

Enhancing Albania's Resilience against Corruption

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 implemented by the Council of Europe*

Action title	Enhancing Public Sector Resilience against Corruption (VC 3858)
Action area	Albania
Budget	EUR 1,754,386
Funding	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (90%) / Council of Europe (10%)
Implementation	Council of Europe's Economic Crime and Cooperation Division, DG I
Duration	30 Months

I. BACKGROUND

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Council of Europe signed an agreement in July 2025 on the funding of the project "Enhancing Public Sector Resilience against Corruption in Albania".

The project aims to support Albania in enhancing the effectiveness of measures against corruption, including at local level. It will also consolidate the capacities of dedicated structures in the field of asset recovery and management. An integral aspect of the cooperation will focus on enabling open data tools and case management systems as potent instruments in fighting corruption and other forms of financial crime.

Collectively, these efforts will help build public trust in institutions by reducing both the incidence and perception of corruption, improving the quality of public services, and strengthening the confidence in public sector governance in Albania.

II. OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND ACTIVITIES

The project's main aim is to support relevant Ministries, public institutions and local government units, in strengthening their resilience against corruption and improving asset recovery, thereby fostering greater public trust and promoting the social reuse of confiscated assets. Activities organised around the following outcomes will contribute to achieving this objective.

The expected results of the project are:

Enhanced resilience against corruption and effective asset recovery	Intermediate Outcome 1	Strengthened integrity measures and effective recovery and management of illegal assets
	Immediate Outcome 1.1	Regulatory measures, open data tools and capacities for effective anti-corruption measures and their consistent application at national and sub-national levels are enhanced and improve the institutional mechanisms and response to corruption risks.
	Immediate Outcome 1.2	Capacities of Albanian institutions are strengthened for the recovery, management and social reuse of confiscated criminal assets.

In the area of anti-corruption, the project aims to enhance preventive measures through targeted actions at national and sub-national levels. It will focus on improving legal frameworks and practical capacities for addressing corruption, promoting integrity, and fostering transparency through open data tools such as registers for public officials, lobbyists, and/or gifts. At the sub-national level, the project will prepare local authorities for the Sixth Round

Evaluation by GRECO, the Council of Europe's anti-corruption monitoring body, to promote integrity and prevent corruption risks. This comprehensive approach will ensure the consistent application of anti-corruption measures across various governance levels, in alignment with national anti-corruption policies and the findings and recommendations of GRECO and European Commission progress and rule of law reports.

Furthermore, the project will focus on reviewing and aligning legal and institutional frameworks for asset recovery with European standards. It will support both the Asset Recovery Office (ARO) and the Agency for the Management of Seized and Confiscated Assets/Asset Management Office (AMO) in Albania. The project will facilitate further steps to operationalise the ARO and strengthen the inter-institutional cooperation with the AMO to ensure a comprehensive system for depriving criminals of illegal assets. It will emphasise the social reuse and environmentally responsible management of confiscated criminal assets, helps strengthen resilience to organised crime and empower local communities by connecting local government institutions, civil society organisations and private sector. Implementation of these asset recovery and management measures will enhance the asset recovery outcomes and increase the social reuse of confiscated assets, bringing tangible benefits to communities.

III. PROJECT PARTNERS

- Minister of State for Public Administration and Anti-Corruption
- General Directorate of Anti-Corruption
- Minister of State for Local Government
- Agency for Support to Local Self Government
- High Inspectorate of Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflicts of Interest
- Ministry of Interior
- Asset Recovery Office
- Agency for the Management of Seized and Confiscated Assets
- Local government units (municipalities)
- Association of municipalities
- The Commissioner for the Right to Information and the Protection of Personal Data

IV. CONTACT

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