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Anti-Corruption Policy in Albania

*Some Considerations about the implementation of
the National Strategy on Prevention and Fight
against Corruption 2008 - 2013*



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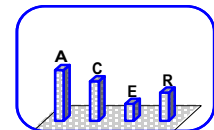
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Strategic Approach

- GoA has determined the fight against corruption as a **chief priority**.
- At strategic level, GoA displayed a **new approach** by drafting a 5 year strategy (2008-2013)
- *The Government has built on this issue through two important elements:*
 1. Profound and comprehensive reforms **on prevention** of corruption;
 2. **Legal punishment and penalization** for corruption of officials throughout all levels.

Problems are grouped in seven areas

1. Prevention, transparency, comprehension of education;
2. Strengthening the political system and the ethics of public functioning;
3. Modernization and consolidation of procedures;
4. Sector reforms (control, business environment, civil service, public procurement, education, health, finances, justice, local power etc.);
5. Consolidation of transparency and integrity in public administration;
6. Approximation of legislation in fighting corruption;
7. Sustainable information campaigns and education measures.

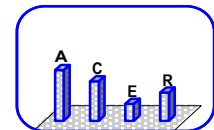


The Anti - Corruption Policy in Albania

- Main policy document: the *National Strategy on Prevention and Fighting Corruption and Transparent Governance 2008-2013*

The coordinating structures in fighting corruption:

- *At Political Level:* the Anti-Corruption Task-Force
 - *At Strategic Level:* Cross-Institutional Working Group for the Implementation of Anti-Corruption
 - *At Operational Level (investigative):* Joint Investigative Units (JIU).
- It contains description of state, *identification of problems* and possible measures and *provisions* regarding their implementation, per each public authority as per yearly action plans.
- *Overall, Albania has completed the necessary legislative and institutional framework supported by political will, institutional engagement, and donor community sustain*



National Strategy Implementation

The *main reforms* undertaken include:

- *Legislative measures*
- *Institutional Measures towards Strategy implementation*
- *Control/investigation and punishing corruption measures*
- *Cooperation with citizens and raising public awareness*

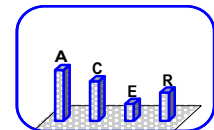
As per main areas:

- Conflict of Interest
- Justice
- Infrastructure in using public funds (e-government initiative)

- *Demonstration of political and institutional will to prevent, reduce and fight against corruption*

- *A wider involvement of public agencies in fighting corruption, but no concrete achievements in tracking corruption cases*

- *Action plans referes to measures as number of laws to be adopted/amended, institutions, trainings/campaigns and almost no provision of impact of outputs to the decrease of corruption rate / perception*

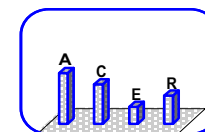


National Strategy Implementation

- Implemented Measures by Ministries

MINISTRY	OBJECTIVES	MEASURES	FULLY	PARTLY	NOT IMPLEMENTED	%
Ministry of Finance	26	73	47	11	15	64%
Ministry of Interior	28	59	38	10	11	64%
Ministry of Health	8	15/18	10	4	4	56%
Ministry of Labour and Social Issues	6	23	17	6	0	74%
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	7	17	14	3	0	82%
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy	10	18	18	0	0	100%
Ministry of Defence	11	25	21	4	0	84%
Ministry of Public Works and Transport	13	36	20	9	7	56%
Ministry of Education and Science	11	27	14	3	10	52%
Ministry of Justice	15	40/58	42	16	0	72%
Ministry of Environment	8	29	23	3	3	79%
Ministry of Agriculture	3	7	6	1	0	86%
Ministry of Culture	8	16	10	5	1	63%
TOTAL	154	385/406*	280	75	51	72%

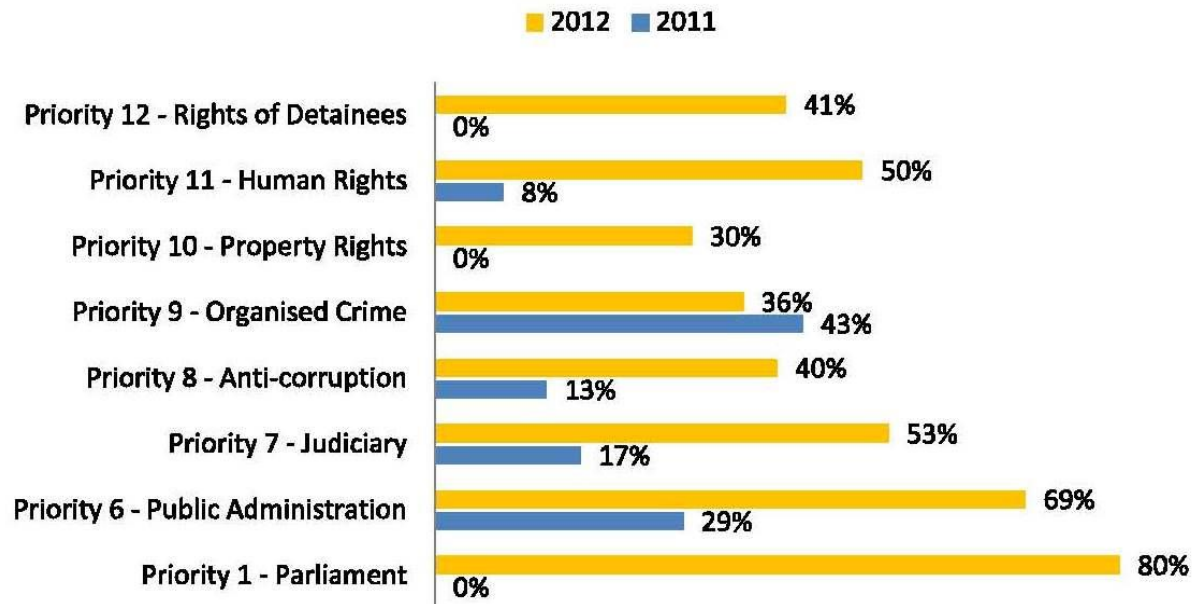
DIACA Monitoring until 2010 (National Strategy Monitoring as per Action Plan 2010)



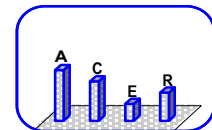
National Strategy Implementation

- Implemented Measures by Area

Implemented Measures by Area: 2012 vs 2011

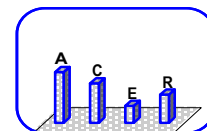


- 2012 - 2011 Independent Monitoring (SOROS Albania)



GAPs on National Strategy Implementation

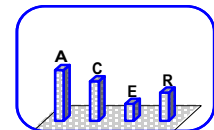
- **Monitoring:** shortcomings in the administrative capacity of relevant institutions
 - **Institutional independence:** Not sufficient
 - **Cooperation between monitoring and reporting authorities:** weak
 - **Human resources and Financial resources:** : limited
 - **Implementation of the action plans:** partial
 - **Administrative inspections sector:** vulnerable to corruption
 - **Conviction rates:** remain very low (no track-record of high-level corruption cases)
 - **Measures:** implemented selectively and non-coherently and this affects the accomplishment of the established objectives.
1. These factors consolidate the **general prevailing culture of impunity.**



Assessment and Progress

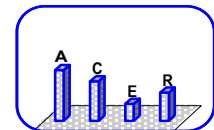
EU PROGRESS REPORTS	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Overall, Albania has continued to address corruption - perception of corruption has improved.	Overall, Albania has continued to address corruption - Progress can be noted about the legal framework and inter-agency structures in place, but implementation remains uneven.	Overall, efforts to establish a legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption and has produced some initial results.	Overall, limited progress was made in the field of anti-corruption policy.	Moderate progress was made regarding policies to fight corruption - the absence of a proactive approach and lack of resources and equipment continue to obstruct effective investigations.

→ The implementation of the anti-corruption strategy and specific measures in different sectors and areas under the 2011-2013 action plan has continued, **albeit slowly!**



Recommendations for the Revised Strategy

- a) A better coordination among stakeholders and actions to be undertaken
- a) Implementation of all measures
- b) Realistic planned measures per deadline, resources, and human capacities.
- c) A comprehensive analysis of the causes of corruption and the potential risk that institutions encounter is essential to increase effectiveness of measures
 - a) To initiate deeper reforms and supplementary policies
 - b) Concrete and specific indicators must be defined
 - c) Budget expenditure information to be accessible and disclosed as comprehensive, timely and comparable data
 - d) Adopting detailed work plans



Drafting the new Anti - corruption Strategy 2013 - 2020

Stakeholders Role

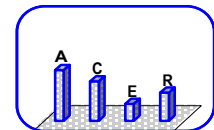
- **GoA**
- **Donor Community**
- **Media**
- **Business**
- **CSOs**

Monitoring and Evaluation

- No GoA monitoring of yearly actions plans after 2010
- Independent Monitoring 2011 - 2012 (SOROS, TIA and national CSOs)
- Drafting of the revised anti - corruption strategy 2013 - 2020 not scheduled

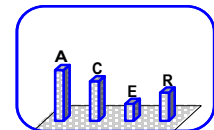
- *Overall, transparency perception is worsen, as role of stakeholders is triggered by the current political debate*

- *The cooperation between actors is reduced, which from the other side shadows the impacts of those undertaken measures and policies.*



Some Premises for a better implementation of the Anti - corruption policy

- Overall, there is an improved public perception on petty corruption (especially in service delivery), but still corruption perception persist and it being lead by big affairs, high ranked politicians, and institutions wide.
- While, the process of transferring a number of public services to private services has diminished the petty corruption, it results in establishing a number of regulatory institutions which results incompetent / source of corruption.
- Investments and support to infrastructure seeks to avoid direct contacts of business with public officials by reducing corruption cases (e-procurement, etc)
- Diversification of institutions involved in investigation, along with support to human capacities increase, and division of power, gives hope that political pressure will decline



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Thank you!

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