## ALSAI presents the findings of the performance audit "Economic empowerment of women in Albania", carried out in cooperation with UN Women

On May 8, 2023, the Albanian Supreme Audit Institution presented the findings and recommendations of the performance audit on the topic of "Economic empowerment of women in Albania", 2016-2021, in a meeting held in the premises of the "Rogner" hotel.

The audit was carried out within the project "Transformative financing for gender equality towards a more transparent, inclusive and accountable governance in the Western Balkans", financed by the government of Sweden (SIDA) with the technical support of UN Women in Albania. This activity was attended by the representative of UN Women in Albania, Mr. Michele Ribotta, the head of the Swedish Development Cooperation Office in Albania, Mrs. Petra Burcher, representatives from the audited entities, auditors of ALSAI, etc.



In his speech, the Chairman of ALSAI, Mr. Arben Shehu emphasized that the inclusion of gender issues in policies at the central and local level, in addition to the drafting of appropriate programs, cannot be realized without the allocation of the relevant budgets.

"The Albanian Supreme Audit Institution stands by the principle that policies that are not accompanied by efficient budgets remain unachievable and do not affect the mitigation of gender inequalities in society", said Mr. Shehu.

The chairman of ALSAI ensured the further commitment of the institution to contribute to the evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of gender equality programs, helping to highlight the shortcomings in the implementation of these programs, but also giving the relevant recommendations for improving the situation with concrete impact for gender equality.

"ALSAI especially appreciates that ensuring the integrity of women and girls, promoting their socio-economic rights, supporting disadvantaged groups, should be at the center of policies that affect the improvement of gender equality, the eradication of poverty, providing equal opportunities and the continuous progress of our society", emphasized Mr. Shehu.

Mr. Michele Ribotta appreciated the cooperation with the Albanian Supreme Audit Institution.

"The Albanian Supreme Audit Institution plays an important role in strengthening supervision and accountability to commitments for gender equality in the management of public funds", said Mr. Ribotta.



In her speech, Mrs. Burcher thanked ALSAI for the work carried out in the audit "Economic empowerment of women in Albania", emphasizing that the role of the ALSAI is strategic to control the efficiency of gender equality policies.



The performance audit "Economic empowerment of women in Albania" had as its objective the evaluation of the effectiveness of the activity of the institutions responsible for concretizing the economic empowerment of women in our country based on the Law on Gender Equality, the implementation of gender equality strategies and general budgeting gender, mainly in the field of employment and rural agricultural development, for the period 2016-2021.