



Albania  
Investment  
Council

Improving Transparency and Investment Climate

# **PROGRESS OF IC RECOMMENDATIONS**

## **JANUARY – JUNE 2024**

INVESTMENT COUNCIL MEETING

Tirana, 3 September 2024

# PROGRESS OF IC RECOMMENDATIONS, JANUARY – JUNE 2024

334 total  
recommendations

48.2%  
implemented  
recommendations\*

113 unfulfilled  
recommendations  
Most of them are  
centred around the  
topics discussed in  
the meetings:  
"Investment  
Potentials"  
"Legal Security  
over Property"

The Secretariat  
relies on formal  
responses from  
implementing  
institutions and  
secondary  
information  
sources to update  
the status of the  
recommendations.

Evidenced  
readiness of public  
institutions to  
provide  
information on the  
fulfilment of IC  
recommendations,  
but the responses  
provided are  
general.

Positive Progress  
on  
17  
Recommendations

\*Fully (80-100%) or partially (50-70%)

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## From the recommendations that affect all the sectors:

**Digitization of local administrative public services for business** - AKSHI in cooperation with the Minister of State for Local Government, are in the process of negotiations with the World Bank for additional financing opportunities to expand the existing joint operation including administrative re-engineering, digital transformation and the modernization of local finances as well as the integration of local government into the digital infrastructure of the central government.

**Enabling the online payment system for central administrative services.** From the cooperation between AKSHI, BSH, Association of Banks and commercial banks in Albania, with the mediation of the Ministry of Finance, the signing of a memorandum of cooperation for the Digitalization Project for electronic payments for public services has been achieved. Commercial banks are carrying out technical developments to offer the possibility of making online payments for 17 online services.

**Ensuring trust in online platforms by protecting the security of information exchanged on digital platforms where administrative services are provided.** AKSHI has drafted and approved the document "Instructions for the Implementation of the Updated Document of Continuity and the Plan for the Storage of Information. This document contains the actions and measures that must be taken to support and guarantee the continuity of work.

**Facilitation of the employment mediation process by AKPA through the centralized platform [puna.gov.al](http://puna.gov.al).** The platform set up by AKPA aims to increase the interaction between employers and job seekers, where the latter can apply directly to the vacancy without the participation of the Labor Office. Regional meetings were held between institutions under AKPA such as Labor Offices, QFP and Vocational Education Schools as well as informative meetings with interested parties encouraging participation in the services and programs that AKPA offers.

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## From the recommendations in the Tourism sector:

**Efforts to standardize service quality through the clarification of categories and classification of tourist entities.** Along with adding new categories of structures and detailing their classification, it is now mandatory for individuals renting out rooms, villas, and apartments to obtain a categorization certificate and a classification certificate from the Ministry before starting their accommodation activities. However, they are not required to be registered in the National Business Centre (QKB).

**Structuring the collection, processing and production of tourism statistics based on consolidated data. This approach enhances policy and strategy design through real data analysis and provides a more accurate overview of informality in tourism.** Recent legal changes from the Law No. 30/2024 impact two articles, mandating the collection of data via reporting from central and local public institutions, accommodation structures, tourist operators, and travel agencies. Additionally, the "Committee for Statistical Data in Tourism" has been established as a coordinating body under the ministry responsible for tourism, chaired by the Minister.

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## From the recommendations in the Agricultural sector:

**Timely update and transparency regarding digital maps of agricultural land types to guide farmers.** Finalized:

1. Inventory and classification of agricultural land according to its suitability;
2. Agro-ecological study of the areas in focus;
3. Digitization of the agricultural land register for the municipalities of Berat, Delvina, Finic, Kolonje, Kuçovo, Lushnje, Roskovec and partially Vlorë. For Fieri and Korça, the data will be in the online system by December 2024.
4. Creation of the WEB-GIS program

**Efforts to promote collaboration and cooperation among farmers through joining farmer groups or SHBB.** In the National Support Scheme for 2024, there were 321 applications from farmer groups (with 1685 farmers in total) and 21 applications from Agricultural Cooperative Societies that are favoured with a full benefit measure at the 100% level compared to individual farmers. Support for cultivated medicinal and aromatic plants (BMA) was also restored.

**Encouraging formalization in the sector by finalizing the registration of Farms/Farmers and equipping them with Farmer Cards.** Data on about 133 thousand active farms authorized by Regional Agricultural Extension Agencies have been corrected and updated. All applicants, before benefiting from the support measures of the National Scheme, are required to complete/update the Farm Register. The register is integrated into the AZHBR system for the online application of direct payments.

**Proactive approach towards data-driven governance and policymaking in agriculture and agri-processing.** Enhancing data collection, processing, exchange, and analysis within these sectors. (1) Establishment of Department of Statistics, Analysis, and Reporting. (2) Cooperation with Other Reporting Institutions (INSTAT) and with donors for methodological improvements. (3) Sectoral Analysis and Policy Orientation: this includes identifying trends, assessing impacts of policies, and planning interventions effectively.

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From the recommendations in the Agri - processing sector:

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**Promoting regional cooperation and synergy to unlock new potentials in your region, especially through initiatives like free movement of goods, employers, and capital, as well as easing non-tariff barriers:**

**(1) The Albanian phytosanitary certificate is recognized and accepted by all countries of the world as it conforms to the phytosanitary certificate model of the IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention). The Albanian phytosanitary authority has negotiated and agreed with all the countries of the Western Balkans for mutual recognition and acceptance of phytosanitary certificates that accompany exports of agricultural products.**

**2) ISUV has been financially supported for the increase of laboratory and technical capacities for the accreditation of methods of analysis of agricultural products. The analyses performed at ISUV are accredited based on the norms established according to the EU acquis. The Accreditation Certificate issued by the General Directorate of Accreditation, is recognized by all EU member states.**

# Thank You!

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