



Albania  
Investment  
Council

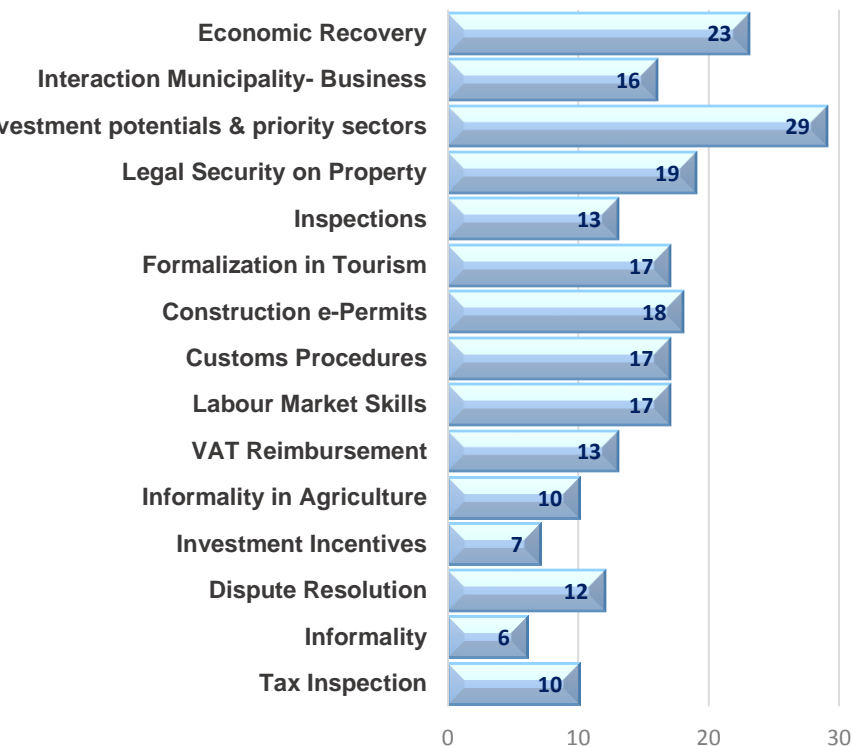
Improving Transparency and Investment Climate

# Progres on Implementation of Investment Council Recommendations

November 2020

# Investment Council 2015-2020

No. of recommendations 2015-2020



**21** Meetings

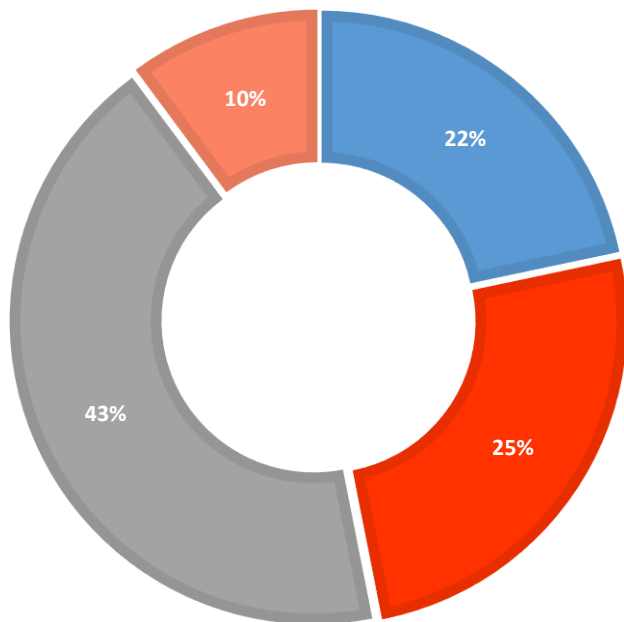
**227**  
Recommendations  
(2015-2020)

**39**  
Recommendations  
(2020)

# Investment Council 2015-2020

## RECOMMENDATIONS BY CATEGORY

■ Strategic ■ Legal ■ Institutional ■ Transparency

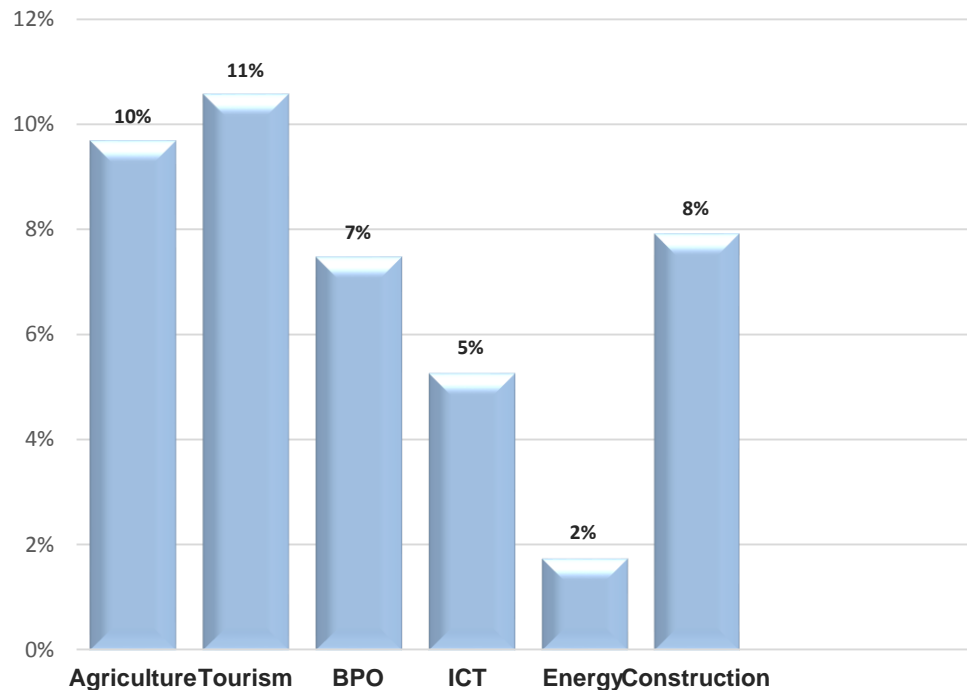


***Recommendations at institutional level have the highest share of the total (43%), with an emphasis mainly on***

- *Inter- institutional collaboration*
- *Capacity building of the operational structures*
- *Sustainability of the institutions*
- *Improvement of the standards and the quality of services*

# Investment Council 2015-2020

Recommendations by sector



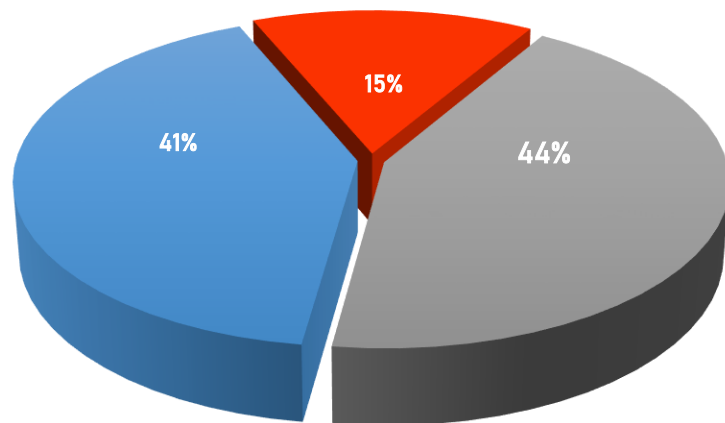
*22% of the total IC recommendations address interventions in two main sectors of **Tourism and Agriculture** aiming:*

- *Increased level of formalization of sectors*
- *Incentives for strengthening the sectors*
- *Legal interventions that would facilitate doing business in these sectors*

# Implemented IC Recommendations 2015-2020

**41%** of the recommendations have been completed. Interventions that fulfilled the IC recommendations, during 2019-2020 worth mentioning:

- *Stimulation of the formalization in the tourism sector - enabled through the categorization of tourist structures (DCM 415 dated 19.06.2019). In total 1,178 accommodation structures categorized.*
- *Unification of administrative practices on inspections at central and local level. Compilation of checklists for all inspectorates and training of inspectors on the online inspection process.*
- *Incentivizing employment through subsidizing businesses that aim to hire / employ unemployed jobseekers (DCM 17 DT 15.01.2020).*
- *Improving the E-permit platform by specifying deadlines for decision-making on construction permits, avoiding the suspension of the platform functionality and defining the role and responsibilities of the institutions interconnected on the platform.*



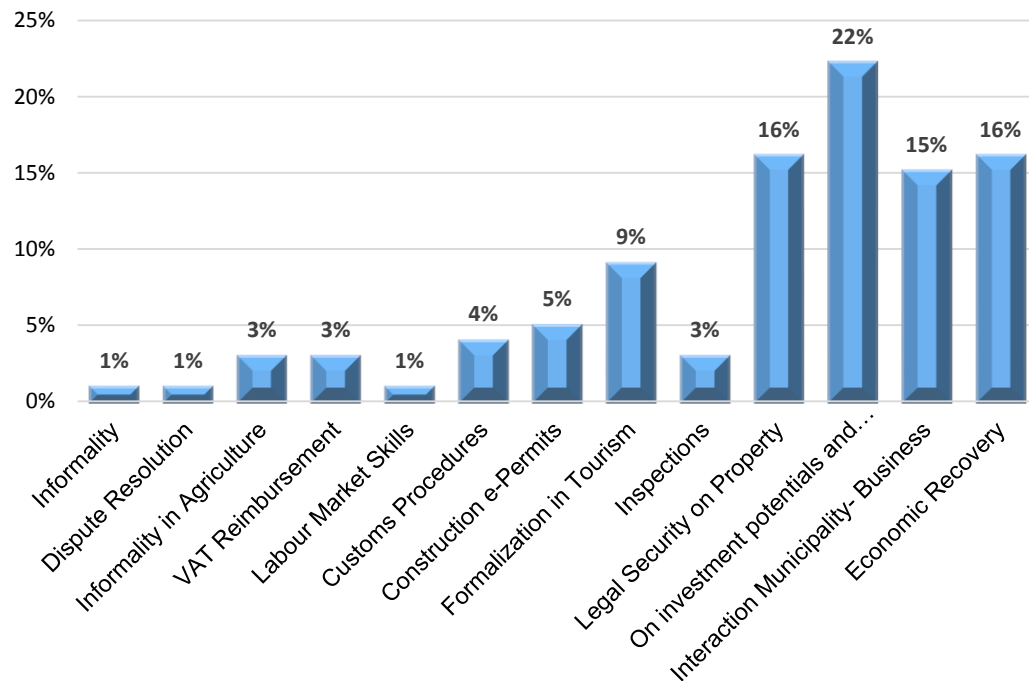
# Implemented IC Recommendations 2015-2020



- *Approval of the “National Plan for sustainable development of digital broadband infrastructure 2020–2025.*
- *Approval of the Methodology for determining the purchase price of energy produced by photovoltaics.*
- *Promotion of incentives offered in Albania on a sectoral basis, information on financial schemes in support of SMEs, guidelines and respective legal framework from the Albanian Investment Development Agency (AIDA), through its website.*
- *Publication of the vision, mission, objectives and policies in the tourism sector through the approval of the “National Strategy for Sustainable Tourism Development 2019 - 2023”.*
- *Simplification of procedures by the General Directorate of Customs with the implementation of the procedure “Customs without papers”.*
- *Support for innovation for youth and start-up companies in the ICT sector by encouraging new investments in information technology centers (IT Hubs) and drafting of the Law “on Start up’s”.*

# Not Implemented IC recommendations 2015-2020

Recommendations not implemented by Topic %



*There are currently **99** unfulfilled recommendations, among the most important ones we can mention:*

- *Preparation and adoption of a proper Strategy against the informality*
- *Stabilization of the legal and subsidiary fiscal framework*
- *Digitization of the registers of some key institutions (ex. ASHK) that would decrease the administrative burden*
- *Strengthen cooperation between inspectorates and undertaking of joint inspections*
- *Improving the appeal process to be unified for all inspectorates.*

# Initiatives undertaken in support of IC recommendations fulfillment 2019–2020

Intensive collaboration in support of IC recommendations fulfillment with:

MFE  
MIE  
MBZHR  
BANK's ASSOCIATION  
BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS  
CHAMBER's OF COMMERCE  
6 MUNICIPALITIES

## 3 Working groups

- MFE – MIE on the IC recommendations addressed on the **ICT sector**
- MFE – MBZHR on the recommendations addressed on the **Agro sector** and Agro processing
- MFE – MIE on the recommendations addressed on the **Energy sector**

## Working group on Blocking of Business Accounts

- Currently under finalization of the changes proposed on the decision/guideline of MFE no. 24 02.09.2008
- Drafting of the law on “ The central registry of the Bank Accounts”

## WG on problems on interaction Business Municipalities

Established an investigative process on the issue presented by AREA with the Municipality of Kukës that is being followed by the office of the Taxpayer Advocate in MFE.

## Development Partners EBRD & SECO

## Technical Support for Institutions

- Technical support for **TDA** aiming the fulfillment of three IC recommendations on the E-Permits Platform
- Technical support for MFE aiming the fulfillment of three IC recommendations on improving digitalization of SMEs and offering them centralized information on financing schemes.



# Challenges – Follow up of Recommendations

- *Some institutions in charge don't react or answer formally with regards to recommendations addressed to them.*
- *Lack of publications of the impact on businesses of strategies, policies, incentives or action plans implemented from the governmental institutions.*
- *Some of the recommendations take long time to be fulfilled from the responsible institutions and this effects their relevance and impact.*
- *The actions undertaken from the responsible institutions are promoted usually in the social and visual media, but the formal documentation on the intervention is published late or not published at all.*