

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

ITALIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION - TIRANA OFFICE

ALBANIA | KOSOVO | BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA | NORTH MACEDONIA | SERBIA

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PART 1



**THE
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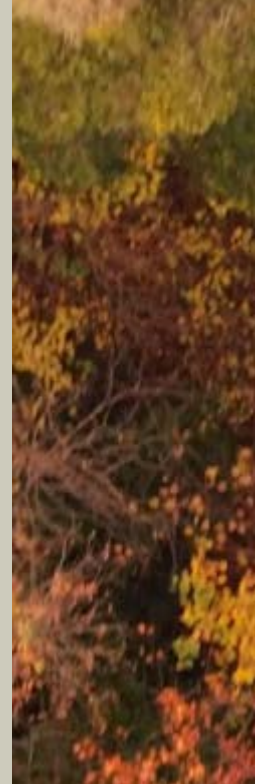
THE
IDENTITY

THE IDENTITY

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo - Aics) is the Agency of the Government of Italy for the management of the International cooperation initiatives and the leading of the public and private Italian cooperation system worldwide.

It is a public body established by the Italian law 125/2014. Its headquarters are in Rome. A branch office is in Florence. It has 18 field offices, managing cooperation initiatives in more than 50 Countries, in Western Balkans, Africa, Asia, South and Central America.

The Agency is in charge of the technical partnership with Governments abroad for development cooperation projects funded by Italy, from the identification of the initiatives to their implementation. It can fund initiatives of the Agencies of the United Nations and the Organizations of the Civil Society. It is entitled to implementing projects funded by the European Union and by private International donors. It works in close collaboration with the Institutions of the partner Countries, following their governmental development priorities and cooperation policies set by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.





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According to the Italian law, main goals of the Agency are the eradication of poverty, the reduction of inequalities, the protection of civil rights and personal dignity – including gender equality and equal opportunities – as well as the prevention of conflicts and support for peace processes. In coordination with the governmental International donors, it is committed to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

Its office in Tirana manages initiatives in Albania, Kosovo, Bosnia & Herzegovina, North Macedonia and Serbia.

OVERVIEW

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation commitment in the Western Balkans is part of the wider European commitment for the integration of the Western Balkans, known as the Berlin Process launched in 2014.

In 2018, the documents of the European Commission **A credible enlargement perspective and enhanced EU engagement for Western Balkans** and **EU-Western Balkans six flagship initiatives** established six priorities and main areas of commitment and intervention:

- 1) Rule of law,
- 2) Security policies and migration management,
- 3) Social and economic development,
- 4) Connectivity for better transport and energy distribution,
- 5) Digital Agenda for better digital services,
- 6) Reconciliation and good neighborhood relations.

Moreover, in 2021, as a result of the **Brdo Summit**, a **Green Agenda** has been adopted, with a detailed action plan focused on reducing pollution and green house gas emissions, managing an energy transition, putting in place a circular economy, supporting the protection of biodiversity and advancing sustainable farming and food production.



EU accession negotiations have been opened with Montenegro in 2012 and Serbia in 2014. In March 2020, EU Member States decided by unanimity to open accession negotiations with North Macedonia and Albania. Since 2016, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Kosovo are potential candidates. 19 October 2021, the European Commission adopted the 2021 Enlargement Package, enlightening state of play, critical issues and progress made by the Western Balkans Countries on their path towards the European Union.

The integration process is ongoing. From bottom to top, the cooperation initiatives, funded by the European donors – Italy is a main partner among them -, planned and implemented in close coordination with the Western Balkans Governments, are regularly improving the quality of life of local communities, sharing legislative and economic European standards and boosting the reforms agenda of the Western Balkans Countries.

A HISTORICAL COMMITMENT IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation started its activities as a governmental Agency in January 2016, following the approval of the Italian law 125/2014. Its present commitment is in continuity with the Italian Government story of cooperation in the Western Balkans and worldwide.

In the Western Balkans, the Italian Government has funded International cooperation initiatives since 1991. The first intervention was the Operation Pelican (Operazione Pellicano) to overcome the humanitarian emergency caused by the fall of the communist regime in Albania. The Operation was conceived and managed by the Directorate General for Development Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Emergencies, from lack of food and institutional vacuum to refugees' protection and fight against poverty, were the main issues tackled throughout the nineties. Operation Pelican (1991-1993) and, to mention a second essential cooperation initiative, the International Operation Alba (1997), planned and leaded by the Italian Government after the collapse of the financial pyramids in Albania, were successful. New cooperation challenges began.



See also our
interactive infographics at
madetogether.aicstirana.org

Download the book Made
Together at tirana.aics.gov.it
for more.

In 2004 the reconstructed bridge of Mostar in Bosnia & Herzegovina, shot down during the war, was inaugurated by the President of the Republic of Italy, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi. Italy was main donor in that extraordinarily meaningful initiative of the International community, a symbolic turning point for Europe.

New infrastructures, from roads to water and energy distribution, were planned and built. During this period, the Italian focus on human rights, civil protection, fight against poverty and improvement of the communities' quality of life never stopped. New schools and hospitals were built, services for persons with disabilities were created, new enterprises were supported.

Even if critical issues remained, the way towards the European Union was open.

THE NEW LEAD OF THE ITALIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION SYSTEM

According to the Italian Law 125/2014, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation coordinates and leads abroad the Italian public and private Development Cooperation System, following the guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy. Its main task is the technical partnership with the Governments beneficiaries of Italian cooperation policies and funds, from the identification of new cooperation initiatives to the management and monitoring of the ongoing ones, included the projects approved and started before 2016 first year of activities of the Agency.

In the Western Balkans, the Italian Development Cooperation System implementing initiatives funded by the Italian Government is composed by a large number of public and private actors, well rooted throughout the region. Geographical and cultural nearness has made the list long and diversified, starting from the Italian constitutional body High Council of Judiciary that sides the Ministry of Justice and the School of Magistrates in Albania for the judicial reform and a new generation of Albanian magistrates.



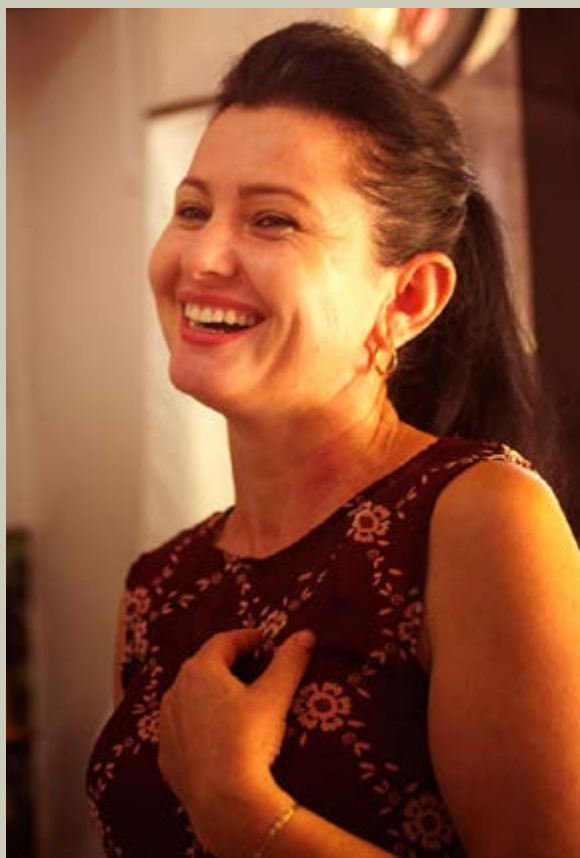
Important Italian cooperation partner is the Italian Department of Civil Protection of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, supporting disaster risk management and strengthening the National Civil Protection Institutions of Western Balkans to offer to local communities a public service closer to the European standards, from technical means to professional capacities.

Well know is the story of friendship and human cooperation between Albania and Regione Puglia, started in 1991, people for people overcoming the humanitarian emergency. Regione Puglia has a long lasting presence in the area, with a branch office in Tirana. Only to mention its most recent commitment as a cooperation implementing partner, Regione Puglia, funded by the Italian Government, sides the Albanian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Municipalities of Vlore and Himare, sharing its best practices in Salento, to improve local, touristic management standards and a stronger territorial narrative, aware of environmental issues and based on cultural local identity and typical products.

From South to North of the Italian Adriatic coast, Regione Molise, Regione Marche and Regione Emilia Romagna work in the Western Balkans in many cooperation initiatives, from the safeguard and enhancement of cultural heritage to sustainable development of tourism, from education to Institutional capacity building. Regione Toscana, for National Health services, Regione Trentino, for higher touristic standards, and Regione Umbria, in the agri-food sector, implement or have recently completed cooperation activities.

The presence of non governmental Italian organizations focused on social and economic development of local communities is widely branched in the Western Balkans, working in Albania from Malesi e Madhe to Permet and all along Via Dinarica, in Bosnia & Herzegovina and Kosovo. Better healthcare and education services, social inclusion, gender equalities, new micro enterprises with a special focus on new generations opportunities are only some of the many issues tackled by experts and volunteers of the Italian civil society.

A strong partnership on the ground links the Government of Italy to the Agencies of the United Nations. In 2021 the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation has funded initiatives implemented by UN Agencies, such as UNDP, IOM and UN Women, supporting the protection of the marine protected area of Karaburun Sazan in the Bay of Vlore and Via Dinarica in Bosnia & Herzegovina, the engagement of the Albanian Diaspora in the sustainable development and institutional reforms path of Albania, the empowerment of women and gender equalities.



The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation is a bridge of human resources, ideas and technical capacity between the Governments of Western Balkans and the Italian best practices for sustainable development and European integration.

PART 2



THE
DATA

ITALY FOR WESTERN BALKANS

According to the criteria outlined by the European Commission and the political guidance of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in Tirana has identified three main areas of intervention, in which Italy can offer to the regional Governments considerable and change-making added values: 1) Rule of law and good governance, 2) Nature and environment, 3) Competitiveness and innovation for social and economic development.

As well, the Italian cooperation commitment hasn't stopped tackling the main OCSE-DAC sectors, such as **education, healthcare, water supply, waste management, human rights, social protection, transport, energy with a special focus on renewables, agriculture and fishery, food safety, debt for development swap**. As integral part of the International donors community, Italy is fully supporting the sustainable development and European integration of the Western Balkans Countries.

THE DATA

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation is committed to the European integration of the Western Balkans. Its field office in Tirana has competence for five countries: Albania, Kosovo, Bosnia & Herzegovina, North Macedonia and Serbia. Albania is a priority Country. It benefits of the highest percentage of the overall Italian cooperation budget. Kosovo, Bosnia & Herzegovina, North Macedonia and Serbia are secondary and complementary Countries in a coherent regional commitment. Cooperation activities in North Macedonia and Serbia started in July 2021. Both Countries are not part of this report.

Please, watch the following infographics and read the data at the following pages for a detailed picture of the Italian cooperation commitment in the Western Balkans.

Overall commitment

Western Balkans



Albania	36 initiatives	243.549.662 €
Kosovo	03 initiatives	5.742.000 €
Bosnia & Herzegovina	11 initiatives	11.373.632 €

Funding forms

ALBANIA

25 initiatives → **35.371.811 €** grants
(of which 6.000.000 are funds allocated by the EU for 1 delegated cooperation initiative)

10 initiatives → **188.177.851 €** soft loans

01 initiatives → **20.000.000 €** debt swap

KOSOVO

03 initiatives → **5.742.000 €** grants

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

11 initiatives → **11.373.632 €** grants

**THE INITIATIVES
COUNTRY BY
COUNTRY**

1. NATURKOSOVO - Natural and cultural heritage in Kosovo and touristic sustainable development of Via Dinarica

Aid 12382

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2025 April	1.800.000 Grant	Ministry of Industry, Entrepreneurship and Trade - Department of Tourism	Volontari nel Mondo - RTM	0	1 800 000

What has been done: Contract with executing partner signed on March 24th, 2022.

What has to be done: The Alpine Rescue System staff for Via Dinarica in Kosovo will be trained and equipped. Routes of the Via Dinarica in Kosovo will be maintained and new routes will be marked. New micro enterprises will be created and supported for responsible tourism, with a special focus on new generations opportunities. The brand Via Dinarica in Kosovo will be promoted on media.

2. PEDAKOS - Preschool education development alliance for Kosovo

Aid 11860

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 December	873.000 Grant	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology	Volontari nel Mondo - RTM	686 282	186 718

What has been done: 15 nursery schools furnished with a space for pedagogical training and documentation.14 schools furnished with ateliers for experiential learning. Professional training on Reggio Emilia Approach for schools in Kosovo delivered. 4 official programs of professional training available for the nursery schools teachers. 34 students from the University of Pristina did the internship in schools. The Collegium for Pre-scholar Institutions has been reactivated.

What has to be done: An atelier for experiential learning will be built in a new Kosovar school. 2 study visits in Italy for pre-schools teachers and public Institutions officers will be carried out. A national campaign will be produced for the adherence to the Collegium of every Kosovar pre-scholar Institutions. Technical and financial assistance will be provided to the Collegium for the implementation of 2 integrated pilot actions.

3. Support to the health system in Kosovo

Aid 9302

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 December	3.069.000 Grant	Ministry of Health	Direct management	2.869.000	200.000

What has been done: Delivery of two complete cardio-surgery lines in Pristina central hospital, that have zeroed the waiting list and allowed over 900 heart-surgeries. Delivery of a full fledged micro-bio-logical laboratory, that allowed 24/24 hrs testing service.

What has to be done: Delivery of bio-mechanical equipment forayed extra-lung respiratory machines.

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

1. Economic sustainable development and environmental protection in areas with natural constraints in Bosnia & Herzegovina

Aid 12189

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2023 December	2.400.000 Grant	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations	CIHEAM Bari	506 558	1 893 442

What has been done: Mapping of areas subject to natural constraints has been completed.

What has to be done: Assessment and report on the areas subject to natural constaints will be completed. Bosnia & Herzegovina officers will be trained on legislative, technical and management capacities in accordance with Acquis Communautaire. Site-specific designed and validated strategic plans and measures for communities will be provided. Pilot projects run by local beneficiaries will be identified and approved.

2. ARS AEVI - Final architectural project design of the new Contemporary Art Museum of Sarajevo

Aid 12005

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 December	150.000 Grant	Contemporary Art Museum of Sarajevo	Direct implementation	0	150 000

What has been done: Starting phase.

What has to be done: The definitive architectural project, based on the original Renzo Piano concept, will be delivered and approved.

3. NATURBOSNIA - Protected areas and sustainable development in Bosnia & Herzegovina

Aid 12003

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2024 June	1.500.000 Grant	Ministry of Environment and Tourism	Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei popoli - CISP	350 000	1 150 000

What has been done: Scientific assessment of biodiversity status in the parks of Blidinje and Sutjeska have been completed. Mapping of local touristic offer ongoing. Awareness-raising initiatives on responsible tourism, environmental issues and cultural heritage have been regularly held with universities and public schools. Communication activities planned and started.

What has to be done: Grants will be awarded to support social and economic development of local micro enterprises. Infrastructural interventions to restore mountain huts and guesthouses. Capacity building for management bodies of Blidinje and Sutjeska parks. Sensibilization events for young generations on biodiversity. Advertising campaigns regularly produced and planned on media.

4. BRIDGE - Building relations for intercultural dialogue in Bosnia & Herzegovina

Aid 11949

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2023 June	700.000 Grant	Government of Bosnia & Herzegovina	UNDP	298 570	401 430

What has been done: Starting phase.

What has to be done: The initiative will fund an overall plan of initiatives that will be held throughout Bosnia & Herzegovina to promote intercultural dialogue and reconciliation, focusing on new generations and environmental issues.

5. FROM AWARENESS TO CARE - Women as protagonists for the right to health in Bosnia & Herzegovina

Aid 11861

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2023 April	630.650 Grant	Ministry of Health - Zenica Canton	RE.TE - Associazione di tecnici per la solidarietà e cooperazione internazionale	482 953	147 697

What has been done: Professional training on breast cancer. Workshop “Advocacy against cancer” and “Networking to share healthy lifestyles”. Institutional tables to advocate for the European Code Against Cancer created. Design and launch of an information campaign on the need to prevent, the care options and the diffusion of the European Code Against Cancer. Creation of a management and referral software and testing. Training for the management, the medical and the technical staff on the European standards and protocols on the breast cancer screening. Activation of 2 centers for women participating to the screening program. Adoption of common operational standard in the oncological centers in the Federation of Bosnia & Herzegovina on the care of women’s illnesses.

What has to be done: Study visits in Italy for local stakeholders. Dissemination of the awareness campaign on television and social media. Awareness raising events will be organized. Trainings for hospital operators on the software. Trainings for technical and medical staff on European standards and protocols on the breast cancer screening. Follow-up on the screening program. Joint trainings for the staff from all the oncological centers on care and prevention of women’s illnesses. Feasability studies on the adaptation of the centers to European standards of cure and prevention.

6. New actions for the support to the phytosanitary sector in Bosnia & Herzegovina for the harmonization with EU standards

Aid 11681

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 September	1.198.401 Grant	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations - Plant Health Protection Administration	CIHEAM Bari	847 703,15	350 696,85

What has been done: 3 draft protocols for quarantine organisms updated to EU standards. Exchange visits in Italy for public officials to Italian insitutions in charge of the management of the phytosanitary service. Identification of training and operational needs of the phytosanitary inspectors of quarantine organisms. Exchange visit in Italy for public officials to strengthen the phytosanitary inspection service. Supply of laboratory equipment for the accreditation and alignment of the phytosanitary laboratories in Banja Luka, Sarajevo, Mostar. Training needs for laboratories officials identified Banja Luka, Sarajevo, Mostar. 3 out of 7 training courses in Italy for laboratory staff implemented.

What has to be done: Update of 2 protocols for quarantine organisms to EU standards. Technical assistance for inspectors in charge of phytosanitary inspections. Development of guidelines on good practice for managing the phytosanitary inspection service in Bosnia & Herzegovina. Technical assistance for laboratories in Banja Luka, Sarajevo, Mostar. Training courses in Italy for laboratory staff will be completed, 7 out of 7.

7. Support to the management and the monitoring of the development cooperation initiatives in Bosnia & Herzegovina

Aid 11636

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 December	750.350 Grant	Government of Bosnia & Herzegovina	Direct implementation	638 100	112 250

What has been done: Technical assistance to national and local Institutions for the implementation of the cooperation initiatives funded by Italy.

What has to be done: Technical assistance to national and local Institutions for the implementation of the cooperation initiatives funded by Italy.

8. VIA DINARICA - A platform for sustainable tourism development and local economic growth

Aid 11576

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2021 December	1.000.000 Grant	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations	UNDP	1 000 000	0

What has been done: 1,000 km of existing sections of the original route of the Bosnian Dinarica Way maintained. 550 km of new sections marked. 18 infrastructure investments and 85 improvement interventions for the activities of small and medium-sized entrepreneurs along the Via Dinarica financed. 85 tour operators on the Via Dinarica provided with technical assistance to enhance skills in the processes of valorisation and promotion of local tourist products. 3 Hubs to promote the Via Dinarica brand created. 3 associations of volunteers provided with equipment and technical assistance on alpine rescue.

What has to be done: Project is concluded

9. INCLUSIVE 4 ALL - Inclusive education for all children in Bosnia & Herzegovina

Aid 11522

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 June	1 365 348,68	Ministry of Education and Science - Tuzla Canton	Save the Children	899 599,50	465 749,18

What has been done: Identification and requalification of building to activate 2 Centers for the development of inclusive educational and social practices. Development of a data collection, tracking system and operational protocols for case management. Purchase of equipment for Centers and the mobile outreach team. Mapping of transformation models in developed countries. Validation of the revised strategy by local governmental authorities. Approval of the strategy by the Assembly of the Tuzla Canton. Rehabilitation of identified structures. Survey and study on the inclinations of local population and stakeholders regarding the inclusion of disabled children on the educational and social system.

What has to be done: Equipment of 2 Centers for the development of inclusive educational and social practices according to the standards and the needs of disabled children. Installation of 2 sensory gardens. Conclusion of training programmes for staff operating in the two Centers. Development of a database for tracking and case management in Centers. Inauguration of 2 centers. Development of protocols for cooperation with authorities and local Institutions. Formalization and implementation of a cooperating network among Centers in two counties with study visits. Revision of Canton strategy for the inclusion of disabled children. Training for experts on Inclusive Education Approach. Organization of two conferences at national level. Training for and awareness raising to representatives of Civil Society Organizations. Awareness raising campaigns focusing on parents and experts on the field.

10. ERMA - European Regional Master in Democracy and Human Right in South East Europe

Aid 11603

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2021 November	629,705,70 Grant	Government of Bosnia & Herzegovina	Università di Bologna	629,705,70	0

What has been done: In three years of academic educational activities, 87 students graduated.

What has to be done: Project is concluded.

11. BIOSVI - Biodiversity for local development - Innovative model of participatory governance of the Protected Landscape Konjuh in Bosnia & Herzegovina

AID 10938

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2021 May	1 049 178,17 Grant	Ministry of Territorial Planning and Environmental Protection	CISP - Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo del Popoli	1 049 178,17	0

What has been done: The boundary line of Protected Landscape Konjuh marked. Biodiversity study of Protected landscape Konjuh elaborated. GIS IT platform of Protected landscape Konjuh biodiversity developed. Civic Forum of Protected Landscape Konjuh established to monitoring policies and strategies implementation. More than 150 persons provided with technical assistance to enhance skills in the process of community mapping, valorization and promotion of tourist product during at least 30 technical seminars, workshop and focus groups. 60 km of existing walking and cycling trails renovated and maintained. Via Ferrata Paolo Dieci constructed. Five existing picnic infrastructure arranged and renovated. Four children's park playground arranged and renovated, out of that two playground areas for children with disabilities. Two sport and fitness grounds fixed. Scientific herbarium with about 800 plant samples prepared and handed over to the Natural museum of Tuzla. More than 500 floristic taxa and 192 species of fauna identified some of which not included in the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Protected Landscape Konjuh equipped with the 12 new uniforms for PPK rangers, lawn mower and moto cultivator. Protected Landscape Konjuh presented to 4 Italian scientific events. Two study visits to Italy organized with participation of 30 representatives pf cantonal and municipal officials and CSO representatives. 5 professional outdoor, naturalistic and cultural tourism packages identified and tested which involve about 60 persons /families directly.

What has to be done: Project is concluded

ALBANIA

1. Boosting vocational education and training in the Blue Economy

Aid 12332

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2023 August	1.000.000 Grant	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Direct management	0	1 000 000

What has been done: Starting phase.

What has to be done: The initiative will establish a multifunctional centre for education in the blue economy at the Public Professional and Technical Institute Hysen Cela in Durres.

2. MARGINAL RESILIENCE - The circular economy model for the enhancement of territorial vocations

Aid 12314/02/5

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2025 April	1.468.033,77 Grant	Municipality of Vlore / Municipality of Himara	Regione Puglia - Coordinamento delle Politiche Internazionali	0	1 468 033,77

What has been done: Agreement with AICS Roma signed. Start of activities foreseen for 15/04/2022.

What has to be done: Strategic plan for the development of territorial vocations, based on the Apulian rural development model. Support system integrated. Enhancement and promotion of agricultural products. Enhancement and promotion of dairy products. Territorial narrative: awareness & empowerment of local Institutions and communities.

3. EU FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Tourism led, local, economic development, with a focus on Cultural Heritage

Aid 12293

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2026 January	6.250.000 Grant (6M EU / 250.000 Italy)	Ministry of Culture	Delegated Cooperation - Italian Agency for Development Cooperation Tirana	474 763	5 775 237

What has been done: A Project Management Unit has been set up. A draft of the Integrated Management Plan of the archaeological Park of Byllis has been submitted to the Ministry of Culture on December 2021. The Plan was outlined by the experts of the University of Bologna and Emilia Romagna Region, in partnership with the competent Albanian Institutions.

What has to be done: Integrated management Plan to be approved. Masterplan to be approved. Activities of preservation and restoration within the archaeological Park of Byllis will be conducted. To be improved the accessibility and enhanced the management sustainability of the archaeological Park of Byllis. Boosted local economic development of communities and touristic micro enterprises.

4. SAFIAL - Institutional strengthening of the Ministry of Agriculture for the management of food safety

Aid 12201

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2024 April	2.400.000 Grant	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	CIHEAM Bari	822 027	1 577 973

What has been done: Experts' missions for food quality analysis and accreditation at AKU. Experts' missions for safety standards and residues from pesticides in food of plant origin.

What has to be done: Restructuring of DRAKU, AKU, and ISUV laboratories and supply of equipment for sampling and inspection. Training for inspectors and officials, both in Italy and in Albania. Computerization of the port control system. Update of a center for the processing and use of livestock data collected by RUDA. Trainings for enumerators and veterinarians.

5. DEAF AL - Improvement of living conditions of persons with hearing impairments in Albania

Aid 12145

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 June	550.000 Grant	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	Save the Children	440 000	110 000

What has been done: Training for 24 doctors and nurses in 4 regional hospitals on universal audiological screening on newborns and treatment of hearing impairments. Rehabilitation of equipment for audiological screening in 4 regional hospitals. Installation of equipment for specialized screenings at the QSUT Tirana. Creation and update of educational and professional curricula for deaf students. Strengthening of e-learning platform and mobile app for sign language. Organization and implementation of a pilot action on inclusive education with both deaf and hearing students. Training and mentoring for self-entrepreneurship for students of the Institute for Deaf Students in Tirana.

What has to be done: Training for speech therapists. Fitting of hearing aids for 10 students and 10 newborns. Awareness raising campaign for families. Advocacy for the update on the “National Protocol of Clinical Practice” for the evaluation of hearing in 0-6 y.o. children. Sub-granting to deaf students to star-up their own enterprise, with mentoring.

6. Develop community resources through valorization of cultural and natural heritage

Aid 12069

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 May	900.000 Grant	Ministry of Culture	Direct management	94 813	805 187

What has been done: Data collection, topographic survey for Antigonea and Benje village site, preliminary and executive projects for interventions in Antigonea site, preliminary project for Benje village. Preliminary management plan for Antigonea site. Preliminary management plan for Benje village. Preliminary masterplan for Benje village.

What has to be done: Executive projects for interventions in Benje village. Interventions to preserve and valorize selected sites and monuments in Antigonea site and Benje village.

7. NATURALBANIA - Capitalization and promotion actions in the territorial and environmental framework

Aid 11928

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 December	1.200.000 Grant	Ministry of Tourism and Environment - National Agency for Protected Areas	Direct management	670 332	529 668

What has been done: In executive partnership with the Civil Society Organizations: Celim, Cesvi and Vis. Hydrometric sensors to record water level in Narta lagoon have been installed. Scientific assessment on the state of biodiversity and the anthropic impact in the Narta lagoon have been completed. Training courses on HACCP certifications for local producers of Dajti, Llogara, Shkodra held. Two public guesthouses in Bredhi i Hotoves have been built and delivered to the Regional Agency for Protected Areas. Mapped the underwater cultural heritage of the Bay of Vlore. Underwater shooting, 360 degrees, of the Italian military wrecks sunk during the Second World War in the bay of Vlore. Training sessions on birdwatching and fishing for touristic guides in Divjake, Lake of Shkodra and Narta lagoon.

What has to be done: Hydrometric sensor to record water level of the Vjosa river will be installed. Professionals will be trained for the sustainable management and monitoring of the Vjosa river basin natural capital. A sea turtle recovery center will be built and activated in Vlore. A new diving spot will be opened in Porto Palermo. A scientific model, based on European standards, for the evaluation of natural capital will be provided to the national and local environmental authorities.

8. GREAT - Gender rural equality and tourism

Aid 11921

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2023 December	1.363.500 Grant	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	UN Women	463 500	900 000

What has been done: Evaluation of agricultural value chains and market assessment in 3 Municipalities. Training to rural women's group on LEADER approach, LAGs and IPARD grants in 2 municipalities. Assessment of bottleneck for gender responsive rural advisory and business development services. Trainings on GRB to municipal officials. Identification of areas for 2 typical products incubators. Technical Assistance to MARD to engender the Strategy of Rural Development.

What has to be done: Establishment of 3 LAGs and training. Technical assistance to municipalities on contract farming and horizontal cooperation. Training for rural advisory services. Costing of gender responsive rural advisory services and gender sensitive business development services in 3 municipalities. Training to municipal officials and LAGs on budgeting, gender budgeting, advocacy for GRB; and gender gaps. Support and mentoring to LAGs on quality control, branding, marketing, access to finance. Training to Ministry of Agriculture, ISTAT, IPROC, Ministry of Justice to report on economic rights of women. Technical support on effective gender mainstreaming and on data disaggregation.

9. Support to the Albanian School of Magistrates in the framework of constitutional reforms

Aid 11918

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 June	300.000 Grant	Ministry of Justice	Italian High Council of Judiciary	150 000	150 000

What has been done: 700 magistrates have been trained. 17 high level anti-corruption officer trained by the Italian National Anti-Corruption Agency. Reform of the Albanian penal code drafted.

What has to be done: Reform of the admission test for magistrates and continuous training of on duty magistrates.

10. RISE-ALB - Strengthening of Social Entrepreneurship in Albania

Aid 11864

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2023 January	1.361.073 Grant	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	ENGIM	989 723	371 350

What has been done: Training on support of social economy and social re-use of confiscated properties. Round-tables for the support of pilot social enterprises. Sub-granting to 20 social start-ups. Starting of 2 incubators. Technical trainings to NEETs with italian experts. Baking courses for disadvantaged people with 6 scholarships. Start-up of 20 agricultural micro-enterprises. Training with italian experts in schools on education to legality.

What has to be done: Study visits in Italy and exchange of good practices on social economy and social re-use of confiscated properties. Policy papers on social enterprises. Enterprise coaching to 3 social enterprises. Technical trainings to NEETs with italian experts. Baking courses for disadvantaged people. Publication of a mapping on non-formal social enterprises.

11. WE CAN DO - Pathways to social inclusion and promotion of rights of people with mental disabilities in Albania

Aid 11863

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 December	633.539 Grant	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	Associazione comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII	443 754	189 785

What has been done: Activization of a counselling desk for fragile/addicted people and of a on-the-road service for homeless people. Activization of a day center for psychiatric rehabilitation (CDRP) and of synergies with local Center for Mental Health. 61 personalized plans for mental health elaborated. 15 trainings for CDRP operators, 6 for the staff of local Center for Mental Health, for volunteers and other social workers. Development of personal plans of social and familiar reintegration. Elaboration of accountability and support actions for people leaving by themselves. Mapping of organizations and associations dealing with VET and job placement. Job trainings for mentally disabled people. Awareness raising campaign on the rights of people with mental disabilities. Implementation of 20 volunteering experiences to promote non-discrimination and an inclusive culture of disability.

What has to be done: Setting up a round-table and organizing a public conference about good practioeces of social reintegration of disadvantaged people. Monitoring mission from headquarter in Italy. Mission in Albania of the expert from the Italian Center of Mental Health.

12. ALIVE - Women and men free from violence in Albania and support for local policies for equal opportunities

Aid 11862

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 September	899.129,16 Grant	Albanian School of Public Administration ASPA	CIES	591 918,84	307 210,32

What has been done: 1 training module on gender budgeting defined and institutionalized by ASPA, with training-of-trainers sessions. 21 Albanian professionals trained on gender budgeting. Launch of 1 platform for remote learning . Development of 20 thematic workshops with Municipalities. Training of 218 municipal staff on gender budgeting. Assessment of update needs of ASPA’s curricula. Counselling to 413 women victims of violence and access to social services. Provision of legal assistance to 179 women victims of violence. Professional training to 120 women and sub-granting. Approval of 2 training curricula by the National Agency for the Registration of Licences. Creation of 1 database of Albanian enterprises. Financial support to 6,5 women-led micro-businesses. Training of 16 psychologists on counselling for abusing men and activization of 3 centers. Awareness raising meetings in schools. Elaboration of 3 awareness raising videos and 1 educational dossier for schools. 9 workshops with representatives of the judicial systems 12 with representatives of Referral Mechanisms.

What has to be done: Elaboration of 1 e-learning module on gender budgeting. Approval of 10 internships in municipalities for gender budgeting. Development of 20 thematic workshop with Municipalities. Training of 142 municipal staff on gender budgeting. Definition of 4 new training modules and update of 9 curricula at ASPA. Counselling to 487 more women victims of violence and access to social services. Provision of legal assistance to 91 more women victims of violence. Approval of 1 more training curriculum by the National Agency for the Registration of Licences. Financial support to 11,5 more women-led micro-businesses. More awareness raising meetings in schools. Formalization of 1 national network of offices for abusive men. Elaboration of operational protocols for abusive men. 9 more workshops with representatives of the judicial systems, 12 more with representatives of referral mechanisms.

13. FAGEM II - Facility for the management and monitoring of the Italian cooperation program in Albania

Aid 11836

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
December 2022	1.774.000 Grant	Government of Albania	Direct implementation	553 925	1 220 075

What has been done: Technical assistance to national and local Institutions for the implementation of the cooperation initiatives funded by Italy.

What has to be done: Technical assistance to national and local Institutions for the implementation of the cooperation initiatives funded by Italy.

14. Strengthening of the capacities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development for statistical data collection in agriculture in line with the EU standards

Aid 11646

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 May	696.833 Grant	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies	349 916,50	349 916,50

What has been done: Tendering procedures and adjudication of tender to ABACO, for the development of the software, the training of Albanian officials and support in the collection of data.

What has to be done: Installation of the software, collection of data on pilot areas (2 municipalities), with technical training on the ground.

15. Improve the medical emergency services in the coastal regions

Aid 11635

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 June	679.000 Grant	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	Direct implementation	339 500	339 500

What has been done: In collaboration with Hospital Meyer of Florence. Needs analysis of procedures and protocols of the medical emergency services in the Albanian coastal region and elaboration of their development plan, with 35 new procedures. Trainings on accredited modules, with technical support on-the-job: 460 people trained. 5 studies on emergency care costs and analysis of cost of 20 services and activities. Preparation of projects for civil works at the Port of Vlore (Emergency Room) and Pasha Liman Military Base (Centre of Hyperbaric Medicine).

What has to be done: Ex-post evaluation of trainings. Improvement of cost analysis, financing instrument and management control functions in the target hospitals. Elaboration of 1 cost accounting manual and 1 tableau de bord of cost and performance indicators. 2 training courses for 25 health staff on cost accounting and internal control, and on policy analysis and resource allocation for EMS services. 1 workshop for Health Services, DRGs and Tariffs. Tender procedure for construction works. Equipment and training for staff in Valona and Pasha Liman. Supply of medical and non-medical consumable. Technical and financial contribution to the maintenance of new equipment.

16. Construction of a municipal civil emergency center and a civil protection situation room in Tirana

Aid 11561

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 September	1.000.000 Grant	National Agency for Civil Protection	Direct implementation	147 363	852 637

What has been done: The new National Operations Center for Civil Emergencies has been constructed and equipped, in collaboration with the Department of Civil Protection of the Italian Presidency of the Council of Ministers and the Civil Protection of the metropolitan city of Florence.

What has to be done: Design of the new headquarters of the National Agency for Civil Protection. Supply of the SeisMec software, conceived by Italy for seismic prediction. Trainings of the staff of the National Operations Center for Civil Emergency and of the National Agency for Civil Protection.

17. ZANA E MALEVE- Youth & Territory: the roots of a community on the pathway towards integration with the European family

Aid 11523

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2021 November	1.795.424,60 Grant	Regional Development Agency1 - AZHR 1	Volontariato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo - VIS	1.795.424,60	0

What has been done: Establishment of a Committee for the Management of the Fund, with definition of Internal Procedures and Guidelines. Formal employment of 27 rural youngsters (10 girls). Support to 27 SMEs, 10 owned by rural youngsters (3 girls and 7 boys) and 13 belonging to the tourism sector. Creation of 3 different types of revolving funds (fund for agricultural activities. Fund for 50 touritic enterprises. Credit fund for start-ups. Certification of the profession of “Local Development Agent”.

What has to be done: Project is concluded.

18. ACAP - Community action for the conservation of protected areas

Aid 11521

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2021 December	1.705.365 Grant	Ministry of Tourism and Environment - National Agency for Protected Areas	Centro Laico Italiano per le Missioni	1 705 365	0

What has been done: 36 renewable energy systems (photovoltaic panels) have been installed on existing micro enterprises and infrastructures in Albanian Protected Areas. New equipments for waste management and collection have been delivered. Professionals of the Regional Agencies for Protected Areas have been trained on waste management and polluting prevention. Awareness-raising activities with public schools and local communities have been regularly held. Responsible tourism promoted on media.

What has to be done: Project is concluded.

19. Institutional assistance for the development of the maritime economy

Aid 11390

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 March	1.600.000 Grant	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	CIHEAM Bari	1 600 000	0

What has been done: Small pelagic management plan. Report on the survey campaigns and related results. Report on the Albanian fleet fishing capacity. Small scale fishery report. Report on the data from the survey using a drone and a multi-parameter probe. 3 Soft Loan project sheets respectively on Durrës, Shëngjin and Vlora fishing ports. 1 Soft Loan Sheet Landing Site Models Report. 1 Soft Loan Sheet on the Fishery Inspection. Installation of fixed multiparameter probe in Butrinti. Web GIS platform active. Draft legislation (Albanian and Italian) for leisure boating. 5 Soft loan project sheets (Butrinti lagoon, Ohrid Lake, Prespa Lake, Ulza-Shkopet, carp cultivation). Training on stock assessment and marine habitat mapping. Workshops and meetings with stakeholders in Albania and Italy.

What has to be done: Delivery of final report.

20. Improving coverage and management effectiveness of marine and coastal protected areas - Phase II

Aid 11178

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 March	1.000.000 Grant	Ministry of Tourism and Environment - National Agency for Protected Areas	UNDP	1 000 000	0

What has been done: Identified and delivered the baselines of the biological data of the marine protected area of Karaburun Sazan. Approval of the management plan for the marine protected area of Karaburun Sazan. Equipment of mooring buoys and rescue patrol boat. Awareness campaign on environmental sustainability planned on media.

What has to be done: Ending phase.

21. Engage the Albanian Diaspora in the social and economic development of Albania

Aid 11117

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2021 December	3.000.000 Grant	Ministry of Diaspora	IOM	3 000 000	0

What has been done: New National Strategy for the Diaspora and related Action Plan 2021 - 2025 delivered and approved by the Government of Albania. Restructuring of Diaspora Publication Center and Diaspora Development Fund supported. 5 presentation events in Italy. 2 study visits organized: 1 in Italy, 1 in Ireland. 10 Albanian associations involved in the initiative. 38 experts, members of the Albanian Diaspora, selected to support the Albanian Government in the European integration process. 21 members of the Albanian Diaspora certified as development agents. Website of Diaspora Development Fund designed and developed. A mobile App designed and developed for the Diaspora Investment Development Chamber. The digital platform 'Connect Albania' designed, developed and tested. A media campaign produced to engage Albanian talents from the diaspora and attract new investments in Albania. The University of Florence, with Albanian researchers and students, mapped and promoted on media the cultural heritage and typical products of 5 Albanian sites.

What has to be done: Project is concluded.

22. Vocational Education and Training through Innovation

Aid 11000

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of Soft loan	5.000.000 Soft loan	Ministry of Finance and Economy - Directorate of Employment and Skills Policies	Ministry of Finance and Economy	646 328	4 353 672

What has been done: In executive partnership with Regione Emilia Romagna, Taulant Shpk, Gjikuria Shpk. Submission of guidelines to the design of the planned investment in infrastructures by the Consortium to MEF. Report on the possible aims of a prospective “career and tutoring service” to increase the liaison functions between VET and firms. Meetings with the National Agency for Employment (NAES) to create a possible pathway for implementing the career service. Accomplishment of EQF referring process by AQF. Revision of standards of vocational qualification at AQF 2 and 3. Revision of secondary curricula. Benchmark study of the post-secondary course of fashion economy. Proposal of capacity building actions for training of trainers. Restructuring works in Fier school started.

What has to be done: Implementation of Fier’s School Directive Board; Revisiion and accreditation of curricula in AQF level 2 and 3. Development of 3 short courses. Consolidation of Territorial VET and Employment Pact. Exchange of good practices with schools in Golem, Cerrik and Tirana. Restructuring works in Fier school will be completed.

23. THE COMMUNITY OF THE FUTURE - Inteventions of social-working inclusion for Shkodra orphans

Aid 10950

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 May	867.315,60 Grant	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	ACLI Ipsia	627 450,50	239 865,10

What has been done: Elaboration of training modules for social workers and training. Creation of a residential educational community for minors currently living in orphanages. Job placement for 67 young orphans.

What has to be done: Certification of training modules for social workers; Creation of a supporting institutional and informal network for the “Comunity”. Financial support to 3 existing and 2 new social enterprises. Professional training courses to orphans 16-18 years old. Consultancy for monitoring on job placement.

24. URBAN LAB - A participatory laboratory for the promotion of Divjake territorial development

Aid 10941

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2021 July	693.700,20 Grant	Municipality of Divjake	Vento di Terra	693.700,20	0

What has been done: Establishment of a Urban Lab in bioclimatic architecture to serve as multi-functional center for the territorial and communitarian development. Promotion of policies to attract tourism and to enhance youth participation, with a publication of a touristic guide. Trainings for young people in ITC and for women about sustainable tourism management. New paths have been tracked in Divjake, connecting the city, the National Park and the Castle.

What has to be done: Project is concluded.

25. ASTECADE - Technical assistance and capacity development

Aid 10539

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2022 June	620.000 Grant	Government of Albania	Direct implementation	620 000	0

What has been done: Technical assistance to national and local Institutions for the implementation of the cooperation initiatives funded by Italy.

What has to be done: Ending phase.

26. Project facility for feasibility studies and final level projects in the infrastructure sector

Aid 9646

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of soft loan	2.100.000 Soft loan	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	0	2 100 000

What has been done: Starting phase.

What has to be done: The initiative aims at designing 3 roads strategic segment, feasibility studies included, along the North-South and East-West directions, in the framework of the Pan-European Corridor VIII: road section Milot-Shkodra, direct connection Vaqarr-Kavaje, creation of the Elbasan by-pass.

27. Integrated assistance to the development of the Albanian small and medium enterprises

Aid 9645

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of soft loan	15.000.000 Soft loan	Ministry of Finance and Economy	Ministry of Finance and Economy	7 000 000	8 000 000

What has been done: Credits have been awarded to local small and medium enterprises. A guarantee fund has been provided.

What has to be done: Credits will be awarded to local small and medium enterprises. A guarantee fund will be provided.

28. ASSI - Pilot Project for Establishing a Subsidized Insurance System in Agriculture

Aid 9644

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of soft loan	2.000.000 Soft loan	Ministry of Finance and Economy	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	233 087	1 766 913

What has been done: Negotiated procedure with the Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies for the revision of the Albanian legal framework of subsidized agricultural insurances and to provide assistance in the management of the agricultural insurance market. Tender procedure and entrustment of tender for “Technical assistance to establish the IT system of agricultural insurances in Albania”.

What has to be done: Definition of the legal framework for insurance subsidies in agriculture in Albania. Creation of a meteorological database and furnishment of meteorological stations. Creation of an insurance market for subsidies in agriculture.

29. Strengthening the Albanian paying agency: Agriculture and Rural Development Agency - ARDA

Aid 9643

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of soft loan	5.000.000 Soft loan	Ministry of Finance and Economy	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	275 700	4 724 300

What has been done: PMU established, Operational manual and inception report approved, Negotiated procedure with MIPAAF (ARDA 12), Draft tender procedure for supplies and services (ARDA18-26) for IT infrastructure, vehicles office furniture; draft tender procedure for FR/LPIS services.

What has to be done: EU assessment on national legal alignment to acquis, with training; Harmonization of the organizational and procedural framework of ARDA (AZhBR); Alignment of ICT based procedures for the management of RD measures with study visit; Re-launch of ARDA 42 and 43 (vehicles and hardware for the software).

30. Italian-Albanian small and medium enterprises development programme

Aid 7961

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of soft loan	27.500.000 Soft loan	Ministry of Finance and Economy	Ministry of Finance and Economy	25 500 000	2 000 000

What has been done: Credits have been awarded to local small and medium enterprises. A guarantee fund has been provided.

What has to be done: Ongoing negotiations for the use of the existing rotative fund.

31. Renovation of 5 Polyclinics

Aid 7766

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of soft loan	5.080.000 Soft loan	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	3 580 227	1 499 773

What has been done: Delivery of the new Polyclinics of Korca, Gjirokaster and two new Polyclinics in Tirana.

What has to be done: Delivery of the new Polyclinics of Peshkopi.

32. Support to project implementation unit for the management of projects in the transport sector

Aid 7765

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
June 2022	1.614.900 Grant	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	Direct implementation	1 614 900	0

What has been done: Technical assistance to national and local Institutions for the implementation of the cooperation initiatives funded by Italy, in the transport sector.

What has to be done: Ending phase.

33. Solid waste management of Tirana: Sharra Landfill

Aid 7760

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of sof loan	6.000.000 Soft loan	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	6 000 000	0

What has been done:Delivery of the new Sharra Landfill.

What has to be done: Project is completed.

34. Support to the electric programs: APE 1 and APE 2

Aid 6656

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of soft loan	93,022.344,03 Soft loan	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	75 093 284,33	17 929 059,70

What has been done: Delivery of the National Dispatch and Telecontrol Center of Energy. Delivery of the Electric stations of Tirana 1 and Tirana 2.

What has to be done: Construction of the trasmission and dispatching network in Himara and Dhermi (APE 1) and Orikum (APE 2).

35. Rehabilitation of the water network in Tirana and technical assistance to the managing company to improve its financial management and investments related

Aid 6345

Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
Until full payment of soft loan	27.475.507 Soft loan	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	27 407 507	0

What has been done: Delivery of the Bovilla dam, trasmission line, dam water filtration and network management of drinking water system for the Tirana metropolitan area.

What has to be done: Project is completed.

36. IADSA II - Italian-Albanian debt for development swap agreement

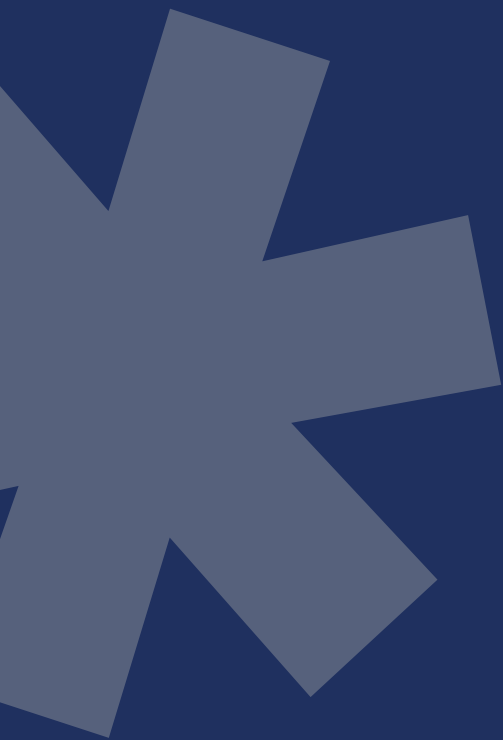
Foreseen End Date	Budget in Eur and type of financing	Main governmental counterpart	Main executing partner	How much has been disbursed	How much has to be disbursed
2024 December	20.000.000 Debt swap	Ministry of Finance and Economy	Joint Unit Albania-Italy at the Ministry of Finance and Economy	7 329 589	12 670 411

What has been done: As a result of a first call for proposals, 38 social initiatives are ongoing from North to South of Albania.

What has to be done: A second and last call for proposals is expected to be launched by the end of 2022.



PART 3



CONC

CLUSIONS



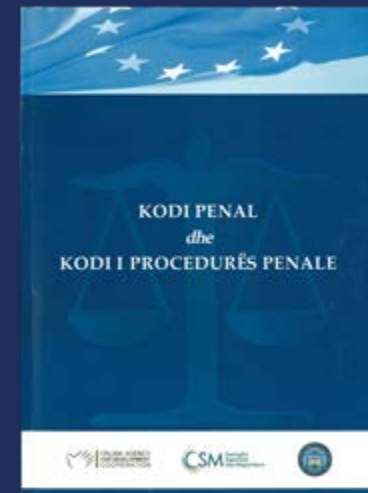
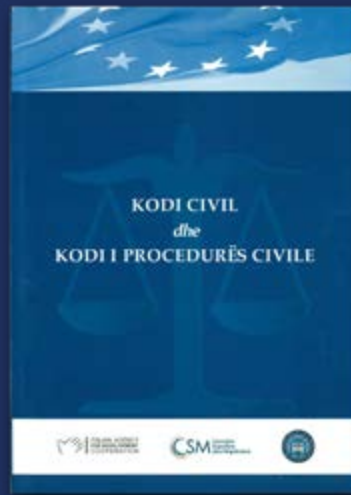
2021 RULE OF LAW HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT G-LOCAL BUSINESSES

WESTERN BALKANS AND ITALY
PEOPLE FOR PEOPLE

JUSTICE IS DEVELOPMENT

Rule of law is a priority for the European integration of the Western Balkans. It's a matter of in or out. Since 2018, the European Union has pushed the Western Balkans Governments to speed their path of reforms. An independent judicial public service, free from corruption, is a not-negotiable condition to join Europe. On one side, it's necessary to offer, in justice management, the same European standards to future European citizens. On the other side, a credible judicial system is essential to attract legal foreign investments and boost the social and economic development of local communities.

In Albania, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation is on the front line. In executive partnership with the High Council of Judiciary of Italy, important turning points have been achieved with the implementation of the initiative Support to the Albanian School of Magistrates in the framework of constitutional reforms.

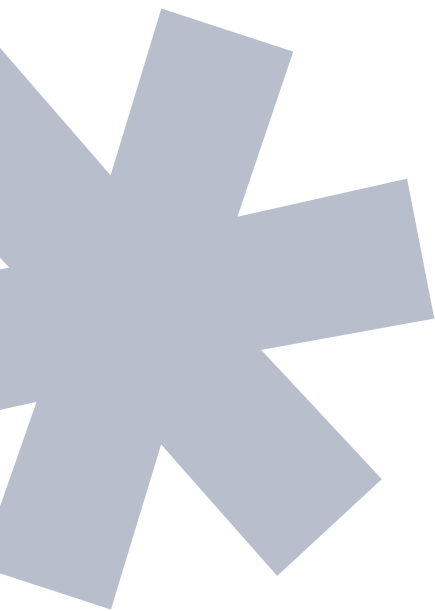


Italian partner of the initiative is also the Italian National Anti-Corruption Authority. Two Italian judicial excellences, siding the Albanian Ministry of Justice for a new generation of Albanian magistrates. In a wide plan of activities, there are three important achievements worth to be underlined.

The Albanian Criminal Code, Civil Code, Criminal Procedure Code and Civil Procedure Code have been collated for the first time, in the framework of the School of Magistrates. 700 magistrates and public officers have been trained in more than 30 training courses conducted. More than 350 candidates participated to the competition of the Albanian School of Magistrates, which is compulsory to become a national magistrate. The School increased the number of admissible candidates from 30 to 80.

The path towards European standards of justice management is open. More has to be done throughout the Western Balkans. No doubt the most important development turning point is youth. The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation will keep on addressing and supporting new generations to speed the change.

AT THE HEART OF HEALTHCARE



The waiting list of the cardiac surgery department of the Hospital of Pristina has been cleared. In 2021 the healthcare system has stressed its focus on Covid-19 pandemic, but daily healthcare public services had to be available for citizens. The new cardiac surgery department in Pristina, fully equipped by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and in collaboration with the Meyer Hospital of Florence, has kept on granting its services to Kosovar patients. It's been an overworking and proving year for the medical staff. The following numbers highlight strength and capacity of the professionals of the new cardiac surgery department and the new microbiological laboratory delivered in the framework of the ongoing initiative Support to the health system in Kosovo, funded by the Italian Government.

257 operations were performed in the cardiac surgery department in 2021. 11,736 tests were carried out in the microbiology laboratory during 2021, divided as follows according to the clinics.

Clinic of Neonatology 1918

Pediatric Clinic 2452

Clinic of Infectious Diseases 2944

Obstetric Gynecological Clinic 1212

Nephrology Clinic 794

Clinic of Pulmonology 501

Surgical Clinics 517

Dermatological Clinic 434

Endocrinology Clinic 132

Allergy Clinic 101

Clinic of Neurology 94

Clinic of Urology 58

Clinic of Urinology 69

Gastroenterology Clinic 79

Eye Clinic 29

Coronary Unit 36

Sports Medicine and Covid 128

Oncology Clinic 8

Physiatry Clinic 30

Orthopedic Clinic 139

Other 61



BECOMING THE CHANGE

**2021 Year of environment
and local identities**



The Green Agenda adopted by the European Countries and the Western Balkans Governments at the Brdo Summit had a first important follow up during the COP26, the UN Climate Change Conference, that took place in Glasgow from October 31st to November 5th, 2021, organized by the United Kingdom in partnership with Italy. For the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, environment has been a strategic area of intervention in 2021, in the Western Balkans and worldwide.

The push given to the activities is only a starting point. Next years will keep on being characterized by an increasing commitment on renewables and, above all, on the creation of new, sustainable jobs and enterprises through the protection and enhancement of natural capital.



The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation has been on the front line. In an action plan that covers a consistent number of territories and communities of the Western Balkans, there are two main focuses in the Italian cooperation intervention.

On one side, the steady partnership with the National Agency for Protected Areas of the Ministry of Tourism and Environment of Albania, that Italy sustained since its creation in 2015. The Italian initiative NaturAlbania is investing funds and resources from Shkodra to the Vjosa Valley, with an integrated strategy: protection of natural capital and improvement of the local touristic offer.

The Vjosa Valley became an internationally known issue thanks to the Leonardo Di Caprio calls for its preservation. Italy was and is on the job. The Vjosa Valley is an undisputable priority. More than changing Nature for Economy, the guideline is change Economy for Nature. The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation results show another Economy is more than possible. It's real.

Today, Permet, in the very heart of the Vjosa Valley, is no longer the city why-to-go-there that people in Albania knew only five years ago and the place no-idea-where-it-is for International travelers. 2021 has had an important and clear trend in the responsible touristic offer. Tens of restaurants, hotels, guesthouses, typical products businesses and tourists from all around the world have boosted the rebirth of a city.

“It’s not only a matter of specific initiatives on specific issues. It’s a matter of a steady, coherent strategy we, as local entrepreneurs and citizens, have been sharing in time with Italian cooperation experts. When I welcome buses of tourists in my dairy to taste typical products, I see the successful Italian model of rural development applied to the Valley. Of course, grants or microcredits are important, but more important is the trust and awareness of the potential of our territorial identity, made of land, renewed traditions, culture and human resources. That’s what Italy has shared with us.”, has said Altin Meshini, head of the consortium ProPermet, created and supported by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.

There are more than 50 entrepreneurs in the area of Permet and Gjirokaster awarded the ethical brand Made With Italy for their successful involvement in initiatives funded by the Italian Government and for their contribution to the sustainable and green development of South Albania. It’s a positive trend not to be given for granted. Protection and enhancement of Albanian protected areas and the Vjosa Valley will keep on being a priority for the Italian cooperation commitment.



VJOSA VALLEY

On the other side, Italy is siding national and local Governments from Bosnia & Herzegovina to Kosovo for the protection and enhancement of Via Dinarica, the ancient roman road connecting Western Balkans with its astonishing beauty, the natural path for integration. there calling for a shared, peaceful co-existence.

The Italian successful model for rural development, the borghi Italiani of Tuscany or Umbria only to mention two examples well known worldwide, hasn't change from the Vjosa Valley to Via Dinarica. Being coherent to be effective: that's the most important part of the Italian development strategy in the Western Balkans. Italy is and will be sharing Italian change-making added values and best practices for the European integration of the region and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030, in close partnership with the local and national Institutions.



VIA DINARICA

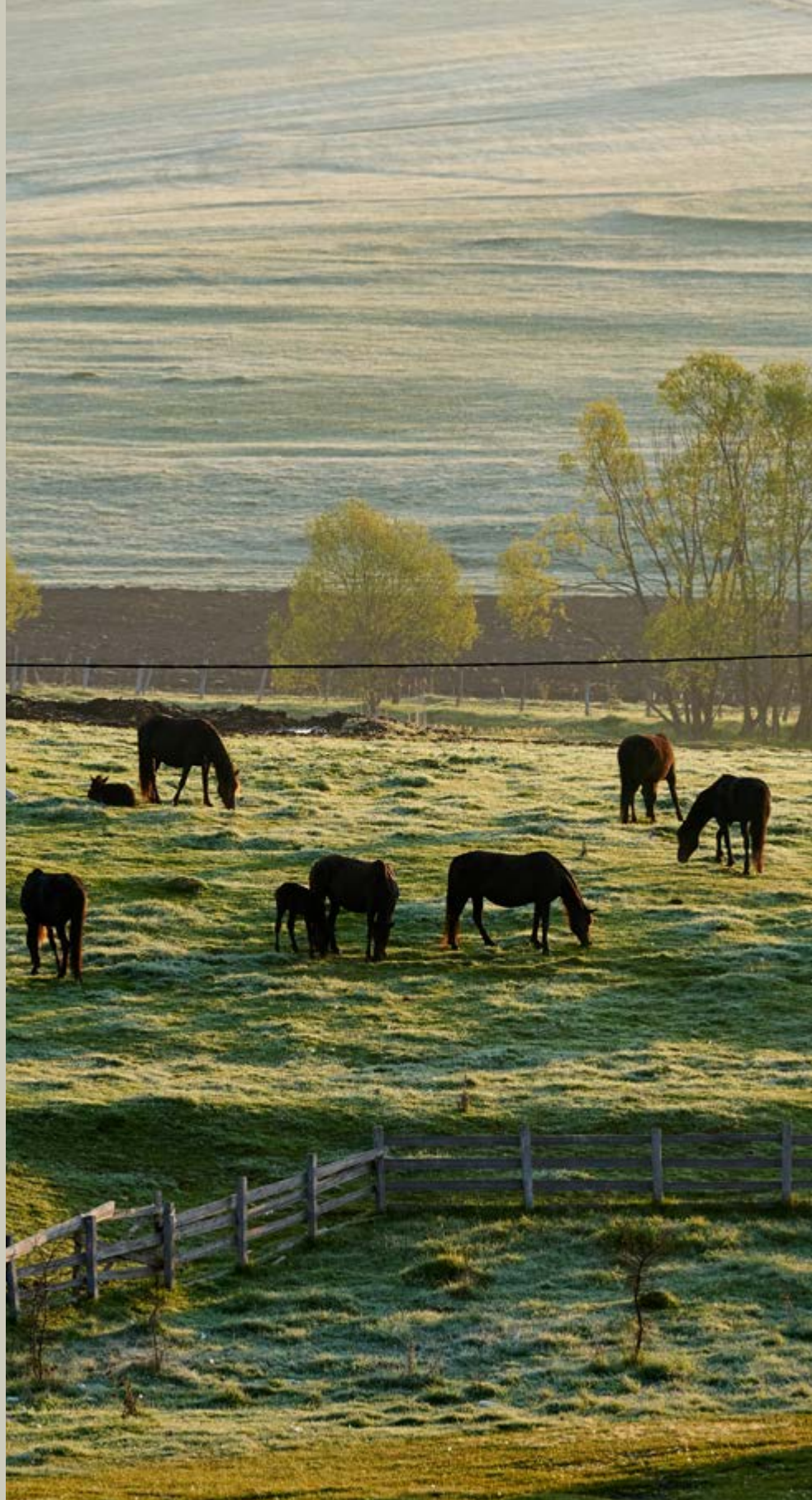
In this challenge Italy is part of a multilateral commitment of the International community. The initiative Via Dinarica, funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and USAID, has invested on an integrated plan of activities to sustain a successful development trend. Results were announced in Sarajevo on December 14, 2021 by UNDP, implementing partner of the initiative, with the Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations and the Minister of Environment and Tourism of the Federation of Bosnia & Herzegovina and the Advisor to the Minister of Trade and Tourism of the Republika Srpska.

**More than 1,000 km of Via Dinarica trails regularly maintained.
More than 550 km of new Via Dinarica trails marked. 31 permanent jobs were created, of which 18 for women and 13 for men. 42 part-time and seasonal jobs were created, of which 18 for women and 24 for men.
Over 50 jobs were kept, of which 19 for women and 31 for men. 61 providers of outdoor tourism services supported by grants and technical assistance. 18 infrastructure projects to support nature-based tourism implemented in 18 partner units of local self-government.**

24 producers and processors and 3 points of sale supported by grants and technical assistance for product integration in Via Dinarica offer. 3 Via Dinarica information and service centers established. The basic infrastructure of the Via Dinarica support center managed by Terra Dinarica has been established. 3 organizations of the Mountain Rescue Services in BiH equipped and trained to improve security.

The above numbers mirror the local communities' proactivity, but the risk to get back to zero is just behind the corner. Italy is more than aware of that. 2021 has been the year to plan the future interventions and to confirm the Italian commitment. Two Italian initiatives are starting their activities siding local Institutions and communities, NaturBosnia and NaturKosovo.

2021 has been the year of environment and territorial identities. Next years will be, too.



BEYOND EARTHQUAKE AND COVID 19

A NEW AGREEMENT FOR FUTURE IN ALBANIA

The Albanian earthquakes and the Covid 19 emergency have been a burden slowing the walk towards a sustainable quality of life for the local communities of Western Balkans. For the repudiable outbreak of the war in Ukraine, caused by the Russian military invasion, it's easy to foresee a dramatic inflation growth that will further weaken the ongoing development processes, sustained by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and the International donors in the region.

A first important step has been taken in 2021 by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Albanian Government. A new agreement for the total amount of 95 million euros, allocated by the Italian Government, has been approved. 90 million euros soft loans, 5 million euros grants.



Following the technical plan outlined by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and the Albanian governmental counterparts, 30 million will be invested in the creation and activation of the new Albanian National Agency for Civil Protection, 25 million will tackle the Blue Economy for new jobs, businesses and better public infrastructures, 35 million will strengthen and widen the Energy distribution capacity. 5 million in grant will address education and new generations opportunities. The related protocol will be signed in 2022.

Next three years will be challenging for local communities. Their proactivity is a value to support, protect and promote. The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation will keep on working among and with them. People for people, sharing Italian best practices and with a coherent regional cooperation strategy.

COMMUNICATION AND CREATIVITY FOR A EUROPEAN WESTERN BALKANS

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in the Western Balkans is innovating the use of communication and creativity in the governmental cooperation. It's not only a matter of what an International donor is doing. Main communication objective is to support and promote the developing processes on the ground. It's not us, is them.

Throughout the Western Balkans, the new generations and the many, new, local communication companies offer essential added values: ideas and professional capacities. Italy is working with them to strengthen local identities and sense of belonging to the European values.

As a final mark of an ongoing change trend to be supported and enhanced, please, watch at the following pages a selection of the advertising campaigns produced by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation working side by side with the new generation of creatives in Albania.

ADV CAMPAIGNS



ITALY TELLS

Italy tells is a communication campaign of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, Tirana. It promotes the work done in Albanian villages, alongside rural communities. The initiatives financed by the Italian Government have enhanced the typical features of the territories, improving production chains and contributing to making local products and services real tourist attractions.

The Italy tells campaign portrays in particular the typical elements of the areas of Malësi e Madhe, Shkodra, Gjirokastër and Përmet, regions in which Italy has funded cooperation initiatives for three decades. Consortia of local producers, incubators of typical products and new micro enterprises have been created. Technologies and professional skills have been innovated. It is a story of friendship and work that has consolidated over time the relations between Albania and Italy.

italy tells *përmet*

culture nature hospitality food quality



italy
tells

malësia e madhe

culture nature hospitality food quality



ITALIAN AGENCY
FOR DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION



italy tells *gjirokastër*

culture nature hospitality food quality



ITALIAN AGENCY
FOR DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION



italy
tells
shkodër

culture nature hospitality food quality



ITALIAN AGENCY
FOR DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION





WITH YOU WITHOUT YOU

With You Without You is an adv campaign conceived and produced by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in collaboration with the Embassy of Italy in Tirana, the Embassy of the United Kingdom and the United Nations in Albania.

It's an interactive ad on the web. Sliding right or left, the users find out with you or without you is not the same.

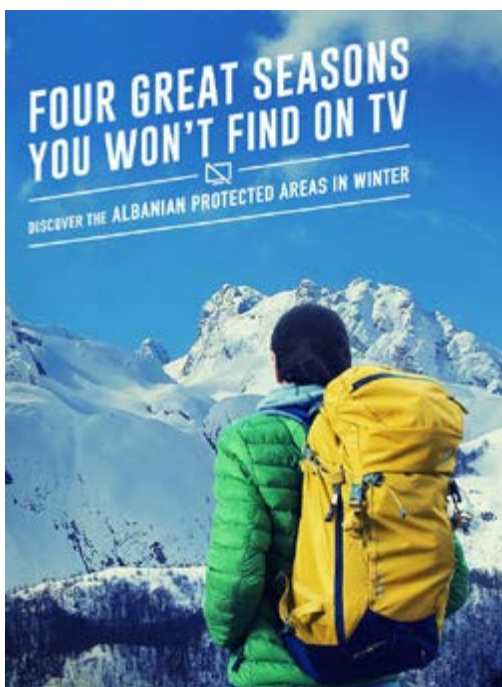
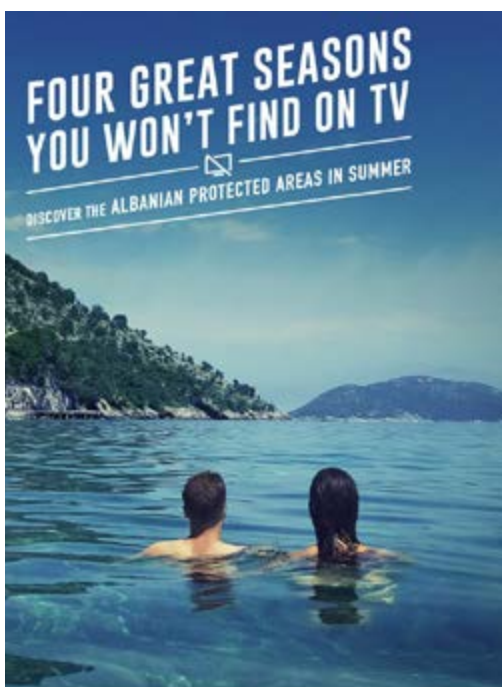
It was also scheduled for 30 days on maxi-screens from 12 October to 12 November 2021, to promote the COP26, held in Glasgow, and the widest awareness on climate change.





SEASONS

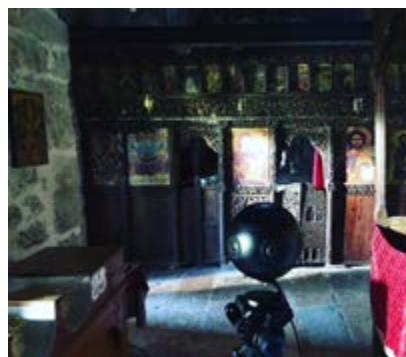
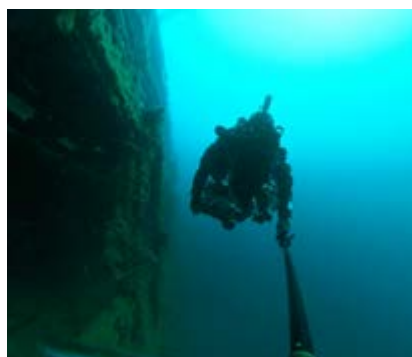
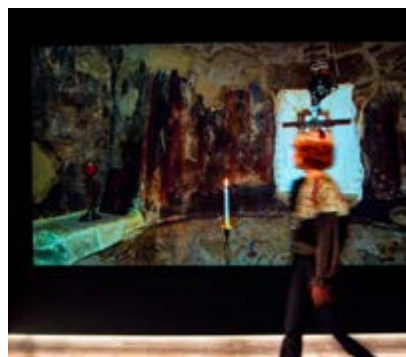
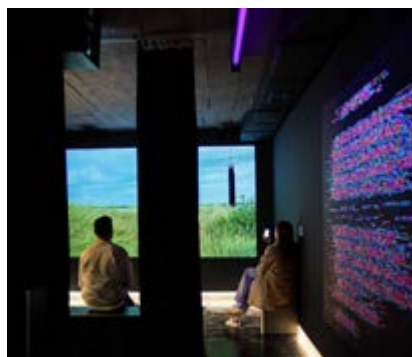
Seasons is a communication campaign produced by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, in collaboration with the Albanian Ministry of Tourism and Environment and the National Agency for Protected Areas, supported by Italy since their recent creation. The campaign, planned for 3 months on maxi billboards at the Tirana airport, promoted the Albanian Protected Areas and experiential, responsible and sustainable tourism.





VISION

Vision is a multimedia gallery designed and produced by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, in collaboration with the Municipality of Vlore. It promotes the cultural heritage and natural capital of the region, offering the public a unique artistic experience. With the use of digital technology - immersive environments, 3d installations, projections -, it innovates local traditions and history.

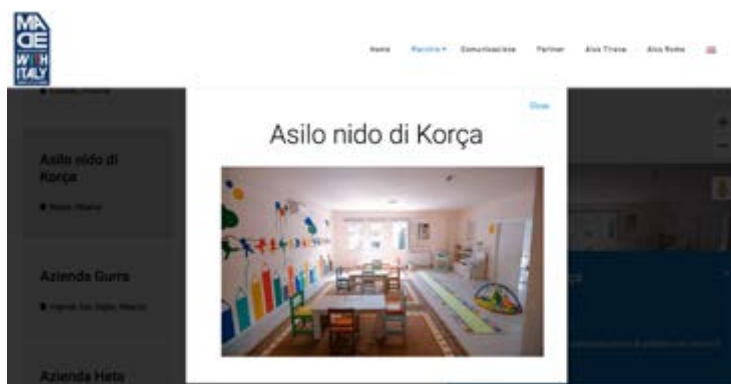
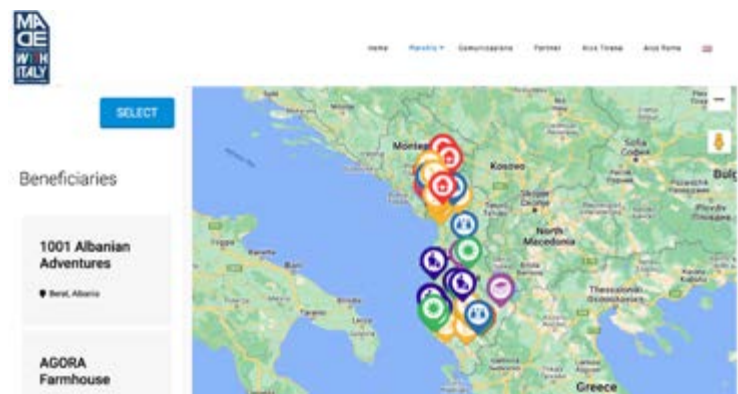
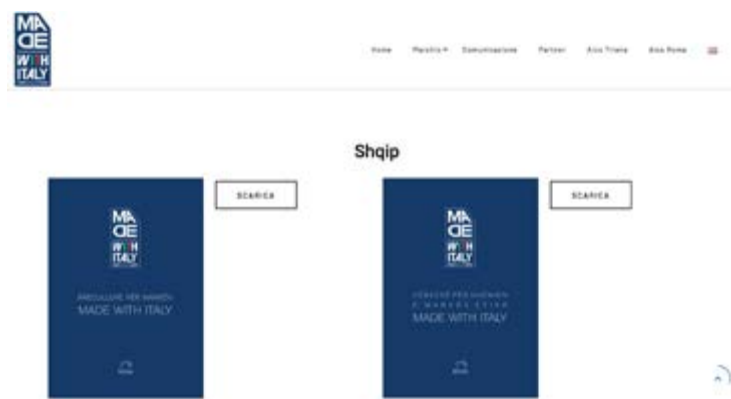




MADE WITH ITALY

The ethical brand Made With Italy, conceived by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in the Western Balkans, is a communication tool for the sustainability of the development processes, the enhancement of poor areas and the stability of the local communities. It promotes the best success stories of the cooperation initiatives financed by the Italian Government in the region: people, micro enterprises, Institutions.

Launched at EXCO 2019 in Rome, at the beginning of 2022 it was indicated by the Italian Court of Audit as a best practice of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.



tirana.aics.gov.it
madewithitaly.earth



Ambasciata d'Italia
Tirana