

Annual Board Report for the Year 2015

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Introduction

IPKO Foundation is closing this year with a great 365-day period, each day filled with an enthusiastic team working tirelessly, many fruitful and successful projects, and lots of laughter along the way, as per usual.

2015 has been the year of 30 new articles that represent the history, culture, heritage, demography, and economy of the region of Kukes in Wikipedia through Wiki Academy Kukes. It has been the year of 1,334 added pictures in Wikimedia Commons, which represent the beautiful nature and tradition of the region of Northern Albania. 37 inspiring editions of [BarCamps](#) and BarCamps in Your City, with an overall participation rate of 2,794, offered the community of Kosovo a place to further excel and innovate. This year, 14 competent individuals were given scholarships in an overall amount of 14,000 Euros in order to further advance their education and aid the creation of the young generation of leaders. Furthermore, 82 young students (grades 7-9) learned how to create and configure robots through RobotiKS, the annual education camp.

In addition, 2015 was the year of the second edition of DOKU:TECH, which included several international speakers, more than 600 participants, coming from more than 20 countries. Discussions on the future of technology, innovation, decentralized technology, social challenges in era of technology, gender disparities in technological industries, startup stories from Silicon Valley, space, and many other interesting topics were raised.

2015 was also the year in which tolerance was promoted among youngsters through “A Violence Free Future” project, and the year in which 35 young girls (grades 7-9) learned new skills through practical workshops on science, LEGO robot, animation, coding, electric circuit, and programming. Several other co-implemented activities include International Day of Females in ICT, Social Media Training, Utilizing Information and Communication Technology Training, and Digital Storytelling: How to Blog Training, while supported activities include TEDxPrishtinaWomen and scholarships to young girls in BONEVET courses.

Another year went by and the Kosovar community continues to be engaged in a positive way through several projects. This report shows how IPKO Foundation has extended its significant impact on Kosovo’s society.



1. Wiki Academy Kukës

Wiki Academy Kukës is a project which has gathered in one place active online citizens and content experts and has helped them develop into skilled editors to write high quality articles and source high quality photos regarding Kukës and Albania in categories such as culture, heritage, social issues, geography, institutions, economy and tourism.

The Academy was organized in a competition format where the best articles and pictures have been awarded with prizes. It was finalized on the last weekend of March, specifically March 28-29 when all the participants gathered in Kukës to finish their work and publications, which were then judged by a professional jury. To ensure greater sustainability of the skills and wider reach of the program, teachers have been engaged as mentors and facilitators during the program.

Building on the lessons learned from the previous Wiki Academies held in Kosovo, the team engaged in an intensive campaign with the purpose of including a wide range of young participants from different parts of the region of Kukës. This campaign helped bring together 169 active citizens from 15 municipalities and villages to deliver in the end 30 articles and more than 1,334 photos.

Due to the extensive preparations spread throughout several months, and the hard work put in by the organizing team and participants on the final two-day event, the following sections provide information on each stage of the project, from its launch up until its implementation. This report also includes lists of winners and content created in order to offer a more concrete view on the results of Wiki Academy Kukës.

1.1. Participants

There were 206 applicants, while an interesting feature of the application period is that out of 206 applicants, around 80% of them are females. As for location, the majority of applicants came from Kukës, while the second location with the highest number of applicants was Krume.

After an extensive revision of applications, with the sole aim of bringing high-quality articles into life, 117 applicants were chosen to write on one of the proposed topics. The latter were chosen

while making sure that there is no redundancy of topics and that the individual, or team, has enough information to continue working on the first drafts of articles. With an average age of only 17, we found the contestants young, motivated, and competitive.



The eagerness of the participants and their desire to learn more and write about their respective topics added to the implementation of the project's goals. The participants had a chance to be in close contact with mentors at all times, as they ensured that their skills were boosted and incorporated within the articles. This collaboration on an individual basis is still ongoing and mentors are assisting in dealing with issues related to the content on Wikipedia.

1.2. Outcomes

In total, 30 new articles, or contributions to existing ones, were posted on Wikipedia at the end of final day of Wiki Academy Kukes, March 29. With a handful of exceptions, most of the participating Wikipedians had not edited Wikipedia before. Considering also that many of the participants were of high school age, the organizers, including the jury, were delighted with the amount and quality of the content created through these articles.

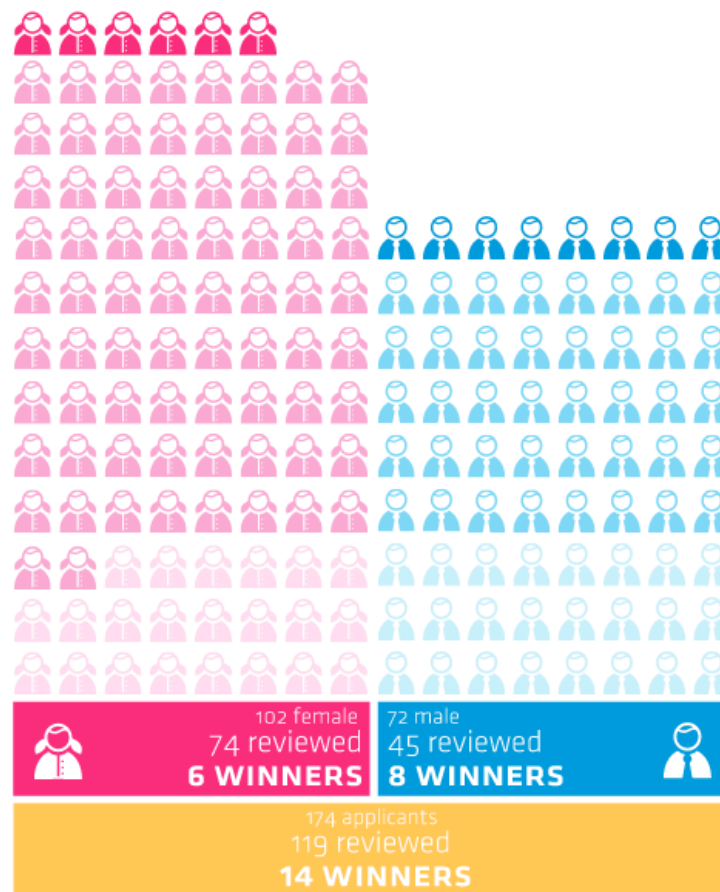
In parallel with the Article Contest, the organizers also ran the Photo Contest published directly on Wikipedia. In contrast to the Article Contest, the Photo Contest was not limited in terms of the submission of materials, as applicants from different regions of Albania and Kosovo were allowed to publish pictures of Kukes, Has, Tropoja, and other surrounding municipalities and villages, in accordance to Wikipedia rules. A total of 52 photographers submitted 1,334 photos to Wikimedia Commons, the media repository of all Wikimedia Foundation projects and languages. The photos submitted can be located under the category WikiAcademyKukes15 on Wikimedia Commons, or by clicking [here](#).



**Next Generation
Scholarships**

2. Next Generation Scholarships

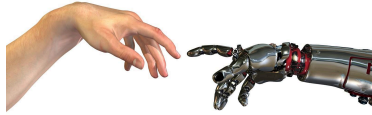
This is the seventh time that IPKO Foundation supports students who possess a digital vision for Kosovo. Since 2009, IF has invested approximately 317,323.00 EUR dedicated for the scholarships. This scholarship was established to recognize the outstanding students enrolled at any accredited university in Kosovo who have the passion, creativity, and drive to become a digital leader of the country.



APPLICANTS BY GENDER

Out of more than 200 applications that we have received, there were [14 winners](#) this year, coming from various universities in Kosovo such as: University of Prishtina, American Education in Kosovo (A.U.K.), ISPE College, University Education for Business and Technology (UBT), and University of Peja and mainly from municipalities such as: Prishtina, Peja, Vushtrri, Ferizaj, Istog, and Fushe Kosova. The number of winners has been extended from 10 to 14 scholars due to the excellence shown in the applications and IF's commitment to positively influence as many students as possible. These winners join the outstanding family of 138 IF scholars.

As usual, IF organized a welcoming event for the new members of our family. It was a combination of good music, a cozy atmosphere, and pleasant company where each one had the opportunity to exchange ideas, share experiences, and create connections. But besides socializing with each other, during the award ceremony IPKO Foundation distributed certificates for all the winners, while our supporter and partner, IPKO Telecommunications, gave a generous present to all winners – 4GB of 3G Internet each month for a year is what will connect our scholars even further to the digital world they love.



3. RobotiKS

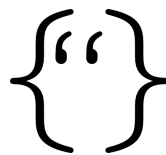
RobotiKS is an annual education camp which requires from kids to use their logic and creative skills to create simple robots.

The target group of the project are kids from 10-14 years old who may come from different schools but work together during this intensive activity. The activity is organized in an open environment, where work, commitment, and fun are combined together.

In continuation of last year's project, RobotiKS 2015 was also organized on the regional and central level. However, this year, the partnership in between IPKO Foundation, USAID Kosovo Basic Education Program, and the Municipality of Prishtina has been established. The main events marking RobotiKS took place on 22-26 June in four regions: Prishtina, Gjakova, Mitrovica, and Obiliq. In this event, students of grades 7-9 developed their skills in the fields of robotics and programming language by working with LEGO robots. This year's preparations started on March 2015, in which the partnering organizations met and discussed the proper implementation of the project through a series of meetings. This also ensured that the partnering organizations had hands-on experience on the project, therefore contributing to the sustainability of the project.



As aforementioned, the regional RobotiKS incorporated four regions and took place in “Shkolla Model” Elementary and Lower Middle School - Prishtina, BONEVET - Gjakova, Professional Development Center “Pandeli Sotiri” - Obiliq, and Professional Development Center “Eqrem Çabej” - Mitrovica. In total, there were 82 students in Prishtina, Gjakova, and Obiliq participating during the week of June 22-26, 2015, out of whom 39 were females and 43 were males.



4. DOKU:TECH

IPKO Foundation has been long involved in the spectrum of technological innovations and has inspired the development of technology through various projects within Kosovo. As to exemplify its core values and main objective to uphold this steady increase in growth both in social and

technological terms, the IPKO Foundation team, along with Share Foundation and Dokufest, organized the second edition of DOKU:TECH in Prizren during 8-9 August, 2015.

DOKU:TECH continued its mission of exploring and challenging the social implications of technological innovations and took on technology from different points of view. Thus, DOKU:TECH was open to everyone and it sought to be challenging and inspiring by known founders, entrepreneurs and doers coming from more than 20 countries. DOKU:TECH once again offered to the audience a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet individuals with a large impact in their respective fields around the world whose feedback, ideas, and points of view are not relevant only to technology enthusiasts but also to common individuals with other interests.

The event gathered in one place reputable speakers, observers, explorers and builders from around the world to talk about the future of technology, innovation, decentralized technology, social challenges in era of technology, gender disparities in technological industries, startup stories from Silicon Valley, space, and many other interesting topics.

4.1. Participants

The audience included participants from all over the world, including United States, United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Ukraine, Switzerland, Japan, Israel, Kosovo, Albania, Macedonia, Greece, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Italy, Austria, and Bulgaria.



The audience profile included tech entrepreneurs, innovators, online activists, social entrepreneurs, marketers, business leaders, artists, bloggers, movie enthusiasts, media, DIY makers, and students. Out of 606 participants, 40.10% of them were females and 59.90% were

males. Hence, the outreach of the conference was evident in Prizren and complied with the partnering organizations' cooperation with multiple organizations beyond the borders of Kosovo such as Metamorphosis in Macedonia and Talent Garden Tirana in Albania.

4.2. Activities

The conference consisted of three main activities: talks, workshops and open discussions. Each day consisted of five key notes, ten workshops, and one open discussion. The main speakers of this edition were as follows:

Day 1 - 08.08.2015 (Saturday)				Day 2 - 09.08.2015 (Sunday)			
		Workshops				Workshops	
15:00	W	Elina Zheleva		15:00	W	Peter Sunde & Andrej Petrovski	
		<i>Founder, DesignThinking.Bg</i>				<i>The Pirate Bay / Flattr / Cyber Forensic</i>	
		Drink Design				Beating politics with technology and mapping internet	
16:00	W	Bes Bujupi		16:00			
		<i>Senior Art Director at AKQA London</i>					
		Think smart. Be creative. Design with passion. Have fun.					
		Talks				Talks	
17:00	1	Yanki Margalit		17:00	6	Jan-Erik Nyrovaara	
		<i>Chairman, SpaceIL</i>				<i>Partner, Helsinki Ventures</i>	
		The Future of the Future				From thinking to execution, from ideas to concrete actions.	
17:20	2	Laurent Haug		17:20	7	Arikia Millikan	
		<i>Partner, Anthemis</i>				<i>Founder, LadyBits. WIRED expat. Now VICE.</i>	
		The Innovator's Mindset: How one needs to think to innovate				Restoring the Balance: How gender disparities in technological industries are damning the human race	

17:40	3	Elizabeth Stark		17:40	8	Max Gurvits	
		<i>Stanford, Yale Lecturer, Founder of StartBitcoin.org</i>				<i>Startup Troublemaker, General Partner at CCC</i>	
		Less trust is more: bitcoin, blockchain, and the future of decentralized technology				A Winning Mindset for Technological Breakthrough	
18:30	4	Kentaro Toyama		18:30	9	Lane Becker	
		<i>Author of Geek Heresy, Microsoft Research</i>				<i>Founder, Get Satisfaction and Adaptive Path</i>	
		Geek Heresy: Rescuing Social Change from the Cult of Technology				Startup Stories: Silicon Valley, 2001-2014	
18:50	5	Peter Sunde		18:50	10	Esther Dyson	
		<i>The Pirate Bay / Flatlr</i>				<i>Chairman, EDventure Holdings</i>	
		I went to jail for my cause. What did you do?				From Pioneering Tech to The Way To WellVille	

Table 1: The speakers of DOKU:TECH 2015 and each of their respective topics during the 2-day conference



5. BarCamps

Another essential project of IPKO Foundation that inspires innovation and seeks to instill change is BarCamp. During this year, there were a total of 37 BarCamps held in Prishtina, Mitrovica, Peja, Prizren, Ferizaj, Prizren, and other municipalities through BarCamp Bus.



BarCamps have established themselves as a community that promotes the best and brightest of Kosovo. BarCamps aim to reach out to youngsters in an attempt to motivate them to take part in a new era of leadership and instill change. By integrating business, technology, education, and industries in one place, BarCamps inspire connections and a distinctive way of thinking outside the box through various speakers who are invited. These informal events provide the means of making connections, sharing ideas, and incorporating innovation and networking. Having become an essential part of the tech and innovation landscape, BarCamps have managed to gather hundreds of participants in one place where they can all prosper.

This platform for generating interesting discussions has become an essential part of the lives of citizens of Kosovo. Participants are eager to listen to intriguing stories, partake in discussions, suggest improvements and solutions to certain issues, and suggest speakers that comply with their personal interests. The latter could also be done through the BarCamp Kosovo mobile app developed by WuuGames. Thus, BarCamps have managed to build on their main objective, by

offering more than **2,794 individuals** a comfortable place to socialize, collaborate, inspire, and innovate in a total of **37 editions** of BarCamp!

5.1. BarCamp Prishtina

During this year, BarCamp Prishtina has managed to inspire participants by focusing on different topics through its eight editions concentrated on different topics (see table in Outcomes section). Most of the editions of BarCamp Prishtina were held in Oda Theatre, while one was held in an open environment, i.e. Germia National Park.



5.1.1. Outcomes

The first edition of BarCamp Prishtina in 2015 continued the positive flow of the preceding year editions. A total of eight (8) editions and around 24 speakers made sure that participants with various interests can find themselves in one of the themes. The average participation rate of around 174 individuals, as well as a total participation rate of 1220 participants (see table below), indicates a good choice of speakers and themes which can be built upon next year. The following table provides essential information on all editions of BarCamp Prishtina.

BarCamp Prishtina Edition	Date	Theme	Attendance
------------------------------	------	-------	------------

28	30-Jan	Astronomy	105
29	24-Feb	Psychology	300
30	31-Mar	Women	195
Sustainability Jam	9-May	Sustainability	68
Kids Edition	1-Jun	Successful Kids	100
31	29-Sep	Festivals	80
32	28-Oct	Thinking	330
33	25-Nov	International Cultural Exchange	110
Average Attendance			161
Total Attendance			1288

Table 2: The number, date, theme, and attendance rate of each edition of BarCamp Prishtina during 2015

5.2. BarCamp in Your City

Apart from Prishtina, BarCamps continued to be organized in five municipalities of Kosovo pertaining to Ferizaj, Peja, Mitrovica, Gjakova, and Prizren. The following sections provide information on BarCamps from each of the aforementioned cities. There were a total of 26 editions of Barcamps in Your City with a total of 1,412 participants.

5.2.1. BarCamp Ferizaj

In Ferizaj, the independent organizers implemented a total of 10 editions of BarCamp Ferizaj. There were a total of 675 participants throughout these editions, while there were an average of approximately 68 participants per edition. The main themes are shown in the table below.

BarCamp Ferizaj Edition	Date	Theme	Attendance
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13	31-Jan	Debating	78
14	2-Mar	Open Data	61
15	28-Mar	Democracy	84
16	18-Apr	Women	59
17	23-May	Innovative Youth Projects	62
18	30-Jun	Personal Experiences	65
19	12-Sep	Mixed	75
20	20-Oct	Information Technology	48
21	21-Nov	GEW	57
22	22-Dec	Breaking Barriers	86
Average Attendance			67.5
Total Attendance			675

Table 3: The number, date, theme, and attendance rate of each edition of BarCamp Ferizaj during 2015

5.2.2. BarCamp Mitrovica

BarCamp Mitrovica started its reincarnation with a couple of editions during this year. The dates, themes, and attendance rates of these editions are compiled below. There were around 106 participants present, with an average attendance rate of 53 individuals.

BarCamp Gjilan Edition	Date	Theme	Attendance
3	3-Apr	Personal Experiences	46
4	5-Dec	Projects in Mitrovica	60
Average Attendance			53
Total Attendance			106

Table 4: The number, date, theme, and attendance rate of each edition of BarCamp Mitrovica during 2015

5.2.3. BarCamp Peja

BarCamp Peja held only one edition during 2015 due to the transition phase in between organizers. The organizing team will now consist of an organization that IF has supported during the summer, particularly Anibar.

BarCamp Gjilan Edition	Date	Theme	Attendance
2	31-Jan	Journalism	56
Total Attendance			56

Table 5: The number, date, theme, and attendance rate of each edition of BarCamp Peja during 2015

5.2.4. BarCamp Gjakova

There were five (5) editions of BarCamp Gjakova held during 2015. There was a variety of main themes, particularly art, women empowerment, active citizenship. The total attendance rate was 260 participants, while, on average, 52 individuals took part in one edition of BarCamp Gjakova.

BarCamp Gjakova Edition	Date	Theme	Attendance
11	24-Jan	Art	53
12	28-Mar	Women Empowerment	68
13	7-May	Active Citizenship	48
14	30-May	Mix	32
15	21-Nov	GEW	59
Average Attendance			52
Total Attendance			260

Table 6: The number, date, theme, and attendance rate of each edition of BarCamp Gjakova during 2015

5.2.5. BarCamp Prizren

BarCamp Prizren continued its editions with eight (8) new ones with a total of 315 participants were present during these BarCamps or, in other terms, approximately 39 participants per edition of BarCamp Prizren.

BarCamp Prizren Edition	Date	Theme	Attendance
15	11-Feb	Volunteerism	35
16	5-Mar	Activism	42
17	3-Apr	Online Technology	37

18	15-May	Security	48
19	5-Jun	Religious Tolerance	52
20	19-Aug	Traditional Music	37
21	6-Nov	Poetry	43
22	20-Nov	GEW	21
Average Attendance			39
Total Attendance			315

Table 7: The number, date, theme, and attendance rate of each edition of BarCamp Prizren during 2015

5.3. BarCamp Bus

Although BarCamps have been spread all over major cities of Kosovo, certain parts of Kosovo have remained isolated and somewhat neglected in terms of not having the opportunity to further excel in both academic and professional terms.



Thus, the main objective of BarCamp Bus was to motivate the youngsters of the targeted locations, i.e. Shterpce, Skenderaj, and Vushtrri, to become part of the pro-active community and innovate through creative ideas and projects.

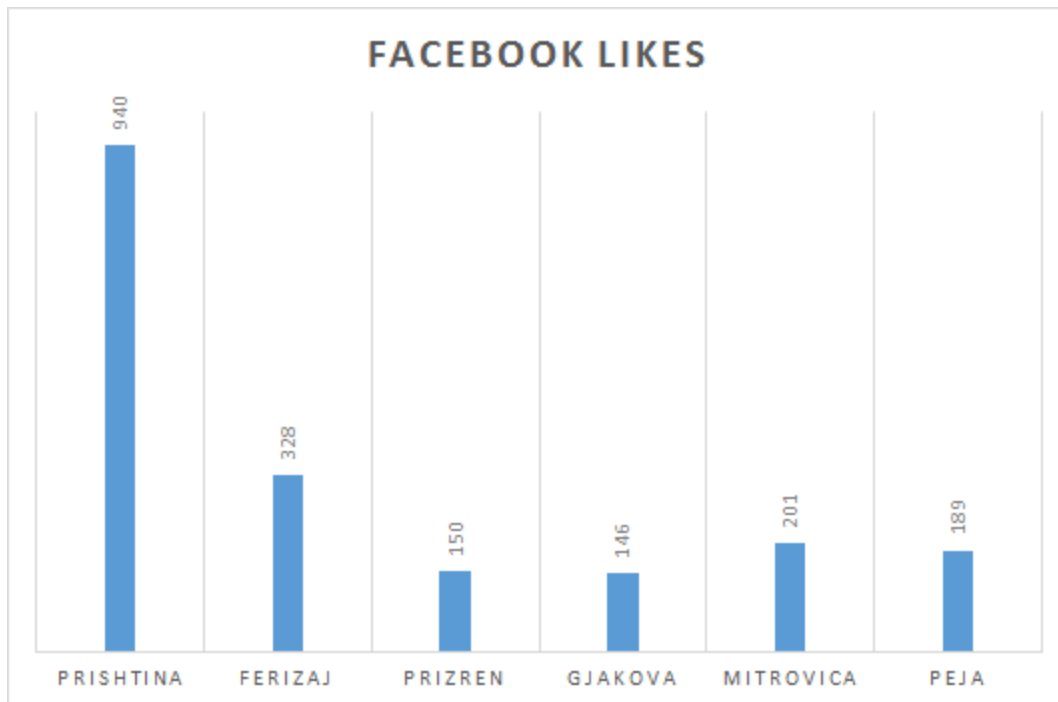
BarCamp Bus in Shterpce, held on January 23, was focused on Entrepreneurship with three speakers related to this theme giving their insight on the opportunities that they organizations give, as well as how the speakers have used these opportunities and turned their idea into reality. BarCamp Bus in Skenderaj and Vushtrri held on December 2 was focused on projects, initiatives, and businesses that are run by youth.

Partnerships with BSC-Red Shterpce, NGO KultStudio in Vushtrri, and Public Youth Centre in Skenderaj were established, which will aid the implementation of other activities in the future. The participants, a total of 94, in all municipalities expressed their interest in these opportunities and also generated creative business ideas that could be developed in the future.

5.4. BarCamps Facebook Activity

Social media is the main channel used through which BarCamps continue to promote their editions. The largest promotional method that BarCamps use is Facebook, hence it serves as the most efficient way of reaching out to the Kosovar community. In order to get a better view of

how much the community has been engaged through each municipality's Facebook page, the likes that each page has acquired throughout the year give a relatively good indication.



Graph 1: Facebook likes during 2015 for BarCamps in each city

The trend of Facebook likes seems to be quite positive, with BarCamp Prishtina getting most likes during 2015 - a total of 940. BarCamp Ferizaj is the second best with 328 likes, BarCamp Mitrovica with 201, BarCamp Peja with 189, BarCamp Prizren with 150, and BarCamp Gjakova with 146 likes.



6. A Violence Free Future

Underscoring the importance of a future based on the fundamental principles of freedom and tolerance, IPKO Foundation responded positively to the invitation of the US Embassy in Prishtina to join forces with other organizations operating in Kosovo to promote the future with no violence in Kosovo.



A Violence Free Future aimed to promote the tolerance in response to a challenging situation in Kosovo. In partnership with the Rotary International and other local organizations, IPKO Foundation undertook the responsibility to help the implementation of the project by spreading the idea and presenting the opportunities this project has to offer to the youngsters around Kosovo.

The main goal of “The Violence Free Future” was to reach its objectives through discussions on tolerance and its role within the community of Kosovo in several workshops. All the workshops as foreseen previously were held in seven municipalities in Kosovo, Prizren, Ferizaj, Gjilan, Mitrovicë, Hani i Elezit, Kaçanik, and Pejë. Held during the weekends in order to maximize participation and comply with the interest of members of different communities, these workshops have managed to promote a better understanding between ethnic and gender groups and have set the tone to counter the radicalization currently prevalent in Kosovo.

6.1. Outputs

- 29 presentations in public and private schools in Prizren, Ferizaj, Gjiilan, Mitrovice, Hani i Elezit, Kaçanik and Peja.
- More than 2000 brochures distributed
- 600 students responded positively to the event by showing up and being very active during the events.
- 30 participants from 7 municipalities
- 1400 + Likes on [Facebook](#)
- 3000 + Reach on Posts



7. International Day of the Girl Child

On the occasion of the International Day of the Girl Child, IPKO Foundation in cooperation with USAID's Basic Education Program, Girls Coding Kosova and BoneVet makerspace, organized the Girls and Technology event, which kicked off on 09 October, 2015 in "Shkolla e Gjelbert".

Given the skills required for the 21st century workplace, including a high degree of facility with Information Technology and other technology, girl student volunteers and teachers got together to tutor young girls from lower secondary schools of Kosovo in use of technology. Girls had the opportunity to practice educational technology through group work and later present their work to their peers and visitors.

35 girl students, of grades 7-9, took part in practical workshops in science, LEGO robot, animation, coding, electric circuit/solar energy, and programming. These students also got the chance to listen inspiring speeches from successful women working in the field of technology, who shared their own stories and how can girls in Kosovo be involved in the Tech projects.



8. Other Co-Implemented Activities

The following sections provide information on additional support and investments that IF has made during 2015.

8.1. International Day of Females in ICT

In recognition of the “Females in ICT International Day,” the American University in Kosovo - Training and Development Institute and its partners, including IPKO Foundation, hosted a conference. Being the first conference of its kind in Kosovo, the Girls in ICT Conference brought together individuals from the ICT sector, who have the ability and credibility to inspire girls and young women into changing the social paradigm of the ICT profession by emphasizing the fact the ICT has no gender.

During the conference, the speakers tried to empower girls and young women to consider careers in the growing field of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) by sharing their personal stories. They emphasized that the old fashioned stereotypes that females are never good as males in the field of technology should be abolished by moving forward.



IPKO Foundation was a part of a great partnership with A.U.K. TDI, EYE, USAID, and Swiss Cooperation to mark the “Females in ICT International Day” in Kosovo, by supporting a conference dedicated to this cause.

8.2. Social Media Training

As part of “A Violence Free Future” project, IPKO Foundation in cooperation with Active Change Foundation organized a social media training in November at the American University in Kosovo. The main purpose of this workshop was to train youngsters on how to use social media to build an audience and to promote business or youth-driven projects.

Considering the importance of Social Media in modern times we are living in, 30 youngsters had the opportunity to gain essential digital skills which are required to be active users of Social Media channels. The participants were students from high schools who came to learn, engage and exchange new ideas regarding Social Media terms and practices.

The workshop was divided in two main sections: The Introduction and Social Media in Practice.

The first part of the training was held by IPKO Foundation representative, Zana Cana, who is directly involved in this field, and manages Social Media channels of IF in order to promote its projects and events. From dismantling the term Social Media to sharing its own experiences

with participants, IPKO Foundation for two hours gave the audience an introduction to, as well as basic information regarding, the Social Media field.



The second part of the training was left for the Social Media Expert, Mike Jervis from Active Change Foundation. Mike explained the power and the importance of Social Media Channels and how people can affect, encourage, build, promote, and inspire through Multimedia tools.

During the training the audience had the chance to learn also about the huge campaign #NotInMyName, initiated by young Muslims in London against ISIS and other terror organizations, created and supported by Active Change Foundation.

8.3. Utilizing Information and Communication Technology Training

IPKO Foundation in partnership with KWN organized “Utilizing Information and Communication Technology (ICT)” training, in order to offer some practical tools in advancing and developing the woman capacities in the information-sharing and advocacy purposes.

Doruntine Demiri, Senior Program Associate at IPKO Foundation opened the workshop, while introducing the participants the topic, the principles of Multimedia, and the strategy plan of advocating through information. She explained the participants that media provides the best way of reaching large communities and advocating for a certain cause.



While the first part of the training offered all the information and theory regarding Communication Technology Tools, the second part of the session was all about putting the information into practice. Zana Cana, Program Assistant at IPKO Foundation shared her own experiences as the person behind Social Media strategy at IF.

In the last part of the training the participants were divided in groups and had to work together to generate ideas how to promote their organization through Social Media Channels.

8.4. Digital Storytelling: How to Blog Training

“Digital Storytelling: How to Blog” training was held in November by IPKO Foundation and Kosovo 2.0, in the E.U Information and Cultural Center, Prishtine. Roughly 20 participants from different backgrounds for one day learned the techniques, insights and everything related to online writing.



This workshop gathered young people who have writing skills and love to keep a personal online diary, and need more knowledge to turn their articles in something professional to be published in the main Kosovar platforms. The sessions were not only focused on writing, but also covered some easy-to-use apps and online tools such as timelines, photographs and design platforms.

Besa and Cristine, shared useful tricks, helped the participants to find interesting topics and provided technical methodology how to create a professional Blog, as one of the activists of content writing in the monthly magazine Kosovo 2.0.

The best Blogs coming up from this creative group will be published in Kosovo 2.0 platform, while other participants will elevate their online presence and become independent bloggers.

9. Other Supported Activities

9.1. TEDxPrishtinaWomen

IPKO Foundation offered its financial support to TEDxPrishtinaWomen in an effort to positively influence the society we live in, as well as offer the community the chance to listen to inspiring stories and promote change.

TEDWomen 2015 is a TED event that focuses on women and women's issues. In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. TEDxWomen events are local events on the same day as TEDWomen.

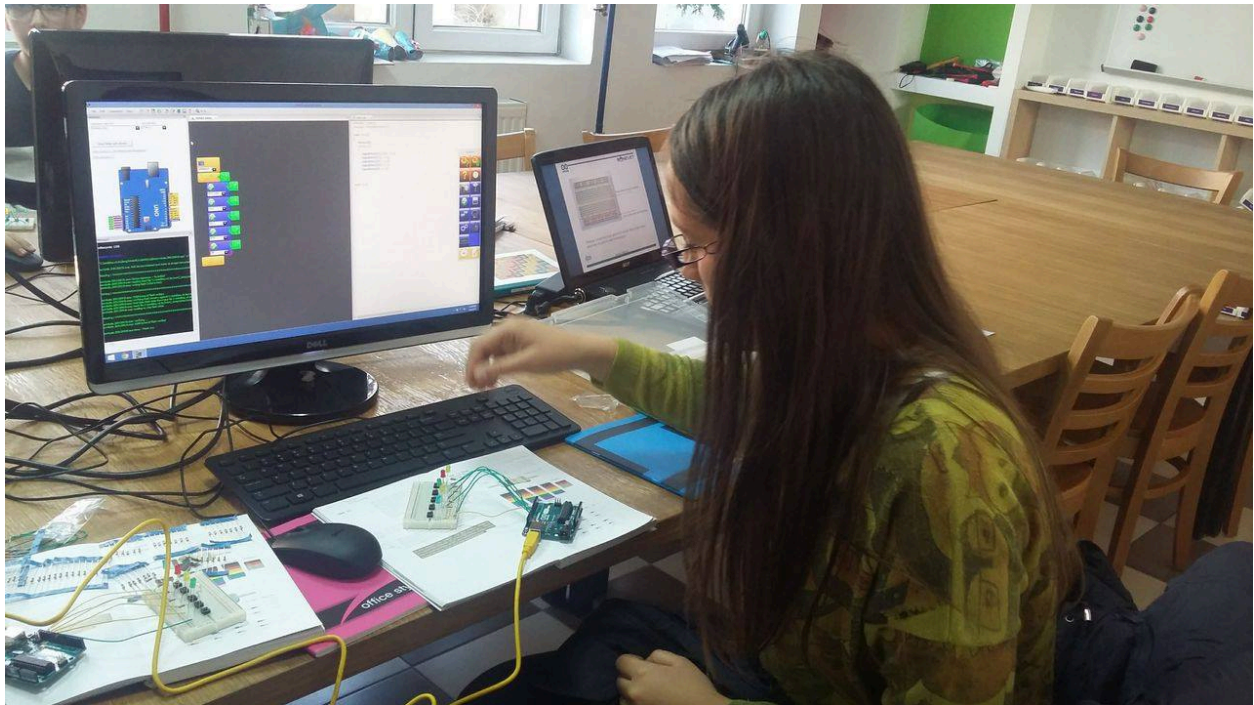


TEDxPrishtinaWomen aimed to showcase the achievements of women who are innovators, great thinkers, and taboo breakers. On this year's event, speakers gave talks on a diverse range of topics on the theme of 'Momentum,' while sharing their ideas, experiences, and knowledge. The event was held on May 28, 2015 in Prishtina, Kosovo.

9.2. Scholarships for BONEVET Courses

Apart from its remarkable engagement in social-tech projects, IPKO Foundation continued to financially support students who show their ability of becoming part of the next generation of young leaders with a digital vision for Kosovo.

IPKO Foundation offered 11 scholarships to 11 young girls who attended classes in two courses offered in BONEVET. As part of these courses' curriculum, these girls learned ways of building circuits, on the intensity of light, direction of movements, signal transmission, incoming and outgoing signals, free-conductor signal, building models, as well as on building projects through different means.



Apart from this, the other course offered these young girls a chance to learn more on sensors, resistors, LED lights, transistors, diodes, circuits, connecting the device to the program, as well as various projects and tasks associated with the aforementioned subjects.

9.3. Prishtina Hackerspace

Hackerspaces are community-operated physical spaces which have been in existence for many years in various places around the world largely independent from government sponsorship. Each hackerspace is an autonomous entity, but they all share the same philosophy of having fun building things together. The very same philosophy has been brought to Prishtina.

Prishtina Hackerspace is a coworking open experimentation space established by FLOSSK exclusively for technological, educational, cultural and scientific purposes. The aim of the space is to:

- Provide workspace, equipment and other resources for communal use by all members;
- Encourage continued and after-school learning through workshops, classes, seminars and mentoring;
- Create a safe and open environment for experimentation in technology and art.



During 2015, IPKO Foundation has aided the continuation of Prishtina Hackerspace by investing in the aforementioned space and offering financial means so that Prishtina Hackerspace can function properly and engage in multiple activities. Thus, IF has had a major say in the development of spaces where the community can prosper.

9.4. CiviKos

During this year, IPKO Foundation has supported CiviKos by contributing in the implementation of the "Government Strategy For Cooperation with Civil Society" and creating a matrix for monitoring its implementation. This will enable a better structuring of the information online and establish a better cooperation in between the civil society and the government.



9.5. Anibar

IPKO Foundation has supported Anibar International Animation Festival in Peja, Kosovo, during the summer of 2015 by providing it with human resources. This festival was organized for the 6th year and has established a reputation for enabling an inherent cultural environment, in which both local and international animation films intertwine. This is aided by the interactive approach that the festival promotes through various activities and events.



9.6. Action for Mothers and Children

During 2015, IPKO Foundation supported Action for Mothers and Children by buying tickets to partake in the recent event that brought people together to help mothers and children. Hence, due to IF's and other organizations' contributions, the event raised an astounding €23,890, which will be used to support mothers and children in need.



9.7. FIT

IPKO Foundation has supported Female in Technology (FIT) project with a grant of €2,000 for offering trainings to females.



FIT seeks to improve the current situation by offering trainings and certifications at the A.U.K.-Training and Development institute. The project will cover training, certification, soft-skill Development and ICT Internship placement for up to 50 participants from this marginalized group. The aim of the program is to change the social paradigm by inspiring and creating role models of ICT Women already engaged in the ICT industry.

9.8. Kosovo 2.0

Financial support has also been provided in the form of a grant (€2,000) to Kosovo 2.0 for sustaining its activities throughout the year. Kosovo 2.0 has been involved during DOKU:TECH 2015 where it has reported the main activities of the conference through several blogs.

Kosovo 2.0 is an independent media that engages society in insightful debate through its multimedia website, print magazine, and events. Kosovo 2.0 aims at becoming the center for independent cultural, political, and social commentary in Kosovo, the region, and beyond.



10. IF Website

IPKO Foundation website is the source of general information related to all activities of our organization, partners and community. During 2015, [31 blogs](#) regarding the activities of IPKO Foundation were published on the main page of the website. Storytelling through blogs enables us to establish a closer relationship with the audience welcomed and make them aware of the timeline of our projects.

Under the [blog](#) section of the website, this year we have had several blogs (a total of 12) related to DOKU:TECH 2015 published. In addition, an essential part of the website are also blogs from the community. Each month IF staff contacts people who were engaged somehow to our work and asks from them to write about their experience and feelings. Under the [community](#) section of the website, a total of 8 blogs, written by community members engaged in Digital Kosovo, Wiki Academy Kukes, DOKU:TECH, and BarCamps, were published.

Since this was a year of new projects and new partnerships for IPKO Foundation, we also added several partners in our website linked with their websites and short summary of what each of them represents.

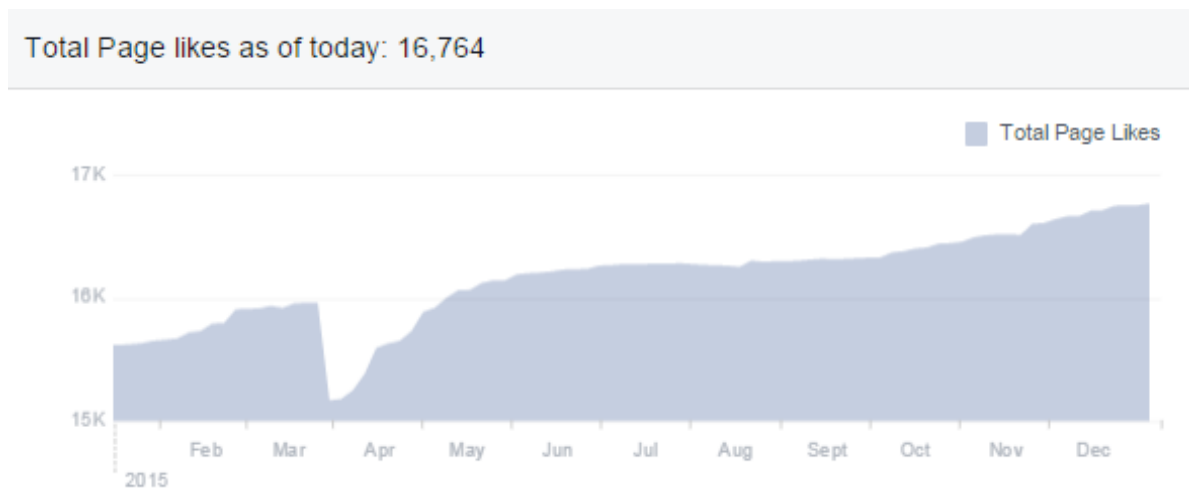
11. Social Media

Social media channels are the key elements of promoting IPKO Foundation mission, projects and events. Having in mind that, during 2015, IF team did a lot of effort on reflecting on Social Media only the best image of the organization, by posting, sharing, reporting, and updating the audience often regarding our activities. This year, IPKO Foundation adapted unique campaigns for each project (e.g. WikiAcademy Kukes, Next Generation Scholarship Program, DOKUTECH), which resulted to be very successful, based on the statistics collected from the page's dashboard.

11.1. Facebook

11.1.1. IPKO Foundation

IF Facebook Page, is the main window of promotion, since has collected more than 16k likes and it serves as an interactive page of IPKO Foundation which keeps alive the connection with the audience.



During 2015, there were **1,148 new Likes**, more than **240 posts** in total, from which **28 boosted posts**.

11.1.2. IPKO Foundation Next Generation Scholarship Program

This [page](#) was opened in the end of March, 2015 and served as a channel of information regarding the Scholarship Program, open houses, criterias and deadlines. So far, the page has **1,033 Likes** and the number is growing daily. In total, there were **43 posts** on this page during this year, none of them was boosted.

11.1.3. DOKU:TECH

DOKUTECH [page](#) was opened on 25 February, 2015 in order to provide all details of the conference and start its promotion through a unique channel distinguished from IPKO Foundation official page. From the data gathered from Facebook Insights, in this page there are currently **2,850 Likes**, and during 2015 there were **174 posts**.

11.1.4. BarCamp Prishtina

BarCamp Prishtina [page](#) during this year was enriched with **942 New Likes**, reaching the total number of likes into **4,595 Likes**. **147 posts** which were created and shared during 2015 in this channel have effected in the general success of the page.

11.2. Twitter

The Twitter [account](#) was the channel of quick updates and interesting engaging with IF audience. During past years, including 2015, this account has collected **2,648 followers**, **1,634 tweets**, and **300 likes**.

11.3. LinkedIn

Last but not least, 2015 was the year of activation of the IPKO Foundation LinkedIn [account](#). Most of the posts that were shared in other social media channels were also published in LinkedIn page. More than **50 posts** in total were updated since January 2015. Together with other social media channel, LinkedIn is helping IF community connected and united.