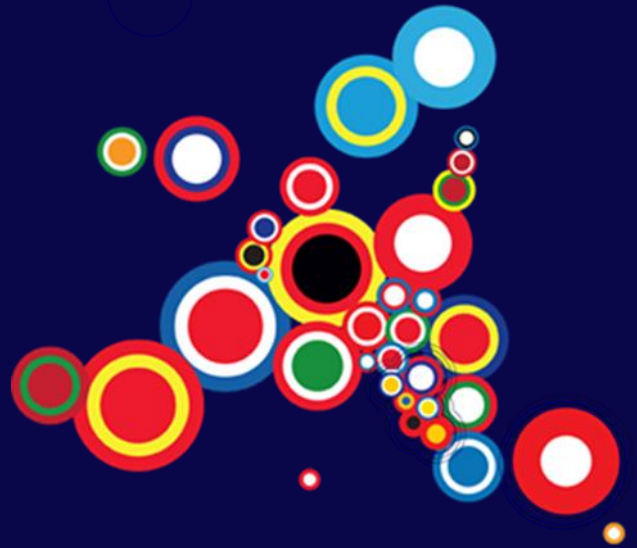




INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA II) 2014-2020

Kosovo*
EU for All



Action Summary

This Action will support the visibility of, and promote the benefits of, EU assistance, including through improved access to public facilities for persons with disability and reduced mobility as well as, in the area of culture, by contributing to the design of a prestigious Concert Hall.

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

Action Identification			
Action Programme Title	Action Programme for Kosovo for the Year 2018		
Action Title	EU for All		
Action ID	IPA 2018 / 041246 / 08/ Kosovo/EU for All		
Sector Information			
IPA II Sector	Democracy and Governance		
DAC Sector	15110		
Budget			
Total cost	EUR 3 700 000		
EU contribution	EUR 3 700 000		
Budget line(s)	22 02 01 02		
Management and Implementation			
Management mode	Direct management		
<i>Direct management:</i> EU Delegation	European Union Office in Kosovo		
Implementation responsibilities	European Union Office in Kosovo		
Location			
Zone benefiting from the action	Kosovo		
Specific implementation area(s)	Kosovo		
Timeline			
Final date for concluding Financing Agreement(s) with IPA II beneficiary	At the latest by 31 December 2019		
Final date for concluding delegation agreements under indirect management			
Final date for concluding procurement and grant contracts	3 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement, with the exception of cases listed under Article 114(2) of the Financial Regulation		
Final date for operational implementation	6 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement		
Final date for implementing the Financing Agreement (date by which this programme should be de-committed and closed)	12 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement		
Policy objectives / Markers (DAC form)			
General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective

Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aid to environment	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender equality (including Women In Development)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trade Development	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
Biological diversity	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Combat desertification	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change mitigation	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change adaptation	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. RATIONALE

PROBLEM AND STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

As outlined in the strategy for “A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans” adopted by the European Commission in February 2018, for the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP) to be a success, its opportunities and challenges must be communicated more clearly, in the Western Balkans and in the European Union (EU). In the Western Balkans, it is primarily the responsibility of governments to provide adequate information to citizens and business, and to forge a consensus around their strategic goal. In Kosovo, it has translated into a general awareness of the tangible benefits of European perspective of Kosovo and its citizens, but there is a limited understanding of the processes of the SAP.

The communication and visibility activities around EU funds and direct EU financial support to Kosovo have not managed to reach the wider public. The visibility support funded by IPA 2018 is specifically designed to advance the visibility and communication of EU support to Kosovo on its European path. Most notably, the aim is to demonstrate the relevance of EU support for Kosovo’s, socio-economic development.

This Action includes two interventions, the implementation of which has the potential to result in a significant increase in Kosovo citizens’ understanding, acceptance and awareness of EU assistance. Therefore, the following two topics are proposed as the ideal entry points for a larger visibility campaign:

- (i) Improving access for persons with a disability and/or reduced mobility to public facilities at the local level;
- (ii) Financing the detailed design of a prestigious new Concert Hall in the centre of Pristina.

Improved accessibility to public facilities for persons with disability, reduced mobility and for women, since they are more likely to be the primary caretakers of children and people with a disability is a key goal, which should be progressively achieved. In that respect, the contractor supported by Municipalities will map priority works to be executed in public facilities with priority given to the most undeveloped municipalities, and will prepare the technical documentation prior to the execution of the adaptation works. The project of this Action will focus on the reconstruction and/or adaptation of selected public buildings in 34 locations in municipalities across Kosovo. The tangible benefit of EU assistance is promoted through the implementation of the visibility intervention: access for persons with disability and reduced mobility to public facilities, and for women is improved, which has a direct positive impact on their lives.

Design and Supervision of a Concert Hall in Pristina: a public facility to be developed with Pristina Municipality on a prime location in the centre of Pristina. Pristina Municipality will launch an “Architectural design competition” for the design of the new Concert Hall, the IPA 2018 funds will be used to develop the detailed design and technical documentation of the winning architect, and for the supervision of the works. The tangible benefit of EU assistance is promoted through the construction of a prestigious new public building in the centre of Pristina, and at the same time, tourism and the creative industries are promoted.

OUTLINE OF IPA II ASSISTANCE

In the context of **improving access for persons with disability and reduced mobility to public facilities on the local level**, the action will support local institutions in identifying and improving accessibility of their public buildings through reconstruction and adaptation interventions. Works will be executed in accordance with the provisions of Kosovo law focusing on priority facilities, such as schools, social work centres, healthcare centres and employment services. The intervention will improve access to local services for those belonging to the vulnerable population (irrespective of gender or their disability), thus ensuring the respect for their fundamental rights. The key aim is to ensure the positive visibility of IPA funding which should be associated with these small-scale projects that lead to the improvement of public buildings in a large number of municipalities in Kosovo. A communications and visibility plan and its implementation will be an integral part of the project.

With regard to the **Concert Hall design and supervision**, the IPA 2018 support will be provided with the aim to develop the winning design from a competition to be launched by Pristina Municipality. The IPA funds will pay for the full design of the competition winner, and the supervision of the works. The winning architect will be responsible for the project throughout its duration. Pristina Municipality and the Ministry of Culture will: i) confirm the availability of the site and resolve any cadastral issues, ii) fund and launch an Architectural Competition for the design. The winning design should include the development of the Concert Hall as a landmark tourist destination and the use of the facility by local creative groups. This intervention will also prepare the ground for a further intervention in a subsequent IPA round for the construction of the Concert Hall. The implementation of a communication and visibility plan is an integral part of the activity, including the naming of the new Concert Hall and allocated use for the EU to hold events for a certain days in the year (9th May).

RELEVANCE WITH THE IPA II STRATEGY PAPER AND OTHER KEY REFERENCES

The Strategy for the Western Balkans sets out six new flagship initiatives. The initiative to enhance socio-economic development foresees a new reinforced social dimension with an increased focus on employment and social policies, and financial assistance to support the social sector, in particular education and health.

This action aims at increasing public awareness and transparency of the activities and results achieved by the EU through its assistance. This is essential to ensure public awareness of EU actions in line with: the **Action plan of the Commission Communicating Europe** and the **Communication and Visibility in EU-financed external actions**. Each intervention will be required to develop and submit a communication and visibility plan (CVP). The CVPs will be submitted to the EU Office in Kosovo for approval by relevant Communication Section colleagues.

In relation to the intervention “**improving access for persons with disability and reduced mobility to public facilities on the local level**”, the 2018 Kosovo Report says, "Implementation of human rights strategies and legislation is often undermined by inadequate financial and other resources, particularly at local level, limited political prioritisation and lack of coordination." The 2016 Kosovo Report outlined that the implementation of the strategy on the rights of persons with disabilities 2013-2023 was lacking, and notes on page 27 that "the authorities need to improve the inclusion of children with disabilities in the education system by increasing the number of professional staff and personal assistants. Access to public buildings and public transport remains problematic."

SECTOR APPROACH ASSESSMENT

The activities under this project cut across several sub-sectors, and as such do not follow a sector approach. Nonetheless, due care will be given to ensure that all actions financed under this envelope will be well-coordinated with other IPA interventions that are programmed on the basis of the Indicative Strategy Paper for Kosovo.

LESSONS LEARNED AND LINK TO PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Regarding **access to public buildings**, previous programmes such as the Municipal Infrastructure and Beautiful Kosovo projects, mean that there is an established relationship with Kosovo's municipalities. In order to ensure effective implementation of the **Concert Hall**, the Municipality of Pristina has undertaken a review of the proposed location to clarify the ownership, cadastral data and all other relevant issues. The Municipality of Pristina and Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS) have agreed to conduct an assessment of the proposed location, including the possibility of demolition of the current buildings, demographic indicators, socio-economic conditions, and the accessibility of proposed location.

Pristina Municipality with the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports are organising the international competition for the preparation of the preliminary design of the concert hall.

The EUO, Pristina Municipality and MCYS agreed to establish a working group to develop an Action Document for the construction of the Concert Hall under IPA 2019, and to ensure the EU' visibility through all means, including through the naming of the Concert Hall.

2. INTERVENTION LOGIC

Logical framework matrix OVERALL OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (OVI)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	
The overall objective of this action is to support the visibility of, and promote the benefits of, EU assistance.	Public opinion on EU	Annual report from the survey carried out by EUO Communication Section.	
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (OVI)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
To improve access to public facilities for persons with disability and reduced mobility as well as, in the area of culture, to contribute to the design of a prestigious concert hall.	% of the population that is aware of the extent of EU financial support.	Opinion polls / surveys.	Continuous support of Kosovo's European perspective; Future allocation by the Kosovo institutions of appropriate levels of human and financial resources; Budgetary constraints are not increased
RESULTS	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (OVI)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
Access to public buildings Access for persons with disability and reduced mobility to public facilities, and for women (since they are more likely to be the primary carers of children and people with a disability) is improved.	Number of local facilities adapted and constructed to become more accessible for persons with disabilities and reduced mobility as direct products of the EU intervention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports on the execution of adaptation and construction works • Action reports 	Representatives of public facilities subject to adaptation and construction are committed to cooperating concerning all the issues related to construction.
Concert Hall Design of a prestigious new public building in the centre of Pristina. Tourism and the creative industries are promoted.	The design and specification for the competition are prepared. The "Architectural design competition" is launched.	Cadastral documentation. Publication of "Architectural design competition"	Working group is established by central institutions and Municipality of Pristina.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

Improving access for persons with disability, reduced mobility and for women, since they are more likely to be the primary carers of children, and people with a disability to public facilities.

The key aim of the intervention is to use the high visibility of works implemented in a number of municipalities in Kosovo to raise awareness among the local population regarding the existence and role of IPA funds, while supporting an action that tangibly improves the lives of the most vulnerable citizens of these municipalities.

The action aims at achieving improved physical accessibility through the reconstruction and adaptation works performed on a number of selected public buildings in municipalities across Kosovo, with the priority for the most undeveloped.

The action focuses on selecting the municipalities, of the public facilities and public buildings that have priority; creating a work plan encompassing priority works to be executed in the selected public buildings; to establish the technical documentation for the reconstruction or adaptation of the selected public buildings, and to support the selected municipalities in carrying out the necessary reconstruction/adaptation works on public facilities in order to improve their accessibility for the targeted population. The Municipalities will be able to reconstruct buildings such as municipal facilities, schools, centres for social work, health and employment services. The planned support will comprise different types of works (e.g. erecting ramps, installing elevators, toilets with baby changing facilities, and point-of-entry adaptations) depending on the needs in each municipality. Works will be executed in accordance with the provisions of the Kosovo law in the area of planning and construction.

In addition, a separate service contract shall provide the necessary services to ensure the supervision of the works. The Service contract will be required to submit a communication and visibility plan (CVP) to the EU Office for the raising of awareness relevant to IPA funding throughout the implementation of the action.

Concert Hall

The EU will fund the detailed design and supervision of the works. The funds will be awarded via a service contract with one of the winners of the Architectural design competition to be organised by Pristina Municipality with the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

The EUO, Pristina Municipality and MCYS will establish a working group. This group will oversee the process and will also develop an Action Document under IPA 2019 for i) the construction of the Concert Hall, and ii) to ensure the EU visibility through all means including the naming of the Concert Hall and awareness raising campaigns.

RISKS

The following risks have been identified for this action:

Risk: Lack of inter-institutional cooperation and timely external stakeholder consultations

Mitigation measures:

- Ensure appropriate inter-institutional coordination and public consultations on all policy and legislative proposals;

- Provide relevant coordination capacities from the action to ensure increased flow of information which will aim at increasing the awareness on the importance of efficient cooperation;
- Communication strategy and awareness raising campaign on the importance of the activities to be implemented.

The main assumptions for the implementation of the action are the following:

- Ensure the coordination of activities between stakeholders involved in the action;
- Representatives of public facilities subject to adaptation and construction are committed to cooperating concerning all the issues related to construction;
- The working group is established by central institutions and Municipality of Pristina.

CONDITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The main conditions for the implementation of the Action are:

- Coordination and cooperation between the involved parties in the launching and implementation of the Action;
- Maintaining and improving the cooperation between the political and technical level;
- Maintaining political support to the Action.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This IPA II Action will be implemented and managed in accordance with the rules and procedures under direct management.

Improving access to public facilities

The direct beneficiaries are local municipalities and their residents. The indirect beneficiaries are the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

Concert Hall

The winning architectural design will be awarded the funds for the full design and building of the concert hall.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD(S) AND TYPE(S) OF FINANCING

This Action will be implemented under direct management. The activities under this Action will be implemented through works and service contracts.

4. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

METHODOLOGY FOR MONITORING (AND EVALUATION)

The monitoring of the implementation of this action will be done in accordance with the rules and procedures for monitoring under direct management.

The overall progress will be monitored by means of several sources:

Result Orientated Monitoring (ROM) system (led by DG NEAR): This will provide, as necessary and required, an independent assessment of the ongoing and/or ex-post performance of the action.

IPA II Beneficiaries' own monitoring: IPA II monitoring process is organised and led by the National IPA Coordinator (NIPAC / Ministry of European Integration). The NIPAC monitors the process of programming, preparation and implementation as well as the sustainability and effects of the action.

Under the Direct Management procedures, monitoring and evaluation of actions will be carried out by means of reports stipulated in the IPA II Implementing Regulation.

Self-monitoring performed by the EU Office: This is part of the annual assurance strategy process and is done based on the ex-ante risk assessment of actions/contracts considered to be at risk.

Joint monitoring by DG NEAR and the IPA II Beneficiaries: The compliance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency and coordination in implementation of financial assistance will be regularly (at least once a year) monitored by an IPA II Monitoring committee. It will be supported by Sector Monitoring Committees which ensure monitoring process at sector level.

The European Commission may carry out a mid-term, a final or an ex-post evaluation for this Action or its components via independent consultants, through a joint mission or via an implementing partner. In case a mid-term or final evaluation is not foreseen, the European Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner. The evaluations will be carried out as prescribed by the DG NEAR guidelines for evaluations. In addition, the Action might be subject to external monitoring in line with the European Commission rules and procedures set in the Financing Agreement.

INDICATOR MEASUREMENT

Indicator	Baseline (2018)	Target (2021)	Final Target (beyond 2021)	Source of information
% of the population that is aware of the extent of EU financial support	Baseline could be established in 2018 survey	tbc	tbc	Improved EU Awareness Survey 2018 (new question)
Number of local facilities adapted and reconstructed to become more accessible for persons with disabilities and reduced mobility	0	17 (2019)	34 (2020)	
Concert Hall design fully developed	Award made	Design developed (2019)		Report from Working Group.

5. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND GENDER MAINSTREAMING

The promotion of gender equality is at the heart of European social and economic policies. Despite progress made over the past years, inequalities between women and men still remain in a number of domains. A particular concern is the lack of sex disaggregated data in many sectors

and areas, hindering programming of support and planning of the best utilisation of resources for the achievement of specific gender-related results.

The present actions focus on implementing specific needs linked to Kosovo's European path and bringing European values closer. In relation to the accessibility for persons with disability and reduced mobility to public facilities, it is expected to create equal access to public services on local level for both men and women, irrespective of their disability.

Access to public buildings represents a problem not just for persons with disabilities, but also for the elderly, women with children, and pregnant women. The project, through the provision of ramps, elevator access to higher floors and other accessibility works, will allow better access to these categories as well. Civil society actors in the field of disability rights have noted that the issues faced by persons with physical disabilities are in particular severe for women with disabilities. Restrictions of physical access to public spaces lead to restrictions in the exercise of basic human rights for these individuals, and for women with disabilities, which represent one of the most vulnerable and poorest categories of citizens in Kosovo.

Equal participation of women and men will be secured through appropriate information and publicity material, in the design of projects and accessibility to the opportunities they offer. This is especially the case with the visibility intervention related to accessibility for persons with disability and reduced mobility to public facilities. The aim of the intervention is to simplify life for everyone in the targeted local communities by making the public spaces and infrastructure more accessible, usable and understandable. This intervention will create equal access to public services on the local level for both men and women, irrespective of their disability. Special attention to the persons that are visually impaired, persons who use the services of blind dogs and persons in wheelchairs will be made. The support of the Office for Good Governance will be sought in the design and implementation of the programme, in order to ensure that best practices are followed. Cooperation with local CSOs supporting persons with disabilities will be established with this purpose as well.

In line with Kosovo law, no discrimination on the basis of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, sex or sexual orientation or on any other grounds will be allowed.

In relation to the Concert Hall, the impact of the project on the social and economic circumstances, taking into particular account the impact on women will be communicated through the action.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE (AND IF RELEVANT DISASTER RESILIENCE)

Environmental considerations will be duly reflected in all activities under this action. The design of the Concert Hall will take into consideration all aspects related to environmental legislation concerning construction projects.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY (AND IF RELEVANT OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

Civil Society /Stakeholders involvement will be taken into consideration in all aspects of the activities. The NIPAC and the EU Office will work through established consultation mechanisms with CSOs.

Coordination and communication with CSOs at local level will be established in order to ensure that best practices, local level experiences and knowledge are included in the design and the implementation of works to be performed. CSOs will be also used as disseminators of information and a platform for awareness-raising activities to be implemented.

MINORITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

The action targets specifically the improvement of the position of persons with disabilities throughout Kosovo. Working with local municipalities a number of public buildings will be improved to ensure that proper conditions allow easy access to persons with disabilities.

6. SUSTAINABILITY

The improved access to public buildings will produce sustainable results because the public buildings are already in place. The works are designed to be small-scale interventions (such as ramps and elevators), which are therefore easily integrated into regular maintenance costs for the respective public buildings. It is expected that the high visibility of the results and impact of these small scale measures, in particular with regard to the perception of the population of these municipalities, shall boost interest among other local self-institutions to improve their public buildings in the same manner.

The Concert Hall will boost socio-economic development, increasing the number of persons visiting Pristina which should boost the frequency, scale of utilisation and scope of local services provided, generating an increase of revenue to Pristina municipality. It is expected that increased tourism will benefit the services industry.

7. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Physical infrastructure actions are tangible in nature and offer an excellent possibility for significant visibility activities, given the direct impact that the actions are likely to have on improving people's lives.

Communication and visibility will be given high importance during the implementation, the communication activities will be funded from amounts allocated via the contracts.

Visibility and communication actions will demonstrate how the interventions contribute to Kosovo's European perspective. Actions shall be aimed at strengthening general public awareness and support of interventions financed and the objectives pursued. The actions shall aim at highlighting to the relevant target audiences the added value and impact of the EU's interventions

In addition to the basic requirements on visibility in the form of panels, plaques, signs and other visible indications, communication activities will be aimed at explaining the impact of the action on improving people's daily lives.

As regards the Concert Hall design project, the working group should identify and carry out activities designed to communicate actions, results and impact of this EU-funded initiative.

One of the key messages will be the link between EU funds and Kosovo's European perspective.

The European Union Office in Kosovo has developed clear visibility guidelines and ensures that all projects which are implemented in Kosovo are fully in line with these guidelines. Project visibility is also clearly stipulated in all contractual documents whereby the contractors/implementers are obliged to adhere to all EU visibility requirements.