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Ministria e Administrimit të Pushtetit Lokal
Ministarstvo Administracije Lokalne Samouprave
Ministry of Local Government Administration

Division for European Integration and Policy Coordination

Work Report of the Ministry of Local Government Administration January - September 2023

Prishtina, October 2023

This report presents the work of the Ministry of Local Government Administration for the period *January-September 2023*.

The report summarizes activities of all MLGA departments/organizational units focusing on four main areas, which constitute work objectives of the Ministry according to the annual plan for the year 2023.

The Report is drafted by the Division for Policy Coordination.

The accuracy of the data is a responsibility of the Departments and organizational units of MLGA.

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Abbreviations

AE	European Agenda
AKK	Association of Kosovo Municipalities
BB	World bank
BIRN	Balkan Investigative Journalism Network
COVID 19	Coronavirus – the pandemic
ECDC	European Center for Disease Prevention and Control
GIZ	German Society for International Cooperation
IE	European Integration
IKAP	Kosovo Institute for Public Administration
IKSHIP	National Institute of Public Health
LVL	Law on Local Self-Government
MASHTI	Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation
MFT	Ministry of Finance and Transfers
MPB	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MAPL	Ministry of Local Government Administration
MSA	Stabilization Association Agreement
MSH	Ministry of Health
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PL	Local Government
PKZMSA	National Program for the Implementation of the Stabilization Association Agreement
PQ	Central Government
QOMPBAF	Operational Center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Public Administration
QPKS	Centers for Disease Prevention and Control
OBSH	World Health Organization
QOE	Emergency Operations Center
QPKS	Centers for Disease Prevention and Control
SDC/DEMOS	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SMFK	Municipal Performance Management
SVL	Strategy on Local Self-Government
SHE	Emergency Units
SZHEL	Strategy for Local Economic Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	US Agency for International Development
ZPS	Office for Strategic Planning

Introduction

Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA) based on its legal mandate, the objectives of the Strategy on Local Self-Government 2016-2026, and the Annual Work Plan for 2023 has carried out the planned activities for the period January-December 2023. The report reflects the achievements according to defined areas in this plan, which are also integrated within the framework of the National Development Plan. The reported activities fall into five strategic objectives, as follows;

- Increasing local economic development through financial support of municipalities based on performance;
- Advancement of inter-municipal, international municipal and cross-border cooperation;
- Advancement of policies and legal framework for local self-government;
- Increase of municipal performance, promotion of human rights and capacity development
- Administration and finances, audit and procurement.

The report is based on the data reported on the activities carried out by the departments and units/divisions of MLGA, respectively:

- Department for Sustainable Municipal Development;
- Department for Inter-municipal and Cross-border cooperation;
- Department for European Integration and Policy Coordination;
- Legal Department and Monitoring of Municipalities;
- Department for Municipal Performance and Transparency;
- Department of Finance and General Services;
- Division for Public Communication;
- Internal Audit Division;
- Procurement Division.

Concerning the report methodology, the information from the respective units of the MLGA have been taken into account, which have been analyzed and set according to the objectives and activities set in the annual work plan. The report is based on the quantitative and qualitative indicators for the activities carried out and is a report on the activities of MLGA for the period January - September 2023.

Executive summary

Ministry of Local Government Administration during the period January-September 2023, has achieved to implement activities foreseen with the annual work plan for this year. This plan is a document based on the objectives of the Strategy on Local Self-government 2016-2026, and in other relevant documents of the government. In this period a considerable progress has been made in the field of local economic development, such as: completing the legal and sublegal framework on local self-government, improvement of the efficiency of municipal services, strengthening of municipal transparency, promotion of gender equality, e-government, expanding of the cooperation with partners/donors through mutual projects, cooperation with the civil society, improvement of the inter-sectorial cooperation, inter-municipal cooperation, international municipal and cross-border cooperation, increase of professional capacities of municipalities and many other fields.

In the framework of the development of policies for Local Self-Government, the focus has been placed on the monitoring of the Strategy for local economic development, and a report has been prepared regarding the implementation of the action plan for the Strategy for Local Economic Development. The National Program for Local Economic Development 2023-2029 has also been drafted, which has been submitted to the Government for approval.

Programs for financing capital projects of municipalities are one of the main instruments of direct support of municipalities in the field of economic development. The criteria for financing municipal projects have been prepared, *within the program for supporting infrastructure projects for communities and the program for financing capital projects of municipalities*. After the application of the municipalities, a total of 31 beneficiary municipalities were selected within the framework of these two programs, with which they signed Memorandums of Understanding for the financing of projects.

During this period, the Ministry of Local Government Administration has given great importance to the advancement of the municipal performance system and the performance-based grant scheme. MLGA has coordinated activities with municipalities regarding the necessary documents for application for the Municipal Performance Grant, as well as the draft agreements of understanding for the financing of projects by MPG have been prepared. The MLGA has received the financial opinion from MFLT, on 12.04.2023, thus the completed case was approved by the Government. From this grant have been financed in total 14 projects from capital investments in municipalities, thus the grant beneficiaries were 6 municipalities based on the criteria for benefiting the grant. The call for reporting from municipalities regarding the performance measurement for 2022 has been opened, based on the Performance Law, and the review of the Municipal Performance Management System (MPMS) and the Municipal Performance Grant (MPG) has begun.

In the period January - June 2023, MLGA continued the activities related to the support of municipalities for inter-municipal and international cooperation. MLGA continued the activities with donors, respectively with the OSCE regarding the implementation of joint activities for the year 2023. The criteria for financing municipal projects in the field of inter-municipal cooperation have been prepared. In the framework of inter-municipal cooperation and international municipal cooperation, a total of 13 initiatives for cooperation have been implemented. Also, in this time period, the cross-border cooperation has continued as part of the three programs: Kosovo - Albania, Kosovo - Macedonia and Kosovo - Montenegro.

Special focus has also been given to development and advancement of legislation, according to the legislative program for 2023 and other documents, which are in the process of being drafted and supplemented/amended, as follows: 2 draft laws, 4 administrative instructions, 1 ex- post evaluation, 1 draft document. Of which, 2 administrative instructions and 1 concept document, have been completed.

In the period January - September 2023, 38 municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo were operating, holding regular meetings. Municipal assemblies held 371 meetings. The meetings of the municipal assemblies were

monitored through the telepresence system, as well as the physical presence of officials responsible for the municipalities: North Mitrovica, Zubin Potok, Zvečan and Leposaviq. During this period, a total of 1544 acts were received, of which 88 regulations and 1456 decisions of municipal assemblies. Out of a total of 1544 acts, MLGA has evaluated 803 acts, while 741 acts have been sent to the line Ministries. 108 acts were found to be illegal, out of which, 85 acts have been re-viewed, while 4 acts have been sent to the Ministry of Justice.

Regarding the preliminary consultation of the acts of the sectoral ministries and their compatibility with the local self-government legislation, a Working Group has been established within the Ministry, which is responsible for reviewing acts for prior consultation and constantly accepts acts for prior consultation from line ministries. While, in relation to the notification letters addressed to the municipalities, in this period 11 requests for preliminary consultation were received, 222 requests and 45 complaints received from physical and legal persons were reviewed.

In order to reflect the activities developed by the municipal assemblies, the Report on the functioning of the municipal assemblies for the period January - December 2022, has been drafted and published.

MLGA has led a very important process for addressing the obligations of municipalities arising from the European agenda. In this time period, the Report on the fulfillment of the obligations of the municipalities from the European Agenda for the period January-December 2023 has been drafted. Based on the data provided, the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo have managed to fulfill 47% of the activities in the field of political criteria, 35% in terms of economic criteria and 70% of the activities in the field of European standards. The overall level of fulfilling the obligations of the municipalities from the European agenda for 2022 is 50%.

The support of municipalities in the implementation of policies in the field of human rights has continued. In this period, the annual report on human rights for 2022, the analysis of the assessment of the capacities of municipal structures and municipal officials to work with marginalized groups and the report for municipalities for protection against discrimination for the period January-June 2023 have been drafted.

The process of digitizing municipal services has begun through the development of the E-MUNICIPALITY platform. This platform will be at the service of citizens to increase their participation in decision-making at the local level, and will be at the service of the municipalities themselves, for the digitalization of municipal services. Thus MLGA, as the leader of this process has developed the first phase of the E-MUNICIPALITY platform during this period, and after the launch of the first phase of the E-MUNICIPALITY platform, MLGA is focused on developing the second phase which is in the process.

Regarding the developed activities, continuous information has been provided to the public, media, civil society, foreign international organizations and interested parties. However, regarding open government as one of the basic principles of the work of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, at the initiative of the MLGA, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has decided to start drafting the National Action Plan for open government as part of the Open Government Partnership - OGP, which has been approved by the Government. MLGA has received the official membership letter of the Republic of Kosovo, from the Monitoring Commission of Open Government Partnership. The delegation of the Republic of Kosovo participated in the Global Summit of Open Government Partnership. The Republic of Kosovo already appears in the list of members of the Open Government Partnership, on its official website.

The Ministry of Local Government Administration has continued with the involvement of civil society in the drafting of policies and legislation for local self-government and in the implementation of the strategy for local self-government 2016-2026. Likewise, the cooperation with the Consultative Forum for Local Government has continued.

The budget of MLGA for the year 2023, (based on the report dated 29.09.2023) together with Donations (93 Council of Europe and WB-World Bank) is 11,047,499.02 €. From this amount, for the period January - September, €769,004.07 or 7.74% of the budget was spent from the consolidated budget. In the category of donations, €90,064.61 or 72.78% of the budget was spent from the 93 Council of Europe, while €235,306.32 or 23.96% was spent from the WB-World Bank donation. In total, the MLGA Budget + Donations (93 Council of Europe and WB-World Bank) for the period January-September have been spent in the amount of: €1,094,375.00 or 9.91% of the budget.

In the field of Audit, the report of the second semester of 2022 and the annual work report of IAU for 2022 have been drafted *and the audits* "Management of vehicles in MLGA" and "Management of human resources in MLGA" have been completed.

I. Increase of local economic development through financial support of municipalities based on performance

The activities implemented within the first objective, are grouped into 3 main areas as follows:

- Drafting of policies for local economic development;
- Financing of municipal projects;
- Management of municipal performance.

1.1. Development of the strategic framework for local economic development

MLGA on an annual basis monitors and reports on the implementation of the action plan of the Strategy for Local Economic Development 2019 - 2023. For this purpose, a letter has been sent to the municipalities and line ministries to report on the implementation of the activities resulting from the action plan of SLED. The data were received from 31 municipalities and from the line Ministries, and the action plan report was prepared, which was sent to the Office for Strategic planning. During this period, the municipal economic profiles from 3 municipalities (Hani i Elezit, Istog and Podujeva) were received.

Regarding the Drafting of the National Program for Local Economic Development 2023-2029, the final draft of the Plan for Local Economic Development has been prepared, the same has completed the public and preliminary consultation phase. It was sent for opinion to the ZPS, where the opinion was received ZPS and now the documentation is complete and as such will be sent to the Government for approval.

In regards to the preparation of the recommendations for the advancement of the municipal budget processes, a letter was prepared with the proposals of MLGA and the same was sent to the office of the Minister of the Ministry of Finance, Labor and Transfers.

- The report of the municipalities' expenses for the year 2022 has been drafted;
- The report of the own revenues of the municipalities for the year 2022 has been drafted;
- The report related to the audit opinions for the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo for the year 2022 and the comparison with the year 2021, has been drafted.

1.2. Financing of municipal projects

Programs for financing capital projects of municipalities are one of the main instruments of direct support of municipalities in the field of economic development.

MLGA has prepared the criteria for financing municipal projects in the field of inter-municipal cooperation and infrastructure projects. The call for application from municipalities for project financing has been published and within this call, 26 applications from 18 municipalities have been received, then the final report of the evaluations of the applications by the evaluation committee has been finalized and the beneficiary municipalities were notified. Also, during this period, 13 Agreements of Understanding were signed for the financing of projects in 13 municipalities (*Hani i Elezit, Lipjan, Malishevo, Gjakova, Kamenica, Subareka, Podujeva, Rahovec, Deçan, Gjilan, Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Shtim.Stimlje, Peja/Pec*). After the signing of the Agreements for the financing of the projects and after the approval by the Government, the commitment of funds was made. Out of the 13

projects, 8 municipalities have started procurement procedures and contracts have been signed for 2 projects, 5 projects are in the evaluation process and 1 project is in the bidding process. The monitoring of the projects continues, according to the work progress. Technical meetings were held with 13 municipalities (Gjilan, Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Deçan, Gjakova, Rahovec, Lipjan, Hani të Elezit, Podujeva, Peja, Shtime/Stimlje, Kamenica, Suhareka and Malisheva). After the signing of the contracts by the municipalities with the economic operators, field visits and verification of the project works will be planned according to the work progress.

Regarding the program *for supporting infrastructural projects for communities* in the municipalities, the criteria for financing the projects have been prepared, 38 applications from 16 municipalities have been received, then the final report of the evaluation of the applications by the evaluation committee has been finalized, and the beneficiary municipalities have been notified. Also, during this period, 18 agreements of understanding were signed between MLGA and municipalities, with 10 beneficiary municipalities. After the signing of the Memorandums of Understanding, out of the 18 projects, the municipalities have started procurement procedures, where 3 contracts have been signed, 5 projects are in the process of bidding and 1 project is in the rebidding process. Monitoring of the projects continues according to the progress of the works. Funds have been committed to finance the projects. Technical meetings were held with the beneficiary municipalities: Klina, Deçan, Gjakova, Rahovec, Prizren, Istog, Peja/Pec, Novobërdo, Graçanica and Mamusha. After the signing of the contracts by the municipalities with the economic operators, field visits and verification of the projects' works, will be done according to the progress of the works.

In the framework of the co-financing with the donor for the grant scheme based on the municipal performance, in cooperation with the Municipal Performance Department, activities were coordinated with the municipalities regarding the documents needed for the application for projects for the Municipal Performance Grant. Documents for financial opinion have been prepared and forwarded to MFPT and approved by Government decision No. 12/138 dated 12.4.2023. The financial funds for 14 projects in 6 beneficiary municipalities have been committed. Technical meetings with the municipalities were held in: *Gjakova, Klina, Lipjan, Drenas and Obiliq*. After the signing of the contracts by municipalities with the economic operators, field visits and verification of the works of the project were carried out in the municipalities of *Klina, Lipjan, Obiliq and Gjakova*. The municipalities have received 5 cases for payment.

At the request of the external auditors, the physical examination of 3 projects financed in the municipality of Obiliq for the year 2022 was coordinated during the period January-September and meetings with the external auditor regarding the projects management process have been held. In cooperation with the OSCE, a meeting was held to discuss with the managers for the implementation of the projects co-financed by MLGA, with the contract managers of the municipalities for the year 2023..

- The annual report of capital investments for projects for the year 2022 has been drafted;
- The summary report of capital investments (2008 - 2022) of capital investments has been drafted;
- The report of the last three years (2020 - 2022) of capital investments has been drafted;

1. Assessment of municipal performance

During this period, the Ministry of Local Government Administration has paid great importance to the advancement of the municipal performance system and the performance-based grant scheme. MLGA has coordinated activities with municipalities regarding the necessary documents for the application for projects for the Municipal Performance Grant, as well as the draft agreements of understanding for financing of projects by MPG have been prepared. MLGA sent the case to MFLT for a financial opinion. The financial opinion was

received, and on 12.04.2023 thus the completed case was sent to the government to be included in the agenda.

From this grant, a total of 14 projects were financed from capital investments in municipalities, 6 municipalities have been beneficiaries of the grant according to the criteria for benefiting the grant. In the first part of 2023, trainings for the use of the Electronic System of SMPK for all municipal officials in the fields which are part of the Municipal Performance Management System, were held. In the course of preparations for the start of municipal performance reporting, a regular meeting was held with the municipal performance coordinators. In order to complete the legal framework in the first six months, the Administrative Instruction for SMPK has been drafted and approved. During this period, the call for reporting from municipalities regarding performance measurement for 2022, based on the Performance Law, was also opened. During the reporting of the municipalities, the preliminary consultation process with the municipalities has also started. It has started with the revision of the Municipal Performance Management System (MPMS) and the Municipal Performance Grant (GKP). The main purpose of this review is to update the system to reflect the changes in the legal framework in the areas of municipal competences, including the reviewed/approved Administrative Instruction as well as addressing of the deficiencies of the system presented by stakeholders.

II. Advancement of inter-municipal, international municipal and cross-border Cooperation

The activities carried out under this objective are:

- Strengthening the inter-municipal and international municipal cooperation;
- Implementing cross-border cooperation programs;
- The World Bank project “Municipalities for Youth”.

2.1. Inter-municipal and international municipal cooperation

During this period, MLGA continued the activities related to the support of municipalities for inter-municipal and international municipal cooperation for the year 2023. The activities with the donors, respectively with the OSCE regarding the implementation of joint activities for the year 2023 have continued.

The draft criteria for financing municipal projects in the field of inter-municipal cooperation were prepared.

As part of the inter-municipal cooperation, during this period, a total of five (5) initiatives for inter-municipal cooperation were realized, and the three (3) monthly report on Inter-municipal Cooperation Initiatives and Agreements for the Municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo has been prepared.

As for international municipal cooperation, during this period a total of eight (8) international cooperation initiatives were implemented, three (3) international municipal cooperation agreements were signed, three (3) international municipal cooperation agreements were evaluated as well as the three (3) monthly report on International Municipal Cooperation Initiatives and Agreements for the Municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo has been prepared.

2.2. Implementation of cross-border cooperation programs

The cross-border cooperation has continued as part of three programs: Kosovo - Albania, Kosovo – Macedonia and Kosovo - Montenegro, under IPA II, 2014 - 2022.

2.2.1. IPA II Programme Kosovo-Albania 2014-2020

Within the framework of the IPA II Kosovo-Albania 2014-2020 Program, has continued the implementation and monitoring of cross-border projects such as:

- “*Pathway towards an efficient use of local natural resources*”, has continued for a duration of 30 months (April 2022 - October 2024), in the Municipality of Kurbin and the municipality of Suhareka in a total value of €420,167.00. For this project, a monitoring visit to the project was carried out in May 2023 according to the plan of monitoring visits agreed with the Operational Structure of Albania and the EU Delegation in Tirana. Information regarding the project has also been received from the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS); this project is being continuously implemented.
- “*Enhancement of Biodiversity in Drini River Basin through Integrated watershed Management – BIODRINI*” implemented from February 2022 for a duration of 24 months in the Municipality of Kukes and the municipality of Rahovec in a total value of €462,104.50. For this project, a monitoring visit was made to the beneficiaries of the third call in order to better utilize their tourism potentials in pursuing regional development and facilitating cross-border cooperation by promoting eco-tourism routes in both areas as natural and cultural corridors. For this project, a monitoring visit was made to the beneficiaries of the third call. Information regarding the project has also been received from the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS); this project is being continuously implemented.
- “*Eco - Tourism Routes in the Cross-Border Area for the Promotion of Alternative Tourism (ECO-ROUTES)*” implemented from March 2022 for a duration of 24 months in the Municipality of Kukes and the municipality of Rahovec in a total value of €470,482.00 in order to better utilize their tourism potentials in pursuing regional development and facilitating cross-border cooperation by promoting eco-tourism routes in both areas as natural and cultural corridors. The monitoring visit to the beneficiaries of the third call was carried out on May 18, 2023 in Tirana. Information regarding the project has also been received from JTS. This project is being continuously implemented.
- “*Bridging Tourism through Cultural Heritage and Smart Solutions in Lezha and Gjakova*” implemented from April 2022 for a duration of 30 months in the Municipality of Lezha and the municipality of Gjakova in a total amount of 453,245.00 Euro with co-financing (385,258.00 EUR from IPA funds) within the third call with the theme related to the encouragement of tourism and the promotion of natural and cultural heritage. For this project, a monitoring visit was made to the project of the third call on May 19, 2023 in Lezha, also information regarding the project was received from JTS. This project is being continuously implemented.

In the framework of the management of the TAGC technical assistance contract and the organization of joint meetings within the program during the period January-September 2023, there were completed activities such as: *an online meeting of the Joint Monitoring Committee was held on July 18, 2023; Two bilateral meetings of the Operational Structures of the program and JTS were held; the narrative and financial report has been submitted to the EU Delegation in Tirana and we are waiting for the next installment; the regional forum organized by CBIB+ was held in Struga on May 11, 2023; a study visit was made to the Cohesion, Development and Territorial Cooperation Agency of the Ministry of Planning in Lisbon, Portugal, on July 9 - 12, 2023; the event for promotion of the program was carried out, on September 25, 2023, in the city of Bajram Curri, Albania;*

During the January-September period, the EU delegation has announced the 4th Call for project proposals on February 20, 2023, and that the call was open until May 22, 2023. Two information sessions were held for potential applicants in the program area (Lezhë, Albania and Rahovec, Kosovo). The contracting of the projects of the fourth call with financial allocations 2019 and 2020 is in process by the EU delegation.

As for the implementation of the package for the selected beneficiaries of the Third Call for Proposals, the training on secondary procurement, visibility and reporting was carried out on July 5, 2023 in Pristina;

During this period, the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) for the year 2022, and the Work Plan for the year 2023, together with the Communication and Visibility Plan for 2023 has been drafted and approved at the JMC meeting. As for the IPA III Programs 2022 - 2027, they have been approved and published on the official website of the European Commission and the JMC for IPA III is in the process of being established; A 3-year technical assistance for IPA III has been prepared, in cooperation with the OS of Albania, and has been submitted to the EU delegation in Tirana for approval.

2.2.2. IPA II Programme Kosovo-North Macedonia 2014-2020

As part of the IPA II Program CBC Kosovo-Macedonia 2014-2020 - the implementation and monitoring of cross-border projects has continued, under the IV Call such as:

- *“Pilot interventions for wastewater treatment and solid waste management in the cross-border region” Novo Berde – Gjorgje Petrov*” as part of the project, a monitoring visit to the project was carried out during the months of May and June 2023 and during August 2023 by the operational structure of Kosovo and North Macedonia and the staff of the Joint Technical Secretariat regarding the progress of the projects and according to the plan of monitoring visits; Also, the project monitoring report was prepared by the JTS staff;
- *“CBCEcoKid”; Ferizaj – Çairi*, as part of the project, a monitoring visit was made to the project during the months of May, June and August 2023 by the operational structure of Kosovo and North Macedonia and the staff of the Joint Technical Secretariat regarding the progress of the projects and according to the plan of the monitoring visits. Also, the project monitoring report was prepared by the JTS staff;
- *“Reviving crafts and building culture for joint touristic development”, Prizren – Tetovo* – the implementation of this project is continuing. A monitoring visit to the project was carried out during August 2023 by the operational structure of Kosovo and North Macedonia and the staff of the Joint Technical Secretariat regarding the progress of the projects and according to the plan of the monitoring visits. Also, the project monitoring report was prepared by the JTS staff.

For the management of the Grant Contract for Technical Assistance and the organization of joint meetings within the program during the period January-September 2023, were developed activities such as: *the 11th meeting of the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) as well as training for the members of the Committee and the operational structure from the two countries, three bilateral meetings were held between the two operational structures and the Joint Technical Secretariat in Skopje, the third interim report for the period January 6, 2022 - January 5, 2023 regarding the Grant contract (2019/410-322) was sent to the EU Office, the procedures for the preparation of new technical assistance have started, the financial report for 2022 has been approved, continuous support has been provided for project beneficiaries as well as the reporting of indicators in the regional database.*

Also during this period, training was held for the beneficiaries of the IV Call, the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) for the year 2022, and the Work Plan for the year 2023 together with the Communication Plan were drafted and approved.

As for the IPA III Programs 2022 - 2027, they have been approved and published on the official website of the European Commission. The establishment of the JMC for IPA III is in process. An application package for the 3-year technical assistance for IPA III is being prepared, in cooperation with OS in Macedonia and JTS, and will be submitted for approval by 30.10.2023;

2.2.3. IPA II Programme Kosovo-Montenegro 2014-2020

Within the IPA II Program CBC Kosovo-Montenegro 2014-2020 - during this period the implementation of cross-border projects of the second Call continued, such as:

- *"Creation of Employment opportunities in Agriculture" Podgorica, Tuz dbe Istog, Peja*, this project has completed its activities, thus the closing conference was held on June 27, 2023. The project has had an impact on increasing access to the labor market and strengthening the capacity of women, youth and the unemployed to generate income from agriculture. The capacities of the target groups have also been improved through capacity building activities through trainings, internships, mentoring, as well as provision of necessary equipment for agriculture and facilitation of networking with buyers of agricultural products.
- *"Cross-border actions for the reproductive health sector" "*, this project is being successfully implemented, contributing to the improvement of the capacities of public health institutions as well as the quality of reproductive health services in the cross-border region. The third monitoring visit was held on June 15, 2023.
- *"Tourist center for a better tourist offer in less developed mountain countries" Andrijevica (Montenegro and Deçan (Kosovo))*. The implementation of the project has continued, the third monitoring visit was held to the project leader in Andrijevica on July 3, while in the municipality of Deçan on July 4, 2023, in order to see the progress achieved. The project is expected to be completed in September 2023. Through this project, a new mountain hut has been built in Bjeshet e Nemuna in Decan, while the existing hut in Krivi Do in Andrijevica has been repaired and equipped. In addition, the project will include an additional tourist offer around these two centers, which will include local villages.

For the management of TAGC and the organization of joint meetings within the Program, activities were carried out such as: *the meeting of the Joint Monitoring Committee, the bilateral meeting between the operational structure of Kosovo and Montenegro, the training for secondary procurement was held for the staff of the CBC and the controlling body in Podgorica, the training was held by Interact for the staff of the CBC and JTS "Communication under IPA CBC - Storytelling, the workshop was held with journalists in the framework of the promotion of the CBC program in the areas of the program that included visits to the projects of the I and II call in Decan, Klina, Gjakova and Peja, the meeting of the Joint Steering Committee was held where the narrative and financial report December 2021 - April 2023 was approved; monitoring visits were held to three projects of the second call, the first monitoring visits were held to the 11 projects of the third call during the month of September, a bilateral meeting was held between the two SOs, CFCU, DEU and JTS, and 6 monthly reports the implementation of the TAGC have been drafted.*

Regarding the contracting of the projects of the third call, 11 projects were contracted within the framework of the III call and the ceremony for the allocation of grants/contracting of the projects of the III call was held on March 17, 2023 in Peja.

For the implementation package for the projects of the third call, trainings were held for the beneficiaries of the third call, the implementation seminar and training for secondary procurement in Podgorica, training for reporting & training for publicity and visibility.

For the implementation of IPA III 2021-2027, a draft Financial Agreement for IPA III for the period 2021-2027 was drafted and sent by the Operational Structure of Montenegro to the Operational Structure in Kosovo for notification. This agreement after being sent by the Office of the European Union in Kosovo to the National Coordinator for IPA (NIPAC) must be approved/ratified by December 31, 2023. The IPA III 2021 - 2027 program has been approved and published on the official website of the European Commission while the JMC for IPA III is in the process of being established;

During this period, the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) for the year 2022, and the Work Plan for the year 2023 together with the Communication and visibility Plan for 2023 were drafted in the meeting with JMC As for the IPA III 2022 - 2027 Programs, they have been approved and published on the official website of the European Commission and the JMC for IPA III is in the process of being established;

2.3.4 Checking of Cross-Border Cooperation programs

For the financial check and verification of the funds of cross-border cooperation programs, in accordance with EU rules and standards and applicable local laws, the annual plan of on-the-spot check visits has been prepared and approved, and the same has been shared with the Finance Directorate and Contracting of EU Funds in the Ministry of Finance of Montenegro (CFCU/MNE), 2 visits to the project site were carried out: CFCU/MNE 148, CFCU/MNE 152, all contracts of beneficiaries from the III (third) call for proposals have been accepted and the preparation of tables for the reporting deadlines for each contract, the third report for verification CFCU/MNE 149 has been completed.

Meanwhile, the project reports are in the process of verification of expenses: CFCU/MNE 148, CFCU/MNE 152, CFCU/MNE 150, and CFCU/MNE 151, a confirmation letter was prepared for the Contracting Authority regarding acceptable and non-acceptable expenses from the beneficiaries of the second call, 6 field visits of the projects of the second call were carried out and 3 site visits of the projects were carried out: CFCU/MNE 151, CFCU/MNE 152, CFCU/MNE 148.

Also, during this period, all the documents received by the beneficiaries of the second call were archived and maintained, based on the aforementioned rules.

III. Advancement of policies and legal framework for local self-government

The activities carried out during this period that are related to the fulfillment of the objective 2 of the Work Plan for 2023, which have been extended in the direction of:

- Drafting of planned draft laws and bylaws;
- Prior consultation of sectoral acts;
- Regular meetings with municipalities;
- Monitoring of municipalities;
- Addressing and implementing obligations from the European agenda;
- Policy coordination;
- Prepared reports.

3.1. Drafting of legal acts and bylaws

The Ministry of Local Government Administration has given special focus to the drafting and progress of legislation according to the legislative program for 2023 and other documents, which are in the process of being drafted and amended/supplemented, as follows:

- Amendment/supplement of the Law No. 06/L-092 on the Allocation for Use and Exchange of Immovable Municipal Property (*the working group for drafting of the draft act was established, the workshops with the working group and municipalities were held. The draft law is in the final drafting stage, it is expected to be sent to the public and preliminary consultation, and then to the Government for approval*);
- Draft Law on the Administrative Review of Acts of Municipalities (*a working group has been established to draft the act in question and workshops with the working group and groups of interest were held. The draft of this draft law has been approved and is expected to be sent for public discussion and preliminary consultations*).
- The amendment- supplement of the draft law on inter-municipal cooperation (*this draft law has been removed from the legislative plan, because the concept document has not been approved by the Government*);
- Administrative Instruction for the appointment of deputy mayors of municipalities (*The working group for drafting the draft act was established; meetings with the working group were held and that the drafting phase has been completed and it has been sent in public and preliminary consultation to receive comments*).

- Administrative Instruction for the Standardization of the legality of municipal acts (*this administrative instruction has been withdrawn from the legislative agenda for 2023*).
- Amendment/ supplement of the Administrative Instruction (MLG) No.05/ 2020 on the procedure of establishment, composition and competencies of permanent committees and other committees in municipalities (*this administrative instruction has been withdrawn from the legislative agenda for 2023*);
- Administrative Instruction for an open local administration (*(a working group for drafting of the draft act has been established, workshops with the working group and municipal official for public consultation were held, the draft has been prepared, which will be sent for public and preliminary consultation to receive comments)*);
- Administrative Instruction (MLG) No. 01/2023 for Municipal Performance Management and the Municipal Performance Grant Scheme (*the procedure of drafting together with groups of interest has been completed, the public and preliminary consultation procedure has also been completed and approved by the Minister of MLGA*);
- Administrative Instruction (MLGA) No.02/2-23 for the citizens' initiative for the removal of the mayor of the municipality from office (*this administrative instruction has been completed and approved*);
- Concept Document for the Law No. 06/L-092 on Allocation for Use and Exchange of municipal immovable property. (*this concept document has been completed and approved by the Government*)
- Ex post evaluation of the legal mechanisms for local democracy (*(the working group for drafting the ex post evaluation was established, meetings and workshops were held with the working group as well as the draft report was drafted)*);

3.2. Assessment of the impact of the policies in the field of local self-government

Regarding the preliminary consultation of the acts of the sectorial ministries and their compatibility with the legislation on local self-government, a Working Group was established within the ministry which is responsible for reviewing the acts for prior consultation, which continuously accepts acts from line ministries for preliminary consultation. Whereas, regarding the notification letters addressed to the municipalities, in this time period 3 requests for preliminary consultation were received, 87 requests and 15 complaints from natural and legal persons were received and assessed.

3.3. Monitoring of municipal assemblies

In the period January - September 2023, the assemblies were operating in 38 municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo, holding regular meetings. Municipal assemblies have held 371 meetings. The meetings of the municipal assemblies were monitored through the telepresence system, as well as the physical presence of officials for the municipalities: North Mitrovica, Zubin Potok, Zvecan and Leposavic. During this period, a total of 1544 documents were received, of which 88 regulations and 1456 decisions of municipal assemblies. Out of a total of 1544 acts, MLGA has assessed 803 acts, while another 741 acts have been sent to the line Ministries. 108 illegal acts were found, of which 85 acts were reviewed, while 4 acts were sent to the Ministry of Justice.

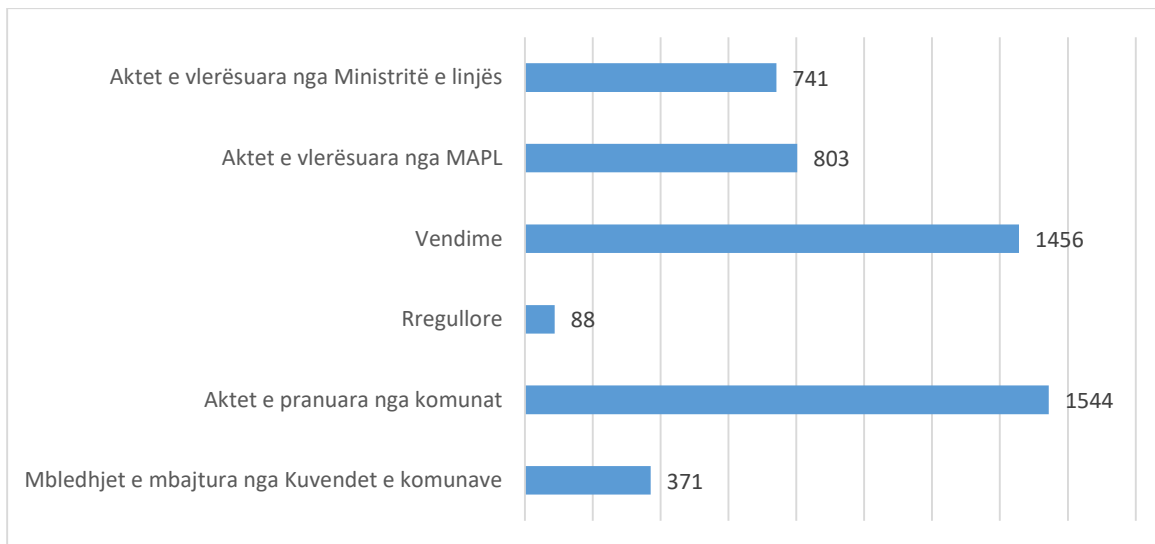


Diagram 1: *The number of municipal meetings and acts reviewed during the period January – September 2023.*

The Ministry of Local Government Administration, in accordance with the legal mandate defined by the legislation on local self-government, monitors the municipalities on the basis of which it drafts periodic reports on the functioning of the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo. Municipalities, respectively Municipal bodies are obliged to exercise their competences according to the Constitution, laws and by-laws of the Republic of Kosovo. During this period, the Assemblies of 38 municipalities were operating, based on Article 86 of the Law on Local Self-Government. MLGA is obliged to draft and submit to the Government and Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo, the Annual Report on the functioning of the municipalities. This report was sent to the Government, Presidency and Assembly at the end of March 2023. The legality assessment report for the period January-June 2023 was drafted, 12 monitoring visits were conducted in 12 municipalities and a meeting was held with the chairpersons of the municipal assemblies.

3.4. Addressing the obligations deriving from the European Agenda

The Ministry of Local Government Administration has coordinated activities with municipalities to address and implement obligations deriving from the European integration agenda. In this time period, the Report on the fulfillment of the obligations of the municipalities deriving from the European Agenda for the period January-December 2022 was drafted as well as the six months report on the fulfillment of the obligations of the municipalities deriving from the European Agenda for the period January-June 2023. Based on the data provided, during the year 2023 the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo managed to fulfill 47% of the activities in the field of political criteria, 35% regarding economic criteria, and in the field of European standards they have realized 70% of the activities. The overall level of fulfilling the obligations of the municipalities deriving from the European agenda for 2023 is 50%. The Report on the Implementation of the National SAA Program for 2022, and the Report on the Implementation of the Action Plan of ERA II (PV ERA II) for 2022 have been prepared. Also, the Obligations of municipalities and MLGA have been identified and proposed by NPISAA, and the MLGA Input for the EC report for the period June 15, 2022 - March 31, 2023, as well as the second Input for the period April 1 - June 15, 2023, has been prepared. The data for MLGA reporting related to the Sub-committee for Justice, Freedom and Security have been summarized. The challenges of local governance have been identified and a letter has been prepared for the Mayors of Municipalities and has been sent to 38 municipalities.

The periodic reports of the SAA National Program for the period January-June and July-September 2023, have been drafted and launched on the platform as well as the request for the same document has been received from the Office Prime Minister for the review of the National Plan for Integration for 2024-2026.

In cooperation with the OSCE, a ceremony was held to hand out awards to the municipalities that have approved the integrity plan (challenge issued by the EC Country Report). Also, four meetings were held with the OSCE mission in Kosovo, additionally in cooperation with the OSCE, a one-day joint consultation was held with the Municipal Officials for European Integration with the aim of drafting the comprehensive plan of the municipalities for the obligations deriving from the European agenda for 2023, the same drafted plan has been sent to 38 municipalities for reporting for the period January-June 2023.

In cooperation with the Department of Human Rights and Communities in the OSCE, joint activities in the field of human rights and the possibility of support for 2024 have been coordinated. 2 meetings were also held with donors to support the activities of MLGA. The initial draft of the guide for municipalities regarding the advancement of local policies according to the challenges derived from the Country Report, has been prepared. We are in contact with donors for further support of this activity.

3.5. Policy coordination

During the year 2023, meetings were held with departments and organizational units of MLGA for the coordination of planned activities in 2023, and the drafting of the annual work plan of MLGA for 2023, which was sent to the government coordinating secretariat, was completed, the same has been published in the official website of MLGA. In this period, the mid-term strategic priorities were identified, the National Plan for the Development of MLGA was drafted and was harmonized with KAS. The report regarding the implementation of MLGA activities within the National Development Program 2023-2025, for the period January-June 2023 and the period July-September 2023 was drafted as well as the measures for the National Development Program for the period 2024-2026, have been reviewed.. Also, other documents have been drafted during this period, such as:



IV. Increase of municipal transparency, promotion of human rights and capacity Development.

The activities implemented during this period (January – September 2023) are related to:

- Monitoring the field of human rights in municipalities;
- Informing the public about MLGA activities;
- Transparency and accountability;
- Building municipal capacities; and
- Cooperation with civil society

4.1. Activities in the field of human rights and municipal transparency

MLGA has continued to support municipalities in the implementation of policies in the field of human rights. In this period, the annual report on human rights for 2022 was drafted. The report included the segment of human rights from the field of gender equality, the operation of the unit for human rights in municipalities, gender equality, domestic violence, the rights of persons with disabilities, children's rights; protection from discrimination, prevention of human trafficking, community rights and language rights in the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo. In this period, a working methodology for visits to municipalities, a questionnaire on human rights was also drafted, data were collected from the Human Rights Unit in the Municipality and visits were made to two municipalities, South Mitrovica and Vushtrria.

The Analysis-Evaluation of the capacities of municipal structures and officials mandated to work with marginalized groups has been drafted. For the presentation of this analysis, MLGA in cooperation with DEMOS has organized the meeting with mayors, deputy mayors, officials of the MOCR and officials of the HRUM with 24 municipalities.

In order to improve children's rights at the local government level, municipalities have been working on the functioning of mechanisms for children's rights at the local level according to the legislation in force. Also, a preparatory meeting was held for the establishment of the Inter-institutional Mechanism for the Implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan for the Management and Control of Dogs with and without Owners in the Republic of Kosovo.

The municipal report for protection against discrimination according to the indicators for the period January-June 2023 has been drafted and the same has been sent to the OGG/PMO.

During this period, an information letter was sent to all the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo to inform them about the start of the campaign for free registration of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. All municipalities already have the circular issued by the Agency for Civil Registration of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which recommends to the municipalities, namely the civil registry offices, the removal of fines and other fees for registration services.

In order to operationalize the mechanisms for the rights of the child at the local level according to the legislation in force, MLGA has drafted the Administrative Instruction for the establishment and operation of the team for the rights of the child. Further, MLGA in cooperation with the International Labor Organization in Kosovo (ILO) have organized trainings with four separate groups with members of the child rights team for the obligations of the municipalities.

The transparency report of the municipalities for the period January-December 2022 was drafted by monitoring the data through the official websites of the municipalities, and for the presentation of this report a meeting was held with the information officers in the municipalities.

While, the evaluation of the municipal transparency, including monitoring of municipal assemblies in terms of transparency, monitoring of the executive and accountability in terms of transparency, monitoring of municipal budget transparency, and transparency in public procurement as well as monitoring of meetings public with citizens and the implementation of minimum standards of public consultations, has continued regularly. Also during this period, a meeting was held with municipal officials on the topic "*Challenges from the Action Plan for Transparency and the Regulation for Municipal Transparency*". In cooperation with the Office for Good Governance/Office of the Prime Minister and with the support of OSCE and IKAP, the training "Public consultation in municipalities and the process of Publications on the Platform for Public Consultation of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo", was organized. Cooperation with the Office for Good Governance and the Agency for Information and Privacy in the field of transparency has continued. Also, in cooperation with the OSCE, a meeting was organized with the information officials regarding the process of MPLVT and the Regulation for transparency in municipalities.

4.2. Drafting and approval of the National Action Plan 2022 - 2024 under the Open Government Partnership - OGP

In the framework of open government as one of the basic principles of the work of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, at the initiative of the MLGA, the Republic of Kosovo has decided to start drafting the National Action Plan 2023-2025 for open government within the Partnership for Open Government - PQH. The National Action Plan 2023-2025 has been drafted, thus it has gone through the two processes of preliminary consultation and public consultation and was approved by the Government. The Republic of Kosovo has overcome all political obstacles for membership in the OGP and has managed to pass the minimum criteria assessment phase. MLGA has submitted to the Open Government Partnership organization, the letter of interest where it presents the willingness and interest of the Republic of Kosovo to join this organization. MLGA has received the official membership letter of the Republic of Kosovo from the Monitoring Committee of the Open Government Partnership. Also during this period the delegation of the Republic of Kosovo has participated in the Open Government Partnership Global Summit. The Republic of Kosovo already appears in the list of members of the Open Government Partnership, on its official website.

4.3. Development of the state platform E-MUNICIPALITIES

MLGA has started the process of digitalizing municipal services through the development of the EMUNICIPALITIES platform. This platform will be at the service of citizens to increase their participation in decision-making at the local level and will be at the service of municipalities themselves for the digitalization of municipal services. Thus MLGA, as the leader of this process, during this period has started with the development of the first phase of the platform E-MUNICIPALITIES and after the launch of the first phase of E-MUNICIPALITIES platform, MLGA is focused on the development of the second phase of this platform which is in the process of development

4.4. Informing the public about the MLGA activities



During this period, MLGA has provided continuous information to the public, media, civil society, foreign international organizations, as well as interested parties regarding the developed activities. 21 requests for access to public documents were received and approved. In the official e-mail of MLGA, 67 requests/questions were received from the media, and 38 responses were returned from MLGA, Minister of MLGA has responded at the Media Conference, 2 media conferences were held, 6 media invitations were sent, 4 complaints and 16 requests were received, and 19 construction applications were received for construction and renovation of houses.

On the website of the MLGA, during this period, the following were published: in the News link: 22 information articles; in the link of daily activities there were 15 information; in the link: calls for proposals there were published 34 documents; in the link Public Procurement there were 2 documents published; in the Administrative Instructions link, only 1 instruction was published; in the Vacancies link 10 documents were published; 27 documents have been published in the Publications link; in the link Annual Reports of MLGA, 10 documents have been published; 1 document and 1 concept document have been published in the link Annual Plans of MLGA; 251 documents have been published in the link Review of legality of municipalities, and 6 documents have been published in the link Construction and Renovation of houses for non-majority communities. Two (2) new links have been added to the MLGA website: Link - Construction and Renovation of Houses for Non-Majority Communities (10 documents have been published) and Link - Municipal Performance Management System. There were 39 meeting information and a video recording that have been published on the official MLGA Facebook page.

4.6. Cooperation with the Civil Society

The Ministry of Local Government Administration has continued with the involvement of civil society in the drafting of policies and legislation for local self-government and in the implementation of the Strategy for Local Self-Government 2016-2026.


4.7. Capacity building of municipal officials

In accordance with the objectives of the strategy for local self-government, namely the strengthening of the institutional capacities of the municipalities, actions have been taken to implement the activities foreseen in this field. In this regard, meetings have been organized with KIPA and donors to coordinate activities regarding the organization of training for municipalities in accordance with the training plan and to provide support in the implementation of the training plan and the assessment of training needs.

In the first six months, in cooperation with the Kosovo Institute for Public Administration (KIPA), the Ministry of Environment Spatial Planning and Infrastructure (MESPI), the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), OSCE, INDEP-GIZ and DEMOS, six (6) training sessions for the respective fields and a total of 310 municipal officials were trained in the following fields: *Capacity building for waste management towards a healthy society. Phase II, Strategy for local economic development, Increasing media communication and public relations and social media management, Operation of the Municipal Performance Management System, training in the field of human rights (Administrative Instruction (GRK) no. 06 / 2022 for the establishment and functioning of the Children's Rights Team). "Public consultation in municipalities and the publication process on the Public Consultation Platform of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo".*

V. Administration, finance, audit and procurement

5.1. Administration and finance



The budget of MLGA for the year 2023 together with Donations is 11,047,499.02 €, where 1,094,375.00 € or 9.91% was spent from this amount for the period January - September

For the preparation of the cash flow plan for the year 2023, information has been collected regarding the anticipated time for the commitment and spending of funds, this plan has been submitted to the MF through the KFMIS system.

Also, during this period, the flow of funds allocation was monitored and changes were made to the expenditure plan. As for the annual financial report for the year 2022, it has been submitted to MFLT and all property and stock registrations have also been completed. For the provision of codes for capital projects, requests and allocations have been prepared and submitted to MFLT, items with MeM and PIP have been completed and funds have been allocated for new projects.

The Draft Mid-Term Expenditure Framework 2024-2026 has been prepared and submitted. As for the budget requirements for the year 2024, after the acceptance of the Budget Circular for the years 2024-2026, the budget needs have been identified, and

the budgetary request was submitted. The preparation of the drafting of the Public Investment Program (PIP) was made on the basis of the first budget circular, expenses have been prepared and incorporated in the BDMS system, based on the first budget circular.

During this time have been prepared, 1) the report on the list of risks for the period January-December 2022, as well as for the period January-June 2023, 2) the report of the self-assessment list for 2022. For commitments, receiving of goods, expenditure and certification of cases for payments, the initiating requests for the commitment of funds to KFMIS have been received, the cases and invoices for payment processing have been received, the cases and invoices for payment processing have been received and recorded in the protocol book, the CPO has been prepared and completed the registration of commitments in KFMIS, the acceptance of the goods in KFMIS and the recording in the internal protocol book was carried out, the registration of expenses was carried out in KFMIS, the control of cases and certification in KFMIS was carried out, the scanning of subjects was done, the electronic archiving in Share Folder as well as the physical archiving of subjects.

During this period, the KFMIS report was compared and analyzed with the expense reports for the period January - December 2022 and on a monthly basis for the period January - August 2022. As for the objective of Petty Cash (Patty Cash) and Advances for official visits, the opening of petty cash for the administration and for the cabinet was made, the preparation of the standard petty cash receipt was made and the data were placed on the sheet for the requests made for Petty Cash, the forms were prepared and the expenses were calculated before and after the return of the officials from the official visit, cash was withdrawn from the commercial bank and funds were returned in cases when there were funds to be returned and Credit Card was closed in cases where there were expenses.

For the reporting of unpaid obligations and contractual obligations, monthly reports for unpaid invoices and contractual obligations have been prepared and submitted. While for the preparation of monthly financial reports and other reports on general expenses, weekly reports on the general budget for MLGA have been prepared, accounting reports on general expenses are currently being drafted, weekly budget reports have been submitted and budget movements are being checked. . For the management of the assets of MLGA during this

period, the following was carried out: *the registration of assets over €1,000.00 in KFMIS, the registration of assets in the e-property system, and the transfer of capital investments to the municipalities after the completion of the projects.*

The Periodic Report on the implementation of the Auditor General's recommendations was prepared and submitted, as well as the action plan for improving the internal control system of public finances according to the government's decision.

The budget of MLGA for the year 2023, (based on the report dated 29.09.2023) together with the Donation (93 Council of Europe and WB-World Bank) is €11,047,499.02. From this amount, for the period January – September €769,004.07 or 7.74% of the budget was spent from the consolidated budget. The amount of €90,064.61 or 72.78% of the budget was spent from the 93 Council of Europe donation category, while the amount of € 235,306.32 or 23.96% was spent from the WB-World Bank donation. In total, the MLGA Budget + Donations (93 Council of Europe and WB-World Bank) for the January-September period was spent in the amount of: € 1,094,375.00 or 9.91% of the budget.

MLGA for the period January-September 2023 has initiated 1 request for recruitment-movement within the category, according to internal recruitment procedures. Two notices have been prepared for the selection of successful candidates for movement within the category, two (2) new officials have been recruited and a permanent transfer department director has been accepted.

The electronic database with data for the staff of the MLGA has been updated, the management of official visits (170 requests for official visits) the management of annual and medical leaves has been prepared. Training needs have been identified and a training plan has been prepared. Activities were also coordinated with KIPA in the field of staff training, where 9 officials participated in the trainings.

A total of 250 requests for salary changes have been implemented, of which we have: 91 changes, 13 dismissals, 13 new employees, 1 temporary transfer, 7 bank account changes, 88 retroactive payments and 6 internship agreements based on the decision of the Government.

Monthly reports regarding employee work attendance have been prepared.

For this reporting period, according to the notification received from the Anti-Corruption Agency, all senior officials have been notified on how to declare assets through the system and the entire process has been completed through this system. Also, during this period, the data and documents were prepared and sent according to the request of the Internal and External Auditors for all MLGA employees.

5.2. Internal Audit

The Internal Audit Unit (IAU) has completed the work of 2022 by drafting the report of the second half of the year 2022 and the annual report of the work of the IAU for the year 2022, which has been forwarded to the senior management of MLGA and the Central Harmonizing Unit of Internal Audit (CHU-IA).

During this period, the 1st meeting was held with the Audit Committee and the senior management of MLGA. Also, the Internal Audit Unit, in accordance with the 2023 Annual Plan, has completed the following audits:

- “*Management of vehicles in MLGA*”
- “*Management of human resource in MLGA*”

The report of the 1st semester of the work of the IAU for the period January-June of 2023 has been prepared and proceeded to the CHU-IA and the senior management of MLG. The meeting of the Audit Committee was held. The report on “*Budget Management System*” has been finalized and sent to the competent officials through the archive office. As for the implementation of the planned audits and other actions for the second half of the year, the “*Procurement Management System*” Audit is in process.

5.3. Procurement

During the period January – September 2023, the procurement division has developed its planned activities such as: *supply contracts; employment contract; and service contracts.*

- In terms of supply contracts, the following contracts have been completed: office supply contracts; the contract for the supply of IT for MLGA, the contract for inventory supply, the contract for the supply of other IT equipment, no request has been received, except for the supply of consumables for the Antenna office as a request of the CBC Montenegro-Kosovo program and the same has been completed.
- Under the service contracts, the contract for maintenance and development in MPMS, the E-municipal contract, the contract for vehicle registration and insurance services, the contract for cleaning the official cars of MLGA, the contract for technical control, while the contract of the bidding service is in process. Regarding the contract for "provision of Pr services for MLGA needs", no request for re-bidding has been received.
- Under the work contracts, no request has been received, except the contract for the "Regulation of the water supply network in the Municipality of Fushë Kosova in the neighborhood 028 and 029 Bardh i Madh as well as the Village of Slatine e Madhe (the budget of this project is planned by MESPI)", which is in the process of bidding.