



EITI Albania

Open Data Policy

Preamble

This document is EITI Albania policy on Open data in accordance with the EITI Standard, and our endorsement of the Open Data Definition in accordance with the International Open Data Charter: **Open data, is digital data that is made available with the technical and legal characteristics necessary for it to be freely used, reused, and redistributed by anyone, anytime, anywhere.**

The Albania EITI policy and agenda on Open Data will be part of the overall national agenda on Open Government Data recognizing the impact that transparency, fighting corruption and citizen's participation has in the social and economic development of the country.

During the establishment of the new government in September 2013, Mr. Edi Rama, Prime Minister of Albania, among other things for "creating a fair society", declared open and transparent governance as one of the key priorities of the national agenda. Based on these priorities and with increasing demands from the public for transparent and accountable governance, Albania is going through very significant and massive transformations in regard to its Digital Agenda for 2015-2020 on E-governance and Information Society strategy and as part of its OGP commitments on "Open Data" , (see http://www.inovacioni.gov.al/files/pages_files/Digital_Agenda_Strategy_2015_-_2020.pdf). Albania, like Europe and the world, is embracing this digital revolution to support government systems, by creating new opportunities for citizens and business to benefit. In this context, the Government of Albanian has taken a strong commitment towards supporting and promoting digital initiatives as a powerful tool that leads to modernized governance, increased know-how for a society that is more open, and a sustainable economic development for its citizens.

Our Open Data Vision

A society based in knowledge and information, through the consolidation of digital infrastructure in the whole territory of the Republic of Albania; improvement of the quality of online public services and increase of governance transparency.

Our Open Data Principles

We fully endorse the international principles on "open data" that define data should be:

1. Open by default;
2. Timely and comprehensive;

3. Accessible and usable;
4. Comparable and interoperable;
5. For improved governance and citizen engagement;
6. For inclusive development and innovation;

Our Content Use policy will be:

Unless otherwise noted, you may republish our content for free, by giving credit to our source (for web with direct link, for print with EITI Albania, albeiti.org).

Our Open Data Objectives

Increase transparency for the public. We recognize that free access to, and subsequent use of government data is of significant value to society and the economy, and that government data should, therefore, be open by default.

This serves the interest of communication with the public and the fight against corruption; This activity aims at increasing the public credibility towards the Government, enhancing information related to governmental income and expenditure, for the recruitment process and operation of state administration, for governmental obligations and engagements, current legislation and legal initiatives, decisions and orders, international engagements, etc. This part of the programme also included the obligations deriving from the initiative for an open partnership (OGP).

Our Open Data Priorities

- a) Include Natural Resource governance and open data for EITI, at the national priorities for open data government systems by default and work towards mainstreaming the creation of open data for EITI into government systems to ensure timeliness, data quality, reuse and cost effectiveness.
- b) Implement legal changes that will enable and regulate release, publication and open data per each government agency dealing with natural resource governance.
- c) Conduct end-user surveys to establish the format and quality of data are user friendly, fully described, with sufficient information to understand their strengths, weaknesses, analytical limitations, and security requirements, as well as how to process the data;
- d) Exchange with other countries on technical expertise to maximise the potential of open data;

- e) Work to increase open data literacy and encourage people, such as developers of applications and civil society organisations that work in the field of open data promotion, to unlock the value of open data;
- f) Ensure that data is interoperable with national and international standards, including adopting data standards approved by the EITI board and additional guidance provided by the EITI secretariat;