

EITI Albania

Work Plan 2021-2022

February 12 2021

Cover Note

This document represents EITI Albania Work-plan for the years 2021- 2022.

In this document, EITI Albania and the Albanian MSG have put down the objectives to fulfil during 2021-2022.

The natural flow of the Albanian EITI process requires us to upgrade from the “start-storming” phase to the “Advanced performing” EITI phase. Therefore, we will focus and invest in those activities that will enable EITI processes to be rhythmic and sustainable.

For reader reference:

¹The EITI standard is here: <https://eiti.org/document/eiti-standard-2019>

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: <https://kryeministria.al/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/PROGRAMI.pdf>

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 “Sustainable and inclusive growth” main GoA objective!³

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1. **Fight against corruption.**
2. **Natural Resource Governance**
3. **Preparation of a legal package for Transparency in Extractive Industry.**
4. **Addressing and working on corrective action deadlines arising from the II Validation Process and the EITI Board Decision on Albania.³**
5. **EITI Transparency Week, Assessment of EITI Impact in Albania(10 Years of Transparency);**
6. **Legal review study on project-based reporting;**
7. **Assessment of the impact of the Beneficial Owners Law;**
8. **Scoping Study for Energy Transition in the Renewable Energy sector: gas/ wind energy/ solar energy;**
9. **Study on Safety at work in the Extractive Industries Sector in Albania;**
10. **Cooperation with universities and the academic world for their involvement in the EITI process;**
11. **Study “Women and the extractive industry in Albania;**
12. **Support to Civil Society;**
13. **Study to develop a standard for Local Reporting;**
14. **Etc.**

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

1. **Fight against corruption**

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

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

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. During 2021 EITI Albania will work to approve and implement legal and regulative changes suggested by the "legal review"

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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.

1. Which is our EITI Objective with regard to the Awareness part of the Anticorruption agenda?

1.2 Strengthen MSG through wider stakeholder participation and customized capacity building;

1.3 **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.

2. Natural Resource Governance

2.1 Hidrokarburet- In this sector we will aim at comprehensive, timely and qualitative EITI reporting, as well as updated data entry in the active Open Data Portal.

2.2. Mining Industry- It will be aimed at the inclusiveness of this sector in EITI reporting and timely and qualitative reporting as well as updated data entry in the active Mining Cadastre and Open Data portals.

2.3. Në sektorin elektroenergjetik – It will be aimed at the inclusiveness of this sector in EITI reporting and legal regulation of the reporting.

The Albanian Government is aiming at the further development of the Electric Power and Extractive Industries sectors, transforming it into a financially sustainable, operationally and technically viable sector. It has listed the good governance of the natural resources as part of its strategic priorities in the chapter of Sustainable and inclusive growth.³

Within the framework of the GoA Program and also within our priorities in 2020, in addition to the focus on the Mining and Oil Sector which is being fully covered by the EITI initiative and the EITI reports, there is a particular focus on the production of Electric Power that has been introduced as innovation for the first time by Albania in EITI reporting.

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

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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 improvement of each consecutive EITI report will be our core objective.

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.

Important aspects that complement Natural Resource Governance will be in our agenda, such as the Local Content and Environment issues.

3. Open Data

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".

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 portal².

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"³.

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

3.1 In the framework of the Albanian Government priorities, include open data for EITI and Natural Resource governance, at the national priorities for open data government systems, working towards integration, reflection of up-to-date data from the Mining Industry Sectors in the new Mineral Cadastre and Open Date Portal to ensure timeliness, data quality, reuse and cost effectiveness.

² 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

³ http://www.inovacioni.gov.al/files/pages_files/Digital_Agenda_Strategy_2015_-_2020.pdf.

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4. Addressing and working on corrective action deadlines arising from the II Validation Process and the EITI Board Decision on Albania.

Following the second Validation Process conducted in March 2019, The EITI Board agreed on 17 June 2019 that Albania has made **Meaningful Progress Overall** in implementing the 2016 EITI Standard, with considerable improvements across several individual requirements.

The Board recognised Albania's efforts to use the EITI as a diagnostic tool of government's public finance management of extractive revenues. Public reporting of subnational transfers of royalties has generated significant public interest. The Board encourages Albania to further enhance public disclosures, particularly related to license allocations and state participation in oil and gas. It also encourages the comprehensiveness and reliability of those disclosures, including at the subnational level. The Board welcomes Albania's consideration of opportunities to systematically disclose the data required under the EITI Standard.

Which is our EITI Objective with regard to addressing and working on Corrective Actions deadlines arising from the Validation Process and the EITI Board Decision on Albania in the National Agenda Priorities?

4.1 Immediate addressing, distribution and follow-up of the respective subject of corrective actions and their fulfilment within the deadline, in order that in the third validation that will be carried out in 2021 to have achieved the improvement of all components that serve as evaluation subject in the process.

5. 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.

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

5.1 Promote the Creation of a Healthy Environment for supporting Civil Society independence, efficiency and sustainability in the Albanian EITI Process.

Below you will find the detailed table with the respective costs of the activities foreseen for the years 2021-2022.

	Theme	Objective	Activity	Responsible Person/Institution	Timescale	Costs	Funds available		Status
							World Bank/Other Donators	State Budget	
1	Work Plan 2021-2022	Preparation of the work plan aligned with the EITI standard	<p>Planning activities</p> <p>Reorganization of activities including unimplemented activities of the work plan 2018. MSG approval.</p> <p>Presentation to the interested groups</p> <p>Online publication in the official website of EITI Albania.</p>	<p>EITI Albania Secretariat</p> <p>MSG</p>	January-February 2021	None			Completed
2	Annual activity report 2020	Preparation of the EITI Albania progress report for year 2020 in compliance with EITI standard	<p>Ranking of activities carried out by the Albanian Secretariat EITI during 2020</p> <p>Analysis and evidence of unrealized activities, causes of failure.</p>	<p>EITI Albania</p> <p>MSG</p>	Jan – Feb 2021	None			In process

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		<p>EITI Standard Requirement: Implement the recommendations of previous EITI Reports</p> <p>Publication of EITI reports</p> <p>Ongoing support in EITI Processes</p>	<p><i>Publikimi i shprehjes se Interesit per Administratorin e Pavarur</i></p> <p><i>Development of the tendering process and selection.</i></p> <p><i>Signing the contract with the Independent Administrator</i></p> <p><i>Consulting services to assist government agencies in implementing recommendations from EITI reports (requirement of the EITI Standard)</i></p> <p><i>Informing the general public about the results of EITI reports</i></p> <p><i>Consulting for Government Institutions and companies operating in the extractive industry</i></p>	<p><i>EITI Albania / Independent Administrator</i></p> <p><i>EITI Albania / Independent Administrator</i></p> <p><i>EITI Albania / Independent Administrator</i></p> <p><i>IA/EITI Albania</i></p>	<p><i>July 2021</i></p> <p><i>December 2021</i></p> <p><i>December 2021</i></p> <p><i>2021-2022</i></p>	<p><i>Independent Administrator EITI Albania</i></p> <p><i>World Bank</i></p>	<p><i>10000\$</i></p>	<p><i>Not started</i></p>
6	<p>EITI Validation 2021</p>	<p>Implement Second Validation Corrective Actions</p> <p>Ref: EITI standards Participation in the third Validation process</p>	<p><i>Addressing Corrective Actions from the Validation Report and monitoring the implementation of recommendations</i></p> <p><i>Assistance, making materials available as required in the EITI 2020 validation process</i></p>	<p><i>EITI International / MSG EITI Albania</i></p> <p><i>EITI International / MSG EITI Albania</i></p>	<p><i>2021</i></p> <p><i>October 2021</i></p>	<p><i>None</i></p>		<p><i>In process</i></p> <p><i>Not started</i></p>

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7	Capacity building EITI	Training programs for Albanian EITI staff and MSG members	<p><i>Trainings from ASPA / DAP, Communication Standards, Public Policy Development, Project Management, Public Procurement, etc.</i></p>	<i>EITI Albania / ASPA/ DAP</i>	2021-2022	ASPA/DAP	None		<i>In process</i>	
			<p><i>Training of MSG members on the role of MSG, the purpose, opportunity and capacity to act and stakeholders on increasing their role in the Extractive Industry.</i></p>	<i>EITI Albania/MSG</i>	2021-2022	World Bank	60000\$		<i>Not started</i>	
			<p><i>Training for the new Standard 2019+ Beneficial Ownership BO).</i></p>	<i>EITI Albania/MSG</i>						
			<p><i>Determining the complete training courses offered by reputable agencies in this field, such as Universities, Research Agencies, etc.</i></p>	<i>EITI Albania / MSG/ EITI/ Intern. Secretariat / Other implement countries</i>	2021-2022					
		Establishing greater partnership between EITI-Albania and other implementing countries to enable	<p><i>Stakeholder Participation in International Forums, Workshops Focused on Natural Resource Governance Participation of the Secretariat and MSG members in events</i></p>		2021- 2022	World Bank	20000\$		<i>Not started</i>	

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		<p>better knowledge sharing and more</p> <p>Effective EITI implementation. Albania more aware of the latest developments in the EITI Standard.</p>	<p>organized by the International Secretariat</p> <p>EITI and other implementing countries to share the Albanian experience, to establish links with other implementing countries to enable better knowledge sharing and more effective implementation.</p>						
8	<p>EITI Impact Assessment for the 10th Anniversary (10 Years of Transparency);</p> <p>EITI Transparency Week</p>	<p>A series of weekly meetings and information sessions on the transparency of extractive industries and the good governance of Natural Resources.</p> <p>An impact assessment that the implementation of EITI has had these 10 years in Albania</p>	<p>Extractive Industries Transparency Week will feature various EITI-related topics such as Gender, Transparency of Beneficial Ownership, systematic data reporting and good governance of extractive industries, etc.</p> <p>Selection of a consultant who through surveys, google forms or other methods will assess the impact that EITI has had in Albania in these 10 years of implementation.</p>	EITI Albania/MSG/ Groups of interest/ Consultant	2021	World Bank	30000\$		<i>Not started</i>
9	<p>Study for legal review for project-based reporting</p>	<p>Study for analysis and evaluation of the current legal basis for project-based reporting. changes to be made to enable project-based reporting of mining companies</p>	<p>Consulting services for analysis and evaluation of the current legal basis for project-based reporting.</p> <p>Identify changes that need to be proposed to enable project-based reporting of mining companies</p>	EITI Albania /MSG/ Consultant	2021	World Bank	20000\$		<i>Not started</i>

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10	<i>Assessment of the impact of the Law on BO</i>	<i>Assess the impact of the Law on Beneficiary Ownership and make proposals for possible improvements</i>	<i>Consulting services for the analysis and assessment of the impact of the entry into force and implementation of the Law on Beneficiary Owners.</i>	<i>EITI Albania Shqiptar/MSG/ Consultant</i>	2022	World Bank	20000 \$		<i>Not started</i>
11	<i>Energy Transition Study in the Renewable Energy Sector: Gas / Wind / Solar;</i>	<i>Scoping Study for the inclusion of renewable energy and gas in the EITI Report</i>	<i>Consulting services for the evaluation of the production / use of renewable energy and gas in Albania and the possibility of their inclusion in the EITI Report.</i>	<i>EITI Albania / MSG/ Consultant</i>	2021	World Bank	35000\$		<i>Not started</i>
12	<i>Safety at work in the Extractive Industries Sector</i>	<i>Assessment of current safety at work legislation of extractive industries</i>	<i>Consulting services for reviewing current safety at work legislation of extractive industries, case study of some of the companies currently working in this sector and the evaluation on how these companies implement the legislation in force.</i>	<i>EITI Albania/ MSG/ Consultant</i>	2021	World Bank	35000 \$		<i>Not started</i>
13	<i>Cooperation with universities and the academies for involment in the EITI process</i>	<i>Launching a collaborative process to involve academia in the EITI process</i>	<i>Establishing relationships and starting cooperation with universities and other academic institutions through the development of activities for their continuous involment in the EITI process.</i>	<i>EITI Albania /Universities/ other Academic Institutions</i>	2021-2022	World Bank	10000\$		<i>Not started</i>
14	<i>Study women and extractive industries</i>	<i>Study on the involment of women in the extractive industry. Development of a</i>	<i>Consulting services for analyzing and evaluating the involment of women in the extractive industry. Assessing opportunities for greater involment of women, strategy development and stakeholder capacity</i>	<i>EITI Albania/ MSG/ Consultant</i>	2021	World Bank	30,000 \$		<i>Not started</i>

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		<i>gender mainstreaming strategy and capacity building for extractive industries.</i>	<i>building for greater integration of women in the extractive industries.</i>						
15	<i>The Local Reporting Standard development</i>	<i>Consulting services for the development of a local reporting standard.</i>	<i>Consulting services for the evaluation of local reporting and the development of a local reporting standart in rich areas of natural resources.</i>	<i>EITI Albania/ MSG/ Consultant</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>World Bank</i>	<i>35.000 \$</i>		<i>Not started</i>
16	<i>Support for Civil Society</i>	<i>Promoting a healthy environment that encourages the independence, efficiency and sustainability of civil society in the Albania EITI process.</i>	<i>Promoting a healthy environment that encourages the independence, efficiency, sustainability and inclusion of Albanian civil society in the EITI process, through financial support for activities organized by/for civil society in relationto to the process.</i>	<i>EITI Albania / Civil Society</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	<i>World Bank</i>	<i>30000 \$</i>		<i>Not started</i>
17	<i>Study for the analysis of the advantages and obstacles for foreign investments in Albania</i>		<i>Analysis of the problems encountered and the advantages that foreign investors have in the extractive industries sector in Albania.</i>	<i>EITI Albania/ MSG/ Consultant</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	<i>World Bank</i>	<i>25000\$</i>		<i>Not started</i>
18	<i>Impact assessment of the</i>	<i>Consulting services for impact analysis of oil extraction industry in the areas where it operates.</i>	<i>Impact analysis of oil extraction activities, related to technical processes, seismic oscillations, soil and water pollution and the impact it has on the lives of the respective areas residents.</i>	<i>EITI Albania/ MSG/Consultant</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>World Bank</i>	<i>30000\$</i>		<i>Not started</i>

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	<i>oil extraction industry on the areas where it operates</i>								
						<i>Expected total for World Bank funded activities/ Other donors (no operative cost)</i>			
						<i>Expected total for proposed activities</i>			
						<i>Unidentified funding sources / potential</i>			