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## Short Biography

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### **Ornela Ismalaja, Economic Advisor**

Ornela Ismalaja graduated in 2003 in the Finance-Accounting department at the Faculty of Economics, University of Tirana. In 2011, she completed her Master of Business Administration (MBA) studies at UBIS University, Geneva, in collaboration with the ISSAT Higher Education Institution.

She has worked in the financial and microfinance sector for about 16 years, as well as in second level banks such as Raiffeisen Bank, NBG Albania SHA, American Bank of Investment (ABI Bank) and Kredo Finance.

From July 2004 to March 2006, she worked with Raiffeisen Bank as a Banking and Lending Services Specialist.

In March 2006, she joined Bank NBG Albania S.A., (from October 2018 ABI Bank) where she worked until November 2019. During this period she held different positions, in different departments, as follows:

From March 2006 to March 2010, she held the position of Operations Manager, and then that of the Retail Product Sales Manager, in one of the bank's branches.

From April 2010 to November 2019, she worked as an Officer for the Recovery of Overdue Corporate Loans, at the Risk Division; Compliance Officer, at the Compliance Division; Head of the Human Resources Services Department, under the Human Resources Division.

From December 2019 to January 2022 she worked as a financial consultant with the "SIG" Foundation and during the period February 2022 - December 2022 she worked at the microfinance institution Kredo Finance, at the Department of Human Resources and Administration.

She is certified as an Internal Auditor in the Public Sector by the Central Harmonization Unit for Internal Auditing at the Ministry of Finance and as a Real Estate Appraiser. During her work experience, she has attended numerous trainings with local and foreign experts for business consulting, money laundering and personal data protection, financial management, etc.

She speaks English and Italian.

From January 2023, she holds the position of the Economic Advisor at the Legal Service Unit with the Special Appeal Chamber.