

# Association of Albanian Municipalities



# Short presentation

- AAM is an LGA operating in Albania, established 17 years ago with members the municipalities of Albania.
- AAM' operational structure is made of elected bodies and executive staff.
- Our focus is the consolidation of AAM as an independent organization in representing the interests of local government. Towards our membership the focus is consolidation of new municipalities coming from the Territorial Reform (61 new municipalities).
- As actively involved in process of territorial reform and other decentralization reforms, we have acquainted a vast experience and knowledge in local government and are recognized by those LGUs as an important support actor in training provision, lobbying, communication platform and establishing partnerships.



# Overall Organizational Structure

- **General Assembly** composed of all Mayors and municipal councils, is the highest body of the Association.
- **The Steering Committee** leads the association's activity during the period between two General Assemblies. The Steering Committee is composed of the 15 members, that are Mayors with a geographical representation.
- **Professional Forums** composed of municipalities' representatives, specialists of areas as economy and local development, infrastructure and urban development, social affairs and education, legal and administrative issues, local finances, agriculture and land use, administrative units.
- **Executive Staff** composed of the Executive Director, appointed by the Steering Committee, Legal Officer and Finance Officer.



# The main focus of work

- **Empowerment of AAM** as a stakeholder in decentralization. AAM is intended to serve as an educational and advocacy institution for Mayors and local elected officials, civil servants involved in the decentralization and EU-integration debate in Albania.
- **Knowledge enhancement** for Municipalities. The aim is to improve the delivery of newly-appointed tasks and responsibilities following major legal developments.
- **Transparency and accountability** enhancement addresses transparent and participatory municipal management as a tool to increase accountability of local politicians to their constituency.
- **Organizational development** to help improve municipal management, in addition to contributing to the discussion on the transfer of competencies to local government and the process of fiscal decentralization in Albania.



# Relations- Cooperation-Membership

In the international arena, AAM is member of:

- NALAS, CEMR, UCLG and ALDA

In national level, AAM has continuous cooperation with:

- Consultative Council, Line Ministries, Parliamentary Commissions,
- Donors and NGOs, operating in the area of local government



## Current projects under implementation:

- LOCAL Policies for GREEN Energy under INTERREG MED Programme.
- Flood and landslide assistance and training under IPA CROSS BORDER Italy – Albania – Montenegro.
- Mediterranean Diet - When Brand Meets Peoples under INTERREG MED Programme.
- Public awareness, Preparedness, Participation and Coordination for Civil Protection for All under IPA CROSS BORDER Greece – Albania.
- Regional Capacity Development Network with the support of SECO and GIZ.

