

Ministry of Health and Social Protection

Health System Improvement Project

(LOAN No: 8466 - AL)

Special purpose financial information for the
period 1 January to 31 December 2018

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Independent Auditor's Report

To: Ministry of Finance and Economy of Republic of Albania and the Management of the Project
"Health System Improvement Project"

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying special purpose financial information comprising the statement of sources and uses of funds, statement of withdrawal applications and the related notes of the Project "Health System Improvement Project" (further referred to as the "Project") implemented by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and financed by the Loan Agreement No. 8466 - AL ("IBRD 8466 - AL") from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development ("IBRD" or the "World Bank) for the period 1 January to 31 December 2018. The special purpose financial information has been prepared by the management of the Project in accordance with policies described in notes 2 and 3 of the special purpose financial information.

In our opinion, the special purpose financial information of the Project "Health System Improvement Project" is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the cash receipts and disbursement basis of accounting as set out in notes 2 and 3 to the special purpose financial information.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the special purpose financial information section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the special purpose financial information in Albania, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

We draw attention to notes 2 and 3 to the special purpose financial information, which describe the basis of accounting. The special purpose financial information is prepared to provide information to Project's donors and lenders, and to Ministry of Finance and Economy of Republic of Albania and the management of the Project. As a result, the statement may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Our report is intended solely for the information and use of the Project's management, the donors and lenders, and the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Republic of Albania and it should not be further distributed without our prior written consent.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Special Purpose Financial Information

Management is responsible for preparation and fair presentation of the special purpose financial information in accordance with the basis of accounting described in notes 2 and 3; this includes determining that the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the special purpose financial information in the circumstances, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a special purpose financial information that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Special Purpose Financial Information

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the special purpose financial information as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this special purpose financial information.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the special purpose financial information, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the special purpose financial information or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, if any, and related disclosures made by management,
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the special purpose financial information, including the disclosures, and whether the special purpose financial information represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Grant Thornton sh.p.k.

Tirana, Albania

24 February 2020

Kledian Kodvo, FCA
Kodvo

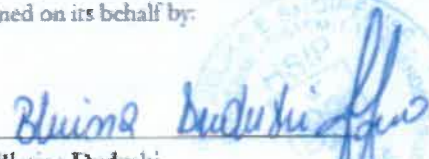



Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds

	Note	For the period from 1 January to 31 December 2018	For the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017	Cumulative from 28 August 2015 to 31 December 2018
Sources of funds				
IBRD funding	4	4,040,555	-	5,540,555
Funds received from Tender purchase		3,067	6,506	9,574
Interest received		334	190	546
Total		4,043,956	6,696	5,550,775
Uses of funds				
Goods	5	4,078,626	171	4,108,066
Consultancy services	6	106,843	230,693	449,441
Training	7	40,339	16,318	72,667
Incremental operating costs	8	20,023	9,491	37,358
Funds returned to GoA		-	-	92
Total		4,247,833	256,673	4,667,526
(Deficit)/Surplus of receipts over disbursements				
		(203,877)	(249,977)	883,249
Exchange rate differences		12,034	1,371	5,734
Cash at the beginning of the period	9	1,080,827	1,329,433	-
Cash at the end of the period	9	888,984	1,080,827	888,983

The Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds is to be read in conjunction with the notes set out on pages 3 to 8 and forming an integral part of the special purpose financial information.

The special purpose financial information of Health System Improvement Project were authorized for issue by the management of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection on 18 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:


 Blerina Dudushi
 Project Manager
 Ministry of Health and Social Protection


 Daniela Gjylameti
 Financial Specialist
 Ministry of Health and Social Protection

Health System Improvement Project
 For the period from 28 August 2015 to 31 December 2018
 (amounts expressed in EUR unless otherwise stated)

Statement of Withdrawal Applications

IBRD 8466 AL

As of 31/12/2018

No	Withdrawal application number	Date of withdrawal application	Type of Disbursement	Category 2 Goods	Category 3 Consultancy and training	Category 3 Incremental Costs	Advance Payments	Total disbursed	Total approved by donor
1.	WA 4	03-May-2018	Direct payments	1,017,907	-	-	-	1,017,907	1,017,907
2.	WA 3	24-Jul-2018	Replenishment	171	320,046	-	-	320,217	320,217
3.	WA 5	24-Jul-2018	Direct payments	544,608	-	-	-	544,608	544,608
4.	WA 6	12-Oct-2018	Special Commitment	664,050	-	-	-	664,050	664,050
5.	WA 7	01-Nov-2018	Special Commitment	248,800	-	-	-	248,800	248,800
6.	WA 9	12-Dec-2018	Replenishment	756,563	76,470	-	-	833,033	833,033
7.	WA 8	27-Dec-2018	Special Commitment	411,940	-	-	-	411,940	411,940
			Total	3,644,039	396,516	-	-	4,040,555	4,040,555

As of 31/12/2017

No	Withdrawal application number	Date of withdrawal application	Type of Disbursement	Category 2 Goods	Category 3 Consultancy and training	Category 3 Incremental Costs	Advance Payments	Total disbursed	Total approved by donor
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Information

1. General Information

The Health System Improvement Project (the “Project”) managed through the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Albania was established with the objective to contribute to: (a) improving the efficiency of care on selected hospitals in the Borrower’s territory; (b) improving the management of information in the health system; and (c) increasing financial access to health services.

The Project will include the following components:

Component 1: Improving Hospital Services (Euro 15.10 million; US\$ 18.80 million equivalent)

This component aims to improve efficiency and quality of hospital services delivery in Albania. The component will finance the technical assistance, training, study tours, civil works, and goods to support the design and implementation of a sustainable hospital network with the appropriate infrastructure and human capital to deliver needs-based hospital services, and to strengthen autonomy and accountability for hospitals and managers. Implementation will build on the results and concepts developed under the previous Bank-supported project (HSMP).

Sub-component 1.1: Strengthening the Albanian Network of Hospital Services (Euro 2.72 million; US\$ 3.4 million equivalent).

Sub-component 1.2: Improving hospital infrastructure and the management of medical equipment (Euro 12.38 million; US\$ 15.40 million equivalent).

Component 2: Expanding the Health Management Information System (Euro 13.60 million; US\$ 16.95 million equivalent).

A number of complementary and interrelated subcomponents will move HMIS forward on a number of critical fronts. The component addresses the need for improved provider-based systems, focusing on the country’s regional hospital sector which significantly impacts the orchestration of services across the spectrum of care. It places emphasis on strengthening referrals to/from both the primary care and tertiary care levels (QSUT). It also addresses the need to provide the hospitals with a means of adopting the new provider payment methods, which are being organized under sub-component 3.1. In addition, it addresses the need for improved automation in the country’s health insurance payer, the HIF. Finally, it provides the foundational activities to support these developments, and an institutional home to support and sustain them in the long run.

1. General Information (continued)

Sub-component 2.1: HMIS/eHealth Foundational Activities and Establishing the National Health Information Center (NHIC) (Euro 2.68 million; US\$ 3.35 million equivalent).

Sub-component 2.2: Implementing Regional Hospital Information Systems (Euro 9.30 million; US\$ 11.60 million equivalent).

Sub-component 2.3 Implementing a new Health Insurance Information System (HIIS) for the Health Insurance Fund (HIF) (Euro 1.62 million; US\$ 2.0 million equivalent).

Component 3: Improving the Health Financing System (Euro 2.40 million equivalent; US\$ 3.0 million equivalent)

This component will address improvement of technical and allocative efficiency, and will support the shift towards output-based and performance-based financing for hospitals and primary care services. It will enable the expansion of health insurance coverage particularly for the poor, and the pooling of health care resources. It will improve the policies for pharmaceuticals, which in turn will reduce high out-of-pocket expenditures on drugs and improve quality and efficiency.

Sub-component 3.1: Payment Reform (Euro 1.70 million; US\$ 2.10 million equivalent).

Sub-component 3.2: Support to the HIF for strategic purchasing, improved coverage and pharmaceutical reform (Euro 0.70 million; US\$ 0.90 million equivalent).

Component 4: Monitoring, Evaluation and Project Management (Euro 0.92 million equivalent; US\$ 1.15 million equivalent).

This component will support routine Project management, including fiduciary tasks and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). It will finance Project operating costs including translation, interpretation, equipment, supervision costs (transportation and per diem), staffing costs of the Project Coordination Unit (PCU), M&E, studies and surveys, and incremental costs for the PCU in the MoH. Since reforms of health service delivery run the risk of being misunderstood by various stakeholders affected by it, this component will support a strong communication strategy. It would aim at appropriately explaining the reform to health professionals and population at large. Monitoring the implementation of the reforms, including potential unintended consequences, will be supported under this component. Study tours are possible to countries where similar reforms are at an advanced stage of implementation and where significant results have been achieved.

The Project became effective on 28 August 2015 and will be completed on 28 February 2021.

Project Cost and Financing

Table 1: Project Costs by Component (In EURO million)

Project Components	Project cost	IBRD Financing	% Financing
1. Improving Hospital Services	19.10	15.10	79
2. Expanding Health Information System	13.60	13.60	100
3. Improving the Health Financing System	2.40	2.40	100
4. M&E, and Project Management	0.92	0.92	100
Total Project Costs	36.02	32.02	89
Front-and Fees	0.08	0.08	100
Total Financing Required	36.10	32.10	89

According to the Loan Agreement the Government will finance 37 percent of all rehabilitation works under the Project.

1. General Information (continued)

The Project is financed from the following source:

IBRD 8466 - AL

According to the Loan Agreement dated March 24, 2015 between GoA and IBRD, the Project is entitled to a loan of 32,100,000 Euro.

The table below sets forth the items to be financed out of the proceeds of the loan, the allocation of the amounts of the loan and the percentage of expenditures to be financed:

Table 2: Expenditure Categories

Category	Amount of the Loan Allocated (expressed in Euros)	Percentage of Expenditures to be financed (inclusive of Taxes)
(1) Works	6,760,000	63
(2) Goods, Non-Consulting services	18,360,000	100
(3) Consultant Services, Training and Operating Costs	6,500,000	100
(4) Front-end Fee	80,250	
(5) Unallocated	399,750	
Total	32,100,000	

The Loan will be used to finance up to 100% of expenditures consisting of goods, consultancy services, meetings and workshops and operating costs for the Project. In addition, the project management costs will be financed on 100%. Only for the Category 1 Civil Works the Bank is going to finance 63 % and the GoA ' s contribution will be 37 %.

As at 31 December 2018 Euro 4,040,555 has been disbursed from the Donor funds.

GoA's contribution

The Government of Albania is to finance project expenses relating to Civil Works.

2. Basis of preparation

The special purpose financial information has been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies in note 3, under the Cash Basis of Accounting.

The special purpose financial information is presented in EUR. Euro is also functional currency of the Project being the currency in which funds are received and most of expenses are settled.

The special purpose financial information comprise the Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds, the Statement of Withdrawal Applications (and related expenditure) used as the basis for the submission of withdrawal applications and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

3. Summary of significant accounting policies

A summary of significant accounting policies underlying the preparation of the Project's financial statements is presented below.

3.1. Foreign currency transactions

The Project has adopted the Euro as its reporting currency for consistency with the reporting needs of its main donor, the World Bank.

Cash and bank balances in other currencies are converted into Euro at the year-end rate of exchange. Transactions in currencies other than Euro are converted to the reporting currency at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Foreign exchange differences are recognized in the Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds.

As at 31 December 2018, 1 Euro was equivalent to 123.42 All.

3.2. Cash

Cash comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and cash equivalents. Demand deposits and cash equivalents comprise balances with banks and investments in short term money market instruments. Amounts appropriated to the Entity are deposited in the Entity's bank account and are controlled by the Entity. Receipts from exchange transactions are deposited in trading fund accounts controlled by the Entity. They are transferred to revenue at each year end.

3.3. Recognition of income and expenses

Income is recognized when received rather than when earned, and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when incurred. Accordingly, direct payments of the Project's expenses, which are made from the proceeds of the trust fund, are recognized as sources and uses of funds at the time the payment is made. The Statement of Withdrawal Applications presents only applications submitted during the year and only expenses settled through such applications. Expenses presented in the notes to the special purpose financial information include all expenses settled during the year in spite of the supporting withdrawal application period.

3.4. Taxation

The Project is exempt from income tax. The Project is liable for withholding tax and personnel income tax for its staff. The Project is liable for all VAT expenses incurred.

4. IBRD funding

Funds received from IBRD funding for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2018 were composed as follows:

	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2018	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2017
Special Commitment	1,324,790	-
Direct payments	1,562,515	-
Replenishment	1,153,250	-
Total	4,040,555	-

5. Goods

Goods for the period from 1 January to 31 December, 2018 were composed as follows:

	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2018	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2017
Office furniture for PCU	-	171
Medical Equipment for regional Hospitals Supply & installation of Financial Management System Software in about 420 PHCs	3,785,976	-
Total	4,078,628	171

6. Consultancy services

The consultancy services for the period from 1 January to 31 December, 2018 were composed as follows:

	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2018	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2017
Staff salaries including the insurance paid by the staff	67,608	58,701
QSUT management assessment & preparation of ToR-s for the international management team	19,641	105,859
Communication campaign for hospitals' reform	21,594	64,566
Design of technical specifications of Supply & installation of Financial Management System Software in about 420 PHCs	-	1,567
Total	108,843	230,693

7. Training

Training for the period from 1 January to 31 December, 2018 were composed as follows:

	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2018	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2017
Study tour Italy	-	3,122
Study tour Montreal	-	13,196
Harvard Training	12,364	-
Roundtable Vienna	1,956	-
Training in USA Flagship Course	24,881	-
Training Budva-Montenegro	1,138	-
Total	40,339	16,318

8. Incremental operating costs

Operating costs for the period from 1 January to 31 December, 2018 were composed as follows:

	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2018	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2017
Bank Charges/ Commissions	1,120	528
Services	843	-
Health and Social Insurance for staff (portion paid put of IOC funds)	5,999	7,125
Office Supplies	2,371	1,548
Other Incremental Cost	9,690	290
Total Incremental Operating Costs	20,023	9,491

9. Cash at the end of the period

Cash at the end of the period as at 31 December 2018 was composed as follows:

	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2018	Period from 1 January to 31 December 2017
Cash at Banks		
IBRD Special Account BoA EUR	(300)	749,700
IBRD Credins Bank Account in ALL	410,564	199,068
IBRD Credins Bank Account in EUR	478,720	132,059
Total	888,984	1,080,827

10. Subsequent events

On 18/12/2018 the Bank (IBRD) has informed the MoF that they have concurred with their request (dated 12.10.2018) and they agreed to amend the Loan Agreement no 8466-AL as follows:

- 1 Change the Project Development Objectives (PDO) and Components of the Project
- 2 Deletion of the establishment of the National Health Information Center in view of the Albanian Government's decision to establish the National Agency of Information Services (NAIS) as part of the Implementation of the Hospital Information System (HIS) and
- 3 Reallocation of Amounts among existing categories.

The restructured Project Costs by Category (In EURO million) are as follows:

Category	Amount of the Loan Allocated	% of Expenditures to be financed
1. Works	9,251	63
2. Goods, Non-Consulting services	16,294	100
3. Consultancy Services, Training and Operation Cost	6,075	100
4. Front-and Fees	80	Amount payable pursuant to Section 2.0 of the Agreement in accordance with Section 2.07 of the General Conditions
5. Interest Rate Cap or Interest Rate Collar Premium	0	Amount due pursuant to Section 2.08 of the Agreement
6. Unallocated	400	
Total Project Costs	32,100	

The changes in components (In EURO million) are as follows:

Components as per Original Agreement	Revised components	Amount of the Loan Allocated Original Agreement	Amount of the Loan Allocated Revised Agreement
Component 1: Improving Hospital Services	Component 1: Improving Public Hospital Sector management and Infrastructure	15,100	18,061
Component 2: Expanding Health Management Information System	Component 2: Improving Health Information Management for Hospital Services	13,600	13,039
Component 3: Improving the Health Financing System	<i>(deleted)</i>	2,400	-
Component 4: Monitoring and Evaluation and Project Management	Component 3: Monitoring and Evaluation and Project Management	920	920
Front-and Fees	Front-and Fees	80	80
Total Project Costs		32,100	32,100

APPENDICES

(Loan No: 8466-AL)

Health System Improvement Project
Statements of Special and Project's Accounts

(Supplementary schedules to the Special purpose
financial information)

Appendix 1

Supplementary Schedule of Special Account Statement

Donor	IBRD Loan 8466-AL
Account No:	2117653E
Depository Bank	Bank of Albania
Address	Sheshi Skenderbej, No 1, Tirana
Currency	EUR

	2018	2017
Balance at beginning of period	749,700	948,800
Funds received:		
Advance from IBRD	1,153,250	-
Total funds received	1,153,250	-
Disbursements:		
Funds transferred to Project Operational Account-POA in ALL	(653,250)	200,000
Funds transferred to Project Operational Account-POA in EUR	(1,250,000)	-
Bank Charges	300	100
Total disbursements	(1,902,950)	200,100
Balance at end of the period	-	749,700

Appendix 2

Supplementary Schedule of Project Operational Account Statement-Euro

Donor	IBRD Loan 8466-AL	
Account No:	739084	
Depository Bank	Credins Bank	
Address	Rr. Ismail Qemali Nr.4, Tiranë	
Currency	EUR	
	2018	2017
Balance at beginning of period	132,059	299,905
Funds received:		
Funds received from Special Account	1,250,000	-
Funds received from Tender purchase	-	6,506
Funds received from bank Interest	178	143
Total funds received	1,250,178	6,649
Disbursements:		
Project expenditures	(672,956)	(168,094)
Bank charges/Bank commission	(969)	(319)
Funds transferred to Project Account in ALL	(229,592)	(6,082)
Total funds disbursed	(903,517)	(174,495)
Balance at end of the period	478,720	132,059

Appendix 3

Supplementary Schedule of Project Operational Account Statement-ALL

Donor	IBRD Loan 8466-AL	
Account No:	739084	
Depository Bank	Credins Bank	
Address	Rr. Ismail Qemali Nr.4, Tiranë	
Currency	ALL	
	2018	2017
Balance at beginning of period	26,466,074	10,781,621
Funds received:		
Funds received from Special Account	80,980,956	26,732,000
Funds received from Internal transfer	28,899,073	810,010
Funds received from Tender purchase	385,000	
Funds received from bank Interest	19,686	6,318
	110,284,715	27,548,328
Disbursements:		
Project expenditures	(86,069,813)	(11,841,150)
Bank charges/Bank commission	(9,168)	(22,725)
Total	(86,078,981)	(11,863,875)
Balance at end of the period in ALL	50,671,808	26,466,074
Balance at end of the period equivalent in EUR	410,564	199,068