



“Environment, Health, Social and Gender Dimensions of Albanian national Strategies”

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Launching of the SDGs

Albania signs the 2030 Agenda – UN Declaration

Sustainable Development Summit New York, 25-27 September 2015



Launching Ceremony of Agenda 2030 for Albania,
Tirana, PMO, 28 September 2015





Approach on SDG achievement with regard to Ostrava Declaration

- Ownership on SDG related processes;
 - Leadership of institutions into SDG achievement
- Inclusiveness:
 - Pro-active involvement of all stakeholders of the Albanian society (civil society; business; academia; etc);
 - Pro-active involvement of Development Partners (multi-lateral and bi-lateral DIPs, IFIs)
- Efficiency:
 - Build upon the experience gained with monitoring MDG implementation;
 - Harmonisation and streamlining into national planning and monitoring processes;
 - Build upon existing mechanisms and structures (IPS, IPMGs etc)
- Long term approach:
 - Beyond the horizon of current GoA strategies and NSDI-II;
- Statistics based:
 - Based on sound practices of data collection, processing and analysis, according to international best practice and EU standards;



Strategic objectives on environmental protection

1. Achieving measurable results in air quality by 2020 through:

- 1.1 Reducing pollution levels in urban areas;
- 1.2 Reducing the impact of air pollution on human health.

2. Reaction towards climate change and the contribution to protect the ozone layer by 2020 through:

- 2.1 Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, compared to a baseline scenario for reduction of CO2 emissions, by 2030;
- 2.2 Reducing the amount of HCFCs.

3. Intensifying and strengthening nature protection by:

- 3.1 Increased surfaces of protected areas through growth and integrated management of protected areas;
- 3.2 Establishment of Natura 2000 ecological network;
- 3.3 Ensuring conservation status of endangered/threatened species and habitats.

4. Strengthened management and conservation of forestry and pasture resources through:

- 4.1 Reduction of illegal logging in forests by 2020; - Moratorium on Forests
- 4.2 Formulation of management plans for all forestry economies in the country;
- 4.3 Rehabilitation of degraded areas.

5. Strengthened water resources management and preservation through:

- 5.1 Adoption of the National Strategy on Integrated Water Resources Management;
- 5.2 Establishment of a national cadastre of water resources;
- 5.3 Introduction of a water resource inventory;
- 5.4 Formulation and implementation of water basin management plans;
- 5.5 Meeting water quality levels;
- 5.6 Rehabilitation of damaged riverbeds;
- 5.7 Aligning national legislation with EU legislation.



MDGs implementation

According to the 2015 MDG implementation report for 2000–2015:

- Apart from the target concerning access to safe drinking water, Albania has, overall, reached all the environment-related targets under MDG 7;
- Mixed results have been obtained in eradicating extreme poverty and reducing the risk of social exclusion (MDG 1), ensuring high quality basic universal education (MDG 2) and promoting gender equality and empowerment of women (MDG 3);

The current challenge for the process of nationalization of the SDGs is to propose the vision for 2030, since the current planning documents in the country have the horizon of 2020 or, in a few cases, 2025.

The 2015 MDG implementation report for 2000–2015 includes information and official data supporting the above conclusions.

A slightly different assessment is contained in the NSDI-II, adopted in 2016: Albania reached five goals (health – MDG 5, education – MDG 2, infant mortality – MDG 4, poverty – MDG 1 and gender equality – MDG 3), and is close to achieving the other four.



Aligning SDGs implementation and monitoring with the EU accession process

- Mechanisms established as part of the EU accession process, such as the integrated Policy Management Groups (IPMGs) and the Interministerial Working Group for Chapter 27, can also be involved in SDGs implementation and monitoring
- Albania's current position vis-à-vis target 17.14 . **Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development**
- **Target 17.14: Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development** - This target covers one of the systemic issues for the achievement of SDGs



Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
Target 6.5: By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate

- **Albania is very active in transboundary water cooperation**, especially on shared transboundary lakes.
- Not all transboundary waters shared by Albania are covered by transboundary water agreements.
- **Albania is in the process of approval** of the draft framework agreement with Montenegro for transboundary water management in the Drin-Buna Basin
- **Goal 6:** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- **Highly relevant** for Albania as the country still faces huge difficulties with providing water supply and sanitation to all and is at the very start of implementing IWRM.
- **Primary legal and policy framework** for water resources management **is in place**, **secondary legislation still needs to be developed** for many aspects, and practical implementation lags behind, requiring stronger institutional cooperation, as well as investments.



Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Target 12.1: Implement the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries

Most related policy priorities for target 12.1 are identified in NSDI-II pillar 4:

- Ensuring growth through connectivity, the sustainable use of resources and territorial development.
- Promotion of sustainable production and consumption is one of the sustainability principles mentioned in the NSDI-II.
- Related policy priorities are also included in the draft environmental cross-cutting strategy for the period 2015–2020.



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