



Kosovo Women's Network

Serving, Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Women and Girls

Kosovo Women's Network

Annual Report 2025



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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, healthcare and a life without violence.

Our Mission

KWN’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](#). The purpose of this Strategy is to guide KWN’s work. It was drafted in 2022 with input from KWN member organisations, the Board of Directors, partners and other relevant 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. KWN also has two cross-cutting aims: strengthening the feminist movement and environmental protection.

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 for 2025. It is divided in six sections based on KWN's four programs and related long-term objectives and its 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 achievements and results in each of these programs and crosscutting aims in 2025. Overall, KWN's monitoring and evaluation suggests that the Network has implemented approximately 80% of its Strategy. This report also contains information on KWN's income, expenditures, supporters, Board of Directors, Advisory Board, staff, interns, volunteers and members.



Improving Gender Equality through the Rule of Law

This Program takes a human rights-based approach to furthering gender equality, utilising the existing legal framework towards furthering human rights for diverse women and girls, as guaranteed by law. It also involves influencing legal and policy changes that can contribute to improving women's rights as human rights, particularly as part of ongoing reforms related to Kosovo's EU Accession Process. The Program's **overall long-term objective** is to improve gender equality through the rule of law. Given the absence of a government to adopt laws and policies, slight progress was made towards this objective. In total, KWN has influenced **210** laws and policies since KWN began counting in 2012. In 2025, KWN successfully advocated for 47.5% of its gender-focused recommendations to be reflected in the European Commission (EC) Kosovo 2025 Report. Meanwhile, the adoption of several laws and policies that KWN has commented on remains pending, and the extent of KWN's influence therefore cannot yet be assessed.

KWN and its members also strengthened community awareness and access to healthcare and social protection services by providing information and guidance directly to citizens. Sessions informed diverse citizens about available social protection services, eligibility criteria and complaint mechanisms, empowering women and men to seek institutional support and exercise their rights. As a result, 13 persons with disabilities accessed social protection services with assistance from KWN members and civil society organisations (CSOs) that benefitted from KWN's trainings on claiming such rights.



The rest of this section details progress made towards the following specific objectives (in subheadings) and immediate results (bold), as shown by indicators in KWN’s Monitoring and Evaluation database.

Increase and improve the participation of women in politics and decision-making at local and central levels according to the Law on Gender Equality and UNSCR 1325

KWN and its members engaged at least 45 diverse women in politics and decision-making processes in 2025, bringing the total to at least 6,706 women since KWN started measuring its impact. Further, KWN continued to support women’s participation in politics and decision-making through targeted, issue-based advocacy at the local level. Through direct engagement with women activists in four municipalities, KWN facilitated and supported advocacy efforts addressing key community priorities, including access to health services and responses to gender-based violence. Notably, in the municipality of Dragash, a rural area where women face significant barriers to participation, KWN supported advocacy with municipal authorities that resulted in the allocation of a dedicated municipal space for women to meet, organise, and engage with decision-makers. This newly enabled Women’s Space has since been used for community gatherings and activities, strengthening women’s collective voice and capacity to participate in local decision-making processes. These interventions contributed to enhancing women’s engagement in local governance, particularly for women in rural and underserved areas. KWN also made progress on the following expected results.



Enhance the capacities of women in politics to advocate for women's priorities

In 2025, KWN continued to support women's political participation despite a prolonged period of political uncertainty in Kosovo. Throughout the year, KWN Executive Director Igballe Rogova mentored and supported more than 50 diverse women politicians and women leaders at the local level. This support focused on strengthening women's engagement in decision-making processes, supporting women in voicing their priorities on key policy issues, and navigating political processes during a year marked by repeated elections and institutional instability. While the scope for structured political engagement was limited, these mentoring and support efforts contributed to sustaining women's participation and leadership during a challenging political period.

Increase public officials' awareness of the importance of harmonising the Law on Gender Equality with election laws

Progress under this indicator in 2025 was significantly constrained by Kosovo's political context. The year was characterised by three election processes (two central and one local), prolonged delays in government formation, and the absence of a fully functioning Assembly for extended periods. As a result, opportunities for concrete legislative advocacy or formal actions aimed at harmonising the Law on Gender Equality (LGE) with electoral legislation were limited. Nevertheless, KWN continued to raise awareness of the need for legal harmonisation through public dialogue and advocacy, including during three conferences where this issue was explicitly addressed with relevant stakeholders. The issue was also



raised in *Peace and Security in Kosovo: A Gender Analysis* and other publications. Further, KWN continued to request political support from the EU for these reforms, addressing the issue in its [advocacy efforts with EU officials](#) and asking that the 2025 EC Kosovo Report reiterate the recommendation to the Kosovo government to align the Law on General Elections with the LGE. Although the amended Law on General Elections does not include a 50% quota, it does require some funding to be earmarked for women candidates' political campaigns, following KWN's, among others', advocacy amid women's unequal access to political party financing in local and general elections. While these efforts did not result in formal legislative actions, they ensured continued public and institutional attention to the harmonization gap during a period when more direct advocacy was not feasible.

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

Since 2012, KWN has sent comments on at least 296 laws and policies, including seven in 2025:

- 1) EC Kosovo Report 2025
- 2) Standard Operating Procedures for Handling Domestic Violence, Violence against Women and Gender-Based Violence in the Republic of Kosovo
- 3) Kosovo Program for European Integration 2025-2029



- 4) Draft Administrative Instruction on the Content, Methodology and Compliance of the EIA [Environmental Impact Assessment] Report with Legal Requirements, Applicable Practices and Other Technical Aspects of the Report
- 5) Draft Law on Nature Protection
- 6) 2025-2027 Medium Term Expenditure Framework
- 7) Draft Law on Budget

Increase 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

KWN 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 and the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda. Kosovo's political situation has remained fragile with several attacks occurring in northern Kosovo, EU-imposed measures towards Kosovo and collaboration among Serb and Kosovar women's rights civil society organisations (WCSOs) affected amid political tensions and threats made against Serb WCSOs 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 and its members sent six advocacy letters and met officials to increase their awareness of the need to include more women in peace processes in 2025, totalling 100 since KWN began counting in 2017.



Contracted by the EU Office in Kosovo, KWN researched and published *Peace and Security in Kosovo: A Gender Analysis*, with recommendations to strengthen the inclusion of diverse women in peace processes and to inform the EU's implementation of the WPS Agenda in Kosovo. The report was published at a public event on 31 October, marking the 25th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325 on WPS, with remarks delivered by several high-level representatives, including the EU Ambassador to Kosovo Aivo Orav. The report includes targeted recommendations to government bodies and institutions for more gender and conflict-responsive laws, policies and practices. Findings have been used for advocacy on several occasions, including in meetings with EC representatives and relevant officials. KWN also utilised findings to inform recommendations made in the official working group drafting the new Kosovo Programme for Gender Equality (KPGE), which will include a pillar focusing on the WPS Agenda.



KWN Executive Director Igballe Rogova delivers opening remarks at the launch of Peace and Security in Kosovo: A Gender Analysis, contracted by the EU, marking the 25th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.



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

In 2024, KWN and its members the Mitrovica Women's Association for Human Rights (MWAHR) and EcoKosWomen engaged at least five women in municipal public hearings related to the environment, held in Prishtina, Fushe Kosovo, Mitrovica and Obilic municipalities. As mentioned, KWN also provided comments on the Draft Law on Nature Protection and Draft Administrative Instruction on the Content, Methodology and Compliance of the EIA Report with Legal Requirements, Applicable Practices and Other Technical Aspects of the Report, bring a gender perspective and women's voices into legislative processes related to the environment.

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

KWN made progress towards the following results.

Further increase 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 increased more than 18 EU officials' awareness on how to implement EU GAP III, particularly by financially and politically supporting diverse WCSOs, bringing the total to 219 since KWN started counting. KWN used various advocacy channels to increase their knowledge, including in meetings with



officials during the Brussels Advocacy Week organised by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, complemented by advocacy undertaken with the Gender Budget Watchdog Network in Brussels, supported by ADA and Sweden.

Improve 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. To date, KWN has commented on at least 64 such laws and policies. However, KWN cannot assess impact yet as most remain drafts due to the absence of a functioning government in 2025.

KWN published a gender reading of the [EC's annual Kosovo report](#). The EC Report integrated approximately 47.5% of KWN and its members' recommendations from the year before. KWN called for further gender-mainstreaming all chapters of the EC Report and for the EC to reinforce accountability through more specific, measurable recommendations related to gender equality, amongst other things. KWN also met with EU officials in Kosovo and Brussels to request for an improved gender perspective within the EC Kosovo report.



Improve 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

In 2025, KWN held at least three meetings that sought to enhance knowledge and capacities for integrating a gender perspective into EU documents, totalling 159 such meetings registered to date. KWN maintained excellent communication channels with EU officials in Kosovo and Brussels towards improving attention to gender equality in documents related to EU Accession. KWN and its members met EU and governmental officials to discuss the importance of including WCSOs in the EU Accession process. KWN contributed to the Berlin Process Civil Society and Think Tank Forum 2025, engaging with policymakers from the region and the EU and highlighting, amongst others, that gender equality should be mainstreamed in all reform processes.

Improve and increase the participation of CSOs in the EU Accession process, including monitoring this process from a gender perspective

Although progress was slow related to the EU Accession process given the lack of a government for most of the year and the continued EU measures against Kosovo, KWN continued collaborating with its member organisations in monitoring the EU Accession process from a gender perspective, particularly with MWAHR and the Kosovar Gender Studies Centre (KGSC). KWN also sought to collect diverse WCSOs' input for the EC Kosovo Report 2025.



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

KWN continued advocacy towards institutionalising gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) via advocacy meetings, letters and annual budget recommendations sent to the Ministry of Finance, Labour and Transfers (MFLT), Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI), Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Prosecution Council and municipalities. KWN emphasised the importance of institutionalising GRB by including it in the legal framework on public finance, which is still being amended. Despite KWN's active advocacy, the percentage of budget organisations that submit the GRB annex required by the MFLT has increased over time, but decreased compared to 2024, from 89% to 84% at the local level and 62% to 55% at the central level. Moreover, the quality of annexes remains lacking, and they rarely are published and made publicly available, despite KWN's advocacy for



KWN Officer for Women's Economic Empowerment and GRB, Elirjeta Beka, participates in the GRB Forum "Going Global 2.0: Sustainable Gender-responsive Futures" in North Macedonia, speaking on inclusive transport solutions.



improved transparency. KWN continued work towards achieving the following immediate results related to this objective in 2025, supported by ADA and Sweden.

Fiscal policies are more informed by gender analysis

KWN provided recommendations towards improving the gender perspective in the Law on Budget for 2026 and the Medium Term Expenditure Framework. While the laws still have not been released for public consultation, KWN continued to advocate for the Law on Public Finance and the Law on Public Procurement, currently under amendment, to institutionalise GRB.

Increase the capacities of CSOs to advocate for implementing GRB

As part of the [Gender Budget Watchdog Network](#) (GBWN), a network of organisations in the Western Balkans and Moldova, supported by ADA and Sweden, KWN worked to increase the capacities of CSOs to advocate for the implementation of GRB through training and mentoring. Five CSOs, including four for the first time, were mentored in 2025, totalling nine since 2022. Several led advocacy initiatives related to GRB. KWN also supported GBWN in strengthening this network and its global visibility by presenting the Network during various international workshops, forums and meetings. Further, KWN strengthened civil society capacities to apply GRB within social protection advocacy. Workshops introduced KWN members including the Organisation of Persons with Muscular Dystrophy Kosovo (OPDMK), Ruka Ruci, the Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women's Organisations of Kosovo



(RrOGRAEK) and local activists to GRB principles and practical tools for analysing municipal budgets from a gender perspective. Discussions focused on how local budget allocations influence the availability and quality of social protection services and how WCSOs can advocate for more equitable resources.

Increase officials' knowledge about GRB

KWN sent letters with recommendations for annual budgets to all 38 municipalities, MFLT, MESTI, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Prosecutorial Council. These sought to increase officials' knowledge of how to better implement GRB in budget planning and execution. In total, at least 826 officials have received concrete recommendations for improving GRB since KWN started counting.

Increase the participation of women in public consultations on the budget

In 2025, eight KWN member organisations participated in public consultations, including gathering women and informing them about the importance of public consultations. KWN also regularly shared information about public consultations on municipal budgets with members, welcoming them to gather women in their communities to discuss local budgets. KWN mentored OPDMK to actively participate in public consultations related to municipal budget planning. Through this support, OPDMK engaged in local budget discussions, advocating for the allocation of adequate resources for social protection services and the needs of persons with disabilities. This contributed to strengthening women's participation and civil society engagement in local budgeting processes.



Improve CSOs' participation in gender mainstreaming climate change financing

KWN published a landmark *Gender Analysis of Land Transportation in Kosovo* with recommendations for more gender- and climate-responsive transport policies and systems, based on interviews and focus groups with diverse women and WCSOs. With KWN support, MWHRA and Democracy+ also published reports towards gender mainstreaming financing to address climate change.

Improve women's and men's access to and realisation of their rights to health services, based on the legal framework

Using a rights-based approach to furthering access to healthcare, KWN continued efforts towards this objective in close cooperation with KWN members with financial support from ADA and Sweden. As a result of WCSOs' advocacy, responsible institutions undertook different actions to address issues hindering women's rights to access quality healthcare. For example, supported by the Kosovo Women's Fund (KWF), Ruka Ruci introduced a toll-free phone line (0800 17777) for patient complaints in health institutions in Gračanica, providing a confidential and accessible channel for patients to report violations of their rights. They also increased institutional awareness of patient rights mechanisms, leading officials to acknowledge the importance of addressing patient complaints. As a result, mechanisms such as complaint boxes, patient rights charters, and contact information for patient rights advisors were made more visible in healthcare centres.



Through KWF supported initiatives, 121 women were educated about their healthcare rights, bringing the total to 3,106 since KWN started counting. In support of increasing women's and girls' awareness of their rights and strengthening civil society's role in promoting access to healthcare, KWN with EU support, organised a series of capacity-building workshops on social protection services and GRB for member organisations and partners. Through these workshops, 53 WCSO representatives enhanced their capacities to advocate more effectively for social protection policies and programmes and to better inform communities about their rights and available services. As a result, participating organisations strengthened their ability to engage institutional stakeholders, contribute to reform processes and support diverse women and men in monitoring the implementation of social protection policies.

Further, KWN strengthened evidence-informed civil society engagement in social protection reform processes, contributing to more gender-responsive and inclusive policy discussions. Through research and consultations conducted with partners OPDMK and Ruka Ruci, diverse women and men, including persons with disabilities and ethnic minority women, contributed their experiences and perspectives on gaps in care services and support systems. These contributions informed the draft policy paper "Unpaid and Unprotected: Personal Assistants Carry the Weight of Care for Persons with Disabilities" (forthcoming, 2026) and enhanced the quality of civil society input into national policy discussions. Additionally, ten CSO representatives working closely with persons with disabilities provided expert input on policies related to disability rights and personal assistance services, strengthening advocacy grounded in evidence.



More women advocate for their right to quality healthcare

With KWF support, KWN member Ruka Ruci met with public officials to address and promote women's rights to quality healthcare. Ruka Ruci supported four individuals to take further action, documenting violations of their rights to health and submitting complaints. Overall, with KWN support to date more than 3,106 women and men have been inspired to take action to advocate for their right to quality healthcare.



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. Progress has been made towards the following specific objectives and expected results in realizing this long-term aim, supported by ADA, EWMI, Sweden, the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation and FCDO.

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

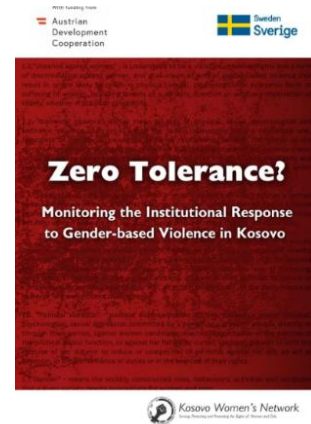
On 19 December 2025, KWN launched its sixth monitoring report on gender-based violence in Kosovo, [Zero Tolerance?](#) The report presents findings from: a review of Kosovo's legal and policy framework with reference to the Istanbul Convention and relevant aspects of the EU acquis, aimed at identifying remaining legal gaps; monitoring how institutions treated 292 gender-based violence cases during 2021-2024 in five municipalities with courts: Prishtina, Ferizaj, Mitrovica, Peja and Gjilan, including cases in which individuals approached KWN seeking support; and 128 semi-structured interviews conducted by KWN with institutions and actors responsible for implementing the gender-based violence legal framework (64% women, 36% men) in Prizren, Peja, Gjakova, Gjilan, South Mitrovica, Prishtina and Ferizaj. Interviewees included the Kosovo Police, Victim Advocates, Centres for Social Work, civil and criminal courts, prosecution offices, the Ombudsperson Institution, correctional and probation services,



education and health institutions, Employment Offices, Vocational Training Centres, the Institute of Forensic Medicine and shelters for survivors of violence. Overall, the research identified notable progress in strengthening and aligning Kosovo's legal and institutional framework with international standards, alongside increased institutional commitment to protecting survivors. Improvements include the expansion of specialised staff in some institutions, enhanced coordination mechanisms, broader training and increased funding for shelters.

However, implementation remains fragmented, especially at the municipal level, due to insufficient staffing, weak coordination and limited resources. Patriarchal attitudes, entrenched gender stereotypes and victim-blaming persist within institutions, undermining survivor-centred and gender-sensitive responses. While courts have shown some improvements, attempts at reconciliation and incorrect handling of cases by judges and prosecutors continue. Misclassification of cases, lenient sentencing, weak enforcement of protection orders and breaches of confidentiality further erode trust in the justice system, discouraging reporting and limiting access to effective remedies.

The report also highlights ongoing gaps in inter-institutional coordination, particularly where civil and criminal proceedings overlap, and fragmented victim representation across prosecutors, Victim Advocates and legal aid services, contributing to delays and inadequate support. Additional systemic barriers affect survivors of sexual violence, LGBTQIA+ persons, women with disabilities, and children.



CSOs play a critical role in filling institutional gaps, yet their work is threatened by limited financial sustainability. Institutional responses remain heavily dependent on international assistance, with few examples of sustained local ownership or institutionalised capacity building. The central challenge remains translating policies into locally owned practice through institutionalised capacity development, consistent implementation, effective accountability and an inclusive, survivor-centred approach.

In 2025, KWN also contributed to improving six laws and policies related to preventing and responding to gender-based violence by submitting expert comments during drafting processes:

1. Draft Administrative instruction on determining the procedure for the provision of services from the emergency fund for the needs of victims during their stay at police
2. Draft administrative instruction on the emergency phone line for victims of domestic violence, violence against women, and gender-based violence
3. Draft Regulation on Local Coordinating Mechanisms for protection from domestic violence, violence against women and gender-based violence
4. Draft Administrative Instruction on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for treatment of domestic violence, violence against women and gender-based violence
5. Draft Regulation on Minimum Standards for Social Services
6. EC Kosovo Report 2025



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

Through legal assistance, KWN has continued supporting women seeking justice for violence, contributing to improved implementation of the relevant legal framework and greater accountability of responsible institutions by monitoring their work. In 2025, KWN supported 25 cases, informing women about their rights, the institutions where they can seek help and providing free legal aid via our lawyer. In total, KWN has supported 142 cases since 2021. Women were referred to relevant justice institutions. Additionally, KWN monitored 89 court hearings related to gender-based violence cases in 2025, contributing to increased institutional accountability in the handling of cases. Overall, KWN has monitored 386 court hearings since 2021.

Further 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

In 2025, KWN signed five Memoranda of Understanding to support Local Coordinating Mechanisms against Domestic Violence, Violence against Women and Gender-Based Violence with the municipalities of Podujevë, Lipjan, Pejë, Fushë Kosovë, and Ferizaj. During 2025, KWN also initiated a needs assessment process in these five municipalities, meeting with local institutions involved in the Mechanisms, including Kosovo Police Domestic Violence Investigation Units, Centres for Social Work, Victim Advocates, Employment Offices, Vocational Training Centres and Free Legal Aid agencies. KWN is finalising needs assessment reports for each to provide structured support to Mechanisms in the respective municipalities.



Throughout 2025, KWN held advocacy and coordination meetings with key institutions and stakeholders, including the Ministry of Justice, the municipalities listed above, the Association of Kosovo Municipalities, EU stakeholders and civil society actors, engaging with organisations and partners to address concerns and strengthen reporting and accountability related to gender-based violence, including in northern municipalities. KWN additionally conducted case-based advocacy with relevant institutions, including Victim Advocates, Centres for Social Work and the Police. In 2025, KWN held 21 advocacy meetings with officials, bringing the total to 181 since KWN started counting. At the request of the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, KWN also delivered a workshop for its staff on gender-based violence.

Improve awareness of more people about the legal framework and their rights

In 2025, public outreach activities, including exhibitions, media engagement, performances, broadcasts and awareness campaigns aimed to increase public knowledge about gender-based violence and technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV), promote survivors' rights and encourage reporting and collective action. Through a door-to-door awareness campaign, 2,996 people were reached (1,634 women and 1,362 men), raising awareness about gender-based violence and TFGBV and promoting reporting mechanisms. This campaign was implemented by KWN member organisations RROGRAEK, OPDMK and Ženski Inkluzivni Centar (ZEC). Artpolis further advanced prevention efforts through school-based forum theatre performances of "Behind the Screen". In six performances, the



production engaged 334 high school students ages 15–18 in Prishtina, Peja, Ferizaj, Gjakova, Mitrovica and Prizren.

The Kosovo Law Institute (KLI) contributed to public awareness by producing and broadcasting a dedicated TV debate on TFGBV on KTV’s “TEMPUS” (aired 23 June 2025). The debate emphasised that TFGBV is recognised as a criminal offense under the Criminal Code, highlighted the importance of reporting and explained practical steps for victims and witnesses. To expand outreach, a shortened version was shared on social media, reaching over 40,900 views (24% women, 76% men as of February 2026). The Association of Kosovo Municipalities finalised and launched a comprehensive online information repository on its official website, which is now fully operational. The repository provides accessible information on gender-based violence and TFGBV. In addition, KWN’s online awareness campaign on TFGBV and where to seek help reached 117,124 people; based on available platform audience estimates, approximately 91,254 women and 22,536 men were reached.

In 2025, KWN recorded 34 media appearances related to addressing gender-based violence. Topics included prevention and accountability for gender-based violence; femicide and high-profile court cases; protection orders and enforcement gaps; sexual violence against minors; TFGBV; institutional responses by police and the justice system (including sentencing practices); survivor reintegration and access to support services (including emergency hotlines); women’s property rights; and safety in public spaces. KWN also collaborated with the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure and the Municipality of Pristina to hang posters about TFGBV in buses during the 16 Days against Violence against Women, informing women and men about violence and how to report it.



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

In 2025, KWN strengthened collaboration with civil society actors by delivering three training workshops focused on understanding, preventing, and reporting gender-based violence and TFGBV. The trainings engaged 70 participants, including managers and staff from 12 CSOs and four individual activists. Participating organisations included OPDMK, ZEC, RROGRAEK, Center for Information, Criticism and Action - QIKAT, KRCT, KGSC, Handicap, Action for Mothers and Children (AMC), Kosovo Women for Women, KLI, Follow Up and KWN. Several participants represented social protection-focused organisations, strengthening cross-sector coordination for survivor support and referral pathways.

Additionally, KWN participated in several conferences and meetings organised by other actors during the 16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women, where KWN contributed to discussions, including on the role of civil society in implementing the Istanbul Convention.

KWN continued engaging with shelters and partners to advance implementation of the legal framework and improve institutional responses in cooperation with local coordination mechanisms. KWN also contributed to broader civil society exchange through public discussions and joint initiatives towards addressing gender-based violence and TFGBV prevention, institutional accountability and survivor-centred support.



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

In 2025, KWN supported shelters by strengthening staff capacity to sustain quality services. A total of 39 shelter staff were trained on burnout prevention and staff wellbeing, contributing to improved resilience and continuity of survivor-centred support, including rehabilitation and reintegration services. During 2025, KWN trained 103 social workers from Centres for Social Work in cooperation with the Department for Social and Family Policies and the Professional Council for Social and Family Policies. The training was delivered using the curriculum “Working with Victims of Domestic Violence: Case Management and Referral”, aiming to improve professional response, coordinated referrals and survivor safety. Participants came from the following municipalities: Prishtina, Podujeva, Obiliq, Glllogoc, Lipjan, Prizren, Rahovec, Suhareka, Malisheva, Dragash, Shtime, Hani i Elezit, Ferizaj, Kaçanik, Gjilan, Kamenica, and Viti.

Additionally, KWN contributed to strengthening institutional responses to gender-based violence within the social protection system. Eleven social workers from Centres for Social Work and shelter staff in the regions of Ferizaj and Gjilan were trained and certified through two specialised curricula: Working with Victims of Domestic Violence: Treatment and Referral and Working with Victims of Sexual Violence and Trafficking. This training enhanced their capacity to provide gender-sensitive support and referrals, contributing to improved quality of services for survivors and persons in need of social protection.



Continue providing recommendations to improve laws and policies

KWN continued monitoring the adoption of laws and policies related to addressing gender-based violence, submitting detailed comments on eight in 2025, towards harmonising these with the Istanbul Convention, clarifying legal responsibilities towards improved implementation and addressing needs identified through KWN's monitoring and expertise:

- 1) Standard Operating Procedures for Handling Domestic Violence, Violence against Women and Gender-based Violence in the Republic of Kosovo
- 2) MTEF included gender-based violence;
- 3) Draft Administrative Instruction on determining the procedure for the provision of services from the emergency fund for the needs of victims during their stay at police
- 4) Draft Administrative Instruction on the emergency phone line for victims of domestic violence, violence against women and gender-based violence
- 5) Draft Regulation on Local Coordinating Mechanisms for protection from domestic violence, violence against women and gender-based violence
- 6) Draft Administrative Instruction on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for treatment of domestic violence, violence against women and gender-based violence
- 7) Draft Regulation on Minimum Standards for Social Services
- 8) EC Kosovo Report



Women's Economic Empowerment

This program has the overall long-term objective that women and men have equal economic opportunities at home and in the public sphere. Progress has been made towards the following specific objectives and expected results in realising this long-term aim.

Improve conditions for women's participation in the labour force

In 2025, very few laws or policies were shared for public consultation or passed due to the absence of a functioning government and parliament for most of the year. This meant KWN had limited opportunities to provide input on draft laws and policies. However, KWN did provide input for the EC Kosovo report, which addressed some of the issues KWN raised related to women's labour force participation. KWN also made progress towards the following results. In total, KWN has influenced 10 such laws and policies since we started counting.

Increase 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

In total, KWN has provided comments on at least 19 laws and policies that relate directly or indirectly to women's economic empowerment. Despite the absence of a functioning government, KWN continued



its advocacy for Kosovo to harmonise its legal framework with the EU Acquis on gender equality, especially related to labour legislation, through direct input to the 2025 EC Kosovo Report.

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

KWN sent two advocacy letters to relevant officials to raise awareness about gender-based discrimination in labour, totalling 127 over time.

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

Over the years, KWN in collaboration with other CSOs has supported at least 201 cases involving violations of women's rights at work. In 2025, however, limited financial resources constrained our ability to offer this support.

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

KWN continued advocacy based on its report *In the Shadows: A Gender Analysis of Informal Work*, raising awareness about the informal economy and how to address it using a “do no harm” approach.



Initiatives included advocacy meetings with EU representatives, input to the 2025 EC Kosovo Report, budget commentaries and social media campaigns, reaching at least 2,200 people.

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

In 2025, KWN and members undertook twelve initiatives to advocate for more pre-schools and childcare centres, reaching at least 34 such initiatives undertaken to date. These included raising the issue with EU representatives, particularly related to the 2025 EC Kosovo Report; participating in and providing input on public consultations; and providing comments on budget frameworks. The issue also was addressed in *Peace and Security in Kosovo: A Gender Analysis*.

Increase women's access to inheritance and ownership through legal reforms, awareness, and legal aid

KWN did not undertake activities related to this expected result in 2025 due to limited resources. However, in prior years, KWN and its member organisations have informed 10,204 women of their rights and supported 335 women in claiming their inheritance and property rights.



Improve awareness of officials on how to improve the living conditions of rural women and women with disabilities

In 2025, KWN raised awareness among officials on how to improve the living conditions of rural women and women with disabilities through input to the 2025 EC Kosovo Report and the Medium Term Expenditure Framework, as well as through budget commentaries. KWN also worked on a policy paper on personal assistants for persons with disabilities (forthcoming 2026).

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

In 2025, KWN met with at least 14 representatives of international financing institutions, presenting evidence-based recommendations for how they can have more gender-responsive policies, reaching 57 officials since 2022.



Gender Transformative Education

The overall objective of this program is improving access to quality education that challenges existing gender norms and power relations. Through this program, KWN seeks to encourage gender-transformative curricula and pedagogy, which means books and teaching that encourage equality among girls and boys, using techniques that prepare them for equal opportunities in life and in different labour sectors. Progress, supported by ADA and Sweden, has been made towards the following specific objectives and expected results in realising this long-term aim.

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

Towards this specific objective, 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. 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, initiated targeted trainings for teachers from schools engaged in the research in 2024. This initiative aimed



to enhance the capabilities of educators, empowering them to create gender-transformative learning environments that contributed to the long-term goal of reshaping perspectives on gender equality. Initiated in 2024, a further 32 re-observations were conducted to assess the sustained application of gender-sensitive and inclusive teaching practices. Specifically, CSO Follow Up carried out 19 re-observations, Humanus Vita conducted seven, and Center for Education and Community Development (CECD) Friends undertook six additional observations. Observations aimed to evaluate progress over time and to further inform recommendations for improving curricula and pedagogical approaches related to gender equality and comprehensive sexuality education.

Following this, in 2025 a comparative report examining approaches, interventions, challenges and improvements related to teaching gender equality and comprehensive sexuality education in pre-university education in Kosovo was prepared and shared with MESTI. However, due to the political situation and the absence of a constituted government, follow-up discussions have not yet taken place.

The overall impact of this training was reflected in increased awareness and improved teacher engagement in gender-responsive sensitive education. Re-observations noted a significant improvement, that at least 50% of teachers were more confident in addressing gender-related issues. Some still faced challenges to fully integrate attention to gender equality topics. Educators continue to struggle with discussing gender equality and sexual education topics due to cultural barriers and the lack of a structured curriculum. The comparative report, building on findings of the first phase, confirms that the approach to gender equality and sexual education in pre-university education remains uncoordinated and largely dependent on individual teacher initiative, in the absence of a dedicated curriculum and clear institutional



guidance. While targeted training contributed to increased awareness and some improvement in teachers' confidence to address sensitive topics, the observed changes remain partial, uneven across schools and limited without structured mechanisms for sustained support and monitoring. The report further underscores that without the formal and permanent integration of comprehensive sexuality education and gender equality into the national curriculum, textbooks and mandatory teacher training programmes, the inclusion of these topics will continue to be irregular and inconsistent. The findings highlight the need to move beyond pilot interventions toward systemic institutionalisation of gender-transformative pedagogy to ensure continuity, standardization and long-term impact in classroom practice.

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 2025, KWN had at least 34 media appearances, bringing the total number of appearances to 2,206 since KWN started counting. KWN increased its Facebook followers from 26,936 in 2023 to 27,643 in 2025. On X, the number of followers decreased from 1,536 to 1,520, perhaps indicating decreased use of this platform. Instagram followers increased from 3,556 in 2024 to 3,733 in 2025.



Crosscutting Aim: Strengthening the Feminist Movement

This crosscutting overall objective aims to strengthen the feminist movement in Kosovo, the region and beyond, via all KWN programmes. KWN has made progress towards this overall objective: KWN has a Strategy guiding efforts towards expanding the feminist movement; KWN members remained active through different activities, including four KWN members' meetings held in 2025; and 13 women and men supported KWN financially in 2025. KWN also supported at least 35 Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs), contributing to UN Sustainable Development Goal 5, and EU GAP III. To date, KWN has supported more than 5,874 WHRDs. Progress has been made towards this long-term aim related to the following specific objectives and expected results below.



On 26-28 September 2025, KWN members, Board and staff gathered in Durres to connect, reflect, strategise and co-create KWN's new Strategy.



Increase solidarity and wellbeing among women's organisations and activists

KWN continued its engagement in ten interethnic partnerships in the region and globally: the informal partnership with organisations to gender-mainstream the EU Accession process (EQUAPRO); the Gender Budget Watchdog Network (GBWN) and the European Gender Budgeting Network, seeking to institutionalise gender-responsive budgeting; the coalition against Gender-based Violence against Women and Girls in the Western Balkans, 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); the Women against Violence in Europe (WAVE) network; the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID); the Alliance for Financing Feminist Movements; and the informal coalition for Addressing Gender-based Discrimination in Labour in the WB. KWN also joined the Civil Society Financing Committee advocating to influence the EU's forthcoming Multiannual Financial Framework and the RESPONDER partnership, focused on understanding and better addressing conflict-related sexual violence perpetrated by humanitarian aid workers, peacekeepers and other "protectors".

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

KWN has engaged 7,627 youth since KWN started counting, and 48 only in 2025. This included 18 young women volunteers. This gave youth the opportunity to gain knowledge in organising, research, advocacy, integrating attention to gender equality into human rights advocacy and public relations. They also learned about gender-based violence and other issues that women in Kosovo face. Through engaging



more young people, KWN seeks to further strengthen the feminist movement in Kosovo. In total, KWN has engaged at least 424 diverse volunteers from Kosovo and abroad over time. In 2025, KWN's 35 volunteers and in-kind contributors contributed the monetary equivalent of at least €31,647 to KWN's work and programs.

Enhance self-care and security of women's rights activists

Of KWN staff, 12% said that they feel very safe in their work and 77% feel safe. Meanwhile, 12% feel moderately safe. Compared to prior years, 53% said they felt similarly while 18% felt safer; 24% were unsure and 5% felt less safe. In 2025, KWN continued to provide psychotherapy for KWN staff members towards enhancing their wellbeing.

Improve the capacity of KWN members, towards their sustainability

During 2025, KWN strengthened the technical and advocacy capacities of member organisations and partners working with diverse communities. Capacity-building workshops were organised, benefiting 22 WCSOs. workshops focused on social protection legislation, citizens' rights, complaint mechanisms and practical approaches to supporting beneficiaries in accessing services. Dedicated sessions addressed the applying GRB within social protection services.



KWN also conducted a survey of all KWN members and other WCSOs, using the AWID methodology in *Where's the Money for Women's Rights?* among other questions. KWN will use the findings to inform and provide tailored support to WCSOs, towards addressing their needs in the future.

Increase the capacities of KWN staff

KWN staff attended at least 11 different capacity-development activities in 2025 related to gender-based violence, GRB, human resource management, occupational health and safety, public finance, anti-corruption, feminist funding, logframe reporting and addressing anti-gender movements, among other topics.

Improve the funding climate for women's rights organisations

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

Improve implementation of KWN's Resource Mobilisation Strategy

KWN implemented approximately 67% of its Resource Mobilisation Strategy and will continue undertaking efforts towards its implementation. KWN also successfully increased its Sustainability Fund with support from individual donors in the United States and EU who made several contributions to supporting KWN's work. The Sustainability Fund is used to address urgent and emergency needs for



which other funds are unavailable, as well as to protect KWN and KWN activists in case of sudden changes in the funding or security climate.

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

In 2025, KWN met with seven different funders in Kosovo, the EU and levels to improve their knowledge and understanding regarding the types of support that diverse WCSOs need. KWN conducted face-to-face surveys with 103 WCSOs in Kosovo to assess their needs, particularly amid funding cuts. Survey findings supported fundraising and advocacy, and KWN spoke to funders about how they can apply gender-responsive budgeting in their work; on the importance of earmarking funds for WCSOs, particularly related to the EU's forthcoming Multiannual Financial Framework; on the need to provide flexible financing and core support, trusting that WCSOs know best the needs in their communities, while enabling WCSOs to adapt quickly to unforeseen challenges, risks and political developments; and the need to reduce administrative burden for CSOs and funders, providing for more efficient use of resources and more time for activists' activism.



Crosscutting Aim: Environmental Protection

The overall objective of this program 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. KWN continued contributing to the improvement of the legal framework by providing comments and recommendations on draft legislation and sub-legal acts. One of KWN's recommendations was incorporated into the Administrative Instruction on Environmental Impact Assessment. KWN also submitted detailed comments on the Draft Law on Nature Protection; the Law has not yet been approved, so KWN's impact cannot yet be assessed.

KWN published Kosovo's first *[Gender Analysis of Land Transportation in Kosovo](#)*, providing evidence-based analysis on how transport policies, budget and behaviours affect women, men, girls and boys differently. The report serves as an advocacy tool for integrating GRB and gender perspectives into transport and climate policies. Then, as part of its advocacy for gender-responsive, inclusive and sustainable mobility, KWN organised an advocacy campaign during European Mobility Week. Social media content was published in Albanian, Serbian and English to ensure broad outreach and inclusivity. The campaign included posts related to the [Polluter Pays Principle](#) and [public transport for persons with disabilities](#). KWN also implemented activities in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, including outreach on [pollution and the use of public transport](#); [sidewalks accessibility and related fines](#); [World Car-Free Day](#). Through these activities, KWN raised public



awareness on sustainable transport, accessibility, environmental protection and the need for gender-responsive policies.

In 2025, as part of GBWN, KWN provided grants to MWAHR and D+ to implement projects on GRB and climate financing, supporting their research. Their research findings will be published in 2026.



KWN Financial Report for 2025

The following table summarises KWN's income and expenditure in 2025. All numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole Euro for simpler presentation. The balance remaining will be carried over to 2026.

Donor (Implementation Period)	Action Title	Funds from 2024	Funds received in 2025	Total income	Expenditures	Balance
ADA and Sida (01.03.2021-31.12.2025)	Further Advancing Women's Rights in Kosovo II	57,828	56,395	114,223	114,223	-
EC and Sida (01.02.2025- 31.01.2028)	Furthering Gender Equality through the EU Accession Process	-	208,986	208,986	88,986	120,000
EU External Action (24.12.2024-23.06.2025)	Gender Analysis on Peace and Security	-	19,517	19,517	19,517	-
Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (01.01.2024- 31.12.2026)	Core support to KWN for the KWN Strategy 2023 - 2026	-	57,104	57,104	57,104	-



Donor (Implementation Period)	Action Title	Funds from 2024	Funds received in 2025	Total income	Expenditures	Balance
FCDO and Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (01.04.2024-31.03.2025)	Core support to KWN for the KWN Strategy 2023 - 2026	34,408	-	34,408	34,408	-
FCDO and the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation (01.08.2025-31.03.2026)	Core support to KWN for the KWN Strategy 2023 - 2026	-	24,126	24,126	94	24,032
ADA and Sida via the Center for Research and Policy Making (01.11.2022-30.10.2026)	Strengthening transparency and accountability for gender equality in Western Balkans and Moldova (Gender Budget Watchdog Network, Phase II)	27,864	12,241	40,105	40,105	-
ADA via Gender Alliance Development Centre (01.07.2024-30.06.2027)	Institutionalising Quality Rehabilitation and Reintegration Services for Violence Survivors II	23,634	92,843	116,476	83,094	33,382



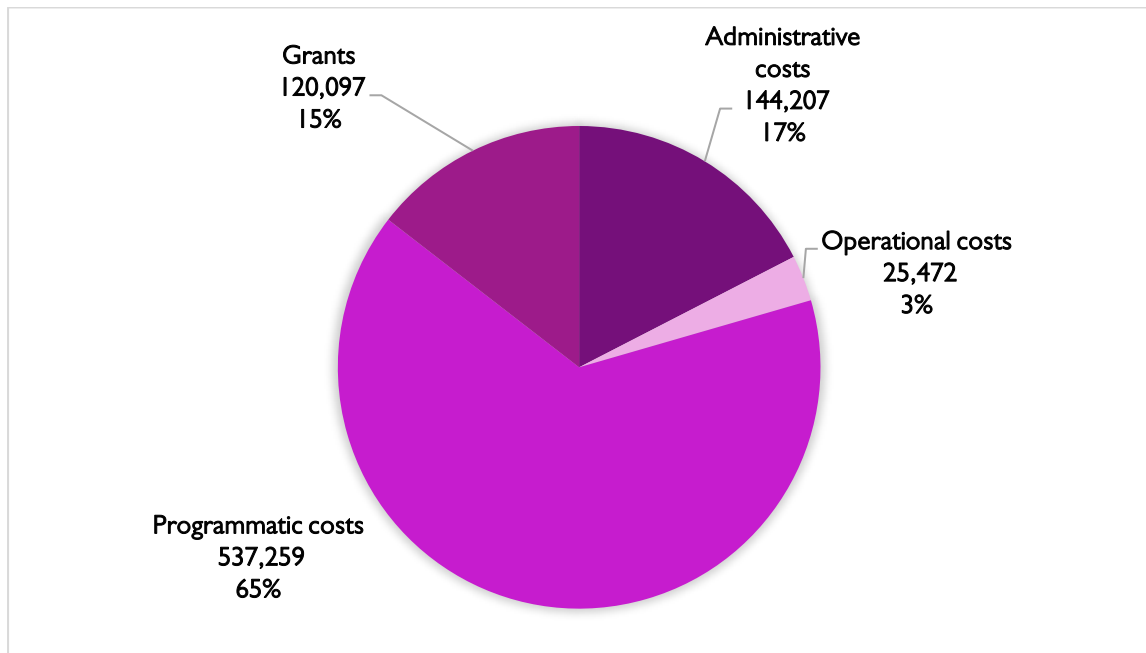
Donor (Implementation Period)	Action Title	Funds from 2024	Funds received in 2025	Total income	Expenditures	Balance
Sigrid Rausing Trust (01.06.2022- 30.06.2025)	Core support to KWN for the KWN Strategy	127,594	-	127,594	127,594	-
Sigrid Rausing Trust (01.07.2025- 30.06.2026)	Core support to KWN for the KWN Strategy	-	171,866	171,866	22,414	149,452
Global Fund for Women (01.01.2024- 31.12.2026)	Gender Equality Movement General Support	11,432	13,081	24,513	7,206	17,307
U.S. Department of State via East-West Management Institute (30.09.2024- 31.03.2027)	Strengthened Capacity and Mechanisms to Address Gender-based Violence	-	295,521	295,521	223,561	71,960
Albanian Women Empowerment Network (02.10.2023- 31.05.2025)	Develop a methodology for costing existing social services provided by women's organizations in	3,423	-	3,423	3,423	-



Donor (Implementation Period)	Action Title	Funds from 2024	Funds received in 2025	Total income	Expenditures	Balance
	relation to gender-based violence					
Altrusa	Cathy Frischmann Internship for Young Women Activists	11,415	-	11,415	2,732	8,683
Individual donations to KWN	Sustainability Fund	127,723	17,217	144,940	2,576	142,364
Total		425,320	968,895	1,394,216	827,036	567,180



Distribution of Expenditures in 2025





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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, 2025 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, 2025, 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 Organization 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 it.

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 our audit.



Astrit Musa – Statutory Auditor
ACA – Audit & Consulting Associates
Prishtine, Kosovo
April 02, 2026



About Us

KWN Board of Directors

Nermin Mahmuti, Executive Director, Community Development Fund, Chair of the Board
Xhejrane Lokaj, Women's Rights Activist
Vjosa Dobruna, Women's Rights Activist
Gjylieta Mushkolaj, Women's Rights Activist
Maria Berishaj, Women's Rights Activist
Belgjzare Muharremi, Honorary member

KWN Advisory Board

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

KWN Staff in 2025

Management Team

Igballe (Igo) Rogova, Executive Director
Nicole Farnsworth, Deputy Director and Lead Researcher
Besa Shehu, Finance and Administration Director
Adelina Berisha, Program Director for Addressing Gender Based Violence



Zana Rudi, Program Director

Donjeta Berisha, Kosovo Women's Fund Manager (until June 2025)

Rule of Law Program

Arbenita Kllokoqi, Finance Officer

Drita Sylejmani, Project Officer

Elirjeta Beka, Officer for Women's Economic Empowerment and GRB

Valmira Rashiti, Research Officer (until October 2025)

Edita Bllaca, Coordinator for Health and Researcher (until September 2025)

Eleta Shala, Coordinator for Gender Mainstreaming (until June 2025)

Mirjeta Ademi, Researcher

Dhurata Alilaj, Research Assistant (until November 2025)

Latra Demaci, Research Assistant (until November 2025)

Mimoza Svirca, Research Assistant (until June 2025)

Program to Address Gender-based Violence

Besarta Breznica, Program Officer for Addressing Gender-based Violence

Laurita Morina, Project Officer

Melisa Kadolli, Court Monitor / Legal Assistant

Edita Bllaca, Coordinator for Health and Researcher (until September 2025)



Era Kadriu, Researcher

Donika Elashani, Researcher

Luigj Uka, Researcher (until May 2025)

Women's Economic Empowerment Program

Elirjeta Beka, Officer for Women's Economic Empowerment and GRB

Public Relations and Communications

Ebba Hellman, Officer for Public Relations, Research and Volunteers

Fortuna Shkodra Haliti, Public Relations Officer

Krenare Buzhala, Public Relations Coordinator (until May 2025)

Diana Ujkani, Design Coordinator (until May 2025)

Loreta Suka, Translator/Interpreter

Arjeta Murati, Translator

Administrative Staff

Mimoza Gojani Grezda, Finance and Accounting Officer

Mirjeta Dibrani, Officer for Members, Procurement and Administration

Jehona Tupalla, Assistant for Maintenance, Logistics and Drivers



Volunteers

Adria Major, Administrative Assistant
Anda Krasniqi, Researcher
Arthur Cox
Besmira Basha, Researcher
Blerona Sojeva, Researcher
Dhurata Alilaj, Research Assistant
Emine Behluli, Assistant Researcher
Ebba Hellman, Researcher
Driane Mustafa, Research Intern
Dominique Ogreau, Researcher
Egzona Aruqaj, Public Relations Assistant
Hadia Hadia El-Sayed Abd ElFatah, Research and Public Relations Assistant

Lisa Wolffhugel, Research and Public Relations Assistant
Liza Qafleshi, Research and Administrative Assistant
Sanea Abboud, Researcher
Liridona Shkodra, Researcher
Lucia Cupato, Research and Archive Assistant
Melisë Mustafa, Research Intern
Mrika Rrustemi, Research Intern
Martine Beachboard Robinson, Editor
Puhiza Shemsedini, Researcher
Ramadan Sokoli, Researcher
Viona Recica, Researcher



In-kind Contributions to KWN

In 2025, 13 staff members and contractors provided in-kind contributions through their work in support of KWN's activities. We would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere appreciation to:

Adelina Berisha
Besarta Breznica
Dhurata Alilaj
Drita Sylejmani
Elirjeta Beka
Era Kadriu
Igballe Rogova

Jehona Tupalla
Katrora Media
Mirjeta Dibrani
Natyra Agani Destani
Nicole Farnsworth
Vigan Behluli

Individual Contributions to KWN

In 2025, 13 people provided financial donations in support of KWN's work. We would like to recognise and express our deepest appreciation to them.



KWN Member Organisations

#	Organisation	Address	Representative
1	21st Century Visionary Women	Bregdrini, Has, Prizren	Marte Prekpalaj
2	Action for Mother and Child	Perandori Dioklecian, St. No. 14, Tophane, Prishtina	Rina Demiri Spahija
3	Active Women of Gjakova	Sulejman Vokshi, St. Nr. 1, Gjakova	Valbona Doli Rizvanolli
4	Albanian Tradition - Anadrini	Rahovec	Servete Kastrati
5	Artpolis	Shaban Polluzha, St. Not No., Prishtina	Zana Hoxha
6	Art Without Limit (AWL)	Hyzri Talla, St. No.H5/7, Bregu i Diellit, Prishtina	Ganimete Sava
7	Association for Family Education and Care	Nënë Tereza, St. No. 181, Gjakova	Bahrije Deva
8	Association Eyes Seek Light	Ali Pashë Tepelena, St. Suhareka	Shqipe Mahmoudvand
9	Association of Beekeeping Women (SHGB) 'Okarina e Runikut'	Village Runik, Municipality of Skenderaj	Fetije Smakaj
10	Batlava's Assets	Village Batllave, Municipality of Podujeva	Magbule Statovci
11	Business Women Mitrovica	Qendra e Kulturës, 5 floor, Mitrovica	Melihat Beshiri



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
12	Centar Maninjske Zajednice	Gracanica	Jelena Bulatović
13	Center for Education and Community Development - Friends	Cultural Center, 2nd floor, Mitrovica	Valbona Sadiku
14	Center for Equality and Justice	Remzi Ademaj, St. Prizren	Tringa Kasemi
15	Center for Legal Aid and Regional Development	Bardhyl Qaushi, St. No.7, Prishtina	Anton Nrecaj
16	Center for Protection of Women and Children		Zana Asllani
17	Center for the Promotion of Women's Rights	Shopping Center, No. 42, Drenas	Kadire Tahiraj
18	Center for the Protection and Rehabilitation of Women and Children 'Freedom'		Nazife Jonuzi
19	Center for the Protection of Victims and Prevention of Human Trafficking		Teuta Abrashi
20	Center for the Protection of Women and Children 'Raba Voca'		Fidane Hyseni
21	Center for the Protection of Women and Children "My Home"		Sevdije Kasumi Bunjaku
22	Council for Equality and Education in Society	Holger Peterson 315, Prishtina	Afërdita Bekteshi



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
23	Dardana's Eagles	Ibrahim Rugova, St. Kushnica, Graçanica	Havushe Bunjaku
24	Dita	Prishtina	Afërdita Zeneli
25	Divine Woman	Sadullah Brestovci, St. Gjilan	Igballe Hajdari
26	Down Syndrome Kosova	Kroi i Bardhë, No. 72, Dardania, Prishtina	Sebahate Beqiri
27	Drugëza NGO	Adem Jashari, St. Skenderaj	Hana Zabeli
28	EcoKosWomen EKW	Hilmi Rakovica, St. No.31, Prishtina	Magbule Hyseni
29	Education Code	Prishtina	Mimoza Stanovci
30	Elita - Centre for Education and Development	Lipjan	Luljeta Krasniqi Murati
31	Era Fruit	Batlava, Podujeva	Xhyllie Statovci
32	Flame	Skenderbeu, St. Lipjan	Melihate Dedushi
33	Foundation for Education and Development	Sunny Hill – East Zone, Ll. 12, No. 7, Prishtina	Vjollca Zeqiri
34	Glas Žena Parteš	Parteš	Vesna Dimić
35	Handikos Mitrovica	Mitrovica	Myrvete Hasani
36	Handikos Suhareka	Skenderbeu, St. Not No., Suhareka	Suzana Gashi
37	Have Hope- Kam Shpresë	Emin Duraku, St, Prishtina	Arnisa Osmani
38	Hendifer	Ramadan Rexhepi, St. No. 1, Ferizaj	Fazile Bungu



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
39	Hear my Voice	Primary School, "Ibrahim Rugova", Obiliq	Xhevahire Tahiri Preniqi
40	Humanus Vita	Prishtina	Doruntina Gashi
41	Hydrangea	Mentor Retkoceri, No. 9b, Prishtina	Selvete Gashi
42	Independent Women's Association 'Hareja' - Rahovec	Bujar Thaqi, St. Rahovec	Adelina Paqarizi
43	IPKO Foundation	Prishtina	Abetare Gojani
44	Kosovar Center for Rehabilitation of Torture Victims	Hamëz Jashari, St. 16 b/2, Prishtina	Feride Rushiti
45	Kosovo Blind Women Committee	Sunny Hill, St. Gazmend Zajmi, Standard's Building, Prishtina	Bajramshahe Jetullahu
46	Kosovo Center for Gender Studies	Nëna Terezë, No. 18/1, Prishtina	Luljeta Demolli
46	Kosovo Institute of Media and Communication	B, St. No.210, Prishtina	Kaltrina Ajeti
47	Kosovo Women's Initiative	Gjakova	Leonora Kalludra
48	Lawyers Association NORMA	Afrim Vitija, St. No. 3/1, Prishtina	Valbona Salihu
49	LEUSTINA	Village Batllavë, Municipality of Podujeva	Selvete Statovci
50	LIRA	Prishtina	Valire Buza
51	Medica Gjakova Women's Association	Fadil Nimani, St. No. 34, Gjakova	Mirlinda Sada



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
52	Medica Kosova	Luigj Gurakuqi, St. No. 39, Gjakova	Veprorre Shehu
53	Mitrovica Women's Association for Human Rights	Isa Boletini, St. Mitrovica	Vetone Veliu
54	Moravski Biser	Parteš	Dragana Petrović
55	Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women's Organisations	UÇK, St. Flat No. I, Prishtina	Shpresa Agushi
56	NGO Drita e Llapit	Podujeva	Aferdita Murati
57	NGO Garden	P. F. Keqekollë, Dabishevc	Sadije Dulahu
58	Non-Governmental Organisation for Care of Repatriated Women 'Amza'	Lidhja e Pejës, St. Fushë Kosova	Violeta Berisha
59	NGO Leaders of the Future	Dardania, St. Fushë Kosova	Rina Gashi
60	NGO Pojata	Prishtina	Sabrije Nimani
61	NGO Stina	Village Reka, Municipality of Kaçanik	Zarije Malsiu
62	Open Door	Tringë Smajli, St. No. 72, Prishtina	Belgijzare Muharremi
63	Opportunity	Vëllezërit Dragaj, St. No. 4, Mitrovica	Hasime Tahiri Hasani
64	Optimistic Women's Center	Fehmi Agani, St. No. 15, Prishtina	Emine Mehmeti
65	Organisation for Development and Communication "URA SOCIALE" (Social Bridge)	Dëshmorët e Kombit, St. No.13, Vushtrri	Mergime Jashari



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
66	Organisation for Inclusion and Equality IMPACT	Qamil Behrami, St., Skenderaj	Gentiana Zeqiri
67	Organisation for Integration and Social Development "Follow Up"	Prishtina	Agime Osmani
68	Organisation for Local Reforms-EULOC	Shtëpia e Kulturës "Gursel e Bajram Sylejmani", Viti	Florim Brahmi
69	Our Paradise	Village Babush i Muhaxherëve, Municipality of Lipian	Sylbije Sahiti
70	Partners Kosova Center for Conflict Management	Dardania, SU 1/2, 3rd floor, No. 11, Prishtina	Shukrije Gashi
71	Precious Hands 'Dora'	Lipjan	Mihane Avdullahu
72	QSGF-P		Jubilea Kabashi
73	Renaissance - Association of Women in Support of the Fight against Breast Cancer	Luigj Gurakuqi, St. No. 139/5, Prizren	Violeta Pirana
74	RIKOTTA	Adem Gllavica, St. No. 48, Prishtina	Pranvera Bullaku
75	Ruka + Ruci	Ugljare, Fushë Kosova	Gordana Toskic
76	Rule of Democracy in Kosovo/ADK	Village Orllan, Municipality of Podujeva	Rexhep Zeka
77	Safe House		Erbolina Dinarama



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
78	She Solutions	Xhemajl Mustafa, St. BB- I, h-5, No.14, Dardani Prishtina	Antigona Baxhaku- Idrizi
79	SHGZ	Abedin Rexha, Str. Not No. Malisheva	Tahire Gashi
80	The Ideas Parnership	Prishtina	Arbon Osmani
81	The Youth Union, The Bright Future “BRAN”	Sejdi Sejdiu, St. Not No., Ferizaj	Gyltene Osmani Ilazi
82	The Organisation of People with Muscular Dystrophy of Kosovo	Zahir Pajaziti, St. Not No., Prizren	Antigona Shestani
83	Udruženje Žena - Povratnica “Naš Dom”	Novobërda	Aleksandra Stanković
84	Undruženje Poslovnih Žena WBA	North Mitrovica	Olivera Milosevic
85	Valbona	Village Sillovi, 99 Prilli, St. No. 501, Municipality of Lipjan	Valbona Sopa
86	Violeta	Barileva, Prishtina	Bedrije Shala Pireva
87	Vita - Jeta	Lidhja e Prizrenit, St. No. 132, Prishtina	Mimoza Ajeti
88	Women’s Association of Balaj “ELITA”	Village Balaj, Mustaf Aliu, St., Ferizaj	Behrije Nuha
89	Women’s Association Fatjona	Village Banje, Municipality of Malisheva	Fatime Limaj



#	Organisation	Address	Representative
90	Women Association Feminae WAF	Adem Jashari, St. No. 124/8, Prizren	Shykran Berisha
91	Woman Farmers	Rahovec	Habibe Haxhimustafa
92	Women's Alliance for Integration	Ilir Ramadani, St. No. 3, Medvec, Lipjan	Adelina Qorraj-Emini
93	Women's Association "Aureola"	Avalla Compund, B/I, No.4, Prishtina	Sanije Grajçevci
94	Women's Center "ATO"	Wesli Clark, St. Not No., Vushtrri	Fikrije Ferizi
95	Women's Rural Development Center	Bostanë, Novoberda	Shefkije Mehmeti
96	Women's Welfare Association "Monsig"	House of Culture, Floor II, Petar i Pave, St., Kllokot	Selvije Rexhepi
97	Women's Wellness Center		Ardita Ramizi Bala
98	Worth Living	Selman Riza, St. No. I I , Gjakova	Valbone Katsrati
99	YMCA Movement	Prishtina	Dorina Lluka Davies
100	Youth Association for Human Rights	Lipjan	Bekim Krasniqi
101	Youth Center - Obiliq	Obiliq	Zelushe Kelmendi
102	You can do it YCD	Bajram Bahtiri, St. Prishtina	Hashim Llumnica
103	Ženski Inkluzivni Center		Vesna Stajic



Annex 1a. List of Grants Successfully Completed in 2025

In 2025, twelve KWN member organisations successfully completed their initiatives. Two grants, supported by the EU, focused on strengthening Kosovo CSOs and addressing the social and economic impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable groups, particularly women and girls. These grants remained ongoing at the end of 2024 and were completed in early 2025, totalling 19,998€. The remaining four initiatives, funded by ADA and co-funded by Sida, were implemented and completed in 2024, receiving a total of €39,711.98. The table below provides an overview of these initiatives.

Round 19

Donor: ADA, co-funded by Sida

Total Amount Sub-granted: €39,714.48

Number of Grants: 4

CSO	Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results	Beneficiaries
Women Farmers	Improving access of women in Rahovec Municipality	€9,931	This initiative aimed to tackle barriers to accessing essential reproductive healthcare in the Municipality of Rahovec. Despite the presence of	Participants in rural areas received information on the prevention and management of malignant and chronic non-communicable diseases. They	286 women and 5 men



	to quality healthcare		Health Centres in many rural areas, those clinics had remained non-functional and lacked doctors. As a result, women and girls had to travel to receive medical care and were often unaware of their healthcare rights. The action addressed these gaps by increasing awareness, improving access and advocating for the services and support these communities needed.	were encouraged to advocate for their right to quality healthcare and to document and report any violations. Through discussions among themselves and with the lecturer, they exchanged perspectives on awareness-raising and patient rights. As a result, many women felt more confident to speak up and take action. The majority submitted written statements outlining the violations they had experienced.	
Ruka Ruci	Together for our health	€9,926	This initiative aimed to improve the institutional mechanism for managing patients' complaints. It sought to ensure that healthcare institutions were equipped with Patient Rights Cards,	The project contributed to strengthened institutional accountability and increased community awareness of healthcare rights. The mechanism for managing patient complaints was	225 women and 75 men



			<p>complaint boxes, and a functional commission for reviewing complaints. Additionally, the initiative aimed to raise awareness among girls and women about their healthcare rights, including when and how to file complaints regarding rights violations during healthcare delivery. Further, it aimed to enhance knowledge about early detection of cervical cancer and the importance of vaccination. It also sought to increase awareness among young people about risky procedures, the frequency of sexually transmitted infections, the importance of contraceptive use and recommended contraceptive</p>	<p>improved through the installation of Patient Rights Charters and complaint boxes, and the establishment of functional review commissions that include civil society representatives, ensuring responses within 10 working days. A total of 121 beneficiaries, primarily women and girls, enhanced their knowledge of their healthcare rights, complaint procedures and the importance of early detection and regular screening for cervical cancer. Furthermore, 138 young participants increased their awareness of sexual and reproductive health, including prevention of sexually transmitted infections and the</p>	
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			methods. Moreover, it aimed to inform young Roma and Ashkali women about infant immunisation.	use of contraception, while 25 mothers from Roma and Ashkali communities were informed about infant immunisation, specifically BCG vaccination. The project also strengthened accountability in practice, as four documented complaints concerning healthcare services were addressed and resolved within the legal timeframe.	
Organisation for Integration and Social Development “Follow Up”	Analysis of school curriculum and educational forms on sexual consent in high schools	€9,931	This initiative aimed to reduce the impact of harmful gender norms in education. Such norms were often reinforced by teachers who, as part of a patriarchal context, unintentionally passed them on to their students. This contributed to attitudes that limited both boys’ and girls’	The project achieved significant progress in strengthening institutional cooperation and improving the quality of teaching. A detailed activity plan was developed in line with project requirements, and official approval for implementation was secured from the	8 women and 10 men

		<p>personal and academic development. To address this, Follow Up aimed to raise awareness and promote a more inclusive, gender-responsive approach to education, encouraging students to question norms and make their own choices.</p>	<p>Directorate of Education of the Municipality of Pristina. Memoranda of cooperation were signed with five secondary schools, establishing a solid foundation for activities. Following that, ten civic education classes were observed, and substantial data were collected and analysed to inform the development of a policy analysis on the need for comprehensive sexual education. The capacities of eight civic education teachers to deliver more gender responsive teaching were strengthened. In addition, a roundtable discussion fostered institutional cooperation between Follow</p>	
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				Up, the Directorate of Education, the Centre for Social Work and the Municipality of Pristina, demonstrating effective engagement toward improving gender sensitive education in secondary schools.	
Social Bridge	We work to promote quality education	€9,926	This initiative aimed to assess the quality of teaching and gender dynamics in secondary schools in the Municipality of Vushtrri, through the observation of lessons in civic education, biology and Albanian language. It aimed to examine teaching methods, student engagement, gender responsive approaches and interactions between teachers and students during classroom	The project achieved substantial results in improving teaching practices and promoting quality education in the Municipality of Vushtrri. Cooperation was established with the Directorate of Education and local schools, ensuring institutional support and strengthening partnerships for project implementation. Fifteen classes in secondary schools	8 women and 13 men



			<p>instruction. The idea was to develop a detailed report with recommendations for schools at both local and central levels. Further, the initiative aimed to provide teacher training as part of the overall assessment process, and to organise an advocacy meeting with officials from the Directorate of Education, school principals and teachers to present the policy analysis findings and advocate for improvements based on the collected data.</p>	<p>were observed to assess teaching methodologies, student engagement, and the integration of a gender perspective in the classroom. Based on the collected data, a comprehensive report was prepared, providing concrete recommendations for improving educational policies and practices. A workshop on gender equality was delivered to teachers, enhancing their capacities to apply gender responsive methods and address stereotypes in teaching. An advocacy meeting with education officials, school directors and teachers further supported dialogue and commitment toward improving education</p>	
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				<p>policies and teaching approaches at both local and central levels. Overall, these efforts contributed to strengthened educational capacities and the advancement of gender equality in education in Vushtri.</p>	
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Two members successfully completed initiatives towards gender responsive budgeting in Crisis Resilience supported by ADA and co-financed by Sida, totalling €15,998.

CSO	Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Result	Beneficiaries
EcoKos Women	Placing women at the centre of climate change solutions	7,998	This initiative aimed to enhance women farmers' quality of life and that of their families by focusing on safe practices and innovations such as circular economy principles. Additionally, it aimed to	EcoKos Women published the report "Strengthening Sustainable Agriculture: Gender Perspectives in the Circular Economy", providing concrete recommendations for integrating gender perspectives into Kosovo's circular economy	29 (26 women and 3 men)



CSO	Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Result	Beneficiaries
			support the Ministry of Environment in developing policies and governmental measures to address environmental issues and ensure gender equality, shaping policies and legislation that support environmental sustainability and gender equality at political and social levels.	policies. Additionally, it produced and shared 10 infographics related to gender-responsive budgeting, enhancing awareness and understanding of gender mainstreaming in budget policies.	
Mitrovica Women's Association for Human Rights	Gender budgeting as a transformative tool for municipalities	8,000	This initiative aimed to increase women's participation in public hearings organised by the Municipality of Mitrovica, to gather recommendations for the annual budget. It also sought to generate recommendations from women's advocacy meetings and sessions with	MWAHR published the report "Gender budgeting as a transformative budget tool for municipal institutions", summarising meetings held with key municipal directors and six public consultations in South Mitrovica. Participants learned about gender-responsive budgeting and provided	353 (297 women and 56 men)



CSO	Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Result	Beneficiaries
(MWA HR)	institutions		directors, ensuring that these recommendations were considered by the Directorate of Finance. Additionally, it aimed to improve the performance and transparency of the municipal directorates of Mitrovica in implementing gender-responsive budgeting, ensuring greater accountability to citizens.	concrete budget recommendations. These recommendations were officially submitted to respective municipal departments and discussed during annual budget public consultations, ensuring community input and gender-responsive budgeting at the municipal level.	



Round 18/2

Donor: The Sigrid Rausing Trust (SRT)

Total Amount Sub-granted: € 44,999.99

Number of Grants: 3

CSO	Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results	Beneficiaries
Medica Kosova	Core support	€15,000	This initiative aimed to provide psychosocial and legal empowerment to survivors of wartime sexual violence, enabling them to seek legal recognition and compensation as guaranteed by existing legislation. A key component of the initiative was psychosocial counselling, both individual and group-based, to strengthen survivors' resilience and support them through the complex legal recognition process. This was complemented by legal counselling, which provided guidance on	The project contributed to strengthening the rule of law through implementation of the legislation recognising the status and rights of survivors of wartime sexual violence. Through counseling and awareness sessions on verification procedures, the project empowered 23 women and 4 men survivors to apply for recognition of their status or to reinstate claims through judicial processes. In doing so, the project advanced	66 women and 4 men



		<p>application procedures and preparation for legal proceedings. Beyond direct support to survivors, the project also aimed to create a safe and supportive environment for them while accessing health, social and legal services, through specialised training for healthcare professionals and support for organisational development, toward sustainable and ethical approaches to service delivery. Through these comprehensive measures, the initiative strived to create lasting change in the lives of survivors, fostering both individual empowerment and systemic improvements in their access to justice and support.</p>	<p>gender equality by supporting the effective implementation of legislation that promotes equal rights and opportunities for women. It also contributed to the socio-economic empowerment of survivors, particularly marginalised women who benefit from a lifelong pension of 230 EUR, enabling small investments in their farms or household economies and supporting their personal resilience. Additionally, the project delivered training to healthcare professionals and medical and nursing students in Gjakova. Strengthening their capacities to recognize the effects of trauma among survivors of violence fostered a more</p>	
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				sensitive and empathetic professional approach, while also contributing to gradually challenging harmful gender stereotypes and promoting a more supportive societal response toward women and men who have experienced sexual violence during and after the war.	
Lawyers Association NORMA	Core support	€15,000	This initiative aimed to ensure that more women, men, girls, and boys, regardless of ethnicity, age, abilities, education level, political or religious beliefs, or sexual orientation, became better informed about the justice system. In line with the provisions of the Law on Free Legal Aid, the initiative aimed to raise awareness about the rights and mechanisms available for accessing free legal	The project contributed to advancing gender equality through the rule of law by addressing several key areas, including combating gender-based violence, transforming gender norms through education, and raising awareness of inheritance and property rights in line with the Draft Civil Code of Kosovo. Through its activities, the	202 beneficiaries

			<p>assistance. This includes the publication of informative materials online through social media, providing essential information on the legal framework and protective mechanisms against gender-based violence, thereby improving public awareness and understanding of these critical issues.</p> <p>In addition, the grant focused on educating individuals and families about women's rights to inheritance and property ownership. By addressing gender equality in property rights, the initiative contributed to the economic empowerment of women, enabling them to exercise their legal rights and strengthen their social and financial standing.</p>	<p>project strengthened advocacy for a life free from gender-based violence and promoted greater understanding of legal rights among women and marginalized groups. It enhanced their access to justice, property, and inheritance rights, thereby supporting more equitable participation in social and economic life. Overall, the project fostered a more inclusive and rights-based environment for all citizens, regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, or social status.</p>	
	Core support	€14,999	This initiative aimed to analyse the approved municipal budget for	The establishment of the Women's Forum for	66 women



<p>The Rule of Democracy in Kosovo</p>		<p>2024 in three municipalities: Podujevo, Shtime and Dragash. It aimed to assess the alignment of municipal budgets with gender responsive budgeting principles, evaluate their contribution to gender equality, and propose necessary adjustments to promote more equitable resource allocation. It also aimed to facilitate discussions with women entrepreneurs in Podujevo, toward the establishment of a Women's Business Forum as a platform to empower women in business, strengthen their collaboration with local authorities and potential donors, and advocate for their economic interests. It further aimed to implement an advocacy campaign to seek the allocation of a dedicated shared marketplace for</p>	<p>Development (FGZH) and the creation of its program plan focused on long-term objectives such as enhancing information sharing and coordination among women, improving collaboration with institutions and donors, building capacities for women's economic empowerment, and promoting women in development. One tangible outcome during this project was the Forum's advocacy to the Municipality of Podujeva, requesting a dedicated market space to enable women entrepreneurs and producers to showcase their products. The Forum has since consolidated, holding an introductory awareness</p>	<p>and 12 men</p>
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		<p>women entrepreneurs in Podujevo, with the objective of amplifying their voices and improving their economic opportunities.</p> <p>In addition, the initiative aimed to support women engaged in economic activities by providing professional assistance for the creation or redesign of business logos for those who lacked proper branding.</p>	<p>meeting attended by over 50 women, marking the beginning of its concrete actions in supporting women. Another positive impact was the provision of logo design services for women engaged in economic activities, which improved the visibility of their work and contributed to their economic empowerment.</p>	
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Round 20

Donor: The Sigrid Rausing Trust (SRT)

Total Amount Sub-granted: € 49,811

Number of Grants: 5

CSO	Title	Amount	About the Initiative	Results	Beneficiaries
She Solutions	Core support	€10,000	This initiative aimed to empower, support and promote women in decision-making positions. It aimed to promote the work and mission of gender equality activists from civil society, institutions and the art world by raising awareness about various initiatives promoting gender equality, towards equal opportunities and human rights.	Through a podcast series featuring the stories and journeys of women and men involved in individual and collective initiatives, the project contributed to advancing gender equality and human rights. The podcasts celebrated achievements in these fields while providing an open space for honest discussion that could reach wide audiences and resonated across generations. By sharing personal experiences, the series highlighted diverse paths to success, challenges faced, and ongoing barriers in the pursuit of	8 women and 2 men



				universal human rights. This approach supported awareness and gave a platform to individual stories that strengthened these broader goals.	
Art without Limit	Core support	€9,840	This initiative aimed to provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate in artistic and cultural activities, as well as to organise the “Art Without Limit International Film Festival” featuring films and activities dedicated to individuals with disabilities, addressing themes of inclusion, challenges and empowerment.	The project contributed to transforming gender norms through education in several ways. The use of art and film as educational tools provided powerful messages, addressing how women can challenge and change traditional gender perceptions. Positive roles were reinforced through inspiring examples, as successful women from various fields shared their experiences in overcoming gender barriers, serving as role models for younger generations. Open public dialogues encouraged nonformal education, offering opportunities	400 beneficiaries



				to learn and reflect on gender equality and social inclusion outside formal curricula, using real-life experiences and artistic expressions. This approach strengthened the vision of a society sensitive to gender issues, where education through art helps shift attitudes and norms that perpetuate inequality.	
Blind Women's Committee of Kosovo	Core support	€9,996	This initiative aimed to raise awareness about gender-based violence against blind women and girls through educational sessions and trainings in four regions of Kosovo. By developing and distributing accessible educational materials—including audio-visual content, lectures and informational brochures—it	The project had significant impact on the target beneficiaries, blind women and girls, by equipping them with deeper knowledge about gender-based violence and ways to identify and address it. The training influenced several key areas; it increased awareness and understanding, enabling participants to better recognize types and causes of violence, as well as the legal protections	76 beneficiaries



			<p>sought to challenge existing perceptions and gender norms. Efforts aimed to empower communities with knowledge on the rights of blind women and girls and the importance of gender equality, fostering a more inclusive and informed society.</p>	<p>available to them. Practical skills were strengthened through discussions and sessions on stress and trauma management, helping beneficiaries cope with difficult situations and protect themselves. Mental well-being also was improved through group discussions and counseling sessions. The project further empowered blind women to take proactive steps, seek institutional support, and actively defend their rights. Overall, the project contributed to improving the quality of life for beneficiaries and fostering a more inclusive and supportive environment for blind women in the community.</p>	
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Centre for the Promotion of Women's Rights (CPWR)	Core support	€9,975	This initiative aimed to support women survivors of sexual violence during the Kosovo war by providing them with opportunities for rehabilitation through the creation of handmade crafts. The aim of this process was not only to enhance survivors' psychosocial well-being but also to aid in their social integration; selling their products offered a pathway to economic empowerment and improved social standing.	The project contributed to the economic empowerment of participating women by strengthening their professional skills in handicrafts and painting. Through intensive training, women acquired specialised skills in filigree work and painting techniques, enabling them to develop artisanal products with market potential. The advanced techniques learned during the sessions created a foundation for sustainable economic activity and future self-employment opportunities. The artworks produced were exhibited at CPWR, increasing visibility to a broader audience. These exhibitions not only promoted participants' craftsmanship but also created opportunities for direct sales. As a	22 women
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				result, participants were able to generate income from their products, further supporting their economic independence.	
Women's Inclusion Centre	Core support	€10,000	This initiative aimed to develop the capacities of women in politics to advocate for women's priorities, while improving social services for victims of domestic violence. It sought to raise awareness about the ongoing revision of Kosovo's laws, as well as new action plans and strategies, highlighting the need for a coordinated institutional response to violence. It aimed to enhance advocacy for women's rights and to	The project achieved significant results across three key areas: political participation, protection from gender-based violence and women's economic empowerment. It contributed to increasing the visibility and capacities of women in politics, supporting their engagement in decision-making processes in line with the Law on Gender Equality and UN Security Council Resolution 1325. The project strengthened institutional responses to gender-based violence by improving awareness of the legal framework, enhancing	166 beneficiaries



			ensure a more effective and informed approach to addressing violence in society.	accountability among responsible institutions, increasing public knowledge on reporting mechanisms, and supporting the quality of services provided by shelters and organisations working with survivors.	
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KWN supported two organisations to implement their initiatives that are ongoing towards gender-responsive budgeting in climate financing, supported by ADA, co-financed by Sida, totalling: €16,000.

CSO	Title	Amount	About the Initiative
Mitrovica Women's Association for Humans Rights	Environmental and Gender Policies for Addressing Climate Change in the Municipality of South Mitrovica	8,000	The initiative aims to enhance the transparency of municipal institutions in South Mitrovica in implementing gender-responsive budgeting, in line with the Law on Gender Equality and the budget circular. Its specific objectives include increasing women's participation in the municipality's public hearings to contribute recommendations for the annual budget circular and strengthening municipal government accountability in fulfilling its commitments to gender equality.
Democracy Plus	Enhancing Climate Resilience Among Women Farmers in Podujeve and Rahovec	8,000	The initiative aims to enhance citizen and community participation, particularly among women and youth in public decision-making processes, while fostering greater responsiveness from central and local government institutions to deliver sustainable development solutions. This includes strengthening civic oversight, monitoring, transparency and accountability mechanisms in participatory budgeting, public spending, the rule of law and anti-corruption efforts.



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