

EITI Albania

Work Plan 2016 - 2019

Ver.1.2 Revised March 2017

Cover note

This document represents EITI Albania Work-plan for the period 2016 - 2019.

In this document, EITI Albania and the Albanian MSG have put down the objectives that we want to accomplish during the years 2016 -2019 with regard to the EITI standard implementation and in full resonance with the national priorities.

The natural flow of the Albanian EITI process requires us to upgrade from the "start-storming" phase to the "performing" EITI phase. Therefore we will focus and invest in those activities which will enable the EITI processes to be influencing the Government priorities and vice versa, as well as provide for sustainable implementation.

For reader reference:

The EITI standard is here: https://eiti.org/,

The requirement 1.5 Work plan is here: https://eiti.org/document/standard#r1-5

The national program and the GoA priorities are listed in the http://www.kryeministria.al/en/program.



The following, are those national priorities that will be resonating as objectives in our working plan, in the effort to maximise the EITI process in the country and influence the Albanian journey towards "Albania deserves more" main GoA objective!

- 1. Natural Resource Governance
- 2. Open Data
- 3. Support to Civil society
- 4. Fight against corruption

Below, you will find a short rationale on the relation between our EITI agenda objectives and our national priorities.

1. Natural Resource Governance

The GoA has listed the good governance of Natural Resources as part of its Strategic priority on its Economic Development chapter. Besides the focus on the Oil, and Mining sector which is currently being thoroughly covered through the EITI initiate itself and EITI reports, there is special focus on the **Energy production.** According to the analyses of the government programme₂, among other things the sector manifests tremendous ambiguity and subjectivism prevailing in the development strategies and the needed structural reforms for the sector; the Albanian Electric Energy System is faced with legal and financial chaos, making it a sector that is on the verge of a financial collapse. The vision of the Government in this respect is to elaborate a long-term and efficient strategy for the Albanian electric energy system, having as a purpose to establish an Electric Energy System that is operationally, technically and financially sustainable, and has the capacity to meet the increasing power demand within the country and turn Albania from a country that imports electric energy into an exporting one.

What is Our EITI Objective with regard to Natural Resource Governance National Agenda?

1.1 The centre of our activities and in compliance with the EITI standard will be the Production and Publication of EITI reports in the year + 1 format. The melioration of each consecutive EITI report will be our core objective.

¹ http://www.kryeministria.al/en/program/intro

² http://www.kryeministria.al/en/program/economic-development/natural-resources



- 1.2 Introduce Energy sector in a EITI reporting format with the objective of providing a proven basis for thorough scanning of the sector based on the EITI reporting standard, enabling a full picture of the sector, solid base for open data, clarity on the issues surrounding legal and financial related issues, and a good analytical basis that will enable development strategies and the needed structural reforms. With the successful inclusion in our 2013 + 2014 EITI reports of the hydrology sector, the EITI reports in the following year will continue to contain full report on our water resource usage.
- 1.3 Important aspects that complement Natural Resource Governance will be in our agenda, such as the Local Content and Environment issues.

2. Open Data

During the establishment of its government in September 2013, Mr. Edi Rama, Prime Minister of Albania, declared among other things, open and transparent governance as one of the key priorities of the national agenda for "creating a fair society".

The whole EITI process in Albania during the last four years, has received its momentum exactly here.

On 18.2.2015 the Council of Ministers approved the decision no. 147: Approval of the Document on the Open Data Policy and establishment of the Open Data portal. The process is led by the Minister of Innovation and Public Administration3.

Based on these priorities and with increasing demands from the public for transparent and accountable governance, Albania is going through very significant and massive transformations in regard to its Digital Agenda for 2015-2020 on E-governance and Information Society strategy and as part of its OGP commitments on "Open Data"₄:

What is Our EITI Objective with regard Open Data in the National Agenda Priorities?

2.1 Include and open data for EITI and Natural Resource governance, at the national priorities for open data government systems by default and work towards mainstreaming the creation of open data for EITI into government systems to ensure timeliness, data quality, reuse and cost effectiveness.

³ http://mobile.ikub.al/LIGJE_CATEGORY/PeR-MIRATIMIN-E-DOKUMENTIT-TePOLITIKAVE-PeR-IMPLEMENTIMIN-E-Te-DHeNAVE-Te-HAPURA-PUBLIKE-DHE-KRIJIMIN-E-PORTALIT-Te-Te-DHeNAVE-Te-HAPURA--1508030128.aspx)

⁴ http://www.inovacioni.gov.al/files/pages_files/Digital_Agenda_Strategy_2015_-_2020.pdf).



3. Support to Civil society

On the Programmatic Chapter for Rule of Law and Democratization of Society, GoA considers its priorities the support of the Civil Society. GoA is convinced that by empowering the civil society we will have an important tool that will fill in the gap between the citizens and the institutions. Its objective is to promote the establishment of a healthy environment that encourages civil society independence, efficiency and sustainability.

What is our EITI Objective with regard to Civil Society Agenda?

3.1 Promote the establishment of a healthy environment that encourages civil society independence, efficiency and sustainability in the Albanian EITI process.

4. Fight against corruption

GoA approach on anticorruption shall reach out in three directions: prevention, awareness and punishment.

On the <u>Prevention</u> activities, among others the GoA lists: (I) conduct a detailed review of the existing legislation and come up with legal initiatives that will be aimed at shrinking the room for involvement in corruption practices to the largest extent possible, both in the public and private sector, in line with the EU standards and international instruments; (iv) work with commitment to ensure the law enforcement and launch new initiatives in relation to the publication of official documents and transparency of administrative procedures.

How shall we influence this national agenda with our EITI activities?

4.1 We plan to do it through "reforming national legal framework for better management of natural resources". Based on the findings and the neuralgias that we have identified during the preparation of our EITI reports we need to work with our legal framework to enable a normal flow of the reporting process. Along with the reporting process, in the center of our agenda for 2016 and 2017 will be the improvement of the legal framework with regard to Transparency and good governance of the Sector. 2016 will seek to produce a scanning of the active legal framework regulation the sector, define areas for improvement or approximation and draft recommendations. During 2017 and 2018 EITI



- Albania will work approve to approve and implement legal and regulative changes suggested by the "legal review" and agreed with stakeholders. Implement legal changes that will enable and regulate release, publication and open data per each government agency dealing with natural resource governance
- 4.2 A totally new chapter on Beneficial Ownership disclosures that will require dedicated activities and resources on preparation of public acceptance, wide consultations with stakeholders, legal modifications and enforcement

On the <u>Awareness</u> part of the agenda among other activities, the Governments plans to (i) ensure an increased and significant involvement of the civil society, private sector and the academia in the elaboration and monitoring of the legal initiatives, strategies and programmes against corruption; (ii) launch legal initiatives and support the enforcement of measures that encourage the individuals who report corruption; (iii) undertake and sustain initiatives aimed at raising the citizens' awareness, and in particular that of the young generation, over their role and responsibility in the fight against corruption and the mechanisms employed to eradicate such phenomenon, including the work to make the process part of the ethical and civic education at school.

What is our EITI Objective with regard to the Awareness part of the Anticorruption agenda?

- 4.3 MSG empowerment through broader participation of stakeholders and customized capacity building;
- 4.4 Increase public participation and stakeholder engagement in the management of natural resources. Awareness Raising and Outreach activities with a special focus on customized communication for our stakeholders that will aim to create a platform for professional debate; we have identified several partners in our EITI processes such as students, academia, legislators, analysts, parliamentarians etc. They should be part of the EITI processes and each communication should be tailored according to their specifics.

EITI Albania team

 ${\small 5~http://www.kryeministria.al/en/program/rule-of-law-and-the-democratization-of-society/fight-against-corruption}\\$



	Theme	Objective	Activity	Responsible Person/Institution	Timescale	Costs	Funds	available	Status
							World Bank	State Budget	
1	Work plan 2016	Preparation of the work plan aligned with the EITI standard and linked to the national priorities for maximum impact.	Planning activities Reorganization of activities including unimplemented activities of the work plan 2015 Presentation to the interested groups Online publication in the official website of EITI Albania	EITI Albania Secretariat MSG	January – February 2016	None			Completed
2	Annual activity report 2015	Preparation of the EITI Albania progress report for year 2015 in compliance with EITI standard Ref EITI Albania Objective 1.1;	Description of EITI Albania activities during 2015. Analysis and evidencing of the Issues and obstacles that caused delay in meeting planned 2015 activities.	EITI Albania MSG	Jan - Mar 2016	None			Completed
3	MSG	Reorganization of MSG in accordance with new standards of EITI, requirement 1.4 Ref EITI Albania Objective 3.1, 4.3;	Confirmation of MSG members	MEI EITI Albania Secretariat MSG	Jan – Oct 2016	None			Ongoing - Completed assignment of government official; -Issued official request to CSO reps on October 2016 for



			Preparation of Terms of Reference for MSG Organize MSG meetings for TOR approval Official approval by the Minister of Energy of MSG ToR-s according to national legal requirements on EITI.		Jan – May 2016 Mar – Oct 2016 December 2016			replacement of MSG reps. Completed Completed Completed
		NEW: MSG empowerment	Mapping and Consensus Building for Civil society engagement in EITI processes		December 2017	New WB funding	\$50,000	
4	Legal and Regulatory Review	Ref EITI Albania objective:4.1; Providing a stable legislation for the implementation of EITI in Albania	Improvement of instructions and existing orders, sub-laws acts on procedures and deadlines regarding EITI reporting based on the new Mining Law no. 134/2014 date. 9.10.2014 and Hydropower Law no. 19/2015 date. 12.03.2015	MEI; MSG EITI Albania Hydrocarbons Directory Mining Directory MEI	Jan 2016 - Jan 2017	None		Completed Revisions for amending the hydropower Law no. 7/2017
		Selection of Legal Consultant	Setting objectives concerning the revision of the legal framework for EITI implementation, in petroleum, mining and hydropower sectors Drafting of TOR for the legal expertise required	MSG EITI Albania	Mar – Aug 2016	WB Grant	€ 72,683 \$ 80,620	Completed
		Compliance of EITI standards with Albanian legislation	Identifying barriers that slow down the data collection from state agencies and entities (adoption with the reporting system, collection and processing of data)	EITI Albania MSG	Aug 2016 -Mar 2017			Completed
			Produce a report based on the scanning of the active legal framework regulation the sector;	Consultant				



			define areas for improvement or approximation and draft recommendations. Deliver consultations with stakeholders Drafting of the law revisions on transparency and good governance of natural resources, evaluating legislation in other EITI countries, and implementation experiences in these countries Approval of the new law on Transparency + complementary by laws and instructions proposed at the end of consulting process	EITI Albania	March 2017- March 2018			Initiated approval process with MEI
5	Communication Strategy 2016- 2017	Ref EITI Albania Objective 3.1, 4.4;						
	2017	Selection of Consultant	Drafting of TOR, Setting objectives and goals	EITI Albania Secretariat /MSG	Feb – Aug 2016	WB Grant	€ 6,640 \$7,500	Completed
		Preparation of the Communication Strategy 2016-2017	Selection of Consultant	EITI Albania	Aug – Oct 2016			
		0,	Listing of communication strategy activities, advertising campaign SWOT analysis	Consultant				
			The online publication in the official website Presentation to the interested groups	EITI Albania /Consultant				
6	Communication activities	Ref EITI Albania Objective 3.1, 4.4;	Invitation for Expression Offer to companies in the field	EITI Albania Secretariat	Oct 2016 – Dec 2017	WB Grant	\$ 85'000	On process



Package for Public	Tendering and selection process				
awareness campaign as	Signing of the contract with the company				
per activities foreseen	selected				
in the Communication	Seminars, meetings with groups of interest				
Strategy 2016	Distribute the report to extractive companies,				
	local government units, civil society and other				
	interest groups such as donors, central				On process
Presentation of the	government institutions, parliamentary groups,				
report EITI 2015 to the	environmentalists, etc.				
wide public	Advertising the report in media (TV,				
	newspapers)				
	Information activities in the media, press				
	conferences, forums, publicity, etc.				
Publication of EITI	Quarterly informative newsletter on EITI				
Albania activities to be	activities				
recognized by the	activities				
public	Meetings with students, high school students in				
Puote	cities where extractive industry operates				
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
	Continuous updating of the website and social				
Production of	media pages				
information materials	Printing of brochures, leaflets, banners, different				
	promotional and information materials				
	EITI Albania International Confessor on		Amril 2017		0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
	EITI Albania International Conference on "Taxation and Legal Framework of Extractive	EITI Albania	April 2017		On process
NEW: International	Industries, - Albania case and international best	Secretariat			
summit + two local	practices".	/ Consultant			
roundtables	pruences .		February 2017		Completed
(preparation of content,	Round table with extractive industry operators		2017		Comprered
agenda, referees,			March 2017		Completed
moderator)	Round table with the civil society organization				1
			January –		
	Hire an individual media consultant who will act	EITI Albania	December 2017		
NEW: Choose the EITI	as an EITI brand Ambassador in the Albanian	Secretariat			Completed
Ambassador for 2017	process and in the implementation of the	/ individual			



			Communication plan for 2017.	Consultant				
		NEW: Communication Activities for 2018-2019	Communication and Outreach for 2018-2019 (media outreach campaigns, Internet and social media activities, awareness raising events)	EITI Albania Secretariat / Consultant	2018 -2019	WB new funding	\$102,500	Not started
7	EITI Reports 2015 and 2016	Ref EITI Albania Objective 1.1;	Discussion and approval of MSG for the terms of reference referred to the EITI standards	EITI Albania MSG	Feb - Apr 2016	WB Grant	\$128 000	Completed
		Drafting of TOR	Approval of the ToR from the World Bank	World Bank				
			Selection of reporting subjects for EITI reports	EITI Albania	Apr –Jul 2016			
		Selection of Independent Administrator	Publication of Expression of Interest for the Independent Administrator Tendering and selection process Signing of the contract with the Independent Administrator	EITI Albania				
		Publication of 2015 EITI Report	Presentation to the wide public the results of 2015 EITI Report	EITI Albania	January 2017			Completed
		NEW: Standard requirement: Implement EITI report recommendations	Consultancy services to assist government agencies with the implementation of the recommendations from the EITI reports (EITI standart requirement)	EITI Albania IA	December 2018		\$50,000	Not started
	NEW : EITI Reports 2017	Drafting of TOR	Discussion and approval of MSG for the terms of reference referred to the EITI standards	EITI Albania MSG	December 2019	WB new funding	\$150,000	Not started
	and 2018		Approval of the ToR from the World Bank	World Bank				
		Selection of	Selection of reporting subjects for EITI reports					



		Independent Administrator	Publication of Expression of Interest for the Independent Administrator Tendering and selection process Signing of the contract with the Independent Administrator	EITI Albania EITI Albania				
		Publication of EITI Reports	Presentation to the wide public the results of EITI Reports	EITI Albania				
8	EITI Validation 2016	Ref: EITI standard Participation in the validation process	Assistance, availability of requested materials in EITI validation process 2016	EITI International MSG EITI Albania	April 2017			On process
9	Study of transparency about the usage of rent income and donations of extractive industry companies in local government (CSR)	Ref: EITI Albania objective 1.1, 1.3; Define of the mechanisms for the use of rent income by the local government	Meetings with leaders and organizational structures of the municipalities and the central government, with stakeholders regarding royalty, donations support and projects prepared for the community. Study publication and recommendations for improvements	EITI Albania MSG	Oct 2016 - October 2017			On process
10	Surveys on EITI impact	Ref: ETI Standard, EITI Albania objective 4.4; Survey on the impact of EITI activity after the publication of reports EITI 2013 and EITI 2014	Distribution and filling of questionnaires filled in: Bulqize, Patos, Fier, Selenice, Kukes, Librazhd, Perrenjas, Pogradec, Tirana. Statistical analysis of the data obtained from the questionnaire Publication of the analysis on the EITI impact	EITI Albania	Sep – Nov 2016	None		Completed



11								
	Capacity building	Ref EITI Standard, EITI Albania Objective 4.3, 4.4; Training programs for the EITI Albania staff and MSG members	ASPA trainings; Communication Standards, Public Policy Development, Project Management, Public Procurements, ect. Training of MSG members, on the role of MSG, scope, power and ability to deliver progress and stakeholders on enhancing their role in the Extractive Industries. Training on the new Standard 2016 + Beneficial Ownership Disclosures	EITI Albania Secretariat WB MSG	Jan 2016 – Dec 2017	WB Grant		Completed
		NEW: Tailored training for all stakeholders on Natural Resource Governance Aspects	Training of government employees, EITI staff + MSG representatives on all aspects of Natural Resource Governance issues such as Fiscal Package, Legal Framework, Local Content, Environment, Taxation, GIS and Cadastre systems, Arbitrage and international Contracts etc. Explore and define Complete Training Courses offered by reputational agencies on this regard such as universities, research agencies etc.	EITI Albania Secretariat		Existing WB fund New WB funding	\$ 55,000 \$25,000	Ongoing
		Ongoing Support to the EITI Process	Participation of stakeholders in international forums focused on BO disclosures + natural resource governnace Consultancy for government institutions and companies operating in the extractive sector	IA + EITI Albania Secretariat	2017-2018 Mar- Dec 2016		\$20.000	Ongoing
12	Additional projects	Ref EITI Standard, EITI Albania Objective 1.3; NEW: Study on the impact of extractive	Setting objectives Drafting TOR Selection of consultant process Final Report	EITI Albania MSG	December 2017	WB Grant extra funding	\$50,000	Not Started
		industries contribute to economic growth and employment in Albania	Setting objectives Drafting TOR Selection of consultant process	EITI Albania /MSG	December 2018	WB Grant	\$50,000	Not Started



NEW: Study on the Impact of the EI in Environment. Calculate the Impact of the Extractive Industries in the environment Study on "Developing a new global reporting standard & scoring system on local content" Ref EITI Standard, EITI Albania Objective	Final Report Piloting a local content standard within national EITI process in Albania	GIZ /EITI Albania	Nov 2016 – January 2017	extra funding		Completed
2.1; Establish and publish	Stage I: Build the Register with all data as per	MEI/ EITI Albania	2016	None		Completed
online register of licensees. Setting online Mining	EITI standard. Publish Stage II: Build the online Licensees register Setting objectives Drafting TOR for	MEI/ EITI Albania	2018	Funding by other sources		Ongoing
cadastre system	improvements in the cadastral system of mining and quarrying industry			Funding to be identified	Expected: Min \$92'400 * Max	Not started
EITI Information Centre of Extractive Industry (Activity proposed by Mr. Ilir Aliaj)	Implementation of data warehouse centre on extractive industries			Funding to be identified	\$270'72 0*	Not started



13	Beneficial Ownership Disclosures activity portfolio	Ref EITI Standard, EITI Albania Objective 4.2; Identify need: Technical Assistance	Trainer/Coach/Moderator/Consensus Building Legal and Regulatory Framework Review(see item 4 Legal and Regulatory	EITI Albania /consultancy	September 2016 – March 2017	WB Grant extra funding		ongoing
		Financial assistance	review) Identify funding for the implementation of the roadmap and further funding for implementation of the beneficial ownership requirements on an ongoing basis		December 2016- January 2017			
		Capacity Building for stakeholders	Capacity Building for MSG Coaching /Capacity Building for Government Entities Coaching /Capacity Building for Companies Exchange activities with other countries going through BO		July 2017 –July 2018			
		Institutional framework for beneficial ownership disclosure	Undertake Legal and Regulatory Review with regard to BO Locally and on Internal Level		2016			
			Consultancy service - Coach/Moderator /Consensus Building with stakeholders	EITI Albania//Consulta nt	January 2017– December 2018	WB funding	\$90,000	
			Consultations with government agencies in order to identify the agency(ies) that is responsible or could best suited to oversee, collate and maintain beneficial ownership information	Govt.Working group from MF, MJ, ME, Parliamentary commission	December 2018		\$20,000	



	Consultation with stakeholders with a view to determine the level of detail of the beneficial ownership disclosures (nationality, country of residence, level of ownership, how ownership is exerted, date of birth, residential address, means of contact, etc.), including opportunities and challenges with such disclosures a. Consultation with government	EITI Albania lead MF, MJ, ME, Parliamentary commission				
	b. Consultation with civil society	Moderator /Consensus Building	October – December 2017			
	c. Consultation with companies	MSG, MF, MJ, ME, Parliamentary commission	October 2017 –June 2019			
	Agree an appropriate definition and ownership thresholds and disclosure in order to operationalize reporting of beneficial ownership.	Govt.Working group from MF, MJ, ME, Parliamentary			\$30,000	
Data timeliness	Implement legal and regulative changes Review what would be the most appropriate time for data collection of beneficial ownership information Identify an appropriate mechanism for companies to assure the data in the beneficial ownership declarations prior to data collection	commission EITI Albania + MSG	April – December recurring	Funding to be identifie d	\$100.000	
Data collection procedures and a accessibility	Identify the companies that will be required to participate in beneficial ownership reporting					



14	Open Data	Ref EITI standard EITI Albania Objective 2.1	Identify the most efficient and sustainable data collection approach, including for example developing a beneficial ownership declaration form, or adaptation of the EITI's model Increase data accessibility, for example by publication of data in electronic or other open data formats Consider establishing a public beneficial ownership register, ideally integrated in existing corporate or extractive license holder registers Include and open data for EITI and Natural Resource governance, at the national priorities for open data government systems by default and work towards mainstreaming the creation of open data for EITI into government systems to	Consultant EITI Albania, MEI, MIPA	August 2017 – May 2018 February 2017 – February 2018	None			On Process
			ensure timeliness, data quality, reuse and cost effectiveness.						
					Available funds		\$ 356,120		
			Expected Total	for WB funded activi	ties(no operative costs)		\$893,000 \$		
		Expected Total for proposed activities							
					1,263,62 0				
			Unidentified		\$ 370,000]		

^{*}Funding for these activities is expected from the new grant of World Bank and other donors