

**24-30  
MAY  
2023**

**FINAL  
REPORT**

**KOSOVO  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
WEEK**



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# **INTRO- DUCTION**

## Background of Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW)

Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) stands as the largest event on sustainable development in the Western Balkans. Since its inauguration in 2018, KSDW has been a gathering place for over a **thousand participants** and esteemed speakers from both the region and beyond. This platform dedicates itself to addressing a specific theme each year, encompassing a wide range of topics related to sustainable development and its advancement in Kosovo and the surrounding region.

In addition to being one of the largest events in the country, KSDW is a regional event, which, besides its impact in Kosovo, gathers different representatives from the Western Balkans region, and deals with issues that impact the entire region. This annual initiative has its already consolidated partners, which constitute a large group of organizations that are the Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Rural Development, Environment, Spatial Planning, and Infrastructure within the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, the Municipality of Pristina, the EU Special Representative in Kosovo, German Government through GIZ Kosovo, Institute for Development Policy (INDEP), and Balkan Green Foundation (BGF).

The primary objective of Kosovo Sustainable Development Week is to foster collaboration and bring together a diverse array of stakeholders. This includes high-level government officials such as ministers and Members of Parliament, public institutions, civil society organizations, the international community, the private sector, academia, and citizens at large. Through the promotion of public dialogue and raising awareness, KSDW endeavors to encourage comprehensive discussions on economic, social, and environmental issues about sustainability.

**KSDW spans three conference days each year and features a variety of side events organized by external partners.** At the culmination of each edition, the event encapsulates the policy recommendations generated throughout the week, distributing them to relevant stakeholders and publishing them on the event's website and various social media platforms. KSDW continuously expands its network of collaborators, ensuring the active participation of relevant institutions. The KSDW team remains committed to addressing feedback and incorporating lessons learned from previous editions, striving to make each subsequent edition even more impactful and successful.

19 Conference Days  
108 Side Events

360 Speakers  
Over 60 Media Appearances

61 Panel Discussions  
Thousand Participants



**Summary of  
KSDW 2023**

## Overview of the Event

The sixth edition of the Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) underwent a comprehensive reformatting, resulting in a fresh and distinct event experience. KSDW 2023 introduced a novel approach to structuring conference days by incorporating workshops involving key stakeholders. These workshops provided a unique platform for direct contributions to policy drafting and the formulation of recommendations.

Centered around the overarching theme of '**Accelerating Sustainable and Inclusive Growth for the WB6,**' this edition of KSDW aimed to advance a green, resilient, and inclusive economy. Its primary objective was to transform the formidable challenges posed by COVID-19 and climate change into opportunities for a brighter future. Notably, the event placed significant emphasis on regional green initiatives, inclusivity, digital transformation, and financing strategies for a just transition toward a sustainable future.

This year, the KSDW team welcomed two new important partners: the **Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Rural Development, Environment, Spatial Planning, and Infrastructure within the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo, and the Municipality of Prishtina.** These partnerships were instrumental in ensuring the success of the event. Working with the Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Rural Development, Environment, Spatial Planning, and Infrastructure is of great significance because it allows the recommendations generated during KSDW to be brought to the legislative branch. This collaboration ensures that the ideas and proposals discussed during the event have the potential to shape policies and regulations related to sustainable development in Kosovo. On the other hand, the Municipality of Prishtina played a crucial role in ensuring the smooth organization of KSDW. As the main event was based in Prishtina, the municipality provided valuable support in terms of logistics and coordination.

3 Conference Days  
4 Talks  
3 awards

8 Panel Discussions  
12 Side Events  
14 Media Appearances

2 Workshops  
60 Speakers  
Thousand Participants

At the core of this edition was the overarching theme of '**Accelerating Sustainable and Inclusive Growth for the WB6.**' This theme served as a powerful reminder of the pressing need to foster a green, resilient, and inclusive economy in the Western Balkans region. KSDW aimed to transcend the formidable challenges posed by COVID-19 and climate change and instead view them as opportunities for a brighter future. This proactive mindset reflected the determination to leverage these challenges as catalysts for positive change.

In each edition, KSDW expands its activities and divides them into two distinct parts. This year's main events included the Opening Ceremony, the three Conference

Days, and the Closing and Award Ceremony. The Opening Ceremony was integrated into the activities of the First Day, where notable figures and keynote speakers had the opportunity to share their insights. The First Day specifically brought together high-level representatives from various governments in the region, including the Ministries of Kosovo, Albania, North Macedonia, and Croatia.

The Second part of the week featured side events that were more focused on relaxed and grassroots-based activities implemented by core and external partners of KSDW. These events aimed to provide a more engaging and hands-on approach to sustainability. Additionally, the second part of the week also featured activities organized by partners and external organizations, which further enhanced the event's diverse and grounded nature.

### 60 speakers

6 international speakers  
15 regional speakers

A distinguishing feature of KSDW is its ability to bring together a diverse range of stakeholders. The event serves as a meeting ground for policymakers, industry leaders, academics, civil society representatives, and members of the public, fostering a collaborative environment for knowledge sharing and collective action. The ability to convene such a broad spectrum of stakeholders demonstrates KSDW's effectiveness in facilitating meaningful dialogue and promoting cross-sectoral partnerships. As KSDW is now well-renowned for its regional approach, KSDW hosted this year more than 20 regional and international speakers.

### Media Presence

10 Media Appearances  
4 Radio Features  
5 Prominent Portal Headlines  
Over 40 000 Reach Engagements

In recognition of the importance of environmental reporting and promoting sustainability, three prestigious awards were dedicated to empowering Green Journalism in Kosovo. These awards aim to honor outstanding contributions and raise awareness about pressing environmental issues. The recipients of these awards have demonstrated exceptional talent and dedication in their work, showcasing the power of journalism to inspire positive change and protect the environment. By highlighting their impactful stories, documentaries, and investigations, these awards serve as a catalyst for further environmental journalism in Kosovo, encouraging a greater focus on sustainable practices and raising public consciousness about pressing ecological challenges.

**3 Prestigious Awards for Green Journalism in Kosovo**



The closing ceremony of KSDW witnessed a historic moment with the presentation of three prestigious awards for Green Journalism in Kosovo. This unprecedented recognition marks a significant milestone in the field of environmental reporting within the country. For the first time in KSDW's history, these distinguished awards were bestowed on journalists who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and excellence in covering environmental issues and promoting sustainable development. The event highlighted the importance of green journalism in raising awareness about pressing environmental challenges and encouraging positive change in society. The recognition serves as a catalyst for further strengthening the role of media in advocating for sustainable practices and fostering a greener and more sustainable future for Kosovo.

### A total of 71 recommendations

61 recommendations from panel discussions during Conference Days

10 recommendations from panel discussions during Side Events

Kosovo Sustainable Development Week is a transformative platform that places great emphasis on generating valuable recommendations from each edition. These recommendations are vital as they serve as a roadmap for achieving sustainable development goals and fostering positive change in the Western Balkans region. The collaborative discussions and expert insights during KSDW result in comprehensive, innovative, and actionable suggestions on crucial topics such as energy policy, climate change mitigation, air quality management, green journalism and more. To ensure the impact of these recommendations, KSDW takes proactive steps to disseminate them to each relevant stakeholder, including governments of other Western Balkan countries. Through targeted communication channels, conferences, workshops, and official reports, the valuable insights and proposals derived from KSDW are shared with policymakers, civil society organizations, academia, businesses, and citizens. This collaborative effort strengthens regional cooperation and empowers stakeholders to collectively work towards a greener, more sustainable future for the entire Western Balkans.

### Key Recommendations derived from the 6th edition of KSDW

**Strengthen Regional Cooperation and Address Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism:** Policymakers need to prioritize regional cooperation to address challenges posed by the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). This will facilitate a smooth transition towards a low-carbon and sustainable global economy, ensuring a fair and equitable approach among countries in the Western Balkans.

**Invest in Energy Efficiency and Create a Common Energy Market:** To ensure a sustainable future for energy resources, investing in energy efficiency and establishing a common energy market for the Western Balkans are vital steps. Regional cooperation and collaboration with European Union are crucial in achieving a sustainable, competitive, and secure energy system for the entire region.

Overall, KSDW's journey from its inception to the sixth edition showcases its evolution into an esteemed public dialogue platform. With a renewed format and an unwavering focus on sustainable and inclusive growth, the event aimed to leave a lasting impact and pave the way for a prosperous and environmentally conscious Western Balkans region.

### **Feedback and lessons learned**

One of KSDW's notable achievements has been the positive feedback and recommendations received from its participants. The event has consistently garnered praise for its high-quality content, insightful discussions, and valuable networking opportunities. Moreover, the recommendations received from participants have served as a valuable source of guidance for the organizing team. By carefully considering these suggestions, KSDW has been able to continuously improve and enhance the event experience. The organizing team has actively taken note of the participants' input and used it to refine the program, introduce new features, and address any shortcomings. This iterative process has contributed to the event's growing success and has established it as a platform that effectively meets the needs and expectations of its diverse audience.

In addition to feedback, KSDW has also embraced lessons learned from previous editions. These lessons have helped the partners identify areas for improvement, anticipate challenges, and adopt strategies to overcome them. The event's ability to adapt and evolve based on these lessons has been instrumental in maintaining its relevance and impact over the years. By incorporating best practices and innovative approaches, KSDW has continually elevated the quality and effectiveness of the conference, ensuring its continued success.

The feedback received and lessons learned have also reinforced the importance of stakeholder engagement. KSDW's success in bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, academics, civil society representatives, and the public has underscored the significance of collaboration and collective action in driving sustainable development. The event has recognized the value of diverse perspectives and the need for inclusive decision-making processes. By creating a platform that facilitates meaningful dialogue and fosters cross-sectoral partnerships, KSDW has reinforced the notion that sustainable development requires the active involvement and cooperation of all stakeholders.

In conclusion, KSDW has established itself as a dynamic and influential platform for sustainable development. The partners' commitment to continuous improvement and stakeholder engagement has been instrumental in driving positive change and ensuring the event's long-term success.



**MAIN  
EVENTS**

Each year, KSDW expands its program, dividing it into two distinct sections. In the latest edition, the main events comprised the Opening Ceremony, three Conference Days, and the Closing and Award Ceremony. The Opening Ceremony seamlessly blended with the activities of the First Day, providing a platform for esteemed figures and keynote speakers to share their valuable insights. This day specifically brought together notable representatives from various regional governments, such as the Ministries of Kosovo, Albania, North Macedonia, and Croatia, fostering meaningful discussions and promoting collaboration.

The remaining two Conference Days focused on sustainable transition, with an emphasis on inclusivity and creating financial opportunities for both the private and public sectors. **Renowned speakers from the entire region and beyond, including experts from Serbia, Albania, North Macedonia, Romania, Austria, Bulgaria, the United States, Belgium, Germany, France, and more, participated in these two days.** Their diverse expertise and perspectives contributed to comprehensive discussions on sustainable development, ensuring a wide range of insights and experiences were shared during the event.

### Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony of Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) was distinguished by the presence of esteemed individuals and key partner representatives, marking the beginning of an inspiring and impactful event. Among the notable participants was Albin Kurti, the Prime Minister of Kosovo, whose attendance showcased the government's commitment to sustainable development. Also in attendance was Tomáš Szunyog, the EU Special Representative in Kosovo, highlighting the importance of European collaboration in driving sustainable initiatives. The ceremony further saw the presence of Jörn Rohde, the German Ambassador in Kosovo, emphasizing the strong bilateral cooperation in advancing sustainable development. Additionally, Burim Ejupi, the Executive Director of the Institute for Development Policy, the lead organization in the coordination of the event lent his expertise and insights to the event, further amplifying its significance. With these distinguished individuals and key partners joining forces, the opening ceremony set the stage for a dynamic and collaborative dialogue on sustainable development during KSDW.

Stability is our core priority, embedded in our policies, strategies, and laws. Our government has prioritized addressing inequality by implementing measures for improved well-being, employment, and education for vulnerable groups. – **Albin Kurti, Prime Minister of Kosovo**



As we face unprecedented environmental challenges, we must unite and act comprehensively to mitigate the human impact on our planet. With its unique nature, diverse ecosystems, and rich biodiversity, it's crucial that the WB region including Kosovo Addresses these challenges. We hold the responsibility to protect these invaluable assets for ourselves and future generations. – **Tomáš Szunyog, EU Special Representative in Kosovo**



Every year, this event gives inspiration to policymakers and partners on how to very concretely enhance the green agenda. The partnership between Germany and Kosovo aims to achieve global energy transition and climate neutrality by 2050. Germany warmly welcomes Kosovo's adaption of its energy strategy and now the focus lies on effective implementation. – **Jörn Rohde, German Ambassador in Kosovo**



30% of KSDW recommendations are now implemented as public policy in Kosovo, with an additional 30% in progress. This collaborative effort has fostered partnerships for a greener future in Kosovo. – **Burim Ejupi, Executive Director of the Institute for Development Policy**







## Day One – Connecting Western Balkans for a Transition to Sustainable and resilient growth

The Western Balkans region has the potential to become a leader in sustainable and resilient growth. By connecting the region, the countries of the Western Balkans can work together to create a more prosperous and secure future. Through increased collaboration, the region can develop a shared vision for economic growth and development that is both sustainable and resilient. This could include investments in renewable energy, green infrastructure, and digital technologies. Additionally, the region could focus on improving access to finance, creating a more competitive business environment, and strengthening regional trade and investment.

On the first day of KSDW 2023, the focus was on a regional and integrated energy policy towards integrated energy policy with the purpose of better recovery and long-term transformation for the Western Balkan. Special emphasis was given to common planning for the sustainable development of the agricultural sector.

To amplify the message of sustainability, KSDW collaborated with three talented young art students. These artists provided captivating illustrations that complemented each panel discussion throughout the three-day conference, effectively conveying the importance of sustainability through the creative medium of art. This collaboration between KSDW and the artists served as a compelling reminder of the interconnectedness between art, sustainability, and the imperative for collective action.

In a significant milestone, this year's KSDW witnessed the participation of Ministers from across the region in the dialogues held on the first day. These dialogues provided a platform for important discussions on regional energy policy, as well as a joint approach to air quality management and climate change mitigation.

The inclusion of Ministers from multiple countries in these dialogues underscored the commitment to regional cooperation and the recognition of the interconnectedness of sustainability challenges. The discussions aimed to foster collaboration and the sharing of best practices, ultimately leading to more effective and harmonized approaches to address common environmental issues. High-level representatives took part in two panel discussions, contributing their expertise and perspectives. Some of the distinguished participants included:

- **Artane Rizvanolli**, Minister of Economy in the Republic of Kosovo
- **Liburn Aliu**, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning in the Republic of Kosovo
- **Ilir Bejta**, Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Energy in the Republic of Albania
- **Kaya Shukova**, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning in the Republic of North Macedonia
- **Mirela Kumbaro**, Minister of Tourism and Environment in the Republic of Albania

- **Dunja Mazzocco Drvar**, Director of the Climate Activities Directorate of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development in the Republic of Croatia

Below please see recommendations derived from each panel discussion on the first day.

### **Ministerial Discussion: The Road to a Greener Western Balkans: Toward a Regional Energy Policy**

1. Countries should consider adopting auctions as a market-based premium mechanism in the energy sector. By shifting away from feed-in tariffs and embracing auctions countries can promote market competition, leading to more cost-effective energy projects. Auctions help de-risk investments in the energy sector by providing a transparent and competitive process for project selection. This can attract more investors and reduce the burden on public finances.

2. The enforcement of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism emphasizes the need for increased regional cooperation among countries and the region. It is essential for governments and policymakers to address the challenges and opportunities posed by the CBAM, ensuring a smooth transition towards a low-carbon and sustainable global economy.

3. Investing in energy efficiency and creating a common energy market are important steps for a sustainable future of energy resources. Regional cooperation and cooperation with Europe are essential to ensure a sustainable, competitive, and secure energy system for all of us.

4. Cooperation with the countries of the region is necessary for preparing for the carbon tax. The imposition of such a tax guarantees a fair transition on the road to carbon neutrality.

5. Investment in building quality and energy efficiency is vital to achieving energy savings at home in Albania and Kosovo. The implementation of measures to minimize unnecessary losses will contribute to a sustainable change in the use of energy resources and promote sustainable development in both countries.

6. Based on the assessment that revealed that over 40% of the energy in Albania is used for water heating, a fund was created to support consumers who take the initiative to install solar panels to produce the energy needed for water heating. It is therefore important to take measures to promote the use of renewable energy for the sectors that contribute the most to energy consumption.

7. To effectively increase energy security and achieve our objectives, it is crucial to prioritize decarbonization efforts and place a strong emphasis on energy efficiency. By focusing on energy efficiency measures, we can unlock a new layer of energy



security and enhance resilience in our energy systems. Therefore, it is recommended to prioritize and invest in energy efficiency initiatives, policies, and technologies as a central strategy for achieving both decarbonization and energy security objectives.

8. To ensure a viable and economically rational energy market, it is essential to have significant volumes in the energy market. This can be achieved by establishing multiple interconnection lines in both directions and organizing an intra-day market. Additionally, taking the first step towards implementing the AlkoGap project would contribute to enhancing the energy market's efficiency and reliability.

9. To leverage the potential of using natural gas for both heating and cooling purposes, it is recommended to explore and promote the adoption of natural gas-based technologies in residential, commercial, and industrial sectors. This can create a new alternative source for both heating and cooling markets and contribute to reducing the reliance on electricity consumption.



### **Ministerial Discussion: Developing a joint approach to air quality management and climate change mitigation in the Western Balkan**

1. By prioritizing regional cooperation and engagement in regional energy projects, Kosovo can address its energy challenges, access diversified energy sources, and contribute to global energy objectives. Joining international conventions and agreements, such as the International Energy Convention, can also provide a framework for aligning national energy policies with global sustainability targets.

2. As a Mediterranean country, solar panels and photovoltaic cells are the future of the country. By subsidizing the installation of solar panels and photovoltaic cells, investments in solar energy will be encouraged and the country will be guided in the path to a more sustainable energy system, economically advanced and less dependent on traditional energy sources.

3. Since nature, flora, and fauna do not recognize administrative borders, it is essential to focus on regional cooperation to protect and preserve national parks and protected nature areas. This will directly affect biodiversity conservation and create a lasting legacy for future generations.

4. Education and change of mentality are the main pillar of emancipation for sustainable development. Particular emphasis should be placed on these aspects to encourage the awareness of individuals, communities and institutions to meet the objectives of sustainable development.

5. The integration of the strategy for the Western Balkans in the policies and programs of the European Union is important to accelerate the progress towards European integration and to ensure the stability and development of the region.

6. The involvement of technology in the path of sustainable transition is critical to achieving sustainable development goals. It is recommended that efforts be made to encourage and promote the use of innovative technologies immediately.







## Day Two – Bringing people together – Sustainable transition focusing on inclusivity

Bringing people together is an essential part of creating a sustainable transition that focuses on inclusivity. To create a sustainable transition, it is important to ensure that all voices are heard and that all stakeholders are included in the decision-making process. This means that all stakeholders, including those from different backgrounds, must be included in the decision-making process. The discussions and workshops on the second day focused the attention on the people and the impact of transition in vulnerable groups including women, youth, and people with disabilities. The second day also reserved an important topic – the digital agenda and the impact of green jobs for a successful transition. These topics combined both discussions and working group sessions to absorb ideas and identify possible policies for the future. Below please see recommendations derived from each panel discussion on the first day.

### Towards a Fair and Equitable Future: Prioritizing Human Rights in the Just and Inclusive Transition

1. The informative approach for citizens about the importance of the Ombudsman's institution as an address where any type of complaint should be reported should be increased, for when there is a lack of knowledge about reporting violations in the right place, consequently, it is difficult to react in this direction.
2. In order to support and increase the interest in women's participation in the energy sector, the stimulation of policies that provide comprehensive support and opportunities for increased economic development in the energy sector must be continued.
3. Through the consultations and cooperation of all relevant actors from the central level, the local level, and from civil society, decisions should be taken to change and design policies and strategies for a sustainable future in the entire Western Balkans as environmental issues exceed all barriers and boundaries.
4. Data should be collected throughout the region about environmental issues and an evidence database should be created to facilitate the organization and construction of strategies and policies as well as to increase inter-regional cooperation.





## Adapting to the New Normal: Strengthening Civil Protection and Enhancing Natural Disaster Management Strategies in the Era of Climate Change

1. Based on the recent situations that are being created by natural disasters, adequate mechanisms and capacities for preparedness in dealing with such situations should be strengthened. It is also important to increase the exchange of experiences in dealing with such cases with the countries of the region.
2. A zonal plan must be drawn up with the area's most at risk of being affected by natural disasters and in this way the area's most prone to being affected by such situations will be identified, increasing the level of mobilization to a higher level.
3. To work and pay more attention to preventive policies in the case of natural disasters, taking into account how important the preventive actions that must be taken to reduce the risk of disasters and to minimize losses if a disaster occurs.
4. Most of the countries of the Western Balkans do not have sufficient capacities for response in situations of natural disasters, therefore inter-regional cooperation should be the most necessary in this direction to achieve coordination and strengthening of capacities for emergency management.



## Balancing Conservation and Development: Exploring the Intersection of Protected Areas and Sustainable Tourism

1. To achieve sustainable development as a country, it is important to use a harmonized approach to nature and understand that the environment and development are closely related. The government should take concrete steps to improve coordination and harmony between development, environment and agriculture.
2. The Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Rural Development, Environment, Spatial Planning, and Infrastructure must improve communication with citizens in

order to strengthen the connection with citizens and encourage their engagement. Direct communication with citizens is an important practice to obtain information, building good relations with the community and responding to their concerns.

3. The restructuring of the inspectorate and the adoption of the law on inspections are important steps towards improving the system and effectiveness of inspections in the country. However, the lack of capacities creates obstacles for implementation, therefore it is recommended to increase the number of inspectors at the central level.

4. The zoning of protected areas is important for the preservation and protection of biodiversity and natural values of a country. In order to address the problems with tourists who cannot visit the protected areas, in addition to zoning, tourism management and the supervision of ecosystems in protected areas should be done. By doing so, Kosovo can address the problems with tourists and ensure the sustainable and convenient visits to these areas. This will promote sustainable tourism and the conservation of the country's natural resources.

5. To ensure the preservation and integrity of protected areas during scientific research, it is important to create conditions and implement measures to protect these areas. Concrete steps must be taken to address the problem and promote sustainable scientific research in protected areas.

6. Payments must be generated in protected areas. This practice has potential benefits for the conservation and development of these areas.

7. For non-timber forest products, a proper monitoring mechanism should be developed. From the collection of non-timber forest products, 16 million EUR were generated last year, but there was no monitoring and licensing of the collectors, which caused damage to different types of plants.

8. Caves in our country must be properly protected and restored. The lack of care for such natural areas can cause permanent damage, disturbing the surrounding ecosystem, therefore responsible institutions must pay special attention to the protection of caves.

9. There is a great need for reform in the environmental inspectorate as well as the establishment of inter-institutional cooperation in this matter. By focusing on reforming the inspectorate and increasing inter-institutional cooperation, Kosovo can strengthen the institutional capacity for law enforcement and environmental protection. This cooperation will help to address common challenges and achieve the goals of sustainable development.

10. National parks should be strengthened through employment according to management plans, because there is not enough staff. This will contribute to the proper preservation of biodiversity and natural heritage, as well as to the promotion

of sustainable tourism in the country.

11. It is necessary to give special importance to investments in our national parks. Investing in parks, based on the region's good practices, can help improve them and develop sustainable tourism.

12. Sensitization of citizens and stakeholders is important to improve nature protection. This includes the awareness of the public and all actors in their roles and responsibilities in the preservation and maintenance of the environment.

13. Cooperation between civil society and public institutions should be encouraged. The cooperation of civil society organizations with the institutions responsible for the protection of nature is important to achieve the common goal of the preservation of the environment.

14. In order to address the challenges in the implementation of strategic plans in the field of nature protection, steps must be taken to design, review and implement strategic plans in an appropriate manner.

15. To enhance public participation and ensure effective engagement of the public in environmental decision-making processes, the Kosovar Parliament should ratify the Aarhus Convention. The Aarhus Convention is an international agreement that promotes access to information, public participation, and access to justice in environmental matters. By ratifying the Aarhus Convention, Kosovo will demonstrate its commitment to transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness in environmental governance.

16. Membership in Europark or European Rangers will increase the prestige and value of Sharri National Park, increasing opportunities for promotion, regional cooperation, and improvement of park management. This step will bring benefits to biodiversity, tourism, the economy and local communities.

17. To address the lack of scientific studies in the field of agriculture and the environment, steps should be taken to encourage scientific research and the production of reliable materials.









## **Day Three – Financing transition – creating equal opportunities for both private and public sector**

The energy transition is a critical part of the global effort to reduce emissions and combat climate change. As such, it is essential that both the private and public sectors have equal opportunities to finance the transition. The private sector has a key role to play in financing the energy transition. Private sector investments can provide the capital needed to develop and deploy new technologies, such as renewable energy sources, energy storage, and energy efficiency measures.

Private sector investments can also help to create jobs and stimulate economic growth. The public sector also plays an important role in financing the energy transition. Kosovo can provide incentives for private sector investments, such as tax credits and subsidies. It can also invest directly in energy transition projects, such as research and development, infrastructure, and energy efficiency measures. To ensure that both the private and public sectors have equal opportunities to finance the energy transition, it is important to create a level playing field.

These topics were elaborated on the third day of KSDW. Kosovo and the countries of the Western Balkans are in a key momentum in which the policy framework is completed and important steps are needed to ensure the necessary financing is in place to pursue a successful transition. Discussions focused on both local initiatives for green transition as well as national financial instruments to move forward with the transition.

## **Energy Efficiency and RES: Models of reducing energy consumption in residential buildings**

1. Sustain the subsidization of energy-efficient heating equipment and household appliances, leading to increased benefits for citizens and a reduction in overall energy consumption.
2. Continue the agreement between the Municipality of Pristina, Termokos, and MCC to support and increase investments in energy efficiency. This includes the comprehensive installation of single meters in all buildings, ensuring no building is left out of the planned plan.
3. Review and evaluate the impact of investments made through the Energy Efficiency Fund, drawing conclusions about the results achieved and lessons learned during the implementation years of the project.
4. Include clear objectives and specified conditions for supporting efficient measures in the residential sector within the new law on energy efficiency. This will establish sustainable mechanisms that comprehensively address the energy sector.

5. Increase the inclusion and participation of young people in Kosovo in the energy transition process, recognizing their potential to bring new perspectives, innovative ideas, and passion for creating a better world, thereby accelerating and optimizing the energy transition.
6. Based on the 2022-2031 energy strategy, intensify investments and expand generation capacities from renewable sources. Identify areas with the highest potential for electricity production from solar and wind capacities to further boost the transition to sustainable energy.
7. Support high-rise residential builders by collaborating with local authorities and responsible entities, providing financing grants of up to 15% of the investment value. This support will encourage investment in efficient energy measures in these buildings.
8. Address administrative, regulatory, and technical barriers related to energy efficiency and renewable resources for own consumption. By removing these barriers, both support schemes and direct investments can flourish, promoting further development of projects in these areas.



## Green Jobs in the era of Digitalization

1. Emphasize the need for inclusive policies that accompany the transition to a circular economy, ensuring equal access to job opportunities for all individuals, regardless of background or gender. This approach will promote a fair and equitable green transformation.
2. Recognize the significance of investing in building adequate human capacities to effectively utilize green investments. Prioritize the development of skills and knowledge required for efficient implementation and management of green projects, thus maximizing their impact.

3. Highlight the importance of supporting women and girls by providing initiatives for integration and equal access to the labor market. This will enable them to actively participate in the digitalization process, ensuring their inclusion and contribution to sustainable development.
4. Acknowledge digitization as a transformative factor that can facilitate and streamline green practices. Foster cooperative mechanisms between local and central institutions to develop sustainable long-term solutions, leveraging digital technologies and innovation.
5. Strengthen entrepreneurship by increasing knowledge and skills related to green practices through online tools and training courses. Recognize the growing interest in understanding the potential of digitalization and provide accessible opportunities for entrepreneurs to upskill and adapt to green practices.
6. Conduct in-depth assessments of areas with the highest potential for digital transformation, focusing on functionalization and practical implementation. Develop comprehensive databases for each field to facilitate informed decision-making and resource allocation in the digitalization process.
7. Ensure that the drafting of new policies and their financing is strategic, preventing any delays in the transition process. Learn from the experiences of leading countries in the field of sustainability and digitalization to stay ahead and effectively navigate the evolving landscape.



## Inter-municipal cooperation in the development of integrated waste management

1. Emphasize the importance of avoiding barriers in inter-municipal cooperation for waste management. Address budgetary constraints and simplify bureaucratic procedures to streamline the waste management process, ensuring efficient and effective implementation.
2. Give priority to establishing an integrated waste management system that encompasses prevention, waste reduction, recycling, and proper disposal. Focus on organizing and planning the system in a comprehensive manner to achieve optimal waste management outcomes.
3. Promote the involvement of various stakeholders, including the central government, civil society, the private sector, and citizens, throughout the collaborative process. This inclusive approach will result in well-planned institutions, a clear division of responsibilities, and enhanced operational capacities.
4. Highlight the need for specific funding mechanisms for inter-municipal cooperation. Explore options for well-designed co-financing models between municipalities or seek grants from external donor funds to support waste management initiatives effectively.
5. Advocate for the establishment of a sustainable waste management system that prioritizes citizens' needs. This includes implementing a waste categorization system to facilitate proper waste collection and disposal methods, ensuring environmental sustainability.
6. Recognize the potential of waste as a source of energy production, such as electricity and heat. Propose the implementation of waste classification and separation methods, enabling the identification of marketable waste materials for domestic and international markets. This approach can provide economic opportunities and contribute to a more sustainable waste management system.



## Talks and Workshops

Kosovo Sustainable Development Week 2023 featured an exceptional lineup of talks and interactive workshops, leaving a lasting impact on all participants. The engaging talks by Annette Fath-Lihic and Benny Jensen, who emphasized the crucial connection between concrete challenges, legal aspects, and effective law implementation, inspired a collective effort to protect our beautiful nature and build a sustainable tomorrow. Meral Hallaqi-Radoniqi, an accomplished Energy Advisor at GIZ Kosova, shed light on the pivotal role of women in facilitating a just and sustainable energy transition, while Alessandro Bianciardi, the Deputy Head of Cooperation Section at the European Union Office in Kosovo, on the talk on bio-inspired solutions and nature-based solutions provided innovative approaches to sustainability and shared invaluable insights into the potential of bio-inspired solutions. Drilon Gashi, a part of the team of Urban and Climate Resilience at Deloitte Columbia, emphasized the imperative of prioritizing city sustainability. These exceptional speakers, with their enriching presentations, sparked transformative discussions and ignited a passion for sustainable change among the participants.

Furthermore, the interactive workshops, led by knowledgeable facilitators such as Mimosë Veliu, a Circular Economy Analyst from UNDP, and Driton Sylejmani, an independent expert in sustainable farming, provided practical insights and hands-on learning opportunities, with the assistance of Fitore Pacolli, MP and Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Rural Development, Environment, Spatial Planning, and Infrastructure within the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo. Through these workshops, participants were empowered to explore the implementation of circular economy principles and enhance farming practices, actively contributing to sustainable development in Kosovo. Overall, Kosovo Sustainable Development Week 2023 united experts and participants in their commitment to building a sustainable future for Kosovo and beyond.



### Workshop: **Transition towards sustainable farming through farmers' education/advising**

Facilitators: Fitore Pacolli, Chair of the Committee for Environment, Food, Agriculture, Planning and Development, Assembly of Kosovo and Driton Sylejmani, Independent Expert



Participants received practical insights and guidance on sustainable farming practices.

Emphasized the importance of education and advising for farmers to transition towards sustainable agricultural methods.



## Key Insights and Actionable Recommendations

**Gender-Responsive Policy Formulation:** Integrate a gender perspective in policy development across all sectors to effectively ensure inclusivity and address gender-specific challenges.

**Enhancing Access to Education and Training:** Implement targeted initiatives to encourage and support women's participation in STEM fields and ensure gender-balanced curricula in universities. Provide scholarships, internships, and specific training programs to empower women in pursuing professional development.

**Establishing Mentorship Networks:** Create professional networks and mentorship programs to promote women's advancement in various fields. Encourage collaboration and knowledge-sharing to foster a supportive environment for career growth.

**Equal Economic Opportunities:** Enact policies to enhance women's economic empowerment, including equal employment opportunities in both private and public sectors. Implement measures to ensure safe and inclusive work environments and eliminate gender pay disparities.

**Work-Life Balance Support:** Introduce flexible working arrangements, such as part-time options and flexible hours, to facilitate work-life balance for all employees. Offer parental leave for both parents to promote gender equality in caregiving responsibilities.

**Gender Objectives and Quotas:** Set clear objectives for achieving gender diversity and inclusivity in different sectors. Consider implementing gender quotas where appropriate to address existing gender imbalances and promote equitable representation.



### Workshop: **Circular Economy in Kosovo: A Youth Perspective on Following the Developed Roadmap**

Facilitator: Mimosë Veliu, Circular Economy Analyst UNDP

Participants gained a youth perspective on the implementation of circular economy principles. Explored the developed roadmap for circular economy in Kosovo.

Empowered youth to actively contribute to and follow the circular economy initiatives in the country.

## Key Insights and Actionable Recommendations

This exercise served as a dynamic and enriching platform to equip students and youngsters with profound insights into the revolutionary concept of circular economy. By participating in this endeavor, students were granted a unique youth perspective on the practical application of circular economy principles. Through in-depth discussions and interactive sessions, they delved into the intricacies of the developed roadmap for a circular economy in Kosovo, gaining a comprehensive understanding of its potential impact on the country's sustainable future. As these young minds embrace their role as change-makers, they are poised to contribute significantly to a more environmentally conscious and resource-efficient society, shaping a brighter, greener tomorrow for all.



### Talk: **The impact of environmental crimes on communities and the environment**

Speakers: Annette Fath-Lihic, Chief Political Adviser / Executive Coordinator of the EU Special Representative in Kosovo, and Benny Jensen, Head of Monitoring Pillar, European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX)



Emphasized the crucial connection between concrete challenges, legal aspects, and effective law implementation. Inspired collective efforts to protect nature and build a sustainable future

## Key Insights and Actionable Recommendations

**Enhancing Support for Law Enforcement:** Provide targeted assistance and training to Kosovo Police and Judicial Authorities to ensure the proper and effective implementation of the legal and international policy framework concerning Environmental Crimes. This may involve workshops, capacity-building programs, and sharing best practices from other jurisdictions.

**Improving Processing and Handling of Cases:** Conduct a thorough analysis of the processing and handling of Environmental Crimes cases in Kosovo to identify bottlenecks and areas for improvement. Propose measures to streamline procedures, reduce delays, and ensure a swift and effective response to environmental offenses.

**Strengthening Cooperation and Coordination:** Foster close cooperation and coordination between the Environmental Crime monitoring team and Justice and Police Monitors. This collaboration will help identify and monitor cases more efficiently, leading to better overall enforcement and deterrence against environmental offenses.

**Regular Monitoring and Reporting:** Ensure that the Environmental Crime monitoring activities are ongoing and comprehensive, with regular reporting of findings and progress made in tackling environmental offenses. Transparency and accountability are crucial in the fight against environmental crimes.



Talk: **The Role of Women in a Just Energy Transition**

Speaker: Meral Hallaqi-Radoniqi, Energy Advisor, GIZ Kosova

Highlighted the pivotal role of women in facilitating a just and sustainable energy transition.

### Key Insights and Actionable Recommendations

**Gender-Responsive Policy Formulation:** Integrate a gender perspective in policy development across all sectors to effectively ensure inclusivity and address gender-specific challenges.

**Enhancing Access to Education and Training:** Implement targeted initiatives to encourage and support women's participation in STEM fields and ensure gender-balanced curricula in universities. Provide scholarships, internships, and specific training programs to empower women in pursuing professional development.

**Establishing Mentorship Networks:** Create professional networks and mentorship programs to promote women's advancement in various fields. Encourage collaboration and knowledge-sharing to foster a supportive environment for career growth.

**Equal Economic Opportunities:** Enact policies to enhance women's economic empowerment, including equal employment opportunities in both private and public sectors. Implement measures to ensure safe and inclusive work environments and eliminate gender pay disparities.

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**Gender Objectives and Quotas:** Set clear objectives for achieving gender diversity and inclusivity in different sectors. Consider implementing gender quotas where appropriate to address existing gender imbalances and promote equitable representation.





Talk: **Bio-inspired solutions and nature-based solutions**

Speaker: Alessandro Bianciardi, Deputy Head of Cooperation Section at the European Union Office in Kosovo

Discussed bio-inspired solutions and nature-based solutions. Provided innovative approaches to sustainability. Shared invaluable insights into the potential of bio-inspired solutions.

## Key Insights and Actionable Recommendations

**Promote Bio-inspired Design Initiatives:** Facilitate workshops and encourage universities in Kosovo to incorporate bio-mimicry topics in their academic programs. Support research and development of bio-inspired solutions to address local sustainability challenges. Encourage the establishment of startups focusing on bio-mimicry, creating employment opportunities for engineers and biologists.

**Implement Nature-based Solutions in Urban Areas:** Collaborate with international organizations like IUCN to adopt and implement nature-based solutions in cities and landscapes in Kosovo. Develop stormwater canals, green facade canals, and green roofs to enhance the functionality of urban spaces while promoting sustainable practices.

**Value and Protect Forests:** Recognize the value of forests in Kosovo, covering 45% of the country, and implement strategies to protect and sustainably manage them. Consider carbon farming initiatives to utilize forests' potential for climate change mitigation and promote responsible forest management.

**Align with Green Agenda and Climate Change Strategy:** Align Kosovo's policies and initiatives with the Green Agenda, Climate Change Strategy 2018-2028, and Water Management Strategy. Leverage the opportunities outlined in these strategies to advance forestry, biodiversity, and sustainable development in the country.

**Nature-inspired Policy Development:** Emphasize the importance of learning from nature to develop strategies, policies, and directives that incorporate sustainable and eco-friendly practices. Encourage policymakers to draw inspiration from nature's solutions when addressing complex environmental challenges.

**Recognize and Preserve Biodiversity:** Recognize the importance of biodiversity and its role in maintaining ecosystem balance and creativity. Implement measures to protect endangered species and preserve unique ecosystems to safeguard biodiversity in Kosovo.



Talk: **Sustainable Cities: An Imperative for Kosovo and the Globe**  
 Speaker: Dilon Gashi, Manager, Urban, and Climate Resilience at Deloitte

Stressed the importance of prioritizing city sustainability. Presented insights on urban and climate resilience.

## Key Insights and Actionable Recommendations

**Ambitious Climate Vision:** Develop and communicate a compelling and ambitious climate vision for Kosovo, such as "Prishtina Carbon-Neutral by 2040" and "Zero Plastic Waste by 2030." Set clear targets and mobilize collective efforts to achieve these goals, inspiring a sense of responsibility and urgency among all stakeholders.

**Greening Urban Spaces:** Prioritize greening initiatives in Kosovo's cities, with a particular focus on Prishtina. Increasing green spaces can lead to multiple benefits, including improved air quality, reduced urban heat island effect, enhanced stormwater management, and the provision of vital ecosystem services.

**Embrace Tree Conservation and Planting:** Safeguard existing trees and launch ambitious tree-planting campaigns throughout the country. Taking inspiration from successful projects like the "One Million Trees" campaign in New York, these efforts can enhance biodiversity, combat deforestation, and mitigate climate change impacts.

**Accessible Green Spaces:** Aim to make green spaces accessible to all residents in Kosovo's cities. Ensuring that 100% of the population is within a short walking distance of a green area can foster a stronger connection between people and nature while promoting physical and mental well-being.

**Invest in Nature-Based Solutions:** Prioritize investments in nature-based solutions and green infrastructure over traditional gray infrastructure. Utilizing natural systems to address environmental challenges can yield sustainable and cost-effective outcomes for Kosovo's urban development.

**Strengthen Environmental Legislation:** Enforce stricter environmental protection laws and regulations, taking inspiration from successful examples like the Clean Rivers Act implemented in various cities in the United States. Strengthening legislation will deter environmental violations and enhance ecological safeguards.

**Combat Plastic Pollution:** Implement comprehensive strategies to combat plastic pollution in Kosovo's cities. From plastic bag bans to recycling initiatives, taking aggressive measures against plastic waste will protect the environment and support a cleaner and healthier future.

**Water Resource Management:** Promote responsible water resource management by prohibiting the disposal of wastewater into rivers and waterways. Emphasize the importance of safeguarding water bodies for the well-being of both ecosystems and communities.

**Sustainable Industrial Practices:** Encourage sustainable industrial practices by ensuring that industries are located away from water bodies. Strict regulations and incentives can guide businesses towards adopting cleaner and more environmentally friendly production processes.

**Proactive Climate Action:** Embrace a proactive approach to climate change by learning from successful international experiences and adapting global best practices to Kosovo's unique context.

Become a leader in climate change response and renewable energy transition, driving the nation towards a cleaner and more sustainable future.



**Behar Mustafa was awarded the First Prize for Green Journalism**



**Third Prize Recipient: Kreshnik Beqiri**

climate change, biodiversity, sustainable agriculture, and other pertinent environmental issues, KSDW sought to stimulate interest and promote the field of green journalism.

The primary objective of this competition was twofold: to encourage journalists to delve into and uncover critical environmental matters affecting our nation, and to elevate the prominence of green journalism within the media landscape. The submitted entries underwent a rigorous evaluation process, wherein judges

### **Green Journalism Award & Closing Ceremony**

Recognizing the limited emphasis on environmental concerns within Kosovo's journalism landscape, KSDW took a proactive stance to shed light on and champion exceptional work in the realm of green journalism. To achieve this, KSDW initiated a prestigious competition centered around stories related to environmental sustainability. By inviting journalists from diverse backgrounds and regions in Kosovo and the region to submit their finest work on

assessed their creativity, relevance, impact, daring, and overall journalistic quality. As a testament to the exceptional talent and dedication of the participating journalists, the top three entries were honored with cash prizes and received recognition and promotion on KSDW social media platforms.

The response to the competition was overwhelming, with over 40 journalists from across Kosovo submitting their most audacious and thought-provoking stories. The Closing Ceremony of KSDW served as the grand finale, where

representatives from the organization's main partners personally presented the awards to the deserving winners. This celebratory event acknowledged the exceptional achievements of the top storytellers and highlighted the collective commitment to fostering a more environmentally conscious society through the power of journalism.

Three prestigious awards were dedicated to empowering Green Journalism in Kosovo, aimed at recognizing outstanding contributions to environmental reporting. To select the recipients of these awards and promote sustainable practices in the region, an evaluation committee was formed. The committee consisted of representatives from various organizations, including the EU Special Representative Office in Kosovo, GIZ Kosovo, and PR representatives from the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning, and Infrastructure, as well as the Ministry of Economy. Their primary responsibility was to meticulously assess the submitted works based on a rigorous set of criteria, ensuring that the most deserving journalists were honored for their exceptional efforts in environmental reporting.

The first-place award was bestowed upon Behar Mustafa for his thought-provoking documentary titled "Ujërat e Korrupsionit". delves into the critical issue of corruption surrounding water resources. Eriona Hoti and Donjeta Murseli claimed the second-place award for their impactful story, "Fati i Zi i Drinit të Bardhë" . In the third-place category, Kreshnik Beqiri and Mustafë Hoxha were honored for their insightful story, "Ujërat, E zeza e Kosovës" . Their in-depth investigation sheds light on the pollution of water sources in Kosovo. These awarded submissions demonstrate the dedication of talented journalists in raising awareness about environmental issues and promoting sustainable practices in Kosovo.



**Second Place Recipients:  
Eriona Hoti & Donjeta Murseli**

An abstract graphic design featuring a solid blue circle at the top center. Below it, several overlapping, wavy, organic shapes in shades of blue, green, and yellow create a sense of movement and depth. A white rectangular box is positioned in the center, containing the text "SIDE EVENTS".

**SIDE  
EVENTS**

The second part of the KSDWeek showcased side events that emphasized engaging and grassroots-based activities, organized by both core and external partners of KSDW. These events aimed to provide a more interactive and hands-on approach to sustainability, ensuring active participation and a tangible impact. Notably, partners such as 7Arte, Merakli t'Bicikletave, Climate Awareness Association LOCUS, Kosovo CSR Network, the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Heinrich Boll Foundation, Pro Credit Bank, and Dyvo contributed to the diverse range of activities during this period. Their involvement further enriched the event, bringing in expertise, resources, and perspectives from various sectors and organizations. These collaborative efforts reinforced the event's inclusive and comprehensive nature, highlighting the collective commitment to sustainable development and fostering a lasting impact.

### **Workshop: Waste to Energy: Turning Trash into Treasure**

The "Waste to Energy: Turning Trash into Treasure" workshop organized by 7Arte was an interactive event that promoted sustainable development and practical actions to mitigate climate change. It aimed to educate youth about sustainable practices, renewable energy, and waste management while emphasizing the potential of energy production from waste. By inspiring individuals to take action and raising awareness about the benefits of waste-to-energy conversion, the workshop contributed to sustainable development and climate action.

### **Outdoor Activity: "Plogging"**

The outdoor activity known as "Plogging" has gained popularity as a unique movement that combines physical exercise with environmental stewardship. Organized by GIZ, this activity encouraged participants to engage in activities such as jogging or walking while simultaneously picking up waste from the streets. By incorporating the act of collecting litter into their workout routine, participants contribute to the cleanliness of their surroundings and promote environmental awareness. Plogging not only promotes physical fitness but also fosters a sense of responsibility and care for the environment. It serves as a reminder that small actions can have a significant impact on the cleanliness and sustainability of our communities.

### **Movie Screening at Kino Armata: 'Climate of Change'**

INDEP hosted a special movie screening titled 'Climate of Change' at Kino Armata. This thought-provoking documentary explored the urgent issue of climate change and its impact on our planet. Through a captivating narrative and compelling visuals, the movie delved into the various aspects of climate change, including its causes, consequences, and potential solutions. The screening at Kino Armata provided an opportunity for viewers to deepen their understanding of this pressing global issue and encourages dialogue and reflection on the importance of collective action. By shedding light on the complexities of climate change, 'Climate of Change' aims to inspire individuals to make informed choices and actively contribute to creating a sustainable future for generations to come.



**Workshop: "Learn how to bike" w/Merakli t'Bicikletave**

The event, "Learn how to bike" organized in Tauk Bahqe, was a workshop conducted by INDEP in collaboration with Merakli t'Bicikletave. The workshop aimed to teach children aged 10-13 how to ride a bicycle while also providing them with important information about road signs. The instructors guided the participants through the basics of biking, including balance, pedaling, and steering. Moreover, they emphasized the significance of road safety and educated the children on various road signs and their meanings. This interactive workshop not only helped the kids develop valuable skills but also equipped them with the knowledge to navigate the streets responsibly and safely.

**Workshops: 'Climate Fresk' & 'Eco-Shift Kosova'**

The workshop organized by Climate Awareness Association focused on two crucial issues: climate change and transitioning to a circular economy. The Climate Fresk workshop educated participants about climate processes, empowers them to make informed decisions, and offers practical solutions for positive change. Through interactive sessions and group activities, participants actively engaged in learning about climate change and its various aspects. Additionally, the Eco-Shift Kosova workshop highlighted the importance of the circular economy, promoting sustainable production and consumption, waste reduction, and responsible resource use. The workshop was organized twice with the goal of fostering a more sustainable future by addressing both climate change and the transition to a circular economy. Workshops were designed for diverse audiences, from school children to business professionals, to ensure widespread engagement and empower individuals and communities to take action on climate change and contribute to sustainable development.

**Roundtable: 'Environmental issues; Sustainable Design and Construction**

Another event focused on raising awareness about environmental issues in the construction industry took place during KSDW 2023, organized by LOCUS. The event highlighted the importance of sustainable design and construction practices, specifically addressing energy optimization and the use of green materials. Key activities included a presentation on environmental issues and sustainable design, as well as a roundtable discussion among industry professionals. The event aimed to educate medium to large design/build companies, emphasizing the marketing potential of sustainable strategies, such as promoting healthier buildings and long-term cost savings.

**Recommendations:**

- • The community of architects must possess a strong awareness of environmental issues and incorporate environmental design and planning strategies into every project. It is essential for them to promote sustainable practices.
- • Construction companies should demonstrate dedication to implementing environmental strategies. They should prioritize sustainable construction practices and strive to minimize their environmental impact.

- • In order to encourage construction companies to invest more in efficiency, there should be additional incentives available to them. These incentives would serve as a motivation for builders to adopt environmentally friendly practices.
- • Construction companies can effectively market their projects by emphasizing environmental design in their sales slogans, such as:
- • Raising awareness among the general public, including children and people of all generations, is crucial as they are the end users of buildings. Educating them about the benefits of environmentally friendly construction can lead to greater demand for sustainable buildings.
- • Local legislation should be updated to incorporate environmental strategies. It is necessary to establish regulations that encourage or mandate sustainable practices in the construction industry.
- • The building permit process should include requirements for energy and water efficiency. This will ensure that new construction projects meet certain standards for sustainability.
- • Legislation should be aligned with international standards regarding energy efficiency, particularly in terms of licensing and certifying local products. This alignment is vital for construction companies and manufacturers, as it enables them to export their products and compete in the global market.

### **Roundtable: 'End Plastic Pollution - Sustainable plastic production business models and Finance'**

During the Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW), a side event featured a roundtable discussion on the role of banks in financing plastic-related activities and promoting the circular economy. ProCredit Bank and Kosovo CSR Network organized the event and shared their strategies, while economic entities as Scampa and KIVO discussed sustainable plastic production. The event also included discussions on the Circular Economy Roadmap and the involvement of public and private entities. The aim was to address plastic pollution, promote responsible business models, and align with international sustainability goals.

### **Roundtable: 'Agroecological transformation: channeling public funds for sustainable agricultural adaptation to climate challenge'**

The objective of the agroecological transformation at the 2023 edition of Kosovo Sustainable Development Week was to discuss and analyze the dimensions of existing public policies supporting the agricultural sector in Kosovo and provide recommendations for its sustainable adaptation to climate challenges. Amidst global economic conditions in 2022, which led to price fluctuations worldwide and an average inflation rate of 11.6% in Kosovo, the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in collaboration with the Parliamentary Committee on Environment, Food, Agriculture, Planning and Development and the Heinrich Boll Foundation, published a report on "Price Fluctuations of Agricultural Products and Basic Baskets in the Last Decade: Measures to Cope with Inflation in Uncertain Economic Circumstances." Participation in the Kosovo Sustainable Development Week



provided an opportunity to advance the debate on agroecological transformation, explore public financing support during difficult times, and address key issues such as comprehensive value chain policies, sector support, restructuring subsidies, emissions reduction conditions, climate change adaptation technologies, and environmentally friendly agricultural practices aligned with Kosovo's energy transition. The proposed policy measures aimed to foster the resilience and sustainable development of the agricultural sector in Kosovo.

### Recommendations:

- • It is imperative to actively engage all stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, and agricultural associations, in collaborative efforts to raise awareness among farmers about the pressing need to adapt their agricultural systems to effectively address climate challenges. By promoting a more sustainable agroecological system, we can ensure the resilience and long-term viability of the agricultural sector.
- • Recognizing the significant impact of climate change on the agriculture sector, urgent attention must be given to prioritize and implement comprehensive measures that proactively address and mitigate potential negative consequences. This includes investing in research, technology, and innovative practices that bolster the sector's adaptive capacity and reduce vulnerability to climate-related risks.
- • Public policies play a crucial role in shaping the future of agriculture. It is essential for governments to develop and implement forward-thinking policies that incentivize and support the involvement of young individuals in agriculture. This can be achieved by providing scholarships, vocational training, and mentorship programs that equip the youth with the necessary skills and knowledge to contribute effectively to the agricultural workforce, fostering a sustainable and prosperous sector.
- • To empower and strengthen small-scale farmers' position in the market, it is vital to establish a robust legal framework that promotes and facilitates the formation of modern agricultural cooperatives. These cooperatives can pool resources, share knowledge, and collectively navigate challenges related to production, marketing, and access to financial resources. This inclusive approach will enable small-scale farmers to thrive and actively contribute to sustainable agricultural practices.
- • Institutional actors, such as governmental agencies responsible for agricultural development and funding allocation, should prioritize the establishment of a transparent, user-friendly, and efficient monitoring and evaluation system for subsidies and grants in the agriculture sector. This will ensure that financial support is effectively distributed and reaches the intended beneficiaries, fostering accountability and optimizing the impact of investments in agriculture.
- • Despite existing policies for subsidizing female farmers, it is evident that more comprehensive efforts are needed to break down the barriers limiting their full participation and contribution to the agriculture sector. Governments and relevant stakeholders must proactively design programs

that go beyond meeting legal requirements and actively promote gender equality in agriculture. This involves providing training, and access to resources, and creating an enabling environment that empowers women in agriculture as leaders and innovators, fostering a sustainable and inclusive sector.

### **Publication & Discussion: 'Unpacked! Plastic, Waste, and Me**

During the Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW), a side event took place focused on the public discussion of the plastic waste problem in Kosovo based on the publication "Unpacked! Plastic, Waste and Me!". The event hosted by Heinrich Boll Foundation and Dyvo aimed to delve into the legal status of plastic in Kosovo and explore ways to improve waste management practices.

"Unpacked! Plastic, Waste and Me!" serves as a comprehensive handbook, providing detailed information on the plastic issue, including its extraction, production processes, the companies involved, and their lobbying activities. The publication extensively examined the use of plastic, highlighting the associated health, social, and environmental risks. Additionally, the event aimed to present the findings of ongoing legal research conducted by DYVOLAB, shedding light on the legal aspects concerning plastic in Kosovo and offering recommendations. Through this public discussion, the objective was to foster dialogue, raise awareness, and explore potential solutions to address the plastic waste problem in Kosovo, while considering the legal framework and waste management practices.

### **Recommendations:**

- • The Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning, and Infrastructure is taking a proactive approach by conducting an extensive inventory on plastic pollution at the state level.
- • Furthermore, there is a strong request for expediting the approval process and launching the implementation of administrative guidelines concerning the use of plastic bags. Additionally, a deposit refund system for glass, plastic, and can bottles was presented by the government at the beginning of 2023. However, due to the inclusion of several new clauses that have not been made public yet, the implementation is currently on hold. This demonstrates the government's commitment to addressing environmental concerns and promoting sustainable practices for the benefit of the nation and its citizens.

### **Commissioning of a research paper on Sustainable and Ecotourism in Brezovica -Sharr Mountains/ Kosovo**

The research paper on Sustainable and Ecotourism in Brezovica, with a focus on the Sharr Mountains, was commissioned by the EU Office in Kosovo. The objective was to analyze the tourism potentials and resources in the region, address the challenges faced by local investors, and propose sustainable development strategies. The research paper encompassed the coordination of various stakeholders, including relevant ministries, the Private Agency of Kosova (PAK), Sharr National Park,

Shterpce Municipality, donors, supportive agencies, tourist service providers, professional associations, civil society, and the local community. The EU Office in Kosovo took the initiative to foster collaboration, encourage favorable policies, and promote investment in the tourism sector. Through this comprehensive approach, the research paper aimed to pave the way for the development and management of Brezovica as a sustainable and thriving tourist destination.

**Roundtable: 'Promoting a Healthy Society in Kosovo through Responsible Food Production, Consumption, and Food Waste Management: An Emphasis on Food Safety and Reutilization'**

The Kosovo CSR Network organized a roundtable discussion focused on enhancing public awareness of sustainable and high-quality food production, adherence to international food standards, effective soil and nutrient management, hazards associated with pesticide usage, advanced technology in food processing and production, packaging techniques, and environmental sustainability through proper composting and reutilization of food waste. The event brought together relevant public institutions, exemplary private entities, and accomplished food experts, including Food and Veterinary Agency, Doni Corporate, Floil, Rugove, Eco-Kos, the EU office in Kosovo, and academic experts.

Recognizing the crucial role of safe and nutritious food in maintaining a healthy society, adherence to established international standards and procedures in food production was emphasized. This encompassed aspects such as fertilizers, raw materials, soil management, technological advancements, and supplementary materials for food packaging, all contributing to the overall quality of the product. The discussion also focused on environmental sustainability, particularly the importance of composting and reutilization of food waste. Through this event, the exemplary practices of Kosovo were highlighted, emphasizing the significance of collaboration and cross-sectoral synergies in the food chain. The thematic event aimed to address the goals of SDG3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG15 (Life on Land), and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals).





Workshop: "Learn how to bike" w/Merakli t'Bicikletave



Workshop: Waste to Energy: Turning Trash into Treasure



Outdoor Activity: "Plogging"





Workshops: 'Climate Fresk' & 'Eco-Shift Kosova'



Roundtable: 'Environmental issues' Sustainable Design and Construction



Roundtable: 'End Plastic Pollution - Sustainable plastic production business models and Finance'



Roundtable: 'Agroecological transformation': channeling public funds for sustainable agricultural adaptation to climate challenge





# Results Wrap-up



## Summary of key outcomes and Achievements

The Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) 2023 was a dynamic event that brought together a diverse range of stakeholders to delve into crucial issues related to sustainable development. One of the significant discussions was centered around regional cooperation and the need for a joint energy policy in the Western Balkans. This dialogue emphasized the importance of collaboration among countries to achieve a sustainable and renewable energy future. Another notable discussion revolved around air quality management and climate change mitigation, highlighting the pressing need for coordinated efforts among nations in the region.

A key achievement of KSDW was the development of 61 recommendations, which provided actionable guidance in various areas. These recommendations covered topics such as human rights and sustainable development, underlining the need to prioritize social justice in environmental decision-making processes. The event also shed light on the importance of strengthening civil protection and disaster management strategies to enhance resilience in the face of climate change impacts.

KSDW 2023 encompassed a wide array of talks and workshops addressing diverse sustainability topics. Sessions focused on the detrimental impact of environmental crimes on communities and ecosystems, the role of women in just energy transitions, sustainable farming practices, and the imperative of ensuring the sustainability of cities in Kosovo, including financial planning and comparison to global standards. Additionally, discussions on bio-inspired and nature-based solutions for sustainable development, and workshops on circular economy implementation were highlights of the event.

Recognizing the crucial role of media in raising environmental awareness, KSDW also honored outstanding green journalism through the Green Journalism Award, aiming to promote impactful storytelling on environmental issues.

Overall, KSDW 2023 serves always as a platform for robust discussions, knowledge sharing, and the drafting of practical recommendations to advance sustainable development in Kosovo. The event showcased the power of collaboration, innovation, and a holistic approach to tackling environmental challenges and advancing sustainable development goals. It underscored the importance of collective efforts and the active involvement of diverse stakeholders in fostering a more sustainable future for Kosovo and the wider region.





# **Media Presence and Coverage**

## Coverage of KSDW 2023 in the Media

The presence of KSDW 2023 in traditional media was extensive, with a significant increase in coverage leading up to the event. National TV channels, such as RTK, as well as other networks like RTV21, Teve1, Kanal10, and ATV, featured KSDW more than ten times, providing widespread visibility. Additionally, KSDW received coverage on radio and television on multiple occasions. Additionally, KSDW received coverage on radio and television on multiple occasions. Notably, KSDW was on 5 Prominent Portal Headlines, garnering even more attention from the public and



further amplifying its message. KSDW has been making remarkable strides in expanding its reach on social media platforms like Facebook and LinkedIn. On Facebook, KSDW has garnered an impressive total of 5,574 page likes, a testament to its growing online community. The engagement rate is equally impressive, with an astounding 43,258 post engagements, showcasing the high level of interest and interaction from followers. On LinkedIn, KSDW has accumulated a dedicated following of 534 individuals who actively engage with the company's updates and content. Furthermore, the company's home page has been viewed an impressive 519 times, indicating the growing interest and curiosity about the organization's mission and offerings. These numbers demonstrate the positive impact KSDW is making in the online space, effectively reaching out to a diverse audience and fostering knowledge sharing and development on a global scale.

The extensive media coverage in both traditional and digital channels helped raise awareness and reach a broader audience, fostering engagement and promoting the values and objectives of sustainable development advocated by KSDW.





# Conclusion

## Importance of public dialogue platforms for sustainable development in Kosovo

The Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) holds immense importance for the advancement of sustainable development in Kosovo. The event provides a vital platform for stakeholders from various sectors to come together, exchange ideas, and work collaboratively towards a more sustainable future. KSDW plays a critical role in raising awareness about pressing sustainability challenges and fostering a shared understanding of their significance among participants.

One of the key contributions of KSDW is its ability to promote knowledge sharing and best practices. Through a diverse range of discussions, workshops, and panels, the event explores a wide array of sustainability topics, addressing issues such as climate change, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, waste management, and circular economy. These sessions enable participants to gain valuable insights, learn from successful case studies, and identify practical solutions that can be implemented in their respective sectors or organizations.

Moreover, KSDW serves as a catalyst for policy development and implementation. The drafting of numerous recommendations during the event provides a roadmap for policymakers, guiding them toward effective and sustainable strategies. These recommendations cover various areas of sustainable development, encompassing both environmental and socio-economic dimensions. By incorporating these recommendations into policy frameworks, Kosovo can foster a more conducive environment for sustainable practices, support green initiatives, and promote the well-being of its citizens.

Another key aspect of KSDW's importance is its role in fostering collaboration and partnerships. The event brings together government officials, businesses, NGOs, and academia, creating a platform for meaningful dialogue and networking opportunities. Through these interactions, stakeholders can forge alliances, build partnerships, and work together towards shared sustainability goals. The exchange of ideas, experiences, and expertise during KSDW nurtures a sense of collective responsibility and fosters a collaborative spirit that extends beyond the event itself.

Furthermore, KSDW plays a vital role in raising public awareness and mobilizing public participation. By engaging diverse stakeholders, including community members and civil society organizations, the event ensures that sustainability efforts are inclusive and participatory. Through interactive sessions and public outreach activities, KSDW helps to empower individuals, encouraging them to take ownership of sustainability issues and actively contribute to positive change.

KSDW has successfully reached its sixth edition this year, and this platform owes its existence to its consolidated partners. These partners consist of a large group of organizations, including the Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Rural Development, Environment, Spatial Planning, and Infrastructure within the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, the Municipality of Pristina, the

EU Special Representative in Kosovo, Germany through GIZ Kosovo, Institute for Development Policy (INDEP), and Balkan Green Foundation (BGF). Their support and collaboration have been instrumental in making KSDW a significant event in promoting sustainability and fostering dialogue on key environmental and developmental issues in Kosovo.



**Annex A:  
Programme of  
KSDW2023**





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**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2023  
PROGRAMME**

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**24 May 2023  
Opening Ceremony & Conference Event  
Venue: Klan Arena**

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**Connecting Western Balkans for a transition to a sustainable and resilient growth**

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09:00 – 09:20	Registration of participants
09:20 – 09:30	<b>Opening Session &amp; Introduction to the Opening Ceremony &amp; Event</b> Moderated by Donikë Beqiri, Coordinator of Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) 2023
09:30 – 10:30	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> Moderated by Donikë Beqiri, Coordinator of the Kosovo Sustainable Development Week <b>Keynote speeches:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Albin Kurti, Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo</li><li>- Tomáš Szunyog, EU Special Representative in Kosovo</li><li>- Jörn Rohde, German Ambassador in Kosovo</li><li>- Burim Ejupi, Executive Director of the Institute for Development Policy</li></ul>
10:30 – 12:00	<b>Distinguished Address by Key Note Speaker:</b> Dirk Buschle, Deputy Director of the Energy Community Secretariat (Online participation) <b>Ministerial Discussion: The Road to a Greener Western Balkans: Toward a Regional Energy Policy</b> Moderated by Lerta Hollaj, Deputy Chief of Staff to the President of the Republic of Kosovo <b>Panelists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Artane Rizvanolli, Minister of Economy (Republic of Kosovo)</li><li>- Kreshnik Bekteshi, Minister of Economy (Republic of North Macedonia) (TBC)</li><li>- Ilir Bejta, Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Energy (Albania)</li><li>- Andrei Covatariu, Energy Policy Expert</li></ul>
12:00 – 12:15	Coffee break

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**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2023  
PROGRAMME**

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**24 May 2023  
Opening Ceremony & Conference Event  
Venue: Klan Arena**

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**Connecting Western Balkans for a transition to a sustainable and resilient growth**

12:15 – 13:45	<p><b>Ministerial Discussion: Developing a joint approach to air quality management and climate change mitigation in the Western Balkans</b> Moderated by Dardan Abazi, External Associate, Institute for Development Policy, INDEP</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Liburn Aliu, Minister of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure (Republic of Kosovo)</li><li>- Mirela Kumbaro, Minister of Tourism and Environment (Republic of Albania)</li><li>- Kaja Shukova, Minister of Environment and Physical Planning (Republic of North Macedonia)</li><li>- Dunja Mazzocco Drvar, Director of the Climate Activities Directorate of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development (Republic of Croatia)</li></ul>
13:45 – 13:50	<p><b>Wrap-up of Day I</b></p>
14:00 – 15:00	<p><b>Lunch break</b></p>

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**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2023  
PROGRAMME**

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**25 May 2023  
Conference Day  
Venue: Klan Arena**

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**Bringing people together - Sustainable transition focusing on inclusivity**

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09:00 – 09:20

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Registration of participants

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09:20 – 09:30

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**Opening Session & Introduction to the conference day**

Moderated by Rreze Abdyli, Advisor on Knowledge Management & Public Dialogue for Energy Transition in Kosovo, GIZ

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09:30 – 10:45

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**Panel Discussion: Towards a Fair and Equitable Future: Prioritizing Human Rights in the Just and Inclusive Transition**

Moderated by Shqipe Neziri Vela, Founder of Women in Energy and Mining

**Panelists:**

- Nenad Rasic, Minister for Communities and Return (Republic of Kosovo)
  - Majlinda Sinani - Lulaj, Ombudsperson Institution of Kosovo
  - Violeta Rexha, Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist at Compact Development Team
  - Nevena Smilevska, Just Transition Coordinator for Western Balkans (Bankwatch)
  - Gorast Rezhonia, Organization for Co-operation and Development (OECD) (Online participation)
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10:45 – 12:00

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**Panel Discussion: Adapting to the New Normal: Strengthening Civil Protection and Enhancing Natural Disaster Management Strategies in the Era of Climate Change**

Moderated by Pëllumb Gjinolli, an Environmental, and Social Professional

**Panelists:**

- Blerim Gashani, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Internal Affairs (Republic of Kosovo)
  - Julia Stewart David, Head of Unit / Disaster Preparedness and Prevention from DG ECHO (Online participation)
  - Abdullah Pirçe, Climate Change Officer, Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure
  - Adisa Bala, Director of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prevention, National Civil Protection Agency, Ministry of Defense (Republic of Albania)
  - Jovan Rajic, Founder of Renewables and Environmental Regulatory Institute RERI (Republic of Serbia)
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**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2023  
PROGRAMME**

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**25 May 2023  
Conference Day  
Venue: Klan Arena**

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**Bringing people together - Sustainable transition focusing on inclusivity**

12:00 – 13:00	Lunch break
13:00 – 14:15	<p><b>Panel discussion: Balancing Conservation and Development: Exploring the Intersection of Protected Areas and Sustainable Tourism</b> Moderated by Kaltrina Salihu, Monitoring Expert UNDP</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Fitore Pacolli, Chair of the Committee for Environment, Food, Agriculture, Planning and Development, Assembly of Kosovo</li><li>- Elbasan Shala, Acting Head of Division of the Environmental Inspectorate within the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure</li><li>- Bekim Bytyqi, Senior Official, Directorate for the Administration of the National Park 'Sharri'</li><li>- Krenare Salihu, Director of WWF Adria</li><li>- Lorela Lazaj, Policy Expert for Nature Conservation, EcoAlbania</li><li>- Zekë Çeku, Independent Expert on Tourism, Hospitality, and Travel</li><li>- Ana Colović Lesoska, Executive Director, Ecosvest</li></ul>
14:15 – 14:30	Coffee break
14:30 – 15:00 (talk schedule)	<p><b>Talk: The impact of environmental crimes on communities and the environment</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Annette Fath-Lihic, Chief Political Adviser/Executive Coordinator of the EU Special Representative in Kosovo <b>Speaker:</b> Benny Jensen, Head of Monitoring Pillar, European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX)</p>
15:30 – 16:00 (talk schedule)	<p><b>Talk: The Role of Women in a Just Energy Transition</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Meral Hallaqi - Radoniqi, Energy Advisor, GIZ Kosova</p>
14:30 – 16:00 (workshop schedule)	<p><b>Workshop: Transition towards sustainable farming through farmers' education/advising</b> <b>Facilitator:</b> Driton Sylejmani, Independent Expert</p>
16:00 – 16:05	Wrap-up of Day II

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**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2023  
PROGRAMME**

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**26 May 2023  
Conference Day  
Venue: Klan Arena**

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**Financing transition – creating equal opportunities for both private and public sector**

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09:30 – 09:50	Registration of participants
09:50 – 10:00	<b>Opening Session &amp; Introduction to the Event</b> Moderated by Fiona Bakija, Research Assistant at Institute for Development Policy
10:00 – 11:15	<b>Panel Discussion: Energy Efficiency: Models of reducing energy consumption in residential buildings</b> Moderated by Nora Cimili, Energy Efficiency Specialist <b>Panelists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Anyla Beqa, Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to the Minister of Economy</li><li>- Naim Bujupi - Operational Director, Kosovo Energy Efficiency Fund</li><li>- Burim Hashani, Operations Director, PIU for Prishtina HeatSave, Termokos</li><li>- Alma Lulja, Deputy Project Manager of GEF, EBRD</li><li>- Avni Sfishta, GIZ/Energy Project leader</li><li>- Ivo Wakounig, Senior Advisor World Energy Council Austria</li></ul>
11:15 – 11:30	<b>Talk: Bio-inspired solutions and nature-based solutions</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Alessandro Bianciardi, Deputy Head of Cooperation Section at the European Union Office in Kosovo
11:30 – 12:00 (talk schedule)	<b>Talk: Sustainable Cities: An Imperative for Kosovo and the Globe</b> <b>Speaker:</b> Drilon Gashi, Manager, Urban, and Climate Resilience at Deloitte
12:00 – 13:15	<b>Panel Discussion: Green Jobs in the Era of Digitalization</b> Moderated by Fjolla Qorri, Senior Researcher at Balkan Green Foundation <b>Panelists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mentor Arifaj, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade (Republic of Kosovo)</li><li>- Donjeta Sahatçiu, Deputy Mayor of Pristina</li><li>- Vlora Tuzi Nushi, Head of Office at UN Women Kosovo</li><li>- Tsvetelina Kuzmanova, Senior Policy Advisor for Sustainable Finance at E3G</li><li>- Enisa Serhati, Portfolio Manager, Inclusive Growth and Climate Resilience, UNDP Kosovo</li></ul>

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**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2023  
PROGRAMME**

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**26 May 2023  
Conference Day  
Venue: Klan Arena**

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**Financing transition – creating equal opportunities for both private and public sector**

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13:15 – 14:15

Lunch break

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14:15-15:30

**Panel discussion: Inter-municipal cooperation in the development of integrated waste management**

Moderated by: Stefan Mager, Project Manager, GIZ

**Panelists:**

- Sazan Ibrahim, Executive Director, Association of Kosovo Municipalities
  - Trim Berisha, Acting Secretary General, Ministry of Local Government Administration
  - Teodora Andreeva, Programme Manager, European Union Office in Kosovo
  - Ana Karanfilova Maznevsk, Head of Waste Management Department Environmental Administration/Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, (North Macedonia)
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14:30 – 16:00  
(workshop  
schedule)

**Workshop: Empowering Youth: Driving the Circular Economy Revolution**

**Facilitator:** Mimoze Veliu, Circular Economy Analyst UNDP

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16:00 – 16:15

Wrap-up of Day III

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**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2023  
PROGRAMME**

**27-30 May 2023  
Side Events**

<b>27 May 2023 10:00 – 15:00</b>	Workshop: 'Waste to Energy: Turning Trash into Treasure'	<b>Implementing partner: 7Arte</b>
<b>27 May 2023 09:30 – 10:30</b>	Outdoor Activity: "PLOGGING" An already known movement, where the main physical activities like jogging and walking are combined with picking up waste from the streets.	<b>Implementing partner: GIZ Kosovo</b>
<b>27 May 2023 18:00 – 20:00</b>	Movie Screening at Kino Armata: 'Climate of Change'	<b>Implementing partner: INDEP</b>
<b>28 May 2023 10:00 – 12:00</b>	Workshop: "Learn how to bike" w/Merakli t'Bicikletave	<b>Implementing partner: INDEP/ Municipality of Prishtina</b>
<b>28 May 2023 13:00 – 16:00</b>	Workshop: 'Eco-Shift Kosova'	<b>Implementing partner: Climate Awareness Association</b>
<b>29 May 2023 09:00 – 16:00</b>	Workshops: 'Climate Fresk' & 'Eco-Shift Kosova'	<b>Implementing partner: Climate Awareness Association</b>
<b>29 May 2023 10:00 – 13:00</b>	Roundtable: 'Environmental issues; Sustainable Design and Construction'	<b>Implementing partner: LOCUS</b>
<b>29 May 2023 19:00 – 21:00</b>	Roundtable: 'End Plastic Pollution - Sustainable plastic production business models and Finance'	<b>Implementing partner: ProCredit Bank &amp; Kosovo CSR Network</b>



**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2023  
PROGRAMME**

**27-30 May 2023  
Side Events**

**30 May 2023  
10:30 – 12:30**

Roundtable: 'Agroecological transformation: channeling public funds for sustainable agricultural adaptation to climate challenges'

**Implementing partner:**  
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)

**30 May 2023  
17:00 – 19:00**

Publication & Discussion: 'Unpacked! Plastic, Waste, and Me!'

**Implementing partner:**  
Heinrich Boll Foundation  
Regional Office on Belgrade (Serbia, Kosovo, Montenegro)

**30 May 2023**

Commissioning of a research paper on Sustainable and Ecotourism in Brezovica -Sharr mountains/ Kosovo

**Implementing partner:** EUSR

**30 May 2023  
10:00 – 12:00**

Roundtable: 'Promoting a Healthy Society in Kosovo through Responsible Food Production, Consumption, and Food Waste Management: An Emphasis on Food Safety and Reutilization'

**Implementing partner:** Kosovo CSR Network



**KOSOVO  
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DEVELOPMENT  
WEEK**



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**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEEK (KSDW) 2023  
PROGRAMME**

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**30 May 2023  
Closing Ceremony**

**Venue: The National University Library of Kosovo 'Pjetër Bogdani'**

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18:00 – 18:15

Guests' arrival and accommodation

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18:20 – 18:30

**Award Ceremony**

Hosted by Donikë Beqiri: Coordinator of Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) 2023

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18:30 – 19:30

**Opening Remarks & Awarding of three best journalists:**

- First Place awarded by: David Oberhuber, Country Director Kosovo and Macedonia, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
  - Second Place awarded by: Annette Fath-Lihic, Chief Political Adviser/Executive Coordinator of the EU Special Representative in Kosovo
  - Third Place awarded by: Dardan Sejdiu, Acting Director, Balkan Green Foundation
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19:30 – 20:00

Displaying and screening of the reports by the awarded journalists

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20:00 – 21:00

**Cocktail Reception and Networking**

Followed by tunes of String String

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**Annex B:  
Photo Gallery  
Visual Highlights**



















# **Annex C: Illustrations**









## Core Partners



**Komisioni për Mjedis, Ushqim, Bujqësi, Planifikim dhe Zhvillim**



**Republika e Kosovës  
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo  
Qeveria - Vlada - Government**  
Ministria e Mjedisit, Planifikimit Hapësinor dhe Infrastrukturës  
Ministarstvo životne sredine, prostornog planiranja i infrastrukture  
Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure



**Republika e Kosovës  
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo  
Qeveria - Vlada - Government**  
Ministria e Ekonomisë  
Ministarstvo Ekonomije  
Ministry of Economy



Co-funded by  
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DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Implemented by

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



**balkan  
green  
foundation**

## External Collaborators



KOSOVO CSR  
NETWORK



Climate  
Awareness  
Association



**ProCredit Bank**

**HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG**  
**BELGRADE**  
Serbia | Montenegro | Kosovo



LOCUS



KSDWeek