

## **7. Strong growth potential**

- One of highest economic growth in the region 2.62 % in 2015 and 2,96 % in the first trimester of 2016.
- Foreign Direct Investment annual inflows in Albania have increased significantly since 2008, averaging close to USD 1 billion per year for the period 2008-2014.
- FDI has increased average 9% to the GDP in 2015. One of the highest in the region.
  - i. Many leading companies are already benefiting from Albania's business advantages and unexploited natural resources. By the end of 2015, the total number of foreign companies operating in Albania is 10560.
  - ii. Construction on the Trans-Adriatic Pipeline begun in 2015. More than 1.5 bln USD will be invested during the year 2016 and 2017. Trans-Adriatic Pipeline route through Albania is approximately 215 km onshore and 37 km offshore in the Albanian section of the Adriatic Sea.
  - iii. Significant natural resources. Albania's Patos - Marinza is the biggest on-shore oil field in Europe.
  - iv. Albania has a range of public-private investment opportunities. It also has a broad range of opportunities in stable and growing sectors such as: Power & Mining, Transport & Logistics, Tourism and Agriculture.
  - v. The registration of a new business and requests for licenses, permits, authorizations can be completed within 8 hrs through the one-stop-shop for only 0.7 Euro.
  - vi. The application requests in order to receive the status "Strategic Investment/Investor Assisted Procedure" & "Strategic Investment/Investor Special Procedure" and the realization of the investment projects are handled by the one-stop-shop department of AIDA-Albanian Investment Development Agency.