



CSOs Coalition on Open Government Partnership – Albania

JOINT STATEMENT

We, the undersigned civil society organizations (CSO):

Affirming our deep commitment to the **objectives** of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) to encourage governments to become sustainably more transparent, more accountable, and more responsive to their own citizens, to improve the quality of governance and the quality of services that citizens receive;

Upholding the OGP **principles** of transparency and open government with a view toward achieving greater prosperity, well-being, and human dignity in our own countries and in an increasingly interconnected world;

Underlining the importance of OGP **commitments** to increase the availability of information about governmental activities; to support civic participation; to implement the highest standards of professional integrity throughout our administrations; and to increase access to new technologies for openness and accountability;

Recognizing **Albania's efforts** to develop and deliver on the OGP agenda in the country and progress achieved in this regard since joining the Open Government Partnership in April 2012;

Committed to improve the **OGP Albania Process** by upholding the value of openness in governments' engagement with citizens to improve services, manage public resources, promote innovation, and create safer communities;

Announce our readiness and commitment to encourage, support and improve the OGP Albania Process, as an inclusive and citizen oriented effort.

We acknowledge the role and responsibility of civil society actors in developing, implementing, monitoring and assessing the OGP agenda of actions to deliver on the OGP commitments, in full respect of values and principles outlined in the Open Government Declaration.

We call on the Government of Albania to partner with civil society in the spirit of the OGP as a multilateral initiative / multi-stakeholder collaboration that aspires to support both government and civil society reformers by elevating open government to the highest levels of political discourse, providing ‘cover’ for difficult reforms, and creating a supportive community of like-minded reformers from countries around the world.

In view of the preparation of the upcoming OGP Albania Action Plan and its implementation, the undersigned CSOs express their readiness to transform the OGP Albania Process into a participatory effort that relies and reflects on inputs from both, state and non-state actors in the country, to the benefit of the citizens of Albania.

Signed:

1. Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM) – Tirana
2. MJAFT! Movement
3. Open Data Albania (ODA)
4. Institute for Policy and Legal Studies (IPLS)
5. Open Society Foundation for Albania (OSFA)
6. AULEDA
7. Qendra e gruas “Hapat e Lehte”
8. Institute for Parliamentary Studies (IPS)
9. Transparency International Albania

*** To join the “CSOs Coalition on OGP Albania” and the Joint Statement please send an email at info@idmalbania.org.**