

CCIFA Weekly News

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**Revue de presse hebdomadaire/Përbledhja javore e shtypit /Weekly press review
Activité hebdomadaire de la CCIFA /Aktiviteti favor i CCIFA /CCIFA Weekly activity**



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BUSINESS Opportunities

Le Groupe Ludendo (La Grande Récré) est à la recherche de son futur partenaire pour implanter sa chaîne de magasins La Grande Récré sur le territoire Albanais

The Ludendo Group (La Grande Récré) is looking for its future partner to set up its chain of stores "La Grande Récré" on Albanian territory

<http://www.ludendo.com/fr/organisation.html>

Pour plus d'information n'hésitez pas à nous contacter!

Ludendo



NOTRE GROUPE

Historique

Notre nature d'entreprise

Notre métier de commerçant

Organisation

Transmission

Exemplarité

Enthousiasme

Universalité

Engagement

Espérance

Bienveillance

Les valeurs de Ludendo

A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE / HIGHLIGHTS

Number of Concessions Reaches at 166

TIRANA – Albania has provided over 166 concession contracts till the end of 2016, according to the National Agency for the Treatment of Concessions.

The majority of concessions were given in the field of energy, mainly for the construction of hydropower plants, but there are also contracts that transferred public services to private sector, mainly in health sector, or in the field of Fiscal issues and transportation.

But beyond distribution by sector, the distribution by year shows another panorama according to which concessions are mainly issued during electoral years.

According to the agency, although the awarding of concession contracts started in 2004, most of them, or about 60 percent of the total approved in only two years, 2009 and 2013, both years in which are held parliamentary elections. So, this is a tradition that seems likely to continue in 2017 considering PM Edi Rama pledge to inject in economy about 1 bln lek.

Source: ADN

Albania's inflation rate slows to 2.2% y/y in Feb

Albania's consumer price inflation slowed to 2.2% year-on-year in February, from 2.8% in January, the statistical office, INSTAT, said on Wednesday. Prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages, which have the largest weight of 40% in the consumer basket, grew by 3.9% on the year in February, after rising 5.8% a month earlier. Housing, water, electricity and fuel prices, which have a weight of 20.7% in the consumer basket, edged up 0.6% in February following an annual increase of 0.4% a month earlier. Monthly inflation was 0.5% in February. At the beginning of February, Albania's central bank decided to keep its key interest rate at record low 1.25%. Inflation is anticipated to return to the central bank's 3% target around the end of 2018.

Source: Scan TV news

IBD is lending further \$35.2 mln for Tirana-Elbasan motorway project

Albania's government has submitted to the parliament an agreement with the Islamic Bank for Development (IBD) for additional loan of \$35.2 million euro for the construction of the Tirana-Elbasan motorway. The loan has a grace period of three years and matures after twenty years, the document published on the parliament's website last week shows. The IBD has already contributed to the motorway project with a financing of \$222.7 million. The additional loan has been approved by the bank last September, a statement of the bank indicated. The 31-kilometre Tirana-Elbasan highway is part of Corridor VIII linking the Adriatic and Ionian coastlines with the Black Sea basin. The construction of the motorway started in 2011 and was due in 2013, but numerous geological problems hindered it from being finished.

Source: WEB

A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE/HIGHLIGHTS

WB Supports Albania's Reforms to Strengthen Financial Sector

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors today approved a US\$100 million Financial Sector Development Policy Loan (DPL) to the Republic of Albania. The policy operation supports reforms aimed at strengthening the resilience of the banking sector and the regulation and supervision of nonbank financial institutions in Albania. Following the 2008 global financial crisis, Albania's growth slowed down significantly, exposing severe macroeconomic imbalances and increased vulnerabilities in the system associated with a rapid escalation in public debt and arrears, unsustainable deficits in the energy sector, and a sharp increase in non-performing loans (NPLs) in the banking sector. A malfunctioning financial sector is a threat to economic growth and undermines achievements in poverty reduction and shared prosperity. In response, the government, in support of its platform to accelerate growth and job creation, embarked on significant legal, regulatory, and supervisory reforms to mitigate risks in the financial sector. The World Bank has contributed to strengthening the financial sector in Albania through several operations, including the 2014 Financial Sector Modernization DPL. The new operation builds on the work and results of previous World Bank policy-based lending operations that have supported a wide range of reforms to restore the country's macro-financial stability, rekindle economic growth, improve management of public finances, and reform pension and energy sectors. "The reforms supported by this operation aim at addressing the current vulnerabilities of the financial sector and enhancing its resilience," said Ellen Goldstein, World Bank Country Director for the Western Balkans. "These reforms will enable the right environment for banks and nonbank financial institutions to expand credit to the private sector, which in turn will boost economic growth." The operation is structured around three pillars: adopting policy measures to reduce NPLs and enhance the financial safety net; strengthening regulation, supervision, and resolution regime of banks and Savings and Credit Associations (SCAs); and strengthening the regulation and supervision of investment funds. The actions undertaken by the government and the financial sector authorities supported by the new operation include significant improvements in the legal framework, such as a new Bankruptcy Law, a Bank Resolution Law, a new law on Savings and Credit Associations, and amendments to the Law on Audit, the Deposit Insurance Law, Collective Investments Undertaking Law, the Civil Procedure Code, and the Private Bailiffs' Law. Some of these key reforms were part of the National Action Plan for the Reduction of NPLs, endorsed by the government and the Bank of Albania. The authorities and the World Bank have consulted with a range of stakeholders on the specific measures supported by this DPL, including the banking industry, SCAs, farmers, small businesses, and NGOs. Several public workshops were also held with law practitioners, judges, businesses associations, consultants and advisors, financial sector entities, and advocacy NGOs. "These reforms not only mitigate the risks faced currently by the banking sector, but also introduce important changes that will have a long-term benefit for businesses and lending activities in the country", said Michael Edwards, World Bank Task Team Leader of the Project. "The new bankruptcy law, for instance, is expected to substantially improve the effectiveness and speed of handling insolvency cases, and also establish credible restrictions for problematic borrowers". The Financial Sector DPL is a fixed spread IBRD loan with an eight year grace period and repayment of 31 years.

Source: ADN: WEB

IBRD's Euro 64 mln Loan Agreement Enters into Force

The loan agreement between the Albanian government and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to finance the project for Integrated Urban Development and Tourism has entered into force and it is now expected to be implemented. The cost of this project is estimated at 63.8 million euros, which will be funded by IBRD. About 50 million euro of the loan is expected to go for the construction works to be carried out in areas of southern Albania, while the rest is expected to go for goods, training and consultancy services. The agreement provides that the repayment of the loan will be made within a period of 25 years. The project for integrated urban development and tourism is part of the medium-term budget of the Albanian Development Fund. The Albanian government has designated the coastal region of Vlora and Saranda, and the inner area covering Berat, Gjirokaster and Permet as a priority region that has a tangible potential considering its landscape and cultural heritage assets - to develop tourism as an incentive to drive regional and national economic growth. Beneficiary municipalities will be selected on the basis of preliminary studies and drafting of projects, including studies for urban development, construction work for the restoration of buildings with historic value, development of public spaces, road and accompanying infrastructure network. The rest of the investment will focus on the development and creation of vacation areas or tourist sites, repairing and improving the infrastructure of areas and promenades.

Source: ATA/WEB

FinMin aims to lower debt deficit down by 59.6% until 2020

Ministry of Finances aims to lower public debt by 2.1% of GDP by the end of the year and the trend will continue this way until reaching 59.6% of GDP by 2020. Government says this will be achieved by two main actions: a restrictive budget politic and improvement of economic environment. The Albanian government's debt is on historic low levels, only 2% of GDP and it seems it will continue this way for the years to come until reaching 0.6% of DGP in 2020. A rapid economic growth will help achieve the goal which is expected to jump to 4% next year. Public debt increased by 20% of DGP in 8 years from 2007 to 2015 seriously putting in danger the financial stability of the country. The rapid decrease of this figure was a urgent requirement from IMF and World Bank.

Source: Scan TV

L'ACTUALITÉ

Funds for Projects between Italy, Albania and Montenegro

TIRANA - Albania will receive funds from the European Union for 5 strategic sectors. The Minister of Integration, Klajda Gjosha, invited the stakeholders and civil society to become part of Italy-Albania-Montenegro inter-border cooperation and to propose concrete projects in environment, transport or innovation field.

"I would like to call on all stakeholders, especially on civil society to bring as many proposals as possible in order to become part of this program. Such programs are fundamental, because they help preserving and strengthening values, and increase citizens trust in the principles of their functioning," said the Minister of Integration, adding that the experiences which will be shared by those in the program will serve as an added value, creating an European way of thinking.

Minister Gjosha said that through this way of doing things, by increasing standards in every field, or sector that generates revenue and increases capacities, it will be possible to get closer to the European Union."

The EU-funded program includes projects that will be implemented in sectors of the greatest need, such as the environment, competition, innovation, sustainable transportation, and cultural and natural heritage.

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Entreprises

Ministry of Agriculture to Provide Ongoing Support to Farmers

Minister Panariti said that the farmer will be supported by grants and that the Ministry of Agriculture will continuously support all those committed in such enterprises

TIRANA – Albanian Minister of Agriculture, Edmond Panariti, visited an emigrant's entrepreneurship in the village of Perlat, in Mirdita, northern Albania on Wednesday. The inhabitant who returned from emigration, invested in 5.2 hectares of fallow land by planting 4300 peach roots.

"It was one of the smartest investments where an inhabitant of the area turned a fragmented and fallow land into a productive one," said the minister.

According to him, farmers should follow this model by being oriented towards productive investments that provide results.

Minister Panariti said that the farmer will be supported by grants and that the Ministry of Agriculture will continuously support all those committed in such enterprises.

This investment led some farmers to unite the land thus making the investor committed to invest in the establishment of a juice production plant.

Ministry of Agriculture has also launched preparations and it is working to determine the basic criteria of the sectors to be financially supported during the year 2017. Another important milestone under consideration, it is also the amount of financial benefit to be distributed from the program of funding the agriculture and rural development for 2017. This year the Ministry of Agriculture of Albania plans to increase funding schemes for farmers, supporting no less than 13 thousand farmers through the government financing schemes. The State Budget funds of 2017 addressed to financially support farmers, aim at introducing new technologies, introduction of new heating systems for greenhouses, maintenance of cold storage, etc.

Source: ADN

A LA UNE CETTE SEMAINE

Albania to amend foreign investments law to offer more security to investors

The law on foreign investments in Albania is expected to undergo some changes, in order to provide more legal guarantees and assurances to foreign investors, sources from the Albanian ministry of economy said Thursday. The project is aimed at improving the legal framework regarding foreign investments, said the draft report which was published Thursday on the official website of the Ministry of Finance for consultation. According to the report, the Albanian government is undertaking such changes given that the issues of ownership or legal uncertainty have been often outlined as the main factors affecting current investments or the expected ones. Investors coming to Albania suffer the consequences of this situation due to the legal uncertainties, and in turn this situation rests on the local economy, reported said. Therefore, the initiative is intended to provide to strategic investors additional guarantees from the state. Through these changes, Albanian government wants to increase the level of trust and consolidate the business climate in the country, which can be translated to an increased investment in a short term, sources from economy ministry told local media.

(Report TV,news)

Common Regional Market to Be Created

TIRANA - Prime Minister Edi Rama attended on Thursday the Sarajevo Summit, which was held in the light of European initiative for the Western Balkans with view to coordinating the efforts of countries in the region down the path to EU integration.

The summit brought together PMs of the Western Balkans countries aspiring to join the EU, namely PMs of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania.

The focus of attention were the Euro-integration processes of the regional countries, the progress in regional cooperation through different projects in economy, transport, energy and infrastructure.

The summit is held in the run-up to the regular summit of Western Balkans countries and EU representatives in Trieste, which is in continuity of the Berlin Process.

At the conclusion, the participants agreed on ongoing economic cooperation of the Western Balkans countries as well as the opportunity for creating a common market, including movement of goods, services and capital, free movement of qualified labor force as well as a dynamic investment space.

They also agreed on encouragement of business and promotion of investments at the level of small and medium-sized enterprises. The participants proposed that representatives of participating countries along with the Council for Regional Cooperation and with support of European Commission start working out a proposal for a joint approach to further economic cooperation in the Western Balkans through different initiatives that will be outlined in the Trieste summit.

Meantime, regional media commented on a dinner among the PMs on Wednesday night, where Serbian and Kosovo PMs Vucic, Mustafa, and Albanian PM Rama met face to face and there was an increasingly strong verbal confrontation between Vucic and Mustafa.

Index reported that the atmosphere was "extremely tense, at times even very unpleasant, so at times it seemed that some of the participants would leave the restaurant," as quoted by Tanjug.

Tanjug reported that the dinner in Sarajevo went in a "tense" atmosphere, and that Vucic "addressed" Mustafa.

According to the agency, Vucic "did not miss the opportunity" to ask Mustafa on what Pristina based its decision to seize Serbian property in the province.

According to unofficial information, Vucic asked Mustafa whether he "made the decision on his own, or with someone's consent."

Source: ADN

Mais aussi...

The image is a promotional poster for a French-themed event. On the left, the words "French Night" are written in a large, elegant, cursive green font. Below it, smaller text reads "Printemps de la Francophonie en Albanie 2017". In the center, there's a logo for "ROGNER HOTEL TIRANA" with a stylized green diamond-shaped emblem above the text. To the right of the hotel logo, there's a red rectangular box containing the words "GALA DINNER" and "Sumptuous 5 -Course Menu by our special guest: Mr. Eric Duquenne Chef of The President of the French Republic". Below this, another red box contains "LIVE MUSIC by Mariza Ikonomi". At the bottom, two price options are listed: "4000 ALL 5500 ALL" followed by descriptions: "5-course menu 1 glass of wine & water" and "5-course menu UNLIMITED beverages". The background features a faint silhouette of the Eiffel Tower against a blue and white watercolor wash.



Është koha për të festuar Pranverën e Frankofonisë 2017! Bashkohuni me ne tek koncerti i grupit zviceran Macaô të premtën, 17 Mars! Ëndërroni dhe vallëzoni nën përzierjen dinamike të muzikës folk-pop dhe rock : [www.youtube.com/ëatch?v=x8imALFTGgs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8imALFTGgs).

Presim t'ju shohim tek RockStock!

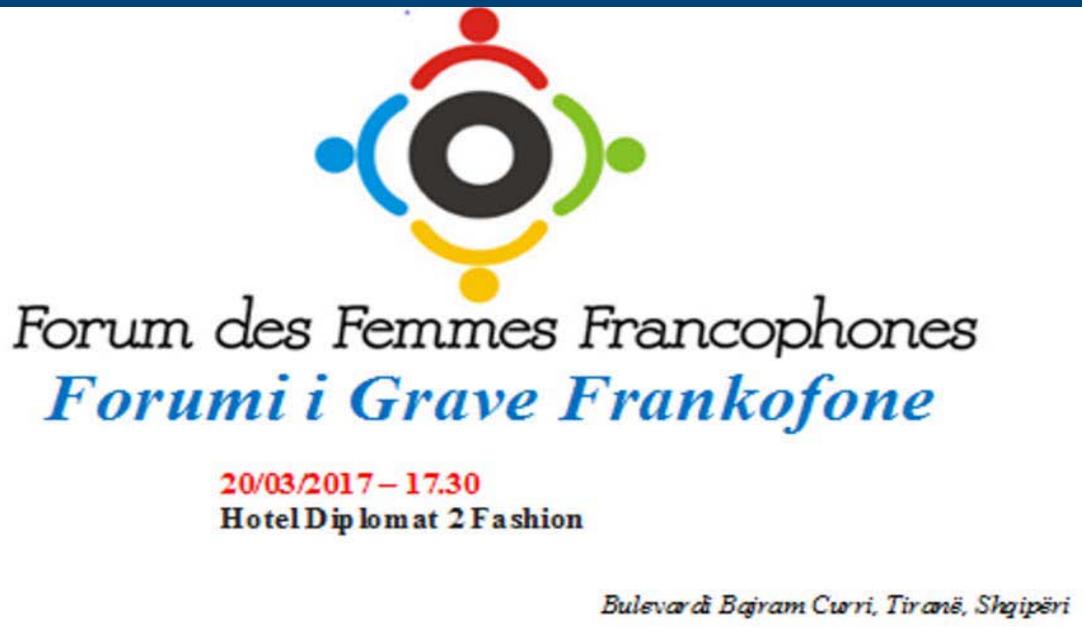
Hyrja falas.

FOCUS MEMBRES & CCIFA

à bientôt/soon...

20 Mars 2017

17h30



Bulevardi Bajram Curri, Tirana, Shqipëri

23 Mars 2017

09h00



Les sources de cette semaine/The Source

Albanian Daily news

Scan TV

News 24

Gazeta Shqip

ATA/WEB

Gazeta Dita

Gazeta Sot

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