



**LibreOffice**

The Document Foundation



## **The Municipality of Tirana Migration to LibreOffice**

Silva Arapi

[Silva.arapi@tirana.al](mailto:Silva.arapi@tirana.al)

TIRANA | 27 September 2018



**LIBOCON**  
TIRANA 2018



# Agenda

- The city of Tirana
- History behind the migration
- Challenges
- Migration strategy
- Identified issues
- Lessons learned
- Future challenges



# The city of Tirana

Over 800,000 citizens

Municipality: 13 directories and 24  
Administrative units

Offices placed in different locations



# The city of Tirana





# History behind the migration

Reasons which influenced our decision to migrate:

- Building an IT infrastructure by following an open source software approach
- Issues we identified before the migration
- Willing to be independent from specific vendors
- Interoperability
- Reducing costs



# Challenges

## **Some of the challenges we faced:**

- No previous experience with large migrations
- over 700 PC-s with reduced staff: assistance, trainings, communication.
- Resistance to change – majority of the staff are basic users.
- Where to start: top-down approach.



# Migration strategy

1. Communication: monthly newsletter, email.
2. Strategy: Top - Down approach

Started with the most challenging department - Human Resources were handling large number of files: docx, xls etc.

Lessons learned made it easier with other departments.



# Identified issues

- Getting accustomed to the new interface.
- Constantly comparing with the MS Office features.
- Trouble opening documents from different versions of ms office. (eg. office 2010)
- Rebuilding graphics in LibreOffice Calc
- Receiving/Sending files outside the institution



# Actual situation

- The process has been finalized: 600 PC-s switched during a period of 9 months.
- 2 departments left - to be done in a later phase (software dependency).
- Next phase: training through materials, e-learning and different sessions organized by the IT-staff.



# Lessons learned

- Communications efficiency
- Improving online resources: translated guides, e-learning.
- Training strategy



# Future challenges

- Switching all the devices
- Communication with other institutions
- Constant trainings for the new staff

**Thank you for your  
attention!**