

Bernard Zeneli is specialized in development work that leads to growth and advances policy processes and creativity in Southeast Europe. Training of new and young political leaders, civil servants and university is in the core of his professional activities. He is also active and advises on issues related to public administration development in the Southeast Europe, educational policies and is active in accreditation processes for international pre-university education.

Before joining Adriapol, Bernard worked for the Trans Adriatic Pipeline project (E-On New Build and Technology), the biggest infrastructure project in Albania that aims to bring Azeri gas into the European markets. He was the in-country expert responsible for Stakeholder Engagement and Corporate Social Responsibility. He also worked extensively to develop environmental and social management plans and contributed to the quality management of the land related processes developing stable patterns of cooperation with local government representatives.

During the period 2006 – 2012 Bernard spearheaded and developed Brain Gain Programme, an initiative of the Government of Albania supported by United Nations Development Programme. That programme sought to engage the intellectual Albanian Diaspora more effectively in the development of the country. As a result of this programme more than 200 distinguished individuals of Albanian background returned to Albania and are working for the public administration and institutions of higher education in Albania and the University of Durrës, Aleksandër Moisiu, was established together with several new graduate level programs in public and private institutions. The programme was closely associated with the office of the Prime Minister of Albania and the Ministry of Education and Science.

Prior to the Brain Gain management position in Albania, Bernard was working at the University of Prishtina (2001 – 2005) in Kosovo, as the founding chair of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, a department that he developed in cooperation and with support of UNMIK (United Nation Mission in Kosovo) and Soros Foundation. This followed the development of the department of Political Science at the University of Tirana and later the development of degree programs related to social sciences in several public and private institutions of higher education. He has introduced several new courses related to policy making and public administration, comparative and international politics, gender studies and writing and communication.

Bernard has extensive experience (about 20 years) in teaching and training at both university and post-university levels including adult training programs. In his teaching career he has also worked at Northeastern University in Boston, USA; University of Tirana, Albanian University and Marin Barleti University in Albania; South Eastern European University in Tetovo, Macedonia. Bernard was also engaged in several regional projects related to development of student participation in higher education supported by the Open Society foundation.

Civil society engagement is also a key area of Bernard's activities. He seats in the management boards of several organizations and offers his expertise in preparing curricula and training programs related to leadership, policy making, political elections and campaigns, project writing and development. He set in different Soros Foundation boards and sub-boards dealing with student initiatives and gender issues.

Bernard is a Fulbright Scholar, specialized in Political Science and Policy Analysis at Northeastern University in Boston. He is the youngest Albanian to have been awarded this prestigious scholarship. He holds a bachelor degree in Teaching English as a Second Language from the Foreign Languages Faculty of the University of Tirana and a Master of Arts in Political Science from Northeastern University. He has specialized training in teaching, policy analysis, and management and teaches courses and modules of comparative politics and methodologies of research.