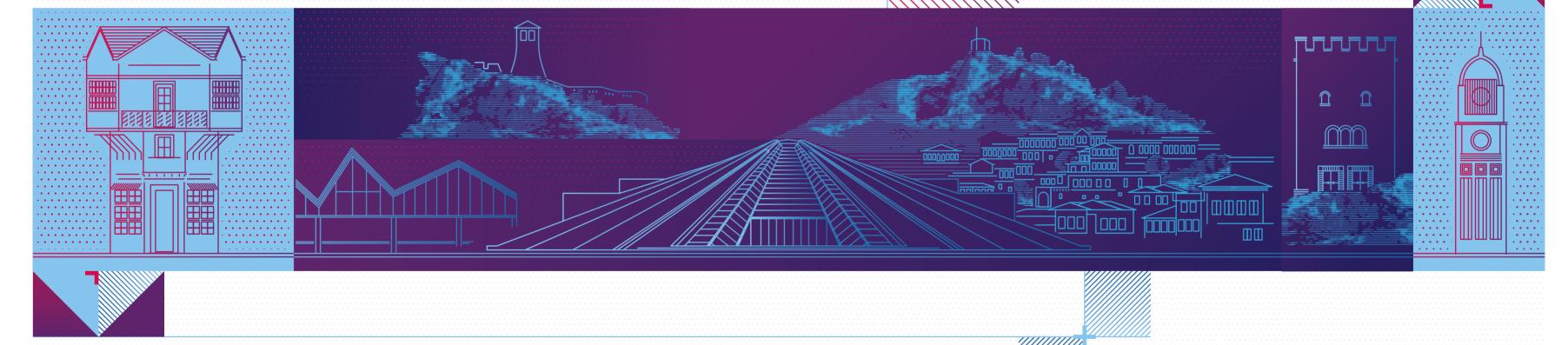
# Annual E Report 2019



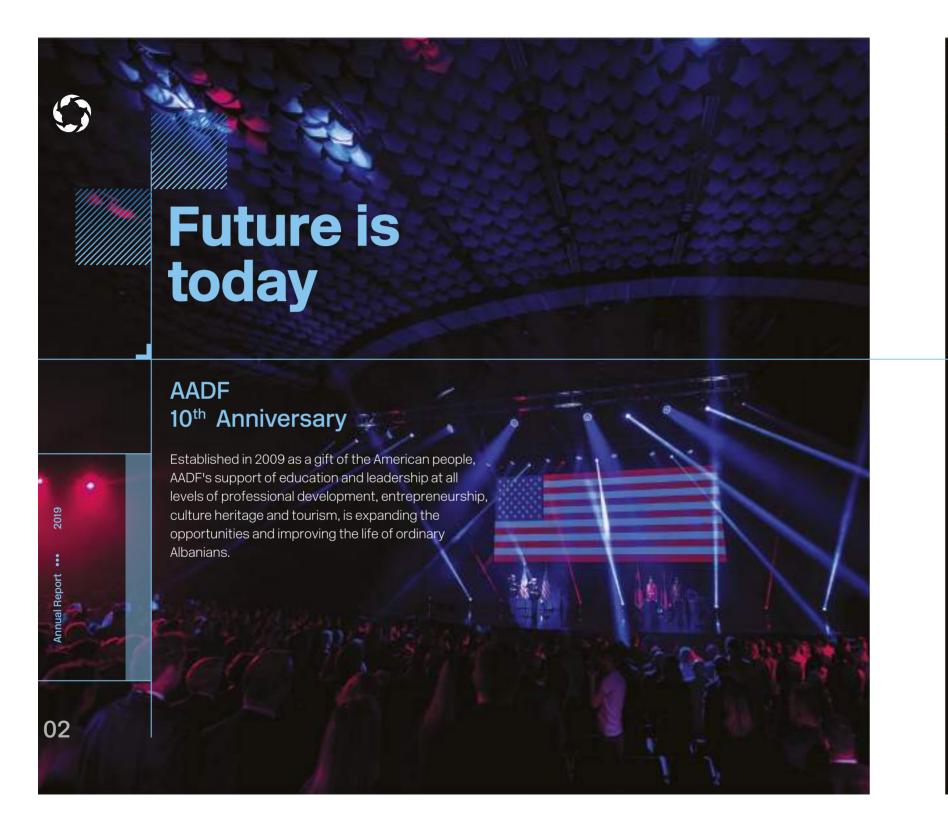




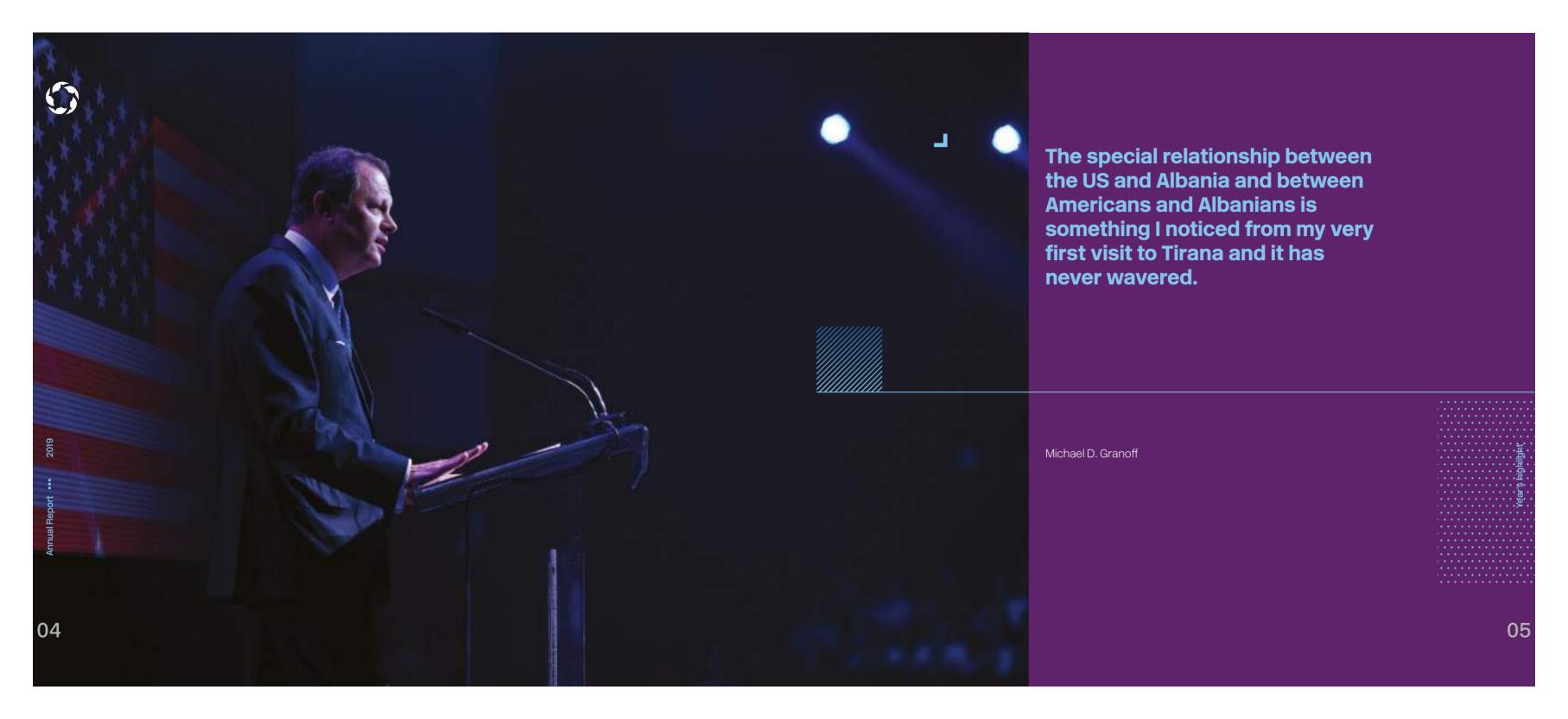


This year's highlight

# Future is today

















Donald J. Trump 45<sup>th</sup> president of the United States For the last decade, AADF has endeavored to make the ideals of a modern, democratic state-justice, equality, freedom, among them - fully real in the lives of all of our Albanian friends.

Barack H. Obama

44<sup>th</sup> president of the United States



While Albania's journey toward freedom has been a difficult path, I am grateful that the AADF supported the dreams of their citizens and helped to create a sustainable democratic society.

George W. Bush

43<sup>rd</sup> president of the United States

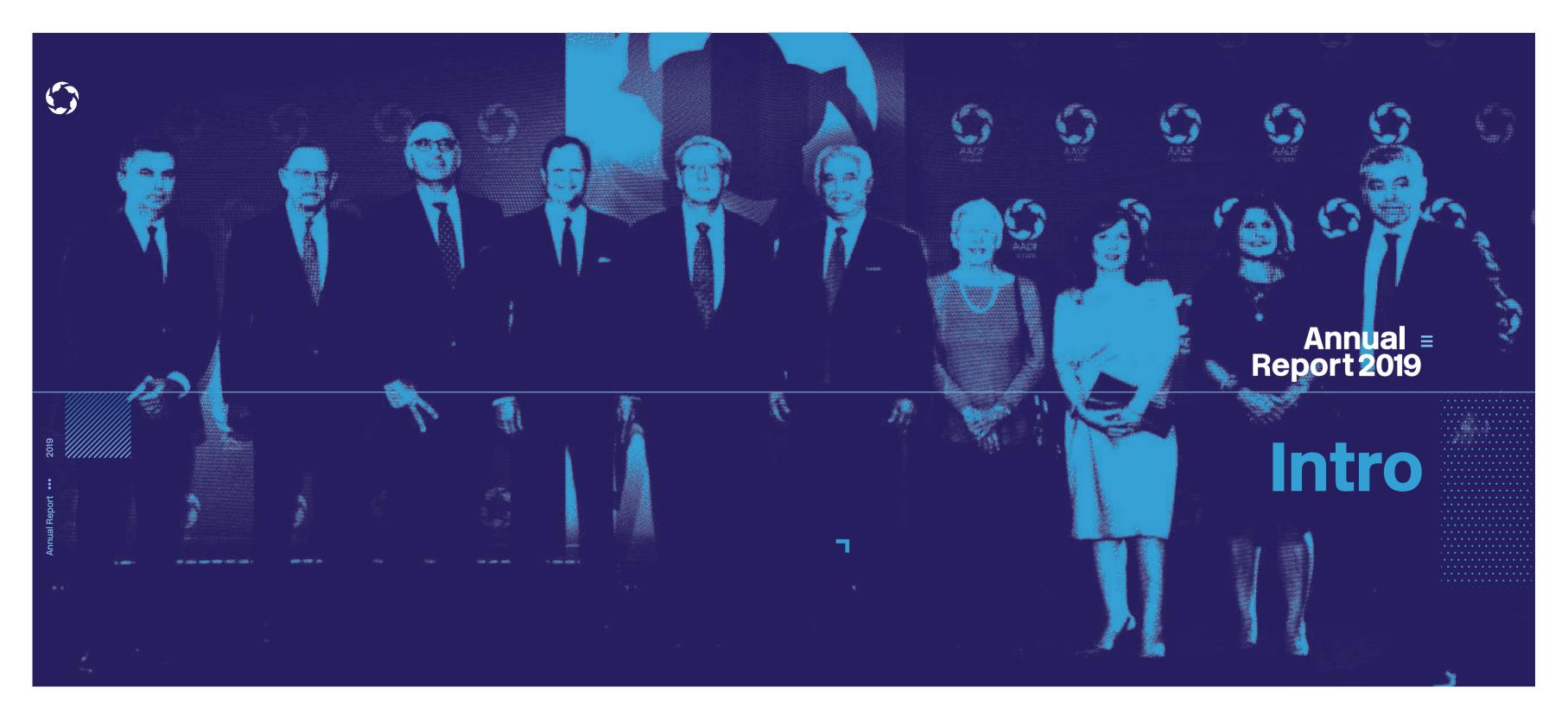
Thanks to the cooperation of many partners and both Albania and the United States, the Enterprise Fund and now the **AADF** have both seen extraordinary success.

Bill J. Clinton

42<sup>nd</sup> president of the United States

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### Message from the Chairman

We may not get to choose our challenges but we do get to choose our responses. Trust is difficult to gain but easy to lose.

Welcome to the 2019 Annual Report of the Albanian-American Development Foundation (AADF). On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to express my gratitude to the AADF team, our program partners, co-investors, National and local Albanian Government officials and everyone who contributed to our efforts over the past year. 2019 was a year of significant growth and accomplishment for the Foundation. As the largest Non-Profit Organization in Albania, we take our responsibility to both the United States and to the people of Albania as a sacred trust.

The AADF has now committed over \$68 million to 55 projects in our 4 key areas of operation: Education for Sustainable Development, Leadership Development, Entrepreneurship, and Support for Cultural and Eco-Tourism. Our programs now reach 100% of all students and schools in Albania.

Over 950 businesses have been assisted by our entrepreneurship programs. Over 83% of Albania's visitors in cultural heritage sites are served by AADF projects. And we are just beginning.

During 2019, the AADF approved 6 new projects for a total committed value of \$14.7 million. Major new initiatives during 2019 included a partnership with Tumo Armenia to create digital learning programs for Albania's youth, the completion of an Integrated Management Plan for Butrint, initial work on a Coding Academy, and the initial phases of an Eco-tourism site, EDA Waterscape Park Drilon in Tushemisht. In response to the major earthquake that struck Albania in November, the AADF approved a project to create a new Tourism Improvement District in hard hit Durres together with the Municipality and the Ministry of Culture.

We are now in a dramatically changed and changing environment as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic.

All of us are dealing with a uniquely challenging and rapidly changing public health and economic environment. The toll of human fear and suffering is high. All of us at the Foundation are working to manage a situation none of us has previously experienced. My hope is that what we learn changes the trajectory of society in a newly positive direction and that is where the AADF is focused.

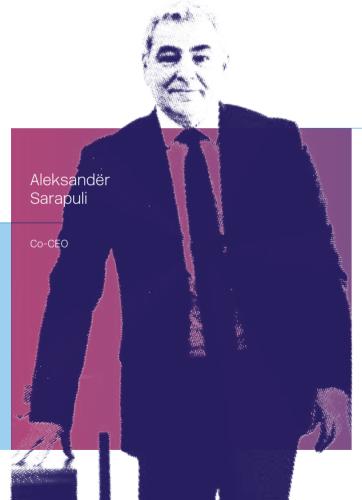
Three key factors will largely determine our success. First, leadership is vital in a crisis and we can see the effects of both positive and negative leadership at every level. People look to leaders and I am confident that the AADF is up to the task. Second, it is execution not rhetoric that will make a difference. The AADF strategy of localizing the best global program models allows us to hit the ground running. We do not need to re-invent the wheel. And third, and perhaps most importantly, values really matter. We may not get to choose our challenges but we do get to choose our responses. Trust is difficult to gain but easy to lose. We will not lose sight of why we are working side by side with each of you reading this report.

I end this most difficult introduction with humility as much will change by the time you read our next AADF Annual Report. I wish you and your families safety and health.





#### **Message from** the Co-CEOs



During our first decade, we meticulously researched successful international models and adapted them to the needs of Albania.

As the AADF celebrated its tenth anniversary in 2019, we took the time to look at things that have marked this incredible journey. The Foundation aims to make a fundamental difference in the lives of every Albanian citizen for many decades to come. Each of us at AADF thinks about that responsibility every day!

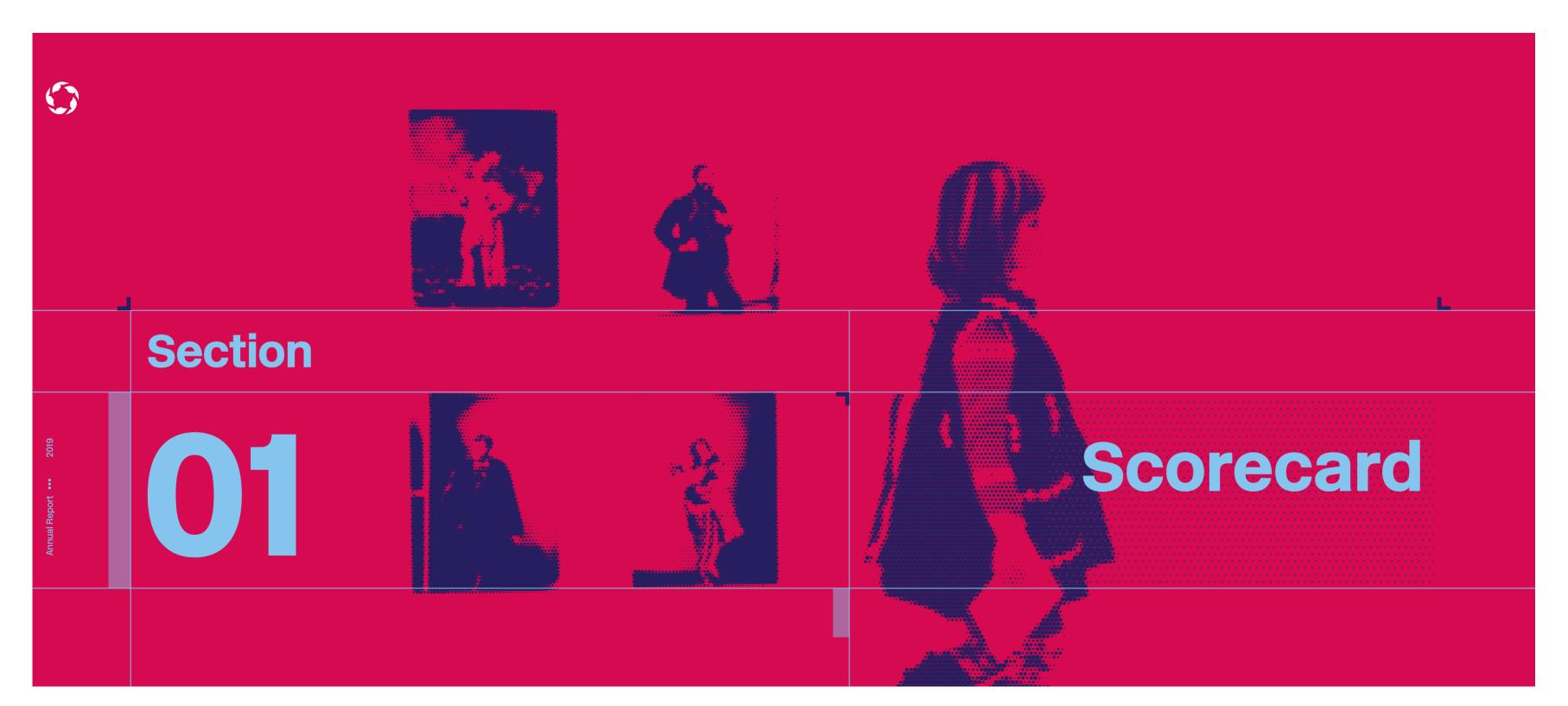
One of the things we have learned is that we do not have to re-invent the wheel! While Albania's problems are large and complex, they are often not unique. Societies face similar challenges around the world and have been able to overcome them through innovation and creativity.

Examples include projects in education like Junior Achievement Albania modeled after Junior Achievement Worldwide and School Leadership based on an Israeli model, a National Examination Center based on a Cambridge model and TUMO Albania a branch of TUMO, the world's leading program for after school digital courses for kids. Our program in leadership, LEAD Albania is structured after the White House Fellows Program in the US. Our entrepreneurship program, Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) is modeled after the same approach employed in New York, London or Berlin.

In each and every one of them we have sought to replicate some of the world's most advanced models on leadership and management. We have harnessed the power of combining international and local expertise through innovations in merging technology with human power. The results are encouraging across the entire portfolio. From the United States to Israel, from Singapore to Berlin, from London to Armenia, these models have improved the lives of citizens across the globe.

Our data, analysis and feedback clearly suggest that they are well on their way to doing the same for the citizens of Albania. Each of us at AADF are highly motivated to spare no effort in making them success stories and lights of hope in Albania as well!





### **Overall impact**

The Foundation is establishing a strong brand of:

**Our project portfolio** now includes

**AADF Committed Value** 

Additional Capital Committed by partners

Overall **Economic Impact** 

• Transparency, integrity and execution

• Creativity, innovation and social commitment

· Long-lasting partnerships with government, local communities, public agencies and international donors

**TOTAL** 

**ACTIVE** 

OVER

OVER

OVER

69M 100M 270M

As of December 31st, 2019

Projects

Unit: USD \$

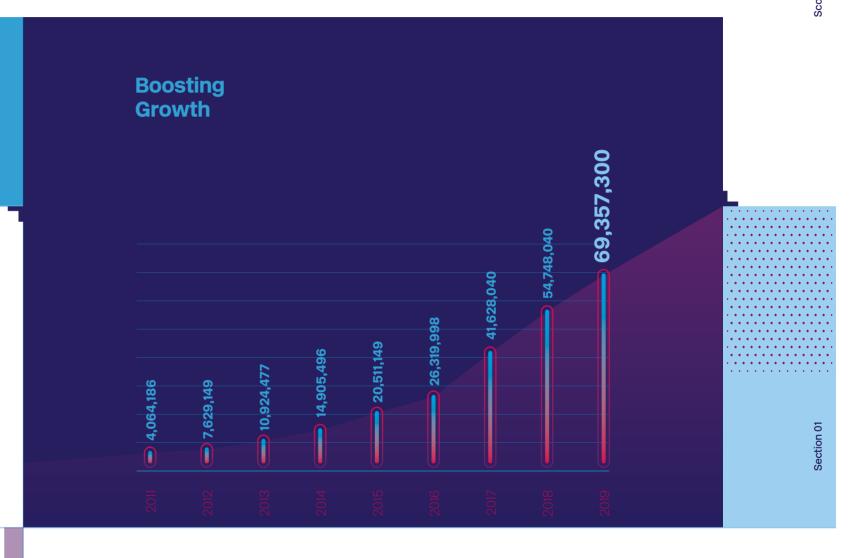
20

# 270% 270%

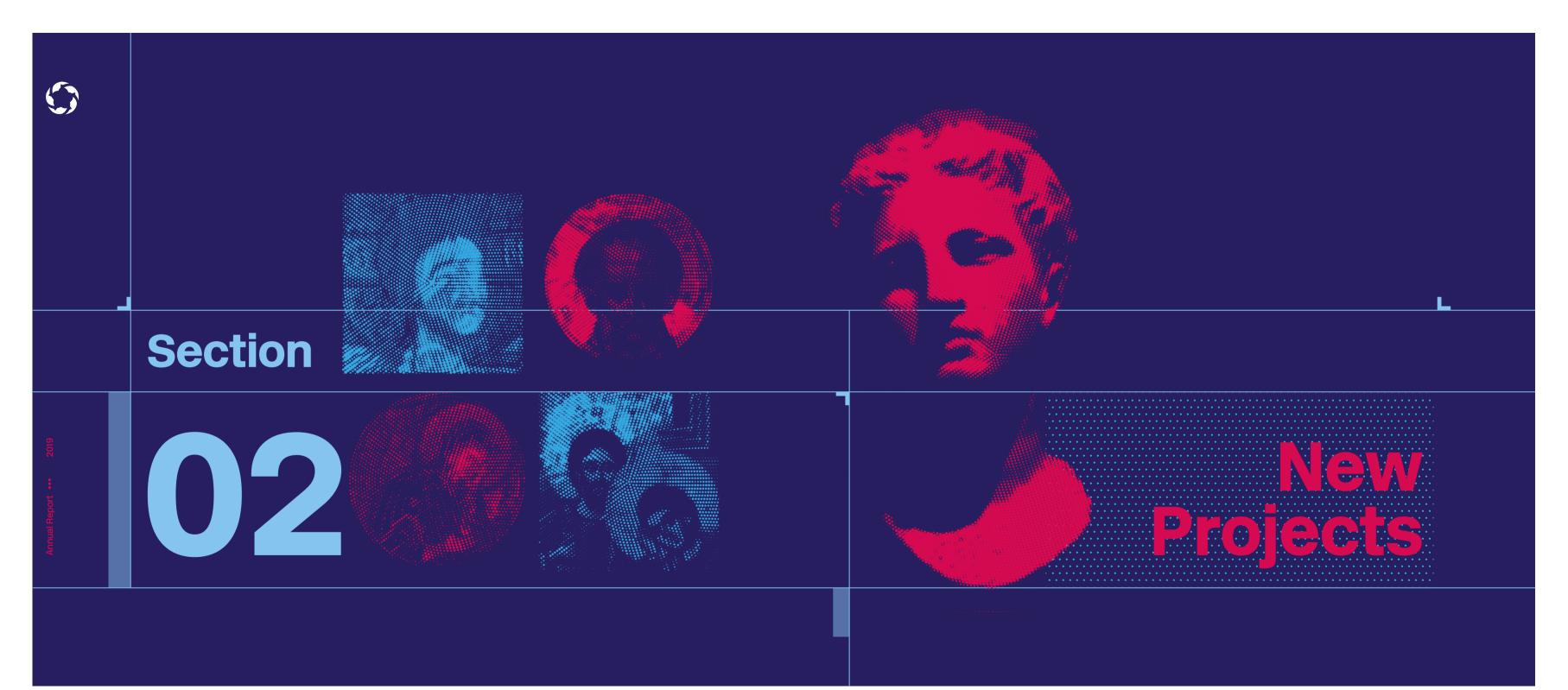
### Fund division by sector

With our approach we believe to have a lasting impact on a national scale affecting students, businesses, professionals, tourists and more.

- Culture Heritage & Eco-Tourism
- Education & Leadership
- Entrepreneurship



As of December 31st, 2019 Unit: USD \$

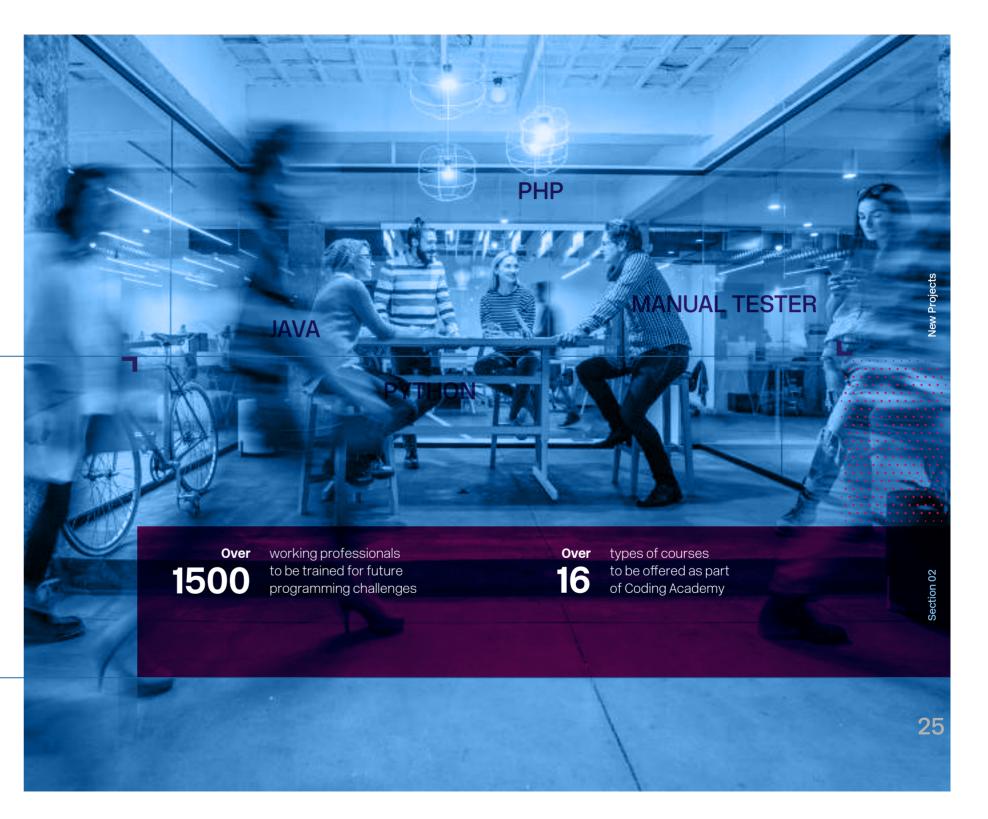




### **Software Development Academy by Protik**

A new programming academy tailored to the needs of students and working professionals

Life-long learning is important in many areas, but arguably it is nowhere as needed as in the field of ICT. New upgrades and innovations are constantly changing the skills that professionals need.





### Addressing digital market needs

Planned Funds

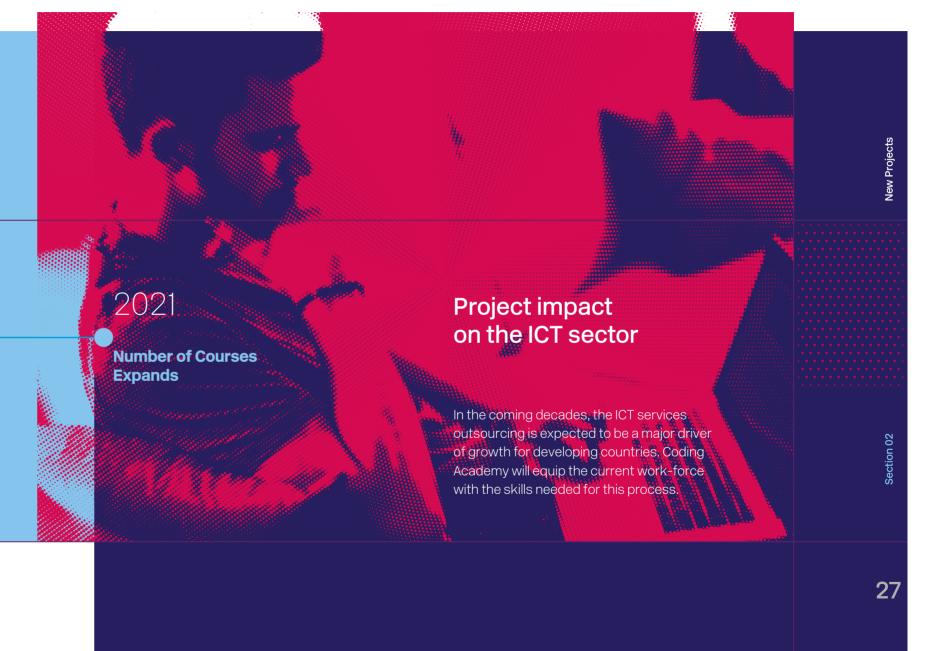
\$1.1M

2019

2020

Project Approved Courses Begin

To bridge the skills gap in the ICT service, AADF is collaborating with Software Development Academy from Poland to create a new training center for programming tailored to the needs of working professionals.



t

### Junior Achievement Debating Economics

### **Pre and Higher Education Program**

Junior Achievement has long established itself as the premier source of economics and personal finance education for pre-university students across the entire school system. Its most recent addition will build on that tradition.



### **Analytical Thinking**

Committed Funds \$0.54 M

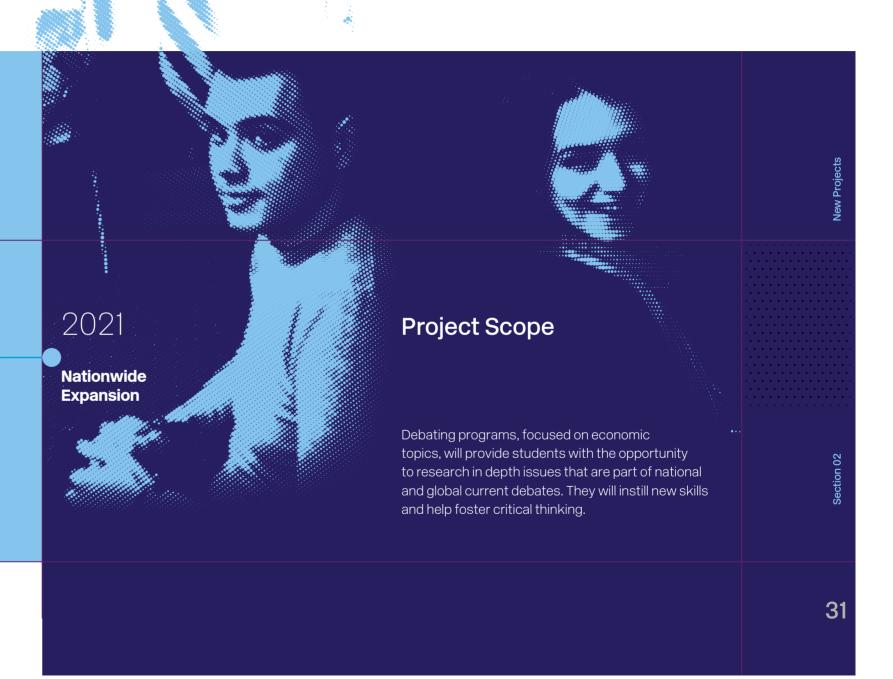
2019

**Approved** 

Project

2020

Founding of the First Clubs





### **EDA**Eco-Destination Albania

Waterscape Park Project

### **Drilon-Tushemisht, Ohrid Lake**

In 2019, the Board of Trustees approved a new TID/BID model which AADF has been researching and developing. Recent tourism trends in Albania have shown an increased attraction of rural destinations, combined with a desire to engage in outdoor activities.

To fulfill this need, as well as create a model that could be replicated elsewhere, AADF has developed Eco-Destination Albania.



\$7N

**Eco-Destination Albania Drilon-Tushemisht, Ohrid Lake** 

2019

Concept & Schematic Design

The first such investment will be located in Tushemisht, on the shores of the UNESCO World Heritage site of Lake Ohrid.

Project impact on local area

2021

2020

**Final Design** 

Project Implementation

AADF is working closely with the local community, public agencies, and international landscape architecture firm PROAP to create a unique, world -class and unique concept in environmental tourism in Albania. Our aim is to establish the site as a benchmark for similar projects across the country.

:

34



#### **EXPA**

#### **Expanding access, Sharing** content; Empowering museums through technology



EXPA aims to empower museums by merging cultural heritage and new technology. Using state-of-the-art technology, cultural heritage artifacts will be digitally stored and made available to larger audiences. A group of experts will be trained and tasked to develop professional capacity and enable documentary photography of the national collections using the highest international standards of photographic practice through the National Imaging Center (NIC).



Expected coverage across the Albanian cultural heritage system

**Over** artifacts identified for digital imaging

### **Empowering museums** through technology

Commited Funds

\$0.65M

2019

Infrastructure and equipment for NIC and museums

2020

**Museum professionals** trained to perform contemporary imaging processes



2021

documentation of two national

museum collections

Benefiting museums as well as the scientific community State-of-the-art digital

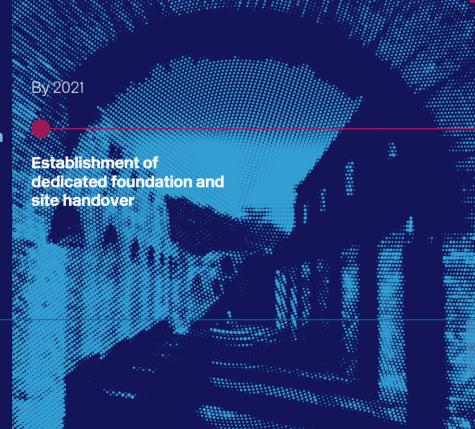
The expected outcome of this phase will be a state-of-the-art photographic record of Albania's national collections, a group of museum professionals able to perform imaging processes and pass on their knowledge to others, as well as recommendations for the project's upcoming phase.

38



## Sustaining Legacy

The model aims to improve site management through new fiscal administration mechanisms, the attraction of international donors and the engagement of the local community. In the long-term, Butrint will become the hub of tourism in the region, benefiting local communities and visitors whilst safeguarding the cultural and natural values for future generations.

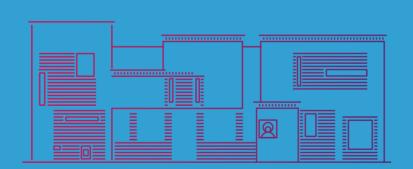


By 2026 By 2030

Conservation of all Butrint monuments

Apply for UNESCO mixed designation site





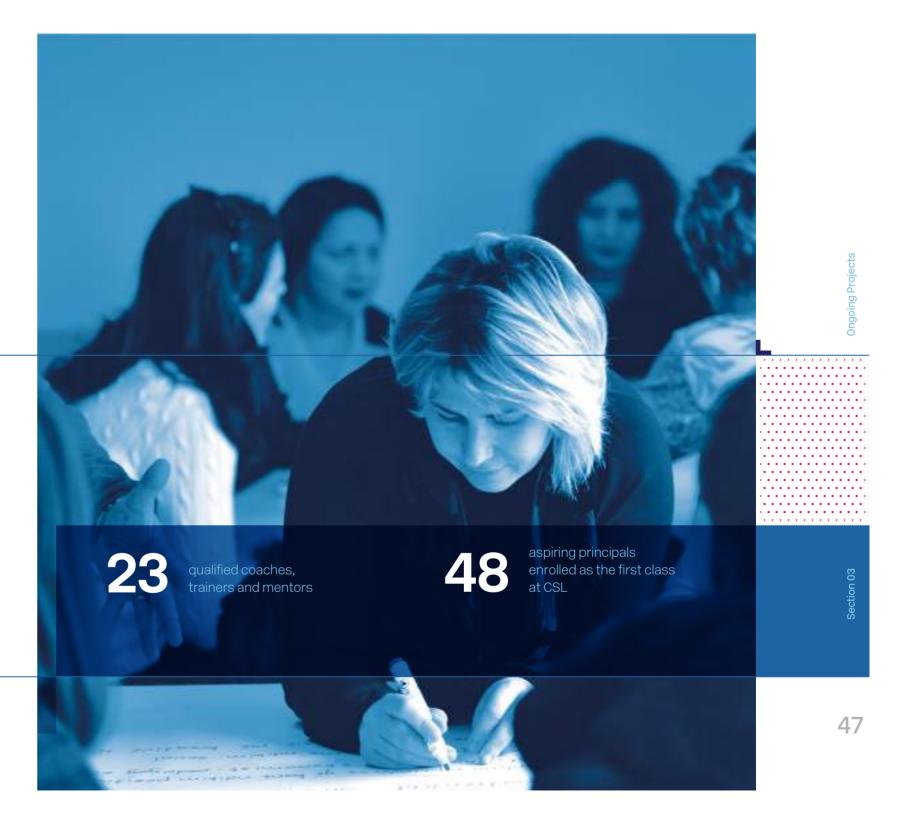




### **Center for School Leadership**

### Training the school principals of tomorrow

As countries seek to adapt their education system to the current global challenges, new expectations for schools and school leaders are emerging. A growing body of education research has revealed that school leadership is the second most important determinant in student performance, behind only quality of teaching. When performed effectively, it is capable of transforming schools into environments where students and teachers can thrive.



2019

Annual Report •••

### **Enhancing Leadership**

Along with public institutions, AADF has developed the Center for School Leadership as the institution to oversee the development of the next generation of school principals. Throughout this process, AADF has collaborated closely with the Avney Rosha Institute, based in Israel and widely recognized as one of the most respected institutions in the field.

- Improvements of legal framework
- Training and certification
- Develop a pipeline of highly qualified school leaders

2019 marked the beginning of full operations for CSL, with the first cohort of aspiring principals starting their training. Committed Funds Over \$3.0M 2250 principals are expected to be trained by 2027





**Coverage** of students nationwide have 35% the possibility to be a through CleanScore the possibility to be assessed

to review and grade

compatible with CleanScore

the exams

Additional 12 Additional textbooks will

be translated

PERKTHIM

#### **Electronic exam** grading for universities in Albania

CleanScore is one of the first education projects which AADF embarked upon. It introduced electronic grading for university exams while reducing the time and costs. The project reduced grading bias, increased transparency and improved trust in the process. As a result, it was widely embraced by students and professors alike, and is now spreading to every university in Albania.

### **Increasing Quality and Transparency**

During 2019, important progress was made on a second component of the project: introducing the latest internationally certified textbooks. Lack of quality textbooks has long been one of the key issues facing Albanian universities and professors. AADF is partnering with some of the most important publishers worldwide to bring the latest textbooks, translated in Albanian, to the university classrooms.





### Creating compatible CleanScore content

These books come with a comprehensive test bank, which helps professors create exams compatible with the CleanScore grading system

Ongoing

53

Total

66000

2019

Exams graded with CleanScore since founding

32456

018

2017

12300 \_\_\_\_\_ 2

Annual R

52

CleanScore Academic Textbooks



### **Revitalizing City Centers**

The Vlora Municipality, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, the Ministry of Culture and the Albanian Development Fund have collaborated during the reconstruction efforts.

Their investments have upgraded the surrounding infrastructure which will support the growth of tourism and commerce in the area.



Total

\$3.5M

Funds Disbursed as of December 31st 2019 <u>6</u>0

Historical and other buildings are brought back to life.

94

Businesses
have benefited from the restoration works

Ongoil

56

### **Crimson Finance Fund Albania**

Crimson Finance Fund Albania (CFFA) is a development lender which is structured as a nonbanking financial institution. Its goal is to respond to the lack of available development-oriented financing for micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in Albania. CCFA's partners include the Municipality of Tirana, Crimson Capital, NorFund - with the latter two providing extensive knowledge and experience of the field.

- Leasing
- Factoring



### **Helping Albania's small** and medium enterprises thrive

**Over** New Job

**Over** Local Businesses financed of which 50 as start-ups





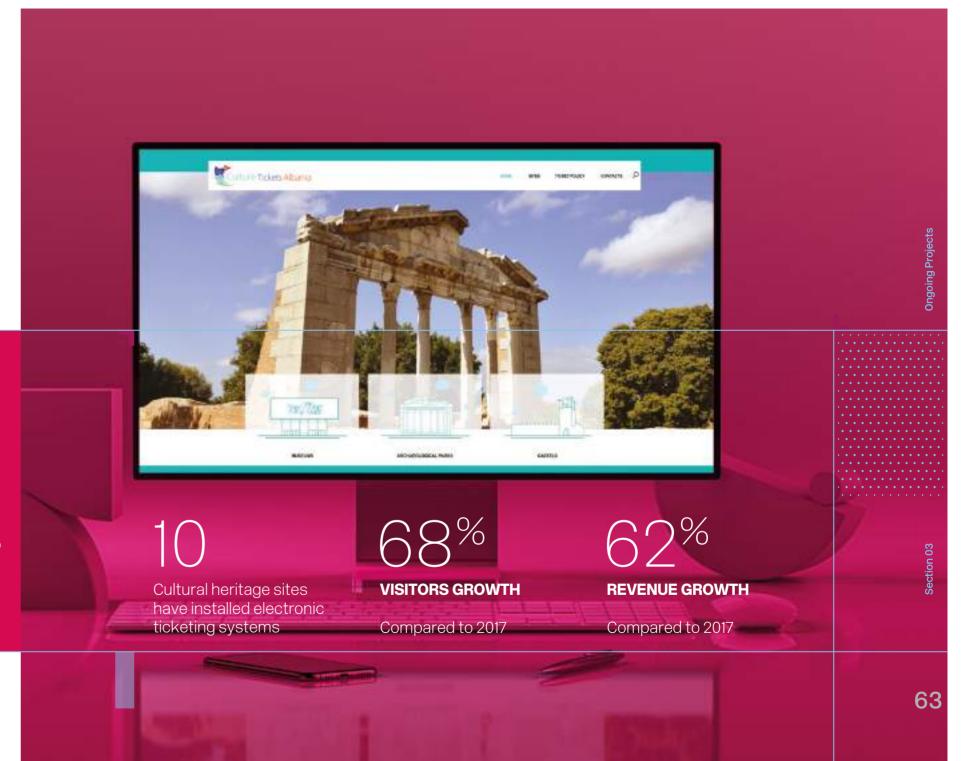
### E-Ticketing System

The E-Ticketing system, installed in ten of Albania's most important cultural heritage sites, have improved transparency and increased revenues.

The E-Ticketing project is expanding through an online ticket platform, the first of its kind in Albania. The platform offers up to 50% discounts and will further facilitate ticket purchases, and thus attract an increasing number of visitors.

The E-Ticketing system has improved site performance considerably in its two full years of operation.

By improving transparency and increasing revenues, the financial future of the sites is on a more sustainable footing. Furthermore, it will allow local administrators to invest in future ideas and projects for the sites.



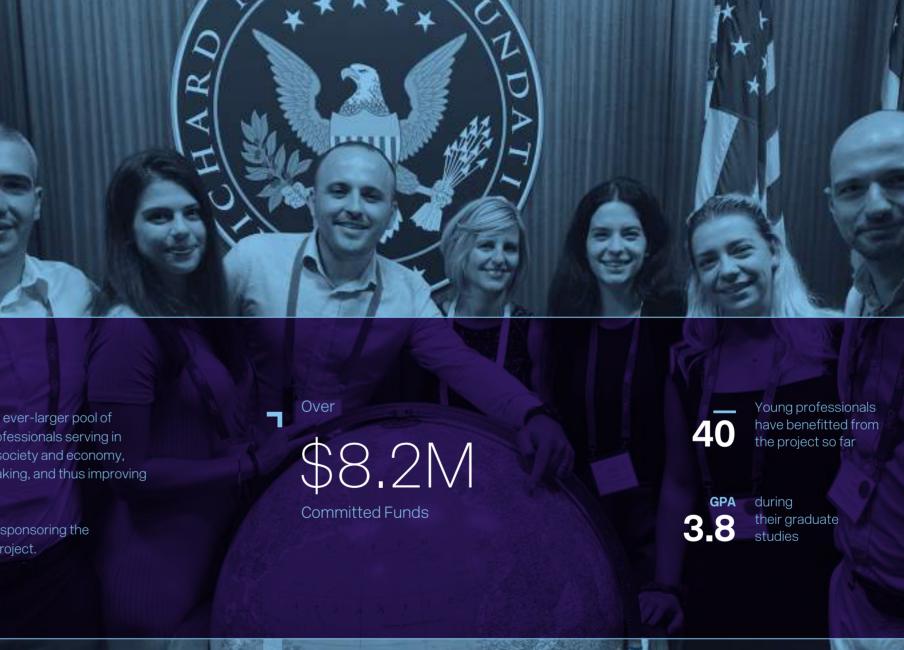
### **MIP**

#### Master's & **Internship Program**

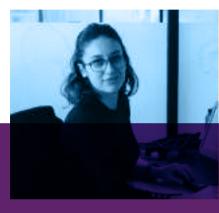
At AADF we believe that the best investment is in people. That investment should not stop after MIP, one of AADF's flagship projects in the field of through a graduate degree or working experience in the Unites States.

The project aims to create an ever-larger pool of talented and experienced professionals serving in every sector of the Albanian society and economy, leading to better decision-making, and thus improving the lives of all citizens.

The Biberaj Foundation is co-sponsoring the Master's component of the project.



### **Excellent job performance** reviews and testimonials



Elirë Mançaj



Ines Poshnjari

Let me be clear about gratitude I feel for you and all you do for the brilliant interns that you bring to me through your program. They seem to just keep getting better and better! As I have said to you a couple weeks back, Elire is as good as I can imagine! Deeply and authentically curious, hardworking, brilliantly skillful and talented!

Ines has really been a great addition to the team and a joy to have in the office. She is always prepared, engaged and a quick learner. Since completing training she's been working with the Marketing team now in the process of taking on her own projects as she has quickly picked up all the relevant info needed.

Supervisor:

**Garth Rockcastle** 

Architect and Founder of MSR Design Minneapolis. Minnesota

Yelena Furman

People Operations Manager at **Elegran** New York



that my ideas and thoughts are equally worthy to

world! It also makes me aware of the responsibility.

core issues of our time, especially in my country,

resources, gain new insights, and embrace new

**Vanderbilt University** 

perspectives.

that I have to work harder in understanding the most

Albania. MIP program is allowing me to leverage lots of

Master of Economic Development (STEM)

those of economists who have made an impact in the

Master Fellow Sonila Hasai



Master Fellow **Enri Dervishi** Academic Year

I am very grateful that I have been chosen as one of the fellows of MIP. Studying at a Top Business School such as Bentley University, has been a life-changing experience. The program focuses on real-life business problems and how we can implement what we learn in the real world. I am gaining different business skills that are transferable to many fields.

**Bentley University** 

### **LEAD Albania**

Providing talented professionals with first-hand experience in the process of policy-making and governing

Ongoing Projec

LEAD Albania, modeled after the successful White House Fellowship program, enables talented professionals to serve in the highest levels of public administration for a one-year period. Their skills and experience have become a highly-sought commodity which public officials rely one.

LEAD Fellows have used their technical skills and expertise to contribute to some of Albania's most important reforms, improving policy outcomes to the benefit of the entire country. Fellows have continued to serve in leadership position after the fellowship, in the public and private sector.

\$5.7M

Committed Funds

Young professionals have benefitted from the project so far

Over Continue
to serve in leadership
positions



# Section Upcoming Projects

TUMO is recognized for its innovative curriculum at the intersection of design and technology, and access to the most advanced equipment which allows students to develop critical technical skills.

TUMO is recognized for its innovative curriculum at the approximately approximately

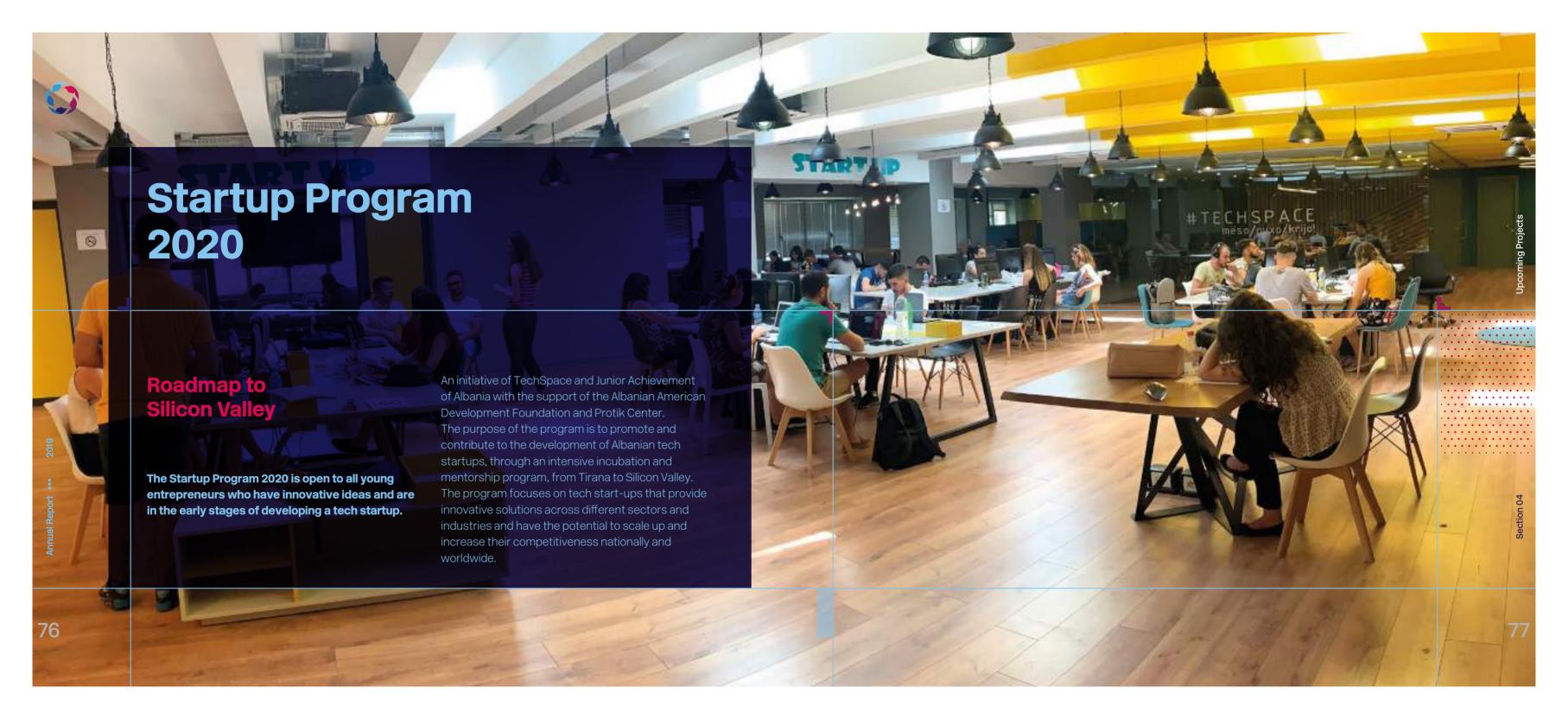
TUMO Tirana will be established thanks to a partnership between the AADF, TUMO Center for Creative Technologies in Yerevan, and the support of the Municipality of Tirana and the Government of Albania.

learning targets
based on the educational
platform

n 04

Annual Report •••



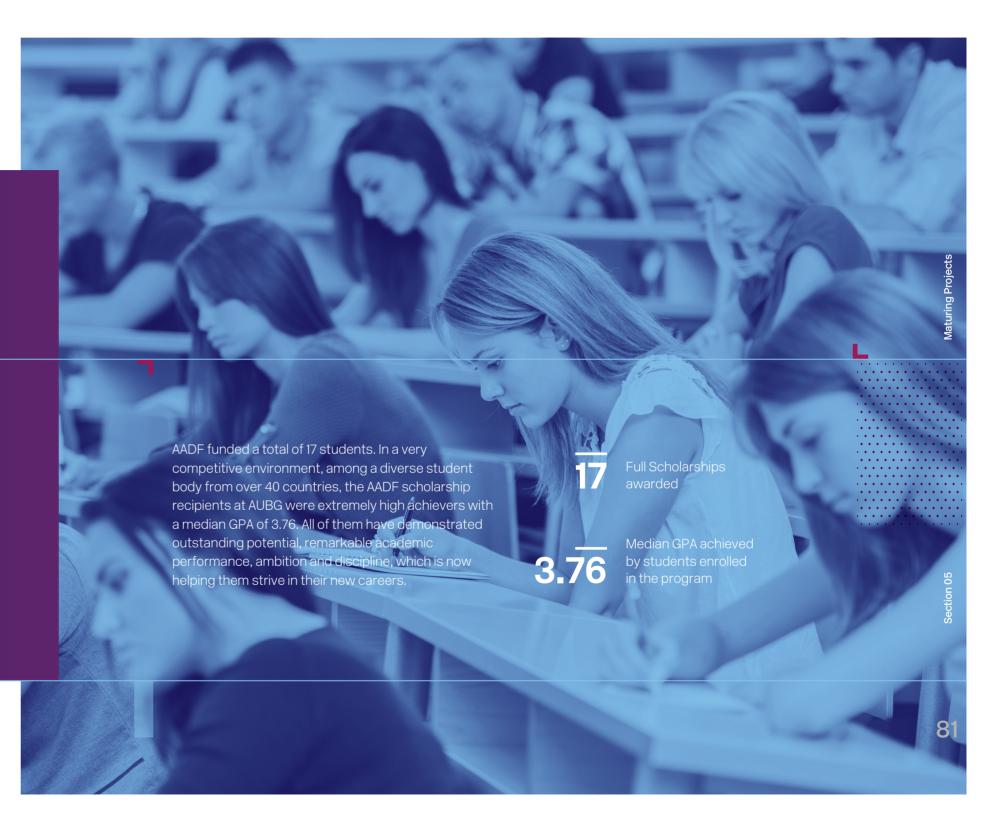


## 05

### Maturing Projects

Committed Funds

\$0.8M



#### Regional **Restoration Camps**

The RRC project, approved in March 2015, aimed at enhancing local capacity in the field of cultural heritage, as well as to preserve and pass on traditional crafts and techniques to younger generations. The project was a 3-year cooperation between the AADF, the Ministry of Culture, Cultural Heritage without Borders Albania, and the University of Tirana. During this period, four yearly camps were held in different cities in Albania, each with a dedicated theme.

**Committed Funds** 

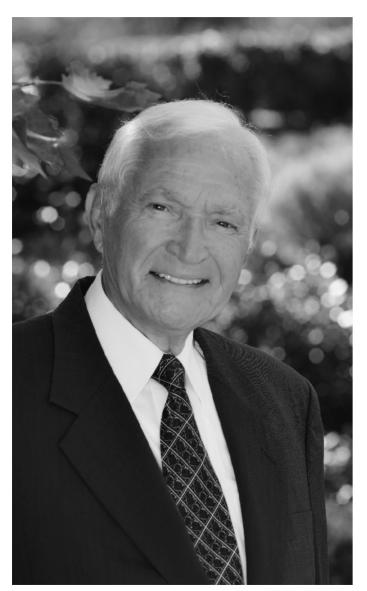


boost employment opportunities for participating students

82

## In Memoriam Domenick G. Scaglione





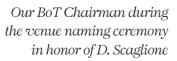
In Memoriam

#### **Domenick G. Scaglione**

Mr. Scaglione was the former Vice President of the International Department of Chase Manhattan Bank responsible for Western European Institutions. He founded Intercontinental Associates, Inc. from which he retired. Mr. Scaglione served on the Board of the AAEF since its inception in 1995 and the Board of the AADF until 2019. He was also the founder of the Albanian Children Fund in New York and the Albanian Children Foundation in Albania. He founded and chaired the American Bank of Albania.

He was the former Chairman of the American Foreign Policy Institute of Washington. He also founded the Albanian Cultural Society. Mr. Scaglione was awarded the Order of Mother Teresa Medal by President Rexhep Meidani in 2000 and the Order of Skanderberg Medal from president Bujar Nishani in 2013. He authored four books.







#### **Section**

06

#### Our Team



## **Corporate Culture**

Our story is all about people, and so is our success!



As their chosen career partner, we strive to accelerate development of our people, grow and strengthen their leadership capabilities, enhance their performance through strong engagement and nurture an environment of inclusion where everyone can flourish.



Performing competitively in the evolving landscape requires competent and empowered people working effectively together in our organization.



#### **Our People**

For each of us, every day is an important opportunity to build quality relationships with each other, to embrace new challenges, to engage and share our creativity, hopes and dreams in professional and personal level. We feel grateful that together we celebrate our success and achievements.

#### New Hires

**Eni Shtini** 

**Education Program** 



Highly motivated and engaged, **Eni is inspired by the work in our** organization and ready to go the extra mile, to make the difference. Eni Shtini is one of our newest staff members that

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#### Meet Our Team

Each of us loves the work we do.
Each of us strives to attain excellence.
Together we make one formidable
team. This is what fuels our creativity,
passion and performance.

#### **AADF Board**

Starting from left: Jill Adler, Steve Eastham, Dianne Blane, Ronald Cami, Michael D. Granoff, Cafo Boga, Aida Repishti, Douglas G. Carlston (Trustees Emeritus) and Elisabeta Gjoni



## Appendix



#### Thank you!

100

2019 was a year to remember! We celebrated our 10th anniversary and turned it into a moment of reflection, joy and gratitude. We took the moment and looked back at our accomplishments. We analyzed the lessons learned and realized better the areas we can improve. We celebrated with the thousands of partners, friends, colleagues and appreciated more than ever their enthusiasm, trust and support for what we do! We received brilliant and inspiring words from the last four United States Presidents, former top US diplomats and leaders, Trustees and more!

As we often conclude, and as one of the most aspiring professional teams in the country, we remain thankful, grateful and motivated to spare no effort in making 2020 another great year for the AADF and for each of us!



The AADF is a legacy organization of the Albanian-American Enterprise Fund, a non-political, not-for-profit US corporation established pursuant to the Support for East European Democracy Act of the US Congress, 1989







#### **Glossary of terms**

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tonool land

AUBG - American University Bulgaria
AIM - Albania Integrated Management
CES - Center for Educational Services
RRC - Regional Restoration Camps
CFFA - Crimson Finance Fund Albania
EDA - Eco-Destination Albania

**SME** - Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

## Annual ≡ Report 2019





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