

# **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

## **ROLE OF THE MINISTRY**

The main responsibilities of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology are to:

- Improve the quality of, and access to, the education system in Kosovo.
- Bring the education system in Kosovo in line with European Union standards.
- Integrate all Kosovan children into compulsory education from ages six to fifteen.
- Encourage the development of the scientific community as a highly qualified market for innovation and development in a comprehensive system of higher education.

The Ministry is also responsible for the formulation of an overall strategy for the development of Education, Science and Technology in Kosovo and the promotion of a single, unified, non-discriminatory and inclusive educational system so that each person's right to education is respected and quality learning opportunities are available to all, irrespective of their ethnic or social origin, race or gender, disability, religion, politics or opinions.

## **2003 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

- The 2003 Budget provides Euro 18.6 million and 3,186 full-time equivalent positions for the operating expenses of the Ministry's programs. There have been established three departments: Higher Education, Other Education and Educational Administration. They aggregate the ten ministerial programs: University of Prishtina, Students' Center, and Institutes; Special Needs Education, National University Library, Teacher Training, and Curriculum Development; Central Administration, Office of the Minister, and Capital Grants to Municipalities, respectively.
- The 2003 Budget provides an additional Euro 61.9 million as a designated grant to the 30 municipalities to fund their devolved public education responsibilities. According the Memorandum of Understanding signed in October 2001 by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, the Directorate of Local Administration and Emergency Management and the former Central Fiscal Authority, Municipalities are fully responsible for the management of the pre-school, primary and secondary education levels.

- The overall public expenditure in the Education sector has increased around 9.7%, from Euro 73.4 to 80.5 million. The amount appropriated to each Municipality in the education grant has been calculated on the basis of the number of students enrolled in schools in the Municipality and other factors affecting the cost of operating schools. The method of calculating the grant is intended to share the available budget resources between Municipalities in a way that is fair and equitable.
- Regarding the three programs whose management have been devolved to the Municipalities, there is an urgent need to tackle the rightsizing of the relevant staffing levels. Although the former UNMIK Department planning guidelines were a ratio of 1:20 student/teacher ratio for lower primary education and 1:25 for upper primary and secondary education, the actual ratios are below the 1:20 threshold. While considering facts as the special needs of minority communities and the large number of little rural schools, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology intends to move in the short term forward an overall 1:21 ratio what would result in a more rational and efficient allocation of the available budgetary resources.
- The Regulation on Primary and Secondary Education was promulgated into law by the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2002 (UNMIK Regulation 2002/19). On 26 September, the Assembly formally adopted the law by vote, accepting a consensus proposal allowing the Serbian community to take up the new Grade Nine curriculum one year after the Albanian majority. Plans to draft secondary legislation to implement the law are under way.
- The School Grant Pilot Project (SGPP) is funded by the World Bank and implemented by the Kosova Education Center (KEC) under supervision of the MEST. The project is designed to help communities reach full enrollment, reduce dropouts, increase school attendance and increase educational attainment in secondary level by allocating small grants to schools, subject to successful approval by the Central Evaluation Board established by the MEST. The World Bank developed the guidelines for the project, and prepared a pilot study that was conducted in a number of schools to train them and their communities to prepare projects. So far, 22 primary and secondary schools pre-selected for participation in SGPP have established school boards and submitted 3-year rolling school development plans. An enhanced SGPP will allocate \$4.5 million directly to schools over the next three years.
- The Ministry of Education submitted to the Donors Conference held in Brussels in November 2002 a three-year capital investment projects list that amounted to Euro 90 million. The bulk of this amount was requested for the School Reconstruction and Maintenance Programme with over Euro 74 million.

**2002-2005 Kosovo Consolidated Budget**  
Expenditure by Department/Program  
(Euro million)

Department/Program	2002	2003	2004	2005
	actual	approved	estimate	estimate
Pre-school Education	0.471			
Primary Education	18.036			
Secondary Education	5.915			
Boarding Facility/Dormitory				
<b>Higher Education</b>	<b>9.381</b>	<b>11.591</b>	<b>13.745</b>	<b>15.968</b>
University of Prishtina		10.188		
Students Center		0.745		
Institutes		0.657		
<b>Other Education</b>	<b>1.053</b>	<b>2.510</b>	<b>3.030</b>	<b>3.626</b>
Special Needs Education	0.777	0.955	1.138	1.305
National University Library	0.242	1.125	1.397	1.727
Teacher Training	0.002	0.230	0.265	0.318
Curriculum Development	0.032	0.200	0.230	0.276
<b>Educational Administration</b>	<b>3.366</b>	<b>4.499</b>	<b>3.020</b>	<b>3.814</b>
Central Administration		2.251	2.759	3.540
Office of the Minister		0.248	0.261	0.274
Capital Grants to Municipalities		<b>2.000</b>		
Subtotal, KCB	<b>38.222</b>	<b>18.600</b>	<b>19.795</b>	<b>23.408</b>
Municipalities Grants	35.150	61.865	61.865	61.865
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73.372</b>	<b>80.465</b>	<b>81.663</b>	<b>85.273</b>

**2003 Kosovo General Budget**  
Expenditure by Economic Category  
(Euro million)

Department/Programme	Avg 2003 Emp.	Wages and Salaries	Goods and Services	Subsidies and Transfers	Capital Outlays	Total
<b>Higher Education</b>	<b>2,573</b>	<b>5.612</b>	<b>5.058</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.920</b>	<b>11.591</b>
University of Prishtina	2,222	5.070	4.198	0.000	0.920	10.188
Students Center	230	0.300	0.445	0.000	0.000	0.745
Institutes	121	0.242	0.415	0.000	0.000	0.657
<b>Other Education</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>0.685</b>	<b>0.793</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>1.032</b>	<b>2.510</b>
Special Needs Education	310	0.473	0.260	0.000	0.222	0.955
National University Library	100	0.212	0.103	0.000	0.810	1.125
Teacher Training	-	0.000	0.230	0.000		0.230
Curriculum Development	-	0.000	0.200	0.000		0.200
<b>Educational Administration</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>0.680</b>	<b>1.271</b>	<b>2.000</b>	<b>0.548</b>	<b>4.499</b>
Central Administration	188	0.610	1.169	0.000	0.472	2.251
Office of the Minister	15	0.070	0.102	0.000	0.076	0.248
Capital Grants to Municipalities	0	0.000	0.000	2.000	0.000	2.000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,186</b>	<b>6.978</b>	<b>7.122</b>	<b>2.000</b>	<b>2.500</b>	<b>18.600</b>
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>10.75</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>100</b>

## 2003 PROGRAM ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

### Higher Education Department

The 2003 budget allocation for the Higher Education Department amounts to Euro 11.6 million or 62.4% of the budget of the Ministry. This Department is integrated by three different programmes: University of Prishtina, Students Center and Institutes.

#### *University of Prishtina*

The 2003 budget allocation for the University of Prishtina amounts to Euro 10.2 million. Out of this, over 9% has been allocated for Capital investments.

The University of Pristina has about 2,200 employees and 20,000 students studying in 14 faculties and 7 Higher schools located in the regions. The university has been deficient in science equipment, laboratory material, books and journals.

The UP is now a member of the European University Association (EUA) as well as other international university cooperation bodies. The UP has seen a significant reform of the Law Faculty, and the additions of a new Faculty of Education and Department of Political Science. The UP has adopted the Bologna Declaration and several faculties have implemented the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The University of Pristina succeeded in receiving 5 project grants through the TEMPUS university reform program, financed by the EU, totaling over 881,795 Euros.

### *Students Center*

The 2003 budget allocation for the Students Center amounts to over Euro 0.745 million.

The Students Center offers accommodation and meals for more than 3,000 students attending courses in the University of Prishtina. Its facilities include five dormitories, three pavilions, two restaurants, one Sport Hall and the Central Administration office. The average number of employees in all these facilities is 230.

The main objectives for 2003 are the improvement of the living conditions, the increase of the number of beds to offer accommodation for a higher number of students and the achievement of a better quality of food for the residents.

### *Institutes*

The 2003 budget allocation for the Institutes Program is Euro 0.657 million. The main objective of the program is to promote the Albanian Culture, Language and History for all the Kosovans, printing books, organize international seminars and other Cultural Events in Kosovo or abroad. The activities are primarily carried out by the following institutions: the Academy of Science and Art, the Institute of Albanology and the Institute of History.

## **Other Education Department**

The 2003 budget allocation for the Other Education Department amounts to Euro 2.5 million or 13.4% of the budget of the Ministry. This Department is integrated by four different programmes: Special Needs Education, National University Library, Teacher Training and Curriculum Development.

### *Special Needs Education*

For 2003, the budget allocation is Euro 0.956 million M. There are 14 Special Educational institutions in Kosovo. This number also includes 4 institutions that are residential in nature.

The *Finnish Support to the Development of Education Sector in Kosovo* (FSDEK) is the lead agency responsible for reforms of special needs education in Kosovo. There are three components to the project: i) Policy Development for Inclusive Education. This component aims at developing a sustainable educational policy for inclusive education; ii) Professional Development Programme for Inclusive Education. This training programme is targeted for future trainers, trainers of trainers, policy makers and educational administrators; iii) School-Based Capacity Building Mechanisms for Inclusive Education. In practice this means in-service training of school staff in special needs matters.

#### *National University Library*

The 2003 budget appropriation for the National University Library is Euro 1.125 million.

This amount includes an extraordinary allocation of 0.81m for major capital investments. The main projects to be implemented are: i) the installation of a complete computer network both for staff and public use –for an approximate cost of Euro 0.167 m-; ii) the enlargement of the book and periodicals stock – Euro 0.105-; iii) the repair of rain leakages coming from the building domes –Euro 0.085m-; and iv) other general extensive refurbishment in the building –Euro 0.453m-.

#### *Teacher Training*

The 2003 budget appropriation for the Teacher Training programme is Euro 0.230 million. The *Kosovo Educator Development Project (KEDP)* funded with donor aid (CIDA) is the lead programme responsible for teacher training and educator development. The establishment of the new Faculty of Education is the main cornerstone of the work in this area.

Other most recent initiatives in this reform area are: i) the Trainer's Conference aimed at providing a first opportunity for trainers of different educational programs to exchange ideas and experiences on working with colleagues. They are also encouraged to plan for joint training projects in the future; and ii) the Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking (RWCT) initiative agreed between KEDP and the Kosova Education Center (KEC) to implement this programme for 150 teachers on the contemporary methodology of teaching and interactive learning at the university level. A group of 32 teachers from the University of Prishtina were already trained based on special training program designed by the International Reading Association (IRA).

#### *Curriculum Development*

For 2003, the budget allocation for the Curriculum Development is Euro 0.200 million. *UNICEF Kosovo* is the lead agency responsible for Curriculum Development, in cooperation with the MEST Section for Curriculum.

The main initiatives of reform in this area are: i) the New Kosovo Curriculum Framework, which was completed for implementation in September 2002. The New Kosovo Curriculum Framework adopts new learning methodologies, child-centered and active learning and teaching; ii) new guidelines for preschool education and subject curricula for primary education; iii) the development of Life Skills Education modules within the framework of the “flexible curricula”, whose application is left to each school. Life Skills Education introduces wide range of skills which will be useful throughout the life, such as conflict resolution skills, tolerance building, psycho-social education, civic education, children’s rights, health/ nutrition/ hygiene education, and so on; and iv) all primary schools (ca. 800) from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade inclusive offer civic education classes at the rate of 2-instruction units/week. In the 9<sup>th</sup> grade they are offering 2-units/week. In grades 1 – 4, a similar programme under the name of “Social Education” is taught (1-unit/week)

### **Educational Administration**

The 2003 budget allocation for the Educational Administration amounts to Euro 4.5 million or 24.2 of the budget of the Ministry. This Department is integrated by three different programmes: Central Administration, Office of the Minister and Capital Grants to Municipalities.

#### *Central Administration*

The 2003 budget appropriation for the Central Administration unit is Euro 2.250 million. The Central Administration is a key unit in the Ministry as it provides every other ministerial organization with the appropriate administrative support to allow them running effectively and efficiently. It covers specifically the areas of finance, procurement, human resources and general administration.

#### *Office of the Minister*

The 2003 budget appropriation for the Office of the Minister is Euro 0.248 million The Office of the Minister programme is set up to support all activities of the Minister and his advisors.

#### *Capital Grants to Municipalities*

The Capital Grants to Municipalities programme introduced in the 2003 Budget aims to provide the Municipalities with an additional source of funding to develop capital investment projects. An amount of Euro 2 million are earmarked for this purpose.