



ALBANIA

Partners:

- Ministry of Finance and Economy
- Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
- Durrës Port Authority

Estimated total investment:

- €62.45 million

EU contribution:

- €27.05 million

EBRD loan:

- €25 million

Beneficiary contribution:

- €9.3 million

Transport

2018 CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

Reconstruction of Durrës Port, Quays 1 and 2

This investment project will rehabilitate Quays 1 and 2 on the Western Terminal of the Port of Durrës – one of the four existing terminals of the largest seaport in Albania. The main products handled by the Port of Durrës are general cargo, cereals, containers, ferries, and minerals. The Port currently handles around 90% of the country's maritime exchange in tonnage and 53% of all international trade (by value).

The project complements a 2016 Connectivity Agenda investment aimed at rehabilitating the railway link between Tirana and Durrës. When both projects are complete, an important, multimodal transportation core network corridor section will be in place, strengthening Albania's connections with Croatia and Italy. In addition, they will provide Kosovo* and North Macedonia – Albania's landlocked neighbours – with access to maritime transport routes.



Durrës Port, Quays 1 and 2.

Results:

- Capacity increase and safety improvements on the two quays – more than 15,000 m² added to the current yards.
- Bearing capacity of 4 tons/m² for the new berths.
- Optimum access conditions for ships.
- Better protection for the waterfront.
- An increase in water depth to 11.5 m in front of both berths.



View of Durrës Port. (c) Durrës Port Authority

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Previous EU Assistance:

- €1.1 million (technical assistance for project preparation)

Estimated Start Date:

- End of 2020

Estimated End Date:

- End of 2023

Estimated Loan Repayment Period:

- 12 years

Transport



Map of Albania, along Corridor VIII, with Durrës Port.

The Western Terminal handles all Durrës' general cargo and cereals. The Terminal has five quays in total and covers an area of 92,680 m². Quays 1 and 2 are in a poor state of disrepair. The former was built in 1972, and the latter between 1945 and 1951. Some rehabilitation took place in 1994. However, structural elements under water show signs of substantial corrosion, which prevents safe operations of large capacities of cargo. Moreover, the depth of the terminal near the quays ranges between 7 and 8.2 m, so larger cargo vessels cannot be accommodated in the port.

The project is at the stage of the feasibility study, which includes the review of the designs carried out in 2012 and a full environmental and social impact assessment. The latter also considers the Port's vulnerability to climate change risks (such as sea level rising) so that key structural and non-structural mitigation measures can be factored into the new developments.

The feasibility study is due for completion by October 2019, while project contracting activities will commence by the end of the year. In addition to covering 40% of the works and supplies, the EU contribution to the project will finance construction supervision and project management services as well as visibility and communication actions.

Benefits

- Safe and efficient transport by sea for the largest port in Albania and one of the largest in the Adriatic Sea.
- Increase in cargo capacity from 850,000 tons/year to 1,300,000 tons/year.
- Increase in traffic from 400,000 users/year to 1,300,000 users/year.
- 230 new jobs created during construction and operation of the newly built facilities.
- Improved trade flows with countries in the region and thus a positive impact on the broader economy of Albania.