Monitoring Institutional Openness in the Republic of Albania

Accountability, Technology and Institutional Openness in Albania - ActionALBANIA
• **Implementing Organization:** MJAFT! Movement

• **Financially supported by:** Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs represented by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Pristina, Kosovo. The lead implementing organization of the programme is the Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF) with Partners Albania for Change and Development (PA) as partner organization.

• **Financial programme:** The Civil Society Programme for Albania and Kosovo
What does Action ALBANIA stand for?

• **ActionALBANIA (Accountability, Technology and Institutional Openness in Albania)** aims to continually keep public authorities accountable and promote transparency, integrity and effectiveness in decision-making processes, in order to increase youth participation and public trust towards government.

• The core added value of this project is gathering and making public data of Albanian public institutions performance in meeting international standards of good governance, in an open data format.
What does ActionALBANIA mean for the citizens, public institutions, media and civil society organizations? (1/2)

• **ActionALBANIA** aims to monitor all the public institutions in the Republic of Albania, producing the National Openness Index (NOI), as well as providing a set of recommendations for the improvement of the current performance of the Albanian Parliament, Prime Minister’s Office, 11 Line Ministries and 4 State Ministries, 28 Executive Agencies, 61 local self-government units and 77 judiciary bodies.
What does ActionALBANIA mean for the citizens, public institutions, media and civil society organizations? (2/2)

• An open source of indicators and policy papers showing the performance of public institutions in terms of institutional openness is going to be easily accessed from everyone, allowing relevant stakeholders and interested parties to use this data for further analysis.

• **ActionALBANIA** also aims to enhance the dialogue among youth/students and governmental institutions, to increase inclusiveness and participation of citizens in the decision-making processes.
What will ActionALBANIA do?

• Developing an interactive platform
• Designing the National Openness Index
• Providing a set of recommendations for improvement of the current situation
• Writing of investigative articles on institutional openness
• Advocating for students’ participation in decision-making process.
By October 2022, we will have:

• Accessed public information produced by public institutions, promoting open data format documents.
• Enhanced dialogue between civil society, youth and governmental institutions for improvement of the current situation.
• Created and disseminated National Openness Index for the Albanian public institutions.
ActionALBANIA is a continuation of the ActionSEE program, aimed to be implemented at the national level, monitoring the openness of local and national public institutions. ActionSEE was a program implemented during 2016 – 2019 by regional partners from North Macedonia (Metamorphosis Foundation), Bosnia & Herzegovina (Why not?), Serbia (CRTA), Montenegro (CDT), Kosovo (Open Data Kosovo) and Mjaft Movement (Albania).
Methodology (1/5)

• **Desk research** based on:
  - Official websites of the institutions
  - Legal frame in the Republic of Albania, regarding good governance
  - International policy papers

• **Questionnaires** to be send towards public institutions

• **Policy papers** per each branch
Methodology (2/5)

- Examples of policy papers and roadmaps for improvement:
  - Policy paper
  - Roadmap
Methodology (3/5)

• The National Openness Index (NOI) measures the degree to which the institutions of the Republic of Albania are open to citizens and society, based on four principles:

(1) transparency
(2) accessibility
(3) integrity and
(4) awareness
Methodology (4/5)

- The principle of **transparency** implies that organizational information, budget, and public procurement procedures be publicly available and published.

- **Accessibility** refers to the provision of an abiding by procedures for free access to information and to the enhancement of the information accessed through the mechanism of public hearings and the strengthening of interaction with citizens.

- **Integrity** includes mechanisms for the prevention of corruption, the implementation of the Codes of Ethics and the regulation of lobbying.

- The last principle, **awareness**, concerns the monitoring and evaluation of policies implemented by institutions.
Methodology (5/5)

• Monitoring period: January – March 2022
• Writing policy papers: April – May 2022
• Relevant websites:
  https://actionsee.org/
  https://index.actionsee.org/