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Project Document - UN Support to Social Inclusion in Albania

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6 September 2013-31 December 2016

Introduction

This document presents the context, rationale and proposed interventions of UN agencies in support of the further elaboration, coordination, implementation and monitoring of the **National Strategy for Social Inclusion and Protection**. The document details the UN agency support to the development of capacities of institutions at central and local levels for this purpose; and, for enhancing civil society and citizens' participation as rights holders in national **social inclusion** processes. The document presents the indicative deliverables of participating UN agencies in support of the change and advancement of the national social inclusion agenda with a view to ensure that government policies and programmes are **consistent and coherent** in achieving the maximum possible effect for the social inclusion of people at risk. This document is not a programming document. It follows from the overall outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets established in the Government of Albania – United Nations Programme of Cooperation 2012-2016. The proposed interventions herewith, are indicative and provide complementarity to the integrated social services reform supported by UNICEF and the SDC by adding elements that do not directly relate to "social workers" and their governance mechanisms which is at the center of UNICEF's work. The proposed interventions build on this by expanding social inclusion approaches and practices across government units and sectors.

Context and Rationale

Albania experienced remarkable economic growth in the past decade. Reforms have been launched in all sectors of the economy as well as in basic services such as education, health and increasingly for social care, insurance and other protection systems. Nevertheless, government structures cannot respond adequately to the needs of marginalized and vulnerable groups due to limited financial and human resources as well as inefficient institutional capacities.[1] Groups at particular risk (people living with HIVAIDS, drug users, prison populations, women survivors of violence and victims of trafficking) as well as children at risk, Roma and Egyptian communities and people with disabilities face multiple barriers to social inclusion.

Currently, Albania is preparing the new Strategy on Social Inclusion and Social Protection (SISP) for 2013-2020. This new strategy is an integral part of the National Strategy for Development and Integration (NSDI) 2013-2020 and is responsive to the EU2020 perspective of "Increased Social Inclusion through Development of Labor Market and Social Welfare," ensuring coherence with the European strategic planning frame in line with the new financial planning period of EU Assistance (IPA 2014-2020).

Past experiences of coordination, implementation and monitoring of the Social Inclusion Cross Cutting Strategy (SICS) of 2007-2012 inform the formulation of the new SISP: The SICS had certain content weaknesses such as **limited targets with different, and sometimes no timelines**. More importantly, the **coordination, implementation and monitoring** of the SICS faced difficulties due to ambiguities regarding institutional responsibilities. These **institutional ambiguities – of responsibilities and accountabilities** with regard to implementation of the Strategy– characterized the central structures of the Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities and its de-concentrated functions. Similar institutional ambiguities also characterized the coordination and monitoring functions of this Ministry across government, i.e. coordination of the policy responses of **line ministries**, e.g. education, health,

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[1] European Commission, DG Employment and Social Affairs, 2008.

transport, housing, justice and the like. Policy responses across government units have not been consolidated into a sector wide budget and multi annual budgetary projections. Indeed, sector approaches underpin both the new NSDI and the Governments programming under the EU Instruments for Pre- Accession (IPA-II) for 2014-2020.

The new strategic framework is expected to address these shortcomings. Required institutional changes in terms of the day-to-day work practices of the institutions responsible for services are being addressed, but will require further elaboration. Finally, cross-referencing and continuity between the different strategies across government are also being addressed under the new strategic framework. However, further institutional strengthening will be required to ensure that the policy responses across sectors will be effectively coordinated, implemented and monitored, while clear lines of accountabilities and responsibilities are established.

With respect to vulnerable groups, the SISP is expected to subsume the various national strategies concerning specific vulnerable groups that had been developed during the previous planning cycle. The optimal way of doing so is **complementing the overarching National Strategy with group-specific policies**. Such policies would articulate the group-specific dimensions and implementation measures necessary to ensure that the strategy is not "blind" to the group specific characteristics. In this context, the articulation of group specific implementation measures (e.g. policy responses and action plans) are of critical importance for Roma and Egyptian communities as well as Persons with Disabilities, in no small part due to EU accession related commitments.

The SISP of Albania is expected, as the past SICS, to also entail policy response responsibilities at regional and local levels, especially in terms of implementation of policy measures. Based on past experience, regional governance mechanisms and local government units need to establish further practices for partnerships –across sectors but also with civil society, local actors, and with businesses, to identify and fund necessary actions at local levels. Furthermore, systems of coordination and evidence based policy response mechanism need to be further established between the central and de-concentrated units of not only the MOLSAEO but also of other participating line ministries.

Finally, the full accountabilities of government structures cannot be ensured unless further efforts are made at supporting oversight and monitoring structures and strengthening civic engagement and social demand for quality services.

Institutional Context

The overall governing structure for social inclusion in Albania is the **Inter-Ministerial Committee on Social Inclusion** which convenes representatives of line ministries. The agencies and ministries participating in the inter-ministerial committee are those which are identified in the SICS across government (http://www.mpcs.gov.al/images/stories/ministria/mpcsshb/strategy/social_inclusion_crosscutting_strategy_-_final.pdf, Appendix 2: Institutional arrangements across government. The new SIPS is also expected to have a similar coordination structure.

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The Inter-Ministerial Committee on Social Inclusion is headed by the **Minister of Labor and Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MOLSAEO)**[2]. MOLSAEO is responsible for overall coordination and monitoring of the social inclusion strategy. These coordination and monitoring responsibilities of the MOLSAEO are in addition to its responsibilities for coordination, implementation and monitoring of policy responses for social inclusion in areas under its own mandate, e.g. employment and social protection. Thus, MOLSAEO is faced with the challenges of not only coordinating social inclusion policies within its own institutional structure but also monitoring policy responses across sectors. As in countries, at similar stages of transition, human resources, budgets, and institutional structures required for the necessary vertical and horizontal integration and coordination of policy responses requires further development.

The Inter-Ministerial Committee is in principle supported by a **Technical Level Working Group** also composed of technical level staff of MOLSAEO and participating agencies and ministries. Experience to date indicates however that the technical backstopping to the ministerial committee has been short of supporting evidence based policy and decision making. This is due mainly to technical, human resource, and budgetary constraints and conflicting priorities. The **External Social Inclusion Advisory** group, which consists of a range of stakeholders including representatives of non-governmental organizations was established at the formulation stages of the SICS, however effective civil society and academic consultation processes have not been systematized.

The proposed interventions will target all structures presented under institutional context with the aim of bringing clarities to their structure/functions in the context of the development and implementation of SISP Strategy.

International development partners have had key roles in supporting the implementation of the SICS. http://www.mpcs.gov.al/images/stories/ministria/mpcsshb/strategy/social_inclusion_crosscutting_strategy_-_final.pdf . Most significant reform measures supported by the international community that are carried into the new programming cycle of the new SISP are the reforms of the social protection system supported by the World Bank and EUD under IPA and the reform of the social care system supported by **SDC** through UNICEF (elaborated below). In addition many international partners and almost all UN agencies in Albania have been active in diverse range of projects and programs supporting social inclusion of vulnerable groups (http://dsdc.gov.al/dsdc/Donor_Database_33_2.php). The sector working groups on social inclusion and protection are platforms for international partnership coordination. Despite the keen interest on the part of the international development partners to use the SWGs as forums for policy consultation and monitoring, they have not proved effective in recent years. Renewed international partnerships with MoLSAEO, also described below, provide for an incentive to further strengthen coordination of the social inclusion and protection sectors, starting with consolidation first of the Steering Committee (described under Management Arrangements) which is established in relation to the Social Sector Reform in Albania (SSRA) supported by SDC through UNICEF.

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2 The inter-ministerial working group (established through decree 133 of the CoM dated 6.11.2012) is in charge of coordinating the work for designing the crosscutting strategy on Social Inclusion and Social Protection (SISP), follow the implementation of the strategy, in accordance with the determined deadlines; coordinate the work for all the processes that affect the implementation of SISP; ensure compatibility of the inter sectorial strategy on protection and social inclusion with the SISP with the sectorial strategies, ensure that all the objectives and indicators are included in the sectorial strategy of the implementing institutions; ensure harmonization of the strategy with the Mid Term Budgetary plan (MBP) as well as the National Plan for the Implementation of the Stabilization and Association Agreement, and the available sources planned for the period 2013-2020;

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The Proposed Intervention

The interventions goals are to support effective elaboration and implementation of the Government of Albania's new Strategy for Social Inclusion and Social Protection. Main emphasis is placed on building capacities of institutions at central and local levels, and enhancing civil society and citizens' participation as rights holders in national social inclusion processes.

However, Albania's social reforms take place within the context of its goals for EU accession and this remains an important determinant of the reform agenda. Indeed this is a precondition to enlargement. The Joint Inclusion Memorandum (JIM) has previously been an important instrument for dialogue between EC and candidate countries, especially in achieving reform and modernisation of social welfare systems. As of 2013, the EC has committed to start dialogue with candidate countries on Employment and Social Reform Programmes, in order to pursue a comprehensive approach to employment and social policy, to be piloted initially in two countries and then rolled out in all candidate countries. In this new framework, candidate countries will need to be ready to engage and participate in EU programmes alongside Member States in the areas of flagship initiatives of the Europe 2020. Participating countries will be obliged to identify jointly with the Commission priority reforms, and make firm commitments on implementation and monitoring.

The framework has not been extended to potential candidate countries. The interventions outlined here will improve governance at all levels, and strengthen capacities. Crucially, it will provide a stronger evidential basis for future reforms and a framework for longitudinal and comparative monitoring of progress on social inclusion. Therefore, it is anticipated that this intervention will support the preparation for extended dialogue with social partners in the country, and with the EC whatever the status of its candidacy.

In the attached Results Framework indicative deliverables in support of the selected outcomes *(Outcome 4.1   The rights of disadvantaged individuals and groups are equally ensured through legislation, inclusive policies, social protection mechanisms and special interventions and Outcome 3.2 The public, including marginalized groups and communities, better receive equitable, inclusive and accountable decentralized services from regional and local governments)* of the Government of Albania – United Nations Program of Cooperation 2012-2016. The outputs that are directly served by the proposal are as follows:

Output 4.1.2 Capacities of the government and relevant partners, including civil society, strengthened to plan, monitor and evaluate, including from a gender perspective, the implementation of improved social inclusion policies (output 4.1.4 on rights of Roma mainstreamed).

Output 3.2.3 Marginalized groups are adequately targeted by local and regional government and these groups have equal access to basic and social services (output 4.1.4 on rights of Roma mainstreamed).

In so doing, the Results Matrix further details the above two outputs into six (4+2) clusters of deliverables that emphasize different output dimensions as further described below:

a/Capacities of Government and partners for improved social inclusion policies

1. **KNOWLEDGE GENERATION** for evidence based and improved social inclusion policies

The proposed interventions will utilize existing and new data to further the social inclusion agenda by providing analysis for exclusion dynamics. The r Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy will be further detailed for group specific dimensions under the overall universal rubric of the strategy. In this context, group specific policy details for certain at risk communities that are not expected to be treated as vulnerable groups under the strategy, such as drug users and prison populations will also be elaborated based on experience from other EU accession countries. In so doing, systems of partnership and dialogue with other relevant countries of the region and more significantly with Albania's civil society and academia will be fostered to enhance the knowledge in the field. The interventions will help establish the means by which 'evidence' is gathered and translated into policy making as well as identifying the "set of tools" that will be used in policy monitoring.

2. **POLICY MANAGEMENT:** Capacities of MoLSAEO strengthened to coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy and its policies on a national scale

This component focuses on the capacities of the MoLSEAO to plan, coordinate, mainstream and monitor the implementation of the new Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy and all other sector related policies whose nature should be inclusive of different disadvantaged groups and should produce inclusive impacts. Gender equality monitoring through the harmonized data for gender equality is considered as a critical institutional capacity development intervention. The capacities of the MoLSAEO to steer the implementation requirements for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will be supported.

3. **POLICY MANAGEMENT – vertically**: Capacities of MoLSAEO to ensure that Social Protection component *(cash assistance + disability allowances + care services)* of the Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy is responsive to diverse range of rights holders

This component presents indicative UN agency contributions to ensure that the social protection mechanisms supported by UNICEF and SDC under the integrated social care reform are also socially inclusive in terms of the multiplicity of rights holders of social services and gender equality.

4. **POLICY MANAGEMENT – across sectors**: Capacities of line ministries to operationalize the provisions of the Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy in their policies

This component extends beyond the central role played by MOLSAEO to deliver UN support across government units that have an important role to play in the design and implementation of socially inclusive policy responses. The interventions under this component will target several line Ministries to make their policies responsive to the needs of various vulnerable groups as well as to plan, prioritize, budget and finance specific programmes that benefit a broad range of citizens

b/Marginalized groups targeted by local and regional government and have access to basic and social services

5. **POLICY IMPLEMENTATION**: Capacities of regional and local governance mechanisms to implement inclusive policies across sectors

At regional and local levels, capacities of governance mechanisms will be assessed and developed. The UN support to local governance mechanisms in this context extends across sectors (beyond the immediate mandate of the MoLSAEO in employment and social protection) and vertically through the de-concentrated functions and offices across sectors tasked for local level implementation of social inclusion policy responses. Concrete implementation of policy responses will be costed and partially financed with a view to their eventual integration in local, regional development planning and budgeting. The budgeting and financing of such measures through combination of purpose set funds and mechanisms (e.g. IPA structures) and recurring budgets of regional, local authorities will be attempted.

6. **DEMAND:** Marginalized groups capacities enhanced to exercise their rights to equal access to services

Starting with the basic human right of citizenship, registry and free legal aid for exercise of citizenship rights of the most vulnerable communities will be supported. Civil society networks for Roma and persons with disability (cross disability forums) will be supported for constituents to effectively claim and demand services and rights. Parliamentary commissions as the highest representation of the people of the country will be advocated to table and monitor the implementation of the national strategy. Citizen's scorecards and reporting mechanisms will further help with independent monitoring.

The logic of this clustering is based on the distinct vision of _social protection_ and _social inclusion_, as the figure illustrates.
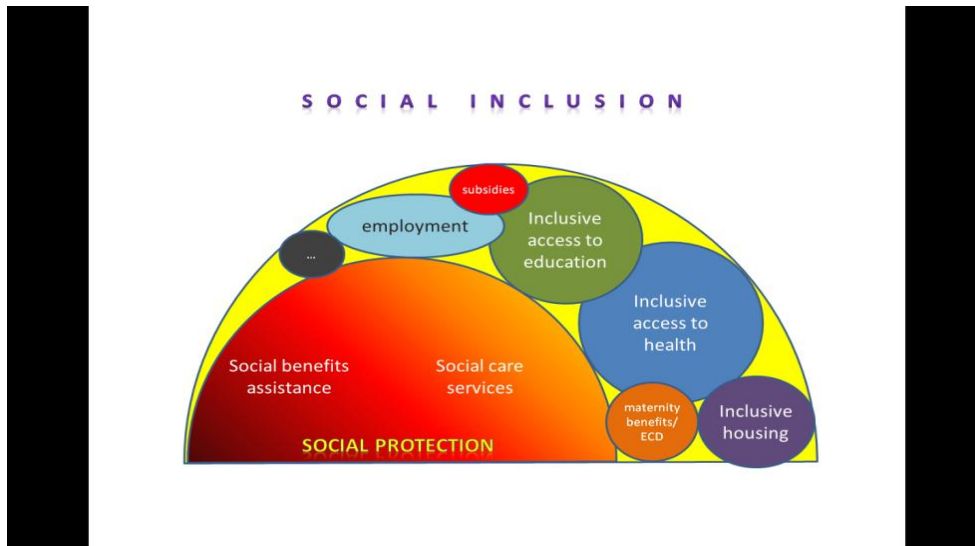
Social inclusion is a concept that involves a multiplicity of sectors. From the perspective of sector-specific social policies (such as health, education, employment, housing, transportation, justice) the majority of the population should be able to benefit from (or afford) the mainstream services/facilities.

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There are always individuals and families finding themselves cut off from "the normal" and deprived from the basic set of the above services, due to their particularly vulnerable and/or marginalized status. This requires that the Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy (SIPS) integrate sector-specific policies (and their respective budgets) and entail special measures that would bring those-at-risk to benefit from mainstream services, with the starting point being the elemental capacity of individual rights holders to claim their citizenship rights (civil registration, legal aid). Such inclusion-focused "extensions" of sector-specific policies are depicted in the yellow segment of the scheme. Here, MoLSAEO plays an important role - not to substitute the action and resources from other ministries and their subordinate structures, but to ensure the appropriate coordination, monitoring and continuous identification of social exclusion threats that need be addressed. The knowledge and policy management support identified under **Components 1 and 2** above respond to this need to enhance this capacity of MoLSAEO.

Social protection is a specific set of measures that a single ministry - MoLSAEO in the case of Albania - is in charge of implementing to assist the most economically and socially vulnerable populations. In performing this task MoLSAEO acts as a manager of social protection budgets split between direct monetary support ("*Ndihma Ekonomike*" cash assistance and disability allowances) and social care services (mainly, represented by residential care institutions). The component of monetary assistance is undergoing a substantive reform, backed up by a 50 million USD loan from the World Bank. The component of social care services is being reformed, too, supported by a 3.3 million USD grant from the SDC, managed by UNICEF. The present project proposal will complement the reforms with the mandate-specific expertise of participating UN agencies (**Component 3**) to enhance and consolidate the measures and instruments (data collection and programming tools, service delivery protocols, outreach techniques, etc.) envisaged for different categories of population in need of social protection, thus securing greater policy coherence and stronger advocacy voice, rather than building parallel systems each tailored for a specific vulnerability. For social protection targets MoLSAEO is the central actor (in charge of the red segment of the scheme) ensuring that appropriate <u>vertical</u> policies are developed, budgeted for, transmitted to and effectively implemented by local governance structures.

The <u>horizontal</u> dimension of MoLSAEO's role is linked to the Ministry's position of a custodian for the national Social Inclusion and Social Protection Strategy. Taking into account lessons learned in the past, the new Strategy will put much stronger emphasis on the need (and mechanisms) to: substantially upgrade the capacity of MoLSAEO to exercise its role of a cross-sectoral coordination body for national social inclusion targets; and, secure active participation of all the sectors concerned (**Component 4**). Both aspects are addressed in the project proposal, with a lot of space for further programmatic expansion especially in the **Component 4** that would go beyond the scope of the current project submission but offers a compelling longer-term opportunity. The programme will target the work of various line ministries with the entry point being the SISP Strategy.

The UN support to regional and local governance mechanisms to help identify and implement local policy responses (**Component 5**) under the SIPS will provide for immediate social inclusion benefits to vulnerable groups and build mutual trust and credibility for such further programmatic expansion across sectors at local levels in the longer-term.

Underpinning social inclusion and social protection is accountabilities between state and citizens for demand and claim for policy implementation and for services. This will be further strengthened through technical, financial and capacity development support to oversight, monitoring mechanisms of both civil society and Parliament noting that the Parliament is the ultimate representative of citizens. The proposed interventions also support the starting / fundamental building block of citizenship through support to civil registration and free legal aid mechanisms. (**Component 6**)

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Special Considerations –

> *Follow up of the UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities*

Support for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will have a special focus in all the proposal components. While the policy level work will target the reform of commissions for disability assessment according to the social model and the introduction of the International Classification of Functioning that will permeate all sectors that cater for the needs of persons with disabilities, (social care, education, employment, pension system and reform of the socio-medical commissions for accessing disabilities), capacity support interventions will address a wide range of government and non-government partners at national and local level to be able to carry out the country's commitment towards more inclusive policies for people with disabilities. The program will encourage local initiatives to increase the knowledge of the public, including local authorities and community members, about the rights and abilities of persons with disabilities as well as to partner with civil society organizations in implementing illustrative community level interventions.

> *Roma Inclusion – Linkages to other work*

While the programme adopts a mainstreaming approach of Roma issues throughout the 6 components, specific actions supporting Roma and Egyptian communities have been envisaged under components 5 and 6. The interventions under this program targeting Roma and Egyptian population will be coordinated with other ongoing initiatives, in Albania or at regional level, targeting these groups to avoid any potential overlap and maximize the impact of complementary efforts. The program will benefit from the knowledge and expertise created by UNDP regional project "Focusing on results: Regional support facility for improving the capacity to make real progress on Roma inclusion" supported by SDC and will ensure that all country level interventions build naturally upon one another. At the same time the program will establish a coordination platform with other country level initiatives such as: UNICEF's SSRA project, UNDP –EU project on Supporting Social Inclusion of Roma and Egyptian Communities, (SSIREC) and UN Joint Programme "Empowering Vulnerable Local Communities" (EVLC), OSCE and Council of Europe projects on Roma, supported by the European Unit, as well as NGO implemented projects such as: NPF, Terre Des Homes, Save the Children, etc.

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Management Arrangements

Delivering as One Mechanism

The proposed intervention will be implemented as an integral part of the Government of Albania – United Nations Programme of Cooperation 2012 – 2016 and as such follow the managements arrangements articulated in that agreement. As such the proposed intervention reinforces the Delivering As One mechanism underpinning the Program of Cooperation. The timeframe of the programme is four years (2013-2016) co-terminus with the Program of Cooperation.

The Joint Executive Committee co-chaired by the Director of the Department for Strategy and Donor Coordination and the UN Resident Coordinator makes all executive decisions necessary for the implementation of the overall programme in accordance with the strategic decisions taken by the Government Modernization Committee. The Joint Executive Committee meets several times each year and is responsible for the overall quality of the programme, the periodical review of progress towards results and the allocation of financial resources as available in the Coherence Fund.

The Programme of Cooperation identifies eleven outcomes, which are further broken down into 41 outputs, this proposal constitutes a contribution to four of these outputs. Each output is managed by an 'output working group' that is also co-chaired by a representative from the implementing partners and a UN representative. These proposed interventions will be coordinated by three "output working groups" as outputs 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 operate though a joint 'output working group". Output working group for output 4.1.4 (Roma) is also being revised structurally for incorporation into a broader Social Inclusion and Protection Working Group. These output working groups are the technical committees with roles and responsibilities directly related to a specific output, including the planning (preparation of Annual Work Plans), implementation, monitoring and evaluation as well as resource mobilization. The output working groups ensure that the UN and the Government work in steady partnership towards the achievement of the result.

The proposed interventions will be implemented by the participating UN agencies that will ensure coordination with other agency specific activities in line with respective annual work plans agreed for the respective outputs[3].

Further planning and implementation of activities will follow the agreed management arrangements articulated in the Government of Albania – United Nations Programme of Cooperation 2012-2016. This proposal provides for the general framework and indicative deliverables that will be further fine-tuned and annualized for the relevant annual work plans. There are the outputs and the annual work plans, as per the management arrangements of the PoC, that will constitute the basis for results and financial reporting to SDC.

National Steering Committee

In the context of this proposal, relevant output working groups will seek the substantive direction and guidance of the Steering Committee that is established for the UNICEF led support to reform of the

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[3] 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 and 4.1.4 Annual Work Plan (2012) for the participating UN agencies show a budget of 2,340,595 USD as per the following source of funds: UN core contributions and thematic funds: 894,120.00 USD; UN Coherence of Fund Contribution 117,975 USD; Swiss Development Cooperation 651,000 USD; EUD, 570,000USD, US Department of State 107,500 USD;

social care component, SSRA . This Steering Committee is chaired by a Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. The broader social inclusion considerations introduced in this proposal require the Steering Committee to also benefit from the active participation of line ministries with responsibilities identified in the SIPS, as well as the authorities charged with final budget approvals across ministries and sectors.

The high end leadership and advocacy of participating UN agencies will be critical to ensure that the Steering Committee comprises the appropriate membership and the contributions from line ministries. The technical assistance and participatory processes defined in delivery of such assistance in Component 4 of this proposal will further increase the readiness and the preparedness of line ministries and financial planning authorities in the Steering Committee. Finally, the ultimate prospects of EU accession will be leveraged. The technical assistance and participatory assessments of capacities (budget, human resources, institutional) supported under Components 2 and 4 of the proposal will further ready the Government structures for participation in the relevant IPA-II components which are designed along sector lines, with Social Inclusion identified as a distinct sector. The IPA-II linkage will further incentivize the broader composition of the Steering Committee and its effective guidance.

Financial Management and Budgets

The overall budget is estimated at 3'684'210 USD receivable in 2013-2017 as soft-earmarked contributions to the Albania One UN Coherence Fund.

The Partner-Donor Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) has been appointed the Administrative Agent (AA) of the Albania One UN Coherence Fund. The AA's functions include receipt, administration and management of contributions from Donors; disbursement of such funds to the Participating UN Organizations in accordance with the approved Annual Work Plans/Programmatic Documents; provision of consolidated narrative and financial reports, in accordance with the MOU, on the Albania One UN Coherence Fund Account to the Resident Coordinator based on reports of the Participating UN Organizations.

The overall proposed Results Matrix with Indicative Budgets is inclusive of 7% of General Management Costs and 1% of Delivering As One Administrative Agent Fee, both of which reflecting established rates by the applicable executive boards and governing bodies of the participating agencies.

Program of Cooperation - PoC Outcome 4.1: **The rights of disadvantaged individuals and groups are equally ensured through legislation, inclusive policies, social protection mechanisms and special interventions**				
PoC Output 4.1.2	**Capacities of the government and relevant partners including civil society strengthened to plan, monitor and evaluate including from the gender perspective the implementation of improved social inclusion policies**	**Indicator 1.** % of vulnerable and most-at-risk groups that have access to quality basic services **Indicator 2.** New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and ME Frameworks developed in a participatory way **Indicator 3.** Number of new laws and secondary legislation supported to ensure conformity with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. **Indicator 4.** Number of local government units with inclusive services in place		
PoC Output 4.1.4 (mainstreamed)	**Roma inclusion**	**Indicator 1.** (Roma): % increase in access to services **Indicator 2.** (Roma): Monitoring and reporting system of National Roma Decade National Action Plan (NAP) operational at central and local government level. **Indicator 3.** (Roma) Criteria and guidelines in place for adapting social and public services to the specific needs of Roma/Egyptian populations		
Outputs	**Activities**	**Indicators**	**UNICEF-supported Social Care Reform Program Outputs**	**Indicative Budget**

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1 Output emphasis on KNOWLEDGE Knowledge generation for evidence-based social inclusion policies	1.1. Analysis of social exclusion drivers in Albania • Analysis of the 2011 Census re. People with Disabilities (PwD) and Roma (UNDP) • Analysis of the 2011 Census and LSMS re. youth and third age (UNFPA) • Quality of Life Surveys (UNDP) • Survey on children with hearing impairment/ deafness conducted (UNDP)	Indicator 1. % of vulnerable and most at risk groups who have access to services (baseline identification)	In Outputs 1.1. and 2.1 --- Analysis of the situation of children with disabilities and street children --- Updated mapping of Roma communities produced, including their geo-positioning, basic demographic data and availability of social services in the neighborhood --- updated	**330,000**

| | 1.2 Participatory preparation of social exclusion profiles and policies for detailing the National Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy to address "target groups at particular risk of exclusion" and mainstreaming the specific dimensions of those groups' challenges

Suggested Target Groups at Particular Risk:

• Roma (UNDP)

• Vulnerable Women (UNWOMEN)

• PwD (UNDP and UNICEF)

• PLHIV (UNAIDS)

• Victims of Trafficking (IOM)

• Drug Users (UNODC)[4]

• Prison Populations (UNODC and UNICEF)* | Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way | mapping of social care services produced | **200,000** |
| | 1.3. Systems for regular social dialogue established with civil society, academia and media to publicize social inclusion agenda (as part of MoLSAEO's lead role on social inclusion) (UNDP) | Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way | | **20'000** |

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[4] While the above groups are part of the priority vulnerable groups identified in SISP strategy and specific policies targeting their inclusion will be supported under 1.2, in the case of drug users and prison population specific analysis will be supported at national/local level.

	1.4. Cross country regional knowledge transfer on social inclusion / gender equality promoted through exchange forums, peer reviews of government and civil society partners with Western Balkan countries aspiring to join the EU (UNDP / UNWOMEN)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way		**70,000**
	1.5. OMC Preparedness: Adaptation of EU SILC indicators to Albania context (UNDP)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way		**50,000**
Component 1 subtotal				**670,000**
2 **Output emphasis on POLICY MANAGEMENT (horizontal) capacity of MoLSAEO to coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Social Inclusion and Protection**	2.1 Participatory institutional capacity assessment (including gender analysis) of the MoLSAEO's capacity and its structures to steer, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the new Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy (legal framework, organizational structure, budget and human resources) and eventual participation in OMC (UNDP, UNWOMEN)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way	3.1. Programme management and coordination is effected through a multi-sectoral Steering Committee (for policy-related issues) chaired by MoLSAEO and Technical	**70,000**

Strategy on a national scale	2.2 <u>Institutional development interventions identified and delivered</u> (including legal framework, organizational, budgetary and human resources) for MoLSAEO to effectively coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the new Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy and for eventual participation in IPA II sectors and OMC process (UNDP)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way	Committee (for managerial issues) 3.2. Monitoring and Evaluation framework, progress indicators and monitoring mechanism established to inform decision making and adjustment of reform plans, as appropriate	**50,000**
	2.3 <u>Monitoring frameworks, and systems designed for monitoring, evaluation and reporting</u> on the new National Strategy for Social Inclusion and Protection and its policies and action plans (utilizing existing data sources and statistics)(UNDP)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way		**40,000**
	2.4 <u>Assessment of the existing institutional structure</u>, competencies, tasks and procedures of Commissions for assessing disabilities in line with CPRD; <u>design reform (including legal framework, organizational set up, mandate, composition etc.) of the commissions</u> for assessing disabilities in line with CRPD (UNDP)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way Indicator 2. (Roma): Monitoring and reporting system of National Roma Decade National Action Plan (NAP) operational at central and local government level.		**190,000**

	2.5 Technical assistance and backstopping for consolidation of the (2010) national set of harmonized indicators for gender equality (UNWOMEN)	Indicator 3. Number of new laws and secondary legislation supported to ensure conformity with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.		**50,000**
	2.6 Technical assistance and backstopping to preparation of annual progress reporting on social inclusion for IPA II and OMC(UNDP)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way		**70,000**
Component 2 subtotal				**470,000**
3 **Output emphases on POLICY MANAGEMENT (vertical) capacity of MoLSAEO for the Social Protection component** *(cash assistance + disability allowances + care services)* **of the Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy**	3.1 Development of training packages, guidelines and manuals for all regions' Needs Assessment Commissions on how to address specific challenges of exclusion (territorial and group-specific dimensions, and gender equality dimensions) (UNWOMEN, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNODC, IOM)	Indicator 1. % of vulnerable and most at risk groups who have access to services (baseline identification)	1.1 Existing data sets and data collection tools on vulnerable children and families (DevInfo in CRUs, CROs, Roma mapping and birth registration databases, VAC data, street children analysis…) are consolidated into unified/standardized databases and used for action planning and monitoring 1.2 Nationwide computerized social care service case	**80,000**
	3.2 Strengthening child/family welfare statistical data collection and vertical transmission through the chain of Child Protection Units (in municipalities and communes) to Child Rights Units (at Regional Councils) to MoLSAEO (UNICEF)	Indicator 1. % of vulnerable and most at risk groups who have access to services (baseline identification)		**240,000**

	3.3 Gender responsive social budgeting and planning criteria introduced in design and monitoring of social service delivery (UNWOMEN)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way	management system established, including financial information system at the regional level	**30,000**
	3.4 Analysis of existing coordination and referral mechanisms for women victims of trafficking and violence for integrated social service delivery (IOM)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way	1.7 Costing analysis (based on uniform methodology) of UNICEF-supported model interventions (CPUs, ECD outreach, foster care, helpline, targeted support to Roma) provides a foundation for their inclusion in the state budget on a regular basis 1.8 Procedures and standards are developed to allow "outsourcing" social care services to non-governmental entities	**30,000**
Component 3 subtotal				**380,000**
4 **Output emphasis on (POLICY MANAGEMENT – across sectors) capacities of line ministries to operationalize the provisions of the Social Inclusion and Protection**	4.1 Participatory self-assessments/reviews of sectoral policies and financing / entitlement regimes from the perspective of the provisions of the new Strategy for Social Inclusion and Protection - with at least three line ministries (e.g. education, health, housing/transport) (UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, respectively)	Indicator 1. % of vulnerable and most at risk groups who have access to services (baseline identification)	2.2 Accountability for service provision to the most vulnerable (especially Roma) at service point (schools, kindergarten, health centres, police) and social workers discussed and	**120,000**

Strategy in their policies	4.2 <u>Priority policy actions for social inclusion identified, costed and action-planned</u> for at least three sectoral line ministries through evidence based policy making mechanisms and targeting sectoral reforms for social inclusion results (e.g. health, education, housing/transport) (UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP)	Indicator 1. % of vulnerable and most at risk groups who have access to services (baseline identification)	clarified (based on the stipulation of the social care reform in Outcome 1) 2.4 National action plan on Early Childhood Development and Integration for Roma children, including costing options, is launched and main national and regional actors oriented on their role in implementation 2.7 National programme on good parenting for vulnerable families is developed to emphasize the importance of birth registration, mother and child health care, early development and	**100,000**
	4.3. <u>Gender analysis and mainstreaming measures introduced</u> in sectoral policies of selected line ministries (above) and medium term budgetary programs (UNWOMEN)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way		**30,000**
	4.4. <u>Training modules and EU best practices developed and utilized</u> by Ministry of Labor in its inter-ministerial, cross sectoral social inclusion competency to coordinate and monitor the new Strategy (UNDP)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way		**40,000**
	4.5 <u>Gender responsive social inclusion policy management skills training modules developed and introduced</u> to Ministry of Labor and selected line ministries (UNWOMEN)	Indicator 1. % of vulnerable and most at risk groups who have access to services (baseline identification)		**30,000**

			protection	**60,000**
	4.6 _Situation analysis of decentralization and regional development_ frameworks and strategies from the perspective of implementation of the Strategy for Social Inclusion and Protection (UNDP)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way		
	4.7 _Analysis of coordination, monitoring and accountability mechanism with de-concentrated offices of line ministries_ (Health, Education, etc.) and local government structures at regional/municipality/local level as regards the implementation of Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy (UNDP)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way		**55,000**
	4.8 _Regulatory framework, budgetary and human resources development interventions identified and delivered_ for an accountability mechanism with de-concentrated offices of line ministries and LGUs (UNDP)	Indicator 2. New Social Protection and Inclusion Strategy, and M&E Frameworks developed in a participatory way		**40,000**
	4.9 _Comprehensive Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities-CRPD implementation capacity development intervention package developed and delivered_ (building on prior work) at national, regional, local levels and across sectors (UNDP)	Indicator 3. Number of new laws and secondary legislation supported to ensure conformity with the CRPD.		**150,000**

	4.10 Analysis of "<u>reasonable accommodation</u>" in one selected employment sector (UNDP)	Indicator 3. Number of new laws and secondary legislation supported to ensure conformity with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.		**30,000**
Component 4 subtotal				**655,000**

Program of Cooperation- PoC Outcome 3.2:

The public, including marginalized groups and communities, better receive equitable, inclusive and accountable decentralized services from regional and local governments

PoC Output 3.2.3	**Marginalized groups are adequately targeted by local and regional government and these groups have equal access to basic and social services**	**Indicator 1: Number of municipalities planning, budgeting and providing gender sensitive social services to most at risk populations**
		Indicator 2: number of policies and plans on social services developed or improved with participation of Civil Society Organizations and marginalized groups
		Indicator3 : Number of regional coordination committees established
PoC Output 4.1.4 (mainstreamed)	**Roma inclusion**	**Indicator 1. (Roma): % increase in access to services**
		Indicator 2. Roma): Monitoring and reporting system of National Roma Decade National Action Plan (NAP) operational at central and local government level.
		Indicator 3. (Roma) Criteria and guidelines in place for adapting social and public services to the specific needs of Roma/Egyptian populations

Outputs	**Activities**	**Indicators**	**UNICEF-supported Social Care Reform Program Outputs**	**Indicative Budget**

5 **Output emphasis on POLICY IMPLEMENTATION by regional and local governance mechanisms to implement inclusive policies**	5.1 Assessment of regional/local development planning capacity and institutional structures of two regions from social inclusion and gender equality perspectives (2 select regions, and network of several municipalities) (UNDP)	Indicator 1: Number of municipalities planning, budgeting and providing gender sensitive social services to most at risk populations	1.3 Normative documentation regulating the administrative and legal set up for required services developed 1.4 Human resource management of social care services is strengthened, based on clearly specified roles, responsibilities, job descriptions, training tools, licensing and supportive supervision 1.5 Adequate skills and knowledge of social service work force is ensured through necessary training and coaching 1.6 Adequately empowered and skilled Needs Assessment Committees and Social Care Departments (in Regional Councils) assess and support the functioning of social services, especially for he most marginalized groups, including Roma 1.9 Documentation of network	**30,000**
	5.2 Preparation of regional/local development plan components for social inclusion and gender equality results across sectors (2 select regions, and several municipalities) (UNDP, UNWOMEN)	Indicator 1: Number of municipalities planning, budgeting and providing gender sensitive social services to most at risk populations		**50,000**
	5.3 Identification and preparation of project fiche / portfolios for submission by Regional Councils under IPA and/or Regional – Rural Development Funds (2 select regions, and network of several municipalities) (UNDP, UNWOMEN)	Indicator 2: Number of policies and plans on social services developed or improved with participation of Civil Society Organizations and marginalized groups		**40,000**
	5.4 Design and support for inter-municipal cooperation frameworks for social services in two regions (legal, budgetary norms for sharing, clustering, availing of social services by municipalities for smaller LGUs) (2 select regions, and network of several municipalities) (UNDP)	Indicator 2: number of policies and plans on social services developed or improved with participation of Civil Society Organizations and marginalized groups		**30,000**

	5.5 Participatory social impact assessment methodology introduced in two regions and select municipalities networks and PSIAs conducted for selected critical investments (e.g. waste management, housing, transportation, infrastructure and their impacts on vulnerable communities) (UNDP)	Indicator 3: Number of regional coordination committees established	links and referral between CRUs, CPUs, CROs, local education and health facilities, SSSs, and NGO service providers contributes to greater social inclusion of populations in need of social assistance	**70,000**
	5.6 Organization of annual forums for sharing of LGU experience and practices in social inclusion (UNDP)	Indicator 1: Number of municipalities planning, budgeting and providing gender sensitive social services to most at risk populations	2.1 Locally assembled information on the needs of particularly vulnerable children (including, from Roma communities) and already available services is communicated to regional Needs Assessment Committees (with corresponding workflows institutionalized)	**40,000**
	5.7 Partnership frameworks established and community level interventions identified, supported (UNDP) thru local government, business and non-profit actors partnership in: (UNDP) • Inclusive housing (Roma reference) • Neighborhood rehabilitation / refurbishing (Roma reference) • Adequate accommodation in employment for PwD • Public space / institutions accessible to men and women, boys and girls w disabilities	Indicator 1: Number of municipalities planning, budgeting and providing gender sensitive social services to most at risk populations Indicator 2: number of policies and plans on social services developed or improved with participation of Civil Society Organizations and marginalized groups	2.5 Local social care plans with ECD components for Roma children and their families available, including cost analysis 2.6 Special interventions (where services for Roma children	**546,306**

	5.8 Roma and Egyptian grass roots formations trained and supported for participation in community level interventions (above) (UNDP)	Indicator 2: number of policies and plans on social services developed or improved with participation of Civil Society Organizations and marginalized groups	cannot be provided through established service points) identified, and budgeted 2.8 ECD facilities and preparatory classes accept Roma children and follow up on drop out	**70,000**
Component 5 subtotal				**876,306**
6 **Output emphasis on marginalized groups to DEMAND and exercise their rights to equal access to services**	6.1 Advocacy work through parliamentary commission hearings on National Strategy Implementation and its gender equality results (UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNWOMEN, UNAIDS) ● Parliamentary Commission for EU Integration ● Parliamentary Commission for Labor Social Issues and Health ● Parliamentary Commission for Legal Affairs and Human Rights ● Ad hoc parliamentary groups	Indicator 1: Number of municipalities planning, budgeting and providing gender sensitive social services to most at risk populations Indicator 3. (Roma) Criteria and guidelines in place for adapting social and public services to the specific needs of Roma/Egyptian populations	1.10 Equity-oriented social care services are promoted through high- and local-level advocacy and communication 2.9 Integrative services for Roma and other marginalized groups promoted through high- and	**50,000**

	6.2 Training and advocacy support to Youth Cross Disability Forums at local levels on CPRD obligations (UNDP)	Indicator 2: number of policies and plans on social services developed or improved with participation of Civil Society Organizations and marginalized groups	local-level advocacy and communication	**40,000**
	6.3 Expansion of civil registration of Roma and Egyptian communities supported through network of partners (UNDP)	Indicator 2. (Roma): Monitoring and reporting system of National Roma Decade National Action Plan (NAP) operational at central and local government level.		**70,000**
	6.4. Criteria, procedures and budgeting framework for free legal aid developed at the national (Ministry of Justice) and local / outreach level (UNDP)	Indicator 3. (Roma) Criteria and guidelines in place for adapting social and public services to the specific needs of Roma/Egyptian populations		**40,000**

	6.5 Community mediation and public health institutions accountability oversight for enhanced access of Roma/Egyptian populations and other at risk groups to health services (UNFPA, UNAIDS)	Indicator 3. (Roma) Criteria and guidelines in place for adapting social and public services to the specific needs of Roma/Egyptian populations		**70,000**
	6.7 Partnership, capacity and funding support to independent monitoring of Roma Inclusion by civil society (UNDP).	Indicator 1: Number of municipalities planning, budgeting and providing gender sensitive social services to most at risk populations		**40,000**
	6.8 Citizens' reporting systems introduced using micro-narratives from social networks on social exclusion and vulnerability monitoring at community levels for feeding into management(UNDP)	Indicator 2. (Roma): Monitoring and reporting system of National Roma Decade National Action Plan (NAP) operational at central and local government level.		**50,000**
Component 6 subtotal				**360,000**
8% General Management Support and Administrative Agent Fee (7%+1%)				**272,904**
GRAND TOTAL (inclusive of GMS and AA fees)				**3,684,210**

7F-06645.02 - UN Support to
Social Inclusion in Albania
Detailed Budget (indicative figures)

	Year 1 2013	Year 2 2014	Year 3 2015	Year 4 2016	Total in USD
Program of Cooperation _ PoC Outcome 4.1: Inclusive Policies ensure rights of disadvantaged populations					
1. Knowledge generation for evidence-based social inclusion policies	260'000	150'000	150'000	110'000	670'000
2. Capacity of MoLSAEO to coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy on a national scale	80'000	150'000	150'000	90'000	470'000
3. Capacity of MoLSAEO for the Social Protection component (cash assistance + disability allowances + care services) of the Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy	90'000	110'000	100'000	80'000	380'000
4. Capacities of line ministries to operationalize the provisions of the Social Inclusion and Protection Strategy in their policies	175'000	175'000	175'000	130'000	655'000
Subotal for PoC Outcome 4.1	**605'000**	**585'000**	**575'000**	**410'000**	**2'175'000**
Program of Cooperation_PoC Outcome 3.2 The public, including marginalized groups and communities, better receive equitable, inclusive and accountable decentralized services from regional and local governments					
5. Policy implementation by regional and local governance mechanisms to implement inclusive policies	220'000	230'000	230'000	196'306	876'306
6. Marginalized groups to demand and exercise their rights to equal access to services	90'000	100'000	100'000	70'000	360'000
Subotal for PoC Outcome 3.2	**310'000**	**330'000**	**330'000**	**266'306**	**1'236'306**
8% General Management Support and Administrative Agent Fee (7%+1%)	74'000	74'000	72'000	52'904	272'904
TOTAL	**989'000**	**989'000**	**977'000**	**729'210**	**3'684'210**

exchange rate: 1 USD=0.95 CHF