

# RECENT DEVELOPMENTS OF MICROFINANCE IN ALBANIA

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## **Abstract**

Today one of the trends of global development is microcredit. It is an instrument affecting employment, social, cultural and economic issues, and also as a component of nature's cultures destined to have a great importance in the economies of different countries in the future. The careful determination of supply and demand for microcredit and the increasing role of small businesses to be economically productive and perform services in favor of society undoubtedly require a cautious policy in the development of microfinance institutions. Microfinance developed in Albania in the 90s and since then has been a key element in its development and economic environment. It is now a recognized part of the financial markets thanks to the support of donors and the serious involvement of the government. Overall economic development of the country, the creation of new jobs, increase the standard of living, increase social stability, political and economic development of Albania and the region in general, interregional cooperation and integration of Albania into European structures cannot be understood, if we do not develop human and natural reserves, but this development cannot be done without strong financial support. What small business financing systems will be developed in the future, what will be the position and its role in the economy, what policies will be pursued funding to balance demand and supply in this market? These and others are the subject of this paper since it is difficult to determine a solid line because microcredit is a growing and variable phenomenon.

**Keywords:** microfinance institutions, rural areas, financial sector development, microcredit.

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