Millennium Challenge Albania

Threshold Agreement BUSINESS REGISTRATION FACT SHEET

Establishing an Efficient and Transparent Business Registration Process

The one-stop-shop National Registration Center provides prompt service to its customers with a 24-hour turn-around time for business registration applications.

PHOTO: CHEMONICS INTERNATIONAL

Contact Information:

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ALBANIA THRESHOLD AGREEMENT PROJECT OFFICE
Classic Construction Building
"Pjetër Budi" Street, 1st floor, no.10
Tirana, Albania
Tel. +355-4-238-0400
Fax. +355-4-238-0424
E-mail: office@mcata.org.al
Website: www.mcata.org.al

PROJECT DURATION:
September 2006-September 2008

U.S. Agency for International Development
www.usaid.gov

Last updated: June 2008

OVERVIEW

The Business Registration Component of the Millennium Challenge Albania Threshold Agreement project supports the Government of Albania (GoA) in providing "one-stop-shop" service for business registration through the establishment of the National Registration Center (NRC), featuring IT systems and one-day registration, permitting new businesses to also register simultaneously with the tax authorities, social insurance, and the labor inspectorate.

The two-year, $13.85 million Millennium Challenge Albania Threshold Agreement between GoA and Millennium Challenge Corporation, administered by USAID, assists the GoA to reform and modernize tax administration, public procurement, and business registration through IT solutions and legislative improvements.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Business Registration Component works to achieve the following results:

New Registration Framework Developed. The business registration law establishes the new commercial registry center and the one-stop-shop registration process.

NRC Established and Operationalized. This includes planning for NRC's staffing, building, and equipment, as well as transfer of current registries to the NRC.

Business Registration Process Streamlined and Integrated with IT. The e-registration system has full interoperability with other GoA agencies, and public has online access to services and information about the registration of their businesses.

Awareness of the New Legal Framework and Compliance Increased. The public is introduced to the new NRC concept and procedures through an intense nationwide campaign.

RESULTS TO DATE

- As required by the business registration law adopted by Parliament on May 4, 2007, the National Registration Center (NRC) opened its headquarters in Tirana on September 3, 2007.
- NRC has in the meantime extended its operational capacity in eleven additional locations across Albania, at the municipalities of Tirana, Durrës, Elbasan, Korçë, Shkodër, Fier, Gjirokastra, Kukës, Vlorë, Lezhë, and Pogradec with more planned to open.
- Whithin less than 8 months of operation, the number of new businesses registered at NRC already surpassed that in 2006, and exceeded by 25% the number of new businesses registered in 2007.
- Work for the Electronic Commercial Registry is completed. All pre-NRC juridical and physical person registry files have now been digitized, with information being publicly accessible online at: www.qkr.gov.al.
- The NRC website provides easy access to application forms and instructions for all NRC services, as well as to the bulletin of daily registrations. The homepage now includes also the lists of businesses in liquidation or cancelled, as well as the lists of pre-NRC businesses with incomplete data, and those with identical names.