

THE GRIEVANCE READRESS MECHANISM

Grant TF0B9998 “Support to Albania Extractive Industries Mainstreaming Process” funded by the World Bank

The implementation of the Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) supports GoA’s efforts to improve governance and enhance transparency in the energy, mining, and oil and gas sectors. This technical assistance for EITI implementation in Albania is in line with the 2023-2027 Country Partnership Framework (CPF), and the Systematic Country Diagnostic Update (SCD Update) “Next Generation Albania”. Greater transparency in natural resources production figures, licenses allocation, payments, and revenues can enhance revenue mobilization, boost prospective investor’s confidence, and enhance private sector development. This could support Albania in consolidating its credibility with international public and private partners.

The SCD Update for Albania also identifies enhancing governance, transparency, and accountability of government as a fundamental priority in achieving the Bank’s twin goals. The continued implementation of EITI in Albania strongly contributes to this policy priority of enhancing governance, transparency, and accountability in the extractive sector. The policy actions recommended for this barrier include cutting the regulatory burden across the board and strengthening the policy, legal and institutional framework. The project will use the EITI platform to increase knowledge of the legal and institutional framework for investments in the mining, oil, and gas sectors with the objective of enhancing the overall growth of transparency in the extractives sector.

The activities also support thematic components for Albania’s 2020-2022 Open Government Partnership strategy with support to anti-corruption efforts through the beneficial ownership implementation, support to digital governance through the open data portal and the mining cadastre, and fiscal transparency with the disclosure of extractive sector data.

The project is funded by the Extractive Global Programmatic Support (EGPS). It is aligned with EGPS Component One 'Improving extractives sector revenue transparency and efficiency of public management systems' to increase the impact and efficiency of the transparency agenda.

The project’s activities will enable EITI Albania stakeholders to improve sector governance by providing access to best practices in sector governance to key institutions in the central and local government) involved in extractive sector management through studies, training, and consultations. Thus, the beneficiaries will enhance their capacities for monitoring compliance with the legal and regulatory framework and for engaging in transparent consultations over risks and benefits of the extractive sector.

The project seeks to achieve the following key outcomes:

- Removal of regulatory barriers to data access;
- Increase EITI reporting by public and private organizations;
- Improved the quality and timeliness of published extractive sector data;
- Maintenance of Albania's validation status with 'meaningful performance' or better;
- Improved citizen engagement and awareness of citizens of natural resource management at local and national levels;
- Increased capacity to report gender gaps and environmental and social impacts;

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