

ALBANIA CLIMATE FINANCE CONFERENCE MOBILISING CLIMATE FINANCE: NATIONAL READINESS, REFORMS, AND NEXT STEPS

Context

Albania needs to accelerate the shift from climate strategies to implementation by mobilising climate finance at scale. The Albania Climate Finance Conference was designed as a national platform to take stock of the country's readiness, identify key barriers, gaps and opportunities, and build shared momentum for coordinated investments and long-term partnerships.



Objectives

The overall objective is to strengthen Albania's readiness for climate finance mobilisation through structured institutional dialogue and engagement with development partners.

Specific objectives include:

- Presenting the state of climate finance in Albania, best practices, and needs at central and local level.
- Discussing barriers, gaps and opportunities after CoP30, including the role of the banking and private sectors.
- Showcasing strategic climate investment concepts (e.g., Elbasan's EC Climate City Contract and NAP-linked concepts).
- Laying the groundwork for a country climate finance platform and a pipeline of bankable investment concepts.

Key components & deliverables

- Session I – Strategic preparation: climate governance, economic stability, and strategic programming/coordination.
- Session II – Reforms and milestones: energy regulatory framework and sustainable finance framework (incl. banking sector readiness and EU taxonomy relevance).
- Session III – Expert panel: technical dialogue on instruments, implementation oversight/M&E, private sector engagement, and regional cooperation.
- Post-conference output: Government Pledge of Commitment and an invitation for reciprocal partner engagement, plus a structured follow-up technical dialogue.

About URI

Since 1999, the Urban Research Institute (URI) has been delivering big results for development projects and programmes carried out throughout Albania. Our core business focuses on community development, local government strengthening, environmental protection, decentralization, and public services. We conduct studies, lobby the government, train local government units, increase public access to information, and connect development partners. URI has worked with donors such as USAID, Swiss Cooperation, the Netherlands Embassy, UNDP, World Bank, EU, SIDA, Open Society /Soros Foundation, etc.

GENERAL INFORMATION
CONVENING INSTITUTION:
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
OF ALBANIA
WITH SUPPORT OF:
UNESCO
Urban Research Institute (URI)
DATE:
01/06/2025 - 30/11/2027

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IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR REVISING AND ACHIEVING THE NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION (NDC) OF ALBANIA

Context

Albania has established a national legal framework for climate change with the Ministry of Tourism and Environment serving as the National Focal Point to the UNFCCC. An Interministerial Working Group provides cross-sectorial coordination for the national climate agenda. Under the transparency framework of the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, Albania must report biannually on NDC progress starting December 2024, with the next Global Stocktake planned for 2028.

Despite this framework, national cross-sectorial coordination for NDC implementation has been ineffective since its communication to the UNFCCC. Key challenges include lack of NDC operationalization, inconsistent financial needs evaluation, absence of public and private NDC finance strategies, and inadequate capacities among government, private sector, and civil society actors.

Gender integration into climate mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable development processes remains inadequately addressed, with limited awareness, technical capacities, and gender-disaggregated data available for informed strategic planning.

Project aim

The project aims to enhance Albania's strategic framework for NDC implementation and build capacities across government, private sector, and civil society for effective cross-sectorial coordination and cooperation. The goal is to contribute to achieving Albania's NDC through mobilizing and scaling up climate finance.

Regarding gender equality, the project will conduct a situation analysis of gender indicators in NDC implementation components, identify gaps, and plan activities for gender-sensitive NDC implementation.

Deliverables and activities

- Albania's NDC Implementation Plan:** Comprehensive plan with an integrated finance strategy, for effective cross-sectorial coordination and cooperation
- Updated NDC for Forestry and other Land Use:** Reassessment of emission reduction and carbon sink potential based on latest legal, strategic, and technological advancements in the sector
- Private Sector Engagement Action Plan:** Financial and non-financial policy interventions designed to mobilize private sector participation in climate finance
- NDC Implementation Operational Guide:** Framework for regular updates and monitoring of the NDC implementation plan

GENERAL INFORMATION

DONOR:

GREEN CLIMATE FUND (GCF)

PARTNERS:

•Ministry of Tourism and Environment

DURATION:

01/06/2025 - 30/11/2027

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