



### ALBANIA ONE UN COHERENCE FUND FINALPROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE REPORT PILLAR 3 – BASIC SERVICES REPORTING PERIOD: FROM Jan 2007 TO Dec 2011

### **Programme Title & Project Number**

- Programme Title: BASIC SERVICES
- Programme Number (if applicable) N/A
- MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 65659, 65660, 65661, 65662, 65663, 65664, 65665, 65666, 65667, 65668, 65669

### Participating Organization(s)

Organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme

UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO

### Programme/Project Cost (US\$)

Total approved budget as per project document: 7,730,268 MPTF /JP Contribution<sup>4</sup>:

- by Agency (if applicable)
- UNDP 1,405,322
- UNFPA 1,362,890
- UNICEF 4,507,056
- WHO 455,000

Agency Contribution

• by Agency (if applicable)

### Government Contribution

(if applicable)

Other Contributions (donors)

(if applicable) ==

# Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results<sup>2</sup>

(if applicable) Country/Region

**ALBANIA** 

Priority area/ strategic results

BASIC SERVICES

### **Implementing Partners**

- National counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others) and other International Organizations
- Ministry of Labor Social Affairs and Youth; Ministry of Health: Ministry of Education

### **Programme Duration**

Overall Duration (60) Start Date<sup>5</sup> (01.01.2007)

Original End Date<sup>6</sup> (31.12.2011)

Actual End date<sup>7</sup>(31.12.2011)

Have agency(ies) operationally closed the Programme in its(their) system?

Expected Financial Closure date8:

31 August 2014

Yes No 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The term "programme" is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as "Project ID" on the project's factsheet page on the MPTF Office GATEWAY.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The MPTF/JP Contribution is the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations – see MPTF Office GATEWAY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see MPTF Office Closure Guidelines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Financial Closure requires the return of unspent balances and submission of the Certified Final Financial Statement and Report.

TOTAL:	
Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.	Report Submitted By
Evaluation Completed –JPGE mid term evaluation  Yes \( \subseteq \text{No} \) Date: December 2009  Evaluation Report –See attached Joint programme on gender equality mid term evaluation  Yes \( \subseteq \text{No} \) Date: dd.mm.yyyy	<ul> <li>Name: Detlef Palm</li> <li>Title: UNICEF Representative</li> <li>Participating Organization (Lead): UNICEF</li> <li>Email address: dpalm@unicef.org</li> </ul>

### FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Developments in the area of basic service provision (in health, education, social protection and administration of justice) included the issuance of enabling legislation, as part of the government's effort to promote social reforms. In this context, the Health Insurance Institute was identified as the sole purchaser of services in order to overcome the fragmentation in health sector financing. Nevertheless, limited access to quality health care by the most vulnerable social groups and continuing out-of-pocket payments remain a concern.

Public health expenditure of 2.9 percent of GDP continued to be low in comparison with other European countries. Although the latest estimates for neonatal, infant and under-five mortality in Albania, published by the Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality, confirm a further reduction in these indicators, to nine, 16 and 18 deaths per 1,000 live births respectively, disparities persist, with children from poor families and those living in rural and mountainous areas lagging behind.

In education, access to pre-schooling (key to school readiness and further performance) remained at 50 percent on average and was much lower in poor communities. The age group zero to three years remained largely underserved with Early Child Development support (such as better parenting education, access to crèches and integrated health and development services), especially for the most vulnerable children. The Law on Pre-university Education was revised to emphasise disparity barriers, allow schools to add, depending on the needs, a pre-primary year to compulsory education cycle and focus on equitable access of children to quality education. To improve the quality of teaching in schools, MoES issued a regulation on teaching qualifications and professional practice, and streamlined accreditation of training services that is expected to organise teaching services on a national scale. Standards have also been drafted on evaluation of school quality that includes well-defined areas to investigate, benchmark indicators and standard measurement tools.

In November 2011 the Albanian Government signed the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence. This "landmark" Convention puts emphasis on prevention and on ensuring access to critical services for women and girls who have suffered violence. While the signature represents a sign of commitment by the Albanian Government in its efforts to reduce violence against women and domestic violence, a number of measures still need to be taken in order to ratify the Convention.

Alongside concrete institutional improvements, policy implementation constraints related to the capacity of service providers to plan, manage, finance and monitor their work remained significant, especially at the decentralised level. The resources that local authorities are able to mobilise in order to comply with what is expected from them in terms of reaching the most-in-need populations were limited. Service delivery faced many challenges, especially in rural areas. The concept of social protection that would go beyond the distribution of economic aid to include individual case management, counselling and referral to specialised assistance remains to be realised.

### I. Purpose

This pillar is about the access to quality basic services for all Albanians. The UN contributes to a variety of outcomes including those related affordable primary health care at all levels, inclusive education for all children, nutrition, the provision of integrated quality services, juvenile justice, HIV and AIDS and fight against gender-based violence. It is the spirit of this pillar to achieve more and better basic services and provide these in an equitable and sustainable manner to all Albanians.

### II. Assessment of Programme Results

### **Basic services**

UN support continued to focus on strengthening the capacity of government in the delivery of basic services, with particular emphasis on enabling the provision of quality affordable primary health care at all levels, child care reform and the promotion of inclusive quality education for all children (including those in disadvantaged groups). UN assistance also focused on the area of juvenile justice and ensuring the provision of integrated quality services, with emphasis on strengthening the social protection system.

### Quality affordable primary health care at all levels

In the area of Reproductive Health (RH), UN agencies supported a number of initiatives aimed at ensuring better data supply for informed policy making. As part of the Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) surveillance system, UNFPA supported a national study on chlamydia that is expected to release data in 2012. Work has been progressing on the national surveillance systems for congenital malformations and abortions. The latter is now established across the country, with the plans for improved electronic reporting well on track. Enhanced reporting on RH-related cancer was also established. The national Logistics Management Information System (LMIS) has been increasingly in use to monitor the supply and utilisation of RH commodities. The RH Commodity Security Plan for 2012–2016 is currently being revised, under the overall guidance of the Ministry of Health (MoH), while procurement of basic medical equipment for all maternity hospitals in the country has been completed.

Based on a newly accredited programme on Integrated Management of Child Illnesses (IMCI), 40 doctors and nurses from Mother and Child Health (MCH) centres in Korça District were trained with UNICEF support. To make IMCI a two-way road, in five locations in this same district, Community Health Boards are being established to provide direct feedback to practitioners on public health management issues, while at the same time encouraging families to apply the most effective sick child care techniques. Recommendations of the south-east Europe regional conference on vaccination of vulnerable populations translated into targeted interventions in Durres, Tirana, Fier and Elbasan to ensure that Roma children are reached with a basic package of immunisation and other child health services.

The assessment of MCH consulting services was completed with UNICEF support and followed by a detailed implementation plan to introduce the changes recommended. Reorganisation and redefinition of roles in these services will improve the capacity of the consulting centres to deliver quality services in all main preventive MCH areas, including in child development and protection.

For Early Childhood Development (ECD), UNICEF supported GoA in modernising procedures for birth registration (including assisting Roma families with necessary paperwork and in courts), introduced comprehensive ECD training modules for professional caregivers, developed spatial—physical planning standards for nurseries (crèches) and produced a detailed costing analysis of services offered by crèches (including possible ways to optimise the existing system of day-care subsidies to better focus on the families most in need). UNICEF's support to 400 pre-primary classes, which correspond to about 25 percent of all basic education schools, was among the factors that contributed to an increase in pre-school enrolment among five—six year-olds, from 50 to 70 percent. Trainings in better parenting and medical check-ups complemented this intervention in 44 locations in poor rural areas in northern Albania and in six Roma communities.

The Albania Reads children's libraries project supported by UNICEF provided more than 75 percent of Albanian pre-schools with quality books and book shelving, and exposed pre-school teachers to modern ECD approaches—a pragmatic alternative to address the gaps in the in-service teacher training system. A home-visit programme was established in two Roma-populated districts and a parenting education programme was set up in Tirana maternity home to equip young parents with knowledge of child development, thus creating the basis for a future national parenting education programme.

### Promoting inclusive education for all children

In the area of basic education, UN-supported interventions are guided by the National Education Strategy 2004–2015, which links reform of the sector with improved governance in MoES and its regional branches, greater school autonomy and the establishment of accountability tracking mechanisms that would involve parents and communities. Decentralisation shifts initiated in the mid-2000s transferred many operational tasks to the Regional Education Directorates (REDs), municipal and communal authorities and school administrations, but adequate re-distribution of managerial and technical capacities lagged behind. The challenge of decentralisation emphasised the role of the UN in encouraging collaboration among various stakeholders at the local level. As part of MoES's zero drop-out plan, a joint action of central and local governments and cross-sectorial coordination in seven areas (Kukes, Durres, Berat, Korça, Gjirokastra, Fier and Tirana) enabled the school drop-out rate to decrease progressively, while in target schools students with learning difficulties raised their average performance results by one to two grades.

With UN support, a national summer school programme targeting more than 4,000 marginalised Roma children and other students in need of additional academic support helped improve enrolment results for the academic year 2011–2012. A newly emerging experience is being conveyed back to the MoES, via the Institute of Education Development (IED) and the Teaching Institute, for appropriate reflection in policy documents (such as the new Law on Pre-University Education) and in the teacher training curriculum.

Within the framework of the national education sector reform, UNICEF continued to support the National School of Trainers for Pre-University Education. A cohort of 200 education professionals trained as 'interactive education champions' has started sharing innovative methods of classroom management and teaching with other teachers across the country to encourage children to participate actively in the learning process, revealing in the process the problem of hidden drop-out of chronic low performers. The principles of the 'child-friendly school' have been guiding the elaboration of quality and equity assessment tools currently being developed by the National Agency of Inspection and IED. A school-based Education

Management Information System pilot has been evaluated by MoES in Kukes, Korça and Tirana regions, with the view of further scaling up.

Three Regional Parents Boards have been piloted as a new addition to the education sector management system by REDs in Kukes, Korça and Gjirokastra, who continued to play an important consultative role in education issues. Their feedback was also sought for review of a new law on pre-university education. A model of well-functioning interaction between student governments and the REDs in Kukes and Korça is under evaluation and providing encouraging results for the national scaling up.

### Nutrition

In the area of child nutrition, the UN Joint Programme Reducing Malnutrition in Children implemented by World Health Organisation (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and UNICEF supported the introduction of new training modules on nutrition for primary health care providers (through accreditation by the National Centre for Continuous Health Education) and trained the first group of 200 professionals from the predominantly rural regions of Kukes and Shkodra, and from two suburban areas of Tirana. The UN joint programme supported the development of new public health nutrition curricula and interactive teaching techniques, in collaboration with experts from the Tirana University faculties of Medicine and Nursing.

Findings from a baseline survey on nutrition and food security are being used to plan and target interventions, while active participation of key stakeholders was ensured through regional conferences held in Kukes and Shkodra. A food security scale was tested and validated statistically. With UN support, agriculture specialists built their capacities in policy analysis and decision making through participation in a training in crop assessment and forecasting. A communication plan for behavioural change for improved nutrition practices was prepared in collaboration with Albanian experts and officially approved by the Minister of Health.

National flour fortification plans were boosted, with UN support, by the high-level advocacy mission of the global flour fortification initiative in late 2011. The Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) training programme expanded in Durres, Korça, Kukes, Gjirokastra, Saranda and Fier. In Durres BFHI spread beyond hospitals into communities, which committed themselves to establishing mother support groups to advocate for best practices in infant and young child feeding. The importance of encouraging healthier eating and nutrition habits among children of all ages inspired a cross-sectorial initiative between IPH and IED that produced an outline of the future curriculum materials to be used by schoolchildren in all grades from one to nine.

In the context of the joint programme on nutrition, the UN continued to support GoA with the implementation of the Law on Universal Salt Iodisation aiming at the elimination of iodine deficiency disorders. Partnerships were built with the private sector, with more than 220 representatives of the food processing industry in four additional regions involved in capacity building and awareness-raising activities for the use of iodised salt in food processing.

## Promoting the provision of integrated quality services

With UNICEF support, MoLSAEO launched a process of social service reform through a large international conference held in Tirana in November 2010. A roadmap for decentralised provision of statutory social services, and the roles of regulators and service providers, are currently being discussed based on technical advice offered by UNICEF. The overall aim of this collaboration is to establish an effective family outreach, individual case management and a referral system stretching beyond the current scope of economic aid disbursement. The mapping of available service delivery centres was completed, and its directory made available on the MoLSAEO website, in order to plan for an optimal balance between the geographical distribution of the services across the country and that of the beneficiaries, and to examine the current quality and outreach capacity.

Standards of foster care have been developed and approved by CoM. Two manuals for social workers and foster families have been tested and published. Government has begun, for the first time, the process of deinstitutionalisation for 80 children in Tirana and Shkodra, out of the approximately 600 children in residential care. Advocacy for larger application of the UN guidelines on alternative care continues. In June 2011, a national conference was convened by MoLSAEO, in collaboration with UNICEF, to endorse a road map for government on further measures in this area.

The National Child Helpline, in its third year of implementation, remains an important component of the child protection system. It handles about 330 calls a day from children in need of counselling and referral, including emergency services. All phone companies in Albania provide the calls for free. A fundraising strategy was finalised with UN support to help 'ALO 116' raise more funds from the private sector.

As of 2011, Child Protection Units (CPUs) are operating in 28 municipalities or communities, identifying children and families at risk and referring them to health, education, legal aid and other services. UNICEF supported the design and start-up costs of the model, which is now funded by other donors and local governments. Service delivery protocols for child protection workers, endorsed by MoLSAEO, are now operational. Although the numbers are not alarmingly high, child abuse in connection with begging or trading remains a concern. In addition to the CPU, Tirana Municipality, with UN support, has established a multi-purpose centre to protect children from abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation, with the target beneficiary population represented by seven Roma and Egyptian communities—a total of about 1,000 persons, half of them children. Families and children are supported with psychosocial, legal and health services, food distribution and educational activities.

### Juvenile justice

In the area of juvenile justice the application of alternatives to detention (community services or probation orders, or both) in seven regions reached approximately 240 cases, approximately 25 percent of the total number of juvenile offence cases. Victim and offender mediation services, while in contact with the police, in penitentiary or during probation, were provided in 280 cases in six regions. Free legal assistance for juveniles in pre-trial detention was offered in approximately 120 cases in five regions. With UNICEF support, approximately 130 youths benefitted from the social rehabilitation programme at Kavaja Reintegration Institute and the aftercare programme The Sky is for All.

The visit by a prominent human rights advocate and France's former Minister of Justice Robert Badinter constituted an influential advocacy opportunity that helped seal the government's commitment in the field of juvenile justice. The three messages cutting through Mr Badinter's advocacy emphasised the necessity of:
a) taking concrete steps to minimising the time juveniles spend in detention awaiting trial, b) providing education and psychosocial support for offenders under the age of criminal responsibility, and c) education and social reintegration measures to be made available, in good quality, in all facilities where children are held.

In this context, UNICEF provided technical support and expertise to the formulation of a draft Justice for Children Strategy, in close consultation with key stakeholders through the International Consortium and Juvenile Justice Sub-Committee. For the first time in Albania, the Justice for Children Strategy will address not only children and young people in conflict with the law but also those who are either victims or witnesses of crime. The findings of a UNICEF-commissioned assessment of security measures, investigation and judiciary process deadlines applied to juveniles in Albania *de jure* and *de facto* have informed the strategy, while a special costing tool specifically tailored for juvenile justice measures will help the action planning from the fiscal perspective. Adoption of the strategy and accompanying action plan is expected in early 2012, and is proceeding in parallel to Albania's Code of Penal Procedures being revised in terms of its responsiveness to juvenile justice issues.

### **HIV & Aids**

In addressing the threat of HIV & Aids, data collection as a base for evidence-driven decisions continued to be a priority. A UNAIDS-supported study to estimate the size of injecting drug users (IDUs) and men having sex with men (MSM) was conducted and the results presented to stakeholders in the National AIDS programme at IPH. Similarly, UNAIDS funds supported research into the uptake of services among the Roma population, with the results expected to be released in 2012. The Biological Behavioural Surveillance Study (BIO BSS) was jointly supported by UNDP and the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria in 2011. The data, focusing on most at-risk populations in Tirana, have been collected, to feed into the United Nations General Assembly (UNGASS) report in 2012.

In planning the response, attention focused on groups of particular vulnerability, such as most at-risk adolescents (MARA)<sup>9</sup>. At-risk adolescents constitute one of the priorities in the forthcoming National HIV and Aids Strategy. Both this Strategy and the National Action Plan for MARA 2011–2015 will include the principle of gender sensitivity. UNAIDS, UNICEF and UNFPA supported the development of a Communication for Behavioural Impact (COMBI) campaign targeting young people. In close collaboration with MoES, the COMBI initiative will be piloted among grade eight and nine students, as a way of conveying elements of sexual education to adolescents. Albania's network of Voluntary Counselling and Testing Centres has been encouraged to interact closely with local education and social protection services, NGOs, media and youth organisations to increase their outreach effectiveness vis-à-vis most at-risk groups.

In this context, UNICEF supported various techniques of harm reduction or minimisation of drug use initiation risk, such as the project Break the Cycle, which will feed, along with other elements, into the first

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Includes adolescent IDUs and MSMs, trafficked adolescents forced to engage in transactional sex, and adolescents engaged in sex work.

national Strategy for Drug Prevention and Control 2012–2016, which UNICEF is currently assisting government to develop.

In terms of medical supplies, UNICEF supported MoH in procuring anti-retroviral medicines (offered by government free of charge to about 140 HIV patients). In 2011, UNICEF and UNAIDS initiated discussions with MoH, offering their expertise in streamlining public procurement processes, facilitating access to the international market of medicines and assessing the feasibility of sustainable long-term procurement arrangements.

World Aids Day 2011 was commemorated as an awareness-raising event, with participation of high-level officials from GoA and UN agencies. Participation of civil society was active, with presentation of its work on prevention and control of HIV in Albania, and the involvement of young people was particularly remarkable. In recognition of UNFPA's distinguished contribution in the fight against HIV and AIDS, a special Hippocrates Prize was awarded to the agency by the President of the Republic of Albania, Mr Bamir Topi.

### Combating gender-based violence

In combating Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Public Health Directorates (PHDs) became a driving force in expanding the knowledge on GBV contained in an accredited training programme introduced successfully by UNFPA in 2010 in the 36 districts of Albania (mainly targeting the structure of the primary health care women's consulting centres). Using a cascade approach and the network and Training of Trainers (ToT) in six regions (Durres, Lezha, Dibra, Elbasan, Korça and Fier), PHDs managed to reach about 800 practitioners, illustrating local MoH structures' leadership and commitment to building the capacity of services is directly benefitting the communities.

In June 2011, GoA, with UNDP support, opened the first national shelter for survivors of domestic violence. This represents a considerable investment, in terms of infrastructure work and purchase of equipment and furniture, but, more importantly, also as a solid legal and institutional framework in which the shelter will operate. To this end, UNDP provided technical assistance for: i) MoLSAEO to develop a regulatory framework for the shelter, including advocacy related to a CoM Decision on the standards of services to be offered by shelters designed to host women and children subjected to domestic violence, ii) a thorough regulation over licensing of shelters, iii) a professional and detailed manual for shelter employees, and iv) a series of MoUs among different public agencies to facilitate local services availability. A comprehensive training programme for shelter staff was also an integral part of the package. In June 2011, the newly appointed staff of the shelter underwent an eight-day training on the legal framework and the basics of the phenomenon of domestic violence, and built initial skills in treating domestic violence survivors. Staff also benefited from the extensive experience of a psychologist who conducted a more advanced training in counselling to address the challenges of supporting survivors.

The community-coordinated response systems built with UNDP support in Korça, Durres and Kamza have progressed well. In particular, the municipalities of Korça and Durres established free-of-charge telephone numbers for reporting incidents of domestic violence, continued to provide domestic violence prevention coordinators' salaries and established positive models of cooperation with local NGOs with a view to outsourcing services such as psychological counselling, transportation to a safe place, legal assistance, etc. The coordinated handling of cases resulted in an increase in the number of domestic violence reports as

public confidence in the authorities grows. Electronic databases are maintained regularly and constitute a solid base for effective information sharing among agencies.

The positive UN-supported practices of these municipalities convinced CoM of the benefits of applying the same model in all LGUs in Albania. This led to approval of the CoM Decision on the setting up and functioning of a National Referral Mechanism against Domestic Violence. This decision follows up on the latest improvements in the Law on Measures against Violence in Family Relations.

All of these interventions have run parallel to public awareness campaigns supported by UNDP and UNFPA in order to raise the issue of gender equality and domestic violence and of the legal remedies and institutional arrangements available to survivors. Throughout 2011, UNDP provided numerous cross-discipline or specially tailored training sessions for various categories of professionals on the requirements of the Law on Measures against Family Relations and the newly adopted CoM Decision on the Referral Mechanism, in order to create a common understanding of the duties and responsibilities of all public authorities concerned, while UNFPA prepared doctors and nurses with specialised skills to detect, record, treat and refer GBV and domestic violence cases.

In addressing violence in schools, kindergartens and child care institutions MoES, with UNICEF support, launched a COMBI plan in schools targeting up to 40,000 teachers and more than 600,000 school children. The initiative encourages teachers and caregivers to choose alternative disciplinary measures rather than resorting to physical or psychological violence. The aim is to contribute to a reduction in the current levels of reported violence by 80 percent by the end of the programme in 2014. All across the country, up to 40,000 teachers and more than 600,000 school children are the key targets and active agents of the programme.

# ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

Using the Programme Results Framework from the Project Document / AWPs - provide details of the achievement of indicators at both the output and outcome level in the table below. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, clear explanation should be given explaining why.

2011, reachable at http://www.un.org.al/subindex.php?faqe=details&id=64&mnu=32 Progress towards outcomes was not reported in a Reporting, based on progress towards outcomes, through contributing outputs, is available in the Annual Reports of the Program for 2007single results framework with corresponding indicators.

### iii) Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

### The Joint Programme on Gender Equality

The JPGE is part of the Albania One UN Programme (2007-2010), jointly developed and implemented since July 2008 by UNIFEM, UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA. The overall goal of the JPGE is to support the coordinated implementation of Albania's National Strategy for Gender Equality and Domestic Violence (NSGE-DV) 2007-2010. The overall goals of the JPGE are to achieve the following desired impact: 1) National Government has capacity to more effectively monitor and implement the NSGE-DV; 2)Improved public sector response to women's needs and priorities at the local level;3)Women participating in the accountability processes which impact the advancement of GE; 4)Improved coordination of external support to the Government of Albania (GoA) and civil society in advancing GE. A Mid Term evaluation of the four pillars of the JPGE was commissioned in 2009 and below you can find some recommendations coming from this process

### **Main Conclusions and Recommendations**

This report evaluates progress achieved at the mid-term stage of implementation of the Joint UN Programme on Gender Equality (JPGE) in Albania, which aims to support the coordinated implementation of Albania's National Strategy for Gender Equality and Domestic Violence (NSGE-DV) 2007-2010. This Programme aims to address the inequality between women and men which persists in this country as part of the overall effort to build a pluralist democratic society and gain accession to the EU. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess progress against outcomes and outputs in order to fine tune the remaining activities to be carried out in 2010, and to render accountability to the beneficiaries, donor agencies, GoA officials and implementing agencies. The evaluation is based on a triangulation of data obtained from focus groups conducted in July 2009 and interviews conducted in December 2009 with key stakeholders, a review of relevant documentation and observation of certain Programme activities. The intention was to provide insights into progress as perceived by key stakeholders, put together by an external evaluator to provide a more neutral framework for a consideration of issues arising in implementation. The overall opinion generated by this process is that the JPGE is effectively employing its advantage of delivering as One UN, to build up what can be seen as a synergetic ally constructed multi-pronged complex adaptive system to guarantee GE and respect for WHR throughout the country, in compliance with the national application of international norms and standards. The diagram below represents how this is being done.

Working as one and the internal coordination of agency activities permits the four UN agencies involved to have **greater synergetic combined effect**. Stakeholders considered that the most important aspect of JPGE was the synergy created between implementing partner organisations. It was widely commented that not only was the coordination between UN agencies much improved, but it was moreover having the side effect of improving coordination and collaboration between line ministries. This synergy is propelled by the national Albanian aspiration to become part of Europe, join NATO and the EU, given that enhancing GE is widely seen as instrumental to achieving this goal.

Some key challenges identified by the mid-term evaluation are:

1. Who provides the funds and when for implementing the NSGE-DV, and the relationship of this issue to who owns and who leads the work on GE. The UN are prepared to fund start up costs, but it is clear that real ownership and leadership on the part of the GoA will exist when they allocate the funds to carry out their own strategy and legal commitments to GE. However, interviews with government officials indicate that there is a desire for the UN to continue longer in its provision of funds, and has not assigned sufficient funds for GE and DV as yet.

- 2. The appointment and employment of full-time gender equality employees both at ministerial and municipal levels, and whether these should be add-on responsibilities for staff with a post which already has a full set of tasks, or full-time posts in themselves. The GEL mandates the establishment of these positions. However, they have not yet been appointed either in ministries or municipalities, no budgets for their salaries have been allocated, and this is holding back the implementation of key aspects of the JPGE, particularly under Outcome 1.
- 3. **The programme is not long enough** to achieve the sustainability of its outcomes and should be continued beyond its originally agreed end date.

### **Key Recommendations resulting from the Evaluation**

- To constantly review the effectiveness of interactions between organisations and individuals in order to maximise the synergetic capacity of the Programme.
- To develop a realistic plan for future financial resourcing by the GoA for both ministerial and municipal services related to GE and DV needs, and for the decentralisation of funding needed, so that the sustainability of the interventions being promoted can be ensured.
- To clarify and agree Gender Equality Employees funded by the GoA in all ministries and municipalities. The compromise of part-time posts should be explored. In order to maximise their effectiveness, it should be clarified that the function of these persons is to facilitate the integration of gender into everyone's job and policies, and not to be responsible themselves for all work related to gender.
- To extend the JPGE in terms of time and regions covered.

# CERTIFICATION ON OPERATIONAL CLOSURE OF THE PROJECTS - PILLAR III BASIC SERVICES

,这是一个人,这是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是 一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人,也是一个人

RESULT 3.1.1 - Inclusive policies, regulatory and institutional frameworks

100 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	25.50
342.1 342.1 3 25.0 3 20.0	× 2 0 0 0
2	**************************************
2.20 2.20 2.20 1.10 2.20 1.10 2.20 1.10 2.20 1.10 2.20 1.10 2.20 1.10 2.20 1.10 2.20 1.10 2.20 1.10 2.20 2.2	
2 3 4	
01.200 01.200 01.200	
UND ON	
Mices Vices Vices	
asic Ser	
2 2 2 P	
ance Fu	
Fund UN Coherence F UN Coherence F UN Coherence F UN Coherence F	
One UN	
Albania Albania Albania	
Alban Alban Alban	
A SA CAMBAN AND A SA CAMBAN AN	
We poli	
**************************************	
LB Resi	
Project 1D	
Project ID	

RESULT 3.1.2 - User Groups, health care services

<b>udget</b> 57, 400 00	74,500.00
1.12.20 1.12.20	
007 - 3	
01.012	
- C - O - V	
ONDP UNICEF	
emie srvices	
Sasic Se	
PE	
es ca	
3 5   8 8	
Albania Albania	
Alban	
scription roups	
1 5 5 5 E	
Result 3	
A A B	
Project II D0065660 00065660	
<b>%</b> [8]	

RESULT 3.2.1 - Inclusion of children from marginalized groups

Budger 655,060,00 855,080,00
. 2007 - 31.12.2011
Organization NICEF [01.01
Basic Services UN
Fund Fund W Coherence Fund
Country Abana On
<b>5</b> 2 2 3 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5
Project ID   Project description = 00065661   ALB Result 3.2.1 - Inclusion of children
Project ID

Result 3.2.2 - Standards for sector reform

	٦
388	
	Ì
8 8 8 8	Minima
9 8 8	T.
200	1
ET E	ł
	l
are property of	j
EEE	
13 13	
28	
- <b>6</b>	
N	
<b>瀬戸15</b>	
\$ dy man and the b	
LUTAS A	
F 5	
ganization EF	
i di	
l≅ίo≘i	
### <b>5</b>	
Patrid	
- N 0	
E S	
= <del> </del> S	
5 5 5 6 1 W	
THE E	
ď	
8	
emende	
2 E 9	
- 2	
EIS	
起ラ	
-55	
2	
- lbi	
ro.	
E E	
ق	
<u> </u>	
<u> 2</u> 0	
<b>6</b> 8	
<b>S</b> eq	
De State	
eton.	
ar reform	
ğ	
<b>3 5</b>	
E 3	
'¥ a	
2 .	
D E	
80 5	
밀레	
為湯	
<b>3</b>	
15/15	
2	
#1일   	
191	
<b> </b>	
al I	
불의	
#181	
200	
<b>E</b> [8]	
<b>≣</b> [©]	

Result 3.2.3 - Participate more actively in school administration and governance

1818
#1818
- FI 7
世で下
<b>3</b>  - =
Processia
EXECUTE 1
25
B    B
- <b>₹</b> ∂
8
- I
101
-
○ <u>.</u>
100
- M
8 h
-69
- Z
74.F. 1 87
Aces //ces
<b>E E S</b>
<b>2</b> 0
- v
変換器
Basic
5250
2
333 5I
- TE
6)
## <b>[</b> [
2 2
a E
E R
933
5 m
2
12, ket
3 a
ا ع ا
<b>221</b>
Em
<b>受事[2]</b>
318
986] [
\$2
ं ही
::12l
5 .
看情
존의
<b>5</b> 18
<b>数 의</b>
<b>6</b> [2]
क्ष है।
<b>@</b> [a.]
2
a 🖂
[S]
調査
3
اصلا
47
٥
<b>3</b> 6
<b>3</b>
98
Project 00006556
رقاق

Result 3.2.4 - Promoting Inclusive Education for All Children

Elle	9
اةال	0
<b>9</b> 00	8
38	89
10 10	ž,
Personal College	
<b>建建工工</b>	
8	
C.	
<b>□ □ □</b>	
5 (*)	
- B.	
i j	
,	
5	
E 2	
ĕ	
N	
200	
<b>29</b>	
	-
S.	
<b>2</b> S	
Then Basic Serv	
(S)	
[일	
100	
8	
15	
اق	
9	
<b>≧</b>  ⊼	
22	
15	
2	
2 2	
[8]	
[#]	
Maria III	
- <b>2</b> c	
8 8	
- <b>U</b>	
9921	
58	
- 16 C C	
<b>B</b> 8	
5 6	
9 C	
3 -	
<b>8</b> 0	
ੋਂ	
P. A	
Sul 3.24 - ICT in education	
<b>4</b>	
2	
(T)	
₹	
Z X	
<b>rojec</b> t II 065664	
Projec 00656	
10000 10000	

RESULT 3.3.1 - Child Protection Legislation Policies

Budgot 50 ond.eo 1,750,996.00
80 1 178 180
Organization   Period   Political   DIO   Political   DIO   DIO
Period 77 - 31.12
01.01.2007
Jon Bar
UNDP UNICEF
Treme Services
Sast Sen
nd oterence Fur oterence Fur
Se CNO
Albania
ania ania
Albani
ection Rection
scription protection
3.1. Onld
ALB Result 3.3.1 - Child protection
Project ID Project ID DIOS SEGS
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Result 3.3.2 - Juvenile Justice WPTF Project ID Project			
Result 3.2 - Juvenile Justice WPTF 7 - Juvenile Justice 00065666 ALB Result 3.3.2 Juveni	Pro-market and open control of the c	Helton Ustice Abana Abana One UN Coherence Fund Basic Services UNICEF 01.01.2007-31.12.2011 545,000.0	00'000'595
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	The state of the s	Indion Ustice Abana Ab	

Result 3.3.4 - User Groups, social services 

Project description Country   3.3.3 - User groups Abana	
	Project description         Country         Find         Find         Does seed         Criganization         Period         Birdget           2005 Seed 7         ALIB Result 3.3.3 - User groups         Abbania         Abbania One UN Coherence Fund Basic Services         UNICEF         01.01 2007 31.12.2011         450,000           450,000 1         Abbania         Abbania One UN Coherence Fund Basic Services         UNICEF         01.01 2007 31.12.2011         450,000

Result 3.3.4 - Registration of stateless persons (Roma)

Pagistration Aberia Ore UN Coherence Fund Basic Services UNCEF 101.01.2007 - 31.12.2011 40,000.00	Period Country  Countering Albania One UN Coherence Fund Basic Services UNICEF 01.01.2007 - 31.12.2011 260.000.00  State of the Countering Albania One UN Coherence Fund Basic Services UNICEF 01.01.2007 - 31.12.2011 260.000.00  State of the Countering Albania One UN Coherence Fund Basic Services UNICEF 01.01.2007 - 31.12.2011 260.000.00	William Committee the Committee of the C
MATERIA Project Gescription 00065888 ALB Result 3.3.4 - Registration	Result 3.35 - Countering  MPTF Frolect ID  COGESCE   ALB Result 3.35 - Countering  COGESCE   ALB Result 3.35 - Countering	

By signing, Participating UN Organizations certify first the projects under Pillar # . Basic Sondoes have been operationally completed.

GRAND TOTAL BASIC SERVICES

Successive Date of Allege. UNDP Ns. Yesim Onic Country Director Signature Date

UNFPA Ms. Manuela Bello Assistent Representative Signature

WHO Satyz Bezayklyched

UNICEF Mr. Defres Pater Representative

7,730,268.80

Sumanue Agel K. 2 7.7. Sale 2.1.

510 36

Signature Date