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# **National Housing Policy in Albania: Financing for affordable housing and the role of housing agencies**

Online workshop in Zoom

18 June 2020

09:00 – 13:20

In English and Albanian languages

## **Introduction**

The online workshop is organized by Albanian Ministry of Economy and Finance and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and in cooperation with Housing Europe, UN-Habitat, UNDP Tirana and the Union for Mediterranean.

The objective of the workshop is to discuss the housing finance's challenges and opportunities and the present and future role of the National Housing Agency (NHA) in Albania based on relevant international best practices.

The outcomes of the workshop will be used for the revision of the National Housing Strategy of Albania and the future role of the NHA and for developing local housing plans for three pilot municipalities in Albania. The workshop will also contribute to the collection of best practices for affordable housing for the UNECE [#Housing2030 Initiative](#).

The workshop will also serve as a start for the development of the Country Profile on Housing and Urban Development of Albania which is to be developed by the UNECE in 2020-2021.

**For more information on the workshop**, please contact Ms. Doris Andoni, Director of Housing Department, Ministry of Finance and Economy of Albania, at [doris.andoni@financa.gov.al](mailto:doris.andoni@financa.gov.al); or Ms. Gulnara Roll, Secretary to the UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management at [Gulnara.Roll@un.org](mailto:Gulnara.Roll@un.org).

## **DRAFT AGENDA**

**Moderator:** Ms. Doris Andoni, Director of Housing Department, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Albania

### **09:00 – 09:15 Workshop Introduction and Objectives**

Ms. Dajna Sorensen, Deputy Minister of Finance and Economy, Republic of Albania  
Ms. Gulnara Roll, Secretary to the UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management

### **09:15 – 10:45 Session 1. Financing for affordable housing**

#### **Approaches to financing affordable housing in Albania**

Ms. Doris Andoni, Director of Housing Department, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Albania  
*Existing challenges and achievements of financing affordable housing in Albania*



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Mr. Klodion Shehu – Director of Financial Stability, Bank of Albania  
*Overview of the mortgage credit system*

### **Panel discussion**

Guiding questions:

- What are good international practices in financing affordable housing at national and local levels experience of which could be useful for Albania?
- Is there anything in affordable housing for private investors?
- What's the role of private investors in public policies towards affordable housing?
- What models of PPP are applied for providing affordable housing?

*Panelists (10 min interventions following the guiding questions)*

Ms. Alice Pittini, Director of Research, Housing Europe

Ms. Silvia Paskali, Head of the Concession Procedures Sector, Ministry of Finance and Economy of Albania  
– *PPP Models: challenges and opportunities*

Mr. Pedro Neves, Expert on People-First Public Private Partnerships, Portugal

Mr. Raul Garcia Rodriguez, Expert on private sector financing to infrastructure, Spain

### **Discussion**

## **10:45-11:00 Break**

## **11:00 – 12:30 Session 2. Role of Housing Agencies in addressing challenges of affordable housing provision**

### **Role of the Albanian National Housing Agency in affordable housing provision**

Mrs. Elena Boriçi – Deputy General Director, of the National Housing Agency Albania

### **Panel discussion on international practices:**

Guiding questions:

- What is the legal status of the agency?
- Which sources of funding for the running costs of the agency are used?
- What are the sources of funding for the provision of social and/or affordable housing?
- What are good practices of activities of the national agencies which could be of interest for Albania?

*Panelists (10 min interventions following the guiding questions)*

Mr. John O'Connor, CEO, The Housing Agency, Ireland

Mr. Sergey Komnatnyi, National Housing Agency for Youth Housing Construction, Ukraine

Ms. Mojca Štritof-Brus, National Housing Fund, Slovenia

Ms. Iva Fakin, National Real Estate Agency, Croatia

## **12:30-12:45 Break**

## **12:45 – 13:15 Roundtable on activities of international organizations supporting housing policies Europe: how they can help in Albania? (5 min interventions)**

Mr. Christophe Lalande, Leader, Housing Unit, UN-Habitat

Ms. Alice Pittini, Director of Research, Housing Europe

Ms. Victoria Jimenez, Head of Sector, Transport & Urban Development, Union of Mediterranean

Ms. Nadia Yeremenko, Project Coordinator, UNECE



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## 13:15-13:20 Wrap-up

Ms. Doris Andoni, Director of Housing Department, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Albania