ALBANIA ON ITS EUROPEAN PATH

SUPPORT FOR KEY SECTORS 2014-2020 (£658 MILLION)

Trade & Investment
- The EU is Albania’s biggest trading partner
- The EU’s contribution to total Foreign Direct Investment in Albania was €402.6 million in 2018
- Volume of trade with the EU was €4.9 billion in 2018

75% in exports to the EU
60% in imports from the EU

Mobility & Empowerment
- Visa-free travel to the EU since December 2010
- In 2015 - 2019 5453 participants in student, academics and youth exchanges under Erasmus+
- €25 million in support to the civil society for 2014 – 2020

Supporting Transformation
- Strengthening democracy: rule of law, justice and fundamental rights
- Reforming public administration
- Strengthening competitiveness and supporting business development
- Working towards a cleaner environment and safer food

EU Funding
The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Albania
- £1.25 billion in EU pre-accession funds 2007-2020
- £135 million for sector budget support programmes
- £464 million provided in European Investment Bank loans since 1999
- £143.8 million provided since 2009 in Western Balkans Investment Framework grants, leveraging investments of estimated €2.3 billion
- £14.9 million in disaster relief after the 2015 floods

Key Milestones
- April 2009: Application for EU membership
- December 2009: Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement
- June 2014: EU candidate country status granted
- April 2018: Commission recommends opening of accession negotiations
- June 2018: The Council sets out the path towards opening accession negotiations
- May 2019: Commission recommends opening of accession negotiations

Source: EU data