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## Our expectation

As a result of GIZ and MFE's joint commitment the Albanian administration is able to carry out negotiations with the European Commission in the single market cluster and chapter 20 in a participatory manner.

In concrete terms this means:

- **Better level of preparation is identified by the EU Commission's annual report in meeting the accession criteria in the large majority of supported chapters of the single market cluster and in chapter 20.**
- **Laws harmonized with the EU Acquis in the area of the Internal Market Cluster with support from the project are accompanied by legal impact assessments, which also document that the laws have been reviewed with regard to their relevance for gender equality.**
- **Members of the Partnership Platform for European Integration representing a wide range of societal groups are proactively involved in the process of negotiations and are satisfied with the quality of the dialogue and consultation with the government.**



Support to Accession  
Negotiations in Economic  
Chapters of the Acquis

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Support to Accession Negotiations in Economic  
Chapters of the Acquis (SANECA)

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## Support to Accession Negotiations in Economic Chapters of the Acquis (SANECA II)

Implemented by

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
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In cooperation with



## Who we are

**SANECA II** is a project implemented by GIZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Our main political partner is the Albanian Ministry of Finance and Economy (MFE). MFE is primarily responsible for most chapters in Cluster 2 and for Chapter 20. Besides MFE the project works closely with the Bank of Albania, General Directorate of Patents and Trademarks, the Albanian Competition Authority, and the Albanian Financial Supervision Authority, respectively at head of Inter-Institutional Working Groups for chapters 4, 7, 8 and 9.

This project started on 1 February 2023 and will continue until 31 January 2026.

## Background of our support

The process of EU integration is of fundamental importance to Albania and is an all-encompassing objective of its development strategy. Albania and the European Commission held the first Inter-Governmental Conference on July 19, 2022 marking the formal opening of negotiations for the country's EU membership. Accession negotiations are conducted along EU legislation - chapters of the acquis divided in 6 thematic clusters. Albanian negotiating structures should demonstrate the country's level of compliance with the acquis and level of implementation. Negotiations on each cluster open as a whole and if there's sufficient progress on reform priorities it should lead to closer integration with the EU through accelerated integration, and increased investments and funding.

## What we aim

Strengthening the organizational and planning capacities of the Albanian administration to conduct accession negotiations in a participatory manner in Cluster 2 – Internal market + Chapter 20 “Enterprise and industrial policy”

Adoption of EU standards in areas such as free movement of goods, workers, services and capital, company law and competition policy, financial services, intellectual property, consumer protection and public health are key for Albania's progress towards the EU internal market and of high relevance for early integration in the Common Regional Market. Alignment with the objectives of EU's industrial policy, eventually contributes to the structural change of the national economy, which is shifting gradually towards services and industry, encouraging at the same time a business-friendly environment that stimulates small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).



## Where we focus

We focus on three key intervention areas:

- 1. Developing capacities of the public administration to conduct the screening process.**  
IIWG are equipped with necessary skills to prepare adequately for Bilateral Screenings and conduct negotiations in Cluster 2 and chapter 20; improve quality of legal and institutional gap analyses; are well prepared for upcoming phases of negotiations in additional 6 chapters.
- 2. Advancing preparations for meeting benchmarks in Cluster 2.**  
High-priority national legislation related to Cluster 2 and Chapter 20 is aligned, including sound Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIA) and considering gender equality aspects. Concept papers and strategic documents that may be required by EU for Albania's advancement in the accession process are drafted.
- 3. Government – stakeholder dialogue in the process of EU integration**  
Negotiating structures conduct regular consultations with stakeholders through dedicated platforms, such as the Partnership Platform for EU integration.

## How we do it

We advise and provide expertise to institutions leading negotiations in Cluster 2 and chapter 20, on methodologies and instruments, process maps and tools for inter-institutional coordination. Support is given for the preparation of presentation packages for the Bilateral Screening Meetings, harmonization of national legislation with the EU acquis, including regulatory impact assessments and taking gender aspects into account. All this in participatory matter with stakeholders from private sector and civil society on the one hand and the government on the other being part of the social dialogue.