

Albania Program Summary

Albania’s program is focused on reforming the country’s public procurement process and strengthening the Tirana Tax Department to promote fiscal transparency and accountability. It is also supporting the establishment of a National Registration Center to help combat corruption in business registration.

Program Highlights

- ★ Albania’s new electronic-procurement system has yielded 62 electronic awards totaling \$25 million, or 5.3 percent of total procurement value in 2008 through September 19. By June 2008, the Public Procurement Authority had expanded use of the e-procurement system to 14 ministries and contract authorities.
- ★ Before the e-procurement system, there was no reliable information on how many government procurements in Albania were open to competition versus those that were sole-sourced to one company. The e-procurement system can now generate these statistics.
- ★ From January through June 2008, 97 percent of public procurements in Albania were completed via open competition. Threshold Program assistance helped the the Public Procurement Advocate’s Office develop a case management tool to track complaints and issue reports.
- ★ The National Registration Center has processed over 65,000 business registration applications, including over 16,700 new registrations, since opening its Tirana headquarters in September 2007.
- ★ 3,105 tax declarations were electronically filed between April and June 2008—a 415 percent increase over the previous quarter—and approximately 49,900 tax forms were downloaded from the General Directorate of Taxation website. There was a 54% increase in e-filing from May to June alone.
- ★ The General Directorate for Taxation established connectivity between the headquarters and 11 regional General Directorate of Taxation offices, enabling the tax department to centralize and integrate the databases of regional tax offices.

Threshold Status	
Status.....	Implementation, Year 2
Threshold Information	
Total Amount.....	\$13.85 million
Duration.....	2 years
Agreement Signed.....	April 3, 2006
Country Information	
Population.....	3,129,678*
GNI Per Capita Income.....	\$2,580

*World Development Indicators, World Bank, 2005