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# Engage the Albanian Diaspora to the Social and Economic Development of Albania

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## Engage the Albanian Diaspora to the Social and Economic Development of Albania

The diaspora entails great potential for Albania's development and the challenge for the stakeholders is to create an environment that encourages and supports diaspora engagement to the development of the home country.
The objective of this programme is to **contribute to enhancing the engagement of Albanian diaspora to the development of Albania.**

In pursuit of this objective, the programme implements three components:

The first component focuses in supporting the Government of Albania to implement a comprehensive approach towards diaspora engagement for sustainable development in line with the overall policy framework. Various activities, such as technical assistance and capacity building, will support diaspora institutions and their staff to acquire the necessary tools to identify diaspora engagement resources and successfully implement diaspora engagement activities.

The second component focuses at facilitating the engagement of the Albanian diaspora in the development of the country of origin through know-how and skills transfer. The mapping and profiling of diaspora, foreseen to take place as part of this component, contributes to the creation of a repository of Albanian diaspora skills and knowledge. This component also envisages provision of fellowships opportunities to Albanian institutions for diaspora members, aiming both to increase the capacities of the Albanian institutions involved in diaspora engagement and to support territorial development.

The third component facilitates the engagement of diaspora into country development through investment. This is achieved by developing “Connect Albania”, an innovative investment-boosting platform. Through this platform, the Albanian diaspora will have the means to engage as development agent for referring businesses from abroad, subsequently supporting employment generation in Albania.

The programme Engage the Albanian Diaspora to the social and economic development of Albania is funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), with the political commitment of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI). The programme is implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) - the UN Migration Agency -, in cooperation with the Albanian State Minister for Diaspora (SMD), Albanian Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEFA), Albanian Ministry of Finance and Economy (MFE), and AICS.

For more information, contact iomtiranadiaspora@iom.int or visit https://albania.iom.int/diaspora

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