Strengthening the Quality and Efficiency of Justice in Kosovo* (KoSEJ)

What is the goal?

The action aims at improving the day-to-day functioning of the justice system in Kosovo by strengthening its efficiency and quality. The action will provide support to courts and central authorities by empowering them with the methodology and tools of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) in light of the recommendations made under the first phase of Action (KoSEJ). As a result, the action will address priority challenges in judiciary, such as judicial statistics, case management system, and users’ satisfaction with improved services in the courts.

Who benefits from the project?

The Action will work and be closely engaged with courts, central authorities and other stakeholders in the field of justice, to enhance the efficiency and quality of the courts. More concretely the action will support these actors:

- Justice Academy Kosovo (KJA),
- Kosovo Judicial Council (KJC),
- Kosovo Prosecutorial Council (KPC),
- Kosovo Bar Association,
- Ministry of Justice,
- Courts and Courts’ users
- Public at large

How will the project work?

The action relies on CEPEJ experts from different countries providing support for the authorities to improve the functioning of the justice system with the use of CEPEJ methodologies and tools adapted to the Kosovo context. More precisely, the Action will focus on the assessment of the judicial systems and the exchange of knowledge on their functioning, using CEPEJ key indicators and tools and best European standards.

What do we expect to achieve?

► The action will contribute in the improvement of the quality and efficiency of the judiciary by supporting the development of a reliable and specific statistics system in light of KoSEJ recommendations
► The action will empower key actors in the field to address challenges to the efficiency of justice with CEPEJ standards and tools.
► In particular, the action will support the Kosovo Justice Academy (KJA) to extend its training capacities in regards to the efficiency and quality of the justice system, according to CEPEJ tools and methodology.
How much will it cost?

- The total budget of the Action is 1,000,000.00 EUR
- The budget allocated to the overall Horizontal Facility programme amounts to ca. 41 Million EUR (85% funded by the European Union, 15% by the Council of Europe).

How do we get more information?

- Council of Europe European Commission for the efficiency of justice (CEPEJ) website: https://www.coe.int/en/web/cepej/home
- Horizontal Facility website: https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/horizontal-facility/home
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About Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey

The “Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey 2019-2022” is a joint initiative of the European Union and the Council of Europe that enables the Beneficiaries to meet their reform agendas in the fields of human rights, rule of law and democracy and to comply with the European standards, including where relevant within the framework of the EU enlargement process. This three-year programme covers actions in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, as well as Kosovo* and it is implemented by the Council of Europe from May 2019.

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

The Council of Europe is the continent’s leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

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The Member States of the European Union have decided to link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

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