

“Engage the Albanian Diaspora to the Social and Economic Development of Albania”
“Angazhimi i Diasporës Shqiptare në Zhvillimin Social dhe Ekonomik të Shqipërisë”
“Partecipazione della Diaspora allo Sviluppo Socioeconomico dell’Albania”

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

Connect Albania investment boosting platform and collect updated information in Albania

Objectives:

Support the Albanian Diaspora members to engage as development agents for boosting investments and employment generation in local communities of Albania.
Orient the foreign investments and investments of Albanian Diaspora.

Activities:

- Provide capacity building assistance to Albanian Government in developing standardized procedures for foreign direct investments in Albania and ConnectAlbania platform;
- Involve local Italian Institutions, Associations of category and Chambers of Commerce in Italy;
- Develop and implement an information campaign to promote the ConnectAlbania platform in Albania and Italy;
- Develop and launch the ConnectAlbania platform;
- Develop information toolkit related to ConnectAlbania;
- Maintenance and upgrade/update of the platform;
- Introduce financial award (bonus) for development agents that have contributed in the establishment of a successful business in Albania;
- Undertake evaluation of the platform and present its results;
- Collect updated information on the development needs and priorities at a local and sectorial level in Albania.

Target groups:

1. Development Agents

- Members of diaspora who work in intermediary activities;
- Members of diaspora who are interested to become part of intermediary activities, especially young generations.

2. Italian and Albanian Enterprises interested to invest in Albania

- Chamber of Commerce;
- Associations of category;
- Albanian entrepreneurs in Italy;
- Italian entrepreneurs in Italy.

3. Albanian Institution at central and local level

How it works:

The Programme, among its various objectives, aims also at facilitating the engagement of Albanian Diaspora into development of Albania by supporting investment boosting.

This objective will be achieved by developing “ConnectAlbania”, an investment-boosting platform, based on the “ConnectIreland” successful experience.

The idea is based on the role of Diaspora members as development agents by:

- establishing contacts with entrepreneurs who want to invest in Albania;
- accompanying and following-up an investment from Italy to Albania.

Development agents will be assisted in their role from an entity which will be selected by IOM Albania. They will also benefit from the toolkit foreseen by the Programme and from the cooperation with Albanian institutions involved in the investment process. Country presentations shall be organized in Italy for presenting the Platform and attracting investments to Albania.

The Connect mechanism will reward the development agents with a bonus in case they have contributed to the establishment of a successful business based on criteria that are being defined. Those entrepreneurs who will want to invest in Albania will benefit from the standardized procedure prepared by the Programme.

In the meantime, in Albania, in the 1st half of 2019 shall be finalised the collection of updated information on the country's development needs and priorities for orienting foreign investments, on sectorial strategies and relative existing action plans, as well as on existing programs and initiatives at both central and local level.

More concretely:

- Once the platform development is finalized and in order for you to act as development agents you need to:

- Register & create your online account;
- Access the toolkit which will be prepared by the Programme;
- Speak with your contacts to identify a suitable company where you have a connection, that wants to be expanded into the Albanian market;
- Obtain necessary information and guidance from the relevant Albanian entities, enabling you to support the company in its expansion process;
- Follow the process from beginning to end.

- You will receive a financial reward, based on criteria that will be defined to evaluate the rate of success and, most importantly, you will have the pleasure of having contributed creating new jobs in Albania, your home country!

