectives of the CCA are to i) support and strengthen national analytical processes and products, and ii) identify the comparative advantages, key priorities, entry points and opportunities for the UN system's normative and programmatic activities in Albania. CCA is guided by the basic elements and principles of the UN—human rights-based approach, gender equality, environmental sustainability, results-based management and capacity de-

velopment—and will complement the national development framework by generating consensus on priority and emerging challenges and problems and their causes, and the capacity development needs at all levels to generate action and traction by the UN in Albania.

#### [Trainings and workshops, September to October 2015](#)

Several trainings and workshops—including the Strategic Prioritisation Retreat, and those cov-

UN agencies will work with state institutions to raise awareness of duty bearers and rights holders and to support the accountability of duty bearers and resolution to cases, particularly in relation to women, girls and boys. Moreover, UN support will focus on duty bearers and rights holders to pursue policy and its implementation in practice to prevent and address violence against women, children, migrants and marginalised groups, advocating for behavioural change and promoting social cohesion.

In the area of Inclusive Social Policies, the rights of individuals and groups will be ensured through development or formulation and monitoring of equitable, inclusive and evidence-based sectoral policies. UN agencies will assist GoA in designing and implementing a programme of national reforms shaped by the

country's international human rights commitments and European integration parameters. Equity and social inclusion are the cross-cutting considerations to guide elaboration of sector-specific social policies, to ensure that Albania's growth and development model does not leave any population groups to perpetuated marginalisation and hardship. Instead, the potential of all members of Albanian society should be activated to benefit both individual and public wealth and prosperity.

In the area of Governance and Rule of Law, UN will support the Albanian State to execute major governance processes following internationally agreed democratic principles and practices, while upholding the rule of law and eliminating key factors of exclusion of women. The focus of UN support will aim to i) strength-

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ering environmental sustainability, gender mainstreaming, results-based management and human rights-based approaches—will be undertaken to help inform the selection of priorities and outcomes and provide the forum for UNCT, government and a broad spectrum of stakeholders to discuss and determine the content of the PoC 2017–2021.

#### Formulation of UNDAF PoC 2017–2021, November 2015 to February 2016

This formulation will identify a limited number of

strategic priorities and outcomes, provide clear articulation of the ‘theory of change and causal links’ to achieve the envisaged outcomes (reflected in a realistic results matrix), define the internal coherence approaches, and agree on the overall governance arrangement for UNDAF implementation. The entire UN Common Country Programming process will be in line with the 2010 UNDAF Preparation Guidelines, the 2013 UNEG Guidance on UNDAF Evaluations and the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

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en the capacities of Parliament and the electoral institutions to perform their core functions, ii) assist line ministries and public service delivery institutions to mainstream gender and conduct gender-responsive planning and budgeting and evidence-based policy making at all levels, iii) work with authorities towards adoption of standards and institutionalised systems while delivering their statutory mandates, prevent corruption and enforce the rule of law, and iv) support line ministries to ensure and enforce the conservation and sustainable use of public goods.

Regional and Local Development is an important area of UN assistance in articulating needed reforms, policy development and capacity building in the areas of domestic regional development policy, institutional building and rural development, with focus on land-use policies

and human resources development and strategic vision and actions for tourism, culture and heritage promotion for development at the regional and local level. UN will support GoA to i) implement policies that advance democratic, equitable and sustainable regional and local development, ii) increase capacities of state institutions at regional and local levels to implement rural development and modernisation of the agricultural sector, to deliver equitable public and administrative services for men and women and render account to generate and strengthen investments, employment and livelihood opportunities, especially for youth and women, and iii) implement local, regional and national action on climate change adaptation, including in the short term, e.g. for Disaster Risk Reduction, and mitigation across sectors.



## Annexes



**Annex A**

Progress against PoC Results Framework

**Annex B**

Administrative Agent Financial Report on One UN Coherence Fund for 2014

**Annex C**

Financial overview of 2014 total budget including all sources of funding

**Annex D**

National implementing partners and participating UN organizations

## Annex A: Progress against PoC Results Framework

■ ON TRACK   
 ■ PARTIALLY ON TRACK   
 ■ NO PROGRESS

OUTCOME 1.1: PUBLIC OVERSIGHT BODIES AND INSTITUTIONS						
Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 1.1.1 - Public oversight bodies + Output 1.3.4 - Anti-corruption	UNWOMEN UNFPA UNICEF UNDP UNODC	No. of functional institutions monitoring the realization of Child Rights (Observatories or Child's Rights Units) at national and regional level	8 regions	Child rights structures in 12 regions become functional	[1.1.1] Annual and periodic reports on Law on the Children's Rights, National Action plan for Children, Convention on the Rights of the Child committee recommendations, Harmonized indicators yearly report. Parliament web site; Minutes of the hearing Sessions; Media reports; Public administration and Commissioner Annual reports; Parliament public site  [1.3.4] Printed documents and laws; Training materials and records; Reports; Transparency International, European Commission Project	Completed (Child Rights Units and Observatories established in all 12 regions)
		No. of gender sensitive discussions taking place in parliamentary standing committees annually on child, gender, population health and HIV/AIDS related issues	1 per year per topic	At least 3 topics to be discussed		Completed (n.2 hearings on reproductive health and one on aging + n.1 Plenary / Special Parliamentary Session on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women)
		Number of cases lodged with key institutions (Ombudsman, Anti-Discrimination Commissioner) and proportion resolved	n/a	n/a		Completed (172 cases lodged with ADC, of which 5 cases are withdrawn from complainants, 26 considered illegible, 2 closed with fines, 8 recommendations issued, 7 suspended and 8 in process of investigation) <sup>1</sup> .
		% of cases handled by People's Advocate (AP) and Anti-Discrimination Commissioner (ADC) ending with measures imposed on public authorities	1161 cases processed by PA. 58% ending with measures recommended to public authorities. 5 cases handled by the Commissioner	60% cases of PA ending in recommendations, 10% handled by Commissioner		In progress - AP: n.3969 complaints received in total of which 2572 were handled in 2014 by the AP <sup>2</sup> . - ADC: n.172 cases logged and opened for year 2014; n. 32 cases finalized and resulting in recommendations and n.3 decisions issuing fines.
		Proportion of females in elected bodies, in decision making in central and local government and in judicial system	Parliament 16.4% (2009), Local level (2007): Mayors 1.5% Head of commune 1.7% Municipal councils: 13% Head of Municipal councils: 15% Judiciary: 43,2%	30% quota met		Parliament: 20.7% Cabinet: 33% (no changes at the local level from 2013). Judiciary: 49% in district courts (17% as heads of district courts), 25% in High Court, 35% in Courts of Appeal, 60% in Administrative Courts (14% as Heads), 22% Constitutional Court, 0% High Court of Justice, 30% District Prosecution, 11% Appeal Prosecution and 19% Serious Crime Prosecution

1. More particular on gender cases: 5 cases claiming discrimination based on gender, 1 closed with discrimination decision on gender ground, 2 cases for non-discrimination on gender ground and 2 cases ineligible on the same ground. ADC initiated 8 ex-officio cases claiming discrimination on gender ground but none of them resulted in cases of discrimination.

2. Complaints lodged and opened: 3969 complaints received in total of which 2572 were handled by the AP. 646 cases in favour of the citizen's interest submitted by the AP are taken into consideration by different public organs. In addition to complaints received, the AP issued 190 ex officio administrative investigations. Recommendations issued by the AP on finalized cases: 368 out of which 90 recommendations are fully taken into consideration by the respective authorities. 17 recommendations are refused and the rest of the recommendations are in the consideration process by the respective public organs and, therefore, these recommendations have remained without response.



**OUTCOME 1.1: PUBLIC OVERSIGHT BODIES AND INSTITUTIONS**

Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 1.1.2 - Civil society and media + Output 1.1.3 - CSOs/ CBOs networks	UNWOMEN UNFPA UNICEF UNDP UNESCO	No. of media reports and ranking of print and online media based upon internationally agreed media indicators on issues related to human development and human rights	Lack or poor professional and ethical reporting on HR and HD and no measurement according to internationally agreed media indicators. Around 35 stories annually published in the printed press.	Around 70 professionally written media stories related to HR and HD and gender equality, out of 70 articles, at least 30 articles focusing on gender equality and women's empowerment issues.	[1.1.2] Annual reports by Freedom House and EU, UNESCO - International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), Media Development Indicators, Harmonised indicators (on media and gender), Report produced, Consultation meetings of the Civil Society Organizations about Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) - Shadow report. CEDAW web site; Signed agreements with Civil Society Organizations, media and women's group; Report Cases.	Completed <sup>3</sup> (Over 300 stories/news articles reported and 15 stories from UN joint programmes featured in the 'People in Focus' brochure; 40 articles produced focusing on women issues and gender equality).  In progress (MEDIA Monitoring not yet fully established. In the meantime the UNESCO Gender Sensitive Indicators for the Media (GSIM) were translated into Albanian language and interest of several Albanian media to experiment with these GSIM was catalyzed).
		Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women shadow reports produced by CSOs and presented to the CEDAW committee.	Two reports produced	At least one report produced	[1.1.3] Review of UNICEF website, Annual publications list. Reports produced at local and national level; Draft law on voluntarism; National youth Strategy and its National Action Plan; Policies revised.	Completed (1 shadow report on the CEDAW produced)
		No of partnerships between UN and CSOs in support of monitoring the implementation of international legal instruments.	UNDP gender project partnered with 15 CSOs in 2011. UN Women partnered with 26 NGOs. UN Women signed a MoU with the Union of Journalists over proper representation of gender equality issues and women candidates during May 2011 elections.	Maintain at least 10 Partnerships among UN agencies and CSOs		n.6 new partnerships with CSOs focused on young people and girls in the framework of "Post 2015 youth voices" campaign". 1 partnership with SRHR CSOs coalition.  The Albanian Women in Science (AWIS) Network grew by n.8 new Albanian experts (women).
		No of cases of HR abuses including the no of cases of gender-based discrimination brought by CSOs to national and international protection bodies.	One complaint filed by CSOs with the anti-discrimination Commissioner. Zero complaints filed related to gender-based discrimination.	n/a		Out of 172 cases brought to the ADC on discrimination grounds, 6 are issued by NGOs working for women issues. Data is lacking if they are related to gender based discrimination.

3. Public awareness and advocacy raising activities were carried out focusing on: (i) Post 2015 Agenda where videos from consultations were produced and featured prominently through social media; Partnerships were established with Vodafone Albania on enabling large participation in MY World Survey 2015; etc. (ii) Strong Advocacy on Youth where materials such as "Youth and Human rights—Youth of Albania speak out" were produced and disseminated widely; national forums with young people were organized in Pogradec and Tirana; etc. (iii) Strong advocacy around gender equality and the fight against domestic violence where advocacy campaigns were organized around UN Days. The impact of UN's work has reached a large diverse audience in 2014, namely: (i) FB audience has increased by 180%; (ii) Visits to UN website have reached 227,286 visitors; (iii) Twitter audience has increased by 200%; (iv) Over 300 stories/news articles were reported; (v) 4 media field trips to UN programmes were organized accompanied with excellent media coverage; (vi) 15 stories from UN joint programmes were featured in the 'People in Focus' brochure; 40 articles produced focusing on women issues and gender equality.

Outcome 1.2: Public Administration						
Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 1.2.1 – NSDI	UNDP	National Strategy for Development and Integration reflects issues related to gender and social inclusion	National Strategy for Development and Integration 2007 – 2013 in place but limited reflection on issues related to gender and social inclusion	[target 2016]: Updated National Strategy for Development and Integration (NSDI) 2013-2020 reflects issues related to gender and social Inclusion	National Strategy for Development and Integration Progress Report; National Millennium Development Goals report; OECD-Development Assistance Committee Paris Declaration Survey/Report; National Millennium Development Goals Report; Aid Harmonization newsletter	In progress/ A new draft NSDI in the process of preparation
		No. of capacity development initiatives that promote and enable the use of national procurement and financial systems	1 assessment with UN support	[target 2016]: 3 assessments conducted		Completed
		No. of evidence based gender sensitive annual reports that reflect the component of the NSDI relevant to the respective Ministry	NSDI Performance based Monitoring framework in place. 17 sector and crosscutting strategies monitored (17 annual monitoring reports produced by 11 line ministries)	[target 2016]: All sector and crosscutting strategies monitored in order to ensure that all components of NSDI are reflected in the respective annual monitoring reports produced by all the line ministries		PAMs (Performance Assessment Matrixes) prepared for each sector / line Ministry are updated
Output 1.2.2 – Brain Gain	UNDP	Public Administration Academy (PAA) established	Public Administration Academy not in place	Public Administration Academy established by 2014	Department of Public Administration annual records/ Civil Service Commission, European Commission progress report	Completed (Center of Excellence established in October 2014)
		No. of line ministries that have individual performance management systems that are linked to institutional performance management systems under implementation	No ministries have this linkage in place	[target 2016]: 3		n/a
		No. of highly qualified male and female professionals from abroad employed in the public service	31 currently in the public administration, out of which 10 are women (Brain Gain supported and Government of Albania supported through salary supplements)	[target 2016]: 100, at least 40% women		Subject to the new Law on PAR
Output 1.2.3 – Statistics	UN WOMEN UNESCO UNFPA	No. of institutions that regularly collect, analyze and sex disaggregated data	Few	1	Status of Women Report, Annual Progress Report of the National Strategy on Gender based violence and domestic violence; Fourth periodical report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); Ministry of Interior annual reports; Labour Force Survey; Periodic report on Law on the Children's Rights; National Action plan for children; Convention on the Rights of the Child committee recommendation	In progress (MSWY)
		No. of current survey- and census-based gender sensitive knowledge products available for use by policy makers and the general population	Not known	1		Male Female 2014 produced. Women's Monograph – Gender Analysis of Census produced.
		National strategy for the Implementation of the 2008 System of National Accountants (SNA) and related economic statistics developed	No strategy	Strategy Elaborated		Already completed
		No. of INSTAT press conferences on economic statistics for the users	0	1		n/a

**Outcome 1.2: Public Administration**

Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 1.2.4 - ICT	UNDP	Availability of national broadband network	No	Yes	UNDESA "e-government" Survey (bi-annual); Millennium Development Goals Report; National Strategy for Development and Integration Progress Reports; ITU Reports	In process
		Number of basic e-services for male and female citizens as well as businesses	Limited	20		Achieved
		Availability of legislative and regulatory framework for Geographic Information System and "Rights of Way"	No	Yes		
Output 1.2.5 - Gender	UNDP UN WOMEN UNICEF UNFPA	No. of national policy documents with gender specific objectives and indicators	4	2	Policy documents, Legal proposals documents, Legislative proposals submitted, Line Ministries Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Documents, Ministries planning, budgeting and M&E documents	Completed: n.6 line ministries and n.8 Budgetary programmes with gender targets.
		No. of state institutions and LGUs that have incorporated gender responsive planning and budgeting	0 budgeting, 4 LGUs with DV costing	2		Completed: Gender responsive budgeting applied in 3 municipalities (Vlora, Tirana, Saranda).
		No. of legal proposals containing reference to different potential effects for men and women in their explanatory report (mandatory per the Gender equality legislation)	Two legislative changes in 2010	1		Completed: Policy on harassment at work place for Albanian State Police developed.
		% of total budget for the implementation of WEE strategy effectively mobilized from state budget	0	--		--

Outcome 1.3: Juvenile justice, migration and fight against crime						
Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 1.3.1 - Justice for Children	UNICEF	% of juvenile offenders diverted	20% (sex disaggregated)	25%	Ministry of Justice Statistics Official gazette System assessment and evaluation reports	>60% (in 2013; later data not yet available)
		Length of pre-trial detention for juveniles;	5-7 months	Less than 6 months		46% stay in detention longer than 6 months
		% of detention sites for juveniles ensuring adequate education opportunities				MoE assigned teachers to 100% of facilities (quality and conditions still an issue)
		System in place to monitor that child victims and witnesses are treated according to standards.	No	--		Respective amendments to Code of Criminal Procedure not yet adopted
Output 1.3.2 + 1.3.3 Response to organized crime, migration and asylum	UNHCR UNODC IOM	% of Border Control Police Officers benefited from joint trainings on the fight against cross border crime	100% of Border Control entities officers have benefited from joint training (as of 2010)	100%	[1.3.2] Annual reports; Seizures reports; Statistical analysis of reported and historical information.	100%
		% of seizure on in-coming and outgoing illicit trafficking increased	90% of the cases in the anti-trafficking area discovered (2010)	100%		80%
		No. of Policy documents on migration management developed	Policy provisions laid down in the 1st National Strategy on Migration and its Action Plan (2005-2010)	Migration mainstreamed into national policy provisions	[1.3.3] Periodic reports by Inter-ministerial/ institutional committees on Migration and crime and Measures against Organized Crime, Trafficking and Terrorism; Decisions of the Council of Ministers on the approval of national strategies; Periodic reports of the Ministry of Labour (Leader Technical Committee on Migration) and the Periodic Report of the inter-institutional Committee on Measures against organized crime, trafficking and terrorism - in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Reintegration Strategy for Albanian Citizens (2010-2015), UNCHR annual reports	no developments in this respect beside the efforts to mainstream migration into 2 sectorial strategies
		% of migrants accessing migration related services	1% of returning migrants registered and seeking reintegration assistance	100% of potential and returning female and male migrants registered and assisted		100% of returnees registered at Migration Counters received orientation to public services however the registration rate remains very low.
		% of persons in need of international protection enjoying rights guaranteed by the Albanian asylum system	300 persons enjoyed protection in Albania until December 2013	100% of asylum seekers assisted		100%
Output 1.3.4 - Anti-corruption	<i>Output merged with 2014 AWP 1.1.1</i>					

**Outcome 2.1: Economic Governance**

Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 2.1.1 - Foreign Direct Investment	UNDP UNCTAD	AIDA has capacity to manage, track and attract FDI coming into Albania	AIDA established by law, currently being staffed	--	Reports of Ministry of Economy Trade and Energy and the other government agencies	Consultations have taken place but lack of funding has prevented work to start
		Knowledge products created on the impact of FDI on job creation (by gender) and on women economic empowerment	Unknown, to be established through survey	Planning with Government and National Partners on the preparatory work for the establishment of UNCTAD e-Regulations system		
Output 2.1.2 - Support to AIDA	UNDP	Number of businesses using AIDA (Albanian Agency for Investment Development) services	0 (AIDA established in 2011)	N/A	Reports of Ministry of Economy Trade and Energy and the other government agencies	Support to textile and apparel (fason) one stop shop opened at AIDA
		Number of national institutions providing assistance to SMEs for compliance with international standards and/or EU regulations	Number in 2011	N/A		
		Transparent regulatory framework improving investment climate	0	AIDA One Stop Shop for Investment operational		
Output 2.1.3 - CSR	UNDP UNCTAD	% of complaints received through the Consumer Complaints Management System resolved	0 (Consumer Complaints Management System established in March 2011)	N/A	Consumer Complaints, Management System website, Consumer Protection Commission annual reports, Ministry of Economy Trade and Energy report.	Achieved
		Number of companies that subscribe to Corporate Social Responsibility principles by being a member of the Global Compact	35 companies are members of the Global Compact	CSR Awards launched; CSR Work handed over to MEDTE		
		Number of specific measures on market surveillance adopted by the government with the participation of consumers associations	0	N/A		
Output 2.1.4 - Single Window	UNCTAD UNECE	Increased cooperation of Government agencies and the business community in a Customs Single Window environment, through data harmonization (electronic issuance, control and monitoring of licenses/certificates/authorizations)	2 agencies	Preparation of E-payment services completed	Reports of Ministry of Economy Trade and Energy and the other government agencies	Workshop with the government took place but work has not started due to lack of funding

### Outcome 2.2: Environment

Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 2.2.1 - Multilateral agreements	UNDP	Selected areas of national legal framework in compliance with EU legislation and economic instruments for environment available	Limited number of economic instruments, limited financial self-sustainability and technical capabilities	a. GHG emission inventories for Albania b. Climate Change scenarios according to IPCC AR4 c. Assessment of n.2 marine and coastal protected areas, for further compliance to international conventions d. Management Plan for 1 <sup>st</sup> marine protected area of Karaburun-Sazani (K-S) e. Curricula and training modules on marine biodiversity conservation and management	Records of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration and Official Gazette ; EU Progress Reports ; EU progress monitoring reports on environment chapter ; Reports prepared for/ by various international conventions secretariats; Project reports.	a. Completed b. Completed c. 2 areas identified and assessed for further designation d. Completed e. Developed
		Number of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures prepared	0	[target 2016]: 5 climate change adaptation measures to be implemented at local, regional and central level		Completed
Output 2.2.2- Awareness for sustainable development (No funding available for activities under this output in 2014)	UNESCO	Number of roundtables/workshops conducted and information dissemination on specific policies, such as waste management, biodiversity, and climate change for selected target groups.	Limited number of events	1	Project reports; Ministry of Education records; Project evaluation; Report by Ministry of Education and/or Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration	0 workshops conducted – postponed until 2015
		% of schools, that have incorporated sustainable development & environmental awareness modules for the grade 1-5 students, that contain a gender perspective into their curriculum.	20% of grade 1-5 students	25%		No data available
		No. of schools making better use of educational material on environmental protection, sustainable development produced and utilized by youth such as the Teaching Resource Kit for Mountain Countries and the Biodiversity Learning Kit (developed with the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat).	No exact figure available	5		N/A, the scope of the activities has changed.
Output 2.2.3 - Environmental hot spots	2014 AWP not available					
Output 2.2.4 - Energy efficiency	UNDP	Assessment completed and documented in support of governmental decision-making to include in the revised National Energy Strategy measures for energy efficiency enhancement and use of greenhouse gas-free energy resources	"Regional Analysis of Policy Reforms to Promote Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Investments" (UNECE, 2010)	Extend cooperation with other municipalities in promotion of Solar energy	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy Records; Project reports; Official Gazette.	Implemented in 6 municipalities.
		Number of legal acts passed and financial mechanisms and tools used by Government, banks and other institutions to promote the use of greenhouse gas-free energy and energy efficiency	Limited actions to promote energy efficiency and use of greenhouse gas-free energy	Supporting sub legal acts of the Renewable Energies Law		In progress (since the Renewable Energy law's entry into force is postponed in 2015)
Output 2.2.5 - Disaster risk reduction	UNDP UNESCO	Number of preparedness and response plans (national and local) including for Cultural/World Heritage Sites prepared with participation of women and men from the community to reflect improved information on multiple risks in high risk areas	0	1	National/local development plans; Study on Volunteerism; Project Report; Record of Civil Emergency Department.	N/A, the scope of the activities has changed.
		Community support provided for the implementation of the disaster risk management plans, including site manager and stakeholders training for Cultural/World Heritage Sites	0	1		N/A, the scope of the activities has changed.

**Outcome 3.1: Regional and Rural Development**

Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 3.1.2 - Agriculture and rural development	FAO IAEA IFAD UNDP	Number of staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection trained on regional rural development programmes in line with EU Consumer Application Policies	Ministry of Agriculture has only preliminary, basic technical capacity and experience in implementation regional rural development programmes	- training to 7 specialists (IAEA) - Training for staff of the Ministry of Agriculture in rural development programmes (FAO)	Analysis of data of Small Medium Enterprises and rural unemployment as collected by national authorities; Analysis of data on food safety and volumes of trade of smallholders' products collected by national authorities (Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, Ministry of Health, National Institute of Statistics); Analysis of data on rural poverty collected by national authorities	- Completed  - Completed
		Availability of training material, including a manual on good practice that provides experience and procedures for rural development projects	No material available	- A study on environmental opportunities. - New pilot environmental intervention. (MADA) - No. 4 manuals developed (FAO): 1-Olive production and processing in view of EU regulatory framework requirements; 2-Vegetables production and processing in view of EU regulatory framework requirements 3-Sustainable breeding and small ruminants products in mountain areas in view of EU requirements 4-Rural development (income diversification, gender, youth etc.).		Environmental studies in two communes, Rrape and Gjegjan (Puke) completed. (MADA)
		Database on fisheries and aquaculture, a statistical background established	0	n/a		n/a
		Knowledge and skills on latest fisheries and aquaculture management and techniques provided to the people engaged in the fishery and aquaculture sector	0	n/a		Completed at the national and 3 municipalities level
		Small and medium businesses supported in the target rural mountain areas	Level when project/activities start	- 10 new business supported through grants - 10 rural business supported in the framework of CSF scheme - 16 schemes are still under implementation, to be completed and enter in the guarantee period		- completed (196 new business supported) - completed (19 rural business supported) -In progress
		Availability and use of national land consolidation strategy	0	n/a		n/a
		Number of small holders trained in good hygiene practices	0	n/a		n/a
Output 3.1.3 - Cultural Heritage	IAEA UNESCO	No. of national policies and strategies on tourism and cultural/natural heritage that are in line with international standards	National Law on culture upgraded to meet international standards but not yet approved or implemented. -National law on museums was last updated in 2003 -National law on tourism upgraded to int'l standards and approved in 2007 -Tourism Sector Strategy 2007-20013 approved and being implemented -Cultural Marketing Strategy drafted	n/a	New fiscal and financial mechanisms in place to ensure that international standards are adhered to implementation of the revised and endorsed Culture Sector Strategy started; Cultural heritage staff/trainees' assessment tools and questionnaires to be disseminated and filled in before and after the trainings/intervention to gauge the impact of intervention on the performance of the cultural heritage staff; Four artisans' incubators up and running. The number of artisan beneficiaries disaggregated by gender and the data reflecting enhanced participation in fairs/ events; Questionnaires to be filled by the artisan beneficiaries before and after the establishment of the incubators reflecting the increase in income generation disaggregated by gender.	n/a
		Availability of national strategy on culture is budgeted resourced	Draft exists	n/a		NSDI 2007-2013
		No. of culture heritage staff trained on protection, management and promotion of cultural and natural heritage	50 cultural heritage staff trained under various UNESCO programmes	20 (UNESCO)		Completed + 5 trained by IAEA (total of 25)
		No. of World Heritage (WH) properties extended and have enhanced management systems	2 WH properties already inscribed to the WH list by the Republic of Albania	1 (UNESCO)		Completed

### Outcome 3.2: Decentralization and Local Governance

Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 3.2.1 - Decentralization strategy	UNDP	Decentralization strategy under implementation with clear action plan, monitoring and evaluation framework and budget allocated	Existence of an incomplete version of 2008 requiring much elaboration and fine tuning	Formulation of the draft decentralization strategy by fall 2014	Decentralization Strategy; National Strategy for Development and Integration Progress Report; Administrative records from Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finance and/or Regional/local Authorities	In progress (approval during 2015)
		The existence of clear roles and competencies of first and second tiers of local government.	Unclear roles and competencies between central and local government hindering further efficiency of governance and service provision	Roles and competencies defined in the strategy		Postponed indefinitely (as the territorial reform did not deal with the second tier of local government)
		Gender mainstreamed in the decentralization strategy and fiscal reform	No gender indicators currently exists in the strategy	Integral part of the strategy formulation and outcome		In progress
Output 3.2.2 - Local Government capacities	UNDP	No. of functioning inter-municipal cooperation schemes developed including response to domestic violence	0	-A scheme of cooperation for mountainous tourism and development of "Alberghji Diffusi" in Shkodra region.  -One Territorial Employment Pact in Saranda area (depending on IADSA outcome)	Administrative records from Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finance and/or Regional/local Authorities; Inter-municipal cooperation legal and administrative documents; Annual Progress Report on the implementation of National Strategy on Gender-based violence and domestic violence 2011-2015; Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) concluding observations; Surveys and evaluations	- In progress and extended to 2015  - dropped as IADSA financing did not materialize
		No. of studies on service delivery performance and satisfaction levels for men and women	0	-Three assessments carried out during the year (depending on resource mobilization)		- dropped for lack of resources
Output 3.2.3 – Marginalized groups	UNDP UNAIDS	No. municipalities planning, budgeting and providing gender sensitive social services to most at risk populations	Baseline: 2 municipalities with gender responsive policies	To be determined first quarter 2014	Administrative records of districts, municipalities and communes; Annual work plans of districts, municipalities and communes; Score cards; Administrative records; Number of policy documents developed as a results of participation of Civil Society Organizations and marginalized group	3 local disability action plans imitated in three municipalities of the country
		No. of policies and plans on social services developed or improved with participation of Civil Society Organizations and marginalized groups	2011 Community Based Scorecards in 7 regions	To be determined first quarter 2014		The overall social care reform is under development and reported under output 4.1.2
		No. of regional coordination committees established	3 Regional Coordination Committees established	2 Regional Coordination Committees on Roma established		2 regional coordination committees established



Outcome 4.1: Social Inclusion						
Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 4.1.1 - Social Protection	UNWOMEN UNICEF IOM	No. of legal acts addressing issues related to trafficking in human beings and children	Legal provisions laid down in various anti-trafficking laws and by-laws	[target 2016]: 1 inclusive bill law on anti-trafficking	Administrative records, Living Standards Measurements Survey, Progress Report of Social Protection Strategy Mapping and assessment tool of Child Protection system; Administrative Records; State Social Services periodical reports Annual reports of Office of the National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator Trafficking in Persons Report Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings evaluation	Some amendments to the penal code with provisions related to VOTs approved in 2014
		% of identified Victims of Trafficking (VOTs) receiving assistance and protection	92 Victims of Trafficking assisted during 2012 95 Victims of Trafficking assisted during 2013	100% of the identified Victims of Trafficking during 2014, assisted, protected and reintegrated		125 VOTs and Potential VOTs identified and assisted (63 minors + 62 adults)
		Entitlement packages and eligibility criteria reformed in accordance with best global practice, to ensure that the needs of poor people are met	Entitlement package and eligibility criteria do not meet global standards	International standards and practices adopted to reform the social protection policy and legal frameworks in Albania		Cash Assistance ("ndihma ekonomike") effect on children analyzed (2012) Cash Assistance ("ndihma ekonomike") started to be distributed to women (instead of male heads of households) since 2014 Additional NE eligibility points added for children's school attendance and immunization
Output 4.1.2 - Social Inclusion	UNDP UNWOMEN UNICEF IOM UNFPA UNAIDS UNODC	% of vulnerable and most-at-risk groups that have access to quality basic services	30% of which at least 50% are women	Data on socially excluded groups elaborated and disaggregated by all possible categories of vulnerability (Roma and PWD)	Demographic Health Surveys; Bio-behavioral Surveillance Survey; United Nations General Assembly Special Session Universal Access indicators; State Social Services periodic reports; Social Inclusion Progress Report.	Draft analysis of CENSUS and LSMS data on Roma & Egyptians and PWD completed.
		New Social Inclusion (SI) Strategy, its Action Plan and Monitoring & Evaluation system developed in participatory way	National social protection and social inclusion strategies due to expire in 2012/2013	- New social inclusion (SI) strategy document and respective Action Plans adopted - New social protection strategy document and respective Action Plans adopted		Draft SI strategy (skeleton of the strategy elaborated) and SI Policy Document finalized. A new version of the national Social Protection Strategy drafted
		No. of new laws and secondary legislation supported to ensure conformity with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWD).	No laws and secondary legislation in place; concept of accessibility not understood as a cross-cutting issue	- Reform of disability assessment system initiated - New Law on Inclusion of and Accessibility for persons with Disabilities approved - n.2 by-laws for PWD approved		- In progress - Approved in July 2014 - n.1 by-law for PwD developed and consulted and another by-law developed during 2014
		No. of local government units with inclusive services in place	Not known	1 action plan for PWD developed and approved		Postponed for 2015
Output 4.1.3 - Child Protection	UNICEF	% of LGs with community care plans/integrated social services that protect vulnerable children and their families (including protection of adolescents from harm)	8%	Increase by 40%	Desk review reports, community care plan documents, Admin reports, prevalence and impact surveys, Trans Monee, Demographic Health Surveys	By end-2014, Child Protection Worker/Unit functions have been formally established in 52% of LGUs (in the old administrative/territorial division)
		% of social workers/CPWs equipped with basic social work knowledge and communications skills through pre and in service training	Not available. To be conducted in 2012	Baseline under the reform of social care services for 2014		Social workers' retraining program included in the MoSWY's plan of the social protection system reform; Law on Social Worker's Status approved in 2014.
		No. of harmonized child focused social services policies, actors and factors at central, regional and local level and child care system reformed (alternative care system for vulnerable children)	Assessment of existing systems, to be conducted in 2012.	Baseline under the reform of social care services for 2014		In progress: Comprehensive assessment / mapping of the national Child Protection policies, actors and factors at central, regional and local level launched in 2014 (to be finalized by mid-2015)

Outcome 4.1: Social Inclusion						
Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of Verification	Value of Indicator
Output 4.1.4 - Roma Support	UNDP UNICEF UNFPA UNAIDS	% of increased access to basic services for Roma boys and girls	25 % of Roma children do not access preschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local Roma and Egyptian Community Development Plans developed in regions of Korca, Berat and Vlora;</li> <li>- Local Governments where Roma live know about the importance of ECD for Roma children and take action for mainstreaming Roma children in preschools</li> </ul>	Roma survey UNDP and UNICEF; Approval of web-based system by Interministerial committee responsible for overseeing the implementation of Roma Decade Action Plan; Directives from line ministries which make the criteria for accessing public/social services more inclusive towards situation of Roma populations; 2011 survey; Government statistics	Completed  In target areas 2,000 Roma parents reached through family visits and information sessions on ECD (as part of "Every Roma Child in Kindergarten" initiative); 46% of Roma children identified as being out of school in late 2013 attend pre- and primary school in Nov. 2014
		Monitoring and reporting system of National Roma Decade National Action Plan (NAP) operational at central and local government level, and recalibration with EU Platform for Roma 2020	Six line ministries, and local governments units in all regions do not have a unified reporting on the 117 indicators of the NAP: Roma Decade framework ending in 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ROMALB reporting system institutionalized with Decision of Council of Ministers and utilized for producing Progress Reports;</li> <li>- Consultation process initiated with MoSWY and R/E civil society organizations for recalibrating Roma Decade with EU platform 2020</li> <li>- National Roma/Egyptian Inclusion policies aligned with EU Platform for Roma 2020</li> </ul>		Completed: Roma and Egyptian National Action Plan developed and consulted broadly in 2014.  Completed: the Action Plan is in line with the EU platform for Roma 2020.
		Criteria and guidelines in place for adapting social and public services to the specific needs of Roma/ Egyptian populations	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legal amendments on social welfare, transfer of residence, social housing, vocational trainings developed to ensure inclusion of R/E communities</li> <li>- Social Inclusion Strategy adopted reflecting R/E needs .</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- n.3 by-laws on the implementation of the existing legislation for social housing programs developed</li> <li>- The SI inclusion policy document, developed and consulted in 2014, set the foundation for the development of Roma and Egyptian Action Plan.</li> </ul>
Output 4.1.5 - Gender-based Violence	UNDP UNWOMEN UNICEF UNFPA	Number of local govt. units with provision for Domestic violence (DV) social services package in budget, based on Community Coordination Response costing	3 Target: 100%	1 additional LGU	UN Programme files, National Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, General Prosecutor Periodic/impact surveys, desk review reports/ assessments, admin reports/orders.	Completed (Municipality of Fier)
		The information system on Gender-based violence (GBV) is established and institutionalized	No system	National online database operational		Completed (REVALB -online tracking system of DV cases)
		No. of Gender-based violence cases addressed by Community Coordination Response (CCR)	959 cases (annually) coordinated and referred in multi-disciplinary teams in seven municipalities supported by the UN	At least 60% of the reported domestic violence cases are dealt with in a coordinated fashion in the 7 municipalities where there is a functional CCR		According to REVALB, in 2014 reported cases grew to 900 (vs. 400 in 2013) of which 333 from the 7 municipalities where the CCR is supported by the UN.
		Incidences of cases of Gender-based violence among children and young people is reduced through behavior change/social communication	72%	n/a		n/a

### Outcome 4.2: Education

Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of verification	Value of Indicator
Output 4.2.1 - Inclusive Pre-university Education	UNICEF UNFPA	Education law and policies incorporate child friendliness principles	Draft Pre-university Education Law	Child Friendly School (CFS) practices in target schools documented and inform the Gov't initiative of Schools as Community Centers (SCC)	Curriculum, administrative Records, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey/ Demographic Health Surveys; official reports; budget allocations, curriculum assessments, other surveys.	In progress  A draft Guideline Package is under development to ensure effective implementation of the SCC Initiative aligned with CFS Standards  Two new enhanced MoES instructions on the issue of "free-of-charge transportation and textbooks" are developed to ensure school attendance of the most marginalized students  A revised version of the Pre-University Education Law is planned to make the pre-primary year of schooling mandatory)
		% of out-of-school children (boys and girls) in sample areas that are considered to be especially affected	No precise data on out-of-school children (pending complete results of 2011 Census)	In sample areas, baseline data on Out-Of-School Children is collected and validated		In progress - MoU signed in December 2014 between MoES, MoH and Mol to allow tracking children currently out-of-school; data collection forms unified
		Inclusive curricula applied in primary and secondary education (including health education, cultural heritage, drug education, preschool, etc.)	New compulsory curriculum framework is being developed	Training materials are developed and modules ready for subsequent introduction in pre- and in-service training		In progress /Cross-curricular modules on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) for Grades 4-9 evaluated
Output 4.2.2 - Education for Active Citizenship	UNICEF	% of schools that provide an enabling environment for participation of female and male students and parents, especially from marginalized groups for stronger school accountability	Limited number of school boards/Student Groups/ Youth Parliament's interest groups and low level of participation of communities in education matters	Such data is not collected regularly at the school level; Indicator dropped as part of the Mid-Term Review of the Programme of Cooperation in 2014 and preparation of 2015-2016 monitoring framework	Curriculum, administrative Records, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey/Demographic Health Surveys; official reports; budget allocations, curriculum assessments, other surveys Periodical and Impact surveys	Dropped
		School is free of violence	About 20 % of teachers exercise some form of violence in school	Indicator assessed against baseline		Incidence of violence in teacher-to-student communication and behavior in public schools decreased by 10% in 2012-2013, compared to baseline
		School provides proper psycho-social support to children and youth, especially those disadvantaged	Weak and poorly resourced capacity of school psycho-social specialists	Needs and resource mapping completed, in collaboration with MoES		Needs assessment completed and training of school counsellors with focus on GBV conducted in 4 regions

Outcome 4.2: Education						
Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of verification	Value of Indicator
Output 4.2.3 - Education for Early Childhood Development	UNICEF	% of increase of access to preschool education, especially for the most vulnerable children	50 % of children (sex-disaggregated) attend preschools	At least 30% of children with vulnerable backgrounds attend preschool in target areas	Budget allocation by Ministry of Education and Science, other administrative record, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey/ Demographic Health Surveys, Impact surveys etc.	Completed / exceeded the 2014 target expectations  46% of Roma children identified as being out of school in late 2013, attend pre- and primary school by end-2014 - "Every Roma Child in Kindergarten" initiative
		% of children (sex-disaggregated), with a focus on the most vulnerable, achieving developmental readiness by the appropriate age	To be established	Such data is not collected regularly at the school level; Indicator dropped as part of the Mid-Term Review of the Programme of Cooperation in 2014 and preparation of 2015-2016 monitoring framework		Dropped
		% of families receiving support for parenting and communication programmes for marginalized/ excluded	No national parenting program	To be revised		In progress - In target areas of Roma major settlements, up to 2,000 Roma parents reached through family visits and information sessions on ECD - as part of the national "Every Roma Child in Kindergarten" initiative

Outcome 4.3: Health						
Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of verification	Value of Indicator
Output 4.3.1 - Health Insurance coverage	WHO UNICEF UNFPA UNAIDS	% of persons (sex-disaggregated) covered with health insurance	40%	10%	Admin records and surveys (Demographic Health Surveys, census etc.)	-
		% of blocks included in the health insurance package	Prevention and treatment are covered by the health insurance package  NO	1  YES		New prevention packages included in PHC service delivery: screening for population 40-65yrs, adolescent health, child screening for vision & hearing
Output 4.3.2 - Access and utilization of quality health services	WHO UNICEF UNFPA IAEA	% of most at risk people, including children and young people, accessing and utilizing the Basic Package as per defined protocols and clinical guidelines	60%	10%	Surveys, administrative data, Demographic Health Surveys Bio-behavioral Surveillance Survey	During 2014 Basic Package of PHC Services revised and approved with a Decision of the Council of the Ministers)
		% of at risk people that have access to preventive and treatment services for HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and unwanted pregnancies	Not known	1		n/a
		% of children stunted under age 5 (sex-disaggregated)	19% of children under age 5 are stunted	Indicator cannot be measured on annual basis. To be measured in the next ADHS		n/a
		No. of promotional activities for prevention of non-communicable diseases / NCD (cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, suicide, road safety, violence and injury)	0	n/a		Hands-on training of 10 key professionals, procurement & upgrade of specialized equipment leading to enhanced national capacity to provide specialized care for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of NCD)
		% of estimated cases diagnosed and treated per year for cancer and cardiovascular diseases through quality care services	45.3% of estimated cancer cases diagnosed and treated per year through quality care services	49% of estimated cancer cases diagnosed and treated per year through quality care services		- Achieved 51%
Output 4.3.3 - Health promotion	WHO UNICEF UNFPA UNAIDS	% use of growth monitoring charts in mother visits to health centers	52% in 2010	80%	Surveys Administrative Data Demographic Health Surveys	Target achieved in 2013
		% of adolescents that have access to correct information on HIV, drugs and sexually transmitted infections	35.8% of girls aged 15-19 years old and 21,2% boys of the same age group have HIV correct information	n/a		n/a
		% of families that have access to quality maternal, neonatal and child health services	20% of parents in target areas have knowledge on children and social emotional development	n/a		New service standards and protocols for Mother and Child Health (MCH) care facilities developed, introducing important changes in the provision of services aiming quality improvement, and increased access to these services

Outcome 4.4: Labour						
Results	Participating UN Organizations	Indicator	Baseline	Target 2014	Means of verifications	Value of Indicator
Output 4.4.1 - Employment policies	ILO UNWOMEN UNDP IOM	No. of Active Labour Market Measures (ALMM) implemented	4 new ALMM piloted for long-term unemployed, young people, women or disabled people	3	Labor Force Survey, Living Standards Measurements Survey National Employment Strategy Annual Report/study Annual report of Harmonized Indicators on Gender equality Annual Report/study Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities annual reports Statistics on work visas by the European Embassies in Tirana	Achieved - extensive changes occurred in the ALMM governance, particularly in setting new transparency standards in their operationalization. Scoring-card system designed for evaluating and selecting applicant enterprises for ALMMs.
		No. of effective and efficient Youth Employment Services (YES) established	5 YES established	3		Achieved
		Jobs created through No. of Active Labour Market Measures (sex-disaggregated)	300	50		Achieved - 260
		Wage data (sex-disaggregated and including for private sector) is provided in a user friendly and up to date manner for each quarter	sex-disaggregated data is available in a delayed and not user-friendly	n/a		n/a
		No. of migrant workers benefiting of bilateral labour/circular agreements implemented between Albania and European countries	4500 quotas available for 2011 for Albanian migrant workers to Italy; 4 bilateral agreements on labour /circular migration already in place	n/a (Project closed in 2013)		Achieved - as of end of 2013: 465 Albanian candidates trained and obtained the right to work in Italy; Employment arranged for 120 candidates; 36 specialists trained on registration; 3 training sessions in Tirana)
Output 4.4.2 - Social dialogue	ILO	Number of relevant recommendations made by the National Labour Council	15 recommendations made during 2010	Minimum 22 recommendations per year	Minutes of the National Labor Council Meetings, Annual reports of BSPSH (Union of the Independent Trade Unions of Albania) and KSSH (Confederation of Trade Unions), State Labour Inspectorate Annual Report, Official Journal, State Labour Inspectorate Webpage	Achieved - 23 recommendations
		Bipartite Social Dialogue developed at the branch, territorial and enterprise levels	Under developed bipartite social dialogue	n/a		Tripartite constituents trained in the prevention and settlement of labour disputes – dialogue between social partners in the workplace promoted).
		No. of work place accidents including fatalities and sex-disaggregated	111 work place accidents (98 men and 13 women) with 26 fatalities (25 men and 1 woman) in 2010	Accidents reduced by 1%		Not achieved
		Existence of policy and legislative framework around Occupational Safety and Health	National Strategy and Law on Occupational Safety and Health	National Strategic Policies on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) 2014-2020 prepared		Achieved - Legislation on OSH in line with EU acquis, transposing 17 EU OSH directives into national legislation, 7 of which have already been adopted
Output 4.4.3 - Life Long Learning (LLL) strategy	ILO UNWOMEN	Vocational Education and Training (VET) policies elaborated with special orientation toward lifelong learning and equal opportunities	Vocational Education & Training Strategy ending in 2011, National Vocational Education and Training Agency (Vocational Education & Training Council), ongoing work on Albanian Qualification Framework	National Employment and Skills 2014-2020 Strategy and Action Plan drafted and launched	Annual report of the National Vocational Education & Training Agency Project Report Annual Harmonized Indicators on Gender Equality report Project reports	Achieved  (Strategy and Action Plan prepared in line with EU vision and directives, and is gender aware)
		Subsidized training of women in rural and remote areas	0	500 (by end 2015)		In progress: (Rural women and women entrepreneurs running SMEs supported through mentoring and business networking; pilot initiative of Economic Cluster of Women in Dibra established).
		No. of vulnerable VET participants (by gender) at the secondary level by areas of Specialization	Unknown, target vulnerable groups and number of current VET participants from target vulnerable groups to be defined in three municipalities (Fier, Lezha and Elbasan)	--		--



## Annex B: Administrative Agent Financial Report on One UN Coherence Fund for 2014

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the Albania One UN Coherence Fund using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2014. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/AL100>.

### 1. SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

As of 31 December 2014, 10 contributors have deposited USD 32,814,819 in contributions and USD 386,483 has been earned in interest, bringing the cumulative source of funds to USD 33,201,302 (see respectively, Tables 2 and 3). Of this amount, USD 35,338,170 has been transferred to 17 Participating Organizations, of which USD 27,599,976 has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to USD 328,147. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the Albania One UN Coherence Fund as of 31 December 2014.

**Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2014 (in USD Thousands)\***

	Annual 2013	Annual 2014	Cumulative
<b>Sources of Funds</b>			
Gross Contributions	1,099	4,354	32,815
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	4	1	269
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations	1	1	118
<b>Total: Sources of Funds</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>4,356</b>	<b>33,201</b>
<b>Use of Funds</b>			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	3,046	4,024	35,338
Refunds received from Participating Organizations	-	(1)	(2,772)
<b>Net Funded Amount to Participating Organizations</b>	<b>3,046</b>	<b>4,022</b>	<b>32,566</b>
Administrative Agent Fees	11	44	328
Bank Charges	0	0	1
<b>Total: Uses of Funds</b>	<b>3,057</b>	<b>4,066</b>	<b>32,895</b>
<b>Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent</b>	<b>(1,953)</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>306</b>
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	1,969	16	-
<b>Closing Fund balance (31 December)</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>306</b>
Net Funded Amount to Participating Organizations	3,046	4,022	32,566
Participating Organizations' Expenditure	2,137	2,104	27,600
<b>Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations</b>			<b>4,966</b>

\*Due to rounding of numbers, totals may not add up. This applies to all numbers in this report.



## 2. PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2014.

**Table 2. Contributors' Deposits, as of 31 December 2014 (in USD Thousands)\***

Contributors	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013	Current Year Jan-Dec-2014	Total
Austria	1,215	-	1,215
Delivering Results Together	-	1,500	1,500
Expanded DaO Funding Window	3,825	-	3,825
European Union	3,475	-	3,475
Finland	394	-	394
The Netherlands	3,846	-	3,846
Norway	3,338	-	3,338
Spain	4,000	-	4,000
Sweden	5,648	1,742	7,390
Switzerland	2,720	1,112	3,832
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>28,460</b>	<b>4,354</b>	<b>32,815</b>

## 3. INTEREST EARNED

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent ('Fund earned interest'), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations ('Agency earned interest') where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA. As of 31 December 2014, Fund earned interest amounts to USD 268,801 and interest received from Participating Organizations amounts to USD 117,682, bringing the cumulative interest received to USD 386,483. Details are provided in the table below.

**Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2014 (in USD Thousands)\***

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013	Current Year Jan-Dec-2014	Total
<b>Administrative Agent</b>			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	267	1	269
<b>Total: Fund Earned Interest</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>269</b>
<b>Participating Organization</b>			
UNDP	84		84
UNIDO	4	0	4
UNFPA	22		22
UNWOMEN	6		6
UNESCO	1	0	1
UNODC		0	0
<b>Total: Agency earned interest</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>386</b>

#### 4. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2014, the AA has transferred USD 35,338,170 to 17 Participating Organizations (see list below). Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

**Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2014 (in USD Thousands)\***

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013			Current Year Jan-Dec-2014			Total		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
UNECE	30		30	50	(1)	48	80	(1)	78
FAO	315		315				315		315
IAEA	94		94				94		94
ILO	75		75				75		75
IOM	155		155	100		100	255		255
ITC	30		30				30		30
UNAIDS	95		95	65		65	160		160
UNCTAD	30		30	149		149	179		179
UNDP	13,681	(1,975)	11,706	1,869		1,869	15,550	(1,975)	13,575
UNEP	439		439				439		439
UNESCO	626	(121)	505	130		130	756	(121)	635
UNFPA	3,851	(33)	3,818	426		426	4,278	(33)	4,245
UNICEF	7,816	(365)	7,451	144		144	7,961	(365)	7,595
UNIDO	666	(143)	523				666	(143)	523
UNODC	249		249	15		15	264		264
UNWOMEN	2,375	(43)	2,332	972		972	3,347	(43)	3,304
WHO	787	(91)	696	104		104	891	(91)	800
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>31,315</b>	<b>(2,771)</b>	<b>28,544</b>	<b>4,024</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>4,022</b>	<b>35,338</b>	<b>(2,772)</b>	<b>32,566</b>

## 5. EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY RATES

All final expenditures reported for the year 2014 were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

### 5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is USD 32,566,078 and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to USD 27,599,976. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of 85 percent. The agencies with the three highest delivery rates are: IAEA with 100 percent, UNICEF with 96.91 percent and ILO with 96.11 percent.

**Table 5. Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2014 (in USD Thousands)\***

Participating Organization	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate %
		Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013	Current Year Jan-Dec-2014	Cumulative	
UNECE	78	29	0	29	36.80
FAO	315	278		278	88.33
IAEA	94	94		94	100.00
ILO	75	39	33	72	96.11
IOM	255	70	39	109	42.57
ITC	30	28		28	93.34
UNAIDS	160	20	26	47	29.11
UNCTAD	179	18	6	24	13.68
UNDP	13,575	10,407	901	11,308	83.30
UNEP	439	234	152	387	87.99
UNESCO	635	489	6	495	78.03
UNFPA	4,245	3,617	133	3,750	88.35
UNICEF	7,595	7,336	24	7,361	96.91
UNIDO	523	492	0	492	94.10
UNODC	264	131	98	229	86.86
UNWOMEN	3,304	1,633	663	2,296	69.51
WHO	800	578	22	600	75.02
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>32,566</b>	<b>25,496</b>	<b>2,104</b>	<b>27,600</b>	<b>84.75</b>

## 5.2 EXPENDITURE BY UNDAF OUTCOME

Table 6 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures incurred and the financial delivery rates by UNDAF Outcome.

**Table 6. Expenditure by UNDAF Outcome, as of 31 December 2014 (in USD Thousands)\***

Country/Sector	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013		Current Year Jan-Dec-2014		Total		Delivery Rate %
	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	
<b>Albania</b>							
ALB 2012 P1 Governance	3,873	2,861	2,075	914	5,948	3,776	63.48
ALB 2012 P2 Economy and Environment	1,373	1,082	0	68	1,373	1,150	83.77
ALB 2012 P3 Regional and Local Development	413	360	509	46	922	406	44.06
ALB 2012 P4 Inclusive Social Policy	3,397	1,899	1,439	923	4,835	2,821	58.35
Basic Services	7,322	7,322			7,322	7,322	100.00
Environment	1,388	1,337		152	1,388	1,490	107.32
Governance	8,070	8,020			8,070	8,020	99.37
Participation	2,190	2,135			2,190	2,135	97.48
Regional Development	518	481			518	481	92.83
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>28,544</b>	<b>25,496</b>	<b>4,022</b>	<b>2,104</b>	<b>32,566</b>	<b>27,600</b>	<b>84.75</b>

## 5.3 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY CATEGORY

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories. All expenditure incurred prior to 1 January 2012 have been reported in the old categories; post 1 January 2012 all expenditure are reported in the new eight categories. The old and new categories are noted to the right.

Table 7 reflects expenditure reported in the UNDG expense categories. Where the Fund has been operational pre and post 1 January 2012, the expenditures are reported using both categories. Where a Fund became operational post 1 January 2012, only the new categories are used.

2012 CEB Expense Categories	2006 UNDG Expense Categories
1. Staff and personnel costs	1. Supplies, commodities, equipment & transport
2. Supplies, commodities and materials	2. Personnel
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation	3. Training counterparts
4. Contractual services	4. Contracts
5. Travel	5. Other direct costs
6. Transfers and grants	6. Indirect costs
7. General operating expenses	
8. Indirect costs	

**Table 7. Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2014 (in USD Thousands)\***

Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013	Current Year Jan-Dec-2014	Total	
Supplies, Commodities, Equipment and Transport (Old)	1,836	-	1,836	7.13
Personnel (Old)	6,224	-	6,224	24.18
Training of Counterparts (Old)	372	-	372	1.44
Contracts (Old)	8,277	-	8,277	32.16
Other direct costs (Old)	1,217	-	1,217	4.73
Staff and Personnel Cost (New)	1,015	188	1,203	4.67
Supplies, Commodities, Materials (New)	(171)	12	(159)	(0.62)
Equipment, Vehicle, Furniture, Depreciation (New)	116	35	151	0.59
Contractual Services (New)	2,743	1,020	3,763	14.62
Travel (New)	407	115	522	2.03
Transfers and Grants (New)	900	251	1,151	4.47
General Operating (New)	833	348	1,181	4.59
<b>Programme Costs Total</b>	<b>23,769</b>	<b>1,967</b>	<b>25,737</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Indirect Support Costs Total	1,727	136	1,863	7.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,496</b>	<b>2,104</b>	<b>27,600</b>	

Indirect Support Costs: The timing of when Indirect Support Costs are charged to a project depends on each Participating Organization's financial regulations, rules or policies. These Support Costs can be deducted upfront on receipt of a transfer based on the approved programmatic amount, or a later stage during implementation.

Therefore, the Indirect Support Costs percentage may appear to exceed the agreed upon rate of 7% for on-going projects, whereas when all projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

**Table 8: Transfer of Funds and Expenditure by Participating Organization and One UN Programme of Cooperation Outcomes, 2012- 2014 (in USD Thousands)\***

Sector/ Project no. and Project Title	Participating Organization	Funds Transferred 2012 -2014	Total Expenditure 2012 - 2014	Delivery Rate %
00082435 Outcome 1.1: Strengthen public oversight, civil society and media institutions make authorities more accountable to the public, and better able to enforce gender equality commitments in planning, programming and budgeting processes	UNAIDS	10	10	100
	UNDP	607	696	114.54
	UNESCO	60	52	87.24
	UNFPA	20	19	96.8
	UNICEF	44	44	100
	UNODC	54	53	100
	UNWOMEN	514	514	100
<b>Total Outcome 1.1</b>		<b>1,309</b>	<b>1,388</b>	<b>106</b>
00082436 Outcome 1.2: Public administration will be supported to enhance capacities, practices and systems for effective delivery of national development priorities and international obligations	UNECE	18	18	100
	ILO	20	20	100
	UNDP	1,486	1,286	86.52
	UNESCO	33	32	96.62
	UNFPA	132	132	99.82
	UNICEF	105	92	88
	UNWOMEN	381	381	100
<b>Total Outcome 1.2</b>		<b>2,175</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>90</b>
00082437 Outcome 1.3: Government meets international obligations and standards for juvenile justice, managing migration and the fight against organized crime and corruption	IOM	105	86	81.75
	UNICEF	178	178	100
	UNODC	105	105	100
<b>Total Outcome 1.3</b>		<b>388</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>95</b>
00082438 Outcome 2.1 Government, trade organizations and the private sector support inclusive and sustainable economic growth through enhanced regulatory frameworks, trade facilitation and investment promotion	ITC	30	28	93.34
	UNCTAD	30	24	81.38
	UNDP	90	65	71.98
<b>Total Outcome 2.1</b>		<b>150</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>78</b>
00082439 Outcome 2.2: National authorities and institutions, the private sector and the general public protect, preserve and use natural resources more sustainably, with consideration to the impacts of climate change and to the achievement of European environmental standards	UNECE	11	11	100
	IAEA	15	15	100
	ILO	20	19	95.31
	UNDP	730	727	99.6
	UNEP	185	30	16.22
	UNESCO	39	39	98.8
	UNICEF	50	50	100
UNIDO	173	142	82.25	
<b>Total Outcome 2.2</b>		<b>1,223</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>84</b>

Sector/ Project no. and Project Title	Participating Organization	Funds Transferred 2012 -2014	Total Expenditure 2012 - 2014	Delivery Rate %
00082440 Outcome 3.1: Institutional capacities, frameworks and policies meeting international standards promote equitable and sustainable regional development focusing on land use and livelihoods for women and men, agriculture, tourism and cultural and natural heritage management	UNDP	134	134	99.74
	UNESCO	79	78	99.57
<b>Total Outcome 3.1</b>		<b>213</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>99.5</b>
00082441 Outcome 3.2: The public, including marginalized groups and communities, better receive equitable, inclusive and accountable decentralized services from regional and local governments	UNAIDS	40		0
	UNDP	230	179	77.9
	UNWOMEN	10	1	6.54
<b>Total Outcome 3.2</b>		<b>280</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>64</b>
00082442 Outcome 4.1: The rights of disadvantaged individuals and groups are equally ensured through legislation, inclusive policies, social protection mechanisms and special interventions	IOM	100	23	22.71
	UNAIDS	100	27	26.58
	UNDP	1,942	1,190	61.28
	UNFPA	409	280	68.44
	UNICEF	343	185	53.98
	UNODC	105	70	67.03
	UNWOMEN	391	177	45.38
<b>Total Outcome 4.1</b>		<b>3,390</b>	<b>1,952</b>	<b>58</b>
00082443 Outcome 4.2: Boys and girls over the age of 3 (including youth), especially from marginalized groups, participate in quality formal and informal education	UNICEF	74	74	100
	<b>Total Outcome 4.2</b>		<b>74</b>	<b>74</b>
00082444 Outcome 4.3: Health insurance is universal and quality, gender sensitive and age appropriate public health services available to all including at-risk populations	IAEA	79	79	100
	UNAIDS	10	10	100
	UNFPA	33	33	99.57
	UNICEF	151	151	100
<b>Total Outcome 4.3</b>		<b>490</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>80</b>
00082445 Outcome 4.4: All people better realize fundamental rights at work, have greater and inclusive employment opportunities, and can engage in a comprehensive social dialogue	ILO	35	33	94.34
	UNDP	106	106	99.81
	UNWOMEN	287	263	91.75
<b>Total Outcome 4.4</b>		<b>428</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>94</b>
00092621 ALB 2014 OC 1: Human Rights and gender equality considerations guide interactions between citizens and institutions.	UNDP	623	18	2.86
	UNESCO	31		0
	UNFPA	145		0
	UNWOMEN	286	19	6.54
<b>Total ALB 2014 OC 1 Human Rights</b>		<b>1,085</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3</b>

Sector/ Project no. and Project Title	Participating Organization	Funds Transferred 2012 -2014	Total Expenditure 2012 - 2014	Delivery Rate %
00092624 ALB 2014 OC 3: Governance and Rule of Law: the Albanian State executes major governance processes following internationally agreed democratic principles and practices, while upholding the rule of law and eliminating key factors of exclusion of women	UNECE	50		0
	UNCTAD	149		0
	UNDP	452		0
	UNFPA	32		0
	UNWOMEN	308	20	6.54
<b>Total ALB 2014 OC 3: Governance and Rule of Law</b>		<b>991</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>
00092625 ALB 2014 OC 4: Regional and Local Development: Government of Albania implements policies that advance democratic, equitable and sustainable regional and local development	IOM	50		0
	UNDP	159		0
	UNWOMEN	220	14	6.54
<b>Total ALB 2014 OC 4: Regional and Local Development</b>		<b>429</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6.54</b>
00092626 ALB 2014 OC 2: Inclusive Social Policy: the rights of individuals and groups are ensured through equitable, inclusive and evidence based sectoral policies.	UNESCO	99		0
	UNFPA	187		0
	UNICEF	64		0
	WHO	104		0
<b>Total ALB 2014 OC 2: Inclusive Social Policy</b>		<b>454</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



## 6. COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2014, were as follows:

- *The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:* 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period **USD 43,543** was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2014, **USD 328,147** has been charged in AA-fees.
- *Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:* Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period **USD 136,324** was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to **USD 1,863,159** as of 31 December 2014.
- *Direct Costs:* The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Secretariat services and overall coordination, as well as Fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as 'direct costs'. In 2014, there were no direct costs charged to the Fund.

## 7. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

## DEFINITIONS

### *Allocation*

Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

### *Approved Project/Programme*

A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

### *Contributor Commitment*

Amount(s) committed by a donor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

### *Contributor Deposit*

Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement.

### *Delivery Rate*

The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the 'net funded amount'.

### *Indirect Support Costs*

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7% of programmable costs.

### *Net Funded Amount*

Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

### *Participating Organization*

A UN Organization or other inter-governmental Organization that is an implementing partner in a Fund, as represented by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

### *Project Expenditure*

The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

### *Project Financial Closure*

A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

### *Project Operational Closure*

A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

### *Project Start Date*

Date of transfer of first instalment from the MPTF Office to the Participating Organization.

### *Total Approved Budget*

This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

### *US Dollar Amount*

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

## Annex C: Financial overview of 2014 total budget including all sources of funding

Status as of 31 December 2014	Available Budget		Total Available Budget	Total Funding Gap	Expenditures		Total Expenditures	Delivery rate in %
	Core/Regular	Non-Core/Other			Core/Regular	Non-Core/Other		
<b>1.1 Public Oversight Bodies and Institutions</b>	157,964	820,840	978,804	181,385	177,330	401,702	579,032	59%
<b>1.2 Public Administration</b>	250,348	754,365	1,004,713	456,200	196,018	493,843	689,861	69%
<b>1.3 Juvenile Justice, Migration and Fight against Crime</b>	1,743,405	115,414	1,858,819	190,000	1,727,576	72,635	1,800,211	97%
<b>2.1 Economic Governance</b>	97,500	432,750	530,250	1,050,000	97,500	160,500	258,000	49%
<b>2.2 Environment</b>	148,827	951,602	1,100,429	2,295,000	101,062	900,058	1,001,120	91%
<b>3.1 Regional and Rural Development</b>	3,541,566	1,067,119	4,608,685	80,128	2,175,796	532,376	2,708,172	59%
<b>3.2 Decentralization and Local Governance</b>	97,458	1,463,071	1,560,529	550,000	86,227	1,359,722	1,445,949	93%
<b>4.1 Social Inclusion</b>	519,674	3,515,086	4,034,760	555,000	532,079	2,861,961	3,394,040	84%
<b>4.2 Education</b>	111,146	390,936	502,082	218,000	61,146	280,026	341,172	68%
<b>4.3 Health</b>	663,320	412,376	1,075,696	700,000	577,411	98,913	676,324	63%
<b>4.4 Labour</b>	16,331	2,305,735	2,322,066	310,163	22,177	2,216,369	2,238,546	96%
<b>Programme of Cooperation: TOTAL in USD</b>	<b>7,347,538</b>	<b>12,229,294</b>	<b>19,576,833</b>	<b>6,585,876</b>	<b>5,754,322</b>	<b>9,378,104</b>	<b>15,132,427</b>	<b>75%</b>

## Annex D: National implementing partners and participating UN Organizations

### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

AIDA	Albanian Investment Development Agency	<a href="http://www.aida.gov.al">www.aida.gov.al</a>
DDPFFA	Department of Development Programming, Financing and Foreign Aid	<a href="http://www.kryeministria.al">www.kryeministria.al</a>
INSTAT	National Institute of Statistics	<a href="http://www.instat.gov.al">www.instat.gov.al</a>
MADA	Mountain Areas Development Agency	<a href="http://www.redeval.org">www.redeval.org</a>
MoARDWA	Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration	<a href="http://www.bujqesia.gov.al">www.bujqesia.gov.al</a>
MoC	Ministry of Culture	<a href="http://www.kultura.gov.al">www.kultura.gov.al</a>
MoD	Ministry of Defence	<a href="http://www.mod.gov.al">www.mod.gov.al</a>
MoEDTE	Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Entrepreneurship	<a href="http://www.ekonomia.gov.al">www.ekonomia.gov.al</a>
MoES	Ministry of Education and Sports	<a href="http://www.arsimi.gov.al">www.arsimi.gov.al</a>
MoEI	Ministry of Energy and Industry	<a href="http://www.energija.gov.al">www.energija.gov.al</a>
MoE	Ministry of Environment	<a href="http://www.mjedisi.gov.al">www.mjedisi.gov.al</a>
MoF	Ministry of Finance	<a href="http://www.financa.gov.al">www.financa.gov.al</a>
MoH	Ministry of Health	<a href="http://www.shendetesia.gov.al">www.shendetesia.gov.al</a>
MIPA	Minister of State for Innovation and Public Administration	<a href="http://www.inovacioni.gov.al">www.inovacioni.gov.al</a>
Mol	Ministry of Interior	<a href="http://www.punetebrendshme.gov.al">www.punetebrendshme.gov.al</a>
MoJ	Ministry of Justice	<a href="http://www.drejtesia.gov.al">www.drejtesia.gov.al</a>
MLG	Minister of State for Local Government	<a href="http://www.kryeministria.al">www.kryeministria.al</a>
MoSWY	Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth	<a href="http://www.sociale.gov.al">www.sociale.gov.al</a>
MoUDT	Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism*	<a href="http://www.ekonomia.gov.al">www.ekonomia.gov.al</a>
Ombudsman	National Ombudsman Office	<a href="http://www.avokatipopullit.gov.al">www.avokatipopullit.gov.al</a>

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\* Integrated within the Ministry of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade and Entrepreneurship in February 2015

## **PARTICIPATING UN AGENCIES, FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES**

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	<a href="http://www.fao.org">www.fao.org</a>
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency	<a href="http://www.iaea.org">www.iaea.org</a>
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	<a href="http://www.ifad.org">www.ifad.org</a>
ILO	International Labour Organization	<a href="http://www.ilo.org">www.ilo.org</a>
IOM	International Organization for Migration	<a href="http://www.iom.int">www.iom.int</a>
ITC	International Trade Center	<a href="http://www.intracen.org">www.intracen.org</a>
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	<a href="http://www.unaids.org">www.unaids.org</a>
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	<a href="http://www.unctad.org">www.unctad.org</a>
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	<a href="http://www.undp.org">www.undp.org</a>
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	<a href="http://www.unece.org">www.unece.org</a>
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme	<a href="http://www.unep.org">www.unep.org</a>
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	<a href="http://www.unesco.org">www.unesco.org</a>
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund	<a href="http://www.unfpa.org">www.unfpa.org</a>
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	<a href="http://www.unhcr.org">www.unhcr.org</a>
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund	<a href="http://www.unicef.org">www.unicef.org</a>
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization	<a href="http://www.unido.org">www.unido.org</a>
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	<a href="http://www.unodc.org">www.unodc.org</a>
UNV	United Nations Volunteers	<a href="http://www.unv.org">www.unv.org</a>
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	<a href="http://www.unwomen.org">www.unwomen.org</a>
WHO	World Health Organization	<a href="http://www.who.int">www.who.int</a>







OFFICE OF THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR - ALBANIA  
"Skënderbej Street", Gurten Building, 2nd floor, Tirana

[www.un.org.al](http://www.un.org.al)

 United Nations Albania  @UN\_Albania