GOVERNMENT OF ALBANIA & UNITED NATIONS

PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2017-2021

2017 Joint Work Plans - Mid Year Review

CONTENTS

- Mid-Year Progress & Challenges
- 2017 Financial Overview
- Communication & Visibility
- Sustainable Development Goals

Continuing on the 'Deliver as One' path, 8 resident and 9 non-resident agencies of UN Albania continue to combine their expertise and experience in support of Albania's development priorities, providing more coherence, better results and greater impacts in the country.

Outcome 1 – Governance and Rule of Law

State and civil society organisations perform effectively and with accountability for consolidated democracy in line with international norms and standards

National Development Goals: Accession to the European Union; Good Governance, Democracy and the Rule of Law
SDGs 5, 10, 16

OUTPUT 1.1 HUMAN RIGHTS
OUTPUT 1.2 ANTI-CORRUPTION AND RULE OF LAW
OUTPUT 1.3 LOCAL GOVERNANCE
OUTPUT 1.4 ACCESS TO JUSTICE
OUTPUT 1.5 MAINSTREAMING GENDER AND GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING
OUTPUT 1.6 MIGRATION AND ASYLUM

OUTCOME CHAIRS

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
UN WOMEN REPRESENTATIVE
UNDP COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Constitutional, ministerial and independent mechanisms are reinforced to identify and report human rights violations and enable evidence based policy making and response

Contributing UN agencies: UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF, UNODC, UNHCR, IOM
Contributing Partners: Sida, SDC, Swedish National Committee for UNICEF

OUTPUT 1.1 HUMAN RIGHTS

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNFPA & MOSWY

Priority Focus 2017

- Ensure government's ability to monitor progress on efforts to strengthen implementation of recommendations from International Human Rights Conventions, Treaties and regular National Reports
- Improve evidence for actions taken in line with observations/recommendations deriving from normative reporting - monitoring and tracking mechanisms of international instruments is being established
- Generate stronger political engagement by Parliament and human rights institutions to strengthen public accountability mechanisms and increase outreach to vulnerable people

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Improve Monitoring and Strengthen Accountability

- Human Rights Action Plan on implementation of UPR and CEDAW recommendations finalized. (MFA/UN Women/UNFPA)
- Development of a web based platform to integrate HR Action Plan and ensure monitoring of HR international legal instruments initiated, to be finalized in 2017Q3/functional in 2017Q4. (UNFPA)
- Ombudsman issued-report on “conditions and treatment of children in institutions of custody, pre-trial detention and prisons”, recommended General Department of Prisons to close down juvenile section at Shen Koll detention facility in Lezha. (UNICEF/Child Rights Observatory)

Women Empowerment

- Sex-disaggregated data on women voters and candidates reported for first time on Parliamentary Elections. (CEC/UN Women)
- For the first time, 59 women political candidates from all political spectrum participated jointly in12 public forums held in all regions of Albania and benefited from engagement with voters. (UN Women)
- Over 73,000 women and men voters informed on gender equality in elections, participation in elections, gender quota and women representation. (UN Women)
- 100 first time voters (Gjirokastra, Korca, Vlora, Shkodra, Durres, Tirana) trained through “Parliamentary Debate on Gender Equality – Research Package” and “Manual on Leadership”. 36 of them became Gender Equality Advocates. (UN Women)
- 2 new Alliances of Women Counselors (Elbasan, Lushnja) established with elected Board, Status and Strategic Workplan. 5 Alliances (Berat, Korca, Elbasan, Lushnja, Tirana) instituted a network to engage in sharing of best practices/peer support - key commitment to work jointly on women’s HR agenda. (UN Women)

Generate Data for stronger Evidence

- Study "Gender Quota and Women’s Substantive Representation of Women in Municipal Councils in Albania“ finalized and published. (UNDP).
- INSTAT designed child-focused module of indicators as part of its Official Statistics Programme 2017-2021. (UNICEF)
- INSTAT’s annual publication “Women and Men in Albania” enriched with 15 additional child specific indicators, in areas of demographics, health, justice, education and labour. (UNICEF)
- Assessment conducted on data management systems and processes of line Ministries/institutions on children access to justice - informed discussions with stakeholders to improve quality of data. (INSTAT/UNICEF)
- Capacities of INSTAT’s technical staff strengthened through regional workshop “Design and Planning of Multi Cluster Indicators Survey/Demographic Health Survey (DHS)” and procurement/delivery of measurement supplies conducted, to be utilized in Albania’s DHS data collection. (UNICEF)

Empower through Innovation

- For first time students/young activists designed innovative tool to increase women and girls participation in free voting process - "LIVING MASCOT“ was the wining prototype interacting over 2500 people in market places (Roskovec, Bishqem (Peqin), Prrenjas, Mallakaster). (UNDP)

Main Challenges 2017

The political context during the first half of 2017 influenced timelines/methodology of interventions and impacted the following deliverables:

- The research on Gender Equality in Political Parties, envisaged to be used as an advocacy tool before elections for women's candidate and gender quota, will be launched in second half 2017 as its preparation did not receive adequate attention from Political Parties.
- The support to 'Elections Situation Room' - monitoring methodology to prepare a gender sensitive Index on elections - was not materialized as the Room seized operating due to lack of funding. Index to be launched during second half of 2017.
- Effective child rights monitoring and reporting by State Agency for Child Rights and Protection might be hampered due to lack of a consolidated monitoring framework, to be introduced in the upcoming months by the sub legislation of recently adopted Child Rights and Protection Law.

Funding Constraints:

The anticipated funding gap of US $368,000 requires additional fundraising efforts to support (i) operationalization of HR monitoring web-based platform; (ii) capacity development of stakeholders and beneficiaries (8 advocacy/training sessions); (iii) improvements in legislative/policy HR environment and services.

National public administration has greater capacity to improve access to information, address corruption and organized crime, and engage CSOs and media in efforts to strengthen monitoring of reform efforts.

Contributing UN agencies: UNDP, UNESCO, UNODC, WHO, UNFPA, IOM
Contributing Partners: EU, Austria, Italy, Sida, SDC, USA Government; UK Government

OUTPUT 1.2 ANTI-CORRUPTION AND RULE OF LAW

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNDP & MIPA, MIA, MOJ

Priority Focus 2017

- Consolidation of rule of law and contribution to advancement of public administration reform through capacity development of public institutions, direct support to anti-corruption and fight against organized crime, and promotion of civic and media engagement.

  - ✓ Strengthen Public Administration
    - Support ADISA service delivery facilities expansion regionally (3 offices in 2017; 2 additional in 2018)
    - Raise awareness on public service delivery reform: Mania Card campaign on ADISA's dedicated number 118-00 for information on public services
    - Undertake studies on innovative service delivery: scoping Blockchain technology for land/property registry; prefeasibility study for broadband connectivity for covering Albania's' "white areas" with high speed internet
    - Conduct a citizens' perception survey on governance: annual Trust in Government survey 2017

  - ✓ Advance anti-corruption and Organized Crime fighting efforts
    - Enhance capacities of Office of the National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator to improve evidence-based planning and reporting
    - Advance container control efforts in Durres Port
    - Define and activate legal and policy measures and operational tools against illicit trafficking of cultural objects

  - ✓ Promote civic & media engagement and objectivity
    - Reinforce national media accountability mechanisms through national consultations
    - Establish a media platform on issues related to sexual and reproductive health rights of women, youth and vulnerable populations
    - Cooperate with AMA on inclusion and monitoring of indicators related to children, young people's and women's rights observance

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Strengthen Public Administration

- Results of 4th edition "Trust in Governance" survey launched (Feb), alerting least trusted institutions for 4th successive year - judicial, legislative and executive branches - though improved from previous year. (UNDP)
- A prefeasibility study for broadband connectivity, assess situation, investment type and volume for covering Albania's' "white areas" with high speed internet, is being implemented as part of service delivery reform. (MIPA/UNDP)
- Architectural expertise provided for establishment of ADISA Citizen Service Centers (Kruje, Fier, Gjirokaster); scoping on application of Blockchain technology in Albania's land/ property registry domain; Mania Card campaign (May) raised awareness on ADISA's dedicated number 118-00 for information on public services. (UNDP)

Advance Anti-corruption and Organized Crime efforts

- Programme on "Enhancing capacities to fight against illicit trafficking of cultural properties and establishing a digitized inventory of cultural property" is being implemented – 6 exports trained as ToT along with 60 professionals from relevant institutions. (MoC/NCCPI/UNESCO)
- Durres Port Control Unit benefited from donation of HazMatID 360 equipment (chemical identification system for detecting unknown solids, gels and liquids, including illicit narcotics). Personnel will be trained (Oct.) on its usage. (UNODC)

Promote civic/media engagement and objectivity

- Reinforcing national media accountability mechanisms through national consultations on MIL (Media & Information Literacy) policies/strategies initiated under project "Building trust in media in South East Europe and Turkey". (UNESCO)
- AMA being supported on inclusion and monitoring of indicators related to young people's and women's rights observance - meetings/provision of inputs into AMA's strategic documents/policies. (UNFPA)
- A media platform established on understanding/reporting on issues related to sexual and reproductive health rights of women, youth and vulnerable populations. (UNFPA/CSOs)
- Capacity building of 19 journalists (various press, electronic/online media) held on child marriage, modern contraception and teenage abortions. (UNFPA)

Main Challenges 2017

- Despite progress in initiating the judicial reform, much remains to be done for its implementation, for further curbing organized crime and corruption, build an effective public administration and deepen democratization. Progress in these areas is essential for EU accession.
- Public administration, at central and local levels, lacks sufficient expertise in specific areas, such as the culture of evidence-informed policy making, capacities in monitoring and evaluation, accountability systems.
- Maintaining contacts and enhancing cooperation in the area of intelligence exchange might be impeded by lack of funding – minimal funding needed $30,000.

Funding Constraints:

The anticipated funding gap of US $627,540 requires additional fundraising efforts to support (i) capacity development for evidence based planning and reporting of Office of National anti-trafficking Coordinator; (ii) capacity building of relevant national institutions to prevent illicit trafficking of cultural properties; (iii) improvements in information systems for analysis, assessment and management of drug control strategies; and (iv) establishment/capacity building of networks of health/social journalists/media on monitoring and reporting on human rights issues.

Local Government Units (LGUs) are able to deliver equitable, quality services and strengthen influence of citizens in decision-making.

Contributing UN agencies: UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF
Contributing Partners: EU, Italy, Sida, SDC, USAID

OUTPUT 1.3 LOCAL GOVERNANCE

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNDP & MOLGI

Priority Focus 2017

- Make UNDP's STAR2 programme operational and start implementing main blocks of assistance in all 61 municipalities with focus on improved local service delivery.
  - ✓ Complete, a first of its kind, nationwide Local Governance Mapping – baseline of local governance effectiveness and efficiency as perceived by the public
  - ✓ Develop and launch a One-Stop-Shop service delivery model (benefiting over 85% of Albanian LGUs) based on operating models in Albania, international experience and adoption of an optimal, feasible and consensual approach
  - ✓ Develop and start implementing a national plan supporting improvement, reorganization and standardization of physical archiving for all local governments
  - ✓ Design tools to enhance municipal capacities to promote and improve transparency, accountability, participation and overall good governance aspects in compliance and response to legislation/policies in place
- Empower grassroots women to engage and participate in local decisions that affect their lives – extent CBS (Community-Based Scorecards) in 6 municipalities/ 16 administrative units

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Advance Territorial Administrative Reform - UNDP's STAR2 programme

- A Local Governance Mapping conducted across all LGUs, assessing level/practices of good local governance from citizens' and municipal officials' points of view. A National Report on findings completed (July) and launched (end Sept) along with an LG Mapping Online Portal. (MSLI/UNDP)
- An agreed approach on local government physical archiving standards developed and a 14-months assistance implementation plan started (Aug). (MSLI/UNDP)
- Municipal capacities strengthened to provide equal access to quality integrated sexual and reproductive health services and improve performance monitoring - national CSO "youth voice" platform established with a 3-year strategy and operational plan. Platform's formal registration is being developed. (UNFPA)

Empower Grassroots Women

- Six new Community-Based Scorecards prepared by a network of CSOs and Citizen Advisory Panels, prioritizing needs of women and men in six municipalities (Kukës, Lezhë, Vorë, Roskovec, Patos, Saranda) and 16 administrative units - engaged 572 persons; 22 focus groups; 6 public fora held in urban/rural areas. (UN Women/USAID)
- A CBS national conference organized (June) to inform and advocate relevant stakeholders on findings of all six CBS reports - 86 participants from 6 municipalities, MSLI, development partners, CSOs, others. (UN Women)

Main Challenges 2017

STAR2, the major UN assistance programme on local governance:

- encountered delays and went through successive revisions, consultations and simplifications in a prolonged inception period
- counterpart institutional leadership change in early 2017 affected implementation pace
- pre-general elections period until end June 2017 resulted in some distraction in coordination with central and local levels
- programme needs to swiftly adapt to a new institutional and policy development setup, as a result of June national elections

Funding Constraints:

The anticipated funding gap of US $280,000 requires additional fundraising efforts to support (i) budgeting/piloting of youth education and SRH in at least 6 municipalities; (ii) capacity development of local administrations and deconcentrated health, education and social protection structures to plan, budget and deliver social care services for vulnerable families and children.

Children and vulnerable adults/groups have equitable access to a friendlier justice system, and juvenile justice is administered per the international standards

Contributing UN agencies: UNICEF, UNDP

OUTPUT 1.4 ACCESS TO JUSTICE

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNICEF & MOJ

Priority Focus 2017

- Develop legislative/policy frameworks and mechanisms/tools:
  - ✓ Criminal Justice for Children Code adopted – a major breakthrough in legal framework on children in conflict with the law/children victims and witnesses
  - ✓ Legal Aid Law draft prepared and consulted
  - ✓ First National Justice for Children Strategy developed and ready for public consultations
  - ✓ Equitable Access to Justice Assessment to inform policy making finalized
  - ✓ Online integrated tracking system of children in contact with criminal law is now a mandatory tool for monitoring
  - ✓ The Authority on Access to Information on former State Security Service first Strategic Document 2017-2020 approved

- Enable equitable and inclusive service delivery
  - ✓ Four (pilot) district courts equipped with free legal aid centers to offer primary legal aid and secondary legal aid services to vulnerable citizens

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Advance legislative/policy frameworks & mechanisms/tools

- Criminal Justice for Children Code adopted – a major breakthrough in legal framework on children in conflict with the law/children victims and witnesses. (MoJ/UNICEF)
- The first National Justice for Children Strategy developed and is ready for public consultations. (MoJ/UNICEF)
- Child Rights and Protection Law developed and adopted, recognizing 'right of child to participate and be heard' in every process affecting them - establishing a cornerstone in ensuring equitable access to justice for children. (MoJ/UNICEF)
- Access to Justice Assessment (A2J) initiated in 5 regions (Tirana, Shkodra, Permet, Vlora, Mat). (MoJ/UNDP)
- The online integrated tracking system of children in contact with criminal law is now a mandatory tool for monitoring as per Justice for Children Criminal Code. (MoJ/UNICEF)
- Draft law on legal aid improved from perspective of citizens' access to justice. Parliament will review and start procedures for law approval in 2017Q3/Q4. (UNDP/Euralius/Legal Aid NGOs).

Enable equitable and inclusive service delivery

- Close to 200 children in conflict with the law received services of socio-economic reintegration and victim-offender mediation. (CSOs/Probation/UNICEF)
- Legal aid centers are being established at Court premises in Tirana, Durres, Lezha and Fier to offer primary legal aid and secondary legal aid services to vulnerable citizens. (UNDP/Legal Aid NGOs/MoJ/Courts)
- An assessment of legal aid providers identified 5 NGOs with positive records in offering high quality legal aid services to marginalized communities - potential partners to manage Legal Aid Centers and offer legal aid services. (UNDP)
- Albanian Authority on Access to Information on former State Security Service developed the "Authority" Strategic Document 2017-2020. "Authority" supported in strengthening internal capacities, increase its outreach to public and interest groups, and rehabilitation of its premises. (Authority/UNDP)

Main Challenges 2017

- Delayed finalisation and adoption of Justice for Children Strategy and mobilisation of stakeholders and resources for the implementation of legal/policy documents on justice for children.
- Lack of coordinated approach to Juvenile Justice Reform process; parallelism in UN and EU efforts.
- It is essential for Parliament to review and approve the Legal Aid Law as part of Justice reform. Well coordinated lobby needs to be in place among UN and other relevant stakeholders to ensure the new law guarantees equal and unhindered access to justice for the most marginalized populations.

Funding Constraints:

The anticipated funding gap of US $223,000 requires additional fundraising efforts to support the implementation of several legislative policy documents developed earlier and scale-up pilot initiatives on free legal aid

State institutions have capacities and mechanisms to mainstream gender in policy-making and planning processes.

Contributing UN agencies: UN Women, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNODC
Contributing Partners: Sida, Austria

OUTPUT 1.5 MAINSTREAMING GENDER AND GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS - UN WOMEN & MOSWY

Priority Focus 2017

- Engender legislative review/public policy processes in the entire cycle of policy planning, programming and budgeting at central and local levels, increase knowledge/capacities of civil servants in line ministries/LGUs and CSOs, and improve institutional response in various sectors (i.e. property, parental rights, execution of court decisions, justice)
- Advance government's EU integration agenda through coaching and guidance for absorption and implementation of EU gender equality legislation and directives, targeted engagement/coordination with partners across sectors, and establishment of national gender mechanisms within these processes
- Enable availability of high quality, comparable and gender statistics to address national data gaps and satisfy national reporting and requirements on gender equality

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Engender legislative/policy processes and improve institutional response

- A shadow report submitted to GoA's 4th periodic report to CEDAW 64th session. Report recommendations reflected in CEDAW concluding observations and framed in work plans of Ombudsman, CPD, CSOs. (UNDP/UN Women/CLCI)
- A complete package with recommendations on Family Code, Civil Procedural Code, Criminal Code and Law on the Execution of Criminal Decisions delivered to MoJ with direct positive impact on women's economic rights. (MoJ/UNDP/CLCI)
- 2 amendments to draft law "on Notaries" submitted to Chamber of Notaries/MoJ for better positioning of GE perspective on issues of "inheritance" and "procedures for transfer of immovable property under marital property regime". (MoJ/UN Women)
- 2 unified administrative practices issued by IPRO guaranteeing women and men enjoy equal property entitlements. (IPRO/UN Women)
- 9 legal amendments/administrative acts, integrating gender perspective in property legislation, submitted to relevant authorities. (UN Women)
- A new precedent established on cross-border execution of final court decisions on child alimony and 5 cases successfully litigated will enable women in similar divorce cases to benefit in the future. (MoJ/Tirana First Instance Court/UNDP)
- 21 MTBP 2018-2020 include gender objectives/targets and budget of 11 line ministries. (MoF/MoSWY/UN Women)
- GRB included as a legal requirement in Local Government Financial Management cycle. (UN Women)
- NSDI 2015 – 2020 and monitoring framework evaluated on inclusion of GE elements, feeding into NSDI revision process to be initiated in late 2017. (DDFA/UN Women)
- Përmet Municipality signed "European Charter for equality of women and men in local life". (EUD/GEF/UN Women)

Strengthen gender statistics and institutional capacities

- Sex-disaggregated statistics enriched through INSTAT's annual publication Women and Men in Albania. (INSTAT/UN Women)
- INSTAT will be supported to strengthening gender statistics and establishing EU GE Index - periodic monitoring of GE and status of women in line with EU methodology. (INSTAT/UN Women)
- Gender inputs provided to draft EU IPA Action Document on Sustainable Tourism Development. (GEF/UN Women)
- Guidelines launched on Gender Mainstreaming in Container Control Programme, assisting Customs Administration/Police to integrate gender in work related aspects. (UNODC)
- 282 law professionals developed capacities on women's property rights and entitlements in Durres, Tirana, Elbasan, Lushnja, Berat, Kukes, Fier, Saranda, Korca and Pogradec. (UN Women)
- 74 women received legal assistance/information on property rights and entitlements, including court representation for individual disputes. (UN Women)
- 4,500 citizens in 10 cities reached through street campaigns on women's access to property rights. A Facebook page "Te drejtat e pronesise ne kendveshtrimin gjinor" established and delivered messages to the public. (UN Women)
- 40 high-level police leaders trained on GE, GBV and on preventing/addressing harassment and sexual harassment in ASP. 5 other training sessions envisaged in 2017Q4. (UN Women/ICITAP)
- 213 school principals advanced skills to mainstream GE and non-discrimination elements in formative programme of school principals. (IDE/UNICEF)
- Advocacy work carried out with Faculty of Nursing to mainstream gender in syllables/ lecture plans - list of proposed topics prepared. (UNFPA)

Main Challenges 2017

- Delayed disbursement of EU IPA funds for implementing the follow up UN Women GEF Phase II (under EU Integration Facility). In the interim, UN Women maintains the Gender Equality Facility under minimum bridging funds to keep momentum until EU IPA 2017 funds are released.
- Integration of gender equality considerations/goals into national strategies, action plans, budgets and monitoring frameworks across government and reform areas needs to be enhanced to ensure effective use of IPA support, EU GAP II implementation, and positive impact of reform measures on citizens as beneficiaries of EU money.
- Although MoF and MoSWY lead GRB initiatives at national level, line ministries face a knowledge and ability gap to mainstreaming gender in programme budgets. Gender Mainstreaming and GRB should be included in ASPA's curricula.
- Lack of continuity and availability of long-term funding in the area of gender mainstreaming risks to drive many positive developments into 'unfinished business' and/or "backward steps".
- Lack of sustainable support to CSOs to continue with litigation cases and removal of discriminatory provisions may lead to weak advocacy work. CSOs should be supported with resources to advocate for mainstreaming gender in legislation implementation and policy making processes.

Funding Constraints:

The anticipated funding gap of US $130,000 requires additional fundraising efforts to support (i) coherent gender mainstreaming across all sectors serving as a basis for IPA sector budget support; (ii) establishment of a routine monitoring of gender sensitive indicators, illustrating gaps in women and men's socio-economic status, resulting in adjusting prioritization of planning and budgeting; (iii) CSOs to litigate 3 cases and advocate for removal of discriminatory practices from 2 more pieces of legislation.

Government authorities have strengthened capacities to enhance effective migration and asylum management.

Contributing UN agencies: UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, WHO
Contributing Partners: EU, CEB, USA Government, Government of Netherland

OUTPUT 1.6 MIGRATION AND ASYLUM

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – IOM, UNHCR & MOIA

Priority Focus 2017

- Improve Policy Framework for Migration Governance in line with European/international standards
- Strengthen Albania's management structures to provide improved response to refugees and others in need of international protection - access to asylum and improving reception conditions, particularly for Persons with Specific Needs
- Build up national systems of preparedness and response to various facets of migration - data collection, monitoring and management; capacity to address emergency interventions; operational procedures for treatment of unaccompanied/migrant children in Albania

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Advance legal/policy framework

- Work flow developed describing first contact point of a asylum seeker and refugee person/child in Albania, including indication of procedural glitches, legal/policy framework and durable solutions. (MoIA/UNHCR/UNICEF)
- A strategy document addressing children affected by statelessness drafted; implementation will start with identification of focal points/agencies in new Government structures. (MoIA/UNICEF/UNHCR)
- Analysis of asylum system in Albania finalized/shared with GoA, including legal framework, procedural standards and correlation with international standards, and concrete recommendations. (MoIA/UNHCR)

Strengthen Management Structures

- National Asylum Center capacity doubled with infrastructure extension. (MoIA/UNHCR/UNDP/EU)
- Gjirokastra Municipality Social Center renovated for temporary accommodation of asylum seekers/persons with specific needs during/after border pre-screening – hosts 15 persons. (Gjirokastra Municipality/General Directorate of Border/Migration Police/UNHCR)
- Registration and Temporary Accommodation Centre for irregular migrants established in Gërhot/Gjirokastër (within premises of Border and Migration Police Directorate) – hosts 60 persons & additional space for police to process irregular *migrants entering Albania. (MoIA/IOM)*

Build up national systems of preparedness and response

- National event on "Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration" and "Global Compact on Refugees" organized (May), aiming to an improved coordination/cooperation on international migration. (MoIA/IOM/UNHCR)
- Inter-country lessons learned workshop "Migrant health services along European migration routes" took place in Belgrade, Serbia. Representatives of Governments in or by the recent migration routes signed up for a joint Task Force. (WHO)
- 13 border police officers trained as trainers on detection of falsified documents, trafficking of human beings, National Escort Multipliers, Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration during 5 regional workshops and respective training modules developed. (MoIA/IOM)
- 57 stakeholders at entry points/other first contact points enhanced awareness/capacities to implement a rights-based approach to screening and identification of vulnerable migrants. (MoIA/IOM)
- 2 roundtables organized (Shkoder, Gjirokastra municipalities) with participation of key stakeholders to build local capacities on identification and referral of migrants/refugees with specific needs. (MoIA/UNHCR).

Main Challenges 2017

Law and policy

- ✓ Political environment and Ministerial changes in first half 2017 were not conducive to develop migration and asylum policies/strategies.
- ✓ Standards foreseen in existing laws on Asylum 2014, on Foreigners 2013 and on Social Services 2016 are in some instances contradictory.
- ✓ Migrants health is not given the due importance in migration legislative/policy framework.

National and local capacities

- ✓ Besides officials from Directorate for Asylum, Border and Migration Police, other government officials have limited awareness on asylum seekers' and refugee rights.
- ✓ Lack of coordinated and synchronised approach between key Governmental duty bearers to efficiently address immediate needs of children who are intercepted at Albanian borders. Border police, State Social Services and Child Protection Workers require further support to identify and address procedural gaps to ensure child sensitive and effective case management of migrant children.
- ✓ Health Sector capacity to manage large and sudden influxes of migrants is poor.

Contingency planning

- ✓ Health session of National Contingency Plan lacks a clear chain of command and communication flow; SoPs are not in place.

Funding Constraints:

The anticipated funding gap of US $1M requires additional fundraising efforts to support further improvement and expansion of 3 reception facilities for migrants and asylum seekers, in particular for migrant children and other vulnerable categories, along with increasing operational capacities and improving health services therein.

Outcome 2 – Social Inclusion

All women, men, girls and boys, especially those from marginalized and vulnerable groups, are exercising their entitlements to equitable quality services, in line with human rights; and more effective and efficient investments in human and financial resources are being made at central and local levels to ensure social inclusion and cohesion

National Development Goals: Accession to the European Union; Investing in People and Social Cohesion; Good Governance, Democracy and the Rule of Law

SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 16

OUTPUT 2.1 HEALTH
OUTPUT 2.2 EDUCATION
OUTPUT 2.3 SOCIAL INCLUSION AND SOCIAL PROTECTION
OUTPUT 2.4 CHILD PROTECTION
OUTPUT 2.5 GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

OUTCOME CHAIRS

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
UNICEF REPRESENTATIVE
WHO REPRESENTATIVE

There is increased access to quality, inclusive, equitable, and affordable health care services and community demand is increased.

Contributing UN agencies: WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNAIDS, FAO, IAEA, IOM
Contributing Partners: GoA, SDC, USAID, Government of Netherlands, UNICEF Global Thematic Fund

OUTPUT 2.1 HEALTH

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRD – WHO & MOH, INSTAT

Priority focus 2017

- Joint interventions in health addressed key legislative, institutional, data-or resource-related bottlenecks preventing equitable implementation and monitoring of the National Health Strategy, ensuring its alignment with Health 2020.
  - ✓ Support policy dialogue, establishment of coordination and regulatory mechanisms and development of normative tools through well-functioning health information, e-health, research, ethics and knowledge management systems
  - ✓ Strengthen capacities of national and regional health authorities on data collection and analysis, budgeting and resource allocation, and enhanced performance monitoring
  - ✓ Conduct advocacy and awareness raising initiatives to strengthen engagement/partnerships between government and non–government institutions & empower community to demand quality health services at every level.

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Advance Policy Development, Financing and Dialog

- Engaged in dialogue around PH issues and promotion of SRH and rights - National Health Strategy 2016-2020 developed/approved along with SDG mapping, in conjunction with Assessments of Primary Health Care, Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses, Cervical Cancer, Environment and Health indicators - providing recommendations for advancement in the area. (MoH/WHO/UNFPA)
- Key stakeholders International Scientific Conference on Cervical Cancer Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment; 3rd Congress on Effective Perinatal Care; 5th International Public Health Conference. (MoH/WHO/UNFPA/UNICEF)
- MoH draft MTBP (2018-2019-2020) submission contains dedicated budget lines for preventive MNCH services; key findings from MCH costing disseminated and consensus building facilitated on key actions to ensure adequate resource allocation. (MoH/UNICEF)

Build up Regulatory Mechanisms and Normative Tools

- Legislative package for protection and promotion of breastfeeding and regulation of marketing of BMS completed; Quality assurance mechanisms established for monitoring key child nutrition indicators/web based data collection system developed; Guidelines developed on Chronic Hepatitis C treatment. (MoH/UNICEF/WHO)
- Preparatory phase of Albanian Demographic and Health Survey 2017 – 2018 completed; Report on “Antimicrobial Medicines Consumption 2011–2014 (2017)” published, including data from Albania; Albanian specialists participated in CAESAR network; Tool developed for assessment of countries’ readiness to provide Minimum Initial Service Package for SRH during Humanitarian Crisis; Switch from ICD9 to ICD10 is in preparatory phase: roadmap prepared. (MoH/INSTAT/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO)

Strengthen Capacities and Services

- Training of 8 master trainers on ICD-10; 44 health statistics personnel across country on monitoring key child nutrition indicators; 65 professionals completed online platform and 90 professionals trained on Logistics MIS with regard to Family Planning; training provided for health/environment experts at the regional level. (MoH/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO)
- Radiation therapy capabilities in Albania strengthened through purchase of a LINAC device to University Hospital Centre "Mother Theresa“, to be installed in Oct. 2017. (MoH/IAEA)
- Radioisotopes and cold kits for nuclear medicine services provided to 2 hospitals in Tirana (University Hospital Centre "Mother Theresa" and newly established nuclear medicine centre at University Hospital “Shefqet Ndroqi”). (MoH/IAEA)
- HIV testing provided by LGBTI organization in their community center. (MoH/IPH/UNAIDS/UNFPA)

Community empowerment: Immunization Week; Breastfeeding Week. Malaria Day; Blood Donation Day; TB Day; Aids Day; World No Tobacco Day; World Health Day (Depression); Road Safety Week. (MoH/UNICEF/WHO/UNFPA)

Awards/Certification: European Regional Verification Commission for Measles and Rubella Elimination gave to Albania the status “Measles and Rubella Eliminated for 2016”. (MoH/WHO)

Main Challenges 2017

- Confidence in health services increased to 50% and out-of- pocket expenditures for health fallen below 50% of total health expenditures. GDP is $4.619 with significant regional disparities. Spending on health care is about 2.8% of GDP and 10% of national budget, substantially lower than other countries with comparable levels of income. Disparities and inequalities persist among some groups of population in Albania.
- Escalation of health reforms towards Universal Health Coverage (SDG Target 3.8) necessitates financial sustainability for the health system. Priority setting among health institutions should be clearer along with stronger financial management capacities as it influences timely implementation of joint interventions.
- Donated equipment in the health sector is not exempt of VAT (20%) when entering the country. Government counterparts need to explore opportunities to achieve a VAT exemption for UN donations.

Funding Constraints:

The anticipated funding gap of US $1,050,570 requires additional fundraising efforts to support (i) monitoring and evaluation of national health policies/action plans on UHC, NCD control, RH, HIV and TB; (ii) equipping 12 LGUs with oversight inter-sectorial coordinating mechanisms and quality improvement plans; (iii) strengthening capacities of over 500 health professionals.

Education policies, mechanisms, community partnerships and actions are strengthened for quality, inclusive education.

Contributing UN agencies: UNICEF, UNESCO, FAO, UNFPA, IOM
Contributing Partners: EU, SDC, UNICEF Global Funds/Committees

OUTPUT 2.2 EDUCATION

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNICEF & MOES

Priority focus 2017

- *Inform policies through data and research* - National dialogue organized around important national studies informing advocacy and policy change in curriculum reform, information and communication technology, teacher and school leadership and evidence on the need for more significant and efficient education budgets as means to ensure human capital development and equity.

- *Advance agenda of equity in education* **-** Important steps undertaken in advancing the education inclusion agenda with regard to access of preschool education for most vulnerable children, setting up systems for tracking Out of School children and adopting new definitions and mechanism to prevent school drop –out.

- *Improve school practices* **-** Programs developed and taken to scale aiming at improving life skills and citizenship. Notable efforts made in implementing programs on sexual education curricula, inclusive education, anti-trafficking, intercultural and interreligious understanding and opening up schools to interact with communities (part of School as Community Center initiative).

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Advance Agenda of Equity in Education

- A national pre-school curricula framework and programme for teachers' professional development prepared and approved by MoES. Preschool teachers' standards are being developed. (UNICEF/MoES).
- Every Roma Child in Preschool national initiative achieved a visible increase in Roma children accessing early learning services - 66% Roma children (aged 3-6 years) attend early learning in academic year 2016/2017 compared to 23% in 2011. (MoES/UNICEF)
- Mechanism for early identification and response to school drop-out approved by MoES after tested in 10 school as community centers (Tirana, Berat, Korca). A new definition of drop- out and absenteeism developed and adopted by MoES. (UNICEF/ MoES)
- The multi-sector agreement on Out- of- School children continues to be applied in Durres. An innovative SMS system developed to inform on steps each stakeholder/ministry should undertake as part of this agreement - reached 1,200 stakeholders with 2,400 text messages. (MoES/UNICEF)

Inform policy through data and research

- Education Policy Review report developed with recommendations to advance 3 policy domains: curriculum development and reform; information and communication technologies in education; and teacher and school leadership policies. (UNESCO/MoES)
- A study conducted providing evidence on importance of investing in education as a human right and condition for long term economic growth. (UNICEF/MoES)
- National Workshop "Improve gender understanding in education" enhanced capacities of 38 experts of education local departments, serving as gender coordinators for guaranteeing non-discriminatory gender practices in schools. (UNESCO/MoES).
- SDG 4-Education 2030 launched (April) - GoA committed to ensuring an inclusive/equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all. (UNESCO/UNICEF/MoES/PMO)

Improve School Practices

- Teacher Training modules for Inclusive education (Gjirokastra, Durres, Tirana, Shkoder) are in process of being accredited. 5 teacher training faculties (Elbasan, Gjirokastra, Shkodra, Durres, Tirana Faculty of Social Sciences) committed to reflect philosophy of Inclusive education in their work. (UNICEF/ MoES)
- Programme "Promotion of intercultural and interreligious understanding through education in Albania" developed along a teacher training module piloted in 10 schools/5 regions. (UNESCO/MoES)
- Pre-university anti-trafficking curriculum developed and training provided to 194 teachers (Shkodra, Tirana, Vlora, Korca - 159 female; 35 male). (IOM/ MoES)
- The successful progress for integration of Comprehensive Sexuality Education in pre-university level instigated efforts to integrate CSE in teacher training curricula of 5 universities (Tirana Korca, Vlora, Shkoder, Gjirokaster). A comprehensive programme with focus on CSE is being developed. (UNFPA/ MoES)

Main Challenges 2017

- Elections and changes in the leadership of the Ministry of Education and Sports have slowed down some processes such as the accreditation of the training program for teachers, etc.
- The education system is in significant need for investments in line with the OECD and other counters in the region to ensure achievement of SDG 4 and national education goals. Investment should focus on already identified priority areas such as preschool, an inclusive education system that responds to the need of all learners, teacher training and school practices, etc.
- There still exists some unclarity among central and local government on how to handle responsibilities handed to local government (e.g. allocation of responsibilities for preschool education).

Funding Constraints:

The anticipated funding gap of US $830,100 requires additional fundraising efforts to support education equity especially increasing access and quality for preschool education as well as implementation of standards and inclusive policies in basic education.

Social protection measures and mechanisms at national and local levels are strengthened with budgets and clear targets that reflect equity and social inclusion standards.

Contributing UN agencies: UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women, UNAIDS, FAO, IOM
Contributing Partners: EU, SDC, UNICEF Global Thematic Fund

OUTPUT 2.3 SOCIAL INCLUSION AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNDP, UNICEF & MOSWY

Priority focus 2017

- The social care system reform's milestones achieved to date are supported through combining cash assistance with social care services. Tools to plan, budget, monitor and enforce social care service delivery are being developed in line with the sector's legislative framework, strengthening equity and vulnerability–focused targeting of social protection and inclusion interventions based on both 'cash' and 'care'.
  - ✓ Develop secondary legislation and strengthen capacities of LGUs to budget, finance, implement and monitor social care plans and services
  - ✓ Build up MoSWY leadership and coordination role to promote, safeguard and monitor impact of measures for social care by other actors
  - ✓ Strengthen capacities of service providers to implement and monitor social care services by developing standards of care services according to their typology
  - ✓ Advance Albania's positive efforts towards implementation of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
  - ✓ Support inclusion of Roma and Egyptians through employment/integration and community development projects - over 4,500 R/E sustained
  - ✓ Advance the social enterprises environment to contribute to reallocation of resources and favourable transformation of social welfare system

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Law on Social Care Services being translated into concrete actions - Secondary Legislation is being developed to support municipal budget, finance and monitor social care services; 7 municipalities developed a multiyear plan to advance social care services and are hiring relevant workforce. (MoSWY/UNICEF)

MoSWY led Social Pact Campaign (logo "Social ImPact") - Social Pact signed by 80% LGU - concrete pledge to implement Law on Social Care Services and build necessary structures/systems. (UNICEF)

Law on Social Housing approved (April) and 2 feasibility studies conducted assessing technical, urban, market, economic and social conditions for implementing future affordable social housing programs. (MoSWY/UNDP)

Draft plan and methodology prepared to strengthen MoSWY capacities for implementation of GoA's priority on social and economic re-integration. (UN Women)

4 Community Centres (Pogradec, Saranda, Bulqiza, Shijak) built and professional staff trained - hosted 88 children; 16 young PWD; 6 children in need of post-school assistance. (MoSWY/UNDP)

6 PWD associations supported with micro-grants to implement capacity development projects on promoting disability rights, influencing policy/decision-making on PWD; 230 teachers/assistant teachers introduced to situation of children with disabilities in the education system; 210 PWD benefited from awareness/training sessions. (MoSWY/UNDP)

107 central/local public officials trained and coached on a new model of Behavioral Change; 190 on NAPIRE and ROMALB. (UNDP)

Over 4,500 R/E supported: 217 R/E employed; 1,710 R/E improved living conditions from 4 community upgrading projects; 20 small grants provided to R/E NGOs; 2,300 R/E students improved education outcome from 2 models for inclusive education and desegregation; 40 R/E adults followed primary education, 7 completed 9th grade. (UNDP)

A package of 6 by-laws drafted for Law on Social Enterprises, consulted with line Ministries and endorsed by MoSWY, pending PMO approval; 148 officials/NGO representatives trained on Law implementation; 4 public campaigns to raise social enterprise profile (Tirana, Korca, Elbasan, Kukes) reached over 2,000 people/CSO activists; 5 models identified to prepare beneficiaries' stories for awareness raising. (MoSWY/UN Women)

A set of Recommendations prepared for Regional Development Fund, opportunity to extend Social Enterprises Scheme. (UN Women)

Staff of Mental Health Residential Center in Korca capacitated to help with de-institutionalisation of people with mental health disorders. (MoH/WHO)

Main Challenges 2017

- Social care services are not among the country's highest political priorities, reflected in low budget allocations. Social Care services constitute a very small proportion (less than 5%) of overall spending of MoSWY on social protection with the vast bulk of annual expenditure being on NE and DA.
- Low levels of civil engagement and political participation - CSOs perceived as powerless of improving quality of governance, hence low participation in public hearings/council meetings.
- Complex regulations on business registration hinder formalization of R/E income generation activities.
- National elections caused delays in the process of final approval of the draft by-laws on social enterprises. Low awareness and education on the concept of Social Entrepreneurship.

Child protection systems are strengthened to prevent and respond to cases of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of children, with a particular focus on vulnerable children and families.

Contributing UN agencies: UNICEF, WHO, IOM
Contributing Partners: EU, SDC, UK Government, UNICEF Global Thematic Fund/Committee

OUTPUT 2.4 CHILD PROTECTION

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNICEF & MOSWY

Priority focus 2017

- Significant joint progress observed on Child Protection legal/policy framework - adoption of Law on Child Rights and Protection, Criminal Justice for Children Code and endorsement of action plan “Children’s Agenda 2020”’
  - ✓ Develop necessary bylaws and regulations relevant to above mentioned legislations - 20 pieces of bylaws to be drafted by early 2018
  - ✓ Capacity building to support various professionals in delivering better child protection services through dedicated training exercises and improved procedural frameworks
  - ✓ Strengthen reporting mechanisms (ALO116 Child Helpline; “Isigurt”) and increase overall public awareness on how to recognize various forms of child abuse and where to report them – higher no. reports by end 2017

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Advance legislative/policy framework

- 11 laws and 13 bylaws identified for development related to Law on the Rights and Protection of Children and Criminal Justice Code for Children. (MoSWY/MoJ/UNICEF)
- "Situation Analysis on Prevention of Child Maltreatment in Albania and Way Forward" published and distributed to stakeholders. (WHO)

Strengthen Professional Capacities for improved service delivery

- 40 multi-sectoral case management meetings conducted to strengthen CP case management skills of CPU workers, including technical support/guidance to handle cases (670 online, 53 face-to-face technical support). (UNICEF/State Agency on Child Rights/ARSIS)
- Around 80 social work professionals certified through in-Service Course on Child Protection developed by Terre des hommes and Tirana University. (UNICEF/MoSWY)
- Almost 5,000 children in 100 schools country wide and 15,000 parents, school personnel, social child care personnel and health workers in 16 cities reached out with information on ALO 116 child helpline services. (UNICEF)
- 57 professionals from border officials capacitated through 2 training courses (Tirana, Gjirokastra) on screening, identification and referral of Unaccompanied Migrant Children. (IOM)

Strengthen Reporting Mechanisms

- 350 children in vulnerable situation and 95 children seriously affected by domestic violence (Tirana, Devoll, Diber) provided with immediate psychosocial assistance, medical support, access to hygiene, shelter and meals and referred by ARSIS emergency response team to respective state services. (UNICEF/State Agency on Child Rights/ARSIS)
- 146 children at high risk of violence identified across county by CPWs and referred to appropriate services available in their municipalities. (UNICEF/State Agency on Child Rights/ARSIS)
- 31 children victims and potential victims of trafficking identified and assisted by National Referral Mechanism members during 1 Jan.– 1 Aug.2017. (IOM)

Main Challenges 2017

- The “Children’s Agenda 2020” is well articulated and a detailed action plan is endorsed by the Council of Ministers. Effective enforcement of Law on Child Rights and Protection (2017) will support the implementation of “Children’s Agenda 2020”. All requires to be reflected in the 2018 State budget.
- As per Article 46 of Law on Child Rights and Protection, Municipalities (Social Services) are expected to include child protection related matters in their local plans and facilitate a meaningful implementation of such plan(s). Consequently, a practical “model” for the merger of Child Protection related matters into local Social Protection plans needs to be developed and tested, prior to scaling it up country wide.
- Only 209 CPWs in total (50%) from projected overall number, (as per new legal requirement) are hired as CPWs, and among them only 41 (24%) are full time workers. This poses a question on the overall outreach and also capacity of the Child Protection Workers/Units, especially in the remote/rural/small municipalities.

Funding Constraints

The anticipated funding gap of US $216,500 requires additional fundraising efforts to support capacity building of around 100 additional child and social protection professionals at Municipal level.

Capacity of institutions and service providers to implement legislation and normative standards on Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW) and other forms of discrimination is strengthened.

Contributing UN agencies: UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF, WHO, IOM
Contributing Partners: Sida, EU

OUTPUT 2.5 GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNDP & MOSWY

Priority focus 2017

- Strengthen capacities of Parliament, key Ministries, NHRIs and LGUs, in partnership with CSOs to regularly review, implement and monitor national legislation and policies in accordance with international obligations on elimination of Violence Against Women, including victims of trafficking
- Provide recommendations for 8 Codes and Laws with impact on GE/GBV issues, bringing them in compliance with CEDAW/ Istanbul Convention. The latest Criminal Procedure amendments take into account the rights of victims of crimes and GBV
- Establish multi-disciplinary response and referral mechanisms for GBV victims in new municipalities/strengthen in existing ones - CCRs currently established in more than 50% of municipalities; 4 new CCRs are in process of establishment
- Develop quality access services and reintegration programmes for GBV victims including victims of trafficking - 55% of GB–DV victims in 2016 and 58% in first half 2017 successfully integrated through employment, social housing and legal empowerment compared to 38% in 2014

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Advance legislative/policy framework

- Proposed amendments to 8 Codes and Laws with impact on GE/GBV issues, bringing them in compliance with CEDAW/Istanbul Convention (MoSWY/UNDP).
- Provisions on rights of victims of crimes and GBV included in Albanian Code of Criminal Procedure amendments (entered into force August 1). A specific provision provides for special guarantees to victims of sexual violence/human trafficking. (UNDP)
- A consultation forum held with parliamentarians/relevant stakeholders to further lobby on the urgent need to mainstream gender considerations in the legal review process/ justice sector reform. (Parliamentary Sub-committee on Juvenile Affairs, GE and DV/MoSWY/UNDP)
- A regulatory framework defining the standards of services to be provided by the national helpline to GBV&DV victims prepared and adopted (MoSWY/UNDP).

Strengthen Response and Referral Mechanisms

- 6 new CCR mechanisms established in municipalities of Roskovec, Patos, Perrenjas, Gjirokaster, Bulqize, Diber. Existing CCRs strengthened in Kruja, Saranda, Kavaja, Erseka, Burrel, Permet. Nearly 50% of municipalities have functioning CCRs with real-case management. (MoSWY/UNDP/LGUs)
- 73 local GBV coordinators from all municipalities trained in tracking cases through REVALB https://www.revalb.org and evidencing the assistance provided to GBV victims. Over 680 GB–DV cases recorded in REVALB and handled by CCR members and 2,035 reported to state police during Jan.-Aug.2017. (MoSWY/UNDP)
- Improved rehabilitation and reintegration programmes in place at state-run National Shelter for DV victims - 55% of GB–DV victims in 2016 and 58% in first half 2017 successfully integrated through employment, social housing and legal empowerment compared to 38% in 2014. (MoSWY/UNDP)
- Albanian State Police supported to establish Albania's first sexual assault center and develop SOPs for Multi-sectorial response to GBV. (UNFPA/UNDP/UN Women).

Improve policy domain through research, capacity development and advocacy

- Fjalë Burri 2017 study focused in Diber and Durres launched. (MoSWY/UNDP) http://www.al.undp.org/content/albania/en/home/library/poverty/fjale-burri.html
- Tirana Municipality conducted a study to assess safety and security from violence and harassment in public spaces (safe cities) for women and girls. Recommended interventions included in municipal 2017 budget and will be replicated in 2 other municipalities. (UN Women)
- A Special Course for Bachelor students on "Reporting Trafficking on Women and Girls" is institutionalized in curricula of Faculty of History and Philology Department of Journalism, benefiting 200 students during academic year 2017-2018 (UN Women).
- A research on situation (knowledge, attitude, practices – KAP) of child marriage in Albania will be conducted in 2017. (UNICEF/UNFPA)
- Capacities of state agencies strengthened to track and report on implementation of international HR standards. UPR Action Plan presented to relevant line Ministries; online platform is being developed; MoSWY prepared first report on implementation of Istanbul Convention to GREVIO, presented in early 2017. (MoSWY/UNWomen)
- EU funded project aiming to end GE discrimination and violence against women in Albania has started implementation, capitalizing on CSOs/networks to strengthen women's voice and build their capacities for implementation of normative frameworks on EVAW (UN Women).
- Coordination process started with stakeholders for preparation of draft document of standards of social care for reintegration process of victims of trafficking. (MoSWY/MoIA/IOM)
- Nationwide campaigns conducted to increase knowledge among citizens on ending violence against women - 63,000 people reached in persons; 300,000 via social and local media; 6,000 awareness-raising materials and 5 video reportages produced. (MoSWY/UNDP/UN Women/UNFPA)

Main Challenges 2017

- Scaling-up and consolidating CCR mechanisms for GBV victims is imperative for GoA and all LGUs. There is a need for LGUs to allocate funds for this intervention and national government to prioritize the scaling up of these referral mechanism.
- Given lack of financial resources to implement activities related to EVAW in the National Gender Equality Strategy 2016-2020, it is critical to engage in fundraising efforts to scale up capacity building of professionals at Municipal level.
- Difficulties in operationalization of prevention, detection and response to GBV in the medical practice in Albania. There is a need to better understand reasons and map feasible interventions.

Funding Constraints

The anticipated funding gap of US $614,000 requires additional fundraising efforts to support (i) CCR establishment in 12 new LGUs during 2017-2018; (ii) capacity development for over 100 professionals; (iii) improvement of 3 GBV related legislation; (iv) reaching 70,000 people from remote and marginalized communities though awareness raising campaigns; (v) strengthening monitoring capacities on human rights obligations related to EVAW of representatives from 11 line ministries, NHRIs and CSOs; (vi) establishment of a model of rape/sexual assault center for women victims of violence in 2 municipalities, replicating “safe cities” initiative in two new municipalities.

Outcome 3 – Economic Growth, Labour and Agriculture

Economic growth priorities, policies, and programmes of the GoA are inclusive, sustainable, and gender-responsive, with greater focus on competitiveness, decent jobs and rural development

National Development Goals: Accession to the European Union; Growth Through Increased Competitiveness; Investing in People and Social Cohesion; Growth Through Sustainable Resources & Territorial Development

SDGs 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12

OUTPUT 3.1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OUTPUT 3.2 LABOUR
OUTPUT 3.3 AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
OUTPUT 3.4 CULTURE

OUTCOME CHAIRS

MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMY AND LABOUR
UNDP COUNTRY DIRECTOR
FAO ASSISTANT REPRESENTATIVE

Central and local governments are able to deliver effective economic support services and implement urban development policies that promote gender equality, the green economy and inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

Contributing UN agencies: UNDP, UN Women, FAO, UNECE, UNCTAD
Contributing Partners: SDC, Sida

OUTPUT 3.1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNDP & MEDTTE, MUD

Priority focus 2017

- Advance regulatory policy and legal framework for women entrepreneurs in urban and rural areas
- Ensure access of women in credit, subsidy schemes and local and national support programs /SME/value chains for rural women
- Strengthen Albania's trade policy framework to adapt to European Union standards in key areas – debt management, investment promotion, trade facilitation, tax administration, enterprise development and competition

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

A set of 3 legal/policy measures related to women entrepreneurship endorsed by MEDTTE Advisory Board: binding quotas for women representation in company boards; entrepreneurial learning platforms for women; access to credit. (MEDTTE/UN Women)

National Gender Equality Index - companies respect women rights/inclusion in hiring, development, work practices - accepted by 51 businesses, committing to capacity interventions for application of gender principles in their practices. (UN Women)

A project fiche dedicated to Women entrepreneurship in Albania developed within IPA II Competitiveness & Innovation priority. 7 key staff from MEDTTE and AIDA trained/coached to design similar project fiches with gender lenses. (MEDTTE/UN Women)

A women-friendly entrepreneurial training curricula drafted for delivery at public Vocational Training Centers. (MEDTTE/MoSWY/UN Women)

A pilot project to engender inclusive growth and employment policies of Albania's care economy is being formulated. (UN Women/other UN agencies)

Training, workshops, fairs, sale events and coaching carried out to build skills of vulnerable women in learning appropriate methods of collecting, processing and marketing local and handicraft products, building sustainable partnerships and designing business plans for successful women-run social enterprises. (UNDP)

96 women and families (Novosela, Burrel) are benefiting from expanded business capacity and new skills, adding more value to local products (processing new herbs, knitting shoe uppers, etc.). (UNDP)

4 business plans developed/4 cooperation agreements established between women and local authorities. 96 women (Erseka, Vithkuq, Novosela, Burrel) employed full-time; their families (390 people) benefiting income generated from product sales. (UNDP)

Research initiated to enhance international cooperation in competition area and formulate policy recommendations tailored to Albanian context on notification/assessment of Mergers Control. (UNCTAD)

Draft National Road Safety Performance Review prepared, to be finalized by end 2017. (UNECE)

Main Challenges 2017

- There is a gap between official commitment and real implementation of Women Empowerment Principles in the private sector polices and practices. Since the private sector is a novel and a non-traditional partner, outreach to private companies has proved difficult due to private sector resistance.

Funding Constraints

The anticipated funding gap of US $1M requires additional fundraising efforts to support GoA to strengthen overall trade policy framework with targeted support services delivered in key areas – debt management, investment promotion, trade facilitation as well as tax administration.

Labour market governance, tripartite dialogue, and collective bargaining are strengthened and reduce informal employment, improve occupational health and safety and enhance the employability of youth, women and other vulnerable groups.

Contributing UN agencies: UNDP, UN Women, ILO, IOM
Contributing Partners: EU, SDC, Austria, Italy, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES)

OUTPUT 3.2 LABOUR

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – ILO & MOSWY

Priority focus 2017

- Employment and Skills Development
  - ✓ Support market integration (employability and self-employment) of youth, women, disabled job seekers, Roma and Egyptian people, and other vulnerable groups
  - ✓ Advance national policies and regulatory frameworks on employment, decent work, education (VET and higher education) with focus on quality assurance, market needs and labour market governance policies and enhanced governance institutions and social partners skills
  - ✓ Support reintegration of returning migrants - better access to employment/VET and improved capacities of Migrations Counters

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Advance Labour Market Governance

- 2 by-laws drafted and discussed in the main social dialogue forum (NLC) on establishment of Labor Disputes' Mediation Offices and Regional Consultation Councils. (GoA/Workers' and employers' organizations/ILO)
- Employers' advocacy capacities strengthened through development of report "Enabling Environment for Sustainable Enterprises in Albania" and validation workshop. (ILO)
- National Labor Council constituents' capacities upgraded through peer meetings on NLC challenges (Tirana, FYROM, Serbia). (ILO)
- Youth Employment Guarantees developed and shared by GoA and social partners via the training in Tirana. (ILO)

Support Reintegration of Returning Migrants

- 32 Migration Counters specialists and specialists from National Employment Service and MoSWY trained on how to run migration counter focused on inclusive citizen centred service delivery. Visibility items produced in order to promote the role and function of the MCs (flyers/posters/pens). (IOM)

Progress on VET Reform

- Feasibility Study on Models of Work-Based Learning completed. Study identifies elements of success in piloted models of WBL; costing elements will be considered for system wide up-scaling. (UNDP)
- Concept for "good VET school" developed following dialogue with partners, policy/practitioners level, on fundamental VET quality aspects to be addressed at school and system level. Concept will serve as a basis for articulating national vision on VET quality and supporting strategic VET development. (MoSWY/UNDP)
- Self-assessment manual for public provider of VET developed. Formal endorsement process, related training for VET providers and rollout of self-assessment process are pending. (NAVETQ/UNDP)
- Skills Fair 2017 organized to promote VET. Over 18,000 visitors attended fostering competition among providers and VET students across 8 different professions. (UNDP)

Arrange for Market Integration

- Implementation of 2nd round of self-employment measure resulted in 370 applicants (152 received entrepreneurship training; 66 are in process of registering their enterprises). (UNDP)

Main Challenges 2017

Labour market data suggests that economic growth experienced during last two decades has not been translated into significant labour market improvements (2016 labour force participation rates remained below European averages - 67.3% overall/ 59.2% for women and 75.3% for men).

- Albania's VET and VSD system all too often fails to equip students with requisite knowledge, competences and skills for a successful transition into labour market. This results in an unsuitably qualified labour force, skills shortages and soaring youth unemployment that hamper growth and modernization potential of Albania's economy.
- The implementation of new VET law, adopted by Parliament in early 2017, remains an issue of outmost importance. As stipulated in the Law, all related sub-legal acts will need to be enacted within November 2017. Of particular urgency are the bylaws that relate to the organization, functioning and competencies of two main agencies - National Agency on Employment and Skills and National Agency for VET and Qualifications.
- Establishment of Regional Consultative Councils, as stipulated in the Law, has been delayed; endorsement of relevant by-law is urgent.
- Lack of a strategy on migration, which would generate concrete actions involving Migration Counters and promoting their role; Limited outreach activities has contributed to shortage of citizens awareness on Migration Counters; Discrepancies on client information captured and recorded in Migration Counters.

Funding Constraints

The anticipated funding gap of US $400,000 requires additional fundraising efforts to support (i) establishment of one mechanism for recognition of skills for at least 4 professional profiles of migrants; (ii) assessment of potential of care economy.

There is increased capacity to design and implement policies and strategies for sustainable rural development and modernization of the agricultural sector that are gender sensitive and empower rural women.

Contributing UN agencies: UN Women, FAO
Contributing Partners: Sida

OUTPUT 3.3 AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – FAO & MOARDWA

Priority focus 2017

- Development of gender equitable and sustainable rural development and poverty reduction strategies and value chains.
  - ✓ Support GoA to increase investments in agriculture through grant schemes in combination with credit lines
  - ✓ Strengthen Albania's statistical capacity on agriculture and rural development policies/analysis
  - ✓ Establish an integrated service to farmers and promote farmers' vertical and horizontal cooperation to improve inclusiveness and efficiency of food systems
  - ✓ Promote pro-active policy instruments that address women's rights to natural and financial resources, employment creation, diversification of rural economies and provision of extension services for women

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Promote pro-active policy instruments that address women's rights

- Policy/legal framework for rural women entrepreneurs analyzed and recommendations prepared for GoA. (MoARDWA/FAO)
- Selected value chains proposed for accelerating rural women economic empowerment through income diversification. (FAO)
- 70 Extensions staff from MoARWDA trained to reach rural women and offer gender oriented services. (UN Women)

Accelerate rural women economic empowerment

- 500 women farmers and groups of women, engaging in agriculture and rural businesses in 4 regions (Vau Dejës, Shkodra, Devoll, Maliq), equipped with practical knowledge and know-how to access market, credit and subsidy schemes, business management and growth and move up the value chain. (MoARDWA/UN Women)
- Three best quality products of women identified, branded, registered and promoted. (UN Women)
- A pilot project is being developed to prepare rural communities increase their competitiveness in rural tourism. Women led rural businesses will be supported to advance along value chain, increase profits, strengthen collaboration with LGUs to efficiently access IPARD funds. (UN Women/ FAO/MoARDWA)
- Over 500 rural women and 100 stakeholders engaged in 4 advocacy campaigns to raise awareness on rural women's unrecognized contribution in agriculture and rural economy. (UN Women)

Support to Farmers

- An integrated service to farmers platform established, along with promotion of farmers' vertical and horizontal cooperation through a contract farming model, to improve inclusiveness/efficiency of food systems. (MoARDWA/FAO)

Main Challenges 2017

- Alignment of agriculture and rural development policy with EU integration agenda needs adaptation of standards required by international markets and capacities for formulation of relevant policies, and economic and policy analysis. There is a need for the new government to confirm its priority towards supporting rural women economic empowerment.

- Implementation of territorial and administrative reform requires strengthened capacities and resources for local government on the management of the territory, especially land and water management, as well as the services related to agriculture and rural development. There is a need to strengthen cooperation between rural extension services, under MoARDWA auspices, and municipalities.

- The Government prepared a national program to increase investments in agriculture; its implementation requires strengthened financial and advisory services that are operative at central and especially at local level.

- Lack of clarity on the structure and responsibilities of central and local institutions on agriculture and SDG related statistics.

Funding Constraints

The anticipated funding gap of US $205,000 requires additional fundraising efforts to support operationalization of the integrated service to farmers platform.

State institutions have inclusive policies to foster cultural and creative industries, improve access to cultural markets, protect cultural diversity, and improve the management of cultural heritage as drivers and enablers for sustainable development.

Contributing UN agencies: UNESCO
Contributing Partners: Italy

OUTPUT 3.4 CULTURE

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNESCO & MOC

Priority focus 2017

- Mainstream culture within development programmes at all levels through (i) provision of an evidence base on the impact of culture for development and (ii) implementation of a national strategy for culture
- Establish an inter-institutional mechanism for cultural and natural heritage management, including for sustainable tourism, and support capacity development and exchange of knowhow and best practices in the sector of Culture

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Annual meeting of Council of Ministers of Culture of SEE, organized under Presidency of the Republic of Albania in Tirana (February 22, 2017), aimed at reinforcing coordination between cultural and other sectorial policies, in line with 2030 Agenda. (MoC/UNESCO)

Key recommendations relevant to Albania:

- Reinforce coordination between cultural and other sectorial policies to achieve SDGs
- Develop cross-sectorial programmes dedicated to heritage protection, conservation and management, and DRR
- Reaffirm the importance of culture, cultural heritage and art in education to foster diversity of cultural expression and encourage development of arts education
- Encourage exchange of knowhow and best practices applied in the sector of cultural and creative industries
- Inventorying of cultural heritage & development of specific data-bases
- Improve and implement statistical tools to assess and monitor the impact of culture on sustainable development
- Develop more strategic/coordinated approach to the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property
- Recognize the role of museums as important segments of societies enhancing mutual respect, peace and tolerance

Albania's management of underwater cultural heritage and adequate use of underwater cultural potential is strengthened with the aid of the conference/exhibition "Underwater heritage potentials/treasures of Albania" (MoC/UNESCO)

The conference targeted:

- Raising awareness of decision makers on underwater treasures
- Adjusting existing legal frameworks to better address protection of underwater heritage (natural, cultural, historical)
- Emphasizing developmental potentials of underwater heritage

Foundations were laid for development of a national training course "Structural Analysis and Reinforcement Methods and Techniques of Historic Masonry Buildings" aiming to strengthen capacities in the Cultural Heritage field. (MoC/UNESCO)

Main Challenges 2017

- Although the management of culture in Albania seems to be adequate, the main challenge is the absence of a national Culture Strategy - essential to address existing challenges as well as provide mid-term perception/outlook.

- As capacity development is being recognized in Cultural Heritage Preservation sector, it is essential for the Institute for the Monuments of Culture to anticipate capacity development activities to address emerging issues in the preservation of Albania's rich cultural heritage.

Funding Constraints

The anticipated funding gap of US $300,000 requires additional fundraising efforts to support (i) capacity development and exchange of knowhow and best practices in the sector of Culture; (ii) reinforced coordination between cultural and other sectorial policies to achieve SDGs.

Outcome 4 – Environment and Climate Change

Government and non-government actors adopt and implement innovative, gender-sensitive national and local actions for environmental sustainability, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster risk reduction

National Development Goals: Accession to the European Union; Growth Through Sustainable Resources & Territorial Development; Investing in People and Social Cohesion; Good Governance, Democracy and the Rule of Law (Strengthening Public Order and Emergency Preparedness)
SDGs 3, 5, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15

OUTPUT 4.1 DRR AND CLIMATE CHANGE
OUTPUT 4.2 NATURAL RESOURCES

OUTCOME CHAIRS

MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENT
UNDP COUNTRY DIRECTOR
FAO ASSISTANT REPRESENTATIVE

Scaled up action on DRR and climate change mitigation and adaptation across sectors.

Contributing UN agencies: UNDP, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNEP, UNESCO, FAO, WHO
Contributing Partners: GoA, GEF, EU, Italy, Green Climate Fund, Government of Turkey, ITF Slovenia

OUTPUT 4.1 DRR AND CLIMATE CHANGE

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNDP & MOEI, MOE, MOTI

Priority Focus 2017

- Advance the power sector reform, through a government strategic approach with a clear role for EE and RES in the total energy mix, where quantified targets of EE -9% and RES-38% are in line with mitigation commitments of ratified Paris agreement
  - ✓ Support establishment of the new Agency for Energy Efficiency and the Energy Efficiency Fund to advance government's energy efficiency agenda in the country
  - ✓ Promote investments in renewable energy technologies and strengthen capacities of national local agencies and associations on policy making through assessment of resources and creation of data bases.
    - Solar energy for water heating - reaching a total installed cumulative area 209,745; resulting in 1,113,500 tCO_2 reduction
    - A national Geographic Information System is set up integrating all available datasets on wood - renewable energy

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Advance Power Sector Reform

Technical/Legal assistance and trainings provided to 7 municipalities on cost-effectiveness of SWH technology - (i) support design, installation, monitoring and maintenance of solar thermal systems; ii) develop new pilot projects; iii) conduct joint public awareness activities. (MEI/UNDP)

A Strategic Environment Assessment at policy level is being prepared aiming at addressing the SHPP sector by strengthening GoA capacity to integrate SEAs into energy and environmental decision-making (MEI/UNDP)

An Assessment of hydro-ecological and socio-economic systems of Vjosa river is completed in cooperation with IGJEUM and Stockholm Environment Institute - applying Water Evaluation and Assessment Planning scenario-based modelling system that can be replicated to other rivers. (IGJEUM/UNDP/SEI)

Project preparation grant is prepared and submitted to GEF for 'Promoting Sustainable Land Management in Albania' through Integrated Restoration of Ecosystems. (UNEP)

Municipal energy tracer platform tested in Durres Municipality and 3 hands on training sessions provided through an East-East cooperation with Croatia, contributing to establishment of energy MIS in all municipalities of Albania (MEI/Durres Municipality/UNDP)

A documentation prepared on "extension of FLOODIS system to deliver alert and interactive maps on flooding risk/events on mobile devices", with DEWETRA). The protocol is activated for use in Albania, experimented in Shkodra in Nov. 2016. (UNESCO/CIMA Research Foundation and Istituto Superiore Mario Boella)

Strengthen Capacities and Institutional Response

A national Geographic Information System is set up integrating all available datasets on wood - renewable energy. Intensive on-the-job GIS training provided to institutions on Wood Energy Maps. (FAO)

30 awareness trainings/events organized in 6 municipalities promoting adaptation to climate change of agriculture sector. (FAO)

Capacity development of 723 farmers, 137 national extension services/local government relevant stakeholders on climate change adaptation, conservation agriculture and integrated pest management. (FAO)

2 PDNA workshops held in MoARDWA and 6 municipalities focused on event documentation and PDNA methodologies. (FAO)

6 training workshops organized/255 stakeholders from industry associations, national agencies and financial institutions trained on benefits and use of bio-energy technology applications. (UNIDO)

Preparatory steps defined for an assessment mission to support Albania's capacity development in communicable diseases surveillance and control vis-a-vis EU/European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control requirements (MoH/IPH/EUD/WHO)

Institutional alert raised and collaboration strengthened on reported infections of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) A(H5N8) in wild birds and domestic poultry in some European countries. (MoH/WHO)

Hospital Index Safety toolkit distributed - assessment tool of 3 elements: structural hospital safety; non-structural safety; functional safety, including emergency and disaster management. (MoH/WHO)

Main Challenges 2017

- Reshaping of the Ministries, Agencies and their structures at local level would require a dedicated and tailored support.
- Lack of financial instruments to boost Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and comply with country obligations under NDC and national EE and RES action plans.
- Insufficient awareness of the need to have updated and implementable plans/standard operating procedures and clear financing on risk reduction, preparedness and emergency response according to the hazard and risk level. Institutional responsibilities are not clearly defined.
- Coordination and planning on climate change issues needs a sectorial approach. Currently, there is no comprehensive framework for climate change adaptation.
- There is a need for the development community to maintain a closer collaboration with central and local governments to motivate and improve farmers organizational capacity.
- Delays in mainstreaming and operationalization of the FLOODIS application need to be further discussed with the new Government authorities.

Funding Constraints

The anticipated funding gap of US $1.3M requires additional fundraising efforts to support upscale of the municipal energy management system in all municipalities (currently piloted in Durres Municipality).

Central and local institutions and communities are strengthened to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Contributing UN agencies: UNECE, UNDP, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNESCO, FAO, WHO
Contributing Partners: GoA, GEF, EU

OUTPUT 4.2 NATURAL RESOURCES

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIRS – UNDP & MOE, MOEI, MOTI, MOARDWA

Priority Focus 2017

- Support adoption of new law on Protected Areas, critical for regulation, promulgation, preservation, administration, management, and sustainable use of PAs and their resources along with consolidation of their financial sustainability
- Contribute to operationalization of institutional structure for implementation of Drin River Basin MoU and establishment of foundations for an informed transboundary cooperation in the Drini River Basin
- Support establishment of cooperation among Albanian Electricity Company and Electricity Company of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – (i) agreeing to participate in Drin Core Group work; (ii) establishment of an agreement to govern their cooperation in fields of data and information exchange, environmental management and energy production optimization
- Prepare World Heritage extension file for Lake Ohrid and first draft of World Heritage Supplement to Pogradec Protected Landscape Management Plan

JWP Strategic Deliverables
Main Undertakings 2017

Information Center in Radhima, dedicated to Marine Park Karaburun-Sazani and Vlora bay, established and functional with information materials available for visitors/stakeholders, awareness activities ongoing. (MoE/NAPA/UNDP)

Second Phase of project “marine and coastal protected areas” will replicate positive achievements of Marine Park Karaburun-Sazani to other areas taking into account institutional/private sector development. (MoE/NAPA/UNDP)

The Aarhus Center for Tirana redesigned by the user’s perspectives and fully functional within MoE premises. Application ‘Tirana Ime Outdoor’ is being developed, (MoE/UNDP)

Amendments to Law on Wild Fauna Protection and Law on Hunting are prepared in conformity with EU Directives. (MoE/UNDP)

Initial design and testing of environmental information management system complete, improvements continue as well as on the job staff training . (MoE/NAPA/UNDP

Analysis on gender differences and civic participation of local communities in environmental information - case studies and best practices at local level provide useful insights on environmental information and gender involvement (MoE/UNDP)

GoA supported to implement and report on requirements of Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe. (MoE/UNDP)

An assessment of legislation and capacities of main institutions for implementation of Minamata Convention in Albania completed. (UNDP)

National Guideline and implementation Roadmap on Water Safety Plans in Small Scale Water Supply Systems in Albania prepared. (Inter-sectorial working group/MoH/WHO)

A guide for schools awareness on safety and risk management of natural disasters and civil emergencies at school is being developed. (MoES/UNICEF)

Environmental education/Cleen training modules for grades 1-5 are being updated for training 5 Education Directorates and 300 teachers. (MoES/UNICEF)

Capacity building on Climate Smart Agriculture and landscape interventions (conservation agriculture, ecosystem services, flood/drought management). (MoE/MARDWA/MEI/UNIDO)

Basic materials and guidance on CSA distributed to 1,000 stakeholders in 6 municipalities (2 booklets/guides and 1,000 fliers) and capacity building provided to 140 central/local advisory staff and 740 farmers. (FAO)

Towards strengthened governance of the shared transboundary natural and cultural heritage of the Lake Ohrid region has completed– 1 Transboundary Platform Meeting; 2 Management Planning workshops; 3 thematic trainings; draft World Heritage Supplement to Pogradec Protected Landscape Management Plan. (UNESCO)

Main Challenges 2017

- Reshaping of the Ministries, Agencies and their structures at local level would require a dedicated and tailored support.
- Insufficient know-how and laboratory capacities in the country for assessing the quality of the drinking water. Lack of a clear strategy on water and sanitation.
- Limited funds availability for the environmental education program.
- Low awareness of children, teachers and public at large on environmental awareness and protection.

Funding Constraints

The anticipated funding gap of US $700,000 requires additional fundraising efforts to support climate change adaptation measures in tourism and agriculture sector.

2017 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

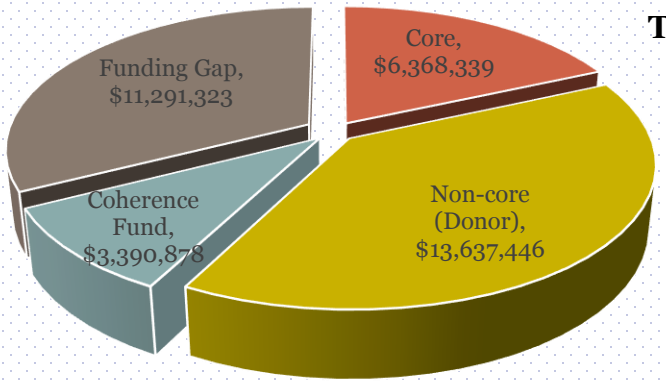
"first semester"

Total 2017 Budget $34.7M

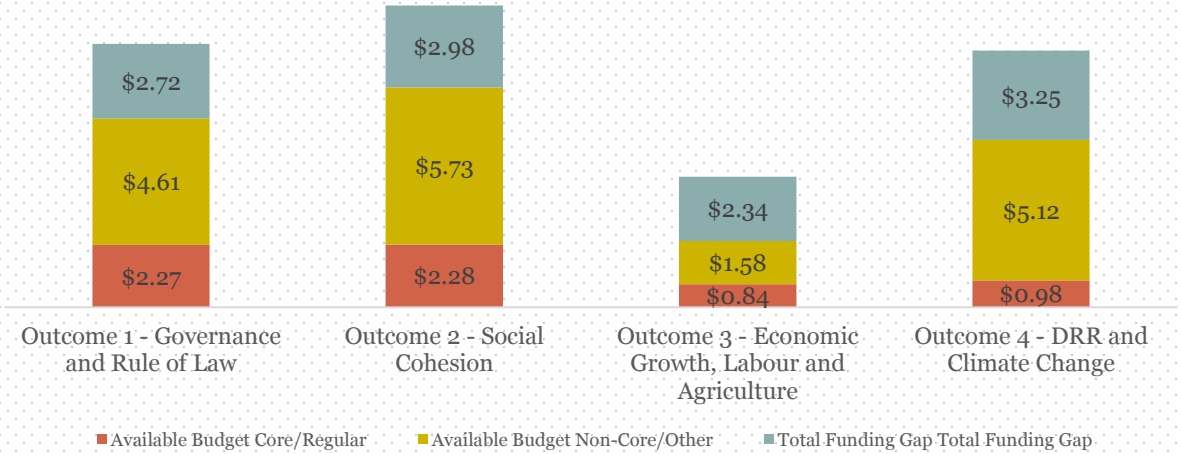
- ✓ Available Budget $23.4M
- ✓ Funding Gap $11.3M

Total Expenditures $10.7M

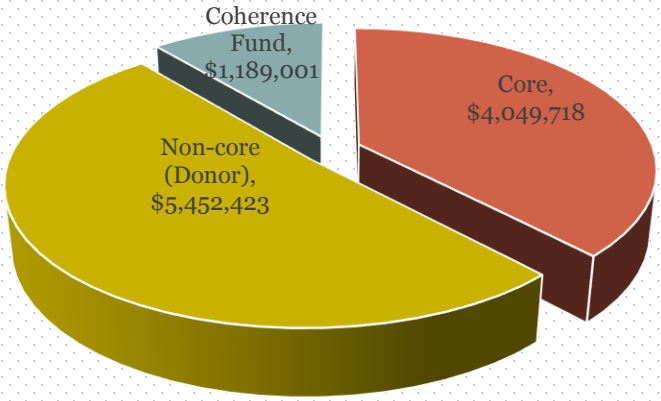
Total Budget 2017



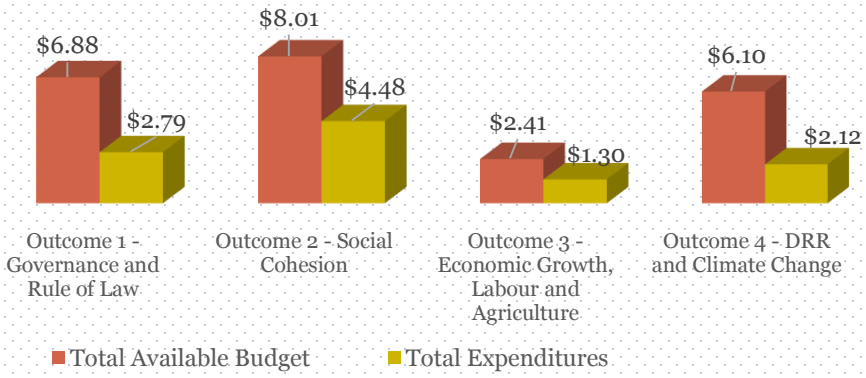
2017 Total Budget per Outcome



Expenditures Jan. - Aug. 2017



Outcome Delivery Jan. - Aug. 2017

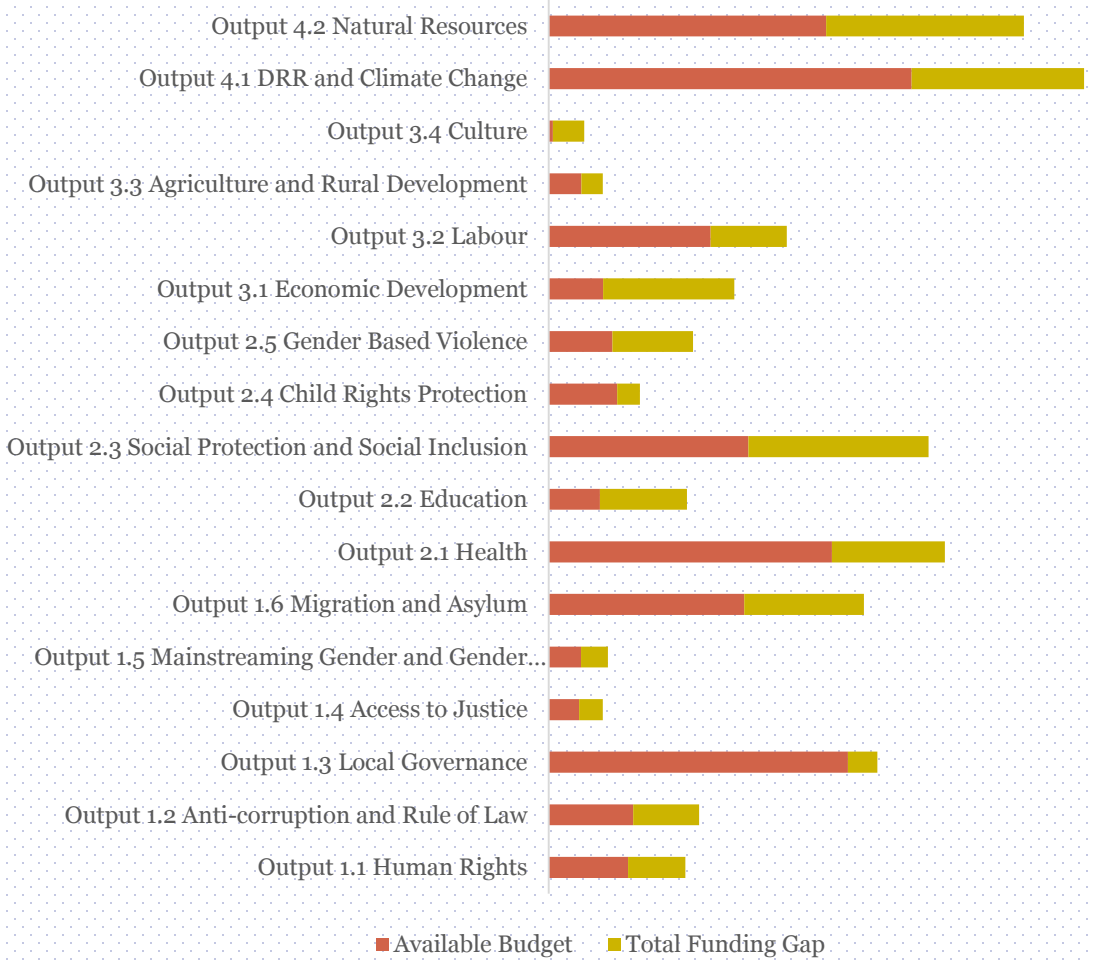


Non Core resources - 73% of available budget

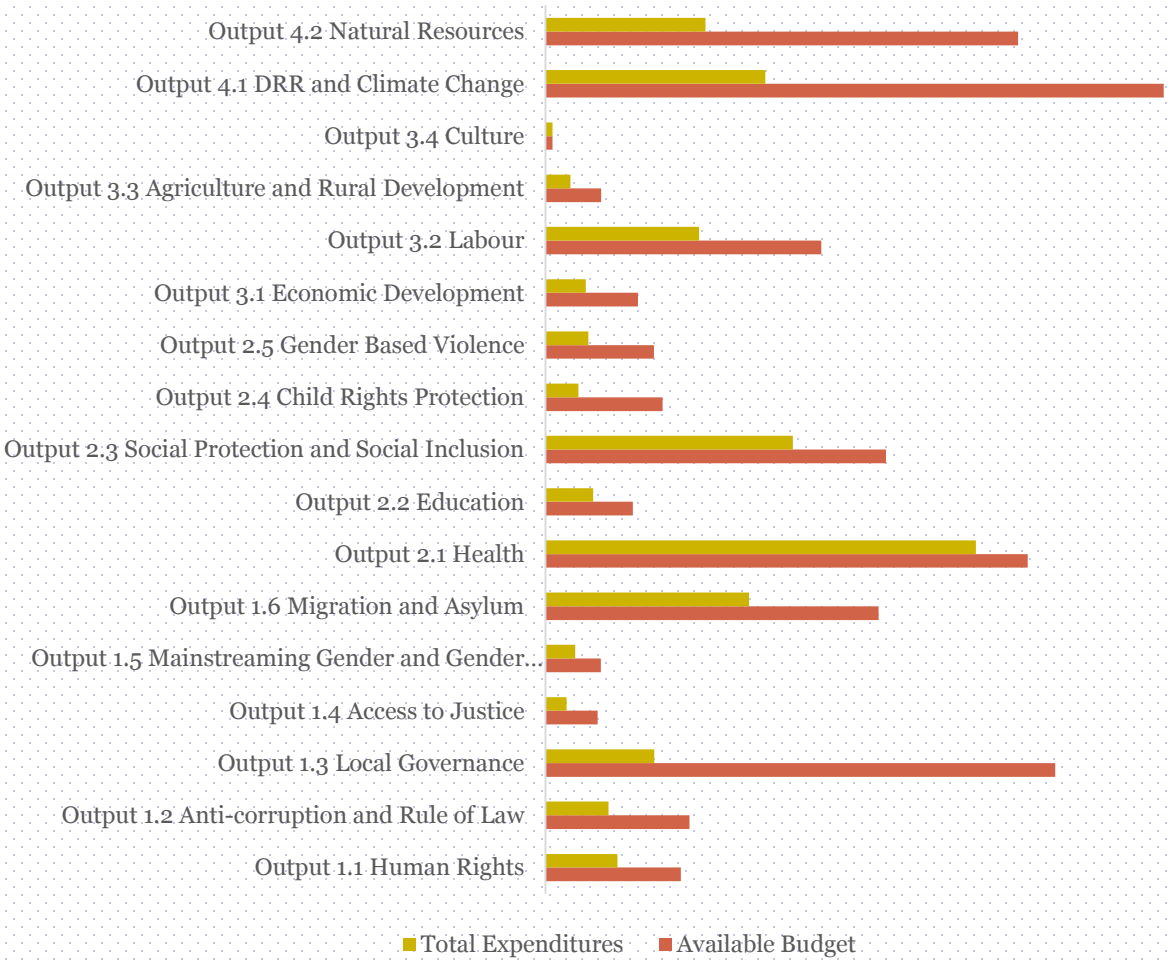
2017 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

"Outputs"

2017 Output Budget



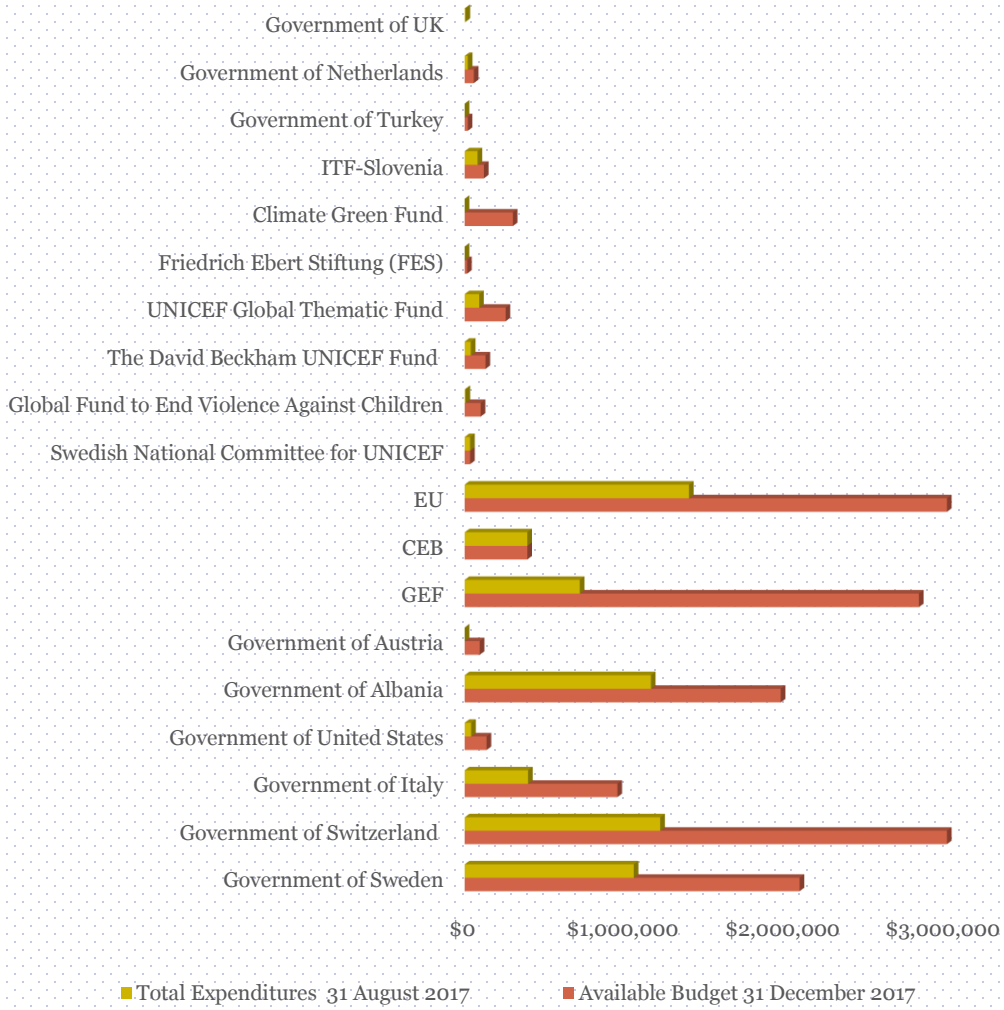
2017 Output Delivery

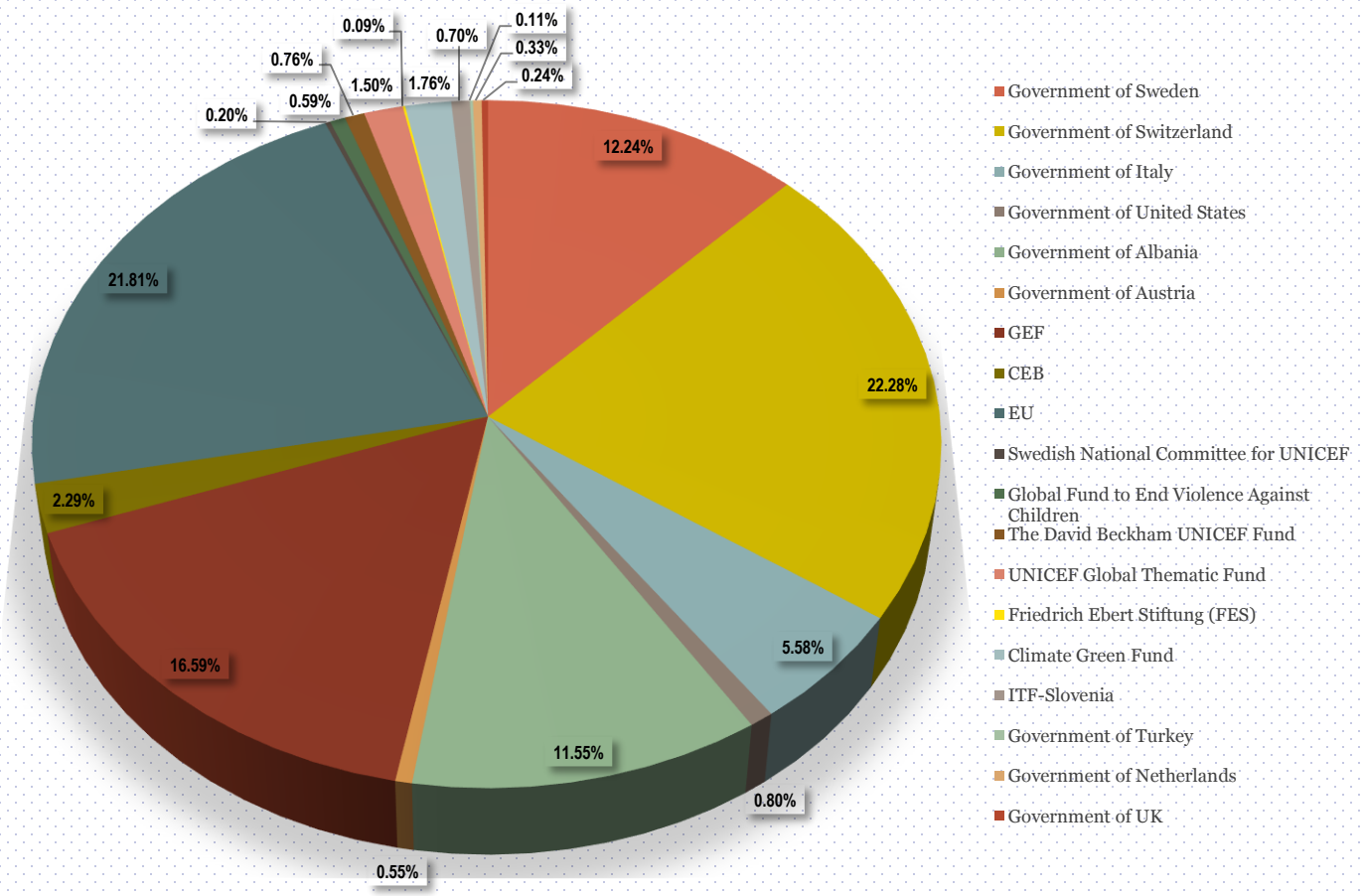


2017 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

"Contributing Partners"

Funding gap reduced by $2.5M (Jan.-Aug.), credited mostly to resources mobilized locally – SDC, Sida, EU

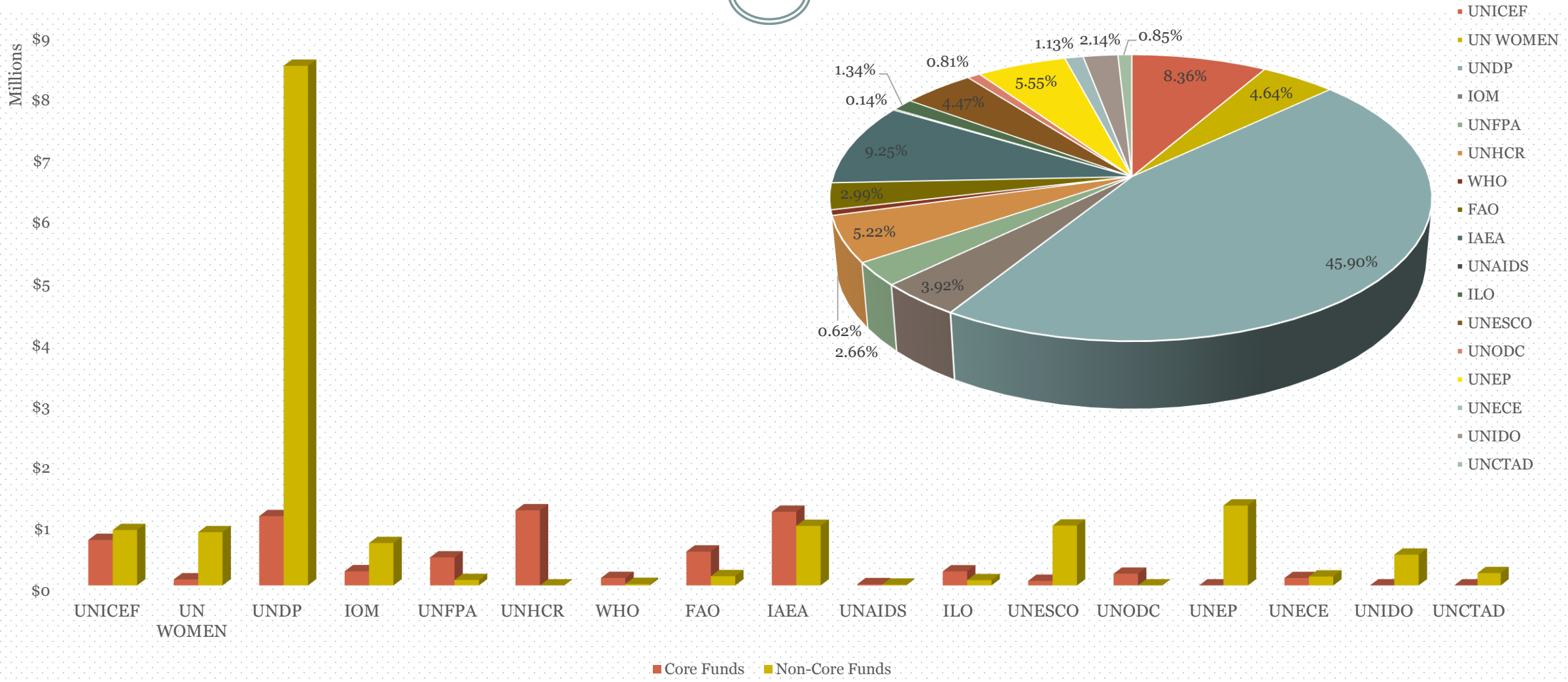




19 Contributing Partners - $17M

2017 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

"Contributing UN Agencies"



8 Resident and 9 Non-Resident Agencies contribute to PoCSD 2017 implementation

COMMUNICATION & VISIBILITY

- Development of the Communications and Advocacy Strategy for the PoCSD 2017-2021
- A Social media campaign around UN Results highlighted in the UN Progress Report 2016 implemented. For eg in the Twitter feed, the hashtag #UNProgressReport2016 earned 59,3 K impressions.
- Two editions of the UN newsletter Delivering for Development in Albania, bringing news from the work of the UN Agencies were widely shared among UN partners.
- UN Country team developed and launched a new user friendly website.
- A communications and advocacy strategy in support of the SDGs was developed, discussed and approved by the UNCT.
- Partnership was established with Sophie Café Chain and Telecom to implement public awareness campaigns to tell everyone about the SDGs.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

On September 2015, Republic of Albania, along with other 192 members of the UN, committed to implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by adopting the Declaration of the Summit on Sustainable Development, held in NYC.

Prime Minister decreed the establishment of an Inter-Ministerial SDG Committee, Chaired by Deputy PM, and Inter-Institutional Working Group in May 2017. Both structures held first meetings in 2017Q2.

PMO prepared a Baseline Report (near final draft), collecting available data against SDG indicators and a National Action Plan that outlines how Albania intends to pursue SDG achievement. Reports include UN Albania feedback.

In the context of Pre-MAPS missions undertaken in WB6, PMO, UN and EU organized a workshop “Albania in its way to EU accession and SDGs” to examine mutual advantages of EU accession process and pursuit of Agenda 2030. A MAPS mission will be organized in early 2018, building on July's 2017 workshop/Pre-MAPS.

Government has committed to presenting a Voluntary National Report at the HPLF in July 2018. UN to support VNR preparations.

GoA-UN Programme of Cooperation for Sustainable Development 2017-2021 is being implemented, oriented around SDGs.

UNCT is re-positioning its 'One UN' fund in Albania as the "UN SDG Acceleration Fund" to encourage donor support for joint efforts to accelerate Albanian achievement of SDGs.

UN Albania - INSTAT partnership strengthened through establishment and operationalization of a Joint Data Group for more coordinated UN support to SDGs.

Challenges:

- ❑ Identification of national indicators for monitoring and reporting
- ❑ Strengthen INSTAT capacities – technical support, system development, communication and info exchange tools

Key Acronyms

Implementing partners

AIDA	Albanian Investment Development Agency
CEC	Central Election Commission
CPD	Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination
DDFFA	Department of Development, Financing and Foreign Aid\
Ombudsman	People's Advocate
INSTAT	National Institute of Statistics
MIPA	Minister of State for Innovation and Public Administration
MLG	Minister of State for Local Government
MoARDWA	Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development & Water Administration
MoC	Ministry of Culture
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoEDTTE	Ministry of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade & Entrepreneurship
MoEI	Ministry of Energy and Industry
MoES	Ministry of Education and Sports
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoIA	Ministry of Interior
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoSWY	Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth
MoUDT	Ministry of Urban Development
IPH	Institute of Public Health
SII	Social Insurance Institute

Participating UN organisations, funds and programmes

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality & Empowerment of Women
WHO	World Health Organisation

Other

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women
IPRO	Immovable Property Registration Office
GE	Gender Equality
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
GBV	Gender Based Violence
DV	Domestic Violence
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
CCR	Community Coordinated Response
VoTs	Victims of Trafficking
PVoTs	Potential Victims of Trafficking
TAR	Territorial-Administrative Reform
LGUs	Local Government Unites
NCD	Noncommunicable Diseases
PHC	Primary Health Care
ToT	Training of Trainers
ALMM	Active Labour Market Measures
MP	Member of Parliament
ASPA	Albanian School of Public Administration
ASP	Albanian State Police
SSS	State Social Services
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
CP	Child Protection
SWH	Solar Water Heater
PDNA	Post Disaster Needs Assessment
CSA	Community Supported Agriculture
NAVETQ	National Agency for Vocational Education and Training and qualifications
CAESAR	Central Asian and Eastern European Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance
BMS	Breast Milk Substitutes
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
MNCH	Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
LINAC	Linear Accelerator - external beam radiation treatment for cancer patients
NCCPI	National Centre of Cultural Property Inventory
AMA	Audiovisual Media Authority
IDE	Institute of Education Development
IHR	International Health Regulations
CPU	Child Protection Unit

United Nations
ALBANIA

Website: www.un.org.al
United Nations House, "Skenderbej" Street"
Gurten Building, 2nd floor,
Tirana, Albania

Follow us:
facebook.com/UnitedNationsAlbania
twitter.com/UN_Albania
youtube.com/user/UnitedNationsAlbania
flickr.com/photos/124761789@N08/

As a family of specialized agencies, the UN in Albania works closely with the Government and other partners including civil society, academia and the private sector, to fight poverty, strengthen the rule of law, promote human rights and fundamental freedoms, protect the environment and support economic and social reforms.

Through a coherent country programme, the UN fully supports and works towards the complementary agendas of: Albania's goal of European Union integration, national priorities expressed in the National Strategy for Development and Integration and the Integrated Planning System, as well as harmonization and aid effectiveness. This includes Albania's commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).