



Kosovo Women's Network

Serving, Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Women and Girls

Annual Report 2019



Kosovo Women's Network

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF THE KWN BOARD

Dear member organisations of the Kosovo Women's Network, individual and institutional supporters, as well as other supporters of our work for more than two decades now,

We are leaving behind another dynamic year for the advancement of women's and girls' rights in Kosovo. We can proudly state that the Network (KWN) and our mission is an example of mobilization and influence, not only in Kosovo but also regionally and internationally. A few examples of this are the participation of the Executive Director, Igballe Rogova, as a member of the NATO Advisory Board and Kosovo's representative for UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security implementation. This shows that the experience and expertise created in Kosovo has been internationally recognized, including at the highest levels.

The hard work of the Network's staff is admirable; I would not mention individually so as not to forget anyone. Through funding projects for women and highly professional, credible grants management, KWN demonstrates its reputation as a civil society leader in Kosovo. KWN manages and provides multiple employment opportunities and activities for women's NGOs in Kosovo. I believe that in this regard, the Network continues to be one of the most reliable civil society partners, and with its professional and hardworking staff, it continues to be a highly reputable authority.



Many other initiatives including recent amendments laws, such as amending the Criminal Code of Kosovo' to include domestic violence, sexual harassment, adequate clarification of marital rape, changes in several policies, and ongoing demands on Kosovo institutions, show that the will for change will continue and will mobilize us for many years to come. Calls for justice for victims of gender-based violence, employment, equal opportunities for women and girls in Kosovo, and monitoring the implementation of gender equality commitments in Kosovo will remain tireless tasks and challenges in need of our constant attention.

Challenges exist and will remain for a long time. However, these mobilize us in our mission and demands. Since the institutional system in Kosovo continues to tolerate violence against women with excuses, blaming victims and letting perpetrators of violent acts go unpunished, the mission for gender justice, among others, will continue.

We will continue our mission, mobilising to achieve equality, as soon as possible, as we are already late.

I will conclude by quoting an excellent statement on equality by Joss Whedon: "Equality is not just a concept. It is not something we should be striving for. It is a necessity. Equality is like gravity. We need it to stand on this earth as men and women, and the misogyny that is in every culture is not a true part of



the human condition. It is life out of balance, and that imbalance is sucking something out of the soul of every man and woman who is confronted with it. We need equality. Kinda now.”

Yours cordially,
Ariana Qosaj - Mustafa



INTRODUCTION

Our Vision

The Kosovo Women's Network a Kosovo where women and men are equal and have equal opportunities to education, employment, political participation, healthcare and a life without violence.

Our Mission

The Network's Mission is to support, protect and promote the rights and interests of women and girls throughout Kosovo, regardless of their political and religious beliefs, age, level of education, sexual orientation and abilities. KWN fulfils its mission through exchange of experiences and information, partnerships and networking, research, advocacy and services.

Our Strategy

To accomplish its vision and mission, KWN has drafted a Strategy for the 2019-2022 period (which you can find on our [website](#)). The purpose of this strategy is to guide KWN's work during these years. The Strategy was drafted in 2018 with input from network member organisations, the Board of Directors, partners and other relevant stakeholders. The KWN Strategy is divided into six program areas: I) Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo; II) Women in Politics and Decision-making; III) Women's Rights to Health



Care; IV) A Life Free from Gender-based Violence, V) Women's Economic Empowerment, and VI) Improving Access to Quality and Gender-Sensitive Education

About the KWN Annual Report

Each year the KWN reports to its members, partners, and friends regarding the progress made towards achieving its strategic objectives. This report is divided in six sections based on KWN's long-term objectives:

- Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo
- Women in Politics and Decision-making
- Women's Rights to Health Care
- A Life Free from Gender-based Violence
- Women's Economic Empowerment
- Improving Access to Quality and Gender-Sensitive Education

This report presents the achievements and results for each of these programs in 2019. The following sections contain information on the progress made towards each objective and the expected outcomes, as well as information on the budget, supporters, Board of Directors, Advisory Board, staff, interns, volunteers, members and grant beneficiaries.



Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo

The main purpose of this objective is to empower the existing feminist movement in Kosovo, and the Balkan region. KWN has made progress towards achieving this objective, as shown by progress on the following indicators:

- KWN has implemented approximately 55% of its Strategy;
- The number of individual KWN supporters increased from 79 to 102;
- Women and men undertook 10 initiatives to support the women's movement, indicating that future generations have the capacity to continue this movement; and
- Members of KWN and the Kosovo Lobby for Gender Equality continued to be very active and vocal.

Towards realising this long-term aim, progress has been made towards the following objectives, detailed in bold headings below.



Increase solidarity among women's organisations

KWN's experience suggests that supporting and maintaining solidarity among women's organisations is crucial to building a sustainable women's movement. In this regard, KWN made progress towards achieving its aims for 2019, as demonstrated by the 39 partnerships, coalitions and joint initiatives in 2019, 27 interethnic initiatives, and 129 since 2015, as well as by achieving the expected results listed below.

KWN members informed about initiatives, KWN activities, and funding opportunities. This year KWN's membership increased from 141 to 158 organisations. KWN held four regular quarterly membership meetings where 201 different members, partners, and supporters exchanged information and were informed about the ongoing activities of KWN and other organisations. Since 2015, a total of 1,145 women and men have attended KWN meetings. During the sessions, KWN members played an important role in working together to implement the KWN strategy, discussing political and social developments in Kosovo, and monitoring and evaluating KWN's work.



KWN members participate in a quarterly membership meeting, held on 23 September in Prishtina.

More young men and women activists involved in the feminist movement

In 2019, KWN involved approximately 812 girls and boys through volunteer work, the Kosovo Women's Fund, the Kosovo Lobby for Gender Equality, and other activities. This has given them the opportunity to become more knowledgeable in organizing, researching, advocating, integrating gender issues into human rights advocacy, monitoring court cases, gender-based violence, and other issues that women in Kosovo face. Engaging more young people in these efforts can help strengthen the feminist movement in Kosovo.

Inter-ethnic understanding and cooperation strengthened among individuals and civil society groups

KWN has been involved in 27 inter-ethnic initiatives in 2019. The Network has provided opportunities for inter-ethnic cooperation among organisations that have received grants through the Kosovo Women's Fund and their beneficiaries, as well as through the Kosovo Lobby for Gender Equality. KWN continued its interethnic partnerships in the region through the Coalition for Addressing Gender-based Discrimination in Labour in the Western Balkans, network seeking to gender-mainstream the EU Accession process, and network researching funding for gender equality and women's rights. Additionally, KWN joined two new regional inter-ethnics networks this year, focusing on addressing gender-based violence and gender-responsive budgeting.



Improved organisational capacity of KWN and its members for long-term advocacy and sustainability of the network

A sustainable women's movement cannot exist without its members keeping the movement alive. Therefore, KWN continuously supports its members in advancing their capacities, through mentoring and the Kosovo Women's Fund.

KWN continued to use the Organisational and Advocacy Capacity Assessment to assess the capacities of its member organisations receiving grants and partners. Based on these, KWN collaborated with organisations to create tailored Capacity Development Plans for each organisation, which KWN has supported organisations in implementing. As a result, several organisations have improved their organisational and advocacy capacities.

KWN, its members and their work is more visible to potential partners, international activists and potential supporters

KWN has regularly promoted the work of its members on the KWN website, Facebook page, and in the monthly electronic newsletter *Kosovar Women's Voice*. KWN has increased its Facebook likes from 18,018 in 2018 to 19,919. On Twitter and Instagram, the number of followers has increased from 780 to 995 and from 1,279 to 1,710, respectively. *Kosovar Women's Voice* reaches 570 people worldwide. In 2019, KWN has had 251 media appearances and sent 32 press releases, including:



1. [Newly Adopted EP Resolution on Women's Rights in the Western Balkans Reflects Significant Input from KWN](#) (5 February 2019)
2. [A juvenile girl is raped, blackmailed and endangered: a police officer is the main suspect](#) (6 February 2019)
3. [The logo of the 11th Anniversary of Independence is discriminatory, it does not represent women](#) (11 February 2019)
4. [A letter of gratitude addressed to MPs for supporting budget for shelters and day centers for victims of violence](#) (21 February 2019)
5. [KWN welcomes lifetime sentence for the murder of a woman and a girl](#) (1 March 2019)
6. [Information - Coalition for Equality discusses: "Empowering women's participation in politics"](#) (18 March 2019)
7. [Coalition for Equality discusses: "Empowering women's participation in politics"](#) (19 March 2019)
8. [Civil society reacts against the statements of Prosecutor Rexhep Maqedonci](#) (27 March 2019)
9. [KWN and Lobby in support of Podrimqaku-Subashi](#) (29 March 2019)
10. [Media Release: KWN will launch the Report "Gender Based Discrimination and Employment in Kosovo"](#) (10 April 2019)
11. [KWN launches the report: "Gender Based Discrimination and Labour in Kosovo"](#) (11 April 2019)



12. KWN: Publication of rape photos, a violation of dignity of survivors of sexual violence during the Kosovo war (16 May 2019)
13. KWN is alarmed by the repeated attack on a Roma woman in Ferizaj (31 May 2019)
14. Press Release - Sevdije Ahmeti's book "The Diary of a Woman from Kosovo" is promoted tomorrow (6 June 2019)
15. Press Release - Tomorrow in Prizren running for awareness will support survivors of sexual violence (7 June)
16. Media Invitation: Opening of Exhibition "Ending Violence behind the Walls" (13 June 2019)
17. Reminder: Opening of Exhibition "Ending Violence behind the Walls" (14 June 2019)
18. KWN supports the tireless and transparent work of the Government Commission for the Recognition and Verification of the Status of Persons raped during the Kosovo Liberation War (18 June 2019)
19. KWN is against the retrial in the murder case of Pjeter Nrecaj (24 June 2019)
20. Media Invitation: Exhibition "Ending Violence behind the Walls" will open today in Gjiilan (27 June 2019)
21. Civil Society Organisations demand that Qehaja be held responsible for rape and homophobic standpoints (1 August 2019)
22. Kosovo Women's Network condemns the imposition of house arrest on suspect Q.A as it considers it to be insufficient (16 August 2019)



23. [KWN reacts to successive failures of institutions to protect survivors of domestic violence](#) (20 September 2019)
24. [KWN Appeals: Vote for more women in parliament](#) (24 September 2019)
25. [Once again Judiciary Fails in Legal Protection of Gender Equality](#) (3 October 2019)
26. [New Study Reveals Widespread Gender-Based Discrimination at Work in the Western Balkans](#) (4 October 2019)
27. [KWN joins the call for withdrawal of the Nobel Prize for Handke](#) (11 October 2019)
28. KWN presents the new report on gender-based discrimination in the Balkans in Brussels (16 October 2019)
29. [Kosovo Women's Fund to allocate €66,429 to 18 KWN member organisations](#) (23 October 2019)
30. [19 years later, UN Resolution 1325 remains relevant to dialogue and justice in Kosovo](#) (30 October 2019)
31. [KWN Reacts against the Re-victimization of Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse](#) (5 December 2019)
32. [Surrounded by Friends, KWN Marks 17th Members Annual Meeting](#) (7 December 2019)



More KWN members are able to seek funding, plan effectively, lead successful organisations and undertake effective advocacy initiatives

Through the Kosovo Women's Fund (KWF), KWN allocated 16 grants to 18 of its member organisations. Of these, two Partnership for Change Grants (up to €8,000 per recipient) were allocated to four organisations. Individual Advocacy Grants (up to €4,000 and €5,000 per recipient) were allocated to 14 members. This year, the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) supported KWF through the "Advancing Women's Rights Initiative" in the amount of €48,000 and the European Union Office in Kosovo provided €20,000 to KWF through the "Strengthening women's participation in politics" Action. In total, KWF allocated €66,430. Partnership for Change grants have increased cooperation by enabling organisations in different regions of Kosovo to join forces and advocate together. For example, NGO Rikotta in partnership with the Women's Centre "ATO" launched the initiative "Economic Empowerment and Capacity Building of Women in Preval and the surrounding Villages". Whereas, Association of Women Returnees "Naš



KWN members participate in the Kosovo Women's Fund Orientations Session, held on 24 October in Prishtina.

Dom" (Our home) in partnership with the Women's Centre for Rural Development had a joint initiative: "Partnership for Development (Environmentally Friendly Development) of Women's Entrepreneurship". In addition to these two partnership initiatives, other KWN-supported initiatives that will continue in 2020 are:

- Active Women of Gjakova with the initiative: "Development of a Sustainable Inter-Institutional System for Addressing Gender-based Violence and Domestic Violence in the Municipality of Gjakova"
- NGO "World of Angels" with the initiative: "Women in Focus"
- Kosovo Women's Initiative with the initiative: "Improved Access of Women Farmers and Entrepreneurs of Gjakova Municipality to Municipal Subsidies"
- Down Syndrome Kosova with the initiative: "The Kitchen X21"
- Kosovo Advocacy Group with the initiative: "Participation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Community Women in Policy-making"
- Woman Business Association with the initiative: "Gender Equality Index in Local Self-Government in North Mitrovica"
- Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women's Organisations with the initiative: "Promoting Employment by Promoting Soft Skills for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women in Gjakova"



- Organisation Garden with the initiative: “Advocacy for Economic Empowerment of Women Farmers in the Villages of Highlands of Gollak”
- Organisation Independent Women’s Association ‘Hareja’ - Rahovec with the initiative: “Do Not be Silent. Speak Up”
- Moravian Pearl with the initiative: “Harmonization of Traditional Inheritance Norms with the Legal Framework”
- Organisation for local reforms “Euloc” with the initiative: “Promotion of Gender Responsive Budgeting in Local Government in Viti”
- Association for Education and the Care of Family with the initiative: “Increasing the Efficiency of Social Services through the Provisions of the Istanbul Convention”
- Art Without Limit with the initiative: “International Movie Festival for People with Disabilities”
- United Women’s Association with the initiative: “Fair Advocacy Women’s Employment”

KWF recipients undertook 40 advocacy initiatives this year with support from KWF. In total, from Autumn 2012 to December 2019, 21,028 persons have benefited from various KWN members’ initiatives. In 2019, KWN staff members provided 1118 mentoring sessions via e-mail, telephone and individual meetings for KWF grant beneficiaries. The Grant Review Committee also contributed to the advancement of members’ capacities by reviewing each application and providing practical advice for future submissions. This will help KWN members prepare better applications to KWF and other donors in the future.



KWN staff capacities increased

KWN continued to provide opportunities for its staff members to increase their capacities, including related to communications, gender mainstreaming, digital security, online best practices, and anti-corruption and finance. On the job mentoring was provided related to advocating to European Union; gender analysis; writing concept papers; drafting advocacy strategies; drafting reports; monitoring and evaluation; research; and public speaking skills. Additionally, this year KWN engaged 73 volunteers in various KWN activities.



KWN staff engage in a communication workshop delivered by Dr. Martine Beachboard, Communications Expert, held on 2 October at KWN office.

The funding climate for women's rights organisations improved

Although some advocacy initiatives can be undertaken on a voluntary basis, women's rights organisations (WCSOs) still need resources to support many aspects of their important work. Sustainable women's rights activism requires support, and KWN continued its efforts to mobilize sufficient resources from local and international actors to support the women's movement in Kosovo and the region. In 2019, through advocacy, KWN met several funders as well as sent policy briefs to make funders more aware of WCSOs' financing needs. Following advocacy, KWN contributed to securing additional resources for WCSOs in Kosovo and the region.

Improved implementation of KWN's Fundraising Strategy

KWN has begun researching and developing a Philanthropy Strategy. It will identify innovative and alternative forms of local fundraising, in addition to international funding, which can support KWN and its members in the long-term. KWN researched various philanthropy options that exist around the world, particularly in similar contexts as Kosovo. The Network also looked into those that have been used in Kosovo to inform the Philanthropy Strategy. Several steps also have been taken to improve KWN's website to better support online fundraising. In terms of results, KWN has increased the savings in its Sustainability Fund from €3,263 in 2018 to € 3,844 in 2019.

Improved knowledge and understanding among relevant EU bodies and other donors regarding the types of support that diverse WCSOs need

KWN led and coordinated a research initiative on funding women's rights, conducted by WCSOs in six Western Balkan (WB) countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia, supported by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation. It examines funding trends for women's rights, gender equality, and WCSOs in the WB. The research aims to contribute to: I) improving the availability of information related to funding for WCSOs and movements; and II) improving knowledge among funders regarding the current needs of WCSOs and what types of funding modalities will best address their needs. Moreover, the research provides insight into trends impacting funding; and opportunities for collaborative resource mobilization strategies among donors and WCSOs. This research involved mixed methods, including desk review, interviews with 241 WCSOs, and interviews with 71 funders. To be launched in 2020, the report will provide detailed information about the funding situation in the WB and WCSOs' funding needs.

In addition to this research, KWN published two policy briefs that contained recommendations for improving WCSOs' access to financing: [Following through on EU Commitments to Gender Equality: Lessons Learned from GAP II to Inform GAP III](#) and [A Gender-Responsive Approach to EU External Financing](#). These were shared with representatives of the European Union Parliament, European Commission, European External Action Service, and other interested stakeholders.

Improved institutional and public awareness of tax deductions to support the important work of women's rights groups

As part of its Philanthropy Strategy as well as its research on funding WCSOs, KWN has looked into the legal framework in Kosovo related to the financing civil society, as a first step towards proposing recommendations for improving the relevant legal framework. KWN also has spoken with other WCSOs engaged in this area, towards coordinating future joint advocacy.

WOMEN IN POLITICS AND DECISION-MAKING

The long-term goal of this program is for women to actively participate in politics and decision-making at the local and national levels. KWN has made progress towards achieving this goal. KWN's advocacy, among others', contributed to more women being elected in the October 2019 parliamentary elections. Of the 39 women elected, 26 women won seats through direct election, rather than due to gender quota, an increase from 47% in the last elections to 64% in 2019. Further,



the percentage of parliamentarians who are women increased from 32% to 32.5%. Additionally, the percentage of Albanian women represented in the parliament increased by 1.7%

Another indicator of women's improved participation in politics and decision-making in 2019 was the 12 policies were amended in 2019 in order to reflect priorities of women, integrate a gender perspective or comply with the Law on Gender Equality. Since KWN began tracking this information, the Network, its members and the Lobby for Gender Equality have advocated successfully for 151 policy changes towards improving the lives of women and girls at local and national levels.

Increased and improved women's participation in politics and decision-making at local and central levels according to the Law on Gender Equality

Through the Kosovo Women's Fund, KWN members increased the number of women from diverse backgrounds who participated in politics and decision-making processes from 1,669 to 2,035 during 2019. Additionally, KWN and Kosovo Lobby for Gender Equality members supported 534 women of diverse ages, ethnicities, abilities, and geographic backgrounds to participate in politics and decision-making in 2019. KWN also collaborated closely with the Organisation for Persons with Muscular Dystrophy and Ruka Ruci specifically towards increasing the political engagement of approximately 49

women with different abilities and 173 women from Serbian communities in decision-making processes, supported by the EU. Towards this objective, progress was made on several results, described here.

Coalition for Equality functions at local and national levels

The Coalition for Equality was established on 22 June 2018. It consists of women in politics at both the national and local level, as well as women-led non-governmental organisations. The Coalition seeks to support and empower its members to improve women's positions in politics and decision-making and to promote the advancement of gender equality in Kosovo. The participants pledged to work towards fulfilling this common mission, regardless of their political preferences, gender, age, ethnicity, ability, religion, region, level of education or socio-economic status.

On 19 March 2019, KWN held a Coalition for Equality meeting, attended by 85 participants, including KWN members, MPs, ministers, international organisations, and other supporters.



Annette Fath Lihic, Chief Political Adviser / Executive Coordinator of the Office of the EU Special Representative addresses Coalition members during the meeting of Coalitions for Equality on 19 March in Prishtina.

Representatives of the EU Mission in Kosovo and the United Nations Kosovo Team also participated. Annette Fath Lihic, Chief Political Adviser / Executive Coordinator of the Office of the EU Special Representative in Kosovo provided opening remarks, calling for the implementation of the Law on Gender Equality; she said that the main problem remains the poor implementation of laws. Participants also discussed ideas for continuing implementation of the Coalition Strategy.

During the year, Coalition for Equality members undertook joint advocacy for women's election to parliament, participation in the new government and for a budget for shelters.



Mexhide Mjaku-Topalli, Chair of the Women's Caucus, MP Saranda Bogujevci, MP Teuta Haxhiu, and KWN Executive Director Igballe Rogova coordinate Coalition activities on 10 April in Prishtina.

The Kosovo Lobby for Gender Equality continues

The Kosovo Lobby for Gender Equality in Kosovo (hereinafter, the Lobby) was established in 2014, it brings together women politicians and women in civil society to advocate at the local and central levels for progress towards gender equality continued functioning in 27 municipalities. The number of women

engaged in the Lobby has increased from 400 in 2015 to 597 in 2019. Together, these groups undertook 62 advocacy initiatives in 2019 and contributed to 12 policy changes this year.

In 2019, the Lobby held two meetings. The first was held on 11 February, bringing together 26 Lobby representatives from different municipalities to plan and design strategies for empowering women's participation in politics and decision-making processes in Kosovo. As it was the first meeting of the year, participants shared their objectives for 2019. The second meeting was held on 22 November, during which 51 members reported on their successful initiatives and the implementation of their objectives for 2019. Since most were engaged in the "Vote for More Women in Parliament" campaign, they shared their insight on their door-to-door visits and impressions. A recurring remark was the increased solidarity among women and how the Lobby played an important role in that.

Capacities of women in politics furthered to advocate for women priorities

The aforementioned meetings combined with workshops held during the year furthered the capacities of women in politics to advocate for women's priorities by providing examples of best practices and improving their advocacy skills. The KWN Executive Director Igballe Rogova continued providing mentoring sessions for Lobby members and groups across Kosovo, through 1,758 visits to their municipalities, phone calls or emails this year. These sessions served to empower Lobby members in their advocacy for women's rights and gender equality. KWN does not see or treat Lobby members as members of political parties, but rather as leaders in their municipalities. The Executive Director was also present at their events, promoted their initiatives, supported them in advocacy by joining in meetings

with local officials, and assisted in helping them overcome various challenges in their advocacy for gender equality.

Increased awareness of the importance of harmonizing the Law on Gender Equality with other relevant laws

KWN continued to advocate for the implementation of the Law on Gender Equality through advocacy with officials in Kosovo and cooperation with EU representatives. KWN, in collaboration with member organisations, launched the “Vote for More Women in Parliament” campaign, calling for equal representation of women and men and implementation of the Law on Gender Equality in the early parliamentary elections of 2019. This campaign, supported by the EU, took place in communities throughout Kosovo. For five days, in more than 15 municipalities, including those with a Serb majority, volunteers of member organisations discussed and distributed campaign leaflets to voters. Moreover, the Executive Director held several meetings during this year with various officials and representatives, calling for the implementation of the Law on



Executive Director of KWN and representatives of the EU Observation Mission discuss snap parliamentary elections at the KWN office, on 24 September at KWN offices.

Gender Equality and the alignment of the Law on General Elections with it.

On 23 October, the KWN Executive Director was part of the EU Gender Talk, “Women and Governance”, a lively two-hour debate session focused on the importance of implementing the Law on Gender Equality in all spheres of life, with a special emphasis on the electoral process. The participants voiced the need for the inclusion of women in policy and decision-making processes both at local and national levels. The Executive Director also shared information with the attendees regarding the “Vote for More Women in Parliament” campaign, its aims and ongoing activities.

On 2 October, the KWN Executive Director met with representatives of the Central Election

“Since political parties are not implementing the Law on Gender Equality, which requires 50% equal representation, we have created this campaign to encourage citizens to vote for more women in parliament,” law,” Rogova said.

Commission regarding snap parliamentary elections to be held on 6 October. During this meeting, she once again called for the implementation of the Law on Gender Equality in the upcoming parliamentary elections, supporting numerous appeals by the Ombudsperson Institution, Agency on Gender Equality (AGE), and Democracy in Action.

On 3 October, the Chief Observer of the EU Election Observation Mission in Kosovo and a German member of the European Parliament, were introduced to KWN’s “Vote for More Women in Parliament” campaign during a meeting with KWN Executive Director. She discussed the lack of implementation of the Law on Gender Equality by political parties. The issue of women’s participation in politics was raised by the EU Election

Observation Mission through a press release, following the outcome of the elections. They acknowledged that the elections were well-administered and transparent, but indicated that political parties have not adopted sufficient affirmative measures to achieve equal representation between genders inside political parties.

In addition, towards implementing the Law on Gender Equality's provisions related to gender mainstreaming all laws and public policies, KWN staff members reviewed and commented on at least 15 draft laws, policies, and documents, suggesting an improved gender perspective. KWN supported gender mainstreaming by analysing public policy drafts (laws, administrative guidelines, strategies, and action plans) from a gendered perspective, and by assessing the potential impact they may have on men, women, girls and boys. The policies and documents that KWN reviewed in 2019 from a gendered perspective and provided comments on included:

1. Criminal Code of Kosovo
2. National Program for the Implementation of the Stabilisation-Association Agreement 2019-2023
3. Draft report on improvement of CSOs in the Stabilisation Association Agreement implementation
4. Civil Code of Kosovo
5. The Office for Good Governance - Draft Strategy for Human Rights
6. Draft Law on Protection from Domestic Violence



7. European Reform Agenda II
8. Draft Labour Law
9. Kosovo Program for Gender Equality
10. Regulation on Admission and Career in the Civil Service of the Republic of Kosovo
11. Draft Regulation on Standards for Internal Organisation, Systematization of Jobs, and Cooperation in State Administration Institutions and Independent Agencies
12. Draft Regulation on Working Hours and Leave
13. European Institute for Gender Equality Draft Handbook on Combating Sexism in the Workplace
14. Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) - Joint Civil Society Human Rights Report
15. Kosovo Progress Report 2019



Women in politics, women-led organisations and women voters communicate and cooperate more on issues that women consider priorities

With support from the Coalition for Equality, Lobby, and KWN, women in politics, civil society, and women voters collaborated on important issues in 2019. For example, Lobby members advocated for issues that women consider priorities in close cooperation with voters from their municipalities. Also, during the aforementioned campaign, volunteers from KWN and Lobby members distributed leaflets and went door-to-door to discuss the importance of voting for more women in parliament. In 2019, the Lobby held 51 meetings with women politicians, voters, and NGOs. A list of their initiatives is in Annex 2.

Advocacy initiated on issues women consider priorities

KWN has supported and empowered women to identify and advocate for their priorities. This was achieved through grants to KWN members for their advocacy initiatives through KWF. The Fund has supported members' efforts to monitor and advocate for the implementation of existing laws and policies. KWN has encouraged



Volunteers in Prizren distribute leaflets in the “Vote for more Women in the Parliament” Campaign, held on 24 September in Prishtina.

WCSOs to work closely with the Lobby and the Coalition for Equality in their advocacy initiatives. This year, KWF and Lobby undertook 62 advocacy initiatives on issues that women consider priorities

Improve institutionalization of gender-responsive budgeting in Kosovo

Gender-responsive Budgeting (GRB) is important for the enhancement of women's participation in decision-making, but also for efficient and equitable allocation of public funds. Therefore, KWN has advocated for and supported GRB in Kosovo since 2011. In 2019, KWN became part of a regional initiative "Gender Budget Watchdog Network" (GBWN) involving six organisations in the WB from countries Albania, BiH, Kosovo, Northern Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia, as well as Moldova. It aims to build CSO capacities for GRB, develop and strengthen a regional GRB network and advocate for more gender-responsive policies. The first regional Training of Trainers was delivered between 18-21 November in Skopje, during which GRB concepts and practical examples were shared with 16 participants, including two KWN staff. They discussed different aspects of GRB, such as gender policy appraisals, gender budget



Training of Trainers on Gender Responsive Budgeting, attended by 7 organizations from the Western Balkans and Moldova, held between 18-21 November in Skopje.

income analysis, gender budget expenditure analysis and beneficiary analysis, gender budget cost benefit/cost effectiveness analysis, and analysis of the impact of budget on time use. Partners also shared sources and materials from their own experiences working with GRB. A regional campaign of GBWN was promoted through social media. Additionally, the eligibility to apply for workshops, followed by grants, for doing GRB in their communities was announced to CSOs in the region; 11 grassroots organisations in Kosovo applied. KWN will continue work with them in future years.

Increasing the participation of WSCOs and women in the EU accession process

KWN has contributed to the involvement of member organisations in the Stabilization and Association Subcommittee consultations, conducted prior to the technical dialogue between EU representatives and the Kosovo government. Using the public consultation platform launched this year by the Kosovo government, KWN has consulted with various members organisations to consolidate their input and bring attention to their priorities related to these consultations. More specifically, during these discussions 10 organisations have had the opportunity to raise issues, including long-term financing for Kosovo shelters, the improvement of property rights, and implementation of the Law on Inheritance and the involvement of more women in decision-making processes. In total, 10 women's organisations from

Kosovo participated in commenting on the EU accession documents in 2019. KWN supported them in preparing and submitting joint input during these processes.

In addition, [the European Parliament Resolution on Women's Rights in the Western Balkans was adopted containing several points suggested by KWN, its partners in the region](#), and the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation. The Resolution addresses gender-based violence, poor access to justice, women's low level of participation in politics and women's underrepresentation in the labour market.

WCSOs and their constituents are better informed about their role in EU accession processes and how to engage

KWN has used its public consultation platform to notify all member organisations that there are multiple ways to engage in commenting and providing expertise in their respective sectors. KWN sought members' input on the EU Kosovo Report, the National Program for the Implementation of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, and the European Reform Agenda.

Improve gender mainstreaming of documents affiliated with Kosovo's EU accession and their implementation

KWN submitted input on several policies and laws in 2019, towards integrating a gender perspective in documents relating to Kosovo's EU Accession, as shown by the following results.

Comments submitted on documents

KWN has used its expertise to continuously provide comments and recommendations on laws, public policies and documents related to Kosovo's EU Accession. KWN has partnered with the EU Office in Kosovo and the Ministry of European Integration (MEI) to incorporate these recommendations into relevant documents. In total, the Network commented on 15 documents that dealt with increasing and improving attention to gender equality and women's human rights. These included EU Accession documents such as the Country Report, the National Programme for the Implementation of the Standardisation and Association Agreement and European Reform Agenda II.

Improving the knowledge and capacities of EU officials, MEI, National Gender Equality Mechanisms and line ministries regarding mainstreaming gender in EU accession-related documents

During public consultations, officials from MEI and National Gender Equality Mechanisms have expressed their gratitude for KWN's involvement in the process of drafting documents related to EU accession. In 2019, KWN held 38 advocacy meetings with officials in Kosovo and the EU Office, to verbally inform them of advocacy points and recommendations related to gender equality. KWN also was contracted by the EU Office to continue providing training and technical assistance to the EU Office in Kosovo



related to gender equality in Kosovo, the EU Gender Action Plan III, and integrating a gender perspective in relevant projects and documents.

Improving implementation of GAP II

Towards implementing the EU Gender Action Plan (GAP) II, KWN worked towards achieving the following results.

Improved awareness of EU officials regarding the need for stronger political commitment, sufficient budget, improved systems and adequate human resources for implementing GAP II

KWN continued to advocate for and support the implementation of GAP II in Kosovo. KWN provided training and technical assistance to the EU Office in Kosovo related to integrating the gender perspective in project contracts and relevant documents in line with GAP II objectives. KWN also supported integrating a gender perspective into Instrument for Pre-Accession Action Documents, which is foreseen in GAP II.

KWN constantly advocated for a more robust GAP III, in terms of content, reporting, and implementation.

Improving the design of GAP III based on lessons learned from GAP II

In 2019, KWN sought to make progress towards this objective through the following result.

Improved awareness regarding improvements to GAP III

KWN advocated for these recommendations through its advocacy meetings in Brussels with the European Commission, meetings with EU delegations in Kosovo and in the region, and in cooperation with regional partners. KWN was consulted by evaluators engaged in evaluating GAP II to inform GAP III. In the end of 2019, KWN developed a policy analysis to inform relevant national and international actors on lessons learned from GAP II and needed improvements in drafting GAP III: *Following through on EU Commitments to Gender Equality: Lessons Learned from GAP II to Inform GAP III*. It was shared with EU officials in Kosovo and Brussels.

Improving the transposition of the EU Gender Equality Acquis into Kosovo Law

KWN and its partners in the region have made progress towards this objective through the following initial result.

AGE, MEI and Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW) are better informed regarding needs for improved transposition of EU Gender Equality Acquis into Kosovo Law

KWN continued its relationships with the AGE, MEI and MLSW, collaborating with them towards transposing the EU Gender Equality Acquis into Kosovo Law. KWN made policy recommendations to MEI and MLSW, particularly related to transposing the EU Work and Life Balance Directive into the Labour Law, in collaboration with the Women's Economic Forum. KWN also contributed to the National Program for the Implementation of Stabilisation and Association Agreement, which included calls for attention to maternity leave, paternity leave and parental leave, which are necessary to correctly transpose the relevant EU directives.

Women's Right to Healthcare

The long-term goal of this program is to give women access to quality healthcare at affordable costs. While women's reproductive health appears to be the focus of most development activities, KWN considers women's overall wellness equally important. While resources for work related to improving women's access to quality healthcare remain limited, some progress was made towards this objective, as demonstrated by the following specific objectives, thanks to KWN members' work, supported by the Kosovo Women's Fund.

For example, the Women's Alliance for Integration through its initiative "Health Awareness of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian Women in the municipalities of Ferizaj and Lipjan" has managed to ensure that the Health Education and Promotion Team, operating within the Health Directorate of Ferizaj, continue delivering lectures on relevant topics for Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian women.

Improving public officials' and health institutions' response in addressing violation of women's rights to healthcare

Towards this objective, progress was made on the following results.

More public officials, women, girls and men aware of women's right to healthcare and violation of their rights

KWN members Psychotherapists in Action, the Organisation for Persons with Muscular Dystrophy in Kosovo, Kosovo Midwives Association, Women's Alliance for Integration, Contemporary Woman, and Handikos Mitrovica held a total of 17 meetings with public officials where women's rights to healthcare were discussed, supported by the Kosovo Women's Fund.

Increase of women's access to quality healthcare

Towards this objective, KWN also made progress thanks to the efforts of KWN members, supported through the Kosovo Women's Fund. Psychotherapists in Action provided free medical consultation for 158 people, where 153 of them received free medical check-ups including women and men.

Through these check-ups, some beneficiaries discovered they had illnesses about which they had not known previously; they were able to receive immediate medical attention.

Women and girls more aware of their right to healthcare and the importance of access to healthcare

With support from the Kosovo Women's Fund, 455 women and girls received advice and information about their right to access quality healthcare. This included 109 Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian women and girls from villages in Lipjan, Rahovec, and Ferizaj, provided by the Women's Alliance for Integration. Women were introduced to the importance healthcare, prevention of sexually transmitted infections and the Pap Test.

In addition, Psychotherapists in Action supported Albanian and Serbian citizens with special needs from eight villages in the municipality of Gjilan to learn about healthcare and then receive free medical visits. In total, 158 people received medical advice and guidance. In Prizren, OPMDK also organized lectures and advisory meetings that 61 people attended. Handikos Kosovo, supported by the Kosovo Women's Fund, held therapeutic sessions,

People march under the motto "Early Discovery = Survival", during the annual event organised by Jeta Vita on 20 October in Prishtina.



meetings, and lectures on depression among mothers with children with disabilities, that which 47 women attended in Krusha e Vogel municipality. They also provided lectures on breast cancer, self-breast examination, cervical cancer, women's sexual pleasure, high blood pressure and diabetes, attended by 80 women.

On 26 October, for the 12th year in a row, the Kosovo Centre for the Fight against Breast Cancer Jeta/Vita, organised a cultural-informational event about breast cancer. Numerous citizens marched through Prishtina with the motto: "Early Discovery = Survival". They expressed solidarity with victims and survivors of breast cancer, as well as sought to raise public awareness about breast cancer.



People with different abilities participate in a creative activity hosted by OPDMK, on 11 July in Prizren.

More women advocate for their rights to quality healthcare

In total, supported by the Kosovo Women's Fund, 163 women engaged in advocating for their right to quality healthcare. The Organisation for Persons with Muscular Dystrophy in Kosovo, met representatives from the Directorate of Health in Prizren. The organisation advocated for funding for

hydraulic tables that women could use for carrying out of gynaecological checks. Kosovo Midwives Association advocated to initiate the draft of the law on the professional service of midwives and their role in the health of the population.

Contemporary Woman advocated for improvement of health care and implementation of sex education and reproductive health programs.

LIFE FREE FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The long-term goal of this program is for women and girls to live a life free from gender-based violence. KWN has made progress towards achieving this goal, as illustrated by the progress made on the following objectives.

Improved implementation of the domestic violence legal framework, including institutional responses to assisting persons who have suffered violence

In 2019, KWN advocated for several legal amendments that would contribute to improved implementation of the legal framework as well as best practices in addressing domestic violence. Since April 2019, thanks to advocacy by KWN and its members, in line with the Istanbul Convention, domestic



violence is now a criminal offense in Kosovo. KWN and its members also advocated successfully for the creation of a specific budget line for financing shelters, as well as increased budget allocations for shelters in 2019. Moreover, the Network sent recommendations for amending and supplementing the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence. However, due to the dissolution of the government, this process has not been completed yet. Towards this objective, KWN also made progress towards the following results.

Enhanced knowledge regarding the extent to which the legal framework pertaining to domestic violence has been implemented, as well as awareness about and prevalence of domestic violence

While KWN did not conduct research on the prevalence of domestic violence in 2019, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) released their report, which KWN helped research, entitled *Well-being and Safety of Women*. It found that “nearly two-thirds of women surveyed (64%) think that violence by partners, acquaintances or strangers is very or fairly common and over a quarter (27%) think it is very common”.



Adelina Berisha from KWN participates in the launch of the OSCE report on Well-being and Safety of Women., held on 22 November in Pristina.

Further, this research found that 54% of all women say they have experienced psychological, physical, or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner since the age of 15. At the OSCE publication ceremony, KWN called for the work and contributions of women's shelters and NGOs to be recognized, and for this contribution to receive support from the government.

Institutions and other stakeholders are more aware of the extent to which the domestic violence legal framework has been implemented

KWN held advocacy meetings with representatives from 13 different institutions, discussing KWN's findings on the prevalence of violence from KWN's [*No More Excuses \(2015\)*](#) research and the institutional response to violence, detailed in KWN's more recent report [*From Words to Action \(2017\)*](#). Specific recommendations were provided to each institution towards better addressing cases of domestic violence. In 2019 KWN and its members also further improved cooperation between shelters and the Ombudsperson Institution, towards holding institutions more accountable in their treatment of persons who suffered domestic or gender-based violence and reporting institutional shortcomings. From this cooperation, three cases were referred to the Ombudsperson Institution for further investigation. This work was supported by UN Women.

KWN and its members are engaged in furthering the implementation of the legal framework on domestic violence

KWN has been at the forefront of addressing injustices towards people who have experienced domestic violence. For example, on 5 December, a Kallxo.com article indicated violations of the Criminal Procedure Code in Gjilan. In this case, the Gjilan Court Branch in Viti allowed a perpetrator to confront a victim of domestic violence. The victim required medical treatment as a consequence of the domestic abuse. The perpetrator prevented their son from seeking medical help for the victim, his mother, and then used violence against him too. According to this journal article, the perpetrator was a major within the Kosovo Security Force (KSF). Further, according to Kallxo.com, the judge in the case, Nexhat Aliu, stated that "...we did not call her [the victim]. She had a hearing for domestic violence before, we didn't even send her an invitation; she wanted to come, she wanted to come in and she did". He further stated that "she is his wife and we are not destroying families; we are trying to get them together again". According to Article 70 of Kosovo Prosecutorial Council, the fact that the perpetrator was a Kosovo Security Force member should have been considered an aggravating circumstance when making a court ruling. It should not have facilitated the judicial proceedings in favour of the suspect, as it seems to have done in this case. KWN demanded that the Basic Court treat this case according to the legal framework in place. It also called upon justice institutions to fulfil their legal obligations, not cause re-victimization, and not encourage reconciliation between perpetrators and their victims during criminal proceedings. Such "reconciliation" has led to fatalities for women and girls, and there is a need for increased care and proper risk assessments in such domestic violence cases, the KWN statement read.



Increased performance and quality of shelter services, especially in terms of rehabilitation and reintegration

Several workshops were held with the staff of shelters, focusing on increasing their knowledge of the role of the Ombudsperson Institution and how to hold institutions accountable in accordance with the legal framework for protection against domestic violence. Additionally, the expert Lepa Mladjenovic provided a workshop for staff members from shelters and day care centres about methods for emotional rehabilitation for victims of domestic violence. She also discussed the skills of service providers, self-care from emotional burn-out, and the importance of supervision. These efforts were supported by UN Women.

Improve awareness and attention among officials and citizens in dealing with gender-based violence including domestic violence, rape and sexual harassment

There has been some improvement in officials' attention to gender-based violence in 2019, as shown by the official adoption the aforementioned important legal changes towards addressing gender-based violence. As mentioned, since April 2019, domestic violence and sexual harassment are criminal offenses, defined in the Criminal Code of the Republic of Kosovo. A budget line was established for shelters and day centres that provide services for victims of domestic violence and gender-based violence. There also



have been initiatives to adopt the Istanbul Convention into the Constitution of Kosovo, though this process was not completed before the dissolution of the Assembly of Kosovo.

KWN also continued its advocacy for implementation of the Criminal Code and the Budget for 2019 for shelters, raising officials' and citizens' awareness regarding the still remaining needs of persons who have suffered violence. In November, KWN together with the Security and Gender Group (SGG), advocated to the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare to implement this budget for shelters and day centres, as defined in the 2019 Budget. Further, SGG requested specialized services for addressing sexual violence and support for survivors. They called upon relevant institutions to protect those rights by providing specialized training for all stakeholders involved, to offer the support to which survivors are legally entitled, and to establish specialised government-funded shelters for sexual violence survivors.

Progress also was made towards this objective through progress on the following expected results.

More citizens informed about the legal framework and their rights

In 2019, KWN organized the exhibition “Violence should not be hidden behind walls” in eight municipalities: Prishtina, Gjiilan, Mitrovica, Ferizaj, Gjakova, Peja, Prizren, and Drenas. More than 1,900 people participated in this exhibition. They learned about the extent of domestic violence, based on KWN’s research *No More Excuses* (2015), as well as the role of institutions in assisting victims of domestic violence. KWN also had more than 122 media publications and appearances that sought to raise awareness among citizens about the effects of domestic violence on women and society.

Following media reports of sexual violence against a minor in Drenas, KWN supported the organising of protests in Prishtina and Drenas. Thousands of citizens stood up to condemn the violence and to hold local institutions accountable, demonstrating increased citizens awareness and interest in taking action to address this issue.



Vlora Nushi from UN Women speaks at the opening of the KWN Exhibition “Violence should not be hidden behind walls”, held on 15 June in Prishtina.

On 8 March, the “We march, we don’t celebrate” protest was held again to mark International Women’s Day, and over 500 citizens raised their voices for gender equality, combating discrimination and the elimination of gender-based violence.

In addition, supported by the Kosovo Women’s Fund, KWN members Luna, Medica Kosova & Cradle of Smiling and Contemporary Women, increased the awareness of 226 women and men in their communities about gender-based violence.

Increased attention of institutions in treating gender-based violence

KWN has contributed expertise to workshops aimed at improving the knowledge of judges, prosecutors, and victims advocates to better implement the new provisions of the Criminal Code related to domestic violence, focusing on psychological violence. One workshop was held in Gjakova, where KWN provided sessions for representatives of justice institutions from the region about recent amendments to the Criminal Code. KWN also monitored some ongoing court cases, towards documenting examples of good and poor practice by institutions, which will inform KWN’s forthcoming monitoring report in 2020.

Improve policies and procedures for addressing sexual harassment

Towards this objective, as mentioned, as of April 2019, sexual harassment has been defined as a criminal offense in the Criminal Code, following KWN’s advocacy. KWN worked on this initiative for two years,



towards establishing a definition that in line with the requirements of the Istanbul Convention. Efforts also continued towards achieving the following result.

Coordination among WCSOs, public institutions, and other workplaces, to improve the installation of better mechanisms for reporting and investigating cases of sexual harassment

With KWN's ongoing support the working group at the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina" has continued to work towards establishing mechanisms for reporting sexual harassment.

Improve institutional and public support for persons who experienced sexual violence during the war

KWN and its members continued supporting people who experienced sexual violence during the war. Four KWN members that are licensed to provide emotional and psychological support to survivors of sexual violence during the war continued their work in 2019. Support also continued through the Verification Commission, which provides pensions for survivors in accordance with the law. KWN monitored the work of this Commission, as well as supported the Commission.

The Kosovo Women's Fund supported Medica Kosova and the Cradle of Smiling to use a community-based and trauma-informed approach for improving access of additional Survivors of war-

time rape to status recognition and pensions. Data for this particular approach was collected by the partner organisations, KWN, and a number of other institutional actors. Moreover, they assisted eight women to complete applications to receive status recognition and pensions.

In addition, in March, KWN reacted to unfounded statements made by the Council for the Defence of Human Rights and Freedoms (DHRF) regarding compensation for persons who suffered sexual violence during the war in Kosovo. DHRF stated in media that there has been “manipulation of the number of victims of sexual violence during the war” and that “without any evidence or evidence-based list, it is speculated on the list of 20,000 victims of sexual violence that has been misused and is being abused by both politics and the non-governmental sector.”

Further, KWN Executive Director Igballe Rogova spoke at “The Progress and Challenges Conference” organized by the Government Commission on Recognition and Verification of the Status of Sexual Violence Victims during the Kosovo Liberation War. Rogova praised the work of the



KWN Executive Director Igballe Rogova speaks during a panel at the Progress and Challenges conference, regarding the Commission's work to date, held on 15 November in Prishtina.

Commission and the WCSOs that provide services to survivors of sexual violence during the war. She supported survivors' choice to decide for themselves if they want to claim their retirement rights. She called for removing the stigma against women and called for greater institutional support for Commission members.

Women's Economic Empowerment

The long-term goal of this program is for women and men to have equal economic opportunities at home and in the public sphere. Progress has been made towards this goal, as illustrated by the steps taken towards realising the following objectives and results.

Improve conditions for women's participation in the labour force

In 2019, KWN together with its partner organisations and members of the regional Coalition against Gender-based Discrimination against Women at Work held 34 meetings to plan and undertake joint advocacy towards the implementation of anti-discrimination legislation. In addition, with partners' support, seven cases of gender-based discrimination at work were reported to officials. Most efforts under this objective were supported by the European Union and co-funded by the Swedish International



Development Agency. Progress was made towards this objective through steps taken towards achieving the following expected results.

Institutions and key actors are more aware of the extent of gender discrimination in the workplace in Kosovo and different ways to address it

KWN, together with its regional partners, published seven reports on gender-based discrimination and labour, including one for each of the six Western Balkan countries and one regional report. Each report discusses the extent of gender-based discrimination, institutional response and contains clear recommendations for all relevant stakeholders. These reports were presented to stakeholders across the region during 42 separate meetings. In addition, the media have covered issues relating to discrimination against women at work 55 times, contributing to awareness on this topic.

Increased awareness among stakeholders, including officials, CSOs and trade unions about the legal framework and how to improve its implementation

The Network in cooperation with its regional partners conducted more than 104 stakeholder awareness raising meetings. By participating in various panels, seminars, conferences and workshops, representatives of this coalition have raised stakeholders' awareness of the concepts of discrimination and the institutional ways to prevent it.



Increased availability of information on the gender pay gap, informal economy and social security schemes

When conducting research on gender-based discrimination in the labour market, KWN and its partners in the region identified the need for more information the gender pay gap. KWN advocated to Kosovo institutions, as well as EU officials, regarding the need for improving the availability of data on these important topics, from a gender perspective.

Improved access to justice in cases of gender discrimination at work

Together with partners in the region, KWN facilitated women's access to justice by providing them with legal advice on reporting gender-based discrimination to relevant institutions. While partners supported by KWN provided assistance in seven cases, in 2020 this KWN-led coalition will provide legal representation and monitor gender-based discrimination cases towards improving the handling of these cases.



KWN launches the research report Gender-Based Discrimination and Labour in Kosovo, on 11 April in Prishtina.

Increase the percentage of women who have access to inheritance and property ownership

While no KWN-supported initiatives in 2019 contributed directly to increasing the percentage of women who have access to their inheritance or property, some KWN members contributed directly through awareness-raising towards the following result.

More citizens aware of women's inheritance and property rights

Through the Kosovo Women's Fund, KWN member organisation Women's Association "Aureola" raised awareness about women's inheritance rights among 49 people (41 women and 8 men). Several additional people benefited indirectly, given that awareness-raising and information-sharing also took place through several local television channels. Through this initiative, citizens and representatives of institutions better understood the importance of women's right to inheritance and its impact on women's economic empowerment.

Improve the gender perspective in reforms related to the EU Accession process

Progress has been made towards this objective, as illustrated by the steps taken towards achieving the following results.

Improved monitoring of EU policies and programs in Kosovo from a gender perspective

KWN provided input to inform the 2019 and 2020 Kosovo Report, European Reform Agenda and several EU and governmental consultations with civil society related to the Stabilisation and Association process. The number of times that EU Accession-related documents mentioned women's rights and gender equality increased to 82 by the end of 2019 for the Kosovo Country Report. Overall, 17 different sectors incorporated a gender perspective into their institutional documents and by-laws. Additionally, 55% of KWN's recommendations for incorporating a gender perspective were accepted in the 2019 Country Report and 47% were incorporated in the National Programme for the Implementation of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement. KWN's comments included proposals for integrating a gender perspective in areas that could contribute to women's economic empowerment.

Improving Access to Quality and Gender Sensitive Education

Improving access to quality and gender-sensitive education is a new program in the KWN Strategy, following a decision by KWN members to make it an explicit part of the KWN Strategy. Related to this programme, pending resources, in the coming years KWN plans to work towards the following two objectives: increasing the number of childcare centers in proportion to the number of children in need; inspecting; and improving curricula and textbooks from a gender perspective.



EVALUATING KWN'S WORK

KWN monitors and evaluates its work in several ways. KWN has developed a Monitoring and Evaluation Database in order to follow progress on indicators at immediate result (output), outcome, and impact levels over time, based on KWN's organisational Strategy. Staff regularly update the database with data related to indicators, which enables semesterly reporting to members and this annual report. Additionally, in every meeting organized in 2019, KWN members assessed KWN's work through evaluations. During the KWN Annual Meeting, via an anonymous survey, members evaluated KWN's work very positively. Also, KWN's financial supporters have evaluated KWN's work very positively. Here are some of their comments:

"Useful - KWN services for us are useful because they help us cooperate more with other WCSOs".

"Very useful, KWN meetings keep us active and informed."

"Very good - very punctual in providing information."

"The biggest achievements of the Network have been the influence on empowering KWN members, [informing new] laws, sensitization to domestic violence, etc."

"The biggest achievements of the Network have been lobbying and commitment regarding the financial sustainability of shelters."

KWN FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2019

Donors	Projects	Funds forwarded from 2018	Funds received	Total Funds	Expenditure	Balance (to be forwarded to 2020)
Austrian Agency for Development and Cooperation 8299-01/2018 (01.01.2018-31.12.2020)	Further Advancing Women's Rights in Kosovo	51,649	310,000	361,649	148,586	213,062
Austrian Agency for Development Cooperation (ADA) 6513-00-2019(01.01.2019-30.04.2019)	Gender Mainstreaming Workshop for ADA Partners		1,170	1,170	1,170	-

Donors	Projects	Funds forwarded from 2018	Funds received	Total Funds	Expenditure	Balance (to be forwarded to 2020)
External Action of the European Union 2018/394402 (23.03.2018-28.02.2021)	Empowering CSO's in Combating Discrimination and Furthering Women's Labor Rights	121,786	438,427	560,213	246,912	313,301
External Action of the European Union 2018/404-465 (20.12.2018-20.12.2022)	Strengthening Women's Participation in Politics	135,334		135,334	98,674	36,660

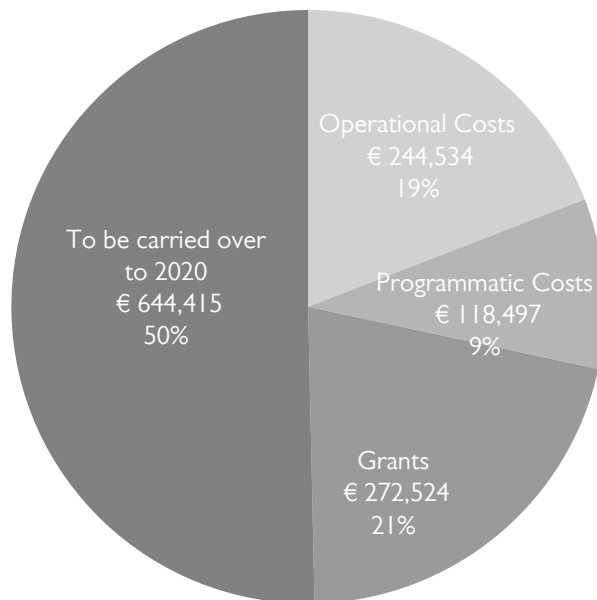
Donors	Projects	Funds forwarded from 2018	Funds received	Total Funds	Expenditure	Balance (to be forwarded to 2020)
Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation KO01SID16-31005 (01.01.2019-31.12.2020)	Furthering Gender Equality in Kosovo's EU Accession Process	-	46,738	46,738	44,687	2,051
Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation BN55SID16 -2019 (01.04.2019-31.12.2019)	EU Focused research "Funding the Women's Movement in the Western Balkans		28,524	28,524	22,871	5,653
EU Office in Kosovo (19.10.2018-18.09.2019)	Gender Mainstreaming Assistance in the IPA Program for Kosovo 2016		19,988	19,988	19,988	-

Donors	Projects	Funds forwarded from 2018	Funds received	Total Funds	Expenditure	Balance (to be forwarded to 2020)
UN Women 2018 PCA - 000105171 (31.12.2019-01.12.2019)	Ending Violence against Women		45,000	45,000	45,000	-
UN Women 2019 PCA - 00113666 (05.11.2019-31.05.2020)	Empowering Youth for a Peaceful, Prosperous, and Sustainable Future in Kosovo		14,890	14,890	1,527	13,363
Center for Research and Policy Making / ADA 2841-00/2019(01.11.2019-31.07.2022)	Gender Budget Watchdog Network in Western Balkans and Republic of Moldova		25,371	25,371	933	24,438

Donors	Projects	Funds forwarded from 2018	Funds received	Total Funds	Expenditure	Balance (to be forwarded to 2020)
Autonomous Women's Centre / ADA 8374-02/2019 (01.12.2019-31.12.2022)	Institutionalizing Quality Rehabilitation and Integration Services for Violence Survivors		32,467	32,467	1,305	31,162
UNICEF	Service contract - Expertise for Gender Socialization Training		1,200	1,200	1,200	-
Altrusa	Internship for Young Women	46	2,121	2,167	1,285	881

Donors	Projects	Funds forwarded from 2018	Funds received	Total Funds	Expenditure	Balance (to be forwarded to 2020)
Individual Donations	Sustainability fund	3,263	1,999	5,261	1,418	3,844
Total		312,077	967,894	1,279,970	635,555	644,415

Distribution of Expenditures for 2019



Independent Auditor's report on the audit of financial statements

Kosovo Women's network

To Directors

Kadri Gjata K-III no. 8,
Pristine

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the **Kosovo Women's Network KWN**, respectively the statement of financial position on December 31, 2019, the statement of income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flow, for the year ended on that date, and the notes of financial statements, including a summary of the most important accounting policies.

In our opinion, the financial statements present a fair, in all material aspects, financial position of the organization on December 31, 2019, of the financial performance for the year ended on that date and are in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards for small and medium enterprises and Law 06 / L-043, "On freedom of association in non-governmental organizations"

Opinion basis

The audit was conducted in accordance with International Audit Standards.

Our responsibility, in accordance with these standards, is further detailed in the section Auditor's responsibilities in auditing financial statements herein.

We confirm the independence from the organization in accordance with the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants of the International Board of Ethical Standards (IESBA Code) along with the requirements that are relevant while auditing financial statements in Kosovo and we have met our ethical responsibilities in compliance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for the opinion.

Emphasis of the issue

We draw attention to the Disclosure "Business Continuity Principle" (p. 17) and "Events after the end of the reporting period" (p. 23) of the financial statements, which describe the effects of the spread of COVID-19 pandemic following current activities of the organization and in future reporting periods.

Our opinion is not affected by these issues.

Continuity

The financial statements are prepared based on continuity, the management does not intend to liquidate or terminate its activity for the next 12 months.

The audit did not identify existence of events or conditions that would question organisation's capability to maintain its continuity.



Responsibilities of the management and persons in governance for the financial statement

The management is responsible for the preparation and proper presentation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS-SMEs and for controls that the management considers necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements without material anomalies, due to fraud or error.

In the preparation of financial statements, the management is responsible for the evaluation of organisation's capability to continue based on the continuity theory by disclosing, if applicable, issues related to continuity theory and while utilizing continuity as grounds for accounting only if the management aims liquidation or termination of company's activity or does not have any other alternative but to undertake such action.

Persons tasked with governance are responsible for the supervision of the organisation's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities in auditing financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements, as a whole, do not contain material anomalies, either due to fraud or error and to provide an audit report that includes our opinion. Reasonable security is a high level of security, but there is no guarantee that auditing performed according to standards will always reveal material anomalies if they exist. Anomalies may occur due to fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or collectively, they may influence reasonably in the decision users make based on these financial statements.

As part of the audit in accordance with the standards, we have exercised professional judgment and reserve professional scepticism during the audit.

We are also responsible for the following:

- Identify and assess the risk of material anomalies of financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures in response to these risks and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide us with a basis for opinion. our. The risk of non-disclosure of material anomalies due to fraud is higher than that caused by errors, as fraud may involve secret agreements, falsification, unintentional non-involvement, misinterpretation or omission of controls.
- We gain knowledge on internal controls that are important for auditing in order to plan audit procedures that are appropriate for those circumstances, but not in order to give an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal controls.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of the accounting policies used, the reasonableness of the accounting estimates and the relevant disclosures from the management.
- We conclude on the suitability of the continuity hypothesis used by management and based on the obtained audit evidence, if there is any material uncertainty regarding events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organization's ability to continue to exist. If we conclude that there is material uncertainty, we are required to draw attention to the audit report, to the relevant disclosure of the financial statements, or in the event that such disclosure is insufficient, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on audit evidence obtained by the date of the auditor's report.

However, future events and conditions may cause the organization not to continue its activities.

-Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including disclosure, if the financial statements represent the respective transactions and events in order to achieve the fair presentation.

We have communicated with persons in charge of governance, including the planned scope, audit time and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control identified during our audit.

Prishtina 21.05.2020.

Audit Office Shpk

Ulpiana D1/7 H-8

Shaban Muharremi, Statutory Auditor

044 112-036.



ABOUT US

KWN Board of Directors

Ariana Qosaj Mustafa, Chair of the Board, Program Director, Kosovar Institute for Policy Research and Development

Belgjyzare Muharremi, Executive Director, Open Door

Besnik Leka, Project Coordinator, CARE International in the Balkans

Jeta Krasniqi, Project Manager, Kosovo Democratic Institute

Magbule Hyseni, Head of Department, Kosovo Agriculture Development Initiative

KWN Advisory Board

Delina Fico, **Rachel Wareham**, **Behar Selimi**, **Vjosa Dobruna**, **Marte Prekpalaj**, **Shqipe Malushi**, **Lepa Mladjenovic**

KWN Staff Members in 2019

Igballe (Igo) Rogova, Executive Director

Nicole Farnsworth, Program Director and Lead Researcher

Besa Shehu, Financial & Administrative Manager



Zana Rudi, Program Manager
Adelina Berisha, Advocacy and Research Officer on Gender-based Violence
Adelina Tërshani, Project Coordinator on Gender-based Discrimination
Alba Loxha, Procurement & Communication Officer
Desumena Laçi, Finance Officer
Dielza Olluri, Coordinator of the Kosovo Women's Fund
Donjetë Berisha, Public Relations Coordinator
Etleva Malushaj, Coordinator and Mobilizer for Philanthropy and Volunteers
Gentiana Murati, Grants Manager
Gresë Sermaxhaj, Public Relations Coordinator
Iliriana Banjska, Project Coordinator (January – March)
Jehona Tupalla, Office Maintenance
Klarisa Fetahu, Project Coordinator (March – November)
Mirjeta Dibrani, Grants Assistant
Nerina Guri, Researcher / Project Coordinator
Nertila Qarri Gërguri, Project Coordinator (January – August)
Shpend Bërbatovci, Public Relations Coordinator (March – June)
Valmira Rashiti, Project Coordinator / Legal Assistant
Valon Sejdiu, Public Relations Coordinator (September – December)
Vesa Zatriqi, Project Coordinator



Volunteers and Interns

Several KWN initiatives involved volunteers, though not all can be named here. More specifically, KWN wishes to recognise the important contributions of volunteers and interns who worked with KWN for several months. Volunteers in 2019 included Mathilda Anna Carolina van der Zwaag (January – May); Mira Tan (June – July); Lauren Hanna; and David JJ Ryan. Professor and public relations expert, Martine Beachboard assisted staff and trained member organisations in communications in August - October. Interns included Viona Krasniqi who carried out court monitoring and Rudina Voca who assisted with public relations.

Researchers

KWN is very grateful to the researchers and interviewers who worked tirelessly to complete the research conducted this year (in alphabetical order):

Besarta Breznica (May - August)

Donjeta Arifi (May - August)

Leonora Aliu (May - August)

Liridona Sijarina (May - August)

Qendresa Tërshani (May – August)

Taya Kohnen (August - December)



Individual KWN Supporters

The following persons provided individual contributions to support KWN's work (in alphabetical order): Ada Shima, Afërdita Thaqi, Alba Loxha, Albane Ismajli, Albulena Shala, Alison Greig, Altina Bytyqi, Amantina Pervizaj, Ana Jara Gómez, Anduena Beqiri, Angela Otten, Angelika Arutyunova, Arbër Sylejmani, Ariana Qosaj – Mustafa, Arjeta Murati, Arlinda Kadriu, Ashley Faye, Aurora Maxharraj, Besa Shehu, Besnik Leka, Betim Dibrani, Colleen Moore, Dea Pallaska O'Shaughnessy, Delina Fico, Dhurata Prokshi, Diellza Krasniqi, Diellza Shabanaj, Edona Krasniqi, Eglantina Shala, Elisabeth Kaestli, Ellen Lamberg, Elza Kabashi, Ermira Cacaj, Ermira Gashi, Ethel Farnsworth, Etleva Durmishi, Fatime Jasiqi, Frank & Sue Farnsworth, Gentiana Murati Kapo, Hana Marku, Hans Fridlund, Hata Dibrani Sopjani, Hatixhe Gashi, Hermonda Kalludra, Hidajete Vokshi, Hikmete Xharra, Ideal Hoxha, Igballe Rogova, Iliriana Banjska, Ilmie Berisha, Itziar Mujika, Jelena Bulatovic, Jennine Mol, Jeta Krasniqi, Kada Heta, Kathleen Noh, Katja Goebbels, Krenar Basha, Laura Prescott, Lendi Mustafa, Lepa Mladjenovic, Liz Perryman, Liza Kutllovci, Loresa Statovci, Lumnije Mehmeti, Magbule Hyseni, Makfirjete Limoni, Mame Faye Rexhepi, Margen Cuko, Mariana Qamile Roed, Martine Robinson Beachboard, Merita Shasivari, Merve Atila, Mevlude Murtezi, Miranda Avdullahu, Morgan Stanley, Naime Bllaca, Nicole Farnsworth, Njomëza Zejnullahu, Nuriye Cacaj, Rachel Cleary, Rrezarta Veseli, Sadete Gerbeshi, Sanija Murati, Sasha Linney, Shega Emini, Shengyle Bektashi, Sherafedin Shehu, Shpresa Gosalci, Shqipe Mehmeti, Shqipe Murati, Shqipe Pantina,



Sian Jones, Tracy Aron, Ulpiana Lajçi, Valbona Bajrami, Valdete Idrizi, Valon Badivuku, Vedat Gashi, Venera Çoçaj, Vlerime Krasniqi, Vlora Bllaca, Xhevrije Doroci, and Zorica Bulatovic.

KWN Member Organisations

In 2019, KWN had the following member organisations.

#	Organisation	Address	Representative
1	21st Century Visionary Women	Prizren	Marte Prekpalaj
2	Action for Mother and Child	Prishtina	Vlorian Molliqaj
3	Active Women of Gjakova	Gjakova	Valbona Doli Rizvanolli
4	Albanian Tradition	Prishtina	Igball Syjemani
5	Alma	Peja	Shemsije Seferi
6	Alter Habitus	Prishtina	Eli Gashi
7	Arlinda Women's Association	Magure	Bedrije Krasniqi
8	Art Without Limit	Prishtina	Ganimete Sava

9	Arta	Prishtina	Hafije Qyqalla
10	Artpolis	Prishtina	Zana Hoxha Krasniqi
11	Ashkan Women for Ashkan Woman	Mitrovica	Gjyleshah Fetahu
12	Association for Family Education and Care	Gjakova	Bahrije Deva
13	Association of Beekeeping Women "Okarina e Runikut"	Runik, Skenderaj	Fetije Smakaj
14	Association of Deaf Women	Prizren	Krenare Hajredini
15	Association of Farmers "Rukolla"	Prugovc	Sanije Berisha
16	Association of Farmers "Shpresa e Llapit"	Podujeva	Selvete Fetahu
17	Association of Paraplegic, Work and War Invalids (Shoqata e Invalidëve	Peja	Ardiana Gorani

	Paraplegjikë, të Punës dhe Luftës - SHIPPL)		
18	Association of Women with Disabilities “Women for Women”	Prizren	Fjolla Vukshinaj
19	ATO	Vushtrri	Fikrije Ferizi
20	Bardha	Prishtina	Raza Sadrija
21	Begatia Women’s Association	Vilage Klinë e Epërme, Skenderaj	Hyra Tahiri
22	Blind Association	Rahovec	Xhylferije Bytyqi
23	Bliri	Drenas, Glogoc	Mahije Smajli
24	Business Women Mitrovica	Mitrovica	Melihat Beshiri
25	Business Women’s Association SHE-ERA	Gjakovë	Mirlinda Kusari Purrini
26	Centre for Education and Community Development - Friends	Mitrovica	Valbona Sadiku
27	Centre for Empowerment of Women	Prishtina	Merita Mustafa

28	Centre for Gender Research and Policy	Prishtina	Vjollca Krasniqi
29	Centre for Legal Aid and Regional Development	Prishtina	Nedžad Radoncic
30	Centre for Protection of Women and Children	Prishtina	Zana Asllani
31	Centre for the Promotion of the Healthy Family	Prishtina	Sevdije Salihu
32	Centre for the Promotion of Women's Rights	Drenas	Kadire Tahiraj
33	Centre for the Protection and Rehabilitation of Women and Children Freedom	Gjilan	Nazife Jonuzi
34	Centre for the Protection of Victims and Prevention of Human Trafficking	Prishtina	Teuta Abrashi

35	Centre for the Protection of Women and Children “My Home”	Ferizaj	Sevdije Kasumi Bunjaku
36	Centre for the Protection of Women and Children “Raba Voca”	Mitrovica	Fidane Hyseni
37	Community Integration Initiative	Prizren	Shemsije Krasniqi
38	Contemporary Woman	Prizren	Fetije Mehmeti
39	Cradle of Smiling	Gjakova	Time Zenuni
40	Dardana’s Eagles	Kushnica, Graçanica	Havushe Bunjaku
41	Dita	Prishtina	Afërdita Zeneli
42	Divine Woman	Gjilan	Igballe Hajdari
43	Down Syndrome Kosova	Prishtina	Sebahate Beqiri
44	Drena	Drenas	Zymrije Qorri
45	Drenas Youth Future	Drenas	Argentina Fazlija
46	Drugëza NGO	Skenderaj	Hana Zabeli
47	EcoKos Women EKW	Prishtina	Flutra Bektashi
48	Education Code	Prishtina	Mimoza Stanovci

49	Educational Centre for Children with Special Needs	Gjilan	Shpresa Sejdiu
50	Eliona	Suhareka, Vraniç	Arife Kolgeci
51	Elita - Centre for Education and Development	Lipjan	Luljeta Krasniqi Murati
52	EMINA Bosnian Women's Group	Mitrovica	Fata Zatriqi
53	Era Fruit	Batlava, Podujevë	Xhyllie Statovci
54	FANA	Peja	Fane Gashi
55	Fati Jonë	Prishtina	Igballe Makolli
56	Flame	Lipjan	Melihate Dedushi
57	Flori	Henc, Fushe Kosova	Hava Abdullahu
58	Foundation for Education and Development	Prishtina	Vjollca Zeqiri
59	Foundation for Social Development	Prishtina	Laura Berisha
60	Gender Training and Studies Centre	Prishtina	Arjeta Rexha

61	Girls Coding Kosova	Prishtina	Blerta Thaçi
62	Gruri Women's Association	Drenas	Valdete Hisenaj
63	Hand to Hand	Prizren	Vjosa Curri
64	Handikos Mitrovica	Mitrovica	Myrvete Hasani
65	Handikos, Women with Disabilities	Prishtina	Mehreme Llumnica
66	Hendifer	Ferizaj	Fazile Bungu
67	Highland Woman	Prishtina	Shehrije Gërbeshi
68	Hope & Homes for Children	Prishtina	Valbona Çitaku
69	Hydrangea	Prishtina	Selvete Gashi
70	Independent Initiative of the Blind	Prishtina	Fatbardha Salihu
71	Independent Women's Association Hareja	Rahovec	Adelina Paqarizi
72	INJECT - Justice and Equality Initiative	Prishtina	Luljeta Aliu

73	Institute of Applied Psychology "Alpha"	Prishtina	Melihate Juniku
74	Inter-Municipal Organisation of the Blind and Visuals Impaired	Prizren	Perparim Krasniqi
75	Jeta	Deçan	Safete Gacaferri
76	Keep the Tradition	Gjilan	Fitore Tërstena Orana
77	Kelmendi	Village Lipa, Zveqan	Valbona Kelmendi
78	Konvita	Dolak, Vushtri	Merita Selimi
79	Kosovar Centre for Rehabilitation of Torture Victims	Prishtina	Feride Rushiti Sebahate Pacolli
80	Kosovo Advocacy Group	Prishtina	Mimoza Gavrani
81	Kosovo Agriculture Development Initiative	Village Sfarraqak, Vushtrri	Magbule Hyseni
82	Kosovo Blind Women's Committee	Prishtina	Bajramshahe Jetullahu

83	Kosovo Centre for Development and Multicultural Integration	Gjakova	Elvane Qorri
84	Kosovo Centre for Fighting Breast Cancer Life/VITA	Prishtina	Nafije Latifi
85	Kosovo Centre for Gender Studies	Prishtina	Luljeta Demolli
86	Kosovo Independent Women's Organisation	Fushe Kosova - Prishtina Highway	Rudina Llapashtica
87	Kosovo Institute for Law and Order	Prishtina	Floriye Burjani
88	Kosovo Institute of Media and Communication	Prishtina	Kaltrina Ajeti
89	Kosovo Midwives Association	Prishtina	Magbule Elezi
90	Kosovo Women's Initiative	Gjakova	Eranda Kumnova Baçi
91	Lawyers Association NORMA	Prishtina	Valbona Salihu

92	Lira	Prishtina	Valire Buza
93	Luna	Prilluzhë, Vushtrri	Stanica Kovacevic
94	Medica Gjakova Women's Association	Gjakova	Mirlinda Sada
95	Medica Kosova	Gjakova	Veprorre Shehu
96	MEDIKA BL	Prishtina	Bukurije Leti
97	Miners' Wives	Mitrovica	Emine Tahiri
98	Minority Community Center	Gračanica	Jelena Bulatović
99	Mitrovica Women's Association for Human Rights	Mitrovica	Vetone Veliu
100	Moravian Pearl (Moravski Biser)	Partesh	Dragana Petrović
101	Mother Woman Centre	Prishtina	Agesa Demaj
102	Nest	Prizren	Gjyzel Shaljani
103	Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women's Organisations	Prishtina	Shpresa Agushi

104	Nexhmije Pagarusha Choir	Prishtina	Nazlije Sadiku
105	NGO Garden	Dabishevc	Sadije Dulahu
106	Non-Governmental Organisation for Care of Repatriated Women "Amza"	Fushe Kosova	Violeta Berisha
107	Open Door	Prishtina	Belgjzare Muharremi
108	Opportunity	Mitrovica	Hasime Tahiri Hasani
109	Optimistic Women's Centre	Prishtina	Emine Mehmeti
110	Organisation for Local Reforms - EULOC	Viti	Melihate Osmani (authorised)
111	Organisation of People with Muscular Dystrophy of Kosovo	Prizren	Antigona Shestani
112	Orkidea NGO	Prishtina	Vera Rizvanolli
113	Our Paradise	Lipjan	Sylbije Sahiti

114	Partners Kosova Centre for Conflict Management	Prishtina	Shukrije Gashi
115	Precious Hands 'Dora'	Lipjan	Mihane Avdullahu
116	Protect Your Rights	Decan	Shkelqim Shala
117	Psychosocial Centre "Aureus"	Prishtina	Myrvete Ahmetaj
118	Psychotherapists in Action	Gjilan	Sevdije Musliu
119	Recovery Operation	Peja	Clara Ines Zapata Cardona
120	Renaissance - Association of Women in Support of the Fight against Breast Cancer	Prizren	Violeta Pirana
121	Rikotta	Prishtina	Pranvera Bullaku
122	Rona	Prishtina	Serbeze Sylejmani
123	Ruka + Ruci	Fushe Kosova	Nevenka Rikallo
124	S Women's Association GORA	Prishtina	Sevdija Ramadani
125	Safe House	Gjakovë	Erblina Dinarama

126	Social Club Live	Prishtina	Myrvete Termkolli
127	Speranza	Mitrovica	Ajhan Prekazi
128	The Democratic Women's Forum	Peja	Myzaferre Ibishaga
129	The world of angels (Svet Andjela)	North Mitrovica	Vasiljka Vojinovic
130	Together in Progress	Prishtinë	Arbëresha Maloku
131	Top Radio	Gjakovë	Violeta Dema
132	Transform	Prishtina	Elvira Haxhiaga
133	United Women's Association	Prishtina	Vlora Hoti
134	Valbona	Lipjan	Valbona Sopa
135	Venera	Peja	Miradije Gashi
136	VIBE	Prishtina	Malda Susuri
137	Violeta	Barileva, Prishtina	Bedrije Shala Pireva
138	Vita - Jeta	Prishtina	Mimoza Ajeti
139	Vizionida	Shtime	Fatlume Rexhepi
140	We Are Part of the World	Peja	Gjylfidane Morina

141	Wheelchair Basketball Club “March”	Prizren	Nafije Gashi
142	Wome’s Rights	North Mitrovica	Tijana Simic LaValley
143	Women Beyond the Rainbow	Prishtina	Valbona Voca
144	Women Business Association - WBA (Undruženje Poslovnih Žena)	North Mitrovica	Olivera Milosevic
145	Women Farmers	Rahovec	Habibe Haxhimustafa
146	Women Farmers Association Krusha e Vogël	Krusha e Vogël, Bregdrini, Prizren	Dile Prekpalaj
147	Women’s Alliance for Integration	Lipjan, Medvec	Adelina Qorraj- Emini
148	Women’s Association	Gjakova	Qefsere Kumnova
149	Women’s Association “Aureola”	Prishtina	Sanije Grajçevci

150	Women's Association Window	Village Krajmir, Lipjan	Hanife Qeriqi
151	Women's Initiative Association	Dragash	Xhejrane Lokaj
152	Women's Rural Development Center	Bostan, Novoberda	Shefkije Mehmeti
153	Women's Tradition in Kosovo	Gjilan	Lirije Orana
154	Women's Wellness Centre	Pejë	Ardita Ramizi Bala
155	Women's Will	Vushtrri	Lirije Haziri
156	Women's Association - Returnee "Our Home" (Udruženje Žena - Povratnica "Naš Dom")	Novoberda	Vesna Stajic
157	Youth Centre - Lipjan	Lipjan	Valmire Marevci
158	Youth Initiative for Integration	Rahovec	Besime Rrustemi Bytyqi

Annex 1. Kosovo Women's Fund Grants in 2019

In 2019, through the Kosovo Women's Fund, KWN supported the following initiatives undertaken by member organisations towards implementing the KWN Strategy.



Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results
Organisation of Persons with Muscular Dystrophy Kosovo (OPMDK)	Health for All	€3,840	OPMDK held 8 lectures where 20 women and girls with disabilities as well as parents and guardians of children with disabilities learned adequate ways to prevent health complications resulting from disabilities. 17 women and girls with disabilities were informed how to conduct self-breast examinations. Further, 52 women and girls with disabilities were informed about exercises that could positively affect their health and self-care methods.	Increased awareness among persons with disabilities regarding their health and right to healthcare. Advocacy meetings were held with the Directorate of Health on the possibility of securing hydraulic tables for people with disabilities for gynaecological

				departments in hospitals.
Women's Association "Aureola"	Advancing the Inheritance Law	€3,395	Six meetings were held with key stakeholders on amending the Law on Inheritance in the Assembly of Kosovo. Recommendations for legal provisions were drafted towards preventing women from forfeiting their inheritance.	A draft proposal for amending the Law on Inheritance has been prepared and will be presented for approval to the Kosovo Assembly.
Kosovo Midwives Association	Strengthening the role of midwives' professional service	€3,055	84 women and girls were informed about pregnancy care, sexual intercourse, nutrition in general, and the role of midwife services. Information and experiences were exchanged with institutions and midwives from Albania and North Macedonia. Further, meetings and roundtables were held with key stakeholders where specific recommendations for advocacy were issued.	A request has been drafted (initiative for the draft law - professional midwifery service and their role in the health of the

				<p>population) which has been proposed to the Government of the Republic of Kosovo for approval. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Association and the Albanian Nurses and Midwives Association; they agreed that the two countries would organise ongoing</p>
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				meetings with the responsible institutions to support initiatives for the Draft Law on Professional Midwifery Services.
Mitrovica Disabled Persons Association - Handikos Mitrovica	Depression in mothers of children with disabilities and people with disabilities	€3,346	26 women and 2 men, parents of children with disabilities from Mitrovica, as well as 19 young people (14 girls and 5 boys) with disabilities are aware of depression, depressive states, and how to manage these.	Two meetings were held with the Directorate of Health and the Directorate of Social Welfare, where the importance of opening a hospital counselling office for mothers of

				children with disabilities was discussed.
Psychotherapists Action	in mothers of children with disabilities and people with disabilities	€3,351	They raised awareness among health institutions regarding the need to functionalize and revitalize palliative care as an urgent need for primary healthcare.	125 medical visits were conducted; 153 persons received free check-ups; and 500 beneficiaries became aware of quality healthcare-related information.
Luna NGO	Promoting and supporting women's rights - against gender-based violence	€3,511	Women and men of the Serbian community were informed of their legal rights and the fact that domestic violence should be prohibited.	140 Serbian and other minority women were informed about their legal rights and protection

				mechanisms related to domestic violence.
Contemporary Woman	Social Stigma of Sexuality	€3,164	22 girls and women became aware of their rights and freedom over their sexuality and reproductive health. 19 girls and women as well as 3 men were made aware of gender-based violence, particularly sexual harassment, sexual assault and police reporting. Two editorials were published in the local media about sexual, reproductive health and sexual violence.	Recommendations were sent to the Municipal Directorate of Health, the Municipal Directorate of Education, and Prizren Regional Hospital with the main aim of improving access to quality healthcare, taking steps to implement sexual and reproductive

				education programs.
Women's Alliance for Integration	Awareness-building of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian women in Ferizaj and Lipjan communities about their health	€3,665	103 Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian women became aware of ways to protect their health. The report "Access to health services for Ashkali and Egyptian women and girls in the municipalities of Lipjan and Ferizaj" was published. Recommendations were presented to institutions such as: Directorate of Health and Social Welfare in Ferizaj, Centre for Social Work in Ferizaj, Centre for Social Work in Lipjan, and Office for Returns and Communities in the municipalities of Lipjan and Ferizaj.	The Health Education and Promotion Team organized lectures on different topics according to the needs of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian women. They also created two Memoranda of

				Understanding with the Directorates of Health and Social Welfare in Ferizaj and Lipjan.
Centre for the Protection of Women and Children “Raba Voca”	Parental Leave as a Future Model in Kosovo	€2,795	In total, 414 women and men attended information sessions on parental leave, and 3,000 citizens received information about this issue indirectly. They advocated parental leave and its potential contribution to gender equality in the municipalities of Skenderaj, Vushtrri, and Mitrovica.	Research on Parental Leave as a Future Model in Kosovo was conducted. A radio debate was held in the Municipality of Vushtrri, and a show on TV Mitrovica

				discussed parental leave and gender equality.
Women Farmers Association Krusha e Vogël	Supporting women in menopause	€3,460	78 women were informed about women's health during menopause. They advocated to the Directorate of Health and the Municipal Office for Gender Equality to plan health lectures in villages in the coming years. The Directorate of Health also provided a free doctor for these lectures.	45 women were assigned appointments at the Family Medicine Centre for gynaecological visits.
Medica Kosova & Cradle of Smiling	Using a community and trauma-based approach to improve the access of survivors of sexual	€6,894	20 representatives from the Office for Gender Equality as well as the Department of Martyrs and War Invalids Families were informed how to treat survivors of sexual violence during the war. Further, 11 women survivors of sexual violence during the war held 37 individual counselling sessions, 32 legal sessions, and 12 technical support sessions on completing and submitting their forms to apply for status recognition. A television program was held	19 women attended sessions for treatment of war trauma, and 8 survivors of sexual violence were

	violence during the war during the process of recognition of their status		where information was shared about the process of seeking family support to encourage survivors to apply.	assisted in completing applications for recognition of victim status of sexual violence during the war.
Open Door & Ruka Ruci	What does tomorrow bring me?	€7,516	Open Door and Ruka Ruci informed women and girls in Albanian and Serbian villages in Prishtina and Gracanica municipalities about their rights to property and inheritance. Information sessions were held to promote security, peace and better coexistence between Albanian and Serbian communities. Participating girls will promote and play a positive role in community interaction, more frequent communication and promote respect for diversity.	Raised awareness among Albanian and Serbian women about their property rights and peace.

During 13th grant round, an additional 16 grants were awarded to 18 KWN member organisations, two in partnership, totalling €66,430. These initiatives will continue implementation in 2020.

Organisation	Title	Amount	About the Initiative
Active Women of Gjakova	Development of a sustainable inter-institutional system for addressing gender-based violence and domestic violence in the municipality of Gjakova	€ 3,496.00	They aim to revitalise the Coordination Mechanism of the Municipality of Gjakova and to turn it into an efficient, accountable and inclusive mechanism through which the cases handled can move towards long-term and sustainable solutions. Beneficiaries of this initiative will be women who have experienced domestic violence and their families. In addition, women who report to the Police and Centre for Social Work will be offered assistance such as food and clothing. They will organise door-to-door meetings to raise awareness of women for reporting domestic violence. In addition to women and their families, informative sessions with primary and secondary school pupils will be held on domestic violence and the role of the Coordination Mechanism.

United Women's Association	Fair advocacy for employment of women	€ 3,020.00	They aim to form a group of 20 women who are inactive in the labour market in the Municipality of Malisheva. Through specific training on employment capabilities, they will empower and raise awareness among them, supporting them to become active in the labour market. They will also advocate to the regional employment office to be part of programs such as active labour market measures. During the implementation of this initiative, the UWA will conduct several advocacy meetings at the local level aimed at improving the position of women in society and empowering them economically.
Udruženje Žena - Povratnica "Naš Dom" & Women's Rural Development Center	Women's Entrepreneurship Development, Environment-Friendly Development Partnership	€ 7,614.00	Together they aim to advance the education, economic empowerment, and independence of women who have experienced or are at risk of violence through the creation of a rounded model of inclusive support for women, victims, and potential victims. Beneficiaries of this initiative will be Albanian, Serbian, and Roma women and girls who have experienced violence or are at risk from villages in the municipalities of Novo Bërdo, Gracanica, Ranilug, Klokot, and Partesh. This initiative also aims to

			establish two women's agricultural and handcraft cooperatives, a social/service enterprise, and an informal information exchange network between employers and women's associations.
Kosovo Women's Initiative (KWI)	Improved access of women farmers and entrepreneurs of Gjakova Municipality to municipal subsidies	€ 3,760.00	KWI aims to increase the access of women entrepreneurs and farmers to municipal subsidies for agriculture and entrepreneurship. This project addresses the need for advocacy to local authorities as a target group to change the content of the call for applications to subsidize farmers and small and medium-sized businesses. KWI will work together with local authorities to include a funding quota for men and women. Through this initiative women will be assisted in preparing the grant application file. Three roundtables will be organized with the main decision-makers in the Municipality of Gjakova, such as the Mayor and the Board of Directors, so that next year the call for applications can be changed and more proportional allocation of grants can be introduced for both genders.

Down Syndrome Kosova	Kitchen X2I	€ 3,980.00	Through Kitchen X2I, Down Syndrome Kosova aims at empowering their members' mothers of children with Down Syndrome, by directly engaging them in food preparation. These foods are intended to be sold to a wider clientele, enabling the financial sustainability and self-employment of the organisation's members' mothers. They will advocate in the municipalities of South Mitrovica, Vushtrri, and Skenderaj to push for the idea of allocating special local funds to empower women who want to set up businesses (start-ups). They also intend to sign deals for the sale of food to local medium-sized businesses, such as: Missini Sweet, Ma Bele, Balkan Sweetshop, and Rinira Sweetshop.
Association for Education and Family Care	Increasing the efficiency of social services through the provisions of the Istanbul Convention	€ 3,420.00	The initiative aims at building the capacity of 6 organisations from the municipalities of Gjakova, Junik, and Rahovec related to the Istanbul Convention, building their capacity to utilize institutional mechanisms for the prevention and protection of gender-based violence, including mechanisms of monitoring and reporting built within the Office of the National Coordinator. It will also

			advocate for addressing the implementation of the National Strategy on Protection from Domestic Violence and women's access to property through the submission of a brief report and recommendations to the Office of the National Coordinator.
Art Without Limit	International Film Festival for Persons with Disabilities	€ 3,750.00	They aim to raise the voice of young women and girls, especially those with disabilities, for decision-making and freedom of expression. During the implementation of this initiative, the "Disability International Film Festival" will be held featuring films showing clearly how a woman can be capable to take care of herself and how she can contribute to society, as well as films that will speak about gender equality, domestic violence, and quality education.
Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women Organisations	Promoting employment by advancing soft skills for Roma, Ashkali and	€ 3,000.00	The Network aims to empower non-majority women and girls in Gjakova Municipality for the labour market. This initiative will include training with various modules, such as: job application (CV writing, letter of motivation, job vacancy research,

	Egyptian women in Gjakova		knowledge about portals and electronic platforms for information about job vacancies, the importance of job fairs), communication skills development (presentation in job interviews, written communication, verbal communication, dress code), and professional image development (code of conduct, work ethic, motivation, time management). Upon completing the training, Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian women and girls will be prepared to be interviewed by companies in Gjakova Municipality for internships, seasonal work or regular employment.
Rikotta & ATO	Economic empowerment and capacity building of women in Prevala and surrounding villages	€ 5,810.00	Rikotta and ATO aim to empower women economically by employing 10 women through the municipal Employment Office. Women and girls will also be motivated to register at the Employment Office. The target groups are 90 Bosnian and Gorani women and girls from Prevala and surrounding villages such as Mushnikova, Gornosella, Recani, Grnqare and Lubinje. They will cooperate with the Employment Office in the Municipality of Prizren, the Directorate of

			Economy, Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, and the Directorate of Education. A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed with the latter, defining criteria that favour the support of rural women and girls in the agricultural sector as an affirmative measure to empower them economically.
NGO Garden	Advocacy for economic empowerment of women farmers in the villages of the Gollak Highlands	€ 3,080.00	NGO Garden aims to empower women economically by advocating and informing potential women farmers about state subsidies and economic development. The beneficiaries will be 85-100 women farmers of the Gollak Highlands in the villages of Dabishec, Hajkobillë, Gllgovica, Mramor, and Keqekollë. They also will cooperate with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Municipality of Prishtina, the Directorate for Rural Development, and the Office for Gender Equality. They will hold meetings with businesses NTP “Euro fruit” and LLC. K “99 lule” in Prishtina, with which they will establish a Memorandum of Cooperation. With these businesses they hope to establish a business

			relationship with women who are expected to start producing agricultural products.
Independent Women's Association Hareja Rahovec	DON'T be silent, Talk	€ 3,140.00	Hareja aims to provide proper, fair access to victims of domestic violence and victims of sexual abuse, supporting them and promoting women's rights at the municipal level. The target group will be young women and girls of all ethnicities, victims of domestic violence and victims of sexual abuse, . Meetings also will be held with relevant institutions and individuals dealing with this issue to inform them how they should deal with victims and how these cases should be handled. A Memorandum of Understanding with the Safe House in Gjakova on the treatment of victims of domestic violence will also be established. A Coordinating Mechanism will also be established to handle ongoing cases, consisting of psychologists, social workers, doctors, nurses, and police officers, training them how to approach domestic violence victims and victims of sexual violence.

Moravski Biser	Harmonization of traditional inheritance norms with the legal framework	€ 3,387.00	Moravski Biser aims to raise awareness of rural women from the municipalities of Parte, Kllokot, Ranilug, Kamenica, and Gjilan about their right to property and inheritance. It will work to strengthen law enforcement mechanisms, encourage women to exercise their rights, and take action in the event of officials failing to follow the law. It also will monitor cases that have been brought before the court for the realisation of the right to property.
Organisation for Local Reform Euloc	Promotion of fair gender budgeting by municipal government in Viti	€ 4,990.50	The main goal is to improve the capacity of municipal officials to ensure better implementation of the Law on Gender Equality and to find practical ways of gender-responsive budgeting in various municipal projects. The target group for the implementation of this project are: 20 municipal officials; 27 members of the municipal assembly of Viti; 15 representatives of women's groups in the municipality, including Serb, Roma and Albanian women in politics and civil society; and 25 women from political parties, the assembly, administration, education, health and businesses. The initiative aims to raise awareness and build capacities of municipal

			officials on the legal obligations and responsibilities deriving from the provisions of the Law on Gender Equality, aiming to advance human rights in general and women's rights in particular.
NGO Svet Andjela	Women in focus	€ 4,000.00	Svet Andjela aims to strengthen the feminist movement and empower women to participate more actively in decision-making processes. Topics to be addressed are the Law on Gender Equality, the Ombudsperson, the Anti-Discrimination Law, and the Istanbul Convention. Direct beneficiaries will be women politicians, women's forum, informal groups, coordinating mechanism for violence against women, girls, rural women, women with disabilities, and women from minority groups from the municipalities of Mitrovica, Zubin Potok, and Zvecan.
Kosovo Advocacy Group (KAG)	Participation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian women in policymaking	€ 4,985.00	KAG aims to identify challenges and to provide concrete activities that will empower Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian women and girls with knowledge, and rapid advancement in leadership through adequate mechanisms. During the implementation of this

			initiative, the KAG will cooperate with the National Democratic Institution , Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo, Roman, Ashkali and Egyptian Women's Network, Youth Centres, RTK 1, and 2, various representatives of civil society, politics, and media as guest speakers in activities, and the University of Prishtina. Targeted municipalities include Istog, Prizren, Gjakova, Fushe Kosova, Ferizaj, and Mitrovica.
Women Business Association	Gender equality index in local government in North Mitrovica	€ 4,997.00	Through this initiative, WBA aims to increase women's participation in decision-making processes during the drafting of the budget for the next calendaric year. WBA will launch the initiative to compile the Gender Equality Index in the Municipality of Mitrovica. The direct beneficiaries will be local self-government officials and citizens. During the implementation of this initiative, a working group of 14 members will be formed, which

			will work with WBA to increase the capacity on the preparation of the gender index.
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Annex 2. Advocacy Achievements by the Kosovo Lobby for Gender Equality in 2019

#	Group	Advocacy Initiatives	Results achieved?	Public Policies Changed?	# of Advocacy Initiatives
1	Prizren	1) Awareness campaign for breast cancer month 2) Advocated for publishing gender-responsive budgeting statistics in each directorate to show the employment rate of women as well as subsidies offered 3) Monitored Handikos to see the conditions of women with disabilities and women under the age of 18	1	0	3

2	Shtime	1) Advocated to increase the representation of women in decision-making positions, appealing for at least 30% representation of women in municipal directorates	1	0	1
3	Malisheva	1) Advocated for the mobile mammogram to test women in Malisheva 2) Advocated to open a day-care centre in Kijeve 3) Advocated for allocating a €100 aid to new mothers	1	1	3
4	Decan	1) Awareness-raising activity for women's working rights 2) Awareness-raising lectures for women on heritage and inheritance rights 3) Advocated for increasing women's participation in decision-making	1	0	3
5	Dragash	1) Advocated to increase and improve women's position in decision-making processes 2) Advocated to re-functionalise day-care centres 3) Advocacy requesting gynaecologist and visits in Dragash	0	1	3
6	Peja	1) Advocated for women's rights and gender equality	0	0	1

7	Skenderaj	<p>1) Recommendation on students' selection committee to apply affirmative measures for girls and women when allocating scholarships</p> <p>2) Advocated for establishing social houses for domestic violence cases</p> <p>3) Advocated for increasing girls and women's employment rate</p>	1	0	3
8	Viti	<p>1) Advocated for harmonization of internal municipal regulations with the Law on Gender Equality, including the creation of affirmative measures, exemption from municipal taxes for women entrepreneurs, exemption from agricultural taxes for women farmers, exemption from administrative taxes in the Civil Status Sector for single mothers and their children under the age of 18, exemption from health taxes for single mothers, exemption from health taxes for victims of domestic violence and trafficking, as well as affirmative measures on the allocation of scholarships for students</p> <p>2) Conducted gender analysis of public expenditures in economic categories: salaries, and subsidies and capital investments; based on this analysis, drafted gender budgeting document for 2019</p>	1	4	5

		3) Advocated for the economic empowerment of women, and affirmative measures in the allocation of subsidies 4) Advocated and recommended the drafting of the Strategy against Domestic Violence and the Action Plan 2019-2023 which has been approved 5) Involved women in village councils; now the Chair of the council of Viti is a woman			
9	Lipjan	1) Advocated for women's empowerment; supported them through municipal funds 2) Women in business and crafts have been supported by the UNDP project where training in business, crafts, and gastronomy was held.	1	1	2
10	Drenas	1) Advocated for women's economic empowerment 2) Advocated for gender equality 3) Undertook initiative against domestic violence 4) Undertook reproductive health awareness campaigns	0	0	4
11	Prishtina	1) Advocated for the approval of the Regulation for the joint registration of two spouses in a common name 2) Advocated for the representation of people with disabilities and the Law on Gender Equality	1	0	2

12	Gjakova	1) Advocated for awareness of sexual harassment against women and girls 2) Advocated for the introduction of sex education in the school curricula	1	1	2
13	Mitrovica	1) Compiled a business plan for marginalized women to help increase women's employment rate 2) Supported and assisted 13 women in setting up start-up businesses 3) Advocated for women to start internships at different businesses through the Centre for Social Work	1	1	4
14	Gjilan	1) Advocated to bring mobile mammograms to Gjilan for women to be screened 2) Advocated to increase women's employment 3) Advocated for Breast Cancer Awareness	1	0	6
15	Podujeva	1) Advocacy for the distribution of €100 maternity benefits	0	0	1
16	Istog	1) Awareness campaign against domestic violence 2) Awareness campaign on the negative phenomena of narcotics and energy drinks among youth 3) Awareness campaign on women's rights to property and inheritance	1	1	6

		4) Advocated on women's self-employment			
17	Fushe Kosova	1) Recreational activity to advocate for electing more women at both local and central levels	1	0	1
18	Novoberd	1) Advocated for creating a women's shelter, including various meetings with competent representatives 2) Advocated for water supply with various public officials and public meetings 3) Advocated to support women's participation in politics through public meetings and gatherings	1	0	3
19	Klllokot	1) Advocated for raising awareness about women's property and inheritance rights 2) Exchange of experiences and good examples with Municipality of Kamenica	0	0	2
20	Kamenica	1) Advocated for bringing a mobile mammogram and screening women who are social cases 2) Advocated for measuring body parameters for women in need 3) Advocated for building the facility of Gynecology and Pediatrics	1	1	3
21	Suhareka	1) Advocated for the exemption of property tax for one year in cases of registration of common property	1	1	2

		2) Advocated for funding the shelter in Prizren			
22	Ferizaj	1) Advocated for quality healthcare services for single mothers	1	0	1
23	Klina	1) Advocated for increasing women's participation in politics at the local level, specifically local councils	0	0	1
Total			17	12	70



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