

Operational research in the health system and health services

In 2020–2021, the “Health for All” Project (HAP) collaborated with academic institutions and partner organisations to strengthen capacities in operational research in health.



In Albania, the lack of evidence in Primary Health Care and public health creates a gap between policy development, planning, and concrete actions to improve health outcomes.

Within this framework, HAP launched the initiative “Support for Operational Research in the Health System and Health Services” in 2020–2021 with two main objectives:

- To support the development of research capacities of young researchers through training and opportunities to conduct operational research;
- To create funding opportunities for operational research on various aspects of health services in Albania, with a focus on primary health care and public health.

HAP’s Contribution

Developed and implemented a training programme on operational research in health, consisting of 12 modules and 58 hours of instruction designed by 12 lecturers.

HAP provided microgrants to seven selected researchers in 2020. The key findings, technical summaries, and policy recommendations were subsequently disseminated through scientific seminars and the HAP website.

Contributed to strengthening research ethics by providing technical support for the review of the regulatory framework of the Ethics Committee at the University of Medicine, which was approved by the Academic Senate of UMT on 19 November 2021.

Participants in operational research training sessions	Numri total
Beneficiaries of micro-funds and young researchers for operational research in health	16
Post-graduate students of Public Health and Psychiatry at the FoM/UM Tirana	16
Academic personnel of the FMTS	18
Academic personnel of Nursing, University of Shkodra	17

Key results:

- 67 students, young researchers, and academic staff successfully completed the accredited training programme.
- 7 young researchers completed their research and submitted scientific reports and technical summaries.
- The University of Medicine now has a functional Research Ethics Committee.

Key data:

Training program: 12 accredited modules, 58 teaching hours
 Participants in training: 67 (11 male + 56 female)
 Microgrants: 7