



Decentralization and Local Governance in Korça

Context

The project consisted in supporting LGUs in the Korca "Qark" to develop and implement the economic development plan. The project included also the assistance for the Ministry of Local Governance, to develop the aspects and legal policies for the main functions of the "Qarks". The project involved two levels of governance and all sectors of economy; households, business community and regional and development institutions are broadly involved in the project. The project developed within the existing legislation framework as well as result of the project new legislation that facilitates regional development will be considered at the national level.

Project Phase

- The first phase of the project has included five modules of six months each.

The first module, the inception, was spent clarifying what the project should focus on. After discussions of clarification with the Regional Council, the Ministry of Local Government and Decentralization (MLGD) and with SIDA Tirana, it was decided that out of the 34 local governments on the first level (communes and municipalities) in the region, nine pilot communes were selected for support: Liqenas, Voskopoje, Proptisht, Hudenisht, Mollas, Bulgarec, Voskop, Proger, dhe Qender-Bilisht. The priority of project interventions were formulated in a



process of workshops, seminars and conferences involving hundreds of representatives from local governments – elected officials as well as experts – and other categories of actors in the region. This thorough process created a strong base upon which project planning and concrete capacity building on local, regional and national level was founded. A function analysis was conducted in order to find out how the Regional Council was organized and capacitated to meet the goal and objectives of the project outlined in the LFA. Based on information acquired from the activities mentioned above, the project developed work plans for the modules 2 – 5 that outlined activities necessary to reach the aim and objectives of the project.

Activities

- Supporting democratic governance
- Participatory development planning
- Methods and skills development (focusing on the areas of democratic governance, financial management, physical planning and modern methods of development planning)
- Strengthening Regional council

capacity

- National level activities

All prepared manuals are available at the URI office.

MAIN FACTS

PARTNERS:

- ✓ SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency)/SIPU International (Sweden)

DURATION:

October 2002 – October 2005

BENEFICIARIES:

- ✓ Korca "Qark"

CONTACT:

Zana Vokopola
Director

Urban Research Institute

Rr. Asim Vokshi, Nd.14
Hyrja 11, Ap. 56
Tirana, Albania
Tel: +355 4 2256840
E-mail: uri@uri.org.al
Web: www.uri.org

About URI

Since 1999 the Urban Research Institute (URI) has been delivering big results for development projects and programmers carried out throughout Albania. Our core business focuses on community development, local government strengthening, environmental protection, decentralization, and public services. We conduct studies, lobby the government, train local government units, increase public access to information, and connect development partners. URI has worked with donors such as USAID, Swiss Cooperation, the Netherlands Embassy, UNDP, World Bank, EU, SIDA, Open Society/Soros Foundation, etc.