

recovered while it is still edible. This “supply” stage, while always observing strict hygiene standards, is designed to recover:

- agricultural surpluses
- excess production in the food processing sector
- goods which are non-marketable but still consumable

...and to invite:

- contributions from the public through announced collections in supermarkets and schools.

2. OFFERING OF FOOD VIA DISTRIBUTION

Food Banks are organizations which service other organizations that are fighting against hunger and malnutrition. Food Banks do not themselves distribute to people in distress, but work through networks of local charities, civic groups and communities which are in contact with persons in poverty. The food aid is given to these entities in the form of a food parcel. An agreement is established between the Food Bank and the local organizations with a full understanding that the Food Bank may not be able to meet every need.

3. OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

Food Bank Albania rejects the primacy of money in favor of a commitment of “hearts and hands”. Our action is driven by the desire to encourage and promote effective alliances to combat food waste and help families in need.

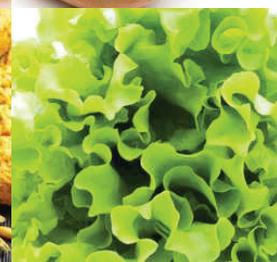
In this respect, our operations are underpinned by:

- donations of food, materials and equipment
- the coverage of operating expenses by third parties
- the participation of local organisations

4. DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT

Food Bank Albania is able to exist and thrive because of the volunteer workers and organizations which have a passion for acting in a harmonious alliance to serve communities and individuals in satisfying their most basic sustenance needs. As it is our intention that no food be wasted, neither should any time, talent, effort or resources be seen as a waste, but rather as a freely given and purposeful contribution for the realization of our vision and mission.

FIGHTING POVERTY WITH FOOD SURPLUSES



PRELUDE: OUR VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

Our vision is to be a primary source for nutritious food sustenance in Albania.

Our mission is to make food surpluses available to Albanians who are experiencing a food deficit, acting in harmony with a network of domestic and international partners.



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Part 1: BACKGROUND & ACTIVITY

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in 1948, states in Article 25:

“Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.”

Food Bank Albania is a non-profit organisation whose mission is based on **“Fighting food surpluses and getting food for the poor”**. It is registered in the Tirana Court with decision number 430, date October 1st 2013.

More than 300.000 Albanians struggle every day to put food on their table. They have about 1 Euro per day for personal expenses.

Food Bank Albania is a non-profit organization whose mission is based on “Finding food surpluses and getting food to the poor.” It has been registered by the Tirana Court in Decision #430, dated October 1, 2013.

By developing alliances and organizing awareness events, Food Bank Albania intends to play a significant role in the education of people for the reduction of poverty and the preservation of the environment. One third of the food produced for human consumption is wasted, about 100 kg of food every year. If this food was not wasted, it would be enough to feed the whole world. One kg of wasted food emits about 3.2 kg of CO2 into the atmosphere. Food waste is responsible for 8% of greenhouse gas emissions. If food waste was a country, it would be the third top CO2-emitting country in the world.

The role of Food Bank Albania is:

- to collect food products free of charge
- to encourage and centralize donations
- to intervene on a continuing basis with the food processing industry and food distributors with the intention of recovering edible non-marketable products that were not sold because of packaging or forecasting errors
- to raise awareness and promote a “call to action” in Albanian society
- to organize collections of food in supermarkets, schools and companies and in cities, districts, and parishes
- to distribute the food parcels to local organizations, churches, soup kitchens and existing networks
- to support the establishment of other Food Banks in Albania

We consider it vital that the food be distributed to the people who are most deprived. We strictly adhere to hygiene regulations and requirements during transport and in our warehouses. The products are not provided directly, but rather through organizations that have accurate and current information about the local situation; they know who is most poor and in need, and who is not. However, we cannot guarantee the provision of food; we entirely depend on what is donated.

Priority families and marginalized people are those who are:

- in remote geographical areas
- without any other means of support
- victims of a natural disaster
- subject to a blood feud
- elderly, widows and orphans
- with special needs

The operation of Food Bank Albania is supported by:

- the donation of food
- the coverage of operating costs by third parties
- the participation of volunteers and charities
- subsidies
- donations of material and equipment

The concept of a Food Bank exists in all European countries and is executed through the action of volunteer workers.

As the first Albanian Food Bank, we cooperate closely with FEBA, the European Food Banks Federation. We have an established network for the speedy collection and distribution of food, having partnered with many local organizations and communities, and often respond to emergencies across the country. In choosing partner organizations, communities and individuals with which to ally and cooperate, Food Bank Albania does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, nationality, social status or country of origin.

Part 2: HOW WE WORK

Food Bank Albania is built on a foundation that has 4 cornerstones (“F.O.O.D.”).

1. FINDING FOOD SURPLUSES

The imperative first aim of Food Bank Albania is to prevent the waste of food surpluses: this is unused, leftover, excess food that would otherwise go to waste if not