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CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE KOSOVO WOMEN'S FUND

Issued: 11 May 2021

Application Deadline: 8 June 2021

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

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

Implemented by:



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

Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo

- Building capacities and involving youth (young women and men) in advocating for women's rights on specific issues;
- Mobilizing persons with disabilities, pensioners, persons from minority ethnic groups (within their municipality), and women from rural areas in advocating for their right on a particular issue;
- Collaborating with other KWN members to share knowledge and further other network members' capacities in specific areas, as well as increase solidarity among women's organizations;
- Utilize KWN's research [Where's the Money for Women's Rights?](#) and other data available to inform advocacy and awareness raising for women's rights on specific issues.

Women in Politics and Decision-making

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

Women's Right to Healthcare

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

A Life Free from Gender-based Violence

- Advocate to institutions for improved services for persons who have suffered gender-based violence (e.g., domestic violence, sexual harassment, or sexual violence during the war);
- Advocate for better rehabilitation and reintegration services for persons who suffered violence;
- Monitor court cases related to domestic violence and report incorrect application of the legal framework by courts, advocating to the appropriate institutions for these issues to be addressed;
- Support women and girls who have experienced sexual harassment at work, at school, or in the street by providing legal help to them and teaching them how to approach the

correct institutions and seeking an address for these cases. Initiative may also include informing citizens of their rights to address sexual harassment;

- Organize campaigns to raise awareness among women, men and institutions about the legal framework and mechanisms against (domestic) violence and sexual harassment;
- Consult the research reports of KWN, such as [*From Laws to Action? \(2021\)*](#), monitoring the institutional response to gender-based violence and the report on [*Sexual Harassment in Kosovo*](#) (2016), which monitors the implementation of relevant legal framework by responsible institutions, in order to inform advocacy that holds individual institutions accountable and improves their approach in addressing all forms of gender-based violence;
- Collaborate with local institutions and businesses to install mechanisms for addressing sexual harassment;
- Provide legal and psychological support to women who have suffered sexual violence during the war in advocating their rights under the legal framework and/or advocating amendments to the legal framework to better address their needs.

Women's Economic Empowerment

- Advocating to municipal or national authorities for policies that encourage and support women's economic empowerment (e.g., more allocation of agricultural subsidies to women and men, more equal distribution of government grants for business development for women and men, the opening of more public day cares that will provide jobs for women and enable women to work);
- Working with Regional Employment Centres to encourage them to support more women in securing employment;
- Improving the gender perspective on reforms related to the EU accession process related to women's employment;
- Participating in capacity building training and tailored mentoring by KWN to enhance knowledge on family-friendly policies and utilize it to support local employers in establishing family friendly policies, educating employees on the benefits of such policies, advocating for other family friendly policies at the municipal level and/or monitoring the implementation of these policies;
- Supporting implementation of family-friendly policies by employers that have committed to establishing them;
- Educating employees on the benefits of such policies;
- Advocating for other family-friendly policies at the municipal level;
- Monitoring the implementation of such policies.

Improving Access to Quality and Gender Sensitive Education

- Advocating at municipal and national levels to raise the awareness of more officials about the need for more pre-schools and childcare centres;
- Advocating for the improvement of sexual education in schools, and/or in cooperation with the Ministry of Education Science and Technology (MEST);
- Monitoring pre-school institutions and childcare centres' quality of education provided in accordance with pre-school education legislation and advocating inclusion of teaching towards transforming traditional gender norms;
- Collaborating with MEST to revise and improve school curricula at different levels from a gender perspective to transform gender norms.

GRANT AWARDS

The grants distributed in this grant round will receive support through KWN's initiatives supported by the following donors:

- The European Union Office in Kosovo (EU) – "Strengthening Women's Participation in Politics" in the amount of €90,000;
- The Austrian Development Agency (ADA) – "Further Advancing Women's Rights in Kosovo II" co-funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) in the amount of €50,000;
- The United Nations Population Fund in Kosovo (UNFPA) – "Expanding Choices: Gender-Responsive Family Policies for the Private Sector in the Western Balkans and Moldova" with funding from the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) in the amount of €20,000.

The total amount expected to be distributed during this grant round is €160,000.

SIZE, TYPE AND DURATION OF GRANTS

The table below describes the types and categories of grants for single organizations that will be prioritized for funding under the KWN Strategy for 2019-2022 and related actions.

Programmatic Areas of KWN's Strategy	Maximum Amount per Grant	# of Grants Foreseen	Estimated Amount per Area	Donor
• Women in Politics and Decision-making	€5,000	18	€90,000	EU
• Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo • Women's Right to Healthcare • A Life Free from Gender-based Violence • Improving Access to Quality and Gender Sensitive Education	€5,000	10	€50,000	ADA co-funded by Sida
• Women's Economic Empowerment	€5,000	4	€20,000	UNFPA with funding from ADA

Initiatives are expected to begin on or around 1 September 2021 and can last up to a maximum of twelve (12) months from the date of contract signature. KWN reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted, as well as to discuss with applicants allocating actions as needed within the aforementioned categories. Funding decisions will be made by KWF Grants Review Committee (GRC), elected by KWN members.

ELIGIBILITY

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

1. Plan and implement activities in accordance with their own organizational strategy;
2. Undertake activities that contribute to the implementation of the KWN Strategy for 2019-2022, including programs on:
 - Strengthening the Feminist Movement in Kosovo;

- Women in Politics and Decision-making;
 - Women's Rights to Healthcare;
 - A life-free from Gender-based Violence;
 - Women's Economic Empowerment;
 - Improving Access to Quality and Gender Sensitive Education
3. Be able to provide at least 10% of the budget total amount from another donor and/or self-contribution (e.g., documented volunteer work). This 10% contribution should be reflected in the budget proposal;
 4. Have no staff members currently part of KWN's Board, or part of the GRC.

The GRC will prioritize funding for:

- KWN members.
- Initiatives that involve advocacy, towards bringing about sustainable changes in supporting, protecting, or promoting women's rights and gender equality at municipal and/or national levels.
- Initiatives that aim to contribute to produce tangible and visible results (e.g., new legislation, new services, reports about cases of gender-based violence, monitored court cases, gender-transformative curricula, family-friendly policies at private companies, etc.)
- Initiatives that engage persons with different abilities, minority ethnic groups and marginalized persons.
- Organizations lacking other funding opportunities from different donors.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Applications may be submitted in Albanian, Serbian and English languages. The full application must be submitted electronically to the following email: grants@womensnetwork.org. Applicants must submit the following documents:

1. Application, using the KWN Application Form (Word format, attached and available at: www.womensnetwork.org), and
2. Budget Proposal, using the KWN Form (Excel format, attached and available at: www.womensnetwork.org).

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

Proposals submitted to KWN must be the original and sole work of the applicant organization. Plagiarism will result in disqualification of the application.

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

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

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

Activity	Date
Call for Proposals issued	11 May 2021
Information session (online)	19 May 2021, 11:30 - 13:30 ZOOM Meeting Details: https://zoom.us/j/94975078527?pwd=MHlOMnhUUVNlZMUpQMmYwaXd2VU1SUT09 Meeting ID: 949 7507 8527 Passcode: 098743
Deadline for submission of application	8 June 2021
Expected grant award announcement	31 August 2021
Orientation sessions, contract signature and the anticipated projects start date	1 September 2021

CONTACT INFORMATION

Request for Clarifications / Further Information: Applicants should submit their requests for clarifications by **7 June 2021 at 17:00**, via email to grants@womensnetwork.org.