

NEWSLETTER

17th edition, April - June 2018



“Festa e Traditës”

Promoting innovative ways of creating jobs

21 local festivals, 21 tourist destinations to discover in Albania this summer as part of “Festa e Traditës” – a joint initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, supported by Swiss-funded project Risi Albania.

The 21 festivals are taking place in villages all over Albania from May to September 2018. They were selected from 63 proposals in the competition launched in March 2018 to promote new and innovative ideas in the field of tourism with the aim to:

- Attract more tourists in the aforementioned regions;
- Strengthen the relationship between municipalities and local enterprises (such as tour operators, agro-processing, producers, farmers, traditional culture representatives,

etc.); - Extend the tourist season in these regions; - Promote typical local products; - Increase the income from tourism in these regions; - Increase employment opportunities, especially for young people and marginalized groups in these regions.

These festivals will become a tradition and a fix event in the agenda of villages, thus helping local businesses and tour operators to better position their products and services over the years. Villages where the festivals will take place are also part of “100 Villages” initiative launched by the government of Albania.



RISI ALBANIA
PHASE II (2017-2021)

TARGETS

1,600
NEW JOBS

3,000
JOB MATCHES



600
JOB PLACEMENTS

PAN Festival in Nivica

Organised in Nivica village of Tepelena on June 9th 2018, the PAN Festival brought together local farmers, inhabitants from upper Kurvelesh region and tourists.

The participants enjoyed the photo and traditional costumes exposition in the village center, and participated in guided tours of the most beautiful attractions of the area, including the castle and the Nivica canyons.

They also tasted local food products and cuisine during the fair, enjoyed the iso-polyphonic singing and traditional dancing and participated in the "best goat" contest dedicated to PAN, the god of shepherds in Greek mythology.

Read full story [HERE](#)



Expanding Made in Albania essential oil business production



At the beginning of June, a small team of Risi Albania visited Mediterranean Export – Imports Albania (MEIA Ltd.), the essential oil exporter who partnered with Risi in 2016-2017.

Our goal was to understand, one year after we finalized our contract with them, why our cooperation became a success. The numbers were encouraging: thanks to Risi's support, MEIA generated profits that they have now reinvested in a state-of-the-art distillery equipment in Koplik, allowing them to establish solid contractual relationships with 240 local farmers.

Read full story [HERE](#)

Research on Career Guidance Service level at public and private universities in Albania

RisiAlbania has set out a deep research to identify current status of career guidance service delivery at public and private universities across the country, with a special focus on gender and social inclusion. The results of this research will serve as basis to identify opportunities for need-based tailored support by RisiAlbania for various identified stages of performance of Career Guidance service at universities.

The public presentation of the results will take place in September.

From call centres to developing BPO industry

The Top Channel TV Documentary “Exclusive” focused early this May on young people working in call centers in Albania and the potential of the development of BPO sector in the country. Andi Stefanllari RisiAlbania ICT Intervention Manager was part of this TV documentary, enlightening the huge opportunities the sector offers. “There is still space for this industry to grow and expand value added services and employ more young people with different education backgrounds such as business, finance, and law and who currently face difficulties getting employed” – said Stefanllari.

Full “Exclusive” TV Documentary [HERE](#)

RisiAlbania is a youth employment project that focuses on achieving systemic changes in the Albanian labour market in order to improve access to employment and income opportunities for young women and men.

Project duration:

Phase I: November 2013 – October 2017
Phase II: November 2017 – October 2021

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ClubFM comes with a new programme Path to Success

Don't miss the Radio Program “Path to Success” broadcasted live since May 2018 at the national radio ClubFM, every Tuesday and Thursday at 16:00 hrs!

This special session, part of the program “Makinë me dy timona”, brings lively information on career and job orientation through the lens of humor and attractiveness. Interviews with young people who have pursued different successful career paths are highly attended by the audience.



Towards the creation of the Official Tourism Portal for Gjirokastra region

Risi Albania brought together tour operators, businesses, representatives from the local government and academia from Gjirokastra, which agreed to create and participate in the management of a body that will be responsible for the Official Tourism Portal for Gjirokastra region.

“This portal is the right tool that will bring us together and work for our common goal, promoting Gjirokastra as a tourism destination” – said Sadi Petrela, from Gjirokastra Foundation. Risi presented the participants with best practices and models from Albania and abroad aiming to make the first steps towards the creation of the Gjirokastra Web-portal. Gjirokastra Mayor Mrs. Zamira Rami delivered a short address where she emphasized the Municipality’s full support for this initiative, which will be managed by local stakeholders and supported by Risi Albania.



UPCOMING EVENTS

3 July 2018

First workshop on transferring new technologies in Albania
“SAP HANA”

5 July 2018

Presenting the results of the study “Estimation of Sectorial Job multiplier in Albania”

September 2018

Research on Career Guidance Service level at public and private universities in Albania