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**Final common country programme document for Albania  
2012-2016**

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## I. Situation analysis<sup>1</sup>

1. Albania has made significant progress towards achieving the vision, as set out in its National Strategy for Development and Integration, 2007-2013, to be a “country with high living standards, which is integrated in the European and Euro-Atlantic structures, is democratic, and guarantees the fundamental human rights and liberties”. In 2009, Albania applied for candidacy to the European Union (EU) but needs to make progress in meeting the EU criteria before accession. Albania has ratified all nine core United Nations human rights treaties, including the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and has committed itself to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The impressive economic progress of Albania, averaging 5-6 per cent growth per year over the past decade, has enabled progress towards key MDG targets, including combating extreme poverty and gender inequalities, and improving health and nutrition.

2. The Government of Albania recognizes that good governance is critical to achieving its development goals and meeting international commitments. Democratic institutions have been put in place in a relatively short period of time, but the emergence of a culture of respect for democratic processes and the rule of law remains a longer-term goal. Mechanisms need to be strengthened for the engagement of civil society with the State and the engagement of the broader population in demanding greater transparency and efficiency, including through the emergence of a more pluralistic and independent media. The relatively low participation of women is a particular challenge. Although the legal and policy framework on gender has been strengthened, the main challenge lies in its implementation and appropriate budgeting at national and local levels.

3. Wider reform of public administration, strengthened system-wide capacities and greater cooperation across ministries are required to make progress in the areas of rule of law, anti-corruption and accountable governance. The Government has identified the enhanced use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as being critical to improved governance and economic growth, launching a National Cross-Cutting Strategy on Information Society in 2009. A cross-cutting strategy on corruption and transparent governance exists, but a lack of data hampers the assessment of progress.

4. Managing external and internal migration remains a major development challenge. Increased internal migration from rural to urban areas stems from the growing economic and social divide between them. This, along with more effective law-enforcement responses to combating cross-border crimes, has led to increased internal trafficking in human beings, particularly of women and girls. Juvenile justice reform is incomplete: for example, some 75 per cent of juvenile offenders are placed in detention while awaiting trial.

5. The impressive economic growth of Albania over the last decade is a significant achievement. Yet sustaining equitable growth would be a challenge even without the global economic crisis. The crisis has exposed a dependence on remittances from abroad, a low level of diversification of trade and the need to enhance competitiveness, including by attracting foreign direct investment. Barriers

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<sup>1</sup> Sources include the Institute for Statistics (INSTAT), the Demographic and Health Survey (2008-2009), the Living Standards Measurement Study, MDG Progress Report 2010 and progress reports of the National Strategy for Development and Integration.

to investment include weak property rights, pervasive corruption and underdeveloped infrastructure. Another hurdle to overcome is ensuring an energy supply adequate to meet the current and future needs of Albania.

6. Albania has put in place sound policy, legal and institutional frameworks for environmental management and protection. The Government is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and is beginning to consider the wider implications of climate change. However, the transition to a market economy has led to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, together with weak enforcement of standards and regulations. Despite frequent floods and the risk of earthquakes, disaster response processes are not in place and disaster risk reduction is not well integrated into central and local development plans.

7. Despite the fact that national poverty levels have declined to 12.4 per cent (2008), regional disparities remain. For example, poverty in mountainous areas is 26.6 per cent (2008). There is a broad awareness of the need to address development disparities among regions and the even sharper disparities between municipalities and communes, as well as the need to strengthen the capacity of local governments.

8. Historically marginalized groups, such as Roma, Balkan-Egyptians, people with disabilities and the elderly, often remain excluded. Fulfilment of basic rights by these groups, especially Roma and Egyptians, is hobbled by established patterns of poverty and discrimination. Social transfers are not always adequate and do not always reach those in need, and systematic follow-up is lacking. People with disabilities and those living with HIV face difficulties in accessing social services related to health, rehabilitation and education and in securing employment. Anti-discrimination legislation is in place but implementation is slow and not fully monitored. Domestic violence remains widespread, with a majority of women having suffered some form of abuse, and discriminatory gender attitudes are still entrenched. Municipal structures concerned with protecting children from abuse or neglect are all but absent, as the social protection system is unable to help children escape the conditions that create poverty.

9. The Government has pledged to achieve 'education for all' by 2015, but public spending on education in 2009 remained at only 3.8 per cent of gross domestic product. Despite recent investment, basic education enrolment has declined since 2003 and preschool education enrolment has stagnated at 50 per cent. Clear disparities exist: for example, disadvantaged groups such as the Roma have lower access.

10. The incomplete reform of the health insurance programme and health financing hampers access to health services, which are often of low quality. System-wide capacities in health administration remain weak and there is limited access to information on health. The under-five child mortality rate fell from 39 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2000 to 22 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2009, but is still short of the MDG target of 10 deaths per 1,000 live births. While the burden of communicable diseases is generally decreasing, cases of HIV and tuberculosis are increasing, as is the incidence of non-communicable diseases and conditions such as cancer, diabetes and mental disorders.

11. Strong growth has led to only a minor decline in unemployment, which reached a low of 13.1 per cent in 2009. The access of young women and men to employment remains a challenge, as do high levels of employment in the informal

economy. Discrimination in employment persists, despite the ratification of key conventions by Albania and a number of government initiatives aiming to end the practice. Another issue to address is the economic empowerment of women, whose participation in the labour market (51.8 per cent) is much lower than that of men (73.3 per cent).

## **II. Past cooperation and lessons learned<sup>2</sup>**

12. The One UN Programme 2007-2011 (“the programme”) focused on promoting more transparent and accountable governance; greater participation in public policy and decision-making; increased and more equitable access to quality basic services; regional development and reduced disparities; and environmentally sustainable development. A number of lessons learned from the 2007-2011 programme, identified partly through the “Country Led Evaluation — Delivering as One Albania”, which took place in 2010, will feed into the formulation of the new programme.

13. The programme contributed to the reduction of ‘brain drain’ in the public sector and academia, helping to bring back to Albania, and retain, critical human capital. Support was also provided to the establishment of an ICT network among government institutions, contributing to their modernization and increased effectiveness. The programme supported the Government in the Living Standards Measurement Survey, Demographic and Health Survey, national census and MDG reviews, providing critical evidence for policymaking and targeting services towards marginalized groups. This support also resulted in enhanced national capacities for the collection, analysis and use of data. ‘One UN’ interventions also contributed to strengthening the capacity of the Government to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the National Strategy for Development and Integration.

14. The programme provided technical assistance that contributed to the adoption of key gender- and child-related legislation and the establishment of indicators and data sets on gender and child rights. This brought increased attention and monitoring capacity to these issues. The support provided by the programme helped women’s organizations to raise awareness of and advocate for an end to violence against women, and to monitor its incidence. Efforts also helped to double the number of Members of Parliament who are women. Support for civil and birth registration in Roma and Egyptian communities contributed towards increased access to basic services. In the area of justice, juvenile offenders are now more frequently receiving alternatives to detention.

15. Support provided to the poorest regions helped to improve livelihoods and enhance national and local capacities to meet the MDGs. The programme also helped to improve migration management by aligning migration with policies creating employment and strategies for the labour market.

16. The programme supported the development and implementation of policies promoting inclusion, and regulatory and institutional frameworks and standards leading to enhanced delivery of health services. Special attention was paid to

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<sup>2</sup> Sources include the Country-led Evaluation of Delivering as One Albania (July 2010), as well as programme evaluations.

marginalized and at-risk groups, as well as the elderly. Education policies and guidelines are in place, promoting inclusive education for all children.

17. Government capacities to meet the environmental requirements of the EU and multilateral agreements were enhanced through technical support provided to the development and implementation of key legal instruments, climate change adaptation and mitigation, the maintenance of protected areas, and the promotion of cleaner means of economic production. The programme contributed to the achievement of Albania being declared mine-free in 2009; as a result of these efforts, local communities in the poorest region of the country regained use of their farmland.

18. While the programme successfully supported the introduction of important policies, laws and strategies, capacity within the Government for their implementation has not always been sufficient, and budgetary commitments have fallen short. To ensure the sustainability of these achievements, the Programme will intensify efforts to strengthen the capacity and accountability of the Government regarding implementation. Particular attention will be paid to advocacy for the rights of the most marginalized, including through enhancing civil society engagement in this area.

19. High turnover of staff in public administration has hindered delivery of public services and affected the pace of reforms. Future cooperation will therefore emphasize the importance of a sustainable professional civil service and support the strengthening of institutions, tools and mechanisms for effective and equitable service delivery, particularly at the local level.

20. United Nations assistance under the new programme takes into account the status of Albania as a middle-income country and the needs of the most disadvantaged. Social and economic indicators have improved on average, although significant disparities and inequities exist; efforts will focus especially on the poor, disadvantaged and marginalized. By emphasizing advocacy, policy advice and promoting East-East cooperation, including on how to meet international human rights commitments, the programme will contribute to the goals of Albania to meet EU accession requirements and make the best use of its growing national wealth and EU pre-accession funding.

### **III. Proposed programme**

21. The strategic direction and outcomes of the draft common country programme for Albania, 2012-2016 (“the programme”), were defined during a Strategic Prioritization Retreat facilitated by the United Nations System Staff College. The retreat was followed by an intensive period of consultations with line ministries, civil society and development partners. The draft programme was presented to the Government Modernization Committee, which confirmed that the strategic direction is well aligned with the National Strategy for Development and Integration and that it reflects national development priorities and international commitments, along with United Nations norms and standards. At the request of the Government, the new programme also continues to build upon the Delivering as One approach of the United Nations.

22. The goal of the programme is to promote sustainable and equitable development, social inclusion and the adherence to international norms and fulfilment of international obligations, in support of the integration of Albania into the EU.

23. The programme is guided and informed by the development priorities of Albania as expressed in the National Strategy for Development and Integration; the need to further accelerate efforts to achieve the MDGs; international commitments and human rights obligations; the priority of the Government of Albania to join the EU; and the global reform context, specifically the principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action.

24. The programme builds upon United Nations values, the comparative advantages of participating funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations, and lessons learned from previous cooperation. The normative and operational roles, neutral positioning, convening power, policy expertise and technical capacity of the United Nations system will be brought to bear in ways that complement the assistance provided by other multilateral and bilateral development partners. Cooperation between the United Nations system agencies and the Government of Albania, notably through the provision of policy advisory services, will be guided by the mandate of the United Nations to advocate for and support implementation of international human rights standards, gender equality, environmental sustainability, development of national capacities, accountability and transparency, and results-based management.

25. The programme brings together the expertise of 19 funds, programmes, specialized agencies, organizations and entities of the United Nations (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Atomic Energy Agency, International Fund for Agricultural Development, International Labour Organization, International Trade Centre, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Development Programme, Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Population Fund, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, United Nations Volunteers and the World Health Organization) and the International Organization for Migration. Of these, eight are resident in Albania.

## **A. Governance and Rule of Law**

**Support will be provided to strengthening public oversight, civil society and media institutions to enhance the accountability of authorities to the public and the enforcement of commitments to gender equality in planning, programming and budgeting processes.**

26. To strengthen accountability mechanisms, United Nations agencies will work with authorities at all levels to ensure that rights, policies, services, entitlements and complaints mechanisms are known to citizens and used, especially by the marginalized. The programme will continue to promote and support the work of public oversight bodies to make them more accessible, especially to the

marginalized. The programme will also support ministries in the introduction of relevant secondary legislation.

27. The Government will be assisted to improve public oversight and the regulatory framework for engagement with civil society (including the media), and to strengthen mechanisms through which civil society helps to ensure government accountability and transparency. Civil society, including women's groups, will be supported to engage citizens and raise awareness on and advocate for human rights, including women's rights, and access to justice. This will include the engagement of civil society in monitoring the status of human rights and access to justice and reporting to treaty bodies. Other areas to be covered in this broader engagement by civil society include addressing poverty and economic development in rural areas, the provision of social and health services, gender equality, HIV/AIDS and anti-corruption. The United Nations agencies will support increased networking among national and local civil society organizations, notably women's groups, building capacity in policy analysis, collective negotiation and lobbying.

28. The programme will support the implementation and monitoring of international commitments — for example, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) — and national legislation related to gender. It will support the mainstreaming of gender into other legislation, strategies, policies, and budgetary processes at local and national levels.

**Public administration will be supported to enhance capacities, practices and systems for effective delivery of national development priorities and international obligations.**

29. The programme will support the planning, monitoring and evaluation processes of the National Strategy for Development and Integration as well as cooperation among line ministries in sectors that require it, such as health, environment and gender. The United Nations agencies will assist the Government in further pursuing the goals of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and Accra Agenda for Action by supporting efforts to strengthen public financial management and national procurement systems, with the aim of increasing use of these national systems by donors.

30. In the area of public administration reform, the programme will contribute to strengthening human resource management, development and training. In this regard, efforts will support the reversal of “brain drain”, encouraging highly qualified Albanians who have left the country to return. The programme will at the same time develop the various capacities of policy planners and national and local officials and support the professionalization of service delivery in health and child-related services.

31. The capacity of the Government to collect, compile, analyse and disseminate data will be supported in the areas of poverty measurement, social protection, child protection and welfare, health, gender and population dynamics. Non-State users of data will be assisted to enhance their capacity to demand, collect and analyse data for better monitoring of government performance.

32. The programme will support improving the legal and technical foundations for IT infrastructure. This will involve increasing the provision of e-services, and

promoting new technologies that make local and national systems more transparent and accessible by the public, including technologies related to customs and taxation.

**The programme will support the goals of the Government to meet international obligations and standards for juvenile justice, for managing migration and for fighting organized crime.**

33. The fight against organized crime will be supported with the implementation of the Integrated Border Management Strategy. Joint training will be provided to relevant State institutions to ensure a unified response to cross-border crimes. Awareness will be raised on the risks of internal trafficking. Collaboration will be fostered with other groups in society, including the private sector, on the investigation and prosecution of money laundering, smuggling and trafficking. Efforts will be made to ensure that legislation in these areas conforms to international standards. The programme will support the development of a judicial training curriculum for judges and prosecutors.

34. To support the efforts of the Government to tackle corruption, the programme will help to promote a culture of non-tolerance toward corruption in the public sector as well as measures to reduce the vulnerability of government institutions, based on the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The programme will assist the Government to strengthen public financial management to ensure transparent and appropriate budgets, entitlements and expectations of public servants.

35. As part of the International Consortium assisting Albania in reform of the justice system, the programme will support central and local authorities in reforming the probation and pre-trial detention systems, providing alternatives to detention and diversion for juveniles, supporting child victims and witnesses of crime, and ensuring children's access to justice.

36. Government efforts in managing migration will be further supported at all levels, including through the implementation of the Strategy on Migration. Efforts will centre on countering irregular migration and trafficking and reintegrating returning migrants, including the most vulnerable.

## **B. Economy and environment**

**The enhancement of regulatory frameworks, trade facilitation and investment promotion for inclusive and sustainable growth will be supported.**

37. Support will be provided to increase competitiveness by developing the capacities of economic institutions, promoting market development and supporting the introduction and implementation of enabling policies and measures. The programme will support the collection, processing and analysis of data in line with international and EU standards and promote greater supply chain integration and compliance with EU competition law. The new investment agency will be supported to attract diaspora investment and remittances for development. Support will be provided to strengthen economic diplomacy.

38. The trade and business climate will be improved through the fostering of cooperation between government and business, the establishment of one-stop-shops at border customs, increased capacities for implementation of best practices in trade



facilitation, including the provision of an automated system for customs data and the establishment of the Single Window to enhance the efficient exchange of information between trade and government. The programme will support the establishment of the Albanian Business Relay and Innovation Centre and the regulation of energy that is renewable and free of greenhouse gas emissions.

39. The programme will promote Corporate Social Responsibility and the Global Compact. Assistance will also be provided in upgrading public and utility services. The programme will work with service providers to improve quality and client satisfaction. In order to empower consumers, the programme will help to enhance the capacities of responsible national and non-governmental institutions such as the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy, the Consumer Protection Commission, consumer protection associations, and other institutions working in the field of food safety.

**Efforts to protect, preserve and use natural resources more sustainably will be supported, with consideration given to the impacts of climate change and to the achievement of European Union environment standards.**

40. The United Nations agencies will advise Albania on how to meet its commitments related to climate change and to support implementing bodies to monitor progress, promote the use of the Clean Development Mechanism and mitigation measures such as solar-water heating technology, and to introduce adaptation measures. The Government will be advised on how to translate United Nations environmental conventions into practice, specifically those pertaining to biodiversity and protected areas, desertification, forestry and water resource management.

41. The United Nations agencies will assist the Government to adopt a strategic approach for environmental planning, and will support the establishment of a functional inter-ministerial decision-making body. The agencies will also support the creation of economic instruments to increase funds available for addressing environmental priorities.

42. Improving governmental capacity to carry out environment assessments in the context of increased public awareness and participation will help Albania to meet environmental standards. The programme will support the expansion of the environmental education curriculum and activities in schools. Solid waste will be more appropriately managed at the local level. Support will continue for monitoring air pollution, water quality and waste water, along with mainstreaming the European Water Framework Directive and implementing the National Cleaner Production Programme. Green jobs will be promoted in waste management and environmental protection.

43. Development of central and local capacity will be assisted in disaster risk preparedness and prevention, and the mobilization of volunteers. Attention will be paid to national heritage sites. The United Nations agencies will support the Government in implementing the National Action Plan for the Destruction of Obsolete and Surplus Ammunition by 2013.

## C. Regional and local development

### **Enhanced institutional capacities, frameworks and policies aimed at promoting equitable and sustainable regional development will be supported.**

44. The programme will provide support to central, regional and local government institutions to formulate a regional development policy and strategic approach to absorb EU IPA (instrument for pre-accession assistance) funds for regional development. Advice and training will be provided on institutional reforms and innovations and on gender-sensitive local economic development planning and implementation.

45. The programme will support policymaking on food safety and quality, providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection and local governments to support competitive farm production and markets, build institutions, and harmonize legislation with the EU *acquis communautaire*. Selected local interventions will include the provision of vocational-training grants for members of poor households without viable agricultural assets and the provision of technical assistance and support for economically active poor women. Where appropriate, the programme may invest in local infrastructure and provide co-financing and credit for small agricultural producers and rural businesses.

46. The programme will promote local economic development through sustainable tourism, and will support relevant governmental institutions and Albanian regions in implementing the national strategies for Tourism, Culture and Cultural Marketing. Support will also be provided to strengthen capacities for cultural diplomacy. The programme will support the strengthening of legislation and policies that develop and safeguard cultural and natural heritage sites; the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property; and the upgrading of national capacities for the preservation, management and promotion of heritage.

### **Support will be given to capacity development of regional and local governments for delivery of equitable, inclusive and accountable services to the public, with particular attention paid to marginalized groups and communities.**

47. The Ministry of Interior will be advised on the implementation of the Decentralization Strategy, including effective fiscal decentralization and institutional consolidation. Innovative approaches to regional development will be facilitated through decentralized cooperation. Advice will be provided on a framework for inter-municipal cooperation that enables local governments to fulfil obligations under their increased competencies, and on gender-responsive reform of regional government institutions.

48. The United Nations agencies will provide technical assistance to regional and local authorities on administrative and financial management and coordination between central and local governments, emphasizing innovation and gender-sensitive improvements. The programme will support the design and implementation of local legislation or policies that ensure access to services — in particular for marginalized groups — that promote community participation, and that align actions with national plans such as the National Action Plan for Roma. Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of regional and local plans will also be supported.

## **D. Inclusive social policy**

### **Legislation, policies promoting inclusion, social protection mechanisms and special interventions that ensure fulfilment of the rights of disadvantaged individuals and groups will be supported.**

49. The United Nations agencies will assist the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities in convening national partners to harmonize support to the national social inclusion strategy, to identify policy gaps and to monitor and review progress. The programme will support the review of the social protection mechanism and its application, in terms of legislation and its implementation and the availability of services for vulnerable groups. The United Nations agencies will help to ensure that relevant statistics are available and will foster necessary dialogue among public and private institutions. Efforts will rely on established institutions or task forces, such as those promoting inclusion of Roma populations.

50. The reform of the social protection system and the monitoring of its impact on vulnerable groups will continue to receive attention. United Nations agencies will work with the Government to reduce child poverty and address the intergenerational transmission of poverty. Consideration will be given to whether specialized services, in addition to monetary benefits, can help vulnerable groups to escape exclusion.

51. Efforts will assist the implementation and monitoring of the Anti-Discrimination Law. Legislation necessary for the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will be identified. Local authorities will be assisted to provide relevant services. Policy interventions will be tested and awareness raised on the rights of persons with disabilities.

52. The programme will support the implementation and monitoring of the law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child and as well as research and innovations to reduce risks for children, including substance abuse and violence. Existing local protection mechanisms for children will be expanded and integrated into the State Social Services. Family-based alternatives to institutionalization will be promoted for children without parental care. The Government will be assisted to ensure that all newborn children are registered, and that vulnerable families apply improved parenting practices and have access to organized childcare.

53. The capacities of institutions, including the media, will be strengthened to work with young people and promote rights-based values and healthy lifestyles. The programme will assist the development of cohesive national youth policies and an inclusive national volunteer infrastructure.

54. In support of the Madrid Declaration and International Plan of Action on Ageing, the United Nations agencies may provide orientation for government, business and civil society groups so that they are able to provide and monitor services for older persons and foster their participation in society.

55. The programme will support enforcement of the Domestic Violence Law by local authorities through stronger budgeting and a stronger response by health, justice, and security sectors.

**Efforts will be supported to ensure the participation of all boys and girls in quality formal and informal education, paying particular attention to marginalized groups.**

56. The Ministry of Education and Science will be assisted to achieve “education for all”, especially through better support for schools with high dropout and collaboration with social protection mechanisms. Assistance will be given to schools so that they are welcoming, free of violence and supportive of all children, including those with disabilities, and help young people to build basic life skills and positive behaviours. The United Nations agencies will support the Ministry in promoting universal preschool education, focusing on vulnerable families and the development of financing models for low-cost, quality preschools.

57. In collaboration with other relevant ministries, United Nations agencies will help to incorporate education on human rights, health and cultural heritage through the development of teacher training materials and the capacities of teachers, school psychologists and social workers. Capacity for improved school management will be strengthened in cooperation with civil society.

**Efforts to provide universal health insurance and access to quality, gender-sensitive and age-appropriate public health services will be supported.**

58. Relevant ministries will be supported to provide integrated activities for preventive public health measures in line with the International Health Regulations, including for anti-tobacco actions, communicable diseases, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, substance dependence, and a broad range of non-communicable diseases. Relevant institutions will be assisted in research, surveillance, analysis, and evaluation, with the aim of improving public health policies, health financing and health insurance. Public health institutions will be assisted to communicate public health priorities and maintain an effective communication system during crises.

59. The United Nations agencies will support the Ministry of Health in strengthening maternal and young child health systems, including better parenting and feeding practices, community outreach, and integration with social services interventions. Training on reproductive health and gender-based violence for health professionals will be supported. Support for nuclear medicine and radiotherapy will continue. Institutions will be strengthened to help communities to monitor and demand quality health services. The involvement of males in issues of reproductive health, gender and population will be promoted, including through media. Youth-friendly primary health services, especially for disadvantaged adolescents, will also be promoted.

60. The programme will advocate multisectoral dialogue in support of prevention and care related to HIV/AIDS, focusing on the most-at-risk populations. Advocacy will also emphasize overcoming stigma and discrimination and inclusion of people affected by HIV/AIDS in social protection schemes. Educators, social workers, health officials and law enforcement officers will be oriented on prevention of drug use. Prevention of drug abuse and HIV/AIDS will be linked to protection services for the groups most at risk, including those in prisons.

**Efforts to ensure the realization of the fundamental right to work, inclusive employment opportunities and comprehensive social dialogue will be supported.**

61. The programme will contribute to transforming the work of the National Employment Services from that of administering benefits to providing services for job seekers and enterprises. This will include strengthening the planning and monitoring of policies and active labour-market measures. The focus will be on groups at risk of exclusion. The Government will be supported to promote the reintegration of returning migrants and to design policies promoting a higher percentage of employment in the formal economy through means such as effective social dialogue.

62. The programme will aid the State Labour Inspectorate to improve inspection and occupational safety and health services, including through effective implementation of labour inspection policy. It will promote partnership among the Labour Inspectorate, the Ombudsperson and the Office of the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner.

63. The programme will assist authorities to increase the access of women to social services, professional education, health services, social and employment insurance, ownership of assets and microcredit. The Health Insurance Institute will be assisted to expand its maternal protection scheme.

#### **IV. Programme management, monitoring and evaluation**

64. To the extent possible, existing national institutional structures will be used for strategic leadership, direction, oversight and coordination of the programme. The programme will be supported by a coherent governance structure, with clear lines of accountability and decision-making. Overall programme management and coordination will be the joint responsibility of the Government and the United Nations agencies.

65. The Government Modernization Committee will serve as the highest-level policy, coordination and decision-making authority of the Government in the programme, determining strategic priorities and reviewing progress. The Department of Strategy and Donor Coordination will be responsible for coordinating Government, United Nations and donor activities, and ensuring that the commitments of the Government related to the programme are fulfilled and that progress towards objectives is monitored.

66. The United Nations country team (UNCT), under the leadership of the United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC), will work towards the implementation of the programme. The programme will be made operational through Annual Work Plans determining the results and outputs to be achieved. The Integrated Results Matrix and Budgetary Framework will encourage the United Nations agencies to be results-oriented and work as one. Through the UN Coherence Fund, the coherence, efficiency and efficacy of United Nations support will be enhanced through the pooling of resources into a common fund for key strategic priorities.

67. On behalf of UNCT, the UNRC, together with the Government, will lead efforts to mobilize resources for the UN Coherence Fund. To increase the predictability of resources, donors will be encouraged to contribute non-earmarked resources as early as possible and preferably with multi-year commitments. United

Nations agencies will use their core resources and aim to mobilize funds to cover the funding gap in the Budgetary Framework. Resources raised by agencies are expected to be committed for the programme. Funding of the programme may be a challenge because of overall declining development funding in Albania. In response, the support of the donor community for the new programme will be critical.

68. United Nations agencies will work with the Government to establish a Monitoring and Evaluation framework, making use of existing Government data collection and management systems to the extent possible. Instruments expected to be used include periodic Government surveys, supplementary studies, joint periodic programme reviews, and independent assessments and evaluations. A midterm review of the programme will be conducted to ensure that it is aligned with national priorities. A final evaluation will be carried out to assess overall achievement of results.

## Annex I

### UNDP results and resources framework for Albania, 2012-2016

Resources for 2012-2016: Regular: \$2,476,000 Other: \$36,000,000 Total: \$38,476,000

<p><b>National priority:</b> Develop and consolidate the democratic state  <b>United Nations common country programme outcome 1.1:</b> Strengthen public oversight, civil society and media institutions to make authorities more accountable to the public, and better able to enforce gender-equality commitments in planning, programming and budgeting processes; <b>outcome 1.2:</b> Enhance public administration capacities, practices and systems so as to effectively deliver on national development priorities and international obligations; <b>outcome 1.3:</b> Ensure that the Government meets international obligations and standards for juvenile justice, for managing migration and in the fight against organized crime and corruption.  <b>Related strategic plan focus area:</b> Democratic Governance</p>					
Government partner contribution	Other partner contributions	UNDP contribution	Indicator(s), baselines and target(s) for UNDP contributions	Indicative country programme outputs	Indicative resources/outcome
Legal reforms for compliance with international gender-equality standards. Continued commitment on aid effectiveness and transparent use of public funds.	United Nations and donor support to women's groups' advocacy for policy reform and strengthening of public administration and anti-corruption measures.	Support to strengthen public-oversight institutions to promote transparency and accountability; support gender law implementation across all relevant public institutions; promote coordinated national development planning and monitoring; support implementation of United Nations Convention against Corruption.	<p>Implementation of national policies and legislation to advance gender equality.                      Baseline: 2010 Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women observations                      Target: These observations implemented by 2016</p> <p>Extent of donor use of national procurement/ financial systems.                      Baseline: Derived from 2010 OECD survey                      Target: more than 50 per cent by 2015</p> <p>Number of local government units with anti-corruption measures.                      Baseline<sup>3</sup>: to be confirmed                      Target: to be confirmed</p>	<p>Capacities of Parliament and Ombudsman strengthened to ensure greater transparency and accountability of Government.</p> <p>Legal drafting and advocacy campaign completed concerning legal and policy instruments required for compliance with European Union standards and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.</p>	<p><b>Regular:</b> \$710,000</p> <p><b>Other:</b> \$7,500,000</p>

<sup>3</sup> Baseline and target to be identified through the UNDP anti-corruption programme formulation in 2011.

<p><b>National priority:</b> Achieve rapid, balanced and sustainable economic and social development</p> <p><b>United Nations common country programme outcome 2.1:</b> Government, trade organizations and the private sector support inclusive and sustainable economic growth through enhanced regulatory frameworks, trade facilitation and investment promotion; <b>outcome 2.2:</b> National authorities and institutions, the private sector and the general public protect, preserve and use natural resources more sustainably, taking into account the impacts of climate change and the achievement of European environment standards.</p> <p><b>Related strategic plan focus areas:</b> Poverty Reduction/Environment and Sustainable Development</p>					
Strengthen legal and institutional capacities in support of foreign direct investment (FDI) and private sector development. Strengthen compliance with environmental agreements.	Private sector contribution to increased and inclusive growth. Donor support to compliance with EU environmental <i>acquis</i> . Local community mobilization by civil society organizations. World Bank support to disaster management.	Promotion of inclusive economic growth by developing capacities of trade and FDI promotion institutions. Support to meeting national climate change commitments, and compliance with international standards.	<p>Number of businesses using services of Albanian Investment and Development Agency (AIDA). Baseline: 0 Target: 200</p> <p>Number of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) conducted in line with EU standards. Baseline: EIAs rarely conducted in line with EU standards Target: 50 per cent</p> <p>Number of climate change adaptation measures prepared/implemented Baseline: 0 Target: 5</p>	<p>Capacities of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy and AIDA supported to promote trade and FDI.</p> <p>Local authorities integrate climate change into development strategies considering opportunities highlighted during Cancun Conference of the Parties (COP) 16.</p> <p>Options for protected areas expansion and establishment of protected area network identified considering the outcomes of Nagoya COP 10.</p>	<p><b>Regular:</b> \$516,000</p> <p><b>Other:</b> \$12,500,000</p>
<p><b>National priority:</b> Balanced regional development and reduced inequalities between regions</p> <p><b>United Nations common country programme outcome 3.1:</b> Institutional capacities, frameworks and policies meeting international standards promote equitable and sustainable regional development, focusing on land use and livelihoods for women and men, and on agriculture, tourism and cultural and natural-heritage management; <b>outcome 3.2:</b> The public, including marginalized groups and communities, better receive equitable, inclusive and accountable decentralized services from regional and local governments.</p> <p><b>Related strategic plan focus areas:</b> Poverty Reduction/Democratic Governance</p>					
Harmonize national sector policy objectives with subnational priorities. Deepen decentralization reform in line with the subsidiarity principle. Lead implementation of national	Austria, Switzerland and German Agency for Technical Cooperation support regional planning and development of small and medium-sized industries. UN-Women promotes local	Support to formulation of national policy on regional development and regional development plans. Technical assistance to strengthen the implementation of decentralization strategy and local government capacities for service	<p>National policy on subnational regional development is implemented Baseline: draft strategy available Target: yes</p> <p>Number of culture and tourism marketing tools implemented Baseline: 0 Target: 5</p>	<p>Six regional development strategies or plans under implementation.</p> <p>Options identified for the operationalization of the Albania culture and tourism marketing strategy.</p>	<p><b>Regular:</b> \$650,000</p> <p><b>Other:</b> \$12,000,000</p>



strategies on culture and on tourism.	level gender-responsive budgeting. UNESCO supports cultural development.	delivery. Promotion of sustainable tourism for local economic development.			
<p><b>National priority:</b> Equal opportunities will be established for men and women</p> <p><b>United Nations common country programme outcome 4.1:</b> The rights of disadvantaged individuals and groups are equally ensured through legislation, inclusive policies, social protection mechanisms and special interventions; <b>outcome 4.2:</b> All people better realize fundamental rights to work, have greater and inclusive employment opportunities, and can engage in comprehensive social dialogue.</p> <p><b>Related strategic plan focus areas:</b> Poverty Reduction</p>					
Ministry of Labour coordination of the cross-cutting national social inclusion strategy. Government implements active labour-market measures.	Local government units ensure coherent approach to addressing the needs of vulnerable people. Private sector embraces active labour market measures. United Nations support to Roma and implementation of national social inclusion strategy.	Support to analytical work, legislation, policy development to help implement national social inclusion strategy to address the needs of marginalized persons, e.g. the Roma and disabled. Development of public-private partnerships. Employment promotion among women, youth and vulnerable people.	<p>Number of regions/municipalities with plans for social inclusion in place, funded and providing statutory social protection services. Baseline: 0 Target: 12</p> <p>Number of domestic violence cases addressed by community coordinated response (CCR) mechanisms. Baseline: 0 (CCR decreed in Albania February 2011) Target: to be confirmed<sup>4</sup></p> <p>Number of vulnerable men and women benefiting from active labor market measures. Baseline: 300 beneficiaries from UNDP supported schemes in 2010 Target: 350 beneficiaries supported annually</p>	National strategies related to social inclusion implemented and monitored.  Vulnerable men and women benefit from employment opportunities generated through active labour market measures.	<p><b>Regular:</b> \$600,000</p> <p><b>Other:</b> \$4,000,000</p>

<sup>4</sup> Scale depends on lessons that will be learned from pilot initiatives in 2011.

## Annex II

## UNFPA results and resources framework for Albania

<b>National priority:</b> Develop and consolidate the democratic state <b>United Nations draft common country programme document (CCPD) (pillar 1) outcomes:</b> Outcome 1.1: Strengthened public oversight, civil society and media institutions make authorities more accountable to the public, and better able to enforce gender-equality commitments in planning, programming and budgeting processes; Outcome 1.2: Public administration has enhanced capacities, practices and systems to effectively deliver on national development priorities and international obligations			
Programme component	UNFPA outcomes, indicators, baselines and targets (based on the draft CCPD outcomes listed above)	Partners	Indicative resources by programme component
Gender equality	<p><b>Outcome 1.1.1:</b> An enabling sociocultural environment that is conducive to male participation and promotes gender equality and reproductive rights</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> proportion of currently married women aged 15-49 who participate in decision-making in the following areas: health care, major household purchases, purchases of daily household needs, and visits to her family or relatives, disaggregated by residence and wealth quintile</p> <p>Baseline: 56%</p> <p>(a) percentage who participate in all four decisions: 56%</p> <p>(b) urban: 68%</p> <p>(c) rural: 47%</p> <p>(d) lowest wealth quintile: 37.5%</p> <p>Target: 25% increase</p>	Ministry of Health; Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports; Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs; civil society organizations; United Nations organizations;	\$0.3 million from regular resources
Population and development	<p><b>Outcome 1.2.1:</b> Data on population dynamics, gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS available, analysed and used to develop and monitor policies and programme implementation</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> proportion of national policies that incorporate population dynamics, reproductive health and rights and gender equality</p> <p>Baseline: 40%; Target: 70%</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> four new health and population national studies carried out</p> <p>Baseline: zero; Target: four</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> all health and population indicators disaggregated by sex and geography</p> <p>Baseline: not available; Target: yes</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> census data processed and disseminated</p> <p>Baseline: not available; Target: yes</p>	Institute of Statistics; Institute of Public Health	\$1.1 million from regular resources; \$1.5 million from other resources

<p><b>National priority:</b> The Government will establish equal opportunities for men and women</p> <p><b>United Nations draft CCPD (pillar 4) outcomes:</b></p> <p>Outcome 4.1: The rights of disadvantaged individuals and groups are equally ensured through legislation, inclusive policies, social-protection mechanisms and special interventions;</p> <p>Outcome 4.2: Boys and girls over the age of three (including youth), especially from marginalized groups, access and participate in high-quality education and learning opportunities;</p> <p>Outcome 4.3: The health of the population is protected by universal health insurance coverage, and high-quality, gender-sensitive and age-appropriate public health services for all, including identified at-risk populations is available;</p> <p>Outcome 4.4: All people are better able to take advantage of their fundamental right to work, have greater and inclusive employment opportunities, and can engage in comprehensive social dialogue</p>			
Programme component	UNFPA outcomes, indicators, baselines and targets (based on the draft CCPD outcomes listed above)	Partners	Indicative resources by programme component
Reproductive health and rights	<p><u>Outcome 4.1.1:</u> The rights of disadvantaged individuals of reproductive health age and of the elderly are equally ensured through standardized and oversight mechanisms integrated into primary health care, inclusive policies, social-protection mechanisms and special interventions</p> <p><u>Indicator:</u> Unmet need for family planning for married women (15-49 years) decreased</p> <p>Baseline: 60% ; Target: 20%</p>	<p>Ministry of Health;</p> <p>Health Insurance Institute;</p> <p>Institute of Public Health;</p> <p>Government social services;</p> <p>civil society organizations;</p> <p>United Nations organizations;</p> <p>public health directorates;</p> <p>Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities;</p> <p>Ministry of Education and Science</p>	<p>\$0.4 million from regular resources;</p> <p>\$0.3 million from other resources</p>
Gender equality	<p><u>Outcome 4.1.2:</u> Responses to gender-based violence, particularly domestic and sexual violence, are expanded through sexual and reproductive health care and through HIV prevention services</p> <p><u>Indicator:</u> Percentage of gender-based violence cases addressed by the health system</p> <p>Baseline: 1%; Target: 25%</p>		<p>\$0.2 million from regular resources;</p> <p>\$0.3 million from other resources</p>
Reproductive health and rights	<p><u>Outcome 4.2.1</u> Access of young people to gender-sensitive, life skills-based sexual and reproductive health information in secondary education is improved</p> <p><u>Indicator:</u> percentage of secondary schools that implement health and sexual and reproductive health curricula</p> <p>Baseline: 0%; Target: 20%</p> <p><u>Outcome 4.3.1:</u> Demand, access and utilization of reproductive health services, especially for women, young people and other vulnerable groups increased</p> <p><u>Indicator:</u> rate of improvement in sexual reproductive health key health indicators – contraceptive prevalence rate (modern methods) for married women (15-49 years)</p> <p>Baseline: 10.6% (2009); Target: 15%</p>		<p>\$0.3 million from regular resources</p> <p>\$1 million from regular resources;</p> <p>\$1.5 million from other resources</p>
Gender equality	<p><u>Outcome 4.4.1:</u> Increased access of women to integrated health education, especially in rural and hard to reach areas</p> <p><u>Indicator:</u> number of women reached by integrated health education</p> <p>Baseline: 0; Target: 18,000</p>		<p>\$0.2 million from regular resources;</p> <p>\$0.5 million from other resources</p>

## Annex III

## Government of Albania-UNICEF programme of cooperation Summary results matrix, 2012-2016, including the indicative budget

UNICEF programme component: <b>Governance for children</b>		Budget:	Regular resources: \$800,000 Other resources: \$5,000,000
UNICEF-supported result: <b>Effective public oversight and monitoring of institutions help to ensure implementation of policies and programmes addressing the needs and rights of marginalized children</b>			
National development priority: Governance and Rule of Law		Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)/Millennium Declaration commitment /Convention on the Rights of the Child articles: all	
<i>United Nations common country programme document (CCPD) outcomes</i>	<i>UNICEF contributing results; Medium-term strategic plan (MTSP) focus area (FA)</i>	<i>Indicators (TBD = to be determined)</i>	<i>Partnerships, additional to United Nations agencies</i>
1.1 Strengthened public oversight, civil society and media institutions make authorities more accountable to the public, and better able to enforce gender equality commitments in planning, programming and budgeting processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public oversight bodies related to children, including Parliament, Ombudsman, civil society organizations (CSOs) and media, increasingly demand accountability (FA5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parliamentary hearings on child-related issues Baseline: 1 per year; Target: 2 per year</li> <li>% of major child-related complaints handled by Ombudsman addressed Baseline: TBD; Target: 75%</li> <li>% of significant child-related issues raised by CSOs or media and addressed Baseline: 0; Target: 75%</li> </ul>	European Union, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the United States, the United Kingdom and others support democratic institutions and rule of law. UNICEF will add child-related focus. Includes the international consortium for justice reform for which UNICEF is focal point for juveniles. Ministries of Social Affairs, Interior, Justice, with Institute for Statistics and regional councils lead national efforts. Work with Parliamentarians, Ombudsman and local non-governmental organizations.
1.2 The public administration has enhanced capacities, practices and systems to effectively deliver on national priorities and international obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key policy research and monitoring institutions effectively manage data related to children and periodically report on the situation of marginalized children, implementation of child-related legislation and international conventions (FA5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of regions with functional institutions that monitor child rights: Baseline: 10%; Target: 100%</li> <li>Periodic reporting on the law on protection of the rights of the child, National Action Plan for children, recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child Baseline: infrequent; Target: annual reports, or as required.</li> </ul>	
1.3 Government meets international obligations and standards for juvenile justice, managing migration and the fight against organized crime and corruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Juvenile offenders or victims of crime are treated in accordance with international standards (FA5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of juvenile offenders diverted Baseline: 20%; Target: 35%</li> <li>Length of pre-trial detention Baseline: 5–7 months; Target: 3–4 months</li> <li>System in place to monitor that child victims are treated according to standards Baseline: none; Target: system exists.</li> </ul>	

UNICEF programme component: <b>Inclusive and protective policies for children</b>		Budget:	Regular resources: \$1,450,000 Other resources: \$22,000,000
UNICEF-supported result: <b>Children from vulnerable groups are assisted, through specific policy measures and government programmes, to be healthy and take full advantage of all learning opportunities</b>			
National development priority: Social Inclusion and social protection		MDGs 1,2,4,5,6/ Convention on the Rights of the Child articles: poverty, health, education, protection	
<i>United Nations CCPD outcome</i>	<i>UNICEF contributing results; MTSP focus area</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Partnerships, additional to United Nations agencies</i>
4.1 The rights of disadvantaged individuals and groups are equally ensured through legislation, inclusive policies, social protection mechanisms and special interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social policy reformed to help children escape poverty (FA5)</li> <li>• Social services protect vulnerable children from abuse and neglect (FA3)</li> <li>• Services exist to protect adolescents from harm (FA3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent of child poverty Baseline: 12% of population; Target: 4% of children</li> <li>• % of municipalities with fully functioning child protection services Baseline: 40%; Target: 100 %</li> <li>• % of municipalities with unified information systems on violence against children Baseline: 0%; Target: 75%</li> <li>• % of youth abusing drugs Baseline: approximately 3,000 problematic users; Target: 1,500</li> </ul>	Collaboration among sector-specific policy institutions (e.g., health and education) and social services for disadvantaged families will be strengthened. Includes work with local governments and through several civil society organizations. Policy support for social inclusion will be coordinated also with the Austrian and Swiss development cooperation, and with the World Bank on education and social transfers. For environmental awareness, work with a large network within civil society will continue.
4.2 Boys and girls over the age of 3 (including youth), especially from marginalized groups, participate in quality education and learning opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific government policies ensure marginalized children participate in quality preschooling (FA2)</li> <li>• Specific policies ensure marginalized children participate in quality compulsory education (FA2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of children from marginalized groups enrolled in preschooling Baseline: 13% (Roma); Target: 30% (Roma)</li> <li>• % of dropouts Baseline for marginalized groups: TBD; Target: 50% of baseline</li> <li>• primary school children in target areas attaining at least minimum learning achievements Baseline: TBD; Target: 70%</li> </ul>	
4.3 Health insurance is universal and of quality; gender-sensitive and age-appropriate public health services are available to all, including at-risk populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and young people of vulnerable families have equal access to health services, and the health of young children is monitored (FA1)</li> <li>• Children of vulnerable families receive appropriate support for their health and development during their early years (FA1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of vulnerable children that have access to basic package of health services Baseline: TBD; Target: 80% in target areas</li> <li>• % of vulnerable children covered by preventive health, including home visits by nurses Baseline: TBD; Target: 80% in target areas</li> <li>• % of children stunted under age 5 Baseline: 19%; Target: 30% reduction</li> <li>• Anaemia prevalence in children under age 5 Baseline: 17%; Target: 30% reduction</li> <li>• % of vulnerable children (0-3) with access to organized early childhood development Baseline: TBD; Target: 30%</li> </ul>	

4.4 All people better realize fundamental rights to work and have greater and inclusive employment opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vulnerable youth have access to functioning employment services (FA5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of regions with youth employment services and skills training programmes Baseline: 16%; Target: 100%</li> </ul>	
2.2 National authorities and institutions, the private sector and the general public protect, preserve and use natural resources more sustainably	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children in compulsory schools act for environmental protection (FA2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of students using environmental curriculum (grades 1 to 5) Baseline: 20%; Target: 50%</li> </ul>	
Cross-sectoral costs		Budget:	Regular resources: \$1,500,000 Other resources: -
Total:			Regular resources: \$3,750,000 Other resources: \$27,000,000