# Regional Broadband Infrastructure Development

## **Project Financing**

WBIF	Grant	WB19-ALB-DII-01 €	522,600
WBIF	Grant	WB24-ALB-DII-01 €	851,868
EIB	Loan	€	30,000,000
National Contribution	Own Contribution	. €	24,702,000
Anticipated WBIF Grant	External Grant	€	€ 40,950,000
Private Sector Finance	Other Sources	€	£ 42,000,000
Total		€	139,026,468
<b>Total Grants</b>		€	1,374,468
Total Loans		€	€ 30,000,000

### **Project Description**

Higher penetration rates and improved access to the internet are essential to enable a digital transition in the Albanian economy. The penetration rate of fixed broadband has reached 10%, the lowest in the region, and covers only 30% of households, with a significant urban-rural divide - 15% average in urban areas and 1% in rural areas. The current bandwidth speed in fixed and mobile networks is less than 30 Mbps.

Building on the results of a pre-feasibility study developed under the UNDP in 2017, the WBIF allocated a €0.5 million grant in June 2018 for the next stage of the project - feasibility study and development plan for efficient and smart investments in broadband infrastructure across the country.

ICT investments covered by the project will ensure better internet connection for schools, hospitals, public institutions, local administrations and households.

EU-Funded Feasibility Study for Regional Broadband Infrastructure Development in Albania

#### **Results and Benefits**

- 500 health facilities with at least 30 MB fixed broadband connection.
- 3000 educational facilities with at least 30 MB fixed broadband connection.
- **61** public institutions with at least 30 MB fixed broadband connection.
- Increase to 70% the share of households with broadband connection across the country.

• Countries: Albania

Code: PRJ-ALB-DII-001Sector: Digital infrastructure

Lead IFI: EIBStatus: Preparation

• Beneficiary: Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy

## **Related Documents**

• WBIF 2017 Annual Report