



Open  
Government  
Partnership



**Main findings and Results**  
**Monitoring Report/Self Assessment Report**  
National Action Plan 2020-2022

**OGP**

**September 2021**

## MAIN FINDINGS OF THE MONITORING REPORTS/SELF ASSESSMENT OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN OGP FOR ALBANIA 2020-2022

### FACTSHEET: The implementation and main progress of the OGP Action Plan 2020-2022

The Government of Albania have consistently, expressed the unequivocal trust and perspective for the Albania perspective on the Open Government Partnership Initiative.

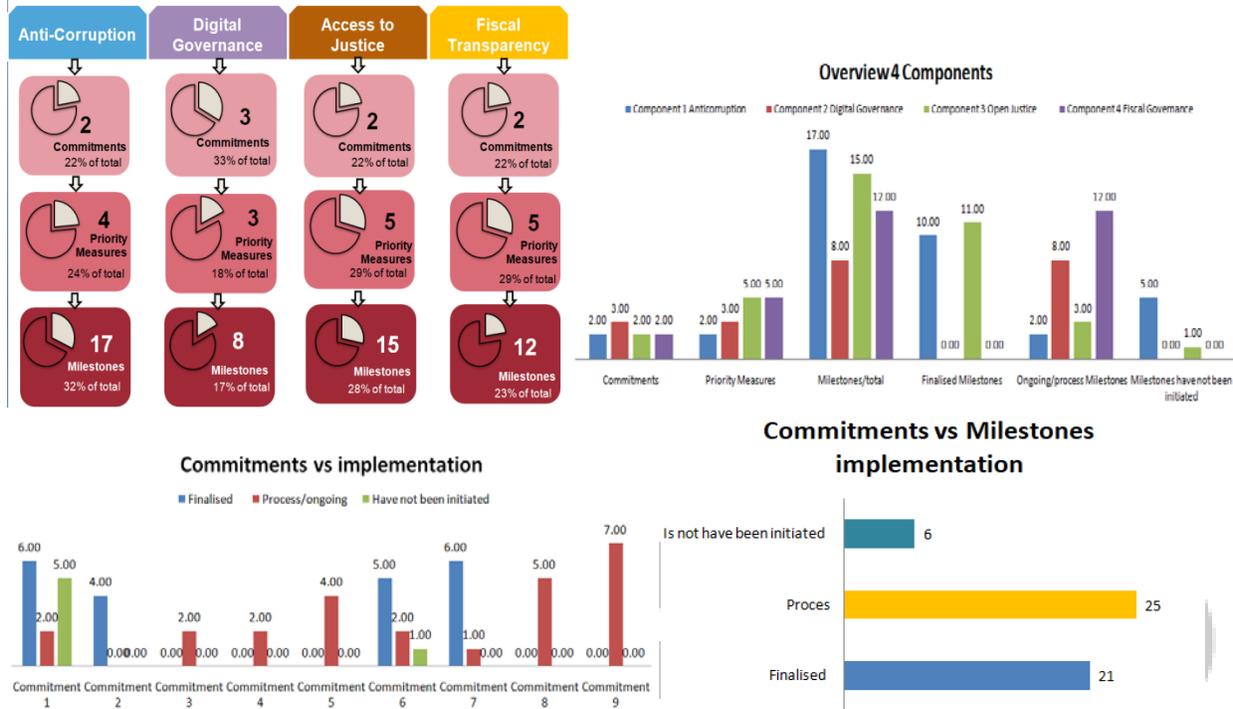
The OGP principles are the key tool to promote democracy, rule of law and the respect for fundamental rights, which are also the main engines of economic integration and the essential anchor for fostering transparency, openness and inclusiveness.

However, it is also clear that the effectiveness of the overall OGP process and of its action plan implementation must be improved further. While the strategic direction of the policy remains more valid than ever, it must get much better traction on the ground. Despite successive reforms, such as the new approach on the anticorruption, open justice, digital governance, fiscal transparency and beneficial ownership the process needs to be better equipped to deal in line with OGP standards. It is of major importance to build more trust among all stakeholders and to enhance the process and make it more effective. It has to become more predictable, more credible - based on objective criteria and rigorous positive and negative conditionality, and reversibility - more dynamic and subject to stronger political steering.

**The major components of the OGP Action Plan 2020-2022 is the anticorruption reform, digital governance, open justice and fiscal governance.** These components are mid-term throughout the implementation of the action plan. The Action Plan envisage specific commitments, priority measures and milestones to be achieved to meet these components, according to the deadlines detailed in the OGP Action Plan. **The Action Plan OGP 2020-2022, being a inter-sectoral approach, is based on the principle of coordination between institutions in order to achieve the objectives included in the NSDI by implementing a systematic and integrated approach.**

The Action Plan 2020-2022 contains **52 milestones and that includes 5 Lead Focal Points, which work together for more transparency, accountability and efficiency.** The priority measures of this action plan are strengthening the transparency of public authorities, increasing the online public services progressively, starting from the implementation and setting up and implementing anti-corruption instruments in the public administration (plans of integrity), strengthening cooperation of authorities and law enforcement related to open justice, strengthening public awareness and increased public awareness. These measures are in line with the good governance agenda and aim to give a better impetus to the implementation also of the SDG Agenda 2030.

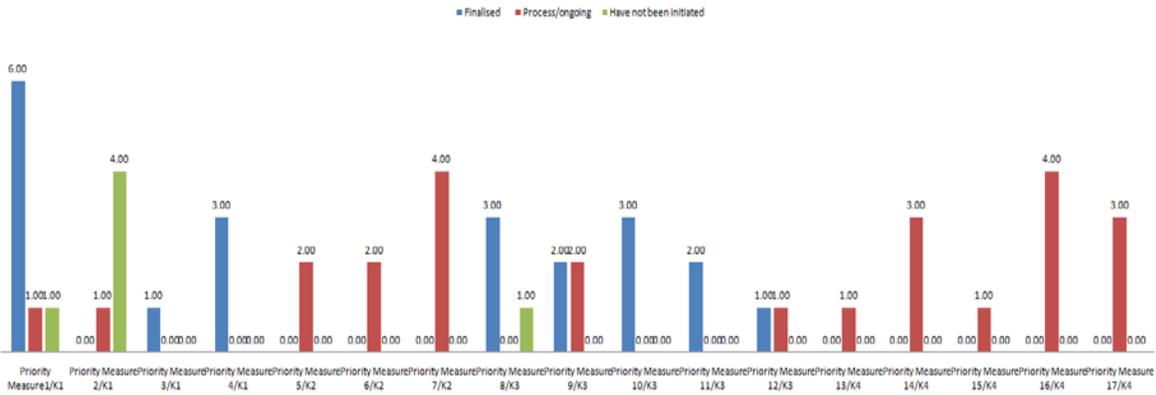
The Albania OGP Action Plan 2020-2022 is based on **4 components, 9 commitments, 17 priority measures and 52 milestones** where **40% have been finalized, 48% are in process and 12% will be initiated** based on the deadlines foreseen in the Action Plan.



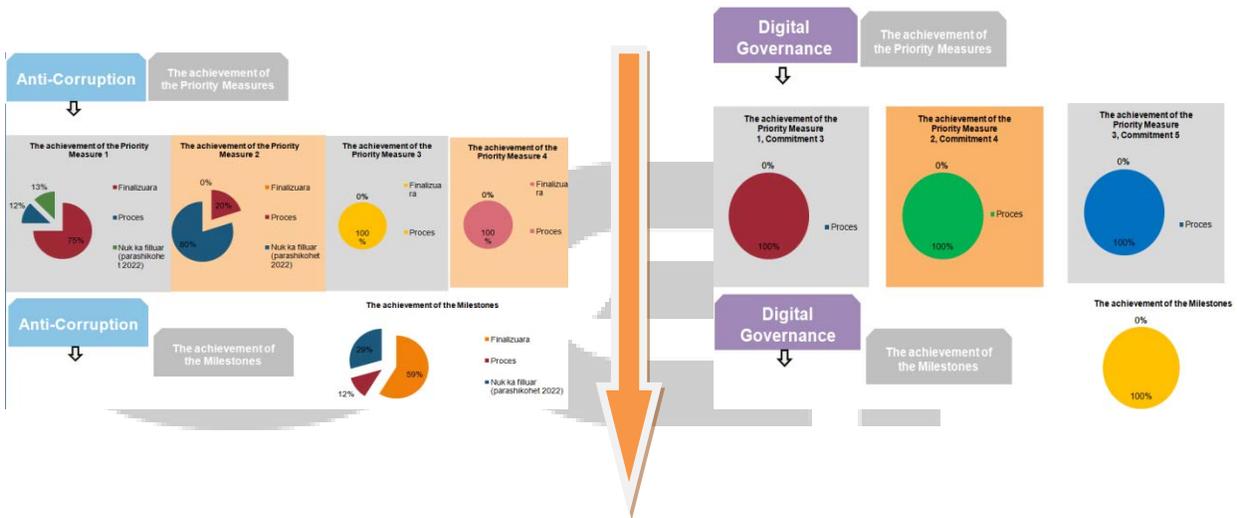
This report reflects the monitoring and evaluation of the first and half year implementation of the Action Plan, for the period 2020 & semi-annual 2021 (June 2021). The monitoring report/self assessment provide information on the progress achieved towards each commitment, priority measures and each milestone, the specific commitment based on the status of achievement of milestones and indicators and in implementing key reforms in the sector.

For this monitoring period, 2020 until June 2021, data were collected and analyzed for 52 milestones distributed respectively in 9 commitments, 17 priority measures for the component approach (C1), 17 milestones for the component approach (C2) 8 milestones for the open justice approach (C3) 15 milestones and fiscal approach (C4) 12 milestones. **Regarding the implementation of priority anti-corruption measures has the highest volume of implementation / finalization (Priority Measure 1 / K1 vs 29%) related to integrity plans, (Priority Measure 4 / K1 vs 14%) related to Beneficial Ownership and Open Justice priority measures (Priority Measure 8 / K3 vs 14%).**

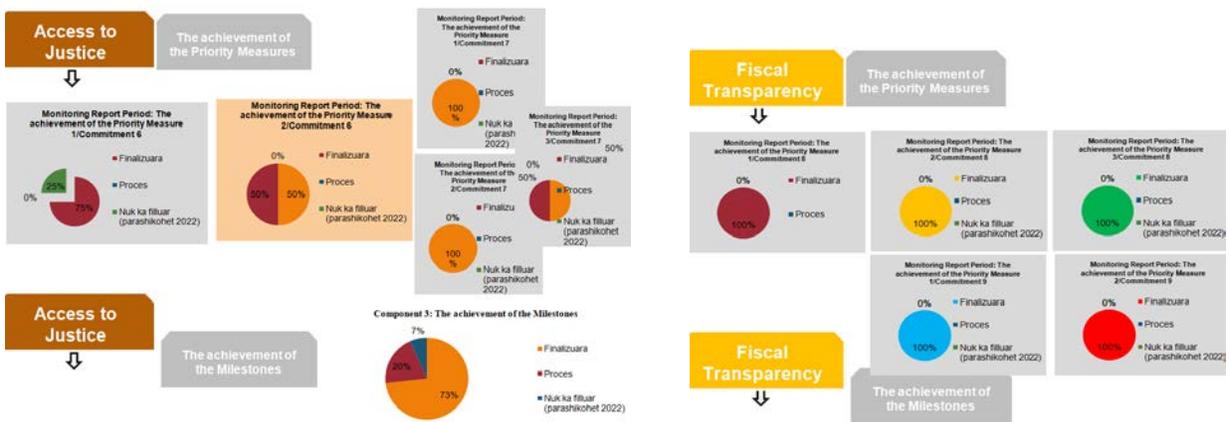
### Priority Measures vs Implementation



Regarding the component's flagships for all nine (9) commitments, there is high level of achievement and essential results that make a difference in the undertaken reforms.



For this period 2020 until June 2021, good achievements have been recorded in the anticorruption (C1), digital governance (C2), open justice (C3) and fiscal transparency (C4) approach of Action Plan implementation, we mention some main highlights as below:



## Main results/outcomes for the monitoring report:

Manual (methodology) for the Integrity Plan have been drafted and approved.

Bulletins for increasing transparency produced/published in <https://drejtesia.gov.al/e-buletin/>

597 new e-services implemented in e-Albania platform during 2020 and the first half of 2021.

1,207 e-services provided on e-Albania portal, or 95% of all public services.

132 videos mostly about e-services and how to use the services.

141 info graph about e-albania, e-services, on how to use them, their statistics.

30 explanatory materials such as tv chronicles, articles for the user friendly e-services.

101 new datasets available on the Open Data portal during 2020 and the first half of 2021. Also 212 datasets in total are available on the Open Data portal.



**NAIS have conducted an online survey regarding the use of the Open Data portal on how satisfied the users are: 46.1% of the users have used the open data for a personal**

initiative; 41% of the open. data users are very satisfied and 40.9% are satisfied (81.9% in total satisfied users); 75.8% find it easy to access and use the portal.



**18 Citizen Satisfaction Surveys conducted at ADISA ISC's** which showed that majority of citizens were "Satisfied" or "Very satisfied".

- 18 surveys that has measured the application time were conducted which showed an average time of application of 9 minutes (in 2021) decreased 10% from 2020.
- 7 Focus Groups were organized to create a better understanding of the situation with public services from the perspective of the citizens.
- ADISA has set up 7 new Integrated Service Centers, where public services are now provided maintaining all European standards in terms of service provision and accessibility.



**The Directorate of Free Legal Aid is established**, in accordance with the legislation in force. The directorate has a staff with sufficient capacity to guarantee the ability and to provide the services required by the citizens:

- Is **developed the Official website for the free legal aid:** [www.ndihmajuridike.gov.al](http://www.ndihmajuridike.gov.al) juridiksioni.al and also the green free number 0801010 for all the citizens.

**Citizen  
Budget**

**Yearly budget execution reports** (FY 2019 and FY 2020), have been upgraded and published on MoFE website.

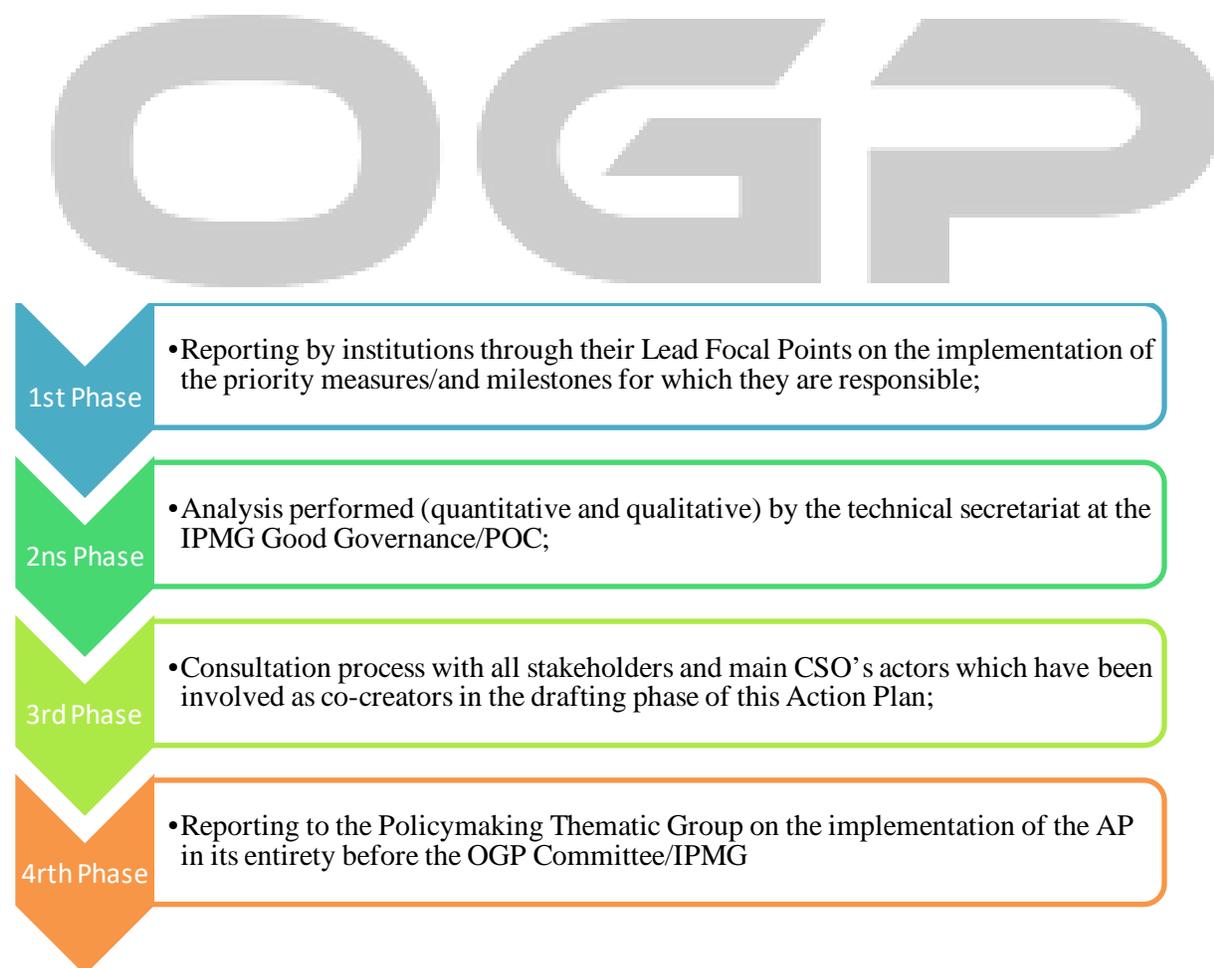
- In **Year budget execution reports and mid-year review report** have been upgraded and published during 2020 and 2021.
- A **Citizen's Budget guide has been developed and published.**
- A budget hearing calendar with key budget processes was prepared and implemented as planned for 2020.
- A series of online capacity building workshops with CSOs increasing capacities for understanding of the state budget, and strengthening their capacities to play a watchdog role for public finances.

## The methodology approach

Pursuant to the **Prime Minister's Order no. 157, dated 22.10.2018** “On taking measures for the implementation of the broad sectoral/inter-sectoral approach, as well as the establishment and functioning of the integrated sectoral/inter-sectoral mechanism” *the Department for Development and Good Governance in the Prime Minister's Office as technical secretariat of the IPMG on Good Governance and Public Administration carries out the coordination with all responsible institutions and then drafts the monitoring report.*

**This report covers the period from 2020 – June 2021 and is drafted based on the contribution provided by all institutions involved in the Action Plan of the OGP.** The goal is to have information on the achievements of progress and challenges towards meeting the commitments and priority measures of the action plan.

**The Monitoring Report of the Action Plan consisted in four main phases:**



**Each institution has reported on the level of implementation of each commitment, priority measure and milestone implemented** (based on activities performed), budget provided for the reporting year, budget allocated for the reporting period, problems encountered, further steps and assessing the progress of the action plan as a whole. In order to monitor the implementation of the commitments undertaken, in terms of the implementation of milestones, the monitoring process is carried out for each component/approach.

The data analysis was done based on the OGP standards/self assessment reports based on the structure templates and also following some main monitoring instruments.

- **First, the implementation of milestones** (achievement of activities) is analyzed, giving a quantitative and qualitative result of their achievement versus performing the respective activities related to them.
- **Second, the achievement of the target value for 2020 /2021** defined in the performance indicators is analyzed, assessing the impact degree of the measures implemented in achieving the target value.
- **Third, the achievement of priority measures** is analyzed through the calculation of the achievement of indicators s related to the respective commitments achieved.

The applicability of the milestones and activities of the Action Plan is classified with the following values:

- **Implemented:** Institutions have reported the status of “Implemented” for those milestones/activities that have been fulfilled.
- **Partially implemented/Ongoing:** Institutions have reported the status “Ongoing” for those milestones/activities, which in the reporting period have been partially implemented and/or continue to be applicable by them.
- **Not started to be implemented:** Not started to be implemented are those milestones/activities that have not recorded development for the reporting period because the starting point for them is foreseen after this reporting period.



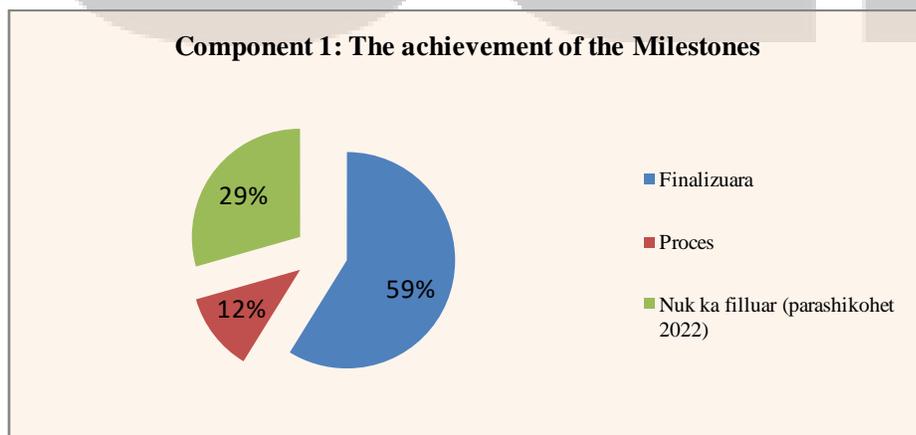
# 1<sup>st</sup> Component: Anticorruption

Anti-corruption initiatives and policies support the inter-institutional reforms necessary for the improved functioning and efficiency of all public and private institutions. These anti-corruption initiatives and policies will increase the integrity, performance and accountability of institutions and promote responsible governance that facilitate equal and equitable law enforcement and improve public service for all citizens, as well as the implementation of citizens' rights and obligations in property matters.

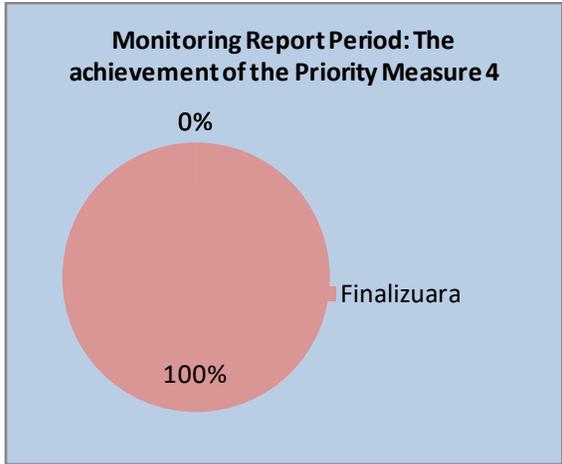
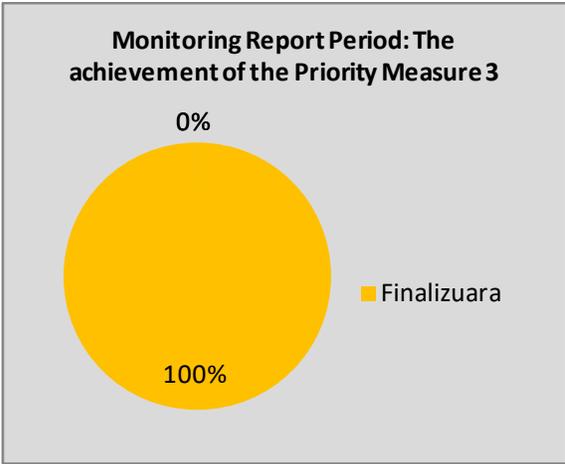
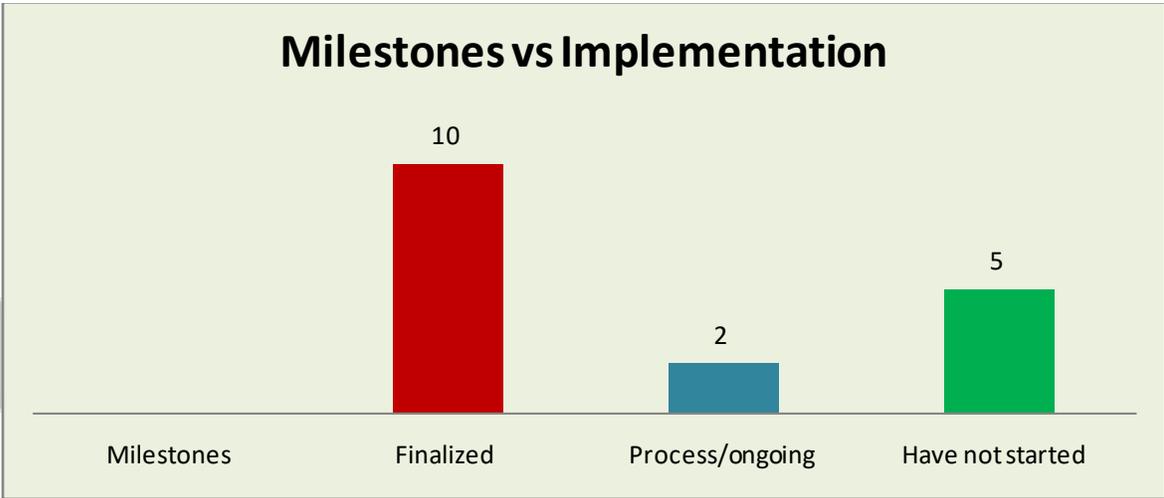
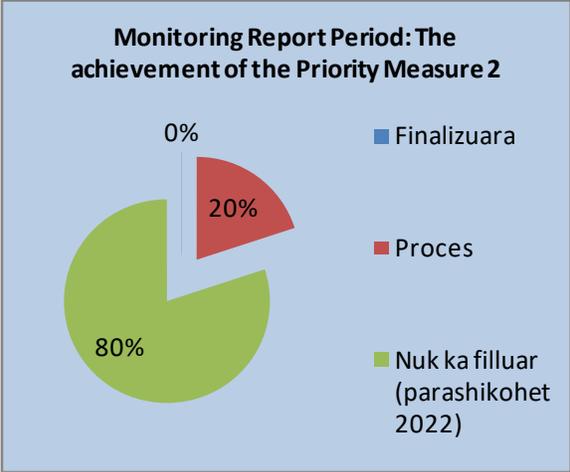
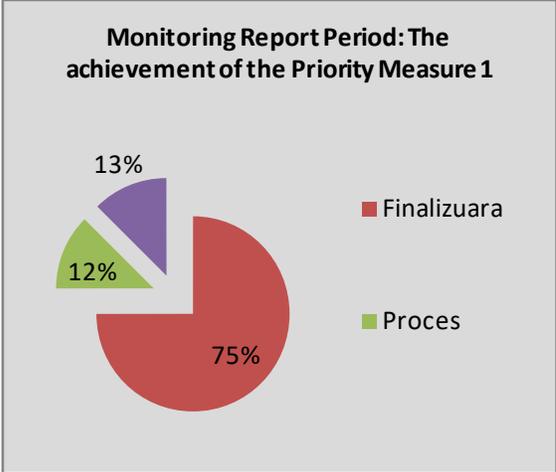
**Integrity plans and beneficial ownership are two objectives of this action plan, and which focus on anti-corruption reform for open governance under the OGP 2020-2022 Action Plan.**

**The anti-corruption component in the implementation frame of the NAP OGP 2020-2022 through the period 2020 until semi-annual 2021 have been achieved 82% of the milestone and completed meanwhile 18% of the milestone are still in process for the upcoming period.**

In the framework of the Transparent Government Components and fight against corruption during the implementation of the National Action Plan OGP 2020-2022 for the period 2020 and the semi-annual period for 2021 have been achieved and finalized 59% of the milestones, 12% are in process and 29% have been planned for the next period according to the action plan.



Meanwhile, regarding the four (4) priorities, the priority (3) and (4) and all the milestones have been finalized to the extent of 100%, priority (1) 75% and priority (2) is in process around 20% of the milestones have been achieved.



**Results achievement for this period could be highlighted as below:**

Manual (methodology) for the Integrity Plan have been drafted and approved (order of the MoJ, no.334, date 07.10.2020)

Bulletins for increasing transparency produced/published in <https://drejtesia.gov.al/e-buletin/>

Workshops on the identification of risk assessment and IP drafting process: - 13 workshop meetings/ January-March 2021.

MoJ IP approved: - (order of the MoJ, no.333, date 07.10.2020) MoJ Integrity Plan roundtable: - (launching meeting at November 12, 2020; hybrid meeting.

Specifically the Ministry of Justice, in its role of National Coordinator Against Corruption, leads the inter-institutional commitment to improve public integrity and promote a culture, transparency and accountability for all civil servants and public officials at all levels of government, but especially at the highest levels. vulnerable as well as corruption-sensitive sectors. **These initiatives are a very good cases of cooperation with CSOs, which have been co-created within the NAP 2020-2022.** Integrity risk assessment, consultation meetings and capacity building in risk assessment, co-drafting of the integrity plan for the Ministry of Justice, its replication in the MoJ dependencies initially and in other ministries are steps that improve the fight against corruption, strengthen integrity and performance of administrative bodies as well as provide better services to the public.

The Integrity Plans is an applicable instrument that strengthens and improves the performance of public institutions, their accountability and transparency. The Ministry of Justice is the first central level institution to conduct an integrity risk assessment and develop an Integrity Plan. This is a model document for its subordinate institutions and line ministries, a document that includes integrity risks according to the functional areas of the Ministry of Justice and concrete activities have been identified and planned to address them. Its purpose is to improve policies, rules, practices to prevent corruption, as well as strengthen institutional resistance to integrity breaches. The MoJ Integrity Plan will positively impact all other ministries, as well as subordinated institutions, in their institutional anti-corruption agendas. The integrity risk assessment methodology for central government, have been first applied to the Ministry of Justice in 2020, and will be guided ad a model and assessment instrument in other central administration institutions as well.

The second priority measure relates to the establishment and ongoing administration of the Beneficiary Owners Register which constitutes an essential commitment to preventing corruption through mandatory transparency and traceability measures.

In order to implement the recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL), of the Council of Europe, and the commitment involved in the NAP OGP 2020-2022, the Prime Minister have set up the inter-institutional working group to fulfill the recommendations of MONEYVAL. Following this process, the Minister of Finance and Economy set up an inter-institutional subgroup of work, with the participation of representatives of the responsible institutions under this ministry, part of which was the National Business Center, to monitor, coordinate and report on the progress of measures set out in the action plan to fulfill the recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL), of the Council of Europe.

The task of this working group was:

- the review of Albanian legislation;
- the evaluation of best practices;
- drafting the recommendations for the establishment of the Register of Beneficial Owners.

Regarding the above, the Ministry of Finance and Economy through National Business Centre with the assistance of GIZ, based on Albanian legislation and practices of other countries drafted and approved the law "On the register of beneficial owners". Meanwhile have been established the Beneficial Owners Register, by the Ministry of Finance and Economy and NAIS, and is administered by NBC (QKB).



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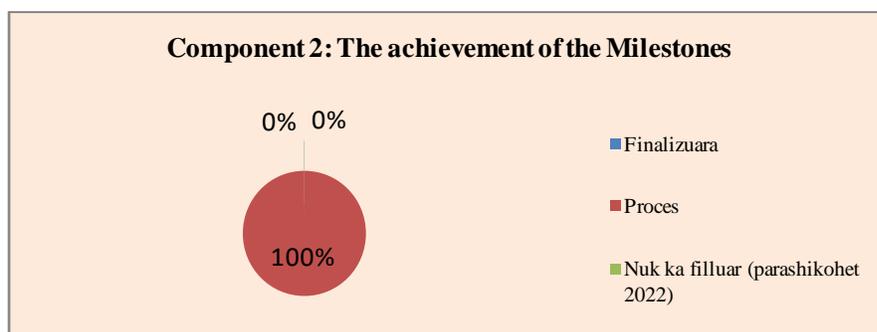


## Component: Digital Governance

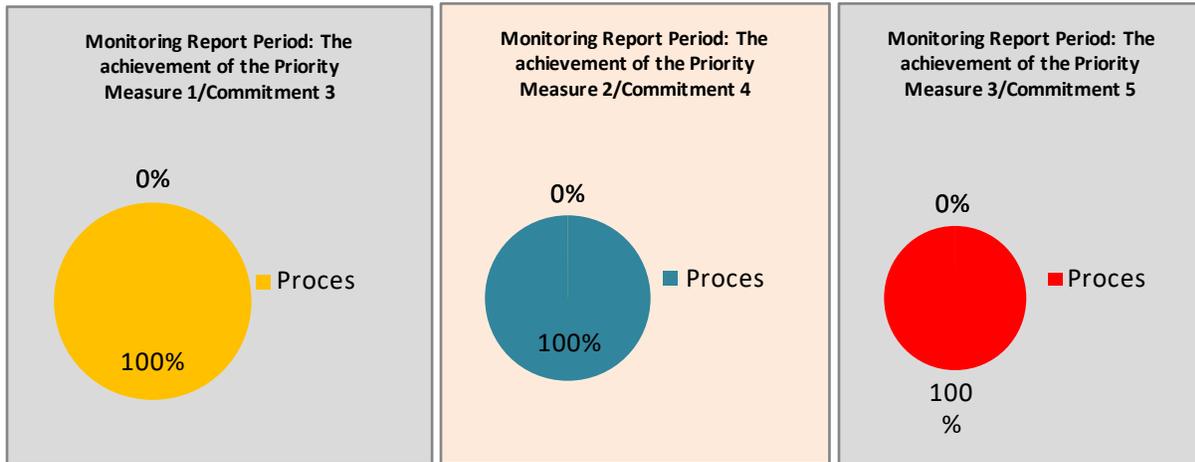
The Government of Albania has embarked on a path of no return towards the provision of online public services and the complete digitalization of the administration's work processes. Reducing the number of associated documents required to citizens/businesses and also re-engineering the whole process of their provision, in order to reduce processing steps, digitalize internal processes thus reducing bureaucracies, costs and time for citizens. Centralizing public services into e-Albania platform enables increased public accountability on three levels:

- **First, an online electronic platform establishes traceability for actions service delivery actions and reduces the need for face-to-face contact between citizens and public administration** employees lessening opportunities for corruption to take place or go unnoticed.
- **Second, public services on the platform** must meet an established criteria and compliance with this criteria is always monitored. Setting and enforcing an unified criteria across public institutions eliminates variations in administrative practices across institutions' and remove ambiguity and consequently, not only promotes increased efficiency across the whole public administration, but also **reduces the opportunities for corruption and mismanagement.**
- **Third, the e-Albania platform is not only accountable to internal institutions, but also through outward feedback/facing mechanisms that enable civic participation towards its continual improvement.** Through awareness campaign to capacitate citizens and businesses and its feedback mechanism (milestone 2), the e-Albania platform promotes a citizen-centered culture and approach to the transformation of public services. An online format that eliminates in-person or physical feedback and guaranteed privacy protection for citizens aims to incentivize citizens to not only use the platform, but to provide feedback and recommendations, secure that their identity will be protected.

In the framework of the Digital Governance Component during the implementation of the National Action Plan OGP 2020-2022 for the period 2020 and the semi-annual period for 2021 have been progressed and are ongoing 100% of the milestones, meanwhile none of the 8 milestones are not considered finalised because of the specific nature of the typology measures foreseen to the action plan.



Meanwhile the three (3) commitments are consequence and are ongoing 100% of the milestones. All the milestones have progressed and are in line with the deadline foreseen in the Action Plan.



*Results achievement for this period could be highlighted as below:*

**597 new e-services** implemented in e-Albania platform during 2020 and the first half of 2021.

**1,207 e-services** provided on e-Albania portal, or 95% of all public services.

**46.1%** of the users have used the open data for a personal initiative; **41%** of the opendata users are very satisfied and **40.9%** are satisfied (**81.9%** in total satisfied users); **75.8%** find it easy to access and use the portal.

Monthly statistics reports published at the end of each month on the e-Albania portal.

132 videos mostly about e-services and how to use the services.

141 info graph about e-albania, e-services, on how to use them, their statistics.

30 explanatory materials such as tv chronicles, articles for the user friendly e-services.

101 new datasets available on the Open Data portal during 2020 and the first half of 2021. Also 212 datasets in total are available on the Open Data portal.

Specifically the **third commitment of this component it's relates to digitalization of public services, more than 1200 public services or 95% of all public service will be provided online on e-Albania platform.**

Based on this commitment is achieved through this monitoring period that **e-Albania platform serves 2.1 million Albanian citizens and 85,000 businesses on a regular basis. The number of registered users on the platform is 42 times higher than in 2013. During 2020 and 2021 there were 5.4 million citizens and businesses registered on e-Albania platform.**

The work plan during 2020 and the first half of 2021 has ensured that 95% of all public service applications are provided on e-Albania: at no cost, without waiting in queues at the state counters, without having any physical contact with administration employees.

**597 new e-services were implemented on e-Albania platform during 2020 and the first half of 2021. From 14 online services in 2013, actually is offer 1,201 e-services or 95% of all public services.**

In addition to the online application of public services in e-Albania, **47 electronic services enable the generation of documents with electronic stamp and 190 services with electronic signature.**

During 2020, there were **7,705,068 applications made for public services and 1,210,093 citizens and businesses served.** About **74 times more services and 150 times more applications** on the e-Albania platform compared to 2013. Actually around 180 Albanian institutions generate documents on behalf of citizens and businesses. So far, more than **13 million e-sealed documents have been generated, out of which more than 7 million by administration employees on behalf of the citizen or business.** All these digital transformation initiatives enabled us to spare citizens and businesses more than **500 years of time in the past three years, which was previously lost in queues and numerous bureaucracies and saving them 4 million euro.** During 2020 have been provided services to 1.2 million citizens by saving them 1.36 million euro and 293 years of waiting in queues.

**Businesses are provided with more than 300 e-services on the platform,** starting from the initial registration of a new business, applications for construction permits and licenses, paying taxes or submitting balance sheets. These are all services provided without any contact with the administration and with no additional costs.

Also this year (2021), have been digitalized the applications to receive free oil, without excise, without turnover tax and without carbon tax for mechanized works. These results strongly encourage as they show that groups such as farmers are familiar with the platform and the use of e-Albania. From the application in e-Albania have saved about 8 years of waiting in line.

**The United Nations Report** on e-Government ranks Albania 59th in the world, ranking it 15th globally for the overall e-Government Indicator compared to 2018 when the last report was published. Specifically, the indicator has improved from 0.6519 points in 2018, to 0.7399 in 2020 (the highest value by which a country can be valued is 1).

The ranking improvement this year for our country has been achieved through the sub-indicator of online services, improving from the 62nd place in 2018, to the 31st place in 2020. So, a rise of 31 places in the classification in just 2 years, with points equal to Canada, while leaving behind countries such as Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Greece, the Czech Republic and all the countries of the Western Balkans.

**Another commitment part of this component it is also the open data.** The commitment for the open data portal, although it is a continuation of the previous commitment, has as its main goal the improvement of the data quality in order to be reused by as many citizens and businesses as possible.

Enriching the [opendata.gov.al](http://opendata.gov.al) portal with more automatic data being published directly from the state databases via the Governmental Interoperability Platform provides the civil society, students, academics, journalists, businesses and startups etc. *more easy access to various governmental data needed for their researches, studies/analysis or building up their businesses and increases government transparency and trust, since the data are published with no human intervention.*

Actually, the portal provides more than 212 datasets in the fields of health, treasury, budget, customs, education, business and much more. The number of new datasets available in the Open Data Portal during 2020 is 101 datasets.

*The most downloaded datasets are:*

Institution	Title of dataset	Downloaded
Ministry of Finance and Economy	Treasure (Payments Made by the General Directorate of Treasure)	1153
National Business Center	Businesses registered by cities	986
Ministry of Health and Social Protection	List of Medicine	653
Ministry of Finance and Economy	Statistics on the import of fuel, coffee and beer.	432
General Directorate of Road Transport Services	Statistics on vehicles by: fuel, model, capacity etc.	174
General Directorate of Road Transport Services	Statistics on registered vehicles	168

**The last commitment within this component relates to the assessment of the quality and accessibility of public service delivery at ADISA ISCs** that is centered on listening to the needs of citizens. It provides multiple opportunities and platforms for citizens to express their needs, opinions, circumstances and feedback and commits to a transparent process of incorporating citizen contributions towards improved public service delivery quality and accessibility. This commitment is more focused on citizen surveys to monitor citizen satisfaction with public service delivery and the timeliness of these services, as well as focus groups.

During the reporting period **Citizen Satisfaction Survey were conducted in 18 ADISA locations, which showed that majority of citizens were "Satisfied" or "Very satisfied" with the service received at the application counters.** The level of satisfaction with public services was found to be at 68% among respondents who had contacted at least one institution during the past 12 months.

Also the Opinion Poll “Trust in Governance” financed by UNDP was conducted by the Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM) during November and December 2020 across the 61 municipalities of Albania, using a 2500 randomly selected nationally representative sample. The Opinion Polls represents an instrument that enables the monitoring of public trust and perceptions on governance and citizen engagement in Albania on a yearly basis. **Compared to 2019, a higher percentage of the Albanian population reported visiting an Agency for the Delivery of Integrated Services (ADISA) service window (29% versus 24%). Among those who visited an ADISA service window, 73.4% indicated that they were ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ with the service they received, an increase of more than 4 p.p. compared to last year.**

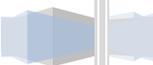
Also Focus Groups were organized to create a better understanding of the situation with public services from the perspective of the citizens. In order to ensure the quality of data, it was used a screening questionnaire for the recruitment process. The questionnaire included all relevant questions necessary to ensure that all focus group participants fall within the right profile.

Regarding the increase in accessibility in public service delivery process for marginalized and vulnerable groups, ADISA continues the expansion in territory with new Integrated Service Centers in accordance with standards regarding accessibility. During the reporting period (2020-2021), ADISA has set up 7 new Integrated Service Centers. ADISA is currently present in 201 municipalities, where public services are now provided maintaining all European standards in terms of service provision and accessibility.

Also with the support of UNDP, ADISA will train office clerks in assisting and delivering services for people with disabilities. The overall goal of this process is to contribute through sustainable capacity building in improving knowledge and skills of Albania’s public administration Front Office (FO) staff in serving persons with disabilities, including physical and cognitive ones, ensuring treatment that is responsive to their particular needs, and resulting in more effective and satisfactory public service delivery from their perspective. This process will be completed within October 2021.

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<sup>1</sup>Kavajë, Krujë, Shkodër, Gjirokastrë, Fier, Lushnje, Tirana 2, Kukës, Elbasan, sidhenëZyrat ADISA nëMaliq, Belsh, Librazhd, Divjakë, Patos, Malësi e Madhe, Pogradec, Mat, Roskovec, Kolonjë and Tepelenë.



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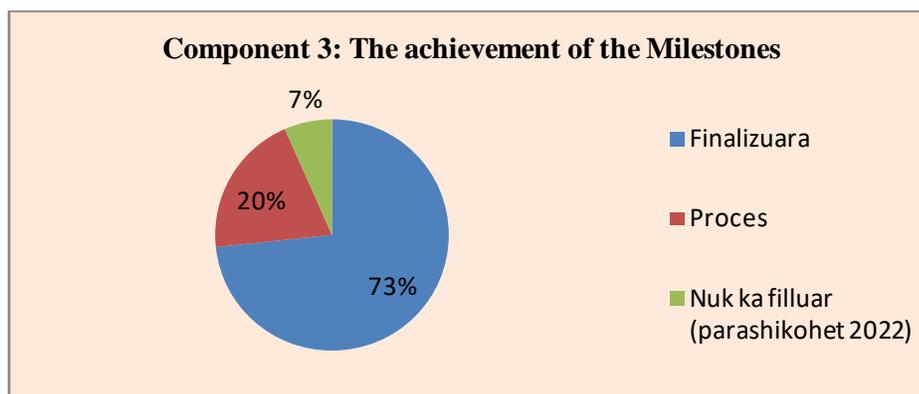


## Component: Open Justice

**Transparency, accountability and access to justice are the key operational principles recognized for good governance thus constituting the main pillar of democracy.** The right of access to justice is the constitutional principle by which the exercise of fundamental human rights and freedoms is guaranteed, an essential condition for the existence of the rule of law, which guides the organization and proper functioning of justice in the country.

**With the initiation of the Justice Reform, a profound reform that is fully affecting every element of the current justice system, a reform of the legal aid system was initiated, offering a new spirit with the requirements and legislation of the Union European** and as a facilitation mechanism used to increase access to justice for groups that do not have the financial means to pay legal fees to bodies / courts and at the same time to provide legal advice or protection. Free legal aid programs aim to bring the justice system closer to the needs of citizens. For this reason, this component is focused on providing effective but also accessible and affordable remedies for solving problems. In this context, it should be emphasized that the independence of the judicial system and its integrity are an essential precondition to ensure that there is no discrimination in the administration of justice. In response to the needs and problems, the aim was to undertake commitments, including a three-pronged approach on access, transparency and accountability.

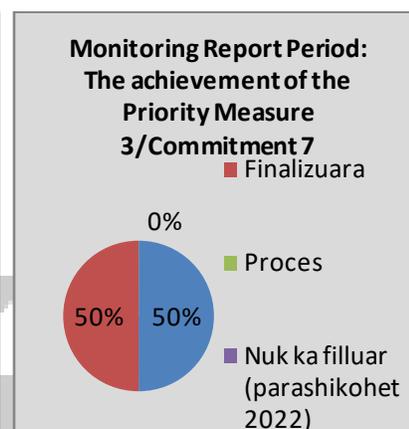
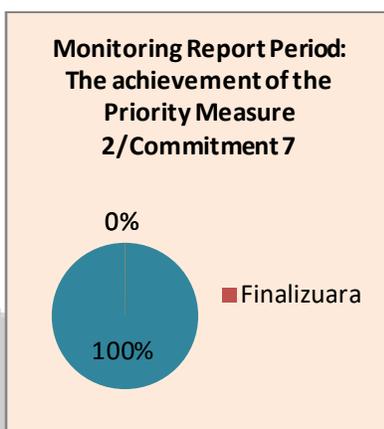
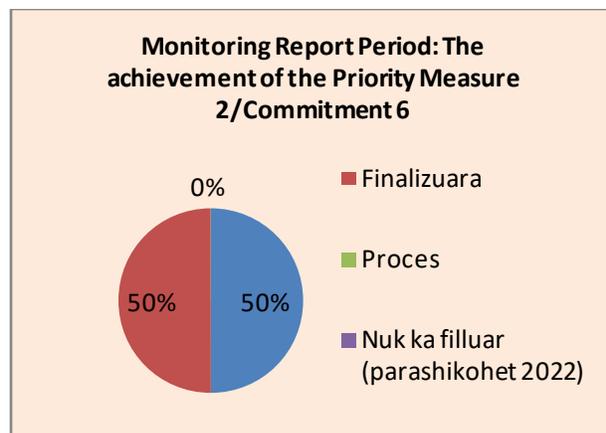
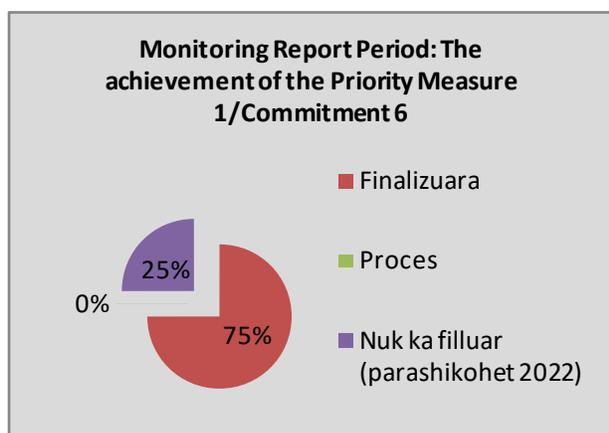
In the framework of the Open Justice Component during the implementation of the National Action Plan OGP 2020-2022 for the period 2020 and the semi-annual period for 2021 have been **progressed and finalized 73% of the milestones, meanwhile 20 are in process and 7% have not started for the implementation.**



Meanwhile, both (2) commitments represent significant progress within the finalized products in relation to the products in process or products which have not yet started in accordance with the deadlines provided in the Action Plan.

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**Results achievement for this period could be highlighted as below:**

The Directorate of Free Legal Aid is established, in accordance with the legislation in force. The directorate has a staff with sufficient capacity to guarantee the ability and to provide the services required by the citizens.

Official website [www.ndihmajuridike.gov.al](http://www.ndihmajuridike.gov.al)

Juridiksioni.al

Green number 0801010

Implemented the first module of mandatory training of employees of Primary Legal Aid Centers.

Regulations and curriculum for training and examination methods for testing candidates for mediation are defined. (National Chamber of Mediators).

Design of electronic databases. (National Chamber of Mediators).

In the frame of the free legal aid to the citizens commitment during the period January-June 2021, in the framework of strengthening cooperation with CSO's organization that have in their focus the protection of the legal rights of citizens, it became possible to sign 3 (three) cooperation agreements "On ensuring access to justice of citizens through the provision of free legal aid service according to the provisions of law no. 111/2017, "On legal aid guaranteed by the state" and specifically:

- Cooperation agreement with no. 13/4 prot., Dated 07.01.2021, with the Social Justice Organization;
- Cooperation agreement with no. 1643 prot., Dated 27.05.2021, with the Regional Directorate of Social Service Shkodra
- Cooperation agreement with no. 498 prot., Dated 26.05.2021, with the Association of Working Invalids.

In support of the Agreement for the implementation of the project, "Extension of free legal aid services for women and men in Albania" between the Ministry of Justice, UNDP and the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), as well as the implementation of the Letter of Cooperation (July 2020 -May 2022), it became possible to open and transfer under the administration of the Directorate of Free Legal Aid of 8 (eight) centers of primary legal aid service in which currently exercise the functions 14 (fourteen) employees with special training in the city of Durrës, Fier, Lezha, Gjirokastra, Pogradec, Dibra, Shkodra and Vlora.

The National Chamber of Mediators as an alternative mechanism for citizens to solve legal problems has strengthened inter-institutional cooperation with the Ministry of Justice in the framework of increasing and improving the professional capacity of mediators through the organization of initial and continuing training. In this context, regulations on training and examination methods for testing of intermediate candidates have been defined and approved; Order No. 89, dated 23.02.2021 *"On the approval of the regulation of initial and continuing training, for the selection of trainers, training and evaluation of their performance"*, as well as Order No. 90, dated 23.02.2021 *"On the approval of the regulation" of the qualification exam for the profession of mediator"*.



## Component: Fiscal Governance

Government of Albania has continued to work with the aim to provide a satisfactory progress with regard to the public availability of accessible, timely, comprehensive, and sound budgetary information.

Good progress has been made during 2020 and all outcome performance targets have been met. Target of indicator *Government National Accounts* was achieved (75%). Indicator *an improved Fiscal Risk Statement*, was achieved. Based on 2020 target (+4 other SOE-s), FRU has collected financial data from UKT, Albanian Railway, Albanian Post, Albgas and is analyzing and preparing the relevant financial analysis. Target FY 2020 for indicator *Published in year and annual financial reports contain accessible financial and non-financial performance information* was achieved, ABER & in-year new templates were fully implemented.

Within the Governance Component for fiscal transparency during the implementation and implementation of the National Action Plan OGP 2020-2022 for the period 2020 and the semi-annual period of 2021 are in process 100% of the milestones. Also the situation is the same and in the framework of the implementation of 5 priority measures.

### **Results achievement for this period could be highlighted as below:**

Some modules of the "Automated budgetary government compilation system" were tested during 2020 and the work will continue until the end of 2021 when it is expected that the system will be running.

INSTAT sent to Eurostat "Table 1100 - General government expenditure by function" starting from 2017 data onwards.

INSTAT published as targeted the "Harmonized Revision Policies for Macroeconomic Statistics".

FRU has continued to monitor the main risks and has collected information from energy sector companies and also from UKT, Albanian Railway, Albanian Post, Albgas.

The analytical reports, are disclosed in all MoFE/DMB's periodic reports, such as ABER, Mid-Year, Budget Proposal.

Yearly budget execution reports (FY 2019 and FY 2020), have been upgraded and published on MoFE website.

In Year budget execution reports and mid-year review report have been upgraded and published during 2020 and 2021.

A Citizen's Budget guide has been developed and published.

A budget hearing calendar with key budget processes was prepared and implemented as planned for 2020.

A series of online capacity building workshops with CSOs were initiated in late 2020. The trainings aimed at increasing CSO capacities for understanding of the state budget, and strengthening their capacities to play a watchdog role for public finances.

Two workshops were held in November and December 2020; On 6-th of July 2021, the MoFE organized a meeting with representatives of civil society, in the framework of participatory budgeting of the Medium-Term Budget Program Document 2022-2024, Strategic Phase.

In 2020, was developed the process of the selection of consultant that will help the MoFE in the drafting of the legal acts and accounting standards.

In 2021 has begun the process of translation of the accounting standards.

Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Tourism and Environment and Albanian Road Authority have entered the assets inventory in the asset module in AGFIS, during 2020.

More specifically related to the fiscal component During the year 2020 content, outline and template for Yearly budget execution report FY 2019, has been upgraded (by including products) and published on MoFE website<sup>2</sup>. The report is accessible in Excel and Word formats depending on the nature of the information. During 2021, template for Yearly budget execution report FY 2020, has been upgraded (by including KPI) and published<sup>3</sup>. The report is accessible in Excel and Word formats depending on the nature of the information. During the year 2020 the content, outline and templates for In Year budget execution reports and mid-year review report (including products for every LM/BI) have been upgraded and published<sup>4</sup>. The report is accessible in Excel and Word formats depending on the nature of the information. During 2021, template for In Year budget execution reports and mid-year review report FY 2021, has been upgraded (by including KPI) and published<sup>5</sup>. The report is accessible in Excel and Word formats depending on the nature of the information.

Related to the engagement in the planning and execution of the budget a Citizen's Budget guide has been developed and published<sup>6</sup> as planned (In PDF format). The main aim of the guide is to enhance the citizens, CSOs and other groups of interest engagement on the government budget process.

- A budget hearing calendar with key budget processes was prepared and implemented as planned for 2020. In this regard a series of online capacity building workshops with civil society organizations were initiated in late 2020. The trainings aimed at increasing CSO capacities for understanding of the state budget, and strengthening their capacities to play a watchdog role for public finances.
- The series of workshops started with two workshops held in November and December 2020, respectively, and the first one focused on the budget cycle and entry points for CSO advocacy; while the second on the different stages of the budget calendar and providing skills for sectoral budget assessment for CSO.
- The workshops were held remotely, due to the Covid-19 related restrictions and the level of participation was satisfactory (first webinar: 16 people from different CSOs and the MoFE; second webinar: 17 people). The online webinars allowed to reach a wider range of CSOs.

A budget hearing calendar with key budget processes was prepared and implemented as planned for 2021. In this regard, on 6-th of July 2021, the Ministry of Finance and Economy organized a meeting with representatives of civil society, in the framework of participatory budgeting of the Medium-Term Budget Program Document 2022-2024, Strategic Phase. In this meeting was discussed the proposal for the distribution of budget resources in accordance with the policies of budget programs for the period 2022-2024, focusing on the position of civil society on this

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<sup>2</sup><https://www.financa.gov.al/analizat-e-monitorimit-te-performances-2019/>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.financa.gov.al/34185-2/>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.financa.gov.al/paketa-e-projektlig-jit-te-buxhetit-faktik-2019/> ;

<https://www.financa.gov.al/buxheti-2019/>

<sup>5</sup><https://www.financa.gov.al/paketa-e-projektlig-jit-te-buxhetit-faktik-2020/> ;

<https://www.financa.gov.al/buxheti-2020/>

<sup>6</sup><https://www.financa.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/CB-2021.pdf>



proposal. The workshop was held through Webex platform, due to the Covid-19 related restrictions and the level of participation was satisfactory (17 people from different CSOs). According to the area of responsibility, for the part of budget documents (such as the annual budget law or MTBP) in cases when meetings with civil society are organized, summaries are made and reports are published on the website.

OGGP

