



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

Annual Report 2024

*A year full of cooperation and
dedication!*

Let us live from our land and work!



Donors, projects, and services



Improving the employment and income generation opportunities in rural areas in Kosovo - Brot für die Welt



Empowering women, men and youth living in economically challenging rural areas, to establish sustainable livelihoods through agricultural and food processing activities



Empowering Rural Communities through Agriculture Development



Empowering Rural Economies in Agriculture (EREA)



Seeds of Empowerment: Women in Agriculture



USAID Private Sector-Led Workforce Development Activity



Economic Promotion to Stabilize the Labor Market - Strengthening the Value Chain through Skills Development





E ardhmja e ushqimit fillon me dorën e fermerit!

Dear readers, collaborators and partners of IADK,

With pride, I present to you the 2024 Annual Report, a summary of our achievements, challenges, and ongoing commitment to the socio-economic development of rural areas in Kosovo. This year marks a special milestone for our organization – the 20th anniversary of IADK's establishment. This two-decade journey has been filled with challenges and successes, always in service of our farming and rural communities.

Founded by a group of enthusiasts who strongly believed in the potential of agricultural development, IADK has combined knowledge, experience, and passion to contribute to reducing unemployment, creating income opportunities, and supporting small-scale farmers.

During this year, we have fulfilled one of our most important objectives by completing the practical demonstration farm in the IADK yard. This farm provides valuable lessons for farmers in the field of fruit, vegetables and medicinal plants, helping to enhance their professional skills and capacities.

However, 2024 has not passed without challenges. Climate change has significantly impacted the agricultural sector, causing losses and yield reductions. This situation reminds us of the urgent need to address these challenges and the necessity for coordinated actions to protect and develop agriculture in Kosovo.

Our contribution this year has been especially dedicated to supporting small-scale farmers, women, girls, and non-majority communities. Thanks to our collaboration with strategic partners and the support of our donors, we have successfully implemented projects that not only contributed to rural development but also to the economic and social empowerment of the most vulnerable groups.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Board of Directors of IADK, my dedicated team, the beneficiaries who have trusted us and achieved excellent results, as well as the donors who have supported our vision and mission.

Every step we have taken, every small or large achievement, has been the result of our joint efforts and your trust. Together, we will continue to work towards a better future for the rural areas of Kosovo.

With respect,
Zenel Bunjaku
Executive Director of IADK

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Our Scope

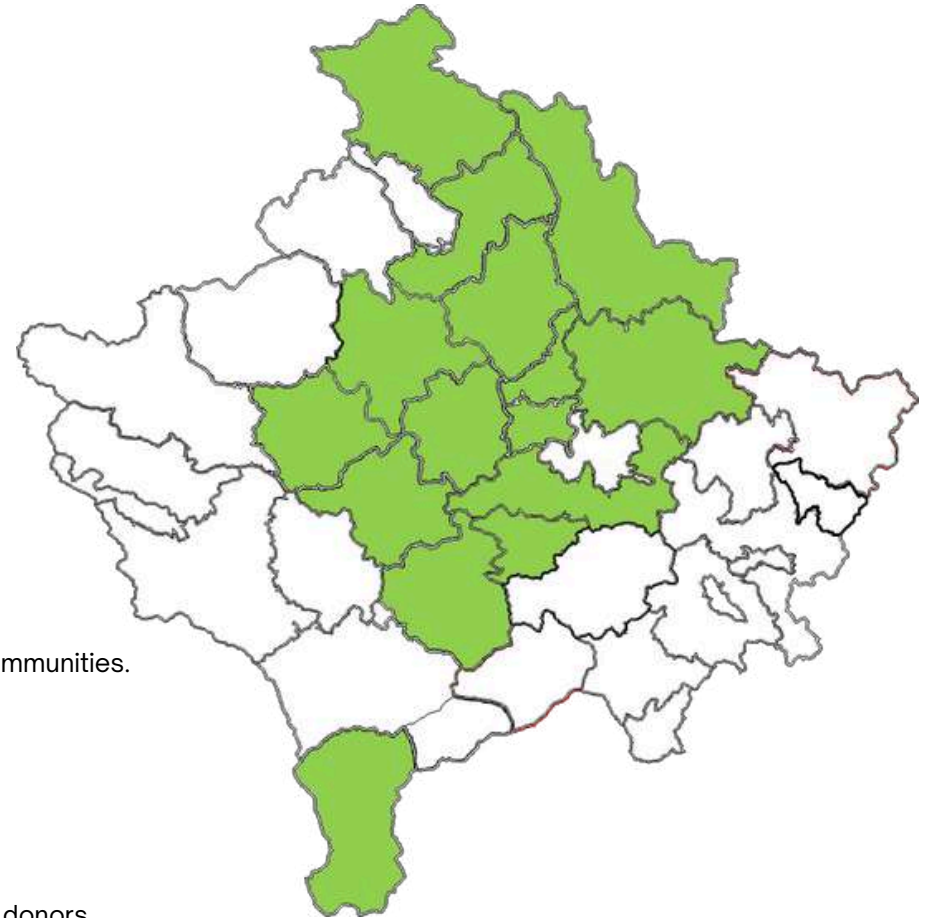
IADK has had a continuous commitment to supporting and empowering farmers, women, men and youth, in several municipalities of Kosovo, implementing projects that address their needs and contribute to the economic and social development of rural communities. In many of these municipalities, IADK has implemented more than one project, deepening its impact and strengthening partnerships with local authorities. The key municipalities where IADK has worked to achieve common goals are:

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Dragash | 6. Lipjan | 11. Prishtinë |
| 2. Drenas | 7. Malishevë | 12. Skënderaj |
| 3. Fushë Kosovë | 8. Mitrovica e Jugut | 13. Shtime |
| 4. Klinë | 9. Obiliq | 14. Suharekë |
| 5. Leposaviq | 10. Podujevë | 15. Vushtri |

In these municipalities, IADK's projects have included a wide range of activities, such as professional training, technical support, assistance in the development of small businesses, promotion of organic agriculture, and empowerment of marginalized groups.

The main achievements that can be highlighted for this year include:

-  255 beneficiaries, of whom 51% are women/girls and 41% are from non-majority communities.
-  25.5% of all beneficiaries are aged between 18 and 35 years old.
-  7 projects and services successfully managed by IADK.
-  Annual revenue of 614,052 euros generated by IADK through support from various donors.
-  25 employees (2 interns) who have successfully completed tasks in support of the targeted groups.



OUR WORK IN NUMBERS

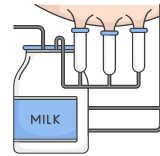
Thanks to the continued support from donors, the support of the respective municipalities, and the commitment of the beneficiaries, IADK has been able to carry out a series of impactful activities for rural communities in Kosovo. The activities undertaken have focused on creating opportunities for income generation and increasing employment for farmers, women, men and youth.

255 Beneficiaries supported through grants and training



65 Beneficiaries are young (18-35 years old) or 25.5%

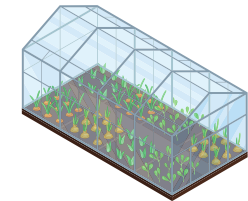
4 Businesses Successfully Led by Women



2 Milk collection and processing points



2 Confectionery production units



91 Beneficiaries supported in the vegetable sector



72 Beneficiaries supported in the livestock sector



2 Beneficiaries supported in the fruit and MAP sector



4 Beneficiaries are supported in the beekeeping sector



4 Beneficiaries supported in the poultry sector



10 Beneficiaries supported in different agricultural sectors

OUR WORK IN NUMBERS



469 Direct advice provided in the field



13 Professional trainings provided to 74 participants



30 Participants attended 5 days of training on the topic of "soft skills"



34 Candidates were certified after completing 55 days of professional development training



30 Students Successfully Completed Internship



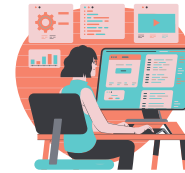
10 Students have found employment after their internship



8 Study visits successfully conducted with a total of 93 participants



4 Agricultural fairs organized, where 38 farmers showcased their products



30 Participants from the IAWGG group have attended training on computer use and social media



18 Participants from the IAWGG group have attended training on property rights



4 Participants have successfully presented their products at the Agrokos fair

More than 100 farmers have managed to generate various incomes, among the most important:



72 farmers in the livestock sector have generated additional income from 1,000 – 1,600€



17 farmers in the vegetable sector have generated additional income from 1,400 – 2,050€



10 farmers in the fruit sector have generated additional income from 2,000 – 5,200€

Vegetable Sector, a Treasure for Agricultural Development

The year 2024 was a challenging year for vegetable growers, especially those working in open fields, due to extremely high temperatures during the summer months. These extreme conditions negatively affected the normal development of vegetables, leading to a decrease in both yield and product quality.

IADK played an important role in helping farmers cope with unfavorable climatic conditions, particularly in the vegetable sector. Through support for the construction of greenhouses for vegetable production, IADK enabled the creation of more controllable conditions for plant growth. These greenhouses provide the opportunity to manage and adjust climatic factors, allowing farmers to control temperature, humidity, and light, which in turn increases yield and product quality.



In 2024, IADK supported 91 small farmers in the vegetable sector through grants that included the construction of greenhouses and provision of necessary inputs, equipment, and agricultural machinery. Out of this total, 52 farmers were equipped with greenhouses and accompanying inputs, resulting in an increase of greenhouse areas by 0.72 hectares. These greenhouses, ranging from 120 to 176 m², have helped farmers improve both yield and product quality.

In addition to the greenhouses, IADK supported 39 farmers with agricultural machinery, seedlings, shading nets, and equipment, making work easier and increasing the income of small farmers. Along with the grants, professional support was provided through training, advice, and monitoring. This has enhanced knowledge in cultivation and greenhouse management, ensuring an average income of 1,400 euros for 17 farmers with 176 m² greenhouses, who cultivate peppers and tomatoes.





Vegetable Sector, a Treasure for Agricultural Development

A remarkable success story in vegetable cultivation in greenhouses comes from Mr. Faton Muharremi, a farmer from the village of Çubreli, Municipality of Skenderaj. After applying for the grant for greenhouse construction in February 2024, Faton was given the opportunity to receive support from IADK. During a visit from the selection committee, they noticed his exceptional dedication to his work and care for his 12-member family.

Faton had a total area of 35 are, but only 5 are were suitable for vegetable cultivation, while the rest of the land was located on a hilly terrain without irrigation possibilities. However, he had managed to grow vegetables in the open field every year, and two years ago, he had built a simple 30 m² wooden greenhouse where he grew spinach.

Having a great interest in this field and meeting the selection criteria, the committee selected him a grant beneficiary. IADK supported him with a new greenhouse, covering an area of 176 m², along with supplementary inputs and seedlings for vegetable cultivation. As a result of this support and Faton's tireless dedication, he managed to produce 1,860 kg of quality vegetables, including 1,260 kg of peppers and 600 kg of tomatoes. From the sale of these vegetables, he generated income of 2,058 euros. Additionally, he planted his greenhouse for the autumn season with spinach and onions, which are expected to bring additional income for his family. This success is an example of the positive impact of IADK's support and the commitment of farmers.

"This grant has been a great help for my family, as we have benefited a lot from vegetable production. The entire family has been actively and successfully engaged in daily agricultural activities. I hope to increase the greenhouse area and expand production capacity. Thank you for your support!" expresses Fatoni.



52 farmers were supported with greenhouses and accompanying inputs, increasing the planted areas and improving yields



39 farmers benefited from agricultural machinery, solutions for digitization, and adaptation to climate change



236 direct advices were offered by experts to improve agricultural practices and farm management



11 theoretical training sessions were organized to build the capacities of farmers



2 study visits were conducted to exchange experiences and learn best practices

Fruit Cultivation, a golden opportunity for employment and income generation

The fruit industry in Kosovo plays a key role in the country's economic and agricultural growth. Kosovo has a suitable climate for the successful cultivation of apples, pears, strawberries, raspberries, and others, making agriculture an important and promising sector. Investments in technology and assistance to farmers have increased production, improved the livelihoods of families, and created employment opportunities in rural areas.

Demand for fresh produce from international markets has opened up significant export opportunities, turning agriculture into a valuable source of income. However, challenges such as climate change and the need for financing remains, but the potential for further growth in the economy and the well-being of farmers is substantial.



In this context, IADK through its projects has helped in the development of the soft fruit sector, more precisely it has supported 10 beneficiaries from the municipality of Suhareka with the addition of 1.5 hectares of strawberry area. Through the autumn planting of the previous year of the two required strawberry cultivars (Alba and Albion) with A+ quality, they have enabled the Kosovo market to have a total of 20 tons of quality strawberries in the first year of production.

There is an interest among farmers in increasing the areas in the coming years, data show that very soon these farmers will increase the areas by another 5 ares, based on the market demands for quality strawberries.



Fruit Cultivation, a golden opportunity for employment and income generation

Ms. Yrmete Kabashi from Reshtani, Suhareka, started cultivating strawberries after struggling with traditional farming methods. With support from IADK, she received grants for seedlings, an irrigation system and advice on disease management. In the first year, she planted 15 are and managed to produce 2,600 kg of strawberries, earning 5,200 euros. She has also helped other farmers with advice. The grant not only generated income for her, but also created employment opportunities for family members. Yrmete began sharing her knowledge with beginner farmers in strawberry cultivation.

During my journey, I realized that strawberries don't need to be produced on large areas to be profitable. In fact, even a harvest with high-quality products can be very valuable.

IADK's support didn't stop at strawberry cultivation. Through the project for supporting minorities and marginalized groups, one farmer was also supported with equipment for drying fruits. This equipment will help the farmer increase the product's value and assist in diversifying the product for the local market and beyond.



Livestock Sector



Livestock represents an extraordinary potential for the advancement and development of Kosovo's agriculture. This sector is closely linked to other economic branches, such as food production, livestock processing and trade, serving as an important source of income for many small and medium-sized businesses. Furthermore, livestock plays a key role in the country's economy, not only as a source of food and income for rural families, but also as a factor that contributes to the preservation of traditions and the sustainable development of rural areas. Historically, the livestock sector in Kosovo has been mainly extensive, with a dominance of small farms with limited capacities. However, recent years have marked a significant change, an increase in larger farms operating in a semi-intensive and intensive manner, based on contemporary production standards. This transformation has opened the way for a more competitive and export-oriented sector, significantly improving the quality and quantity of livestock products on the market.

However, the development of this sector still faces several challenges that impact its growth and overall modernization, such as the weak genetic potential of the breeds used, inefficient management, the lack of a new generation of farmers to replace the older ones who continue traditional livestock farming, as well as administrative and logistical barriers to the export of livestock products.

To address these challenges, IADK has taken an active role in the improvement and sustainable development of the livestock sector, through the Vocational Education and Training (VET) training program "Livestock Technician" at level III according to the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), accredited by the National Qualifications Authority (NQA), as well as through the provision of advisory and monitoring services to farmers with the aim of adapting and implementing modern technologies and sustainable agricultural practices, thus contributing to the long-term development of this sector and increasing the production capacities of farms, the quantity and quality of local livestock products in accordance with animal health and welfare standards, climate change and market demands.



Livestock Sector

In 2024, IADK supported 78 farmers/livestock farmers through grants, training and advisory services, farmers involved in livestock, beekeeping and poultry farming.

One of them is Qendrim Bilalli from Stroc village, Vushtri Municipality, who is committed to the livestock sector, despite the challenges it presents, such as climate change and unstable prices.

Qendrim has 13 cattle, 8 of which are dairy cows. Thanks to IADK support, he has received a lactofreezer, a milking machine and a milk can.

These equipment have enabled him to sign a contract with a dairy, improve the efficiency of the milking process and milk storage, preventing milk loss and meeting quality standards. The combination of grant support through the supply of equipment and the provision of practical advice has enabled Qëndrim to have additional income worth €1,665 in 2024.

This increase has come from subsidizing the quality of milk and preserving the milk in appropriate conditions, through the efficient use of lactofreezers, milking machines and good agricultural practices. This improvement has had a positive impact on increasing the productivity and quality of the milk it produces, contributing to the development of the livestock sector.

	72 Farmers supported with lactofreezers and various equipment
	4 Farms supported with beekeeping equipment
	2 Farmers supported with dedicated poultry equipment
	213 Direct advices
	2 Theoretical trainings
	4 Study visits



Food Processing Sector

The food processing sector is a key pillar of Kosovo's economy, contributing to job creation and economic development. However, the challenge of gender representation remains significant, as women constitute a smaller percentage of the workforce. IADK supports this sector through training and advice, contributing to its sustainable development.

IADK is accredited by the National Qualifications Authority (NQA) and licensed by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) to provide training at Level 3 for the qualifications: preservation of fruits, vegetables and similar, Dairy and Confectionary based on the National Qualifications Framework.

IADK's programs include workplace safety, good manufacturing practices, and waste management. 70% of the training is practical, carried out at the Food Processing Unit and in collaboration with businesses. In 2024, IADK conducted 55 training sessions with 45 participants, 34 of whom were certified with valid certificates verified by NQA, demonstrating IADK's commitment to improving professional skills.



30 women have attended a 35-day training in the "Confectionary" program



24 of them are certified



15 women have participated in a 20-day training in the "Dairy" program



10 of them are certified

IADK also provided 10 training sessions on fruit and vegetable preservation, for a total of 10 participants, of which 8 were from the Serbian community and 2 from the Egyptian community.

IADK offers a comprehensive approach to strengthening the food processing sector, combining professional training, grant support, packaging, digital marketing and assistance with business registration. During 2024, IADK supported the establishment of four (4) modern units, two in milk processing and two in the confectionery sector in different municipalities, with a special focus on the economic empowerment of women in rural areas.



Food Processing Sector

The beneficiaries, Luljeta Hoxha and Sabahate Zymeri, after completing professional training in the "Dairy" and "Confectionery" qualification programs, have implemented concrete projects in the field of food processing.



Luljeta Hoxha, from the village of Domanek, Drenas, with five years of experience in dairy processing, established the modern unit "Tradita e Djathit Bjeshka" with the support of a grant from IADK. She focuses primarily on cheese production and aims to expand capacity by collaborating with other farms for raw material supply. "The training from IADK has provided me with knowledge and motivation to further develop my idea in dairy processing," she said.



Sabahate Zymeri, a beneficiary from Shtime and founder of "ER Cakes," has developed her pastry business with the support of IADK. She mastered modern recipes and techniques, optimizing costs and increasing efficiency. With IADK's support, she equipped her business with a professional electric oven and a 1200-liter vertical refrigerator, boosting production capacity and expanding her product range to meet the growing market demands.

Through a combination of professional training, financial support and continuous monitoring, IADK ensures that the products processed by beneficiaries are of high quality and safe, contributing to the economic development and strengthening of the food processing sector in Kosovo.

During 2024, the IADK organization, in cooperation with Senior Experten Service (SES) from Germany, organized a professional training dedicated to dough and pastry processing. This training was attended by 10 participants, who gained practical and advanced knowledge in production techniques. This training aimed to improve work processes and increase the quality of products, enabling participants to be more competitive in the local and international markets.



2 units for the production of sweets



2 units for milk processing



3 study visits were carried out with the participation of 44 women from the "Confectioner" and "Dairy" programs

Gender Inclusion

Gender inclusion in Kosovo remains a national strategic priority, reflecting institutional and societal commitment to promoting gender equality. However, women and girls, especially those in rural areas, still face many challenges, such as a lack of economic opportunities, social discrimination, and limited access to financial resources and professional training.

In this regard, IADK aims to empower women and young girls, particularly those living in rural areas, by offering inclusive programs that address their specific needs. Through professional training, personalized advices, grants, study visits, and roundtable discussions, the organization has created new opportunities for this marginalized group, contributing to improving their socio-economic situation.

A particular example of this commitment is the IAWGG group (Informal Active Women and Girls Group), which has been operating in the Municipality of Vushtri for three years with the support of IADK. This group has helped women and girls develop practical skills, build self-confidence and create cooperation networks for their economic and social empowerment.

In October 2024, with the support of IADK and in cooperation with the Municipality of Vushtri, IAWGG carried out an inspiring activity for breast cancer awareness. Different types of sweets were prepared in the IADK Food Processing Unit, which were then placed for sale in the town square of Vushtri. This activity enjoyed wide support from citizens, who supported this cause. Within a single day, an amount of 1,216.5 euros was collected, which was dedicated to helping four women from Vushtri and Mitrovica who are facing breast cancer and economic difficulties.

"Breast cancer treatment is a heavy financial burden for me and my family. With the help I received from IADK, it will cover two months of therapy, but what I needed most was to know that there are people who sympathize with me and give me the strength to continue." - declared one of the beneficiaries.



Gender Inclusion

IADK, in collaboration with the IAWGG group, has also carried out other activities dedicated to the empowerment of women and girls, promoting awareness and active involvement in the community:



On the annual day marking the 16th Day of Activism Against Violence against Women, a lecture was organized on reporting violence and legal rights, from which 32 women and girls benefited from relevant information



In celebration of the International Day of Rural Women held on October 15, an event with the participation of 30 women shared their success stories and distributed symbolic gifts to honor their efforts and contribution to the community



Some of the (4) women beneficiaries of the organization successfully promoted their traditional products at the Agrokos fair on October 16 and 17

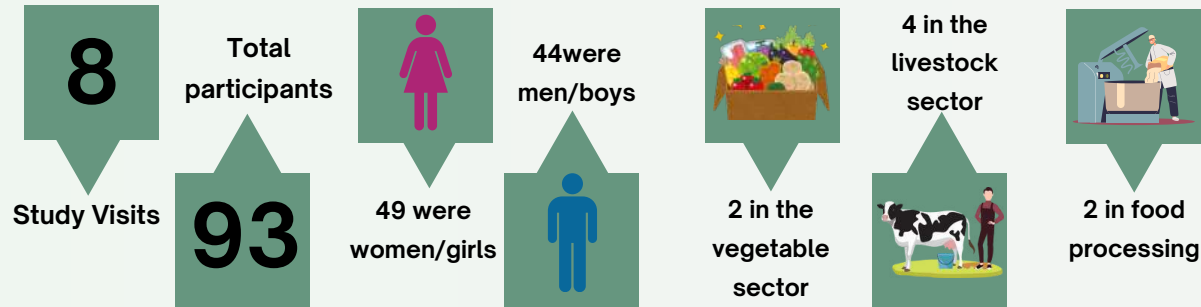


The Agricultural Fair in the Municipality of Shtime enabled 18 women to promote their local products, contributing to increasing the visibility and value of products



Study Visits

IADK organized study visits that served as platforms for knowledge exchange and the sharing of best practices, creating bridges between farmers, model farms, orchards, and food processing units. These visits covered various sectors such as vegetables, livestock, and food processing, enabling participants to familiarize themselves with new agricultural technologies, modern cultivation methods, and new opportunities for trade and collaboration.



"Study visits were a great opportunity to learn from the experiences of others and improve our agricultural practices."

— Elfete Ferati from Vushtri

The participants engaged in open discussions with experts and their colleagues, sharing personal experiences and receiving practical examples that could be adapted to their farms. Many of them emphasized the significance of these visits, noting that they not only helped improve existing practices but also broadened their perspectives for further farm development. This engagement has increased motivation and created a solid foundation for innovation and progress in the agricultural sector.



Fairs

This year, IADK has organized four fairs dedicated to women engaged in the food processing sector, creating a unique opportunity to promote their traditional products. The event was attended by 38 women, who presented a wide range of products from different sectors, including dairy, preservation of fruits and vegetables, confectionery and dough products.



The fair served as an opportunity not only to showcase and sell products, but also to build important business connections with potential buyers and partners.

Participants had the opportunity to share their stories through their products and inspire other women to pursue entrepreneurial paths in the food processing sector.

This activity contributed to increasing the visibility and appreciation of local products, fostering a positive impact on women's economic empowerment and rural development.



Inclusion of Non-Majority Communities

Minorities and marginalized groups are a key priority of the technical and professional support that IADK provides to promote social and economic equality in Kosovo. During the year, actions were taken to actively involve minority groups such as Roma, Ashkali, Egyptians, Serbs and Bosniaks, focusing on economic empowerment and social cohesion. IADK supported the integration of these groups into the labor market and the agricultural sector, providing training and opportunities for skills development and self-employment. During the year, 104 individuals from different groups were supported, including 58 from the Roma and Ashkali communities, 39 from the Serb community and 7 from Bosniaks. IADK also provided training to 10 women from non-majority communities in the agriculture and business management sectors, empowering them for employment opportunities and opening successful businesses.



104
beneficiaries
from different
communities



10 women from the non-majority community have increased their knowledge of doing business and processing fruits and vegetables

In addition, IADK has offered a wage subsidy program to 42 beneficiaries, contributing to the development of their skills and opening employment opportunities through a 15-day commitment to the company.



42 beneficiaries have been supported with wage subsidies for **15** working days

Three individuals have secured long-term employment after the 15-day support period, demonstrating the success of the program.



Thanks to the wage subsidy, we gained experience and secured permanent jobs at Agrounion, supporting our families and contributing to the community as a role model for others. – Workers from the Ashkali community.

Technical and professional strengthening of the IADK organization

During 2024, IADK has significantly improved its technical and professional capacities for providing practical training in various sectors of primary production, this was achieved thanks to the support of donors, in particular from BftW. An important step was the purchase of a 2300 m² plot, where a modern 200m² greenhouse was built, equipped with advanced technology for vegetable cultivation. The greenhouse includes a rainwater collection system, a seed incubator and a digital irrigation and ventilation system that automatically regulates climate parameters.

In 2024, practical training was held for 30 farmers, learning the steps of vegetable cultivation and care during vegetation. The rest of the plot was used for a demonstration orchard where various fruit and medicinal plant crops were planted, which are managed with a digital irrigation system.

This modern infrastructure helps IADK to transfer practical knowledge to farmers to improve the cultivation of fruits and vegetables.

IADK has contributed to the professional development of its staff, aiming to build capacities and improve performance in key areas of the organization's activity. For this purpose, a study visit combined with professional training was organized and led by 13 IADK staff members. During this two-day visit/training, the staff had the opportunity to benefit from the experience of a renowned expert on gender issues. The training focused on empowering women in socio-economic activities and promoting gender equality in the labor market. This activity aims to equip participants with concrete knowledge and skills to integrate a gender perspective into IADK's projects and activities, improving the impact on communities and contributing to sustainable development. Through such goals and activities, IADK aims to strengthen its expertise and deepen its positive impact on the community.



Internships and Student Employment

In Kosovo, where young people represent over 50% of the population, their role in social and economic development is of particular importance. The State Strategy for Youth 2024-2032 highlights the main challenges for this age group, such as the mismatch between the skills acquired during studies and the demands of the labor market, as well as the lack of access to finance, which often limits the ability of young people to do business and become self-employed.

However, the growth of businesses in the agri-agricultural and food technology sector in recent years has increased the demand for qualified professionals. In the face of this dynamic, the preparation and integration of young professionals remains a complex challenge throughout Kosovo.

To address these challenges, IADK has developed internship programs for students of agriculture and food technology, offering a combination of a three-month internship in agricultural and agro-processing companies, followed by a five-day training for the development of soft skills. Skills such as communication, critical thinking, and career orientation included in this training are essential for the professional preparation and success of young people.



During 2024, 30 students from the Food Technology, Plant Production, Agriculture and Environment departments participated in this program. Through this program, 10 students managed to secure employment, contributing to reducing youth unemployment and creating a skilled and competitive workforce.

This IADK program aims to facilitate the transition of students from formal education to the labor market and address the skills mismatch, helping young people become an active and productive part of Kosovo's economic development.

Internships and Student Employment

One of the successful beneficiaries of this program is Leona Bruti, who graduated in Food Technology with Biotechnology from the Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine in 2024. After graduation, Leona became part of the three-month professional internship program organized by IADK, where she had the opportunity to apply her theoretical knowledge in a practical environment.

During this period, Leona was involved in key food technology activities, demonstrating a high level of professionalism and dedication. Her hard work and the skills acquired during the internship secured her a job as a Food Technologist at “Bylmeti Dairy”, where she continues to work successfully, playing an important role in improving the quality and innovation of the company’s products.



80 candidates applied for the internship program



30 were selected to participate in an internship



29 of them were women/girls

1 of them was a man/boy



Of the 30 candidates who completed the internship, 10 of them managed to secure jobs

"This experience helped me connect theoretical knowledge with practical knowledge and adapt my skills to the demands of the food industry. Today I have a job contract that provides a stable income for me and my family," says Leona.

Building Professional Capacities of Staff through Training on Gender Equality

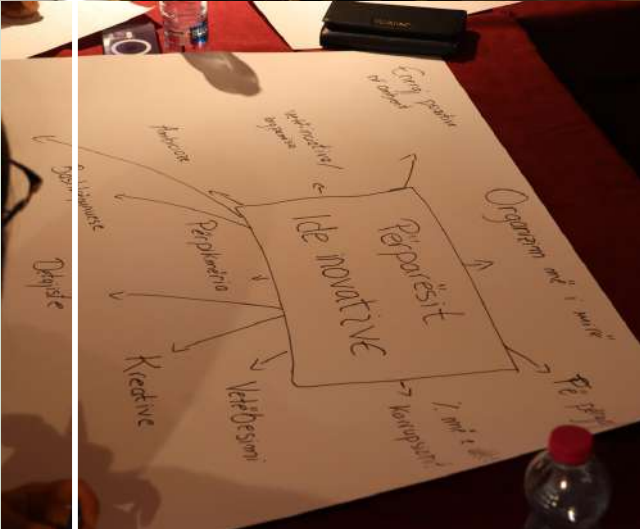
In November 2024, IADK conducted a study visit to Bogë, Rugova, with the aim of strengthening the capacities of staff in addressing gender challenges and promoting the inclusion of women in the labor market.

During this visit, participants attended the training “Stimulating the inclusion of women towards gender equality in the labor market in Kosovo,” which addressed the main challenges, opportunities for social cohesion and strategies for increasing the active participation of women in economic development. Challenges and opportunities for social cohesion.” The training emphasized the importance of:

- ✓ Education and awareness on gender equality;
- ✓ Economic empowerment of women as a mechanism for sustainable development;
- ✓ Use of inclusive language for open and equal communication.

At the end of the activity, participants shared ideas and concrete proposals for projects that enable a more active role for women in decision-making and local economic development.

IADK remains committed to creating equal opportunities and empowering marginalized groups, while continuing to promote inclusive and sustainable development in rural communities in Kosovo.



Training on Managing Climate Resilience

Two IADK experts attended training from the German Sparkassenstiftung on “Managing Climate Resilience.” After the six-day training, the experts organized three training cycles for rural women at IADK offices, with 15 participants in each group, empowering them to face the challenges of climate change.

As a successful result of this process, both experts received certification from the German Sparkassenstiftung, recognizing them as licensed trainers. This achievement strengthens IADK’s institutional capacities to continue providing high-standard training and to contribute to the economic empowerment and climate sustainability of rural communities in Kosovo.



Benefits of Training

- ✓ **IADK:** Increasing institutional capacities in the field of climate sustainability and women's empowerment, as well as strengthening the organization's role in sustainable rural development.
- ✓ **Farmers:** Acquired techniques for climate change adaptation, resource management, and agricultural business development, while rural women gained skills for more active roles in the community.

In the future, these trainings will become a regular part of IADK projects, contributing to the development of rural women's capacities and the creation of economic opportunities to cope with climate change. 🌿

Services offered by IADK

IADK, in addition to implementing projects funded by various donors, has provided specialized services to partners and donors engaged in the development of the agricultural sector in Kosovo. Its activities have focused on improving the technical capacities of farmers, promoting sustainable agricultural practices and increasing efficiency in food production and processing. Through innovative approaches and strategic cooperation, IADK has made a significant contribution to addressing the main challenges of the sector.

1. Empowering Rural Economies in Agriculture (EREA) Project

This project, implemented by Swiss Caritas in Kosovo and funded by the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) and various municipalities of Kosovo, aims at the sustainable development of rural economies. IADK has provided specialized services and expertise for:

- Technical support for project implementation
- Development of the market system
- Monitoring and measuring results
- Advice on organic farming and organic certification



2. Project Empowering Rural Communities through Agricultural Development

Funded by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and implemented by IADK, this project focuses on agricultural development in the municipalities of the Pristina and Mitrovica regions, with a focus on non-majority communities. The main activities include:

- Market research and identification of priority sectors
- Support for non-majority communities in creating new economic opportunities, employment and income generation



3. Seeds of Empowerment Project – Women in Agriculture

Supported by the Jahjaga Foundation, this project aims to empower women from the non-majority community in the villages of Klina. The main activities include:

- Specialized training in food processing and business management



4. USAID Private Sector-Led Workforce Development Activity Project

This project aims to increase productivity, income and employment for farmers and market actors, through:

- Access to advanced technology
- Training to develop technical skills
- Opening up opportunities for new and sustainable markets



International partnerships

IADK has created and developed a strong network of partnerships, both locally and internationally. By collaborating with various organizations, institutions and experts, IADK successfully integrates the contributions and resources of these partners in the realization of its mission.

This mission focuses on advancing the agricultural sector, promoting innovative and sustainable practices, supporting diversity in agricultural production and the active inclusion of various social groups, especially the less represented ones. Through this network of cooperation, IADK aims to strengthen the economic, social and environmental development of rural communities, building a sustainable basis for the future of agriculture in Kosovo.

IADK provides professional advisory services of high standards, cooperating closely with a wide network of international and local partners. Key international partners include:

1.Senior Experten Service (SES): A voluntary organization from Germany, specialized in capacity building through dual education in the food processing sector. SES's contribution helps in improving professional skills and transferring contemporary knowledge.

2.European Forum for Agricultural and Rural Advisory Services (EUFRAS): A European network that brings together public advisory services for agriculture and rural development. IADK has been a member of this forum since 2016, actively participating in the exchange of experiences and access to innovations in the agricultural sector.

3.Southeast Europe Advisory Services Network (SEASN): A regional network, established in Bulgaria in 2015, aiming to strengthen agricultural advisory services for the public, private and civil society sectors in Southeastern Europe.

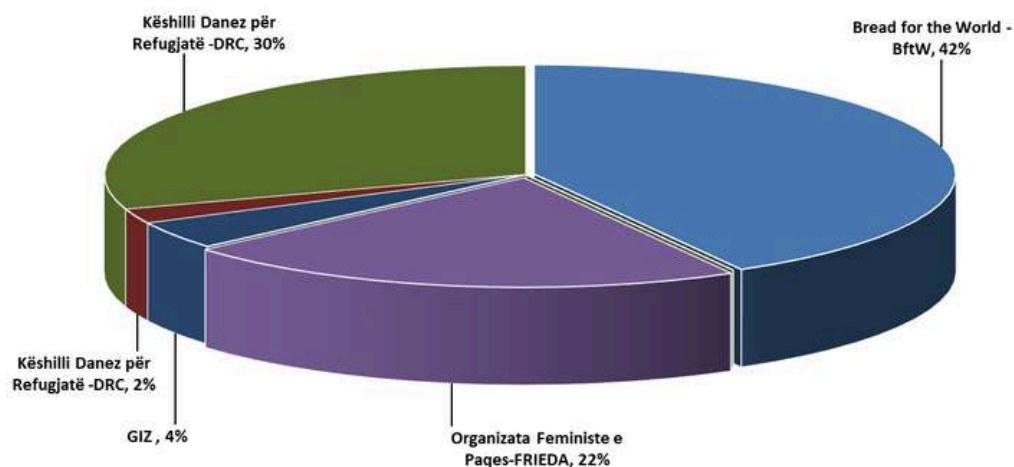
At the local level, IADK is an important member of the Civikos Platform, which promotes cooperation between civil society and public institutions, as well as the Kosovo Women's Network, supporting the participation and empowerment of women in community development.

Through this broad network of cooperation, IADK aims to provide personalized and effective services that foster sustainable agricultural and economic development, improve rural livelihoods, and promote social inclusion.



IADK expenditures from projects and grants

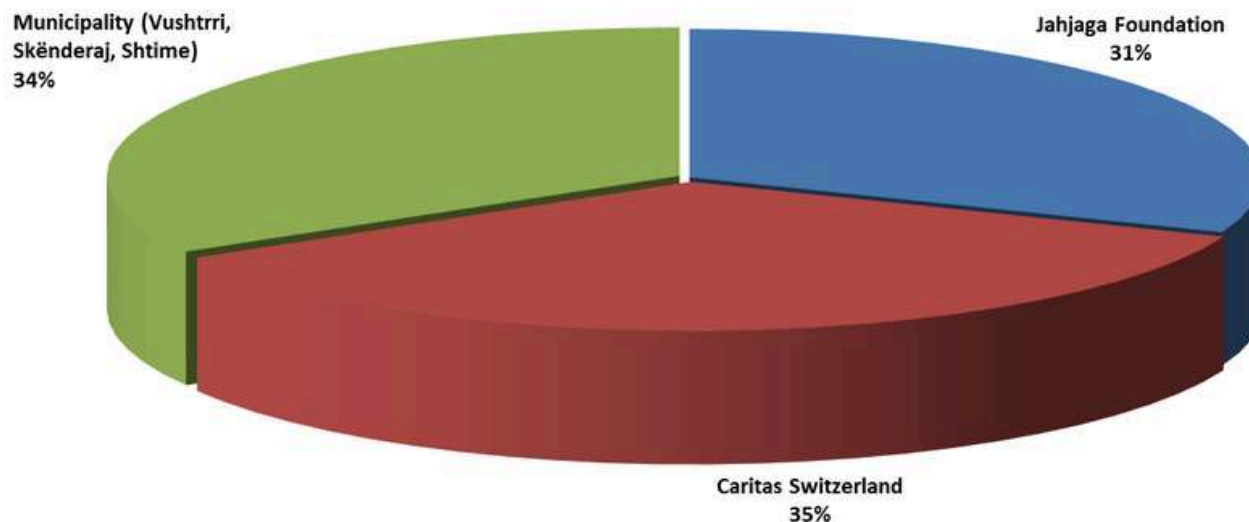
#	Donor/Partner Name	Project Name	Amount €	Percentage %
1	Bread for the World - BftW Municipalities (Vushtrri & Skenderaj) Project beneficiaries	Improving employment and income generation opportunities in rural areas of Kosovo	204,641	42%
			26,940	
			12,799	
2	Organizata Feministe e Paqes-FRIEDA Municipalities (Vushtrri, Shtime) Project beneficiaries	Empowering women, men and youth living in economically challenged rural areas to create sustainable livelihoods through agricultural activities and food processing	110,000	22%
			10,734	
			6,419	
3	GIZ	Strengthening the value chain through skills development programme	23,827	4%
4	Danish Refugee Council - DRC	Empowering Rural Communities through Agricultural Development - Inception Phase	12,729	2%
5	Danish Refugee Council - DRC	Empowering Rural Communities through Agricultural Development - Implementation Phase	176,022	30%
Total			584,110	100%



Note: The data are presented on the expenses made for the year 2024, while the revenues were recognized in relation to the expenses made referring to projects.

IADK's incomes from services

#	Name of Partner	Project Name	Amount €	Percentage %
1	Jahjaga Foundation	Seeds of Empowerment: Women in Agriculture	9,287	31%
2	Caritas Switzerland	Empowering Rural Economies in Agriculture (EREA)	10,625	35%
3	Municipalities: Vushtrri, Skenderaj, Shtime	Advisory Services and Trainings for farmers	10,030	34%
Total			29,942	100%



Acknowledgements to the staff

IADK expresses its deep and sincere gratitude to its staff, interns, and board of directors for their unparalleled contribution and for achieving a successful year, which has helped advance agriculture and improve the livelihoods of the community.

Board of Directors



Shyqyri Hyseni



Myrvete Badivuku



Xhavit Merovci

IADK Staff



Zenel Bunjaku
Executive Director



Edita Mahmuti
Project Manager



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Project Manager



Ylberinë Baliu
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Basri Pulaj
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Halit Gashi
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Project Officer



Ardian Jashari
Finance Manager



Adisa Osmani
Procurement Officer



Selatin Emiri
Technical Assistant



Artiola Xhaka
Project Officer



Leonora Hajra
Livestock Engineer



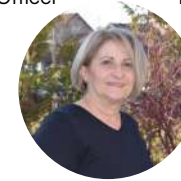
Gëzim Murseli
Agricultural Engineer



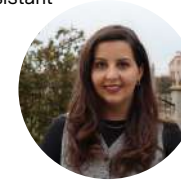
Elheme Shala
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Novica Markovic
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Hanumshahe Zeneli
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Albesa Beqiri
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Xhentiana Zeka
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Ferki Surdulli
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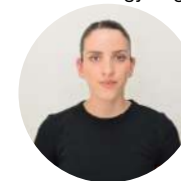
Ilmihate Surdulli
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Petrit Koci
IT



Donika Bunjaku
Project Intern



Ardita Abazi
Project Intern

Acknowledgements to donors and partners

We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the development of agriculture in Kosovo.

Our Donors



Our Partners



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