GOVERNMENT OF ALBANIA
&
UNITED NATIONS

PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION
2012-2016

2016 Mid Year Review
Continuing on the ‘Deliver as One’ path, 8 resident and 7 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 - Human Rights

Output 1.1 Normative Reporting, Tracking and Quality
Output 1.2 Access to Justice and Civil Society Support
Output 1.3 Eliminating Violence in Society

Outcome Chair - Mr. David Saunders, UN Women Representative

Human Rights and gender equality considerations guide interactions between citizens and institutions.
Main Achievements 2016

- Increased government responsiveness & accountability for protection & fulfillment of human rights and progress towards meeting its gender equality commitments
  - Improved Fundamental Rights Index: 0.58 to 0.60 (2014 to 2015)
  - 67% Increase in No. of cases brought to CPD over 2014
  - Due to an increased level of awareness, victims of Domestic Violence report over 3,000 cases annually to state police compared to 94 in 2005

- Achievement in legal & policy agenda linked to concluding observations & recommendations of UN treaty body reports
  - Committee review of Albania’s 4th periodic report on CEDAW
  - CSO CEDAW Shadow Report on women’s reproductive & sexual health care
  - Ombudsman CEDAW Shadow Report presented
  - 2nd report on implementation of Convention on Protection of Rights of All Migrant Workers & Members of Their Families


- Modelling prevention and service mechanisms for responding to GBV, followed by implementation in Policy is a national achievement
  - almost 50% of municipalities with functioning CCRs - real case management happening at local level

- Improved channeled public demand for justice
  - Alternatives to detention used in over 65% of juveniles cases
  - Time spent in detention reduced from 140 to 126 days (2014 to 2015)

- Increased public ‘ownership’ of vulnerability in Albania, particularly for groups such as Roma, LGTB persons, victims of domestic violence, victims of trafficking (Ref. Outcome 2)

- Strengthened economic position of women: opportunities for access to property, capital and credit, employment (Ref. Outcome 4)
  - Increase in enterprises owned or managed run by women: today 30% up from 22.9% in 2005.
Challenges

Lessons Learned

There is a need for increased awareness raising about, and greater public ownership of, UPR recommendations, and improved tracking, coordination and follow up on recommendation implementation across government.

- UN will continue to foster partnerships between central and local government and develop and strengthen relevant capacities and resources

Sustainability of services for socially excluded groups remains a major concern.

- UN will continue to support development and improvement of services to socially excluded groups
- The government’s renewed focus on judicial reform provides a unique and important opportunity to advance access to justice by children and juveniles
- Through coordinated multi-sectoral support and tailored services, UN will assist national partners to consolidate and bring to scale the policy and legal framework to address GBV and DV at both local and central levels of governance

Increased focus on data as evidence of progress in light of 2030 Agenda:

- UN work will focus on ensuring that SDG indicators support improved decision making and are both a political and institutional commitment to be reported.
- Improved national capacities and data availability are crucial to measure development progress of vulnerable groups/categories.

1. Human Rights
Government of Albania meets its international human rights reporting obligations and application of normative standards through tracking implementation.
Main Achievements 2016

- Albanian Delegation prepared for 64th CEDAW Session in Geneva held in July 2016 - 21 CSOs, Ministries & INSTAT (MoSWY/UNFPA/UNWOMEN).

- Tracking mechanism under development for implementation of UPR, CEDAW & CRC recommendations. (MFA/UNWOMEN/UNFPA)

- Child Rights Agenda (Action Plan) till 2020 drafted and consultative process facilitated. (MoSWY/UNICEF)

- Evidence for development strengthened:
  - Country Analytical Report on Disaggregation of Data on Children by Ethnicity published - advocacy tool. (INSTAT/UNICEF)
  - 60% of nationally agreed list of child-relevant indicators have data compared to 40% previously. (UNICEF/Child Rights Observatory)
  - Annual ‘Women & Men in Albania’ statistical publication (INSTAT/UNWOMEN) incl. Beijing min. set of Gender Indicators

- Assessments & recommendations prepared to aid government develop gender sensitive policy provisions to regulate the status and ensure protection of migrant workers in Albania. (MoSWY/Ombudsman/IOM)
  - Private Employment Agencies regulatory framework compliance vis-à-vis ratified international labour standards
  - Migrant workers’ exercising their rights in Albania;
  - Standard methodology for Ombudsman to conduct similar annual assessments.

- Curricula for teaching human trafficking in Albanian schools/pre-university level drafted & consultation process started. (MIA/MoES/IOM)
The Ministry of Justice, state institutions and civil society channel public demand for justice and ensure support services are established and accessible to provide resolution.
Main Achievements 2016

Draft Criminal Justice for Minors Code developed in compliance with international standards, as part of Justice System Reform. (MoJ/UNICEF)

New legislation on social housing considers juveniles as eligible beneficiaries. This will likely reduce their chances for recidivism. (MoSWY/UNICEF)

A prototype developed of an online tracking system for cases of children in conflict/contact with criminal law. (MoJ/UNICEF)

Access to justice advocated and implemented - Free legal aid provided to 42 newly identified Roma and Egyptians families in 3 municipalities. (UNDP)

Children in conflict/contact with the law and their families supported: (UNICEF)

- 76 cases resolved positively on victim-offender mediation
- Support programmes for parents of children in conflict/contact with the law reached 45 families (first time in Albania)
- Psycho-social and economic reintegration services provided to 68 children (85% of all those released from detention; 20 children from probation process)
- 62 juveniles and their families supported with legal and psychological assistance

Diversion or alternatives to detention used in over 65% of juveniles cases. (credited to UNICEF advocacy)

Time spent in detention reduced from 140 days in 2014 to 126 days in 2015. (credited to UNICEF advocacy)
Mandated line ministries and state institutions ensure that their practices and policies effectively prevent and address violence (against women and children) in society.
Main Achievements 2016

- Amendments provided to Law on Measures against Violence in Family Relations for compatibility with Istanbul Convention provisions (MoSWY/UNDP)
- New CCRs in Kruja, Saranda, Kavaja, Erseka, Burrel, Permet capacitated with knowledge & skills to prevent and respond to GB&DV cases - 120 police officers & CCR members trained; 2,052 GB&DV cases reported to state police Jan-June 2016. (MoSWY/UNDP)
- National Shelter for DV victims improved services related to rehabilitation & reintegration programmes - 40% of GB&DV victims integrated through employment, 27% housing, 46% legal aid, 100% psychological assistance. (MoSWY/UNDP)
- 3 CSO run shelters for Girls & Women Victims of Trafficking supported with management of trafficking cases and beneficiaries assisted in their socio-economic re/integration into society. (MoSWY/MoIA/UNWOMEN)
- A regulatory framework of the national telephone helpline prepared & adopted for immediate implementation in 2016. (MoSWY/UNDP)
- “Invisible Violence” campaign promoted in Shkodra, Dibra, Elbasan, Kukës, Korça and five policy papers drafted with LGU authorities to guide specific interventions. (MoSWY/UNDP)
- Negotiations initiated with Faculty of Midwifery & Nursing to include multi-sectoral response to GBV through health sector during academic year 2016-2017. (UNFPA)
- MoU signed by four Ministers (MoSWY; MoES; MoIA; & MIPA) & National Action Plan for child safety online developed as a follow up to Abu Dhabi Summit on Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Online. (UNICEF)
  ➢ Amendments provided to Penal Code and Law on Cyber Security to include child-specific inputs.
  ➢ Albania’s first online platform ISIGURT (www.isigurt.al) launched for reporting online abuse and offences - 83 cases already reported.
  ➢ Online safety promotional activities reached 9,000 school children by mid-2016.
- Scoping study on Safe Cities prepared and launched. Results to be published in September/October 2016. (UNWOMEN)
- HeForShe campaign Summer Tour conducted in 10 cities: 2,885 people reached, featured in activities with Olympic Committee and launch of Olympics. (MoSWY/UNWOMEN)

Financial Contributors: SIDA, EU, UK Gov., DRT-F, Swedish National Committee for UNICEF, Vodafone Albania
Outcome 2 – Inclusive Social Policies

The rights of individuals and groups are ensured through equitable, inclusive and evidence based sectoral policies.
Main Achievements 2016

Reform of the legislative and policy frameworks of the social sectors in Albania achieved through UN policy advocacy, technical expertise and convening roles:

- Social policies harmonised with international norms and standards and in line with human rights principles of equality and non-discrimination
- Policy gaps identified and tackled through adjustments to better target vulnerable groups, strengthening of social protection mechanisms and sound monitoring of progress based on evidence
- Capacities and skills developed to collect, compile, analyse, use and disseminate data on poverty measurement, social protection, child protection and welfare, education, health, gender and population dynamics

Improved quality and efficiency of the public administration to deliver services

- Increase in enrolment rates for pre-school education (from 47%/2005 to 88%/2016 and improved standards and curricula for early learning systems
- Increased effectiveness and outreach of employment promotion programmes through support for increased transparency and accountability of decision-making, including more targeted interventions for vulnerable communities (enterprises owned/run by women: current 30-31% from 22.9% in 2005)

Increased public ‘ownership’ and accountability of vulnerability in Albania, particularly for groups such as Roma, victims of DV, VoTs, etc.

- Over 70% increase in no. Roma children attending pre-school from 2011 to 2016 attributed to the Programme “Every Roma Child in Kindergarten” (MoES/Municipalities/UNICEF, in collaboration with CSOs)
- Due to the increased level of awareness, victims of DV report annually over 3,000 cases to the state police compared to 94 cases in 2005 (MoSWY/UNDP)
- Decrease in no. of identified trafficking cases - 109 VoTs and PVoTs identified and assisted in 2015 compared to 125 in 2014. (IOM)
The UN programme made valuable contributions in the social sectors; however sustainability and viability will greatly depend on Government commitment to allocating appropriate human and financial resources to these sectors.

UN’s work focused strongly on legal and policy development based on international standards and on sound evidence. This depends on effective information and data gathering frameworks and analysis, areas that need improvement in capacity and resources.

In the aftermath of TAR, the social sectors call for the establishment of a well-developed government support programme for LGUs, in cooperation with development partners and civil society, is crucial.

- Strengthened UN evidence-based policy advocacy to ensure that the needs of the vulnerable groups are prioritised in the new municipalities’ agenda and a more strategic approach to dissemination of data and capacity building, especially in the delivery of social services.
Health care policies and sector reform enabled towards equitable universal health coverage.
Main Achievements 2016

- National Health Strategy 2016-2020 is being developed from a Health 2020 perspective and in alignment with H2020 framework (to be launched in 2016Q3). PM committed to further improve coordination of inter-sector work in health sector. (MoH/WHO)

- Health financing component is built around National Health Strategy development. PM committed to increase budget allocation for health from current 2.8% to 3.5% as minimal level. (credited to WHO advocacy)

- Noncommunicable Diseases Action Plan 2016 developed including: situation analysis; link to existing NCD related policies and programs in Albania; priority action areas; integration to National Health Strategy. (WHO)

- Reproductive Health Strategic Document developed 2017 – 2021 (UNFPA)

- Costing of Maternal & Child Health preventive services finalized, including a conceptual framework. (MoH/UNICEF)

- A revised law on Protection and Promotion of Breastfeeding (BF) approved by Albanian Parliament in May 2016, ensures a higher level of protection of BF. (MoH/UNICEF)

- A country coordination mechanism for maintenance and update of International Classification of Diseases established and ICD 10 implementation is ongoing in Albania. (MoH/WHO)

- Total Market Approach implementation advanced: (i) Contraceptive Security Strategy 2017 – 2021 developed; (ii) capacity development Lezhe, Berat & Lushnjë. (MoH/UNFPA)

- A comprehensive 7-day training package developed based on new protocols & standards of care for preventive MCH services and UNICEF’s regional modules on home visiting - 160 health personnel trained in target areas, out of 197 eligible (81%). (MoH/UNICEF)

- HIV & key population Coordination Mechanisms operational in Shkodra, Elbasan and Vlora focusing on monitoring of service provision. (MoH/UNAIDS/UNFPA).

- National Family Planning programme strengthened: National guideline & clinical protocols for provision of Family Planning services developed & endorsed by MoH; Virtual learning platform on Family Planning developed. (MoH/UNFPA)

- Beyond the Numbers initiative implemented in maternity hospitals: Vlore, Durres, Kukes, Shkoder and Fier (MoH/UNFPA)

- STIs surveillance system strengthened - national guideline developed, endorsed and communicated to health care practitioners. (MoH/UNFPA)

- Evidence for development strengthened: (MoH/UNFPA/UNICEF)
  - 10 health indicators related to mother & child health, population aging and population health status piloted (based on ECHI).
  - 5 new child nutrition indicators introduced in PHC in target areas. 108 out of 150 eligible health personnel trained in child nutrition surveillance (72%)
Early childhood development and education policies ensure equal opportunity and inclusion for individuals and groups.
Main Achievements 2016

- As a result of long advocacy with MoES, NSDI 2015-2020 prioritized, for the first time in Albania, the introduction of a universally applied pre-primary school year for all children in the country. (MoES/UNICEF)

- The new national pre-school curricula along with a new programme for teachers’ professional developments are being developed, based on Early Learning & Development Standards. (MoES/Institute for Education Development/UNICEF)

- “Every Roma Child in Preschool” initiative across Albania advanced implementation - 549 Roma children integrated in kindergartens; 320 vaccinated and 148 obtained civil registration papers. To promote good and responsive parenting among Roma families, a positive parenting programme developed, to be taken to scale by MoES nation-wide. (MoES/UNICEF)

- Inclusive Teacher Profile finalized and approved by MoES and inclusive education modules incorporated in MoES’ teacher training programme - 9,000 teachers reached to date (100% of teachers teaching grade 2, 6, 10). (MoES/UNICEF)

- Inter-sectoral MoU on Out-Of-School Children (OOSC) continues being piloted in Durres resulting in identification of OOSC in Durres: (i) a new guide on role of each actor to implement MoU developed and used by local authorities & service practitioners; (ii) set of indicators to track OOSC endorsed by MoES. (UNICEF)

- Communication for Behavioral Impact programme continued to unfold: (i) Manual to guide teachers’ in-service training finalized and pending accreditation; (ii) Tirana University/Social Science Faculty drafted a syllabus on VAC to adjust Pedagogy Dept's curriculum; (iii) State Education Inspectorate finalized review of checklists to monitor disciplining practices in schools nation-wide - 1,200 teachers benefitted from techniques of combatting violence in 2016. (UNICEF)

- Aiming to achieve an increased and more efficient education financing, a study is being developed on defining the cost of non-investment in education and a more equitable financing formula between the education levels. (MoES/UNICEF)

- Arts Education programme implementation advanced: (i) traveling photo exhibition finalized and World Heritage properties in Albania published; (ii) Albanian version of the World Heritage in Young Hands Kit initiated preparation; (iii) “Promoting Cultural Heritage Education for Sustainable Development in Albania” project initiated implementation. (MoES/UNESCO)

- “Promotion of intercultural and interreligious understanding through education in Albania” programme along with a dedicated training for teachers in pilot regions developed for introduction in school year 2016-2017. (MoES/UNESCO)

- MoES Education Instruction/Guidance for the academic year 2016-2017 included implementation of Comprehensive Sexuality Education. Over 80 teachers trained as ToT and relevant teacher and student materials developed. (MoES/UNFPA)
Improved social dialogue leads to active employment and skills development policies and decent work for men and women.
Main Achievements 2016

- A monitoring system for National Employment & Skills Strategy developed and a first full cycle of annual reporting completed. (MoSWY/ILO)


- A new law on Vocational Education & Training drafted; A methodological proposal elaborated to align labour force surveys to international labour statistics standards; Technical comments provided to the new draft Labour Code. (MoSWY/ILO)

- An EU Sectoral Approach Document and a Sectoral Reform Contract for Employment and Skills 2016-2018 prepared. (MoSWY/ILO)

- The Employment and Social Policy Integrated Policy Management Group established and operationalized. (MoSWLY/ILO)

- 5 active labour market measures revised/developed & approved by CoM in January 2016. (MoSWY/UNDP)
  - Operational procedures developed for implementation of 1 new employment promotion programme targeting orphans; 2 programmes targeting women single heads of households & recent university graduates.
  - Scoring system revised for evaluation of applications for ALMM funds
  - Computerized application management system developed, currently in use by National Employment Service

- Process mapping of licensing & inspection procedures carried out along with the development of a database portal for private vocational training providers and offers in Albania. (MoSWY/UNDP)

- National List of Occupations revised and all occupational descriptions elaborated. (MoSWY/UNDP)

- Self-employment measure targeting youth 18-30 designed and operationalized – 105 youth (50% female) trained on self-employment; 60 business canvas models developed. (MoSWY/UNDP)

- Study on private sector incentives/disincentives for participation in work-based learning schemes completed. (MoSWY/UNDP)

- Skills Fair organized with the aim of promoting vocational education and training in the country – over 18,000 visitors (UNDP)

- A comprehensive training programme on fighting against the illicit trafficking of cultural goods developed and submitted for EU financing. (MoC/UNESCO)
Social protection and inclusion mechanisms ensure that social needs of the disadvantaged individuals and groups are equally met.
Main Achievements 2016


- Social Housing Strategy implementation advanced: (i) new draft law on Social Housing developed; Housing Needs Assessment of vulnerable groups in 61 newly established municipalities prepared; reliable system for collecting and updating housing data at national and local level established; capacities of 140 housing specialists at local/municipal level strengthened. (MoUD/UNDP)

- Social care services system reform supported (MoSWY/UNICEF)
  - Draft Law on Social Care Services finalized and endorsed by all line Ministries
  - LGUs empowered to assess needs and plan for new services - Instruments to develop social care plans piloted in 7 LGUs.
  - Feasibility assessment underway to add social care services element to Social Protection MIS.

- Social care services system reform supported (MoSWY/UNICEF)

- New Law on Child Rights and Protection developed – attributed to technical support provided to overall drafting & consultative process and facilitation of national consensus building and CSO engagement. (UNICEF)

- Job standards for Child Protection Workers developed. In-service training course on Child Protection Issues piloted, becoming the first initiative in Albania to establish certification criteria for CPWs - 60 CPWs trained. (UNICEF)

- Child Protection Units network strengthened in 11 municipal districts of Tirana. 1,000 children reached/50% social re-integration. (Tirana Municipality/UNICEF).

- Analysis of situation of children in Albania prepared and validated by multiple national stakeholders/institutions aiming to inform development of specific policies at national and local level on child-focused social protection. (UNICEF)

- Quality of vocational education improved for delivery to at least 40 hearing-impaired students every academic year, attributed to rehabilitation of 3 workshops of Tirana Deaf Students Institute. (UNDP)

- Fier, Berat and Tirana municipal plans & budgets aligned with regional development plans – focus on social services/budgeting. Commitments: Fier/$1,8M & Berat/ $1,38M to support families in social assistance, improve recreational and green areas & reconstruct city theater, center of elders and youths, schools/kindergarten

- The law on Social Enterprises approved by Parliament in June 2016 - attributed to technical assistance provided for consultation process & informative briefings prepared for MPs and Parliamentary Committees to acquire knowledge of various aspects of the law . (UN Women)

- Methodology and consultations prepared for development of social exclusion profile for returned migrants - to be finalized Oct.2016. (MoSWY/IOM)

- Voluntary Return and Reintegration assistance provided to migrants returning voluntarily to Albania - 229 cases assisted to date; 136 cases of family reunification with request from the minor. (MoSWY/IOM)

- Increased awareness of local social services in Vlora and Shkodra on supporting needs of people living with HIV and their families - capacity building of social workers; increased coordination by key stakeholders. (MoH/SSS/UNAIDS)
Outcome 3 – Governance & Rule of Law

The Albanian State executes major governance processes following internationally agreed democratic principles and practices, while upholding the rule of law and eliminating key factors of exclusion of women.
Main Achievements 2016

**Improved standards** for justice, managing migration and the fight against organized crime & corruption in context of public service delivery/modernization - *strengthened transparency and accountability*

- National commitment for civil society involvement in drafting, implementing and monitoring various initiatives of national & local interest and concern
- Increased adoption of systems that discourage corrupt practices and promote transparency
  - 90% of the cases in the anti-trafficking area discovered
  - Over 10,000 cases reported annually in gov. anti-corruption portal with 50% solvency ratio
  - TI corruption Index 2015: rank 88 from 110 before; score 36/2015 from 33/2014 and 31/2013
  - Open government index – 0.44/2012 to 0.52/2015

**Public Administration/Innovative Governance** – sustained capacity of institutions to implement reforms and drive for enforcement

- Enhanced capacities & innovated practices and systems for effective delivery of national priorities & international obligations
- Improved evidence-based policy making at all levels
  - Gender equality is now one of core principles in the “Organic Budget Law”.
  - Institutionalisation of gender-sensitive budgetary process (MTBP) and numerous publications that greatly increased the availability of disaggregated data ($61.5M or 4% of 10 LM budget committed for 2016)
Partisan polarization risks blocking core governance and rule of law reforms needed for EU accession.

- To advocate momentum for key reforms, UN will actively build bi-partisan dialogue based on independent evidence and monitoring with civil society, e.g. through open government and data partnerships
- UN will strengthen public pressure on corruption through targeted capacity development of the National Anti-corruption Coordinator, relevant line ministries, central agencies, and civil society
- The legislative function, and particularly the political debates around the Justice System Reform have absorbed almost entirely the Parliament’s attention and its public oversight role has taken second stage.

 Politicization of the administration and state institutions—functional improvements in institutional capacities (national & LGUs), with focus on implementation, are needed to ease the lives of men and women who turn to public institutions to seek services, justice and opportunities.

- UN will continue to support public administration reform through capacity building for proper implementation of the Civil Service Law, establishment and strengthening of human resource management systems and compliance with the Code of Administrative Procedures

Inequities - More inclusive and gender responsive, evidence based policy making and legislation are required for reducing inequities and corruption risks

- UN’s gender mainstreaming work will continue with legal and policy review in light of the strategic priorities of government and the international commitments
Parliament and electoral institutions have the capacity to perform core functions.
Main Achievements 2016

- The best interest of the child principle was enshrined for the first time in the Albanian Constitution, attributed to UNICEF’s technical expertise and various forms of advocacy to the Parliament.

- Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination engaged in monitoring judicial decisions in relation to disadvantaged children, for the first time since its establishment. (UNICEF)

- Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination requested Tirana Education Department to employ teacher assistants with a view to accommodate children with disabilities. (UNICEF)

- People’s Advocate role strengthened in monitoring child rights and treatment in detention/residential facilities. (UNICEF)

- A new Law on Rights & Protection of the Child drafted. (UNICEF)

- Six strategic litigation cases for child rights initiated. (UNICEF)

- Ombudsman prepared its first CEDAW shadow report, presented in CEDAW 64th session. 80% of recommendations are now part of CEDAW concluding observations. Work plan will be prepared to ensure implementation of these recommendations. (UNWOMEN)

- Pilot study investigating “public perceptions and attitudes towards gender equality in Albania” prepared & launched to inform evidence-based interventions for gender equality. (UNDP)

- A tailored course ‘Strengthened leadership skills and performance in decision making for councilwomen and women employees in the new LGUs administration’ developed and included in ASPA programme - 24 councilwomen/women in LGUs leading positions trained (UNDP)

- Alliances of Women increased in number and advanced planning: (UNWOMEN)
  - Alliance of Women Parliamentarians organized 2nd annual meeting – (i) exchange of experience between MPs; (ii) information sharing on 2015 achievements; (iii) defined the joint work for 2016.
  - Alliance of Women Counselors of Tirana Municipality organized 1st annual retreat – (i) opportunity to establish Strategic Plan & Action Plan; (ii) support establishment of Alliance of Women Counselors and Gender Equality Commission in Vlora.

- Regional Conference of Women Parliamentarians focused on role of women in politics, parliament and central government, highlighting the importance of strengthening role of women in economy and in democratization of the society. (UNWOMEN)

- Community Based Scorecards implemented in 10 municipalities. 6 CBS prepared capturing grassroots citizens’ evaluation of local authorities performance and service provision in Public Services, Good governance, Local Economic Development and Human Rights. A national conference will be held in November to introduce findings. (UNWOMEN)

- Mapping of health related SDGs into NSDI 2015-2020 is ongoing. (UNFPA)
Line ministries and public service delivery institutions are able to mainstream gender and conduct gender responsive planning and budgeting and evidence-based policy making at all levels.
Main Achievements 2016

- Gender responsive budgeting advanced in PFM – MoF Instruction No.4/Feb.16 mandates all LMs: (i) define appropriate & measurable/costed gender outputs; (ii) involve CSOs in MTBPs 2017-2019 consultation & formulation. (UNWOMEN)
- Participatory budgeting conducted in municipalities of Vlora, Saranda, Permet and Kelcyra - on average 20% of recommendations approved & budgeted by municipal councils. (UNWOMEN)
- Draft National Strategy on Gender Equality and against Gender-Based Violence improved from perspective of equality of boys and girls and combatting gender stereotypes from an early age, in line with CEDAW Committee Recommendations. (MoSWY/UNICEF)
- The process of primary/pre-school curricula development supported from gender equality, non-discrimination and inclusion perspective. (Institute for Development of Education/UNICEF)
- Albanian State Police committed to adopting and implementing gender equality measures - 3 women police officers are now performing operational command roles. (UNWOMEN)
- State Police Academy training curricula upgraded on GBV–DV in line with domestic legislation and ratified international treaties; 23 academy trainers acquired pedagogical skills in their future capacity building work with police staff. (UNDP)
- An engendered assessment of all ASPA training modules prepared and 26 recommendations issued to address gaps. As a result, ASPA's curricula and training modules updated, targeting top level ministry management. (UNDP)
- Women and Men 2016 launched, featuring new sets of gender disaggregated data. STAT supported with expertise for development of Statistical Programme 2017-2021. (STAT/UNWOMEN)
- Independent review of 655 decisions on divorce cases/Tirana District Court conducted indicating that women are not guaranteed enforcement of court orders on child alimony - low level of access of women & children in justice system (82.9% of cases). 2016Q1 consultation with national partners called for law improvements and realistic solutions. (UNDP)
- Workshop on “Gender Sensitive Indicators for the Media” conducted - 35 participants from across country. (UNESCO/UNWOMEN)
- Tirana University Social Work Dept committed to include GSIM in the curriculum
- All journalists committed to apply GSIM philosophy in their daily work
- INSTAT committed to introduce GSIM principles to the harmonized indicators on Gender Equality and Status of Women in Albania
- Parenting club programme for Roma, under “Each Roma in Pre-school” initiative features integrated and strengthened gender equality-related elements. (UNICEF)
- A parenting programme for children in conflict/contact with the law is under way, addressing gender equality aspects of delinquency and victimisation. Lessons learned may influence the Justice for Children Strategy. (UNICEF)

3. Governance & Rule of Law - Output 3.2
State, market, non-state institutions enabled to deliver their statutory mandates, prevent corruption; enforce rule of law.
Main Achievements 2016

- Reforming of the service delivery framework in Albania advanced: (MIPA/UNDP)
  - Public Service Delivery Policy document developed and approved by CoM in May, 2016.
  - Assessment being conducted for a regional expansion of Agency for Delivery of Integrated Services of Albania. First two regional pilots developed and two others are underway.

- Interface of national anticorruption portal enhanced to include real time data - revamped portal went public in July 2016. Portal operators/focal points in line ministries & institutions acquired skills on software use and its features and on how to follow up sensitive cases denounced by citizens. (National Anti-corruption Coordinator/UNDP)

- Iranian Refugees: relocation of 1,900 Ex-Ashraf Iranian residents, bringing to 2,700 total Iranians residing in Albania. (UNHCR)

- Syrian Refugees & Asylum Seekers - 440 persons apprehended by border authorities in their attempts to enter the country, of whom 91 sought asylum. (UNHCR)

- Persons at risk of statelessness - 30 families identified in Durres, Rreshen and Gjirokastra. 3 families obtained civil registry documentation, other cases are in process. (UNHCR)

- Strengthened capacities of Albanian National Referral Mechanism on Standard Operating Procedures for identification, referral and assistance of Victims of Trafficking at central & local level - comprehensive multidisciplinary training module developed and 12 trainings organized across country with 388 participants (MIA/IOM)

- Sharing of best practice opportunities in area of compensation for victims of trafficking provided to National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator. Discussion ongoing for a possible MoU between Israel and Albania in the area of Counter Trafficking/improve Albania legislation on VoT compensation. (National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator/IOM)

- Workshops on “gender mainstreaming in the Container Control Area” and “targeting risk management” conducted: (UNODC)
  - 24 law enforcement officers trained and increased knowledge with 50%
  - Revised CCP 2015 Framework and improved training module on gender
  - Commitment for future guidelines to ensure gender mainstreaming not only in Albania and SEE but globally across CCP
Line Ministries ensure and enforce the conservation, sustainable use of public goods.
Main Achievements 2016

- Strategic Plan for marine and coastal protected areas approved by Government and acknowledged by the Convention of Biodiversity. (MoE/UNDP)

- Valuation of ecosystem services undertaken in Karaburun Sazani and options explored for multi-criteria valuation of ecosystem services provided by the marine areas, assessing the equity and efficiency of payments & compensation schemes. (MoE/UNDP)

- 6 curricula and 8 training modules on marine biodiversity conservation and management produced and training sessions conducted for all protected area administration. (MoE/UNDP)

- Joint patrolling missions conducted periodically in marine protected area Karaburun-Sazan - Regional Agency of protected Areas, Guard Coast, Delta force (border policy) and other inspection bodies. (MoE/UNDP)

- Albania Third National Communication to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change finalized. (UNDP)

- Stakeholder’s analysis and background documentation review contributed in preparation of Terms of Reference for the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis of Drini River Basin. (MoE/UNDP)

- A roadmap for operationalization of an environmental management and monitoring system developed including GIS component. (MoE/UNDP)

- BioBlitz/citizens science approach is contributing in development of a national flora and fauna inventory in the country and will be extended in schools and protected area administration. (MoE/UNDP)

- Coordination, Monitoring, and Quality Control of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Hotspot in Albania: (UNDP)
  - 69,432 square meters of contaminated land in three unexploded ordnance UXO Hotspot cleared and certified.
  - 780,259 square meters of land is inspected and certified as free of ammunitions in three former military ammunitions depots.
  - The government assisted in preparations of six annual transparency reports related to the Disarmament Conventions.
  - Risk education and community liaison activities provided to 12,500 inhabitants including boys, girls, women and men in seven UXO hotspots.
  - 4500 leaflets with Risk Education messages prepared and distributed to inhabitants living around UXO hotspots areas.

- Strengthened governance of the shared transboundary natural and cultural heritage of the Lake Ohrid region: (i) management planning options developed; (ii) World Heritage extension file being prepared; (iii) assessment of current infrastructure for soft tourism being finalized; (iv) a local waste management plan for the Municipality of Pogradec being developed. (MoE/MoC/UNESCO)
Government of Albania implements policies that advance democratic, equitable and sustainable regional and local development.
### Main Achievements 2016

#### Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Albania submits the Third National Communication to UNFCCC Convention
- Albania complies with EU policy - adoption of a Renewable Energy Action Plan by PM Order in 2016
- Increased Government commitment to systematically integrate disaster risk reduction (DRR) into the country’s development agenda.

#### Nature Conservation
- Improved governance system & financial sustainability of Protected Areas
- Albania’s partnerships with homologue institutions of the riparian countries of the Drin River (south-south cooperation) institutionalized and implementing procedures for management of this transboundary basin developed.

#### Agriculture & Rural Development
- Albania implements policies that advance rural development and modernization of the agricultural sector in compliance with EU
- National commitment to promote diversification of economic activities in rural areas to create new jobs - economic empowerment of women and men living in rural areas

#### Local Governance
- Enactment of key strategic & policy frameworks for empowering LGUs and strengthening decentralization
- Creation of a more favorable environment for integrated territorial management and efficient service delivery
- National commitment to strengthen administrative & financial management, coordination and dialogue between central & local governments
- Commitment of the international community in Albania to a nationally owned and driven local governance reform.

#### Culture
- Protect cultural heritage and promote cultural tourism.
The sustainability of the existing territorial and administrative division largely depends on the transfer of functions from central government and on the establishing and implementing of high quality standards for services.

- STAR 2 will address this through (1) Strengthening institutional and administrative capacities of municipalities; (2) Improving service delivery and its gender equality orientation at local government levels; and (3) Increasing good governance through citizen oriented and meaningful participatory decision-making.

A special emphasis needs to be put on data generation, collection and analysis for evidence-based, transparent and participative responses and solutions.

- STAR2 proposes to undertake a number of specific assessments requiring data collection and analysis, establishing systems of recording data trends while measuring performance, etc. This will allow for targeted policy making and tracking those who are at risk of being left behind.

New co-management systems and financing mechanisms with local, regional and central authorities are needed to spur innovations for energy efficiency & environmental protection.

Albania’s vulnerabilities to both climate change and natural disasters are under-addressed in national, and especially local, development planning.

The current funding baselines and capacities for the Protected Areas system are still well below the levels required to ensure that the PA system can serve its function as an important tool to protect biodiversity

- UNDP will continue to support the government in reducing existing funding gaps for PA system, improving the management and cost efficiencies of individual PAs, and building financial management capacities of PA staff in NAPA.
State institutions at regional and local levels have the capacity to implement rural development and modernization of the agricultural sector.
Main Achievements 2016

- Institutional and regulative frameworks on state support targeted for post-disaster recovery of the agricultural sector advanced:
  (MoARDWA/FAO)
  - Central level capacities developed to design and implement agricultural recovery programmes, distribution of aid and impact monitoring tailored to needs of affected farmers
  - National level capacities developed for assessment and documentation of disaster related damages to agricultural sector, assessment of needs and development of recovery frameworks.
  - A platform developed to increase farmers access to finance, advisory services, and support their cooperation through a contract farming model.

- The report “Gender, Agriculture and Rural Development in Albania” published and validated with MoARDWA. (FAO)

- Rural women’s economic empowerment advanced through income diversification in the framework of IPARD. By end 2016, studies will be finalized in Berat, Korca and Vlora identifying key economic clusters as entry-points for income diversification, rural development and rural women’s empowerment. (FAO)

- A dedicated subsidy scheme and a national advocacy strategy for women entrepreneurs engaged in agro-processing in rural areas is under development. Capacity development to help women move up the value chain focused in Shkodra, Puka, Tirana, Korca Pogradec (MoRDWA/UNWOMEN)
Local Government Units and governance institutions have the technical, financial and human resources to deliver equitable public and administrative services for men and women and render account.
Main Achievements 2016

- 26 gender-responsive Local Development Operational Plans prepared and approved by 26 mayors – Feb.2016. (MSLG/UNDP/UNWOMEN)

- A national exercise of due diligence of all former LGUs completed. Results consolidated for each of the newly constituted 61 municipalities and made public. (MSLG/UNDP)

- Standard rules and regulations for the functioning of municipal administration prepared: Policies and procedures manual; Organizational code of conduct; Performance evaluation manual; Templates for asset evaluation; Manuals for development of functional analysis, job descriptions and business continuity plans, etc. (UNDP)

- UNDP concluded its first phase (STAR1) of assistance to Territorial & Administrative Reform by mid-2016 and launched a second phase (STAR2) on consolidation of the newly established municipalities.

- As part of STAR2 implementation, a Local Governance Mapping will be launched by end Sept.2016 to assess the level and quality of local governance in all of the 61 municipalities. (UNDP)
National and sub-national government units have the capacity to generate and strengthen investments, employment and livelihood opportunities, especially for youth and women.
Main Achievements 2016

- Vulnerable women in rural areas of Erseka, Vithkuq, Hore Vranisht, Novosela and Burrel supported to achieve social and economic empowerment (fairs/sale events/partnership development). (UNDP)
  - Erseka and Vithkuq mayors supported women’s products visibility & marketability through dedicated sale spaces
  - Efforts ongoing for online sale to increase visibility in the future

- Study on the potential of agro-tourism in the country developed, including an agro-tourism map of 6 regions -Tiranë, Shkodër, Dibër, Korçë, Gjirokastër, Berat. (MoRDWA/UNDP)

- Women Empowerment Principals introduced in Tirana for endorsement by Tirana business sector (Tirana Municipality/UNWOMEN)
  - 100 big companies expressed interest in joining WEPs trainings
  - 10 companies are expected to sign WEPS within 2016

- “Women Entrepreneurs Fund” to support the creation/expansion of women business activities established - up to 6.000.000 ALL for 2016 with potential for replication annually. (Tirana Municipality/UNWOMEN)

- Study on Leather and Footwear Industry prepared with the intention to articulate and implement policies that boost their potential for development (MEDTTE/UNDP)

- Non Financial Business Support Services Need Assessment prepared. (MEDTTE/UNDP)

- Improved capacity of governmental trade control agencies in Albania to implement Single Window – increased knowledge of international recommendations, standards and tools; improved understanding of existing customs procedures; drafted outline of a National Trade Facilitation Roadmap. (MEDTTE/UNECE/UNCTAD)
OUTPUT 4.4 CLIMATE CHANGE

OUTPUT WORKING GROUP CHAIR - MS. ELVITA KABASHI, UNDP

Key ministries and local authorities adopt local, regional and national action on climate change adaptation (including short term e.g. DRR) and mitigation across sectors.
Main Achievements 2016

- Promotion of legal and market based approaches to increase use of energy efficient and innovative solar water heating technology continues through the small grants scheme, co-founded at municipal level, associated with advocacy & capacity building activities - 10 public institutions in Vlora and Durres are benefiting. (MoEI/UNDP)

- An Energy Management Tracking Tool piloted in Durres Municipality and energy benchmarking conducted. Results will support institutionalization of an energy management information system covering all municipalities. (MoEI/MoE/UNDP)

- Assessment of the situation on small hydro power plants including potential for further development of the sector conducted. Scoping of Strategic Environment Assessment process carried out supporting decision-making processes related to development of SHPPs in Albania, to be finalized within 2016. (MoEI/MoE/UNDP)


- 16 major river protection infrastructures and related drainage channels finalized. (MoARDWA/UNDP)

- FLOODIS application with the DEWETRA platform for real-time monitoring, prediction and prevention of multiple natural risks (fires and floods) is in use in Albania. (UNESCO)

- Capacity development carried out for the Institute of Geoscience, Energy, Water and Environment staff and key hydrological and meteorological data collected and processed. (UNDP)

- Capacity development ongoing for farmer and extension units on agricultural practices which contribute to disaster risk reduction and reduce the impact of climate change on the agricultural sector. (MoARDWA/FAO)
**2016 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

“first semester”

### Available Budget 2016

- **Core**: 69%
- **Non Core / Donor**: 18%
- **Coherence Fund**: 13%

### Expenditures Jan-Aug. 2016

- **Core**: 72%
- **Non Core / Donor**: 16%
- **Coherence Fund**: 12%

### Output Delivery Rate

- **Output 1.1 Normative reporting, tracking and…”
- **Output 1.2 Access to justice and civil society…”
- **Output 1.3 Eliminating violence in society…”
- **Output 2.1 Health”
- **Output 2.2 Education”
- **Output 2.3 Labour”
- **Output 2.4 Social Protection”
- **Output 2.5 Labour”
- **Output 2.6 Education”
- **Output 2.7 Health”
- **Output 2.8 Eliminating violence in society…”
- **Output 2.9 Access to justice and civil society…”
- **Output 2.10 Normative reporting, tracking and…”

### Delivery Rate per Outcome as of 31 Aug. 2016

- **Outcome 1 Human Rights**
  - **Core**: 55%
  - **Non Core / Donor**: 45%
  - **Coherence Fund**: 41%
- **Outcome 2 Inclusive Social Policies**
  - **Core**: 41%
  - **Non Core / Donor**: 45%
  - **Coherence Fund**: 41%
- **Outcome 3 Governance and Rule of Law**
  - **Core**: 41%
  - **Non Core / Donor**: 41%
  - **Coherence Fund**: 41%
- **Outcome 4 Regional & Local Development**
  - **Core**: 71%
  - **Non Core / Donor**: 41%
  - **Coherence Fund**: 41%

### Outcome Total Budget

- **Outcome 1 Human Rights**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 2,122,865
  - **Total Expenditures**: 1,175,634
- **Outcome 2 Inclusive Social Policies**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 6,991,598
  - **Total Expenditures**: 3,129,107
- **Outcome 3 Governance and Rule of Law**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 11,629,795
  - **Total Expenditures**: 4,815,708
- **Outcome 4 Regional & Local Development**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 6,414,380
  - **Total Expenditures**: 4,539,221

### Outcome Total Budget

- **Outcome 1 Human Rights**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 2,122,865
  - **Total Funding Gap**: 1,175,634
- **Outcome 2 Inclusive Social Policies**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 6,991,598
  - **Total Funding Gap**: 3,129,107
- **Outcome 3 Governance and Rule of Law**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 11,629,795
  - **Total Funding Gap**: 4,815,708
- **Outcome 4 Regional & Local Development**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 6,414,380
  - **Total Funding Gap**: 4,539,221

### Outcome Total Budget

- **Outcome 4 Regional & Local Development**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 6,414,380
  - **Total Funding Gap**: 1,590,000
- **Outcome 3 Governance and Rule of Law**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 11,629,795
  - **Total Funding Gap**: 7,686,640
- **Outcome 2 Inclusive Social Policies**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 6,991,598
  - **Total Funding Gap**: 1,639,107
- **Outcome 1 Human Rights**
  - **Total Available Budget**: 2,122,865
  - **Total Funding Gap**: 1,413,457
“Delivering for Development” joint UN Albania newsletter produced outlining UN key events. Newsletter shared with over 600 UN partners and posted on UN digital platforms.

Through the “Youth voice network”, around 1,000 Albanian young people in 10 municipalities, of the country exposed to SDGs related information.

In partnership with Italian Embassy, Tirana Municipality and CONAD implemented a three week campaign aiming to reduce the use of plastic bags in Albania.

In 2016, the UNITE campaigned is focused on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as it relates to ending violence against women and girls. Each month, Orange Days are dedicated to one specific SDG as it relates to violence against women. Public awareness events organized over 5 regions of Albania exposing women and men to the SDGs and especially youth. Activities organized in rural and urban areas. More than 20,000 people reached every month through social media platforms and face to face communications.

Social Media Campaign around the UN Progress Report implemented. The Hashtag #UNProgressReport 2015 gained around 35,000 impressions.

To mark the signing of the Paris Climate Change Agreement on the Earth Day, the UN Agencies in Albania and the French Embassy joined the global campaign: Plant a Tree.
A pilot was carried out by the Office of the Prime Minister and UNDP, to boost the achievement of SDG 16. A set of 21 governance indicators was developed, according to the NSDI 2015-2020 pillars.

Under the Design Innovation Facility, data capture and analysis on child-friendly and safe cities has been carried out in 5 municipalities. This initiative ties in with SDG 5 on Gender Equality, SDG 10 on Reducing Inequalities, SDG 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities, and SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Institutions.

An interagency UN-INSTAT Joint Data Group has been set up, in order to coordinate different Agencies’ work on statistics and improve the monitoring of indicators. This would serve work being done on all SDGs.

A baseline analysis has been carried out to define the level of integration of SDGs- goals and targets into the NSDI II and sectoral programmes, by using a Rapid Integrated Policy Assessment. This will serve as the input for a joint UN-Albanian government road map for SDG implementation.

Meetings with representatives from the business community around the SDGs, have led to the Albania Albanian Association of Banks incorporating the SDGs in their report on corporate social responsibility.

Contacts have been established with civil society organizations to jointly develop awareness campaigns around the SDGs: initiatives were launched to talk about SDGs in schools and during clean-up campaigns.

Speeches, communication materials, programme documentation, have all consistently mentioned relevant SDGs and the way in which joint efforts contribute to achieving them.

Discussions are being held to link Agenda 2030 and the European integration process in order to underline the relevance of the SDGs to the EU acquis, as well as stress that EU integration is a driving force to meet the SDGs.
PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2017-2021

Total Budget 2017-2021 - $105M
- Core $16M
- Non Core $21M
- Gap $68M

Support GoA reform

Available Budget $8.5M

SDGs:
- 5, 10, 16

Programme Strategies

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

Available Budget $4M

SDGs:
- 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12

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

Available Budget $13.5M

SDGs:
- 1, 4, 5, 10, 16

Social Cohesion
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

Available Budget $11M

SDGs:
- 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 3, 14, 16

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

To be signed on UN Day 2016 by Deputy Prime Minister, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Albania and Heads of 17 UN Agencies
### Acronyms

#### Implementing partners
- AIDA: Albanian Investment Development Agency
- CEC: Central Election Commission
- CPD: Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination
- DODFA: Department of Development, Financing and Foreign Aid
- INSTAT: National Institute of Statistics
- MIPA: Ministry of State for Innovation and Public Administration
- MLG: Ministry of State for Local Government
- MoARDWA: Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development & Water Administration
- MoC: Ministry of Culture
- MoD: Ministry of Defence
- MoEDTTE: Ministry of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade & Entrepreneurship
- MoE: Ministry of Environment
- MoEES: 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
- Ombudsman: People’s Advocate

#### Participating UN organisations, funds and programmes
- FAO: Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
- IAEA: International Atomic Energy Agency
- IFAD: International Fund for Agricultural Development
- 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
- UNHCHR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- 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
- CPD: Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination
- CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women
- 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 Units
- NCD: Noncommunicable Diseases
- PHC: Primary Health Care
- ToT: Training of Trainers
- MP: Member of Parliament
- ASPA: Albanian School of Public Administration
- SSS: State Social Services
- UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

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**Acronyms**

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<th>Acronym</th>
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<tr>
<td>MoARDWA</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development &amp; Water Administration</td>
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POTENTIAL ACRONYMS

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<tr>
<td>PHC</td>
<td>Primary Health Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>ToT</td>
<td>Training of Trainers</td>
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<tr>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Member of Parliament</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASPA</td>
<td>Albanian School of Public Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSS</td>
<td>State Social Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
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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).