

Strategic Investments Assisted or Special Procedure

General info

Economy name

Albania

ID

A12

Incentive name

Strategic Investments Assisted or Special Procedure

Brief description

Strategic investors/investments can be subject to an assisted or special procedure if they fall under the specific sectors covered with this incentive

Legal reference

Legal reference name

Law No.55/205 on Strategic Investments in Albania

Legal reference (Law section / article)

Article 2

"Strategic investment" are investments made in one of the strategic sectors as per the provisions of this Law;

"Strategic sectors" are the sectors specified as per this Law, which the Government of Albania considers as sectors with a high potential for the development of the economy of Albania;

"Potential strategic project", potential investment project with strategic impact on the development of the economy and the public interest, which is classified as such from the time of the initiative to develop the project by the project promoter until the time it obtains the status of "strategic investment / investor;

"Strategic investment entities" are investors that are interested in the development and execution of an investment qualified as strategic investment under this Law. Strategic investors may be domestic and foreign private legal persons

"'Strategic Investment/Investor Assisted/Special Procedure' status" is the status approved by the Strategic Investment Committee that is granted to domestic and foreign private legal persons who apply for implementing an investment project that is qualified as strategic under this Law in all of its phases of the strategic project design and implementation and operation of the strategic investment/work;

"Investment amount" is the total amount invested by an investor until the moment when the project becomes operational;

"Assisted procedure" is the administrative procedure provided for in this Law, under which the public administration follows, coordinates, assists, supervises and, if appropriate, represents a strategic investment during its implementation phases;

"Special procedure" is the administrative procedure provided for in this Law under which support is provided under special rules to strategic investment with an impact on the economy, employment, industry, technology and/or regional development, with the goal to facilitate and expedite investments;

"Strategic Investment Committee" is the Council of Ministers collegial administrative body that is specified in this Law;

"Assisting agent for the Strategic Project and/or strategic investor", the representative of the "single window" services to the strategic project/investor, who is responsible for coordinating the work and representing it vis-a-vis the investor in the one-stop services.

"Operational Group" is the ad hoc group composed of experts from line ministries from the areas in which

a strategic investment is sought to be carried out, with the goal to provide professional assistance and support in the performance of all the procedures and preparation of all the legal acts and documents, for the purposes of preparation, implementation, development and execution of a specific strategic investment project;

“Agency” is the Investment Development Agency of Albania (AIDA);

“Operational risk” is the risk of loss due to failure, shortage of resources, processes, systems or other externalities;

“Large agricultural farm” is a considerable amount of agricultural land that can be used for the intensive processing of crops, generating an impact on the economy and employment, the concept of which can serve as a model for other farms as well;

“Land consolidation” is the planned readjustment and restricting of land plots and ownership. This may include changes to land form, ownership/legal regime and use in any combination;

“Strategic investment register” is the database of all strategic investments that will be made in Albania following entry into force of this Law, which shall be managed by the Agency;

“Memorandum of Understanding”, is a generally non-binding agreement for services to the strategic project and the potential strategic investor, which envisages mutual commitments and promises of the parties for the preparation, design and implementation of strategic investment project.

“Development priority areas” are regional and/or local government areas that are designated by Council of Ministers’ Decrees and are considered for special support to promote economic development and employment.

Incentive design

Incentive group

Non-financial

Incentive category

Expediated procedures

Economy-wide/Sector-specific

Sector-specific

Sector (Simplified)

All sectors

Sector (NACE)

N/A

Size of firm that can use incentive

All sizes of firms

Level at which incentive is available

Region-specific

Ownership of firm that can use incentive

Any

Incentive location

General

Main objective of the incentive

Economic diversification

In case of grant, share of grant in investment (in %)

Access to information

Contact Info

Street "Skerdilajd Llagami", Nd. 1, H.6, Kodi postar 1019, Njësia administrative 2, Tiranë

Weblink to Incentive information in English

<https://aida.gov.al/en/strategic-investers-status/>

Weblink to Incentive information in local language

<https://aida.gov.al/en/strategic-investers-status/>

Eligibility criteria

Eligibility criteria (description)

The incentive is available for the domestic and foreign investments in the following sectors: energy and mining; transport, electronic communications infrastructure and urban waste; tourism (tourist structures); agriculture (large agricultural farms) and fisheries; economic zones; investment in the development priority areas. The criteria differs between sectors as following: IN THE POWER AND MINING INDUSTRY

an investment must be:

equal to or higher than EUR 30,000,000 (thirty million) for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Assisted Procedure"

equal to or higher than EUR 50,000,000 (fifty million) for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Special Procedure"

IN THE TRANSPORT, ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE AND URBAN WASTE INDUSTRY

an investment must be:

equal to or higher than EUR 30,000,000 (thirty million) for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Assisted Procedure"

equal to or higher than EUR 50,000,000 (fifty million) for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Special Procedure"

IN THE TOURISM (TOURIST STRUCTURES) INDUSTRY

an investment must be:

equal to or higher than EUR 5,000,000 (five million) and create at least 80 new jobs for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Assisted Procedure"

equal to or higher than EUR 50,000,000 (fifty million) for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Special Procedure"

an investment must be:

equal to or higher than EUR 3,000,000 (three million) and create at least 50 new jobs for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Assisted Procedure"

equal to or higher than EUR 50,000,000 (fifty million) for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Special Procedure"

an investment must be:

equal to or higher than EUR 5,000,000 (five million) for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Assisted Procedure"

equal to or higher than EUR 50,000,000 (fifty million) for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Special Procedure";

an investment must be:

equal to or higher than EUR 1,000,000 (one million) and create at least 150 new jobs

for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Assisted Procedure"

equal to or higher than EUR 10,000,000 (ten million) and create at least 600 new jobs for an investor/project to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor, Special Procedure"

IN THE AGRICULTURE (ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LARGE AGRICULTURAL FARM MODEL) AND FISHERIES

FOR THE SECTOR "ECONOMIC AREAS", INCLUDING ITS SUB-SECTORS
IN THE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY AREAS

The Status of strategic investor/investment—special procedure may also be granted to investors/investment

projects that, regardless not being planned to be executed in one of the sectors listed above, will have an envisaged total capital investment amount equal to or higher than EUR 100,000,000 (one hundred million).

Eligibility criteria (weblink)

Incentive administration

Awarding Authority (Name)

Council of Ministers and The Investment Development Agency of Albania (AIDA)

Application procedure + Weblink (where available)

Application at AIDA by the Ministry of line, responsible for the investment project

The application request must be accompanied by an explanatory report on the strategic importance of the project and a detailed description of the following: The total value of the investment;

The required time for investment execution;

Investment productivity and added value;

Employment opportunities and the creation of new jobs;

Project's compliance with the policies and sartorial economic priorities;

The regional and local economic development opportunities as a result of the investment;

The development opportunities and the improvement of the conditions and standards for the production of goods and provision of services;

Introduction of new technologies in order to increase competitiveness and effectiveness of the investment;

The increase of the overall level of the security and the quality of citizens' live, as a result of the implementation of the investment;

The protection of the consumers and environment, guaranteed by the investment project. Link: <https://aida.gov.al/en/strategic-investers-status/>

Implementing Authority (Name)

The Investment Development Agency of Albania (AIDA) "Single Window" and the Special Unit in the Prime Minister's Office