



October 2025 – March 2026

The “Strong Albanian Local Statistics” project (SALSTAT II) is part of the “Bashki të Forta” initiative by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), taking place from October 2022 to September 2026.

Key stakeholders in the SALSTAT project include INSTAT, municipalities, and selected line ministries and government agencies—particularly those involved in statistical data collection and/or responsible for administrative data and registers.

In this new phase, SALSTAT II will deepen its collaboration with municipalities and other state agencies to foster trust in official statistics. It will also engage stakeholders on the importance of official statistics for democratic governance and informed decision-making—especially in supporting municipalities to fulfill their tasks, duties, and functions. and decision-making, particularly for municipalities to fulfil their tasks, duties and functions.

Content:

- Digital Dissemination Tools for the publication of statistical data for regions and municipalities;
- Census Data Analysis;
- Development of a digital dissemination tools for the publication of statistical data for regions and municipalities;
- Albanian Statistical Register of Building and Dwelling;
- Data Collection for the 2025 Household Waste Survey;
- Web-Based Data Collection for Building Permits Statistics;
- Pre-school Education (public day nurseries and kindergartens) data collection at municipality level;
- Vital Statistics Training Improvements Data Quality in Albania;
- Building trust in statistics and Statistical Literacy;

SALSTAT TEAM

Project Manager:

Ivar Trippolini, Swiss Federal Statistical Office

Coordinators:

Alketa Doçi, Coordinator for Administrative Data and Registers
Eralda Pushaj, Coordinator with the Central Governance Units
Edlira Çeliku, Administrative and Finance Coordinator

Digital Dissemination Tools for the publication of statistical data for regions and municipalities

- 1) During November GIS team of INSTAT and the experts worked on the “Dissemination of Municipalities Indicators at the new INSTAT web-platform (dashboard)”. The final of the dashboard version was presented in the Steering Group Meeting of the project, held on 25th November 2025.

Also, on 25th November, INSTAT presented the dashboard platform for municipalities in the “Conference on the launch of the Performance Measurement System results and the Performance-Based Grant” organized from the Ministry of State for Local Governance, and the presence of the Ambassador of the Embassy of Switzerland in Albania.



- 2) After the finalization of the “Dissemination of Municipalities Indicators at the new INSTAT web-platform (dashboard)” and presentation during the Steering Committee Meeting of the project, held on 25th November 2025, in December was organized the Seminar to present the new dashboard platform to INSTAT staff. As per the agenda the main thematic were:

- ✓ Achievements, challenges and solution of the year
- ✓ Presentation of the Dashboard platform
- ✓ Presentation of the Albanian Statistical Register of Buildings and Dwellings (ASRBD)
- ✓ Discussions



During the seminar, a greeting from the Director General of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office Mr. Georges Simon Ulrich was presented to all participants.

- 3) Dashboard for municipalities to facilitate access, analysis, and visualization of statistical data for the local government units: This tool is designed to be widely used by staff in INSTAT Regional Offices to enhance efficiency and the quality of reporting and strengthen the role of the Regional

Offices in the regions and municipalities where they operate. During 24th – 25th February 2026 was organized the one-day training for Regional Statistics Offices Staff on Municipality Dashboard and Information Security. Results at the end of the training:

- ✓ Improved capacity in using digital dissemination platforms
- ✓ Enhanced use of the Municipality Dashboard for local engagement
- ✓ Strengthened information security practices
- ✓ More efficient monitoring of statistical surveys



Census Data Analysis

Work began in late 2025 on population projections using Census 2023 data, led by international demography expert Mr. Arjan Gjonçaj. National and regional projections for 2025–2050 are expected by Q2 2026.

Albanian Statistical Register of Building and Dwelling

INSTAT, in collaboration with SALSTAT II, continued its work on the Albanian Statistical Register of Buildings and Dwellings (ASRBD) through a series of technical missions and development activities in 2025-2026.

During the Steering Committee Meeting of the project on 25th November 2025 was presented the results of the Albanian Statistical Register of Buildings and Dwellings (ASRBD). The ASRBD Register will be further developed to expand indicators and improve accessibility of official statistics till the end of the project.

Data Collection for the 2025 Household Waste Survey

In March 2025, the Environment and Forestry Unit of INSTAT distributed the weblink for the 2025 Household Waste Survey to all 61 municipalities, and supported online the staff of municipalities to deliver the data on time. In some municipalities there are new staff that did not attend the training, and INSTAT with support of SALSTAT will make possible to train and support them on site. It is planned to publish the data in July 2026.

Web-Based Data Collection for Building Permits Statistics

In October 2025 and January 2026, from the Short-Term Statistics and Tourism at Enterprises Sector of INSTAT, was submitted the link to all municipalities to collect data from municipalities for building permits, via web-based platform, for the quarterly data.

The results are published quarterly at INSTAT website.

Pre-school Education (public day nurseries and kindergartens) data collection at municipality level

During October 2025 was completed the training on web-based data collection platform the Pre-school Statistics with municipalities' staff.

The training covered the following main topics:

- ✓ The legal framework and importance of pre-school statistics at the municipality level
- ✓ Questionnaire for nurseries and kindergartens
- ✓ Definitions of indicators and the methodology used for data collection
- ✓ Web-based form for data collection
- ✓ Practical examples of completing electronic data using the online questionnaire

The training was organized in groups with representatives from each municipality. Trainers were from the Social Statistics Development Sector of INSTAT and the IT department of INSTAT. In total are trained staff representatives of 49 municipalities out of 61, or in other words 80 % of total municipalities.

The link of the online survey was submitted to all municipalities within end of October and the Social Statistics Development Sector was supporting the employees to full-fill the online survey on Pre-school statistics. Municipalities filled the link with data till end of November 2025.



Follow-up visits were conducted in December to support municipalities: Libohovë, Përmet, Poliçan, Fier, Pukë, Shkodër, Lezhë, Fushë Arrëz and Has.



Vital Statistics Training Improvements Data Quality in Albania

As part of MoU between INSTAT and the General Directorate of Civil Status (GDSCS), a vital statistics training was held in Kukës, and Dibër prefectures. The initiative aimed to enhance the accuracy of birth, death, and marriage registrations and introduce ICD-10 coding standards.

- GDSCS addressed legal challenges, personal data protection, and statelessness risks.
- Trainers analyzed 2024 vital statistics files and recommended ICD-10 code integration for death records.

Participants actively shared experiences, identified data issues, and committed to applying new practices. This two-day session reinforced the importance of reliable administrative data and marked a step forward in Albania's efforts to modernize its civil registration systems.

✓ October 2025: Kukës Prefecture (Kukës, Has and Tropoja)



✓ November 2025: Dibër Prefecture (Dibër, Mat, Bulqizë and Klos)



Building trust in statistics and Statistical Literacy

- 1) On 20th of October SALSTAT team had participated to the World and European Statistics Day 2025 organized by INSTAT/SALSTAT at Rogner Hotel.

During this event was presented the Keynote presentation:

- ✓ Chapter 18 “Statistics” – The Road to Accession
- ✓ High-Level Panel Discussion: on “Official Statistics as a Bridge of Trust on the EU Accession Path
- ✓ Launch: INSTAT Geodata Hub/WebGIS



2) Later in December 2025, study visits across nine municipalities assessed how local governments use statistics in planning, budgeting, and decision-making. Findings showed growing recognition of statistics as a governance tool, though systematic use remains limited. The primary purpose of the December 2025 study visits was to contribute to SALSTAT's work on building trust in official statistics and enhancing their practical use in local decision-making. Following topics were covered by the visits:

- ✓ Strengthen statistical literacy at municipal level, particularly for Council members and senior administrators to use data for good governance.
- ✓ Improve communication between INSTAT and municipalities, including guidance on data interpretation and use.
- ✓ Promote regular use of statistics in Municipal Council work, beyond budget approval processes.
- ✓ Support municipalities in developing internal data dashboards linked to local priorities.



THANK YOU FOR READING OUR NEWSLETTER!