Feasibility study for the implementation of EITI data integrated system in Albania

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1. Executive Summary

This feasibility study is focused on integrated assessment system for EITI data. The study was undertaken in close cooperation with EITI and all interested parties. For preparing this report we have been held meetings with the representatives of the information technology departments for each of the institutions. Data and information that we are referring to are taken from meetings and electronic communications between the interested parties, as well as documents, laws and other important information for the performance of the published study.

This study is the first project step to computerize EITI data system in an institutional level. The study was conducted by a team of DMCS's experts. The team of experts\(^1\) has developed the necessary recommendations based on meetings with EITI staff's and representatives of other stakeholders such as the Ministry of Finance, General Directorate of Taxation, General Directorate of Customs and NANR, based on relevant documents and best practices from similar projects. The study consists on seven sections where the second section presents the study objectives as well as information about the concerned parties. The third chapter reflects DMCS methodology followed for the conduction of this feasibility study and evaluation method that is followed to reach the following conclusions.

In the fourth section are reflected the analysis of the current situation for each of the institutions. The working group has assessed the respective institutions if they possess a system for keeping and data processing, as well as the institutions integrating possibility with EITI. The team of experts has evaluated the broadcasting possibility in an automated form by the system of interested parties to the EITI system via secure GovNET channel. Following our work is carried out the evaluation in the case when institutions possess a system for receiving and sending data through GovNET and where the institution does not have such a system. It is also evaluated the plan for the computerized system construction in the future and the staff possibilities on the process of systems integration or if the system should be maintained by a third party. Also, this section gives an overview of the legal framework involved in the integration process of EITI system with the interested parties and whether it needs any changes or additions to consolidate this process.

\(^1\) The team consists of three experts: Mr. Dritan Mezini, Mr. Silvin Laze and Mr. Ervin Carku IT experts
EITI system approach is reflected in the fifth section which presents the functional requirements and non-functional requirements of the system that EITI should have. Also is described the whole process for the interoperability framework reflecting the interaction among the interested parties and technical specifications to achieve this integration by describing the steps to be taken for the implementation of institutional interaction.

In the following sections are presented our conclusions and solutions that are suggested to EITI to integrate the data system. At the end of the report are recommended two alternatives, automated alternatives (online) and manual alternatives (offline).

In the manual alternative the system in EITI will not be part of GovNET and the data are transmitted through secondary channels such as CD, web application, FTP and so on, in a predetermined format among the interested parties. EITI should import these data into the computerized system where the system produces reports to be used in the final report. In this alternative are included only the construction costs of the computerized system and the server where this system will be installed. Given that in this alternative are not included the connection costs with GovNET as well as hardware and software equipment that are needed, the total cost is lower than the automated alternatives and is evaluated at a total cost of 92,400 USD.
In the automated option are included all interested parties that possess a computerized system for data storage and are part of GovNET. In this alternative system of EITI should be part of GovNET and the required data by EITI are transmitted through the ESB channel part of GovNET. With this method are avoided the errors arising from human factor in laying and data processing. Also the data to be transmitted are digitally certified by who can prove their authenticity and security during transmission. This alternative has higher costs than the first explained option above because there are included the construction costs of EITI system and the connection costs with GovNET. After the analysis that are done in the six chapter, the implementation of this alternative has an estimate cost of 259,440 - 270,720 USD.

We suggest implementing it sub divided in two steps. First is the creation of a manual system estimated to be completed within 6 months. In the second phase, the system will be developed and extended including the communication through ESB channel part of GovNET, allowing data exchange between institutions in the faster process, more accurate and safer.