

# SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MIGRATION POLICY IN ALBANIA



DURING SECOND STRATEGIC WORKSHOP WITH ALBANIAN GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS ©IOM 2018

Migration is a crucial element in Albania's social and economic development, both in light of the large proportion of Albanian citizens abroad (approximately one third of its population) and the strong dependency on migrant remittances. Albania is also considered a country of origin, transit and destination for migrants, including economic migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees. In order to address challenges related to complex migration flows, as well as enhance the development impact of migration, a cross-cutting approach to migration governance, properly addressing both in- and outward migration, is required.

As of 2010, upon the completion of the implementation of the first National Strategy on Migration (2005-2010), the country lacks a coherent migration governance policy to guide the government's programmatic actions on migration. The completion of the Strategy on the Reintegration of Returned Albanian Citizens (2010-2015) further increased the policy vacuum at a time when the need for effective migration management and efficient response to migration-related challenges is greater than ever. The efforts of the Government of Albania (GoA) in the development of the migration governance policy materialized in May 2016 with the approval of the National Strategy on Development and Integration (NSDI) 2020, the main strategic framework for the GoA, which envisions to "establish an effective migration governance system in Albania". The NSDI is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), however, a comprehensive migration policy document is still lacking.

In this context, the project will contribute to Albania's efforts to achieve the SDG Target 10.7 to facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies. It will do so by providing expert support for the development of the new migration governance policy. Support to further strengthening migration legislation will also be provided through a review of the legislation in place, making necessary legislative amendments or for developing new provisions, as appropriate.

This action will also ensure that migration legislation is gender sensitive and corresponds to international human rights standards. Capacity building on migration management in general, with specific focus on the Migration Governance Framework (MiGoF), will be provided for GoA officials involved in the development of the policy.

**Project type:** Technical Cooperation on Migration Management and Capacity Building (TC)

**Geographical coverage:** Albania

**Executing agency:** IOM Tirana

**Beneficiaries:** Government of Albania