## ALBANIA - HEALTH OVERVIEW

Luxembourg. EGHI, 12 November 2015

# Albanian health care system the overall context

- Since the change from communism to democracy, Albania has faced changes in the economic model, strong tourist activity, immigration.
- Moving towards EU accession requires accelerating fiscal and other structural reforms.
- Commonly rising costs of health care.
- Albanian health care system is accompanied by lack of budget funds for health care. Albanian plays the role of the controller of the system with wide scope of authority:
  - managing the health care legislation
  - proposing budgetary expenditures
  - monitoring health needs of the population
  - supervision of the reform of health care system in Albania

#### General Figures

Surface: 28.748 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 2,831,741 inhabitans. Rural areas: 46.3 % of the

population

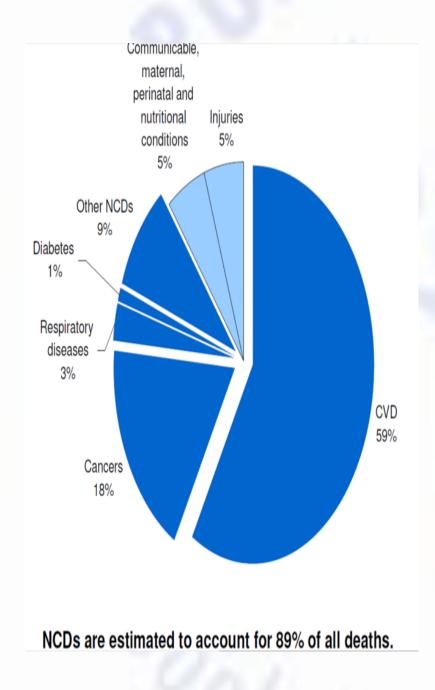
Life expectancy: men 74.7 years; women 80.1 years.

Infant mortality: 7.9 per 1000 live births (2014)

as compared to 17,5 per 1000 live births in 2002

Under 5 mortality rate: 9.2 in 2014 as compared to 20.1 in 2002

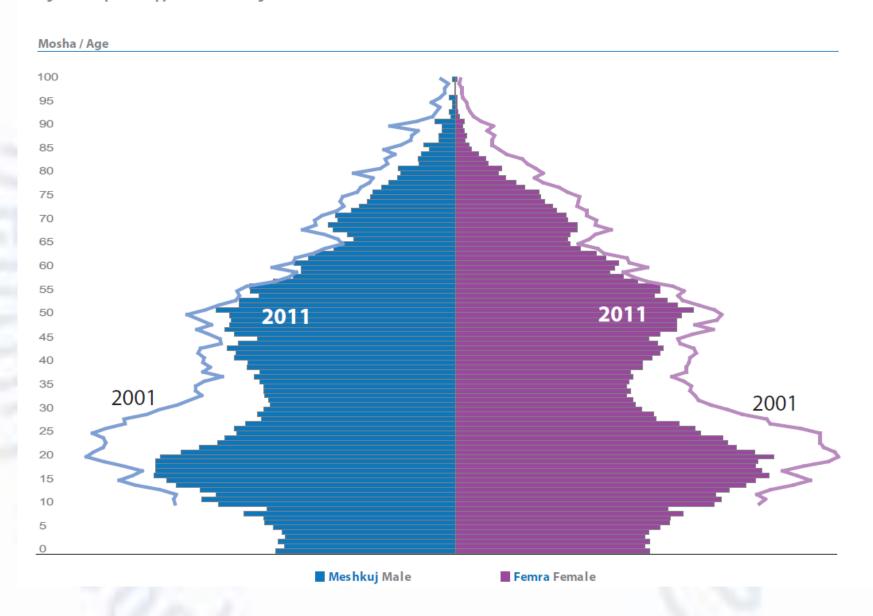
NCD account for about **89%** of all deaths in Albania **(59%** from cardiovascular diseases and **18%** from cancer).





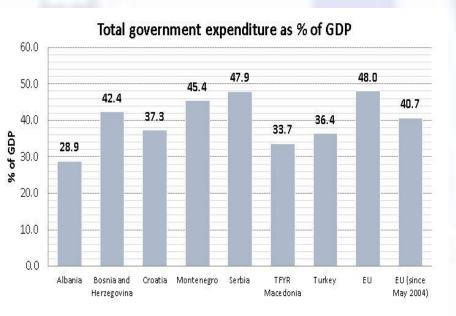
Grafiku 1. Piramidat e popullsisë sipas Censusit 2001 dhe 2011

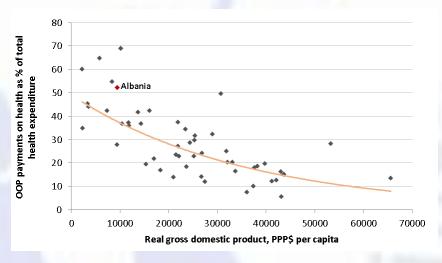
Figure 1. Population pyramids according to 2001 and 2011 Censuses

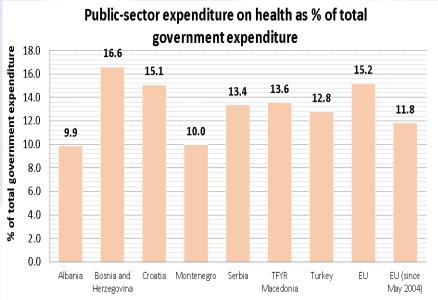


## **Public Spending**

Public Expenditure in the sector has increased from an estimated 6,600 ALL per capita in 2004 to 14,200 ALL in 2015

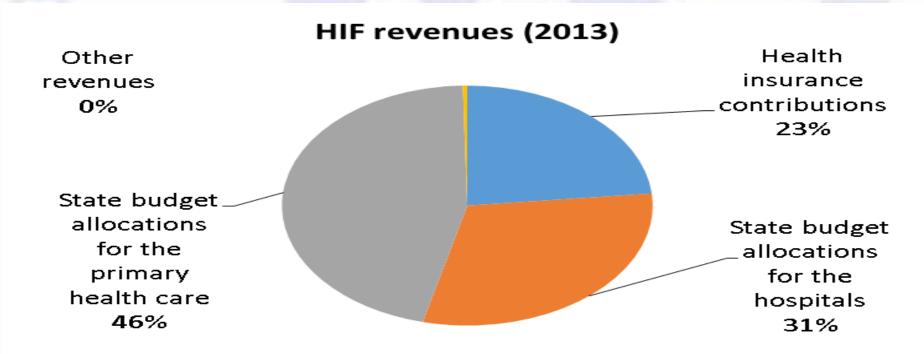




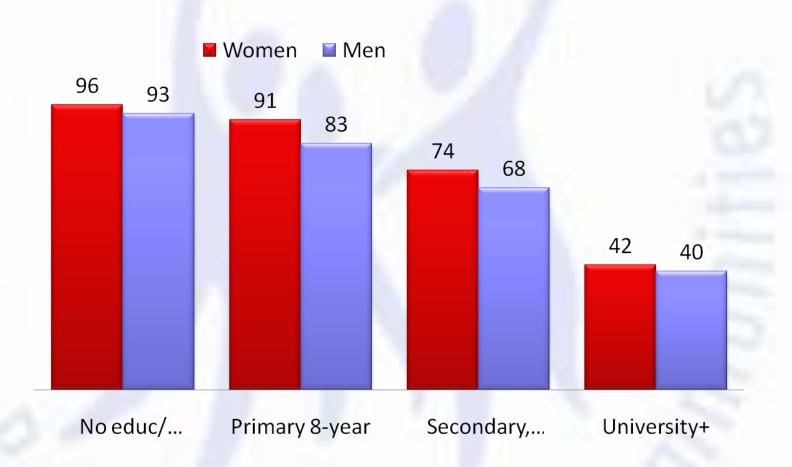


### Revenue sources

- According to the law compulsory health insurance is obligatory for all economically active and non-active population groups
- HIF is funded through a mix of payroll taxes (3.4%) and general budget revenues on behalf of non-active population groups
- Voluntary enrolment for those not covered



# Health insurance coverage by education (men and women without health insurance)



## Budgeting

- Most of public funds are channeled through HIF (health insurance fund) which is important precondition for effective strategic purchasing;
- Still, the treasury rules applied for hospital expenditures and strict control over staffing policies reduces flexibility to be active purchaser;
- Thus, even funds are pooled to HIF there is still fragmentation inside that pool diminishing HIF's ability to be efficient purchaser of care;
- Source: WHO assessment mission on health financing for universal health coverage with a focus on primary care in Albania.2015

# Paving the way to financing from General Taxation in 2017

#### Reasons:

- ■The low level of people having valid insurance card (less than 30% of population) may reflect the low level of awareness of the benefits or/and lack of trust into the current system;
- •The procedure of receiving health insurance card and keeping that valid is administratively complicated, might be barrier for the most vulnerable groups;
- •The benefits of insured vs uninsured are blurred (e.g. 37% of admitted patients to the regional hospitals are uninsured) undermining the purpose of insurance system and willingness to contribute;

## Health services

- PHC providers network in place (421 autonomous health centers, 2300 health posts) but its package of services, management and accountability mechanisms to be revised in the framework of the administrative and territorial reform;
- Hospital network with unused capacity needs re-profiling to be able to respond to population health needs
  - More autonomy needed to respond to financial incentives
- Evolving private providers market and Public Private Partnerships (PPP) provide efficient use of available resources in the country;

### **GOVERNMENT PROGRAM**

- 1. Deliver the deserved protection to Albanian citizens through the establishment of **Universal Health Coverage**.
- 2. Healthcare as a public good and fundamental development factor.

Build a qualitative, fully accessible and financially sustainable healthcare system.

- 3. Through a radical reform, we will provide **Universal Healthcare Coverage** to all Albanian residents, with no citizen left behind, simply because they cannot afford it financially.
- 4. The existing health funding system feeds **corruption** and encourages excessive red tape and mass discrimination.
- 5.Although insufficient, the public money is still embezzled, whereas citizens bribe to receive essentially vital services.

## Measures

We have adopted an integration anti-corruption strategy and are fully committed to address irregularities, such as informal payments, improving procurement and distribution of medicines and medical supplies.

## **GOALS**

- 1. Prevention. Primary check-up for citizens
  40-65
- 2. Medicines and Medical devices
- 3. Medical Emergency
- 4. Optimization of Hospital Services
- 5. Innovation, Electronic Health

## The way ahead

- Improving access that prevents exclusion;
- Increasing the efficiency of public spending;
- Filling the identified gaps in the system;

#### **Overall:**

Ensuring universal health coverage and access focusing on maximizing healthy lives and reducing the burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs);

## Prevention,



### KONTROLLO SHËNDETIN PA PAGESË

#### SHËNDETI NUK ËSHTË NJË PRIVILEGJ, ËSHTË E DREJTA JOTE.

#### Kontrolli Shëndetësor Bazë

Kontrolli Shëndetësor Bazë është një program kombëtar, pa pagesë për përfituesit e tij, që synon depistimin e popullatës për faktorët e rrezikut dhe sëmundshmërinë më prevalente, me qëllim kujdesin për shëndetin, parandalimin e sëmundjeve dhe komplikacioneve, zbulimin e hershëm të çrregullimeve, mjekimin në fazat e hershme dhe përmirësimin e kulturës shëndetësore, prej të cilit, do të përfitojnë të gjithë shtetasit e grupmoshës 40-65 vjeç me qëndrim të përhershëm në Republikën e Shqipërisë.

Ptojmë të gjithë shqiptarët e kësaj grupmoshe, që një herë në vit, pa pagesë, të paraqiten në qendrën shëndetësore pranë vendbanimit të tyre dhe të kryejnë kontrollin bazë.

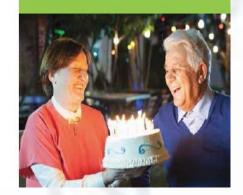
Të shëndetshëm, jemi të gjithë të barabartë!

#### FILOZOFIA E KONTROLLIT MJEKËSOR BAZË

Shëndeti është një aspiratë e përbashkët njerëzore o përparësisë më të lartë dhe kjo qëndron në thelb të ekzistencës së shoqërive moderne.

Nisma botërore e OBSH-së, "Shëndeti 2020", e bën të qartë se përmirësimi thelbësor i shëndetit mund dhe do të arrhet kur në të përtshihemi të gjithë, e "gjithë shoqëria" dhe e "gjithë qeveria", duke synuar mbrojtjen e popullatës nga kërcënimet mbi shëndetin, që njerëzit të jetojnë cilësisht më gjittë, duke ndihmuar gjithashtu, edhe mbrojtjen e shtresave të pambrojtura të shoqërisë

Kýo pěrqasje na ofron munděsině tě fokusohemi, mě sě pari, te shëndeti dhe ruajtja e tij, dhe jo vetěm te sěmundja dhe kurimi i saj.



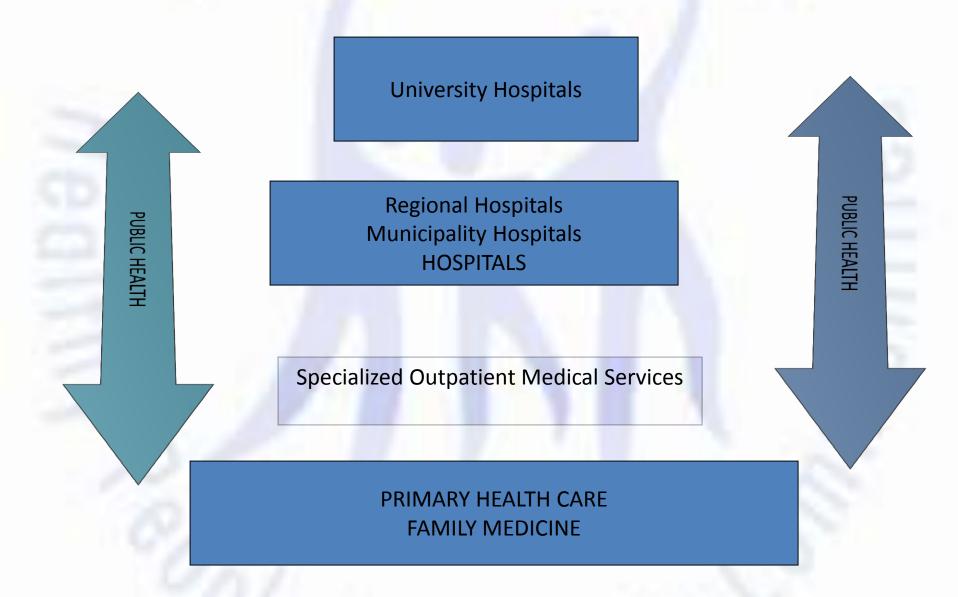
## Prevention mobility

#### Mamografët e Lëvizshëm





## Health System Pyramid



## Institutional and administrative capacity building; new investments in the sector;

- There are prepared the costing 10 packages of the most important diseases of the heart and kidneys, enabling contracting and financing of the patients in private hospitals.
  - Start-up of Check-up for ages 40-65 years old
  - Repayment of obligations created last years at the level of 90%
  - VAT is removed for medication and medical materials.

## Institutional and administrative capacity building; new investments in the sector;

- The funding for treatment of patients suffering from cancer is double/ chemotherapy in the Oncologic Service.
- CT scanner for Trauma Hospital was purchased.
- 2 mobile mammography were purchased.
- For the first time after 25 years was done the disinfection of wetland areas of the country

## Institutional and administrative capacity building; new investments in the sector;

- Purchasing of a medical helicopter.
- Purchasing of autoambulances.
- Purchase of 2 angiography equipment for TUHC and Hospital of Shkoder.
- Purchasing of a Magnetic Resonance for Trauma University Hospital.
- Purchase of a set of modern medical devices for cardiac surgery service at University Hospital Center.
- Purchase of a incubators for the Maternities of Tirana.

## Thank you

Romeo Zegali

Director

Directory of EU/IPA

Ministry of Health

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