



**ALBANIA**

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Co-ordination of Research Policies  
with the Western Balkan Countries



# **SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY RESEARCHES - Key PRIORITIES for ALBANIAN TRANSPORT SECTOR DEVELOPMENT**

**Consultation Session on Transport:**

**BOSNJE HERCEGOVINA**

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# Purpose of the national background report and methodology/summary of the consultation process.

The summarized report, aims to present:

- ✚ the situation of the researches infrastructure in the transport sector in Albania since the foundation on 80-years and so on;
- ✚ researches infrastructure development in the transition period in Albania;
- ✚ the barriers and actual demands for development and cooperation on the frame of the integration process;
- ✚ the immediate demands for researches in the new system of transport researches according to the new market economy.

# Participation and support for researches performs in S & T for the Albanian Transport Sector Development

## The issues and analyses included in the report:

- The researches performances in S & T is a necessity and one of the key priorities for the Albanian Transport Sector development
- The overall policy framework in transport sectors
- The elements of research policy making
- Overview of *Transport*/research activities.
- Research projects
- Key competencies in research fields
- Research infrastructure.
- Integration of Albania in the European Research Area in the field of S & T for transport

# The researches performances in S & T for the Albanian Transport Sector development

**The main policy of the Albanian government in the transport sector is:**

- ❖ **The development of the long-term and medium-term researches by the implementation of the up to date science and technology**
- ❖ **Continuous qualification of the transport researches and constitution of the new researches in the transport field**
- ❖ **Integration of national plans to European and Regional plans for S & T developments in transport sector**

# The overall policy framework in transport sectors

- **Rehabilitation of the core national road network, maritime ports and airports, mainly with the financing of international sourcing,.**
- **Efficiency of the economic reforms, emphasizing the privatization of the national strategic sectors such as ports and airports as well as the commercialization of the transport public services.**
- **Establishment of a regulatory legal system, according to the European standards to insure an optimal operation of the competitive transport services.**
- **Working for the preparation and ratification of the international conventions and Agreements for the adherence of Albanian transport sector to the International organizations..**
- **Institutional reformation process to the overall transport sector in Albania.**

# The elements of research policy making

The national strategies so far, as follows:

- ✿ **The strategy for development of transport modes in national level**
- ✿ **New technologies designs and advanced transport systems**
- ✿ **National traffic planning in national and regional level**
- ✿ **Up to date legislation in the transport sector according to the EU Directives, Convention and Agreements in the transport field.**

# Overview of *Transport* research activities

In general, the researches in the transport field consist on:

- **Development of the transport modes, especially those rational sectors and, economically, efficient in Albania**
- **Identification and the definition of the freight transport by a safe, secure, low cost and time reducing transport mode**
- **Identification of the road and rail transport national arteries linking the different areas of the country, meeting the requirements of the business and economy development for transport services**
- **Enhancement and implementation of the new technologies in the maritime and road freight transport operations**
- **Adjournments and compilations of the new legislation for transport modes according to the European Union Convention and Agreements standards.**

# Research & Projects Wiev

- **General feasibility studies for development of the road, railway, maritime and air transports**
- **Reconstruction of Transport Sectors in Albania during transition periods and continuously**
- **National Road Traffic Planning Studies**
- **Researches for the Market Development and Harmonization of Modal Transportation to Increase the efficiency of the freights circulations**
- **Researches for advanced technology implementation in sea ports, railway stations, airports for freights processing (loading and unloading)**

# Research & Projects Wiew

- . The Study For Albanian Transport Corridors
- The Pre-feasibility And Feasibility Studies For New Construction, Rehabilitation And Reconstruction Of Road And Rail Line, Ports And Airports
- Feasibility Studies And Conceptual Projects For Construction Of The New Oil Terminals For Gln And Fuel Into Porto-romano-duress
- The Project For Urban Transport Planning & Signaling In Some Main Municipalities
- Researches For Privatization Of Public Urban Transport
- The Study For The New Road And Air Transport Code
- The Manual For Legislation And International Conventions And Agreements Preparation For Albania Adherence

# Key competencies in research field

- **The transport field researches activities are under the competences of the Ministries in Line (such as MPWTT for transport sector), in collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Education.**
- **The Ministry of Transport authorizes the online subsidiary institutions as well as the private operators for the executions of the tendering processes, projects applications and implementations.**

# Transport Research infrastructure

- **From the political institutional, point of view, in Albania, the programmes and methodologies for researches activities are managed by the Ministry of Science and Education.**
- **The other Ministries, such as the Ministry of Transport arranges the work programmes to involve the researches activities development in the sector covered.**
- **The other administrative units, subsidiary institutions, Universities and Faculties as well as public-private researches institutions, concretely, here are represented by the Institute of Transport- public institution, Albkonsults Ltd – private operator and the Faculty of Mechanical Engineer of the Polytechnic University of Tirana.**

# Main sector trends in Albania

- ❖ The primary economical sector consists on the Services, including transport services, which constitute around 56% of the GDP .
- ❖ The contribution of the major sectors of economy as well as the economical development of each of the sectors is reflected in the National Background Plan submitted, while Transport Sector is one of the main sector in the economical Branches, fundamental in the structure of macroeconomics of Albania.

# Main socio-economic challenges in Albania

- **Some expecting scenarios:**
  - ❑ The Republic of Albania is a country in transition heading towards a free market economy, a more open and modern economy.
  - ❑ Nominal GDP of 2007 is assessed to be 10.7 billion USD, whilst GDP per capita is 3400 USD.
  - ❑ Economical growth for 2003-2007 has been quite notable and inflation rate has been low and stable.
  - ❑ Remittances have a visible positive effect in the Albanian Economy due to the Albanian citizens that live abroad.
  - ❑ GDP actual growth rate for 2006 was 6%, for 2007, INSTAT estimates an increase by 6% of the real GDP and envisages an increase by the same 6% for 2008.

# Integration of Albania in the European Research Area in the field of Transport

- **Albania signed the Interim Association and Stabilization Agreement with the European Union on 2006 year.**
- **The implementation of the Interim Agreement according to the European Commission has been successful.**
- **The Albanian Government has compiled and enforced the National Plan for the Implementation of the Association and Stabilization Agreement as a main monitoring instrument for the reforms in areas such as economy, politics, legislation and institutions.**
- **This action plan is considered as a major integral tool of the National Strategy for Development and Integration.**

# SWOT analysis of the *Transport* research capacity in Albania

## Strengths

- **The great demands of transport sector for researches and development in the long-period of transition;**
- **The current public and private institutions for researches development;**
- **Involvement of the scientific Faculties and Universities in the network of scientific and researches development.**

# SWOT analysis of the *Transport* research capacity in Albania

## Weaknesses

- The small number of Institutions and public researches centres;
- Reduced number of the Specialists for Scientific-Researches works, due to the emigration to the other developed countries during the transition period in Albania.
- Lack of the Transport Engineer Faculty in the Universities of the country.
- Lack of the apparatuses, equipments and researches infrastructures due to the insufficient financial sources.
- Insufficient funds allocation for the researches infrastructure development.
- Small number of employed researches and/or with other scientific degrees in transport issues

# SWOT analysis of the *Transport* research capacity in Albania

## Opportunities & challenges:

- Research development, with relation to the application of the advanced systems in transport, information of the traffic infrastructures management and the information system services for the transport users.
- Research and development programmes according to the European and Regional researches, in particular with Western Balkan Countries programmes.
- Private initiatives involvement in the research-development process, especially for transport

# SWOT analysis of the *Transport* research capacity in Albania

## Threats

- ❑ Depreciation of the research process and its benefits in perspective from the policy makers.
- ❑ Main focus to the infrastructures performances and efficiency growth to the services for the transport infrastructures users.
- ❑ Inhibition of the research potential emigration and the old-experienced specialists of the transport sector.

# Transport Research Priorities for Albania

## Themes:

**Priority 1:** Traffic management System at the national road network and international transit transport in the axes of heavy traffic flows.

**Priority 2:** The Researches on development of alternate public transport of low cost, travel time reduction, environmentally accepted and without noise.

**Priority 3:** Management of virtual transport.

**Priority 4:** Researches for Transport and Environment issues.

**Priority 5:** Mobility for Urban Transport in the cities more than 150 thousands inhabitants.

# Transport Research Priorities for Albanian

- Master plan for development of commercial, tourist and fish ports along Albanian the shore.
- Study on the inventory of the road network at the all Albanian regions and districts
- Urban plan of traffic and signaling for cities municipalities with a population more then 20 thousand inhabitants

# References

- ▶ **Scientific- research transport publication in Albania.**
- ▶ **The questionnaire of WBC – INCO Project filled from the Institute of Transport, Faculty of Mechanical Engineer and Albkonsults Ltd.**
- ▶ **ERA – Report of the Scienca in the Society Session Lisbon 2007.**
- ▶ **Publication of CEMT for admission of the Albanian Transport Sector in the Conference of the European Ministers of Transport.**
- ▶ **The Reports of the Albania State Budget for the year 2008-2009 as well as the other international organizations, FMN, WB, etc.**
- ▶ **INSTAT- the National Institute for Statistics in Tirana.**

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# Welcome To Albania



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