Albania

Albania is an upper middle-income country (UMIC) with a GNI of 4,320 USD per capita (2017) and a population of 2.9 million inhabitants (2017). In the 2018 Monitoring Round, Albania reported on 405 million USD in development co-operation flows.

1. National development planning and results orientation

Overall quality of national results framework
High-quality, inclusive and results-oriented development strategies are critical for countries’ ownership over their development and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The quality of national development planning in Albania is high (82%).

Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks by development partners
Development partner alignment to country-led development priorities is at the heart of country ownership. Global Partnership monitoring assesses whether interventions: draw objectives from national development strategies; draw indicators from country results frameworks; use government data and statistics for monitoring; and involve government in evaluations. The first three elements provide the official data to report on SDG indicator 17.15.1. In Albania, development partners align to country priorities to a medium extent (69% - SDG indicator 17.15.1).

2. Multi-stakeholder engagement

Recognising that successful development efforts require the inclusive and equitable participation of all actors, the 2030 Agenda calls for collective action by the whole of society. Global Partnership monitoring examines the engagement of civil society and the private sector from both the perspective of the government and representatives of these stakeholder groups.

Quality of public-private dialogue
Government representatives perceive the quality of public-private dialogue as consolidating, SMEs as weak, large private sector firms as consolidating and trade unions as weak.

Major development partners in the 2018 Monitoring Round (by reported disbursements in 2017)

WORLD BANK GROUP 23%
GRANC DEVELOPMENT BANK 20%
EU INSTITUTIONS 20%

Enabling environment for civil society organisations...
... was reported as moderate by government representatives, basic by civil society organisations and basic by development partners.
3. Quality and use of public financial management systems

**Strong public financial management (PFM) systems** are an essential element of good governance and vital to achieving development goals. Albania experienced progress in the quality of its PFM systems.

- **Budget**: 45%
- **Procurement**: 10%
- **Auditing**: 10%
- **Financial reporting**: 33%

**Development partners’ use of country systems**

Development partners’ use of these systems to deliver co-operation both lowers transaction costs but also helps to accelerate their strengthening. In Albania, the use of country PFM systems decreased from 26% in 2016 to 13% in 2018. Further, legislative oversight of the budget has decreased. The share of development co-operation recorded on budgets subject to parliamentary scrutiny decreased from 77% in 2016 to 67% in 2018.

**Systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment**

Adequate and effective financing is essential to achieve gender equality and to empower all women and girls. Albania has some elements of a system in place to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment, approaching the requirements of SDG indicator 5.c.1.

**Predictability and forward planning**

High-quality and timely information on development co-operation helps governments in planning and managing resources for results and can guide development partners in coordinating their support with other providers, as to avoid fragmentation and duplication of efforts. Annual predictability of development co-operation is high, with 85% of co-operation disbursed as scheduled. Medium-term predictability is high, with 90% of co-operation available in forward looking expenditure plans for the next three years.

**Mutual accountability mechanisms**

Mutual accountability underpins the efforts of development actors to meet joint commitments, improve how they work together and increase their development effectiveness. Mutual accountability mechanisms are made up of multiple, reinforcing components that can help enhance transparency and accountability at country level. Global Partnership monitoring defines and assesses mutual accountability against five components. Albania has two out of five components in place.