



Project Title: Tracking Campaign Promises in Albania

UDF-17-774-ALB

Activity: Output 1.3: A second report prepared which will track the promises made by 61 elected mayors during the local elections of 30 June 2019.

The report is a baseline data that will be enriched with other data during June 2019 – February 2021. All the data gathered will be fact checked in the truth-o-meter and a report related with status of promises will be published on the web and social media on March 2021 (Activity 1.3.4.).

Elected Mayors Promises – 30 June 2019

1. Mr. Sotiraq Filo, Municipality of Korça

My main goal in this mandate is to expand the successful management model of the Municipality of Korca, which resulted in the transformation of the city and return of citizens' confidence and hope, in every village and area that is joining us. Dynamic development based on a concrete action plan of every area within the new municipality, unification of infrastructure standard with a rehabilitated irrigation system, potable water system in every village, reconstructed road and fields, will be just the first step towards reaching this goal.

The surrounding villages need some urgent interventions, requiring few investments, but having a great impact in improving the living conditions. A lightning system for the public areas in villages, rehabilitation of inner streets and grounds, potable water, health care centers, etc, will be the first interventions as a part of 300-day plan of the Municipality.

Not only projects for infrastructure development, but project packages as well dedicated to agriculture, youth employment, older people, are projects which will enable these areas where almost 30% of the Municipality's population live, to go towards a sustainable development, so that the inhabitants of these areas have a new perspective, more concrete opportunities for better education, better healthcare, greater attention for vulnerable people, employment opportunities besides agriculture, entertainment opportunities for children and young people and increased chances for a better life quality.

We will expand the map of tourist villages in the Municipality with an integrated development program in order to build specific and attractive profiles, such as:

Rruga e shijes (taste way) - (Boboshticë – Dardhë). This will be a network of restaurants, guest houses that will promote traditional cooking of the area; there will be markets selling bio products from the area and traditional food festivals.

Rruga e Qumështit (Milky way) - (Bulgarec – Çiflig). This will be a network of farms that produce and process milk and meat products. This is the area where we plan to develop the model of farming tourism.

Rruga e frymëzimit (Inspiration way) - (Mborje – Drenovë). We have planned to revitalize the road along Bozdovec and Mborje streams with greenery, relaxing spaces, walking areas along the river, creating an inspirational park between Mborje and Drenova.

Investments in these areas, as part of our development program, will be made through public investments, public-private partnership and incentive schemes with low taxes, grants and soft financing.

Within the first year of the mandate, we will build the new Bus Terminal at the city entrance, freeing definitely the space in front of the Bazar and other parking spaces for the buses in Korça. Within the first year, we will complete the final stage of sewerage system in Korça and will start to work for expanding the map with each village of the new municipality. We will build the Tourist Ring Road of the Municipality which will link by road infrastructure the tourist areas in geographical nearness. We will improve the road infrastructure, lightning system and will rehabilitate the cultural monuments in tourist villages like Dardha, Voskopoja and Vikthuq. Also, we plan to support with grants the establishment of a network of 50 traditional guest houses in Korça and tourist areas, establishment of ski area and resorts in Dardha and Voskopoja, creation of Tourist Information Offices in town and villages and organization of festivals and new events that promote traditions and characteristics of villages around Korça.

A special structure will be set in the Municipality, which will have several sub-divisions related to land issues, agricultural market, water and waste management, production, processing, etc. Land management will be our priority for the coming years aiming a sustainable development of agricultural and non-agricultural activities related to land.

Mr. Sotiraq Filo also promised that there will be an Agency for Investment Promotion in the Municipality of Korça. This Agency will be a special structure for promoting investments in several sectors in the whole territory if the new municipality, in order to have more business, development and employment opportunities. The Municipality will continue to give special attention to housing process which is an issue that needs solving. He informed that 70 low cost houses will be given to homeless within the first year of the new mandate. “For the first time we will offer free land equipped with infrastructure for building 55 new houses for new households. 100 bonuses of housing given only this year will follow 300 more. For the first time during this mandate we will build social houses for families with no incomes, hoping to solve the housing issue”.

2. Mr. Dritan Leli, Municipality of Vlorë

We will solve definitely the waste issue and will build the landfill; will improve the process of city cleaning services and waste disposal; will start the projects for urban waste recycling; will put into function the wastewater plant; will forbid categorically the waste burning in the Municipality of Vlora territory; dumping wastewaters into the sea will be totally forbidden and there are already identified 18 purge streams that will prevent the sea to be polluted; we will complete the trans-Balkan road and the new Bypass; new investments will be made in 8 main roads of the city;

We will build the Lungomare; will build link between the villages and national roads, will supply the city for 24 hours/day with potable water; will approve the regulating plan for the large Municipality of Vlora; grounds, streets, sidewalks and the whole inner infrastructure of the city will be rehabilitated; streets and pedestrian areas will be built; we will make green all the free spaces and will afforest the city’s garland; we will discipline the vehicle movement and parking; will lighten public streets and areas; public transport will be made contemporary; a terminal for the city will be established; conditions of kindergartens and nurseries will be improved; we will establish summer camps for the children all over the city; equality in tax and tariff collection; public transparency for all decision-making process; a unique portal for the services; civic voting for the important projects.

We will organize local referendums. Citizens will be part of the decision making process for the city. They will be able to vote from their computers regarding the projects in Vlora. Such approach increases transparency and civic decision-making.

A huge pilot-project will start on property recording because being equipped with documents on the property is a necessity. I will make my best to find a solution for this issue during my 4-year mandate as mayor. After 4 years, each property you have will have more value. There will be a master plan for the irrigation systems; New markets for agricultural and farming products; a new marketplace for the sea products; we will provide more food safety; will help the farmers by making costless publicity for them; Tourism, an investment on service quality. We should make

possible that the tourists wish to come back again; we need to turn Sazan and Karaburun into important tourist areas; tourist season will not only last 45, rather 365 days. We will organize celebrations and establish regional promotional offices;

We will promote the celebrations of all other regions by making a tourist pilgrimage; we will rehabilitate Muradie quarter, Justin Godart street, Kanina fortress, Zvërnec isle and will turn them into proper tourist destinations creating the necessary infrastructure as well; we will build the new park in Soda Forest. We will employ more women; will build the daily center for the elderly by providing an important service that has been missing in our city; we will build culture centers for children; will create necessary conditions and more infrastructure for disable people; will offer seasonal employment for the people in need; we will build the cinema of Vlora.

Also, we will build specialized labs in schools for a more qualitative learning process; will support the excellent students and pupils; we will organize the Mediterranean Folk Festival; will restore the swimming pool for sport events; will organize international sport events. We will promote the urban, economic and social development along with architects and urbanists and also will promote the civic engagement in decision making process.

3. Mr. Erion Veliaj, Municipality of Tirana

Meeting with old Tirana citizens.

Kashar lake will be turned into a park, similar to the Artificial Lake.

Meeting in Unit 10

- We need to integrate the urban with the rural links and create 19 – 20 links in the territory of the new Municipality of Tirana.
- Doubling the links will ensure less traffic in Tirana because the quality of public transportation will improve.
- We will try to eliminate the inequality among schools, kindergartens, nurseries between the city and its villages.
- In the first 4 years, we aim to have 100 kindergartens and 200 nurseries for 1 million inhabitants.

Meeting with environmentalists

- We are determined that all the incomes generated from parking will go to make the city green.

Meeting in Kashar

- Tirana will have minimally 4 markets in all its entrance points and this will make up for a safe market for the domestic products.

Meeting in Unit 4

- The first decision we will make is to give away social houses. This will be made public.

Meeting with young people.

- We will create the Youth Council;
- * We will plan a budget for the young people.
- * Student card will be a reality.
- * Schools will be considered as community centers.
- * We will increase safety in schools.
- * We will promote young entrepreneurship.
- * Sport teams and championships among schools will be a reality.
- * Business incubator will be established.
- * Youth centers will be Tirana's reality.

Veliaj on schools

- We will ensure heating systems in nurseries, kindergartens and schools within the first year of our mandate.
- 5 new nurseries will be built within our first mandate.
- There will be 8 integrated kindergartens with nurseries within our first mandate.
- We will build 10 new schools within our first mandate.

Veliaj on tourism

- Drawing up a tourist guide in both Albanian and English containing everything what Tirana has to offer.
- Tour guides and maps to be used for one-day / half-day trips.
- Webpages to promote tourism in Tirana.

- Negotiations on building a hotel in Tirana as part of the international hotel network.

Meeting with sportsmen

- Rehabilitation of gyms and sport areas in all Tirana's schools.
- Sport areas in every administrative unit in Tirana.
- Partnership with fans and Tirana football team.
- Support to all sport clubs operating in the Municipality's territory.
- During the first year, sport funds from the Municipal budget will double.
- Sport areas will increase double for each 100 thousand inhabitants (within the first year).
- 90 new sport areas in the free spaces between blocks.
- There will be 40 sport spaces in 4 years.
- Rehabilitation of all municipal sport spaces.

Meeting in Zallbatar

- It is necessary to make 3.5 km road to link it with Rruga e Arbërit.
- There will be a marketplace for all area's products in Tirana's entrance part (road to Dibra).

Meeting in Unit 6

- In cooperation with the Ministry of Health, we will build a healthcare center in Yzberisht.
- Rehabilitation of school "Lasgush Poradeci" and kindergartens 21 and 34.
- We will build a kindergarten and a secondary school in the area of new ring road, near KMY, in Yzberisht.
- Rehabilitation of sport space in the center of Kombinat area estimated 18 thousand m square.

Veliaj on social care

- We will establish 3 social dining halls to provide free food for underprivileged people.
- 5 center will be established for the elderly.
- Social re-integration program.

- Ensuring access in public institutions in Tirana for disable people.
- There will be a program for protection and care of street children.
- Within 100 first days, social houses will be given (385 houses).
- Drafting policies for social housing.

Meeting in Unit 2

We will start immediately the reconstruction of many amortized roads and open manholes in this area which is a concern for the inhabitants.

Meeting in Peze

- Integration of Peze village roads with Tirana.
- Construction of Pezë – Gjysyl Konjë road (4 km) and Varoshi road (2 km).
- Public transport links with Tirana.
- Rehabilitation of marketplaces.
- Putting into function the irrigation systems in Municipality of Tirana territory.
- Establishing Agronomic and Veterinary Center for assisting farmers.
- Establishing several collecting points for agricultural and farming products.
- Initiative for agricultural farms and businesses.

Meeting in Unit 5

- We will rehabilitate completely canalizations in all areas of this unit which present problems during rainy weather.
- After June 21st, we will terminate immediately the contract with the company that does not perform cleaning services.

Veliaj on infrastructure

- Urgent rehabilitation of all broken roads.
- Intervention for fully using canals in order to avoid flooding.
- Putting manholes in all damaged streets and sidewalks.
- Getting back of public green areas taken illegally.

- Creation of spaces for public transportation.

Meeting in Unit 8

- Rehabilitation and construction of many damaged roads in this unit.

Veliaj on cadasters

- During our mandate, 385 housing blocks and 20 thousand households will have full documentation on their homes.
- The Municipality will inspect the procedures for the new buildings.
- Within the first mandate, all housing blocks will have an administrator licensed by the Municipality.

Veliaj on agriculture

- The Municipality will support with grants all those that have a project on agricultural crops.

Veliaj on the Zoo

- The Zoo will be the place that Tirana deserves.
- We will integrate the Zoo with the Botanic Garden and the Lake Park.
- We will create three islands (Lake Park – Botanic Garden – Zoo) linked with each other where nice spaces will be created for having a great day or weekend.

Veliaj on city traffic

- We will invest on building underground parking places through PPPs.
- We will fight against every abusive construction permit and tender.
- We will totally re-concept the bus routes in Tirana; from 10 routes that are actually, we plan to make 19-20 new routes.

Meeting in Unit 1

- A new bridge will be built in Shkoze.

Veliaj on pollution

- Building a new plan for waste processing and recycling.
- Waste burning will be strictly forbidden.

- We will start cleaning the river wastes.
- We will build a new modern plan for processing wastewaters.

Veliaj on constructions

- For as long as I am the mayor of Tirana, there are no construction permits in Don Bosco Center.
- There will be no construction permits at Lake Dam.

Veliaj with the businesses

- We will not encourage constructions in areas where buildings are many.
- There will be no more construction permits if the apartments have not been sold yet.
- In cooperation with the Ministry of Economy, we will lend depots to those businesses that are focused on “MADE in TIRANA” products: 1 Euro/m².

Meeting in Unit 10

After June 221st, we will free the space of parking places occupied illegally.

Meeting in Krrabë

- Our goal is to turn Krrabe into a tourist attraction area for the city, so that its inhabitants go back and offer their services.
- We will make policies of “KM 0” so that people from Tirana buy here what they need.
- Improvement of public transportation.
- Water supply systems for Mushqeta and Skuterrë villages.
- Reconstruction of several roads.
- Establishing a sport space for the young people in Krrabë.

Meeting in Unit 6 (Kashar)

- For the entire new ring road area, we have promised to build a school and a kindergarten.
- Healthcare center that is missing in the area, will be built.

Meeting in Unit 9

- In the first municipal meeting, decision on giving away social houses will be made.

- We will plan to build other social houses considering the needs.

Meeting in Farkë

It is in the Municipality's plans to intervene on the road infrastructure in all area of Farkë.

Meeting in Unit 8

- Freeing of all occupied spaces.
- No more selling on the street, there will be a marketplace.

Meeting in Unit 7

- We will start rehabilitating 71 amortized roads.

Meeting in Baldushk

- We promise to supply with water dome of Baldushk areas.
- Public transportation in Baldushk.
- Cleaning and maintenance of several reservoirs.
- Bridge Koçaj-Veski will be built.
- Road Koçaj-Veski-Parret-Shënkollë will open.

Veliaj with veterans

- Public spaces in every quarter.
- There may be veteran houses, where to serve morning coffee and newspapers with a low cost.
- In 24 units, we need to partner with the veterans' community.
- Establish an inventory of veterans' personal objects that need restoring.

Veliaj with students

- There will be a special municipal fund in encouraging youth employment.
- We will make possible for 1000-1200 young people to have their internship in the Municipality.
- During the first mandate, we will start the distribution of the Student Card.

Meeting in Unit 9

Permits issued before the moratorium will be revised. The ones that need to be canceled, will be so.

Meeting, Chamber of Commerce

- Establishing 3 terminals in Tirana's entrance for the public transportation. They can be made through partnering with businesses.
- During out first 100 days, we want to create and start Tirana Economic Council.
- There will be progressive taxes.

Veliaj in Bërzhitë

- We will ensure a good transportation line for Bërzhitë.
- Water supply system in Upper Ibe will be complete.
- Reconstruction of Skurrane dam for supplying with water several villages.
- Cleaning of irrigation canals in Killojkë and Pëllumbas.
- Reconstruction of secondary school in Mihajas.
- Construction of a healthcare center in Mihajas.
- Opening a road 3.5 km linking several villages to the national road.

Meeting at "Selman Stërmasi" Stadium

- I will not sign, nor renovate any contracts that take away assets of Tirana club to give to third parties.
- We will cooperate with the Government so that the national stadium be outside Tirana.
- Other sport areas in town will have the due attention.
- The Municipality will help other sport clubs in Tirana.

4. Mr. Fredi Kokoneshi, Municipality of Divjakë

Announcement of a new program in cooperation with EBRD and second level banks to have about 100 thousand million dollars a year, will be made available to all those farmer enterprises that

create value chain and increase employment. We will revive the center of Divjakë, its irrigation system etc.

Starting this year, the Municipality of Divjakë established the Agriculture Department which is counseling and orienting farmers. This department informs and assists all farmers that wish to apply for subsidies offered by the central government. The Municipality of Divjakë plans to clean all irrigation canals within 4 years.

5. Mr. Armando Subashi, Municipality of Fier

Re-elected as Major of Fier Municipality. During the electoral campaign, he promised to the Fier's citizens that he would be the major of all people, without political prejudice. He promised that he would respect rule of law and civil freedom as based on the Albanian Constitution. Furthermore, Subashi was a candidate mandated from the Socialist party.

In general, during the electoral campaign of 2019, the Socialist Party did not have a clear program, with specific issues regarding the municipalities. Almost, all the candidates, including Mr. Subashi proposed general things, such as development of tourism and agriculture, without specifying those issues. Moreover, there is no transparency of the promises and information at the Municipality web.

6. Mr. Ndreç Dedaj, Municipality of Mirditë

There will be a water supply system and a new system for urban waste collection. These elections are for the Albanian people to decide to have investments in their areas: a school, a kindergarten, potable water, clean canals. Housing a group of people who live in ghetto and surroundings will be one of my priorities.

Within 300 first days of my mandate, all roads leading to villages' centers will be accessible by small vehicles as well. There will be made a plan on cultural tourism and cultural heritage of Mirditë.

7. Mr. Gëzim Topciu, Municipality of Maliq

We will create the necessary infrastructure for irrigating and draining the Maliq field. We will complete the veterinary reform. Employment will be developed. The Municipality of Maliq will be the laboratory for a great transformation. There will be a strategy in place for developing and supporting the agriculture sector. Civic participation and transparency will be encouraged.

8. Mr. Fatos Tushe, Municipality of Lushnjë

He promised to the citizens that until December, 1600 new jobs will be created in a fason business that is operating in Lushnje. Another promise made by mr.Tushe is the return of the Agriculture University in Lushnjë. According to him, very soon a university campus will start very soon with the support of the government.

There will be many investments in agriculture and infrastructure in order to create favorable conditions for business development and increase employment, generate incomes for all Lushnja people.

9. Mr. Tërmet Peci, Municipality of Tepelenë

He promised the economic development for the area. There will be investments to make Tepelenë a tourist destination. Unemployment issue will be solved through cooperation with the Government; also there will be new projects which will bring advantages in this aspect. Also, there is a plan for the next four years to approach large companies to operate their businesses here. In the meantime, the Municipality will create the opportunities to find the facilities.

A department for fason is under process and 100 people will be employed at the beginning. The main focus of the Municipality will be management and administration of agricultural products in cooperation with the inhabitants of the area, to make these products competitive in the domestic market and generate as well sufficient incomes for their families and also encourage employment. On the other hand, through projects with the Ministry of Agriculture, we will work for putting into function the entire irrigation system which currently is an issue.

10. Mr. Kastriot Gurra, Municipality of Librazhd

There will be investments in roads with standards. Also, a department for road maintenance will be established in the Municipality, because it is important roads are maintained. We promise that within the first mandate we provide the power and water supply all healthcare centers so that they operate properly. Also, we will make a proper identification of kindergartens and schools' situation. Roads Mirakë-Gurëshpatë, Librazhd-Spathar, Librazhd-Babje, Dragostunjë-Veçan will be rehabilitated. Reforms, investments or budgets will be approved by consulting the public, therefore we will organize public hearing in every quarter of the new Municipality.

Let the inhabitants be the ones who determine the investments in the area they live and let their voices be heard. We will create a municipal department that will make an evaluation of the damages made to forests until now. We will supervise rigorously the permits issued by previous experts or directors. Completing the road to Stëbleve will be a great opportunity for bringing in

tourists; we plan to establish a tourism office and will prepare a map of the territory in order to explore natural attractions. In cooperation with the Municipality, we will decide if we should have a landfill of our own or use the one of Elbasan. Villages that before were blocked by snow for months, will be managed differently in order to solve the issue. Measures will be taken for the roads blocked by the snow and in cooperation with the businesses of these areas, will try to solve the issue.

We will ensure more awards for the children and their education. We will offer facilities with loans for providing shelter to those families that are in difficulties. Through financing and farming promotion, we will be able to double and triple the number of livestock. We will open collection points and refrigerating store rooms that will be a great opportunity for inhabitants and their products to sell.

11. Mr. Arif Tafani, Municipality of Belsh

We will improve the road infrastructure, education and healthcare facilities in the Municipality of Belsh. The main objective when we start our work is to create civic boards. Consulting the public on budgeting, territory planning and investments will be my priorities for engaging the public in decision-making.

A final solution will be given to potable water supply issue. There will be projects on rural infrastructure, especially irrigation systems and their maintenance. We will consolidate and expand the tobacco association, assistance with municipal experts and specialized offices in preparing contracts with farmers. Farmers need to understand that by signing a collective contract with the association, their rights are better protected. We will establish the agricultural marketplace in Belsh, a large refrigerator for storing products until they are sold, create other associations such as wine growers, olive, etc. they will be advised to operate according to legal framework as trading subjects in providing agricultural inputs, seeds, pesticides, saplings, fertilizers, mechanics, etc. Personally, I will act as an advocate for farmers in front of the Government and other institutions to ask for and protect their rights. For the first time I will enable the service of waste management in the entire territory of the Municipality which today is missing.

12. Mr. Ervin Demo, Municipality of Berat

Ervin Demo, SP candidate for Mayor in the Municipality of Berat said that he will make reality a concrete development program for Berta, with investments in infrastructure and services. He promised he will restore the citizens' faith in the Local Government and will make of Berat a favorite tourist destination. "During the first mandate as a mayor of Berat, I will work to extend the tourist season which means more incomes for the citizens. We will work for integrating young

people in labor market and development, we will encourage farmers to work more, we will turn Berat into a great tourist destination and will use favorably the assets and natural resources and generate more incomes. Part of my project is the “bypass” for the city – a dream for decades long.

13. Mr. Lefter Alla, Municipality of Bulqizë

Bulqize should have the attention that lacks for years. This is the moment for promoting investments in educations, healthcare, infrastructure, tourism, agriculture, etc. Bulqizë is a region that has a lot of opportunities which should be exploited in order to increase the level of wellbeing for its citizens.

According to Alla, the next four years will see the wastewater system completed, second stage of irrigation system completed; the issue of students’ transportation will be solved and a factory for milk processing in the area will be established.

14. Mr. Ardian Gurma, Municipality of Sarandë

The candidate points out that the city has great potentials for tourism development. “the Municipality of Saranda will be in the lead of all touristic municipalities of the country because its development potentials are great. 10 million in investments have been planned for the new promenade area, which is a large amount. An investment on infrastructure inside residence blocks has been planned. I have seen there is a need for intervention. In the coming four years, our focus will be Ksamil. I cannot promise wonders but I can ensure that Ksamil in the next years will be much better than today”.

15. Mr. Andis Salla, Municipality of Cërrik

The candidate for Mayor in Cërrik, Andis Salla, held a meeting with the young people of the town. “Massive participation of young people is the best answer for those who are skeptical about the elections.

The young people of Cërrik will vote first for their future. Cërrik’s fantastic landscape and its geographical position make of it a true tourist destination. Investments will be my priority”.

16. Mrs. Majlinda Qilimi, Municipality of Delvinë

“I want to revitalize this town by creating more green spaces, more playgrounds for children, but also put it in service to businesses. After that, we will work with the streets of the town and those what link it with the villages”. The SP candidate has an alternative for the tourist development of the area. “Delvinë has ancient historical values. Unfortunately, what we lack today is a museum and I will work for it in the first place. Its restructuring will serve to tourism in the area, along with the natural resources”. She also promised to establish a social care center for the vulnerable people of the community.

17. Mr. Eduart Duro, Municipality of Devoll

“I will put all my potential to your service in order to bring a change in the Municipality of Devoll. There will be concrete plans especially for the agriculture. Also, concrete plans will be developed for tourism. There is a lot to do, there are many historical places; our geographical position favors us. The wellbeing in every family will grow, we will make young people pursue their professions here, not abroad and put their skills and knowledge in service of their community, town and villages of Devolli. Concrete sports projects will be implemented; we will work together for doing our best for our community”.

18. Mr. Dionis Imeraj, Municipality of Dibër

Full reconstruction of recreational center for the elderly and drafting specific plans, will for sure improve the quality of life. “Within the first year of my position as mayor, we will rehabilitate the Lake of Grama, so that water supply for the village inhabitants is unstoppable. We will rehabilitate and maintain the irrigation canals in order to perform better the watering processes. Potable water supply in each living residence in villages where there is none. Asphaltting the roads within the villages for the administrative unit of Kastriot. Together we can go safe towards the development of each village and area. Every citizen’s request will be addressed and examined carefully”.

19. Mr. Dhimitraq Toli, Municipality of Dropull

“Our election slogan is: A new start for our Dropull and Pogon. I and the other candidates for municipal advisors will achieve objectives that will be focused on turning our area in a model municipality. The main problem here is the potable water – through investments that the Municipality will undertake, will enable 24-hours water supply for the citizens. Another problem that requires immediate solution is certification of real estate: we will create opportunities for

helping the citizens solve this issue. Also, we will increase the budget percentage on education so that our kids have better schooling conditions. We will improve of course road infrastructure. Healthcare service will be made available to all citizens of Dropull.

Another important topic here is setting up farmers into associations and collecting agricultural and farming products, their certification and opportunities for these products to enter the market.

20. Mrs. Valbona Sako, Municipality of Durrës. Resigned and as per now 30 April 2020 the Municipality of Durrës is without an elected mayor.

Meeting with as much citizens as possible in Durrës, in order to understand what are the problems and find the best solutions. Concerning the vision for a sustainable support for young people, we will create a youth campaign, where through dialogue with them, the possible ways will be identified for involving and engaging them.

Five top priorities of the program:

- Increase of transparency and accessibility to services that the Municipality of Durrës will offer;
- Strengthen the role of youth and women
- More green spaces
- More attention to suburban and rural areas;
- Investments and cooperation for important projects on tourism and culture.

21. Mr. Gledian Llatja, Municipality of Elbasan

- Elbasan will have the dimensions of a city of European standards to continue with reforms and addressing the problems of citizens;
- The Municipality of Elbasan will be close to farmers in order to develop the rural areas;
- Children will be a priority for the Municipality of Elbasan so that we build a city of European standards.

22. Mr. Kristo Kiqo, Municipality of Finiq

- We will make a model of the Municipality of Finiq just like its citizens and minorities that are part of it;
- There are about 60 villages in the area and we promise to the citizens of these villages that they will have roads, potable water and power supply which are essential for a normal living;
- We will solve the problem of properties, will give back the citizens the property rights so that they leave the legacy to their children;
- We will focus on educations, which is one of the reasons why people leave their families. Our job is to create conditions so that children are educated here;
- We need to take measures for ensuring public safety and order. The numbers of police force in Livadhja will increase.
- Construction of Saranda Airport: "I don't want to give dates and terms, but it is safe to say that in these four coming years, the airport will start constructing. You will be able to go to Greece in 30 minutes.
- This municipality will be near to every retired person and every family in Finiq area.

23. Mr. Fran Tuci, Municipality of Fushë – Arrëz (re-candidacy)

- Rehabilitation of the inner water supply system and replacement of the old one. It will result in an increasing quantity of potable water collection in respective reservoirs;
- Urban revitalization of Fushë – Arrëz;
- Economic growth by 5%;
- Supply with potable water for the entire area;
- There will be cooperation between the Municipality and the other institutions, such as education, healthcare and power supply;
- More recreational and relax areas in the Municipality;
- Sports will be supported by financing young teams in football and ball games and other disciplines as well such as mountain climbing and winter sports.

- A special fund will be created and the children folk group will be promoted so that tradition and identity is preserved.
- Twinning process with other cities outside Albania.
- A library will be established in town through donations.
- A special fund will be created for the best students.
- More cultural activities in town
- More sport areas in the Municipality's territory
- Gjecovian days will become a tradition in Kryezi village.
- Waste will be managed in the Municipality.
- Health and tourism will be developed.
- Mountain tourism will be applied.
- Professional management of medicinal plants.
- A working group will be created in every village to identify problems and eliminate social conflicts.
- The first three months after the elections a meeting will representatives from all areas will take place to discuss about the results achieved.
- There will be transparency about the incomes granted by the Governments for the poor families, disable people and orphans.
- There will be cooperation with non-governmental organization, charity institutions to improve the conditions of families in need.

24. Mr. Klodian Tace, Municipality of Gramsh

One of the promises of the candidate for mayor of Gramsh was the removal of HEC that is being built on Holte canyons.

25. Mr. Flamur Golemi, Municipality of Gjirokastër

Golemi promised that he is willing to work for Gjirokastra and serve as its mayor by being devoted to it. "There is no time to lose; together we will implement projects for Gjirokastra starting with Çerçiz Square, underground parking, sports hall, bus terminal, etc. These are some of the projects,

because there will be many more that will be implemented through support of the Government for these 4 coming years”.

26. Mr. Liman Morina, Municipality of Has

“My priority is the construction of road that links the administrative units with the national road. Also, it is imperative to build new schools and rehabilitate the existing ones”.

27. Mr. Jorgo Goro, Municipality of Himarë

During the next 4 years, new investments will come for Himara. The work for the water supply system has started and this is a great investment that would solve finally the issue. We will continue to change the tourist infrastructure such as squares and promenades like the one of Borsh. Also, our Municipality and its units will be able to link with each other through Lake Road of Vlora.

We will keep what we promised: Himara will be the best tourist municipality in Albania and the heart of Albanian tourism.

28. Mr. Rakip Suli, Municipality of Kamzë

Rakip Suli said to the citizens that the immediate attention of the local governance in Kamez for the next 4 years will be focused on improving the infrastructure in the area. There is a great need to establish kindergartens and nurseries for kids in Kamzë. Also, Mr. Suli promised that he will work in planning and creating recreational spaces, playgrounds and relaxing areas, waste management for a more quality and healthy lifestyle.

29. Mr. Redjan Krali, Municipality of Kavajë

Rural areas are without power, with ordinary streets and no potable water. During the past two years, no promise made to the citizens was kept and what is worse, waste bins are not cleaned up. During our 4-year mandate, we will rehabilitate the irrigation systems; we will have projects for revitalizing the urban area by rehabilitating the infrastructure and improving the potable water supply.

30. Mr. Klement Ndoni, Municipality of Këlcyrë

No meetings were organized with this candidate since it is his third candidacy. There were many confrontations with citizens of Këlcyrë area during the last year related to removal of 30 building in town (construction of a pedestrian area).

31. Mr. Ilmi Hoxha, Municipality of Klos

The candidate for mayor of Klos pointed out that he personally will work to give a solution to concerns and problems of citizens, adding that his priority will be the development of Klos area. “I will listen attentively to people, so that we make progress with our projects for the future of our municipality, which will be entirely in service of the community, their needs and expectations. Me and my team will do our best to make things right and I am sure that the success of our governance will be dedicated to each one’s contribution.

32. Mr. Erion Isaj, Municipality of Kolonjë

- All the region should wake up and make Kolonja accessible for tourism and agro-tourism;
- Playgrounds for kids in Erseka and Leskovik
- Social houses for disabled people and a place where older people meet together and talk.
- Better schools.

For Rehova village:

- New water supply system;
- Rehabilitation of 80 villages’ entrances;
- Subsidies for establishing guesthouses;
- Urban rehabilitation of the village center;
- New cobblestones for the streets;
- Rehabilitation of the road to Rehova

For Borova village:

- New water supply system;
- Rehabilitation of Tote Bridge

- New cobblestones;
- Urban rehabilitation;
- Putting into function the Massacre museum (Borova Museum);

For Barmash village:

- Construction of the inner network for the water supply system;
- New projects in service of the community of the area;

For Leskovik:

- New water supply system;
- Rehabilitation of road Ersekë – Leskovik;
- Rehabilitation of Sarandapor’s spa road;
- We will make Leskovik the most visited tourist attraction for domestic and foreign tourists.

For Selenica village:

- New water supply system;
- Rehabilitation of irrigation systems;
- Subsidies for farmers;
- Improvement of services’ quality.

For administrative unit of Mollas:

- New water supply system;
- Urban rehabilitation of Mollas center

33. Mr. Shuaip Beqiri, Municipality of Konispol

Beqiri promised more investments and better services for the citizens of Konispol during a second mandate. He mentioned the construction of Saranda Airport that will bring a change for the areas of Saranda, Konispol and Finiq.

34. Mr. Artur Bushi, Municipality of Krujë

Bushi pointed out that for Kruja is worth saying “You haven’t seen anything yet” with the new projects that we will implement”. During the meeting with the citizens the second part of the city transformation was discussed including the investment on the water supply system, road Krujë – Fushë Krujë, Kruja polyclinics, which are only a few of the investments during the second mandate for this candidate.

Also, Bushi in another meeting with the citizens pointed out that one of the most important investments in the Municipality of Kruja was the new power network. “That was a 30-year disgrace, which is being solved in Dukagjin and other villages of this municipality”, said Bushi.

35. Mr. Kreshnik Hajdari, Municipality of Kuçovë

Although there are many difficult challenges ahead that require efforts and patience, they will be implemented with dedication and willingness. The candidate promised to treat respectfully all the critics and alternatives that will be presented. After the elections, there will be a deep reformation of the administration and its method of working. The municipal offices will be the citizens’ offices and municipal clerks will be in service of the citizens.

The new municipality will offer projects and stimulating policies for businesses, encouraging thus an increase of employment. Of course, there are the objectives for improving the infrastructure. It is important to build the road Kuçovë-Lumas, because although Lumas joined the Municipality of Kuçovë after the territorial reform, there is no road to link it with Kuçova. We will start immediately with implementing the projects and with the municipal incomes or the Government help, we will make their implementation possible. Thanks to the investment and the support of the Albanian Government, Kuçova Airport will be open, as a modern NATO base, which will generate employment and revitalize the local economy.

36. Mr. Safet Gjici, Municipality of Kukës

Objectives:

- Improvement of general efficiency of local government structures – Municipality and administrative units;
- Improvement of services at all levels;
- Strengthen good governance in cooperation with citizens;

- Improvement of infrastructure;
- Increase of employment;
- There will be 2 service clerks for each village of quarter in the Municipality of Kukës (under the logo of the Municipality), who will supervise all the services: cleaning of streets, canals, waste collection, territory regulation, etc;
- For each village and city quarter, a fund will be arranged in the beginning of the year to be available for services and investments;
- Investments in villages and city quarters will be determined by the community itself (not the municipal administration);
- Amount of investments will increase up to 70% of the amount of municipal budget.
- Online portal www.kukësiqëduam.al will be created;
- An evaluation model for the Municipality's work will be created, so that citizens give their opinions and thoughts about services and their expectations. Close cooperation with Civil Society.
- Creation of new businesses will be encouraged in handicrafts, fishing, agriculture, medicinal plants, tourism. The Municipality will set special funds for young people and will cooperate with donors.

37. Mrs. Majlinda Cara, Municipality of Kurbin

“Urban revitalization will cover units of Mamurras, Milot, Fushë - Kuqan. My projects are mid-term and long term. More immediate investments include: rehabilitation of the stream across Lac. Another urgent investment in service of the community is the rehabilitation of the water supply system. This is an investment that will make the life of citizens easier.”.

Concerning the agriculture, Cara pointed out that “we will intervene urgently in cleaning up all the irrigation canals and open new ones so we make it easier for the citizens”.

38. Mr. Pjerin Ndreu, Municipality of Lezhë

“Lezha has a lot of potential, it is a tourist destination and has a rich tradition. When we have the city, we will redesign it and will radically change it. We will make investments in those administrative units where there is none”. Ndreu pointed out that “everyone agrees that in Lezha no work has been done.

A new chapter should begin, because no change has been made in Lezha. Mu urgent plan is to establish a new functional structure in the Municipality, where the way of working and communication with people should be redesigned. There is needed a very aggressive policy in managing the funds well. There are problems with the water supply. The Municipality is a building that does not attend people, does not solve problems. We will build a Municipality that responds to its citizens.”.

39. Mrs. Luiza Mandi, Municipality of Libohovë

Mandi pointed out that “we have changed the city and have built a great pedestrian area there. Also, investments have been made on road infrastructure and agriculture. All these investments have been made during the last 4 years. We need more than ever to make more investments on water supply system, Zagoria road and many others”.

40. Mr. Tonin Marinaj, Municipality of Malësi e Madhe

The candidate promised that the attention will be focused on solving the urgent problems such as water supply and infrastructure. During these 4 years, I have tried to do the best for Malësi e Madhe”.

41. Mr. Qerim Ismailaj, Municipality of Mallakastër

Investments on infrastructure in every administrative unit of the Municipality of Mallakastër will be my priority for these 4 years. In cooperation with the Government, we will have many projects to implement which will reduce unemployment.

42. Mr. Agron Malaj, Municipality of Mat

The candidate pointed out that he felt sorry that in Mat for 28 years, youth has been neglected. He ensured the young people that he has a clear program to support them. Former footballers, coaches and sport fans in the city said that local government gave too little attention to sports. Critical is the situation of sport areas and it should change immediately. Candidate Malaj promised that he will focus on changing the critical situation: there will be:

- Improvements in infrastructure;
- Reconstruction of two functional buildings;
- Lightning system;

- Recreational spaces;
- Employment opportunities;

43. Mr. Gjolek Guci, Municipality of Memaliaj

Mr.Guci said that “thanks to meetings face to face with the citizens, we have already a clear and real view of problems in the area. We are realistic that we cannot attend all the demands, but we ensure that the willingness and desire of our team to work for the development of the area will be always present. We will start by intervening in the road infrastructure and water supply systems which are vital services for the community.

Also, we will work hard to create new jobs in Memaliaj. I am faithful that together with the municipal team, we will do our best to implement the projects that we have already started and those we’ll start soon”.

44. Mrs. Rajmonda Balilaj, Municipality of Patos (third re-candidacy)

“Patos has benefited the revitalization of the center and “Republika” square and linear street as well. So, there are developed 2 km. Today, Patos has a totally reformed promenade. It is linked with the city’s ring road, which is another important investment. Two other important projects are the construction of roads by urban standards in two of our administrative units”. As far as the agricultural development is concerned, mrs. Balilaj said that “70% of infrastructure rehabilitation has been performed, which made farmers to go back to their land and increase the number of greenhouses”. Talking about the priorities of the third mandate, she said that “we will work especially towards the supply with potable water in the entire territory”.

This is one of the challenges we’ll face. We have already prepared the feasibility of the project. Now we need to find funds and start the investment. The infrastructure in developing residence blocks is another aspect. We’ll start very soon. Preparation of the general local plan opens new perspectives in the Municipality’s territory. Building the urban centers in the administrative units will be tangible very soon”.

45. Mr. Lorenc Tosku, Municipality of Peqin

For these next 4 years, the candidate promised that he will do his best so that lives of citizens in urban and rural areas feel the change. There will be:

- Improvements in service quality;
- Improvements in infrastructure;

- Improvement of life quality and every other aspect of it: education, social, cultural, healthcare, economic, sports, etc.
- For the next 4 years, we will have many investments in the area and many developments.

46. Mrs. Alma Hoxha, Municipality of Përmet

“I want to give another picture to the way of municipal management, starting with the communication with the citizens. After the elections, Përmet will be a service municipality where the citizen comes first. Great investments have been made in Përmet on infrastructure, water supply for the city, and culture and heritage as well. It is painful to see that the rural infrastructure leaves to be desired. Street conditions are very poor, and also canalizations and potable water are missing.

Investments made by the local government have been partial. I want to fully implement the projects. Quarters of Përmet are almost forgotten, there is a lack of green spaces and lightning. My challenge is to expand the urban revitalization because it will affect the tourism development.

We will greatly support businesses especially, those businesses ran by women who have small workshops and employ part-time workers.

47. Mr. Ilir Xhakolli, Municipality of Pogradec

The first in our plans comes the lake, because even today waste and wastewaters from the administrative units go into the lake. I have a project for rehabilitating the wastewater system in Bucimas and Hudenisht and streams that go into lake. The operator in charge of maintaining and cleaning the city, will have to be equipped with a machinery for cleaning the lake shore. This is a condition for the lake to be well-managed.

Another project is the rehabilitation of buildings around the city, in order to turn the grey color into happy colors just like the city deserves. It is urgent the intervention in Pogradec villages, since 53 out of 73 villages have problems with potable water, wastewaters and irrigation systems. We will revitalize the old sport activities. There will be more festive activities in the city.

48. Mr. Adriatik Zotkja, Municipality of Poliçan

On infrastructure and public services:

- Reconstruction of roads linking the administrative units with the new administrative center;

- Reconstruction of the main street in town;
- Reconstruction of Unaza e Plirzës;
- Healthcare centers will be established in every village and will be equipped as necessary;

On education, culture and sport:

- Seasonal employment for the young people;
- Reconstruction of the primary school “Refat Keli” and high school “Muhamet Kondi”;
- Transport will be provided for the students in Dodovec, Vokopolë dhe Tozhan;

On tourism and environment:

- All areas will have containers for collecting rural wastes with machineries;
- An historic-tourist resort, focusing on the activity of Mechanical Enterprise in Poliçan will be created for showing the testimony through art and tourism.

On agriculture:

- Creating centers for collecting and storing farming products in the municipality’s territory;
- Hills around the town will be planted with laurels and pomegranates that will provide a market for their export and open 500 new jobs;

49. Mr. Nuri Belba, Municipality of Prrenjas

“For the first time after 25 years, we have provided the supply with potable water for 6800 inhabitants in Fajin, Kakavec and Dritaj villages. Very soon within March 2020, all villages of administrative unit Rajcë, Bardhaj and Sutaj, potable water will be supplied 24 hours/day”. Belba promised that for the next year, children in secondary schools “Qybra Sokoli” and “Dilaver Nezha” in Qukës will continue the lessons in optimal conditions thanks to investments and facilities that are totally reconstructed.

He said that Prrenjas will be one of those municipalities that are successful with their investments because they are led by responsible persons. “Along with the support from the Government, we will continue to invest on road infrastructure which is too poor. Also, investments will be made in agriculture and employment”.

50. Mr. Gjon Gjonaj, Municipality of Pukë

“My major objective is that during the next 4 years, Puka will become a town with a developed tourism all year long”. He promised financial support for the best projects made by young people who are engaged in tourism in Puka. Mr. Gjonaj promised zero taxes for the first year for every activity in tourism sector. He pointed out that in the next 4 years, Kukaj Lake will be revitalized. He promised the adventure playground for the young people.

51. Mr. Pali Polefski, Municipality of Pustec

“Potable water supply is one of the main concerns. Waste removal is a critical topic that should be dealt immediately. Modern infrastructure and canalizations are also a priority. We will support education, will help poor students, will establish labs in schools. We will build sport spaces, playgrounds for children which actually are missing. Full transparency on municipal expenditures.

Every citizen should have the opportunity to get an answer. The mayor is citizens’ and their voices should be heard. Citizens should be informed about the projects and should give their suggestions. Our objective will be work and attraction of domestic and foreign investments. We should work for a better future for our kids and this depends on us”.

52. Mrs. Majlinda Bufi, Municipality of Roskovec (re-candidacy)

On infrastructure and public services

- Urban Plan will be compiled;
- Full reconstruction of streets including pavements, lighting services and green spaces;
- Full network of wastewaters in all quarters of the town, aiming to build the plant for managing wastewaters and those technological;
- Green spaces will be created in town such as gardens, relaxing and recreational spaces in each quarter;
- Improvement of healthcare service in every quarter, by rehabilitating the infrastructure and providing necessary equipment.

On education, culture and sports

- Organizing championships between schools will become a tradition;

- Reconstruction of the school in Jagodinë;
- New sport facilities in Kurjan school.

On agriculture

- Solve the problems of lands;
- Create a suitable agricultural infrastructure.

On economy and employment

- Facilitating policies for businesses and companies operating in the municipality's territory aiming the employment of citizens;
- Support for the graduated young people;

53. Mr. Haxhi Memolla, Municipality of Rrogozhinë

The candidate promised to focus more attention on the citizens by increasing the quality of services for them all and developing concrete programs increasing the quality of life in the area.

54. Mr. Pëllumb Binaj, Municipality of Selenicë

We will be close to each other by talking less and working more. The transformations are epic and these make us proud. We believe that we can change the situation in the Municipality of Selenicë and make of it a model.

55. Mr. Adriatik Mema, Municipality of Skrapar

By offering the citizens the right services, the municipal offices will go to citizens. The relationship with the community will have a new dynamic, according to which will be the community that will decide on development initiatives. The taxes paid by the citizens will go for good public investments.

56. Mr. Elton Arbana, Municipality of Shijak

- I want to turn Shijak into the best place for our kids;

- More work to be done for the integration of rural and urban areas;
- Support to every concern of the market sellers;
- Special attention to children of the Community Center in Shijak;
- Meetings with environment experts will be important for us where we will focus on programs for environmental protection, pollution, wastewater management, etc.
- Special attention will be given to elderly who have made a great contribution to the society.

57. Mr. Valdrin Pjetri, Municipality of Shkodër. *Resigned. As per now 30 April 2020 Mrs. Voltana Ademi (elected on the local elections of 2015) continues to be the Mayor of Shkodra until new local elections will be organized.*

The subject to every sentence is the infrastructure, kindergartens, schools, and all these are detailed in my program for the next four years. We will bring Shkodra the light it once had being the cradle of culture and civilization. There is a lack of investments in Shkodra.

Young people tends to leave the city. We have prepared a program for the young people in Shkodra where we will offer employment opportunities at the Municipality. For the first time we will introduce the financing scheme for the start-ups. If a young people has a plan for starting a new business but lack funds, the Municipality has a dedicated staff for this issue. We will build some specialized marketplaces to sell certain products such as dairy products, fish, etc and not a marketplace where everything is sold. It will create better conditions for the seller, the buyer and hygiene”.

58. Mr. Rexhë Byberi, Municipality of Tropojë

The candidate promised to be a servant for the citizens. He promised also to increase investments and restore hope.

59. Mrs. Juliana Mema, Municipality of Ura Vajgurore

During four years, a challenge was the quality of services. She asked for a second mandate in town by pointing out that the projects implemented encouraged a sustainable development of the area. “Now we need to build the municipality of the future and my vision for a second mandate is related to the identity of the municipality in considering it as an entering door to Berat, so that the tourists see it a beautiful spot where they stop and admire before they go to Berat.

There is a project for river protection which will continue and also there is a plan for construction of two bridges that will be the brand for our town to become attractive. We will focus also on arts and culture through a project to put into function the theater hall.

60. Mr. Mark Babani, Municipality of Vau i Dejës

“I believe that managerial skills are my strength. In seeing the actual municipality, without a proper orientation, with a poor infrastructure, I promise that for the first three months after the elections, we will make the most urgent interventions in infrastructure. The initiative I have undertaken is to develop agriculture. Barbullushi area are the garner of our municipality for farming products. The measures we will also undertake are those related to irrigation systems which are crucial for the development of the area. A good planning of farms should be in place. We possess perfect areas for fruit growing. Our young people go to work in Torino, Italy; they could use their experience here. We need to encourage employment by exploiting the natural resources of the area since opportunities for employment in town are almost impossible.

What we need today is a strategy and we can make use of our beautiful lake. We can make it navigable so that chances for tourism will increase. If in old villages like Lisna, Karma, we rehabilitate abandoned houses, we have the chance to gradually give hope to inhabitants to pursue these types of hospitality businesses”.

61. Mr. Agim Kajmaku, Municipality of Vorë (has Resigned) For the moment this municipality is without a Mayor.

“We will bring all the services that are missing in the area. We will set the potable water system, and will invest in infrastructure. I want to be a model mayor for the citizens”.

The mayors of three municipalities (as per 30 April 2020) – Durrës, Shkodër, Vorë – have resigned. Mrs. Voltana Ademi, Mayor of Shkodra elected on the local elections of 2015 continue to serve as the Mayor of Shkodra until other local elections will be organized.