

Newsletter No 2

Together for Albania's development



EU Twinning Light “Strengthening the science and research ecosystem in Albania”

General Information: On July 10, 2023, the EU-funded Twinning Light project took off marking the beginning of the 10-month implementation period. The National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation is the main beneficiary of this project.

The Twinning team was focused on the support of stakeholders during implementation period of the project and numerous of different events had been organised to bring together stakeholders for discussions and capacity building.

Insights from the project's events for Albanian stakeholders



10.07.2023: Project Kick-off

The kick-off as a one-day event had two functions: firstly, it aimed at getting to know each other, secondly it was a first step to become familiar with relevant documents and information for the different components in the project.

18.09.2023: Stakeholder Event on capacity building in the Albanian Research and Innovation ecosystem

The event gave us the opportunity to get a first insight into this project and to discuss the next steps.

20.09.2023: Joint Visioning Workshop

The Joint Visioning Workshop was an important milestone in the development of a roadmap for the strategic development of NASRI, as we collectively charted a course towards innovation excellence.

21.11.2023: online workshop- Gaps in the legal framework for Research & Innovation in Albania

Based on prior desk research, the workshop helped to spot relevant legal gaps in the Albanian national innovation system - both of a general level and related to NASRI.

26.01.2024: Evaluation of research performance of universities and R&D organisations

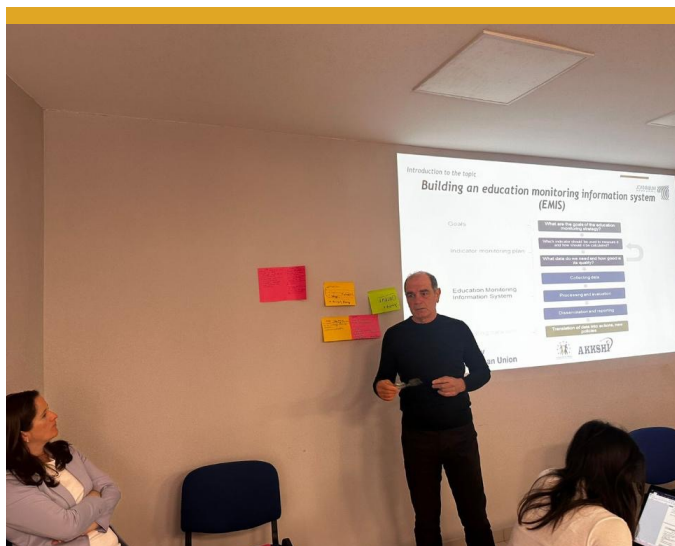
During the workshop, a list of implementable monitoring indicators based on European HIEs and EU best practices were discussed. Finally, a list of implementable evaluation methods based on EU programmes and EU best practices was shared.

21.02.2024: Stakeholder Workshop “Promoting Open Science in Albania”

The workshop aimed at the identification of relevant Open Science elements from the stocktaking activity for Albania in general and particularly for NASRI. Recommendations for a NASRI open science policy and related activities were developed.

22.02.2024: online workshop on communication and “How to best pitch your idea for business collaboration”

The Workshop aimed at preparing innovators to pitch their idea to companies. Concept and techniques on pitching were explained, as well as the dos and don'ts during the presenta-



tion for audiences with different levels of expertise.

5.03.2024: Seminar “Strategies and functions of NCPs and project and research managers“

The seminar provided an overview on the strategic set-up and approach of the Albanian NCP system and supporters to promote the Horizon Europe framework programme and to increase the Albanian success rate.

6.03.2024: Seminar “Pathway towards international networks and successful consortium building for Horizon Europe projects”

Good proposals need good partners – but how to find them? This training presented some platforms and approaches for consortium building in Horizon Europe.

26.03.2024: Stakeholder Workshop on “The Role of NASRI in the Albanian Innovation Ecosystem A Strategic Outlook”

Objectives of the workshop were to present and discuss the draft Action Plan / Roadmap with R&I Stakeholders and to foster collaboration and gather insights from stakeholders within the R&I ecosystem in Albania.

8.04.2024: Practical advice and feedback on pitching Albanian researchers were prepared to pitch their ideas to companies and practical advice was provided.

17.04.2024 - 18.04.2024: Horizon Europe Proposal Writing Camp and individual consultations

The Proposal Writing Camp for Albania was organised with the purpose to provide training on basic elements of initiating Horizon Europe proposals.

24.04.2024: International Stakeholder Event: Recommendations and matchmaking “Together for Albania’s development”

The event provided the unique opportunity to get insights into the main results of the project and to reflect with other stakeholders of the Albanian research and innovation ecosystem upon possible next steps. The networking and matchmaking event gave possibilities for discussions and partner search for inter-sectoral collaboration.



Project team:

MS body responsible for implementation:

Joanneum Research (JR), Austria

in cooperation with

Austrian Science Fund (FWF), Austria

Austria Research Promotion Agency (FFG), Austria

DLR Project Management Agency (DLR-PT), Germany

Daugavpils University (DU), Latvia

Beneficiary Administration:

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