



Balkan Sunflowers

Volunteers for Social Reconstruction

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Email: office@balkansunflowers.org

Website: balkansunflowers.org

Tel: +383 38 246299

Bajram Kelmendi 31,
Prishtine, Kosovo 10000



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Appreciation Message

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova is happy to work with great people all-around the world in reaching its own goals and objectives. COVID 19 brought many problems and challenges in the organization and specifically in the communities we work. There were difficulties in reaching desired quality of the education, communities struggled ensuring basic food and non-food items for their families, people had health issues including infection with Covid 19 and unfortunately deaths in their families. We will like to sincerely thank our donors for their contributions in supporting children education and as well providing different food and non-food support to the families in order to easier manage through 2020.

“Your donations have had major impacts on helping many children and women in regards to education, human rights, social inclusion and health care in Kosovo.”

Your generosity is an encouraging reminder of why we started this organization, and inspires our continued commitment to reaching our goal and provides financial and moral support needed to continue our mission.

BSFK wouldn't be able to reach all successes without staff and volunteers. We express our gratitude to all people who have worked tirelessly for all these years, sometimes even after work hours. We thank you for your contribution, hard work and excellent performance!

Sincerely,

Muhamet Arifi
Executive Director

About Balkan Sunflowers Kosova

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova primary focus areas are *Community, Human Dignity, Children, and Youth*. The scope of work involves the protection of fundamental human rights; the social, emotional, and intellectual development of all people in Kosovo; and the promotion of community empowerment - through developing and implementing programs for education, research, advocacy, arts, culture, and other humanitarian activities.

Balkan Sunflowers (BSF) originally was an international grassroots organization, founded in 1999 to aid Kosovar refugees. Volunteers from around the world saw TV images of the war and refugee emergency. They wanted to help in ways that money could not. They believed that person-to-person contact with aid workers who came to work as friends and neighbors might help restore community life in ways that emergency aid and political support alone could not.

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK) was registered in 2007 and gradually started a transformation from being an international organization to a local non-governmental organization, which is committed to improving the holistic well-being of people through practical, value-based, and community-supported activities in the cultural, educational, and research sector. BSFK is a multiplier, building activist lives and communities for social change and reconstruction. BSFK supports and develops volunteerism, activism, regional and international exchange, and local community action in support of human dignity and rights and also European integration.

BSFK has 35 employees and 45 tutors (volunteers) involved in a daily basis.

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova believes that volunteers, both international and local who participate in community life, are crucial in order to promote the ideals of a caring and open society.

BSFK is a nongovernmental and non-profit association with the following objectives that are specified within BSFK ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System:

- **Improve the educational, social, psychological, health, emotional, and intellectual development of children and young people, their families, and communities.**
- **Advocate and mediate for the human rights of marginalized groups.**
- **Propel positive social change and support community empowerment through research, advocacy, training, mentoring, volunteerism, and innovative program development.**

BSFK, through the provision of services and projects, aims to fulfill the aforementioned objectives of the organization. The organization shows an exceptional commitment to meeting the stakeholders' requirements, expectations, and legal requirements. Our perpetual intent and dedication have been and will always be to provide high quality of services and projects of the organization.

BSFK possesses a team of motivated staff who is determined to provide top-level services. Our strength stems from dedication to our customers, partners, and employees. Our goal is to provide high quality services that fully meet our clients' requirements and legal requirements, to provide a stable financial condition and to meet the interests of the organization's partners.

Through the implementation of the quality management system according to ISO 9001: 2015 (SMC) standard, we will meet the requirements of the society in general. Along with the implementation of the management system, we will achieve progress through innovations, standardization of processes and their improvement, organizational leadership, and monitoring.

In order to achieve our goal, the management and the employees of BSFK are obliged to:

- **Meet customer requirements, needs and expectations;**
- **Operate according to separate responsibilities and established procedures;**
- **Constantly fulfill the requirements arising from European Services Directives;**
- **Continuously work to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of work processes and staff skills;**
- **Operate preventively in order to avoid non-conformities;**
- **Recognize, implement, and review the quality management policy.**

Mission Statement

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova builds activist lives for social change. We inspire and engage in community action for human rights and dignity, working in education, health, culture, citizenship, employment, and respect for diversity.

2020 project activities and achievements

Learning Centers Network

The Learning Centers Network (LCN) is comprised of 6 centers situated in 4 municipalities across Kosovo. Its main target is to provide school support programs for children of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities, and as well other communities when possible. Centers are located in Fushë Kosova (FKLC), Shtime (SHLC), Gračanica (GLC), Plemetina Village (PLC), Plemetina Social Housing Building (PBLC), and Pandeli Sotiri Learning Center (PSLC), which was established in September 2018. The programs are offered in 2 languages, Serbian and Albanian. The center space is also used for wider community activities, including those of local NGOs. The centers target children from preschool through grade 8 with different academic and social activities aiming that children go in school, stay in school, and succeed in the school.

➔ **The project aims to provide educational and social-emotional support for at least 500 children and youth from disadvantaged groups of society to promote their inclusion into the educational system and improve their future employment chances.**

570 children benefited in 5 learning centers during 2020.

Total registered children (beneficiaries)	Male	147	30	48	42	22	289	50.70%
	Female	137	38	31	37	38	281	49.30%
	Totals	284	68	79	79	60	570	

PACE Program

Planned Activities for Cohesive Education (PACE) was implemented daily in 5 learning centres. Monthly program plan was prepared by using BSFK book of the activities. BSFK staff from HQ and as well Learning Centers monitored and evaluated results of the children regularly.

The PACE curriculum is available in three languages: Albanian, Serbian, and English. The curriculum uses an activity book created by the LCN staff and an educational expert, with the activities accumulated from different resource books and the internet.

Due to the Pandemics, children didn't attend schools physically from March until September. BSFK staff was not able to implement PACE curriculum during this period. Majority of the activities were focused in assisting children in doing their homework.

From September, Learning Centers started the use PACE curriculum.

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) component is integrated into the daily program of 5 learning centres. Staff implemented daily activities defined in SEL. Personal folder was created and maintained for each child attending learning Center for monitoring and evaluation.

At the core of this program are activities Learning Center (LC) staff use for planning, implementing, evaluating, and reporting the activities they perform with children. Evaluations and feedback of PACE was conducted twice a month by each center.

BSFK PACE curriculum has hundreds of specific indicators that children have to reach during the academic year. BSFK merged PACE indicators in few in order to be able to monitor and evaluate childrens progress. PACE indicators are measured and reported 4 times per year. Below you can see summary of the indicators for all centers evaluated 4 times during the year.

Summary 5 centers - PACE evaluation Sep 2020 - June 2021					
Center	Total children registered in LC	Number of students evaluated	Average grade for language	Average grade for Mathematics	Average grade all subjects
FKLC	284	125	2.62	2.86	2.60
GLC	68	63	2.44	2.49	2.45
PBLC	79	51	2.64	2.64	3.01
PLC	79	58	2.67	2.64	3.24
SHLC	60	60	3.15	3.18	3.30
Totals	570	357	2.70	2.76	2.92

Table presents results for Language and math which are seen as the most important subject in the school. BSFK also have indicators for all subjects in the PACE. Out of 570 children attending Learning Centers, BSFK managed to monitor and evaluate 357 children. The average grade for language for children for all centers is 2.70. The average grade for Math is 2.76. The average grade for all other indicators (all subjects including math and language) is 2.92.

BSFK monitor children's progress in the school by gathering school grades children get in the school. School grades of the children are gathered twice per year.

FKLC - 1st semester academic year 2020-2021						FKLC 2nd semester grades - academic year 2020-2021				Difference between 1st and 2nd semesters - academic year 2020-2021			
Center	Total children registered in LC	Number of students evaluated	Average grade for Albanian	Average grade for Mathematics	Average grade all subjects	Number of students evaluated	Average grade for Albanian	Average grade for Mathematics	Average grade all subjects	Number of students evaluated	Average grade for Albanian	Average grade for Mathematics	Average grade all subjects
FKLC	284	142	2.50	2.67	2.75	142	2.67	2.64	2.71	142	0.17	-0.03	-0.05
GLC	68	59	2.23	1.61	2.40	59	2.49	2.25	2.68	59	0.26	0.64	0.28
PBLC	79	78	2.75	2.38	2.61	78	2.82	2.42	2.58	78	0.07	0.05	-0.02
PLC	79	61	3.22	2.58	2.54	61	3.31	2.77	2.68	61	0.09	0.19	0.14
SHLC	60	60	3.31	3.13	3.03	60	3.37	3.23	3.04	60	0.06	0.10	0.00
Totals	570	400	2.80	2.47	2.67	400	2.93	2.66	2.74	400	0.13	0.19	0.07

Table presents results for Language and math which are seen as the most important subject in the school. Table presents indicators for all subjects as well. Out of 570 children attending Learning Centers, BSFK managed to monitor and evaluate 400 children. The average grade for language for children for all centers is 2.93. The average grade for Math is 2.66. The average grade for all other indicators (all subjects including math and language) is 2.74.

BSFK organized meetings with the teachers in order to receive feedback related to the needs of the children and as well synchronize the plan of the activities of the children in the school with the activities implemented in the Learning Centers.

BSFK held meeting with the Center Coordinators and as well Learning Facilitators to analyze the implementation of the PACE, and as well structure the changes that should happened in the book of the activities in the future in order to enhance activities.

Summer Program

BSFK implemented 4 weeks online summer program from 13th of July until 7th of August 2020. BSFK designed book of the activities, printed and delivered to all children, together with educational materials needed. Different educational online activities were implemented with small groups of children (5-10) for 4 weeks.

BSFK coordinated the Learning Centers staff in designing 2021 Summer Program Curriculum. One day training to plan and as well to implement summer program was implemented for coordinators and facilitators from each learning center 5th of July

<https://www.facebook.com/balkansunflowers/posts/4067735126597158>.

After the training, staff from 5 learning centers organized 4 days of the trainings for tutors to plan and as well implement to summer program.

4 weeks of the Summer Program was implemented in 5 learning Centers from 12th of July until 6th of August. More than 500 children benefited from the Summer Program activities.

BSFK created evaluation criteria for the summer program. 387 children were evaluated every week (for 4 weeks) and the average grade that children reached is 3.78.

Center	GLC	PLC	PBLC	SHLC	FKLC	Total attendance and average grade
Number of evaluated children	61	66	68	66	126	387
1st week	3.25	4.20	3.73	4.20	3.50	3.78
2nd week	3.13	4.29	3.71	4.33	3.23	3.74
3rd week	3.10	4.41	3.72	4.50	3.49	3.84
4th week	3.41	4.39	3.73	4.06	3.13	3.74
Totals	3.22	4.32	3.72	4.27	3.34	3.78

In order to work with all children grades 1-5 BSFK created two curriculums for the summer program. One curriculum was designed to work with the children attend grade 1 and 2.

2nd curriculum was designed for the children attending grades 3, 4 and 5.

Women Literacy Program

Literacy program is part of the PACE curriculum. BSFK managed to ensure books for free and new books were added to the reading corners in 5 learning centres. Reading and telling stories were implemented online (during the pandemics) and as well at least once a week in each learning centre.

School Mediation

One of the mediator's main tasks is returning children to school. Regular meetings with parents were held to encourage families to motivate their children to stay in school and continue their education, with a total of 718 family visits in 2020, broken down in the figure to the right. Another aim was to more holistically involve the parents in improving the education of their children. Mediators had constant meetings with different stakeholders (school management, teachers, etc.) to improve attendance and involvement of the children from the target communities.

Meetings held by mediators in 2020						
Location	Meetings with school management	Meetings with teachers	Meeting municipal officials	Meeting NGO-s and other partners	Family visits	Totals
Fushe Kosove	42	27	9	9	443	530
Gracanica	15	25	29	10	126	205
Plemetina albanian language	16	9	5	4	62	96
Plemetina (Serbian language)	19	9	0	1	68	97
Shtime	18	27	12	3	19	79
Totals	110	97	55	27	718	1007

One task taken on by mediators and Learning Centers Coordinators was ensuring better and higher registration for those children going into the 1st grade. 97.91 % of eligible children are registered in the 1st grade of the primary school.

Total eligible children to be registered in 1st grade academic year 2020-2021			
Location	Number of the eligible children to be registered in 1st grade	Registered	To be registered
Fushe Kosove	137	135	2
Gracanica	13	12	1
Plemetina (Alb. ed. system)	12	12	0
Plemetina (Ser. ed. system)	20	19	1
Shtime	9	9	0
Total	191	187	4
		97.91%	2.14%

Learning Centers staff capacity building activities

BSFK implemented trainings for Learning Centers staff in order to increase their capacities and quality in their daily work with the children. BSFK had trainings related to the implementation and as well update of the PACE curriculum and book of the activities. BSFK trained its staff related to the Child protection policy and as well PSEA policy. BSFK implemented 2-day training to inform staff about documents that have to be used within the administrative instruction 19/2018 for the establishment and function of the learning centers.

BSFK organized trainings for staff on child protection, PSEA policy implementation of the Administrative Instruction 19/2018, and as well implementation of the BSFK policies and procedures. Training was held 18th of May.

Learning Centers sustainability

BSFK had internal meetings with the Learning Centers staff in order to prepare and finalize requested materials in order to apply for the registration of the Learning Centers. Staff from the centers worked individually to finalize some of the requested documents for the registration, while BSFK hired expert to assist in the finalization of the required documents that can be used from all centers and as well apply for registration. More than ten joint meetings were held with the Learning Centers staff in order to finalize materials. In November, BSFK finalized required documents and applied online for the registration of the Learning Centers.

BSFK had to invest in repairs and renovations in order to fulfill criteria elaborated in the Administrative Instruction 19/2018.

Ministry of Education established commission which has the responsibility to evaluate applications and decide about registration of the Learning Centers. It is expected to have centers registered in 2021.

AI 19/2018 foresees financial allocations by the Kosovo institutions at central and local level. Registration of the Learning Centers should bring financial support from the institutions, increase quality of the program, increase cooperation with the institutions and schools.

For the time being, BSFK receive in-kind contribution from local level. Learning Centers activities in Shtime, Graçanica, Plemetina (PBLIC) and Fushe Kosova are implemented in municipal

properties and are free of charge. In Gračanica, heating, electricity and some materials for the activities are covered by the municipality. There is minimal support provided by other municipalities for the staff salaries and other materials (cost) needed for the learning centers.

Supporting the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in the situation created by COVID-19

Support with food and hygiene, education and internet packages.

Different donors through Balkan Sunflowers Kosova supported Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in order to help them manage the COVID 19.

➔ BSFK project aiming provision of the food and hygiene packages was approved by the Office for Community Affairs within the Office of the Prime Minister. BSFK purchased and delivered 324 packages to the Ashkali, Roma and Egyptian communities in Fushe Kosova, Obiliq and Shtime municipalities. The delivery of the packages was coordinated with the municipal stakeholders and the delivery was implemented from BSFK volunteers.

➔ BSFK implemented two phases of the project supported by Kosovo Foundation for Open Society (KFOS).

Phase 1 was implemented in 8 municipalities. BSFK had project partners who managed the delivery of the food and hygiene, and as well educational packages. BSFK was responsible for the purchase of all packages and payment of the internet packages. Partners assisted in the delivery of the packages in their municipalities and finding families in the need for internet payment.

- Bethany Christian Services (Gjakove)
- Roma and Ashkali Documentation Center (Mitrovicë)
- Nevo Koncepti (Prizren dhe Suharekë)

BSFK managed on its own:

- Fushe Kosova
- Gračanica
- Shtime
- Obiliq.

- 1765 families mainly Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian have received food / hygiene packages (around 20 euro each) in 8 municipalities of Kosovo.
- 500 families have benefited from learning packages (around 5 euro each).
- 50 families have benefited from internet packages for 2 months.

Phase 2 was implemented in 14 municipalities. BSFK implemented second phase of the project with the same project partners who managed the delivery of the food and hygiene, and as well educational packages. BSFK was responsible for the purchase of all packages and payment of the internet packages. Partners assisted in the delivery of the packages in their municipalities and finding families in the need for internet payment.

- 2800 families mainly Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian have received food / hygiene packages (around 20 euro each) in 14 municipalities of Kosovo.
- 710 families have benefited from learning packages (around 5 euro each).
- 210 families have benefited from internet packages for 2 months.

➔ BSFK ensure financial support from the German Embassy in Kosovo and provided 221 food and hygiene packages (around 45-euro value per package) and as well 300 packages (around 5 euro per package). Packages were delivered in Fushe Kosova, Obiliq and Gracanica.

➔ BSFK cooperated with Perspektiven für Kinder auf dem West Balkan, from Germany. From June – December, more than 100 food and hygiene packages (45-50 euro value) were delivered to the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Fushë Kosova.

➔ Vulnerable cases of non-majority communities in Fushë Kosova have been identified through the questioner and referred to IOM in order to have access to project services supported by IOM Kosovo. BSFK field workers and volunteers have implemented questioners with 317 families with different needs in Roma, Ashkali, Egyptian and Serbian communities. During the visits field workers distributed informational material related to the Covid-19 pandemic awareness rising.

47 persons out of 317 families are selected to be assisted with different medicaments; BSFK has analyzed the list with relevant beneficiaries and their specific needs and identified the people in need to be assisted. Medicaments were sent to 47 families during December.

113 patients are selected for home examinations out of 317 families (questioners). Out of 113 patients, 10 of them are not able to be checked because: 5 of them refused check up, 4 of them were not available and one passed away. In total 115 people had medical examinations at home.

BSFK assisted in finding on training job for three people. One Serb and one Ashkali were engaged as commercialists at Sole Company, and one Ashkali women was engaged in the hairdresser salon as cleaner and assisting in hairdressing.

Health

The BSFK is working mainly in areas with Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, they shifted all of their effort on humanitarian actions for the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. In this time of the Pandemic COVID-19 the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian community is facing with different obstacles and needs in different aspects of the life, especially in health issues. The members of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians communities are mostly unemployed and have very difficult life conditions. Also, during the Pandemics they have to keep social distance and isolated from their families, which is very difficulties for them taking in consideration that they keep very close family relations.

In October 2020 BSFK conducted a survey to assess the health status, focusing on COVID-19 infections in 4 municipalities. The municipalities are: Fushë Kosovë, Obiliq, Shtime and Gracanica. A total of 564 families were included in the research. The very bad socio-economic situation of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities significantly affects their health as well. Based on the findings from the research, the health condition is very serious. Out of 564 families interviewed, 270 people have a problem with Hypertension, 134 have heart disease, 63 have a respiratory problem (Asma, Brochities), 118 people have diabetes, and 55 people have a kidney problem. There are other findings in the report that show some of the main health problems in three communities. Report is comparative with the 2014 report published by BSFK.

Report is published in the BSFK website and it is available for public.

<http://www.balkansunflowers.org/en/news/health-situation-of-roma-ashkali-and-egyptian-communities-in-fushe-kosova-and-obiliq-municipalities/>

Health awareness raising

BSFK organized 14 workshops related to the health for more than 30 beneficiaries from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities from Fushe Kosova and Obiliq. Changes in communities are seen gradually from year to year. Based on the feedback of the participating women, they have started to apply the advices provided in the lectures by the doctors. Specific changes that have occurred are:

- Women from the communities are informed about various diseases which may occur as a result of negligence in various fields
- Women are informed about the methods of prevention and cure of various diseases
- Women are informed about the mechanisms they can turn to in case of need for medical assistance.



Health advocates and volunteers in Fushe Kosova identified people with diabetic.

People with diabetes were invited and attended workshops related to raising awareness about diabetes.

Due to the Pandemics, we were not able to organize to many workshops.

Six workshops with people with diabetes are held by the health advocates in Fushe Kosova and two in Plemetina.

Home to home visits were implemented with people with diabetes in order to raise their awareness related to diabetes. Database with the people with diabetes is in place and can be used for the future planning and assistance.

Awareness raising activities related to the diabetes were implemented in Fushe Kosova and Plemetina Learning centers with the children. More than 250 children benefited from the activities related to diabetes.

In order to increase immune system and protect from COVID-19, BSFK supported 150 families in need from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities with vitamins for 2 months. Medicaments were provided in 4 municipalities: Fushe Kosova, Obilic, Gracanica and Shtime. More than 20 families were given the machine to measure high blood pressure. 30 families received insulin and other materials needed to control diabetes.

From September until December BSFK implemented four-month project supported by UNFPA Kosovo. Project was implemented in 4 municipalities where the Learning Centers are located. BSFK Established 5 youth clubs within 5 BSFK Learning Centers. More than 25 youth were engaged in the implementation of the different health activities with Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities. Youth had regular meetings in order to coordinate and implement project activities in the field.

Three-days training on Sexual and Reproductive Health during COVID-19 are implemented. This group of youth had for the first time training on reproductive health. Youth learned about sexual and reproductive health, including maternal health, healthy pregnancy, family planning, STI and HIV prevention, GBV, healthy behavior, and menstrual hygiene. Youth will carry information to their communities in the area they live.



Five Learning Centers Coordinators were engaged mentor youth and as well to assist project coordinator in the implementation of the activities in 5 Learning Centers.

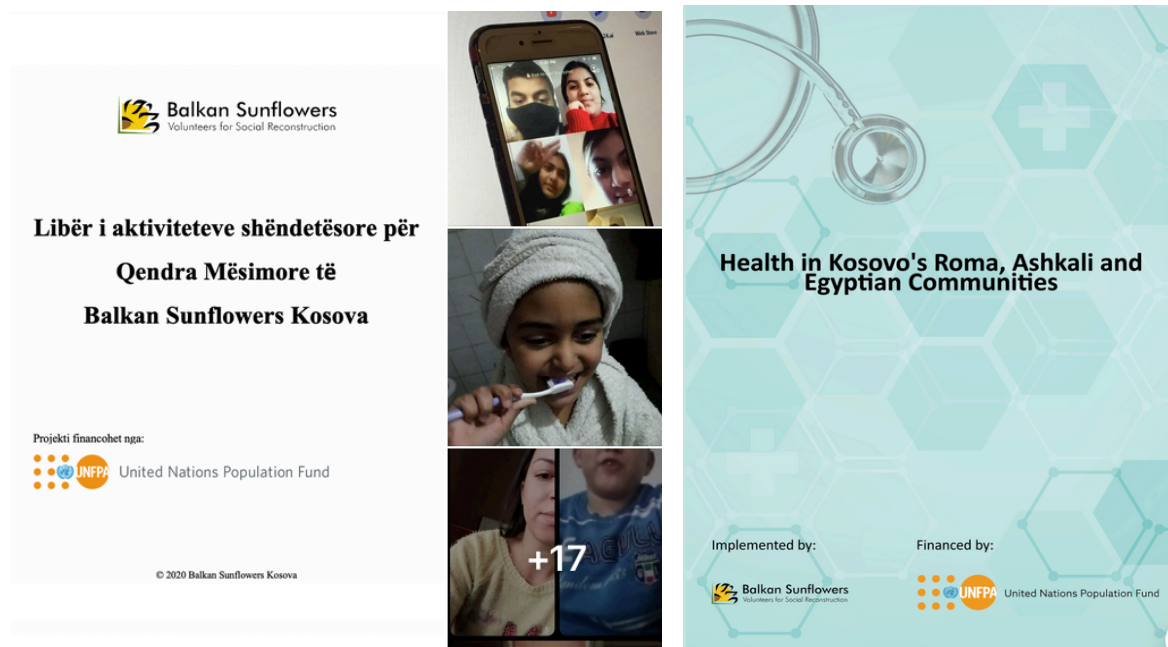
BSFK conducted a health survey of 3125 family members in 574 Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian households.

BSFK produced report presenting the health situation of the Kosovo Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in municipalities of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Shtime/Shtimlje, Obiliq/Obilic, and Gračanica/Gračanicë. Some of the major findings are:

15 out of 43 women are under age of 18. 161 out of 261 women said that they don't visit gynecologist regularly and the main reasons are: I do not need gynecologist, prefer not to answer, I don't have time, and far from home. Related to sexual reproductive health, 179 women confirmed that they have knowledge about reproductive health, 344 women said they don't, and 50 women prefer to not answer. Unfortunately, 60% of the women declared that they do not have information about sexual and reproductive health.

More than 75% of the women (435 women) reported that they didn't use contraceptives. Report is published in Albanian, Serbian and English, and Balkan Sunflowers Kosova website:

<http://www.balkansunflowers.org/en/news/report-on-the-health-situation-of-the-kosovo-roma-ashkali-and-egyptian-communities-in-municipalities-of-fushe-kosove-kosovo/>



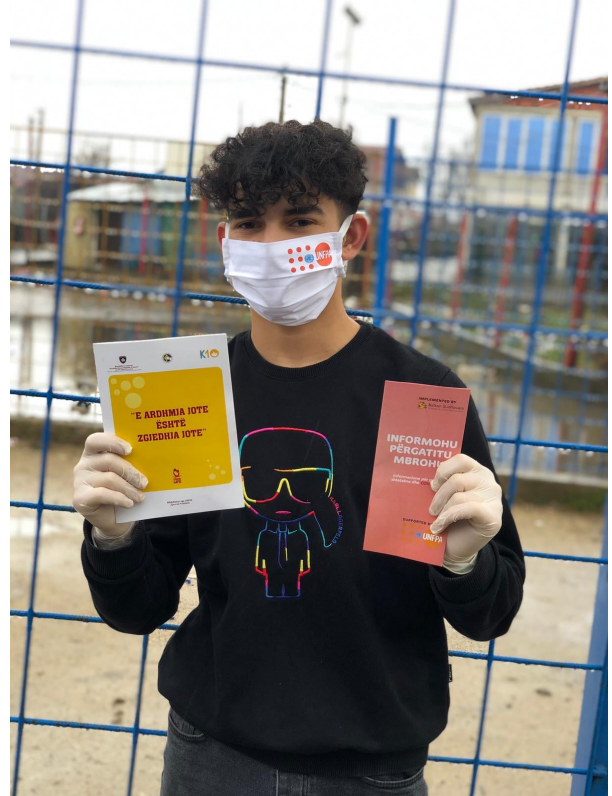
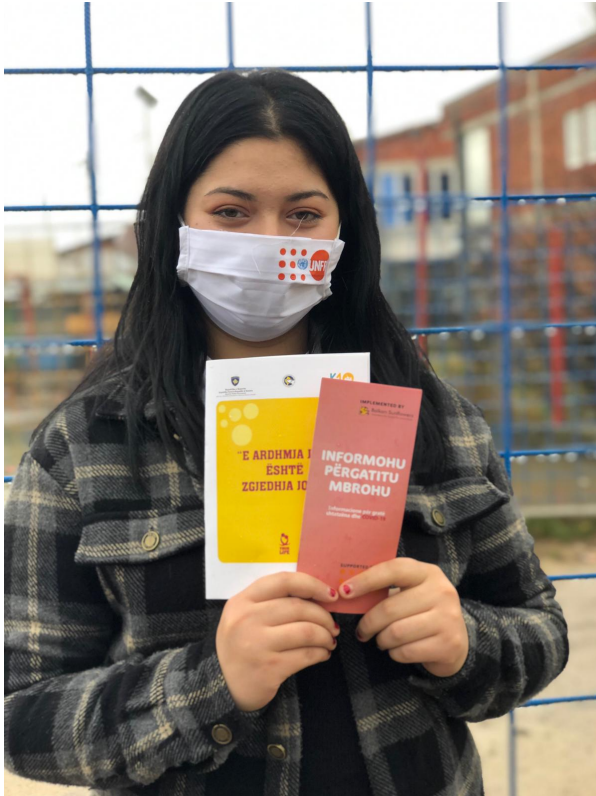
Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo (BSFK) jointly with the youth clubs' members and learning centers coordinators identified people who are the most in need (based on the defined below) to provide hygiene packages. The criteria for obtaining hygienic packages were:

1. To identify families with a focus on single mothers and fathers;
2. Children with special needs;
3. Persons with COVID-19;
4. Families in extreme poverty;
5. Families with large numbers of members.

BSFK distributed 1350 hygiene kits in Fushë Kosovë, Gracanice, Obiliq and Shtime. The value of each kit was around 20 euro. Packages were delivered home to home by BSFK volunteers.



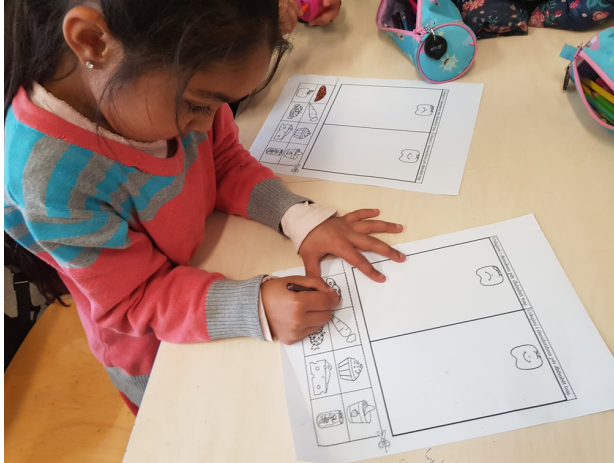
Approximately 2000 women from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities are visited home to home from the BSFK youth to raise awareness related to maternal health, family planning, STI and HIV prevention, and protection from COVID-19. During family visits we have distributed around 2800 condoms, and raised awareness on benefits of contraceptive use. Distributed condoms were donation from Kosovo Population Foundation (KOPF).



More than 250 children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities benefited from the health awareness activities organized by Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK) staff in 5 Learning Centers. Majority of the activities are held online via social media. Balkan Sunflowers designed book of the activities and power point presentations covering different health topics related to the health issues important for the overall wellbeing.

Objectives of the health awareness activities were:

1. Children are informed about the health benefits of exercising regular physical activities;
2. Children learn different types of physical activities;
3. Children are informed about the COVID-19 Pandemic and how to protect themselves from the Corona virus;
4. Children become aware of the importance of using healthy foods and implementing regular physical activities that contribute to having a healthier body;
5. Develop literacy and increase the motivation of children from communities to engage in school;
6. Parents are engaged in the healthy development of children.
7. Improving pedagogical skills for staff and tutors from 5 learning.



BSFK has distributed 500 hygiene kits to the children attending Learning Centers in Fushe Kosove, Gracanice, Obiliq and Shtime. Children received 1 package of the tooth paste, 2 tooth brushes, and 2 hand soaps. Learning Centers' staff implemented different activities with the children related to the importance of the oral health.



Project: Awareness raising and immunization of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children

In October 2020, BSFK started implementation of the project Awareness raising and immunization of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children. Project was supported by UNICEF Kosovo Office. Project was implemented in 6 municipalities of Kosovo. The main goal of the project was Increase access to immunization programmes for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children. Project will be closed in March 2021.

42 researchers were trained in October to implement needs assessment survey in 6 municipalities to create a database of not immunized children. BSFK divided participants and organized two (one day) training. One day training was organized in Fushe Kosova and present were 21 participants (9 male and 12 female). Second training was in Ferizaj with 21 participants (10 male and 11 female).

Managed by BSFK staff, researchers in 6 municipalities implemented need assessment survey in order to create a database of the not immunized children, and afterwards assist them in the immunization. BSFK visited approximately 2120 families in 6 municipalities. 1229 families have children ages 0-7 (1049 male and 949 female). 370 male and 329 female are not immunized regularly.



20 mentors and volunteers were trained in order to increase their capacities related to the legal framework and mechanisms, with specific focus on immunization, and as well inform them about the project activities and tools Due to Pandemics, BSFK divided participants and

organized two (one day) training. Training was implemented in BSFK premises. In the first day present were 10 participants (6 male and 4 female). In second day of the training were 10 participants (3 male and 7 females).

BSFK hired immunization expert in order to provide online training to health professionals and BSFK staff in 6 municipalities. One day training was organized. 33 people participated in the training.

Approximately 740 families were visited in 6 municipalities in order to raise awareness about the importance of the immunization, and as well to invite them to immunize their children in the immunization sessions.

BSFK volunteers in cooperation with the health institutions organized 12 immunization sessions for children. Majority of the immunization activities were held in the health clinics and learning centers. 2 in Lipjan, 3 in Ferizaj, 2 in Fushe Kosova, 2 in Shtime, 2 in Obiliq and 1 in Gjilan.

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova staff and volunteers during the period October – December 2020 in 6 municipalities assisted health institutions to immunize 127 children ages 0-7.

More than 150 health packages were given to the families who vaccinated their children.



Capacity building activities

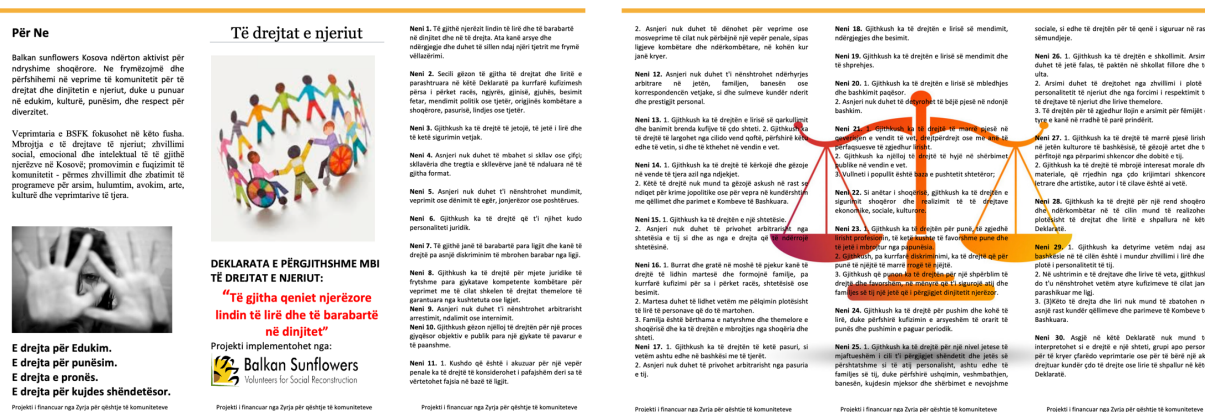
BSFK project “Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Interests of the Non-Majority Communities” was financed by the Office for Community Affairs for the period October 2020 – March 2021.

8 workshops were provided during the September – December and. Approximately 150 people benefited.

- 50 members of the Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities were informed about the legal framework and mechanisms related to the protection of the rights of non-majority communities.
- 20 women from the Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities have been trained and informed to research and apply for jobs.
- 50 Ashkali, Egyptians and Roma are informed about the functioning of institutional mechanisms.
- 30 young people from the Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities have developed advocacy skills to advance the implementation of the legal framework related to the protection of the rights of non-majority communities.
- About 2000 families from the Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities are informed about the legal framework and mechanisms related to the protection of the rights of non-majority communities.



Leaflet: Legal framework and mechanisms.



Leaflet: Human rights.

Project: Young change makers through theatre

There are few projects, which seek to engage young people in many different areas of interest, and among them there are sports related projects, civil society related projects, and some art related projects. There are very few theaters related projects currently available to young people in Kosovo, especially for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian minority communities and women.

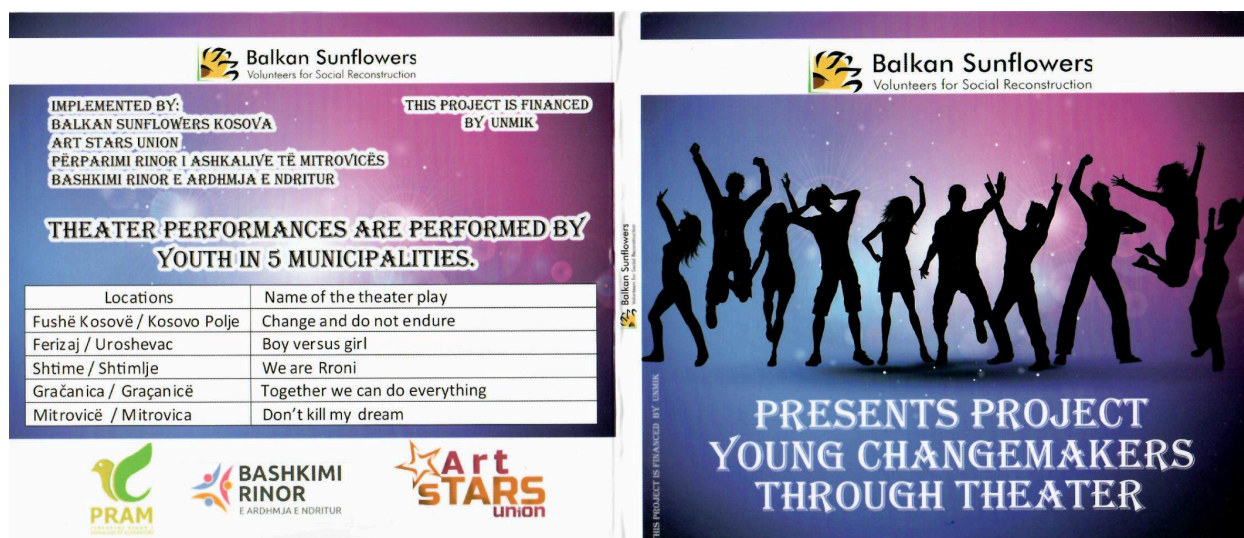
This action addressed that lack of programs in this sector by filling it with a grassroots program, within minority communities, collaborating with majority communities, and as well with local institutions.

The vision of the action is to have six theater troupes active for years to come, adding new members as necessary in order to keep its numbers constant, but also to bring in new ideas. The objective of the Grassroots Theater Troupes (GTT) was to create grassroots theater troupes where young people can develop their own abilities to collaboratively express themselves and a lifelong appreciation for different arts. Using their creativity they wrote, directed, and star in a theater production to address personal negative social phenomena as well as to promote volunteerism and social activism. This action brought a diverse group of peers together to explore social issues in a theatrical setting.

Theatrical performances, which focuses on everyday social issues faced by youth, will share a great deal of insight into what life is like for youth in Kosovo today. Building an engaging platform for these issues will create a wider awareness for the current challenges and successes young people face.

Five Theater Troupes are established in five municipalities of Kosovo, combined primarily from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, Albanian community. Troupes had opportunity to collaborate, share and learn from different experiences during the training, and during the theater performances preparations.

BSFK implemented project in cooperation NGO Përparimi Rinor i Ashkalive të Mitrovicës (PRAM) who assisted BSFK in Mitrovica municipality. NGO Art Stars Union (ASU) assisted BSFK in municipality of Shtime. BSFK will worked closely with NGO BRAN in Ferizaj Municipality as well.

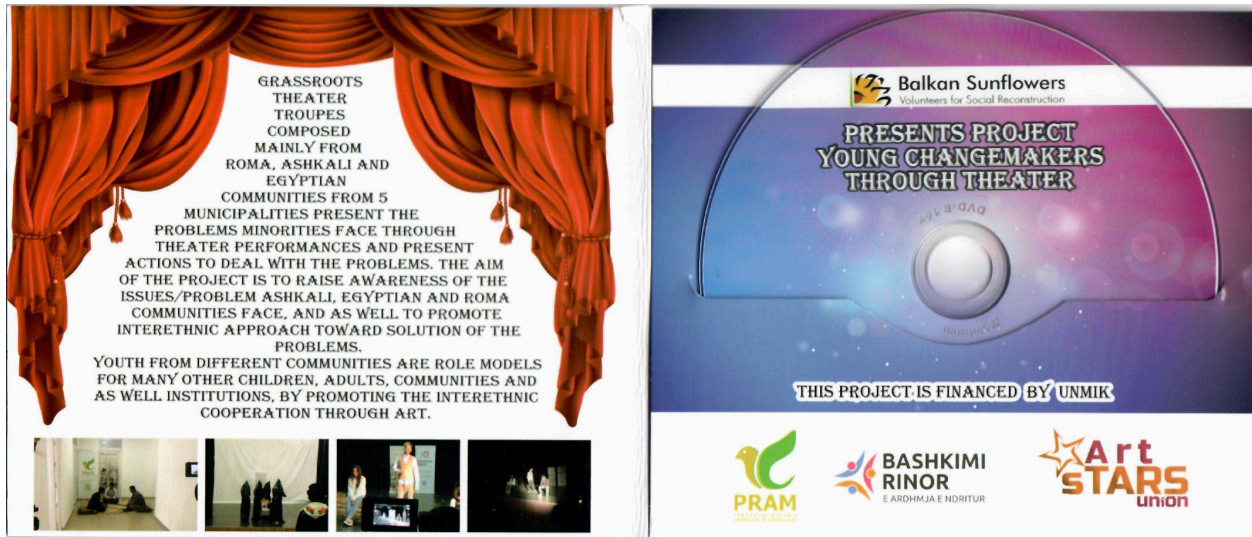


BSFK and partners announced via social media the call for youth to apply to be member of the theatre troupes. Google form was designed and youth applied online. 58 Youth are selected to be part of the training. Three-day training was organized for approximately 60 people. Professional theater trainers were hired to provide the training to the members of the troupes. The training encompasses all aspects of theater, including: acting, set design, directing, conveying a message, and writing a script.

After the training, the troupes meet with youth in the locations they live to discuss problems their communities have on a regular basis, and discuss they ways how would they like to address these problems in their performance. BSFK in cooperation with partners and mentors organized focus group meetings with youth in each municipality and with the aim to select topics for performances. Below are presented topics for each location:

1. **Fushe Kosovo** - Domestic Violence
2. **Gracanica** – Socialization and inclusiveness
3. **Shtime**- prevention of drug use
4. **Ferizaj** - women employment
5. **Mitrovica** - Prevention of early marriages

Theatre troupes in 5 municipalities have been established and rehearsals were held 2-3 times a week. Artistic coordinator regularly participated in rehearsals in 5 municipalities instructing and mentoring youth. Project manager monitored regularly rehearsal in 5 municipalities.



In order to organize plays, theater troupes in 5 municipalities had online theatrical rehearsals 2 times per week. We had online meetings with mentors, artistic coordinator, project manager and Director about the situation of the Covid-19 and the realization of the project in current situation.

Kosovo institutions introduced new measures for limitations of the movement phase 2 and therefore we were allowed to have intensive rehearsals and finalize plays as planned.

BSFK for the safety of the people can't organize events in the theater; we decide to make change to record a video in 5 municipalities. More than 1000 copies of the DVD were printed and delivered in the Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities. BSFK published videos on social media. For more information see:

1. Theatrical troupes Ferizaj: <https://youtu.be/mdl9DSj8ccc>
2. Theatrical troupes Gracanica: <https://youtu.be/T3MoSKBKfOM>
3. Theatrical troupes Fushe Kosova: <https://youtu.be/8hizDJA6wXQ>
4. Theatrical troupes Mitrovica: <https://youtu.be/dlSxTVknFoo>
5. Theatrical troupes Shtime: <https://youtu.be/v4lqOI1tYYU>

Kosint project

1.1 KOSINT Network Meetings

Regular meetings were held with network members and local team leaders through online platforms. At the beginning, the meetings were held to explain to the leaders the purpose of KOSINT. We also met with the activists who will be involved in local actions of KOSINT.

1.2 Emergency Response on COVID 19

The campaign was held for distribution of emergency packages for the identified and families in need. Community leaders and activists made the list of 1,500 identified families from the municipalities of Peja, Istog, Gjakova, Prizren, Fushë Kosovë, Mitrovica, Ferizaj and Shtime. During this period we have also organized meetings (online) with families of communities which have expressed readiness to join the activities of KOSINT, especially in the emergency phase of the pandemic. Local institutions in each of the municipalities, municipal emergency headquarters were also present in these meetings. Together with families we have identified their most urgent requests to be included in emergency packages.

The KOSINT team together with community leaders and activists also engaged in distribution of emergency packages. For several days we met families door to door and distributed packages, which included hygienic items such as masks, gloves, disinfectants, and medications like Paracetamol and Vitamin C.



1.3 Door to Door campaign - Election 2021

Conducting dialogue with families and representatives of communities and candidates who were part of the election campaign. We have organized several meetings with families and political candidates for community involvement, where we have also sought their commitments. At the same time, during this period, the leaders and activists of communities within the KOSINT program engaged for involvement of 21 young activists in the door-to-door campaign, distribution of banners and leaflets, in order for Roma families to come out and exercise their right to vote. Activists also met and shared some postcards during the meetings and public campaigns of the candidates for Prime Minister, which conveyed the priorities of the Roma, Egyptian, and Ashkali communities, and their inclusion.

2. Communication strategy

2.1 Media campaign (digital)

Each news related to KOSINT activities was published on the Facebook page and the KOSINT website.

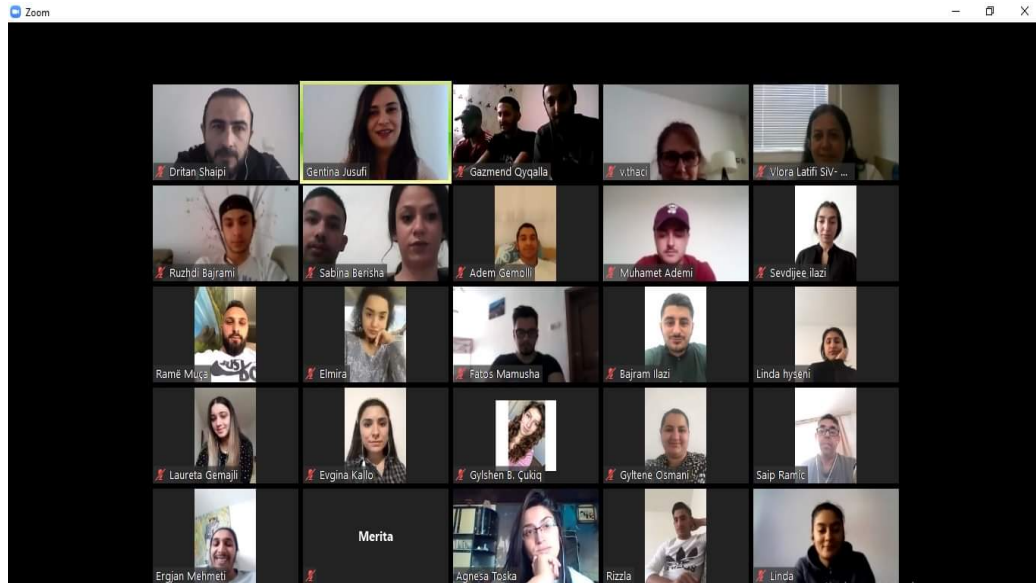
Community dialogue took place in seven (7) locations that KOSINT operates. For all these activities, we have published invitations on Facebook social network. All the dialogues were also broadcast live on Facebook to be followed by those who were interested, and to express their opinions. In each public dialogue participated officers of municipal emergency teams and community participants.

During the campaigns, we had about 500 followers in our FB page, now we have 1,275 followers. Furthermore, the reach of page posts has been higher than ever before. For example, the live community dialogues from 500 views the least, up to 1,800 views and 5,260 people reached to our live broadcasting. Furthermore, for the post that included the letter sent to Prime Minister to include the Roma communities specifically in the Recovery Fund, it had 122,670 reaches, while it had 1,759 engagements.

Most of the KOSINT posts are not sponsored, thus the reach of our posts was organic.

For the campaign not to vote the Recovery Fund, we have prepared several leaflets that were distributed to the Kosovo Parliament by then the MP Elbert Krasniqi. The post in Facebook had 1,610 reaches. The KOSINT initiative was also discussed among the MP's during the parliament session.

The election campaign of October 2020, was another campaign that gained most reaches, as it was also sponsored. We have prepared several leaflets for online and offline distribution with messages about the relevance of voting. The organic reach of these messages was more than 1,000 for each, while the sponsored one had 320,770 reaches. The message was: Raise your voice, Make your choice and Go out and VOTE.



2.2 Media campaign (traditional)

During the design and implementation of Emergency Response on COVID-19 activities, we were also part of TV shows and news portals to explain the manner how KOSINT will initially receive the opinions of community members, and then distribute the articles that have been stated to be as the most necessary ones.

- https://telegrafi.com/organizatat-e-shoqerise-civile-shkruejne-kryeministrit-hoti-per-gjendjen-e-komuniteteve-rae/?fbclid=IwAR2OPn43A_QTSaqdivtRbiiWN3eBE1J1igBvktq4wtITDh2IYxwcWpiuWk
- https://kosova.info/gjendja-e-rende-e-komunitetit-rae-shtyne-organizatat-e-shoqerise-civile-ti-shkruejne-kryeministrit-hoti/?fbclid=IwAR0UkOBGRH_kNDFmHtN-o-mMSi1h-m_2_Gm664H7paSnIGZfsWBLEMYJZS4
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXRyAlbjD6U&list=PLf6ulLvSRTb125RweRO-BzDnqWhT3jhnu&index=15&fbclid=IwAR1P9YxXTL3pAtNH646FAnLV8JzjZ7vmpEQdNz5sAcnpUEJa-6hJwXezTcl>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xZTjgoZCZk>

Finances

Our organization has procurement regulations and is certified by ISO Standard 9001: 2015. The external audit of the organization is done every fiscal year. The organization is registered in the Tax Administration of Kosovo (TAK) and regularly declares VAT. Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo uses the QuickBooks financial system.

BSFK Profit or Loss for 2020	
Total grant income	€ 380,504.00
Total payroll expenses	€ 124,968.00
Total operations expenses	€ 96,260.00
Total utility expense	€ 1,173.00
Total fuel and travel expenses	€ 5,515.00
Total communication expenses	€ 4,252.00
Total Activity expenses	€ 4,144.00
Covid-19 Support to third parties	€ 140,761.00
Depreciation expense	€ 3,429.00
Total expense	€ 380,502.00

For more information, please visit:

www.balkansunflowers.org

or contact us via phone: +383 (0) 38 246 299