

Development of Administrative Capacity and Regional Policy EU funds for touristic sector in post crisis

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Abstract

This paper research provides an overview of European Structural and Investment Funds and Cohesion Policy in light of current trends in public investment. It highlights the importance of quality governance practices and administrative capacity in optimising public investment, and underscores the importance of strong administrative capacity among Managing Authorities in order to boost the effectiveness of European Structural and Investment Funds investment. It concludes with a description of the OECD diagnostic framework developed to support administrative capacity building in the context of managing EU funds under Cohesion Policy. Albania, one of the smallest countries in Eastern Europe, has experienced a period of transition marked by sharp economic swings and periods of civil strife. The early phases of decentralization witnessed the transfer of political autonomy, limited administrative and fiscal authority to local governments, inadequate legislation outlining central/local responsibilities, scarce financial resources and developing ITC projects to manage touristic services. In January 2006, the government promulgated a national Strategy for the Decentralization and the Local Autonomy which included laws to strengthen the autonomy of local governments and increase their capacity to manage local infrastructure and services. The Albania Government has in its focus issues related to tourism.

Keywords: Socio-demographic, Big push theory, Internet use, Touristic models, Decision making, SWOT analyse, EU Regional Policy, EU Structural Funds.

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