CENTER OF ALBANIAN DEVELOPMENT

QZHSH / CAD

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

Legal / Albanian name	Qendra e Zhvillimit Shqiptar (QZHSH)
English name	Center of Albanian Development (CAD)
Organisational type	Center
Registered	4 November 2004
Court decision	No. 200
Tax Identification Number	L41824453O
Scope	National and regional
Head office	"Vangjel Noti" Street, No. 10, Tirana, Albania
Postal code	1001
Telephone / mobile	+355 69 876 6186
Email	qzhshcad@gmail.com
Website / social media	Website : https://qzhsh-cad.lovable.app Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/qzhshcad/ Facebook : https://web.facebook.com/CenterofAlbanianDevelopment
Legal representative	Nexhmije Vata
Project Manager	Rexhina Marku

PARTNERSHIP SNAPSHOT

- Established civil-society organisation with experience in economic, social and environmental development in Albania.
- Experience in project design and management, SME training, business-plan development, environmental assessments and pollution measurement.
- Focus on youth, marginalized groups, communities and cooperation with local government, businesses and civil-society partners.
- Operational approach grounded in integrity, transparency, teamwork, respect and motivation.
- Experience in national and regional cooperation, project implementation, reporting, stakeholder communication and donor compliance.

1. Organisational Identity

History and Institutional Development

The Center of Albanian Development (QZHSH/CAD) began in the 2000s as a community-oriented group engaged in voluntary actions, discussions and workshops. In 2004, these efforts were formalised through the establishment of Qendra e Zhvillimit Shqiptar (QZHSH) as a legal entity. Since then, the organisation has focused on managing projects that contribute to economic, social and environmental development in Albania.

Over time, CAD has strengthened its organisational, technical and financial capacities while maintaining a working culture based on integrity, transparency and mutual respect. Its development has been supported by volunteers, communities, partners and donors, resulting in an established centre with a clear development vision and an innovative approach.

Governance and Organisational Structure

CAD is governed by a Board of Directors, supported by an Executive Director and operational departments, branches and volunteers. The Board is the highest decision-making body and meets at least once a year. The Executive Director is responsible for day-to-day operations, implementation of Board decisions, staff appointments and representation of the organisation.

- Branches in Elbasan, Kukës and Durrës.
- Cooperation / office presence in Ohrid, Prizren and Ulcinj.
- Project management and technical implementation supported by qualified staff and external experts.
- Financial management and reporting conducted in accordance with donor requirements and applicable Albanian rules.

Vision, Mission and Values

VISION	To raise awareness and promote new development models at national and regional level.
MISSION	To improve Albania's economic, social and environmental indicators through effective project implementation.
CORE VALUES	Integrity, teamwork, respect and motivation.

Partnerships and Networks

CAD works with local governments, businesses, civil-society organisations and other stakeholders, recognising partnership as a key mechanism for achieving sustainable results. The organisation is active in civil-society networks at national, regional and European levels.

2. Expertise & Delivery Capacity

Thematic Areas

Economic development	SME training, business-plan development, economic and financial capacity building.
Social development	Social programmes, youth engagement, support to marginalized groups, civic awareness and capacity building.
Environmental development	Environmental assessments, pollution measurement, sustainable development and environmental awareness.
Project management	Project design, implementation, monitoring, reporting, stakeholder coordination and risk management.

Technical and Organisational Capabilities

- Project concept development, proposal preparation and implementation.
- Research, surveys, interviews, questionnaires and analytical work.
- Training, workshops, seminars, round tables and public-awareness activities.
- Environmental assessments and pollution measurement, including air, water, soil and acoustic pollution.
- Business and SME support, including business-plan development and financial action planning.
- Preparation of narrative and financial reports for donors.
- Stakeholder communication with public institutions, communities, businesses and civil society.
- Monitoring, evaluation, risk management and dissemination of project results.

Human Resources & Professional Expertise

ROLE	CAPACITY / EXPERIENCE
Executive Director	Higher education in biology; civil-society knowledge; day-to-day organisational management; representation with third parties and media; staff recruitment; donor contracting and procurement.

Finance Manager	Higher education in finance; internal project financial audit; five years of project financial administration experience; accounting specialisation/licensing; budgeting, financial analysis, donor rules and procurement.
Project Manager	Higher education in law; strong public and media communication; published work on human rights; seven years of project-management experience; leadership, methodology and risk-management skills.
Local Coordinator	Higher education in business management; project data management; local implementation; activity and training organisation; stakeholder communication; narrative and financial reporting.
Social Work Expert	Higher education in sociology; eight years of social-service experience; civil-society capacity building; social project development; preparation of social policies, programmes and projects.
Accounting Expert	Higher education in finance; accounting training; membership of accountants' organisations; application of accounting standards; economic-development experience; EU-funded project financial audit.

Note: The above descriptions are professionally edited from the organisation's supplied profile and do not add qualifications or experience not documented in that source.

3. Project Experience

The following portfolio highlights projects documented in the supplied organisational profile. The descriptions have been edited for clarity and professional presentation while retaining the underlying project information.

Alternative Tourism — Place Branding Strategy

Ref. 3651 | ALTTOUR/2020/EE/3.1.3 | Interreg IPA CBC Greece–Albania | Coordinating organisation: CAD

A project supporting increased tourism through promotion of cross-border thermal resources, with work related to master plans, assessment analysis, siting techniques and capacity building. The contract focused on positioning a branding strategy and defining a common identity.

Key outputs: Tourism promotion • Cross-border cooperation • Branding strategy • Capacity building • Sustainability

Support to Produce the Sixth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Albania

Ref. 5366 | Funding: Ministry of Tourism and Environment | Period documented: December 2018–May 2019

Consultancy support for the peer review of Albania's Sixth National Report under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Key outputs: Peer review • Biodiversity • National reporting • Technical consultancy

Support to the Ministry of Tourism and Environment for the Implementation of the UNCCD National Reporting Process in Albania

Ref. 10168 | Funding: Ministry of Tourism and Environment | Coordinating organisation: CAD

Consultancy support to the Ministry of Tourism and Environment for implementation of the UNCCD national reporting process in Albania.

Key outputs: Environmental reporting • Institutional support • National process • Technical assistance

Occupational Diseases and Accidents in the Textile and Footwear Industry

Ref. 2015/370-380 SG-52 | SPAITK | EU funding | €10,650 | Tirana | 4 May–10 November 2015

The project investigated and identified cases of workers' rights violations, particularly health and safety issues, in the textile and footwear industry. Activities included interviews, surveys, questionnaires, investigation and publication of identified cases.

Key outputs: Worker health and safety • Research • Surveys • Awareness • 30 employees targeted

Building the Roadmap for Financial Sustainability for Grassroots and Youth-Led CSOs in the Western Balkans

Ref. 2022/380 | SEED | BCSDN / SIDA | €20,000 | Albania, Kosovo & North Macedonia | 1 April–30 October 2022

A capacity-building initiative for young NGO representatives working in economic development. The project addressed economic management, productivity and sustainable resource management and included training, financial action planning and practical demonstration of new approaches.

Key outputs: 40 young NGO representatives • Financial action plans • Capacity building • Economic management • SME training

Environmental Performance Audit in the Project for the Development of Natural Resources

Ref. P149638 | APMPZHRN | World Bank Office in Tirana / SIDA | €60,000 | Albania | 5 February 2016–30 September 2017

Activities supporting sustainable natural-reserve management in 20 municipalities whose soils were prone to erosion. The project addressed productivity, sustainable resource management, land degradation, water management and biodiversity conservation.

Key outputs: 20 municipalities • Environmental assessment • Action plans • Capacity building • Sustainable natural-resource management

Promotion of Volunteering among the Youth of Elbasan

Ref. AL/44/2017 | PVRE | Civil Society Support Agency | €10,000 | Elbasan, Albania | 15 June 2016–12 July 2017

A youth-focused initiative designed to encourage participation in voluntary practices and strengthen young people's contribution to the improvement of social services.

Key outputs: Youth engagement • Volunteering • Social services • Awareness materials

Promotion of Intercultural Dialogue among Young People in the Balkans

Ref. M/1/2015 | PDNRB | European Union | €50,000 | Balkan countries | 14 September 2016–15 October 2017

A regional initiative promoting intercultural dialogue among young people through non-formal learning. Activities included trainings, seminars, workshops and round tables, supported by awareness materials and dissemination of knowledge.

Key outputs: Youth dialogue • Non-formal learning • Regional cooperation • Training • Dissemination

To Spread New Development Models

Ref. AL/40/125 | TPMRZH | Civil Society Support Agency | 2,700,000 ALL | Kukës Municipality | 14 April 2019–15 January 2020

The project promoted and disseminated new development models among community groups and local-government institutions. Activities included trainings, studies, surveys, questionnaires, reports, seminars, workshops and round tables.

Key outputs: Community development • Local government • Training • Research • Awareness

Youth Fights for a Better Future

Ref. 136/14 | YFBF | UNODC | USD 16,000 | Municipality of Tirana | 15 December 2021–30 September 2022

A youth-focused initiative aimed at training, informing and strengthening young people's capacities to become active in addressing drug abuse in the community. Activities included training, promotional videos, studies, surveys, reports and round tables.

Key outputs: Youth capacity building • Community awareness • Prevention • Training • Communication

Portfolio Themes Demonstrated

- Environmental protection, biodiversity and sustainable natural-resource management.
- Youth participation, volunteering, intercultural dialogue and capacity building.

- Economic development, SME support and financial sustainability of civil-society organisations.
- Governance, public awareness, social services and protection of workers' rights.
- National reporting and technical assistance to public institutions.
- Regional and cross-border cooperation across Albania and the Western Balkans.

Geographic Experience

National	Albania, including Tirana, Elbasan, Kukës and other municipalities/regions.
Regional	Western Balkans and Balkan cooperation, including Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia and other participating countries.
Cross-border	Experience documented through Greece–Albania cooperation and wider Balkan/regional partnerships.

6. Organisational Strengths & Partnership Readiness

Institutional Strengths

- Qualified personnel and experts with multidisciplinary backgrounds.
- Strong local knowledge and adaptability to different project environments.
- Experience working with public institutions, businesses, communities, youth and civil society.
- Ability to design, implement, monitor and report on development projects.
- Practical experience in research, training, awareness raising and stakeholder engagement.
- Commitment to transparent financial management, donor compliance and accountability.

Financial & Administrative Management

CAD is funded through project proposals approved by civil-society donors and through service-based income. The organisation follows financial-management regulations, fulfils tax obligations and prepares financial reports in line with donor guidelines.

Strategic Planning & Sustainability

CAD operates with a strategic plan that is periodically reviewed to respond to changing circumstances. Key objectives include increasing citizen participation in social initiatives and promoting sustainable development. The organisation has maintained institutional and financial stability over more than 15 years and continues to seek new funding opportunities while maintaining communication with donors.

Visibility & Communication

The organisation promotes its activities through publications, social media and community outreach, with the objective of ensuring broad visibility and dissemination of project results.

Contact

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