

Request for Applications for the Kosovo Women's Fund

Issued: 15 October 2019

Application Deadline: 28 October 2019

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Kosovo Women's Network (KWN) is pleased to announce the Kosovo Women's Fund's fourteenth grant round. We invite our member organizations to submit applications that will **contribute to furthering women's rights and gender equality**.

More specifically, **application** should demonstrate how organizations propose to contribute to realizing the Strategic Goals identified by KWN members in the [KWN Strategy for 2019-2022](#), towards **supporting, protecting, and promoting the rights and interests of women and girls**; towards a rights-based approach; and towards supporting more sustainable changes.

KWN strongly encourages initiatives that involve advocacy on local and national levels. Advocacy can include meetings with officials, raising awareness about human rights, policy oriented research and involving citizens in claiming their rights. Initiatives must aim to contribute to produce tangible and visible results (e.g., new legislation, new services, reports about cases of Gender Based Violence, monitored court cases, inheritance claims, etc.). Please be aware that the sole activities cannot be considered as results of the initiatives.

The types of activities eligible for financial support include: organize meetings with women and decision-makers, organize campaigns for advocacy and awareness raising, building the capacities of women and girls to advocate for their priorities, support women in meetings with policy-makers to influence changes in existing laws and regulations that concern them, policy-oriented research, public outreach on advocacy issues, networking/experience exchange related to furthering women's participation and human rights, trainings, roundtables/discussions, and other advocacy strategies.

The types of action that are ineligible include: actions concerned only or mainly with individual sponsorships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences and congresses; actions concerned only or mainly with individual scholarships for studies or training courses; purchasing of buildings or offices; purchasing of vehicles; purchasing of equipment (unless necessary for the successful execution of the project); actions supporting political parties, groups and movements.

In accordance with the [KWN Strategy for 2019-2022](#), the types of initiatives that will be prioritized for funding will include:

Implemented by:



Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo

- Building capacities and involving youth (young women and men) in advocating for women's rights on specific issues and peace;
- Mobilizing persons with disabilities, pensioners, persons from minority ethnic groups (within their municipality), and women from rural areas in advocating for their right on a particular issue;
- Collaborating with other KWN members, including organizations working with youth (young women and men) through Networking for Change grants to share knowledge and further other network members' capacities in specific areas, as well as increase solidarity among women's organizations.

Women in Politics and Decision-making

- Involving women in identifying priorities towards gender equality in their municipalities and directly advocating to officials to address their priorities;
- Involving women in reviewing draft policy documents at municipal or national levels and providing their input (e.g., budget documents, new municipal regulations, etc.). This initiative includes making a preliminary agreement with the institutions who provide input;
- Support women in voicing their interests in relation to the EU Accession process, which may include but not necessarily be limited to: advocating for the EU to raise issues important to women as part of political dialogues with the Government of Kosovo related to the EU Accession process; advocating for EU Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA) programming to better support and address women's needs particularly at the local level; monitoring the implementation of EU-supported programs at the local level, ensuring that they contribute to gender equality and engage women appropriately; and/or engage more women and men in local communities in understanding, engaging in and/or in monitoring reforms related to EU Accession at the local level.

Women's Right to Healthcare

- Involving women in advocating for improved access to quality healthcare, including taking actions to demand quality, affordable healthcare be provided and/or to report violations of women's right to healthcare;
- Collaborate with women to officially report abuses of their right to healthcare to the appropriate authorities (especially reproductive and maternal health), after raising their awareness about their rights;
- Utilize [KWN's research](#) and other data available on women's access to quality healthcare to inform advocacy and awareness raising.

A Life Free from Gender-based Violence

- Advocate to institutions for improved services for persons who have suffered gender based violence (e.g., domestic violence, sexual harassment, or sexual violence during the war);
- Advocate for better rehabilitation and reintegration services for persons who suffered violence;
- Monitor court cases related to domestic violence and report incorrect application of the legal framework by courts, advocating to the appropriate institutions for these issues to be addressed;

- Support women and girls who have experienced sexual harassment at work, at school, or in the street by providing legal help to them and teaching them how to approach the correct institutions and seeking an address for these cases. Initiative may also include informing citizens of their rights to address sexual harassment;
- Organize campaigns to raise awareness among women, men and institutions about the legal framework and mechanisms against (domestic) violence and sexual harassment;
- Consult the research reports of KWN, such as the report on "Sexual Harassment in Kosovo" published in 2016 which seeks to monitor the implementation of relevant legal framework by the public institutions responsible. Also the report "No more Excuses" published in 2015, which informs on the process of drafting the new Kosovo Programme and Action Plan against Domestic Violence launched in 2016, in order to provide individual institutions with concrete recommendations towards improving their approach in addressing domestic violence and implementing this Action Plan;
- Collaborate with local institutions and businesses to install mechanisms for addressing sexual harassment;
- Provide legal and psychological support to women who have suffered sexual violence during the war in advocating their rights under the new legal framework.

Women's Economic Empowerment

- Advocating to municipal or national authorities for policies that encourage and support women's economic empowerment (e.g., more allocation of agricultural subsidies to women and men; more equal distribution of government grants for business development for women and men, the opening of more public day cares that will provide jobs for women and enable women to work);
- Working with Regional Employment Centres to encourage them to support more women in securing employment.
- Directly supporting women in claiming their rights to property and/or inheritance (this can follow awareness-raising, but must involve continuously helping women until they actually register property or inheritance);
- Advocating for the amendment of the current Labor Law in Kosovo, more specifically the provisions on maternity leave within this law, as well as advocating to the relevant institutions for the implementation of this Law, in order to increase the participation of women in the labor market.
- Improving the gender perspective on reforms related to the EU accession process.

Improving Access to Quality and Gender Sensitive Education

- Advocating at municipal and national levels to raise the awareness of more officials about the need for more pre-schools and childcare centres
- Advocating for the improvement of sexual education in schools, and/or in cooperation with the Ministry of Education Science and Technology; as well as monitoring pre-school institutions and childcare centers about the quality of education provided in accordance with pre-school education legislation;
- Revising and improving the school curricula from a gender perspective.

GRANT AWARDS

The grants distributed in this grant round have received support from the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) via KWN's "Advancing Women's Rights Initiative" co-financed by UN Women in the

amount of €49,000, and via KWN's initiative "Empowering youth for a peaceful, advanced and successful future in Kosovo" supported by UN Women in the amount of €12,000. The total amount that will be distributed during this grant round is €61,000.

Applicants can apply for either of the two types of grants available:

- 1) Advocacy Grants for a single organization with the maximum amount of €3,000 or €4,000 (depending on the aim of the initiative); or
- 2) Networking for Change Grants where two organizations can apply for a joint initiative that costs up to €8,000. Organizations that apply together must a) use the "Networking for Change" Application Form; and b) include a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the official representative of each organization where they agree to implement the project together and clearly state each organization's roles and responsibilities within the project.

The table below describes the types and categories of grants that will be prioritized for funding under the KWN Strategy for 2019-2022 and donor requirements.

Programmatic areas of KWN's Strategy	Focus on KWN member organizations	Type of grants	Amount of grants	Donor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo • Women in Politics and Decision-making • Women's Right to Healthcare • A Life Free from Gender-based Violence • Improving Access to Quality and Gender Sensitive Education 	All member organizations	Advocacy Grant for a single organization	4,000€	Austrian Development Agency (ADA) with co-financing by UN Women
		Networking for Change Grant	8,000€	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo • Women in Politics and Decision-making 	Member organizations working with youth	Advocacy Grant for a single organization	3,000€	UN Women

Projects must be completed on the period of up to three months, starting from the moment of signing the contract. KWN reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted. Funding decisions will be made by the Kosovo Women's Fund Grant Review Committee, elected by KWN members.

ELIGIBILITY

In order to apply, organizations must fulfill the following criteria:

1. Be an official KWN member;
2. Plan and implement activities in accordance with their own organizational strategy;

3. Undertake activities that contribute to the implementation of the KWN Strategy for 2019-2022, including programs on:
 - o Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo;
 - o Women in Politics and Decision-making;
 - o Women's Rights to Healthcare;
 - o A life-free from Gender-based Violence;
 - o Women's Economic Empowerment;
 - o Improving Access to Quality and Gender Sensitive Education
4. Be able to provide at least 10% of the budget total amount from another donor and/or self-contribution (e.g., documented volunteer work). This is encouraged to be reflected in the budget proposal;
5. Have not received a KWF grant from the previous grant round. At least one grant round should pass for the organization to apply again for a KWF grant.
6. Have no staff members currently part of KWN's Board, or part of the Grant Review Committee of KWF.

The Grant Review Committee will prioritize funding:

1. initiatives that involve advocacy, towards bringing about sustainable changes in supporting, protecting, or promoting women's rights and gender equality at municipal and/or national levels.
2. Initiatives that aim to contribute to produce tangible and visible results (e.g., new legislation, new services, reports about cases of Gender Based Violence, monitored court cases, inheritance claims, etc.)
3. Initiatives aiming to include hitherto marginalized groups, including initiatives reaching out to the community and / or marginalized persons and groups, persons with disabilities; minority ethnic groups, etc.;
4. Youth-led member organizations or member organizations working with youth; and
5. Organizations lacking other funding opportunities from different donors.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

KWN will accept application forms in Albanian, Serbian and English languages. They can either be e-mailed to grants@womensnetwork.org or hand-delivered to the KWN office in Prishtina. Hand-delivered applications must include a CD or USB with the same version of the electronic files. Applicants must submit the following documents:

1. One copy of their application form using the KWN Application Form for Advocacy Grants for a Single Organization or KWN Application Form for Networking for Change (attached and at: www.womensnetwork.org);
2. Budget Proposal, Using the KWN Form (Available on the KWN Website: www.womensnetwork.org);

Please note: all budgets must represent an allocation of costs (which means co-financing by another institution) and / or a non-financial contribution (meaning volunteer work, donations from businesses, community involvement) in the amount of 10% of the total budget proposal. This should be stated in the budget proposal. KWF may consider wage coverage and operating expenses but only in cases where the applicant has made a clear explanation of how such coverage will enable them to advance women's rights and / or gender equality;

3. Memorandum of Understanding signed by both parties (if applying for a Networking for Change Grant); and
4. Work plan, using the KWN form (available on the KWN Website: www.womensnetwork.org).

Proposals submitted to KWN for this grant competition must be the original and sole work of the applicant organization. Plagiarism will result in disqualification from the grant competition.

KWN will retain all materials and documents submitted by applicants. KWN will not use information presented by applicants for purposes other than review and will not provide this information to other persons or institutions, except when required either by Kosovo law or requested by donors.

Upon delivery of their application, applicants will receive a Confirmation of Receipt with an application number, signed by KWN staff.

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

Request for Applications issued:

15 October 2019

Deadline for submission of applications:

28 October 2019, 5:00 PM

Expected grant award announcement:

Second week of January 2020

CONTACT INFORMATION

Request Clarifications: Applicants should submit clarification requests via email to grants@womensnetwork.org