

# Annual Report 2023



# **Kosovo Women's Network**

## **Annual Report 2023**



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# Introduction

## Our Vision

The Kosovo Women’s Network (KWN) has a vision of a Kosovo in which women and men are equal and have equal opportunities for education, employment, political participation, health care 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 a [Strategy for 2023-2026](#) that guides KWN’s work. The Strategy was drafted in 2022 with input from KWN member organisations, the Board of Directors,



partners, and other stakeholders. The Strategy has four programs: I) Improving Gender Equality through the Rule of Law; II) A Life Free from Gender-based Violence; III) Women's Economic Empowerment; and IV) Education that Transforms Gender Norms. It has two cross-cutting aims: Strengthening the Feminist Movement and a Gender-responsive Approach to Climate Change.

## About the KWN Annual Report

Each year KWN reports to its members, partners, and friends regarding the progress made towards achieving its strategic objectives. This report contains information from 1 January to 31 December 2023. This report is divided in six sections based on KWN's four programs, related long-term objectives, and two cross-cutting aims:

- Improving Gender Equality through the Rule of Law
- A Life Free from Gender-based Violence
- Women's Economic Empowerment
- Education that Transforms Gender Norms
- Crosscutting Aim: Strengthening the Feminist Movement
- Crosscutting Aim: Environmental Protection



This report presents the achievements and results in each of these programs and crosscutting aims in 2023. Overall, KWN has implemented approximately 70% of its Strategy. The report also contains information about KWN's budget, supporters, Board of Directors, Advisory Board, staff, interns, volunteers, members, and grant beneficiaries.



## Improving Gender Equality through the Rule of Law

The first program in the KWN Strategy 2023-2026 focuses on Rule of Law. Generally, this implies that all laws in Kosovo are relevant in terms of guaranteeing the human rights of women and girls as rights guaranteed by law. The program's **overall long-term objective** is to improve gender equality through the rule of law. Some progress was made towards this objective as KWN influenced 10 laws and policies in 2023, totalling 267 since KWN began counting in 2012. KWN's progress on this Program was supported by the EU, Sweden, the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, Austrian Development Agency (ADA), UN Women, and the Canada Fund for Local Initiative.

This section details progress made towards the specific objectives and immediate results (in boldface), as shown by indicators from KWN's Monitoring and Evaluation database.

### **Increased and improved women's participation in politics and decision-making at local and central levels according to the Law on Gender Equality (50%) and UNSCR 1325**

KWN has continued its efforts to increase the political engagement of women in decision-making processes, including women with disabilities and minority women. Through initiatives supported by the Kosovo Women's Fund (KWF), in 2023, 41 women interested in political processes attended trainings and mentoring through KWN members' initiatives. Meanwhile, KWN supported an additional eight



women to engage in decision-making related to amending the labour law, totalling 49 diverse women in 2023.

KWN advocated locally and internationally for implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security (2000) by sending a letter in June 2023 to the European External Action Service, European Parliament, European Commission, European Union (EU) Office in Kosovo, and other EU officials related to the EU's measures towards Kosovo and their impact on women's participation in decision-making processes. KWN requested urgent inclusion of women in the political dialogue between Kosovo and Serbia both in the negotiation teams and via consultations at the local level, as per UNSCR 1325. KWN emphasised the same requests during an advocacy trip to Germany and to the EU in Brussels, both supported by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, elaborated below.

### ***Enhanced the capacities of women in politics to advocate for women's priorities***

KWN Executive Director Igballe Rogova continued mentoring member organisations, women politicians at local and central levels, KWN members, and other groups across Kosovo, empowering women in politics and diverse women in voicing their priorities towards gender equality. She promoted their initiatives, supported their advocacy, and assisted them in overcoming various challenges. KWN informed women about the EU Accession process and ways in which they can engage in it.



### ***Increased public officials' awareness of the importance of harmonising the Law on Gender Equality with election laws***

KWN continued advocating for aligning Kosovo legislation with the Law on Gender Equality. Together with the Office of the President of Kosovo, KWN, its members, and partners established a working group on gender equality that lobbied for amending the Law on General Elections to include a quota for equal participation (50%) of women and men candidates in elections as per the Law on Gender Equality's definition of equality. KWN also requested that the 2023 European Commission's (EC) Kosovo Report reiterate this recommendation for aligning the Law on General Elections with the Law on Gender Equality to the Kosovo government. Although the amended Law did not include a 50% quota, it does require some funding to be set aside for women candidates' political campaigns, following KWN's, among others', advocacy on women's lack of funding and equal representation in local and general elections.

### ***Increased officials' awareness of the need to improve attention to gender equality in laws, policies, and programs***

Progress towards this objective was made in 2023, as KWN sent recommendations to officials for improving attention to gender equality in **ten** different laws, policies, and programs, including:

1. Draft Civil Code of Kosovo (remains a draft)
2. Draft Law on Gender Based Violence and Violence against Women (adopted)
3. Draft Law on Social Services (remains a draft)



4. Draft Law on Reproductive Health (remains a draft)
5. Draft Law on Early Education (adopted)
6. Economic Reform Program 2023-2025 (adopted)
7. Draft Digital Agenda 2030 (adopted)
8. Draft Law on 2024 Budget of Kosovo (adopted)
9. Draft Rule of Law Strategy (adopted)
10. Monitoring Report on the implementation of the Kosovo Program for Gender Equality 2020-2024 (published by the Agency for Gender Equality)

Increased the awareness of government officials, the EU, UN, and other actors about the importance of engaging diverse women in peace processes with Serbia and addressing women's priorities in these processes, according to UNSCR 1325. In 2023, Kosovo had a fragile political situation with several attacks occurring in northern Kosovo, EU-imposed measures towards Kosovo, and collaboration among Serb and Kosovar women's rights civil society organisations (WCOSOs) affected amid political tensions and threats made against Serb WCOSOs and activists. KWN consistently advocated the importance of engaging diverse women in peace processes and safeguarding the security of women activists. Towards this objective, KWN sent 19 advocacy letters and attended nine meetings to increase officials' awareness on the need to include more women in peace processes, including:



- Letter sent to Monika Gajowy in the EU Office in Kosovo, Political Section, to inform the EC Kosovo Report 2023, as a joint input of KWN members (March 2023)
- Input sent to the government related to the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) Subcommittee on Justice, Freedom, and Security (however, the meeting between the government and the EU was canceled, due to the EU imposed measures in June 2023).
- Thirteen letters were sent to representatives of the EC, European External Action Service, EU Special Representative for Belgrade-Pristina Dialogue Miroslav Lajčák, High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell Fontelles, the European Parliament, and UN Women regarding the potential gender equality-related impacts of the EU imposed measures towards Kosovo. The letter was sent in July 2023.
- During six advocacy meetings in Berlin, supported by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, KWN advocated for women's increased and improved involvement in peacemaking processes during meetings with Special Representative for the Western Balkans Manuel Sarrazin, Member of Parliament (MP) Adis Ahmetovic's team, and Frédéric Jörgens from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. KWN also sent two advocacy letters as a follow up to meetings to Frédéric Jörgens and Christine Toetzke, Director for EU and multilateral development policy at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).
- During the annual EU Advocacy Week in Brussels organised by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation in November 2023, KWN consistently emphasised the need to implement the EU's Women, Peace, and Security Agenda, including advocating for including more women in political dialogue and ensuring



the security of Kosovar and Serb women peace activists, KWN met the following officials, raising these issues:

1. Toby Vogel, Democratisation Policy Council, Senior Associate, Brussels
2. Irene Ceccanti, Administrative and Policy Assistant at DG NE/R; Coordinator for Gender Equality and Rights of the Child; and Chloe Laurens Dinsdale, Team Leader for Human Rights and Civil Society
3. Djordje Bojovic, Western Balkans Advisor, Office of Member of the European Parliament (MEP) Viola von Cramon
4. MEP Matijaz Nemic
5. Vivien Savoye, and Dominique Orsini, Political Desk
6. Mona Sefen, Foreign Policy Advisor at the Office of MEP Thomas Waitz (Greens/EFA) & Ivan Hortal Sanchez, Advisor on Foreign Affairs (AFET)

Two follow up advocacy letters were sent to Vivien Savoye the Rule of Law Desk Officer, and Djordje Bojovic, Western Balkans Advisor in the Office of MEP and European Parliament Rapporteur for Kosovo Viola von Cramon-Taubadel.



### ***Improve the participation of diverse women and girls in decision-making processes on environmental issues and climate change***

KWN has just initiated work on this area and will more on it in 2024.

### **Improve implementation of the EU GAP III and a gender perspective in the EU Accession process**

KWN contributed towards implementing the EU Gender Action Plan (GAP III), Country Level Implementation Plan (CLIP) for Kosovo, through its [Monitoring Report: Gender Mainstreaming of the EU Accession Process](#), which used GAP III indicators to measure the extent to which the Kosovar government and the EU Office in Kosovo implemented GAP III. KWN also made progress towards the following results.

### ***Further increased the awareness and capacities of EU officials on how to implement GAP III, especially by including, as well as financially and politically supporting diverse women's rights CSOs***

KWN made progress towards this result, as KWN increased 15 EU officials' awareness on how to implement EU GAP III, particularly by financially and politically supporting diverse WCSOs. KWN used various advocacy channels to increase their knowledge. This included Christine Toetzke, Director for EU and multilateral development policy at BMZ, where KWN and other Kvinna till Kvinna partners discussed



sustainable funding modalities for supporting WCSOs towards achieving social change. They also met Irene Ceccanti, Administrative and Policy Assistant at the EU Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), and the Coordinator on Gender Equality and the Rights of the Child, sharing findings from [KWN's 2022 Monitoring Report on Gender Mainstreaming the EU Accession Process](#) on how GAP III could be further implemented. Via 14 advocacy letters (totaling 194 since 2018) KWN also increased awareness on how to implement EU GAP III among officials at the EU Office in Kosovo, DG NEAR, EEAS, and EUSR.

### ***Improved inclusion of a gender perspective in documents related to Kosovo's EU Accession and their implementation***

KWN continuously monitored the drafting of new public policies and legislation related to Kosovo's EU Accession, providing input to inform them from a gender perspective. However, most policies on which KWN provided comments remained drafts due to continuous delays by the government and/or Assembly of Kosovo (e.g., the Civil Code of Kosovo, Law on Labour, Law on Reproductive Health). In 2023, KWN counted three documents adopted related to EU Accession that included significant input from KWN: the Economic Reform Program 2023-2025 adopted approximately 75% of KWN's suggestions; the EC Kosovo Report 2023 adopted approximately 75% of KWN's comments; and the EC Kosovo Report 2023 included input from KWN, as detailed in the [Commentary on the EC Kosovo Report 2023](#).



***Improved the knowledge and capacities of EU officials, National Gender Equality Mechanisms (NGEMs), and line ministries regarding integration of a gender perspective in documents related to EU Accession and to the importance of including CSOs in the EU Accession process***

KWN has excellent communication channels with EU officials in Kosovo and Brussels, NGEMs, and the Office of the Prime Minister towards improving attention to gender equality in documents related to EU Accession. KWN met with 18 EU and governmental officials, as well as 5 NGEMs to discuss the importance of including WCSOs in the EU Accession process, focusing on political dialogue and security issues. KWN also sent 14 letters to officials on these matters. With NGEMs, KWN coordinated to write [\*Gender Equality: At the Center of IT and Beyond: A Gender Analysis of Digitalisation in Kosovo\*](#). KWN interviewed five gender equality officers and gathered their input, using these occasions to discuss ways in which NGEMs can be more involved in policy-making processes, including EU Accession processes. Currently, the Office of the Prime Minister coordinates communication and consultation processes between the government and civil society, including related to EU Accession. More efforts are needed to ensure coordination *within* line ministries towards increasing a gender perspective in different sectors.

***Improved and increased the participation of CSOs in the EU Accession process, including monitoring this process from a gender perspective***

KWN continued involving member organisations and partner CSOs in the EU Accession process, including monitoring this process from a gender perspective. This included collecting diverse CSOs' input



for the EC Kosovo Report 2023, government and EU consultations on SAA structures, and government consultations with civil society on the European Reform Agenda. In 2023, 10 CSOs collaborated with KWN in monitoring EU Accession processes, including an intersectional approach to this monitoring. The CSOs engaged included organisations supporting women in rural areas, with disabilities, of different ages, and of diverse ethnicities:

1. Center for Education and Community Development, Friends (CEDC & Friends)
2. Ruka + Ruci
3. Community Development Fund (CDF)
4. Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women's Organizations of Kosovo (RROGRAEK)
5. MWAHR
6. Ecos women
7. Minority Communities Center (MCC)
8. Committee of Blind Women of Kosova
9. Divine Women
10. Organization of Persons with Muscular Dystrophy Kosova (OPDMK)



## Improve the institutionalisation of gender-responsive budgeting in Kosovo, towards implementing the Law on Gender Equality

Towards achieving this objective, KWN continued advocacy towards institutionalising gender-responsive budgeting via annual budget recommendations sent to the government of Kosovo, Ministry of Finance, Labour, and Transfers, parliament, and municipalities. KWN emphasised the importance of institutionalising gender-responsive budgeting by adding it into the legal framework on public finance during meetings with officials from Kosovo's local and national institutions, as well as international actors. KWN worked towards achieving the following immediate results related to this objective in 2023.

### ***Fiscal policies are more informed by gender analysis***

In 2023, KWN provided recommendations towards improving the gender perspective in the Law on Budget for 2024 and the Law on Local Finance.



MWAHR engaged women in budget hearings, discussing their priorities for the municipal budget.

### ***Increased the capacities of CSOs to advocate for implementing gender-responsive budgeting***

As part of the Gender Budget Watchdog Network, a network of organisations in the Western Balkans and Moldova, KWN worked to increase the capacities of CSOs to advocate for implementing gender-responsive budgeting through training and mentoring. KWN facilitated the Network's strategic planning process, which included identifying ways to strengthen the network and CSOs within it. KWN also supported CSOs to conduct Organisational and Advocacy Capacity Assessments, including conducting these for KWN, EkoKos Women, and Mitrovica Women's Association for Human Rights, towards identifying ways to strengthen advocacy capacities as part of gender-responsive budgeting efforts.

### ***Increased officials' knowledge about gender-responsive budgeting***

In 2023, KWN advocated to five key officials towards furthering their knowledge and understanding of gender-responsive budgeting, the importance of institutionalising it, and steps they needed to take to this end, including the President of Kosovo, Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Labour, and Transfers, Deputy Minister of Finance, Labour, and Transfers, and the Minister of Justice.

### ***Increased the participation of women in public consultations on the budget***

KWN engaged 11 member organisations in mobilising citizens, particularly women, to participate in public consultations on the 2024 Budget.



### ***Improve CSOs' participation in gender mainstreaming climate change financing***

Towards improving CSOs' participation in gender mainstreaming climate change financing, KWN provided grants through which EkoKos Women and Mitrovica Women's Association for Human Rights are conducting research. KWN also supported the development of new methodologies for gender mainstreaming climate financing as part of the Gender Budget Watchdog Network as a first step towards supportin CSOs in this work.



## **Improve women's and men's access to and realising their rights to health services, based on the legal framework**

Following years of insufficient financing related to this objective, KWN was able to initiate efforts towards realising this objective via KWN member organisations with support from the Kosovo Women's Fund (KWF), financed by the Austrian Development Agency. Several organizations took significant actions to address barriers to women's access to quality healthcare, while a few initiatives were taken by relevant institutions to address issues that hinder women's rights to quality healthcare. As these efforts have just begun, actions have not yet been taken by institutions to address the complaints filed. Yet, KWN can report several immediate results thanks to the efforts of KWN members, described below.

### ***Increased women and girls' awareness of their right to healthcare and the importance of accessing healthcare***

Through KWF, 556 individuals (552 women and four men) were inspired to advocate for their right to quality health services in 2023. KWN member organisations held information sessions and helped women and men realise their rights to health services, based on the legal framework. As a result, 20 women decided to file complaints with the relevant authorities regarding rights violations.



### ***More women advocate for their right to quality healthcare***

In total, via KWF initiatives, KWN members support documentation of 20 rights abuses, which were reported to authorities.

### ***More public officials, women, girls, and men informed of women's right to healthcare and violations of their rights***

KWN and its members, supported by KWF, held 22 meetings with public officials aimed at addressing and promoting women's rights to receive quality healthcare. Through KWF supported initiatives, 552 women and four men were educated about their healthcare rights, while 20 individuals chose to take further action by filing complaints, with ten cases documented by Handikos Mitrovica, five by CECD Friends, and another five by the Women's Alliance for Integration.

The beneficiaries expressed gratitude for the information shared and appreciated having a platform to voice their experiences of healthcare rights violations. During a workshop hosted by NGO Drugeza,



"Workshop Led by KWN Member 'Have Hope' Educates Women on Healthcare Rights and Violations"

one participant remarked, "I wish I had known that we could complain to someone about these cruel words that the doctors are telling us."

NGO EcoKosWomen facilitated workshops where Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian women shared their reactions, stating, "This project has empowered us and provided us with valuable knowledge. We now feel prepared to advocate for better healthcare services and have gained confidence in asserting our health rights." They further expressed their readiness to submit complaints regarding violations of their right to health services, knowing where to direct them for appropriate action.



## **A Life Free from Gender-Based Violence**

The overall objective of this program is to improve the response to gender-based violence, towards its reduction. KWN has made modest progress towards achieving this overall objective though several challenges remain. This section outlines progress towards the specific objectives and expected immediate results (in boldface). Progress was supported by ADA, the EU, Sweden, UN Women, and the Canada Fund for Local Initiative.

### **Improved the quality and implementation of the legal framework for gender-based violence, including the institutional response to assisting victims of violence**

Towards this specific objective, in 2022 KWN submitted detailed comments on the Draft Law on Protection against Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence, the Law on Social Housing, and the Law on Social and Family Services. Since these laws were not in line with the Istanbul Convention, KWN submitted comments towards aligning them with the Istanbul Convention and clarifying legal responsibilities to improve their implementation. Building on these and other prior efforts, in 2023 KWN participated in a workshop, providing more detailed comments on the Law on Prevention and Protection against Domestic Violence, Violence against Women, and Gender-Based Violence. This Law was adopted in October 2023, addressing several of KWN's recommendations. For example, the Law, better defines



the roles and responsibilities of Coordinating Mechanisms against Gender-based Violence, based on KWN's recommendations. Moreover, while the prior Law previously only addressed domestic violence, the new Law now covers all forms of gender-based violence and violence against women in accordance with the Istanbul Convention. Additionally, following KWN, its members (particularly shelters), and others' advocacy, the Law on Budget for 2023 finally allocated sufficient funds for covering the costs of shelters for women and children suffering gender-based violence. Meanwhile, KWN plans to assess the quality of institutional response to gender-based violence in 2024. In 2023, KWN undertook efforts towards the following immediate results.

***Improved the accountability of institutions responsible for assisting gender-based violence cases***

Through legal assistance, KWN has continued its support for women seeking justice for violence, contributing to improving implementation of the relevant legal framework and the accountability of institutions responsible by monitoring their work. In 2023, KWN supported 28 cases, informing women about their rights, institutions where they can seek assistance, and referring them to lawyers for legal aid. Women were referred to relevant justice institutions, as well as to psychologists in shelters for counseling. Additionally, KWN monitored 17 cases of gender-based violence in courts, towards holding institutions accountable in their treatment of cases.



***Furthered knowledge regarding the extent to which the legal framework related to gender-based violence has been implemented, as well as the awareness and prevalence of domestic violence***

Building on training provided in 2022 for officials from various institutions and members of Coordination Mechanisms against Domestic Violence, in 2023 KWN provided further training on the State Protocol for the Treatment of Sexual Violence Cases, their responsibilities, and case management for sexual violence cases. Trainings were held in Podujevo, Lipjan, Deçan, Obiliq, Kaçanik, and Novo Brdo. These were organised in collaboration with KWN member organizations, namely shelters operating in these cities. In total, 92 representatives of various institutions working to address gender-based violence were trained.

Additionally, KWN engaged in 16 advocacy meetings in 2023, including via regular participation in the National Interministerial Coordination Group on gender-based violence. Advocacy meetings related to KWN recommendations in the report *From Laws to Action*. Additionally, with support from KWF, shelters advocated for establishing coordination mechanisms in some municipalities, including in Serbian majority municipalities like Shterpce, Ranillug, and Kilokot.



## ***Improved awareness of people about the legal framework and their rights***

Exhibitions, press releases, television appearances, and protests all aimed to inform more people about their rights. The travelling interactive street exhibition “Do Not Hide Violence Behind Walls” continued, informing approximately 5,880 individuals (3,991 women and 1,880 men) about the legal framework and their rights, since 2019. In 2023, the exhibition was organised in six municipalities: Gjilan, Lipjan, Mitrovica, Podujevo, Skenderaj, and Vushtrri, reaching approximately 300 individuals (202 women and 98 men). In 2023, KWN also had nine press releases related to cases of femicide, sexual harassment, sexual assaults, and violence. Further, KWN condemned the discriminatory and sexist language used by institutional representatives against women and girls. KWN organised online media campaigns to inform citizens about the State Protocol for Treatment of Sexual Violence, which reached 58,800. On 28 December, KWN advocated for shelters to be funded by the Ministry of Finance, Labour, and Transfers in January and February 2024 so that they would not face



A man attending the KWN travelling, interactive exhibition “Do Not Hide Violence Behind Walls” said: “Everything you are stating here is more than true; I used to work as police officer for 25 years. People here are violent, and just as you're saying, women endure, and they do not speak.” Meanwhile, the exhibition has empowered more women to speak out about violence and seek help.



funding shortages as in prior years, which had placed women and children sheltered there at risk. Following KWN's advocacy, the Ministry allocated an Emergency Fund for shelters and other organisations providing crucial social and family services for the January-February period. On 8 March, KWN joined the annual protest of International Women's Day, "We March, We Don't Celebrate: for a Life without Violence against Girls and Women". Citizens raised their voices to protest against injustices faced by women, including femicide. Also, in August 2023, KWN supported the protest and closely followed the court's verdict for Dardan Kriviça regarding the murder of Marigona Osmani.

***Continued engagement of KWN, KWN members, and CSOs in furthering the implementation of the legal framework for addressing gender-based violence***

In December 2023, KWN together with shelters for victims of domestic violence and the organisation Protecting Victims Preventing Trafficking (PVPT) sent an advocacy letter to the Prime Minister of Kosovo, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Finance. Labour and Transfers regarding funding for shelters. As in previous years, the state failed to address the issue of financing shelters during the first months of the year. KWN with shelters requested that the government address this issue. In response, the government established an emergency fund for shelters and other social service providers to ensure funding for this period. KWN and shelters also worked to further implementation of the legal framework throughout 2023, in coordination with municipal coordination mechanisms.



### ***Improved performance and quality of services of shelters and other service providers working with victims of gender-based violence, especially rehabilitation and reintegration services***

As part of the continued training for Coordination Mechanisms against Domestic Violence, KWN provided training for shelters and other service providers, familiarising them with the State Protocol for the Treatment of Sexual Violence Cases and their institutional responsibilities. In total, in 2023, KWN trained 92 representatives (34 men and 58 women) in Decan, Ferizaj, Junik, Kaçanik, Lipjan, Novobrdó, Obilic, Podujeve, and Prishtina municipalities. Four participants were Serbian. With KWN's support, shelters have started meeting monthly with Coordination Mechanisms against Domestic Violence to address jointly specific cases treated by shelters. KWN also held two workshops for 39 shelter representatives related to preventing professional burnout, stress management, and “Improving Services for Survivors of Violence”. Participants discussed laws, the Istanbul Convention, case management, staff workload, insufficient finances to cover their expenses, and providing quality services.

### ***Continue providing recommendations to improve laws and policies***

KWN continued monitoring the adoption of laws in line with the Istanbul Convention and submitted detailed comments for amending laws, including on the Draft Law on Protection against Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence, the Law on Social Housing, and the Law on Social and Family Services. Related to addressing gender-based violence via the legal framework, KWN also submitted comments on the Rule of Law Strategy, Law on Budget for 2024, and Monitoring Report of the Kosovo



Program for Gender Equality 2020-2025. KWN participated in a workshop organised by the Human Rights Commission for amending the Draft Law on Protection against Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence, where KWN activists pushed for aligning this Law with the Istanbul Convention. As noted, several of KWN's recommendations were adopted.



## Women's Economic Empowerment

The overall objective of this program is that women and men have equal economic opportunities at home and in the public sphere. KWN has made progress towards achieving this objective, as shown by progress on the following specific objectives and expected results in bold.

### **Improved conditions for women's participation in the labour force**

KWN continued its efforts to harmonise Kosovo's legal framework with the EU Acquis on gender equality, especially related to labour legislation. As a result of KWN's advocacy, three laws and policies have been improved related to labour and women's economic empowerment, including the Economic Reform (ERP) 2023-2025, the Law on Prevention and Protection against Domestic Violence, Violence against Women, and Gender-Based Violence that attends to labour for women have have suffered violence, and the Digital Agenda.

### ***Increased the awareness of institutions and other actors regarding the need to harmonise labour legislation with the EU legal framework, among other needed improvements to the legal framework***

KWN undertook several initiatives to increase awareness among institutions and other actors, including by using the public consultation platform to comment on primary and secondary legislation in relation to



labour regulations. In addition to the aforementioned laws and policies that now include an improved gender perspective following KWN’s advocacy, KWN also sent input to the EU Office in Kosovo to inform the Social Policy and Employment chapter of the EC Kosovo Report 2023.

KWN also met key actors involved in labour policies, facilitating discussions between the Women’s Economic Forum, an informal coalition of leading think tanks and CSOs<sup>1</sup>, and the Office of the Prime Minister on gaps and inconsistencies between Kosovo’s labour law and EU standards. Through advocacy KWN and the Forum emphasised the need for amending the law to further gender equality in labour.

Further, KWN utilised advocacy letters to raise awareness and push for policy changes. These letters articulated challenges faced by women in the labour market due to existing legal barriers and provided recommendations for reform. By directly engaging with policymakers and decision-makers through these advocacy letters, KWN and its partners drew attention to the urgency of harmonising labour legislation with the EU legal framework, especially related to maternity, paternity, and parental leave as per the EU Work-Life Balance Directive.

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<sup>1</sup> Women’s Economic Forum (WEF) involves the following organisations: KWN, the Riinvest Institute, Democracy for Development (D4D), Kosovar Gender Studies Center (KGSC), Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women of Kosova (RROGRAE), Kosova – Women 4 Women, GAP Institute, Center for Information, Critique and Action (QIKA), and Kosovar Stability Initiative (IKS)



### ***Institutions and key actors are more aware of the extent of gender-based discrimination in labour in Kosovo and ways to address it***

KWN continued raising awareness about the prevalence of gender-based discrimination in labour via approximately 18 advocacy efforts towards the EU and government. During meetings with EU officials, KWN requested an improved gender perspective in the EC Kosovo Report 2023 related to labour rights violations, as well as raised this issue during the SAA Sub-committee meeting on Social Policy and Employment. KWN advocated for improved address of gender-based discrimination by harmonising existing laws and improving mechanisms for reporting it and sexual harassment at work. KWN emphasised this issue in preliminary findings of its gender analysis of digitalisation shared with EU and government stakeholders.

### ***Improve access to justice in cases of gender-based discrimination in labour and violations of women's rights at work***

While cases were referred in prior years and KWN has sought financial support (unsuccessfully) to support further cases, no such cases were referred in 2023.



***Increase awareness about the informal economy and how to address it using a gender-responsive approach***

KWN began research for its gender analysis of the informal economy, supported by the EU and Sweden with a contribution from UN FAO through a synergy initiative. The first of its kind in Kosovo and much of the region, it aimed to provide the government with concrete recommendations to inform the forthcoming Strategy to address informality, ensuring a gender-responsive “do no harm” approach. The analysis will inform future advocacy, increasing awareness about the informal economy and how to address it.

***More officials are aware of the need for more preschools and childcare centers, care for the elderly, and care for the disabled, especially in rural areas***

KWN continued its advocacy efforts towards improving the availability of childcare, elderly care, and care for persons with disabilities via at least seven advocacy initiatives in 2023. This included during two meetings held in Brussels with EU officials, during the Subcommittee meeting on Information and Social Policy, related to recommendations for the EC Kosovo Report for 2023, and within the framework of the ERP for 2023-2025. KWN also advocated for the Law on Budget to allocate resources for supporting childcare and elderly care. In voicing concern about the government’s postponement of the draft Law on Labour, KWN emphasised the importance of child and elderly care provisions within the broader legislative framework.



### ***Increased women's access to inheritance and ownership through legal reforms, awareness, and legal aid***

With support from KWN via KWF, KWN member organisation Norma initiated and sent a joint letter to relevant authorities, advocating for women and girls' inheritance and property rights to be adequately safeguarded via the new, still to be approved, Civil Code. Also, supported by KWF, Medica Kosova informed 25 survivors of domestic violence about legal procedures for accessing property and other legal rights. Then, Medica Kosova helped six survivors take concrete actions to register their property in their own names or in the names of both spouses.

### ***Improved awareness of officials on how to improve the living conditions of rural women and women with disabilities***

Using an intersectional approach in its advocacy, KWN submitted comments on at least four laws and policies towards improving the lives of rural women and women with disabilities, including the ERP for 2023-2025, the draft Law on Family and Social Services, the draft Law on Reproductive Health, and the Law on Budget for 2024.



***More officials of international funding institutions are informed about gender responsive policies***

KWN advocated to at least 16 officials in international funding institutions about the need and strategies for more gender-responsive funding policies. KWN advocated for long-term, flexible financing for WCSOs to support their strategic work.



## Gender Transformative Education

The overall objective of this program is improving access to quality education that challenges existing gender norms and power relations. KWN has taken steps towards achieving this overall objective, as shown by progress on the following specific objectives and expected results, supported by ADA and Sweden.

### **Improve textbooks and the way teachers teach curricula towards gender-transformative, feminist education**

Towards this specific objective planned for 2024-2025, KWN in collaboration with its members made progress towards the following expected results.

#### ***Recommendations exist and are sent to relevant actors for improving teaching by teachers and curricula***

In 2023, KWN made progress towards improving curricula and teaching methods from a gender perspective. With KWF support, five KWN members conducted research involving observation in various municipalities to understand the extent to which education has a gender-transformative approach, seeking to identify ways to change traditional gender roles and stereotypes. Following agreements with the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation (MESTI) and local institutions, activists observed school premises, classrooms, and teachers' teaching of selected subjects. Using a set



methodology, the research aimed to understand the extent to which school environments (building infrastructure), knowledge of teachers, administrators, and staff, learning materials, pedagogy, and student participation contribute to gender-transformative learning environments.

Together with five KWN member organisations, KWN observed 10 schools in the municipalities of Pristina, Vushtrri, Peja, Gjakova, and Drenas. In total, 43 course lessons were observed related to biology, civic education, physical education, and the Albanian language. Additionally, researchers conducted 14 interviews with teachers and a focus group with 10 teachers teaching psychology, sociology, English language, history, and civic education. The Resource Center for Blind Persons in Peja also engaged in observation.

After completing the research, KWN members presented preliminary research findings via four reports to relevant municipal actors and explored effective strategies towards more gender-transformative education. During advocacy meetings, KWN members recommended educational institutions integrate specialised subjects into curricula, directly addressing gender stereotypes from an early age. Additionally, they emphasised the importance of training teachers on gender stereotypes, gender-based discrimination, violence, and the rights of girls and women. They also advocated for updating textbooks and teaching materials to include content that promotes gender equality and actively challenges prevailing stereotypes and biases. Moreover, they recommended organising training for teachers and school staff to enhance their abilities in identifying, managing, and reporting cases of gender-based violence, as well as offering adequate support to victims. Additionally, the importance of monitoring and evaluating the impact of interventions and policies related to sexual education and gender equality was underscored.



Such evaluations are vital for ensuring the effectiveness of these initiatives and making informed adjustments where necessary.

KWN has begun consolidating and analysing information collected by member organisations, towards developing a policy brief with recommendations. It will be shared with MESTI to facilitate continued collaborative efforts towards more gender-transformative education.

### ***Institutions and teachers are more responsible for transforming gender norms while teaching sexual education in schools***

Building on recommendations derived from the research, KWN in close collaboration with MESTI plans to initiate targeted training for teachers from schools engaged in the research in 2024. It will seek to enhance the capabilities of educators, empowering them to create gender-transformative learning environments.

### ***More girls, women, boys, and men aware of gender norms and feminism and reached through KWN PR materials***

Towards increasing the awareness of girls, women, boys, and men, KWN regularly promoted its work and the work of its members on the KWN website, Facebook page, Twitter, Instagram, and in its monthly electronic newsletter: *Kosovar Women's Voice*. In 2023, KWN had 149 media appearances. KWN increased its Facebook followers from 24,805 in 2022 to 26,936 in 2023. On Twitter the number of followers increased from 1,544 to 1,552, and on Instagram from 3,201 to 3,287, respectively.



## **Crosscutting Aim: Strengthening the Feminist Movement**

This crosscutting overall objective aims to strengthen the existing feminist movement in Kosovo, the region, and beyond, via all KWN programs. KWN has made progress towards this overall objective, as the KWN Strategy guiding efforts towards expanding the feminist movement work exists, KWN members remained active through different activities, including three KWN members' meetings held in 2023; and 11 women and men supported KWN in 2023. Meanwhile, 2,595 women Human Rights Defenders have received support from KWN via KWF. Progress has been made towards this long-term aim related to the following specific objectives and expected results in bold headings below.

### **Increase solidarity and wellbeing among women's organisations and activists**

KWN continued its interethnic partnerships in the region through the Coalition for Addressing Gender-based Discrimination in Labor in the Western Balkans (WB); partnership with organisations to gender-mainstream the EU Accession process through EQUAPRO; the Gender Budget Watchdog Network (GBWN) in the WB and Republic of Moldova, seeking to institutionalise gender-responsive budgeting; a network of organisations researching funding for gender equality and women's rights; the Network against



Gender-based Violence against Women and Girls in the WB, involving WCSOs from five countries in improving rehabilitation and reintegration services for survivors of gender-based violence; the European Women's Lobby as a supporting member; and KWN joined the Women against Violence in Europe (WAVE) network in in 2023. Moreover, KWN undertook at least seven joint advocacy initiatives in collaboration with other WCSOs outside the Network. These included: 1) preparatory meetings with other WCSOs in the region prior to Berlin Advocacy Week supported by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation; 2) the joint Berlin Advocacy Week; 3) EU Advocacy Week joint meetings, supported by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation; 4) preparing joint input for the EC Kosovo Report; 5) providing joint input on the draft Civil Code of Kosovo; 6) sending a joint reaction letter regarding the draft Law on Labour; 7) organising a joint meeting with the Prime Minister of Kosovo Mr. Kurti, Minister of Finance, Labour, and Transfers Mr. Murati, Deputy Minister of Finance, Labour, and Transfers Mr. Dobruna, and other government representatives to discuss concerns about the draft Law on Labour and the implementation of gender-responsivem budgeting in Kosovo.

### ***More women, men, girls, and boys involved in the feminist movement***

In 2023, KWN engaged six young women and men volunteers. This gave them the opportunity to become more knowledgeable in organising, researching, advocating, integrating attention to gender equality into human rights advocacy, monitoring court cases, about gender-based violence, and about other issues that women in Kosovo face. Through engaging more young people, KWN seeks to further strengthen the feminist movement in Kosovo.



### ***Improve the capacity of KWN members, towards their sustainability***

Following the 2023 awarded grants, KWN conducted the initial Organizational Assessment and Capacity Analysis (OACA) with all KWF recipients to evaluate changes in their capacities. Tailored Capacity Development Plans were created and implemented with KWN's support, focusing on areas such as public relations, financial management, and advocacy. Workshops were also organized to enhance skills in advocacy, project proposal writing, fundraising, and public speaking. For the closed initiatives, at the end KWN conducted the second OACA assessment to measure progress which has increased substantially.

### ***Increased the capacities of KWN staff***

KWN staff attended at least 16 different capacity-development activities related to human resources, climate change, the Green Agenda, proposed finance reforms by the World Bank, working conditions, state funding for SOS helplines, the New Gen(d)eration, and digital accounting.

### **Improve the funding climate for women's rights organisations**

KWN sought to make progress towards this midterm specific objective, to be measured at the end of KWN's current strategic period, through the following expected results.



### ***Improved implementation of KWN's Resource Mobilisation Strategy***

Fundraising through alternative forms is vital for diversifying resources and improving the financial sustainability of CSOs. KWN has established a strategy towards mobilising diverse resources and took some steps towards implementing it. For example, KWN continued coordination with other CSOs towards improving the legal and institutional framework for philanthropy in Kosovo. As part of the Philanthropy Forum, KWN participated in several meetings towards overcoming obstacles in fundraising for CSOs in Kosovo. On 27 April, KWN representatives participated in a meeting that brought together 14 participants from various sectors to discuss problems that CSOs face with banking services and opportunities for collecting funds online. Participants agreed to cooperate in identifying solutions to these obstacles.

KWN continued participating in meetings organised by the Government's Cooperation Council with Civil Society towards coordinating and monitoring implementation of the Government Strategy for Cooperation with Civil Society 2019-2023. KWN representatives participated in working groups organised by CiviKos on "Improving the institutional framework for financing the sustainability of CSO programs and projects in the public interest". KWN collaborated with other CSOs to advocate on the importance of the government establishing a sufficient, transparent, and permanent budget line for civil society support, towards the sustainability and resilience of WCSOs in the future.

In May and June, KWN organised ten mentoring sessions for KWF grantees towards enhancing their capacities and resilience, particularly in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Supported by EU, the mentoring sessions were conducted with shelters in Ferizaj, Gjilan, Mitrovica, Prizren, Gjakova, and Peja,



as well as with three other WCSOs and Center for Education and Community Development Friends. KWN staff introduced grant recipients to the KWN Resource Mobilization Strategy and helped them identify new avenues for diversifying their resources, mapping community resources, securing additional funding, and enhancing their sustainability and resilience.

On 16 March, KWN staff also delivered training in Prizren on the topic “Resource Diversification and Fundraising”, organised by the Kosovo Civil Society Foundation. This basic training aimed to increase the capacities of local CSOs and activists on diverse fundraising models towards sustaining their work. Approximately 13 participants (five women and eight men of diverse ethnicities and rural/urban areas) from different CSOs in Prizren attended. Participants’ diverse areas of focus included furthering gender equality, education, supporting marginalised groups, environmental protection, energy efficiency, youth, and reconciliation. Participants gained new knowledge on mapping potential donors and identifying different fundraising models. All of these efforts contributed to progress towards implementing the KWN Resource Mobilisation Strategy.

***Improved knowledge and understanding among relevant funders regarding the types of support that diverse WCSOs need***

In close collaboration with partner organisations in the region, KWN informed approximately ten representatives of various funding organisations about diverse WCSOs’ funding needs, including during advocacy towards the German government in the context of their feminist foreign policy, as well as in advocacy towards the EU, all supported by the Kvinnat till Kvinna Foundation.



## Crosscutting Aim: Environmental Protection

The overall objective of this crosscutting aim is to improve the extent to which gender, including the different needs and interests of diverse women and men, are reflected in environmental policy and urban planning, in line with the EU GAP III. KWN made some initial progress towards this objective in 2023 by providing input related to the EU Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA) III Action Plan on Climate Change and Environment. KWN staff also attended training and furthered their knowledge to prepare for a gender analysis related to gender-responsive budgeting and climate change, planned for 2024. Based on analysis, KWN plans to undertake evidence-based advocacy towards more gender-responsive laws and policies related to climate change.



## KWN Financial Report for 2023

The following table summarises KWN's income and expenditures in 2023. All numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole Euro for simpler presentation. The balance remaining will be carried over to 2024.

Donor (Implementation Period)	Action Title	Funds from 2022	Funds received in 2023	Total income	Expenditur es	Balance
Austrian Agency for Development and Cooperation (01.01.2018-28.02.2021), co-funded by Sida (01.03.2021-28.02.2025)	Further Advancing Women's Rights in Kosovo II	364,851	130,000	494,851	208,811	286,040
European Union Office in Kosovo: 2018/404-465 (20.12.2018-20.12.2022) and Sigrid Rausing Trust Fund	Strengthening Women's Participation in Politics (Closed project)	-	7,687	7,687	7,687	-



Donor (Implementation Period)	Action Title	Funds from 2022	Funds received in 2023	Total income	Expendit ures	Balance
EC, co-funded by Sida through REACTOR – Research in Action (01.03.2020-30.04.2023)	Furthering Gender Equality through the EU Accession Process	13,823	55,432	69,256	53,128	16,128
EU Office in Kosovo co-funded by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (01.09.2021-30.06.2023)	Enhancing the Capacities and Resilience of CSOs: Furthering Gender Equality Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic	188,980	23,612	212,592	212,592	-
The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (01.01.2021-31.12.2023)	Core support to Kosovo Women’s Network for the Kosovo Women’s Network Strategy 2019-2022 & 2023-2026	45,864	70,011	115,875	115,875	-



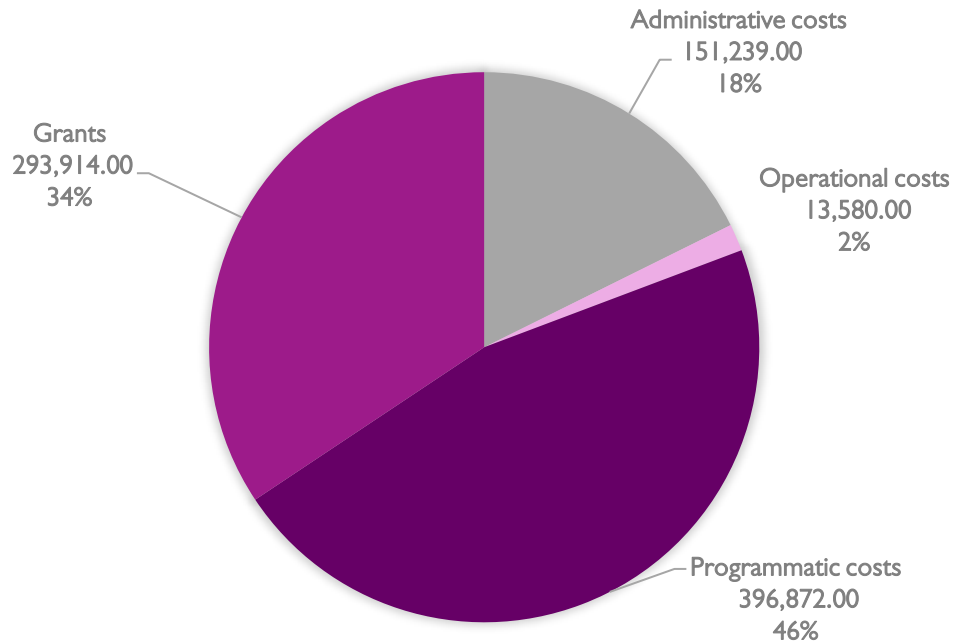
Donor (Implementation Period)	Action Title	Funds from 2022	Funds received in 2023	Total income	Expendit ures	Balance
ADA and Sida through the Center for Research and Policy Making (CRPM) (01.11.2022 – 01.03. 2027)	Strengthening Transparency and Accountability for Gender Equality in Western Balkans and Moldova (Gender Budget Watchdog Network, Phase II)	52,382	-	52,382	30,269	22,112
EC through UN Women - Ending Violence against Women (01.09.2021-01.03.2023)	Improving organizational capacities of shelters in dealing with sexual violence including women from minority groups	15,343	15,154	30,496	30,496	-
Sigrid Rausing Trust Fund (01.06.2022-31.05.2025)	Core support to Kosovo Women's Network for the Kosovo Women's Network Strategy	88,900	183,387	272,287	158,070	114,216



Donor (Implementation Period)	Action Title	Funds from 2022	Funds received in 2023	Total income	Expenditur es	Balance
Canadian Embassy: 2023- ZAGRB-Kosovo-0020 (01.08.2023-28.02.2024)	Improved treatment of sexual violence through advocacy to improve the legal framework and capacity building for municipal coordination mechanisms	-	20,025	20,025	20,025	-
UNDP (22.12.2022- 10.02.2023)	Gender Mainstreaming Gender Review of Portfolios 2022-RLA-002	-	10,218	10,218	10,218	-
Heart and Hand Foundation	General support	6,824	-	6,824	6,824	-
Altrusa	Young women's internship	881	1,817	2,698	881	1,817
Donations to KWN	Sustainability Fund	15,804	87,446	103,251	729	102,521
<b>Total</b>		<b>793,652</b>	<b>604,788</b>	<b>1,398,440</b>	<b>855,605</b>	<b>542,835</b>



## DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURES FOR 2023





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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Management of Kosovo Women's Network

##### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Kosovo Women's Network, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023 and the statement of profit or loss, statement of changes in fund balances and statement of cash flow for the year then ended, and other explanatory notes.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Kosovo Women's Network as of December 31, 2023, results of its operation and the cash flow for the year then ended in conformity with actual laws.

##### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Project financial report section of our report. We are independent of the Business in accordance with International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### Responsibilities of Management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard and the internal controls that the management deems necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements without material misstatement due to fraud or error.

For the financial statement's preparation, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to sustainability in the future, disclosing, as necessary, future sustainability issues and using the accounting continuity principle unless management intends to liquidate the Organization or interrupt the operation, or there is no other possible alternative than to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

##### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.



Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in total, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit, in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during the audit.

  
  
Astrit Trusa – Statutory Auditor  
ACA – Audit & Consulting  
Prishtine, Kosovo  
March 15, 2024



## About Us

### KWN Board of Directors

Ariana Qosaj Mustafa, Lecturer at AUK/RIT, Women's Rights Activist (Chair of the Board)  
Feride Rushiti, Executive Director, Kosovar Center for Rehabilitation of Torture Victims  
Shqipe Malushi, Women's Rights Activist  
Vjosa Dobruna, Women's Rights Activist  
Zana Hoxha, Executive Director, Artpolis  
Belgjzare Muharremi, Honorary member

### KWN Advisory Board

Behar Selimi, Delina Fico, Lepa Mladjenovic, Marte Prekpalaj, Rachel Wareham

### KWN Staff Members in 2023

#### Management Team

Igballe (Igo) Rogova, Executive Director  
Nicole Farnsworth, Program Director and Lead Researcher



Besa Shehu, Administrative and Finance Director  
Adelina Berisha, Program Manager for Addressing Gender-based Violence  
Donjetë Berisha, Kosovo Womens Fund Manager  
Zana Rudi, Program Manager  
Alba Loxha, Human Resources, Procurement and Communication Manager

### **Rule of Law Program**

Valmira Rashiti, Gender Mainstreaming Officer  
Etleva Malushaj, Program Officer  
Elirjeta Beka, Gender Responsive Budgeting Coordinator  
Eleta Shala, Researcher  
Edita Bllaca, Researcher  
Ernera Dushica, Gender Responsive Budgeting Coordinator (until February 2023)  
Aurora Maxharraj, Researcher

### **Program to Adress Gender-based Violence**

Besarta Breznica, Program Coordinator  
Erin Brown, Volunteer (January- June)  
Viona Krasniqi, Monitor, Legal Assistant



## **Women's Economic Empowerment Program**

Adelina Tërshani, Women Economic Empowerment and GRB Officer

## **Kosovo Women's Fund**

Arbenita Kllokoqi, Finance Officer (as of June)

Desumena Laçi, Finance Manager

Valbona Nuredini, Finance Officer (until December)

Drita Sylejmani, Project Coordinator

Laurita Morina, Project Coordinator

Eranda Gashi, Project Coordinator

## **Public Relations and Communications**

Albana Isufi Jashanica, Public Relations Coordinator

Ariana Kasapolli Selani, Public Relations Coordinator

Hana Murati, Public Relations Intern (July-December)

Loreta Suka, Translator/Interpreter

Arjeta Murati, Translator/Interpreter

## **Administrative Staff**

Luljeta Mehmeti Osmaj, Finance Manager



Mimoza Gojani Grezda, Finance/Accounting Officer  
 Mirjeta Dibrani, Membership and Administration Coordinator  
 Jehona Tupalla, Maintenance, Logistics & Driver Assistant

## Individual Contributions to KWN

The following persons provided individual contributions to support KWN's work: Barbra Bearden, Dennis and Katharine Luster, Elizabeth Kohnen, Elisabeth Kaestli, Frank and Sue Farnsworth, Jimmy Vestin, Melihat Bajram Beshiri, Noah Pearson, Oliver Dominic Samter, Thomas Sadoski, Vigan Hoxha, and Valbone Adem Sadiku.

## KWN Member Organisations

#	Organisation	Address	Representative
1	Action for Mothers and Children	Rr. Perandori Dioklecian, Nr. 14, Tophane, Prishtinë	Vlorian Molliqaj
2	Alma	Rr. Shpëtim Bojku, Nr.1, Pejë	Shemsije Seferi
3	Arta	Rr. Vetërniku I, Behar Begolli, Nr.23, Prishtinë	Hafije Qyqalla
4	Art Without Limits (AWL)	Rr. Hyzri Talla, nr.H5/7, Bregu i diellit, 10000 Prishtinë	Ganimete Sava



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
5	Artpolis	Rr. Shaban Polluzha, P.n., Prishtinë	Zana Hoxha
6	Assist Kosovo Center - ASSIST	Prishtinë	Visare Berisha
7	Women's Association Feminae	Adem Jashari 124/8, Prizren	Shykran Berisha
8	ATO	Rr. Wesli Clark Pn, Vushtrri	Fikrije Ferizi
9	Aureola	Kompleksi Avalla, B/I, Nr.4, Prishtinë	Sanije Grajçevci
10	Youth Together for the Future	Rrruga Sejdi Sejdiu pn. Ferizaj	Gyltene Osmani Ilazi
11	Begatit e Batllavës	Fshati Batllave, Komuna Podujeve	Magbule Statovci
12	Bees	Rr. Fehmi dhe Xhevë Lladrovci, Drenas	Mahije Smajli
13	Bees of Peja	Peje Bellopoj Dimitrije Tucovic	Arlinda Kastrati
14	Businesswomen Mitrovica	Qendra e Kulturës, kati 5, Mitrovicë	Melihat Beshiri
15	Center for Education and Community Development - Friends	Qendra e Kulturës, Kati i II-të, Mitrovicë	Valbona Sadiku
16	Centar Maninjske Zajednice	s. Laplje Selo, Gračanica	Jelena Bulatović



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
17	Open Door	Tringë Smajli, Nr. 72, Prishtinë	Belgizare Muharremi
18	Dita	Prishtinë	Afërdita Zeneli
19	Down Syndrome Kosova	Rr.Ukshin Hoti, Pejton, Prishtine	Sebahate Beqiri
20	Drugëza	Rr. Adem Jashari, Skenderaj	Hana Zabeli
21	Duart e Vyera "Dora"	Lipjan	Mihane Avdullahu
22	EcoKosWomen (EKW)	Rr. Hilmi Rakovica nr.31, 10000 Prishtinë	Magbule Hyseni
23	Education Code	Prishtinë	Mimoza Stanovci
24	Elita - Centre for Education and Development	Lipjan	Luljeta Krasniqi Murati
25	EMINA – Group of Bosnian Women	Rr. 7 Shtatori, Jakup Ferri, Mitrovicë	Fata Zatriqi
26	Era Fruit	Batllavë, Podujevë	Xhyllie Statovci
27	EULOC - Organisation for Local Reforms	Shtëpia e Kulturës "Gursel e Bajram Sylejmani", Viti	Melihate Osmani (e autorizuar)



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
28	FANA	Rr. Zhuj Selmani, Nr. 103, Pejë	Fane Gashi
29	Visionary Women of the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	Fsh. Bregdrini, Has, Prizren	Marte Prekpalaj
30	Active Women of Gjakova	Rr. Sulejman Vokshi, Nr. 1, Gjakovë	Valbona Doli Rizvanolli
31	Flame	Rr. Skenderbeu, Lipjan	Melihate Dedushi
32	Flori	Henc, Fushë Kosovë	Hava Abdullahu
33	Nest	Zahir Pajaziti, Nr. 9, Zyrja Nr. 5, Prizren	Gjyzel Shaljani
34	Foundation for Education and Development	Bregu i Diellit - Zona e Lindjes, Ll. 12, Nr. 7, Prishtinë	Vjollca Zeqiri
35	Democratic Forum of Women	Rr. Mbretëresha Teutë, Nr. 103, Pejë	Myzaferre Ibishaga
36	Glas Žena Parteš	Parteš	Vesna Dimić
37	Women Together for Success	Rr. Kadri Zeka Nr. 31, Prishtinë	Zejnebe Hasani
38	Women Farmers	Rahovec	Habibe Haxhimustafa
39	Divine Woman	Rr. Sadullah Brestovci, Gjiilan	Igballe Hajdari
40	Handikos Mitrovica	Mitrovicë	Myrvete Hasani
41	HANDIKOS, Women with Disabilities	Dardania B 1/5, Prishtinë	Mehreme Llumnica



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
42	Have Hope	Emin Duraku, Prishtinë	Arnisa Osmani
43	Hendifer	Rr. Ramadan Rexhepi, Nr. 1, Ferizaj	Fazile Bungu
44	Humanus Vita	Dardani, Prishtinë	Doruntina Gashi
45	Kosovo Women's Initiative	Gjakovë	Leonora Kalludra
46	Initiative of the Independent Blind	Dardani, Prishtinë	Fatbardha Salihu
47	Initiative for Development and Agriculture	Fshati Sfaraqak, Vushtrri	Zenel Bunjaku
48	Kosovo Institute for Media and Communications	Rruga B, nr.210, 10000 Prishtinë	Kaltrina Ajeti
49	IPKO Foundation	Prishtinë	Abetare Gojani
50	LIFE	Deçan	Safete Gacaferri
51	Live, Act, and Create	Rr.Njazi Azemi Nr 58 Prishtinë	Sabrije Basha
52	Council for Equality and Education in Society	Holger Peterson 315, Prishtinë	Afërdita Bekteshi
53	Committee of Blind Women of Kosovo	Bregu i Diellit, Rr. Gazmend Zajmi, Ndërtesa e Standardit, Prishtinë	Bajramshahe Jetullahu



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
54	Women's Choir LIRA	Prishtinë	Valire Buza
55	LEUSTINA	Fshtati Batllave Komuna Podujev	Selvetë Statovci
56	Lulebora	Mentor Retkoceri, Nr. 9b, Prishtinë	Selvetë Gashi
57	Flower	P. F. Keqekollë, Dabishevc, Prishtinë	Sadije Dulahu
58	Lulu's Dance Academy	Rr. Qazim Berisha Prizren	Sijeta Braha
59	Women of the Mountains	Rr. Fan Stilian Noli nr.40, Prishtinë	Shehrije Gërbeshi
60	Protect Your Rights	Rruga Jashar Salihu, Pallati i Kultures Jusuf Gërvalla, Deçan	Fitore Shala
61	Medica Kosova	Rr. Luigj Gurakuqi 39, Gjakovë	Veprorë Shehu
62	MEDIKA BL	Kalabria, Prishtinë	Bukurije Leti
63	Moravski Biser	Parteš	Dragana Petrović
64	Opportunity	Rr. Vëllezërit Dragaj, Nr. 4, Mitrovicë	Hasime Tahiri Hasani



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
65	NGO for Advocacy and Reintegration of Victims of Violence	Rr. Lidhja e Pejës, Fushë Kosovë	Violeta Berisha
66	NGO Light of Llapit	Podujevë	Aferdita Murati
67	NGO Start Today	Podujeve	Mirjeta Kadriu
68	NGO “Life” Turiçec	Rr.Sejdi Reka ,Fshati Turiqec,Skenderaj	Drita Mala
69	NGO Leaders of theh Future	Rr Dardania Fushë Kosovë	Rina Gashi
70	NGO Step	Prizren, Xhem Gostivari	Arbnore Hoxha
71	NGO Season	Fsh.Rek Kaçanik	Zarije Malsiu
72	Intermunicipal Organisation of the Blind and Partially Sited	Rr. Hysen Rexhepi, Pn, Prizren	Perparim Krasniqi
73	Organisation of Persons with Muscular Dystrophy of Kosovo	Rr. Zahir Pajaziti, Pn, Prizren	Antigona Shestan
74	Organisation for Integration and Social Development “Follow Up”	Prishtine	Agmie Osmani
75	Organisation for Development and Communication “Social Bridge”	Dëshmorët e Kombit, nr. 13, Vushtrri	Mergime Jashari



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
76	Our Paradise	Babush i Muhaxherëve, Lipjan	Sylbije Sahiti
77	Partners Kosova Center for Conflict Management	Dardania, SU 1/2, Kati i tretë, Nr. 11, Prishtinë	Shukrije Gashi
78	Pro Med Kosova	Rr. Halim Aga nr.8, Gjilan	Valentina Rexhepi
79	Psychotherapy in Action	Rr. Dardania, Nr. 1, Gjilan	Sevdije Musliu
80	Women's Centre Optimists	Rr. Fehmi Agani 15, Prishtinë	Emine Mehmeti
81	Women's Centre for Rural Development	Bostan, Novobërdë	Shefkije Mehmeti
82	Kosovo Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims	Rr. Hamëz Jashari, 16 b/2, 10000 Prishtinë	Feride Rushiti Sebahate Pacolli
83	Kosovar Gender Studies Centre	Nëna Terezë, Nr. 18/1, Prishtinë	Luljeta Demolli
84	Centre for Protection and Rehabilitation of Women and Children "Liria" [Freedom]	Rr. 28 Nëntori, Pn, Gjilan	Nazife Jonuzi
85	Centre for Protection of Women and Children	Rr. Imzot Nikë Prela /50, Prishtinë	Zana Asllani



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
86	Centre for Protection of Women and Children “My House”	Rr. Astrit Bytyqi p.n., Ferizaj 70000	Sevdije Kasumi Bunjaku
87	Centre for Protection of Women and Children “Raba Voca”	Rr. Riza Selaci, Nr. 12, Mitrovicë	Fidane Hyseni
88	Centre for Protection of Victims and Prevention of Human Trafficking	Rr. Pashko Vasa, 11 A, Prishtinë	Teuta Abrashi
89	Women’s Wellness Centre	12 Qershori, nr16. Pejë	Ardita Bala
90	Centre for Legal Aid and Regional Development	Rr Bardhyl Qaushi nr.7, 10 000 Prishtinë	Anton Nrecaj
91	Centre for Promotion of Women’s Rights	Qendra Tregtare, Nr. 42, Drenas	Kadire Tahiraj
92	Youth Centre Obiliq	Obiliq	Zelushe Kelmendi
93	Centre for Security of Women and Children	Prizren	Jubilea Kabashi
94	Renaissance – Association of women supporting the war against breast cancer	Luigj Gurakuqi 139/5, Prizren	Violeta Pirana
95	RIKOTTA	Rr. Adem Gllavica, Nr. 48, Prishtinë	Pranvera Bullaku



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
96	Network of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian Women of Kosovo	Rr. UÇK, Banesa Nr. 1, Prishtinë	Shpresa Agushi
97	Heart and Hand	Ugljare, Fushë Kosovë	Nevenka Rikallo (koordinatore)
98	Support Groups Kosova	Prishtine/ Eduart Lir nr.144	Rita Zhubi
99	She Solutions	Rruga Xhemajl Mustafa, BB-1, h-5, Nr.14, Dardani Prishtine	Antigona Baxhaku-Idrizi
100	Rule of Democracy in Kosovo	Podujeve, Orllan	Rexhep Zeka
101	Association of Lawyers NORMA	Rr. Afrim Vitija, Nr. 3/1, Prishtinë	Valbona Salihu
102	Association of Businesswomen - Dardana	Kamenicë	Kadrije Mustafa
103	Association of Beekeepers Melissa	Deshmoret Dervishaj nn. Istog	Kumrije Maxharraj
104	Association of Beekeepers Mimfa	Rr. Hasan Prishtina Nr. 02 Obiliq	Xhemile Krasniqi
105	Association of Farmers "Hope of Llapit"	Podujevë	Selvet Fetahu
106	Association of Women "Medica Gjakova"	Rr. Fadil Nimani, Nr. 34, Gjakovë	Mirlinda Sada



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
107	Association of Women Beekeepers "Okarina e Runikut"	Runik, Skenderaj	Fetije Smakaj
108	Association of Women Fatjona	Banje, Malisheve	Fatime Limaj
109	Mitrovica Women's Association for Human Rights	Rr. Isa Boletini, Mitrovicë	Vetone Veliu
110	Women's Association	Gjakovë	Qefsere Kumnova
111	Association of Women of Balaj "ELITA"	Rr. Mustaf Aliu, fshati Balaj, Ferizaj	Behrije Nuha
112	Association of Women "Rock"	Rr. Valdet Xhemajli, Drenas	Valdete Hisenaj
113	Association for Women's Wellness "Monsig"	Shtepia e Kultures, kati II, Rr. Petar i Pave, Klllokot	Selvije Rexhepi
114	Association One Million Power	Rr. Ndue Përlleshi, Kompleksi Rukolli, h.A, kati II. Nr. 10, Mati I, Prishtinë	Anduena Beqiri
115	Association fo Independent Women "Hareja"	Rr. Bujar Thaqi, Rahovec	Adelina Paqarizi
116	Association Pojata	Prishtine	Sabrije Nimani
117	Association Eyes Need Light	Suharekë, Ali Pashë Tepelena	Shqipe Mahmoudvand



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
118	Association for Education and Family Care	Rr. Nënë Tereza, Nr. 181, Gjakovë	Bahrije Deva
119	Eagles of Dardania	Rr. Ibrahim Rugova, Kushnicë, Graçanice	Havushe Bunjaku
120	Safe House	Rr. Gjergj Fishta, Gjakovë	Erbolina Dinarama
121	Top Radio	Rr. Sadik Pozhegu, Gjakovë	Violeta Dema
122	Albanian Tradition	Rr. Meto Bajraktari, Nr. 35, 10 000 Prishtinë	Igball Sylejmani
123	Albanian Tradition - Anadrini	Fshati Zatriq, Rahovec	Servete Kastrati
124	Training and Rehabilitation in Education and Economy (TREE)	Rr. 3 Vellezrit Gervalla nr. 18, H. 4/19, Prishtine	Myrvete Badivuku Pantina
125	The Ideas Partnership	Rr. Lidhja e Prizrenit, 22/1, 10000 Prishtinë	Arbon Osmani
126	Udruženje Žena - Povratnica "Naš Dom"	s. prekovce bb, 16000 Novo Brdo	Aleksandra Stanković
127	Undruženje Poslovnih Žena WBA	Mitrovica sever	Olivera Milosevic
128	Valbona	Rr. 99 Prilli, Nr. 501, Fshati Sllovi, Lipjan	Valbona Sopa
129	Venera	Rr. Shpëtim Bojku, Nr. 1, Pejë	Miradije Gashi



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
130	Violet	Barilevë, Prishtinë	Bedrije Shala Pireva
131	Vita - Jeta	Rr. Lidhja e Prizrenit, Nr. 132, Prishtinë	Mimoza Ajeti
132	Vizionida	Rr. Tirana, p.n, Shtime	Mone Musolli
133	Women's Volunteerism	Rr. 2 Maji, Studime, Vushtrri	Lirije Haziri
134	Women's Alliance for Integration	Rr. Ilir Ramadani, Nr. 3, Lipjan, Medvec	Adelina Qorraj Emini
135	YMCA Movement	Rr. Qamil Hoxha, nr. 13, Prishtinë	Dorina Lluka Davies
136	Youth Association for Human Rights	Lipjan	Bekim Krasniqi
137	You Can Do	Rr. Bajram Bahtiri Prishtine	Hashim Llumnica
138	Youth Center - Lipjan	Rr. Avdi Kelmendi, Lipjan	Valmire Marevci
139	Women's Inclusion Center	s. Bostane, bb, 16000 Novo Brdo	Vesna Stajic



## Annex 1a. Grants Successfully Completed in 2023

In 2023, 14 KWN member organisations successfully completed their initiatives. These initiatives were funded by ADA and co-funded by Sida, totalling €68,862.38. The following table summarises their initiatives.

Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results
Committee of Blind Women of Kosovo (CBWK)	Inclusive education works best for blind and visually impaired children	€4,998	The initiative aims to understand and address challenges and barriers that blind and visually impaired people experience in education.	This initiative included 16 beneficiaries, 11 women and 5 men. CBWK has observed one school and engaged 15 educational officials, teachers, and CSO representatives, raising awareness on the importance of equal education for blind and visually impaired children.
Association of Persons with Disabilities –	Empowering women and girls with	€5,000	Empowering women, girls, and mothers with disabilities on reproductive health,	This initiative included 42 women beneficiaries. Handikos Mitrovica through



Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results
Handikos Mitrovica	disabilities: A comprehensive approach to reproductive health		sexuality education, biological and social concepts about sexuality, and how to seek help if needed, including reporting cases of rights abuses towards accessing quality healthcare.	this initiative worked towards instilling a sense of empowerment and providing necessary resources, including guidance on seeking assistance when encountering challenges or instances of abuse for individuals with disabilities.
Center for Education and Community Development (CEDC) – Friends	Cancer survivors advocate for the improvement of health / oncology services in the Municipality of Mitrovica.	€5,000	The initiative aimed for women and girls to have access to quality healthcare at an affordable cost.	This initiative included 208 beneficiaries (203 women and 5 men). Through systematic engagement with key stakeholders, CEDC Friends presented compelling arguments and evidence supporting the imperative of affordable yet high-quality healthcare provision for women and girls.



Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results
Medica Kosova	Examining perceptions in secondary education about wartime sexual violence and stereotypes related to sexual and gender-based violence	€5,000	The initiative observed the teaching plan and attitudes of teachers towards stereotypes and prejudice surrounding sexual and gender-based violence. It contributed to identifying gaps towards affecting improved quality and gender-sensitive education.	This initiative included 31 women beneficiaries. They surveyed students, conducted focus groups with 13 teachers, and engaged educational officials, teachers, and CSO representatives, raising awareness on the importance of introducing sexual education in schools.
NGO "Drugeza"	Increasing women's access to quality healthcare	€5,000	The initiative aimed to improve women and girls' access to quality health care at an affordable cost.	This initiative included 126 women beneficiaries. Drugeza advocated to relevant authorities for women and girls to have access to quality healthcare at an affordable cost.



Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results
The Farmer Woman	Promotion of primary healthcare for women in rural areas	€4,995	The initiative aimed to promote primary healthcare for women in rural areas.	This initiative reached 127 beneficiaries (122 women and 5 men). The Farmer Woman promoted primary healthcare for women in rural areas. Moreover, they advocated to relevant authorities for better quality healthcare for women in rural areas.
Morava pearl	Equal healthcare for all	€4,971	The initiative aimed to eliminate or reduce discrimination against women in healthcare and provide free psychological support at the municipal level for all residents.	This initiative included 31 beneficiaries (28 women and 3 men). They engaged in advocacy towards reducing discrimination against women in healthcare and implementing the provision of free psychological support at the municipal level for all residents.
EcoKosWomen (EKW)	Healthcare promotion: an	€4,937	The action aimed to support easier and more dignified	



Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results
	essential part of life		access of girls and women to quality healthcare, reproductive care, and menstrual hygiene for girls ages 12-15 years in lower secondary schools from the Municipality of Fushe Kosova, with a special focus on marginalised groups like Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians.	This initiative involved 54 beneficiaries (51 women and 3 men). EKW raised awareness among women and girls, focusing on marginalized communities such as Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians, towards ensuring access to quality healthcare, reproductive organ care, and menstrual hygiene education.
Organisation for Integration and Social Development "Follow Up"	Analysis of the school curriculum and educational forms on consent for sexual relations in secondary schools	€5,000	The initiative aimed to improve educational mechanisms, to raise awareness of students and teachers about "sexual consent".	Follow up observed two schools in the Municipality of Prishtina and raised awareness on the importance of sexual education in schools.



Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results
Youth Association for Human Rights	Health above all!	€5,000	The initiative aimed to increase awareness among women and girls about their rights to healthcare (especially for reproductive health and maternal health).	As a result of this initiative 100 individuals (95 women and 5 men) gained heightened awareness regarding their healthcare rights, with a specific emphasis on reproductive and maternal health.
Women's Alliance for Integration	Mobilisation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian women and girls for mental and sexual health rights	€5,000	Increasing the use of the right to health by women and girls of non-majority communities in the Municipality of Lipjan.	This initiative impacted 236 women beneficiaries, elevating awareness about fundamental rights to health among girls and women, particularly supporting non-majority communities in the Municipality of Lipjan.
Social Bridge	Quality Education and transformation of traditional norms	€4,490	The initiative aimed to raise awareness among institutions about teaching and learning methodologies that address	This initiative, which observed two schools and engaged 20 educational officials, teachers, and CSO representatives, raised their awareness about



Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results
			traditional gender norms and gender stereotypes.	education being used to challenge stereotypes and promote gender equality, reaching 320 beneficiaries.
Humanus Vita	Comprehensive sexual education and challenging stereotypes towards transforming gender norms through education	€4,916	The initiative aimed to advocate for the inclusion of sexual education and address stereotypes and gender norms in education.	This initiative included 8 beneficiaries. It involved observing four schools in Drenas and engaged 20 educational officials, teachers, and CSO representatives, raising their awareness on the importance of sexual education in schools.
Have Hope	Protecting the health of women and girls - raising awareness about breast	€4,547	The initiative aimed to increase awareness among women and girls about the risk of cancer and the importance of early identification of symptoms.	This initiative included 63 beneficiaries (62 women and 1 man). Have Hope significantly bolstered awareness, educating women and girls about cancer risks and the importance of early symptom



Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results
	cancer in women			recognition. They had strategic social media campaigns and established a support group tailored to the needs of women. The initiative effectively distributed crucial information, fostering a heightened understanding of preventive measures and facilitating proactive healthcare practices.

In 2023, an additional 13 grants were awarded to KWN members in the form of core support, with financial support from Sigrid Rausing Trust in the amount of €125,387.03. The following table details these initiatives.



Organisation	Amount	About the Initiative	Results & Beneficiaries
Association of Persons with Disabilities – Handikos Mitrovica	€ 10,000	The goal was to identify shortcomings in the healthcare system concerning people with disabilities that require attention, including issues such as insufficient access, absence of specialised services, or human rights violations due to discriminatory attitudes and practices.	Handikos Mitrovica successfully empowered women and men with disabilities to participate, enabling them to become more active contributors and better informed about the healthcare system and their human right to healthcare. 40 beneficiaries: 30 women and 10 men
Organisation of Persons with Muscular Dystrophy of Kosovo (OPDMK)	€ 9,880	The aim was to mobilise and activate women with disabilities, enhancing their capacities to advocate in both local and central institutions. The overall goal was to protect human rights, ensuring the full integration of people with disabilities into society.	OPDMK empowered women with disabilities to identify key challenges for which advocacy is needed to advance their position in society. Women with disabilities gained knowledge about their rights. Then, they raised awareness among municipal officials about their needs, as well as the lack of enforcement of existing laws. 30 women beneficiaries.
Committee of Blind Women	€10,000	The initiative aimed to enhance the emotional, psychological, and spiritual wellbeing of blind women through	From advocacy videos and other posts, more than 116,000 individuals have increased knowledge of the daily challenges



Organisation	Amount	About the Initiative	Results & Beneficiaries
of Kosovo		psychotherapeutic sessions, concurrently fostering awareness among citizens about the repercussions of various forms of violence and promoting human rights.	faced by blind persons. Additionally, 10 blind women and girls have benefited from psychotherapeutic sessions, otherwise unavailable to them. 10 direct women beneficiaries; 116,000 indirect beneficiaries.
Youth Association for Human Rights (YAHR)	€10,000	The objective was to heighten awareness among institutions regarding the significance of women's participation in local politics, including furthering the EU accession process. They aimed to create opportunities for women to assume leadership roles in institutions, actively engage in the process of budget planning, and promote responsible gender budgeting in the Municipality of Lipjan.	YAHR raised awareness regarding the budget process and gender-responsive budgeting. With YAHR advocacy, 74 women were involved in budget planning through 3 budget hearings organized by the Municipality of Lipjan. In these meetings, women had the opportunity to discuss and influence budget planning for public assets, programs, and services. 125 beneficiaries: 99 women and 26 men.
Lawyers' Association NORMA	€9,998	This initiative aimed to enhance access to justice for women across Kosovo, irrespective of ethnicity, age, abilities, educational level, political or religious	Norma increased awareness and supported women and girls in need of free legal aid. Many women, men, and their families have become more aware of women's rights to



Organisati on	Amount	About the Initiative	Results & Beneficiaries
		beliefs, or sexual orientation. The objective included raising awareness among women, men, and their families about women's rights to inheritance (as women rarely inherit property in Kosovo).	inheritance as per Kosovo law. It targeted institutions, advocating to implement the legal framework that ensures and guarantees equal rights to property and inheritance.64 women beneficiaries
Women's Inclusion Center	€10,000	This initiative aimed to increase the sustainability of the organisation, as well as to encourage sustainable collaboration between local and central authorities and the community in fighting all forms of domestic violence.	Eight participants successfully completed two half-day workshops on Self-Defence, where women were empowered to defend their rights. Approval and support from the municipalities of Štrpce and Ranilug were secured for establishing counselling offices for the CSO, including a reception area, utility room, and bathroom. The initiative further developed collaboration between local institutions and CSOs. 8 direct women beneficiaries
Mitrovica Women's Associatio	€9,969	This initiative sought to promote human rights by advocating for the inclusion of Roma and Ashkali women	With support from their mothers, Roma and Ashkali girls expressed interest in participating in politics and decision-making.



Organisation	Amount	About the Initiative	Results & Beneficiaries
Centre for Human Rights		and girls in decision-making processes. It aimed to enlighten women and girls about the significance of education, prevent early marriages, and inform ministry representatives about the current situation and issues faced by these communities.	As a result, two Roma girls began their political engagement by becoming members of the Youth Forum of the Democratic Party of Kosovo. Also, officials in ministries were informed about issues that Roma and Ashkali women are facing. 118 beneficiaries: 102 women 16 men
Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women's Organisations	€ 10,000	The overarching goal was to promote human rights by championing the rights of women and girls in Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities. The initiative sought to raise awareness about the prevalence of gender-based violence and to work towards preventing early marriages, contributing to a broader human rights agenda.	Training participants gained awareness about gender-based violence, institutions handling cases, and methods of reporting cases in accordance with Kosovo laws. Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians were informed about the consequences of early/forced marriages, their illegality, and various issues related to domestic violence. 76 beneficiaries: 48 women, 28 men
Intermunicipal	€ 5,551	The objective was to compile a comprehensive overview to facilitate blind individuals' engagement across	The Association presented a guide on the rights of individuals with disabilities with information on institutions' responsibilities



Organisation	Amount	About the Initiative	Results & Beneficiaries
Association of the Blind Prizren		various life domains, including education, training, health, culture, and employment, using a human rights-based approach. It aimed to promote blind persons' integration into society and foster their independence in all aspects of life.	for protecting their rights, particularly those of women and girls. Also, officials for gender equality were informed about the situation and requested to identify ways to include women and girls with disabilities in employment and decision-making. 55 women beneficiaries
Medica Kosova	€ 10,000	This initiative aimed to continue providing essential support services for survivors of wartime and post-war sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). It focused on improving their mental well-being and enabling them to assert their rights, including access to properties and other legal entitlements. This included advocating for the state to continue providing the possibility to recognise their status of survivors of violence, rather than discontinuing the possibility to apply	This initiative provided social services and empowered survivors of sexual violence perpetrated during the war and victims of family violence by offering basic services, including psychosocial counselling and legal support to prepare them emotionally, psychologically, and legally to seek legal recognition for their status (which would provide further rights). Five beneficiaries who applied for legal recognition have gained status after submitting lawsuits to the Court in Prishtina. This grant also helped 25 survivors of family violence gain



Organisation	Amount	About the Initiative	Results & Beneficiaries
		for such status. The overall objective related to advancing human rights related to survivors of SGBV.	concrete knowledge about legal procedures for property access and other legal rights; six took steps to register property in their name or jointly with their spouses. 75 women beneficiaries
Minority Community Centre	€ 9,991	The objective was to enhance the economic standing of women and young people from minority communities in the context of EU accession. This involved analysing their status in the labour market and establishing a catalogue about female entrepreneurs.	This initiative positively impacted the economic position of women and youth from non-majority communities, providing concrete results through documents, catalogues, and strategies that will further serve as a basis for improving life in these communities. 81 women beneficiaries
Rule of Democracy in Kosovo	€ 9,998	The goal was to identify shortcomings in the healthcare system concerning people with disabilities that require attention, including issues such as insufficient access, absence of specialised services, or human rights	The initiative provided space for women entrepreneurs to present and promote various products from the agribusiness sector, traditional foods, crafts, souvenirs, textiles, and others. Women also gained knowledge about preparing a Business Plan,



Organisati on	Amount	About the Initiative	Results & Beneficiaries
		violations through discriminatory attitudes and practices.	Business Management, and became familiar with how to advocate for affirmative measures at the local level, as well as opportunities to build networks among businesswomen in the municipality of Podujevo. 109 beneficiaries 80 women, 29 men.
She Solutions	€ 10,000	The aim was to mobilise and activate women with disabilities, enhancing their capacities to advocate to both local and central institutions. The overall goal was to protect human rights, ensuring the full integration of people with disabilities into society.	She Solutions lobbied for the advancement of gender equality in various sectors such as politics, decision-making, security, business, and information. They produced promotional materials and held discussion platforms, among other activities. They also promoted girls and women as role models, motivating girls, young women, and other women to engage in these sectors. 6 direct women beneficiaries; 239,700 indirect beneficiaries



Two additional grants were awarded to enhance capacities and resilience of Kosovo CSOs working towards gender equality and to mitigate social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic among the most vulnerable, particularly women and girls, supported by the EU. These grants remained ongoing at the end of 2023. In total, the amount granted was €€19,998.00.

Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative
The Ideas Partnership	Empowerment of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian women and youth in advocacy and health education	€ 9,998	This initiative aimed to raise awareness among women and girls regarding the negative aspects and consequences of early marriages and how to manage and improve their health and that of their children. Also, it sought to inform women about their rights to healthcare, raising awareness about breast cancer, the importance of mental health, and the role of the psychologist.
Network of Organisations for Rural Development of Kosovo-	Rural women and their socio-economic empowerment in the post-pandemic period	€ 10,000	The initiative aimed to address consequences of the pandemic, which have greatly affected businesses and enterprises managed or co-managed by women in rural areas, as well as to empower women economically, particularly rural women.



## Annex 1b. Grants Awarded in 2023

During 2023, an additional eight grants were awarded to eight KWN member organisations, supported by ADA and co-funded by Sida. These grants were ongoing at the end of 2023 and totalled €79,426.46.

Organisation	Project Title	Amount	About the Initiative
EcoKosWomen	Access to healthcare, investment in the future	€ 9,916	The aim of this initiative is to improve women's access to health and family planning services to guarantee their rights and prevent dangerous situations such as forced pregnancy or sexual exploitation.
Women Farmers	Improving the access of Rahovec women to quality healthcare	€ 9,931	The aim of this initiative is to raise awareness about primary healthcare among women and girls in Rahovec and three villages.
Ruka Ruci	Together for our health	€ 9,926	The aim is to encourage and inspire women from Gračanica to stand up for their right to quality health protection and thus reduce the risks of developing diseases such as breast, cervical, and uterine cancer, as well as the importance of regular vaccinations for children.
Center for the Promotion of	Supporting women survivors of sexual	€ 9,930	The aim is to provide services to support women survivors of war.



Women's Rights	violence through health education		
Follow up	Analysis of school curriculum and educational forms on sexual consent in high schools	€ 9,931	The aim is to address and attempt to reduce the impacts of harmful gender roles, namely challenging and mitigating traditional expectations, behaviors, and limitations placed on individuals based on their gender.
Humanus Vita	Incorporating sex education and challenging stereotypes towards transforming gender norms through education	€ 9,934	The aim is to challenge social taboos around sex education to raise young people's awareness of their body, sexual orientation, reduce cases of sexual harassment and sexual assault, sexually transmitted diseases, and unwanted pregnancies
Center for Education and Community Development (CECD)	Comprehensive sex education as a priority	€ 9,933	Improving high school sex education materials, raising awareness of sexual consent and reproductive health, and promoting stakeholder engagement for comprehensive sex education.
Social Bridge	We work to promote quality education	€ 9,926	Increasing awareness and responsibility of the Directorate of Education, high school principals, and teachers in the municipality of Vushtrri for the use of teaching and learning methodologies that increase gender equality.



In 2023, an additional three grants were awarded to KWN members in the form of core support with financial support from the Sigrid Rausing Trust in the amount of €44,997.43.

Organisation	Amount	About the Initiative
Medica Kosova	€ 15,000	The aim of the initiative is to continue providing essential services to survivors of sexual violence during the struggle to improve their mental health and empower them to access the process of recognising their legal status.
Association of Lawyers NORMA	€ 14,997	The aim of the initiative is to raise awareness of the rights guaranteed by law and to provide free legal assistance to all citizens, especially women and girls in realising their rights.
Rule of Democracy in Kosovo - SDK	€ 15,000	Supporting women in building the forum of businesswomen, increasing the visibility of their businesses through the creation of logos, as well as organising meetings for responsible gender budgeting and analysis of municipal budgets with a gender approach.



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