

### MONITORING REPORT FOR JANUARY - DECEMBER 2018

# INTER-SECTORAL STRATEGY AGAINST CORRUPTION 2015 – 2020

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#### LIST OF ACRONYMS

AASCA Agency of the Administration of Seized and Confiscated Assets

NAIS National Agency of Information Society

NFA National Food Authority

ACSS Agency for Civil Society Support

PPA Public Procurement Agency

AARD Agency for Agricultural and Rural Development

GDSP General Directorate of State Police

HIDAACI High Inspectorate for the Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflict of Interests

CRIPDP Commissioner for the Right to Information and Personal Data Protection

NCAC National Coordinator against Corruption

HSA High State Audit

CEC Central Elections Commission

MESY Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth

MoI Ministry of Interior

MARD Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

MoJ Ministry of Justice

MEFA Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

MFE Ministry of Finance and Economy

MIE Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy

MoC Ministry of Culture

MoD Ministry of Defense

MHSP Ministry of Health and Social Protection

MTE Ministry of Tourism and Environment

GPO General Prosecutor's Office

AP Action Plan

ISAC Inter-Sectoral Strategy Against Corruption

SPAK Special Anti-Corruption Unit

SIAC Service for Internal Affairs and Complaints

## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ON THE INTER-SECTORAL STRATEGY AGAINST CORRUPTION 2015-2020 AND ITS ACTION PLAN 2018-2020, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY-DECEMBER 2018

Corruption is a threat to democracy, good governance, and fair competition, sustainable economic, social and political development of a country.

It seriously impedes economic growth, creating a system of inequality, prejudice and nepotism, undermining people's trust in their state, therefore the fight against corruption is presently one of the primary challenges of any state with a democratic culture, vision and high integrity.

The government has and will firmly continue to have unshaken will in the fight against corruption through preventive actions, punitive measures and public awareness raising activities.

The priority of the government in the field of combating corruption best corresponds to the conditions set by the European Union to open negotiations for membership in the EU. The fight against corruption is one of the five policies Albania is advised to follow with priority in the country's European integration process. Likewise, the prevention and punishment of corruption is an obligation deriving from the accession of Albania to international instruments for the fight against corruption such as the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the Council of Europe Criminal Convention against Corruption, the Council of Europe Crivil Convention against Corruption etc.

Since 2015, Albania has been pursuing and implementing the Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption. The 2015-2020 vision of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption is: "Albanian institutions with a high level of transparency and integrity, enjoying the trust of citizens and guaranteeing quality and non-corrupt service".

The major goals of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption are prevention, punishment and public awareness / education about corruption. These goals are long-term and extend over time throughout the implementation of the strategy and action plan.

The Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption covers a period of 6 years, as it envisages the objectives and the relevant measures to be implemented to meet these objectives in accordance with the deadlines detailed in the Anti-Corruption Action Plan. The Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption, being a crosscutting strategy, is based on the principle of coordination between institutions in order to achieve the objectives included in the NSDI by implementing a systematic and integrated approach.

An annual review of the Action Plan for the Strategy implementation was carried out by the National Coordinator against Corruption, in order to allow the adaptation of the Strategy to the new realities and sector-based priorities.

This Action Plan has undergone a comprehensive consultation process with the participation of key stakeholders, who play an important role in the fight against corruption, including state administration institutions at central and local level and independent institutions, international organizations and partners, civil society etc.

In drafting this document, the changes that have taken place as a result of reforms such as Justice Reform and Territorial Administrative Reform have been taken into account and reflected.

With a view of drafting this document, initially by the National Coordinator against Corruption, an assessment of the development of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption was conducted, the Action Plan 2015-2017 of this strategy was analyzed, and the problems faced by institutions for the implementation of measures set out in this action plan, were analyzed.

A key role in the process of drafting Action Plan 2018-2020 is also attributed to the Passport of Indicators of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption, through which measurable indicators of the realization of the objectives of this strategy have been determined.

By Decision of Council of Ministers No. 241, dated 20.04.2018, was approved the Action Plan 2018-2020 for the implementation of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption 2015-2020, the Passport of Indicators, the establishment, functioning and duties of the Coordinating Committee for the Implementation of the ISAC and the Inter-Institutional Anti-Corruption Task Force.

The establishment of the Inter-Institutional Anti-Corruption Task Force, responsible for inter-institutional inspections under the Action Plan of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption, is chaired by the Minister of Justice, National Coordinator against Corruption and is composed of representatives from the Prime Minister's Office, Public Procurement Agency and Central Inspectorate.

The Coordinating Committee is chaired by the Minister of Justice and consists of 10 members at the level of Deputy Minister from each Line Ministry (excluding 2 Ministries without portfolio).

#### II. MONITORING METHODOLOGY

Pursuant to the Prime Minister's Order no. 166 dated 05.10.2017 "On approval of the structure and organigramme of the Ministry of Justice", at the Ministry of Justice is established the Monitoring, Implementation of Priorities and Statistics Sector, part of the Directorate of Policies and Strategies in the Justice Field. This sector is the responsible structure for the monitoring process and for drafting the Monitoring Reports of the Strategies.

The Directorate of Policies and Strategies in the Justice Field carries out the coordination with all responsible institutions and then drafts the monitoring report. This report covers the period from *1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018* and is drafted based on the contribution provided by all institutions involved in the Action Plan of the ISAC. The goal is to have information on the achievements of progress and challenges towards meeting the objectives of the strategy. The aim is to obtain information on the progress and challenges towards the attainment of the objectives of the strategy.

Every institution has reported on the level of implementation of each policy and activity, allocated budget, problems encountered and assessment of progress of the strategy in general. In order to monitor the implementation of the undertaken commitments, regarding the implementation of the sub-activities, the monitoring process is carried out at the objective level.

Monitoring the Strategy consisted in two main phases:

- 1. Reporting by institutions through their contact points on the implementation of the measures for which they are responsible; and
- 2. Reporting by the NCAC on the implementation of the AP in its entirety.

The Monitoring Report has required a process consisting of 2 reporting stages for most of the institutions in order to complete and correct the required information. Extending the reporting process was necessary as reporting in the first rounds was incomplete or unclear in many of the Reporting Matrix components.

Hereunder, the data for each stage have been handled and instructions were prepared with additional information that institutions had to complete for the necessary data framework. Verification of the reported data was performed partly on-line for those measures that the contact points had conducted the reporting, in order to ensure their accuracy. The statistical treatment was performed by encoding the responses based on the collected reports. An important role in the process of drafting the Annual Monitoring Report for the period January - December 2018 had the Passport of Indicators of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption, through which are defined 18 measurable indicators for the realization of the objectives of this strategy. The Monitoring of Indicators is conducted at the objective level, reported by anticorruption contact points.

After the preparation of the draft report, the Ministry of Justice, in support of the monitoring process, sends the document for consultation to the reporting institutions, civil society as well as publishes the draft on the official website of the Ministry of Justice, where an electronic address is assigned for receiving comments. At the end of the consultation process, the Ministry of Justice reflects the relevant comments/suggestions on the draft monitoring report before being approved by the Coordinating Committee.

## III. ON THE ACTION PLAN 2018 – 2020 PURSUANT TO THE INTER-SECTORAL STRATEGY AGAINST CORRUPTION.

The new Action Plan 2018 - 2020 consists of a total of 18 objectives, of which 11 are part of the preventive approach, 4 in the repressive approach and 3 in awareness approach, as follows:

<u>Preventive Approach</u>, which aims to eradicate corruption firstly from the public administration and all state segments and mainly from institutions providing public services to citizens.

This approach marks the largest number of activities that responsible institutions are foreseen to implement throughout the period and consist of the following objectives:

- A.1 Increasing Transparency in State Activity and Improving Citizens' Access to Information;
- A.2 Increasing transparency in planning, managing and controlling public funds;
- A.3 Strengthening the electronic infrastructure of public institutions;
- A.4 Improving the treatment of corruption denunciations/reports;

- A.5 Strengthening the regime of declaration and control of assets of public officials and conflicts of interest cases;
- A.6 Strengthening the regime of controls over the financing of political parties;
- A.7 Improving the efficiency of internal audit and inspection and systematic use of risk analysis;
- A.8 Systematic use of the mechanism for identifying areas for corruption;
- A.9 Strengthening the integrity of public officials;
- A.10 Analyzing trends of corruption, effectiveness of anti-corruption measures and improving statistics related to the activity of anti-corruption law enforcement agencies;
- A.11 Articulating and adopting anti-corruption policies at the local government level.

**Repressive Approach**, is intended to ensure that law enforcement institutions and especially independent bodies, which have a key role in this process, should monitor law enforcement and rule of law, thus ensuring the transparency and integrity of state bodies. This approach consists of the following objectives:

- B.1 Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of criminal investigations against corruption;
- B.2 Improving cooperation between law enforcement institutions in prosecution and criminal punishment of corruption;
- B.3. Review of the legal framework for the prosecution of economic and financial crime;
- B.4. Improving judicial and international police cooperation in the fight against corruption.

<u>Awareness Aproach</u>, aims for the public to participate in the fight against corruption by denouncing it and being active in initiatives aimed to prevent corruptive phenomena. This approach consists of the following objectives:

- C.1 Public awareness raising and education of the general public on the consequences of corruption;
- C.2 Encouraging the public to actively use mechanisms for reporting corruption;
- C.3. Encouraging cooperation with civil society.

The performance indicators<sup>1</sup> total **37**, where 21 thereof take part in the preventive approach, 9 in the repressive approach and 7 in awareness approach. This action plan consists of a total of **97 measures**, respectively 52 measures for the preventive approach, 19 measures for the repressive approach and 26 measures for the awareness approach. The number of institutions involved in the process of drafting the Action Plan is 84 (11 ministries, 12 central level institutions, 61 Municipalities).

Pursuant to the Decision of Council of Ministers no. 241, dated 20.04.2018 "On the approval of the Action Plan 2018-2020 for the implementation of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy Against Corruption 2015-2020, of the Passport of Indicators, establishment, functioning and duties of the Coordinating Committee

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In order to achieve the planned objectives and evaluate the performance indicators, a Passport of Indicators is drafted for ISAC implementation, explaining the detailed methodology for the calculation of baseline values and targets introduced by the institutions. A more complete information can be found in the Annex attached hereto.

for the Implementation of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy Against Corruption 2015-2020 and the Inter-Institutional Anticorruption Task Force ", in February 2019 the Ministry of Justice started the monitoring process of ISAC for 2018.

The Inter-Sectoral Strategy Against Corruption aims to achieve the major objectives of this strategy through the implementation of specific anti-corruption measures, in order to develop a society in which a responsible and efficient anti-corruption system is in place, capable of tangible results and to show a tendency toward maximum elimination of corruption threats, as well as the will to prevent and combat corruption. To monitor the performance of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy Against Corruption 2015-2020, a report has been drafted in the framework of the implementation of the Action Plan 2018-2020, which is the forth monitoring report for 2018 and covers the period from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018. The monitoring report is realized through reporting by the Anti-Corruption Contact Points. The goal is to have information on the achievements, progress and challenges to meet the above-mentioned objectives of the strategy regarding the level of implementation of each measure, allocated budget and performance for this term.

#### IV. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS DURING JANUARY – DECEMBER 2018.

The most significant achievements for the above period of time regarding the implementation of the Action Plan 2018 – 2020 of the Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption, are as follows:

#### **Preventive approach**

- 1. All ministries have approved and published in their webpages the transparency programs.
- 2. The IDP's Office has identified 219 public authorities which have published their transparency programme where 178 out of them have disclosed also the register of the requests and responses on their official websites and 331 coordinators of the right to information have been designated. In total, 820 complaints filed by citizens or civil society organizations have been examined.
- 3. Public consulation process regarding the model of the transparency programme for the local government, drafted by IDM in cooperation with the IDP' Office, has been concluded. The data Protection Commissioner adopted the transparency programmes of the local government units and trainings were delivered to 61 coordinators of the right to information in all municipalities.
- 4. The Public Procurement Agency (PPA) as a result of the undertaken measures has fully met Objective A.2, exceeding the forecasts for 2018. For this period (January December 2018), the percentage of modified elements in the register of forecasts is 19.4%. The percentage of the procedures by negotiation without prior announcement of the contract notice towards the total of procedures, earned by the end of 2018 is 9.4%, whereas the percentage of the contracts amendments from administrated data is 11.4%.
- 5. Referring to this period NAIS has added 64 new electronic services. By the end of 2018, the total number of electronic services was 591. For this period there are 333,378 registered users in e-Albania portal. In total, there are over 726,280 portal users who can use its electronic services reducing physical presence at the institutions help desks. Over 4.7 million usages of electronic

- services of the portal by the citizens, businesses and administration employees are registered for 2018.
- 6. 2.5 millions documents with digital stamp generated throughout January December 2018 by means of e-albania module and e-albania portal thus reducing the bureaucracy and extirpating directly the citizen-administration contact.
- 7. During this period the number of corruption investigations generated by the citizen's criminal reports to the State Police is 197 cases, in terms of which police and investigative actions have been carried out and have been referred to the Prosecutor's Office.
- 8. 30 mutual trainings have been conducted between Prosecutor's Office and State Police, in the area of economic and financial crime, corruption and duty-related crimes among law enforcement institutions with 53 beneficiaries from the HR departamens handling the cases denounced by the citizens.
- 9. Over this period, **215** joint meetings and analyses with the Prosecution Office/other law enforcement agencies and institutions were organized regarding the handling of complaints and criminal investigations.
- 10. The installation and configuration of hardware related to the declaration and financial audit of the asstes and conflict of interest has been completed.
- 11. The Ad-Hoc Parliamentary Commission has been set up for the Election Reform. CEC has regularly participated in all Commission sessions regarding the financial audit of the political parties, providing its contribution regarding the possible law improvements.
- 12. CEC, in cooperation with Council of Europe's experts, has designed the standard model drafts for the financial report of the calendar year, which are in consultation process with IKEA's experts.
- 13. As regards the audit reports for the 2017 calendar year, CEC adopted the sample reporting contract from the accounting experts.
- 14. In 2018, CEC appointed 23 accounting experts to audit the funds of 113 registered political parties.
- 15. In the framework of increasing internal audit capacity at MFE, for the period under review, 320 internal auditors have been trained and 10 quality external evaluations are performed.
- 16. For the period January December 2018, the Directorate of Public Financial Inspection (MFE) filed 1 criminal complaint to the Prosecution Office and carried out 30 public financial inspections.
- 17. From the control and verification (administrative investigation) on law enforcement and/or denouncements of the abusive, corruptive or arbitrary practices in all public administration institutions and agencies, it results that a considerable part of the institutions have performed internal audits and inspections by imposing 531 disciplinary measures, 1663 administrative measures, 329 criminal complaints and 2 recommendations for criminal complaints.
- 18. For the period May December 2018, the Task Force has inspected 58 institutions and as a consequence, it has recommended 445 disciploinary and administrative measures, 102 dismissed employees and 36 criminal compliants.

#### Repressive approach

- 19. The School of Magistrates has conducted 7 training sessions on the subject of anti-corruption where 21 judges, 100 prosecutors and 1 inspector from the HCJ have been trained.
- 20. The Agreement between the General Prosecutor's Office and the Minister of Interior has been signed pursuant to DCM No. 06.11.2017, "On Action Plan Against the Organized Crime". The task force "Force of Law", is established and in place, for the purpose of strengthening and cooperation in the fight against organized crime, serious crimes of high social impact, crime against corruption and financial crime, seizure of criminal assets.
- 21. The cooperation agreement between the General Prosecution Office and the Central Immovable Property Registration Office was signed by which the prosecution authorities are granted the access to the electronic register of real estates. The interface is already in place and the number of the users is increasing.
- 22. The General Prosecutor's Office has addressed to the National Agency of Information Society with a request for access to some modules of e-Albania portal, where already have access for printing 5 documents free of charge.
- 23. In December 2018 the Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Public Procurement Agency to grant to the Prosecution Office the access to the electronic procurement system.
- 24. The State Police has ensured access to the national database and electronic registers of some institutions, such as the General Tax Directorate, General Customs Directorate, and General Directorate of the Road Transport Service, Central Immovable Property Registration Office, National Business Center, Ministry of Finance and Economy. During this period 37 meetings and joint analysis have been performed with General Prosecutor's Office and other law enforcement Agencies/Institutions. 2 mutual trainings concerning the amendments on the Criminal Procedure Code have been conducted.
- 25. The State Police cooperates with "EUROPOL, "INTERPOL", liaison officers of the Albanian Police affiliated in foreign countries, as well as liaison officers of countries affiliated in Albania CARIN, SELEK, BAMIN, INTERFORCE, etc., and based on the mutual agreements with other countries. The number of exchanged information between counterpart agencies in the area of economic and financial crimes includes 240 information reports with Interpol; 133 information reports with Europol; with the network of offices for tracing and recovery of criminal assets CARIN 3 information reports; 8 information reported sent by Interforca.
- 26. During the reporting period the Ministry of Interior has signed 15 mutual and multilateral agreements in the fight against crime, as the Memorandum of Intent between Republic of Albania and United States of America, with a view of installing and using the system for comparison and safe evaluation of personal identification; Cooperation Document, a letter of intent between the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Albania and the Ministry of Justice and Security of the Netherlands for cooperation in the fight against International Crime etc.,
- 27. 16 police operations concerning corruption and duty-related crimes of the officials have been performed. 80 perpetrators were implicated in these operations, 47 of whom have been arrested/detained, 22 under probation, 11 others subject to police search.

#### Awareness approach

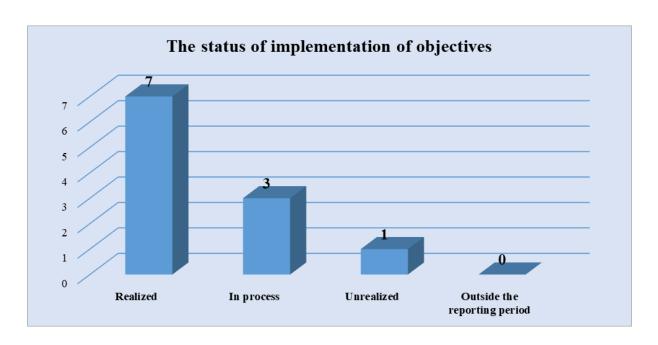
- 28. On 20 March 2018, the Ministry of Justice organized the first consultative forum to introduce the Passport of Indicators of ISAC and the Draft Action Plan 2018 2020. In this forum, representatives of 17 responsible Institutions participated predetermined by the Passport of Indicators, as well as other representatives from non-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society, lecturers, donor representatives and international organizations etc., where ideas/opinions were shared about the Action Plan, Law enforcement on whistleblowers and their protection and raising awareness of public and private sector to inform about corruptive cases.
- 29. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Consultative Forum on "The role of internal audit in the fight against corruption" took place on 26.07.2018 at the premises of the Ministry of Justice. Participants of this forum were representatives from the civil society, directors of Internal Audit Directorates and AC contact points.
- 30. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Consultative Forum took place on 28 September 2018 at the premises of IDP's Office. The core focus of this forum was the subject of "Right to Information".
- 31. The 4<sup>th</sup> Consulative Forum on Anti-corruption took place on 7 November at the premises of the Ministry of Justice. The core focus of this forum was the subject of "Conflict of Interest". During the meeting it was discussed about the Code of Ethics and its role among the high-ranking officials, international legal framework on the prevention and resolution of conflict of interest and the role of responsible authorities in the public institutions, types of conflict of interest and handling of case by case and continuing conflict of interest. This meeting was attended by relevant institutions and civil society organizations.
- 32. The coordinating meeting with our partners and donors on anti-corruption was held on 30.05.2018 by the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with The Twinning Project "Support on formulation, coordination and implementation of anti-corruption policies in Albania".
- 33. The workshop "Transparency and Public Procurement" was organized in collaboration with the Italian Anti-corruption Agency and High Inspectoriate of Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflict of Interests (HIDAACI) which was also promoted in the media.

## V. PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION PLAN ACCORDING TO APPROACHES

This chapter describes the achieved progress in the context of fulfillment of three approaches of the strategy related to the implementation status of measures for the period January - December 2018, as well as in general all the measures of Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption.<sup>2</sup>

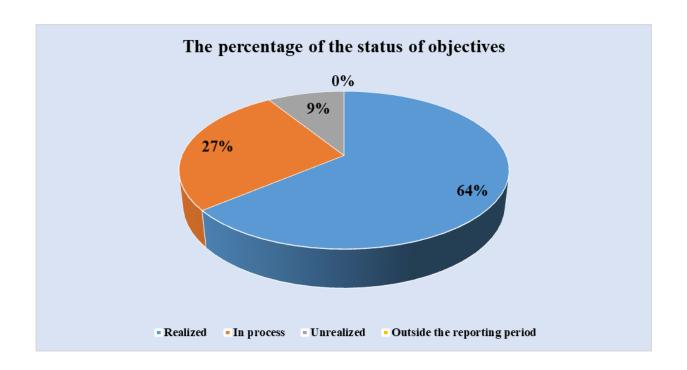
Number of objectives under implementation according to Approach A (Preventive)

January-December 2018					
The status of implementation of objectives according to Approach A (Preventive Approach)	Number of objectives of Approach A	Percentage to total of objectives of Approach A			
Realized	7	64%			
In process	3	27%			
Unrealized	1	9%			
Outside the reporting period	0	0%			
Total	11	100%			



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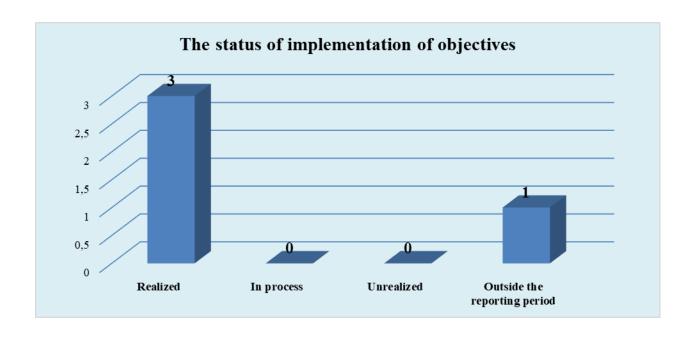
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Action Plan and progress for each objective will be in the annex of this report.

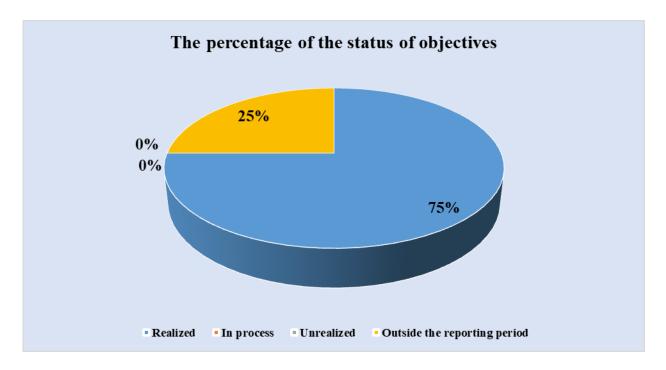


It results that of 11 foreseen objectives in the Action Plan of the Strategy for Approach A (Preventive Approach), 7 are realized, 3 are still in implementation process and 1 unrealized objective from the responsible institution. The percentage to the total of implementation progress of Action Plan of this Approach is realized at the level of 64%, 27% are in process, 9% unrealized by the responsible institution.

#### Number of objectives under implementation according to Approach B (Repressive)

January – December 2018				
The status of implementation of objectives according to Approach B (Repressive Approach)	Number of objectives of Approach B	Percentage to total of objectives of Approach B		
Realized	3	75%		
In process	0	0%		
Unrealized	0	0%		
Outside the reporting period	1	25%		
Total	4	100%		

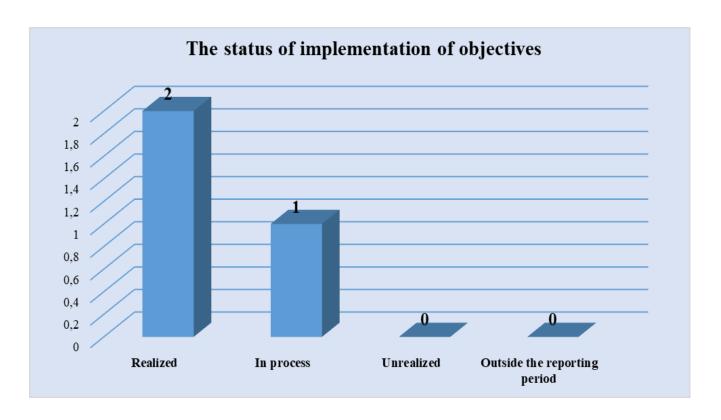


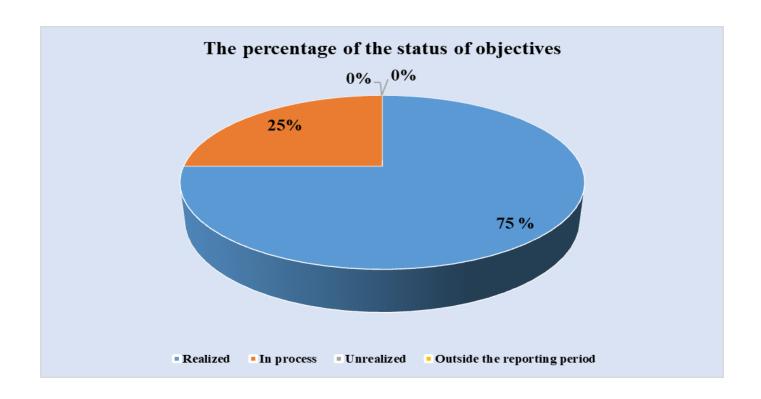


It results that of 4 foreseen objectives in the Action Plan of the Strategy for Approach B (Repressive Approach), 3 are realized and 1 unrealized objective is outside the reporting period. The percentage to the total of implementation progress of Action Plan of this Approach is realized at a level of 75% and 25% will start implementation after 2018 by the responsible institutions.

#### Number of objectives under implementation according to Approach C (Awareness)

January – December 2018					
The status of implementation of objectives according to Approach C (Awareness Approach)	Number of objectives of Approach C	Percentage to total of objectives of Approach C			
Realized	2	75%			
In process	1	25%			
Unrealized	0	0%			
Outside the reporting period	0	0%			
Total	3	100%			

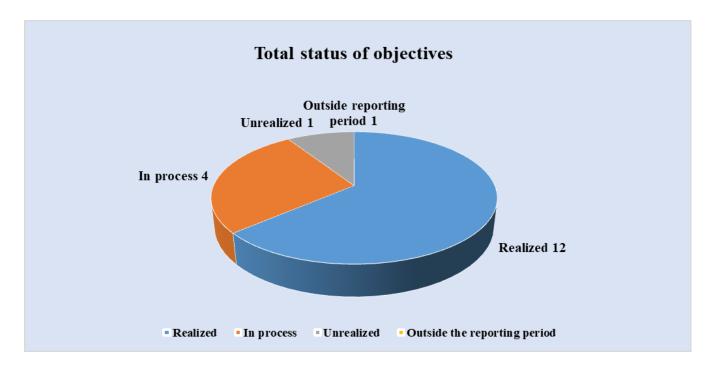




It results that of 3 foreseen objectives in the Action Plan of the Strategy for Approach C (Awareness Approach), 2 objectives are realized and 1 objective is in implementation process. The percentage to the total of implementation progress of Action Plan for this reporting period, results to be realized at level of 75% and 25% in process by the responsible institutions.

Number of objectives in implementation according to Approach A – B - C

Objectives	Realized	In process	Unrealized	Outside the reporting period
Implementation status of objectives of Approach A	7	3	1	0
Implementation status of objectives of Approach B	3	0	0	1
Implementation status of objectives of Approach C	2	1	0	0
TOTALI	12	4	1	1



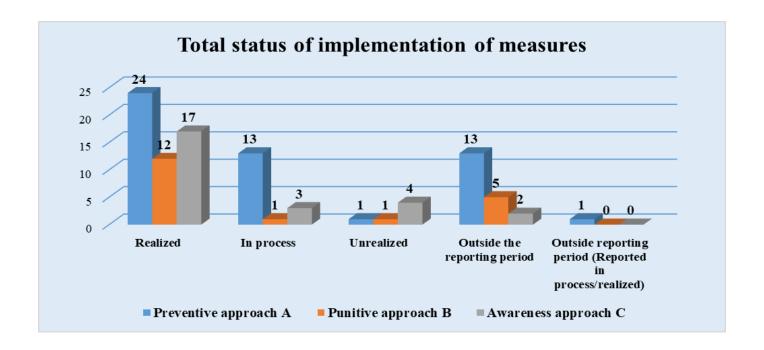
For the period January – December 2018, in total for the three Approaches, 12 objectives have been realized, while 4 are still in process, 1 unrealized objective and 1 other objective is planned to be realized after 2018 and onwards.

The Action Plan 2018 - 2020 consists in total of **97 measures**, accordingly 52 measures for the preventive approach, 19 measures for the repressive approach and 26 measures for the awareness approach.

The achieved progress in terms of fulfilling the three approaches of the strategy related to the state of play on the implemented measures for the period January-December 2018, as well as in general all the measures of Inter-Sectoral Strategy against Corruption, are as follows:

Number of measures under implementation according to Approach A - B - C

Measure	Realized	In process	Unrealized	Outside the reporting period	Outside reporting period (reported in process/realized)	Total of measures by status
Preventive approach A	24	13	1	13	1	52
Repressive Approach B	12	1	1	5	0	19
Awareness Approach C	17	3	4	2	0	26
Total	53	17	6	20	1	97



In the framework of monitoring the implementation activities of Action Plan 2018 - 2020, the responsible Institutions have been required to report on financial disbursement measures based on their performed activities. Based on the analysis of reported activities, it results that:

- **♣** Financing for 2018 from the State Budget amount to 141,384,972 ALL.
- **♣** Financing for 2018 from the donors amount to 64,247,943 ALL.

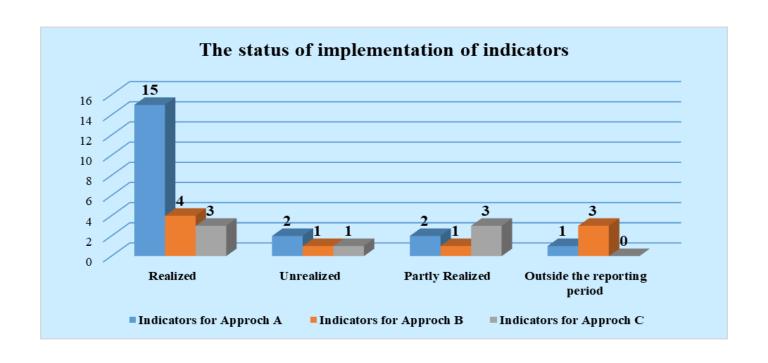
## VI. MONITORING OF PASSPORT OF INDICATORS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY – DECEMBER 2018

Indicators for Approach A	Responsible institution	Target to be achieved for 2018	Reported target for 2018
A.1.a Number of institutions which have correctly implemented transparency programmes	Information and Data Protection Commissioner	20% increase compared to the previous year	100%
A.1.b The central registry for requests and responses is operational by $2020$	Information and Data Protection Commissioner	Set up the central register amd approval of the DCM to make the use of the register mandatory	100%
A.2.a Ratio of elements modified in the Annual Procurement Plans	PPA	50%	100%
A.2.b Share of contracts awarded by negotiated procedures without prior publication of the contract notice	PPA	Less than 20%	100%
A.2.c Share of contracts amended during the year	PPA	20%	100%
A3 Number of functional e-services for citizens, business and public institutions	NAIS	562	100%
A.4 Number of corruption investigations generated by citizens denunciations	Albanian State Police	Improving of internal monitoring process at the State Police with a view to gathering separate data	100%
A.5.a The online system for asset declaration is operational by 2020	HIDAACI	Completition of procurement procedures and signing of the contract. Designing of the system and signing of the contract. System development and infrastructure set up	100%
A.5.b Implementation of the law on Whistleblowing and Whistleblower protection	HIDAACI	70%	100%
A.6.a Number of published audit reports from political parties certified by external auditors	Central Election Commission	70%	100%
A.6.b Ratio of sanctions delivered over cases identified in the context of violations of the Electoral Code	Central Election Commission	25%	0%
A.6.c Political party finances audited in line with EU/ACFA recommendations	Central Election Commission	5	100%
A.7.a Ratio of internal audit recommendations accepted and implemented by public entities	MFE	Increasing trend, compared to the previous year – at least 3% increase	Not reported <sup>3</sup>
A.7.b Number of cases resulting from internal audits that are referred for financial inspection	MFE	Increasing trend, compared to the previous year – at least 3% increase	97%
A.7.c Number of referrals to prosecution resulting from financial inspections	MFE	Increasing trend, compared to the previous year – at least 3% increase	100%
A.7.d Number of financial inspections carried out by the Financial Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance and Economy	MFE	30%	100%
A.8 Number of public institutions that have conducted annual analysis on inclinations of corruption	MoJ/NCAC	Guidelines (handbook) on risk assessment in the public institutions as part of an integrity plan were drafted and adopted. A training program was also drafted related to the implementation of the manual.  An inter-institutional action plan is being implemented to perfrom the risk assessment.	87%
A.9 Number of ministries which have developed and published an integrity plan in line with the inter-sectoral strategy against corruption	MoJ/NCAC	A model (structure) for an integrity plan in Albania, drafted, adopted and published by the MoJ.	0%
A.10 Consolidated and harmonized statistics on corruption are produced and published periodically	Ministry of Justice	The statistics are produced and published once a year.	100%
A.11.a Ratio of municipalities that have developed local anti-corruption and integrity plan/s (in line with the inter-sectoral strategy against corruption)	Ministry of Interior	Development of guidelines (with reference to A9). The Ministry of Interior forwards instructions to all Municipalities	0%
A.11.b Number of municipalities that allocate a specific budget line to implement local anti-corruption policy	Ministry of Interior	_	To be monitored in 2020

<sup>3</sup> These data are analyzed by the Annual Internal Audit Reports which according to legal provisions, should be consolidated in May of the following year.

Indicators for Approach B	Responsible institution	Target to be achieved for 2018	Reported target for 2018
B.1.a Number of indictments for corruption (cases and persons)	Public Prosecution Office	0,5% of the cases 1% of the incriminated	To be monitored in 2019- 2020
B.1.b Number of requests for sequestration of assets in corruption cases	Public Prosecution Office	Setting up reporting mechanisms (and/or updating the tracebility of the harmonized statistics) for the purpose of incorporating the new data	100%
B.1.c Estimated value of proceeds of crime sequestrated in corruption cases	Agency for Administration of Seized and Confiscated Assets (AASCA)	Setting up the internal reporting mechanism at AASCA (Agency of Administration of the Seized and Confiscated Assets) for data gathering and reporting of the values related to the seized and confiscated assets	0%
B.2.a Ratio of registered proceedings on corruption resulting from the administered referrals	Public Prosecution Office	70%	88%
B.2.b Number of access to additional databases for police and prosecution	General Prosecutor Office Albanian State Police	Police has access to 2 additional databases, Prosecution Office has access to 3 additional databases.	100%
B.3.a Number of review reports produced periodically and made public by the Ministry of Justice on the adequacy of legal framework on prosecution of economic and financial crimes	Ministry of Finance and Economy	Implementation of a remedy measure	To be monitored in 2019
B.3.b Implementation of legislation for the set-up of an Asset Recovery Office	Ministry of Finance and Economy	Assessment of legal framework and identification of the institutional structure for the set-up of Asset Recovery Office.	To be monitored in 2020
B.4.a Number of Police Information Exchanged with third countries and supranational law enforcement institutions	Albanian State Police	Updating of internal process for gathering detailed separated/unseparated data. Publishing of data.	100%
B.4.b Number of Joint Police operations launched by Europol or Interpol in the area of fight against financial and economic crime to which Albania actively participates	Albanian State Police	3	100%

Indicators for Approach C	Responsible institution	Target to be achieved for 2018	Reported target for 2018
C.1.a Creation of annual communication and Visibility Plans of the Anti-corruption Strategy	Ministry of Justice/NCAC	Visibility and Communication Plan for 2018 is finalized in A2.	0%
C.1.b Number of annual awareness raising campaigns to fight corruption	Ministry of Justice/NCAC	4	75%
C.2.a Number of citizens' denunciations for corruption submitted on the platform www.shqiperiaqeduam.al	Agency for Dialogue and Co- governance	25% increase compared to the previous year	100%
C.2.b Number of corruption cases generated by citizens' denunciations on www.shqiperiaqeduam. al, which are reported to Albanian Police/Prosecution Office	Agency for Dialogue and Co- governance	25% increase compared to the previous year	100%
C.3.a Establishment of an Anticorruption Program by the ASCS (AMSHC)	Agency for the Support of Civil Society (AMSHC)	Development of an Anti-Corruption programme including the Action Plan 2019-2020	100%
C.3.b Ratio of projects on anticorruption financed by ASCS	Agency for the Support of Civil Society (AMSHC)	20%	50%
C.3.c Budget allocated to support Anticorruption projects by CSOs	Agency for the Support of Civil Society (AMSHC)	20%	50%



#### VII. ISSUES ENCOUNTERED DURING THE ANNUAL REPORTING

- ♣ An issue for this period still remains the delay of institutions to report within the required time limit (exceeding the reporting period), which directly affect the delayed drafting of Monitoring Reports.
- ♣ Failure to send the information on financial disbursement of planned activities in ISAC (from some of the institutions), which affects the unrealistic reflection of costs for the Strategy implementation.
- → During the monitoring phase, a large number of contact points has been observed, which have reported for special activities of the Action Plan, by not coordinating within the reporting Institution, therefore a comprehensive report on all respective activities of responsible Institution would be sent to the Ministry of Justice.
- ♣ Another issue is the quality of contributions that have been partly reported, by not reporting on the achievement of indicators, when often they are returned to be completed based on the requests and the Action Plan format.

#### VII. CHALLENGES

In order to improve implementation and impact of the Action Plan, important monitoring challenges in the coming period consist in:

- increasing the level of accountability and liability by the internal structures of the responsible institutions through strengthening of the inter-institutional coordination.
- conducting the regular monitoring process, discussing the findings and approving the respective reports according to the reporting time limits foreseen in the Strategy.
- **♣** evaluating the information with the Finance Directorates (of respective institutions) from the contact points, prior to the reporting sent to the NCAC.
- ♣ interconnection with the process of annual and mid-term budgetary planning in order to ensure the necessary financial support by the State Budget for those measures that are foreseen to be implemented by the State Budget.
- ensuring a comprehensive and transparent consultation process during the reporting, monitoring and reviewing of the Action Plan with the responsible institutions and interest groups.
- ♣ adaptation of the sectoral approach should be taken into account even in the framework of implementing budget support. It should be associated with the parallel process of capacity building, monitoring and implementation of the Strategy. This will help to absorb and manage the technical assistance that the EU key partner will soon allocate to the institutions involved in the fight against corruption through the budget support.