Funded by the European Union

Enhancing Local Social Care Services partnerships with citizens and toward EU Standards



Duration: 17.12.2023 - 18.12.2026

Countries:
Albania

EU contribution: € 2 800 000

Total budget: € 3 111 111

Implementer:
UNICEF Albania

Website(s): unicef.org/albania/ EU4SocialCare | UNICEF Albania

Social media:
https://worldvision.al/, linkedin.com/company/unicef-albania/posts/?feedView=all, linkedin.com/company/albania-world-vision/posts/?feedView=all, facebook.com/unicefalbania, facebook.com/@WVAlbania, instagram.com/unicefalbania/, instagram.com/worldvisionalbania/

Project description:

EU4SocialCare is a three-year project (2023–2026) implemented by UNICEF Albania and World Vision in Albania (WVA), funded by the European Union under the EU for Social Inclusion in Albania (IPA 2019) programme. The project operates in 14 municipalities across Albania – Gjirokastra, Vora, Cërrik, Librazhd, Kavaja, Kurbin, Kukës, Kruja, Pogradec, Korça, Kamza, Vlora, Elbasan and Durrës – to strengthen local social care services in line with EU standards.

The project establishes and extends community-based and specialised social care services, builds the capacity of local governments and frontline professionals, engages youth volunteers in outreach, and supports the long-term sustainability of services through improved planning, budgeting and monitoring. It directly benefits approximately 18,000 individuals and 6,000 families at risk of poverty and social exclusion, including persons with disabilities, survivors of violence, women and children.

Expected results:

- At least 10 new or extended community-based and integrated social care services established in partnership between local governments and civil society organisations in 10 municipalities, benefiting approximately 18,000 individuals and 6,000 families at risk of exclusion.
- At least 4 new or extended specialised social care services (for people with disabilities, women and children, survivors of violence) established in areas of highest need.
- Approximately 350 frontline social care professionals capacitated through tailored on-the-job training, mentoring and peer networking.
- 14 municipalities with improved management systems, including use of the National Electronic Register on Social Care Services (NERSCS) and shock-responsive social care planning tools.
- Social care services and Needs Assessment and Referral Units (NARUs) integrated into the mid-term budgets of targeted municipalities, ensuring sustainability beyond the project cycle.