

## NEWSLETTER Nr 2

### TASK TWO: PILOT UNITS

The project "Technical Assistance and Training for the Improvement of Delivery of the Public Services at Local Government", financed by the EU, started its second phase at the month of December 2007. The second phase is focused on examination and improvement of the licensing services in three selected pilot LGUs.

The pilot units being considered during this phase are Municipality of Shkodra, Commune of Dajti and Region of Elbasan.

The work in these pilot units has started with the screening and evidence of the actual situation of the licensing system.

Based on the existing situation of the LGUs an Action Plan has been prepared for implementation in the pilot units to achieve improvements. It will be implemented by EPTISA in close collaboration with the pilot units and will mainly involve training of the relevant staff of the departments.

At the end of Task Two, the findings made in implementing this task will result in modifications being made to the Action Plan and the Licensing Manual. This Manual will be published at a National Conference to be held in June 2008. It will be the base document on which Task Three will be implemented to improve the licensing systems to 20+ LGU throughout Albania.

### SURVEY ON LOCAL LICENSING

A survey on Licensing has started in January 2008 in 20 Municipalities and 20 Communes. It consists of undertaking interviews with local officials, representatives and participants of the

business community, average person on the street and discussion with 22 focus groups. Also an online survey has been prepared to make the survey process totally open to everyone. The Survey can be found on the following website [www.licensinginalbania.com](http://www.licensinginalbania.com). The survey data will be analysed and the results published.

The Surveys will support the Project with much needed data and suggestions leading to an improved licensing system. The surveys will also allow improvements to be measured and assess the project's success.

#### Overall objective of the project

To improve and develop investment climate and Albanian integration by providing transparency, legal certainty and streamlining of procedures concerning the issuing of licences for economic operators and for economic activity.

### TASK FOUR WORKING GROUP

There is defined in the project and will be established within the next two weeks the Task Four Working Group (T4WG). The establishment of this group intends to follow the project implementation and on the other side will be focused on the decentralization of competencies from central to local government that are linked with issuing of various licences permits and authorizations.

This process of transferring of competencies asks for consensus building between all actors and the T4WG intends to support this through wide participation of central and local government institutions and NGO-s as well.

### REPORTS PREPARED

- "Census of licences in Albania"
- "Best Practices in Licensing"
- "One Stop Shop Feasibility Report in Local Government Units".

These reports are available through website of the project or can be asked by email at [local.licencing@gmail.com](mailto:local.licencing@gmail.com)

