



14 February 2022

South Mitrovica in competition with Madrid and Tampere

The Municipality of South Mitrovica has been selected among the three finalists and a contender to win the award for the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan, awarded by the European Commission. South Mitrovica will be competing with the capital of Spain, Madrid, as well as the city of Tampere in Finland. The award on Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan, awards municipalities for the quality of documents for

sustainable urban mobility planning and UN-Habitat is really proud to have guided and supported the Municipality for developing its SUMP. This year's theme for all European Commission awards is "Safe and sound with sustainable mobility". The PMQU of South Mitrovica, supported by UN-Habitat has convinced the jury to see it as a finalist in planning a strategy that will make its citizens walk "free from fear", to cycle and interact safely in public spaces through accident prevention measures, such as parking management plan and improved public transport opportunities.

[For more details, click here](#)



15 February 2022

Vushtrri/Vucitrn Commences Development of first Voluntary Local Review Report in Kosovo

The Municipality of Vushtrri/Vucitrn, in partnership with UN-Habitat and UNKT entities, organized the first "Inception Workshop for the Voluntary Local Review (VLR) of Vushtrri/Vucitrn – Roadmap towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030" launching Vushtrri as

Kosovo's first municipality to produce VLR, joining an international community of practice as the 117th municipality globally to produce such a report demonstrating their committed to advancing SDGs implementation at the local level. The workshop was opened by Mr. Ferit Idrizi, Mayor of Vushtrri/Vucitrn, Ms. Ulrika Richardson, UN Development Coordinator, Mr. Omar Siddique, Head of Office of UN-Habitat, Ms. Fatmire Kollcaku, Head of the Council for Sustainable Development, and Ms. Leartha Hollaj, Advisor to the President of Kosovo on Sustainable Development. The kick-off workshop also convened relevant stakeholders such as: United Nations agencies, Kosovo central agencies (including Agency for Statistics), representatives from all municipal departments, diverse members of civil society, private sector, academia, and members of different ethnic communities residing in the municipality.

[For more details, click here](#)

03 February 2022

Improving the Health of Forests

The FAO Forestry Program is supporting the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development and the Kosovo Forest Agency, in improving forest health. In a workshop which brought together main stakeholders in the forestry sector it was said that apart from chestnut cancer and procession disease, our forests currently do not face grave problems.



However, there are some diseases, which if not managed in time, can cause economic, social, and ecological damage.

[For more details, click here](#) or [here](#)



11 February 2022

Women & Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics—STEM

More than 100 young women studying in STEM field participated virtually in a joint event organized by the UN Women, in cooperation with the Office of the President and the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, marking the International Day of Women and Girls in Science. The event aimed to convey the message that the participating girls can become tomorrow's leading scientists and innovators, shaping a fair and sustainable future for all. In her opening remarks President Osmani encouraged young women and girls in science to believe in themselves, because every attempt from their side is one step closer to a better society and consequently a better future for all. Ulrika Richardson, United Nations Development Coordinator in Kosovo¹, stated that it is necessary to include women in the fields of STEM for science to advance in responding to human needs.

[For more details, click here](#)

22 February 2022

The World Bank and UNICEF Partner to Promote Early Childhood Development

UNICEF and World Bank supported the Presidency, high-level policymakers, and opinion leaders to mobilize commitment to advance the Early Childhood Development agenda. In a high-level event with Prime Minister, Ministers, and other decision makers agreed together to call for:

- Greater political will for ECD;
- Prioritizing the objectives for ECD in the Development Strategy;
- Establishment of the steering committee for ECD;
- Increasing funding for policies and programs;
- Providing support in the early years for parents and other target groups.

The World Bank and UNICEF have made a global commitment to work together to generate data, mobilize stakeholders, and advocate for greater investment in early childhood development.

This will be based on ongoing cooperation in Kosovo with key institutions to generate evidence, develop policies and implement programs to improve coverage and quality of ECD services.

[For more details, click here](#)

Highlights

South Mitrovica in competition with Madrid and Tampere

The Municipality of South Mitrovica among the three final contenders to win the award for the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan, awarded by the EC.

Women and girls in STEM Marked on 11 February

Over 100 young women studying in STEM field participated in the event organized by the UN Women.

First Voluntary Local Review-VLR commences in Kosovo

The Municipality of Vushtrri/Vucitrn, in partnership with UN-Habitat and UNKT entities, organized the first "Inception Workshop VLR of Vushtrri/Vucitrn – Roadmap towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030" Kosovo's first municipality to produce VLR.

Six Regional Hospitals' Gases Systems Being Upgraded

This UNOPS project includes the expansion of medical gas supply in regional hospitals of Gjilan/Gnjilane, Ferizaj/Uroševac, Gjakova/Đakovica, Peja/Peć, Vushtrri/Vučitrn and Mitrovica South and installation of the piping system for the supply of three medical gasses that are being extended to bedhead units of 450 Intensive Care Unit beds.

Tech Heroes 4 Social Inclusion

Three best Tech Heroes projects were selected by a professional jury and awarded for their ideas, out of the 14 multi-ethnic teams in IOM's work with Implementing Partner Akademia jCoders.

Improving the Health of Forests

The FAO Forestry Program is supporting the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development and the Kosovo Forest Agency, in improving forest health.

The World Bank and UNICEF Partner to Promote Early Childhood Development-ECD

Based on the World Bank and UNICEF global commitment to work together to generate data, mobilize stakeholders, and advocate for greater investment in early childhood development, this event was organized to promote the ECD agenda.

1

References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999)



22 February 2022

Tech Heroes 4 Social Inclusion

Three best Tech Heroes projects were selected by a professional jury and awarded for their ideas. The 14 multi-ethnic teams in our work with IOM's Implementing Partner Akademia jCoders once again proved that the best

results come in diverse environments, where each different idea, opinion, and skill, is embraced and everyone's voice is heard. The youth working together is a key factor to smart, sustainable and inclusive social and economic growth.

Tech Heroes is part of the Social Inclusion Programme supported by IOM and the British Embassy Pristina.

[For more details, click here](#)

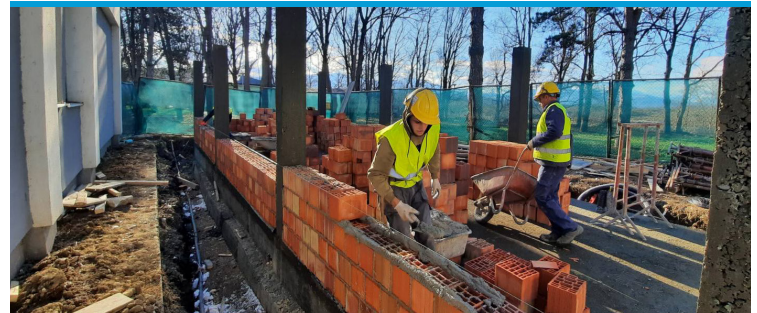
25 February 2022

Six Regional Hospitals' Gasses Systems Being Upgraded

The implementation of the project for installation of the internal distribution network for medical gasses in 6 regional hospitals is well underway. This project includes the expansion of medical gas supply in regional hospitals of Gjilan/Gnjilane, Ferizaj/Uroševac, Gjakova/Đakovica, Peja/Peć, Vushtrri/Vučitrn and Mitrovica South and installation of the piping system for the supply of

three medical gasses that are being extended to bedhead units of 450 Intensive Care Unit beds. Through this project, UNOPS is also constructing Technical Rooms that are further connected to the main oxygen reservoir while making sure that the work is being done through a close control of quality, safe systems of work and an effective health and safety management. This project is funded by the Ministry of Health through a World Bank loan aiming to enhance the capacities of the public health facilities around Kosovo.

[For more details, click here](#)



Gender Equality: Ending Violence against Women

February 2022



07 February 2022

The first week of February saw the Green Hub Youth Incubator welcoming 20 teams of young #ecopreneurs, 15 of which are women-led. From building campsites to setting up new recreational spots and food waste management apps, all teams are going through a 12-week incubation period with the aim of shaping various #startup ideas that contribute to #ecotourism in Kosovo.

In the first lecture with Filip Stipancic from Lean Startup Croatia, they gained new insights about customer delivery and the different approaches to meet tourists' needs through eco-friendly services. The Youth Incubator Program is part of the Green Hub Program, jointly implemented by Venture UP and Sustainability Leadership Kosovo.

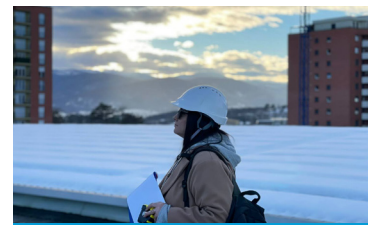
[For more details, click here](#)



11 February 2022

As we celebrate the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, we could not be prouder to contribute to greater involvement of #women and girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics through our project to design and construct the new premises for the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences in Pristina over the next two years. UNOPS is supporting Kosovo institutions to improve quality standards in higher education and enhance physical capacities of the faculties of the University of Pristina as part of the broader EU for Employment and Education agenda.

[For more details, click here](#)



11 February 2022

UNHCR, in cooperation with the Kosova Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims (KRCT), facilitated a one-day workshop to finalise the Guidelines for the Prevention of, Risk Mitigation, and Response to Gender Based Violence in the mixed migration context in Kosovo. The guidelines will establish standard operating procedures (SOPs) to facilitate access to all available services by survivors of gender-based violence.

[For more details, click here](#)



15 February 2022

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↓ 15 February 2022

Volunteers for Social Work

To provide further support to the 40 UNVs currently engaged at Centers for Social Work around Kosovo, a webinar / info session was held jointly with Department of Social and Family Planning (DSFP) at Ministry

of Finance, Labor, and Transfers (MFLT) to provide the volunteers with administrative instructions on licensing of social and family service providers at basic, medium, and high level. These instructions intended to define and highlight the conditions and criteria to be met, prerequisites for a licensing request and how to go about submitting one, to inform the UNVs on the procedures that are implemented by the Ministry during the review, and how

a decision is made. The info session also served as a communication tool for the applicants to avoid any shortcomings in the application process. The webinar was organized by the Humanitarian Assistance Project (HAP) funded by European Union and implemented by UNDP.

[For more details, click here ↗](#)



↓ 25 Februar2022

Social Workers Trained to Protect Children

Following the second training on the role of social workers in protecting children, the 3rd online training session (second to last, in a series of four) was focused on Social Work and the Elderly: Challenges and Opportunities, provided by Mr. Avdyl Gashi, from the University of Pristina. Mr. Gashi touched on the basics of gerontology, how it relates to social work, the law for social and family services, who constitutes as a "elderly person in need", and the social workers' role in assisting and protecting the elderly from harm. What followed was an open discussion that allowed the UNVs to exemplify first-hand experiences and various cases and what steps were taken in addressing them.

[For more details, click here ↗](#)

↓ 10 February 2022

New Social Housing Programme

Legal Staff of Civil Rights Program Kosovo (CRP/K) partner of UNHCR, reported about continued support provided and necessary legal counselling to applicants for international protection in Kosovo.

Applicants are informed on regular basis about the rights and obligations arising from the practices of the applicable legal framework.

[For more details, click here ↗](#)

Sustainable Economic Development

February 2022

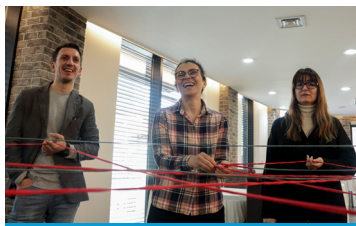


↓ 04 February 2022

New grant agreements were signed with two tourism enterprises operating in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica.

The businesses are part of the Green Hub Program and have chosen to move toward EcoInnovation and employ environmentally friendly practices. Hotel Dardani & Villa Vilahia have laid out concrete action plans that place sustainability at the core of their businesses, all the while giving back to the community.

The Green Hub Programme is jointly implemented with Sustainability Leadership Kosova & Venture UP.



↓ 11 February 2022

20 Businesses Trained on Eco Friendly Practices

20 tourism MSMEs trained at the Green Hub Programme in the region of Prizren, through another excellent module integrating ecofriendly practices to build forward better and become climate resilient business. It started by discussing global trends and challenges in sustainability and moved into localized ecotourism approaches that contribute to all aspects of sustainability: social, economic, and environmental development. Participants are being offered an opportunity to apply for small grants to achieve their eco-objectives. The Green Hub Programme is jointly implemented by Sustainability Leadership Kosova & Venture UP and supported by UNDP.

[For more details, click here ↗](#)



↓ 18 February 2022

The Best of Kosovo 2021 Family Friendly Workplace

UNFPA became part of The Best of Kosovo 2021, organized traditionally by the Kosovo Chamber of Commerce.

"The Best of Kosovo 2021 Family Friendly Workplace" awards was introduced for the first time as a result of UNFPA's partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and the [Kosova Women's Network](#), supported by the [Austrian Development Agency](#), the operational unit of Austrian Development Cooperation under the project [#ExpandingChoices](#) through Family-Friendly Policies.

In addition, Chamber of Commerce presented UNFPA with the Certificate of Acknowledgement for its contribution towards creating more Family Friendly Workplaces in Kosovo.

[For more details, click here ↗](#)

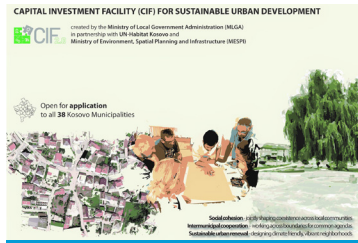


↓ 18 February 2022

COVID-19 Assessment: Toward a Green, Inclusive, & Sustainable Municipal Recovery

Municipal representatives and governmental representatives have met twice during February 2022, to discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on municipal services and business activities by presenting findings from new research conducted by UN-Habitat with 38 municipalities and businesses. The findings will help to develop a report and priority investment projects which will provide a crisis response and long-term recovery measures to guide future investments from international sources and from the central level in Kosovo to aid municipalities to build back better. These regional workshops are organized by Ministry of Local Government Administration in partnership with UN-Habitat supported by UNMIK.

[For more details, click here ↗](#)



February 2022

The Capital Investment Facility (CIF) for sustainable urban development continues to provide support for project preparation to all 38 municipalities in Kosovo until the extended application deadline 7th of March 2022. After 5 regional workshops followed by an online meeting, the CIF team has continued providing on-demand support to municipalities and civil society representatives in preparing their inclusive, green projects for innovative urban infrastructure.

[For more details, click here ↔](#)



February 2022

Collegia of Spatial Planning Elects New Leadership

A new leadership for the Collegia of Spatial Planning in Kosovo has been elected, in an inaugural meeting of Municipal Directors for Urbanism, organized by the Association of Kosovo Municipalities in partnership with UN-Habitat. The Chair of the Collegia elected is Ms. Flutura Avdiu, representing the Municipality of Drenas/Glogovac, while the deputy chairman,

Mr. Arben Berisha, from the Municipality of Obiliq/ć. The newly elected members of the new Presidency of the Collegia of Directors for Spatial Planning 2022 - 2025 are Ms. Fortuna Krasniqi, Municipality of Vushtrri/Vučitrn, Mr. Visar Kuqi, Municipality of Suhareke/Suva reka, Mr. Edison Ternava, Municipality of Mitrovica South, Mr. Ali Arifi, Municipality of Gjilan/Gnjilane, and Ms. Fahriye Mazrek, Municipality of Mamusha/Mamuša. During today's meeting the members of the Collegia have discussed about the Legislative.

[For more details, click here ↔](#)



February 2022

ReLOaD 2 Continued Capacity Building in Seven new Municipalities

During a two-day training of the fourth module on Project Cycle Management, representatives from Dragash/Dragaš, Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, Podujevë/Podujevo, Rahovec/Orahovac Skenderaj/Srbica and Shtërpcë/Štrpce explored how to strengthen implementation, monitoring & evaluation at municipal level through info sessions, joint debates and group session practice. ReLOaD2 project is financially supported by European Union Kosovo.

[For more details, click here ↔](#)



Support to Fight COVID—19 and Improving Health System

February 2022



February 2022

Public Hospital Facilities Renovated

After just a few months of intensive work, UNOPS has successfully completed the Renovation of the Morgue Building in Pristina. This intervention will improve the quality of health services and provide a #safe and #decent work environment for the medical staff while contributing to the efforts of the Ministry of Health to enhance their operational capacity and improve medical infrastructure.

This activity is part of the Kosovo Emergency COVID19 Project, funded by the Ministry of Health through a World Bank loan and aims to strengthen the health system.

[For more details, click here ↔](#)



February 2022

Vaccination Monitoring and Reporting

At the request of health authorities, WHO organized a technical mission on monitoring of COVID-19 vaccination and use of data for decision making.

During the three days mission (6 – 9 February 2022) MOH and WHO staff reviewed available data and monitoring system for COVID-19 vaccination, identified suitable options for revised data analysis and reporting at national level and scoped possible solutions to improve reporting to WHO/Europe of all key COVID-19 vaccination performance indicators.



February 2022

Eight New Vaccination Sites Against COVID-19

To ensure equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and generate demand for vaccine uptake, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health in partnership with to establish 8 new vaccination sites will be throughout the Kosovo.

The placement of new vaccination sites was inaugurated with the Minister of Health and the Mayor of Prishtina in city center of Pristina.



February 2022

Lab Staff Trained for Additional Testing Techniques

To further strengthen human resources of the Institute of Public Health, WHO through its Balkan hub, trained laboratory staff on microbiology and testing.

During the five-day workshop (7-11 February 2022), staff improved their knowledge and skills for COVID-19 testing and sequencing.

↘ 16 February 2022

Workshop for Home Visiting Nurses of 27 municipalities

Home visiting (HV) nurses have been attending a 3-day workshop to improve the quality of the HV services provided in 27 municipalities. HV Programme is supported by the Government of Luxembourg and led by the Ministry of Health and it brings health-related counseling to homes of families with young children on issues like breastfeeding, immunization, responsive parenting, education, etc.

[For more details, click here ↔](#)



↘ 14—18 February 2022

Emergency Preparedness and Response Strengthened

To further strengthen the capacity of health authorities on emergency preparedness and response, WHO organized two back-to-back sub-regional workshops (14-18 February 2022) for health professionals from relevant institutions. As a result of the first workshop, health professionals systemized and further deepened their knowledge on fundamentals of all-hazards preparedness and response and IHR (2005), thus acquiring knowledge and skills to develop and finalize Kosovo's

Preparedness and Response Plan. During the second workshop, the participants undertook SWOT analysis and examined administrative, clinical and support service readiness actions that enabled hospitals to operate at near surge/surge capacity. Furthermore, the participants examined lessons learnt on hospital response planning. Consequentially, the participants increased their understanding of emergency systems and consolidated response planning blueprint for the areas for improvement. This will enable health authorities to link the identified areas with preparedness and capacity building initiatives under International Health Regulation (2005).

↘ February 2022

WHO Continues Public Outreach in Local Languages

During February 2022, WHO shared key messages in connection with the World Cancer Day, thus contributing to raising awareness on early testing and detection, fighting stigma and discrimination. For more details, click: [WCD2022 \(IPH\)](#); [WCD2022 \(MoH\)](#), [WCD2022 \(UNKT\)](#). In addition, WHO's updates on Omicron variant of COVID-19 were instrumental in ensuring that the population has access to accurate and reliable information. Information on the COVID-19 variant [Omicron \(IPH\)](#); [Omicron \(UNKT\)](#).



Education and Early Childhood Development



↘ 11 February 2022

Six Schools Equipped with Internet and Laptops

Teachers are being trained in six schools of three municipalities to utilize the in-distance learning platform [shkollat.org](#), supported by Austrian Development Agency and the Netherland Embassy with the goal of improving learning outcomes for all children and young people. These schools were also equipped with internet connection, teachers were provided with laptops and students received tablets; this way, harnessing the power of innovation and technology to close the digital divide and enable continuity of quality online education.

[For more details, click here ↔](#)



↘ 18 February 2022

Preparing for the Construction of New Building for Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Moving forward with the implementation of the project for construction of new premises for the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, UNOPS team provided needed updates on the progress to the University of Pristina rectorate.

The team is continuously coordinating towards maintaining quality standards while developing this facility, and enhancing physical capacities of the faculties of the UP.

[For more details, click here ↔](#)

Entrepreneurship, Education and Employment



↘ 28 February 2022

25 Students Trained on Drafting business Plans

25 students at College AAB are certified on "Capacity building for drafting a business plan, international trade and capital budgeting", series of trainings organized jointly with College AAB within the framework of the Global Entrepreneurship Week 2021.

Trainings are organized within the Program on Gender Responsive

Budgeting aiming to enhance their knowledge and skills on gender planning and budgeting, entrepreneurship, and increase awareness on gender equality and women's rights.

Trainings were supported by UN Women through the regional programme "Transforming Financing for Gender Equality towards more transparent, inclusive and accountable governance in the Western Balkans" funded by SIDA. For more details, click here

[For more details, click here ↔](#)