

Partners - Albania Center for Change and Conflict Management

Activity Report June 2001 - July 2004



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INTRODUCTION

This report comes to you as an effort of Partners – Albania to share the results and impact of its activities over the first three years of operations. In these three years, Partners – Albania has communicated on a regular basis through various channels about its activities, results, challenges, and future plans. With this report, we would like to provide a concise and more analytical picture of Partners - Albania's mission, strategy and program activities.

Although a new member of the NPO sector, Partners – Albania is proud of its solid investment in the advancement of civil society in Albania. Our efforts have contributed to a more transparent, sustainable, and viable NPO sector; development of an enabling legal framework for civil society; provision of diverse social services to communities in need; stronger cooperation between civil society organizations and local government in their efforts for more transparent and effective governance and better services for the general public; and more active and responsible citizenry involved in community development. In the past three years, Partners – Albania has become a respected and reliable partner and service provider for many local and international organizations in Albania.

I would like to thank PA's staff, who has invested so much in building a reputable and sustainable organization; our donors and supporters, who have trusted and appreciated our services and expertise; and our collaborators who have assisted us as we have faced the challenges of growing up as an organization.

With three years behind us, we stay determine to continue our dedicated work towards building a sustainable and democratic society in Albania.

Juliana Hoxha Center Director

PARTNERS - ALBANIA CENTER FOR CHANGE AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

Mission and History

Partners-Albania (PA) Center for Change and Conflict Management is an independent Albanian non-profit organization with a mission to advance civil society and a culture of change and conflict management in Albania.

Partners-Albania was registered with the Tirana District Court on 17 April 2001.

Partners-Albania was established in cooperation with Partners for Democratic Change (Partners), a U.S.-based international organization committed to building sustainable local capacity to advance civil society and a culture of change and conflict management worldwide. Partners – Albania is a member of Partners for Democratic Change International (PDCI), a network of Partners and its Centers in 11 countries which provide conflict resolution and change management training and services to the civic, non-profit organization (NPO), municipal and national government, business and media sectors in their countries and worldwide.

PDCI is a global partnership that works to promote democracy and peace, and which is linked by a common vision, mission, and values of democratic change. Members of PDCI commit themselves to sharing knowledge, expertise, and skills to strengthen one another, advance their national and cross-border work, and form an alliance that can address the needs of societies in transition worldwide.

For more information on Partners – Albania and Partners for Democratic Change, please visit our websites at: **www.partnersalbania.org** and **www.partnersglobal.org**.

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Partners - Albania Trainers Network

Partners – Albania has developed partnerships with trainers from other organizations who provide their services and expertise in various programs coordinated by PA.

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PARTNERS ALBANIA 2001-2004 STRATEGY

Partners – Albania's three-year strategy has focused on the advancement of democracy and civil society in Albania through building institutional and individual capacities and enabling effective collaboration within and between the NPO sector, local government, academia and social groups.

The three pillars of its overall scope of work and strategy in the country are:

I. NPO SUPPORT:

Strengthening the vibrancy of the NPO sector in Albania to more effectively respond to the social developments needs of the country.

II. LOCAL GOVERNMENT CAPACITY BUILDING:

Enhancing local governments' ability to better manage the challenge of decentralization and effectively engage with citizens.

III. LEADERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

Expanding civic participation of Albanian citizens by developing leadership skills and promoting collaborative processes.

Partners-Albania has worked toward these goals through specialized trainings, technical assistance, and grant funding support.

and,

PARTNERS - ALBANIA PROGRAMS

I. STRENGTHENING THE NPO SECTOR

The Albanian NPO sector has taken a series of critical steps towards sustainability, as noted by USAID's NGO Sustainability Index¹ and NPO leaders from various development fields. However, there is still ample room for development within the NPO sector, especially in the areas of constituent needs assessment and service design.

In order to address the multiple and divergent needs in the third sector, Partners – Albania designed a program which aims to fill the current "training and skill gaps" by:

offering training and technical assistance that empowers NPOs to	work
more effectively across sectors and professional fields;	

- □ providing education and outreach on Albania's new NPO law; and
- □ managing small grants to inject funding and energy into the sector.

A. 2001 NPO Needs Assessment

Partners-Albania started its work in the NPO capacity building area by designing and conducting a national survey of active local NPOs providing services to Albanian society. The survey aimed to assess various institutional capacity needs, financial and institutional resources and limitations, and existing collaborative efforts within the NPO sector and with other parties, such as local and national government, business and media.

130 NPOs from across the country participated in the assessment. They represented NPO sub-sectors including democracy, social services/health, education/culture, women, youth, environment and business. On the basis of the assessment results, PA designed its training and technical assistance strategy for the NPO sector.

Some of the major findings from the NPO Needs Assessment included:

$\hfill\square$ The number of NPOs in Albania has increased considerably since 1991
□ NPOs operate primarily on project-based funding
$\hfill\Box$ NPOs have increased service-provision types of projects
$\hfill\Box$ The NPO sector remains largely donor dependent
☐ The structure and division of responsibilities of NPOs are often unclear in some cases, characterized by conflicts of interest

- $\hfill\Box$ The business sector is not a significant contributor to NPOs' financial sustainability
- ☐ The NPO sector in general lacks trust and credibility among the public and media
- □ Cooperation among NPOs is challenged by difficulties in dividing responbilities, lack of capacity in setting up cooperative structures, and limited information

¹⁾ http://www.usaid.gov/locations/europe_eurasia/dem_gov/ngoindex/2003/albania.pdf

Following the assessment, Partners-Albania published a comprehensive report on the **NPO Needs Assessment** in Albanian and English and created a database collecting a range of information on the NPO sector.

B. NPO Training and Technical Assistance Program

Based on the needs identified in the assessment, Partners – Albania developed the *NPO Training and Technical Assistance Program*, designed to strengthen the Albanian non-profit sector in core skills including:

- □ Conflict Resolution
- □ Organizational Development
- □ Advocacy and Coalition-building

Over the past three years, PA has developed and delivered an integral package of training modules to various NPOs. The trainings are tailored around organizations' and individuals' unique needs and requests. Trainings include an evaluation of needs, discussion of expectations with participants, adjustment of the program to address particular issues, and development of a follow-up training plan. Trainings are designed as interactive courses including practical exercises, roleplays, case studies, printed materials, and reference information.

Each set of core skills entails trainings in diverse topics described below:

Conflict Resolution Skills

It is essential to NPOs' effectiveness that they have the skills to prevent and resolve conflicts that arise in the course of their work. Partners - Albania provides trainings designed to maximize NPOs' ability to communicate and work cooperatively with the public, government, and other interested parties. Partners - Albania programs are specifically tailored to meet the individual needs of each organization, including such topics as:

- □ Effective communication skills for NPO leaders
- □ Negotiation and mediation skills
- ☐ Effective facilitation of meetings with the public and government
- □ Cooperative planning and decision-making skills

Organizational Development Skills

As the NPO sector remains mainly donor dependent and funding diminishes, the sector is increasingly challenged to sustain itself organizationally and financially. Thus, NPOs are required to have a solid organizational structure, clear strategic plans, income-generating programs or services to ensure sustainability, and a credible image in the media and public. Partners - Albania provides training and consultation to NPOs in a number of areas, including:

Project design, implementation and evaluation
Team-building within the organization
Financial management
Internal procedures of an organization
Board development
Public relations and media presentation
Fundraising approaches and proposal writing
NPO self-financing approaches

Advocacy and Coalition Building

The strength of the NPO community depends on the level of cooperative efforts among diverse organizations allied to advance a common goal. Involvement of NPOs in policy advocacy and in building democracy at the grassroots level is necessary for the advancement and democratization of Albanian society. Sample skills Partners - Albania provides in this area include:

- □ Networking and information sharing within the NPO community and across sectors
- □ Coalition building and onstituency mobilization
- ☐ Building public support through mass media
- □ Lobbying techniques
- □ Organizing information sharing workshops and conferences

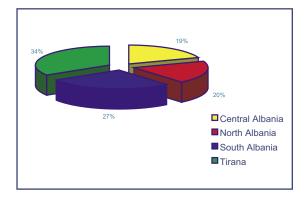
NPO Training and Technical Assistance Program Results

Representative examples of the Training and Technical Assistance Program results to date include:

- □ 93 NPO representatives trained in various capacity building skills
- □ 70% of participants in Project Implementation trainings have developed new monitoring & evaluation systems
- □ 30% of participants in Project Implementation trainings have been awarded a grant within a three month period following the training
- □ 50% of participants in Financial Management trainings have improved their organizational transparency by publishing annual financial reports
- 90% of participants in Financial Management trainings have improved their financial management systems, resulting in increased efficiency and effectiveness of funding usage and increased trust among donors and beneficiaries
- □ 50% of participants in Internal Procedures trainings have developed procedures addressing Conflicts of Interest in the organization

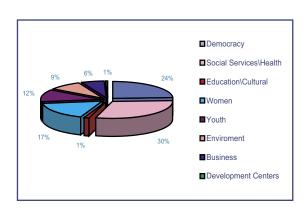
The charts below present a disaggregated data analysis of training topics and training beneficiaries according to various indicators during the reporting time.

1. PA's trainings have drawn participants from all regions of Albania. Unlike many training organizations, PA has been extremely successful in attracting participants from Northern Albania (34%)



DISTRIBUTION OF TRAINING BENEFICIARIES
ACCORDING TO GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF NPOS

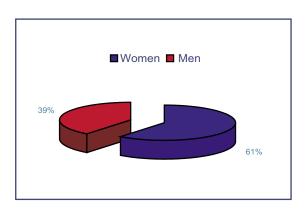
2. Recipients of PA's trainings have represented all sectors of NPO activity, with a majority focusing on social services/health and democracy building.



DISTRIBUTION OF TRAINING BENEFICIARIES ACCORDING TO SECTOR OF ACTIVITY

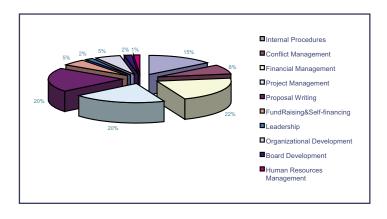
3. Women constitute a majority of participants in PA's trainings





GENDER DISTRIBUTION OF TRAINING BENEFICIARIES

4. PA's trainings in Financial Management, Project Management and Proposal writing were most highly attended



Distribution of Training Beneficiaries According to Training Topics

A. Small Grants Program

In order to strengthen the vibrancy of the Albanian third sector and increase the impact that individual NPOs have on their communities, Partners -Albania coordinated a Small Grants Program. The PA/USAID Social Development Grant Fund aimed to build the capacity of Albanian NPOs providing services to their communities. The total funding for the program was USD 873,932. The specific objectives of the Grant Fund were:

☐ Support the provision of needed services by NPOs in Albanian communities ☐ Build the capacity of Albanian NPOs providing services in their communities □ Encourage the development and delivery of services that address the most urgent social development needs, especially those that target beneficiaries among the most vulnerable groups in Albania

The Program was administered through five rounds of small grants. In total, PA received around 360 project proposals from local organizations. In three years, PA funded 51 projects benefiting diverse social groups all over the country.² Projects addressed issues such as: anti – trafficking and provision of psycho-social counseling and shelters to abused women; public forums and educational activities involving local communities, local governments and schools; employment and vocational training; health and educational needs among marginalized groups (women, children, people with disabilities); drafting and implementation of new laws; and conflict resolution initiatives.

Partners – Albania's Grants Management Approach

Partners-Albania offered extensive information, training, and technical assistance, both for grant applicants and grantees, as a means to improve Albanian NPOs' ability to successfully win and implement grants. PA provided information and consultation through public meeting forums to more than 140 NPOs as part of its grant assistance program. Prior to grant awards, individual consultation and technical assistance on project development and proposal preparation was available to all NPOs. More than 100 NPOs utilized this opportunity. In addition, all of Partners - Albania's grant recipients were provided with project management and financial management trainings in order to help them more effectively manage their grants and projects and achieve their goals.

Sample examples of the impact that PA's small grants have had on Albanian communities include³:

- ☐ The Albanian Small Business Foundation enabled over 160 women from rural communities to obtain loans and start their own businesses
- ☐ The Albanian Disability Rights Foundation provided mobility means and job opportunities for over 90 persons with disabilities from urban and rural areas in
- □ Through its network of volunteers, the Society for Democratic Culture succeeded in nation-wide monitoring of all polling stations during the October 2003 local elections
- ☐ The Albanian Foundation for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation opened a community mediation Center in Malesi e Madhe in Northern Albania
- ☐ The Association of Young Researchers for Social Science and the Albanian Institute for Social and Psychological Studies succeeded in introducing social workers and psychologists to elementary and high schools in Tirana

Distribution of Grants Beneficiaries According to Type of Services





18%

2%



%



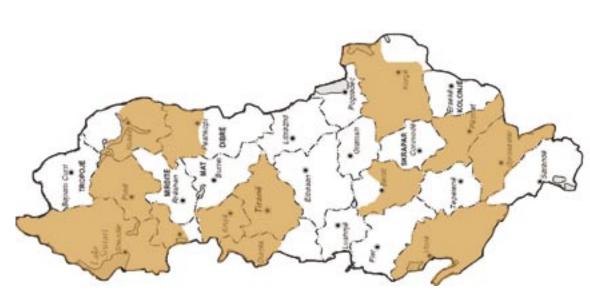
22%

26%









II. Building Capacity of Local Government

Municipal governments in transitioning societies face increasing demands for better accountability and greater involvement of citizens in the process of decentralization. In January 2000 the Government of Albania passed the "National Strategy for Decentralization and Local Autonomy." Although progress toward decentralization has improved, one large impediment still remains—the weak capacity of local government representatives to respond to increased responsibilities and to exercise the leadership and management that such decentralization entails.

Over the past three years, Partners - Albania has worked with municipal representatives to enhance their leadership and management skills, and to increase citizen participation in local government decision-making. These programs have emphasized the interaction of all sectors and social groups (civic, municipal, and private) to cooperatively address concrete issues such as housing, unemployment, education, and social services.

Local Government Training Programs

Partners – Albania designed and implemented its Local Government Program as part of its three-year strategy with funding from USAID and the EU Delegation to Albania. In addition, Partners – Albania participated in the "Strengthening Local Democracy in the Stability Pact Region" program – a regional local government capacity building program for Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia (FYROM), Montenegro, Romania and Serbia – managed by Partners for Democratic Change and the Partners Foundation for Local Development in Romania. The program was co-financed by the U.S. Department of State and the Royal Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

To date Partners – Albania has implemented the following programs for local governments:

Elected Leadership Roles

The program consisted of a package of 10 roles that elected leaders or appointed staff in local governments should play (e.g. consensus builder, facilitator, planner, financial manager, etc.). The program placed special emphasis on building training capacity within the target local governments. Under this program, PA trained 100 officials in Elected Leadership Roles. The 42 most active participants were further trained as trainers and facilitators in the municipalities of Tirana, Pogradec, Kruja, Fushë-Kruja and Buçimas commune.

Communication and Outreach Skills

In order to improve the communication and outreach skills of local government representatives, a training program on *Communication and Outreach Skills* for *Municipal Officials* was conducted with the participation of 12 public information officers in the municipalities of Pogradec, Tirana, Korça, Fier, Rreshen, Kuçova, Elbasan, and Peshkopi. As a result, the participants developed action plans to improve communication and outreach skills in their municipalities.

Conflict Management Skills

To build effective collaborative practices between local government and citizens, PA designed and delivered a training on *Conflict Management Skills* for local

government officials. The training enabled participants to understand the roots of conflicts and learn how to behave in and handle conflictual situations. As part of this program, PA trained 26 officials of Krujë and Fushë-Krujë municipalities.

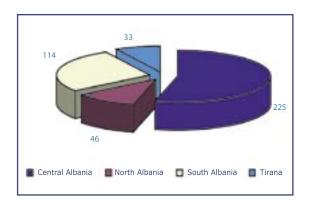
Transparency and Accountability of Local Governments

In January 2004, Partners Albania started the implementation of a new program focusing on increasing transparency and accountability of local governments. The program assists municipal staff in developing open and transparent financial systems and increasing professional behavior by introducing a code of ethics for local governments in Albania. The municipalities of Fushë-Krujë, Krujë, Pogradec, Fier, Kuçovë, Elbasan, Shkodër, Durrës and Vlora participated in the program. In addition to the training the program will support 1-2 days of on-site technical assistance.

Sample results of the various Local Government Capacity Building Programs include:

- □ 392 municipal officials trained in various capacity building and transparency issues.
- □ Ten municipalities in Albania (Durrës, Elbasan, Fier, Krujë, Fushë-Krujë, Kucovë, Pogradec, Shkodër, Tiranë, Vlorë) have increased their ability to meet the citizens needs, through improved leadership and management skills.
- □ Nine municipalities have developed new action plans to create and/or

The chart below present the geographical distribution of training participants in the Local Government Capacity Building Programs.



Number of Training Participants According to Region

III. ENHANCING LEADERSHIP COLLABORATION SKILLS OF ALBANIAN CITIZENS

Partners – Albania developed several strategic programs designed to empower and expand the participation of citizens throughout Albanian society, with an emphasis on communities outside the capital. Through its work with NPOs and municipal governments, as well as assessments of civil society needs, Partners – Albania developed programs for specific groups including women, young leaders and academics.

A. Women's Leadership Development

Partners - Albania believes that women in transitioning societies are a powerful force for change, especially through their leadership in civil society. However, they lack consistent representation in positions of authority within government, business, media, and other sectors. Partners – Albania supports the development of women's leadership role by building skills and networks among women that will enable them to more effectively advocate for their own needs while also contributing to the development of the country.

In the framework of its Women's Leadership Program, Partners Albania facilitated the creation of a women's network around a core group of 18 women leaders that fostered communication, support, and collaboration between them throughout the country. This program aims to develop leadership, communication, and organizational skills of women and women's groups through training and implementation of grassroots initiatives targeting women.

The Women's Leadership Program consisted of trainings in:

- □ Project Cycle Management
- □ Communication and Conflict Management
- ☐ Leadership and Management
- □ Advocacy and Networking
- □ Training Skills

Utilizing the skills gained in the program, the 18 women leaders implemented a number of grassroots initiatives, including:

- □ Organizing public meetings in the municipalities of Tirana, Vlora, Durrës and Shkodra to inform women about the new Family Code. Approximately 250 women participated in the meetings.
- □ Educating voters in the municipalities of Fier, Vlorë and Pogradec, about women candidates who run for local elections, through public meetings, televised discussions and publications.
- □ Fostering a peaceful climate of multi-ethnic relations in southern Albania by conducting group discussions among various women's organizations, local government bodies, and religious institutions.
- ☐ Identifying service and development needs of rural women from the Northern region in order to assist development organizations working in the area to define their intervention strategies through training and micro-credit schemes.
- ☐ Training women in leadership and management skills—340 women participated in PA's Women Leadership Program.

PARTNERS - ALBANIA PROGRAMS

B. Youth Leadership Development

□ Leadership and Management

Youth is a vital force to democratic development in a country. Partners-Albania created a Youth Leadership Program in order to enable young professionals from the NPO, municipal and national government, and business sectors to develop their leadership skills and to work successfully in the collaborative and multiparty situations that social development necessitates.

To date, PA trained 150 young professionals from the NPO, local and national government, business, and other sectors on several issues to enhance their leadership skills. The program included trainings on:

□ Conflict and Change Management
□ Effective Communication
□ Negotiation
□ Teambuilding
□ Facilitation
□ Public Relations
□ Advocacy
□ Project Management
Partners – Albania worked with the 50 most active participants to furthe strengthen their ability to promote positive change in their communities. The were assisted by PA's staff as they developed and implemented grassroot initiatives addressing youth issues in their communities and fostering cooperation among youth groups and NPOs. Some of the initiatives included:
$\hfill\Box$ The "Closer with the Reading" project, which improved the library system of "Ismail Qemali" High School in Tirana by installing library software and increasing the book fund.
□ The "Integration, Emancipation and Common Wealth" project, which promoted tolerance and understanding among minority groups and the majority population through the organization of an artistic show. The show took place on the International Roma Day in Durres with the participation of young people 15-22 years old, representing various minority groups, including Roma, Egyptians, and homeless children.
□ "A Lively Summer for Street Children", which aimed to integrate street children into social life by organizing social, sport, and entertainment activities for the children of Kinderhouse-Tirana, DELFI XS Center and the Day Center run by the Young Women's Christian Association.
□ "Youth, Vital Force in Democratic Processes", which promoted youth activish in democratic processes through the organization of a "Youth NPO Fair." The Fair featured updated information on youth projects and policies, as well as voluntee and other opportunities for interested young people.

C. Academic Program

Since its inception in 1989, Partners and its Centers have promoted the development of change and conflict management theory and practice courses within major educational institutions in transitioning democracies and market economies. Partners has conducted Academic Workshops through its Centers in Argentina, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia. As a result, over 50 courses have been developed in major universities within these countries.

Based on the curricula gaps identified at the university level and the experience of the Partners network of Centers internationally, Partners-Albania developed a program to introduce change and conflict management practices in the curricula of Tirana University. The program began with trainings for professors at the Faculty of Social Sciences. The trainings introduced conflict resolution and change management methodologies and provided follow-up support for the development of new curricula.

The goals of the workshop included:

- □ Advancing the theory and practice of change and conflict management methodologies in Albanian society
- □ Promoting the development of new theories and the acculturation of current theories to Albanian conditions
- ☐ Building new relationships between academics from different disciplines, allowing for cross disciplinary research and study

The Academic Program consisted of the following components:

- □ Four-day conflict resolution workshops taught by an expert in conflict resolution curricula development. Nine pedagogues from the Faculty of Social Sciences representing the Departments of Social Work, Psychology & Pedagogy, Sociology & Philosophy, participated in the workshops.
- □ Comprehensive background lectures on conflict resolution and change management fundamentals, as well as access to the latest materials.
- $\hfill \square$ Individualized course development assistance, including syllabi and book lists.
- ☐ An introduction to cutting-edge pedagogical techniques.
- ☐ Innovative simulations and sample exercises for the participating academics to use in their own classrooms.

As a result of the initiative, participating academics introduced in the academic year 2002 – 2003 a course on Conflict Management for second year students at the Faculty of Social Work, as well as several lectures and seminars on Conflict Management in various subject areas.

D. Cooperative Planning Initiatives

Cooperative Planning is a change management methodology that brings diverse interests, or stakeholders, together in a facilitated process to build consensus

around a particular issue. Cooperative planning is a useful tool for addressing a wide variety of issues, such as infrastructure repair, housing, environmental preservation, economic development, taxation, police-community relations and community justice.

PA is facilitating cooperative planning processes in local communities, assisting all stakeholders in a community as they work together to build consensus and find solutions to issues that face them.

Partners - Albania has implemented two pilot cooperative planning initiatives in the municipalities of Kruja and Durrës. In both instances PA facilitated a cooperative planning process among various community members to reach consensus about an issue important to the community.

☐ In Kruja, Partners-Albania facilitated a cooperative planning process between merchants in a popular bazaar area, local government representatives, and other local businesses as they sought to develop activities to preserve the traditions and culture of the bazaar. In addition, Partners - Albania helped shopkeepers in the bazaar area to organize themselves and register their organization. ☐ In Durrës PA worked with pedagogical staff, students and the student senate of

two schools to address conflicts arising from cultural and ethnic differences.

IV. OTHER INITIATIVES

Over its first three years, Partners - Albania has built on its 3-pillar strategy by forming new partnerships with organizations that enabled PA to expand its services to new sectors, social groups and regions, and increase its impact on the development of democracy and civil society in Albania. Examples of these partnerships are described below.

A. NPO Legal Framework Initiative

Following the passage of the NPO law in spring 2001, Partners - Albania, in close cooperation with the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL), embarked on several legislative and capacity building initiatives, which aimed to regulate fiscal and tax issues within the provisions of the new NPO law.

In 2002, ICNL and Partners – Albania conducted two Training-of-Trainer workshops on the new laws governing NPOs. Lawyers and persons with legal education or experience who participated in the training program, agreed to provide free legal assistance to NPOs across Albania for six months following the training.

In the last three years, ICNL and Partners - Albania have organized several meetings with NPOs and government officials on tax legislation concerning NPOs. These discussions aimed to educate the participants on the current legal framework regarding tax issues and to identify legal gaps that hinder the development of the NPO sector. As a follow-up to this initiative, in December 2003, Partners Albania and ICNL organized a conference on tax and fiscal legislation governing the NPO sector in Albania and Kosovo, presenting comparative models from the region. Participants in the conference included representatives from the Albanian government, tax authorities, as well as NPOs from Albania and Kosovo.

B. Good Governance

Partners – Albania has made "good governance" one of its program themes for the last three years. Together with the World Bank and World Bank Institute, Partners – Albania coordinated activities which focused on both strengthening the voice of the poor in influencing public policies, as well as making institutions more accountable and responsive to their needs.

(a) Regional Distance Learning Workshops

Partners – Albania has facilitated the Distance Learning workshops of the World Bank Institute's Community Empowerment and Social Inclusion (CESI) program. The CESI program focuses on both citizen strengthening and institutional reform as key elements of the empowerment agenda. The workshops were delivered through videoconferences and were based on an "action-oriented" approach, where discussion and exchange of information and ideas were the central part of learning. The workshops included conceptual and case study presentations via videoconferencing between the distance learning sites located in five participating countries (Albania, Macedonia, Romania, Bulgaria and Washington, D.C.). Participants undertook group activities at their own sites, exchanged questions and raised issues, and integrated their learning by becoming involved in the development of an Action Plan formulation exercise. The workshops stressed peer and group learning.

(b) Improving the Environment for Civic Engagement in Social and Economic Development

In 2003, the World Bank facilitated an assessment of the legal and regulatory framework for civil society and civic engagement in Albania. The objectives of the assessment were to:

□ help	identify	obstacles	to	meaningful	civil	society	participation	in	national
develop	ment pro	cesses							

	engage	stakeholders	in	identifying	priorities	for	legal	and	regulatory	reforms
and	articula	iting proposals	s fo	or reforms						

 $\hfill\Box$ promote continuing dialogue among civil society organizations and between civil society and other stakeholders.

Partners – Albania administered the assessment on behalf of the World Bank in the fall of 2003. The assessment consisted of individual interviews, focus group discussions, workshops and desk research study. 100 NPOs from across the country were surveyed in order to assess the progress of enabling the legal framework for civic engagement in Albania.

In addition, PA organized five focus group discussions in Korca, Vlora and Tirana, three with NPO representatives and two with media representatives (investigative journalists, media owners, internet providers).

As part of this assessment, PA conducted four test case exercises to assess the functionality of the Freedom of Information Law in Albania. The study examined the availability of information at various government and public institutions and its accessibility to the general public. A report of findings from this study will be published by the World Bank and made available to interested organizations and individuals in the fall 2004.

PARTNERS – ALBANIA ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Partners – Albania Organizational Sustainability Strategy

Partners – Albania is thankful for the support and cooperation of its donors and partners over the past three years. This assistance has enabled PA to achieve long-lasting and sustainable impact in its work with diverse communities in Albania.

Through on-going fundraising initiatives, diversification of funding sources, development of contract and fee based services, and effective partnerships in the NPO sector, government and donor community, Partners – Albania has achieved institutional and financial sustainability of the organization and its operations. Partners - Albania has developed into a professional local organization with strong capacities in the area of institutional capacity building, resource and information management in the non-for-profit sector, and design and implementation of cooperative models.

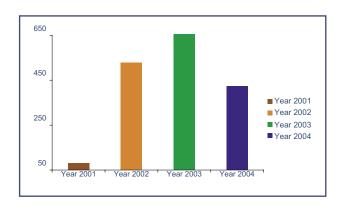
The establishment of Partners – Albania and development of its three-year strategy, June 2001 – October 2004, has been supported by USAID (United States Agency for International Development) through a generous grant to Partners for Democratic Change.

In addition, Partners-Albania's programs are supported by the Open Society Foundation in Albania, the Canadian International Development Agency, and the Delegation of the European Commission in Albania.

Partners – Albania has also cooperated with other donors and local and international organizations, such as the World Bank, World Bank Institute, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Center For Not-for-profit Law (ICNL), Handicap International, Albanian Association of Municipalities, Medicos del Mundo, Urban Institute, Management Systems International (MSI), Deutsche Welthungerhilfe, The Organization for Educational Resources and Technological Training (ORT International), American Bar Association/Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI) in Kosovo, and Balkanactie Van De Gemeenten Belgium in Kosovo.

A special thanks is extended to all members of Partners for Democratic Change International for their active partnership and support, especially at the very beginning of the Center's establishment.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF PARTNERS ALBANIA INCOMES⁴



DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL INCOME PER YEAR

Distribution of Grants According to Fiscal Year

DONOR	TITTLE OF PROJECT/CONTRACT			
	YEAR 2001			
USAID through Grant to Partners for Democratic Change	Grant to Partners and Conflict Management to Advance for Democratic Democracy and Civil Society in Albania			
	YEAR 2002			
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)	NPO Capacity Building Program - Project Management Training	USD 39,170		
European Union	Local Government Development Program Elected Leadership Roles for Municipal Officials	EURO 13,977		
Open Society Foundation for Albania	NPO Capacity Building Program - Financial Management Training	USD 9,970		

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⁴⁾ Fiscal data for fiscal year 2004 are as of June 30, 2004

PARTNERS - ALBANIA GRANTS

DONOR	TITTLE OF PROJECT/CONTRACT	AMOUNT
	YEAR 2003	
Open Society Foundation for Albania	"Improving Interethnic Relations between Local and Roma People" - Addressing Diversity Issues in School Communities - Conflict Management Training	USD 3,968
Department of State/ Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs *	Elected Leadership Training Program - Participants from Tirana, Durresi, Kruja, Fier and Shkoder Municipalities	USD 3,500
Department of State/ Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs *	Communication and Outreach Skills for Municipal Officials	USD 3,500
Department of State/ Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs *	Increasing Transparency and Accountability of Municipal Officials - Training in Fushe- Kruje Municipality	USD 3,500
Department of State/ Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs *	Conflict Management Skills for Municipal Officials - Training in Kruja and Pogradec Municipalities	USD 3,500
	YEAR 2004	
Department of State/ Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs *	Guide to Develop Code of Ethics for Professional Associations Working for Local Governments	USD 4,400
Department of State/ Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs *	Fostering Communication and Outreach Skills through Experience Exchange Among Bordering Communities	USD 6,596
Open Society Foundation for Albania	Youth in Action	USD 22,290

^{*} Projects funded through the "Strengthening Local Democracy in the Stability Pact Region" program

PARTNERS – ALBANIA COOPERATORS AND CONTRACTORS

Name of Organization	Purpose of Cooperation
ABA/CEELI, Kosovo	Strengthening the Institutional Capacities of Kosovar NPOs in Financial Management and Budgeting System
Aprodev	Regional Workshop in the Framework of APRODEV Capacity Building Program
Balkanactie van de Gemeenten-Belgium	TOT for Kosovar NPO Representatives
Deutsche Welthungerhilfe	Training Program on Fundraising and Self- Financing for Youth Centers and Kinderhouse Workers
Handicap International	Training Program on "Financial Management, Project Management, OD / Technical Assistance on Proposal Writing
Human Development Promotion Center	Training for NPOs on "Conflict Management"
Human Development Promotion Center	Training for Commune Officials on "Strategic Planning"
International Center for Non Profit Law (ICNL)	Facilitation of Discussions on NPO Law and Tax Issues in Albania
ICNL	Conference on NPO Tax Issues in Kosovo and Albania
Medicos del Mundo	Training Program on "NPO Management, Financial Management and Project Cycle Management" for NPOs of Korca region
Medicos del Mundo	Training Program on "Fundraising and Self- Financing" for NPOs of Korca Region
Management Systems International (MSI)	Training on Proposal Development
ORT-Washington	Communication and Time Management Training for Montenegro NPO Members
ORT-Washington	Financial Management for Montenegro NPO Members
Partners Kosova	Financial Management Training
SNV	Country Program Evaluation

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PARTNERS – ALBANIA COOPERATORS AND CONTRACTORS

Name of Organization	Purpose of Cooperation
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Training Course on "Communication, Conflict Management, Public Image and Public Speaking" for Women Candidates for Local Government
UNDP	Training Program on Policy, Programs and Project Design, Implementation and Monitoring of MDGs/NSSED/SSA in Albania
World Bank/Washington	Pre-assessment on Legal and Regulatory Environment for Civil Society and Civic Engagement in Albania
World Bank/Washington	Survey of Legal and Regulatory Environment for Civil Society and Civic Engagement in Albania
World Bank/Washington	Study of Legal and Regulatory Environment for Civil Society and Civic Engagement in Albania - Focus Group Meetings
World Bank/Washington	Assessment of Freedom of Information Law Implementation in Albania - Test Cases
World Bank/Washington	Follow - up of the Study on Legal and Regulatory Environment for Civil Society and Civic Engagement in Albania
WBI/OSI/Italian Government	Fostering Public Information and Participation for Good Governance in Albanian
World Food Program (WFP)	Program Monitoring and Evaluation Training for WFP Local Staff
World Bank/Washington	Distance Learning Workshops

PARTNERS – ALBANIA STATMENT OF SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

Partners - Albania

Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds for fiscal year 2001 (in US Dollars)

	31 DECEMBER 2001	CUMULATIVE
USAID Grant Fund Grants contracts Income from services Bank Interest recieved	80.227 720 - -	80.227 720 - -
	80.947	80.947
Projects Trainings Salaries Social Securities Rent Telecommunication Travel Office Supplies	2.637 23.217 5.475 4.000 2.804 1.121 34.626	2.637 23.217 5.475 4.000 2.804 1.121 34.626
Balance of funds Cash opening balance Cash closing balance	7.067 - 7.067	7.067 - 7.067

Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds for fiscal year 2002 (in US Dollars)

	31 DECEMBER 2002	31 DECEMBER 2001	CUMULATIVE
USAID Grant Fund Grants Contracts Income from services Bank Interest recieved	454.029 70.154 2.571	80.227 720 -	534.256 70.874 2.571
	526.754	80.947	607.701
Projects Trainings Salaries Social securities Rent Telecommunication Travel Office suplies	184.074 52.448 81.648 24.967 9.600 6.277 6.223 44.678	2.637 23.217 5.475 4.000 2.804 1.121 34.626	184.074 55.085 104.865 30.442 13.600 9.081 7.344 79.304
	409.915	73.880	483.795
Balance of funds Cash opening balance Cash Closing balance	116.839 7.067 123.906	7.067 - 7.067	123.906 - 123.906

PARTNERS – ALBANIA STATMENT OF SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

Partners - Albania

Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds for fiscal year 2003 (in US Dollars)

	31 DECEMBER 2003	31 DECEMBER 2002	CUMULATIVE
USAID Grant Fund Grants Contracts Income from services Bank Interest recieved	723.919 67.494 426 1.222	454.029 70.154 2.571	1.258.175 138.368 2.997 1.222
	793.061	526.754	1.400.762
Projects Trainings Salaries Social securities Rent Telecommunication Travel Office suplies	523.708 84.651 76.919 21.285 10.480 10.045 5.493 8.085	184.074 52.448 81.648 24.967 9.600 6.277 6.223 44.678	707.782 139.736 181.784 51.727 24.080 19.126 12.837 87.389
	740.666	409.915	1.224.461
Balance of funds Cash opening balance Cash Closing balance	52.395 123.906 176.301	116.839 7.067 123.906	176.301 - 176.301

Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds for fiscal year 2004 (in US Dollars)

	31 JUNE 2004	31 DECEMBER 2003	CUMULATIVE
USAID Grant Fund Grants Contracts Income from services Bank Interest recieved	367.578 55.748 60	723.919 67.494 426 1.222	1.625.753 194.116 3.057 1.222
	423.386	793.061	1.824.148
Projects Trainings Salaries Social securities Rent Telecommunication Travel Office suplies	192.218 173.855 66.703 22.606 9.360 7.000 4.527 6.300	523.708 84.651 76.919 21.285 10.480 10.045 5.493 8.085	900.000 313.591 248.487 74.333 33.440 26.126 17.364 93.689
	482.569	740.666	1.707.030
Balance of funds Cash opening balance Cash Closing balance	-59.183 176.301 117.118	52.395 123.906 176.301	117.118 - 117.118

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director: Project Title:

Project Budget:

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Project Budget:

Psycho-Social Center "Vatra"

Vera Lesko

Awareness Campaign on the Risk of the Trafficking of Women for Prostitution in

Rural Areas of Vlore

19,040 USD

Youth Center "Venerin"-Gjader Lezhe

For Women and Children/Kombinati Center

Violeta Doda

29,910 USD

Raimonda Prifti Let's Stay Together

Young Ants in Northern Albania

12,183 USD

Young Women's Christian Association of

Donika Godaj

Daily Care Center for Children and

Counseling Center for Albanian Women

24,240 USD

KRIIK Albania

Premto Gogo

Empowering Services Toward a Permanent

Social Observatory

21,963

Counseling Center for Women and Girls

Iris Luarasi

Counseling Center for Women and Girls in

Berat and Shkoder

28,990 USD

Small Business Foundation

Oemal Balliu

Promotion of the Economic Status of Poor

Rural Women Project Budget:

9,990 USD

Women for Global Action

Aferdita Numani

We Serve to the Future / Community

Center in Bathore

15,781 USD

Institute of Public Opinion Studies

Fjona Todri

Identification, Registration, Public Awareness and Accomplishment of the Needs of Condemned Women and Children

in Albanian Prisons

21,320 USD

Implementing Organization: Regional Agriculture Advisory Center

Skender Kercuku **Executive Director:** Women Farm School **Project Title:**

1,700 USD **Project Budget:**

Implementing Organization: Agenda 21 **Executive Director:** Alda Duraj

Project Title: Awareness Campaign on Prostitution and

Trafficking for Young Women in Tirana (Sauk, Vagarr) and Durres (Rrashbull,

Rrushkull) Rural Areas

Project Budget: 9,820 USD

Implementing Organization: Albania Disability Rights Foundation

Executive Director: Blerta Cani

Project Title: Employment and Support Services for

People with Disability in Albania

Project Budget: 29,880 USD

Implementing Organization: Foundation Spirit of Love-Diakonia Agapes

Executive Director: Garentina Gramo

Project Title: Working Together for Children Integration

Project Budget: 29,876 USD

Implementing Organization: Refleksione Association

Executive Director: Monika Kocagi

Project Title: Shelter for Abused Women and Girls

29,950 USD **Project Budget:**

Implementing Organization: Independent Forum for the Albanian

Women

Executive Director: Diana Culi

Support for the Professional Education of **Project Title:**

the Socially Excluded Women and Youth

28,000 USD **Project Budget:**

Implementing Organization: Albanian Institute for Social and

Psychological Studies, I3SP

Executive Director: Jorida Rustemi

Project Title: Psychosocial Services for Students,

Teachers and Parents at Schools of Tirana

Difficult Areas

Project Budget: 15,000 USD

Implementing Organization: Institute for Effective Public Policy, Tirana

Executive Director: Gjergj Buxhuku

Encouragement of VoluntaryEstablishment **Project Title:**

> of Farmers' Joint Ventures in Albania through Incorporation of Community Development Principles of the Albanian

Farmers

Project Budget: 24,960 USD

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PARTNERS – ALBANIA SMALL GRANTS RECIEPENTS

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Regional Development Agency of Tirana

Ilir Rembeci

Employment and Entrepreneurship Promotion through Training and Skills

Development 23,314 USD

Project Budget:

Implementing Organization: Executive Director:

Project Title:

Project Budget:

Albarom Association Ramazan Elmazi

Stop Human Beings Traffic

2,205 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Project Budget:

Environmental Center for Administration

and Technology ECAT, Tirana

Marieta Mima

Application of the "Three-Bins System" in

the Obstetric Gynecologic Hospital, Tirana, Based on the Strategic Plan for the

Healthcare Waste Management

29,690 USD

Implementing Organization:

Association of Young Researchers of Social

Sciences

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Altin Goxhaj The Psychologist and Social Work Service

in High School

Project Budget: 27,150 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Local Infrastructure Support Agency

Ylli Asllani

Becoming Participants for a Clean

Environment

Project Budget: 14,900 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Center for Research and Development

Albert Gajo

Determining Methodological Grounds for Monitoring and Assessing Unrecorded

Activities in Service Sector

Project Budget: 3,000 USD

Implementing Organization: Albanian F

Albanian Foundation of Conflict Resolution

and Reconciliation of Disputes

Executive Director: Rasim Gjoka

Project Title: Strengthening The Mediation Alternative

In Managing The Conflicts At Community

Level

Project Budget: 10,561 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Albanian Family Planning Association

Ornela Abazi

Developing Safe Motherhood in Kukes and

Puke District

Project Budget: 19,872 USD

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PARTNERS – ALBANIA SMALL GRANTS RECIEPENTS

Implementing Organization: Albanian Center for Human Rights

Executive Director: Kozara Kati

Project Title: Human Rights Education of Border Police

Project Budget: 17,964 USD

Implementing Organization: Regional Development Agency, Shkoder

Executive Director: Gjenarin Shantoja

Project Title: Training and Certification of Beekeepers

Project Budget: 9,918 USD

Implementing Organization: Help for Children – Focus Center

Executive Director: Anita Pilika

Project Title: Training School's Health Staff of Tirana on

Child Development and Child Mental

Health Care

Project Budget: 5,620 USD

Implementing Organization: Center for Research and Development

Executive Director: Albert Gajo

Project Title:Fostering Private Sector Development
Assessing Business Constrains and the

Impact of Informal Activity to Service

Sector

Project Budget: 11,850 USD

Implementing Organization: Ryder Albania Association

Executive Director: Agim Sallaku

Project Title: Training and Education Courses on

Palliative Care with Multidisciplinary Staff Working in Primary Health Care Service and with Family Members of the Patients under Assistance of Ryder Albania

Association in Tirana Área

Project Budget: 26,956 USD

Implementing Organization: International Social Services Albania

Delegation

Executive Director: Lida Leskaj

Project Title: Immediate Measures for Child Protection

Project Budget: 25,430 USD

Implementing Organization: Regional Development Agency Vlore

Executive Director: Ylldize Brahimi

Project Title: Training of Unemployment Young Women and Business Women through Training and

Skills Development in Vlora Region

Project Budget: 8,095 USD

Implementing Organization: Women for Global Action

Executive Director: Aferdita Numani

Project Title: Community Center Bathore

Project Budget: 20,285 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Artan Muca

4,600 US

Professional Training Course for Persons

Association of Creators with Limit Capacity

with Limit Capacity

Project Budget:

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Project Budget:

Albania Disability Rights Foundation

Blerta Cani

Employment and Support Services for

People with Disability in Albania

29,890 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

For Women and Children/Kombinati Center

Rajmonda Prifti

Daily Care Center for Women and Disable

Children

Project Budget: 26,641 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Citizen's Advocacy Office

Kreshnik Spahiu

Counter Trafficking Marathon Advocacy

Campaign on Counter Trafficking

Project Budget: 16,900 USD

Implementing Organization:

Communal Forests and Pastures

Federation Qarku Diber

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Rexhep Ndreu Capacity Strengthening of Forests Users'

Associations and Cooperation with Communes Serving the Community

Project Budget: 6,900 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title:

Albanian Civil Society Foundation

Pandeli Theodhori

Community Communication and Education

House in Kelcyra 15,710 USD

Project Budget:

Implementing Organization: **Executive Director:**

Project Title:

Institute of Gender Applied Policies

Miranda Fishka

Useful to the Domestic Violence Victims in

Prison 313

Project Budget: 13,400 USD

Implementation Organization: Balkans Youth Link

Executive Director:

Project Title: Project Budget:

Erion Veliai

MJAFT! As for here, I decide

19,250 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director:

Project Title: Project Budget: Society for Democratic Culture

Gerta Meta

2003 Local Election Monitoring

23,498 USD

Implementing Organization:

Executive Director: Project Title: Project Budget:

Youth Group of Human Rights

Brikena Kasmi Vote your Right 9,330 USD

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PARTNERS – ALBANIA SMALL GRANTS RECIEPENTS

Implementing Organization: Albanian Youth Network for European

Integration

Executive Director: Olsi Dekovi

Project Title: Together We Can Say NO to Trafficking

Project Budget: 15,000 USD

Implementing Organization: Albanian Youthshakers

Executive Director: Rogert Zikaj

Project Title: Training for Students of Economic High

School in Tirana on Financial Management

and Business Risk Growth

Project Budget: 3,845 USD

Implementing Organization: Albarom Association Ramazan Elmazi

Project Title: Stop Human Beings Traffic

Project Budget: 3,540 USD

Implementing Organization: Young Women's Christian Association of

Albania

Executive Director: Donika Godaj

Project Title: Training for Young Women and Girls

of Paskuqan Area on Child Development

and Education

Project Budget: 13,890 USD

Implementing Organization: Ryder Albania Association

Executive Director: Agim Sallaku

Project Title: Training and Education Courses on

Palliative Care with Multidisciplinary Staff Working in Primary Health Care Service and with Family Members of the Patients

under Assistance of Ryder Albania

Association in Durres Area

Project Budget: 10,925 USD

Implementing Organization: International Social Services Albania Delegation

Executive Director: Lida Leskaj

Project Title: Immediate Measures for Child Protection

Project Budget: 21,100 USD

Implementing Organization: Albanian Youth Council

Executive Director: Arjola Agolli

Project Title: Increased Youth Employment

Opportunities Through Great Information

Access

Project Budget: 23,550 USD

Implementing Organization: Communal Forests and Pastures

Federation Qarku Diber

Executive Director: Rexhep Ndreu

Project Title: Strengthening Communal Forestry

Management

Project Budget: 6,550 USD