



INITIATIVE FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF KOSOVO
INICIATIVA PËR ZHVILLIMIN E BUJQËSISË SË KOSOVËS
INICIATIVA ZA POLJOPRIVREDNI RAZVOJ KOSOVA

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

*Let us live from
our land and work!*



Acknowledgment to Donors and Partners

IADK extends its gratitude to all donors, municipalities, and other partners for their continuous support in achieving our common goals of “agriculture as a sector with prospects for employment and income generation.”





TODAY, LET'S STRIVE FOR BETTER AGRICULTURE TO SECURE A FUTURE FOR THE COMING GENERATIONS

Dear readers,

As one of the largest non-governmental agricultural organizations in the country, IADK's aim is to develop the agricultural sector by providing support to our valuable farmers. Through skill-building and grant offerings, we contribute to economic growth, enhance efficiency, reduce costs, promote sustainability and environmental safety, and above all, foster well-being for our current and future generations.

The year 2023 proved to be particularly challenging due to climatic conditions that affected a significant portion of the year, leading to difficulties in agriculture and constraints on farmers' productions.

The past year and its ongoing crisis reminded us of the importance of standing united against inequality, poverty, and the protection of our natural resources. We firmly believe that the upcoming year will be one of success, where our farmers will have the opportunity to expand their lands, and consumers will not bear

the burden of products lacking in quality, produced with dedication from our farms.

Together with you and the invaluable assistance of our donors, we have come closer to all those who see agriculture as a key pillar of development. On behalf of the organization, allow me to express gratitude for this journey. Together, we have increased greenhouse and horticultural areas, improved the quality of all agricultural products, with a focus on vegetables, horticulture, and dairy production. We have strengthened the food processing sector by enhancing professional capacities and supporting the opening of new processing units. Most importantly, we have aided in reducing land and river pollution resulting from the uncontrolled use of fertilizers and pesticides.

IADK continues to strengthen its advisory and practical training services. We have initiated the construction of model greenhouses and demonstration fields on a 2500m² plot purchased by IADK with funds from the BftW donor.

Please, continue reading this report to acquaint yourself with our joint efforts and achievements in empowering agriculture.

Sincerely,

Zenel Bunjaku

Executive Director of IADK

The Initiative for Agricultural Development of Kosovo (IADK) is a non-governmental organization established in 2005. Our mission is to promote socio-economic development in rural areas, reduce unemployment, and create opportunities for income generation for people living in rural areas.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Our Scope	7
Our Work in Numbers	8
Donors, Projects, and Services.....	10
Vegetable Sector	11
Fruit Sector	13
Livestock Sector	16
Food Processing Sector.....	19
Gender and Minority Community Inclusion	21
Digitalization in Agriculture	22
Internship and Employment for Students	23
Study Visits and Fairs	25
Services Offered by Us	26
International Partnerships	27
Incomes of IADK from Projects/Grants	28
Incomes of IADK from Projects/Services	29
Acknowledgment to the Staff	30



OUR SCOPE

IADK has worked in 23 municipalities across Kosovo, providing support to farmers, women, men, young people from these municipalities (in some municipalities with two or more projects).

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1. Leposaviq | 10. Fushë Kosovë | 19. Ferizaj |
| 2. Zveçan | 11. Lipjan | 20. Shtërpcë |
| 3. Zubin Potok | 12. Shtime | 21. Kaçanik |
| 4. South Mitrovica | 13. Prishtinë | 22. Pejë |
| 5. North Mitrovica | 14. Podujevë | 23. Klinë |
| 6. Vushtrri | 15. Novobërdë | |
| 7. Skenderaj | 16. Gjilan | |
| 8. Drenas | 17. Kamenicë | |
| 9. Obiliq | 18. Vitia | |

Key Highlights in 2023:



338 beneficiaries, with **32%** being women/girls



€752,252 annual revenue from projects - grants



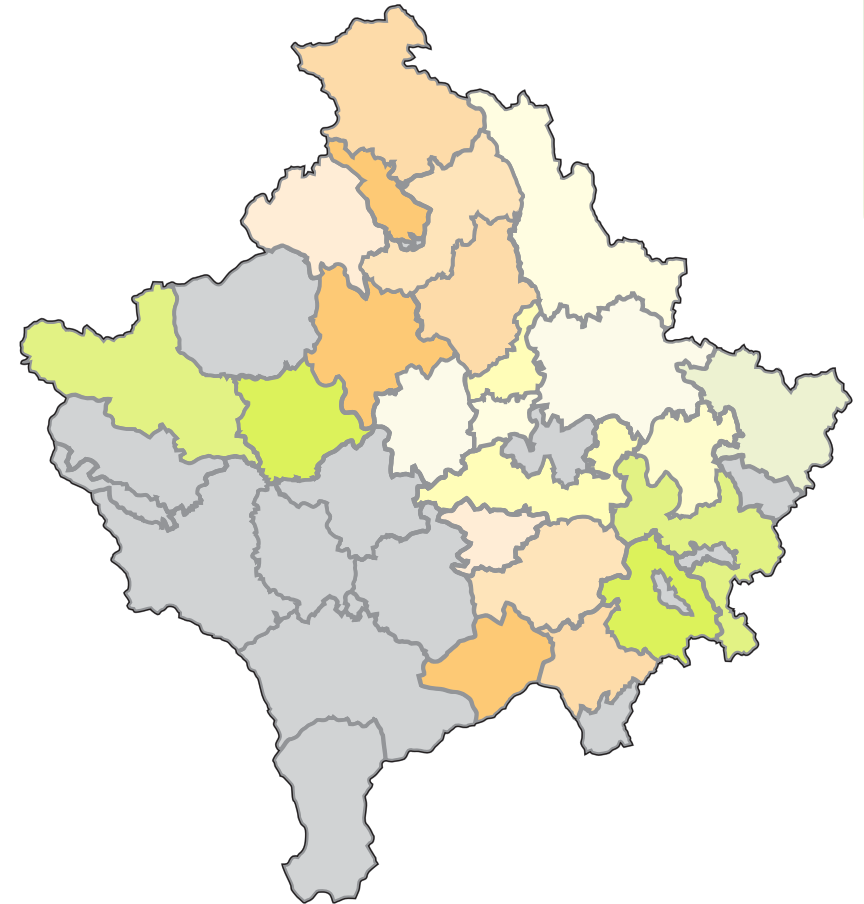
€104,891 annual revenue from services



11 projects and services



24 employees and **6** interns



OUR WORK

338 Beneficiaries



109 Beneficiaries are women, representing 32%

229 Beneficiaries are men, representing 68%

119 Beneficiaries are young people (aged 18-35), representing 35%



2 Milk collection points



91 Beneficiaries supported in the greenhouse vegetable sector (31) and with supporting equipment (60)



1 Beekeeper supported with beekeeping equipment



1 Beneficiary supported in the poultry sector



1 Business led by a woman



92 Farmer beneficiaries supported in the livestock sector



1293 Direct field consultations



37 Soft skills, marketing, and finance training sessions with 110 participants



120 Beneficiaries supported in the fruit sector

IN NUMBERS:



32 Interns



12
Employed students



15
Study visits



1
Field day



84 Professional
training sessions
with 71 participants



56 Candidates
certified after
completing
professional
training

Publications:

1 Report



1 Promotional Video



10 Beneficiaries:
€0 - €500



11 Beneficiaries:
€501 - €1,000



34 Beneficiaries:
€1,001 - €2,000



8 Beneficiaries:
€2,001 - €3,000



10 Beneficiaries:
€3,001 - €4,000



1 Beneficiary:
€4,001 - €5,000



18 Beneficiaries:
> €5,000

Note: The data represents the income generated by a portion of monitored beneficiaries in 2023.

DONORS, PROJECTS, AND SERVICES

	 <p>Stärkt Frauen. Öffnet Perspektiven.</p>				
<p>Improving the employment and income generation opportunities in rural areas in Kosovo - Brot für die Welt</p>	<p>Empowering youth and women of rural areas to engage in agriculture and food processing - CFD</p>	<p>Enhancing the skills development in the food processing sector of Kosovo - USAID Compete Activity</p>	<p>Strengthening the Value Chain through Skills Development Programme - GIZ</p>	<p>Digitalization of Advisory Services in Agriculture - Fairshare</p>	<p>Professional Services offered for Swiss Contact, EPI Center, SKAT, DRC, and Swiss Caritas</p>

VEGETABLE SECTOR

Kosovo continues to show positive development in vegetable cultivation, according to data from the 2023 green report, with a total of 19,571 hectares of cultivated vegetable areas in open fields, greenhouses, and gardens, representing a 0.9% increase compared to the previous year. Despite the developments and opportunities Kosovo offers for strengthening the sector, vegetable production, especially cultivation in open fields, faced unfavorable climatic conditions during 2023. These conditions hindered soil preparation, delayed planting schedules, and posed difficulties in implementing agrotechnical measures.

Addressing these challenges and difficulties faced by producers requires commitment from all stakeholders. Therefore, IADK has played an important role in supporting farmers with greenhouses and necessary inputs to enable them to produce quality crops less affected by external factors.

Supporting small-scale farmers, particularly those who have been excluded from financial opportunities by other institutions in some form, is the goal of the IADK organization. Through grants, IADK aims to empower small farmers and expand their businesses in vegetable production in the future. During the past year, with various funds from loyal donors, we have supported 31 farmers (15 women and 16 men) with greenhouses ranging from 100 to 176 square meters, along with necessary inputs for successful vegetable cultivation. In addition to greenhouses, IADK has also supported another 60 farmers with essential equipment for vegetable cultivation in greenhouses and open fields. For small-scale farmers, potentially with little knowledge of cultivation and good agricultural practices, grant support would be insignificant if not combined with direct advisory services. Therefore, field experts have continuously offered practical training in cultivation and the implementation of modern practices for quality vegetable production. Thanks to this support, today we have nearly 0.50 hectares more cultivated vegetable area and quality local produce.

Although it was a challenging year for increasing production and quality, it is considered successful in terms of product placement and high sales prices. This was evidenced by the average incomes of 20 greenhouse beneficiaries with areas ranging from 176 m², who generated earnings of €1,500 from cultivating vegetables and tomatoes in these greenhouses, which are expected to further increase from autumn cultivation.





Offering training, direct advice, and close monitoring of farmers enables them to enhance their professional knowledge of vegetable cultivation techniques and optimize greenhouse operations for rational use and income generation.

Today, we share a success story from Mr. Shemsi Babatinca, a beneficiary from the municipality of Podujeva, who is one of the 20 beneficiaries of a 176 m² greenhouse, seedlings, and other accompanying inputs. He has been involved in vegetable production before, cultivating them in open fields on an area of 1.5 hectares. However, due to climatic conditions and the opportunities offered by greenhouse cultivation, he had an exceptional interest in continuing vegetable production in greenhouses. With a family of four and agriculture as their sole source of income, Babatinca explored financing options to improve product quality and simultaneously produce vegetables even in the autumn season.

Seeing his willingness to deepen his involvement in vegetable production, IADK supported him through the project with a greenhouse, inputs, and advice. Rational use of the benefits offered by IADK enabled Mr. Babatinca to produce 2,100 kg of quality peppers and tomatoes in the greenhouse, earning €2,200 for his family. But that was only part of it; the farmer didn't stop there. He used the greenhouse during the autumn season to plant spinach and sell it in the local market, increasing his family's income by an additional €300.

"The support with the greenhouse and accompanying inputs initially helped me increase family income, while also motivating me to explore additional financial opportunities to expand greenhouse areas," Mr. Babatinca concludes his story.

91 farmers supported

449 direct pieces of advice provided to 91 farmers

4 theoretical training sessions conducted

14,470 seedlings distributed to farmers

5 study visits for the beneficiaries of the sector

FRUIT SECTOR

Kosovo offers optimal conditions for arboriculture development, especially for high-quality cultivation of apples, raspberries, strawberries, and walnuts. These, along with many other crops, are considered priorities with high potential for job creation and income generation. With an area of 10,619 hectares of orchards, Kosovo demonstrates a golden opportunity for successful arboriculture development. The largest cultivated crops include apples with 3,091 hectares, followed by plums with 2,214 hectares, raspberries with 1,668 hectares, and walnuts with 1,540 hectares, followed by pears, hazelnut, strawberries, sour cherry, etc., with areas under 1,000 hectares.

Despite the potential and continuous growth, Kosovo's market traditionally relies on fruit imports to meet domestic demand. Low yields, coupled with outdated practices and a lack of long-term storage space, contribute to fruit imports.

However, recent trends show rapid development in the fruit sector, with improvements in production capacity, yields, and considerable investments in storage and processing facilities. These positive developments aim to reduce dependence on imported fruits and promote local fruit production.

Public and international institutions undoubtedly play a positive role in this regard, aiming to strengthen and advance the sector through various programs. In this regard, IADK also plays a crucial role by enabling farmers to produce quality products, generate income, and simultaneously reduce negative environmental effects potentially caused by agriculture through advisory programs, field days, fairs, and grants.

A successful year was for strawberry producers, where IADK, through the project funded by BftW, supported 10 beneficiaries (3 women/girls and 7 men) from the municipality of Suhareka to increase the total area of strawberries by 1.5 hectares by planting two cultivars (Alba and Albion) sought in the Kosovo market. In addition to quality seedlings (class A+) and aiming to create a suitable environment for cultivation, farmers were also supported with irrigation systems and plastic foil for mulching. Support with grants without training and visits would be worthless, so IADK experts have continuously been close to farmers in enhancing technical and professional capacities through direct advice and study visits.





Apples and raspberry are two of the crops that constitute 45% of the total area planted with trees, but despite the expansion, successful management, increased production, quality improvement, and reduction of pollution from uncontrolled use of fertilizers, pesticides, and irrigation require the use of contemporary practices. In this direction, IADK in collaboration with its partner EPI Centar and funded by SKAT has managed to support 50 farmers, apple (33) and raspberry (17) growers, with advice and grants. One of these beneficiaries is Mr. Fehim Ibishi, a raspberry farmer from Podujeva, who testifies to the positive impact of utilizing data from the uMethos station (a station measuring soil moisture and temperature through sensors). The utilization of data provided by this station has significantly contributed to reducing water usage, enabling more precise and efficient irrigation tailored to the specific needs of plants. Additionally, support with other agricultural equipment has not only facilitated the expansion of agricultural crop areas but has also led to decreased production costs and eased farm work.

Historically, farmers have relied on their personal experience and information provided by suppliers for fertilizer use. Large quantities of fertilizers are applied once or twice a year without prior laboratory analysis of soil or assessment of available nutrients. Recognizing that their current methods may not be optimal, 50 farmers express interest in expanding their knowledge about proper fertilizer use. Global changes have increased the cost of fertilizers, becoming unaffordable for many farmers. Farmers underwent training to adopt better methods and use optimal tools, focusing on minimizing unnecessary fertilizer use. Training offered the concept of rational fertilizer use, encouraging farmers to apply more controlled and accurate measures. This shift towards controlled practices not only ensures efficient resource utilization but also aligns with sustainable agricultural principles, promoting environmental stewardship and increasing overall fertilizer use efficiency.





The strategic combination and provision of training and investments have facilitated the implementation of drip irrigation systems for rational fertilizer use, ensuring that fertilizers are used in quantities according to the specific needs of crops. To enhance the efficiency of using appropriate amounts and types of fertilizers for specific crop needs, in addition to support through grants and training, 50 farmers have benefited from laboratory analysis of soil samples for designated plots. Utilizing the results of laboratory analysis, the project staff has formulated a detailed fertilization program for each farm. Based on this data, farmers were guided on fertilizer use, including the type of fertilizer, recommended quantities, and optimal application timing. One story of this success is Mrs. Rezarta Menxhiqi, who has noticed the positive impact of adopting recommended fertilizer use practices. Adhering to the given recommendations, the raspberry production quantity nearly doubled compared to the previous year. Particularly, this year marked a significant historic moment as Rezarta began using foliar fertilizers based on recommendations for the first time. Her experience highlights the tangible benefits of implementing informed and tailored fertilizer strategies, resulting in a considerable increase in yield.

Nuts represent approximately 15% of all tree crop areas, and in recent years, they have garnered significant interest from farmers in terms of expanding areas, improving quality, and promoting them at the national level. In the development of this sector, various actors play a crucial role, and certainly, IADK has provided support in enhancing technical and professional capacities for farmers throughout the year, notably organizing Nuts Day at the national level. In collaboration with the Kosovo Walnut and Hazelnut Association and funded by GIZ Nuts Day was held in the village of Gjinoc in the municipality of Suhareka, with the participation of over 130 farmers, representatives from various organizations, donors, and municipal officials.



<p>120 farmers supported</p> 	<p>396 direct consultations provided</p> 	<p>9 theoretical training sessions</p> 	<p>5 study visits</p> 	<p>1 field day event titled "Nuts Day" with 130 participants</p> 
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LIVESTOCK SECTOR

Livestock farming represents a significant sector in agriculture, with a pronounced impact on economic development, food security, and overall well-being in Kosovo. The high potential of this sector stems from the considerable use of agricultural land for grazing and the production of necessary food for livestock. According to data from the Green Report of 2023, Kosovo has an agricultural land asset, with the majority of its utilized agricultural land, or 51.6% (216,998 ha), consisting of pastures and meadows. From the same source, cattle represent the most important category, comprising 47.2%, with around 130,493 heads of dairy cattle and an annual milk production of about 276 thousand tons.

Despite favorable land conditions and a suitable climate, the livestock sector in Kosovo has faced new challenges in recent years. Data shows a 1% decrease in milk production and a 1.2% decrease, or 1,583 fewer dairy cattle compared to the previous year. Climate change, low yields of agricultural crops, rising costs for feed preparation and procurement, as well as inadequate food quality, have impacted both milk and meat production.

To address these challenges, a large number of organizations play a role, including IADK, through supporting and advancing the livestock sector. Specifically, IADK offers grants, advisory services, study visits, and training under the Vocational Education and Training (VET) program "Livestock Technician" Level III, from the Kosovo Chamber of Commerce, thereby developing and strengthening the livestock sector.

For the preparation of candidates according to sector and market requirements, the National Qualifications Authority (NQA) has reaccredited IADK and revalidated the professional training program in the livestock sector. Now, candidates attending these training sessions will have the opportunity to obtain nationally and internationally recognized certificates. The trainings offered by IADK focus on developing production capacities, improving breeds, milk and meat quality and quantity, as well as using techniques for producing quality and balanced food. These efforts aim to improve animal welfare, the quality and quantity of local products, and promote more sustainable agricultural practices.





The development and strengthening of the sector are challenging without financial support from donors. One of the key donors is BfdW (Brot für die Welt) from Germany, which has made it possible to support 18 livestock farmers, specifically 14 beneficiaries from the municipality of Drenas and four (4) beneficiaries from the municipality of Podujeva. The inclusion of women in all agricultural sectors, including livestock, is an aim of IADK. Therefore, out of the total beneficiaries, we have managed to select and provide support for three (3) successful women in the livestock sector. The selection of the support package was made in line with the state of the sector, farmer requirements, and project goals. To increase storage capacity, beneficiaries were supported with 300L and/or 500L milk cooling tank, and to improve milk quality and hygiene, beneficiaries were supported with milking machines with two clusters and 20L milk cans.



One of this year's beneficiaries is **Mrs. Elfete Morina** from the village of Dobroshec, Municipality of Drenas, who owns 18 sheep, including 10 dairy cows. As a woman living in rural areas with poor conditions for the rearing of dairy cows in an improvised farm, she says she has faced many difficulties in preserving and improving milk quality. She stated, **"I had to discard milk in many cases because it was spoiled due to high summer temperatures, or it froze too much due to storage in the refrigerator because I did not have a special storage device."** She says that the milk, which she does not consume for her family, she does not send to collection points or consumers. Elfete, happily, says that with the support of IADK with a 500L milk cooler and two milk cans, and the advice she received, she managed to improve the quality of milk, to be subsidized for milk quality, and thus to create higher incomes from her farm. **"Now, I don't worry about milk spoiling due to low or high temperatures; I will no longer discard milk, so I will be much more competitive in the market."**



94
beneficiaries
of livestock



2
milk collection
points



443 direct
consultations
provided



6
professional
trainings



2
study visits



FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR



After successfully completing the training, she was supported by grants from IADK through a project funded by the donor Brot für die Welt (BftW), and today she owns and manages her business very successfully. The unique taste and decoration of the desserts make Dea's Cakes a preferred stop for orders of various types of desserts for gatherings and family events, hence her proposition **"Live sweet with our desserts."**

Food processing is making considerable progress, contributing to the increase in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employment levels, and the trade of agricultural products. The food processing sector is considered to have potential for the inclusion of women both economically and socially, as it offers employment opportunities and income generation.

Women, one of the main target groups of IADK, continue to have a high unemployment rate, especially women in rural areas. Data shows that only about 20% of women in Kosovo are employed, and for 50% of women, the highest level of education is primary education. This is mainly due to family obligations and prejudices. Therefore, limited employment opportunities, financial constraints, and inadequate education make this target group less involved both economically and socially. In this aspect, IADK has undertaken initiatives to empower small-scale farmers and rural women by supporting them with grants for building farms, orchards, and processing units.


Vlora Mexhuani, one of many beneficiaries of IADK, with a special passion for making desserts, has been selected as a grant recipient to establish her business, "Dea's Cakes." Although an economist by profession, Vlora has always been engaged in her passion for desserts. Vlora has followed a cycle of vocational education and training through the accredited program "dessert maker" at level III, which is validated by the National Qualifications Authority (NQA).

In addition to making desserts, the agro-processing sector, specifically fruit and vegetable processing, continues to be a sector with potential for women's employment. Mrs. Nadire Hasani from the village of Frasher in the Municipality of Mitrovica has shown exceptional performance in agro-processing, with a special emphasis on collecting and processing fruits and vegetables. Therefore, she was supported with the construction of a cold storage room, which will serve for storing both raw and processed materials. Thanks to the support provided and compared to the previous year, the production/processing capacity has increased to 2000 jars, including 5 tons of peppers, 600 kg of plums, and 6 tons of green tomatoes. Along with the increase in production, Mrs. Hasani has also increased the export volume for 2023, which was 70 tons. The success of the beneficiary mentioned above is an example of the impact of IADK in ensuring food products and increasing exports.

From farm to table, our efforts focus on creating a more sustainable and healthier food system in Kosovo, so we aim to empower the sector for the benefit of the community through quality training and support with grants and equipment. Considering the need to enhance professional expertise in the food processing sector, IADK has engaged experts from the Netherlands to train job seekers and employees in food safety, quality, storage technology, and product development.

In 2023, IADK held training sessions for 71 candidates, out of which 56 were certified with valid international certificates from NQA:

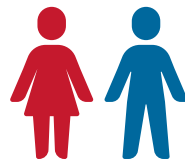
 **15 women were trained in dessert making (all were certified)**

 **15 women completed training in fruit and vegetable preservation (10 were certified)**

 **15 women completed training in milk processing (9 were certified)**

Out of 45 trained women, all were supported with essential equipment for food processing

26 candidates (11 employees, 15 job seekers)



22 were certified (12 women, 10 men)



GENDER AND MINORITY COMMUNITY INCLUSION

IADK's strategy, among other things, focuses on the inclusion and empowerment of women and young girls. By implementing project activities, especially those funded by the donor FRIEDA, initiatives of women and young girls have been supported through grants, direct counseling, study visits, and training. These interventions have contributed to increasing awareness and empowering women and young girls, as well as creating opportunities to develop social and economic responsibility.

In the majority of relevant events and activities, participants were women and girls from GIGVA (Informal Group of Active Women and Girls), established with self-initiative and supported by IADK.

1. Business and Business Plan Training:

- Fifty women from the GIGVA group have been trained at IADK to develop business plans.

2. Traditional Clothing Exhibition:

- Organizing an exhibition with 12 participants from the aforementioned group to celebrate Kosovo Independence Day.

3. Business Management Training by FINCA:

- Around 50 women benefited from training in business management and entrepreneurship by FINCA, receiving participation certificates.

4. Breast Cancer Awareness and Mammography:

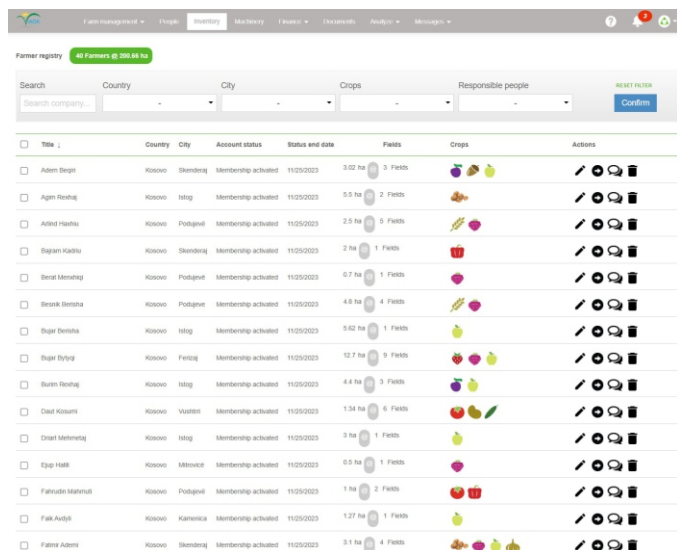
- Approximately 45 women participated in breast cancer awareness lectures by MCMF in collaboration with IADK, with 9 of them undergoing mammography.

5. Roundtable for Rural Women Empowerment:

- Holding a roundtable with 22 participants at IADK on the topic "Empowering youth and women of rural areas to engage in agriculture and food processing."



DIGITALIZATION IN AGRICULTURE

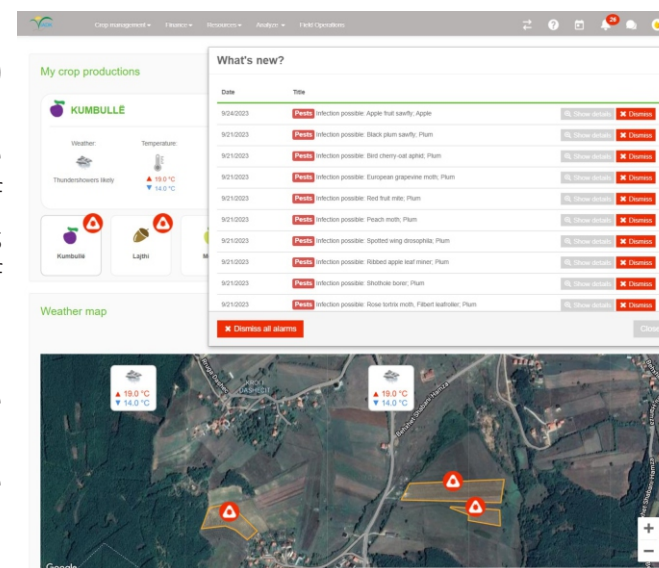


Title	Country	City	Account status	Status end date	Fields	Crops	Actions
Adem Beqir	Kosovo	Skendraj	Membership activated	11/25/2023	3.02 ha	3 Fields	
Agim Roshaj	Kosovo	Itiq	Membership activated	11/25/2023	5.5 ha	2 Fields	
Aded Hasani	Kosovo	Podgajev	Membership activated	11/25/2023	2.5 ha	5 Fields	
Bigan Kadri	Kosovo	Skendraj	Membership activated	11/25/2023	2.94 ha	1 Field	
Biral Mendiq	Kosovo	Podgajev	Membership activated	11/25/2023	0.7 ha	1 Field	
Beqir Bemba	Kosovo	Podgajev	Membership activated	11/25/2023	4.8 ha	4 Fields	
Beqir Bemba	Kosovo	Itiq	Membership activated	11/25/2023	5.82 ha	1 Field	
Beqir Bytyr	Kosovo	Ferizaj	Membership activated	11/25/2023	12.7 ha	3 Fields	
Bekim Roshaj	Kosovo	Itiq	Membership activated	11/25/2023	4.4 ha	3 Fields	
Dasit Kosumi	Kosovo	Vullneti	Membership activated	11/25/2023	1.34 ha	4 Fields	
Drzet Mendiq	Kosovo	Itiq	Membership activated	11/25/2023	3.94 ha	1 Field	
Epa Hasi	Kosovo	Mitrovic	Membership activated	11/25/2023	0.5 ha	1 Field	
Fahudin Mankut	Kosovo	Podgajev	Membership activated	11/25/2023	1.94 ha	2 Fields	
Fahudin	Kosovo	Kamenica	Membership activated	11/25/2023	1.27 ha	1 Field	
Fahudin Ademi	Kosovo	Skendraj	Membership activated	11/25/2023	3.1 ha	4 Fields	

Digitalization in agriculture refers to the integration and adoption of digital technologies to improve various aspects of agricultural practices, management, and decision-making processes. A fully digitalized agriculture is a strong combination of people, technology, and organizational skills that ideally adapts to the current economic and social context.

Limited access among producers, especially small-scale farmers and collection centers, to knowledge about production techniques, investment planning, and information flow are the most pronounced factors limiting the development of agriculture. Providing technical and professional knowledge and connecting farmers with advisors through an online platform like AGRIVI Farm Management Software would enable our agriculture to thrive more quickly, keeping pace with global trends. AGRIVI is an online platform for tracking all farm operations, crops, and resources such as personnel, machinery, fields, and farm inventory, formulated and prepared by IADK in collaboration with AGRIVI.

This platform has enabled all our experts to have a connection with 40 farmers (from all over Kosovo) in the fruit and vegetable sector, facilitating the digitization of over 200 hectares of cultivated land with main crops such as apples, raspberries, plums, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, etc. With a range of features, this platform has provided appropriate crop management, rational planning of the entire production season, tracking of phytosanitary aspects of plants enabling early detection of pests and diseases. Thus, this platform has assisted farmers and experts in land preparation, nutrition (calculation), use of inputs (organic and inorganic), planting distance for main crops, etc. The digital platform has served not only as an advisory tool but also as a monitoring and learning process, thus, by recognizing the causes and problems, we can address effective actions for the future agricultural season. In the near future, the platform will evolve into a commercial-based platform for digital agricultural services, serving as a model for disseminating knowledge to our farmers timely and effectively.



The screenshot displays the AGRIVI interface with several key sections:

- My crop productions:** A section for 'KUMBULLE' showing weather conditions (Thunderstorms likely, 19.0°C / 14.0°C) and crop status (Light).
- What's new?:** A table of pest alerts with columns for Date, Title, and Actions. Alerts include:

Date	Title	Actions
9/24/2023	Pests Infection possible: Apple fruit sawfly, Apple	View details, Changes
9/21/2023	Pests Infection possible: Black plum sawfly, Plum	View details, Changes
9/21/2023	Pests Infection possible: Bird cherry cut apple, Plum	View details, Changes
9/25/2023	Pests Infection possible: European grapevine moth, Plum	View details, Changes
9/21/2023	Pests Infection possible: Red fruit moth, Plum	View details, Changes
9/21/2023	Pests Infection possible: Peach moth, Plum	View details, Changes
9/25/2023	Pests Infection possible: Spotted wing drosophila, Plum	View details, Changes
9/21/2023	Pests Infection possible: Ribbed apple leaf miner, Plum	View details, Changes
9/21/2023	Pests Infection possible: Striped borer, Plum	View details, Changes
9/25/2023	Pests Infection possible: Rose tortrix moth, Fibret mulberry, Plum	View details, Changes
- Weather map:** A satellite map showing the location of the farm with temperature indicators (19.0°C / 14.0°C).

INTERNSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT FOR STUDENTS

Our country has the highest youth population in all of Europe, representing an opportunity for a highly skilled and qualified workforce. However, high unemployment rates, especially among the 15-24 age group, remain a significant issue, reflecting the mismatch between skills acquired during studies and the demands of the job market. According to the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS), in the last three quarters of 2022, the youth unemployment rate was 19%, marking a decrease (-15.6%) compared to the same period in the previous year. In this group, around 33.7% of young people are not in education, employment, or training, with a higher percentage for specific categories such as young women, youth from marginalized communities, and those with disabilities. Addressing the education-employment gap is essential for the professional development of young people and access to the job market. In this context, IADK continues to support graduate students in agriculture and food technology, enabling them to gain professional experience through internship programs.



In 2023, IADK provided support to 32 young graduates or students completing their studies in agricultural sciences and food technology.

These young people participated in soft skills training, positively influencing their readiness to adapt to job market demands.

Through this internship program, in addition to gaining new professional experiences, the successful integration of 10 of them into the job market has been achieved, transitioning from the position of "intern" to "employed" in companies specializing in agriculture and agro-processing.





Teuta Shkodra, who has just completed her Bachelor's degree in Food Technology with Biotechnology, is one of the young people who benefited from the internship program supported by IADK. After graduation, she faced challenges in advancing her professional career, recognizing the lack of professional experience as a barrier. Teuta completed a three-month internship at Fluidi Corporation, where, thanks to dedication and high performance, she managed to sign an employment contract as a regular employee in the company. Teuta Shkodra expresses that this experience was extraordinary and very beneficial for her professional development, gaining deep knowledge in the technological process of cooking oil production and laboratory analyses. This benefit achieved from practice has paved the way for a successful career. Teuta Shkodra expresses her pleasure and gratitude for the support of IADK and Fluidi Corporation. "As a result of my internship, I am taking the first steps towards developing expertise in the technological process of cooking oil production. My dream has come true, thanks to the support of IADK and Fluidi Corporation. I am delighted to now have a job and the opportunity to contribute financially to myself and my family," concludes Teuta Shkodra.



32 students engaged in internship



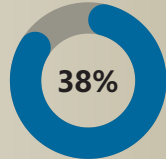
29 of them are women/girls



3 of them are men/boys



12 students have been employed



38% success rate in employment





14 Study visits organized for sector farmers



5 for the fruit sector



6 for the vegetable sector



1 for the processing sector



2 for the livestock sector



182 participants



74 or 41% were women/girls



108 or 59% were men/boys



1 International visit with the organization's staff

STUDY VISITS AND FAIRS

Through study visits, we offer our farmers the opportunity to identify economic development prospects in rural areas, including the development of agricultural product markets and opportunities for local economic diversification. These visits aim to familiarize farmers with new and advanced agricultural technologies. Above all, study visits provide a platform for the exchange of knowledge and experiences in the field of agriculture, contributing to the enhancement of local capacities and knowledge development.

During this year, IADK has assisted farmers in promoting their products by organizing various fairs at the communal level in several municipalities. These fairs have helped farmers to showcase their products, sell them, and potentially build trading relationships with various buyers.

Additionally, IADK has continued to enhance staff capacities through visits to European countries. Last year, the IADK staff organized several-day visits to Greece to learn about agricultural practices regarding addressing climate change issues and implementing best practices for sustainable agriculture.



SERVICES OFFERED BY US

In addition to implementing various projects funded by different donors, IADK has played a significant role in providing various services for stakeholders and donors aimed at the development and empowerment of Kosovar agriculture.

- The “Sustainable and Inclusive Rural Economic Development (SIREN)” project implemented by Caritas Switzerland, where IADK has offered comprehensive services in the field of Market System Development, agricultural technical support, as well as training and capacity development services in the field of organic agriculture. Alongside these services, IADK has continued to be one of the leading actors in providing project management guidelines tailored to market demands and farmers' needs.
- The “Empowering Rural Communities through Agricultural Development” project, financially supported by DRC and implemented by IADK, aims to initially explore the market and sectors that are important for agricultural development in the municipalities of the Prishtina and Mitrovica regions. In this context, IADK continues to offer its expertise by researching which sectors may be profitable for the community, especially for minority communities, and also identifying the municipalities that may benefit from the support provided by the project in the coming years.
- The “Promoting Private Sector Employment” project, funded by SDC and implemented by Swisscontact, engages IADK in providing services for identifying enterprises and processing units and empowering them in digitizing services and marketing.



INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

IADK has built a strong network of both local and international partnerships, integrating their contributions into its mission for agricultural development, diversity promotion, and social inclusion.

Here are the professional advisory services offered in close collaboration with these partners:

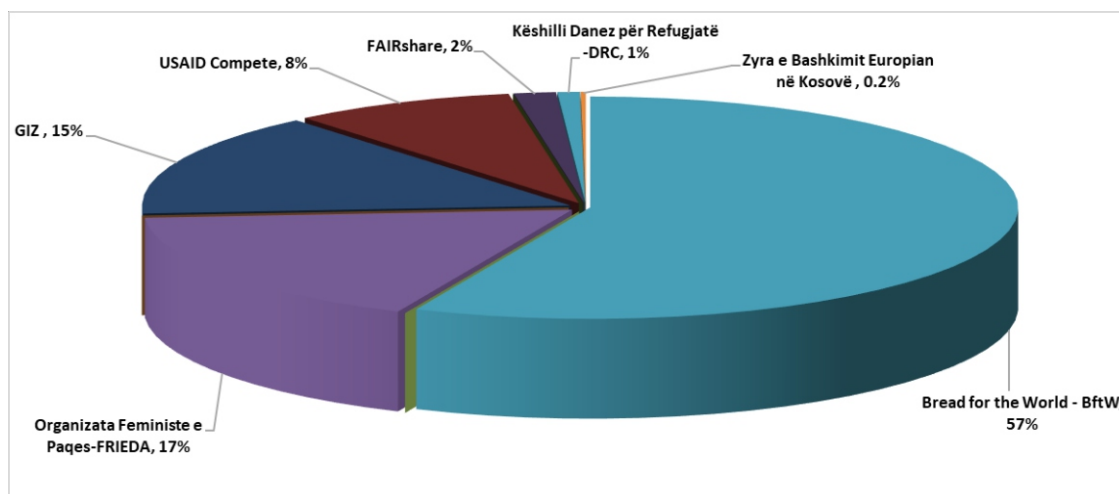
1. SENIOR EXPERTEN SERVICE (SES): A voluntary organization based in Germany, focusing on capacity building in dual education for food processing.
2. European Forum for Agricultural and Rural Advisory Services (EUFRAS): A European network for public advisory services, with IADK being a member since 2016.
3. South Eastern Europe Advisory Service Network (SEASN): Established in Bulgaria in 2015, covering agricultural advisory services for the public, private, and civil society sectors.

At the local level, IADK is a member of the Civikos Platform and the Kosovo Women's Network, contributing to active community development in Kosovo.



INCOMES OF IADK FROM PROJECTS/GRANTS

#	Donor/Partner Name	Project Name	Amount €	Percentage %
1	Bread for the World - BftW	Improving the employment and income generation opportunities in rural areas in Kosovo	365,092	57%
	Municipalities (Drenas, Podujeva, Mitrovica, Suhareka)		43,610	
	Project beneficiaries		17,420	
2	Feminist Peace Organization - FRIEDA	Empowering youth and women of rural areas to engage in agriculture and food processing	96,137	17%
	Municipalities (Vushtrri, Shtime)		24,000	
	Project beneficiaries		9,315	
3	GIZ	Economic promotion to stabilize the job market. Strengthening the Value Chain through Skills Development Programme	113,401	15%
4	USAID Compete	Enhancing the skills development in the food processing sector of Kosovo	49,812 13,670	8%
5	FAIRshare	Digitalization of Advisory Services in Agriculture	11,948	2%
6	Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Empowering rural communities through agricultural development	6,348	1%
7	European Union Office in Kosovo	Supporting employment of youth and women in rural areas through agricultural development	1,500	0.2%
Total			752,252	100%

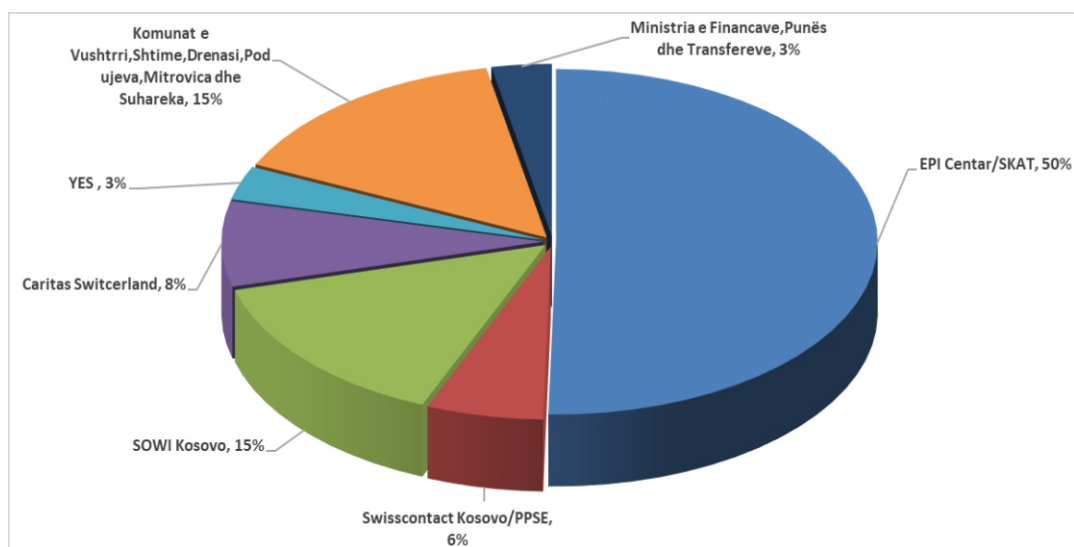


Note: The data presented is based on expenses incurred for the year 2023, while revenues are recognized based on expenses incurred referring to projects.

INCOMES OF IADK FROM PROJECTS/SERVICES

#	Donor/Partner Name	Project Name	Amount €	Percentage %
1	EPI Centar/SKAT	Technical Support to Agriculture in Kosovo in the context of Integrated Water Resources Management	52,842	50%
2	Swisscontact Kosovo/PPSE	Promoting Private Sector Employment	6,162	6%
3	SOWI Kosovo	Design and implementation of Livelihood Restoration Program	15,254	15%
4	Caritas Switzerland	Sustainable and Inclusive Rural Economic Development	8,375	8%
5	YES	Office Rental Usage	3,325	3%
6	Municipalities of: Vushtrri, Shtime, Drenasi, Podujeva, Mitrovica and Suhareka	Advisory Services and Training for Farmers	15,765	15%
7	Ministry of Finance, Labor, and Transfers	'Super Puna' Employment Project	3,168	3%

Total	104,891	100%
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Acknowledgment to the Staff

A successful endeavor with tangible results would be difficult to achieve without the dedication and commitment of a quality staff. Therefore, IADK expresses gratitude and appreciation for its staff and interns.

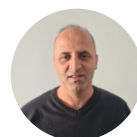
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Shyqyri Hyseni
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Xhavit Merovci
Member



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Executive Director



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& Project Manager



Egzon Gërxhaliu
Project Manager



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Finance Manager



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Sylejman Bunjaku
Project Manager



Esra Kurshumlja
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Besnik Demiri
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Fjolla Gashi
Project Manager



Artiola Xhaka
Gender Equality
Officer



Elheme Shala
Finance Assistant



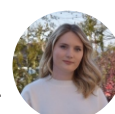
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Procurement and
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Adisa Osmani
Procurement and
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Jehona Drevinja
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Leonora Hajra
Livestock Engineer



Hasan Cena
Food Technology
Engineer



Hanumshahe Zeneli
Project Assistant



Gëzim Murseli
Agricultural Engineer



Halit Gashi
Agricultural Engineer



Ferki Surdulli
Facility Maintenance



Ilmihate Surdulli
Facility Maintenance



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Food Technology
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Agricultural Engineer



Petrit Koci
IT Specialist



Xhentiana Zeka
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