

apply professional and transparent service standards. In drawing up the training programmes, account will be taken of the fact that they may also be replicated for others.

c) *Preparation of accession negotiations for EU membership.* Advice is provided on the process for the identification of the **relevant players** (including the civil society), setting up the **structures** required for conducting the negotiations, and the drafting of **rules of procedures** for the areas of Acquis for which MEDTTE has the lead. Consultation is also provided on the procedures and instruments required to do the **pre-screenings** in the fields of legislation relating to the economy and trade for which MEDTTE is in charge.

Law 'On the status of the civil servant' of 2013 stipulates that the Albanian School of Public Administration (**ASPA**) must be the main institution responsible for the public administration trainings. The competence in providing training to the civil servants lies with such body. The project closely cooperates with ASPA in developing new, useful, updated, and replicable **training curricula, programmes and formats** for the three complementary focus areas of the project. The trainings are **jointly assessed** with ASPA.

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Harmonization of Economic
and Trade Legislation with EU acquis

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Harmonisation of Economic and Trade Legislation with EU acquis



Implemented by  Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

GIZ relies on more than 20 years of legal expertise with legal reform in Albania and in South East Europe. This bilateral project “Harmonisation of Economic and Trade Legislation with EU acquis” has started on 1 January 2015 and will last until 31 December 2018. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Its main political partner is the Ministry of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade and Entrepreneurship (MEDTTE).

Background

The integration of Albania in EU is since 2003 the key element of Albanian politics. On 27 June 2014, Albania received the EU candidate status, and is waiting to open soon the accession negotiations. Membership in the European Union is a strategic goal fully embraced across the Albanian political spectrum. This goal is particularly important for Albania’s international relations and for strengthening the competitiveness of the Albanian economy. Harmonisation of legislation with EU acquis and its correct implementation are an essential condition for integration of Albania in European Union. Irrespective of the positive achievements attained in specific sectors, MEDTTE and its subordinate institutions still need to further enhance competences for the harmonisation of legislation and its implementation; and do not have the necessary negotiations competences to conduct accession talks for EU membership.

Aim of the project

In order to be able to achieve the goal of integration of Albania into EU, it is necessary to build the institutional and procedural capacities. The project support consists in **strengthening the competences for the harmonisation of legislation, its implementation and conduction of EU accession negotiations in the areas of work MEDTTE**. MEDTTE is expected to have a key role during the negotiations for membership, and act as an institution of reference for the other structures and institutions. MEDTTE has the lead in six inter-institutional working groups (chapters 1, 3, 6, 20, 28, and 30). Technical capacity and competence varies across these working groups. There is a need to structure and intensify cooperation across the various ministries and the institutions subordinated to them. The project will follow a systematic approach to strengthen their capacities, and to improve the processes related to harmonisation and implementation of legislation concerning the economy and trade (acquis).

The focus

Project support focuses on three complementary areas:

a) Legislation and interpretation of the EU acquis. The Project helps strengthen the competences of the inter-institutional working groups by providing **advice and training** in the areas of legislation and organisation, to help produce better laws. There is a great need for information about the **legislative techniques** and about issues concerning proper **interpretation of the EU acquis**. Application of legislative methods in conformity with European practice (**Regulatory Impact Assessment**) also signifies application of the participation principle of the civil society and the interest groups in the process of law making, to ensure that their active participation contributes to better laws. Development of **policy cycle of law making** in the areas of MEDTTE enables understanding in practice the full process of law making methodology in the context of EU approximation process.

b) Implementation of harmonised legislation with EU acquis. The project helps strengthen the competences of the Market Surveillance Inspectorate, National Business Center and the other subordinate institutions of MEDTTE. Advice is primarily addressed to the **development of the organisation structures and management instruments**, which the Government of Albania considers key measures required in the fight against corruption. Second, a number of **trainings** will be drawn up and carried out for the staff of the implementing bodies to enable them