

Albanien



Contents

1. General	3
1.1 Political Development	3
1.2 Economic Development	4
1.3 Social Development	4
2. Swedish Development Cooperation with Albania	6
2.1 Swedish Programmes	6
3. Administration and human resources	14
4. Conclusions	15
Annex A. Project list with budget	16
Annex B. Priority list	21
1. General	21
2. Public Administration	21
3. Rural Development and Local Governance	21
4. Health and Social Affairs	22
5. Environment	22
6. Business and Finance	22
7. Human Rights and Democracy	22
8. Infrastructure	22
9. Administration	22

Published by Sida 2001

The Department for Cooperation with Central and Eastern Europe, EVB

Print: Elanders Novum AB, 2003

Art.no: SIDA2244en

1. General

1.1 Political Development

After four changes of Government and a new President it looks at last as Albania has some political stability. Before the Presidential Election in Parliament in June, the chairmen of the two biggest parties, the Socialist Party's (SP) Fatos Nano and the Democratic Party's (DP) Sali Berisha started negotiating about a consensual candidate for the post as president. They agreed to everyone's surprise after a few suggested and rejected candidates on Alfred Moisiu, a former Vice Defence Minister and for four months Defence Minister. Moisiu is seen as of the old guard, a strong proponent of NATO membership and chairman of the Albanian North Atlantic Association. He was sworn in 24 July. As President he has said that he sees as his foremost role as being all Albanians' president and he is in close contact with all major political groups.

On the same day as the President was sworn in the Prime Minister, Pandeli Majko, handed in his resignation and the new President asked the Sp chairman, Fatos Nano, to set up a new Government. The cooperation between the SP and DP chairmen has continued and it looks like Albania has its most stable government since the Hoxha regime. Opponents say that they are cooperating to be able to stay in power and distribute favours to allies. It has to be acknowledged though, that a stable government is favourable to the private sector and economic growth. Further it must be deemed positive that the government is strongly for European integration, however that goes for all the major parties in the country.

Despite the Government being strong EU membership proponents Albania did not succeed during the period to start negotiations with the European Union. The European Commission thought Albania has too many reforms to implement first. Albania is willing to reform, at least to adopt the laws, but implementation is slow at best. Apart from EU integration the GPRS (Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy) is put in focus. The Government says that the implementation of the GPRS is the over-riding aim for the Government.

On the national scene positive is an increase in interest in development of the north of the country. Not much concretely has come out of it yet, though.

1.2 Economic Development

The economic development has seen medium to strong growth, especially in the services and construction sectors 1997–2001. This year growth seems to be reduced to slightly under 5%. In spite of the strong growth over the last years, a concern is that nothing substantial is behind the growth. The manufacturing industry in the country is still doing very badly. Continued growth is therefore doubted by many analysts. The down-turn of growth is to some extent depending on the power supply problems encountered last Winter.

Property rights also remain of great concern as they are not seen to be sufficiently guarded and enforced. Corruption is, despite efforts by the Government (supported by Sweden), still hindering economic development. The first arrests of high level officials took place at the end of the period, but the suspects are still to be tried in court.

The Government's finances are showing a considerable deficit, however in line with targets. The Minister of Finance says that the main aim now is to increase the state revenue, among other measures through expanding the tax base and decrease evasion. Inflation is at Western European levels.

The balance of payments shows a large deficit, consisting mainly of a trade deficit of 20% of GDP as Albanian exports are very low. The trade deficit is counterbalanced to some degree by remittances from Albanians living abroad which make up 15–20% of GNP. The not reassuring property rights are reflected in the very low level of foreign investments.

The new Government based on the informal agreement between SP and DP chairmen gives the country stability which is seen for the private sector as something good, even though from a democratic point of view it may be seen as less good. The economic development should therefore continue, at least in the short to medium term. If the manufacturing industry will take part in the overall growth remains to be seen.

Albania has good prospects for growth considering the resource endowments including arable land, mineral deposits and a comparatively well-educated work force. The crucial point is the political developments. During the period new border posts were opened with Greece (1) and Kosovo (2) reflecting the political will of greater openness and more trade and regional integration.

1.3 Social Development

The fact that Albania is the second poorest country in Europe is easily seen in its statistics on poverty. 46% of the population live on less than USD 2 a day and 17% on less than USD 1 a day, maternal mortality is over 12/1000 live births and child malnutrition is 50% in some areas in the country. In brief; poverty remain a serious problem in all regions, in urban and rural areas, around the country.

A recent World Bank study found, however, that a significant number of households see that economic and political conditions over the past ten years actually have supported an improvement in their living conditions. But then again, the same study finds that 40% of respondents say food intake has worsened over the same period.

The prime coping mechanism in Albania is remittances from relatives working abroad. During the above mentioned study 15% of household

members were abroad. Remittances are more important for the poorer and about half of the poorest group receive crucial remittances from relatives. As incomes increase remittances decrease, both in relative importance and in absolute terms.

A big, if not the biggest, problem in Albania is the low level of trust between different groups of people as well as people's trust in government and what it can do, and will do, for them. 91% consider informal payments to government officials a problem and 79% of respondents think that the Government is not working well.

Limited funds and human capacities contribute to this low-level trust. Weak and sometimes non-existent government capacity results in a *de facto* governance vacuum in some areas. People then turn to alternative forms of social order, such as the ancient "*kanun*" which involves the blood feud. Government officials and politicians are considered only trying to enrich themselves and not working for the country.

2. Swedish Development Cooperation with Albania

The Swedish programme in Albania developed further during the period. The presence is well established and the staff is taking part in more and more fora. The Korça programme has developed further with a new programme officer in place in Albania in charge of the programme.

The two main agreements between the Governments of Sweden and Albania, the Development Cooperation Agreement and the Agreement on General Terms and Conditions for Development Cooperation, were approved by the Albanian Council of Ministers and are now considered to be fully in effect also by the Government of Albania.

The Swedish programme is basically within the six sectors of the Country Strategy for Cooperation with Albania; agriculture, public administration, environment, democracy/human rights, health and the private sector. The six programmes are implemented on both the central level and local level in Korça region, which is the Swedish pilot region.

2.1 Swedish Programmes

2.1.1 *Agriculture*

The agricultural sector continues its transformation process. Traditional grain production continues to lose ground to more profitable vegetable and potato production. Animal husbandry is more and more relegated to less productive mountainous areas. Free trade agreements with neighbouring countries have forced Korçan farmers to compete with cheap imported apples. Privatisation of extension services has reduced technical support to farmers. Efforts to restore dysfunctional irrigation systems in Korça continue. Registration of land ownership is still a problem hampering reform of farm size to efficient units from the existing microfundia situation. During the period new laws have passed including one on organic agriculture. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food has been reorganised creating a new but weak Rural Development Sector. The new law of protected areas however shifted responsibility for those areas from the Ministry of Agriculture to the Ministry of Environment.

The initial Sida agricultural promotion activity has been the Hifab/ScanAgri-executed Korça Rural Market Development Project, implemented with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Regional Council of Korça. At the beginning of the period, construction was underway at the

first market in Pîrg but no other land had been identified for a second market. A market management company had been formed to run Pîrg market. Training programmes for farmers and extension officers were also in progress in the communes of Pîrg and Pojan, including one study tour to Greece for Pojan farmers. Numerous new associations had been established and new associations were created during the period. By the end of the period the construction of the Pîrg Market had been completed. Land for the Pojan market had been acquired, bids for the construction received and market management company registered. During the period the earlier plans of constructing markets in Voskop and Mollaj were shelved as no appropriate land could be identified. Instead a location of the third and final market had been decided for Bilisht, Devoll district. At the period's conclusion, the project was initiating the training package for the user group of the Devoll Market Centre.

In May the Quality Group carried out its third monitoring mission of the Korça Rural Market Development Project. Their report emphasised the need to increase training activities, especially to put attention on the market management aspects. The next mission is scheduled for November 2002. To complement Sida's activities to strengthen agricultural markets, WorldVision was commissioned to make a feasibility study on the accessibility of rural micro-credit to the farmers, traders and farmer associations connected to the rural markets. WorldVision has during the period developed a proposal for a micro-credit project which is now under consideration. Also in support of the work initiated by the Korça Rural Market Development Project, the French NGO Triangle Generation Humanaire deployed a mission in July to the remote areas of southern Miras Commune, Devoll district. The mission formulated a Miras Agriculture and Economic Development Project to complement the other training activities of the Korça Rural Market Development Project for the Devoll Market Centre.

2.1.2 Public administration and local governance

The Government is working towards EU integration and reforming of the public administration. The process is slow and meets resistance from different quarters. Insufficient human capacities is a problem as well as lack of funds. However, funds are available from donors. The decentralisation process is implemented but the needs for capacity building in local authorities are huge. A number of donors are active in this sub-sector in different parts of the country. Sweden has the lead in Korça region.

Apart from the programme in Korça region two Swedish supported projects are implemented on the central level. Additionally a study was carried out by a Swedish consultant to assess needs and possibilities for support to procurement capacities in the public administration. The study found two possible areas but the Albanian interest was low. The ideas were therefore shelved.

In the project on business statistics Statistics Sweden has a long-term perspective in regards to its approach for the transfer of knowledge in this project. Work has been started during the period to produce short-term statistics on turnover of the private sector for several activity sections. The quality problems linked to this approach have been discussed. Basic data are collected but the checking of them and the change calcu-

lations must be refined. A sample survey on enterprise activities in 2001 has been carried out and the planning for an enlarged survey for 2003 has started. A proposal for a strategic plan for business statistics has been presented. The production of the yearly business statistics has a good organisation and documentation according to Statistics Sweden.

Sida decided in July to extend the funding of the Anti-Corruption project through the Council of Europe until December 2003 with SEK 2,25 million. This phase will put greater emphasis on public awareness of corruption and counter-measures than the first phase. During the period the Anti-Corruption Monitoring Group was reorganised by the Council of Ministers. An action plan for the Prevention and fight against Corruption has been finalised and distributed to all concerned, among them all the ministries. After concerns raised by the Chief Prosecutor steps have been taken to implement a case management system to decrease the possibilities of corruption within the judicial system. The Minister of State for Anti-Corruption was changed with the new Government in July. The new Minister is as dedicated to the cause as the former.

In the field of local government the movement towards true decentralisation of power has gained momentum and the first signs of budgetary reallocations have taken place following previous legal transfer of responsibilities. The lowest level of government, rural communes and urban municipalities have received central government funding for investments and for operating local schools including teacher salaries. The democratically-elected regional level of government, the regional councils, have however yet to receive a clear mandate and accompanying budgetary support. The lack of comprehensive support structure for the decentralisation process brought about an initial decentralisation roundtable on 25 July with Ministry of Local Government and Decentralisation, Council of Europe, the three associations of local government and various donors and their projects involved in decentralisation. This roundtable has led to increased discussion and co-ordination towards a national training strategy for local government. Increased inter-project co-ordination in the Sida pilot region of Korça was also strengthened during the period through a first Korça Programme co-ordination meeting on 4 September with around 36 participants representing all Sida projects in Korça and a number of other foreign-financed projects. As the Regional Council of Korça was co-organiser of the meeting, the meeting promoted increased collaboration between projects but also strengthened the Council's co-ordinating role in regional development.

The key project of Sida's efforts for strengthening local institutions, the Decentralisation and Local Governance Project, was delayed receiving approval from the Council of Ministers not until mid-September. A preliminary fact-finding mission in August/September by SIPU, the implementing consultancy firm was fielded to help compensate for the delay. A sister project to the decentralisation project, the Korça Clean and Green Project, to be implemented by UNDP and its Local Governance Programme was formulated by a UNDP mission in June and approved by Sida and awaited Government of Albania approval at the end of the period. This project would allow the local governments themselves to prioritise, design and execute smaller public works sub-projects.

This approach builds on the success of another Sida project which works for dialogue between local governments and their citizenry, the SNV-executed Local Initiative Fund (LIF) which completed its second and final selection process during the period. Both the quantity and quality of applications was noticeably better from the first round last year. The LIF board selected initially 8 sub-projects mostly formulated by village communities and their local government for small-scale improvements. One sub-project selected, the renovation of the Proger cultural centre, broke the pattern becoming the first sub-project outside Korça district¹. Another on improved facilities for rehabilitation through physical therapy was the first successful NGO proposal. A final ninth sub-project for a health centre in Liqenas Commune was finalised only after extra negotiations. An active participant in the LIF has been another Sida project, the Albania-Macedonia People's Empowerment Programme (AMPEP). During the period, AMPEP has undergone considerable reorientation reflected in its new workplan and staff. In order to focus on village-level mobilisation and cross-border co-operation, additional personnel have been employed as field workers. The demonstration of use of artificial fertilisers concluded with harvest of large potatoes in Vithkuq and Pojan. Transboundary activities during the period included a mayors' workshop on finance in Ohrid and a twinning visit of Bitola Agricultural University to Korça.

The Migration and Community Development Project executed by ICMC/CRMS (International Catholic Migration Commission and Centre for Research and Migration Studies set up by ICMC) came into full operation with the inauguration of the project office and training facility on 5 July. Soon after the expatriate Demographer arrived in July, the planned training programme commenced pairing university students with local government statistics officers from all 15 communes/municipalities in Korça district. Another project executed at a regional level by East West Institute is Transfrontier Cooperation in the Prespa/Ohrid Region: Lake Prespa Economic Task Force (ETF). On 17 June, the ETF was launched at a meeting in Bitola, Macedonia with participation of the political and economic leadership of Korça Region. The ETF has been able to begin the process of identification of joint priorities of the adjoining Macedonian and Greek regions and Korça Region.

2.1.3 Environment

Environment issues continue to enjoy support from the Government, however integration of sustainable development thinking does not permeate decision-making in other sectors. One exception during the period was the 3 June National Conference on Sustainable Development organised by the Ministry of Environment. Ministers from a large number of ministries explained how environmental concerns were handled by their respective ministries. New laws in the field of environment have continued to be passed, increasing the gap between legislation and enforcement. A donor conference organised by the Ministry of Environment on 11 July offered a unique opportunity to co-ordinate development efforts, especially those connected with the strengthening of the young ministry. Sida fielded a mission in September to look into possible strengthening of the ministry, development of Local Environ-

mental Action Plans (LEAPs), environmental awareness and solid waste management. The Swedish consultancy firm SCC Natura and the environmental NGO, REC Albania, conducted the mission jointly with the goal of producing a number of project proposals. Other areas investigated by Sida field staff during the period were in the field of recycling where informal recycling schemes for glass, metals, paper and plastics were revealed. Discussions are now held to explore on possible projects.

The Swedish-financed environment project, the UNEP-executed Short-Term Risk Reduction Project at Sharra Landfill succeeded in establishing that the acute environmental concern of the site outside Tirana was limited to air-borne pollutants created by fires. At the beginning of the period the project had facilitated proper daily landfill management having arranged the repair of bulldozers, training of field staff and improved field staff working conditions for the municipal employees. By the end of the period rains had made spreading of the wet refuse difficult and access to the site deteriorated. Fires continue to be a problem and the problem of smog near the site has repeatedly been raised in the national mass media. At the same time the project has been unable to strengthen the responsible unit in the municipality as the organisational structure is unclear and characterised by high staff turn-over. Thus the weak municipal organisation has been unable to absorb support from the project thus delaying implementation and expenditures. A tripartite agreement between UNEP, the Ministry of Environment and the Municipality of Tirana signed in June required that the municipality legalise the site and its boundaries before UNEP could continue implementation. At the end of the period no legalisation had occurred.

One central stakeholder at Sharra are the up to 200 persons which recycle metals, glass, plastics and paper for their livelihood. They are mainly Romas and people from the northern part of the country. More than 60 are said to be year-round collectors and their families have worked the site for the last 30 years. These recyclers have been identified as responsible for a portion of the fires yet they have been excluded from the project. In July UNEP at the Embassy's request brought the Albanian NGO Zeitgeist-ASSA into the discussions with the municipality and ministry. Thereafter the NGO, having experience with both Roma's and Northern Albanians' specific situations and problems, conducted discussions at the site and at the end of the period proposed a project called "Mobilisation Support for Sharra Recyclers" which now are under consideration.

2.1.4 Democracy and Human Rights

The country strategy gives the focus for the support to democracy and human rights as support to independent media, human rights, activities aimed at promoting dialogue and reconciliation, democratic networks and gender equality. To achieve this framework agreements are signed with three Swedish NGOs *Swedish Helsinki Foundation*, *Olof Palme International Centre* and *Kvinna till Kvinna* and national programmes on arms collection and migration/anti-trafficking programmes through UN agencies.

The time limit of the amnesty of returning stolen weapons expired 4 August after having been extended by the Government a number of

times. The Small Arms and Light Weapons Collection Programme (SALWCP), run within the framework of UNDP, collected 11 864 arms and lots of ammunition from April – 4 August nation-wide. In the 5 regions where the programme was awarding development projects 6 453 weapons were surrendered. The competitions between regions and municipalities yielded 42 development projects amounting to USD 962 000. The SALWCP runs to February 2004 until when the development projects are to be implemented. SALWCP wants to extend the collection activities if and when the Government is opening another period of amnesty for returning weapons and additional funds are sourced.

Albania is a European centre for trafficking of women and children. The country needs to strengthen structures to counter these activities. Sweden is supporting International Migration Organisation's (IOM) and ICMC's regional programme in this field. During the period 11 trafficked women were referred to and accepted by the project's shelter. The shelter closed at the end of September, when all the referrals had left the shelter. Continuous work is done to establish good relations with Embassies in Tirana of the countries where the women are from. The time to organise departure of the women average 2 weeks for women with documentation and 3–4 weeks without. The cooperation with NGOs on health services to the victims continues.

Within the framework agreement with Sida, the Olof Palme International Centre (OPIC) is building up a programme in Albania. One of the supported organisations is the Children's Human Rights Centre of Albania. During the period they have exchanged experiences with KSCF, another NGO from Kosovo supported by OPIC. The Centre's Newsletter is produced and distributed regularly. The Centre is seen as the centre of activities among NGOs working with these issues in Albania.

ASSA Zeitgeist receive support too for their project with a Roma centre in a suburb of Tirana. OPIC thinks this is one of the best implemented projects they are supporting. ASSA Zeitgeist has succeeded in engaging the Romas to a great extent in the wide-ranging activities of the Roma centre.

Kvinna till Kvinna is supporting a number of gender projects in Albania. The Women's Centre's in Tirana project "Training of Gender Sensitisation" in which

courses are held all over the country and the target groups ranges from representatives from NGOs, public administration, mass media, police and health care workers; The Counselling Centre for Women and Girls (Linja) in Pogradec and their project "Help and support for rural women in Pogradec and Korça district" where counselling is provided to women and girls being victims of physical, emotional and/or sexual violence, both in the town and in rural areas; The Women's Forum in Elbasan's project *"Sensitisation campaign for the promotion and the protection of women's right and support for the women and girls' counselling centre in Cerrik"*

consisting of two counselling centres and various public awareness campaigns for women's rights.

SHC is still in the process of building up a programme in Albania. Three project partners and four projects are up and running. A diesel generator was bought for the independent newspaper *Dita Jug*, a weekly based in Gjirokaster to secure their power supply. SHC took the decision

to support, together with Dutch Press Now, *Dita Jug* by purchasing a printing plant. Their sister organisation, the Albanian Helsinki Committee, is supported to train young people in rural areas in human rights and the rule of law. The project is delayed almost four months. Albanian Human Rights Group is carrying out a study on minorities in Albania, ethnical, religious and other. The study will take into consideration legal aspects and social attitudes. The project also contains public debates raising the issue of minorities in a country that seldom recognises the existence of minorities. SHC has decided to support AHRG in further investigating specifically the situation for homosexuals in Albania.

2.1.5 Health

Health care in Albania continues to be sub-standard, due to among other things very low resource allocations by the Government, (appr. USD 20 per capita). Capacity in the administration is also comparatively low. A number of donors are active in the sector, mainly supporting new infrastructure such as building of new hospitals. These hospitals are not always to be found in the Ministry's own plans and it can therefore be expected that the hospitals will receive no funds for running costs and maintenance.

The project on management of maintenance of hospital equipment continued mainly according to plans during the period. However the establishment of the HEM unit (Hospital Equipment Management and Maintenance) is delayed. A plan for the future role of the National Workshop has been elaborated and presented to the Ministry. The project is now waiting for the Ministry's decision. A concern is that the Ministry will not be able to take full responsibility of capacity building in hospital equipment management and maintenance after the project is finished. Problems being brain drain, lack of funding and management.

A Mid Term Review of the programme on the reform of Mental Health was carried out during the period. It recommended that WHO, the implementing partner, should improve their reporting and involve Sida more in changes and general development of the programme. For example WHO during the period changed the manager – the second time in a year – of the programme without asking, or even informing, Sida. Another recommendation from the MTR was that the Development Centre of Mental Health should be given a more important role and be slowly transferred to the Ministry. In general the project is advancing, but the political document outlining the future of the reform work, is lagging behind.

2.1.6 Private Sector

Southeast Europe Enterprise Development Programme (SEED) is a multi-donor initiative managed by the IFC (International Finance Corporation) to strengthen small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, FYR Macedonia, and Kosovo. The five-year effort have offered a variety of services both to local SMEs directly and to other organisations that support them, and also worked closely with the World Bank Group and other institutions to improve the difficult operating environment for small businesses. The USD 40 million SEED programme is funded by Austria, Canada, Greece, the Nether-

lands, Norway, Slovenia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, IFC and Sweden. SEED embraces three strategic targets of assistance namely enterprise-level investment services, capacity building of enterprises and institutions serving SME's needs and Improvement of the Business Enabling Environment. In Albania many activities have been carried out, among them the Investment Services Team's assistance to a frozen food processor in raising an overdraft facility to cover its working capital needs and SEED has prepared an Internal Enhancement Plan and an Overdraft Facility Plan for this company. A polystyrene project was assisted that intended to build an expanded plant. A financial analysis of the companies and financial projections of the respective projects have been developed. An Investment Services Consultancy Network began procedures in May. The Albanian Investment Services Team has participated in a Tourism Development Project in Montenegro (Budva and Kotor). Further, training on EU Standards for fruits and vegetables processing, meat processing, dairy products and wine making were carried out which gave local SME's capacity to produce safe and qualitative products in order to meet European standards. Other training in marketing gave participating SMEs knowledge and tools that enabled them to be more competitive.

2.1.7 Infrastructure

Infrastructure is not part of the present country strategy but support continues to the elaboration of a Road Database as long as the agreement on the project runs. The project is behind schedule due to reorganisation of the General Road Directorate. The collection of road data in Tirana region continued but with severe disturbances. In mid April a new Director General of GRD was appointed. SweRoad evaluated the possibilities to continue the project and the result was that SweRoad recommended Sida to continue the support. The data collection in Tirana region has since been completed and has started in Korça region. In August the Minister of Transport was changed and again, the General Director of GRD. The new management introduced a Traffic Department at GRD with several divisions for higher efficiency.

3. Administration and human resources

The sent-out staff is completely new in the office as of summer of 2002. The office was expanded by one programme officer on 1 May and the Head of office was changed in mid June. The new staff has worked to improve office procedures and distribution of tasks and public relations. The planned recruitment of a national programme officer was postponed due to the fact the sent-out staff being new in the office and country.

During the period the delegation of responsibilities to the Head of office – as has been the case to all the Heads of offices in the region – has been extended. The Head of office attended a management course in Stockholm in September. The driver's title has been up-graded to support officer.

A lot of time has been spent with the computers and Internet connection due to technical problems during the period. This will hopefully be solved with the newly set up computer network and later in January when the office is moving to new premises with better Internet connection.

4. Conclusions

The cooperation with Albania is now more established than at the beginning of the period. The Korça programme has developed positively, mainly thanks to hard work by the office in Tirana. The Korça programme has become a more holistic entity.

A lot of time has been laid on contacts in the donor community and the Albanian Government.

The existing country strategy has been guiding the activities and efforts have been expended in all the six sectors. The new staff has acquainted themselves with the sectors and the Albanian reality. In view of the elaboration process of the new country strategy (to be in effect 1 July 2003) the office is well equipped.

A lesson learned in the development cooperation is the functioning of the Albanian administration, however more efforts have to be invested in this area, to grasp and overcome the sometimes cumbersome processes. The office has good help from the honorary consul in Tirana and the Embassy in Rome in this.

The Albanian ability to absorb support and the number of international organisations present and/or familiar with Albania are limited. Therefore it is difficult to identify and elaborate good projects and find good implementing partners. Sida is also relatively new in the country. The office's view is that it is rewarding to work in Albania despite this, both from a Swedish/Sida as well as a personal perspective.

Albania assistance 2002

2003-01-21

Transition and Development Cooperation assistance	SEK		SEK		SEK		Exchange rate Euro to SEK is 1: 9,1627	
	Com 2002	Disc 2002	Disc 2002	Disb 2002	Com '02 Euro	Disc '02 Euro	Disb '02 Euro	
Human Rights and Democracy	4 755 600	0	0	4 766 064	519 017	0	520 159	
Institutional Capacity Building, Public Services	1 608 599	0	0	1 608 599	175 559	0	175 559	
Integrated Area Programs, Refugee return	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Health, Culture and Gender	9 271 000	160 000	5 782 370	1 011 820	17 462	17 462	631 077	
Local Institution Building	16 483 000	0	14 230 403	1 798 924	0	0	1 553 080	
Private Sector Development	5 000 000	0	4 515 000	545 691	0	0	492 759	
Agriculture and Environment	6 662 846	500 000	4 372 501	727 171	54 569	54 569	477 207	
Infrastructure	459 147	0	459 147	50 110	0	0	50 110	
Various, other	3 005 637	1 000 000	2 627 211	328 030	109 138	109 138	286 729	
Total	47 245 829	1 660 000	38 361 295	5 156 322	181 169	181 169	4 186 680	
Com 2002: Committed and decided funds 2002, Disc 2002: projects under discussion but not decided or committed, Disb 2002: spent of committed funds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Humanitarian assistance	47 245 829	1 660 000	38 361 295	5 156 322	181 169	181 169	4 186 680	
Decided & Committed Development Cooperation projects								
Human Rights and Democracy	Disb 2001	Com 2002	Com 2003	Total SEK	Disb 2002	Project dates		
East-West Institute Transfrontier Co-operation programme	1 000 000			1 000 000		Nov01-Oct02		
IOM; Regional anti-trafficking, 23% of reg. MSEK 28 support. Regional anti-trafficking programme in Bosnia, Macedonia, FRY (Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo) and Albania. The Sida support is concentrated to recovery, repatriation and reintegration of trafficked women. The project is part of a larger IOM programme, working with e.g. training, Balkan Courier and Transfrontier, 10% of regional frame, funded by President Artisaari, the Balkan Youth Foundation is an initiative aiming at supporting youth projects in the entire region. This is done through direct support to youth organisations, youth training schemes and networking between the organisations of the region. They will also investigate and support best practises.	6 440 000			6 440 000		May01-Jun02		
KfK 2002 regional program, 6,1% of total	120 000	120 000		240 000	118 464	Jan01-Dec01		
SHC, Framework agreement 2002. The Swedish Helsinki Committee has appr. 60 Sida-financed projects throughout the Western Balkans with a concentration to Serbia with almost 40% of the project sum. SHC concentrates on media-related projects but also supports pure democracy projects as well as a small culture programme. This year, SHC will also work with other minorities than ethnic, e.g. sexual and religious minorities.		915 000		915 000	900 000	Jan02-Dec02		
KTK 2003 framework agreement		1 169 600		1 169 600	1 169 600	Jan02-Dec02		
OPIC, Sharra Garbage Dump Roma Recyclers		1 250 000	1 000 000	2 000 000	1 250 000	Jan03-Jan04		
OPIC, framework agreement 2003		116 000		116 000	116 000	Dec02-Mar03		
		735 000	700 000	1 435 000	735 000	Dec02-Dec03		

OPC, framework agreement 2002. OPC works with e.g. union issues, women's projects, youth, ICT and human rights in general.												450 000	450 000	900 000	477 000	Jan02-Dec02	
	Institutional Capacity Building, Public Services											Disb 2001	Com 2002	Com 2003	Total SEK	Disb 2002	Project dates
	SCB: Business Statistics and register												808 599	1 786 401	2 595 000	808 599	Oct01-Feb03
	PACO, Implementation of the national anti-corruption plan												800 000	1 446 000	2 246 000	800 000	Aug02-Dec04
	Health, Culture and Gender											Disb 2001	Com 2002	Com 2003	Total SEK	Disb 2002	Project dates
	Swedecare, hospital equipment maintenance. Strengthening the management and maintenance system for the Albanian health services, through Swedish Health Care AB, 2 years. Technical assistance, spares and training of staff											800 037	4 000 000	3 399 963	8 200 000	2 512 966	Mar01-Mar03
	WHO, mental health reform; to implement a mental health reform with decentralised community based mental health centers in all districts of the country. A lot of training of doctors, psychologists nurses, social workers. Change of attitude to mental illness. Three years.											5 000 000	4 500 000	3 000 000	12 500 000	2 500 000	Jul01-Jun04
	Health; mid term review on WHO-mental health project												120 000		120 000	118 404	Jul-Aug02
	Health; Planning mission to prepare a regional programme to fight AIDS carried out by the NGO Project Hope												126 000		900 000	126 000	Nov02-Jan03
	Culture; Royal Univ. College, Summer school Stockholm -02												165 000		165 000	165 000	sep-02
Local Institution Building	Culture; Cultural exchange between institutions or organisations in Sweden and in the Balkans administered by the Swedish Institute.												360 000	360 000	1 080 000	360 000	Jan02-Dec04
	Local Institution Building											Disb 2001	Com 2002	Com 2003	Total SEK	Disb 2002	Project dates
	Interconsult, feasib. study development of local admin, Korca												158 000		158 000	148 728	Jan02-Feb02
	Compass; Seminar local admin staff, Korca												75 000		75 000	43 967	Jan02-Jul02
	ICMC, Migration & Community Dev in Korca district												1 400 000		3 400 000	1 400 000	Dec01-Nov03
	MWRCT, local resource development Korca & region. The purpose of the programme is to mobilise local resources in the process of problem solving activities promoting transparency, gender awareness and preservation of the environment. The long term objective is to strengthen the democratisation and decentralisation process in the area in order to achieve better living conditions for the citizens. The project is a crossborder project.											2 000 000					
	SIPU; Decentralisation and Local governance in Korca												3 800 000	3 840 000	7 640 000	3 800 000	Jan02-Dec03
													2 050 000	5 000 000	5 000 000	225 151	Sep02-Feb05
	UNDP, Clean and Green, Korca. The project aims to assist in the implementation of the Decentralisation Strategy in Albania by strengthening the capacity of local government in the Korca region in dealing with environmental and social issues. The project will train local government leaders to identify environmental concerns and propose small-scale labour intensive public works. The project will include 15 pilot communes.												5 000 000	4 946 500	10 446 460	5 000 000	Sep02-Feb04
	UNDP; Smart Arms and Light Weapons Control Project. The project is nationwide, combining public awareness campaigns, policy development and implementation of local development projects to promote knowledge of the impact of weapons on Albanian society and contribute to a change in attitude towards weapons.											3 000 000	4 000 000		7 000 000	3 612 557	Sep01-Aug03

Private Sector Development		Disb 2001	Com 2002	Com 2003	Total SEK	Disb 2002	Project dates
IFC-SME Support Facility (25% MSEK 20). Support to the IFC SME Facility for Albania, Macedonia, BiH and Kosovo (FRY). Sida funding is for the first 3 years of the 5-year programme. The objective is to support the development of a sustainabl private sector in the region through activities directed towards SME as well as the institutional framework.		2 000 000					
			5 000 000	4 000 000	5 000 000		Jan01-Dec04
WW, Building Futures, Micro Enterprise Dev Progr					9 000 000	4 515 000	Oct02-Mar04
Agriculture and Environment		Disb 2001	Com 2002	Com 2003	Total SEK	Disb 2002	Project dates
ENV: The Sharrë waste dumpsite has been as one of the environmental and human health "hot spots" in Albania. A feasibility study will be conducted to identify medium and long-term remedial measures and give recommendations on how to implement them. The project will also include small-scale urgently needed activities.		4 000 000			4 000 000		Sep01-Jun02
Env: Env. Analysis for the Balkans (1/6th of decision)		116 165	22 102		345 000	22 102	completed
Agri: Quality group for Korca District Market dev		6 179 256	5 820 744	2 000 000	14 000 000	3 529 914	Apr01-Mar02
Agri: Korca District, Agricultural training on improved cultivation and post-harvest techniques as well as marketing advice in Miras			820 000	1 180 000	2 000 000	820 485	Dec02-May04
Infrastructure		Disb 2001	Com 2002	Com 2003	Total SEK	Disb 2002	Project dates
Development of a road data bank, implemented by SweRoad, in cooperation with Ministry of Transport/General Road Directorate		1 369 823	459 147	669 327	5 421 000	459 147	Jan00-Dec02
Various, other		Disb 2001	Com 2002	Com 2003	Total SEK	Disb 2002	Project dates
Project Admin costs			1 854 637	1 850 000	3 704 637	1 382 523	Jan02-Dec02
Project Admin costs			1 151 000	1 450 000	2 601 000	1 244 688	Jan02-Dec02
		32 475 281	47 245 829	36 628 191	121 812 697	38 361 295	
Humanitarian Assistance							
		0	0	0	0	0	0
Transition & Development Cooperation Projects under Discussion							
			Planned 2002	Planned 2003	Planned 2004	Total 2002-04	
Human Rights and Democracy							
Institutional Capacity Building, Public Services							
Study of labour market				200 000			
Health, Culture and Gender						200 000	

Health; Project Hope, Aids project	160 000	160 000	
Womens leadership		100 000	100 000
Riskoncenter; recording of Alb folk lore music		600 000	600 000
Local Institution Building			
Private Sector Development			
Agriculture and Environment			
Env; Korca; Solid waste and local capacity building		1 500 000	1 500 000
Env; Sharra additional needs		500 000	500 000
Env; Min of Environment, Institution capacity building		3 000 000	
Env; Local Environmental Action Plan		2 300 000	
Agr; Agr & Economic development in Miras, Korca region	500 000	1 300 000	200 000
Various, other			
Partnership for Peace, ammunition destruction	1 000 000		1 000 000
	1 660 000	9 500 000	200 000
			6 060 000
Regional Projects committed and decided			
Human Rights and Democracy			
Minority Rights Group, minority questions/rights	273 000		Nov01-Oct04
OPC, framework agreement 2002	270 000	1 345 000	Jan02-Dec02
PRONI, youth research, coop w Council of Europe/Stab Pact	2 730 000	540 000	Jan02-Jan03
PRONI; evaluation of PRONI's projects in the Balkans	458 000	2 730 000	Jan02-Jan03
TOL: Reconstruction Reports	1 500 000	458 000	Aug02-Oct02
OSCE, Task Force on Trafficking	575 000	1 500 000	Jan02-Dec02
KIK Trafficking Western Balkans	5 000 000	575 000	Jul02-Jun03
Save The Children; Action Research on Child Trafficking	250 000	5 000 000	Dec02-Jan04
CoE Criminal Law Reform; trafficking in the Balkans	550 000	1 950 000	Jun02-Nov03
IMPR, Balkan Reports & Other Reports	3 750 000	1 100 000	Jul02-Oct03
		550 000	Aug01-Dec 02
	15 356 000	5 000 000	3 750 000
		20 198 000	14 357 000
Institutional Capacity Building			
Assisturn, Procurement in the Balkans	560 200	560 200	306512 May02-Jun02
ILAC, regional judiciary sector strategy development	725 715	725 715	Nov02-Apr03
SCB, Framework agreement Statistics in Balkans		6 185 000	Nov02-Nov04
	1 285 915	6 910 715	306 512
Culture			

Private Sector Development

WV, regional micro credit program Alb, BiH, FRY, Mac, Kos
OECD, Study Trade in Services in SEE

14 500 000				11 625 000	Jun02-May03
470 000	2 280 000	2 280 000	2 750 000		Sep02-Jun03
14 970 000	2 280 000	2 280 000	2 750 000	11 625 000	
1 150 563			2 000 000	483 538	Jan01-Dec02
32 036 763	4 530 000	4 530 000	25 508 200	26 772 050	

Agriculture

Scandiaconsult, regional consultancy support

For information:

Tel Albania desk officer in Stockholm: Annlouise Olofsson +46 8 6985000
Sidarepresentative in Tirana: Lars Oscar & Robert Hall +355 4 34 34 86

Fax +46 8 214529

E-mail annlouise.olofsson@sida.se

+355 4 374416 info@sweden.gov.al

B. Priority list

Priority tasks of Sida – Tirana, July – December 2002

1. General

- Improve working relations with UD/Rome LO/RH
- Improve working relations with GoA (esp. MoECT)
incl procedures for signing agreements LO/RX
- Work towards an improved donor
coordination in relevant sectors LO/RH
- Work towards an improved inter-project
coordination in Korça region RH/RX
- Expand cooperation with Sida/INFO
to improve information activities LO/RH
- Make use of the EVB planning days in September LO/RH

2. Public Administration

- Continue press for a signed
agreement on Business statistics LO
- Prepare a new agreement for and follow
up on the Anti-Corruption project and
assess possibilities on anti corruption training LO/ML
- Assess project proposal on anti-trafficking LO/ML
- Study report from Public procurement
study and assess possibilities for support LO/BO
- Further general mapping of donor
activities and country needs LO
- Follow study of Employment services LO/ALO

3. Rural Development and Local Governance

- Mapping of needs in Kukës area and donor
activities aiming to assess possibilities for support LO
- Facilitate government approval and
start-up of Decentralisation project RH/SH
- Assist in the evaluation and start-up
of WV Micro-credit project RH/AO
- Assist in the identification, evaluation and
start-up of Mountain Area Agriculture project RH/AO
- Facilitate co-operation between Rural
Market and Micro-credit projects RH/MS

- Monitor AMPEP (AL/MK) and support NRF's restructuring of AMPEP RH/AP
- Facilitate co-operation between Migration, Decentralisation, LIF and Clean & Green projects RH
- Support GroLink project formulation mission in October/November RH/MS

4. Health and Social Affairs

- Decide on continued support to the Mental health programme LO/GU
- Follow up the Hospital Maintenance Management project LO/GU
- Follow the activities of KtK and support given by them LO/GU

5. Environment

- Assist in the evaluation and start-up of UNDP Clean & Green Korça RH/HH
- Identify and facilitate formulation of MoE strengthening project RH/HH
- Monitor Sharra tripartite co-operation and project extension RH/HH
- Support REC LEAP Korça project formulation mission in September RH/HH
- Support SCC Natura Solid Waste project formulation in September RH/HH

6. Business and Finance

- Mapping of sector's needs and donors' activities for possible support LO
- Follow up on the SEED programme LO/AO

7. Human Rights and Democracy

- Follow the activities of SHK and OPC and support given by them LO/PB
- Study the NGO sector for improved cooperation LO

8. Infrastructure

- If requested, assist INEC with information LO

9. Administration

- Move offices LO/RH
- Improve communication possibilities LO/RH
- Develop file "Information Albania" LO/RX
- Invite UD/Sida's security and medical staff to assess situation and give recommendations LO
- Improve administrative procedures at office, visit by Sida/HQ LO
- Acquire and import a new office vehicle LO/RH
- Initiate the 2003–2005 country strategy process LO/AO

Halving poverty by 2015 is one of the greatest challenges of our time, requiring cooperation and sustainability. The partner countries are responsible for their own development. Sida provides resources and develops knowledge and expertise, making the world a richer place.



SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

SE-105 25 Stockholm Sweden
Phone: +46 (0)8 698 50 00
Fax: +46 (0)8 698 56 15
info@sida.se, www.sida.se