

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

Support to transfer of know-how and skills through a Fellowship Programme

#makehomeabetterplace

Objective:

- Facilitate the engagement of members of Albanian diaspora, especially in Italy but also in France and Belgium, to the social-economic development of Albania, through a Fellowship scheme in order to facilitate know-how and skills transfer.

Activities:

- Fellowships in Albania, to Government institutions, for Albanian diaspora members in Italy (including Arbëresh), France and Belgium.
- Fellowships in Italy, to the Albanian Embassy in Rome and General Consulates in Milan and Bari, for the Albanian diaspora members in Italy (including Arbëresh).
- Fellowships in Albania to support territorial development, for Albanian diaspora members in Italy (including Arbëresh), through the University of Florence, Department of Architecture.

Target group:

- Professionals from the Albanian diaspora in Italy, France and Belgium.
- Professionals from specific Arbëresh community in Italy.
- Members of Albanian Diaspora who have completed at least a full cycle of studies in Italy.
- Professionals from the Albanian Diaspora in European Union (EU) Countries and candidates countries to EU.

How it works:

- The Programme, through its various objectives, aims at the creation and implementation of a fellowship scheme to encourage the transfer and use of skills and know-how of Albanian diaspora members in Italy, France and Belgium, to contribute to strengthening institutional capacities on Diaspora engagement, in Albania and Italy, as well as to support territorial development in Albania.
- The *fellowship* consists in temporary engagements. The engagement is carried out in the Albanian territory or in Italy. The fellowships in Italy is opened only to members of Albanian Diaspora in Italy, while the fellowships in Albania is also opened to members of Albanian Diaspora in France and Belgium.
- The selected *fellows* receive an allowance to cover their expenses of the engagement as well as travel costs for the accomplishment of the activities, should this be necessary.

- This opportunity brings them closer to their home country and make them proud of contributing to its social-economic development.

More concretely:

- The vacancies for the Fellowship Programme to support the Albanian institutions in Italy (Albanian Embassy in Rome and General Consulates in Milan and Bari) on diaspora engagement were published and will be published on the IOM website and social media (www.albania.iom.int/vacancy and <https://www.facebook.com/IOMAlbania/>) as well as in the websites and social media profiles of Albanian partner institutions and the donor;
- A selection panel selected and will select, after an evaluation of the received applications, the successful applicants of the Fellowship Programme (duration 4-6 months);
- A request for Proposal for Fellowship Programme to support the territorial development of Albania was published and the University of Florence, Department of Architecture, was selected. The fellowship scheme started and currently it is in its implementation phase. Albanian young researcher fellows from the above-mentioned university are engaged as well as a joint team of Albanian and Italian professors from Department of Architecture in the University of Florence is supervising them.
- Other 2 Fellowship schemes will be implemented to engage high skilled Albanian diaspora members leaving in Italy, EU countries and EU candidates countries.