



Strengthening of Decentralization and Local Governance in Albania

The main objectives

Long-term objective of this project aimed to improve governance at the local level. Better governed municipalities/communes will be able to shoulder new decentralized responsibilities, and this in turn will increase the prospects for enhanced economic development.

The project components

Component 1: Review of Decentralization Progress in Albania with the primary objective to provide the government with feedback on the process so far and an action plan for further constructive measures.

Component 2: Produce a Manual on "Strengthening Decentralization and Local Government in Albania", which included Strategic Planning, Operational Planning and Financial Planning. The Ministry of Local Government and Decentralization. The Manual on "Strengthening Decentralization and Local Government in Albania" is evaluated as an important contribution which will practically help Local Government Units to exercise their authorities in this area of concern. The Manual is the first ever produced in this area of LG interest and constitutes an important resource for increasing capacities at the local level. Therefore, we recommend this manual as a resource to be used in the future trainings to build the



capacities for all the municipality, communes and regions administration and decision makers involved in the decentralization process.

Component 3: Training of trainers; another objective was to strengthen the organizational capacity of regional councils as providers of training and technical backstopping and other support services for the municipalities and communes. URI and SIPU experts implemented a local governance training-of-trainers program, characterised by participatory methods, with three Regional Offices, including Gjirokaster, Fier, Kukes.

Project Steps

- Identify the training needs of local government staff and elected officials; Prepare Training program and training manuals based on training needs;
- Develop capacity of national trainers in designing and conducting training to local government civil servants and elected authorities;
- Resulting with an increased preparedness of Regional Councils to

take the responsibility of organising training with the support of LGP

MAIN FACTS

PARTNERS:

- ✓ SIPU International/UNOPS/UNDP

DURATION:

January 2003 – October 2004

BENEFICIARIES:

- ✓ Municipality of Gjirokastra
- ✓ Municipality of Fier
- ✓ Municipality of Kukes

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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.