

EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES TRANSPARENCY AND ITS IMPACT IN ALBANIA

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Abstract

The presented topic aims to encourage the broad public to participate in the transparency of technical economic and financial indicators of the extractive industry in Albania, with the purpose of learning the options the communities of these areas have to increase the benefits for their needs. The complex growth of the indicators through the exploitation of the natural resources, especially the income, exports, investments, the employment level of qualification etc, creates options to raise the level of welfare and living for the community, for the implementation of projects in their favor, for a higher individual and professional progress. EITI International Standard (Initiative for Transparency in Extractive Industries) follows the policy of stating that it is based on open data. The participation in EITI affects the exploitation of natural resources and is related as well to the social aspect, environmental education, infrastructure development, improvement of legislation on the distribution of the mineral rent and the responsibility to implement it, poverty reduction, etc. The knowledge and the usage of data for different indicators related to the performance of the extractive industry are being promoted and growing more and more with the implementation of EITI in Albania. The transparency of the payments made by entities and companies in the country or received by the state is an important indicator in the extractive industry. In particular, the publicity and the use of EITI annual reports from institutions and state agencies, private entities, communities, extractive industry areas, civil society or interested groups, results in the growth of their responsibility towards community development. This topic aims to bring stimulation of the benefits of the communities and development of investments in the extractive industry by improving the image of Albania in general through the implementation of this international standard. EITI relevant reports, analysis of data and publicity are bringing improvements in different sectors. This makes communities even more interested to promote the use of exploitation industry, and the investments in the field of exploration, as well as the collaboration of the state with the civil society and the interested parties.

Keywords: *EITI, Extractive Industries, Legislation, Economy, Community, Publicity.*