



## Institutional Capacity Enhancement for a Reform of Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations in Albania

### The Goal

By means of this project, the Urban Research Institute aims at improving the system of local government finance, the fiscal autonomy and predictability of revenues. These elements were achieved through the evaluation of responsibilities and local decision-making on one side, and measuring the capacities of local revenues on the other. An important element was strengthening the institutional capacity of the Group of Experts for Decentralization (GED).

### Components of the study

- Undertaking a review of the current regulation related to local finance, to be able than to identify possible flaws, and propose corrective adjustments to the Government;
- Defining feasible standards of public services to be delivered locally, and propose measurable performances



indicators, aiming at eliminating unfounded mandates and holding local authorities accountable;

- Assessing notional costs of public services to be delivered locally;
- Assessing local own revenue capacity, as compared to the actual local revenue, and propose concrete measures to improve collection;
- Evaluating the size of fiscal imbalances and regional disparities, and propose ways to ameliorate the current situation, taking into consideration the decentralization targets.

*Copies of this study are available at the URI Tirana office.*

### MAIN FACTS

#### PARTNERS:

- ✓ World Bank / Ministry of Interior)

#### DURATION:

September 2005 – February 2006

#### 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](mailto:uri@uri.org.al)  
Web: [www.uri.org](http://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.