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INWEB has submitted a proposal to Europeaid (113172/C/G) entitled "Institutional reform in the water sector in Albania" (AL-WATER). The project aims to facilitate the institutional transformation Albania needs for sustainable water management and environmental protection on a river basin level, as required by the European Union (EU) Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000/60. Water management practices guaranteeing the supply of clean water will improve living conditions and enhance socio-economic development throughout the country, but particularly in environmentally damaged urban areas in central Albania, where standards of hygiene and sanitation are frequently unacceptable. Wastewater treatment regulation is a prerequisite for protecting not only public health but also water in rivers, lakes, aquifers and coastal areas. The project will transfer expertise and methodologies from Greece through INWEB to Albania, assess Albania's current water management, and provide a plan for implementation of best practices and adequate institutional structures. Priority will be given to regions most damaged by recent ethnic clashes in the Balkans.