

## **Albania: Interconnection lines with Macedonia and Kosovo as priority**

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Albania's main energy projects are projects for increasing the capacity of interconnection with construction of the interconnection line between Albania and Kosovo, which is expected to be completed by 2016 year. During the period 2015-2017, Albanian government will continue working on the financial and technical aspects of new interconnection with Macedonia.

Ministry of Economy analyzes shows that the value of investments in the energy sector by end of 2014 has reached 2.6 billion euros. There are currently in operation 104 small hydropower stations with a total installed power of 210 MW.

While in the next two years 2015-2017 investments in this area will continue with the construction of small-sized plants, but also large. The main investment is related to the construction of hydropower plants on the Devoll River with 280 MW power, hydropower plant on the river Osum with (152 MW), and HEC in Vjosë River (350 MW), and Skavica in Drin (200 MW).

Ministry of Economy explains that the measures taken for the successful implementation of these projects are related to the creation of fiscal and procedural incentives, including schemes to facilitate lending to small hydropower plants.

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Government is also planing investments to increase transmission capacity and stability of the country's power supply in the country. Main projects in the construction of transmission lines are: South Project ring, kVTirana2-Rrashbull 220 lines, 220 kV Elbasan -Fier, Tirana Ring Project, transmits Serbia-energy.eu