

“Engage the Albanian Diaspora to the Social and Economic Development of Albania”

Supporting the Albanian Diaspora Institutions with Capacity Building

#MakeHomeaBetterPlace

Objective:

- Supporting the Government of Albania through technical assistance and capacity building to implement a comprehensive approach towards diaspora engagement for sustainable development in line with the overall policy framework.
- Support the implementation of the Albanian National Diaspora Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025

Activities:

- Physical infrastructure support to institutions created by State Minister for Diaspora (SMD), as well as the establishment of new diaspora engagement structures, such as National Agency for Diaspora (NAD), and National Fund for Diaspora (NFD).
- Equipment and technical assistance to partner institutions also through training, study visits, international and local experts on diaspora policy.
- Six experts hired and placed at the institutions that are responsible for the implementation of different aspects of the Strategy: Ministry of Finance and Economy; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth; Ministry of Culture; Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs; Bank of Albania.

Target group:

- Professionals from the Albanian Diaspora, mainly from Italy, France and Belgium.
- Government Diaspora engagement institutions and those that are responsible for the implementation National Diaspora Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025

How it works:

- Due to the changes in the GoA structure and the introduction of the SMD, as well as the establishment of new diaspora engagement structures a set of capacity building in human resources are provided to the new entities as well as other stakeholders engaged in diaspora engagement as relevant. In that framework, the support includes office equipment's, seconded experts to support the work of the institution, renovation of premises for the National Fund for Diaspora and Centre of Publication for Diaspora, deploy international and local expertise for the revision and implementation of the National Strategy for Diaspora and its related Action Plan 2021- 2025, support with local expertise to develop and implement the Diaspora Communications Strategy and its Action Plan 2021-2025. In addition, were organized a study visit to Italy and Ireland to better understand good policies and practices on diaspora engagement. Due to Covid – 19 pandemic, online trainings and a mentoring and coaching process organized, between March and October 2020, in collaboration with the Albanian School of Public Administration (ASPA). The capacity building covered: 1) ToT on Fundraising; 2) ToT on Project Cycle Management; 3) ToT on Didactic Part.



More concretely:

- Physical infrastructure support and equipment were provided under the component of capacity building for some of the new Diaspora Engagement Institutions.
- Support to the development and maintenance of the website for the NFD and development of the Mobile App for Albanian Diaspora Business Chamber was provided.
- In coordination with SMD and NAD the Programme has provided support to design and printing of the compendium of diaspora policy and legislation as well as facilitation of participation in 2nd Diaspora Summit of Mr. Kingsley Aikins, CEO of Diaspora Matters and the Networking Institute and Mr. Rosario Peta Mayor of Piana degli Albanesi, from the Arbëresh community in Italy;
- Following the establishment of the NAD the Programme provided support through human resources to the partner institutions by seconding five experts from Albanian diaspora.
- A study-visit in Italy and a study visit in Ireland were organized to provide capacity building to Albanian Diaspora engagement authorities.
- The Programme has supported the revision of the National Strategy for Diaspora (2021-2025) with national and international expertise.
- The Programme has supported the development of Diaspora Communications strategy with local and international revision of the National Strategy for Diaspora (2021-2025) and its implementation.
- The Programme supported the Communication Strategy for SDM through engagement of international and local experts.
- Two international and two local experts were selected to provide training curricula on ToT and related training focused on Project Cycle Management and Fundraising. The activities are implemented in cooperation with the Albanian School of Public Administration (ASPA).
- 17 officials from Albanian Diaspora Engagement Institutions were certified by ASPA.
- Six Albanian Fellows are seconded to the line Ministries supporting with the implementation of National Strategy for Diaspora and its Action Plan 2021 – 2025.
- Albanian diaspora individuals from Albanian communities in Italy are selected as fellows to provide support on diaspora engagement related issues at the Albanian Embassy in Rome as well as at the General Consulates in Milan and Bari.
- Mapping and Profile research, with repository of available skills and knowledge of Diaspora in Italy (5 selected regions), France and Belgium, disaggregated by sex, is available to be used as a basis for orienting policy development and implementation;
- Through the engagement and enhancing of the capacities of Albania Diaspora Associations in Italy and Albania, the Programme is contributing to the development of tourism and agriculture of Albania. Four Associations are engaged in the tourism and agricultural activities.