

ALBANIAN CENTER FOR POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Preventing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence through advocacy, education, and promoting gender equality as a human right

COUNTRY PROFILE



Population
(UNFPA 2019)

2.9m



Women & girls lifetime
experience of violence
(UNDP 2019)

52.9%



Intimate partner
violence, women
(OSCE 2019)

19%



Gender Inequality
Index (UNDP 2019)

51st

ACPD'S WORK ON GENDER AND SGBV

Sexual and gender-based violence is a phenomenon deeply rooted in gender inequality and continues to be one of the most notable human rights violations. Sexual and gender-based violence is pervasive in Albania and an incredible majority goes unreported due to fear and stigma. Although the state has developed mechanisms to protect and aid survivors, they are weaker at local levels and often remain ineffective.

The Albanian Center for Population and Development works across Albania and in regional and international fora to advocate for strong legislation and policy against sexual and gender-based violence and to promote gender equality. We work with local communities to provide services and ensure that community members have the knowledge and tools to assert their rights.

Founded in 1993, the Albanian Center for Population and Development became a member of IPPF in 1996. In a context in which state support of specialized services for women are minimal, we remain on the forefront of raising awareness, providing comprehensive sexuality education, and advocacy to prevent sexual and gender-based violence and achieve gender equality.

Our Strategic Plan

ADVOCACY

- We advocate for legislation to prevent sexual and gender-based violence and raise awareness in communities

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

- We work to ensure that teachers are properly trained to deliver and that students receive comprehensive sexuality education.

SERVICES

- We provide services to vulnerable communities, including specialised sexual and reproductive health and psychosocial services

GOOD GOVERNANCE

- Our commitment to gender equality is reflected in our structure with an internal gender equality policy and a board composition of 50% women.

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OUR WORK FOR PREVENTION AND TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY

SERVICES

- 422 services related to sexual and gender-based violence provided, 2018
- 350 service providers trained by Albanian Center for Population and Development

EDUCATION

- 1000 teachers trained and 1500 students instructed with our curriculum
- 400% increase in reports of rights violations thanks to MA's CSE program, 2008-2019

TRAINING

- 154 female political representatives trained on gender issues, 2014-2016
- 260 decision-makers trained on gender budgeting, 2014-2016

Through our service-provision, education, and training, we aim to demonstrate the centrality of gender equality to preventing sexual and gender-based violence and protecting human rights:

- We provide sexual and gender-based violence-related services to vulnerable communities through our two clinics. Our service providers ensure that all who come receive the health and psychosocial services they need.
- Our comprehensive sexuality education programme has been implemented for ages 10-19. From 2008-2019 there was a 400% increase in young people, women, and girls reporting rights violations and sexual and gender-based violence due to promotion of reporting system; decreasing barriers to report.
- To ensure that gender equality is on the political and social agenda, we train politicians and decisionmakers on gender issues and on how to incorporate this into programming to achieve gender equality.

ACTIVISM AND ADVOCACY

Raising awareness in communities

- Our innovative awareness-raising programmes include using theatre to educate communities about gender equality.
- Our Community-Based Action Teams (ComBAT), comprised primarily of boys, initiate campaigns that challenge social norms around gender.

Advocating for strengthened state support

- Advocacy efforts of CSOs including ACPD, led to the endorsement (as amended by Law 47/2018 date 23.07.2018) of the amendment to the Law No. 9669 dated 18.12.2006, on 'measures against violence in family relations'.
- We established the Independent Women's Forums which led to local, public funding for women and girl survivors of violence to attend professional courses for free, including the cost of transport.
- Our contributions to United Nations' processes have led to improvement of rules and procedures to protect survivors of domestic violence.



Albanian Center for Population and Development is a nonprofit organization working to improve policies, legislation, access to information and services on issues concerning population and development, including health reproduction.

We stand for reproductive freedom, justice, and autonomy for women, men, and families!