

MAZARS ALBANIA TRANSPARENCY REPORT

2020

mazars



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Introduction Mazars at a glance

Global coverage

90+
countries & territories

40,000+*
professionals

* 26,000+ professionals in Mazars' integrated partnership, 16,000 via Mazars North America Alliance

1,070
Mazars SCRL partners

Group global turnover
2019-2020

€1.9bn**

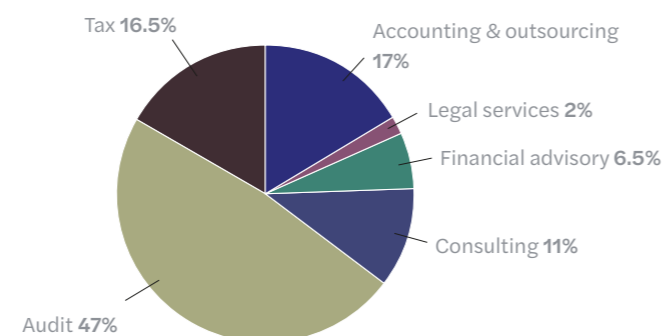
** includes data for the ZhongShen ZhongHuan and ZhongShen Yatai practices.

These figures are valid as of 31 August 2020.
For current up-to-date information, please visit:
www.mazars.com/keydata

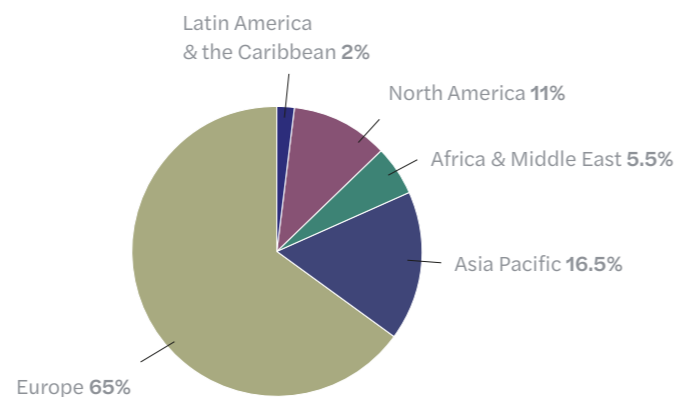
Mazars SCRL (hereafter 'Mazars Group', 'the Group') is an international, integrated and independent organisation, specialising in audit, advisory, accountancy, tax and legal services.

On all six continents, our global partnership brings together over 26,000 international experts, plus another 16,000 through our North American Alliance. They all share the same vision, the same entrepreneurial and collaborative mindset, and the same determination to create shared value for all our stakeholders: our staff, our clients, the business community and society as a whole.

Global turnover by service lines (%)



Global turnover by regions (%)



Introduction Mazars' story

€100m turnover
1995

1,000 professionals
Creation of the international partnership

€500m turnover
37 countries
2005

5,300 professionals
Growth in Europe and in America

€1.8bn turnover
More than 90 countries and territories

2019
24,400 professionals
Presence on five continents
Growth in Asia and in the United States

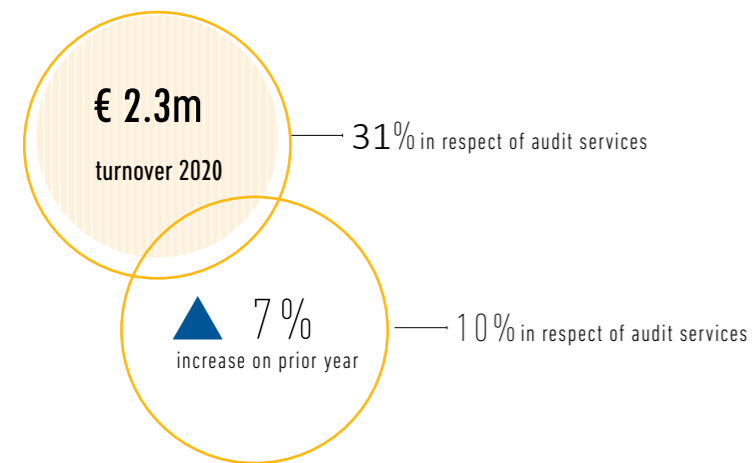
€1.9bn turnover
More than 90 countries and territories

2020
Over 26,000 professionals



MAZARS ALBANIA AT A GLANCE

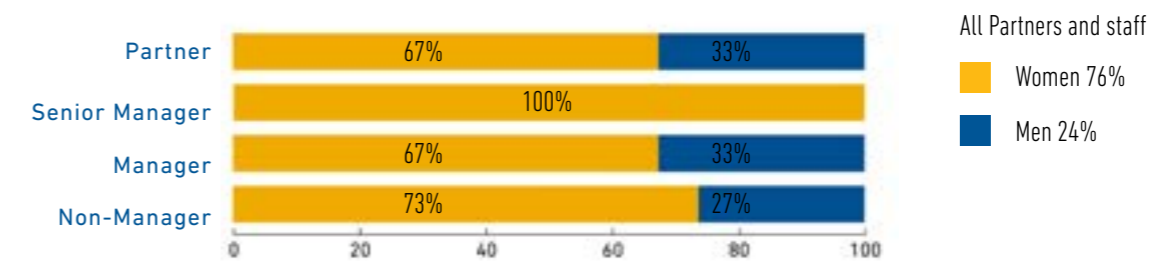
Our firm



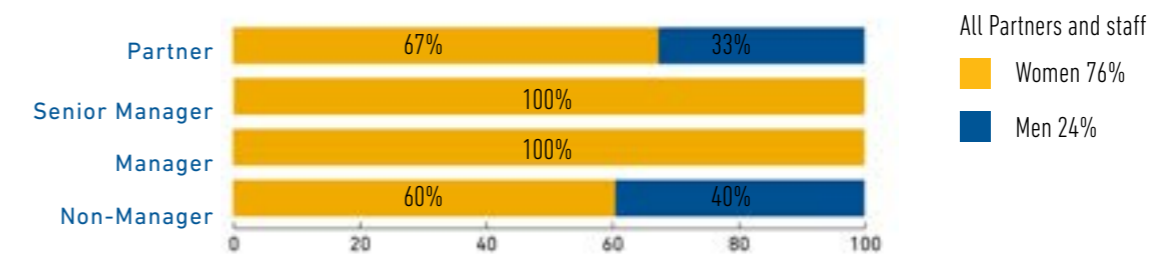
Mazars Albania operations



Breakdown of Mazars Albania by gender



Breakdown of Mazars Albania audit staff by gender



FOREWORD BY TEIT GJINI



Audit has been at the heart of Mazars since inception, and it remains a driving force for the firm both in Albania and globally, and will continue to be so in the years ahead.

The audit profession in Albania has experienced important developments in the last 12 months, including important regulatory frameworks amendments. Stakeholders are increasing expectations and it now makes codes of conduct a top guidance and require increased professionalism, independence, transparency and higher quality in the delivery of audit and assurance assignments.

Mazars is fully committed to embodying these values and delivering audit quality: a vocation which demands consistent consideration and effort. It is incumbent upon us all to build an audit function fit for the requirements of the future. We are committed to continuous investment of both time and resources, ensuring that we have the right people, technology and standards.

We invest heavily in enhancing our tools and methodologies. We place focus on making sure our people act with irreproachable ethics and we train them to acquire and maintain top-quality technical skills. We keep boosting innovation, bringing in the IT-expertise we need to fully achieve our digital transformation, and developing our ability to perform extra-financial audits, as we are convinced figures only cannot provide an accurate image of an organization's real value. Is due to the "augmented services" that we provide to our clients, that we have achieved to be in the top 5 auditors for listed companies and public interest entities in Europe, and being among 5 largest audit firms in Albania. On a global level, our audit service line keeps growing on all continents and amounts to 44.2% of our global turnover and 38% of our local turnover.

With each of our clients, large multinational companies and smaller organizations alike, we seek to build long-term relationships based on mutual trust and aimed at helping them focus on their core business and achieve

their own sustainable growth objectives. We look at the future with confidence, as we know we have both the size, the entrepreneurial spirit and the agility to become true leading players.

We also know we can rely on a strong and resilient model and on strong deeply embedded values, with the purpose of contributing to a better-functioning business community and to overall progress in society.

We are pleased to introduce the 2020 Transparency Report for Mazars Albania. A leading player in audit, advisory, accountancy, tax and legal services, Mazars in Albania draws on the skills of +35 round shaped professionals, which on the other hand are supported by 40,000 professionals of Mazars Group operating in 86 territories worldwide.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Teit Gjini".

Teit GJINI

Managing Partner of Mazars Albania & Kosovo

31 December 2020

The background is a dense, abstract composition of various geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in shades of blue, teal, and purple. The shapes are layered and overlapping, creating a sense of depth and movement. A central white rectangular box contains the text.

**A VIBRANT AUDIT MARKET
THAT SERVES SOCIETY**

A VIBRANT AUDIT MARKET THAT SERVES SOCIETY



DIANA YLLI
Albania Head of Audit



DAVID HERBINET
Global Head of Audit

ACHIEVING CONSISTENT QUALITY, STEERING GLOBAL CHANGE.

Over the last year, global turmoil in the audit sector has continued unabated and the debates around audit scope, audit concentration and audit regulation are now in full flow in a significant number of countries, including Albania. While we do not rejoice in this, we are not surprised by it as we have consistently said that change in the audit profession was imperative to ensure it can continue to deliver all of the benefits that society expects of it.

There is no doubt our profession needs to evolve, and we are playing our full part in steering this change.

[Walking the walk](#)

As a leading challenger firm, Mazars has been playing its full part in offering quality and choice in the audit market. Talking the talk is pointless if we cannot also walk the walk.

Audit is in our DNA and at the heart of our business and accounts for nearly half of our global turnover.

Over the last 12 months, we have been trusted by significant large and complex companies to take on their audit at European and/or global level, and have retained many of our largest accounts, which reaffirms and reinforces our position as a firm of choice.

We owe these accomplishments to the technical excellence of our people and to the quality of the service we provide. We take pride in training our teams, bringing them up to date with the latest regulatory developments and technical evolutions, while giving them the knowledge and skills they need to abide by the strictest ethics and independence requirements and deliver real value to companies and their stakeholders.

As we remain committed to transforming audit, we have also fully embraced technology, which both practitioners and users see as absolutely essential in enhancing audit quality.

Data analytics are also changing the way audit is delivered and helping meet the ever-growing expectations of boards, shareholders, regulators and other stakeholders. In this area, we are determined to enhance our capabilities and have set ourselves ambitious goals that include supporting our audit teams to design smarter audit strategies incorporating data analytics and providing tools and solutions to support the delivery of this objective.

Finally, during the last year, we have expanded our capabilities to respond to expectations that the scope of audit needs to evolve, notably to keep pace with the development of non-financial reporting. To us, expanding the scope of audit is an integral part of providing a more accurate and trustworthy reflection of the real value drivers of any organization.

Year 2020 brought significant amendments to regulatory requirements in Albania, and due to our capabilities we managed to adapt quickly and deliver quality services.

As we transform to continuously enhance the way we perform and deliver audits,

we seek to remain true to the values and unique

characteristics that go to the roots of Mazars.

Our 2020 achievements and our ability to attain the goals we have set ourselves for the years to come make us optimistic about our own future and about the future of audit as a public-interest profession. The dedication, skills, innovation capabilities and commitment to quality demonstrated by our teams all over the world is what makes us strong today and will drive our growth sustainably.

We set ourselves the challenge of performing audits that deliver an augmented experience and real value to stakeholders and contributing to creating more sustainable economies. In the context of a turbulent audit market with demands for more quality, choice and resilience, Mazars is a true challenger firm.

DIANA YLLI
Head of Audit

DAVID HERBINET
Global Head of Audit

ALBANIA GOVERNANCE COUNCIL REPORT

Albania Governance

The Management Committee, being the governance body of Mazars Albania is chaired by the Managing Partner, Mr. Teit Gjini. Other members of the Management Committee include Mrs. Diana Ylli (Practicing Partner, Head of Audit & Assurance), Mrs. Irena Hoxha (Practicing Partner, in charge of Quality Control), Mrs. Marinela Hoxha (Practicing Audit & Assurance) and Mrs. Daniela Xhako (Practicing Tax & AOS) and Mrs. Erinda Xhaferraj (Practicing Tax Advisory).


The Management Committee is responsible for the firm's development strategy, the implementation of business decisions as well as the operational, functional and administrative organization.

Directly reporting to the Management Committee is the Risk Manager. The Risk Manager is responsible for making final recommendations to mitigate the risks, answering (or approving answers to) risk issues when required identified by the firm.

Ms. Irena Pulo (Practicing Partner) is the head of Quality Control. She carried out a high-level review of the effectiveness of the Mazars. Management Committee during the year in order to ensure progression of matters noted in the prior detailed review.

Assignment of Management to specific roles are detailed as per below

TECHNICAL FUNCTION	PERSON IN CHARGE	POSITION
Country Executive	Teit Gjini	Partner
Risk Manager	Diana Ylli	Partner
Accounting Standards	Diana Ylli	Partner
Professional Standards	Diana Ylli	Partner
Ethics and Acceptance	Diana Ylli	Partner
Quality Control	Irena Hoxha	Partner
Training	Diana Ylli	Partner
Practicing Tax & AOS	Daniela Xhako	Head of Tax & AOS
Practicing Audit & Assurance	Marinela Hoxha	Head of Audit & Assurance
Practicing Tax Advisory	Erinda Xhaferraj	Head of Tax Advisory

The background is a complex, abstract composition of numerous overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in shades of blue, teal, and purple. These shapes are scattered across the entire frame, creating a sense of depth and movement. In the center-right area, there is a prominent white rectangular box with a subtle drop shadow, containing the main text.

**1. INSPIRING STAKEHOLDER
CONFIDENCE IN AUDIT
QUALITY**

1.1 INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE TO DRIVE PURPOSE, PRIDE AND QUALITY

Our people are at the heart of our business and their values and behaviours determine how we are perceived by our clients and the wider market

We differentiate ourselves by the opportunities, development and culture we offer our team. As a consequence, we strive to ensure that we attract, retain and develop talented individuals who are driven to deliver their best for our business, our clients and each other through identifying with our values, which are to:

- act with integrity;
- respect people;
- think independently;
- be accountable;
- deliver outstanding quality; and
- shape the future.

Talent acquisition

Our talent acquisition programme aims to recruit high potential individuals mainly with economics, mathematics and IT backgrounds who share our value of delivering outstanding quality, whilst meeting the market's evolving needs.

Over the last year we have focused on leveraging our employer brand to attract the best individuals, as well as improving both the candidate and hiring manager experience aimed at increasing the quality, speed and ability to hire the best people.

Building a future proofed talent pipeline

Graduates and school leavers

Graduate and school leaver recruitment is crucial to our strategy of building a talent pipeline fit for the future, a diverse network of bright, motivated individuals with a breadth of skills and the attitude and behaviours required to deliver quality.

Over the last year we have renewed our focus on boosting our employer branding in schools and universities, as well as enhancing our process to identify people who will thrive in the Mazars environment including:

- increasing our local school outreach through developing lasting relationships with schools we have good relations with;
- promoting our recruitment campaigns through social medias, easily accessible from generation Z;
- utilising our new joiners network, as we believe they are our greatest ambassadors;

We believe a high performing team that embodies our values is a diverse team whose strength and experiences complement each other. Our recruitment programme is based on a strength-based assessment approach, which is aimed at enabling greater social mobility through assessing an individual candidate's potential.

In essence our assessment and selection approach supports both school preparation and individual creativity and logic, as we believe a successful professional must have a combination of these elements.

We have in place a culture of welcoming new joiners, where the team members provide continues support and training. In addition, as part of our yearly appraisal process, each individuals is provided with its areas of strength and further development. We see this process as a crucial one for the continues growth of our people and teams.

Experienced hires

We aim to hire talented people in the market and provide them the support they need to develop in their roles. We look for people that bring something special to the Firm and have distinctive qualities. We want driven individuals who think creatively about their work and embrace challenges and can resolve complex problems.

Talent and performance development

Our people are the most important asset we have as a firm, therefore it is important that team members are given the time and resources to develop themselves and maximise their potential.

In the year, to create a comprehensive and more personalised picture of the development paths available within the Firm, we have incentivised continuous conversations between the team members and their managers or even Partners.

We want our people to be sure that we are supporting every area of the business with its specific development and training needs, and to deliver solutions that are tailored to each Service Line, whilst ensuring it is consistent with the framework of the Firm. This also provides individuals with greater clarity over the development opportunities that are available at each stage of their career, and across all areas of their role.

Underpinning this structure is a 'playing to strengths' philosophy where we encourage everyone to use their natural talents to develop their career in a way that allows them to do what they do best every day.

Mazars Albania supports financially its team members who are studying towards professional qualifications such as ACCA, IEKA or other qualifications allowing team members to be accredited in their field of expertise, helping to ensure that they are well equipped to deliver high quality technical expertise to our clients..

Development of our trainees is also supported through our internal training programme, designed to improve our team throughout their career. Our approach to is based on solid learning theory and practise, allowing our team members time and space away from their client work, at a time that is most appropriate to their growth, to ensure that they practise and utilise what they have learnt before attending the next development course

Our more experienced staff, have regularly attended different trainings and development conferences organized at Mazars Group level which have been a combination between technical and soft skills. Rolling this out to our management group allows us to make a cultural shift in the way our managers view their own and their team members' development and progression,

1.1 INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE TO DRIVE PURPOSE, PRIDE AND QUALITY

This year we also introduced our nationwide development days, where team members have the opportunity and are encouraged to meet with their line manager or partner at least three times a year to discuss development and progression opportunities, as well as meeting more regularly for meaningful 1:2:1 sessions. The development days commence with a strategic update from a member of Albania Executive Board (Albania Executive), therefore allowing team members to have a meaningful discussion with their line manager about how an individual can contribute to achieving this strategy.

In order to support our people's development, our HR Business Partners work with the leadership teams of each Service Line to identify appropriate development opportunities (such as training courses, secondments or promotions) to help grow our people's careers, and also identify and support those individuals with the potential to be future leaders of the firm. This helps support our succession planning approach, as well as aligning to our diversity and inclusion agenda, providing equality of opportunity across the firm.

Linked to the above is engagement, if our people feel motivated and engaged the quality of their work will be high, which is why this is an all-encompassing priority for Mazars to drive high performance and consistency.

Delivering technical excellence in audit

A structured programme is in place for all auditors on a training contract to support them throughout the training period, whether this is through the school leaver or graduate entry programmes. This programme includes:

- practical classroom courses delivered by a trained pool of technical experts. These classroom courses are timed to coincide with the relevant stage of the trainee's qualification, and are designed to bring their theoretical learning into the practical environment of their day-to-day work; and

- digital content covering the Firm's audit procedures, methodology and software. Providing the content in a digital format allows us to provide key learning messages to the trainees, as well as delivering something that can be easily revisited when required.

Once qualified, a wide range of technical support is provided to help staff maintain their technical competence and provide the quality service on which the Firm's reputation is built. The objective of these ongoing training programmes is to further each team member's understanding of and expertise in auditing standards, accounting standards, auditing techniques and engagement management principles.

Audit staff have access to the following resources:

- monthly audit inductions for new joiners to the service line, introducing them to the Firm's methodology and procedures;
- mandatory technical updates for all qualified staff, delivered both in the classroom and online through webinars;
- a suite of technical classroom courses on specific audit issues that can be delivered on demand when required; and
- sector updates on industry specific areas such as banking, insurance, local public audits and charities.

To aid learning, communications on key changes within auditing standards affecting our audit teams are communicated when required through our intranet and newsletter.

To ensure audit staff and Partners maintain their technical competence and meet the respective regulatory and professional institute for their continued professional development (CPD) is reviewed on an annual basis, and we ensure suitable personal development plans are in place where required.

In undertaking CPD and development plans, consideration of compliance with International Education Standards (IES) 7 for audit staff, and IES 8 for RIs is also undertaken. During the year ended 31 December 2020, 356 training hours were undertaken by audit service line members.

Reward and recognition

Each member of our team sets goals for the year under four areas of focus, linked to their career pathways. This assessment forms the basis for promotions and for future goal setting and a key goal is the quality of the work that is delivered.

All our team members set clear goals, receive feedback and have their performance reviewed on at least an annual basis. Every individual is encouraged to understand the importance of their own role, consider their own strengths and take ownership of their contribution to the overall success of the Firm through playing to their strengths.

Remuneration is determined based on a number of factors, including individual performance, economic factors, the external market and the performance of the Firm. We have a firm-wide bonus plan, however individual bonuses are determined at the service line level taking into consideration:

- overall contribution to the firm;
- demonstration of behaviours consistent with the values and Code of Conduct of the firm; and
- demonstration of quality.

In the year we introduced Mazars Benefits which helped us to better communicate to our people the package of benefits that we offer. During the launch we were proud to tell our people about our dress for your diary policy and improvements to entry level holiday entitlements. We continue to promote our other rewards and benefits, including agile working, which is aimed at promoting a culture of wellness and health which ensures that our people continue to work to their potential.

We place great emphasis on office environment – from closed spaces and attributed workspaces to open plans. This is not just a question of following trends, but one of leveraging space to enhance our collective intelligence and enforcing new managerial codes that are more collaborative, participative, and open. Mazars offices from Singapore to Rotterdam, Gabarone to Milan, and London to Paris, to name just a few, are revolutionising their work places with more collaborative work spaces combined with digitalised tools. The design offers a

more human-centric approach and enables our staff and Partners to create the spaces they need to work best.

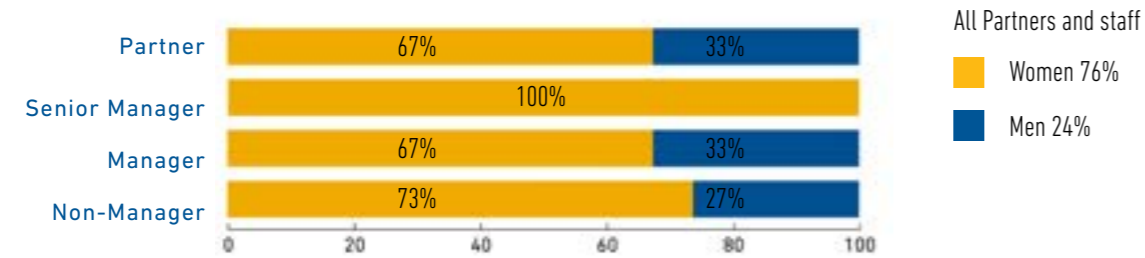
At the same time the managerial codes have changed, from 'command and control' to co-developing solutions. We want our staff to participate in generating and implementing new ideas – from our internal processes to our client offers.

1.1 INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE TO DRIVE PURPOSE, PRIDE AND QUALITY

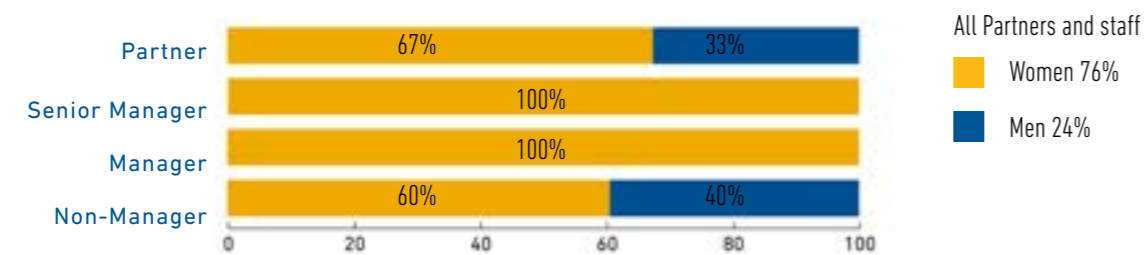
Some diversity statistics on Mazars Albania

We incentive diversity in our office and people that think differently outside the box.

Breakdown of Mazars Albania by gender



Breakdown of Mazars Albania audit staff by gender



Mazars For Good

Mazars recognises its commitment as a responsible corporate citizen, and to make sustainable business decisions, through our Mazars For Good strategy. Sitting within this agenda are the areas of Community, Environment, Diversity and Inclusion, Wellbeing, and Social Mobility.

Community – Investment in the communities that we live and work within through donation of both funds and time, with an emphasis on raising awareness for the charities that we partner with. This includes the Mazars Charitable Trust, where the Firm contributes a portion of its profits to good causes;

Environment – Implementation of a progressive environmental program, with a particular focus on a reduction in single use plastic within our offices;

Diversity and Inclusion – Create an inclusive culture with diverse teams that reflect our clients and society;

Wellbeing – Help our team members stay well and take control of their wellbeing; and

Social Mobility – Ensure that everyone has the opportunity to fulfill their potential regardless of social background.

Supporting our communities and managing the impact on our environment are at the heart of our values and fundamental to who we are as a firm.



1.2 DELIVERING AUDIT QUALITY

Delivering audit quality is key to us as a global organisation, as it underpins our core values. We are dedicated to improving the audit work we undertake and the reports to and communications with those charged with governance.

We invest time in understanding and participating in the evolution of quality within the profession, developing our methodology, reviewing quality recommendations and themes of regulatory inspections, and improving the skills and knowledge of our professional staff. We are continually raising our expectations of what audit quality is as we believe this is something that is constantly evolving.

Mazars' Audit Manifesto

We challenge ourselves to make our audit and assurance offerings relevant, bring value to companies and their many stakeholders and have our assignments delivered by experienced, committed and truly independent professionals. The delivery of audit and assurance continued to be at the heart of Mazars' business in the year ended 31 December 2020, and is a key part of our plans for the future.

Responsibility for quality

The quality and effectiveness of our audit services is critical to all our stakeholders and is an integral part of our commitment to building trust in society. We believe in accountability and our approach to audit quality is driven by our culture, values and behaviours. We are convinced tone at the top is of paramount importance. To ensure a culture of quality is embedded within

Mazars Albania as a core value, the Head of Quality and the Head of Audit are members of Albania Executive.

Our Audit Quality Assurance Framework

The International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) is the global organisation for the accountancy profession dedicated to serving the public interest by strengthening the profession and contributing to the development of strong international economies. Mazars Group is actively involved in IFAC with a presence on a number of its boards and committees.

Mazars Group is also a member of IFAC's Forum of Firms (FoF), an association of international networks of accounting firms that perform transnational audits. As members of the FoF we commit to:

- maintain quality control standards in accordance with the International Standard on Quality Control (ISQC1)
 - issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) – in addition to relevant national quality control standards;
- conduct, to the extent not prohibited by national regulation, regular globally coordinated internal quality assurance reviews;
- have policies and methodologies for the conduct of transnational audits that are based, to the extent practical, on the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) issued by the IAASB;
- have policies and methodologies that conform to Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (the 'IESBA Code') and any relevant national code of ethics; and
- agree to submit to the Secretary of the Forum an annual report, in an approved format, indicating that it meets the membership obligations set forth above.

We have been committed to this since 2007 and make an annual declaration to set this out.

In line with our commitments, our Quality Assurance Framework is presented through our "Quality Assurance Manual" and "Risk Management Manual", both of which constitute the benchmark for audit quality control for all entities. This framework covers the following:

- responsibility and leadership;
- independence and objectivity;
- acceptance and continuance of engagements;
- human resources;
- audit methodology and engagement performance;
 - planning and supervision of engagements;
 - technical consultation;
 - audit documentation;
- professional confidentiality and risk management;
- engagement quality monitoring reviews;
- quality monitoring; and
- procedures for dealing with and resolving differences of opinion; complaints, allegations and claims

1.2 DELIVERING AUDIT QUALITY (CONTINUED)

A CONSISTENT APPROACH ON ALL CLIENT ENGAGEMENTS, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR SIZE AND INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION.

Both our audit methodology and software are updated, as required, to include the evolution of international and national standards and as a result of operational suggestions by users. Our compliance with the Quality Assurance Manual is monitored through internal and external inspections.

Maintaining and improving audit quality is integral to our profession, as such Albania Executive is required to:

- promote the Firm's internal culture of quality and reinforce this culture with clear, consistent and frequent messages and initiatives;
- remind individuals at all levels of the existence of the quality monitoring system; and
- underline the importance of respecting legal and regulatory obligations, particularly with regards to the IFAC code, local ethical requirements and professional standards of practice when accepting and carrying out new assignments.

In Appendix 7 we provide our statement of the effectiveness as to the functioning of the Quality Monitoring System.

Within Mazars Albania only Certified Auditors (CAs) can be responsible for an audit and sign a statutory audit report. A CA has to hold an 'appropriate qualification' commonly known as an audit qualification and be competent to conduct audit work. An appropriate qualification can be gained by holding a recognised audit qualification awarded by Albanian Chartered Certified Accountants (IEKA).

In Mazars Albania 3 individuals held CA status at 31 December 2020, and other members hold Albanian Statutory Auditor or ACCA qualifications.

Licensing

The fulfilment of obligations' and the receipt of Statutory Auditor title is not sufficient for performing sign off engagements. A Statutory Auditor must be registered with IEKA Public Register, active one, in order to have signing rights.

Performance management

We recognise that the responsibility for audit quality does not just sit with the CAs, audit quality is also the personal responsibility of all our professionals within the Audit and Assurance service line. Each professional is set clear objectives for audit quality, appropriate to their role and responsibility. These objectives are monitored and assessed through performance reviews, thus ensuring a culture committed to audit quality.

Responsibility for the audit

Our CAs, with the aid of the engagement manager, direct and supervise the audit process. The CA is responsible for ensuring the work completed is appropriately reviewed, concluded and documented in order to maintain quality. The CA is also responsible for ensuring that the engagement is adequately resourced with appropriately experienced professional staff.

As engagement leaders, the CAs, supported by the engagement managers, are responsible for fostering a culture of quality throughout the audit process, challenging the team on their professional scepticism in respect of the work performed and supporting the culture of on the job training and coaching

In situations where a difference of opinion arises between the CA and the engagement team, the Engagement Quality Control Review (EQCR) or technical consultants, procedures are in place to consider the opinions further, including the use of a panel of independent Partners appointed by virtue of their knowledge and experience.

We support enhanced audit reporting, believing that value can be derived from reporting that is clear and insightful to the reader. To maintain this level of quality, all our audit reports which include key audit matters are reviewed by our audit technical team.

Audit policies and methodology

The Mazars Audit Methodology (MAM) is a global methodology that Mazars entities around the world apply, supplemented by local regulatory and legal requirements. Using a common methodology allows us to apply a consistent approach and level of quality globally on all client engagements irrespective of their size and international presence.

In an increasingly globalised world, the MAM allows us to provide our multinational clients with quality audits across borders. Specific policies and procedures are in place in respect of group audits, including the use of and reliance on other auditors. These procedures include consideration of the results of quality monitoring.

The MAM is continually enhanced as we seek to apply a systematic risk based audit approach, focusing on the things that matter and adjusting the areas of focus and effort based on the level of risk. Our methodology and associated application guidance are also designed to encourage challenge and professional scepticism in our audits.

Audit software is used to support the audit teams in applying our risk based approach, from acceptance to completion of the audit. During the year, Mazars globally has been progressing the development of a new audit software, Atlas, with a significant contribution of time and experience from Albania. Rollout of Atlas commenced in the year, with the expectation that the majority of our audits in the 2019/20 period will be completed on this application. Atlas further enhances the quality of documentation produced by our global team, as well as providing consistency in the application of the MAM. We will continue to invest and develop our audit software as new challenges and technology impact on the audits of the future.

Data analytics is increasingly becoming a key aspect of our standard audit procedures, particularly with respect to the mandatory requirements to address the risk of management override of controls.

Our ability to maintain quality is not only dependent

on the IT tools available to our professional staff, it also relies on the appropriate support being available. The MAM details the circumstances when there is a mandatory requirement to consult within the Firm. Our technical experts are also available for audit and financial reporting technical consultations when support is required.

To aid the audit quality of specific areas of the audit, our core audit teams have access to our specialist auditors and experts, including IT, tax, actuarial and valuation specialists.

Our audit policies and procedures have been designed and implemented to ensure that we comply and that we can demonstrate compliance with ISAs.

1.2 DELIVERING AUDIT QUALITY (CONTINUED)

Monitoring audit quality

Monitoring of audit quality is integral to understanding our own audit quality and developing ways to challenge and improve it. It allows identification of areas for improvement within our policies and procedures, combined with additional training to allow for a consistent quality approach to audit work. Our audit quality policies and procedures are embedded as part of our firm's day-to-day activities.

Engagement quality control reviews (EQCRs)

The criteria for determining whether other engagements require an EQCR are mainly based around either the public interest profile of the client or the existence of specific risk situations or other criteria including: the existence of a large number of shareholders or potential investors, the size of the client, etc. EQC reviewers are assigned at partner level taking in consideration the independence requirements. The review is documented through a questionnaire which is archived within the engagement. Any disagreements between the engagement partner and the EQCR is resolved prior to the engagement partner signing the audit opinion.

OUR AUDIT QUALITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ARE EMBEDDED AS PART OF OUR FIRM'S DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES.

The purpose of an EQCR is to provide an objective evaluation of the significant judgements made by the engagement team and the conclusions reached in formulating the opinion. This review must be performed by a person with sufficient authority to be capable of imposing their professional judgement upon the engagement team. The EQCR is licensed internally and is also subject to rotation.

1.3 QUALITY MONITORING

Through its International Quality Control Committee (IQCC), the Quality and Risk Management Board (Q&RM Board) defines the quality monitoring system and the relevant procedures that are required to be implemented across all service lines, as well as monitoring their implementation.

Monitoring of audit quality is integral to maintaining and improving quality in our profession. It allows identification of areas for improvement within our policies and procedures, combined with additional training to allow a consistent quality approach to audit work. The Executive of each member entity is responsible for the implementation of the quality monitoring systems. This quality monitoring system applies to both correspondent and member firms.

The approach to Quality Control and reviews in Albania

Audit and Assurance department of Albania has implemented the group Quality Assurance Manual and customized with the country specific requirement. The Head of Quality Control for Albania and Kosovo is Mrs. Irena Pulo.

In the audit and assurance department it is required that all listed entities will be subject to EQCR.

Mazars Albania have not audited any listed entity during this year.

The criteria for determining whether other engagements require an EQCR are mainly based around either the public interest profile of the client or the existence of specific risk situations or other criteria including: the existence of a large number of shareholders or potential investors, the size of the client, etc. EQC reviewers are assigned at partner level taking in consideration the independence requirements.

The review is documented through a questionnaire which is archived within the engagement. Any disagreements between the engagement partner and the EQCR is resolved prior to the engagement partner signing the audit opinion.

Every partner is subject to an independent review performed by the group every three years depending on the portfolio of clients. A summary report is prepared at the end of the reviews and actions are proposed to address the findings resulting from the reviews. Actions may include immediate remedial action, changes in the firm's guidance or procedures, or additional training and support. Findings and actions required are communicated to partner and staff on a timely basis.

During the period 2010-2020 Mazars Albania has been inspected by the (IEKA) Institute of Authorized Chartered Auditors of Albania and POAB (Public Oversight Board) for the practice which included reviews of engagements and the quality control system of the firm.

This reviews positively concluded on Mazars' system of internal control, compliance with International

Standards on Auditing, the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants and ISQC1 and their local equivalents.

Within Mazars sh.p.k. the audit quality control reviews operate in line with Mazars Group requirements. An internal monitoring review is carried out on a yearly basis. In addition to engagement file review, which is mentioned in "Responsibility for audit quality and the quality assurance framework in Albania" section above, firm-wide controls in respect of the following elements are evaluated:

- Leadership responsibilities for quality within the firm
- Relevant ethical requirements
- Acceptance and continuance of client relationships and specific engagements
- Human resources
- Monitoring

Mazars Group oversight of Quality Monitoring

The quality monitoring assessments undertaken by the IQCC monitor member entities' compliance with the IFAC standards. The Mazars entities' audit quality monitoring reviews organised by the IQCC have several components:

- self-assessment of the entity's audit methodology, ethics and the Quality Assurance System;
- internal monitoring of the effectiveness of the internal procedures and of the quality of the audit files. This is performed by each Mazars entity on an annual basis and constitutes the basis for the completion of the self assessment;
- Mazars international inspections: these are undertaken by experienced reviewers from other member entities within the organisation, generally every three years, and they aim to take an independent view on the results of the self-assessments and the internal monitoring whilst helping to spread best practices; and
- external inspections: entities are periodically subject to reviews by the audit regulators or other relevant

bodies in their jurisdictions. Results of such reviews are communicated to the IQCC for their consideration.

The self-assessment includes the entity's compliance with the IFAC standards as well as reporting on the results of its internal and external audit quality monitoring reviews. This can be the basis for an action plan relating to all areas identified as requiring improvement including those identified through any Mazars international inspection.

Entities are required to communicate internally the results of their audit quality monitoring reviews to their Executive, Partners and audit managers. This communication is expected to be provided in sufficient detail to enable the necessary corrective measures to take place, both for the particular Partner in question, and the overall level of the entity.

As a minimum, the results of the audit quality monitoring reviews include:

- a description of the procedures applied and of the scope of the quality monitoring review;
- the results and conclusions of the reviews of the entity's procedures and audit engagements; and
- detailed action plans, where required.

Entities that are applying to join the Mazars organisation are subject to an inspection organised by the IQCC. The report setting out the results of the review is included in the admission file submitted to the GEB and the GGC for consideration before the vote at the General Assembly of Partners. The report may be accompanied by an action plan, progress against which would be monitored by the IQCC.

1.3 QUALITY MONITORING (CONTINUED)

During the year Mazars Albania submitted an annual self-assessment around audit quality to Mazars Group which was reviewed centrally. Periodically, we are reviewed by a Group quality monitoring reviewer, and that review covers our whole firm procedures as well as file reviews. The last inspection by Mazars Group carried out showed that Albania is considered to have a system in place to comply with the ISAs, the IFAC code and the provisions of ISQC1.

Albanian external reviews

Mazars Albania undertakes audits which fall within the remit of the Public Oversight Board, resulting in the Firm being subject to reviews of our audit work, systems and processes by the POB's Audit Quality Review team.

Due to the increased number of PIE clients, Mazars is subject to annual reviews by the Audit Quality Review team of the POB.

Mazars Albania's audit work is also reviewed by the Quality Assurance of Institute of Institute of Authorized Chartered Auditors of Albania, IEKA.

The IEKA's Audit Quality Review team has reviewed our local public audit work in the local government sector and to consider the robustness of our policies and procedures to support auditors delivering this work.

During 2020 Mazars Albania was part of the review from the Public Oversight Board which resulted in a good rating with low risk recommendations.

At Mazars we are passionate about audit quality so the results of the independent reviews challenge us to revisit our technical training and tools to ensure they support our audit teams to deliver quality audits.

1.4 AUDIT QUALITY INDICATORS

Indicators of audit quality are established to enhance transparency and comparability across the industry. Mazars Albania reports on the metrics we consider that impact the quality.

We recognise that all firms are structured differently, and therefore whilst we endeavor to produce consistent information, differences are likely to arise in the reported information compared to other firms. As such, explanations on how the data has been derived are also reported.

1) Metrics on external investigations related to audit

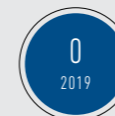
Number of cases in the last 12 months in which the competent authorities has found against the Firm or one of its members



Mazars commentary

There have been no tribunal disciplinary hearings undertaken by the competent authorities concerning the conduct of Mazars Albania in relation to audit in either year.

Number of cases in the last 12 months in which the Public Oversight Board or any other regulatory body have found against the Firm.

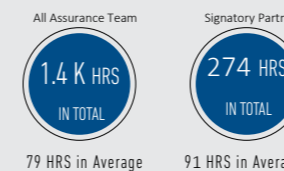


Mazars commentary

There have been no findings against the firm by the quality reviews performed by Public Oversight Board or other regulatory bodies in either year. Mazars Albania has been subject to quality review from Public Oversight Board which resulted in a good rating with low risk recommendations.

2) Metrics on investment

Number of hours training undertaken in total and average per person in the Assurance Practice



Mazars commentary

This metric is derived from the total number of hours delivered to audit team members.

Training hours have significantly increased year on year, demonstrating our commitment to our dedicated technical training plan comprising audit masterclasses, sector specific training, webinars and new audit professional training, combined with our business skills training plan which all audit team members have access to.

1.5 INVESTOR DIALOGUE

Our voice in Albania

The Partners are active members on round tables and part of panel discussion organized for comments on newly issued standards as well active member on the chamber of auditors.

1.6 ENSURING OUR OBJECTIVITY AND INDEPENDENCE

We have devised and implemented policies to ensure all our staff and partners comply with the strictest objectivity and independence requirements, as these are the cornerstones of our profession. We are determined to play our role in increasing public trust in the opinions we provide.

Our Code of Conduct for Objectivity and Independence

The Mazars Group has adopted a Code of Conduct for Objectivity and Independence (the 'CCOI') which complies with the IESBA Code. This forms an integral part of all member entities' professional training programmes and is distributed to all Partners and staff.

We also strongly promote ethical culture and values. A process has been defined to help people who face ethical dilemmas, and the consequences of breaching ethical rules and principles have been made clear to Partners and staff in all member entities.

In addition, we have recently refreshed our global Code of Conduct. We have designed it as a practical guide to help all Mazarians, regardless of age, position or country, navigate difficult choices and make the right decisions, in line with our values.

Our new code of conduct clearly states who we are, what we expect from our people and how we deal with our clients, stakeholders and communities at large. In

an intricate and fast-evolving environment, we use it as a moral compass for our daily activities, drawing the line between what is recommended or acceptable and what would put our reputation and other people's trust at risk. We handle all breaches seriously and take appropriate action to uphold this code wherever necessary.

Responsibility for maintaining objectivity and independence

The Group Independence and Acceptance Committee is responsible for considering potential issues brought to its attention, reviewing any proposed departures from the CCOI by country and verifying that all changes in international ethical standards are taken into account by the organisation.

Systems to safeguard our objectivity and independence

The systems implemented by Mazars Group and adopted by member entities comprise the following:

SAFEGUARD	HOW THIS SAFEGUARDS OUR OBJECTIVITY AND INDEPENDENCE
Acceptance and continuance of audit engagements	Procedures exist that require an evaluation of the client's related risks, the entity's ability to perform the engagement and any ethical risks in terms of independence and conflicts of interest.
Additional services	The provision of additional services to an audit client is subject to prior authorisation from the lead audit partner and, in some cases, the Ethics Partner. In certain circumstances this provision is also subject to authorisation by the client's audit committee, for example when required by auditing standards or when the client has put in place procedures for the prior approval of non-audit services by the auditor.

SAFEGUARD	HOW THIS SAFEGUARDS OUR OBJECTIVITY AND INDEPENDENCE
Non-audit services to audit clients	A complete list of non-audit services rendered to audit clients must be maintained. For group audits, this list must be communicated in the instructions circulated by the audit co-ordination team.
Annual declaration of independence	All Partners and staff are required to provide an annual declaration of their independence. In this respect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mazars Partners and their immediate family cannot hold a direct or indirect financial interest in a listed audit client; • Personal or family relationships between a member of the audit team and a member of either the audited entity's management or any person holding a key position in the audit client are prohibited; and • Partners and staff working on an audit engagement must not have any financial or commercial relations with the audit client (or beyond normal financial relations with a banking or other credit institution audit client).
Mandatory rotation	In relation to audits of PIEs, the audit RI is required to rotate after five years, and to not return to the audit team for at least five years. Familiarity is a threat to our independence and this rotation mitigates the threat of familiarity arising from long association with a client. The Executive ensures appropriate allocation of Partners to audit engagements and an annual review of appointments to PIEs takes place.
Transparency of information	All Mazars staff have access to details of our audit clients that are subject to specific ethical requirements.
Training	All audit staff are required to undertake training on ethical rules and the Mazars' ethical procedures.
Consultation	Audit staff and Partners are encouraged to consult with experts on technical matters, ethics and other areas where necessary.
Limits on client fees	Limits on client fees are imposed in order to avoid financial dependence on one or several clients.
Impact of an identified threats to independence	Clear rules regarding conflicts of interest have been communicated. Where there is a potential threat to our independence, the assignment is declined or appropriate safeguards are implemented.
Performance based remuneration	Mazars Group has adopted a method of remunerating Partners which takes into account the quality of audit work (and not simply the level of fees billed, number of new clients obtained, additional engagements performed or other financial performance related metrics).
Independent non-executives	Our independent non-executives must comply with appropriate independence requirements as do our Partners and staff.

1.6 ENSURING OUR OBJECTIVITY AND INDEPENDENCE (CONTINUED)

The procedures outlined above are applied, where relevant, to our local public audit work. Our systems are designed so as to ensure compliance with the National Audit Office Code of Audit Practice (and associated Auditor Guidance Notes), and PSAA's Terms of Appointment, each of which place additional requirements for objectivity and independence on local public auditors.

We are currently implementing our Global Independence Check tool. This one-stop-shop IT tool for conflict checks will speed up the process of acceptance throughout the Mazars Group.

In Appendix 7 we provide a statement on the effectiveness of the systems to safeguard our objectivity and independence.

Two-partner teams and rotation to strengthen both independence and services quality

Except in specific situations which are approved by the entity's Executive Committee, large engagements are placed under the responsibility of at least two partners, one of whom naturally assumes leadership of the engagement. Having a team of partners strengthens independence and brings broader technical expertise to the engagement. The responsible partners assist with key stages of the engagement and remain the key contacts for all parties and professional staff, whether internal or external.

Within Mazars, rotation is applied to Public Interest Entity engagements on which key audit partners rotate, in compliance when applicable with the domestic transposition of the European Directive on Statutory Auditor of the IESBA Code of Ethics. This rotation reduces the risk of "closeness" to the audited company which may impair independence. It enables the auditor to have greater independence of mind in dealing with client issues and in expressing opinions on financial statements. The allocation of partner responsibilities on recurring audit engagements and major special engagements is decided by the entity's Executive Committee and ensures that partners have the ability to effectively conduct and supervise engagements under their responsibility.

This allocation is reviewed annually as well as when there are any changes in the partner's situation or when any difficulties have been encountered.

In the rare case of disagreements with the technical department's positions, the Executive Committee is called upon to arbitrate. The two-partner team in charge remains the final decision maker within the context of the organization's quality assurance and procedures.

This point is of paramount importance in preserving each partner's personal commitment and sense of responsibility as well as in responding effectively to each client's specificities.

Partner compensation policy

Profits are divided amongst Partners according to the number of 'base points' they are allocated. Two criteria are used to calculate the value of the base points: the overall performance of the Mazars Group and the performance of the national entity to which they contribute. Each factor is measured equally.

Several countries, including the United Kingdom, have opted to add a bonus system founded on individual performance. Partners receive a portion of a global envelope based on his/ her country's performance.

Under the supervision of the GGC and based on the recommendation received from the Country Executive, base points are allocated to Partners according to the overall performance of the country and the individual performance of each Partner. This performance is assessed through various criteria:

- delivering outstanding quality;
- alignment to the Group and Albanias strategy;
- delivering sustainable profit;
- maintaining client focus;
- importance and complexity of assignments;
- diversity and respect for people;
- partnership spirit and partnership behaviours; and
- level of managerial responsibility.

None of these criteria are evaluated in isolation, but significant weight is placed on technical competence

and partnership spirit.

Financing business activity depends exclusively on each national member entity and follows the same proportionality as the division of profits.

The GGC has established an annual, and four year cycle, bonus program for the GEB.

Independence and Objectivity in Mazars in Albania

In Mazars Albania objectivity and independence are regulated by the Quality Assurance Manual and Code of Conduct. Acceptance and continuance procedures are performed for every engagement and approved by the engagement partner and Risk Partner if necessary. Conflict checks for international clients are performed by the acceptance officer in line with Quality Assurance Manual (QAM). Annual independence declarations are required by each partner and staff member. Independence is confirmed also at engagement level. Internal systems described in various Mazars manuals, IFAC Code of Ethics and the local equivalent have been established to identify circumstances where Mazars Albania independence could be threatened in order to instantly take appropriate safeguarding measures. The management of Mazars Albania confirms that the independence procedures and practices have been implemented and the systems are effective in maintaining independence. Furthermore, management confirms that the application of the independence procedures and practices have been subject to internal review.

The Country Specific Provisions addendum to the CCOI is held by the Ethics Manager.

Whistleblowing procedures

Our values set a platform for what we believe will build long term sustainable success for the organisation. We want to work in a way that promotes our values and ensures we provide the best possible service for our clients, and best possible environment for our team.

Mazars is committed to dealing responsibly, openly and professionally with:

- concerns raised internally, that Partners or team members may have about possible malpractice within Mazars firms; and

- concerns raised by persons external to Mazars (clients and other stakeholders) on the services provided by Mazars.

These group-wide whistleblowing procedures for our staff, our clients and our stakeholders reflect our zero-tolerance policy for unethical behaviors. They have been deployed since 2014 and both external and employee complaint forms are available on our Mazars websites (on the Group website: <http://www.mazars.com/Complaint-form>).

All claims are directly processed through the Group's Chief Compliance Officer (CCO) except when stated otherwise by the local regulation.

Confidentiality and information security

Confidentiality and information security are key elements of our professional responsibilities. Misuse or loss of confidential client information or personal data may expose the Firm to legal proceedings and may also adversely impact our reputation.

The Group's Chief Information Security Officer is responsible for providing oversight, policy and strategic direction on information risk and cyber security matters, supported by a Director of Information Governance and Data Protection. The Chief Information Security Officer directly reports to the Chief Compliance Officer and to the GEB. In the Albania staff and Partners have undertaken specific training on information security to enhance their understanding and help ensure that our policies are embedded within how our teams approach their work.

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2. OUR RISKS

2.1 OUR APPROACH TO RISK MANAGEMENT

Effective management of risk underpins our day-to-day activities to ensure we provide good quality, consistent and reliable services to our clients and teams.

Like other businesses we acknowledge our exposure to a wide range of risks and uncertainties which have the potential to impact on our services, people, finances and clients. We make every effort to ensure that risks are appropriately identified, assessed and managed to enable us to readily respond in the event they materialise.

Identification of risks

Effective utilisation of our enterprise risk management framework supports us in identifying emerging risks whilst ensuring those which we are already aware of are controlled to an appropriate level.

Identification and ongoing management of risks is supported by four key processes:

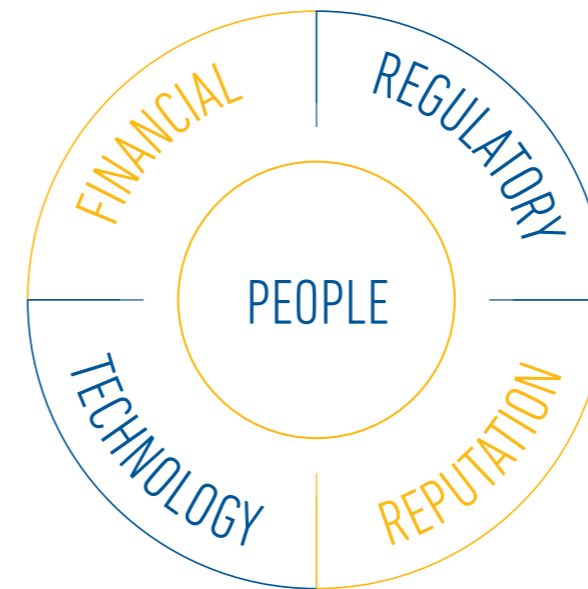
IDENTIFY	ASSESS	TREAT	MONITOR
New and emerging risks are identified by our business from a range of sources	Assessments consider the potential impact and likelihood of the risk materialising	Risk treatment plans are put in place to help mitigate the identified impact	Risks are monitored for change which may affect their assessment and treatment

Where new and emerging risks are identified, the relevant areas of our business are required to ensure these are reflected within their registers and appropriate steps are taken to assess and treat the risk.

In some cases, risks have the potential to affect Mazars holistically; others are unique to individual services. Where risks affect several services, these are reflected on all relevant registers with central and local controls deployed to manage the potential impact.

Categorisation of risk

Our risks are managed under five categories:



Financial:

Matters which have the potential to affect the financial performance or stability of the Firm.

Regulatory:

Legal and regulatory requirements where changes or issues with compliance may affect our services, reputation or financial position.

Reputation:

Where potential issues have the ability to significantly adversely affect our reputation over and above the impact associated with our other risk categories.

Technology:

A business enabler, technology underpins a wide range of our activities, exposing us to a number of threats and opportunities.

People:

People sit at the core of our business. Any matters likely to directly impact individuals or our business as a result of their activities are categorised as people risks.

Governance

Risk management activities can only be effective where appropriate governance controls exist to ensure consistency and quality processes.

Further developments have been made during the period to strengthen this, further supporting and guiding the business in our risk management activities.

Overarching governance of risk sits with three key groups:

ALBANIA EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board owns and oversees Enterprise Risk Management across the business. Risks are monitored and the Board provides feedback to the business, integrating strategic priorities to our processes. Emerging risks will be escalated to the Board in the event they pose a significant threat to our business.

MAZARS GROUP EXECUTIVE BOARD

Our Enterprise Risk Management framework is derived from requirements set by our international Group. High level reporting of our activities and principal risks is incorporated into activities undertaken by our International Group through our Global Risk Manager.

2.1 OUR APPROACH TO RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

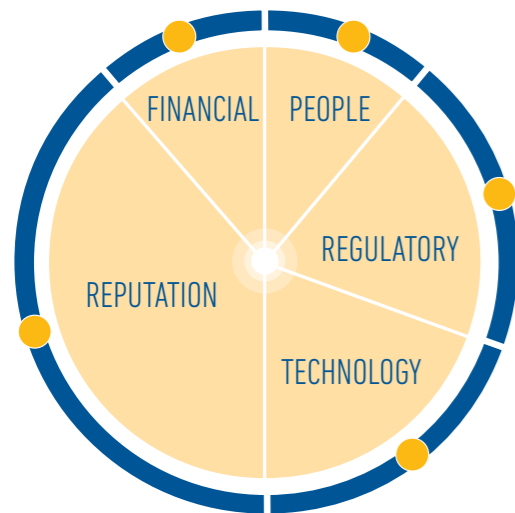
Developments during the period

During the period we have undertaken a review of our enterprise risk management processes to improve their effectiveness within our business. We have looked at our categorisation of risk and how we identify, assess, record and manage risks across all parts of the business.

Further enhancements are anticipated in 2019-20 but during the year this review has resulted in two key changes:

Key risks and uncertainties

At the conclusion of our 2018/19 financial year we have recorded the following key risks and uncertainties within our business:



risk registers to form Service Line registers, providing a more joined-up approach across our business units. Focusing on ownership and clearer reporting of risks to ensure our business is engaged in our processes and utilises risk management as a tool to improve service delivery.

Updated policies and procedures

As a result of our review of our enterprise risk management we have taken steps to update our policies and processes to ensure our framework is clear and consistent across our business and improve our governance controls.

REGULATORY

PRINCIPAL RISKS

Failure to adapt the changing of legislation and regulatory environment, including the sustainability of Albania audit practice.

MITIGATING CONTROLS

- Monitoring of changing.
- Formal governance processes surrounding approvals of specific clients and assignments.
- Ethics Partner and function providing guidance and support throughout the Firm.

Failure to ensure that we comply with audit independence rules

- Formalised processes in place for client and engagement acceptance.
- Training.
- Mandatory annual trainings for all.
- Implementation of additional systems and monitoring of independence on an ongoing basis.
- Code of Conduct.
- Monitoring of partner financial interests.

TECHNOLOGY

PRINCIPAL RISKS

Increasing phishing and spear phishing targeted campaigns

MITIGATING CONTROLS

- Metacompliance platform provided from Group for continuous training and Information

Moderate information and cybersecurity effectively

- Executive sponsorship of information security / governance best practice.
- IT technical solutions including monitoring of networks, usage of systems, and formalised reporting process.
- Adherence to national and international regulations and legislation including Data Protection laws.
- IT Security Policy and Information Governance policies in addition to supporting guidelines and processes.
- Mandatory information governance training.

Failure of our IT systems to support and align with our current and future business operations

- Governance in place to align IT to business plans.
- Monitoring of IT systems and suppliers to identify and resolve issues, and identify further improvements.
- IT Disaster Recovery Plans implemented.
- Testing of IT infrastructure against industry standards.

FINANCIAL

PRINCIPAL RISKS

Failure to adapt to impact economy.

MITIGATING CONTROLS

- Monitoring of differing scenarios and associated mitigation planning.

Firm failure resulting from solvency / liquidity issues

- CFO and finance function.
- Monitoring at Board level.
- Lead KPIs in place.

REPUTATION

PRINCIPAL RISKS

Failure to ensure that the Firm only engages with appropriate clients

MITIGATING CONTROLS

- Albania client acceptance procedures, including Acceptance Committee.
- Group Independence and Acceptance Committee (GIAC) oversight.
- Systems and processes to ensure appropriate AML and KYC procedures.

Failure to recover effectively and efficiently from a Firm-wide crisis

- Implementation of the Mazars Albania Crisis Management Plans.
- Business Continuity, Communications and IT Disaster Recovery Plans.
- Ongoing assessment of enterprise-wide risks and mitigating controls.

Failure to maintain and develop our brand and develop our business strategy in line with the changing demands of clients or innovative advancements

- Executive oversight of business plan development with key target initiatives in place.
- Responsibility for the approval of IT projects to support future business operations.
- Development of global audit platform to standardise our audit delivery model internationally.

Failure to maintain and deliver a quality service to our clients

- Quality Assurance Frameworks and technical resource implemented for service lines.
- Professional training for staff in key service lines.
- Licensing of principal activities.
- Internal Quality Control Reviews of work.
- Implementation of findings following formal reviews undertaken by relevant regulatory bodies.

Failure to invest in a robust organisation structure to support the wider Firm in meeting its overall strategy

- Ongoing review of and investment in the Firm.
- Governance structure includes Boards to provide further strategic focus in key areas.

PEOPLE


PRINCIPAL RISKS

Failure to adapt the impact of availability of skilled resource.

MITIGATING CONTROLS

Failure to recruit, retain, and develop sufficiently skilled resource.

- Formalised recruitment procedures.
- Resource planning.
- Formal performance management.
- Formalised training programmes.
- Diversity and Inclusion monitoring.

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3. STRUCTURE, LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

3.1 OUR UNIQUE BUSINESS STRUCTURE

Mazars in Albania



Within Mazars Albania, for the year ended 31 December 2019 our business was structured through our service lines, which were responsible for managing results, developing strategies for growth and supporting our staff.

As at 31 December 2020, there were five service lines, Audit and Assurance, Tax, Accounting and Outsourcing Services, Financial Advisory Services and Consulting.

Details of our service lines are available on our website. Each service line is responsible for:

- quality, standards and risk management;
- setting the service line strategy;
- talent management and development;
- technical training;
- business model definition and implementation; and
- innovation.

Alongside our service lines, each office has a local Office Managing Partner (OMP) responsible for local execution of our national growth and client centric focus

enabling the building of strong relationships in the local market.

Principal subsidiaries

The principal trading subsidiary undertakings of Mazars whose results or financial position are shown in the Mazars Albania financial statements are set out below, along with details of their principal activities.

Due to changes in local legislation in Kosovo, the Branch has stopped providing services in Kosovo and a new independent entity is performing auditing services in Kosovo.

PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS	COUNTRY OF INCORPORATION	PERCENTAGE OWNERSHIP	PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES
Companies			
Mazars Shpk	Albania	100%*	Professional Services
Mazars Shpk – Kosovo Branch	Kosovo	Branch	Professional Services
Mazars Kosovo Shpk	Kosovo	100%	Audit Services

* held via a subsidiary

The partners in Audit and Assurance in Albania are certified by Institute of Authorized Chartered Auditors of Albania with following registration number:

- Mazars sh.p.k. with registration number 110 date 06.11.2006
- Mr. Teit Gjini with registration number 68, registered on 31.01.2000
- Mrs. Diana Ylli with registration number 9, registered on 11.01.2000
- Mrs. Irena Pulo with registration number 20, registered on 12.01.2000

The partners in Audit and Assurance in Kosovo branch and Mazars Kosovo Shpk are certified by Kosovo Financial Reporting Council of Kosovo with following registration number:

- Mazars -Dega Kosove with registration number 09.03.2017
- Mr. Teit Gjini with registration number 82 registered on 01.03.2017
- Mrs. Diana Ylli with registration number 83, registered on 01.03.2017

Ownership

Mazars sh.p.k. was integrated to Mazars Group in January 2015 following the reorganization of its predecessor firm, Gjini Consulting, which itself had been established in February 2000 in Albania.

The operational structure of Mazars in Albania

At 31 December 2020, our business operated across 2 offices nationwide, with 35+ professionals. Our staff held the following roles:



3.1 OUR UNIQUE BUSINESS STRUCTURE (CONTINUED)

A global, integrated partnership

Since 1995, Mazars SCRL have been organised as a global integrated partnership. All our 1,015 partners and 24,400 professionals in 91 countries and territories in Europe, Africa & the Middle East, Asia-Pacific, North America and Latin America & the Caribbean share the same values and work ethic and the common goal of providing the highest quality client service. Our correspondent firms enable us to operate in a further 14 countries.

THE ROLE OF THE GROUP IS TO DEFINE THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANISATION AND TO COORDINATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE OBJECTIVES.

All members of our integrated partnership are member entities of Mazars SCRL, a Limited Responsibility Cooperative Company incorporated in Brussels, Belgium, through a cooperation agreement setting out the terms of the relationship.

The role of the Mazars Group is to “define the strategic objectives of the organisation and to coordinate the implementation of these objectives at the member firm level”, combined with the responsibility for promoting and protecting the Mazars brand globally. Mazars’ integrated international partnership was established with the principal objective of seeking to ensure consistent quality in our service to our clients.

The integrated partnership allows us to provide a quality service to our clients through the quality and diversity of our talent, the robustness of our values, our determination to fully embrace the digital revolution, and our commitment to creating shared value across territories, whilst remaining aware of the challenges that both our organisation and our stakeholders face. Discerning, knowledge-intensive, agile, sustainable: these are the attributes of the modern firm that we strive to be, in order to better serve our clients.

WE ARE NOT SIMPLY A COLLECTION OF NATIONAL FIRMS, BUT AN INTEGRATED ORGANISATION OF PROFESSIONALS.

Each country of our unique integrated partnership has one or more separate legal entities that is a member entity of the Mazars Group. All shareholders of the Mazars Group are partners or shareholders (collectively ‘Partners’) in the member entities. As part of being a shareholder of Mazars SCRL, each partner acknowledges the Charter of Association, which governs the operation and governance of the Mazars Group. In certain countries there are partners or shareholders of their local member entity who are not shareholders of the Mazars Group. A full list of member entities is included in Appendix I.

The financial statements of the Mazars Group are consolidated with the results of the member entities and are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the EU. The financial statements of the Mazars Group are jointly audited by two independent audit firms.

We are unique; we are not simply a collection of national firms, but an integrated organisation of professionals, sharing commitments and resources at a global level with respect to investment in technical excellence, serving our clients and developing our teams.

New member firms are admitted into the integrated partnership upon criteria of quality of service and human resources, reputation and shared values. All new admissions must be approved by the General Assembly of Partners.

In July 2019, Mazars created its North America Alliance, which substantially enhances its on the ground coverage in North America, giving international clients access to an additional 16,000 professionals from five major accounting and consulting firms in the U.S. and Canada.

Mazars North America Alliance is an alliance agreement between Mazars and five leading firms in the United States and Canada – BKD, Dixon Hughes Goodman, Moss Adams, Plante Moran (U.S. firms) and MNP (Canadian firm). Geographically, these five Alliance firms will complement Mazars USA and Mazars Canada, enabling Mazars to achieve full national coverage in North America.

With this Alliance, Mazars now has 40,000 professionals serving clients around the globe: 24,000 professionals across 91 countries and territories in Mazars’ unique integrated partnership, and 16,000 professionals in the

U.S. and Canada via Mazars North America Alliance. With this scale and breadth of talent, Mazars offers tailored, consistent and high-quality services to its clients wherever they are in the world.

Stakeholder map



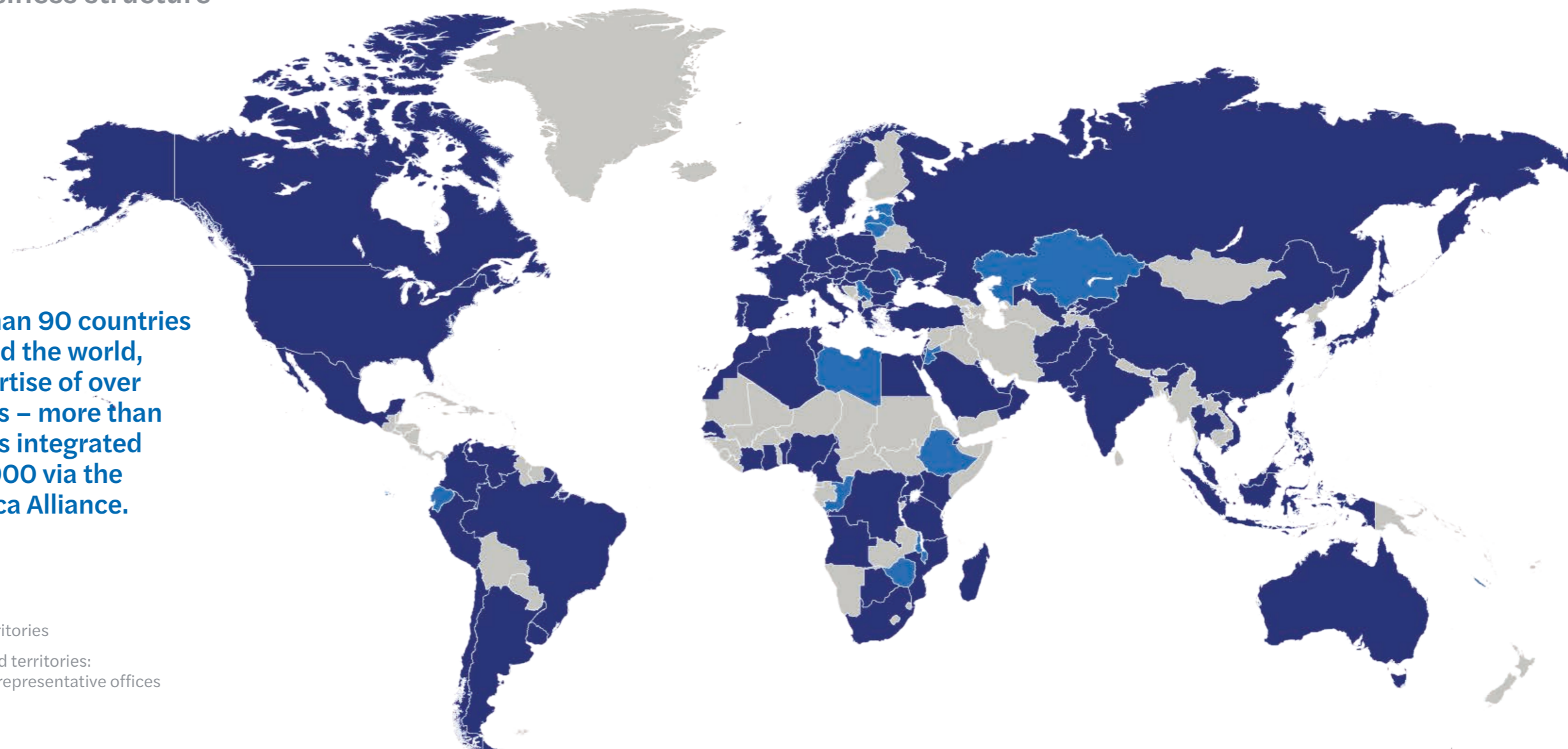
Our structure, leadership and governance

3.1 Our unique business structure

Operating in more than 90 countries and territories around the world, we draw on the expertise of over 40,000 professionals – more than 26,000 in the Mazars integrated partnership and 16,000 via the Mazars North America Alliance.

Valid as of 31 August 2020

- Integrated countries and territories
- Non-integrated countries and territories: Mazars correspondents and representative offices



North America

- Bermuda
- Canada
- United States

Latin America & the Caribbean

- Argentina
- Brazil
- Cayman Islands
- Chile
- Colombia
- Dutch West Indies
- Mexico
- Peru
- Uruguay
- Venezuela

Africa & Middle East

- Algeria
- Angola
- Bahrain
- Benin
- Botswana
- Cameroon
- Congo (Brazzaville)
- Congo (Kinshasa)
- Egypt
- Ghana
- Israel
- Ivory Coast
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mauritius
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Oman
- Palestine
- Qatar
- Rwanda
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- South Africa
- Tanzania
- Tunisia
- Uganda
- United Arab Emirates
- Zimbabwe

Europe

- Albania
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Kosovo
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Moldova
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russia
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom

Asia-Pacific

- Afghanistan
- Australia
- China
- Hong Kong (SAR)
- India
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Kazakhstan
- Korea
- Kyrgyzstan
- Malaysia
- New Caledonia
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Singapore
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Uzbekistan
- Vietnam

3.1 OUR UNIQUE BUSINESS STRUCTURE (CONTINUED)

Our global business organisation

At the General Assembly of Partners, in December 2016, a new Group Executive Board was elected, on the basis of a strategic platform, called the Next20. The business organisation described below is aimed at fully implementing this new platform.

In order to deliver the best services to our clients, our international structure focusses on sectors and service lines.

The five key sectors we have identified are:

- Financial Services;
- Industry;
- Services;
- Public Services; and
- Privately Owned Businesses.

To organisations of all sizes in each of these sectors, we deliver high quality services via our six service lines:

- Accounting and Outsourcing Services (AOS);
- Audit and Assurance Services (AAS);
- Consulting;
- Financial Advisory Services (FAS);
- Law; and
- Tax services (TAX).

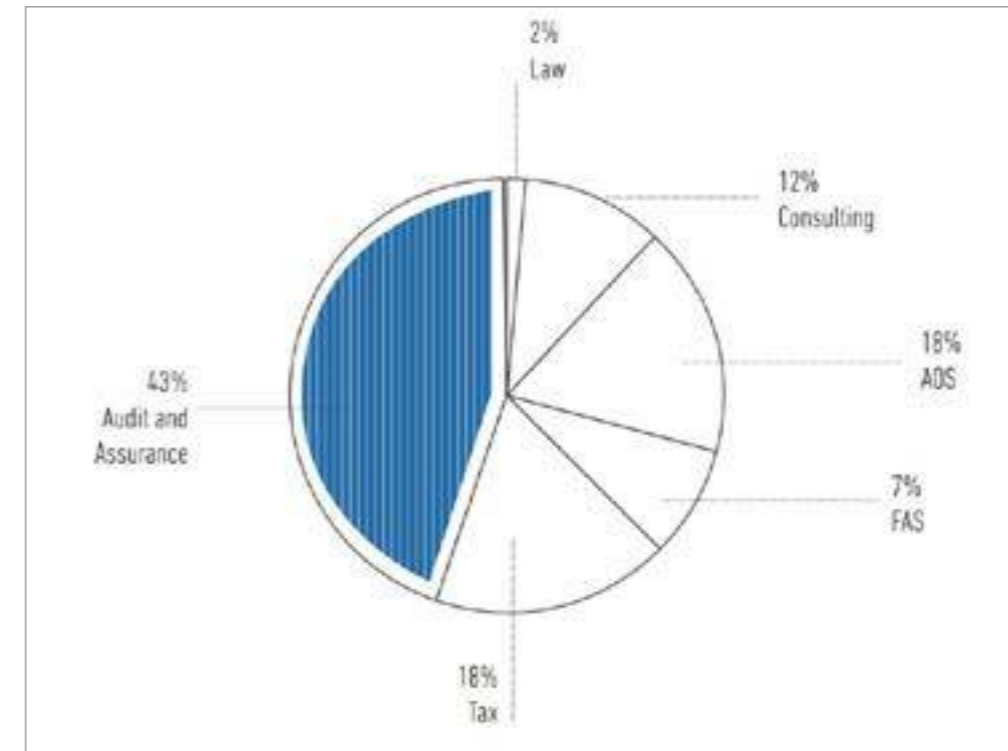
Global Sector & Services Team (GSST) leaders and Global Support Business (GSB) leaders, along with regional leaders, make up Mazars' Global Leadership Team (GLT). The GLT gathers the Group international leaders who carry responsibilities that go across countries, thus requiring coordination of functions, markets, services and other responsibilities. The GLT is led by the Group Executive Board.

This structure facilitates coordination of member entities within the Mazars Group. Our integrated international structure permeates every aspect of our operations:

- Partners and their member entities are linked by a series of agreements intended to achieve maximum consistency and standardisation within the Mazars Group;
- sectors and service lines are represented in member entities, enabling coordination of assignments and cross-border relations between countries;
- assignments requiring an international team are managed and carried out by an integrated team sharing common standards and procedures;
- collaborative working on global initiatives helps to secure and reinforce consistent values in our culture;
- each global or international assignment is managed and carried out by an integrated team and coordinated by an engagement partner in charge who takes final responsibility for reporting to the client; and
- Partners and the national member entities in which they work are linked by a series of agreements intended to achieve maximum consistency within the Group. They all report to the elected representatives of the Group.

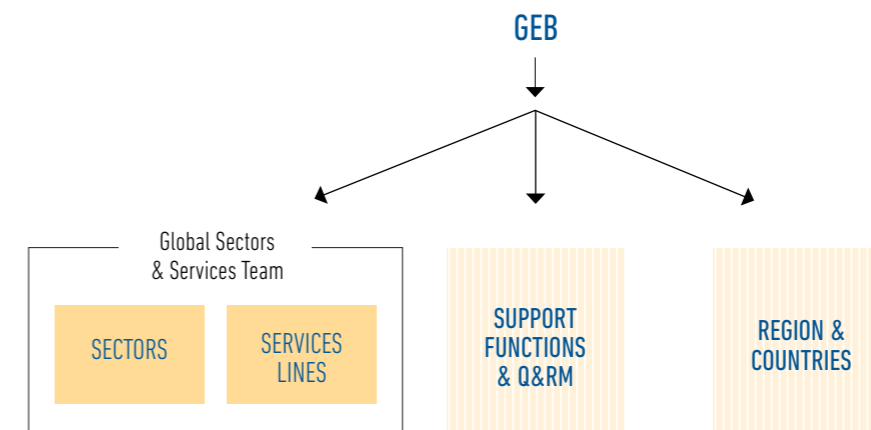
All the entities of the Mazars integrated international partnership are thus committed to enhancing the quality of services provided to large, cross-border groups in an increasingly complex and global environment.

The turnover of the Mazars Group in 2018-2019 by service line was as follows:



Excludes data for the ZhongShen, ZhongHuan and ZhongShen Yatai practices.
Audit revenue includes €480m in respect of audits in the EU.

Our global operational organisation



3.2 LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Leadership in Albania

The Management Committee, being the governance body of Mazars Albania is chaired by the Managing Partner, Mr. Teit Gjini.

Other members of the Management Committee are provided under section 1.1 above.

The Risk Manager is responsible for making final recommendations to mitigate the risks, answering (or approving answers to) risk issues when required identified by the firm.

Ms. Irena Pulo (Practicing Partner) is the head of Quality Control. She carried out a high-level review of the effectiveness of the Mazars sh.p.k. Management Committee during the year in order to ensure progression of matters noted in the prior detailed review.

The Management Committee provides strategic and operational leadership to the Firm, with a specific mandate to:

- develop and implement the Albanian strategy, in line with the international strategy of the Firm, and establish a management structure to deliver this;
- ensure that the Firm's services to clients and conduct in respect of staff are carried out ethically and in accordance with the principles of technical excellence and quality service;
- ensure that the Firm recruits, develops, retains and adequately rewards an appropriate number of people with relevant skills and experience;
- oversee support functions, including the setting and monitoring of objectives, approving budgets and expenditure and ensuring efficiency between local, national and international support functions;
- ensure that appropriate policies and procedures are in place for risk and catastrophe management;
- set Corporate Responsibility and Environmental policies;

Performance of the governance system

GOVERNANCE KPI	PERFORMANCE DURING 2020
Board effectiveness	The effectiveness of the Executive Board is optimised through, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sufficient time and weighting being given to key issues to meet objectives and strategy; • information flow is sufficient for consideration prior to meetings; • quality and content of the board paper is sufficient to meet objectives; and • actions are documented and addressed.
Values	Our key values are in line with our internal Code of Conduct and best practice.
Dialogue	Meetings and dialogue with investors and other stakeholders is considered a key performance indicator.

3.2 LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE (CONTINUED)

Mazars Group

Our leadership and governance platform comprises two main bodies, whose respective roles and missions are clearly defined in our Charter of Association. Together with our national, regional and functional leaders, both our Group Executive Board and our Group Governance Council are working to or amendments.

The PIC forms part of the Firm's performance assessment regime under the Audit Firm Governance Code.

Procedures are in place to ensure that the members of the PIC are independent from the Firm and its

audit clients. PIC members must satisfy the following missions are clearly defined in our Charter of Association. Together with our national, regional and functional leaders, both our Group Executive Board and our Group Governance Council are working to ensure the sustainable development of our partnership and of the Mazars Group.

independence criteria:

- the independent non-executives are unrelated to any

Mazars member firm;

- the independent non-executives are not, and will not, become an executive director or member of the audit committee in any of Mazars' audit clients and not have any significant shareholdings or other interests in them unless approved by both parties; and

- the independent non-executives are not, and will not, be in any other executive officer position, member of an advisory board, a governance board or a Council

of a competing organisation.

Independence

The Firm's Ethics Partner attends PIC meetings. The Firm considers this is critical in order to provide a direct dialogue with the INEs to ensure an appropriate understanding of any ethical matters as relevant and to receive their challenge and address any fundamental

The INEs have confirmed their independence in respect of the Firm's PIE entities at the year end.

Other matters

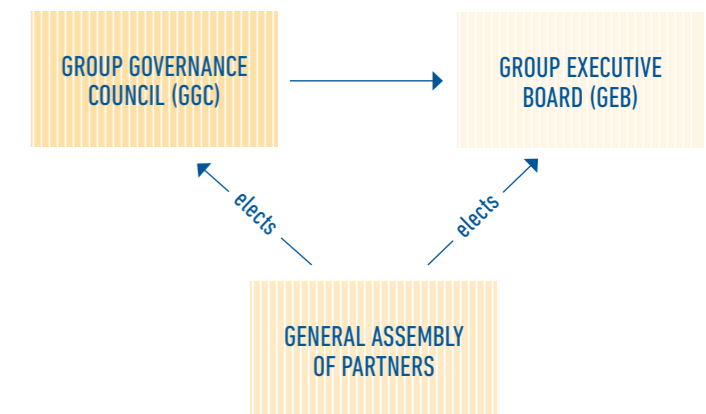
Appropriate indemnity insurance is in place in respect of any legal action against any member of the PIC

and sufficient resources are provided to enable each member to perform their duties.

The global governance structure in place, combined with Albania governance structure is considered to be appropriate for the Firm and its operations. On this basis two Independent Non-Executives (INEs) were in place during the year.

The AB recognises that an important element of its role is to enable the PIC to have the necessary information and assurance on matters related to the audit practice to enable it to fulfil its duties in line with the expectation of the Audit Firm Governance Code (2016).

Our strategic leadership ecosystem



The general assembly of partners

All the Partners of the Mazars Group meet at least once a year, at the General Assembly of Partners, within six months following the end of the financial year.

The General Assembly of Partners is a pivotal point in the governance and decision-making processes of the Mazars Group. Every four years it is at this meeting that the partners elect the GEB and the GGC. Annually the assembly approves major strategic and operational decisions, the admission of new Partners, and the approval of Mazars Group's audited financial statements.

Appendix 1 Mazars Group statutory audit firms

Europe

Country	Legal name
Albania	Mazars Shpk
Austria	Mazars Tax Advisory GmbH Mazars Austria GmbH
Belgium	Mazars Bedrijfsrevisoren - Réviseurs d'Entreprises
Bulgaria	MAZARS OOD
Croatia	Mazars Cinotti Audit d.o.o.
Cyprus	Mazars Limited (Cyprus)
Czech Republic	Mazars Audit s.r.o.
Denmark	MAZARS statsautoriseret revisionspartnerselskab Mazars SA Mazars SPCC Franex Mazars Uniconseils CBA Mazars Experts et Conseils Mazars (Villeurbanne) Mazars aCéa Mazars (Rouen) Mazars (Bezannes) Mazars (Labège) Mazars (Strasbourg) Mazars Bourgogne Franche-Comté Mazars et Associés Mazars Figeor
France	Mazars Data Mazars Dijon Mazars Pontarlier Mazars Lons Pluris Audit MAZARS & SEFCO Sud Est Expertises financières comptable et d'organisation SEFCO Mazars Gourgue Mazars experts-on-line Mazars Entrepreneurs (Villeurbanne) Mazars Immobilier Mazars Thomas D.D.A Mazars CPA Mazars Inreco AGEC

Europe

Country	Legal name
Germany	Mazars GmbH & Co. KG Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft Steuerberatungsgesellschaft
Greece	MAZARS CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS BUSINESS ADVISORS SA
Hungary	MAZARS Könyvszakértő és Tanácsadói Korlátolt Felelősségű Társaság
Ireland	Mazars
Italy	Professionisti Associati Società Semplice Mazars Italia S.p.A
Kosovo	MAZARS KOSOVA SH.P.K
Luxembourg	MAZARS Luxembourg
Malta	Mazars Malta
Netherlands	Mazars Accountants N.V. Ten Kate Huizinga Audit N.V.
Norway	Mazars Revisjon AS
Poland	Mazars Audyt Sp. z o.o.
Portugal	MAZARS & ASSOCIADOS, SOCIEDADE DE REVISORES OFICIAIS DE CONTAS, S.A.
Romania	Mazars Romania SRL
Russia	Mazars Audit Limited Liability Company
Serbia	MAZARS AUDIT d.o.o.
Slovakia	Mazars Slovensko, s.r.o.
Slovenia	MAZARS, družba za revizijo, d.o.o.
Spain	Mazars Auditores S.L.P.

Appendix 1 Mazars Group statutory audit firms

Europe

Country	Legal name
	BSM Revisionsbyrå AB
	KlöverRevision i Limhamn AB
	Revisionsfirman Nils Albertsen AB
	Stureby Revision AB
	Körö Revisionsbyrå AB
	Dagermark Revision AB
	Grebncke Advisory AB
	M F Revision AB
Sweden	BAH Revision AB
	Anders SportsMan AB
	Accretio Revision AB
	MBO Revision AB
	Nyhamns Revisionsbyrå AB
	SPA Revisionsbyrå AB
	Anders Persson Revisionsbyrå Ystad AB
	Tegelviken Revision AB
	Stenskottet AB
	Saltsjökvärns Revision AB
	Norrhagens Revision AB
	Optimus Ekonomikonsult AB
	Flora Revision AB
	Ö Rev i Hbg AB
	Himmelsblå Revision AB
	Himmelstorparen AB
	MBR Revision AB
	Helleklint Revisionsbyrå AB
	Revisio Jan Håkansson AB
Sweden cont.	Mak Revision AB
	Persson Audit AB
	eMeMeM AB
	Mazars SET Revisionsbyrå AB
	Mazars SET Revisionsbyrå KB
	Endeavour Auditing AB
	HMAB Konsult AB
	Mazars Ekonomi AB
	Moose Revision AB
	Heinöns Revisions AB

Europe

Country	Legal name
Switzerland	MAZARS SA Suisse
	Aunexis AG
Turkey	Denge Bağımsız Denetim Serbest Muhasebeci Mali Müşavirlik A.Ş.
Ukraine	"Audit Firm "Mazars Ukraine" LLC
United Kingdom	Mazars LLP

Appendix 2 Biographies of the Independent Non-Executives as at 31 August 2020



Denise Fletcher, Independent Member

Denise Fletcher is a member of the Group Governance Council of Mazars Group. She serves on the boards of Unisys Corporation, Inovalon Holdings, Inc. and Enterra Holdings, Ltd. She chairs the audit committees of each of the three non-Mazars boards listed above.

At Mazars Group she is the chair of the Remuneration Committee and a member of its quality & risk, and its audit committees. She chairs the Public Interest Committee of Mazars in the UK and the Public Interest Committee of Mazars in Ireland.

She was recognised by the National Association of Corporate Directors for exemplary board leadership. Denise is a member of the US Council on foreign relations, the Economic Club of New York, the Harvard Club of New York and the Academy of Women Achievers.

Date of first PIC appointment 2013

Denise's remuneration for the UK PIC is €40,000 which includes €5,000 in respect of the chair role. In addition, Denise receives remuneration in respect of her role as Group Governance Council Member.



Guy Jubb, Independent Member

Guy Jubb is a Chartered Accountant and an Honorary Professor at the University of Edinburgh. He was formerly global head of governance & stewardship at Standard Life Investments, a role he fulfilled for over 20 years. He has played a leading role in developing and implementing good practice in corporate governance and stewardship, and was the recipient of an Outstanding Achievement Award from ICSA, the Governance Institute.

Guy serves on the Standing Advisory Group of the PCAOB, the US audit regulator, and the policy leadership board of ICAS, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, whose Research Panel he chairs. Also, he is vice chair of the European Corporate Governance Institute, and a senior advisor to the conference board.

Member of the UK Public Interest Committee

Date of first PIC appointment 2017

Guy's remuneration for the UK PIC is £35,000.

APPENDIX 3

Leadership of Mazars Albania

As at 31 December 2020 the Albania Executive was comprised of:



TEIT GJINI – Managing Partner

Teit has 25 years of professional experience in providing high quality service in Tax, Accounting and Audit, with local and international firms operating in Albania & Kosovo market.

He has 6 years' successful experience leading the Institute of Chartered Auditors of Albania, 20 years of successful experience in management and leading the Mazars firm. Ability to steer firm's activity guaranteeing to provide services of high-quality ethics standards and professional ones. Business development and management of a large number of entities and organizations inside the public and private sector.

A highly successful chartered accountant with extensive experience in financial reporting and accounting having expertise on different industries starting from start-ups, to financial management up to complex matters related to entity development.

His extensive experience includes industry sectors such as Financial Services (Banking and Insurance), Energy & Utilities, Extractive, Industries, Technology & Telecommunications, Media, Construction, Manufacturing, Trade, Distribution, Public Sector, International Donor's Funded Projects and NGO-s. etc.



IRENA HOXHA – Partner

Irena has 30 years of professional experience in providing high quality service in Tax, Accounting and Audit, with local and international firms operating in Albania & Kosovo market.

Hand on extensive knowledge and experience in ISA, IFRS, NAS, Albanian Tax Laws and Regulations, etc.

Sector clients audited by the team that Irena led, represent the largest operating entities in Albanian & Kosovo market.

Her extensive experience includes industry sectors such as Energy & Utilities, Technology & Telecommunications, Media, Construction, Manufacturing, Trade, Distribution, Public Sector, International Donor's Funded Projects and NGO-s.



DIANA YLLI – Partner

Diana has 30 years of professional experience in providing high quality service in Tax, Accounting and Audit, with local and international firms operating in Albania & Kosovo market.

She has 20 years leading the management and strength of the firm, 6 years successful experience leading as Chairman of the Institute of Chartered Auditors of Albania. Hand on extensive knowledge and experience in ISA, IFRS, NAS, Albanian Tax Laws and Regulations, etc.

Sector clients audited by the team that Diana led, represent the largest operating entities in Albanian & Kosovo market.

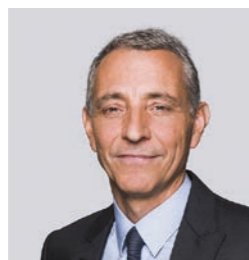
Her extensive experience includes industry sectors such as Financial Services (Banking and Insurance), Energy & Utilities, Extractive, Industries, Technology & Telecommunications, Media, Construction, Manufacturing, Trade, Distribution, Public Sector, International Donor's Funded Projects and NGO-s. etc.

Appendix 3 Group leadership

As at 31 August 2020, the GEB was composed of:



France
Hervé Hélias
CEO and Chairman



Spain
Antonio Bover



Italy
Pascal Jauffret



United Kingdom
Rudi Lang



Senegal
Taïbou M'Baye



Germany
Dr Christoph Regierer



Belgium
Véronique Ryckaert



China
Wenxian Shi



Netherlands
Ton Tuinier



United Kingdom
Phil Verity



United States
Victor Wahba

As at 31 August 2020 the Group Governance Council was composed of:



United Kingdom
Tim Hudson
Chair



France
Thierry Blanchetier
Vice-chair



Germany
Gertrude Bergmann



United States
Kathryn Byrne



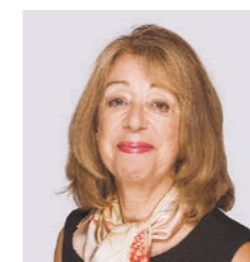
France
Juliette Decoux



France
Fabrice Demarigny



India
Bharat Dhawan



United States
Denise Fletcher
Independent member



Singapore
Chris Fuggle



South Africa
Michelle Olckers



China
Liwen Zhang

APPENDIX 4

Public Interest Entity Audit clients of Mazars Albania

Public Interest Entities as defined in current legislation in respect of which Mazars Albania has expressed an audit opinion in the year to 31 December 2020 are detailed below.

PIE sorted by sector

Non Banks licensed by NB	4
FI licensed by AFSA	3
Production sector	9
Construction sector	4
Services sector	10
Trading sector	9
NGOs	2
TOTAL	41

Top Clients (Alphabet.)

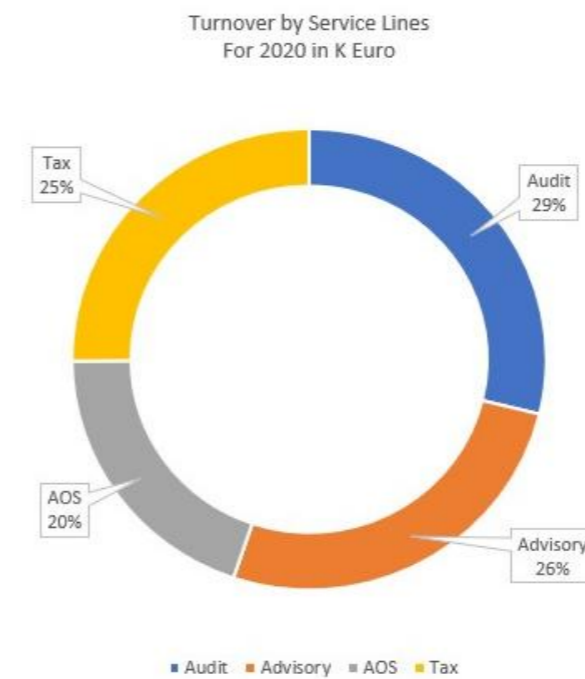
Albtelecom
 Autoriteti Portual Durres
 Beralb
 Eurosig
 Operatori I Shpërndarjes Së Energjisë Elektrike
 Ujësjellës Kanalizime Tiranë

APPENDIX 5

Albanian financial performance

The following has been extracted from the unaudited financial information for the year ended 31 December 2020, demonstrating the importance of the auditor's statutory audit work to the overall results of the Firm.

Year 2020 (in '000 Eur)	Albania	
Audit	€	585
Financial audit	€	529
Other assurance	€	57
Advisory	€	535
AOS	€	400
Tax	€	510
Total Revenue	€	2.030



APPENDIX 6

Group and Albania statements of compliance

Statement of compliance with the Audit Firm Governance Code.

This is the third year that we have been required to disclose compliance with the Audit Firm Governance Code 2016. We have adopted a comply or explain policy in respect of our compliance with this code, details of which can be found in Appendix 8. We fully support the principles and aims of the Audit Firm Governance Code and aim to work towards enhanced compliance over the coming year.

Statement on the effectiveness of the quality control system

Mazars Group's and Mazars in Albania & Kosovo Quality Control System is designed to provide reasonable assurance that the firm, its partners and staff comply with professional standards and regulatory and legal requirements, work is performed to a consistently high standard and that reports issued by the firm are appropriate.

The management of Mazars Group and Mazars in Albania & Kosovo are content that the system is effective in the maintenance and improvement of audit quality. They considered the results of the relevant regulatory inspections in reaching this opinion.

Statement on the effectiveness of our systems to safeguard our objectivity and independence

The operation and effectiveness of Mazars Group's and Mazars in Albania & Kosovo systems to safeguard our objectivity and independence form part of the review of the Quality Control System.

Based on the evidence identified in this review, the management of Mazars sh.p.k. confirms, with a reasonable level of assurance, that the independence procedures and practices have been implemented and the system is effective in maintaining independence. Furthermore, management confirms that the practices have been subjected to internal review.

Statement of compliance with professional training obligations

Mazars in Albania & Kosovo complies with Continuing Professional Development policies of IEKA, ACCA and QAM which are, in turn, compliant with IES 7.

Partners and all audit personnel are required to provide an annual declaration that they have complied with the relevant requirements.

Registered auditors are required to complete at least 40 hours or equivalent learning units of relevant professional development activity in each year, of which 20 hours or equivalent units should be verifiable. They also have to complete at least 20 hours or equivalent learning units of relevant professional development activity each year.

APPENDIX 7

Glossary of terms

AAS	Audit and Assurance Service	ISQC	International Standards on Quality Control
AB	Audit Board	IT	Information Technology
ACCA	Association of Chartered Certified Accountants	KAP	Key Audit Partner
AOS	Accounting and Outsourcing Services	KPI	Key Performance Indicator
AQB	Audit Quality Board	LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic	LLP	Limited Liability Partnership
BST	Business Support Team	MAM	Mazars Audit Methodology
CCOI	Code of Conduct for Objectivity and Independence	Mazars Group	The member entities of Mazars SCRL
COO	Chief Operating Officer	Mazars Albania	Mazars SHPK
CPD	Continued Professional Development	NSP	National Senior Partner
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility	OMP	Office Managing Partner
CSU	Central Support Unit	Partners	Partners and shareholders of Mazars entities in the Mazars Group
ERMF	Enterprise Risk Management Framework	PIC	Public Interest Committee
EQCR	Engagement Quality Control Review	PIE	Public Interest Entity
EU	European Union	PSAA	Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd
FAS	Financial Advisory Services	QAD	Quality Assurance Department
FoF	Forum of Firms	QCA	Quoted Companies Alliance
FRC	Financial Reporting Council	QRB	Quality and Risk Board
GEAC	Group Ethics and Acceptance Committee	QSG	Quality Steering Group
GEB	Group Executive Board	QR&M	Quality Risk and Management Board
GGC	Group Governance Council	RI	Responsible Individual
GLT	Global Leadership Team	SCRL	Societe Cooperative a Responsabilite Limitee (Limited Responsibility Cooperative Company)
GSB	Global Support Business	TAX	Tax services
GSST	Global Sector & Services Team	The Charter	Charter of Association
IAASB	International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board	The Firm	Mazars LLP
ICAEW	Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales	The Group	The member entities of Mazars SCRL
IES	International Education Standards	The Revised Code	Revised Audit Firm Governance Code (2016)
IESBA	International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants	AL	Albania
IESBA Code	IESBA Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants	AL Executive	Albania Executive Board
IFAC	International Federation of Accountants	ALGC	Albania Governance Council
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards	ALRAC	Albania Risk and Audit Committee
INE	Independent Non Executive	Us/we	Mazars LLP
IQCC	International Quality Control Committee		
ISA	International Standard on Auditing		

mazars

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