

# Independent Reporting Mechanism

Albania Co-Creation Brief  
2026

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Open  
Government  
Partnership



Independent  
Reporting  
Mechanism

### Overview

This brief from the OGP's Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) supports the co-creation process and design of Albania's seventh action plan. It provides an overview of OGP processes in the country and presents recommendations based on collective and country-specific IRM findings. The co-creation brief draws from prior IRM reports for [Albania](#), the [OGP National Handbook](#), [OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards](#), and IRM guidance on [the minimum requirements](#). Section 1 offers guidance for OGP processes and co-creation and Section 2 for commitment design. Government and civil society can determine the extent to which this brief is used to shape the next action plan's trajectory and content.

Albania's sixth OGP action plan (2023–2025) was the country's first plan developed with the support of a formal multi-stakeholder forum, the Multi-Stakeholder Committee (MSC). Other successes of the sixth action plan cycle included increased availability of co-creation information, improved outreach and consultation during action plan development, and more government entities and civil society organizations involved in the OGP process. Overall, despite resource and capacity concerns among government and civil society stakeholders, open government reform in Albania is becoming more institutionalized.

For the next co-creation process, Albania could consider the following recommendations:

- Regularly update the national OGP repository with information on the co-creation and implementation processes.
- Deepen civil society participation.
- Involve the Parliament and justice sector in the co-creation process.
- Support stakeholder capacity to strengthen open government reform.

## **Section I: Action Plan Co-Creation**

The following recommendations present opportunities for national reformers to strengthen OGP institutions and processes in the country.

### **Recommendation 1. Regularly update the national OGP repository with information on the co-creation and implementation processes.**

Albania's national OGP repository contained information on the sixth action plan's co-creation process such as MSC meeting minutes, results of citizen surveys, and a report documenting stakeholders' contributions. However, there was no information or evidence on action plan implementation, or any other updates during the implementation period.

To ensure that the seventh action plan meets the minimum requirements of the [OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards](#), the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) should update the OGP repository at least twice a year with information or evidence on commitment implementation. Information on the repository or evidence is easy to find and searchable. In addition, the OPM should continue to publish information about the next co-creation process, such as the questionnaires, MSC meeting minutes, and written responses to proposals from CSOs.

### **Recommendation 2. Deepen civil society participation.**

Government outreach to, and consultation with, civil society stakeholders during the development of the sixth action plan improved compared to previous action plans. More civil society organizations (CSOs) were involved in the action plan than ever before. However, only a few donor-funded CSOs consistently engaged in the OGP process, and the implementation did not involve substantial discussions with civil society participants.

For the seventh action plan, the OPM could deepen civil society participation in the OGP process. During co-creation, civil society could seek funding from the European Commission, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) or the United Nations to strengthen their representation in the co-creation process. The OPM could use tools like citizen surveys to identify topics for consultations, and digital tools like social media and online surveys to reach a wider audience during co-creation. To deepen civil society participation, the OPM could ensure that there is sufficient time in MSC meetings for meaningful dialogue with civil society stakeholders. Furthermore, the OPM could provide implementation updates to all CSO groups involved in implementing commitments—regardless of whether they're in the MSC—and collect their feedback.

### **Recommendation 3. Involve the Parliament and justice sector in the co-creation process.**

To strengthen the reforms in the seventh action plan, the OPM could involve the Parliament and justice sectors in the co-creation process. This could be achieved through direct participation of these actors in the MSC, or through targeted standalone consultations. To engage the Parliament, the OPM could involve Committee Chairs, the parliamentary secretariat, and the Special Parliamentary Committee for Good Governance, Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption. Albanian stakeholders could conduct a peer exchange with the Assembly of North Macedonia, to learn how they have included and implemented open parliament commitments in the past three North Macedonian OGP action plans. The OPM could also consider engaging the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA) to support open parliament work. To engage the justice sector, the OPM could reach out to the High Judicial Council, the High Prosecutorial Council, the School of Magistrates, the National Association of Judges, and bar associations.

### **Recommendation 4. Support stakeholder capacity to strengthen open government reform.**

While the sixth action plan included several new implementing government institutions and more policy areas, several commitments lacked a clear or strong open government lens. This was particularly evident for commitments led by new ministries, such as commitments which focused on inclusivity in the delivery of healthcare, social services, and education.

For the seventh action plan, the OPM could organize commitment design workshops for government and civil society stakeholders, to ensure that commitments have a strong open government lens. These could take place at the early stages of co-creation and cover open government values as well as guidance for drafting result-oriented commitments. If existing government awareness-raising activities are adapted into action plan commitments, this should be done in a way that adds value to the existing activities.

## Section II: Action Plan Design

The following recommendations offer policy areas for national actors to consider in the next action plan. They may represent opportunities for new commitments to address issues of national importance or to advance existing reforms.

### Area 1. Anti-corruption

Albania has advanced its anti-corruption efforts in the past years, both within and outside the OGP process. The sixth action plan improved public procurement transparency and access to procurement information. Albania adopted an intersectoral [2024–2030 Anti-Corruption Strategy](#), built around prevention, punishment, and awareness-raising. The strategy also identified sectors at higher risk of corruption. Meanwhile, the government's ambition to join the EU by 2030 has created momentum to bring Albanian corruption-prevention legislation in line with European standards, and to address the remaining recommendations of the Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption (GRECO).

For the seventh action plan, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) along with the Ministry of State for Public Administration and Anti-Corruption (MSPAAC) could consider anti-corruption commitments around three pillars: strengthening legal frameworks, building institutional capacity, and monitoring anti-corruption efforts.

- To strengthen legal frameworks, the MSPAAC and other responsible ministries could consider a commitment aligning Albania's whistleblowing legislation with the EU's [Whistleblower Protection Directive](#). They could also consider a commitment to draft a law on political party funding transparency. The law might address the lack of a ceiling on candidate expenditure and obscure regulations on political advertising. The MSPAAC could also commit to implementing a mandatory lobbying register, once the draft law currently in discussion is passed.
- To build institutional capacity, the OPM along with relevant ministries could design a commitment to establish integrity plans in all local government units currently lacking one. The OPM and ministries could draft a commitment to create a national anti-corruption training curriculum through the Albanian School of Public Administration. Another commitment could support capacity building in the Special Structure against Corruption and Organized Crime (SPAK) for investigating corruption cases. Civil society organizations could contribute to these efforts according to their sectoral expertise.
- To strengthen monitoring of anti-corruption efforts, the MSPAAC could introduce a commitment requiring the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption to publish annual progress reports on the implementation of the 2024–2030 Anti-Corruption Strategy with formal participation of civil society organizations with relevant expertise.

### Area 2. Open justice

Albania has introduced justice-related commitments in its fifth and sixth action plans, including publishing accessible and transparent information on the Ministry of Justice website, establishing a directorate to improve citizens' access to legal aid, and awareness-raising of access to justice mechanisms. Judicial reform also remains an important aspect of Albania's EU accession process, which has included introducing a vetting process for judges. This led to 60% of judges [dismissed](#) for failing the asset verification process. These developments highlight institutional momentum for reforms in this policy area.

To strengthen open justice, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) could:

- Introduce commitments increasing the transparency of court proceedings, such as collecting, analyzing, and publishing anonymized open data on court decisions.
- Commit to improving transparency regarding the appointment of court chairs, magistrates, legal advisers, and court staff. For example, the MoJ could publish the criteria and results of vetting processes.
- Collaborate with civil society to address public complaints about justice system actors, with clear pathways for investigating issues and responding to citizens.

To coordinate efforts to improve openness in the justice system, Albania could draw from North Macedonia's [Council for Open Justice](#). The Council includes representatives of judicial institutions and CSOs and facilitates dialogue and coordination between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.

### Area 3. Good governance and public administration reform

Albania has made significant progress in government transparency and state digitalization. The centralized government transparency platform, [Transparentalbania.al](#), includes data on ministries' budgets, state spending, and public projects. The country's open data portal, [Open Data Albania](#), has been upgraded in recent years to include more accessible data and quality metadata. Through the OGP process, Albania's 2023–2025 action plan improved access to public procurement information.

The seventh action plan could consider commitments advancing government transparency and digitalization.

- The Public Procurement Agency could develop a centralized digital public procurement platform expanding transparency across the full procurement cycle and introduce interoperability between procurement and other relevant databases. Such a commitment would also align with the [World Bank-supported public sector reform project](#).
- The Ministry of Finance could enhance budget transparency by introducing a commitment to issue comprehensive budget implementation reporting at the mid-year and year-end points, per the International Budget Partnership's [recommendations](#).
- On state digitalization, the National Agency for Information Society could consider digitizing key aspects of sectors prone to corruption. For example, it could introduce a commitment to digitize the State Cadaster Agency's ownership titles, documents, and

maps, as well as improving the quality and accuracy of cadastral data, addressing a GRECO [recommendation](#).

### Area 4. Citizen engagement

Albania has [improved](#) citizen engagement in policy-making, mainly through strengthening public consultation in drafting acts and laws. Commitment 23 in the 2023–2025 action plan led to a functioning public consultation portal, publication of annual consultation reports, and wider online access to draft laws. However, engagement remains largely procedural, with limited participation from civil society stakeholders; timely and transparent governmental responses are inconsistent.

To advance citizen engagement, the OPM and responsible ministries could:

- Expand the scope of public consultations to secondary legislation, ensuring that civil society and private sector stakeholders are meaningfully included and transparent responses to feedback are consistently provided. Public consultations could also be [strengthened](#) if non-governmental stakeholders received advance notice of upcoming public consultations.
- The National Agency of Information Society could also introduce or improve digital feedback loops. For example, they might expand on initial progress achieved through the commitment in the 2023–2025 OGP action plan to develop citizen feedback mechanisms for e-government services. Such feedback mechanisms could be strengthened by clear case-tracking so citizens may learn how their feedback is being considered by the government.
- Following up on the [2025 legislative amendments on youth policy](#), the OPM could consider a commitment on youth engagement. For example, the National Agency for Information Society and the National Youth Agency could continue a commitment from the 2023–2025 action plan to establish a national youth database, aligning it with the newly amended legislation. Albania could learn from Ukraine's OGP [commitment](#) to create an e-youth digital platform. The Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth could consider a commitment to establish youth consultations on policy areas of particular interest to youth.

### Area 5. Open parliament

Albania has made significant progress toward more parliamentary openness, introducing the first OGP [commitment](#) in this policy area in the 2023–2025 action plan. The commitment aimed to improve e-legislation tools and better implement independent institutions' recommendations but reached limited completion. Outside the OGP process, in 2024, the government [appointed](#) 365 non-governmental expert actors to support drafting laws and strategies. In April 2025, the Parliament also introduced a new public consultation portal, [konsultimpublik.al](#). However, the European Commission's [2025 Communication on EU enlargement policy](#) found that the Parliament's public consultation processes remain limited.

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For the seventh action plan, the Parliament of Albania could introduce commitments enhancing parliamentary openness and increasing the Parliament's involvement in the OGP process. For example, the Parliament could introduce a commitment to expand the e-legislation portal [introduced](#) in June 2025 and make it interoperable with other systems. To support adoption of the new system, the Parliament could introduce a commitment to build capacity of government stakeholders expected to use the system. The Parliament could also commence preparatory work to engage the Parliament to join OGP as a standalone institution. To achieve this, Albania could learn from North Macedonia's [parliamentary OGP action plans](#). To support these efforts, the OPM could consider engaging the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA) to support open parliament work. Finally, the Parliament could think of ways to link initiatives undertaken under the country's participation in OGP with the Parliament Committee on Advancing Reforms on Good Governance, Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption for 2030 Albania in the European Union.

The brief was reviewed by IRM senior staff for consistency, accuracy, and with a view to maximize the context-relevance and actionability of the recommendations. Where appropriate, external reviewers or members of the IRM International Experts Panel (IEP) review briefs.