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THE ASSESSMENT OF RESEARCH CAPACITIES IN SOCIAL SCIENCES IN KOSOVO

December 2009



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Acronyms:

ARrK – Education of Adults in Kosovo
ATRC – Advocacy Training and Resource Center
AUK – American University in Kosovo
BDS – Business Development Services
BMZ – German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
CDF – Community Development Fund
CEEOL – Central and Eastern European Online Library
CEPS – Center for Educational Policy Studies
CITT – Centre for Innovation Support and Technology Transfer
DCAF – Democratic Control of Armed Forces
DFID – Department for International Development
EC – European Commission
ECTS – European Credit Transfer System
FES – Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
HDR – Human Development Report
HE – Higher Education
HED – Higher Education Department
HEI – Higher Education Institutions
IAS – Institute for Albanian Studies
IEME – Institute for Enterprise Management and Engineering
IIRES – Institute for International Relations and European Studies
IKS – Kosovo Stability Initiative
ILIC – International Languages and Intercultural Competence
IPA – Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance
K-CIRT – Kosovo Centre for International Higher Education, Research and Technology
Co-operation
KAA – Kosovo Accreditation Agency
KASA – Kosovar Academy of Sciences and Arts
KEC – Kosovo Education Center
KFOS – Kosovo Foundation for Open Society
KIPRED – Kosovar Institute for Policy Research and Development
KLC – The Kosovo Law Centre
MDA – Management Development Associates
MEST – Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
NGO – Non-governmental organization
OHCHR – Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSCE – Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
OPIC – Overseas Private Investment Corporation
PRO – Policy Research Organization
RIT – Rochester Institute of Technology
RRPP – Regional Research Promotion Programme



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SDC – Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SIDA – Swedish International Development Agency
SME – Small and Medium Enterprises
UBT – University for Business and Technology
UF – University of Freiburg
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
UP – University of Prishtina
USAID – United States Agency for International Development
WUS – World University Service

Executive Summary

Riinvest Institute developed this research report in cooperation with University of Fribourg (UF), as part of the Regional Research Promotion Program in the Western Balkans, supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

The report provides an analysis of the current situation and policies regarding research in social sciences in Kosovo, public institutions involved in research and that support research activities, main research institutes that conduct research and key financial sources that finance research activities in Kosovo.

The scientific and research activity in Kosovo is mainly organized within public and private institutions (universities, independent research institutes, think-tanks, NGO's, and international organizations). Currently in Kosovo, there are two public and ten private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) accredited by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST). The majority of the recently established and accredited academic institutions are in their initial phase of development.

Each HEI is obliged to have a research center, while depending on the programs offered by different universities, some research centers are supposed to conduct research in the field of social sciences. However, most of them are not continually active in their research work. In this report, research activities of the HEIs are presented. But, it is important to emphasize that even though the research activity within university umbrellas is supposed to be carried regularly, it lacks some of the most fundamental necessities (primarily funds and human resources) in order to implement and conducted successfully.

Apart from the HEI research centers, much of the applicative social science research is preformed within the private sector research institutions (primarily by think-tank organizations) and international organizations.

The functioning of the scientific and research activity in the country is regulated mainly by two laws, such as: the Law on Scientific and Research Activity and the Law on Higher Education in Kosovo. The *Law on Scientific and Research Activity*¹ defines the scientific and research activity in Kosovo, provides outline of the institutions carrying scientific and research work and the structures responsible for creating the national research policy. The *Law on Higher Education* regulates the principles of establishment and functioning of higher educational institutions and outlines their primary roles.

The research activities in Kosovo have only few possibilities of being funded. On a national level, the state budget allocates some annual funds for research activities, which can be awarded to the private, mixed and public scientific institutions. Besides that,

¹ Law on Scientific Research Activity – Pub. L. 2004/42. 27 Sep. 2004

various donor organizations (international, bilateral, multilateral, domestic etc.) also regularly support applicative and developmental social science research projects.

Introduction

The main aim of this report is to present the current situation regarding the social sciences research in Kosovo by providing a review of the relevant policies, institutions, sources of financing and range of research projects. On the basis of the research conducted by Riinvest Institute, recommendations on how to improve the situation and to overcome deficiencies are provided.

This report is organized in the following order: the first chapter provides an analysis of the recent research activities in Kosovo, description and analysis of respective laws and the MEST and sub-actors such as Kosovo Accreditation Agency and relevant MEST departments. The second chapter gives an overview of research institutes. The third chapter provides description of the activity of donor organizations in Kosovo, and the final chapter provides research capacity evaluation and a recommendation part. This report includes a description and analysis of five higher education institutions (one public and four private higher education institutions), eleven research institutes and thirteen donor organizations.

Research Methodology

In order to evaluate and present the current situation regarding the research work in social sciences in Kosovo, a wide selection of institutions was contacted, to provide data on their structure, functioning and problems they encounter in their research work. The institutions contacted were selected on the basis of their involvement in social science research activities, i.e. the ones identified are most actively involved in social science research in Kosovo, either as implementers or as donors. The list of organizations to be interviewed was identified and finalized in accordance with UF. Primarily, this list included the state-level policy makers, such as the Ministry of Education and Science; the primary research institutions (both public and private); the most important universities (both public and private)² and the most relevant donor organizations in Kosovo. Specifically, the list of contacts consisted of representatives from the following institutions: The MEST; The Kosovar Academy of Sciences and Arts (KASA); National Council for Science; University of Prishtina (Public University): Faculty of Economy, Faculty of Law and the Department of Political Science (Faculty of Philosophy). Private higher education institutions, such as American University of Kosovo, AAB – RIINVEST University, University of Business and Technology – UBT and Iliria University. Private Research Institutes, such as Riinvest Institute, OSI–KFOS/Forum 2015, KIPRED, Gap Institute, Management and Development Associates (MDA), UBO Consulting, Index Kosova, Kosovo Education Center, IKS Kosovo, and Public Institutes, such as Institute of History and Institute of Albanian Studies. Additionally, the data for eleven donor organizations were gathered, respectively, UNDP, FES, USAID, DFID,

² The criteria for the selection of private universities in the report have been their reputation and the size of student body.

OSCE, The World Bank, The European Commission, SDC, SIDA, ADA and WUS Austria.

The main data-collection instrument was a questionnaire which was developed and modified according to the type of institution surveyed (i.e. academic department/faculty, research institute, or think-tank organization).

The questionnaire covered mainly the following main areas³:

- Structure of the institution, in terms of organization and staff
- Main areas of interest
- Important research projects conducted and published
- Sources of funding
- Cooperation with domestic and foreign institutions
- Problems encountered in their work on social science research projects
- Upcoming activities/plans of the institution.

Where direct interviews were not possible, the questionnaire was emailed with a request to complete it and send it back to Riinvest Institute. Additional data on those organizations were collected by reviewing relevant documents (policy papers and legislatives) and official documents from the stakeholders included in the sample. We need to emphasize that the following organizations refused to respond at our request for an interview, Iliria University, University of Business and Technology (UBT), Ubo Consulting, Index Kosova and Management and Development Associates (MDA), so in those cases we have used published information at their web pages.

³ For more details, please see the questionnaire in annex 1

Analysis of the Research Activity in Kosovo – Overview

1. Donor driven

The research activities in Kosovo, in overall and specifically in social sciences, are mainly funded by the International Community. The international donor organizations such as the World Bank, USAID, UNDP, OSCE, European Commission and other organizations are the primary source of the majority of research published in Kosovo. Even though according to the law on scientific research activity the Government shall dedicate up to 0.7% of the budget for the research activity, the latest developments show that the Minister of MEST is claiming that these funds will be allocated just by the year 2010. However, the latest developments show that the budget proposal for the year 2010 does not include any amount that can possibly be allocated for the research activity. From the information gathered by the interviews and other sources, until now the Government allocates an amount of €500,000 annually to three public research institutes in Kosovo: Institute of Albanian Studies, Institute of History and Institute for Slavic Studies (which currently does not exist)⁴, while in 2009 the total public funds dedicated to research were 2.2€Million.

2. Lack of individual/ free research – imposed research

Apart from the donor orientation, the research activity in Kosovo is driven also by the project supply. The interviews conducted by Riinvest Institute with a number of research organizations in Kosovo, show that since the research activity is mainly sponsored by the international organization, usually research institutes do not engage in implementing independent research. Therefore, the topics researched are selected by the donors' interest (research topics are selected and indicated in the tenders) rather than by the preferences of researchers and their fields of specialization. This phenomenon limits researchers from using their full potential and conducting research that is associated with their specialization fields and preferences.

3. Trend of business orientation

In the post war period in Kosovo, a great number of private research institutes emerged. Most of the private research institutes have been established in the last couple of years. In the post war Kosovo, the need of economic and social reconstruction emerged, therefore the international community raised funds available for development projects. Those development projects needed a prior field research, in order to see the feasibility of projects. When the supply of projects increased, the number of research institutes

⁴ The Institute for Slavic Studies was closed after the conflict in Kosovo. Its mission was similar to the Institute for Albanian Studies, only different in its target study which was the Slavic language and history. It does not function for the present time.

flourished as profit seekers. Thus, the research activity in Kosovo tended to lean towards business orientation.

4. Low number of researchers with PhD degrees

Even though one might think that the rising number of research institutes increases competition, therefore the quality of research should have been increased, the reality is slightly different. Research is considered to be an academic activity, therefore research institutes should have in their ranks as many PhD's as possible. However, in Kosovo there are very few private research institutes that have employees with PhD degrees. This fact might lead to under-qualified published research reports. Moreover, the research conducted in most of these institutes is mainly donor driven and includes reports and publications which are constructed in the type of business and economic evaluations (consulting reports). The research in social science should include the publishing of journals and scientific papers, which can be rarely found in Kosovo. The bright side of the large number of institutes is that most of the young researchers have studied abroad (in western universities), which leads to a higher quality of research in English language.

5. Lack of institutional framework

The recent developments show that the MEST has made significant steps towards the functioning of the National Science Council, such as setting the priority for implementing the National Science Strategy. However, the research activity in Social Sciences in Kosovo lacks the fundamental support from the MEST. The functioning of the National Science Council is a necessity, since the Council will be in charge of developing the national research program. The research conducted in the University of Prishtina is mainly implemented by individuals, who are either professors or PhD candidates implementing research for their dissertation. The public research institutes, like Institute for Albanian Studies and Institute of History complain for lack of funds in order to implement their research projects. On the other hand, there are no funds for research activities allocated for Private Higher Education Institutions.

6. Availability of Publications

Reports published by research institutes in Kosovo can be usually found in their respective libraries and posted online on their websites. However, there is a lack of initiative in order to publish the publications online in an international library e.g. Central and Eastern European Online Library (CEEOL). The Kosovo Education Center, Institute for Albanian Studies and Institute of History are the only institutes who have published few of their publications online at the CEEOL.

Law on Scientific Research Activity

The law on scientific research activity was amended in September 2004. It regulates the functioning of the scientific research activity as well as the institutions that conduct research. The law underlines the importance of continuous advancement of the scientific research activity. It also specifies the need to increase the amount of funds and the quality of research. Furthermore, it states the importance to create an appropriate environment for conducting successful research that meets the European and international standards. The final goal of the law on scientific research activity is to assure that the research outcome meets the requirements of the new technology and has a significant impact in the development of society and economy in Kosovo⁵.

Article 6 of the law on scientific research activity emphasizes the principles of the research activity in Kosovo. Among the most important principles are the freedom of research and creativity, protection of academic copyright, competition rules regarding scientific research projects, protection of the environment, ethics and responsibilities of the researcher's work, and inclusion of the research projects in the international arena⁶. The law nevertheless specifies the amount of annual funds that has to be dedicated to the activity of the scientific research. Article 7 writes that "for the purpose of fulfilling the necessary conditions and providing the means, up to 0.7% of the Budget shall be allocated."⁷ While, if we consider the annual budget of Kosovo for the year 2009, which was nearly €1.5Billion, in reality an amount of only €2.2Million was dedicated to social science research which corresponds to 0.1% of the annual budget. According to the law on scientific research activity the legal bodies that can conduct research projects are: the KASA, Research Institutes, and Universities both public and private. The KASA along with the University of Prishtina and two other research institutions, the Institute for Albanian Studies and the History Institute, are public institutions (state owned). Any other private Institute or University must fulfill the necessary conditions set by law in order to be granted the access for research public funds.

Research institutes are obliged to have a long-term plan for their activity. The number of employees cannot be less than five with long-term contracts, two of whom must have academic degrees (PhDs). The institution is also required to possess proper equipments, facility, its science-guide documents, while also fulfilling any other standard set by the relevant law. If an institution fulfills the above mentioned conditions, then the MEST grants the right to become a research institution. Thus the institution can start performing research activity, educate the future ranks of researchers and train its employees in order to raise the standard of research, manage its research publications and collaborate with

⁵ Law on Scientific Research Activity – Pub. L. 2004/42. 27 Sep. 2004. Art. 2.80

⁶ Law on Scientific Research Activity – Pub. L. 2004/42. 27 Sep. 2004. Art. 6.80

⁷ Law on Scientific Research Activity – Pub. L. 2004/42. 27 Sep. 2004. Art. 7.80

other research institution on national and international level⁸. Until now, there was no accreditation process of research institutes in Kosovo. And, many of research institutes do not fulfill all the criteria mentioned by the law on scientific research activity.

Law on Higher Education in Kosovo

The MEST is the highest regulating body of higher education in Kosovo, with the responsibility of planning and supervising the development of higher education and the research activity, in accordance with the Law on Higher Education. Moreover, the objective of the law is to ensure that every individual capable of following and finishing the “higher education” benefits from it during his/her lifetime.⁹ The Ministry is also in charge of establishing the Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA) through its administrative guidelines.

The Kosovo Accreditation Agency after consulting with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology is responsible for reviewing the applications of private institutions and licensing them. Moreover, the KAA is the only institution that can grant the right of work for public universities as well as the private higher education institutions. It is responsible for reviewing and considering the applications of every private and public university candidate that applies to go through accreditation procedures. A private HEI can be accredited for a period of time up to five years, while after the five year period; reaccreditation procedure can be carried out by the KAA. The University of Prishtina was granted an unlimited time license, which makes it as the only institution with this kind of status. However, the law states explicitly that its status may be changed and its license may be revoked in case of a negative evaluation by the inspection which will be conducted from time to time.¹⁰ Therefore, the UP underwent the accreditation procedure this year. A detailed description of the University of Prishtina and its research activities will follow in the report.

Except the already mentioned facts regarding the Law on Higher Education in Kosovo, the law includes also details regarding the required number of professors, equipment, library, and financial stability that a private institution must have in order to obtain the right of practicing the teaching activity. The law also specifies the title “University” may be given only to an institution which has been accredited by the AAK, has over 3000 students enrolled and that offers at least five different academic programmes. Once granted the title “University” an institution is able to give diplomas and titles including academic degrees while also pursuing the scientific activity. One of the most important tasks of the MEST is to assure that the higher education in Kosovo is in track with the

⁸ Law on Scientific Research Activity – Pub. L. 2004/42. 27 Sep. 2004. Art. 21.80

⁹ Law on the Higher Education in Kosovo – Pub. L. 2002/3. 12 May 2003. Sect. 2.36

¹⁰ Law on the Higher Education in Kosovo – Pub. L. 2002/3. 12 May 2003. Sect. 10.36

Bologna process. Changes in the legal and operational framework have advanced in greater terms than reforms in practice. Nevertheless, the Bologna process is carefully being implemented in Kosovo's education system.

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

The MEST is the highest regulating body concerning the education process in Kosovo. The MEST is divided in several Departments, such as Department of Pre-University Education, Vocational Education, Higher Education, and the Department of Science and Technology. The MEST is also in charge of supervising the AAK, which observes the private as well as public education sector. The MEST, among other responsibilities, practices administrative tasks such as validation of foreign diplomas, development of regulations and curricula for primary and secondary education and development of education strategies. Moreover, the MEST has developed its Strategy for Development of Higher Education in Kosovo 2005 – 2015 and set the main goals for education development.¹¹ The Higher Education Department (HED) has set its priorities which are the quality of research and the quality of studying in Kosovo. The MEST is committed to raise the quality of research in Kosovo through strategies and special project such as “Brain Gain Kosova”. The purpose of “Brain Gain” national program is to create a favorable environment for the commitment of professional staff of Kosovo who live abroad and for those who are working in Kosovo, which as a result will lead to the development of the country.¹² However, this project did not achieve any success at least until now. There is no reported success from the “Brain Gain Kosova”, and therefore it still needs to be implemented.

The education system in Kosovo is still on the transition period for full implementation of the Bologna Process. The Strategy for Development of Higher Education implies that the research activity still lacks some fundamental qualitative elements. Therefore the priorities for Higher Education are:

- The complete functionality of the KAA
- The complete functionality of the Center for the International Cooperation in HE and Science and Technology
- The complete functionality of the Center for the Recognition and Verification
- Implementation of the Higher Education Strategy 2005 – 2015

¹¹ Zejnulahu, Abdullah, Avdullah Hoti, Dukagjin. Pupovci, Muhamet Mustafa et al.. *Strategy for Development of Higher Education in Kosova*. Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2004. 6-7. Web. 26 Sep. 2009 <http://www.masht-gov.net/advCms/documents/Strategy_EN.pdf>.

¹² Brain Gain Kosova. . Government of the Republic of Kosovo, n.d. Web. 17 Sep. 2009 <<http://www.braingain-gov.net/advCms/?id=5,0,0,1,a,82#id=28>>.



- Drafting and approving the Administrative Instructions for the functioning of the Higher Education Laws
- Setting the criteria and provisions as well as drafting the law for financing the higher education and
- Consolidation of the private sector of higher education¹³

The National Science Council was initiated in 2008. In September 2009, the Council has been gathered in order to develop the National Science Program 2010-2015. Around 35 experts from different fields created a team in order to discuss and set the priorities of research activity and higher education in Kosovo. The experts agreed to start developing the National Science Program 2010-2015, a strategy that will be completed during the following months. The National Science Council will present the draft to the Government and it will be amended by the Parliament thereafter. While, the Minister of education claims that starting in 2010 a special budget will be allocated for the research activity in Kosovo. Furthermore, the minister emphasizes the need of the public university and other private universities for these funds, and that this fund will contribute to the improvement of education level as well as sustainable economic development.¹⁴

¹³ Zejnullahu, Abdullah, Avdullah Hoti, Dukagjin. Pupovci, Muhamet Mustafa et al.. *Strategy for Development of Higher Education in Kosova*. Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, 2004. 6-7. Web. 26 Sep. 2009 <http://www.masht-gov.net/advCms/documents/Strategy_EN.pdf>.

¹⁴ "2010, MASHT-i financon shkencën (MEST finances science) " *Kosova Sot* 25 Aug. 2009: 5. Print.

Higher Education Institutions in Kosovo

University of Prishtina

The University of Prishtina was founded in 1970. In the academic year 2007/2008 University of Prishtina counted 28,318 Students and 17 faculties. The University of Prishtina is one of the first institutions of higher education in the region that has undertaken the reforms process in accordance with the Bologna Process. The implementation of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) system began in the academic year 2001/2002 and ECTS coordinators were appointed in each academic unit, led by an institutional coordinator. ECTS coordinators have attended various trainings in Kosovo and abroad, and have exchanged their experiences with well known European experts in regards to implementation of the Bologna Process in the University of Prishtina.

Given that assuring internal and external quality is one of the main pillars of the Bologna Process, the UP Senate took a decision to establish a Quality Assurance Unit in February 2007. Members of this unit are called Coordinators for Academic Development and they are responsible for ECTS and for assuring quality in academic units. Coordinators also report to the Office for Academic Development. This office has a director and an office assistant, and this entire network is led by the Vice-Rector for Learning and Scientific Research at the UP.¹⁵

Even though the UP has undertaken the required reform for implementing the Bologna Process and the ETCS system, the research activities at the UP still lack quality assurance and research initiatives. Considering the conditions at the University of Prishtina, the quality of some research papers is not comparable to the international standards. Furthermore, the majority of the professors at the University are not motivated for progress in the research activity due to low salaries. The UP does not have a research center, which conducts research or offers introduction to research methodology.

The UP is engaged in cooperation with foreign Universities (mainly through Tempus Projects) from Austria, Germany, Holland, Slovenia and the UK. Moreover, the project of UP “Summer University” has become a traditional program, hosting its 9th edition during the summer of 2009. This program brought together regional and international students and professors. They learned and shared experiences in about 15 courses in different fields, often focused in social sciences such as economy, humanities, law, education etc. This program lasts over three weeks and it plays a very important role regarding internationalization of the UP and implementation of the Bologna Process.

¹⁵ *Historiku i Universitetit të Prishtinës* University of Prishtina, Web. 3 Oct. 2009 <<http://web.uni-pr.edu/?cid=1,185>>.

Besides the “Summer University, the majority of the projects are concentrated in the development of the curricula of several faculties, development of university management and quality of teaching and European studies. The University has also hosted a number of conferences on gender equality such as: “*With equality towards quality*”, “*Gender equality in High Education*”, and “*Violence against women in Kosovo and Macedonia*”.

Faculty of Philosophy

Faculty of Philosophy offers programs for bachelor’s and master’s Studies. The faculty has 47 full-time and 74 part-time professors and assistants. It is situated on the University Campus and has seven departments:

- Ethnology
- History
- Pedagogy
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

There is no research conducted at the Faculty of Philosophy in an institutional level. Specifically, due to the lack of funds there is no scientific, empirical or any methodological research conducted. However, there is some research conducted by students including surveys for their senior thesis, also from time to time, professors might engage in the activity of conducting individual research. The Dean of faculty and the accreditation commission proposed the establishment of research centers for the next academic year for each department. Moreover, the Ministry will increase the funds dedicated to research so this activity can be practiced.

Department of Political Science

Similar to the Faculty of Philosophy, research in the Department of Political Science is mainly conducted by students (mostly theoretical based) as part of their senior thesis. This type of research appears as the work of students on topics “*participation of youth*” and “*women in politics*”. There are no ongoing institutionalized research projects which are initiated by the professors and management of the faculty. Lack of initiatives is a consequence of lack of funds. With one grant-in-aid from the British Council the department has achieved to publish only four issues of the student journal “*Politicum*”.

Faculty of Law

The Faculty of Law is one of the first established faculties within University of Prishtina in 1961 as Faculty of Law and Economics. After the establishment of the University of Prishtina in 1971, this academic unit was divided in Faculty of Law and Faculty of Economics. The Faculty of Law at the UP offers Bachelor and Master studies. The Faculty offers to students the opportunity to learn through courses, clinical labs and judicial processes.

In 2001 respectively 2004 the Senate of the University approved the Bologna Process for bachelor's and master's degrees. In year 2007/08 the Senate renewed the curriculum for Bachelor degree from three to a four year basic study. The Masters studies contain classes in Constitutional and Administrative Law, Civil and Penal Law, International and Financial Law. The Faculty of Law counts 4395 Students on basic Bachelor studies, 579 on Master studies and 44 teachers and assistants.

Currently, there is no research institutionalized activity within this faculty, except of students' research work for their master's dissertations.

AAB-Riinvest University

The AAB-Riinvest University functions as a joint University of the former AAB University and the former Riinvest University since the academic year 2009-2010. It has over 3000 students in eight accredited bachelor's programs and three master's programs, in four faculties. The Bachelor studies are composed of the Economics faculty (with 3 programs), Law faculty (2 programs), Mass Communication and Journalism faculty (2 programs) and the faculty of Physical Education and Sports. While the Master degree is offered in Economics in three programs: Development Finance, Management and Banks and Financial Markets.

The scientific research work of the university is organized in six centers; each faculty consists of one research center. Part of the university is also the Riinvest Institute, even though it acts as an independent research institute. The other five research centers are: the center of criminal studies, the center of sports studies, the center of architecture and arts, center of languages and culture and the center public opinion. The Riinvest Institute research activities are described later separately in this report, therefore the work of other research centers will be described, hereafter. The Center of Criminal Studies is part of the Law Faculty, has published one research project "*Divorces in Kosovo during the 2000-2008 period*". The Center of Physical Education and Sports was established in 2008, its mission is to promote the quality of experts' work regarding the sports activity in Kosovo. Recently this center has published the report "*Causes of violence in Kosovar Sport*". The Center of Architecture and Arts has contributed to the research activity in Kosovo with a report on "*The presence of Architects and Architecture in Kosovar Society*

now”. The Center of Languages and Arts has published a publication on “*Standardization of Educative Programs in Preschool Institutions in Prishtina*”, the goal of this publication was the unification of the curriculum in the preschool institutions. The Center of Public Opinion works on behalf of the Faculty of Mass Communication and Journalism. This center has recently published the “*Public Barometer*”, a paper that aims at giving an image of public opinion regarding the actual politics in Kosovo. Overall the University has created an organized hierarchy of the research activity. The research centers inside the university expect to increase the number of publications due to the capacity they have.

American University in Kosovo (AUK)

The American University in Kosovo has approximately 1000 students registered in its undergraduate programs. There are also 57 students enrolled in the master’s studies in AUK¹⁶. Since its establishment, 2002, all of its courses have been taught in English, which makes AUK the only American based university education in Kosovo. AUK is in an educational partnership with the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). Its staff comprises of both national and international professors.

Apart from Education, the University has a research center. Since the AUK is a private University, it has a special budget for financing its research center. The AUK research center claims that they are in a much better position than other research centers, since they have a stable financial support. Furthermore, this allows them to focus their research activity on the fields where they are specialized rather than orienting their work by the supply of the projects donations.¹⁷ The research center has 7 employees: 1 with a PhD degree, 4 with master’s degree, and 2 with bachelor’s degree. The Research center has been established recently, since then it has published two research projects.

Fiscal policy, fiscal decentralization, legal reform, quantitative analysis and mergers and acquisitions are the institute’s specialized fields. Therefore, the AUK Research Center gives the highest importance to development research, political and economic studies and analyses, while to a lesser degree also working on education, business consulting and business plans. AUK research center believes that their publications have a medium impact in society and government’s decision making. However, the problem lies in outside factors. Availability of data is considered to be a major obstacle for the research activity. Furthermore, the research center doubts the credibility of data available in Kosovo and is also concerned with the oversupply of low quality research and lack of donors.

¹⁶ *History and Mission* American University in Kosovo, Web. 12 Sep 2009
<<http://www.aukonline.org/history.php>>.

¹⁷ Bislimi, Besnik.(Managing Director at AUK research center). Personal Interview. 8 Sep 2009.

Note: The following Universities have refused to respond to the questionnaire/interview designed for this project, therefore the information provided below is strictly obtained from their respective websites and other official documents.

University for Business and Technology (UBT)

University for Business and Technology is a private HEI founded in 2004. Currently 396 students are enrolled for undergraduate studies (bachelor's) and 74 for master's studies. The UBT has been recently accredited for the following departments: Management, Business and Economics, Computer Science and Engineering, and Mecatronics Management. The department of Management, Business and Economics has seven concentrations, Computer Science and Engineering consists of five concentrations whilst Mecatronics Management is an uncommon degree for Kosovo's education environment.

UBT is in partnership with three research institutions. The Institute for Enterprise Management and Engineering (IEME), the International Languages and Intercultural Competence (ILIC) and the Institute for International Relations and European Studies (IIRES) are the three institutes that cooperate with the university under the mission of supporting "economic social and industrial development, by preparing and developing personnel in Kosova."¹⁸ IEME, ILIC and IIRES are focused on conducting research in information and communication technology, strategic development of different sectors of the economy, environments with business opportunities etc. From the information obtained, the three institutes have published two research projects and several conference summaries. The two publications are: "*Urban Management*" (in Albanian)* and "*public prosecution bases in Kosovo*" (Alb.).

Iliria University

Iliria University was established in 2004 as a private university. The University has over 3000 students registered for their bachelor's and master's studies. Currently it offers 5 degrees for its bachelor's program: Economics – Banking, Finance and Accounting, Management and Informatics, Applied Informatics, Law, Radiology and Physical Education and Sport. Part of the university is also a research center. Their mission is to increase the level of education in Kosovo. This is done by organizing science conferences, debates, discussions, promotion of books by different authors etc. Until now three conferences have been organized: "*Negotiations for technical issues and final status of Kosovo*" (Alb., 2006), "*USA's role in Kosovo's issue*" (Alb., 2006) and "*Kosovo and the International factor*" (Alb., 2007). The research center contributed for publishing and promoting the following books in Albanian: "*State Diplomacy, USA and Kosovo's Fate*",

¹⁸ *Institutes* University for Business and Technology, Web. 8 Oct. 2009 <<http://www.ubt-uni.net/?lang=en&lid=3&tit=International%20know%20how%20transfer>>.

* This report is available only in the Albanian language. From now on publications available only in Albanian language will be presented as (Alb.)



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

 **Regional Research**
Promotion Programme | **Western Balkans**



“the Albanian question – Balkans reformation” and *“Negotiations – history, theory and practice”*. This contribution for the research activity was supported by the university itself. The research center does not mention any other activity with regard to the research in social sciences.

Research Institutes

Public Research Institutes in Kosovo

Kosova Academy of Sciences and Arts (KASA)

The Kosova Academy of Sciences and Arts is a public institution. It is the workplace of some of the most renowned academics of Kosovo. The problem with the KASA's contribution to the research activity lies within the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. A regulation regarding social research funding is yet to be legislated by the MEST. Therefore, researchers at the KASA struggle to implement their research projects due to financial problems. Nevertheless, the way the research activity is treated and evaluated is seen as a problem by the academy. Moreover, the lack of data and lack of appropriate contemporary literature are other obstacles that damage the research activity for the KASA in particular and Kosovo in general.¹⁹

The KASA was established in 1975 with a special statute from the Government of Kosovo. It is considered as the highest institution of science in Kosovo. The number of publications since establishment is around 50. According to Pajazit Nushi (Head of Social Sciences sector), some of the most important research reports are: “*Kosovo, an independent and sovereign state*” (Alb.), “*Genocide and genocidal acts of Serbian authority on Albanians since the Eastern crisis*” (Alb.), “*Intelligence and its development measures among adult Albanians*” (Alb.), “*Fehmi Agani, sociological and political-logistic studies*” (Alb.), “*Demographic studies – 100 years of demographic development of Kosovo*” (Alb.).²⁰

Since the reputation of the KASA is immense, their publications contribute on raising the public and government awareness. Their research is mainly oriented in the following fields:

- Historical issues (especially of the Albanian population),
- Political studies,
- Sociology, psychology, law and philosophy research,
- Ethnological and demographic studies, and
- Kosovo challenges and issues.

The KASA has been facing major financial difficulties. The institution receives an amount of funds for its research projects equivalent to more than ten times less the average of funds that private research institutes collect (€25,000 annually).²¹ On the other hand, it employs the most educated personnel, 25 academic employees with PhD titles. Therefore, the KASA finds itself in a very unfavorable situation due to the lack of

¹⁹ Nushi, Pajazit.(Member of KASA – Social Science sector). Personal interview. 29 Oct 2009.

²⁰ Nushi, Pajazit. Personal interview. 29 Oct 2009.

²¹ Stavileci, Esat.(Member of KASA). Personal interview. 2 Oct 2009.

financial support from state actors. However, the MEST is implementing a long term plan in order to support financially public research institutes through the National Science Council, which could contribute to the improvement of research activity in KASA by improving its financial support.

Statistical Office of Kosovo

The SOK is the primary database in Kosovo. It holds Economic, Population, Social and Agricultural data as well as statistical maps of Kosovo. It was established in 1948, however it was forced to closure during the conflict while reopening in 1999. The SOK works as an independent agency, as part of the Ministry of Public Services. Its mission is to fulfill the needs of all the agencies and individuals that use the data for Kosovo for their professional activity. Furthermore, the SOK conducts research, surveys and data processing with appropriate methodology, neutrality, objectivism, rationalism, professionalism and credibility in accordance with international statistical offices in order to secure credible data.²²

The SOK library contains over 300 publications with data for the Economics, Population, Social and Agriculture sectors. Publications for the field of Economics are almost 200, including national calculations, international trade statistics, price statistics and consolidated statistical registry of businesses. Regarding the Population data, among the 17 publications are: “*Causes of Death in Kosovo 2006/2007, Death Statistics in Kosovo*” for the years 2008 and 2009, “*Birth Statistics in Kosovo*” (2008, 2007), “*Women and Men in Kosovo*”, “*Population Statistics in Kosovo*” (2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006) etc. Under the Social publications statistics are classified in 5 categories: jurisprudence, labor marker, living standard, education, culture and sport as well as health and wellbeing statistics. Agriculture data includes “*Survey on Household Agriculture Economy 2007*”, “*Products price index and prices in Agriculture*” (9 publications – since 2004 quarterly, semi-annually and annually). While under the category of general publications are found “*Quarterly Bulletins*” since the fourth quarter of 2005.

The SOK’s activity apart from the data-collection and data-publishing also encompasses research activity, trainings, seminary works and conferences. As regards the research activity the SOK has conducted two types of surveys: “*Survey on the Labor Force 2009*” and “*Survey on the Household Economy Budget*”. The “*Survey on the Labor Force*” has been implemented since 2001. Its mission is to offer data regarding unemployment and employment according to sectors, gender, profession, education, age etc.²³, while the “*Survey on the Household Economy Budget*” seeks to observe the consumption, income, living standards etc. During the 12 months period 2400 households are surveyed in order

²² *Misioni i ESK-së SOK*, n.d. Web. 17 Oct. 2009

<http://www.ks-gov.net/ESK/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8&Itemid=7>.

²³ Bashkim, Bellaqa. *Anketa e Fuqisë Punëtore 2009 SOK*, 28 Sept.. Web. 17 Oct. 2009

<<http://www.ks-gov.net/ESK/>>. Path: Aktivitetet e ESK; Hulumtimet.

to obtain a clear picture. Since the SOK operates under the Ministry of Public Services, most of the donations come from the Ministry, however external donations are also present. The SOK cooperates with the World Bank Office, IMF, DFID, UNICEF, SIDA etc.

Institute of History

The Institute of History has its genesis from the Institute for Language, Folklore and History. After the end of conflict in Kosovo in 1999, the institute continued to work on scientific research projects. The institute hosted numerous conferences and round tables. Recently the institute has been implementing two projects: “*History of Kosovo*” and “*Serb genocide against Albanians*”. From 1972 until 1995, the Institute of History has been publishing the scientific journal called “*Kosova-Kosovo*” in both Albanian and Serb-Croat language. However, since 1995 this journal has been published only in the Albanian language titled “*Kosova*”. Since its establishment the institute has published over 500 publications. The Institute published monographic studies, studies on Kosovo’s history and Albanian’s history through different periods by science academics as well as outside partners. The €500,000 annual amount of funds allocated from the MEST is a package distributed to the Institute of History, the Institute for Albanian Studies and the Institute for Slavic Languages. However, the Institute of History receives an average of €40,000 annually for its research activity, the other part goes for salaries and wages for both the Institute of History and the Institute for Albanian Studies Therefore, the Institute suffers from lack of funds and the inability to implement its projects due financial support. The Institute counts 10 PhDs, 9 MA’s and 3 with employees with bachelor’s degrees.²⁴

Institute for Albanian Studies (IAS)

The Institute for Albanian Studies is an independent public institute that conducts research regarding the culture of the Albanian literature. Its research field is unique and it is financed by State funds as well as a moderate amount of individual contribution. However, the head of IAS, Dr. Hysen Matoshi, claims that the lack of financial support is a major difficulty that the institute faces. The financial support dedicated to the IAS is a collective budget dedicated for the IAS, History Institute and Institute for Slavic Studies.²⁵ The IAS was established in 1955, however due escalation of political riots the institute was forced to closure in 1967 until 1977 when it was re-established. Today, the institute consists of 49 employees, with 24 holding PhD titles, 7 with master’s degrees, 9 with bachelor’s degrees and 9 employees with a High School diploma.

Since its establishment the Institute counts over 5000 publications. With over 400 monographic works, science journals and other works regarding Albanian studies. During

²⁴ Demaj, Frashër. (Science Secretary at IH). Personal interview. 12 Oct 2009.

²⁵ Matoshi, Hysen. (Director of IAS). Personal interview. 8 Sep 2009.

the 2007-2009 period alone, the Institute has published over 50 editions, most important of which are: “*Historical folk songs I-IV*” (Alb., from the Kosovo war period 1389-1945), Journal edition “*Albanian studies research*” (Alb.) with over 90 scholar studies, “*Literature in schools and universities*” (Alb.), “*Semantics of historic-literary differences*” (Alb.) by Academic Rexhep Qosja, “*Karadak’s way of talking*” (Alb.) by Dr. Mehmet Halimi, “*Folkloristic*” (Alb.) by Dr. Sadri Fetiu, “*Femina litterarum*” (Alb.) by Dr. Resmije Kryeziu, “*Albania and the question of Cameria*” (Alb.) by Dr. Lush Culaj, “*Styles in the Albanian language in between the two world wars period*” (Alb.) by Dr. Hysen Matoshi, and “*poetics of enigma*” (Alb.) by Dr. Leontina Musa.

The IAS conducts a unique research activity compared to other research institutes in Kosovo. The Institute focuses its research capacities mainly in Albanian Studies: language studies, literature, history, folklore and ethnology. IAS publications are regularly distributed to the national library through the Ministry of Culture. Furthermore, the journal “*Albanian studies research*” (Alb., the three editions) can be found on-line on CEEOL. A very important element for the Institute’s research activity is the data collection mainly from the fieldwork regarding the cultural heritage. Therefore, the IAS does not encounter any barriers with data collection like other research institutes.

Private Research Institutes in Kosovo

RIINVEST Institute

Riinvest Institute was established in May 1995 as a private non-profit research organization. Its mission is to promote modern economic development in Kosovo through research activity based on the philosophy of entrepreneurship. Riinvest started its activities with five employees with an average annual income of €25,000 and managed to increase the number of employees to 30 with annual income of more than €700,000. Currently, there are five employees with PhD degrees, 10 with Masters degrees and others with Bachelor degrees who are pursuing their postgraduate studies. Riinvest has managed to support more than 15 young researchers in completing MA’s and PhD studies in Great Britain, Sweden and Germany.

Since its establishment, Riinvest has published more than 50 publications. Its research activity is focused in economic studies, education and politics. Furthermore, the Riinvest Institute is also engaged in trainings activities and business consulting. It has also completed more than 50 surveys with around 35,000 respondents, and 8 annual reports on SME development; 17 local economic development strategies for municipalities, and several industry analyses. Riinvest has organized more than 10 international conferences; 30 sessions of International Roundtable Forum and Riinvest Roundtable, with around 3,700 participants, 8 summer schools with more than 200 participants, 53 workshops and training seminars with around 1,800 participants and developed 12 business plans and feasibility studies for Kosovar and foreign companies.

The top publications of the Riinvest Institute are: “*Privatization and Post – Privatization in Kosovo*”, “*Corporate Governance 1 and 2*”, “*Diaspora and Migration*”, “*Education System in Kosovo*”, “*Millennium Development Goals: Second Report for Kosovo*”, “*Labour Market Study*”, and “*Development of SME Capacities*”. Five most important international donors are: USAID, UNDP, OSI-KFOS, BTD – German Marshall Fund and World Bank. The Government with respective Ministries is also considered as a very important source of finance for several publications. Publications are usually published in Albanian and English, but there are also cases where the publication is also available in Serbian. Lack of data in general, lack of funds and lack of expertise in some specific (technical) fields are elements that hinder the research activity at Riinvest Institute.

KFOS / Forum 2015

Kosova Foundation for Open Society is a non-governmental organization, which is part of the international network of foundations supported and financed by the philanthropist George Soros. KFOS was established in 1999, however the network of Soros Foundations was present in Kosovo since 1993. KFOS acts both as a donor organization and as a NGO that conducts research. Regarding the donor activity, KFOS is mainly engaged in: European Integration, civil society, minority and Roma, and east-east partnership beyond borders.²⁶ While as an organization that implements research projects, KFOS is focused in political and economic studies and analysis and capacity building. In a joint initiative, in 2003, KFOS and Riinvest Institute established Forum 2015 – “a project-based think tank committed to competence building and advocacy.”²⁷

KFOS dedicates up to €100,000 yearly for sponsoring policy research. Moreover, KFOS also serves as an intermediary office for donations dedicated to Kosovo by Soros Foundation Offices throughout the world. According to KFOS, the most important publications that has been sponsored by them are: “*A Modern Tale, Impact of Decentralization on Kosovars’ life*”, “*Privatization and Post-Privatization*”, and “*Diaspora and Migration Policies*”. Most of the publications sponsored by KFOS are implemented by Forum 2015. While KFOS, regarding the research projects that they conduct, secures its funds from the Open Society Institute, New York.²⁸

Since its establishment, KFOS has regularly contributed for the development of Kosovo. It has been largely oriented in education, providing scholarships for Kosovar students studying abroad. KFOS believes that their contribution to the research activity, specifically the publications that they have implemented and support, have had huge impact in society. However, KFOS complains regarding the quality of research in Kosovo. Research conducted in Kosovo is rated as average, specifically since most of the

²⁶ Kosovo Foundation for Open Society KFOS, Web. 3 Oct. 2009 <<http://www.kfos.org/>>.

²⁷ About Forum 2015 Fourm 2015, Web. 3 Oct. 2009
<http://www.forumi2015.org/home/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=29&Itemid=64>.

²⁸ Kacaniku, Iliriana. (Program Coordinator at KFOS). Personal interview. 19 Sep 2009.

research is used to denote public opinion; reflections are usually confusing due to the lack of proper research skill. Moreover, lack of national statistics and lack of diversified and focused expertise among Kosovar experts prevent the research activity in Kosovo from reaching its full potential. Furthermore, there is a shortage of funds for sponsoring research in social sciences.

KIPRED

The Kosovar Institute for Policy Research and Development (KIPRED) was founded in 2002. It has 10 employees, 6 of whom hold master's degree, and 2 with bachelor's degree. Since its establishment, KIPRED has published 37 research papers. The Institute is also active regarding the issue of census. Furthermore, KIPRED has scheduled roundtables that will take place in 2011 such as: “*Oversight of Public Finance in Kosovo*”, “*Local Policies in Multiethnic Communities*”, “*Transitional Justice in Kosovo*” and “*Kosovos Future Status Process*”. Its research fields are development research, training, political and economic studies and analyses, media studies, security analysis and local governance. KIPRED has two mainly pillars that support: The policy research and training of political parties and government. According to KIPRED, its mission is to promote better policy making through research in the above mentioned fields²⁹. The research conducted by KIPRED is mainly supported by international organizations like: Geneva Center for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), Kosovo Foundation for Open Society (KFOS), Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) etc.

According to the KIPRED's office, their publications have a big impact in society and Government's decision making. Furthermore, they contribute in raising the public awareness. Their publications can be found in electronic form at KIPRED's website, and in hard copies both at KIPRED's office and Kosovo's National Library.³⁰ However, the institute encounters in few barriers during their research work. Lack of statistical data, limited access to public information in the public sector, lack of electronic/digitally stored data and the lack of financial support in the social studies research are the factors that hinder the research activity both for KIPRED and Kosovo in general.

Kosovar Stability Initiative (IKS)

The Kosovo Stability Initiative is a private research institute, which is specialized in socio-economic and socio-politic fields. Education, development research and training are top research areas where the institute is concentrated. IKS was established in 2004, since then the institute has published 9 research papers. IKS publications can be found in their website as well as at their offices. According to the institute, out of these 9 research

²⁹ KIPRED, Web. 16 Sep. 2009 <<http://www.kipred.net/site/?id=3,82,82,82,e>>.

³⁰ Gashi, Krenar.(Research Director at KIPRED). Telephone interview. 5 Sep 2009.

publications, 5 most important are: “*Image Matters*”, “*Who’s the Boss?*”, “*Thinking Green*”, “*Getting to Lisbon*”, and “*Utopian Visions*”.³¹

IKS currently has 2 employees with master’s degree, 1 with a bachelor’s degree and 3 employees with professional high school and high school Degree. The Open Society Institute in Budapest, Local Government Institute in Budapest and the Kosovo Foundation for Open Society are the most important sources of finance for the Kosovo Stability Initiative. IKS believes that the low availability of data and the unwillingness of people to share information hinder the research activity in Kosovo. However, they claim that despite the problems they encounter, their publications have the necessary attributes to raise the public awareness in Kosovo.

GAP Institute

The GAP Institute was established in 2007 as a private ‘Think Tank’. GAP’s main purpose is to attract professionals by creating a professional research and development environment commonly found in similar institutions in Western countries.”³² Development research, political and economic studies and analyses and education research are the core focus of the research activity of the GAP institute. The institute is specialized for conducting research in the fields of economy, legislative studies and international relations. Currently there are 14 employees at GAP, 4 of who hold master’s titles.

Since its establishment the institute has published 21 research reports. According to its office the most important publications are: “*GAP Monitor*” (monthly publications), “*Kosovo Foreign Debt - the main principles*”, “*Analysis of the Potential Closing of the Kosovo-Serbia border - Current Trends of Trade*”, “*Kosovo’s Air Space and Copenhagen Economic Criteria: what Kosovo needs to do?*”³³. These publications are posted in GAP’s website and they can be found both in Albanian and English languages. GAP’s office believes that even though their publications contribute to the awareness raising, their contribution to the society and Government’s decision making is estimated to be of medium impact.

For the research activity, GAP has managed to secure an amount of 180,000 € for 2008. The most important actors that contributed for the research reports published by GAP were international organizations. Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Open Society Institute, the National Endowment for Democracy, Balkan Trust for Democracy and DFID are five most important sponsors regarding the research activity of the GAP institute. The main concern of the GAP personnel regarding the well-functioning of the research activity is

³¹ Xhelili, Laura.(Researcher at IKS). Email interview. 9 Oct 2009.

³² *Mission & Vision* GAP, n.d. Web. 17 Oct. 2009 <<http://www.gapinstitute.org/?cid=2,9>>.

³³ Ahmeti, Shpend.(Executive Director at GAP). Personal interview. 15 Oct 2009.

the access to information. Data availability is a major obstacle that GAP faces in order to successfully implement its publications.

Kosovo Education Center (KEC)

The Kosovo Education Center was established by the Soros Foundation in the year 2000. KEC is a non-governmental organization with the purpose “to develop the capacity for advancing the education system by providing high quality services and resources and by cooperating actively with all stakeholders in and outside the country.”³⁴ KEC is specialized in conducting research in education, children rights and minority issues. Therefore, it devotes most of its work in research for education as well as development research and training to a lesser degree. Due to the nature of its work, KEC has a very good relationship and cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

The nature of its research activity is rarely found in Kosovo. KEC is strictly focused in research for education reforms; therefore it conducts research of a unique nature compared to other research institutes in Kosovo. Part of the Kosovo Education Center is also a private elementary and lower secondary school called the Third Millennium. The surplus income of the school is distributed to the research center (KEC), therefore the school is considered as non-profitable. Since KEC is financially supported by the Third Millennium School, it may be said that its existence is not conditioned completely by the support of donors and projects. However, its office claims that the lack of donations and projects is a major obstacle they face in their research activity. Furthermore, they believe that the credibility and low availability of data are other problems that hinder the research activity.³⁵

The institution has 12 employees, among them 3 with PhD degrees, 1 with a master’s title, and 5 with bachelor’s titles. Since its establishment they have published 15 research reports, the most important of which are: “*Basic Figures and Facts on Education in Kosovo*”, “*Basic Qualitative Education in Function of Human Development*”, “*Gender Equality in the reading textbooks in compulsory education in Kosovo*”, “*Advancing Educational Inclusion and Quality*”, and “*Research on interethnic relations and minority positions in Kosovo*”. The above mentioned publications can be found through internet as well as at their offices. According to KEC, their publications had a relatively good impact in raising the awareness in Kosovo; however they believe that they have a low impact in the Government’s decision making. They are mostly sponsored by international organizations. The most important financial sources (apart from the school income they receive) are: European Commission, KFOS, CEPS Ljubljana, and Women Action.

³⁴ Kosova Education Center KEC, Web. 20 Sep. 2009 <<http://www.kec-ks.org/Kosova%20Education%20Center/index.ang.htm>>.

³⁵ Tahiri, Petrit. (Information and Publication Officer at KEC). Personal interview. 18 Sep 2009

Note: The following institutes/organizations have refused to respond to the questionnaire-interview for the project, therefore the information provided below is strictly obtained from their respective websites and other official documents.

Management Development Associates (MDA)

The MDA was established in 2001 as an organization that offers three types of services, Consulting Services, Capacity Building, and International Development Projects. International Development Projects provide development research in Social Sciences. Since its establishment, MDA has conducted 11 research projects, four of which have not been published yet. The ongoing projects are: “*Technical Assistance to Support the Regional Economic Development*”, “*Privatization and Liquidation*”, “*Telecommunications Regulatory Development Project in Albania and KOSVET 4 – TNAs*” and “*Trainings to Kosovo Businesses*”. MDA is largely funded by international organizations regarding the research activity. Among the most important donors are the World Bank and the EU, not excluding other international organizations as well as Kosovo Ministries. According to its website, MDA has 18 full time staff (3 with MBA’s titles)³⁶.

Index Kosova

The Index Kosova was established in the year 2000 as a joint venture with BBSS (Balkan British Social Surveys) Gallup International. Index Kosova provides opinion, media and market research, “the range of services offered currently by Index Kosova comprises quantitative ad-hoc and regular social political, media and market research, as well as qualitative research.”³⁷ Since its establishment, Index Kosova has implemented around 50 research projects. In 2009 they are implementing two publications: “*Media Picture in Kosova*” and “*Political Moods on the Eve of Local Elections*”. Its personnel comprises of 8 full time employees and other part time employees such as: regional supervisors, regular interviewers and data entry clerks. Index Kosova provides research for both local and international clients, some of them being: Advocacy Training and Resource Center – ATRC, Community Development Fund – CDF, Danish Refugee Council, Education of Adults in Kosovo – ARRK etc.

UBO Consulting

The UBO Consulting is a private organization that is mainly focused on providing business consulting services in Kosovo. UBO has been functioning since 2001. The range of projects has increased significantly lately. The number of publications in social sciences is around 30. Among the most important publications that UBO Consulting has

³⁶ About Us MDA, Web. 10 Sep. 2009

<http://seemda.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=84&Itemid=83>.

³⁷ About Us Index Kosova, Web. 7 Sep. 2009 <<http://www.indexkosova.com/fly/?page=3> =2>.

implemented are the UNDP and USAID sponsored projects: “*UNDP Early Warning Report 2009*”, “*UNDP Human Development Report 2008*”, “*UNDP Transitional Justice Opinion Polling Survey*”, “*USAID NGO Sustainability Index*” (2005, 2006, 2007) etc. Other important publications are also the “*Study on Consumer Behavior*”, “*Practical Impact of Kosovo SME-s Survey*” and “*Market Assessment for Business Development Services (BDS) in Kosova*”. Currently there are 8 full-time employees working at UBO. According to its director, “Our mission is to deliver unsurpassed market research services to the enterprises of Kosovo.”³⁸

Donor Organizations in Kosovo

In the post-conflict period Kosovo, there was a great inflow of international donor organizations with the purpose of supporting the country during its reconstruction and transition period. Their mission is largely oriented in improving conditions in infrastructure, human rights, minorities, social policies, migration, European integration and education. Since this mission is mainly implemented through the research activity, the contribution of international donors has been continuous and significant for the development of research activity in Kosovo. This publication will include a report for the most important international organizations in Kosovo that contribute to the research activity, which are: UNDP, USAID, DFID, OSCE, FES, The World Bank, The European Commission, GTZ, SDC, SIDA, ADA and WUS Austria. The implementation of the projects which are sponsored by these organizations are carried out in collaboration with local NGOs or research institutions.

United Nations Development Program (UNDP) office in Kosovo

The UNDP implements most of their research projects in cooperation with local research institutes. The findings and conclusions of UNDP’s reports are widely used by central and local government officials, as well as international organizations and civil society. These publications have also been transformed into much needed and reliable sources for statistics on Kosovo’s development and are also extensively quoted by the local media.

The UNDP sponsors regularly two projects, “*the Early Warning Report*” and “*Human Development Reports*”. Early Warning System Reports includes the process of surveying more than a 1000 Kosovars every three months, and provides analysis on crisis prevention policies for decision-makers. Human Development Reports are used globally by organizations focused on certain areas where economic and social development needs to be improved. The 2006 Kosovo HDR analyzes youth issues and provides recommendations in areas of education, health and better access for work places. Furthermore, since 2003 UNDP has been publishing “*Kosovo Mosaic*” on yearly basis.

³⁸ *Mission, Vision & Objectives* UBO Consulting, n.d. Web. 26 Sep. 2009
<<http://www.uboconsulting.com/en/about/objectives/>>.

This publication is available in three languages, English, Albanian and Serbian. The “*Kosovo Mosaic*” places a special focus on public services and local authorities, providing information regarding the recent developments on the economy, public services, participation in municipal government as well as employment, agriculture and entrepreneurship.

The World Bank office in Kosovo

The World Bank’s activity in Kosovo emerged with numerous grants after 1999. Since then the World Bank has contributed to the development of Kosovo, starting from initiatives for institutional development and giving a major contribution for the reconstruction of Kosovo - especially in economic and political sector. Nevertheless, the World Bank has also played an important role as regards the research activity in Kosovo. The World Bank has published around 40 publications and research reports. Besides numerous economic briefings, the WB has also 6 working papers, including “*Kosovo - Poverty Assessment September 2005*”, and “*Kosovo – Poverty Assessment May 2008*”. Other important publications are: “*Kosovo Youth in Jeopardy*”, “*Kosovo Health Finance Reform Study*”, “*Doing Business in South Eastern Europe 2008*”, “*Kosovo – Mid-term Public Expenditure Priorities*” etc. The above mentioned reports have been implemented by international researchers, except for the “*Poverty Assessment*” which was conducted in cooperation with the Statistical Office of Kosovo (SOK). However, the WB has also acted as a donor organization in an indirect way for the research activity in Kosovo, e.g. sponsoring the MEST for the national strategies for development, which was later implemented by local researchers.

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) office in Kosovo

USAID’s office in Kosovo was established in 1999 at the time when the conflict ended. USAID was concerned with problems regarding Kosovo’s reconstruction. USAID was primarily focused for policy research on Kosovo’s economic growth and democracy and governance. During this period USAID sponsored 20 research projects, some of the most important being: “*Assessment of Economic Development*”, “*Commercial Legal and Institutional Reform Assessment*”, “*Labor Market and Unemployment, Research Study on Trafficking in Human Beings*”, “*Kosovo Local Government Assessment Report*”, “*Civil Society Assessment etc*”.

After 2004 USAID’s participation for the research activity in Kosovo has lowered significantly. Except for the grants that USAID gives for the UNDP’s Early Warning Report and Human Development reports. Currently USAID has set its priorities in the fields of technical assistance and trainings. Its office does not specify anything regarding future participation in the research activity.³⁹ Therefore, it can be said that since USAID

³⁹ Gashi, Luan. (Program Economist at USAID). Email interview. 5 Oct 2009.

has played a major part in the social sciences research, it might increase its participation once again in this subject.

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) office in Kosovo

The Friedrich Ebert foundation was established in 2000, with a mission to support the European perspective in Kosovo. The foundation contributes to the research activity by sponsoring an average of six projects during the year. FES is mainly focused in the following research fields: economic development, human rights, political party development, migration and education.

The most important sponsored projects of FES are: “*Privatization of public owned companies*”, “*Public Opinion poll on general elections trends for 2007*”, “*Diaspora and Migration*”, “*Political party and ideology*” etc. For making these publications possible, FES contributed with €20,000 in 2007, €40,000 in 2008 and €50,000 in 2008. These publications can be considered as successful, since each of them was part of general expert’s public discussions followed by media reports and discussions. FES is committed to instigate and raise the level of social research studies. Their office claims that the impact of the publications on society is huge and evident, whereas on government decision the impact is in a lower scale.

Austrian Development Cooperation (ADA) office in Kosovo

The ADA office in Kosovo operates since April 2007. Its mission is to establish an institutionalized partnership between Austria and Kosovo in the field of HE, Research and Innovation. ADA claims that it has both immediate, medium and long run objectives. The immediate objective “is to contribute to a sustainable, good governed and knowledge-based higher education system in Kosovo aligned to European practices and standards, including the development of interfaces to research and innovation to foster”⁴⁰, while the medium and long run objective is concerned about reducing poverty and fostering economic progress. The ADA is currently undertaking a project, which tends to improve the HE conditions in Kosovo. It plans to further reform and stabilize the public HE system in Kosovo, implementing the Bologna Process reforms, to introduce European values and standards, to integrate Kosovo’s universities into the European Education Network and to promote interaction between universities and local economy⁴¹.

Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) office in Kosovo

SDC’s Office in Kosovo functions since 2000, after many donations in the form of humanitarian aid for rehabilitation and refugee return in Kosovo. The research interest

⁴⁰ Günther, Johann. . Austrian Development Cooperation, June 2007. Web. 8 Oct. 2009 <<http://www.aei-austria-kosovo.com/index.php?Introduction>>.

⁴¹ Austrian Development Cooperation, n.d. Web. 8 Oct. 2009 <<http://www.aei-austria-kosovo.com/index.php?Introduction>>.

fields of the Swiss Development Cooperation are: human capital development, promotion of equal opportunities for all communities in Kosovo and migration.

The most important research projects by SDC are: “*Kosovo Human Development Report (HDR) 2008*”, “*civil society for human centered development*” (in cooperation with UNDP), “*Social inclusion*”, “*Private sector development*”, etc. In 2007 SDC has dedicated €185,000, €110,000 in 2008 while for 2009 this amount is estimated to fall to €120,000. The outcome of these publications has contributed in raising the public debate and giving recommendations for specific social fields. Nevertheless, SDC’s office claims that the lack of accurate sources prevents the research from reaching its full potential.

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Mission in Kosovo

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo was established in 1999. Since then, the OSCE continuously contributed in Kosovo by supporting institutional building, democratic institutions and good governance, promoting human and community rights and improving security and public safety. The OSCE has sponsored 19 publications, excluding the ongoing projects. OSCE’s contribution to the research activity encompasses the following fields:

- Human Rights Protection, 6 publications
- Municipal governance, 3 publications
- Central governance, 1 publication
- Legal system development, 4 publications
- Security sector development, 1 publication
- Anti trafficking, 4 publications and
- Higher Education, ?? publications⁴²

The OSCE is implementing a long term project to establish a Research Project Support Office within the University of Prishtina. This will promote the almost “dead” participation of the UP on the research activities. Moreover, the OSCE claims that the establishment of this office will not only raise the number of research projects by the UP, but it will also give incentives to the UP faculty for publishing scholarly articles in an international level.⁴³ Yearly the OSCE supports an average of two research projects in the field of Higher Education, with an approximate amount of €100,000. It also dedicates funds in giving scholarships for minority groups (specifically Bosnians). The OSCE contribution to the research activity is intended to be long term in order to tackle the lack of research strategy (a component that research institutes lack according to OSCE). Furthermore, part of this research strategy will also be an effort to raise the available

⁴² Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe Mission in Kosovo, Web. 15 Oct. 2009
<<http://www.osce.org/kosovo/>>

⁴³ Bigagli, Francesco. (Acting Chief of the Higher Education Unit at OSCE). Personal interview. 9 Oct 2009.

funds dedicated for research, and raise the level of research by promoting the publication of scholarly articles and journals. By doing so, OSCE claims that it will raise the quality of the research published in Kosovo – especially publications in English.

WUS Austria (World University Service) office in Kosovo

WUS Austria's activity in Kosovo is distinguished from other organization's activity since it is concerned in supporting facility building and direct reforms in education. Through several implemented projects in cooperation with the public university of Prishtina, WUS has achieved to implement academic exchange between University of Prishtina and Austrian Universities and to support the transition of higher education towards European standards. Some of the projects in which WUS has financially contributed are: "*Brain Gain program*", "*Business and Economics Internship Program*", "*Fostering and Developing the Quality Culture at the University of Prishtina*", "*One Month Study Visits to Austria for University Graduates*" etc. The UP is a long-term partner of WUS Austria, therefore almost all of the projects initiated by WUS Austria are implemented in partnership with the UP.

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) office in Kosovo

SIDA's support in Kosovo covers three areas: environment, education and democratic governance/human rights. SIDA expects to increase their contribution in Kosovo, therefore in the next few years the amount of this support will be about SEK 80 million per year. Regarding education an important project is "*Sixth form unites both sides*". Within the education sector, SIDA targets to increase the opportunity of adequate vocational training for citizens and to influence the authorities to implement plans within education. Regarding the task of increasing the opportunity of adequate vocational training, support will also be given to individual projects in order to achieve this.

Department for International Development (DFID) office in Kosovo

DFID is one of the most important international organizations that has continuously contributed to the development of Kosovo. Its contribution as a donor organization has begun in the year 1999 after the conflict ended in Kosovo. DFID is focused on improving living standards, on lowering the levels of poverty and unemployment, creating a political stability, conflict prevention and promoting economic growth. DFID contributes to the research activity in social sciences with €100,000 yearly. The funds dedicated for research in social sciences are distributed in the following social fields: public administration, public financial management, rule of law, general budget support and civil society.

DFID sponsors ten research projects per year. The most important publications that the DFID office in Kosovo has sponsored are: "*EU Standards*", "*Functional Review of the Government*", "*Support to the Office of the Prime Minister*", "*Brain Fund*" and

“*Dissemination of the Ashraf Ghani Report*”. “*EU Standards*” has been the most successful publication, managing to support new EU integration structures, reporting and monitoring mechanisms. The publication also supported the Agency for European Integration in coordinating better EU integration process and the line ministries and municipalities in better reporting for European Partnership Action Plan. DFID’s office claims that the impact of the sponsored publication has been significant in the society but the projects have had less impact in the Government’s decision making.⁴⁴

European Commission Liaison Office in Kosovo

The European Commission Liaison Office in Kosovo is responsible for most of the work previously implemented by the European Agency for Reconstruction in Kosovo (EAR). The EC office dedicates a significant amount of funds to the research activity in Kosovo. It sponsors an average of 54 research projects yearly. However, most of them appear in the form of evaluations and assessment reports. It is largely focused on development research. Their fields of interest are classified in three groups: political criteria, economic criteria and European standards. By research in these fields, the EC seeks to improve the living conditions in Kosovo, thereby opening the path for a possible EU membership.

The most important projects sponsored by the EC for 2007 were: “*Strengthening the Rule of Law*”, “*Developing and enabling economic environment for all of Kosovo’s communities*” and “*Supporting local governance and decentralization*”. The list of projects sponsored by the EC through IPA in 2007 counts 11 projects. In 2008 there was a significant rise in donations, with a total number of 22 projects. A project initiated by the EC, “*Launch of SME Support through Ministry of Trade and Industry*”, is considered of a major importance. The purpose of the project is to improve the business environment and the competitiveness of the SME sector in Kosovo. “*Support to Local Governance in Kosovo*” is also considered of high importance. 10 municipalities have been assessed by different research institutes and a recommendation for improving the municipal management, service delivery and dialogue with citizens was prepared.

⁴⁴ Bakija, Florent. (Programme Officer at DFID). Personal interview. 23 Sep 2009.

Research Capacity Evaluation and Conclusions

It can be concluded that the research organizations in Kosovo are heavily dependant on international community funds with no mechanism that would ensure their sustainability through collaboration with the government bodies and private sector. Kosovo's higher education institutions are primarily teaching institutions with low research activities. As a result, there is a need for establishing long-lasting research capacities management and support foundation and facilitation of joint research initiatives, which would take advantage of the social research capacities in Kosovo. Therefore, in the following part, the report presents two specific components that are the most fundamental barriers for the development and advancement of research in social sciences in Kosovo.

1. Lack of Funds

According to researchers in Kosovo, the lack of funds is the most important obstacle in conducting successful research. Due to the rising number of private research institutes, diminishing participation of international community support and the lack of national scientific program, research institutes face the financial problem that prevent them from implementing their research activity. Moreover, their survival is closely linked with the international donations, which is a fragile method of successful functioning. The two public research institutes (the Institute for Albanian Studies and the Institute of History) complain for the shared amount dedicated for their research activity. It is impossible to use their full potential by this shared (500,000€ annually) amount of support. While the University of Prishtina still awaits the development of the national science program in order to start their institutional research activity.

2. Lack of data/credible data

One of the basic obstacles that researchers in Kosovo find is data availability and its credibility. The primary source of the successful research is data, a component that research activity in Kosovo lacks. From the interviews conducted with research institutes in Kosovo, we can conclude that the data in Kosovo are only partially credible. This means that for a successful research project, research institutes usually conduct large surveys in order to obtain credible data, while data for the past periods hardly exist. This is primarily due to the nature of the journey that Kosovo underwent. Most of the data that were collected during the times of ex-Yugoslavia are dubious due to political reasons. However, recently the Statistical Office of Kosovo and research institutes are building their databases in order to secure data for long term research. Another important data component is the national population registry. Kosovo did not undergo a generally accepted census since 1981. Population registration is a necessity for Kosovo; this has also been emphasized by the political arena. The research activity lacks its most fundamental database, the population registry, which is a major barrier to researchers.

Recommendations

Lack of budget for research, lack of experts (due to the fact that Albanians were excluded from the education system for more than ten years during the 90s) capable of facing new research and scientific realities, the problem of brain drain and lack of involvement of scientific research from the societal needs, have all resulted in an unsatisfactory level of scientific research activities in Kosovo. In order to build a system of scientific research in Kosovo we propose the following activities to be implemented: development of a strategy and policies for scientific research by MEST, amend existing legislation supporting the research and scientific activity, build institutional and intellectual capacity, set standards for research and scientific work, find the needed funds and provide appropriate incentives. Moreover, in order to improve the current state of the research, from the research conducted in order to make this report possible, our team saw the necessity and urgency of undertaking and addressing several issues. Therefore, the issues presented in the following part are ranked by the importance that they have in the promotion of sustainable research activity.

1. Implementation of the 0.7% budget allocation

Currently, the Government allocates less than €2.5 Million annually for the research activity in Kosovo. Furthermore, most of this budget is used for wages and salaries. For the year 2009, the exact amount dedicated to public research institutes is €1,180,994. This amount corresponds to 0.1% of the total budget of Kosovo. The head of National Science Council states that the government should allocate at least 0.5% of the GDP (€17 Million) which is a necessity for developing countries.⁴⁵ The research activity has been financially left out for 2010 by the decision-makers.

Since it is defined by the law that 0.7% of the budget shall be dedicated to the research activity in Kosovo, it is necessary to implement this objective in order to raise the standard of research in Kosovo. Moreover this will inspire both public and private research institutes to compete for winning the projects that will be sponsored by the government or respective ministries. Considering the fact that some of research institutes are non-profit organizations, once the financial stability is achieved, institutes can focus their force for implementing research not for survival but for academic excellence. This can improve the research activity further and at the same time help develop the country of Kosovo, since Research & Development are necessary elements for the development of a country.

⁴⁵ Krasniqi, Besnik. "Science, not in the Government's agenda" *Koha Ditore* 26 Nov.ss

2. Institutional Support for Research in Social Sciences

Having in mind that there is a need for professional development of individual researchers competent of conducting quality research in Kosovo, the emphasis needs to be placed on providing the educational and infrastructural support. Based on the above presented data, it is evident that the governmental and university funding for research is very low or non-existent. Considering that the teaching staff in Kosovo's public and private HEI is loaded with teaching activities, there is a need for research and cooperation incentive providing mechanism that would place research institutions as a bridge between the community and policy-makers.

3. Scholarships (Further Education of Junior Researchers)

Young, western educated researchers have proved to give a major contribution to the research activity. This is due to their proficiency in foreign languages (especially English), their knowledge in using international scholar and academic sources, and their knowledge in latest research methodologies. By continuing this tradition (recruitment of young researchers – brain gain), the research activity in Kosovo can tend to catch the level of research published internationally. Therefore, it is recommended that the government in cooperation with international community should increase the number of scholarships given to students for studying abroad for their undergraduate as well as graduate studies. Researchers should also be motivated and supported to attend international conferences and seminars. By promoting these actions, research quality in Kosovo can be raised and research institutes would be able to compete for research projects inside the European Union (through FP7).

4. Creation of databases and validation of data

The Statistical Office of Kosovo is responsible for collecting and publishing data for the territory of Kosovo. Due to the problem of credibility and availability of data, research institutes are independently conducting surveys in respective fields in order to create their credible databases. The SOK should initiate a collective cooperation in order to validate and improve their database. This can be achieved by the establishment of a council for the validation and collection of data from sources inside Kosovo. Through cooperation with research institutes, the SOK can be able to collect all the data available by different research institutes and sources that have collected data in Kosovo. While at the same time, the population registration is a necessity for improving the research activity in Kosovo. Recent developments show that the registration will be implemented in 2011; therefore the government should assure that this process will be executed in the most credible and with the highest possible standards.

5. The functioning of the UP research center

The development of the national research program is a pre-requisite for the functioning of the institutionalized research activity in the UP. Since the UP is the largest university, the employer of the largest number of professors, it should also be one of the largest contributors to the research activity in social sciences in Kosovo. Therefore, the plan of establishing the UP research center should proceed and the MEST through national science council should pave way for the UP to start its research activity. This can be primarily done by allocating a certain amount of funds for the first years of work, until the research center can be fully independent and able to compete with other research institutes from the country.

6. Award of excellence

In order to further motivate researchers across Kosovo, an award of excellence should be given to a researcher or a research institute every year. This award should also contain should be in the form of financial award. As a consequence, individual research will be promoted, and therefore researchers can be able to write what they are specialized for. This will most definitely increase the quality of research published in Kosovo, by which researchers can also publish their reports or articles in international arena.

7. Restructure Publicly Funded Research Institutes

In order to encourage universities and research institutions to work more closely and effectively with industry, there is a need for restructuring process of Publicly Funded Research Institutes. Industry should also be more involved in financing research projects and cooperating with research institutes in development of joint projects.

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ANNEX

Table 1. Government Bodies

Institution	Address	Competences	Note
1. Ministry of Education Science and Technology	St. Agim Ramadani, 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 (38) 541 035 http://www.masht-gov.net/advCms/#id=1	The MEST is the highest body concerning the education in Kosovo, it is also in charge of supervising the Accreditation Agency of Kosovo, which observes the private and public education sector.	
2. National Science Council		Prepares the National - Scientific Research Program, evaluates the scientific-research activity, gives opinion upon the need of establishment of research institutes and proposes measures for advancing the research activity.	The Council has held several meetings. It has 15 members but lacks an office. It has set its priorities regarding the National - Scientific Research Program but with no significant progress for the time being.

Table 2.
Higher Education Institutions

Institution	Address	Number of Students	Number of Faculties	Research Activities	Note
1. University of Prishtina	St."Agim Ramadani", nr.60, St. "Mother Theresa", 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 244 183 www.uni-pr.edu	28,000	17	The research center at the UP does not function. For the time being, research is only conducted individually and part of the PhD thesis.	
2. AAB - Riinvest University	Zona Industriale Prishtinë - Fushë Kosovë, Telephone: +381 38 247 524 http://www.universitetiaab.com	3000	4	Each faculty has a research center. However, the research activity is in the beginning phases, therefore it is not intense. Nevertheless, every department has organized at least one conference until now.	
3. American University in Kosovo	Nazim Gafurri 21 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 518 542 http://www.aukonline.org/	1000	4	AUK Research Center gives the highest importance to Development Research, Political and Economic studies and analyses, while to a lesser degree also working on education, business consulting and business plans.	



<p>4. University for Business and Technology</p>	<p>Lagjja KALABRIA 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 541 400 http://www.ubt-uni.net/</p>	<p>450</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>It is in partnership with three research centers: the Institute for Enterprise Management and Engineering (IEME), the International Languages and Intercultural Competence (ILIC) and the Institute for International Relations and European Studies (IIRES). Until now it has published two research reports: <i>Urban Management</i> and <i>Public Prosecution bases in Kosovo</i>.</p>	
<p>5. Iliria University</p>	<p>St. Gamend Zajmi nr.75 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 233 951 http://www.uiliria.org/cms/</p>	<p>3000</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>A research center operates under the university with the mission of increasing the level of education. It has organized three conferences and contributed for publishing numerous books.</p>	

**Table 3.
Research Institutes**

Institution	Address	Research fields	Publications and activities	Note
1. Kosova Academy of Sciences and Arts	St. Agim Ramadani 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 249 303 http://www.ashak.org/	The KASA is mainly focused on: historical issues, political studies, sociology, psychology, law and philosophy research, ethnological and demographic studies and Kosovo challenges and issues.	Over 50 publications since its establishment.	
2. Statistical Office of Kosovo	St. Zenel Salihu nr. 4 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 235 111 http://www.ks-gov.net/ESK/			The SOK is rather analyzed as a source of data. It contributes to the research activity through its publications which are used by researchers.
3. Central Bank of the Republic of Kosovo	33 Garibaldi Street 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 222 055 http://www.bqk-kos.org/		3 papers: <i>Determinants of Remittances: The case of Kosovo</i> , <i>Euroisation Outside the Euro-zone: Assets and Challenges</i> and <i>the Experience of Kosovo and Interest Rates in</i>	Similar to the SOK, the CBK contributes with regular publications which are used as accurate sources of data. However it has also

			<i>Kosovo, some comparisons and possible determinants.</i>	published few working papers.
4. Institute of History	Lagja e Spitalit nr.3 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 512 392 http://www.ihp-ks.org/	The Institute published monographic studies, studies on Kosovo's history and Albanian's history through different periods by science academics as well as outside partners	The Institute has organized conferences and round tables. It has published over 500 publications. It has also been publishing a science journal named Kosova/Kosovo.	
5. Institute for Albanian Studies	St. Eqrem Çabej, n.n 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 229 033 http://www.albanolog.com/	The Institute focuses its research capacities mainly in Albanian Studies: language studies, literature, history, folklore and ethnology.	Since its establishment the Institute counts over 5000 publications. With over 400 monographic works, science journals and other works regarding Albanian studies.	
6. RIINVEST Institute	Zona Industriale Prishtinë – Fushë Kosovë 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 601 320 http://www.riinvestinstitute.org/	Its research activity is focused in development research, education and political and economic studies. Furthermore, the institute is also engaged in trainings	Since its establishment, Riinvest has published more than 50 publications. Riinvest has organized more than 10 international conferences; 30 sessions	

		activities and business consulting.	of International Roundtable, 8 summer schools, 53 workshops and training seminars and 12 business plans and feasibility studies.	
7. KFOS/ Forum 2015	Ulpiana, Villa No.13 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 542 157 http://www.kfos.org/	Forum 2015 is “a project-based think tank committed to competence building and advocacy”.	<i>A Modern Tale, Impact of Decentralization on Kosovars’ life (upcoming), Privatization and Post-Privatization and Diaspora and Migration Policies.</i>	KFOS is a donor organization, while Forum 2015 is a project based think-tank, a joint venture of KFOS and Riinvest Institute.
8. KIPRED	St. Rexhep Mala, Nr. 5A 10000 Prishtinë +381 38 227 778 http://www.kipred.net/	Development research, training, political and economic studies and analyses, media studies, security analysis and local governance.	KIPRED has published 37 research projects.	
9. Kosovar Stability Initiative	St. Garibaldi H 11/6 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 222 321 http://www.iksweb.org/	Education, development research and training.	9 research projects.	

10. GAP Institute	St. Nëna Terrezë 41/29 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 224 145 http://www.gapinstitute.org/	Development research, Political and economic studies and analyses and education research	21 research reports.	
11. Kosovo Education Center	St. Isa Kastrati, n.n. 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 244 257 http://www.kec-ks.org/	Education research, development research and training.	15 research projects.	
12. Management Development Associates	St. Zija Shemsiu, nr. 25 10000 Prishtina, Telephone: +381 38 500 147 http://seemda.com/	Consulting Services, Capacity Building, and International Development Projects.	11 Research projects and numerous business plans and feasibility plans.	
13. Index Kosova	St. Bajram Kelmendi 38, 10000 Prishtina, Telephone: +381 38 247 977 http://www.indexkosova.com/fly/	Social, political, media and market research.	50 Research projects.	
14. Ubo Consulting	St. Eduard Lir, Arbëria nr.17 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 225 582 http://www.uboconsulting.com/en	Market research as well as business consulting.	30 publications.	

15. Kosovo Law Centre	St. Tringe Ismajli 76/4 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 247 163 http://www.kosovolawcenter.org/	Research in fields of civil, criminal, criminal procedure, human rights, and property.		
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**Table 4.
Donor Organizations**

Institution	Address	Activities	Note
1. United Nations Development Programme	Peyton Place 14 10000 Prishtinë Telephone: +381 38 249 066 http://www.kosovo.undp.org/	UNDP sponsors two regular projects, <i>the Early Warning Report and Human Development Reports</i> . Furthermore, since 2003 UNDP has been publishing <i>Kosovo Mosaic</i> on yearly basis	
2. The World Bank	Mujo Ulqinaku Nr.3 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 249 459 www.worldbank.org/kosovo/	The World Bank has published around 40 publications and research. It has also 6 working papers implemented by foreign researchers.	

3. United States Agency for International Development	Ismail Qemali St., No.1 10130 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 243 673 http://www.usaid.gov/kosovo/	USAID was primary focused for policy research on Kosovo's economic growth and democracy and governance. During this period USAID sponsored 20 research projects.	
4. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung	St. Mujo Ulqinaku, 4/9 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 243 785 http://www.fes-prishtina.org	FES is mainly focused in the following research fields: economic development, human rights, political party development, migration and education. It sponsors and average of sic projects annually.	
5. Austrian Development Cooperation	Student Centre Second Floor 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 244 975 http://www.aei-austria-kosovo.com	Its mission is to establish an institutionalized partnership between Austria and Kosovo in the field of HE, Research and Innovation.	
6. Swiss Development Cooperation	Adrian Krasniqi 11 10060 Pristina Telephone: +381 38 248 091 www.swiss-cooperation.admin.ch/kosovo/	Sponsored research in human capital development, promotion of equal opportunities for all communities in Kosovo and migration.	

7. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe	St. Luan Haradinaj 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 500 162 http://www.osce.org/kosovo	Special contribution to the development of HE. Focused in research in human rights protection, municipal and central governance, legal system and security sector development as well as anti trafficking.	
8. WUS Austria	St. Nena Terez n.n. 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 241 472 www.wus-austria.org/prishtina	Supporting facility building and direct reforms in Education.	
9. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	St. Perandori Justinian, No. 19 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 245 795 http://www.rec.org/rec/Introduction/CountryOffices/Kosovo.html	SIDA's support in Kosovo covers three areas: environment, education and democratic governance/human rights.	
10. Department for International Development	St. Ekrem Rexha 8, Arberia 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 549 724 http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Where-we-work/Europe/Kosovo/	DFID contributes to the research activity in social sciences with €100,000 yearly. The funds dedicated for research in social sciences are distributed in the following social fields: Public Administration, Public Financial Management, Rule of Law, General Budget Support and Civil Society.	

<p>11. European Commission Liaison Office in Kosovo</p>	<p>Kosovo Street 1 (P.O. Box 331) 10000 Prishtina Telephone: +381 38 51 31 200 www.delprn.ec.europa.eu</p>	<p>The EC sponsors an average of 54 research projects yearly. However, most of them appear in the form of evaluations and assessment reports. Their fields of interest are classified in three groups: political criteria, economic criteria and European standards.</p>	
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