



Republika e Kosovës  
 Republika Kosovo - Republic of Kosovo  
 Qeveria e Kosovës - Government  
 Министерство за Владу - Government



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 SOUVERÄNE ZUSAMMENARBEITUNG



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**Kosovo  
 Sustainable  
 Development  
 Week  
 2021**

**KSDW**



**KOSOVO SUSTAINABLE  
 DEVELOPMENT WEEK  
 (KSDW) 2021**

**Recommendations & Conclusions**





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# Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW): Editions in Numbers

2018



The **1<sup>st</sup> edition of KSDW** was held in 2018 with a 5 intensive conference days, 14 panel discussions with more than 85 guest speakers, 1 side event, 7 movie screenings and more than 10 media appearances in local traditional media. The main topics of KSDW 2018 were related to energy transition, energy efficiency, waste management, water sources, and climate change.

2019



The **2<sup>nd</sup> edition of KSDW** was held in 2019 from 16 - 22 September, whereas just like in the previous edition, through open discussions and side events, the partners managed to highlight and encourage the prioritization of sustainable development in political and public agenda. Throughout all of the 3 conference days, KSDW 2019 gathered more than 500 participants, discussed with 60 guest speakers in 11 panel discussions and interviews. Under this edition, KSDW organized 13 side events, 7 movie screenings and 2 exhibitions dedicated to the citizens.

2020



Considering the emerging situation with the pandemics in 2020, the **3<sup>rd</sup> edition of KSDW** encountered slight changes in its format. While previously being held physically and having huge live interaction with the audience, KSDW 2020 was transformed in an online format and brand new virtual platform which continues to serve to the best of the Balkan's region. KSDW 2020 had 8 panel discussions, 4 online lectures designed exclusively for youth, 4 movie screenings with solar cinema, 5 green speeches delivered by the main stakeholders, and 6 videos conducted by the prominent regional environmental activists.

2021



Based on the perfect momentum to address it as a theme, the **4<sup>th</sup> edition of KSDW** centred on the topic of Green Agenda for the Western Balkans. Due to the pandemic and regulations set to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at the time during which the activities were held, the activities were structured in a hybrid format - a combination of online and physical delivery. The social media accounts and platform were fully utilized in order to disseminate the information to the largest extent. KSDW 2021 organized 3 conference days, 5 hybrid panel discussions, 8 online discussions, including more than 80 speakers, 2 workshops on circular economy, 5 Green Talks, 1 Bike-in Cinema and 15 other side events. Through the virtual presence, KSDW 2021 managed to reach 110,149 users and ensure 43,472 engagement. While in the traditional channels, KSDW 2021 made 6 media appearances.



# Summary of Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) 2021

Since 2018, Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) remains the biggest event on sustainable development in the region, while gathering in its activities a large number of citizens.

The fourth edition of KSDW brought together more than 80 speakers from over the 6 Western Balkans (WB) countries, who had the opportunity to discuss amongst themselves and the audience on the 5 main components of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans and potential ways on how to advance the agenda in this region. The 5 components of this agreement are (1) Decarbonisation, (2) Circular Economy, (3) Depollution of air, water and soil, (4) Sustainable food systems and rural areas, and (5) Biodiversity<sup>1</sup>.

Similar to its previous editions, KSDW 2021 aimed to further advance the sustainable development framework in Kosovo and, as well as, embolden that in the regional community endeavours. KSDW remains dedicated to encourage public dialogue and raise awareness of the general public regarding economic, social and environmental sustainability issues. This edition of KSDW was coordinated by Institute for Development Policy (INDEP), in close collaboration with the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, European Union Special Representative (EUSR) in Kosovo, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH office in Kosovo and Balkan Green Foundation (BGF).

Kosovo and the neighbouring countries are still in their early stages of taking concrete actions to protect the environment, manage adequately natural resources and mitigate the effects of climate change. Thus, throughout its editions, KSDW aimed to address specific topics in order to promote sustainable development in the WB region. After the Sofia Summit, in which WB country leaders committed to work towards a carbon-free region until 2050, KSDW 2021 considered this momentum a good one to discuss more in regards to the Green Agenda with the regional MPs, public institutions, private sector, Academia, civil society organizations, media and citizens at large.

The main objective of KSDW 2021 was to advance the Green Agenda for Western Balkans, especially the 5 components of this agreement, by further involving the Government, private sector, CSOs, Academia and media in dialogue with the aim to encourage the drafting and implementation of policies and actions that support the Green Agenda.

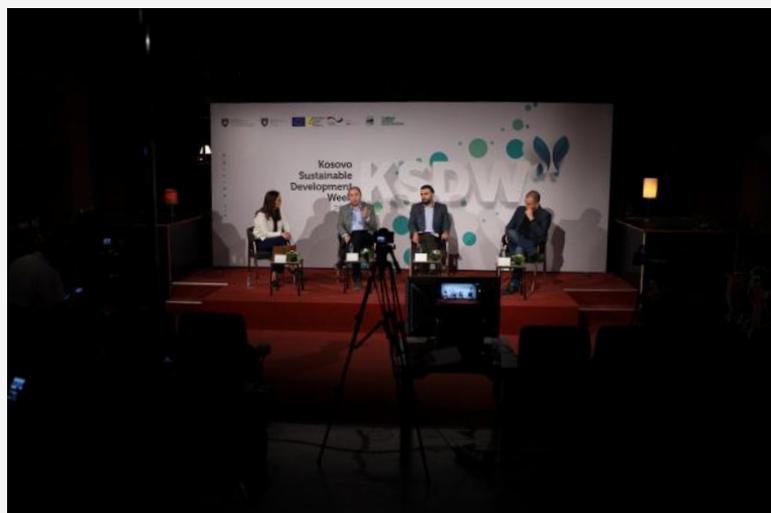
KSDW 2021 was held from 31 May until 11 June 2021. During these 2 weeks, 3 intensive conference days were held with 5 panel discussions and 20 side events in total. The events were divided into (1) main events and (2) side events. The main events included the launch event and conference days which were held in the first week of KSDW. In the launch event, high level representatives of the Government, donor community and CSOs discussed in general terms the Green Agenda and the importance for its advancement within the region. The conference days were dedicated separately to the 5 components of this agenda to practically discuss the ways for its integration into national and regional agendas. The respective topics for the conference days were as follow:

<sup>1</sup> An Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans. (2020). European Commission. [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/green\\_agenda\\_for\\_the\\_western\\_balkans\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/green_agenda_for_the_western_balkans_en.pdf)

**(Conference Day 1)  
Decarbonisation:  
Climate, energy and  
mobility**



**(Conference Day 2)  
Circular Economy:  
Sustainable production and  
consumption & Depollution  
of air, water and soil**



**(Conference Day 3)  
Sustainable food  
systems and rural areas &  
Protecting biodiversity:  
Protection and restoration  
of ecosystems**



Just like with KSDW 2020, this edition was adapted to the current circumstances with the pandemic and the anti-COVID measures applied at the time the activities were implemented. The implementation of the activities differed in their format, while some being hybrid and some fully online. Due to the pandemic, all of the activities were transmitted on KSDW's communication channels, namely its virtual platform ([ksdw.rks-gov.net](http://ksdw.rks-gov.net)) and Facebook Page (@KSDWeek).



# MAIN EVENTS



## Launch Event - 31 May 2021

KSDW 2021 kicked-off on 31st of May at Green School in Pristina. The launch event was intentionally held at the premises of Green School for the sole reason of the building being the only educational facility that is efficient and environmentally-friendly in Kosovo. This school serves as an example of good practice, not only in Kosovo, but also in the region. The event gathered in one single venue high level representatives of the state and Government, such as President, Prime minister, Minister of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, Minister of Economy, besides the representatives from the diplomatic missions and donor community, namely EUSR, German Embassy, and GIZ Kosovo. In addition, perspectives for the future of the advancement and implementation of policies and actions that support the Green Agenda were provided by representatives of the partnering CSOs.



The event included a special performance of the 'Earth Song' by the pupils of the Music Club of Green School, accompanied by fervent quotes delivered to the stakeholders responsible for undertaking actions that support the green and clean environment for future generations. Last but not least important, this event's main intent was to unveil the upcoming program of KSDW 2021 and encourage the audience at large to participate in its activities. For full program of KSDW 2021, please refer to Annex A.





# Theme-Based Conference Days on the Green Agenda for the WB

01 & 03 June 2021

One of the specific objectives of KSDW remains the facilitation and support of inter-institutional and inter-sectorial dialogue for issues related to sustainable development. Thus, discussions throughout the conference days centred on the 5 components of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans with the main stakeholders in the respective fields.

During the 3 consecutive days, KSDW organized panel discussions on topics:

## **(Conference Day 1) Decarbonisation: Climate, energy and mobility**

Topic 1: Balkan's Pathway towards a Just Energy Transition

Topic 2: Digitalization of energy efficiency: The opportunities and challenges for Kosovo

## **(Conference Day 2) Circular Economy: Sustainable production and consumption & Depollution of air, water and soil**

Topic 1: Healthcare waste management in Kosovo during the pandemic

Topic 2: Circular Economy: Economic opportunities for employment and growth

## **(Conference Day 3) Sustainable food systems and rural areas & Protecting biodiversity: Protection and restoration of ecosystems**

Topic 1: Sustainable agriculture and conservation of biodiversity in Kosovo

The discussions enhanced and facilitated the discussion between stakeholders while highlighting the Green Deal for Western Balkans, promoting the importance and benefits of prioritizing sustainable development in Kosovo and region, identifying the sectors' gaps and providing recommendations for the stakeholders towards the mitigation of the challenges.



The tangible recommendations that came out of these discussions will be used as a basis for the partnering organizations to continue advocating for sustainability issues during the whole year ahead. This edition's recommendations are presented below for each conference day and panel discussion.



# Panel Discussions' Recommendations

(Day 1) Decarbonisation: Climate, energy and mobility

1<sup>st</sup> Panel Discussion: 'Balkan's Pathway towards a Just Energy Transition'



The **main objective** of this panel was to facilitate the discussion amongst the stakeholders regarding the just energy transition of the countries that heavily depend on coal for energy production and encourage their progress towards the transitioning into a greener energy mix and transposition of the national policies to the EU acquis. The just energy transition, as a process in itself, is quite important to Kosovo considering the high percentage of energy production that comes from coal-fired power plants and the high number of employees that work in this sector.

The concrete recommendations that came out of this discussion are presented below.

## Recommendations:

1. Prior to setting new targets, a price analysis should be conducted which enables the policymakers to assess what the energy price in the future will be. The policies should be inclusive, meaning that the investments and targets should take into account the final price imposed on the citizens and business communities as well.
2. The policy instruments on energy efficiency that are currently being implemented shall extend their scope, such as programmes of Kosovo Energy Efficiency Fund (KEEF), in order to lower the energy consumption. There should be more work dedicated in regards to enriching the KEEF portfolio, which is linked to the 'polluter pays' principle.

3. The capacities of central heating (with or without the cogeneration) should be increased. In this case, the existing capacities of central heating district in Pristina shall be extended, alongside the functionalization of the heating district in Gjakova. Also, such project should be implemented in the future in the cities where the majority of the population resides.
4. Besides it, the interconnection with Albania and alignment of policies and market regulations can contribute a lot in terms of transitioning towards a green sector (especially as Albania relies on hydropower generation). As such, a joint energy strategy between Albania and Kosovo can be drafted, through which reliance on some of the Albania capacities can be made in order for Kosovo to integrate renewable energy sources into its energy mix. This could lead to integration within the neighbouring countries.
5. For the renewable energy sector, technical conditions should be created and administrative barriers should be removed, so that the existing and future capacities can be developed with small funds. Optimal conditions must be created for the development of small RES capacities by our citizens and businesses. Besides the creation of technical conditions and the removal of administrative barriers for renewables, the Government should provide more competitive supporting schemes that are crucial for the provision of opportunities for this sector to develop naturally.
6. Prosumers should be encouraged to invest in order to lower the energy demand, expand both the decentralization and diversification of production, and increase citizens' well-being while promoting participation and green democracy. A shift from net-metering to net-billing is necessary in order to promote investments in reserve capacities and more price competitiveness.
7. A holistic approach shall be utilized whenever strategically planning for the energy transition process. A clear path shall be defined in order to reach decarbonisation while ensuring sustainable and secure energy supply with the lowest price possible. In this regards, by the end of this year, Kosovo should adopt a new Energy Strategy in which it will commit itself clearly to decarbonisation in line with the European Union and Sofia Declaration commitments.
8. Public consultations should be fully utilized while encouraging participation of all interested parties. This ensures the inclusion of all parties in a just energy transition process.
9. Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Finance, Labour and Transfers should jointly work towards establishing the fund for the consumers in need and support energy services to them.
10. Consumption-based block tariffs can be reintroduced which lower the energy consumption and change the behaviour of the consumer.
11. Implement the 'polluter pays' principle, especially in Kosovo where there are still large companies that do not pay for the pollution they cause through their economic activities. This shall also be regulated through a series of laws, jointly with addressing the issue of proportionality of dedicated tax revenues in the public finance of Kosovo.
12. There needs to be a building code in Kosovo that would integrate both minimum energy efficiency requirements and energy consumption labelling in order to promote the energy performance of the buildings. Moreover, there is a high need to have a larger number of energy auditors, to have a coordination of the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Finance, Labour and Transfers, and provide training through vocational training centres on a list of professions related to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, etc.
13. The Law on Renewables should be adopted this year. The Law would clarify competencies between Ministry of Economy and Energy Regulatory Office, competences of the local level institutions and responsibilities of all public institutions. Moreover, the Law would reform the existing supporting scheme to facilitate a transition from conventional support to a more competitive-based system.

14. Functionalization of One Stop Shop in order for it to serve not only as a platform in which investors receive information, but also a place which will assist investors with the preparation of the documents, attaining licenses and permits, etc.

15. Kosovo should establish a monitoring and calculation mechanism for CO2 emissions. Additionally, the data gathered should be reported regularly into and through Kosovo Agency of Statistics.

16. Kosovo Energy Corporation (KEK) should lead the effort transiting towards a greener future. This can be highly achieved through collaborating with green businesses and gradually progress in this transition.





## 2<sup>nd</sup> Panel Discussion: 'Digitalization of energy efficiency: The opportunities and challenges for Kosovo'



The **main objective** of this panel discussion was to provide insights on the newest developments within the energy sector, namely the digitalization of energy efficiency. This process enables smart utilization and management of resources in the centre of which lays technology and innovation that leads towards the sustainable development of the sector. Energy efficiency nowadays is known as an energy resource in itself.

Below are some of the recommendations from the discussion.

### Recommendations:

1. Even though the software is available nowadays in Kosovo for the digitalization of energy efficiency, the administrative instructions should support this component of the sector as well. Hence, the legislative and normative aspect should be completed.
2. Energy management should be supported through investments in the digitalization of energy efficiency and through equipping consumers with smart meters and know-how materials in order for them to be able to actively participate in the reduction of the consumption.
3. In the area of digitalization of energy efficiency sector, attention should be paid to cyber security and data protection.
4. There should be more awareness raising efforts. Schools play a crucial role in shaping the mindset of youth in terms of energy conservation and saving, which simultaneously increases the awareness for environmental protection. To reach a faster result on this, the central and political level will play a pivotal role to advance the energy efficiency sector.
5. There should be clear systems of data collection which enable the maintenance of platforms that support the digitalization of energy efficiency sector.



## (Day 2) Circular Economy: Sustainable production and consumption &

### Depollution of air, water and soil

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Panel Discussion: 'Healthcare waste management in Kosovo during the pandemic'



COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented situation, resulting in generation of large amounts of healthcare waste being disposed. The main objective of this panel discussion was to facilitate the dialogue for minimization of the hazardous effects of healthcare waste on environment and public health and initiate the first steps towards adequate treatment of such waste, which shall be a joint endeavour between the national and local level. This panel discussion brought together stakeholders like Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, Kosovo Environmental Protection Agency (KEPA), Ambienti Regional Waste Company, and international experts of healthcare waste management.

## Recommendations:

1. A well-detailed national healthcare waste management plan should be devised by the central level, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, followed by an action plan in order to minimize the environmental and public health impacts from the healthcare waste. This action plan should include detailed activities for implementation, including budgetary implications.
2. Healthcare waste management should be considered as one of the top priorities of Ministry of Health and Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure for the upcoming years. The number of inspectors and staff should increase to improve the situation with healthcare waste on the ground.
3. Enhanced levels of coordination between central and local level institutions, and agencies must be established in order for the healthcare waste to be properly handled and treated. Ministry of Health should lead the process.
4. Raising awareness campaigns are necessary in order for the citizens to be informed about the cycle and the process of healthcare waste management. Including citizens in this process is highly important due to the hazardous and public health impacts of untreated healthcare waste that citizens may be exposed to, if not informed correctly.



## 2nd Panel Discussion: 'Circular Economy: Economic opportunities for employment and growth'



Kosovo is characterised by a linear economy built on the 'take-make-use-dispose' pattern, leading to high levels of waste, pollution, and consumption of finite natural resources. This economic model, coupled with large amounts of generated waste, improper waste management and recycling infrastructure, pose a serious threat to the environment, biodiversity and public health. There is therefore an urgent need to rethink the system. On a global scale, circular economy is recognised as a promising model for addressing environmental challenges deriving from improper waste management as it mimics the cycle of nature and everything is managed in closed loops. The **main objective** of this panel discussion was to identify the opportunities and challenges for Kosovo in terms of circular economy and where it currently stands. The panel was comprised of representatives from the public sector, private sector, donor community and civil society.



## Recommendations:

1. Central level institutions must begin publishing accurate statistics on the existing waste and landfills in Kosovo. Proper infrastructure for waste separation, treatment and recycling are key necessities in shifting towards circular economy.
2. Overburdened procedures need to be simplified and adequate mechanisms should be in place (e.g. Deposit Refund System, Extended Producer Responsibility) in order to ensure resource recovery and manage waste in closed loops.
3. The Government must put in place proper policies that address the full range of sectors (including export and import of goods) and provide incentives to facilitate the shift towards circular economy particularly for the private sector.
4. Primary and secondary legislation should be further harmonised with EU standards, while ensuring applicability in the context of Kosovo. Policies and legal changes should be developed in close dialogue and collaboration with the private sector and other stakeholders.
5. Enforcement mechanisms must be strengthened, and private sector shall take on their responsibility in line with the 'polluter pays' principle.
6. Innovation, Research and Development must be prioritised to provide a better operating environment, including sustainable design and production of goods and services.
7. A systemic approach is needed to involve all relevant stakeholders. Cooperation between the private and public sectors should be strengthened as the shift towards circular economy is a great opportunity for economic development and employment.





(Day 3) Farming and Food Production/Deforestation & Protection of Biodiversity  
Panel Discussion: 'Sustainable agriculture and conservation of biodiversity in Kosovo'



The **main objective** of this panel discussion was to provide insights on ways how to integrate sustainable practices and policies in agriculture and biodiversity. Moreover, it aimed to highlight the approaches on how to encourage green agriculture, while protecting the biodiversity in Kosovo. The panel included also a perspective of ethnic community groups in Kosovo who have been highly involved in sustainable agriculture.

## Recommendations:

1. One of the key structural reforms for the agricultural policy must be land consolidation and fragmentation of the farm lands. More advocacy efforts are needed to tackle land consolidation through strategic documents which are within the Economic Reform Program and the EU's Reform Agenda.
2. Regular data collection and consolidation of them in a database which contributes to proper policies being implemented should be in place. This way sustainable agriculture and biodiversity are integrated hand-in-hand with policy-making.
3. Protection of biodiversity should be integrated in school curricula, and activities with the purpose of raising awareness of the young generations should be intensified.
4. Environmental inspections should be empowered to increase the reporting of environmental crimes, as well as the efficiency of the juridical system to effectively and timely process the cases.
5. Control of pesticide usage in agricultural lands and the provision of proper education/capacity building programmes for farmers on sustainable agriculture should be made available.



# SIDE EVENTS

A complementary part of the main events were the side events organized in the second part of KSDW 2021. These activities were designed in the way that they embodied the increment of the general awareness raising for sustainable development and encouragement of public actions in this direction.

The side events were organized by each partnering organization, nevertheless, KSDW 2021 welcomed also side events proposed and implemented by external partners, such as diplomatic missions in Kosovo, international organizations, etc.

All of the implemented side events and the respective implementing organization are presented below.



## Implemented by partnering organizations:

### Green Morning Meetings

While aiming to bring together as much as possible the regional community, including here MPs, environmental activists and CSOs, EUSR implemented the so-called Green Morning Meetings. For 4 consecutive days, Green Morning Meetings discussed the below listed topics:



**1<sup>st</sup> Green Morning Meeting -**  
Decarbonisation:  
Green Democracy &  
Energy Transition

**2<sup>nd</sup> Green Morning Meeting -**  
Circular Economy:  
Recycling &  
Resource Recovery



**3<sup>rd</sup> Green Morning Meeting -**  
Farming, Food Production and  
Biodiversity: Climate Impact of  
the Region



**4<sup>th</sup> Green Morning Meeting -**  
Depollution of Air, Water and Soil:  
Encouraging Strong Response  
towards Mitigation of the  
Pollution Levels



The **main objective** of these meetings was for them to serve as a platform where a regional dialogue was facilitated amongst regional community members to exchange experiences in regards to the sustainable development framework within their countries, particularly focusing on Green Agenda. This interaction is believed to help all of the WB6 on jointly cooperating towards the advancement of Green Agenda in the region.

In addition, during the Green Morning Meetings the MPs, representatives from EU Delegations and CSOs had the chance to brief themselves on their respective views on the potential future pathways to guide progression in just energy transition, circular economy, farming and biodiversity, and depollution/rehabilitation of life sources, like air, water and soil.





## Green Talks

For the second edition in a row, Green Talk platform makes a comeback with speeches targeting the citizens at large by engaging prominent personalities from the political and public spheres to impart motivational speeches promoting green initiatives and institutional approaches.

This year, the first speech launched within the Green Talks series was that of the President of Republic of Kosovo, H. E. Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu. In this episode of Green Talk which was broadcasted in national television channel, Kohavision, and live-streamed on social media platforms of KSDW and Balkan Green Foundation, the President underlined the need to take immediate action in order to preserve our environment for the future generations. While Kosovo already has knowledge and capacity to address the environmental issues, it was made clear that there is a high need to further work in strategic planning to advance national frameworks in the advantage of greener and cleaner environment.



We have our future in our hands. We also have the ways and means to do this properly. We have both the knowledge and the capacity. We also need ambition and dedication. We need orientation and strategic planning. From the institutional side, the will is greater than ever, because we really understand the importance of environmental protection. But in this journey we need YOU above all!



**Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu**  
President of Republic of Kosovo

The second episode of Green Talk was a delivering speech by the Mayor of Kamenica, Qëndron Kastrati on how the municipality is implementing projects that are conform the sustainable development principles. During this episode it was highlighted the need to invest in projects that promote resource efficiency, eco-friendly initiatives and public actions in the overall advantage of environment.



Local action is a prerequisite for genuine and sustainable global development. The global effect is felt first at the local level.



**Qëndron Kastrati**  
Mayor of Kamenica,

Both episodes of Green Talks, implemented by Balkan Green Foundation, can be found under the **KSDW Facebook Page** and virtual platform **ksdw.rks-gov.net**.



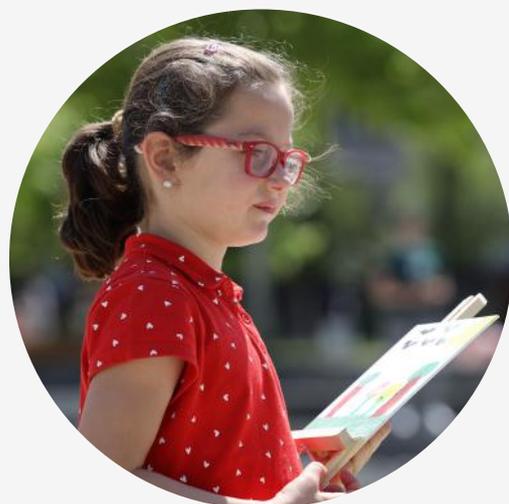
## World Environment Day (June 5<sup>th</sup>)



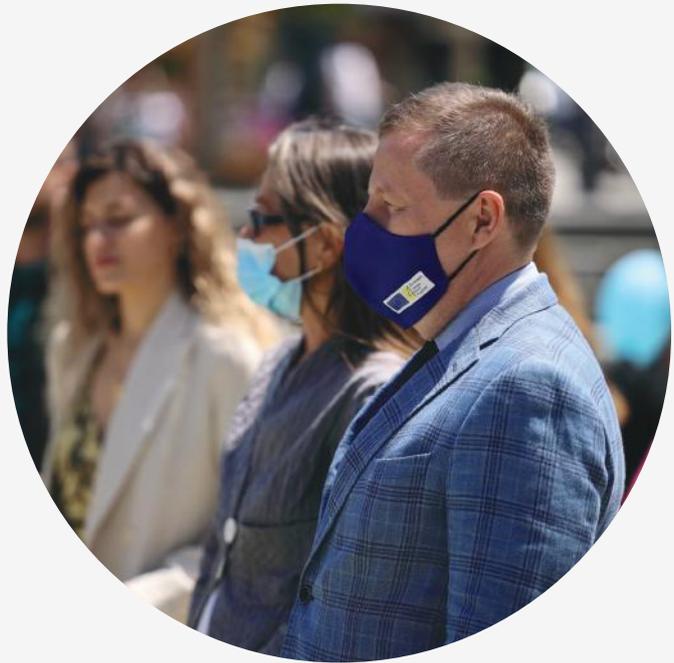
To mark the World Environment Day, INDEP jointly with EUSR, BGF and Municipality of Pristina organized awareness raising events throughout the day. The first activity took place at the city centre of Pristina, specifically at Zahir Pajaziti Square, where there were plenty of games designed to raise the awareness of children to protect the environment. These games included painting workshop with elements of environment, creating the children's imaginary park and preparing their own terrariums while in supervision of KSDW team.

Besides organizing entertaining games for children, KSDW promoted also local corporate social responsible businesses, namely Reusable Bags by Arlinda Murtezi, Mia Bags Hand-crafted, Kompostopia & Botanica LLC. Citizens had the chance to stop by the stands where the products were showcased. Each of the businesses imparted information regarding their products, production process while promoting the idea of embodying the principles of sustainability into business conduct.

An important part of this day were the speeches that influential individuals in the sphere of sustainable development delivered to the audience. These encouraging short speeches left 'food for thought' to the citizens while stressing the importance of environmental protection. Personalities like European Special Representative in Kosovo, UN Development Coordinator and Deputy Minister of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, amongst many others from donor community and CSOs, proved once more that they are determined to work in the direction of establishing and maintaining an environment that is green and supports good public health.



Amongst these activities, at midday, a biking tour started from the exact location of Zahir Pajaziti Square. The 40-minute journey was organized jointly with Marakli t'Biciklave and Municipality of Pristina. This activity welcomed all the interested citizens and promoted the use of clean transport means, rather than vehicles that emit CO2 and pollute the environment in general.



Simultaneously, in other cities, external partners that joined KSDW held activities that were in line with those conducted in the capital city of Pristina. As such, EULEX, UNMIK, in collaboration with Let's Do It Kosova, held a clean-up activity in the municipality of Janjevo. While, UN Habitat organized the 'Green Cities in Motion' in which event they held a biking tour in South Mitrovica and at the same time published the 'Sustainable Urban Mobility Guidelines of South Mitrovica'.





## Bike in Cinema

To wrap up the marking of World Environment Day, INDEP in partnership with Municipality of Pristina and Marakli t'Biciklave organized the 'Bike-in Cinema'. In the evening of 5th of June, more than 50 people gathered to watch the movie 'Bikes vs. Cars', which showcased to the attendees the benefits of cycling rather than depending on vehicles that pollute the environment.

This event aimed to raise the general awareness on the need to change individual behaviours and that our daily choices in a way or another bear an impact on the environment. The event was supported and sponsored also by Dokufest and Rugove.





## Neighbourhood clean-up in Zvečan and North Mitrovica

Similarly to the activity in Janjevo, in the first part of June, EUSR had organized a clean-up activity in Zvečan and North Mitrovica. In this activity, the organization's staff joined forces to conduct an activity that inspires joint community action that results in a greener and cleaner environment. This demonstrated once more how important it is for each and every one of us to protect and preserve the environment.

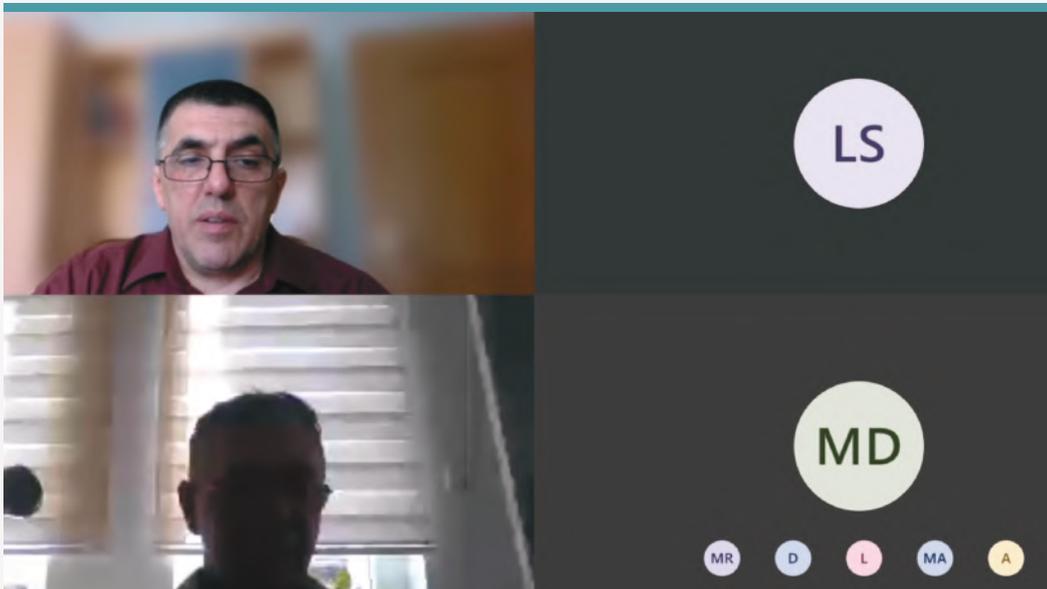




## Series of online panel discussions

Besides holding hybrid formatted discussions, KSDW partners have organized also other online panel discussions on certain issues that touch upon the energy transition and sustainable development. The topics for these online discussions are as seen below:

1. Corporate sustainability from a practical perspective (implemented by GIZ Kosovo and Corporate Sustainability Handprint Group – in collaboration with the CSR Network Kosovo),
2. Development of Carbon Markets: Carbon Tax in Kosovo and in neighbouring countries (implemented by INDEP),
3. Energy Efficiency and Labour Market in Kosovo (implemented by GIZ Kosovo).



The main result of these discussions was that a European perspective from key institutions monitoring and engaged in energy transition in WB region was provided. This supported the process and enriched with knowledge the local institutions currently engaged in just energy transition process.



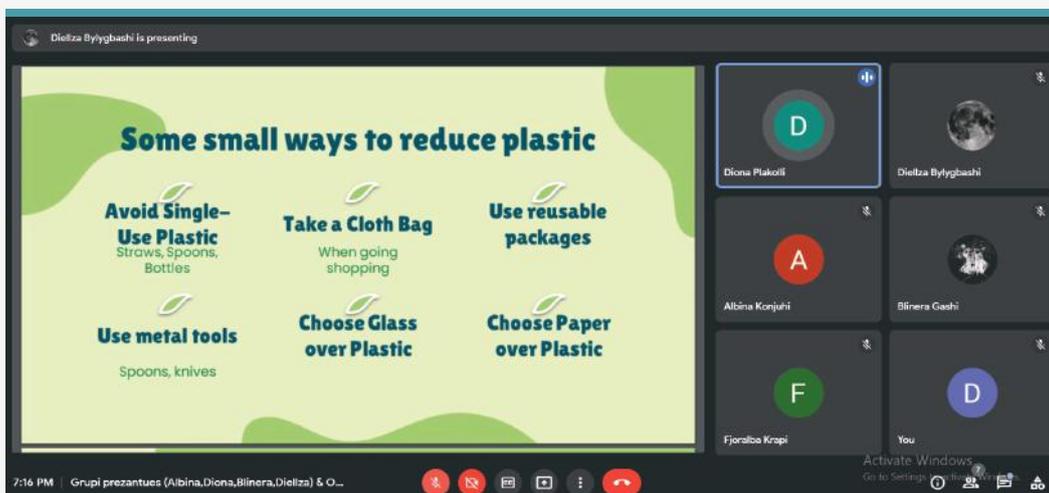
## Publication of the online workshop report on Circular Economy

As part of their engagement in KSDW, GIZ Kosovo jointly with Open Data Innovation (a local NGO) organized an online workshop dedicated entirely to youth on circular economy. 'Into the wild' workshop (under the slogan Think, Change, Invent) introduced to the participants the concepts of circular economy.

The workshop intended to raise the awareness on sustainable practices, waste management, waste minimization and organic waste while using the Design Thinking Methodology. The important session of this workshop was the challenge entitled 'How might we raise awareness on sustainable waste management practices?'



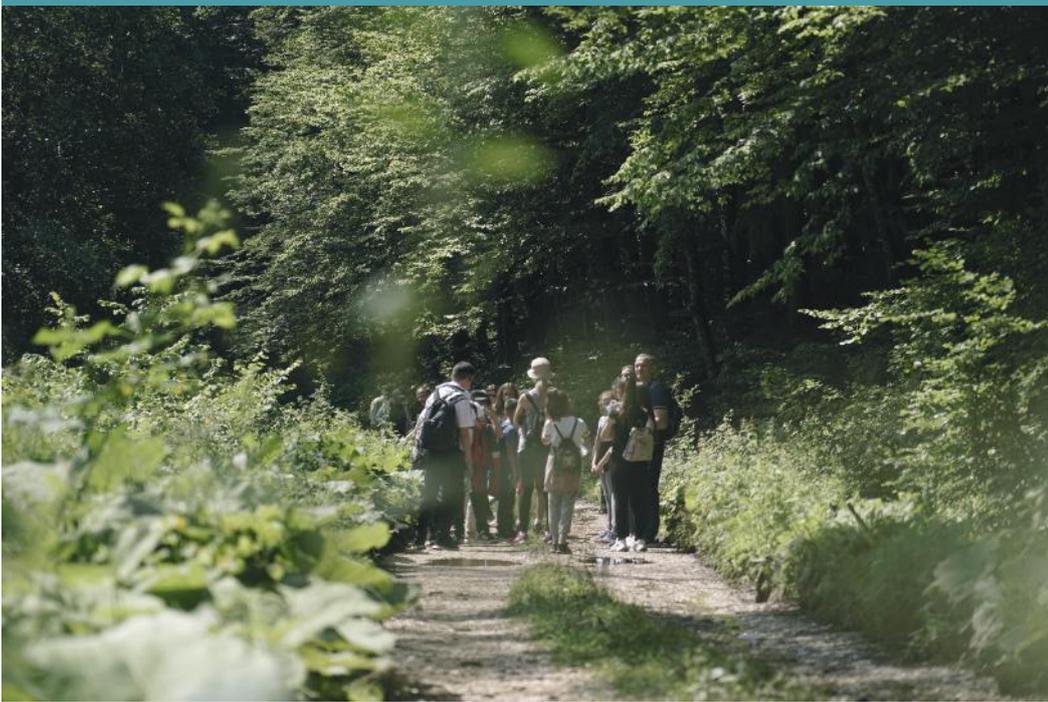
At the end of the workshop, the participants were equipped with certificates and a report on the workshop was prepared which can be found under the KSDW Facebook page.





## Closed Group Visit to the Park of Blinaja

An important target group of KSDW remains the youngsters. As such, Balkan Green Foundation has organized under this edition the site visit to the National Park of Blinaja. In this visit, 20 children had the chance to visit Blinaja and learn first-hand from the responsible national institutions and officials the importance the park has, as a national symbol for the preservation of natural values, not only to Kosovo, but the whole region.



Besides learning more about the types and numbers of species present in the park of Blinaja, during their visit, the children had a chance to engage in games, such as quizzes, the questions of which related to environment in general. The children had the chance to receive books from the organizers as a reward on the correct answers. The journey was 2 hours long while enjoying the pathways of Park of Blinaja.





## Video Production of Near Zero Building of GIZ Kosovo

Considering the significance of decreasing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through investing in energy efficiency measures, GIZ Kosovo has produced a video in which energy efficient and Near Zero Building are presented to the public. This video highlights responsibilities and obligations of the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure for the transposition of the EPBD (Energy Performance of Buildings Directive) and the advantages of investing in energy efficiency measures and RES.

Besides the video production, GIZ Innovation group also has organized an online panel discussion on "Improving energy efficiency in buildings with a focus on Nearly Zero-Energy Buildings standards". The event highlighted the need to improve energy efficiency in buildings by implementing advanced energy efficiency standards.

Mr. Servet Spahiu from Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure highlighted the preparations of the central level in undertaking all the necessary reforms at the policy level, while Ms. Krenare Shkodra from Municipality of Prishtina emphasized the need for capacity building at the local level to monitor the implementation of the energy efficiency standards in buildings. A thorough analysis was provided by Mr. Kemal Lojo - Mechanical Engineer and Energy Efficiency expert, on the implementation of nZEB standards in the new GIZ offices in Prishtina, while he also provided lessons learned for Kosovo from implementation of nZEB standards in Croatia. An overview of GIZ support in Turkey in the development of the nZEB Model was provided by Mr. Cihan Kayaçetin.

Below are some of the highlights from the event:

1. Current situation and potential of nZEB in Kosovo
2. Implementation of the obligations as agreed in the Energy Community Treaty of EU
3. Training and certification of energy efficiency experts in Kosovo is important
4. nZEB standards must be adapted, there is not one solution fits all
5. Awareness raising among the public on nZEB standards



## Implemented by external partner organizations:

### Launch of the “Food Waste Challenge” with UNDP and Innovation Centre Kosovo (ICK)

One of the biggest polluters of environment remains the food waste. In order to reduce this polluter, better planning is required of the materials, portions, reasoning order, amongst many others. While having this in mind, UNDP and ICK organized and launched under the KSDW the first “Food Waste Challenge”. This challenge will be a 1-month activity during which the food waste problem will be tackled while engaging the gastronomy sector.





## Instant Pop up & Open Workshop Day with French Embassy in Kosovo and DYVO

As part of the aim to reduce waste generation, DYVO, a local business designing and producing products from plastic waste, with the support of French Embassy in Kosovo, organized pop up and open workshop in Pristina.

Their event encompassed few aspects of their work. As such, upon the arrival of the participants they organized a general quiz regarding the plastic usage, weighing each plastic item that the participant held. Furthermore documentaries were played that raise the awareness in this regards, exhibition portraying information how plastic is produced and types of it, workshop for children who with the already disposed plastic could build specific toys, and lastly pop-up store of DYVO.

Considering that the organizers aimed to target the youth, the event was held in the cultural venue of Termokiss, which is frequently visited by youngsters.





## Showcasing success stories for Municipal Energy Efficiency Action Plans with Association of Kosovo Municipalities

As part of the KSDW 2021, the Association of Kosovo Municipalities organized a discussion meeting with municipal energy officials and other representatives from institutions, namely Kosovo Agency for Energy Efficiency, Kosovo Energy Efficiency Fund and Kosovo Energy Project within GIZ Kosovo.

This meeting served as a platform where the Municipal Action Plans for Energy Efficiency (MEAP) were discussed amongst the energy officials, such as the identification of the opportunities and challenges of MEAP, applications to the Energy Efficiency Fund, harmonization of such plans with the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), etc.

The meeting was organized by AKM and supported by GIZ Kosovo.



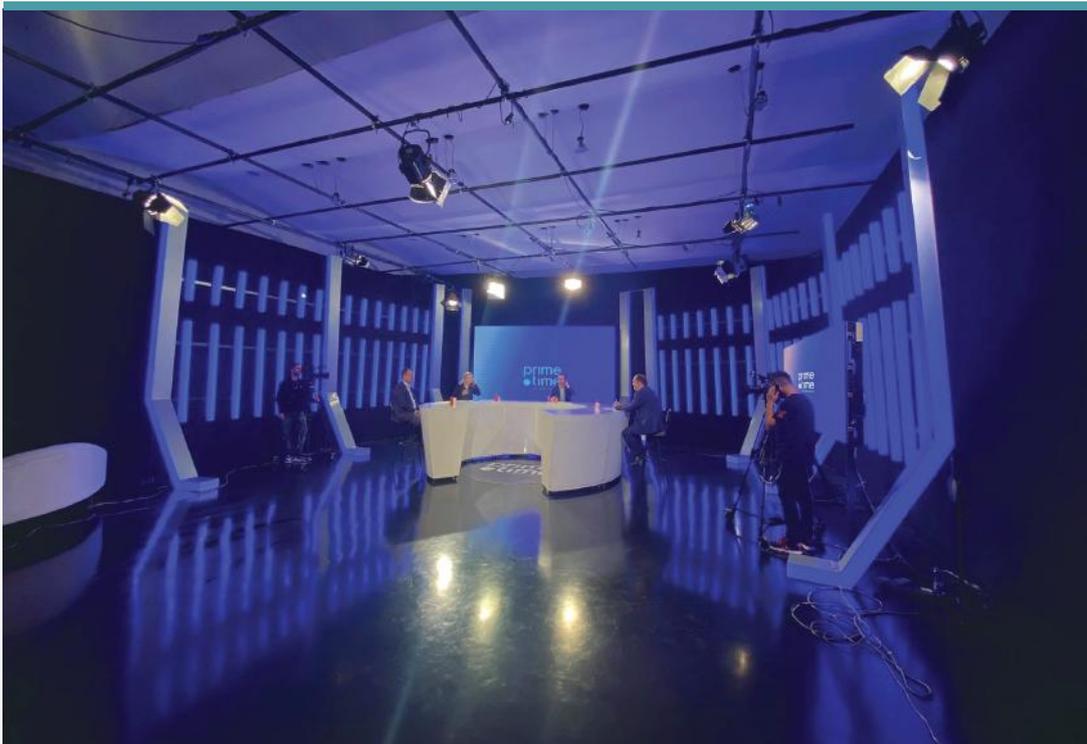


## Results and wrap-up of KSDW 2021

After 2 intensive weeks, KSDW 2021 wrapped up its activities on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June. Nevertheless, KSDW remains committed to continuously organize events that raise the public awareness on environmental protection throughout the year.

1. Enhance public dialogue for sustainable development in Kosovo and the region and encourage the faster implementation of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans.
2. Ensure and reassure coordination amongst the stakeholders and encourage regional collaboration on the advancement of sustainable development framework.
3. Enrich the knowledge of the general public regarding the latest development of the issues that relate to sustainable development in Kosovo and the region.
4. Reach wider public awareness raising level in the region regarding sustainable development.

Upon the completion of this year's edition, this report was compiled for the sole reason of demonstrating the achievements of KSDW 2021, namely the findings from the panel discussions, the results of the main and side events and further steps of the partnering institutions. All of these details were summarized in a TV appearance on 16<sup>th</sup> of June at Kanal 10. Because the topics discussed in this edition of KSDW were of high public interest, team members of KSDW 2021 presented to the wider audience the conclusions of this edition through traditional media. In this media appearance, the finalization of KSDW 2021 was announced, jointly with the next steps and activities that the partnering organization will take in regards to further advance the Green Agenda in Kosovo and neighbouring countries.





## Media Appearances

In order to reach to the largest extent the audience in regards to the implemented activities, KSDW utilizes its communication channels like Facebook (@KSDWeek) and website (ksdw.rks-gov.net). During the past month, through the virtual presence, KSDW 2021 managed to reach 110,149 users and ensure 43,472 engagements. Online presence will be an ongoing component of KSDW through which continuous and regular communication regarding environmental stance and sustainable development framework will be communicated to the public at large.

On the other hand, traditional media remains the strongest advocacy tool for the dissemination of the recommendations and conclusions that come out of KSDW editions. In this edition, 6 media appearances were conducted by KSDW Team. Such appearances consist of 5 TV channel appearances (direct debate and one-on-one conversations), and 1 radio interview which announced specifically the World Environment Day activities.

The latter serves hand-in-hand with the presence of KSDW also in social media in order to make sure that the message is disseminated correctly. Below are only some of the appearances that KSDW Team has made during this edition.



**ATV**  
Studio A me Adelina Hasanin



**RTK 1**  
Mirëmëngjesi Kosovë



**KTV**  
SOT



**Klan Kosova**  
7 Ditë me Panxhën

# Annex A: Programme of Kosovo Sustainable Development Week (KSDW) 2021

31 May 2021: Launch Event	
Venue: Green School, Pristina (Kosovo)	
09:30 - 10:45	<b>Accommodation of the participants and Welcoming Remarks</b> Moderated by Dora Musa, INDEP
	<b>Artistic performance of the Music Club Students from Green School</b> Accompanied by a brief welcome remark by the Director of Green School, Mrs. Fahrije Latifi Retkoceri
	<b>Key note speeches by:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Vjosa Osmani Sadriu, President of the Republic of Kosovo</li> <li>· Albin Kurti, Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo</li> <li>· Liburn Aliu, Minister of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure</li> <li>· Artane Rizvanolli, Minister of Economy</li> <li>· Viola von Cramon, European Parliament Rapporteur on Kosovo (through video message)</li> <li>· Tomáš Szunyog, EU Special Representative for Kosovo</li> <li>· Jörn Rohde, German Ambassador in Kosovo</li> <li>· Burim Ejupi, Executive Director at Institute for Development Policy (INDEP)</li> <li>· Rinora Gojani, Programmes and Operations Manager at Balkan Green Foundation (BGF)</li> </ul>
	<b>Presentation of the KSDW 2021 Activity Programme</b>
	<b>Closing remarks &amp; Cocktail followed by smooth music sounds</b>
01 June 2021: Decarbonization - Climate, energy and mobility	
Venue: Kino Armata, Pristina (Kosovo)	
09:30 - 10:45	<b>First Panel Discussion:</b> 'Balkan's Pathway towards a Just Energy Transition' <b>Moderated by</b> Rinora Gojani, Programmes and Operations Manager at Balkan Green Foundation (BGF) <b>Panelists:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Artane Rizvanolli, Minister of Economy</li> <li>2. Dardan Abazi, Programme Director/Senior Researcher at Institute for Development Policy (INDEP)</li> <li>3. Arbnor Kastrati, Regional Manager, AKUO Energy</li> <li>4. Pippa Gallop, Energy Advisor for the Southeastern Europe, CEE Bankwatch Network</li> </ol>
	<b>Second Panel Discussion:</b> 'Digitalization of energy efficiency: The opportunities and challenges for Kosovo' <b>Moderated by</b> Leartha Hollaj, Advisor for Sustainable Development at Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo <b>Panelists:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Admir Shala, Managing Director of Kosovo Energy Efficiency Fund (KEEF)</li> <li>2. Arsim Kuliqi, Executive Director of Kosovo Agency for Energy Efficiency (KAEE)</li> <li>3. Avni Sfishta, Team Leader at GIZ Kosovo</li> <li>4. Andrei Covatariu, Member of the Task Force on Digitalization in Energy at United Nations Economic Commission for Europe</li> </ol>
11:00 - 12:15	

<b>02 June 2021: Circular economy: Sustainable production and consumption &amp; Depollution of air, water and soil</b>	
<b>Venue: Kino Armata, Pristina (Kosovo)</b>	
<b>09:30 - 10:45</b>	<p><b>First Panel Discussion:</b> ‘Healthcare waste management in Kosovo during the pandemic’ <b>Moderated by</b> Rudina Qerimi, Spatial Planning Advisor at GIZ</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Linda Çavdarbasha, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure</li> <li>2. Dr. Heinz Eduardo Vest, Healthcare Waste management expert</li> <li>3. Ilir Morina, Director of Kosovo Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>4. Nexhat Abdullahi, CEO of Regional Waste Collection Company Ambienti</li> </ol>
<b>11:00 - 12:15</b>	<p><b>Second Panel Discussion:</b> ‘Circular Economy: Economic opportunities for employment and growth’ <b>Moderated by</b> Indira Kartallozi, Sustainability Leadership Kosova (SLK)</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Libum Aliu, Minister of Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning, and Infrastructure</li> <li>2. Teodora Andreeva, EU Office in Kosovo</li> <li>3. Astrit Panxha, Executive Director of the Kosovo Manufacturing Club</li> <li>4. Ariel Shabani, Chairperson of KIVO</li> </ol>
<b>03 June 2021: Farming and Food Production/Deforestation &amp; Protection of Biodiversity</b>	
<b>Venue: Kino Armata, Pristina (Kosovo)</b>	
<b>09:30 - 10:45</b>	<p><b>Panel Discussion:</b> Sustainable agriculture and conservation of biodiversity in Kosovo’ <b>Moderated by</b> Kaltrina Rexha, Institute for Development Policy (INDEP)</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Imri Demelezi, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development</li> <li>2. Miran Vatovec, EU Office in Kosovo</li> <li>3. Halil Ibrahim, Professor at University of Pristina</li> <li>4. Mladen Đokić, President of the Association of Beekeepers – Nucleus, Gračanica</li> </ol>
<b>04 – 11 June 2021: Side Events</b>	
<b>04 June 2021 11:00 - 12:00</b>	Launching the “Food Waste Challenge” with UNDP and ICK
<b>4 June 2021 14:00 - 15:15</b>	Online Panel Discussion & Video Production: Near Zero Energy Building of GIZ
<b>4 June 2021 18:30</b>	Green Talk with Vjosa Osmani, President of the Republic of Kosovo
<b>5 June 2021 10:00 - 14:00</b>	World Environment Day (with Cycling Marathon & No Car Day)
<b>5 June 2021 19:30</b>	Bike in Cinema
<b>5 June 2021 19:30</b>	“Neighbourhood clean-up” activity in North Mitrovica and Zvečan/Zveçan municipalities

<b>07 June 2021</b> <b>13:00 - 14:15</b>	Online Panel Discussion: 'CSR – Sustainability from a practical point of view'
<b>8 June 2021</b> <b>09:30 - 11:00</b>	Green Morning Meeting with local and regional MPs and NGOs on Decarbonization
<b>8 June 2021</b> <b>14:00 - 15:15</b>	Online Panel Discussion: Showcasing success stories for Municipal Energy Efficiency Action Plans (MEEAP)/SECAP or KEEF application; Introduction of MECPs'
<b>8 June 2021</b> <b>18:00</b>	Promotional post: KFW project on Solar District Heating
<b>9 June 2021</b> <b>09:30 - 11:00</b>	Green Morning Meeting with MPs and NGOs on Circular Economy
<b>10 June 2021</b> <b>09:30 - 11:00</b>	Green Morning Meeting with MPs and NGOs on Farming, Food Production and Biodiversity
<b>10 June 2021</b> <b>13:00 - 14:15</b>	Online Panel Discussion: Development of Carbon Markets: Carbon Tax in Kosovo and in neighboring countries
<b>10 June 2021</b> <b>15:00 - 16:15</b>	Online Panel Discussion: Energy Efficiency and Labor Market in Kosovo
<b>11 June 2021</b> <b>09:30 - 11:00</b>	Green Morning Meeting with MPs and NGOs on Depollution of Air, Water and Soil
<b>11 June 2021</b> <b>14:00 - 15:15</b>	Open 1-day workshop with DYVOLab at Termokiss
<b>11 June 2021</b> <b>18:30</b>	Green Talk with Qendron Kastrati, Mayor of Municipality of Kamenica
<b>12 June 2021</b> <b>09:00 - 12:00</b>	Close Group Visit to the Park of Blinaja
<b>12 June 2021</b> <b>13:00</b>	Publication of the online workshop report on Circular Economy
<b>16 June 2021: Conclusion of KSDW 2021 and Next Steps</b>	
Recapping the activities, conclusions and findings of the KSDW 2021 at Kanal 10 TV Channel	

**Kosovo  
Sustainable  
Development  
Week  
2021**

# KSDW



The recommendations and conclusions presented under this report do not necessarily reflect the positions of the partnering organizations of KSDW, but rather they reflect from the discussions during the events.