JOINT SDG FUND

"Improving Municipal Social Protection Service Delivery" UN Joint Programme

National Monitoring of the SDG Indicator 1.3.1

December 2021, Albania

REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
MINISTRIA E SHËNDETËSISË
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Disclaimer:

This document is prepared by the technical assistance of Mr. Arian Boci and Mrs. Mirjeta Ramizi in close consultation with representatives of Ministry of Health and Social Protection in the framework of the UN Joint Programme "Improving Municipal Social Protection Service Delivery" (IMSPSD), implemented by the Government of Albania in partnership between four UN Agencies including UNDP, UNICEF, UN Women and WHO and the participation of UNFPA and ILO and funded by the Joint SDG Fund. The programme supports the Albanian Government translate the policy intent into proper local actions so that men, women, girls and boys living in poverty, or vulnerable situation have access to integrated, quality social care services, and supports the vision of an overall inclusive Albania. Data collected refer to official statistics of year 2021.

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Executive Summary

The Report on National Monitoring of the SDG Indicator 1.3.1., measures the percentage of the eligible population covered by social protection floors/systems disaggregated by socioeconomic or demographic groups in Albania. Data collected refer to official statistics of year 2021.This the second round of administrative data collection following the first one taking place in December 2019.

The report offers a review of eight (8) indicators of poverty to monitor progress towards the first Sustainable Development Goal (SDG): "End poverty in all its forms everywhere". The reviewed indicators are mainly those related to the proportion of persons effectively covered by a social-protection system, such as medical care; sickness benefits; protection for disability, old age and survivorship, maternity, children, unemployment, and employment injury; and general protection against poverty and social exclusion. For each of these indicators, the report provides a review of the indicator's most prevalent specification/s and an indication of the minimum international standard – if there is one – for satisfactory achievement.

MONITORING METHODOLOGY

The methodology for monitoring progress in this report is the same as in the previous one, carried out based on a combination of the ILO and World Bank methodology, and its database will be used to provide comparative figures with other countries and/or regions.

Monitoring is based exclusively on official data from the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and its line agencies/institutions, the Institute of Statistics (INSTAT), and desk reviews from the available sources. Progress is measured in the short-term (2020–2021), and in the case when data is not available for the period 2020–2021, the closest time data were used.

KEY FINDINGS

Overall, the proportion of persons effectively covered by a social protection system, including the social protection floors for the 2021 period is estimated to be **57.1%,** a bit higher than the one measured in 2019 (53.6%).

Indicator 1: Proportion of the population protected in at least one area.

The number of total beneficiaries protected by at least one social protection scheme is estimated to be 70%. This figure remains the same as reported by the previous report (2018-2019).

Indicator 2: Proportion of children covered by social protection benefits.

The number of children/households receiving child or family cash benefits is estimated to be 29.2%. This figure is higher than the one reported in the previous report, which was estimated to be closed to 25.3%.

Indicator 3: Proportion of women giving birth covered by maternity benefits.

59.5% of women giving birth got maternity benefits for the 2021 period versus 51.2% in 2019.

Indicator 4: Proportion of persons with disabilities receiving benefits.

93% of people with a type of disability received disability benefits compared with 95.4% in the 2019 period.

Indicator 5: Proportion of unemployed receiving benefits.

Over the year 2021, the proportion of unemployed people receiving benefits is estimated to be 13.4% similar to the 2019 year.

Indicator 6: Proportion of workers covered in case of employment injury.

The total proportion of workers covered in case of employment injury for the 2021 period is 57.5%, a figure slightly higher than the one measured in 2019 (54.6%).

Indicator 7: Proportion of older persons receiving a pension.

The proportion of older people receiving an old-age pension is 89.8% versus 87.4% estimated in 2019.

Indicator 8: Proportion of vulnerable persons receiving benefits.

The proportion of vulnerable persons living below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold but receiving benefits is 40% versus 36.2% in 2019.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Despite good progress in increasing the reach and coverage of social protection services, there are some bottlenecks that need to be considered for future attention. Increasing budget allocations, establishing a system for regular collection and analysis of social protection data, reducing duplication of efforts, and improving efficiency in implementing effective and tailored based social protection programs could be some general recommendations to be followed.

Social Protection is defined as the set of nationally-owned policies and programmes' designed to reduce and prevent poverty and vulnerability throughout the life cycle, usually provided by the state (through domestic resources,

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