



29 August 2025

## Towards a more gender-responsive 2026 Kosovo Budget

Dear Chair of the Kosovo Prosecution Council Ardian Hajdaraj,

I am writing on behalf of the Kosovo Women's Network (KWN) to request your urgent attention related to the Prosecution Council 2026 budget request.

As you may be aware, gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) seeks to ensure that funds are budgeted and spent towards addressing the potentially differing needs of diverse women, men, boys, and girls, identified through gender analysis. According to Kosovo [Law No. 05/L-020 on Gender Equality](#), GRB is mandatory for all public institutions. The non-implementation of GRB constitutes a legal offense subject to sanctions. Further, the Government has an interest in implementing GRB in the context of its [commitments to the UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), precisely [SDG 5, indicator 5.c.1](#); the Supplementary Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability Framework (PEFA) for the assessment of gender responsive public financial management (GRPFM); and, most importantly, as a best practice in financial management. Implementing GRB can contribute to more effective, efficient, accountable, and transparent spending of government resources, including towards achieving gender equality. Thus, the Ministry of Finance, Labour, and Transfers, through the budget circular, has requested that [all central level budget organisations](#) provide an annex to their budget allocation requests for 2026 explaining how their budget ensures GRB.

The Government must involve gender equality officials from government entities and civil society organisations in public consultations pertaining to the budget, as mandated by [Regulation \(GRK\) No. 12/2016 on Duties and Responsibilities of Relevant Officials for Gender Equality in Ministries and Municipalities](#) and [Regulation \(GRK\) No.17/2024 on Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic Of Kosovo](#). To support the Government in implementing its responsibilities, KWN, a network of 102 diverse women's rights organisations, has prepared this letter towards improving GRB in the Law on Budget Appropriations for 2026. Our recommendations are based on KWN's research and evidence of needs:

- Increase the budget for the Victim Protection and Assistance Office in accordance with its needs and evidence-based budget request so that it can carry out its responsibilities. Ensure that the budget for Victim Advocates' human resources covers adequate staffing, fair compensation, and necessary training to effectively support victims and promote gender equality. At present, there are not enough Victim Advocates to fulfil their responsibilities to protect survivors of gender-based violence adequately.
- Allocate funding to digitalise and improve Victim Advocates' case management system, including enabling use of computer tablets when assisting cases.
- Allocate funding to and implement obligatory training for prosecutors on gender-based cybercrime, cyberviolence, and online harassment, as well as digital forensics.
- Allocate funding to ensure the case management information system collects gender-disaggregated data, enabling analysis based on gender and age, ethnicity, rural/urban location, and other socioeconomic and demographic indicators. Enable searching digitalised records by key words, including terms related to gender and sex.

Additionally, we strongly encourage you to publish the addendum to the Prosecutorial Council's 2026 Budget, requested by the Ministry of Finance, Labour and Transfers, in line with SDG 5.c.1., explaining transparently how your 2026 budget will contribute to furthering gender equality and the related expenditures foreseen.

Sincerely,  
Igballe Rogova  
Executive Director  
Kosovo Women's Network