




ipkofoundation
ANNUAL ACTIVITY
NEWSLETTER

Supporting the development of future generations of leaders who use technology to implement innovative solutions to local and national development challenges.



AS WE REFLECT ON THE SUCCESSFUL YEAR IPKO FOUNDATION HAS HAD, LET'S
SHARE SOME OF OUR HIGHLIGHTS

It is time to celebrate our highlights and successes of 2022 and the holidays through this newsletter crafted by IPKO Foundation. As we wrap up the year and head into the holiday season, we're taking a moment to reflect on the progress made in 2022 and look ahead to 2023.

We begin our third decade with a strategic plan for the next 5 years which gives direction and alignment for our work within the broader macro processes and policy frameworks in Kosovo, the region, Europe, and the world; a higher level of awareness of the context in which we operate; a structured programmatic base; clear ways to reach for specific results; and a system that enables continuous adaptation and improvement through learning and impact measurement.

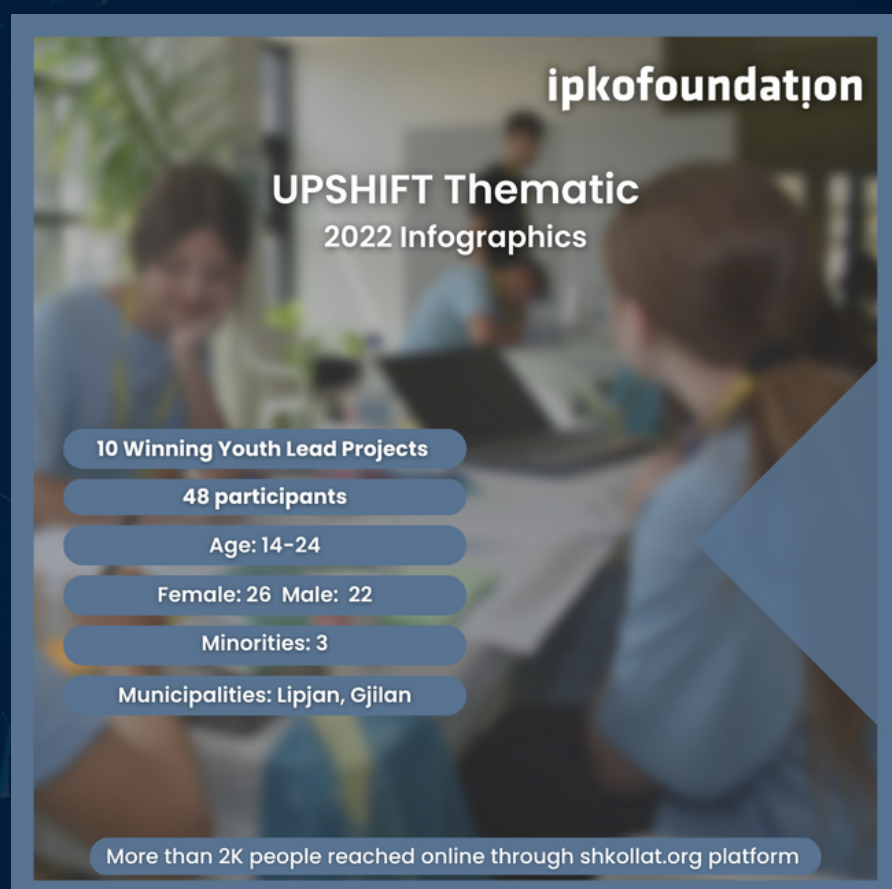
In 2022, we continued working to achieve our goals through three interconnected work programs:

GENERATION NEXT PROGRAM

We prepare young people for life and work by providing access to high-quality skills development - linking their education to societal and market needs.

IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES

IPKO Foundation, with the support of UNICEF Kosovo Programme and other stakeholders implemented UPSHIFT - Social Impact Workshop, PODIUM - Advocacy for Change Workshop, PONDER - Critical Media Literacy Workshop and TECHSTITUTION Workshop. These programs have increased students' employability and career awareness and enhanced their entrepreneurial skills and knowledge to enable self-employment. In addition, we have reached through our social media channels more than 30,000 young people from all over Kosovo. More than 300 are direct beneficiaries, from where 56% are female and more than 5 % are from non-majorities.





GIRLS IN ICT

Girls in ICT - Aim to empower and inspire young girls and women to participate in the tech industry and seek careers in technology. This year's edition successfully aided in employing 17.64% of the participants in full-time positions and 23.54% of participants in internships with companies in the tech field. This is done through workshops, Inspiring talks, and Job Fair.

HOURLY OF CODE

Hour of CODE - IPKO Foundation joined the Hour of Code movement in Kosovo initiated by FLOSSK - Free Libre Open Source Software Kosova, as a one-hour introduction to computer science, using fun tutorials to show that anybody can learn the basics. This grassroots campaign is supported by over 400 partners and 200,000 educators worldwide. In Kosovo, more than 3k youngsters joined the movement, in 25 different municipalities of Kosovo.



SPARKING CHANGE PROGRAM

Through this program, we support academic institutions, students, the private sector, government institutions, and other actors to innovate and develop solutions to development challenges.

BARCAMP

BarCamps are a platform for Social Dialogue. These informal conferences promote the best and brightest of the community and foster a new era of leadership through sharing, learning, and discussion with each other. This year, we brought two editions of bar camps in the municipalities of Lipjan and Gjilan, during the Global Entrepreneurship Week in Kosovo, where we discussed the path between education and inclusion.

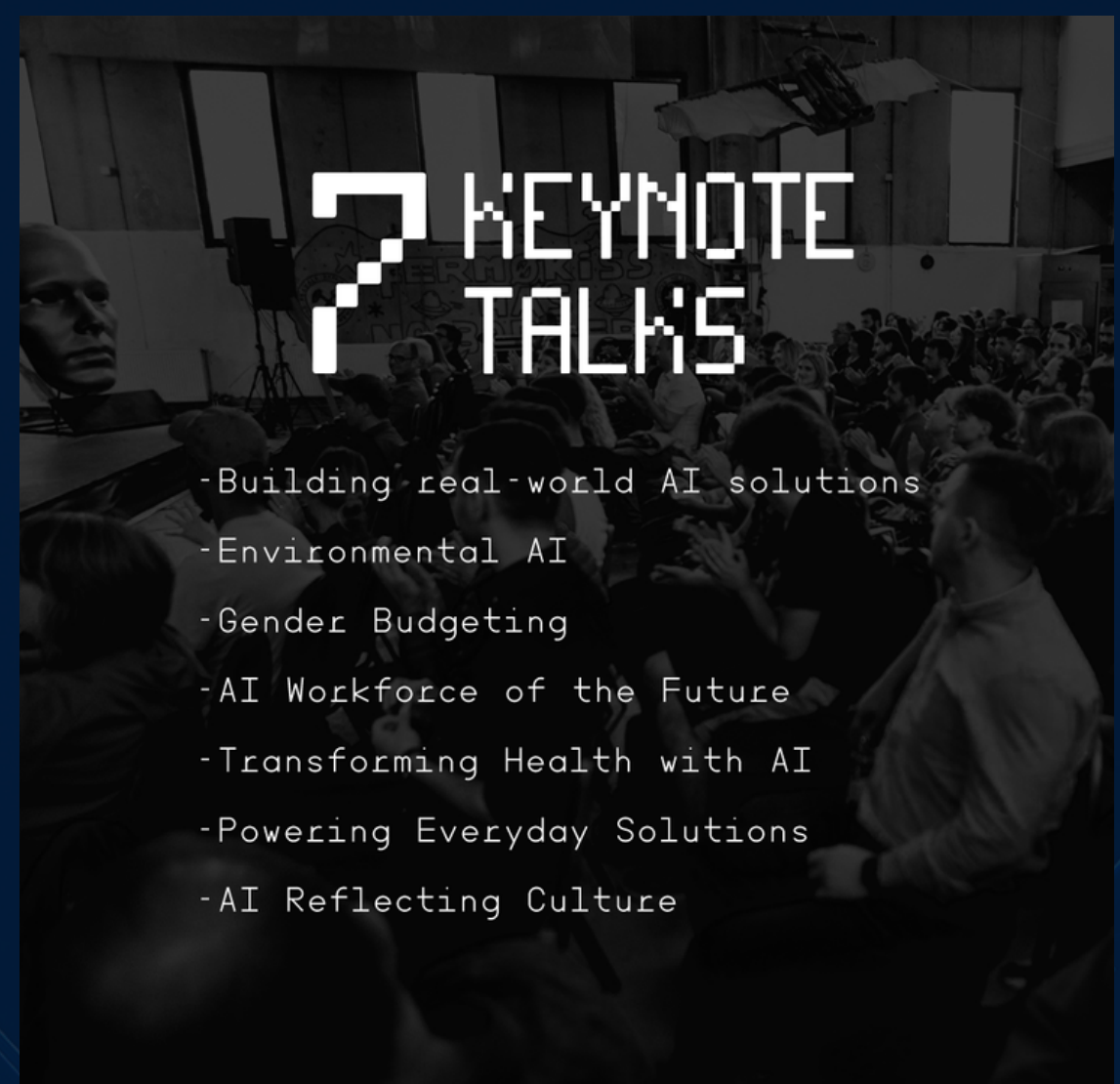


SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsorship Program - During 2022, IPKO Foundation has supported organizations in the form of sponsorship for events and activities where young people could innovate, gain digital experience, create connections, share knowledge and work together to bring change in their communities. Total funds given: 8,220.00 EUR

DOKU.TECH

DOKU.TECH is the annual technology festival in Prishtina, Kosovo, that explores and challenges the social implications of innovative technology and connects Kosovo with the frontiers of international technological innovation. Focused on the needs and interests of the 1 million Kosovars under 25 years old, the Festival offers inspiration, hands-on experiences, and networking to help them advance in their lives and careers. During 2022, we held two editions of DOKU.TECH, both in Prishtina and Prizren, with the theme “My Face is Not a Barcode,” to explore opportunities and threats of Artificial Intelligence and Data, with well-known speakers, such as Krenar Komoni - CEO of Tive, Diana Gehlhaus - AI Workforce Researcher, Maja Bosnic - Public Finance Expert, Rudradeb Mitra - CEO of Omdena, Julia Hoxha - CEO of Zana, Bruno Sanchez Andrade Nuno - AI of Earth Program Director, Microsoft, and Henrik Chulu - Public Speaking. In this edition, we had more than 950 participants, 7 KeyNote Talks, 7 different Workshops, and the DIY Fair with more than 12 tech organizations/companies.



INCLUSION CAMPAIGN

On International Girl Child Day, IPKO Foundation and Down Syndrome Kosova launched the Inclusion campaign to mark October as Down syndrome awareness month. The International Day of the Girl Child celebrates the power of girls and highlight the barriers they face, as declared by the United Nation General Assembly in 2011.



BODYRIGHT CAMPAIGN

BODYRIGHT - Own Your Body Online - On December 13, UNFPA Kosovo, in partnership with IPKO Foundation, organized the launching ceremony of the BODYRIGHT campaign in Kosovo. The goal of the campaign in Kosovo, Own Your Body Online, is to raise awareness about technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV) and its consequences. It is a part of the UNFPA initiative to increase understanding that TFGBV is real violence, which takes many different forms. It has real-world impacts and calls upon decision-makers and relevant stakeholders to improve protection mechanisms and support systems to address the TFGBV the same way they address the other forms of GBV. To identify possible tech solutions against TFGBV, cyber harassment, hate speech, doxxing, and non-consensual use of images and video, UNFPA Kosovo and IPKO Foundation organized the tech forum titled "CAN TECHNOLOGY SAVE ME/CAN TECHNOLOGY HARM ME?" to discuss and review from various aspects, the impact of the TFGBV in our society and identify the best technological solutions prevent it.

UNDP - YOUTH Platform for Gender Equality

UNDP - YOUTH Platform for Gender Equality - UNDP - The interactive platform will be used to share educational information and materials with youth and other key stakeholders and promote the work of institutions in Kosovo that work on the field of gender equality. This will be done with the collaboration of the project's key stakeholders, such as organizations, schools, experts, and governmental institutions.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

We marked the 8th of March - International Women's Day, with more than 30 young girls and women coming from minority communities. We also organized a STEAM quiz to allow these girls to advance their knowledge in STEAM fields by showcasing questions about some of the most successful women in STEAM through the years.



GAME JAM

IPKO Foundation organized a successful edition of Game Jam Workshop within the 5th edition of Western Balkans (WB6) Digital Summit, which was organized on high-level and in-person platforms on the 21st and 22nd of September in Pristina. Game Jam brought together young people from Western Balkans to join in creating playable prototypes.

This game jam aimed to introduce different and new aspects of game creation, support networking between established game developers and those looking to enter the industry, provide a glimpse into the everyday professional life in the industry and increase the number of women participants. IPKO Foundation and the game community in Kosovo have hosted Game Jams since 2018 with only two participants, and each year demand is greater than the available seats.



HACKING THE SYSTEM PROGRAM

We promote the development of comprehensive and responsive policies and systems that enable the responsible application of technologies in public and private life.

STEAM ENGINE

IPKO Foundation brought together organizations supporting and implementing Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math programs and projects in Kosovo to share their work and influence the development of an informal education system to improve the ability of young people in Kosovo to acquire the STEAM skills needed for their future jobs. With the support of the United States Embassy in Pristina, Kosovo, we have initiated cooperation with other top 9 entities in Kosovo - working on STEAM programs and projects. Thank you to our partners: Shkolla Digjitale, Innovation Centre Kosovo, BONEVET Prishtina, STIKK - Kosovo ICT Association, Akademia jCoders, Autostrada Biennale, YMCA in Kosovo, FLOSSK Free Libre Open Source Software Kosova for sharing expertise, brainstorming idea and establishing a consortium to cooperate in future STEAM projects/programs to improve education opportunities in Kosovo.

TEACHERS TRAINING

IPKO Foundation, supported by its partners, is training teachers of Gjilan, Lipjan, Gjakova, and Fushe Kosova municipalities using the shkollat.org platform for distant learning. In 2022, we trained almost 1K teachers in Kosovo.



DIGITAL KOSOVO 2.0 ON 356 DAYS

Digitalizing the index of 365 days with historically good news about the country. Digital Kosovo was launched in 2013 to help promote and lobby for the internet recognition of Kosovo in internet properties worldwide. The campaign was a rather successful one bringing the community together and achieving some good solid results. In addition, in 2022, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora and other partners, we brought back the upgraded version of Digital Kosovo 2.0, which will continue on the same path to bring a project that would require citizen engagements to create an index of dates with significant importance to the country, focused on only good news at first. With this approach, we are creating a digital archive of Kosovo for 365 days.

WOMEN, PEACE SECURITY FORUM WITH THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

IPKO Foundation brought a panel to discuss technology and gender equality at the first edition of the International Forum for Women, Peace, and Security, organized by the initiative of Kosovo's President, Vjosa Osmani, to discuss the participation of women in the digital ecosystem, recognizing their valuable contribution to building peace and reducing gender inequality, with well-known speakers, such as Katrina Fotovat - Senior official to the Secretary of State in the office of Global Women's Issues, Tamara Srzentic - Minister of Public Administration, Digital Society and Media of Montenegro (2020 - 2021), Arbesa Kastrati - V.P., Strategy and Implementation at DAZN, Roxanne Turner - Women, Peace, and Security Research Fellow at the U.S. Department of Defense Facility, The Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies, in Honolulu, Hawaii; and Mergim Cahani - Founder & CEO of Gjirafa.Inc.