

BUSINESS SECTOR and the Albanian Reform Agenda

I. In a nutshell



II. Spotlight on two selected reforms

Reform 1 - Improve the investment attractiveness framework and in particular the FDI framework and business environment by deregulation and modernization of business service

Steps implementation status*

Reform steps

	Achieved	In review	To be completed by June/Dec '26
• Adopt legal amendments to facilitate administrative procedures for businesses			●
• Adopt an action plan for improving the ranking of Albania in the OECD Policy SME Index		●	
• Adopt legal amendments to improve and facilitate inspection praxis for businesses			●
• Prepare the Road Map to improve and facilitate reporting praxis of business to government		●	
• Adopt the unified investment law(s) and main bylaws implementing legislation, in line with EU best practices			To be reported in the future

Reform 2 - Increase the attractiveness and transparency of investments, in line with EU practices, improve State-owned Enterprises and State Aid governance

Reform steps

• Ensure that all the new board members of SOEs are appointed through transparent and merit-based procedures	●		
• Adopt PPP/concession law in line with EU acquis and EU best practices		●	
• Amend relevant regulations to introduce rules on the appointment of board members of SOEs, subject to open and merit-based recruitment processes			●
• PPP/concessions start to be fully integrated into the National Project Pipeline		●	
• Adopt legal base to ensure an operationally independent State Aid Authority and operational arrangements (budget)			To be reported in the future
• The extension of independent board members in the SOEs criteria, through open and merit-based procedures, will be made "wherever feasible".			To be reported in the future

* ● Considered achieved by EU Commission in Oct. 2025
● Under Grace period as assessed by the EU Commission

● Currently under review by the EU Commission

III. State of play of relevant reform steps due December 2025

POLICY AREA:

IMPROVEMENT OF BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Implementation status until Dec. 2025**

Reforms	Responsible Institution	Achieved	In review	To be completed by June/Dec. '26
Increase domestic revenue mobilization and the comprehensiveness of the tax system, notably via adopting and implementing the Medium-Term Revenue Strategy (MTRS)	Ministry of Finance	MTRS updated and adopted; MTRS updated and adopted, including (among others) a measure on (inter alia) an evaluation of all tax exemptions with a view to deciding whether any can be phased out, and with a view to deciding whether the use of the data sets from third parties enable unjustified wealth investigations can be possible		
Ensure transparency and efficiency of state cadaster services, for investors and citizens and provide clear policy for land usage	Ministry of Justice	Adopt a comprehensive Road Map to achieve tangible results to finalise the digitisation processes.	Adopt an integrity plan implementing robust anticorruption measures reflecting stakeholder's feedback	
Deployment of e-freight and Intelligent Transport Systems	Ministry of Economy and Innovation		Ratify the added Protocol to the United Nations Convention for the carriage of goods, on the eCMR for International Carriage of Goods by Road needed to deploy eFTI (<i>grace period</i>)	Adopt relevant legislation to align with the Regulation of EU 2020/1056 on electronic freight transport information (eFTI)
Promotion of export and internationalisation of enterprises, including the facilitation of exports and trade, and value chain support to selected industries with growth potential.	Ministry of Economy and Innovation	The laws on Animal Health and on Plant Health are adopted and are fully aligned with the EU acquis	Continuous progress with Green Lanes initiatives for trade facilitation by adopting the Trade and Transport Facilitation Programme; Export promotion and facilitation programme is adopted	

**As per EC Assessment

III. State of play of relevant reform steps due December 2025 (cont.)

POLICY AREA:

RULE OF LAW / FUNDAMENTALS

Implementation status until Dec. 2025**

Reforms	Responsible Institution	Achieved	In review	To be completed by June/Dec. '26
Effectively prevent corruption, decrease incidence of corruption	Minister of State on Public Administration and Anticorruption			Enhance the transparency, by establishment of an open data platform on national and local budget and public spending in partnership with civil society, and publication of all asset declarations on the website of the High Inspectorate of Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflicts of Interest (HIDAACI), in compliance with the law on right to information and protection of personal data
Ensure a reliable and stable framework to prevent and counter money laundering	Ministry of Finance	Adopt a new National Strategy on prevention of Money Laundering and Countering Terrorism Financing and its Action Plan 2024-2030		HJC effectively adopts and implements a comprehensive road map to increase efficiency and reduce backlog;
Enhance judicial efficiency at all levels	Ministry of Justice		Ensure a solution for the facilities for the Appeal Court to be accommodated as per the judicial map 2022	Improve the national judicial statistics by adopting and implementing a new instruction of Minister of Justice on national justice statistics, based on CEPEJ methodology and in consultation with the self-government justice institutions

**As per EC Assessment

III. State of play of relevant reform steps due December 2025 (cont.)

POLICY AREA: DIGITAL

Implementation status* until Dec. 2025

Reforms	Responsible Institution	Achieved	In review	To be completed by June '26 and/or Dec.'26
Comply with Digital Identity regulation and implement Digital eWallet	National Agency for Information Society		Join the EU Third Countries trusted list for the validation of electronic signatures as advanced electronic signature to achieve legal effect of handwritten signature in the EU.	
Improve enabling environment for innovative businesses and their take up of the potential of the green and digital agenda, including enabling relevant financial support	Ministry of Economy and Innovation	Adopt the Innovative Entrepreneurship Strategy;	Prepare a grants scheme with focus on SMEs and/or start-ups, where 30% of the grant is earmarked for SMEs and/or startups, aiming at green and/or digital solutions;	Adopt legal act(s) on Innovation support instruments by improving current practice in line with EU practices;
		Execute a grants scheme with a focus on SMEs and/or start-ups, where 30% of total SMEs and/or start-ups funds target green and/or digital solutions.	Prepare a grants scheme with focus on incubators/accelerators, targeting green and/or digital solutions	
Update the framework for cyber resilience, by introducing requirements of NIS2 Directive and strengthening relevant institutions.	National Cyber Security Authority	Update the list of critical infrastructure in scope of the national law in line with the NIS2 Directive	Frameworks introduced by NIS2 alignment (CVD framework, crisis management framework), are in place and fully operational	National and governmental CERTs are fully operational in line with NIS2 requirements and reach at least 'accredited' status on TF CSIRT Trusted Introducer
Update framework for secure and sustainable digital infrastructure	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	Implement regulatory and institutional capacity measures to secure 5G infrastructures roll-out, in compliance with the EU 5G cybersecurity toolbox		

III. State of play of relevant reform steps due December 2025 (cont.)

POLICY AREA: ENERGY AND GREEN TRANSITION		Implementation status* until Dec. 2025		
Reforms	Responsible Institution	Achieved	In review	To be completed by June/Dec. '26
Align with electricity integration package to enable electricity market coupling of the EU and Albania, establish the intraday electricity market, operationalise the package in line with the market coupling operator integration plan by 2025	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	Continue implementation of the electricity integration package by making operational the intra-day electricity market, in line with Energy Community requirements	Continue implementation of the electricity integration package by TSO and NEMO by taking the necessary national actions to join day ahead market coupling with the EU in line with Energy Community requirements	Adopt legal amendments to align with the electricity integration package in line with the Energy Community requirements and start implementation
Gradual tariff adjustments to market prices accompanied with measures to address energy poverty		Gradual phase out of public intervention in the price-setting for the supply of electricity, through deregulation for mid and high voltage (Action Plan), in line with the law on the Power Sector	Gradual phase out of public intervention in the price-setting for the supply of electricity, through deregulation for mid and high voltage, in line with the law on Power Sector	
Implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive: adopt RES legislation, streamline permitting, establish the renewable energy communities, operationalise guarantees of origin		System to issue serviceable guarantees of origin for renewable energy operational; Adopt law to align with 2018 Renewable Energy Directive on biomass/biofuels, including sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria for biofuels; Adopt amendments to the in-force regulations for the permit issuance to simplify permit issuance procedures for renewables (households and large installation)		

III. State of play of relevant reform steps due December 2025 (cont.)

POLICY AREA:

Implementation status* until Dec. 2025

ENERGY AND GREEN TRANSITION

Reforms

Responsible Institution

Achieved

In review

To be completed by June/Dec.'26

Adoption and implementation of long-term building renovation strategy, and energy efficiency scheme.	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy	<p>Long-term building renovation strategy adopted, with earmarked necessary financing for 2025 and 2026 to fulfil the 3% annual renovation goal in existing government public buildings;</p> <p>Legal Amendments of relevant law/ June 2025 [Implement annual rate of building renovation in accordance with indicative targets [number of public buildings renovated] included into the long-term building renovation strategy]</p>	<p>Adopt the national legislation to align with Labelling</p>
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POLICY AREA: HUMAN CAPITAL

Revise the VET system to better match labour market demand	Ministry of Economy and Innovation	To be reported in the future
Advance digital skills and literacy for youth and ensure the provision of sufficient ICT equipment to public schools and universities	Ministry of Education	To be reported in the future

Scan the QR Code to track the implementation of the Reform and Growth Facility



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