

IMPORTANT DATES

04 NOVEMBER

Meeting of the Transport and Logistics Cluster with the Director of the Operations and Border Directorate at the Customs of the Republic of Kosovo; Pristina

04 NOVEMBER

Info-session "Mundësitë e Aplikimit dhe Financimit për Pjesëmarrjen e Kompanive Vendore në Panairet në Gjermani, Austri dhe Zvicër për vitin 2025;" Pristina

06 NOVEMBER

"Renewable Energy Sources as the Biggest Piece of the Energy Puzzle;" Skopje

06 NOVEMBER

"Business After Hours;" Pristina

12 NOVEMBER

Takimi i Klasterit për Arsim dhe Aftësim Profesional; Pristina

13-15 NOVEMBER

59th Symposium Procurement and Logistics; Berlin

18-22 NOVEMBER

Professional Education Week; Pristina

20 NOVEMBER

Meeting of the Clean Call Alliance (CCA); Pristina

18-24 NOVEMBER

Global Entrepreneurship Week; Pristina

25-29 NOVEMBER

Cluster Meetings; Pristina

25-29 NOVEMBER

N4CEB Business Breakfast; Pristina



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HOW KDWV HELPS YOUR JOURNEY

1. CREDIBILITY

Member companies are associated with KDWV not only for the services it offers but also for the credibility and recognition that KDWV has as a brand, both in Germany and Kosovo. Since KDWV's mandate and mission is to strengthen German-Kosovar economic relations, German companies or those collaborating with Germany gain additional recognition as a German investment in Kosovo by becoming members of the Chamber. Thus, they proudly become part of the German-Kosovar community through KDWV.

2. NETWORKING

KDWV members have access to a wide network of professionals, industry leaders, political leaders, and university representatives, including contacts in Germany and Kosovo, with access to a network of over 2500 people.

3. REPRESENTATION OF INTERESTS

KDWV is very active in advocacy and representing the interests of its members towards the government. KDWV receives input for its advocacy work through its six Clusters and the networks Clean Energy Network, FINTECH Kosovo, and Clean Call Alliance. Join the Clusters and contribute in this direction for your sector!

4. SENIOR EXPERT SERVICE

companies in 40 different industries, from a database of over 12,000 German experts.

5. TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

KDWV offers trainings and workshops, especially 9. MARKETING on topics related to trends and regulations in the German market (e.g., German Supply Chain Due Diligence Law).

6. STUDIES AND RESEARCH

KDWV processes statistics and data throughout the year and publishes reports in German and English. Members for Members: Opportunities for discounts on services and products from members for members.

7. COLLABORATION **OPPORTUNITIES**

Opportunities for collaboration on projects, research, and initiatives with other members and German companies, through activities and delegations organized in Kosovo and Germany, including B2B meetings.

8. SUPPORT AND ADVICE

Through the Senior Expert Service in Kosovo, KDWV employs qualified professionals with KDWV brings German expertise to its member knowledge of the German language and both the German and Kosovar markets and offers consultations on legal issues, compliance, ISO standards, finding partners, and facilitating German investments in Kosovo and Kosovar investments in Germany.

Opportunities to increase visibility through KDWV channels, publications, and events organized by KDWV.

10. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Many members offer pro bono work for the KDWV business community, such as trainings and consultations, contributing to the responsible development of the community and the business climate in Kosovo.

KDWV also offers personalized paid services, including business establishment in Kosovo and Germany, franchising, joint ventures, partner supplier searches, searches, legal and consultations.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear KDWV Members and Friends,

Welcome to the KDWV newsletter! Here, we bring you the latest on our activities, highlight members making waves, share success stories and key updates that shape German-Kosovar economic relations.

This space is all about connection—whether through new partnerships, exciting events, or industry insights that help you stay ahead. Each edition features inspiring stories of progress and opportunities for collaboration, ensuring you're always in the loop on what matters most.

Feel free to reach out - share your news, ideas, and feedback — let's keep building bridges between Germany and Kosovo together!

Warm regards,

Nora Hasani Executive Director KDWV



INVITATION FOR KDWV MEMBERS: INFO-SESSION ON **TRADE FAIRS IN 2025**

KDWV is pleased to invite you to attend the Info-Session "Opportunities for Application and Funding for Local Companies' Participation in Trade Fairs in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland for 2025" on November 4.

Supporting the collaboration between member companies and the German market, as well as other foreign markets, remains one of OEGJK's main objectives.

Therefore, in cooperation with the ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA Pristina, and Swiss-Kosovar Business Association. We will present the most important trade fairs that will take place in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland throughout 2025, thus unveiling new opportunities for the development and expansion of local businesses.











Info-Session | 04.11.2024

"MUNDËSITË E APLIKIMIT DHE FINANCIMIT PËR PJESËMARRJEN E KOMPANIVE VENDORE NË PANAIRET E GJERMANISË, AUSTRISË DHE ZVICRËS PËR VITIN 2025"

This info-session will be held only in the Albanian.

YES, KOSOVO IS INDEPENDENT, BUT WHERE IS OUR DIGITAL IDENTITY?

Yes, Kosovo is independent, but where is our Digital Identity?

Did you know that Kosovo does not have its own country code Top-Level Domain (ccTLD)? This small but powerful tool—a two-letter code, unique to each country (e.g., Germany's '.de')—is key for establishing a country's digital identity.

Without it, Kosovo lags in its full recognition and visibility in the digital world, impacting business, business growth, trust, and cybersecurity.

A ccTLD is much more than just a web address. It provides a secure, recognizable, and uniquely Kosovar online presence that supports local business growth, builds trust with international markets, and reinforces the country's sovereignty in cyberspace.

Since independence, countless partners have worked tirelessly to support Kosovo's development, yet a ccTLD remains just out of reach, leaving Kosovo's digital identity incomplete.

We at the German-Kosovar Business Association (KDWV) are also pushing to find a solution for Kosovo's ccTLD, advocating to seek support from our partners in Germany, with Kosovo's Prime Minister's Office, at the National Council for Economy and Investments, as well as within the Ministry of Economy.



In response to these efforts, the Ministry has required the expertise of the German Economic Team (GET) to assess the impact and strategy for securing a Top-Level Domain.

Our efforts are joined by the Kosovo ICT Association - STIKK, which has launched its own initiative to address Kosovo's lack of a digital identifier. Kosovo needs its full digital independence—an essential step for growth in an increasingly digital world.

The importance of a ccTLD for Kosovo goes beyond internet searches; it's a matter of national identity, security, and international recognition.

To be part of this initiative and make your contribution, you can sign the petition <u>here</u>.

"ESTABLISHING THE KOSOVO INNOVATION FUND: PRESENTATION OF INITIAL FINDINGS AND NEXT STEPS"

The conference "Establishing the Kosovo Innovation Fund: Presentation of Initial Findings and Next Steps," organized by the Ministry of Industry, Entrepreneurship and Trade (MINT) through the Kosovo Investment and Enterprise Support Agency (KIESA), was held on October 30, 2024.

The event was opened by Kosovo's Minister of Industry, Entrepreneurship, and Trade, Rozeta Hajdari, who highlighted Kosovo's potential to accelerate innovation. She emphasized the technology and digital sectors as key drivers of creativity and innovation across other industrial fields.

The conference included a panel discussion on the importance of innovation, the advancement of policies, and the creation of support mechanisms to unlock the innovative potential of individuals, start-ups, and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in Kosovo. Following the panel, a half-day workshop was held with participation from MINT officials, experts, and EnInGeP project teams.



Photo credits: MINT

#MEMBERSINFOCUS: "THE FUTURE OF BUSINESS" CONFERENCE HELD IN PRISTINA!

"The Future of Business", a conference organized by KDWV member Data4X, showcased data from **a study involving 100 top businesses in Kosovo**. The presentation revealed analyses from Data4X highlighting the challenges and recent trends that are expected to shape the future of business practices by 2025.

According to the study, the **main challenges** for businesses are:

- Internal: Talent management, technology adaptation, and financing.
- **External**: Unstable political climate, rising prices of basic materials, and dynamic market shifts.

The conference featured three discussion panels with leaders and experts from various business fields who elaborated on trends, opportunities, regulations, BPO, technology, the Digital Maturity Index (DMI), and other high-importance topics in the business sector.



The first edition of this event marks another success in creating more efficient pathways for doing business and building bridges among business leaders!

All data included in the study is expected to be published shortly.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE PICKS UP

- GROWTH EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

In 2023, Kosovo's economy grew by **4.1%**, exceeding most expectations.

For 2024, the IMF projects a real growth rate of **3.8%**, thereby forecasting Kosovo to be the fastest-growing economy of the Western Balkans.



This projection may be revised upwards after stronger-than-anticipated growth in the first half of the year (**5.6%** in Q1-24 and **4.3%** in Q2-24). Private consumption remained the primary driver of GDP growth in 2023, while substantially increased public investment also contributed positively.

To view the full report by German Economic Team (GET) click here.

THE "HUB REVOLUTION YOUR START UP" OFFICE INAUGURATED AT UBT'S SMART CITY

Aiming to support development, technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the region, the "Hub Revolution Your Start Up" Office is designed to create a space where professionals and young people can turn their creative ideas into reality.

Among the opening speeches at the inauguration was the address by UBT's Rector, Prof. Dr. Edmond Hajrizi, who highlighted the value of such initiatives in strengthening collaboration with European countries and advancing and supporting higher education, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

KDWV congratulates its member, UBT, for its focus on innovation and new developments.



Photo credits: UBT

RIINVEST INSTITUTE PRESENTS "ÇFARË MIKSI I ENERGJISË NA DUHET?"— A REPORT ON ENERGY IN KOSOVO

On October 30, Riinvest Institute presented a report on energy "Çfarë miksi i energjisë na duhet?" addressing the challenges that Kosovo is facing during the green transition.

Presented by Luan Shllaku, Senior Environmental Advisor at Riinvest Institute, this report was covered during a panel discussion addressing topics such as Green Agenda, Kosovo's economic dependency on lignite and solutions regarding this issue, environmental sustainability, and more.

To view the full report, click here.



Photo credits: Riinvest Institute

#MEMBERSINFOCUS: PROCREDIT BANK GETS THE AWARD FOR SUSTAINABLE IMPACT!

ProCredit Bank's continuous commitment to sustainability has been rewarded with the Award for Sustainable Impact by Kosovo CSR Network.

This award evaluates companies that actively strive for a carbon-neutral future by participating in decarbonization, achieving net-zero emissions, and promoting a circular economy. Therefore, this award further affirms ProCredit Bank's dedication to a greener future!



Photo credits: ProCredit Bank Kosova

THE 4TH EDITION OF THE FOOD SECTOR FORUM IN PRISTINA

The 4th Edition of the Food Sector Forum brought Kosovo's food processing industry into the spotlight, uniting local producers, buyers, and industry leaders to foster partnerships and market growth.

After the opening remarks, Arton Bunjaku from UBO Consulting presented key insights from a comprehensive study on Kosovo's food processing sector.

Furthermore, a new Private Label Program agreement between PePeKo Association, USAID Compete Activity, and Viva Fresh Store was signed to help local companies expand into new markets.

During the forum the Innovative Product Corner displayed new product samples, the Digital Pavilion featured support platforms for food processing, and B2B networking sessions facilitated direct connections between local companies and potential buyers; thus highlighting Kosovo's food sector potential, building connections for future development.



Photo credits: Kosovo Export Network

SKILLS FOR SUSTAINABLE JOBS IN KOSOVO: A CHANCE FOR YOU TO CONTRIBUTE TO A GREENER FUTURE!

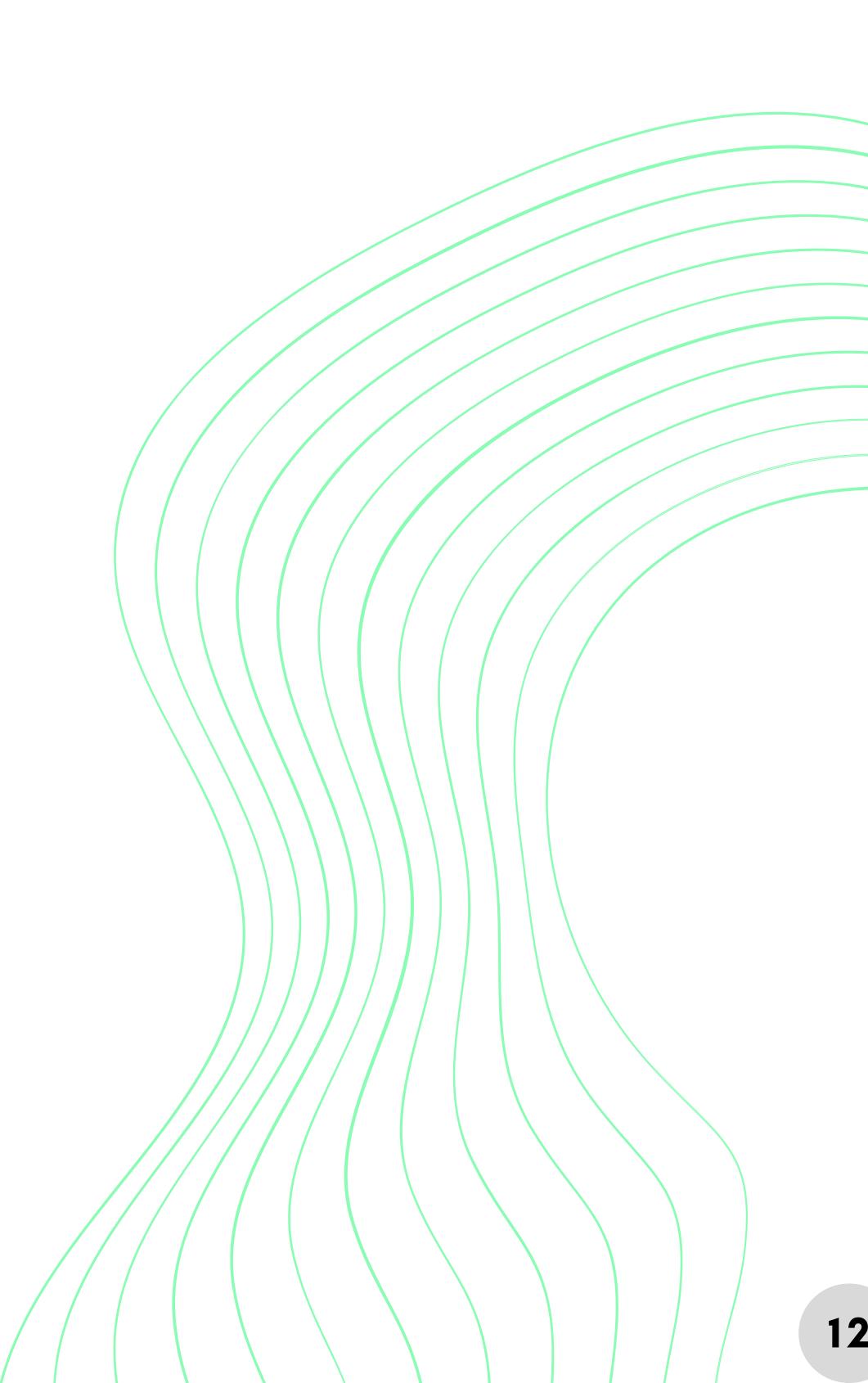
The project "Skills for Sustainable Jobs in Kosovo" aims to contribute to sustainability and a greener future for Kosovo through innovation, social development, and inclusivity.

Its main objective is to enhance employment opportunities for young people and women by improving vocational education and training.

This project includes a survey designed to gather quantitative data on the integration of dual learning and collaboration with businesses in Kosovo's ICT sector.

The collected data will help better understand the needs and challenges of companies, improve vocational education, and better meet market demands.

To make your contribution, you can complete the survey, here: <u>Baseline Study Survey on Dual Learning Readiness in Kosovo - Businesses - LuxDev KSV 021.</u>



BECOME A KDWV

MEMBER!

Network, connect, expand, and elevate: Join over 200 German and Kosovar member companies.

> Greta Kazia Head of Finance,

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