

# NDC Assist II Albania

## Strengthening the financing and implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

### Albania in the frame

Situated in the western part of the Balkan peninsula, Albania is one of the most vulnerable countries when it comes to climate-induced extreme weather events. Although extreme weather events affect Albania on a national scale, the adaptation priorities that tackle these seasonal changes focus on the coastal area including Tirana. These areas constitute the majority of the industrial, agricultural, touristic and infrastructural hubs. The fast-paced urbanization of the coast is closely linked to the higher vulnerability of the coastal infrastructure. The inner migration towards the western parts of Albania has resulted in communities living in poor-quality, disaster-prone settlements.

Albania's economic circumstances are volatile, relying mostly on the service, agriculture and lastly, on the industry sector. The vulnerability of the country is reflected mostly in the agriculture and energy sector; however, energy supply is provided by renewable sources, mostly from hydropower with additional renewable sources becoming increasingly prominent. The dependency of the Albanian energy supply on hydropower is one of the main concerns when it comes to seasonal droughts.

The NDC Partnership (NDCP) aims to support the coalition of countries and institutions that strive to cumulatively achieve the goals set up by the Paris Agreement. The most vulnerable countries in the world are the ones that are at a developing stage, in which fragile socio-economic and political circumstances, make it difficult to build up resilience against climate change. The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, amplified its efforts to further support Albania in the enhancement of the objectives reflected in the Revised NDC.

### Tackling Climate Change

The NDC Assist II project in Albania is implemented within the climate policy framework of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with the support of the NDCP. The submission of the first NDC (November 2015) served as the backbone in setting up more ambitious goals in mitigation measures.

The Revised NDC (2021) portrayed the need for the inclusion of adaptation as a mean to mitigate climate change implications. Such adaptation actions require upscaling to minimize the damages caused while supporting the vulnerable communities of Albania. To this day, more than 600,000 inhabitants live in disaster prone areas where recurring floods followed by severe seasonal droughts have decreased the standard of living, consequently causing hazards to the ecosystem and human health.

It is imperative to the successful implementation of the NDC objectives, that the policies and measures prescribed by the Revised NDC, are aligned with the countries' long term national strategies, objectives, and vision. Consequently, the submission of the Revised NDC tackled these concerns by:

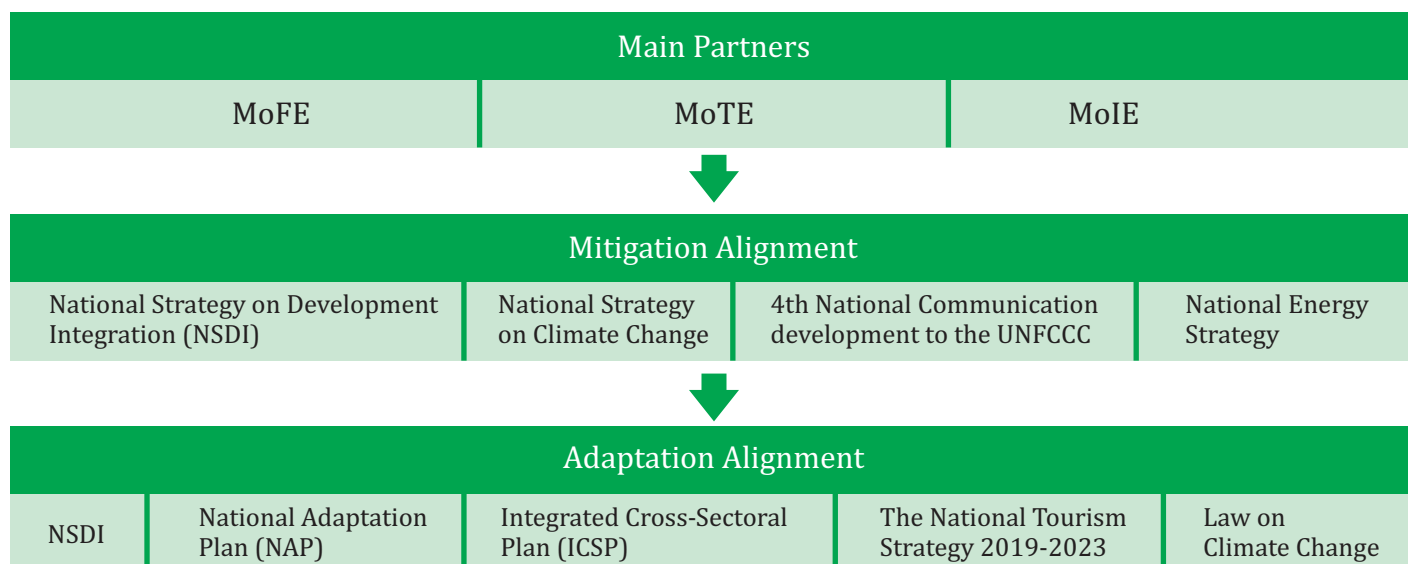
- Increasing the scope of the mitigation measures (reducing the GHG emissions by 20.9% by 2030 instead of the initial goal of 11.5%);
- Inclusion of additional sectors and gases in the new climate change action plans;
- Introduction of the adaptation component, besides mitigation, in the newly Revised NDC.

NDC Assist II strives to support Albania in budgeting and tracking of climate-related expenditures into the public budget in order to create a better overview and adapt the climate-induced needs of the country to the monetary means at its disposal.

<b>Project name</b>	NDC Assist II Strengthening the financing and implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions
<b>Commissioned by</b>	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
<b>Project region</b>	Albania
<b>Partners and Partnerships</b>	Ministry of Finance and Economy (MoFE) Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MoTE) Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy (MoIE) and other stakeholders
<b>Duration</b>	03/2021-12/2023



## Alignment with national priorities



### NDC Assist II Albania

NDC Assist II provides technical support in facilitating the process of implementing the goals set up by the revised NDC through guidance of the programs for mitigation and adaptation in a gender inclusive manner, supporting the government in finding ways to adhere:

- To the previously set up objectives of the NDC and National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP);
- To the objectives to mainstream climate change actions into the public budget;
- To the increasing needs for energy efficiency gains through the provision of pilot actions that aim to increase the efficiency of the electricity usage while making use of alternative sustainable energy sources.

Additional Information: [Albania | NDC Partnership](#)

To support the Law on Energy Efficiency and meet the requirements of the National Energy Strategy 2018-2030, the project supports the municipalities of Albania in switching to more efficient energy usage alternatives. Consequently, the NDC Assist II strives to diversify and support the transition of Albania towards alternative energy sources to mitigate for the increasing dependency on hydropower.

The adaptation measures have a high priority given their relatively low institutional complexity, low cost and their development co-benefits. These measures aim to strengthen the institutional capacities, help the communities endangered by extreme weather events and guide the integration of gender considerations in climate change policies. These actions, taking place within the adaptation and mitigation framework, would provide the co-benefit potential for the marginalized communities.

### The benefits

By strengthening the actions that aim the protection and preservation of the environment, the NDC Assist II supports the capacity development of local actors in Albania that aim to contribute to the preservation of nature through Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA). This approach provides the needed consistency to support the families living in disaster-prone areas while helping to achieve additional carbon uptake goals through biomass.

With the unanimous proclamation in the parliament (2017), Albania is committed to the 2030 Agenda and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The NDC Assist II aims to directly contribute to the achievement of the:

- SDG13: Climate Action;
- SDG7: Affordable and Clean Energy (Mitigation);
- SDG3: Good Health and Wellbeing;
- SDG5: Gender equality.

### NDC Assist II activities in Albania

NDC Assist II strives to explore entry points for mainstreaming climate change actions within public budgeting. Through the analysis of the main challenges and gaps of the public finances, the project aims to strengthen the line ministries' engagement in integrating climate change within the planning, analysis and future economic development projections. This requires a systematic tracking of key expenditures and a marking system, aligned with the international standards, that enables the quantification of actions in monetary terms. In addition, the project is supporting its partners in mainstreaming gender issues in implementing climate measures in the country.

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NDC Assist II - Financing and implementing Nationally  
Determined Contributions  
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 32 + 36  
53113 Bonn, Germany  
T +49 (0)228 44 60 0  
[www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)

Contact Person Dennis Mutschler-Neumann  
[dennis.mutschler-neumann@giz.de](mailto:dennis.mutschler-neumann@giz.de)  
T +49 (0) 228 4460-1463  
Merita Mansaku – Meksi  
[Merita.meksi@giz.de](mailto:Merita.meksi@giz.de)  
+355694030510

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