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REPUBLIKA KOSOVA – PREDSIEDNIK

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

THEMATIC ROUND TABLE ON AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND FOOD SAFETY KOSOVO 2020

REPORT

May 2013, Pristina

This Report has been developed based on series of meetings conducted by the Thematic Roundtable on Agriculture, Rural Development, Forestry, Fisheries and Food Safety. As such this Report is part of a set of documents endorsed by Task Force for European Integration. The work of the Task Force for European Integration and its Thematic Roundtables, including the preparation of this Report has been supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) through the Project “Support to the European Integration Process in Kosovo”. The views, information and/or arguments do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the MEL, GiZ or any other stakeholder to every detail.

TABLE OF CONTENT

INTRODUCTION	5
1. Agriculture and Rural Development	6
1.1. Background of the Sector.....	6
1.2. Institutional Development and Capacities	6
1.2.1. Department of Agriculture Policy and Markets	7
1.2.2. Department of Rural Development Policy / Managing Authority	7
1.2.3. Department of Economical Analyses and Agriculture Statistics	7
1.2.4. Agriculture Development Agency	8
1.2.5. Advisory Services	11
1.3. Legal Framework	13
1.4. Policy and Strategy framework	15
1.5. Direct Support	18
1.6. Rural Credit Schemes	19
1.7. Agriculture Supervision and Inspection	19
1.8. Cadastre System and Land Policy	20
1.9. Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS).....	20
1.10. Cadastre System for Management of Kosovo Vineyards and Wine Industry	20
1.11. Agriculture Land	21
1.12. Agriculture Land Regulation.....	22
1.12.1 Agriculture Land Market	23
1.13. Agriculture Land Privatization	23
1.14. Organic Farming	23
1.15. Statistics	25
1.15.1 Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN).....	28
1.16. Market Measures	29
1.17. Quality Policy	30
1.18. Preparation of Agriculture and Rural development Plan 2014-2020	31
1.19. Challenges in the Sector	31
1.20. Annexes	32
1.20.1. Annex I. List of individual meetings	32
2. Fisheries.....	32
2.1. Institutional framework	32
2.2. Legal framework.....	33
2.3. Current Situation in the Fisheries Sector.....	33
2.4. Current situation in Aquaculture.....	34
2.5. Licensing and Inspection.....	36
2.6. Challenges in the Sector	39

3. Forestry	39
3.1. General Overview	39
3.2. Chronological Development of Forestry Management in Kosovo	40
3.3. Forestry Resources.....	41
3.4. Brief Comparison of Kosovo Forests and Forestry with European Figures	44
3.5. Forestry Policies and Forestry Development Strategies	44
3.6. Forestry Program.....	47
3.7. Forestry Legislation	50
3.8. Administrative and Managing Structures of Forests, Forestry Lands and Wildlife Management	52
3.8.1. Department of Forestry (DoF)	52
3.8.2. Kosovo Forestry Agency (KFA).....	54
3.8.3. Department of Silviculture, Research and Nursery (Kosovo's Forest Institute)	55
3.8.4. Forests Management Board.....	56
3.8.5. Role of municipalities on Forest Management.....	56
3.9. Challenges in the Sector	57
4. Food Safety.....	57
4.1. Food Safety Policies.....	57
4.2. Short Overview of the Agro-Food Sector in Kosovo	58
4.3. Institutional Framework on Food Safety	61
4.3.1. Kosovo Food and Veterinary Agency (KFVA).....	62
4.3.2. National Institute for Public Health in Kosovo (NIPH).....	64
4.3.3. Kosovo Institute for Agriculture (KIA)	67
4.3.4. Other Institutions Capable of Contributing in Food Safety	69
4.4. EU Legislation on Food Safety and the Harmonization of Kosovo Legislation	70
4.5. The Food Hygiene Package.....	70
4.6. Food Safety Legal Framework in Kosovo	72
4.7. Veterinary Policy	74
4.8. Placing on the Market of Food, Feed and Animal By-products	74
4.9. Food Safety and Control	77
4.10. Specific Rules for Feed	79
4.11. Phytosanitary Policy	81
4.12. Challenges in the Sector.....	82
4.13. Annexes	83
4.13.1. Annex I: The List of laws published in Official Gazette until 23.11.2012 related to Food safety	83
4.13.2. Annex II. The list of Administrative Instructions related to food safety.....	84

4.13.3.	Annex III. List of participants in TRT 7 Meetings on Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries, Forestry, and Food Safety	89
4.13.4.	Annex IV List of participants in the plenary workshop of TRT 7 on Agriculture, Rural Development, Forestry, Fisheries and Food Safety	92

I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to diagnose the current situation in the area of agriculture, rural development, fisheries, forestry, and food safety in Kosovo. It is a result of discussion papers and discussions among the participants of the thematic workshops on the areas within the Thematic Roundtable 7 for Agriculture, Rural Development, Forestry, Fisheries and Food Security, which operated under the Task Force for European Integration of Kosovo.

In order to identify the strengths and weaknesses in this area, within the framework of EI, this report aims to elaborate on issues related to the field of agriculture, rural development, fisheries, forestry, and food safety within the European Integration process and summarize the strengths and weaknesses identified in these fields. As such, it aims to provide an overview of opinions, views and assessments presented during the meetings, and in various reports and other documents produced by institutions of the Kosovo Government, business associations, civil society organizations, European Union, as well as projects of donors and international organizations in Kosovo which have focused their work in the respective fields.

The first chapter presents the situation in the field of agriculture and rural development. The first part of the chapter underlines the developments in the field of agriculture and rural development, with particular focus on institutional development and established structures. The second part focuses on legal framework, and on policies and strategies under which are regulated areas of agriculture and rural development. The third section presents developments of statistics sector on these areas, development of the accounting data network, market measures and quality policies. The last part presents some of the sector challenges.

The second chapter focuses on the developments in the field of fisheries. First part of the chapter gives a brief description of the institutional framework in the field of fisheries, while the second part presents the legal framework under which the field of fishery is regulated. The third part describes the situation and developments in the field of fisheries, continuing with the same description on the field of aquaculture. The fourth section is devoted to licensing and inspection. The last part underlines some of the challenges of the sector.

The third chapter presents the situation in the field of forestry. This first section of the chapter provides an overall picture of the area of forestry, including forest resources and developments that have featured the area of forestry in Kosovo. In a comparative way, the second section gives an overview of developments in the forestry sector in Kosovo and the European Union. The third section talks about forest strategies and policies and activities undertaken in these areas by the responsible institutions. Fourth section presents the forest program, while the fifth includes the legal framework which regulates the field of forestry. The last section presents the institutional framework, including all structures and their responsibilities and the challenges faced by the forestry sector.

The last chapter focuses on the developments in the field of food safety. The first part of the forth chapter gives a brief description of the sector, while the second part focuses on developments and institutional structures. The third part has to do with

the legal framework based on which is regulated the field of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary. The fourth part pays special attention to policies on veterinary, phytosanitary, food control, food and animal sub-products placement in the market. The last part presents challenges faced in this area.

1. Agriculture and Rural Development

1.1. Background of the Sector

The total area of Kosovo is 1.1 million hectares, of which 53% is agricultural land and 41% is forest land. The agriculture sector is characterised of small farms. According to the Agricultural Household Survey (AHS) 2009 there are nearly 180,000 active farms in Kosovo, (72% of which have less than 1.5 ha of utilized agricultural land)¹. The contribution of the agricultural sector in the Gross Domestic Production (GDP) is nearly 14.1%², agricultural products comprise nearly 16% of the total exports and the agriculture sector provides nearly 25% of the total employment, mainly in the informal sector. 62% of Kosovo population lives in rural areas and the agriculture sector plays an important role in providing employment opportunities and generating incomes for the inhabitants living in these areas.³ Recently, official results from the Population, Households and Housing Census in Kosovo, conducted in April 2011 shows the employment rate in agriculture of 4.4% while the number of rural population is 1,078,239 or 61.97%.⁴

1.2. Institutional Development and Capacities

The MAFRD is completing the process of restructuring and reformatting its administration with the aim to establish necessary administrative structures in line with CAP and competent to implement the IPARD policies toward EU integration process. The AFRDP 2007-13 is the first document (approved by the Government on 4 April 2007) of agriculture policies that started to approximate the agro-rural sector of Kosovo with EU/CAP and restructuring of the agro-rural sector. Its implementation is based on the Law no.03/L-098 on Agriculture and Rural Development.

In order to implement policies and programs effectively, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development has reformed the administrative structure by establishing competent operational administrative structures in line with IPARD program and in accordance with the implementation of the Common Agriculture Policy which is based on

- First pillar/measures aimed at the agriculture development, and
- Second pillar/measures aimed at the rural development,

¹ Kosovo - Country Economic Memorandum, World Bank.

² KAS 2012.

³ Answers to the Questionnaire of the Feasibility Study. June 2012.

⁴ Kosovo Agency of Statistics. Population Census, Housholds and Housing in Kosovo 2011. . Main data at: http://esk.rks-gov.net/rekos2011/repository/docs/Te%20dhenat%20kryesore_ALB.pdf.

1.2.1. Department of Agriculture Policy and Markets

The main function of this department is development of agricultural and trade policies, drafting of the appropriate provisions for the implementation of agriculture policies by defining the support scheme for farmers and markets and the relevant legal framework. The Department is responsible for setting the technical framework for livestock and plant production and quality standards associated with agriculture production.

1.2.2. Department of Rural Development Policy/Managing Authority

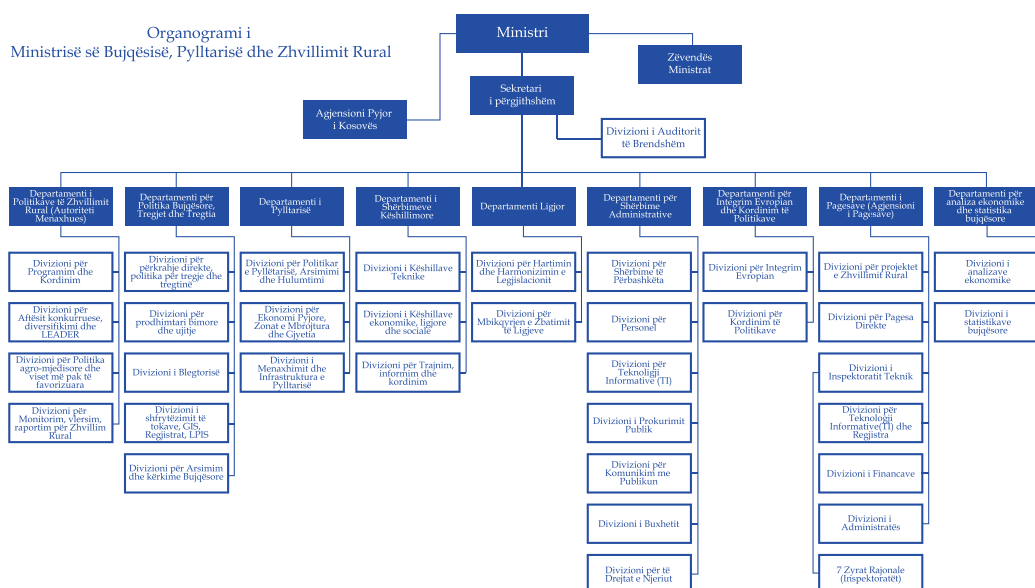
The main function of this department is drafting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the annual and long-term rural development program, and follows changes/fulfillment in accordance with EU CAP Pillar II. Managing Authority is responsible for approximation of legislation in the field of rural development, including less favored areas (LFA), agro-environment program, competitiveness in agriculture, diversification of agricultural activities and the LEADER approach.

1.2.3. Department of Economical Analyses and Agriculture Statistics

The main function of this department is collection and analysis of economical and statistical data, data which will help the MAFRD to be able to produce detailed economic reports and analysis, and based on them will be taken the appropriate investment measures.

The Monitoring Committee is responsible to monitor the efficiency, effectiveness and quality of the implementation Program for Agriculture and Rural Development, and approves amendment of measures, including physical and financial indicators.

The following organizational structure presents the overall structure of the MAFRD:

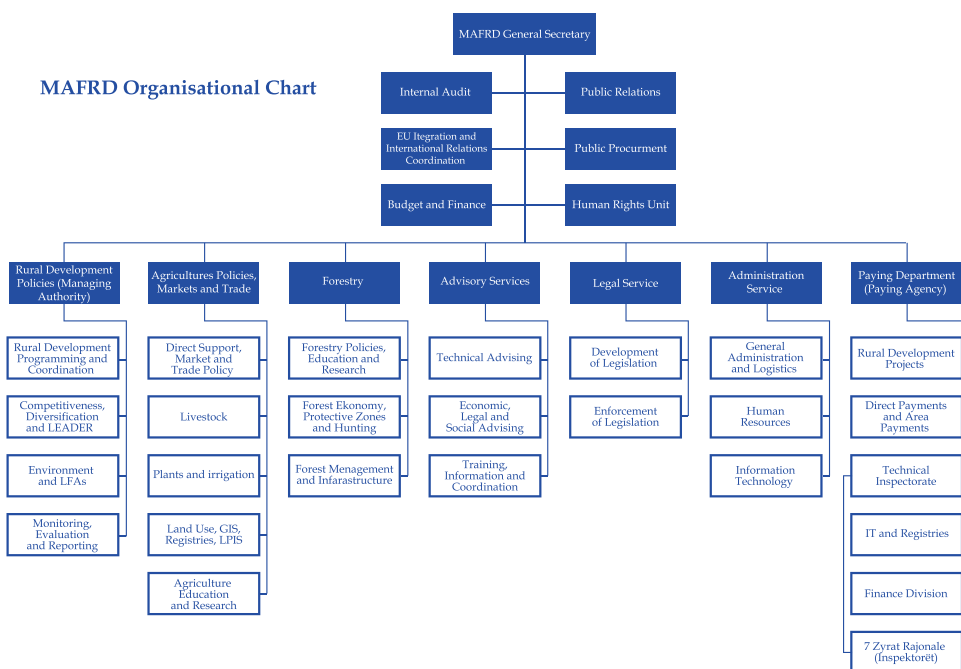


Source: MAFRD

Despite all these changes and the progress made so far, some of challenges include lack of budget to implement and enforce policies, and insufficient human capacities to draft and implement policies.⁵

1.2.4. Agriculture Development Agency

Paying Unit was established by the AI no. 01/2010 based on the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development no. 03/L-098. Paying unit was upgraded into a Paying Department (PD) in July 2012. Based on the amendment of the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development and AI no. 01/2012 of 28 December 2012 the Department of Payments has been upgraded to the level of Agriculture Development Agency, in full compliance with IPARD rules and procedures. The main function of the ADA is the implementation of the support schemes drafted by the Managing Authority and funded by Kosovo Government, EU and other donor organisations.



Paying Unit functioned with three sectors: Direct Payment sector, Rural Development sector and IT sector. Now, after upgrade as department are operating six divisions: Rural Development Projects; Direct Payments; Technical Inspection; Finance; IT and Registries; and General Administration.⁶ Now, the Department of Payments based on

⁵ Meeting of TRT 7 Agriculture and Rural Development. Presentation on “Administrative Structure, Development Policies in the field of Agriculture and Rural Development”. Lulzim Shamolli. MAFRD. October 2012.

⁶ Meeting of TRT 7 Agriculture and Rural Development. Presentation on “Direct Payments and RDP”. Agim Nuha, MAFRD. October 2012.

AI 01/2012 has been upgraded to the level of Agency with seven Directorates that have been shown in the organizational structure of ADA.

Current staff (61 including 19 from the WB project and 11 with contracts on special services) of the ADA is trained on tasks and responsibilities deriving from job descriptions and with written procedures for the implementation of the Agriculture and Rural Development Program (direct payments, rural development projects and site control procedures). In 2011 were received and reviewed 17,916 applications, in 2012 were received around 21,673 applications for direct payments and rural development projects, while 2013 based on assessments there will be an increase of the number of applications for at least 30% (30.000 applications), based on extension of support schemas and increase of farmer requests for expansion of the existing capacities and the big number of beginner farmers that have expressed their interest to be engaged in agriculture activities.⁷

With the new reorganisation of the MAFRD the Agency for Agriculture Development is being organized based on the organizational scheme presented above and has created good conditions for normal work including office space, equipment, logistics and IT for a better management of the planned budget for support from national budget and donors. This engagement shall include extension of programs in future, standardisation of procedures and new developments in the Agriculture Development Agency as staff capacity building through trainings to achieve standards at a desirable level of EU.

According to the Paying Unit Development Strategy 2010 – 2015 (adopted in 2010) following structures and staff developments have been foreseen:⁸

Sector	March 2010	End of 2010	End of 2011	End of 2012	End of 2013	End of 2014	End of 2015
Head of Department	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rural Development	3	5	11	11	14	14	14
Direct Payments	3	5	11	11	11	11	11
Technical inspectorate	0	2	3	3	3	3	3
On-the-spot control RO	0	14	14	15	15	20	20
IT & Registers	2	2	5	10	10	10	10
Legal department	0	0	0	0	4	4	4
Financial department	0	0	0	0	4	4	4
Administrative department	0	0	0	0	3	3	3
Internal Audit	0	0	0	0	3	3	3
Total	9	29	45	51	68	73	73

World Bank project is supporting ADA with the new staff. In total, 19 employees will be recruited at the PD, out of which 14 will be technical inspectors. Five (5) of them are already engaged in Directorates of ADA (2 in rural development projects; 1 in control

⁷ Paying Department. MAFRD.

⁸ Strategy for further development of the PU of MAFRD 2010 to 2015.

sector and 1 in the IT sector).⁹

Even as agency and with more staff in board, they are facing difficulties and challenges to fulfil their mission. With the amount of workload they have, beside their internal operational and technical challenges (lack of staff, IT) ADA is facing other external challenges like: outdated cadastre and property registers; fraud tendency from applicants (more than one application from the same farm).

In addition, another important challenge remains to be still unsolved, question of “Municipality agriculture officers” who are supposed to be MAFRD staff in charge to operate with LPIS and Farm Register programmes and receive applications from farmers. They are (should be) very important link between farmers and ADA, being the main filter of the problems at the beginning of the process before the problems come to the ADA.

- *IT capacities*

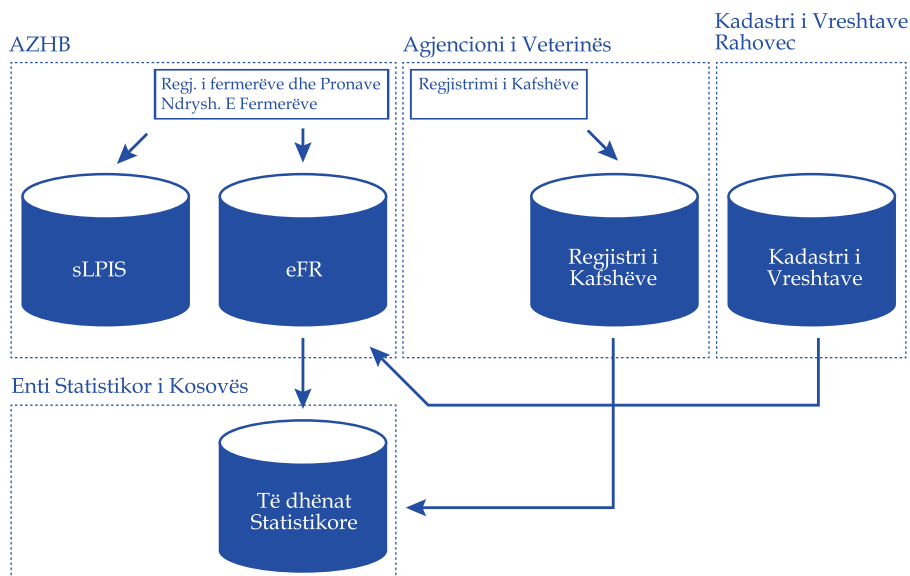
To better manage the written procedures has been contracted development of a new software application for managing administrative control and field control of applications that will be finalized in June 2013 which will facilitate the qualitative management of the whole process. Already has started development of the new application with two modules (Direct Payments and for Rural Development Projects) which will serve well until the creation of IACS. Also the server is operational and the application for LPIS and farm Register and is working with the EC project and Food Agency to link all records in an integrated system. Up to date, in the farm registry are recorded 24,500 farmers.¹⁰

All staff of the Agricultural Development Agency is equipped with computer, printer and Internet connection while technical inspectorate with inspection equipment (GPS, laptop, digital camera, odometers, telephones and other equipment for the field control implementation. Also the internet network has been connected and made operational with all municipalities to use LPIS software and Farm Register. In a near future will invest even more in IT equipment.

⁹ Paying Department. MAFRD.

¹⁰ Agriculture Development Agency, MAFRD.

Skema e Regjistrave në AZHB:



1.2.5. Advisory Services

The Advisory Services for agriculture and rural development were established and have been operational since 2004. They have been operating as a sector under the Department for Rural Development and Advisory Services.

Measures undertaken to strengthen the advisory services

- The Law No. 04/L-074 on Advisory Services for Agriculture and Rural Development was approved on February 2012.
- The Strategy for Advisory Services 2012-2016 has been prepared and was approved by the Government on February 2012.

On 02 December 2012, was taken the Decision no. 3187 on reorganization of the Department of Rural Development and Advisory Services in: Department of Advisory and Technical Services that is composed from three divisions:

1. Division of Technical Advisory Services,
2. Division of field extension services and
3. Division of Administrative Services.¹¹

The overall projected number of employees at the central level is 14 while at the local level is 68 advisors. On 24 April 2013 under the Law on Advisory Services on Agriculture and Rural Development was issued the Administrative Instruction on Organization, Responsibilities, Rights and Obligations of advisory services of central and central level

¹¹ Department of Advisory and Technical Services, MAFRD, April 2013.

and on the reporting form and manner.

The Advisory Services are organised into Public and Private Services in two levels: the central and local level. It is under way the establishment of municipal advisory centres for agriculture and rural development in most of Kosovo municipalities with 68 advisors where each centre shall include from 1 up to 3 officers – professional advisors.¹²

The main function of the Advisory Service Department is to provide technical, economic, legal and social advices to the agriculture producers. The Department is also responsible for the planning, coordination and monitoring of the advisory services at local level. The Department in cooperation and coordination with other departments (RDD, PD) in MAFRD prepares information events/materials and supports farmers in the application process.¹³ In 2011, more than 6,396 farmers have been trained in different fields through the MAFRD financed project “Development of Rural Areas through Advisory Services advancement” in amount of 200,000 Euros. The project was tendered by MAFRD and implemented by a local company.¹⁴

• *Advisory Services and Trainings during 2012*

Advisory Services implement the Advisory Services project “Development of Rural Areas through Enhancing Advisory Services” financed by the Kosovo Government that include:

- Capacity Building Training for public and private sector advisors;
- Trainings and advises for farmers and agribusinesses in specialized filed such as livestock, fruits, vegetable, cereals and environment protection;
- Field visits for farmers and farmer groups;
- Preparation of materials for the extension;
- Field mobility of advisors; and
- Study visits for advisory services’ advisors.

Figures for 2012 include:

- 447 consultations organized with farmer groups, services provided to 6700 farmers;
- 4 capacity building trainings organized with 24 training days for 30 public advisors;
- 16 visits were organized for farmer groups within Kosovo to exchange experiences, services provided to 410 farmers;
- 10 messages were broadcasted for farmers in three (3) national TV stations (RTK, KTV, TV21);
- A study visit for managerial staff for exchange of experiences with EU countries,

¹² Department of Advisory and Technical Services, MAFRD, April 2013.

¹³ Act on Internal Organisation and Systematization of the MAFRD.

¹⁴ Meeting report SAPD Agri_FS 2012.

- 7 (seven) specialized private experts were engaged and from their advises benefited 3553 farmers;
- 12 titles of brochures for farmers are published and distributed, 300 copies of each title, in total 36000 copies in both official languages;
- Total of beneficiaries/6700 farmers+3553 farmers=10253 farmers.

The Advisory Services are supporting activities of Payments Agency, farmers on provision of information on grants and subsidies, in filling in the applications and support of farmers in preparing business plans. In 2013 all applications are through municipal advisors for advisory services that helped farmers to obtain and fill in the applications.¹⁵ Even though the advisory services are operational, they are not at satisfactory level and they need to improve their performance. Also in the last meeting of EU-Kosovo SAPD, enhancement of Advisory Services was considered one of the challenges.

On the institutional side challenge in this area remains insufficient involvement of farmers and agribusinesses in getting professional advice; limited number of consultants who provide advisory services; inadequate training of advisors including training in specific areas; limited mobility of advisors; creation of local advisory centers; direct contact with farmers; as well as the creation of website.¹⁶

1.3. Legal Framework

In the process of establishing the legislative framework in the field of Agriculture and Rural Development are taken into account standards pertaining to these areas. So far, Kosovo has adopted some of the basic principles of EU legislation in the field of Agriculture and Rural Development, including secondary legislation. The list below shows the legal basis for policy implementation of this field.

Laws approved:

1. Law on Forests of Kosovo, no. 2003/3, dt. 20.03.2003.
2. Kosovo Law on Seeds, no. 2003/5, dt. 15.04.2003.
3. Law on Agriculture Cooperatives, no. 2003/9, dt. 23.06.2003.
4. Law on Planting Material no. 2004/13, dt. 28.05.2004.
5. Law on Veterinary no. 2004/21, dt. 30.07.2004.
6. Law on amending and supplementing the Law no. 2003/3 on Kosovo Forests, no. 2004/29, dt. 14.10.2004.
7. Law on Livestock of Kosovo no. 2004/33, dt. 14.10.2004.
8. Law Animal Welfare no. 02/L-10, dt. 9.05.2005.
9. Law on Wines no. 02/L-8, dt. 14.10.2005.
10. Law on Irrigation of Agriculture Law no. 02L-9, dt. 25.11.2005.
11. Law on Agriculture Land 02/L-26, dt. 23.06.2006.
12. Law on Hunting 02L-53, dt. 11.08.2006.

¹⁵ Department of Advisory and Technical Services, MAFRD, April 2013.

¹⁶ Meeting of TRT 7 Agriculture and Rural Development, Presentation "Achievements and Challenges on the field of Advisory Services" Tahir Halitaj, MAFRD. October 2012.

13. Law on Fishery and Aquaculture 02/L-85, dt. 20.12.2006.
14. Law on Apiculture no. 02/L-111, dt. 08.02.2008.
15. Law on Protection of Plant Varieties no. 02/L-98, dt. 16.05.2008.
16. Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law no. 2003/9 on Agriculture Cooperatives no. 03/L-004, dt. 3.10.2008. Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-50-2008, dt. 13.10.2008 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo.
17. Law on Plant Protection Products no. 03/L-042, dt. 07.11.2008. Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-061-2008, dt. 27.11.2008 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo.
18. Law on Agriculture Inspection no. 03/L-029, dt. 20.11.2008. Promulgated by the Decree no. DL.065-2008, dt. 13.12.2008 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo.
19. Law on Food no. 03/L-016, dt 12.02.2009. Promulgated by the President of the Republic of Kosovo no. DL.004-2009, dt. 6.03.2009.
20. Law no. 03/L-098 on agriculture and rural development, dt. 11.06.2009. Promulgated by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Kosovo, no. DL. 015-2009, dt. 01.07.2009.
21. Law no. 03/L-153 amending and supplementing the Law No. 2003/3 on Kosovo Forests. Promulgated by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Kosovo, no. DL. 011-2010, dt.12.03.2010.
22. Law no. 03/L-198 amending and supplementing the Law Nr.02/L-9 on Irrigation of Agriculture Lands. Promulgated by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Kosovo, no. DL. 038-2010 dated. 28.07.2010.
23. Law no. 03/L-243 on amending the Law on Livestock of Kosovo no.2004/33. Promulgated by the Acting President of the Republic of Kosovo, no. DL. 069-2010 dated. 09.11.2010.
24. Law no. 04/L-019 on Amending and Supplementing the Law on Wine no.02/L-8. Promulgated by the Decree no. DL. 021-2011 dated. 12/08/2011 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga.
25. Law no. 04/L-041 Production, Collection, Processing and Trading of Tobacco, (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo no. 26, dt. 25 November 2011). Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-048/2011 dt. 15.11.2011 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga.
26. Law no. 04/L-040 on Land Regulation - (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo No. 03, dt. 22.02.2012). Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-004/2012 dt. 07.02.2012 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga.
27. Law no. 04/L-074 on Advisory Services for Agriculture and Rural Development (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo no. 04, dt. 19.03.2012). Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-0006-2012, dt. 03.01.2012 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga.
28. Law no. 04/L-114 on Flour Fortification (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo No.26/21 September 2012). Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-038-2012, dt. 07.09.2012 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga.
29. Law no. 04/L-090 on Amending and Supplementing the Law Nr.03/098 on Agriculture and Rural Development (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo No. 28/16 October 2012). Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-044-2012, dt. 28.09.2012 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga.
30. Law no. 04/L-085 on Organic Agriculture (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo no. 28/16 October 2012). Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-046-2012, dt.28.09.2012 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga.
31. Law no. 04/L-120 on Plant Protection (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo, no. 01/17 January 2012). Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-064-2012, dt.28.12.2012 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga.
32. Law no. 04/L-127 on Agriculture Census (Official Gazette of the Republic of

Kosovo no. 01/17 January 2012). Promulgated by the Decree no. DL-063-2012, dt.27.12.2012 of the President of the Republic of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga.

Legislative Plan 2013

1. Draft Law on Livestock has been approved in principle by the Assembly of Kosovo.
2. Draft Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law no.03/L-016 on Food. 01.05.2013.
3. Draft Law on Genetically Modified Organisms. 01.08.2013,
4. Draft Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law no. 02/L-53 on Hunting. 01.10.2013.
5. Draft Law on Seeds and Planting Material, 01.10.2013.
6. Draft Law Amending and Supplementing the Law no. 2004/21 on Veterinary. 01.07.2013.
7. Draft Law on Forests. 30.10.2013.
8. Draft Law on Amending and Supplementing the Law no. 2003/22 on Sanitary Inspection of Kosovo 30.10.2013.

So far, the field of Agriculture and Rural Development is almost covered with primary legislation but, secondary legislation is not in a satisfactory level. Main challenges remain insufficient implementation of laws, lack of human resources/staff, and lack of budget. Some of the laws that have not been yet fully implemented are: Law on Food, Agriculture Inspection, Organic Agriculture, Veterinary, Livestock Products, Plant Variety Protection, Apiculture, Plant Protection, Agricultural Land, Irrigation of Agricultural Land, Seeds, Fertilizers, and Law on Wines.¹⁷ Challenge remains not informing farmers on changes made in the laws pertaining to the field of agriculture and rural development.¹⁸

1.4. Policy and Strategy framework

In Kosovo, the MAFRD is responsible for the development and implementation of Agriculture and Rural Development national policies. Therefore, Agriculture and Rural Development Plan (ARDP) 2007-13 was drafted by MAFRD and approved by Government on 4 April 2007, the implementation of which is based on the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development No. 03/L-098. The ARDP objective to provide a framework that will help Kosovo to:

- Restructure its agricultural sector in line with that of the EU, and
- Improve the living standard of its rural population in Kosovo,

ARDP is based on two pillars:

- First Pillar/measures aiming at agriculture development, and
- Second Pillar/measures aiming at rural development.

¹⁷ NGO 'Konsumatori'. Selatin Kaçaniku. November 2012.

¹⁸ NGO 'Drita e Krushës'. Ola Sylja. November 2012.

To achieve this dual strategic approach, measures of sustainable agro-rural development are identified on which are concentrated financial, political, legal, administrative, and human resources during 2010-13. In the field of rural development sector policies are identified the following measures:

Measures aimed at agriculture development - direct support in:

- Livestock sector, and
- Plant production sector.

Measures aimed at rural development:

Axis 1: Competitiveness

- Development of professional vocational training to meet rural needs (Measure 1),
- Restructuring of physical potential in the agriculture sector (Measure 2),
- Managing water resources for agriculture (Measure 3),
- Improving processing and marketing of agriculture products (Measure 4),

Axis 2: Environment and improved land use

- Improvement of human resources management (Measure 5)

Axis 3: Rural diversification and quality of rural life

- Diversification of farms and alternative activities in rural development (Measure 6),
- Improvement of rural infrastructure and maintenance of rural heritage (Measure 7)

Axis 4: Strategy on local development based on communities

- Support for community development strategies.

Drafting of ARDP 2007-13 on rural development part is based on the provisions of the Council Regulation on Support for Rural Development 2007-13 (European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) Council Regulation 1698/2005).¹⁹

Implementation of ARDP 2007-13

ARDP 2007-13 assessment is done by 'Federal Institute for Agro-economics' contracted by the twinning project "Support to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD) in the development of legislation and policies and implementation of the Agriculture and Rural Development Plan (ARDP)" VAM covers

¹⁹ Plan on Agriculture and Rural Development 2010-13.

measures of ARDP 2007-2013, which were implemented in the period 2007-2011, and includes indicators of inputs, outputs, outcomes and impact.

The level of support for this period was: €31.729 million of which €17,516 million for rural development:

- Competitiveness €16,029,800 or 91.5% of the rural development
- Agro-environment €1,284,558 or 7.3%, and
- Development of local community (DLC) €201.245 or 1.1%

Agriculture/Direct payments: 14,213,819

- Wheat, corn and grape/ha;
- Dairy cows, sheep and goats/head.
- According to the VAM, expenditures in ARDP have resulted with significant progress in achieving the MAFRD goals:
- Cereals sector, from 102 thousand hectares it had in 2007, at about 160 thousand ha in 2011;
- Livestock sector has increased the milk production and the animals stock for around 20%;
- In Horticulture were constructed 191 new greenhouses, 221 new orchards and 471 new vineyards, which are constructed with our financial support, as well as through capital investments;
- The irrigation system also includes additional 18.773 ha of agriculture surface, the direct effects of which have been increased yields of 40-60% in production. While, according to experts who have made estimates of the European Union;
- About 19,000 farmers have participated successfully in professional training activities with the aim of developing their capacities;
- Regarding employment generation, through investments in this sector so far have been created 2,175 new work places and about 10 thousand existing work places each year are supported through direct payments to farmers.

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 2013 = 27,350,000 MC			
DIRECT PAYMENTS/SUBSIDIES		RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	
Measures	Budget	Measures	Budget
DP for wheat	4,500,000	Measure 1: professional trainings to meet rural needs for Advisory Services	200,000
DP for wheat seed	100,000	Measure 2: Restructuring of physical potential in agro-rural sector - Farms for dairy cows, and sheep and goats - Farms for fattening of calves and broilers - Farms for eggs - Beekeeping - Greenhouses - Orchards/small fruits, vineyards - Vegetables in open fields - Aromatic plants Agriculture mechanization	6,650,000
DP for maize	600,000	Measure 3: Irrigation of agriculture lands Rehabilitation and modernization of the existing irrigation infrastructure and associated mechanization	1,000,000
DP for sunflower	100,000	Measure 4: Investments on processing and marketing of agriculture products - Processing of fruits-vegetables - Processing of meat - Processing of milk - Collection, storage and packaging warehouse	5,500,000
DP for dairy cows and buffalos	2,000,000	Measure 5: Improvement natural resources management -Forestation and reforestation	700,000
DP for sheep and goats	1,300,000		
DP for beekeeping	300,000		
DP for milk based on the quality categories	1,500,000	Measure 8: Support for development of local community Projects of local action groups	200,000
Direct payments for existing vineyards	600,000		
Direct payments for fruit tree seedlings	100,000	Special measures for less developed areas	1,500,000
Subsidies for wine stocks	300,000		
Total Budget	11,600,000	Total Budget	15,750,000

1.5. Direct Support

In Kosovo, support presented in 2009 is related to the type of production. In 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012, these direct support measures were implemented: direct payments in the livestock sector per head of dairy cow, sheep and goat, per beehive. Direct payments in cereals sector per surface unit for wheat, wheat for seed production and fuel subsidies for harvest of white cereals. New schemes of direct support/direct payments were introduced for industrial crops (maize, sunflower and rape) that could develop the agro-processing.

1.6. Rural Credit Schemes

Agricultural and Rural Development sector continues to face hard access-to-finance conditions. Out of total €1.2 billion approved loans in Kosovo in 2011, only (3.6%) or €40 million have been approved in agro-rural sector. Micro Finance Institutions provide a large part of total agro-rural loans - approximately 45%. Average annual interest rate was very high 22%, (while the highest rate reached 25%) in comparison with 11% in the construction sector.

MAFRD is working on the establishment of a guarantee fund for agro-rural loans. Feasibility study has been finalised. Since end of September 2012, agriculture will not be treated as a high risk sector for lending by the banking sector and farmers will approach more easily agricultural loans. This is because the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, the U.S. Embassy in Kosovo and the six largest banks in the country, signed the agreement for the agricultural credit guarantee fund, through which is guaranteed credit of 20.1 million Euros for the agricultural sector.

1.7. Agriculture Supervision and Inspection

According to the Government Regulation no. 02/2011 (Appendix 14) in addition to the development and implementation of policies and legislation, MAFRD is responsible for control, supervision and inspection of activities in the field of agriculture, forestry, livestock and plant protection. Provisions for control, supervision and inspection in the field of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, contains all laws sponsored by MAFRD and approved by the Kosovo Assembly. This area is regulated by the Law Agricultural Inspection no.03/L-029 and its scope is the agriculture land, forestry and hunting, plant protection, livestock and fisheries, as well as veterinary and food safety. Inspection remains within MAFRD and executive body consists of inspection for agricultural land, forestry and hunting, plant protection, phytosanitary, livestock and fisheries, as well as for inspection of veterinary and food safety. The inspection has the following general authorizations:

- Control of business facilities, equipment, premises, means, production, processing export, import, and transiting;
- Take samples of goods;
- Implement procedures in regard to requests of citizens and other subjects;
- Undertake other measures and actions in conformity with the law, etc.

While, with special authorizations, inspection:

- Orders measures to eliminate irregularities;
- Initiates proceedings against offences and criminal acts;
- Undertake other actions as stipulated by the law, etc.

In the field of inspection and supervision progress has been achieved in drafting primary and secondary legislation, and necessary inspection and control mechanisms have been established, and staff capacity building activities in these fields took place. Nevertheless,

main challenges remain insufficient capacities, courts negligence to treat and process cases, and inter-institutional coordination.²⁰

1.8. Cadastre System and Land Policy

The Kosovo Cadastral Agency (KCA) which operates under the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning is the only authority in Kosovo for the cadastre and has the right to constitute and maintain the overall official evidences on immovable properties as well as issuing of the other sub normative acts regarding to cadastral activity. All these issues are regulated with the Law on Cadastre No. 04/-L-013.

Under the authority of the Agency are organised and perform their activity Municipal Cadastral Offices (MCOs) and licensed geodesists. Kosovo has a unified Immoveable Property Rights Registry (IPRR), Law no. 04/L-009 on Amending and Supplementing the Law no. 2002/5 on establishment of the Immobile Property Rights, where all cadastral property units and titles are recorded and the central database of this registry is administered by the KCA. Agriculture land parcels are registered in this register as cadastral land parcels of agriculture use and covers 53% of the territory of Kosovo.²¹ For its internal use purposes at the MAFRD there are two other systems for the identification of agriculture land parcels.

1.9. Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS)

A simple Land Parcel Identification System (sLIPS) and the Master Plan for implementation of the Land Parcel Identification System (sLPIS) in Kosovo is developed and functioning in order to apply for, distribute and control subsidies for farmers who benefit from the national budget. This system enables digitization of agricultural parcels and assigning attribute data for each farmer, electronic application for direct payments for surface. It enables development of a geo-database for all agricultural parcels in Kosovo. The Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS) is one of the elements of the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS). IACS is a key tool to control the agriculture subsidies provided by the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

1.10. Cadastre System for Management of Kosovo Vineyards and Wine Industry

In order to manage its vineyards and the wine sector in Kosovo MAFRD has created vineyards cadastre system which enables to identify parcels, farmers and collect other important data for this sector. The system integrates all data in a unique database in PostgreSQL and allows the presentation of textual and graphic data accompanied by forms, reports and other statistics. Its final KaveKO v1.2 application is based on a platform WEB - server that allows access even from a distance which enables easy and

²⁰ Meeting of TRT 7 Agriculture and Rural Development. Presentation "Supervision and Inspection of Agriculture and Rural Development". Shefki Zeqiri. MAFRD. October 2012.

²¹ Answers to the Questionnaire of Feasibility Study. June 2010.

efficient management of vineyards cadastre system in Kosovo.²²

The Government of the Republic of Kosovo has engaged one company until December 2014 to maintain, strengthen and expand the Cadastre of vineyards and wine industry in Kosovo. This company is developing software on wine quality control in accordance with the EU Executive Regulations. With this software will be established a link between the wine analytical and organoleptic evaluation, and will be managed domestic trade, export and import of wine. Also the vineyard register should be linked to or accessible from other available registers in Kosovo like: LPIS, Farm Register, Animal I&R register.

1.11. Agriculture Land

Law on Land Regulation no. 04/L-40. (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosovo no.03/22, February 2012). Also, the Strategy on Land Regulation 2010–2020 and the action plan on its implementation have been approved by the Government on June 2011. Unfinished land consolidation from the past is a very challenging issue for the MAFRD and the agriculture sector. In 2011 MAFRD supported by the projects for consolidation of land in municipalities of Prizren 930 ha, Rahovec 1318 ha and Obiliq 453 ha are registered in the Immovable Property Rights Register IPRR. The unfinished land consolidation project in the municipality of Gjakova is being implemented in CM as are CM Ujëz (surface 349.56 ha), CM Rogovë I (surface 480.46 ha) and CM Gjakova outside the city (surface 1375.34 ha), and it is foreseen to extended to other CMs. Project on voluntary land regulation in the village Pozharan of Viti, in a surface of of 22 ha, has passed the stage of public discussion with the owners. Now is at the stage of signing of farmers statements for reallocation of their plots.

In the last decade, agriculture land is very much attacked from uncontrolled construction activities and change of use without respecting rules and procedures set by law on agriculture land. Only in 2011, the following legal offences have been reported by the inspectors of the central and municipal level: 267 controls, 232 transcripts, 150 decisions, 102 cases to the courts and 16 cases executed by the courts.²³

Regarding Agriculture Land, Kosovo is facing following challenges:

- Insufficient law enforcement and strategy implementation;
- Not updated property titles;
- Uncompleted land consolidation;
- Fragmentation of land plots: the land surface available to households is small (2.5 ha in average), divided in several plots: (out of 180,000 estimated farms in Kosovo, only 3,000 are bigger than 10 ha.);
- Industrial pollution: agriculture land is under constant threat from water and soil pollution; and

²² Feasibility study Structure-eng. 2012.

²³ Meeting report SAPD Agri_FS 2012.

- Unsustainable use of agriculture land.

MAFRD's objectives in regard to land are presented under Measure 2 in ARDP: Restructuring of the physical potential of agro-rural sector. Main objectives are:

- Sustainable agriculture development;
- Assistance to farm restructuring;
- Farm size increase;
- Land market development;
- Improvement of land production capacities, and its use as collateral;
- Improvement of land fertility preservation;
- Improvement of environment.

The main reason for the loss of agricultural land and unplanned urban construction is the lack of a Rural Spatial Plan. This plan is intended to pay the necessary care to rural areas, to be an integral part of the Municipal Development Plan, to complement and balance the Urban Development Plan (RDP), and focus on strategy development for planning and utilization of agricultural land rural areas. Municipalities plan focuses on urban planning and insufficiently in rural areas. The Rural Spatial Planning base is created for the whole country's territory while its implementation is the responsibility of MESP, municipalities and other interested parties.

When the change of use from rural into urban land is proposed, the local planning authorities will be requested to make objective analysis based on some criteria supporting the proposal and concluding that: the existing urban areas are insufficient to cope with economic and demographic growth of the population; the proposed expansion area is not the best fit for rural uses (land of low quality) or subjected to sporadic current urban uses; it is possible and efficient in terms of cost to extend urban services in that area, and that the proposed development would not cause adverse effects on neighboring units, such as reducing the potential for rural development in that area.

In 2013 will start the project "Implementation of Rural Spatial Planning System". This project will be funded by the EU and implemented by MAFRD. The primary goal of this project is to support the responsible staff in all Kosovo municipalities in the implementation of the Rural Development Plan in their municipalities. The project will last two years.

1.12. Agriculture Land Regulation

Land regulation is done through the Law no. 04/L-40 on Land Regulation that is based on the principle of voluntary participation of farmers in land regulation projects. Land consolidation strategy and action plan 2010-2020 are approved. The aim of the strategy is to create a long-term vision for the implementation of land consolidation in Kosovo; to ensure rational use of agricultural land, to solve the issue of ownership and land tenure security, and to increase farm size and market competition.

Cadastral land classification is based on natural and economic production conditions of existing crops in land and it is used to determine the cadastral incomes. Based on the legal provisions in force – Law no. 02/L-26 on Agriculture Land Article 10, paragraph 10.1 - is prepared a new classification of agricultural land suitability. This system is based on international practices of classifying land as FAO (World Reference Base for Soil Resources 2006) and is a simple, clear, transparent and easily implemented system to ensure a rapid integration into the policy system. For CALS to have legal force is issued an Administrative Instruction no. 02/2012 on of Classification of Agricultural Land Suitability, dt. 30.03.2012.

Classification of Agricultural Land Suitability will be used at the rate of at least 1:50:000 or at lesser rate but not under 1:30.000. Use of ALS is obligatory in designing the municipal development plans. Under the new System the Classification of Agricultural Land Suitability is divided into eight classes.

1.12.1. Agriculture Land Market

Regarding privately owned agriculture land there is no single database on the market as a single source of information about supply and demand, as well as the sale price of agricultural land. There is no legal or natural person licensed for evaluation of real estate (agriculture land). By the Decision no.30/12 of 27 February 2012 of the Ministry of Finance is established the Supervisory Board for Licensing of Immovable Property Assessors based on European evaluation standards “TEgoVA”. Until now 45 natural persons have been licensed by the Supervisory Board for Licensing of Immovable Property Assessors to assess the immovable property (agriculture land).

1.13. Agriculture Land Privatization

The Privatization practice of KTA and KPA resulted with tendering of large areas of agricultural land. Large areas of agricultural land were mainly privatized by businessmen who have split this area of agricultural land and resold it for higher prices and mainly to be used for non-agriculture activities. Farmers who deal with agricultural activities and who have had the goal of increasing the size of their farm, in most cases have not benefited from this process. In agricultural lands privatized, in most cases, it was not invested at all, and there is no increase in agricultural production, and in some cases the land has remained undeveloped²⁴.

1.14. Organic Farming

The Law No. 02/L-122 on Organic Farming has been approved by the Kosovo Assembly on 17 September 2007 and has been promulgated by the SRSG on 8 January 2008. In accordance with the EU Regulations (EC) No. 834/2007 of 28 June 2007 and Regulation (EC) 889/2008, the Law on Organic Farming No. 02/L-122 has been amended. This is the

²⁴ Meeting of TRT 7 Agriculture and Rural Development; Presentation “Land Cadastral System and Other Mechanisms”. Idriz Gashi. MAFRD; October 2012.

first law drafted based on compatibility tables and with support of the TAIEX experts. Amendment of the Law on Organic Agriculture No. 04/L-085 has been approved by the Kosovo Assembly on 13 September 2012 and published in the Official Gazette on 18 October 2012. According to the amendments, the following are planned: establishments of the controlling authority; committee for organic farming; recognition of controlling bodies by MAFRD; drafting of action plan for development of organic farming; and, preparation of the annual programme for conversion into organic farming.²⁵

MAFRD is the competent authority for the control system for organic farming that establishes a Control Authority, while the Control Authority accredits the controlling bodies which can be local or foreign²⁶. Organic production in Kosovo is still at an early stage of development. Organic production has a high potential in Kosovo due to the extensive (traditional) production, mainly in mountainous areas with a very rich and suitable environment for organic production. Advantages have products such as medicinal plants, wild fruits, fruit, vegetables, vineyards, honey etc. Currently, some farmers are at the conversion phase being converted to organic production (in collaboration with KOAA). Medicinal plants, kitchen herbs and wild fruits are being exported (via local market network).

Kosovo is divided into five areas, four of them are certified to collect wild fruits and medicinal plants - certified surfaces/ha.1) First area 19,200 ha. 2) Second area 36,000 ha. 3) Third area 48,000 ha, 4) Fourth area 76.380 ha. In Kosovo are currently two companies that have certified their products and undertake collection and processing of wild fruits and plants ("Agroprodukt Syne" Istog and "Hit Flower" Dragash). These companies organize collection, drying and processing of wild and medicinal plants. Currently are operating two control bodies and a National Association KOAA (technical advice). The Control Body BIO inspects-Switzerland in collaboration with Albinspekt-Albania is performing inspection and certification of organic medicinal plants and wild fruits. The control body PROCERT from Macedonia, in cooperation with the Kosovo Organic Agriculture Association have performed certification of organic honey production. Certification of organic products is supported by: KOAA, Intercooperation, GIZ, USAID, Mercy Corps, etc.

So far, in Kosovo are cultivated 85 hectares (16 species) of medicinal plants with a production of 170t. Certification has been done for a producer of organic honey which started work in 2010; he has certified 40 hives with a capacity of 900 kg/year. 90% of all cultivated and collected products are exported in EU countries as Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. According to data from KOAA (Kosovo Organic Agriculture Association) in the conversion stage are Orchards 4 ha, Vineyards 1 ha, and greenhouse 0.10 ha.

As a positive development is good to mention that, Agriculture Faculty in Prishtina

²⁵ Meeting report SAPD Agri_FS 2012.

²⁶ Meeting of TRT 7 Agriculture and Rural Development; Presentation "Organic Agriculture", Isuf Cikaqi, MAFRD, October 2012.

since 2002 has introduced Organic Farming subject listened on average by 100 students per year. This affects in raising awareness of the Kosovo population for organic farming. For the moment in Kosovo only medical plants and honey are organic products which have been certified. But organic farming is a process starting with conversion in the first year and then continues with production. Therefore, organic production needs to be followed and certified every year. Even though the Law on organic farming has been approved recently, the controlling authority, the committee for organic farming and other bodies foreseen in the law are not established yet. Capacities of the MAFRD so far are very limited; only one officer is very difficult to organise and coordinate this process. In many countries exists Institute for organic farming who leads the process.

1.15. Statistics

- *Agriculture statistics*

The Law on Official Statistics of the Republic of Kosovo No. 04/L-036 was adopted by the Parliament of the Republic of Kosovo in October 2011. According to this law, Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KSA) has primary responsibility for the production of Official Statistics and other issues arising from the Official Statistics Program. The law regulates the fundamental principles, quality and provides the legal framework for the organization, production and publication of official statistics in Kosovo. In addition, law deals with data collection, processing, storage, privacy and protection of official data, and international cooperation. Organizational structure of KSA is made of these departments: Economic Statistics and National Accounts; Population Statistics; Agriculture and Environment Statistics; Social Statistics, and two support departments, Methodology and Information Technology, and Administration. KSA has seven regional offices in main cities in Kosovo and 134 employees in total.²⁷

Department of Agriculture and Environment Statistics (DAES) (composed of two sections: Agriculture Statistics and the Environment Statistics section) covers three fields of statistics: agriculture, agro-monetary and environment statistics. Agriculture statistics are mainly collected through an annual Agricultural Household Surveys (AHS). AHS 2012 is being prepared and data collection is planned to take place on November 2012. AHS produces different indicators in agriculture such as: agricultural population and its structure, areas used, the production of crops, livestock and livestock products, forestry, use of fertilizers and manure, agricultural machinery, labor in agriculture, and spending on farm.²⁸

Agro-monetary statistics covers the following components: prices and price index of agricultural products (monthly); economic accounts in agriculture (annual); labor force in agriculture; and incomes in the agriculture sector.²⁹

²⁷ Report on the current situation in KSA. Presented during the meeting of TRT 3. October 2012.

²⁸ Agriculture Statistics at: <http://esk.rks-gov.net/ENG/statistikat-e-bujqesise>.

²⁹ Report on the current situation in KSA. Presented during the meeting of TRT 3. October 2012.

KAS and MAFRD are working in close cooperation to prepare the Agriculture Census which will take place in 2013. The draft Law on Agriculture Census is approved by Government on 04 June 2012. Meantime, a final draft questionnaire and a 2nd draft manual on Agriculture Census have been prepared. Also the sample has been prepared for the pilot Agriculture Census which will be conducted in November 2012.³⁰

Agriculture statistics for the needs of the MAFRD are collected by its Division of Agriculture Statistics. Its role in the Ministry of Agriculture is to provide quick, reliable and comparable statistics in accordance with EU recommendations. This division drafts the necessary templates and instructions, organises FADN survey training sessions for enumerators, collects data, controls them logically, processes, analyses, compiles spreadsheets and publishes data. This division aims at applying accurately the international standards, methodology and EUROSTAT Nomenclature. Currently the Division is composed of three units: trade exchange unit, FADN unit, agriculture products price unit.

Trade Exchange Unit:

- Manages the new MS ACCESS database based on the needs of other departments and the Division of Statistics;
- Corrects (improves) the existing database in order to create various questionnaires (creation of forms, queries, tables, links and reports) based on submitted requests;
- Coordinates work between MAFRD, Kosovo Customs and KSA;
- Prepares data on agriculture chapters (01-24) upon request of the MAFRD's organizational units and other external parties;
- Takes care about organization and annual publication of the Agriculture Products Trade Exchange Handbook.

FADN Unit:

- Compiles the testing sample from the EFB (KSA) survey;
- Prepares the questionnaire "Farm Book" and guidelines to fill in the questionnaire;
- Organizes trainings for surveyors and farms involved in the FADN network;
- Includes data from the "Farm Questionnaire" in the application;
- Generates reports and analyses them;
- Distributes results to the farmers;
- Prepares, publishes and distributes publications to the relevant institutions.

Agriculture Products Price Unit:

- Makes ongoing collection of prices on monthly basis of several products and continuously cooperates with KSA to follow up and register data on prices of

³⁰ Ibid.

- agriculture products;
- Registers retail and wholesale prices based on data from the Trade Information System, for registration of 475 agriculture products, agriculture mechanization, fertilizers and pesticides on monthly bases by region;
- Analyses and publishes data on prices of agriculture products based on data taken from two sources KSA and TIS. Publication is done on annual bases.³¹

Despite some joint activities and cooperation/coordination between MAFRD and SAK there is still room for improvement. Official cooperation channels should be improved in order to simplify the data exchange, avoid overlapping of activities and better use of available data sources.

Main challenges for KAS/DAES remain to be insufficient budgetary and human resources; and lack of complete sources of data. As a result of insufficient budget KAS could not conduct AHS in 2010 and 2011. From the statistical point of view this is not good because it loses continuation in producing regular statistics. Also the lack of human capacities in KAS/DAES reflects implementation of their working plans and strategies. So far, two components of the monetary statistics: labor force in agriculture; and incomes in the agriculture sector have not been implemented yet. Another challenge is to publish the results on time, often happens to publish results with delay.

Some of constrains and challenges were pointed out also in the reports of European Commission and other organisations. Agricultural statistics, as well as other statistics in Kosovo, can be estimated as only being partially approximated to EU standards. Generally, the statistical system in Kosovo requires census on the state level. Thus, a great deal of published data regarding agricultural production is the result of estimations that make them unreliable. The last population census was held in 2011, 30 years after the previous census of 1981³², while the last agriculture census was conducted in 1960; the new census is scheduled for 2013. Still exists a considerable need for support to adjust the structure of data collection and the system of statistics into an integrated system compatible with EU requirements and with those of the process of EU integration.³³

According to the Kosovo 2011 Progress Report “limited progress has been achieved in the sector of statistics. This is mainly due to the resources spent on the census and the limited budget of the Statistical Office: both the Labor Force Survey and the Agricultural Household Survey were cancelled in 2010 due to lack of resources. The Economic Accounts for Agriculture were published for the first time in July 2011, covering the period 2005-2008. Still remains a challenge completion of the legal framework and KSA’s capacity building.

³¹ Meeting of TRT 7 Agriculture and Rural Development. Presentation “Organization of Agriculture Statistics in MAFRD, Division of Agriculture Statistics. Hakile Xhaferi, MAFRD. October 2012.

³² Explanation : Population census was held on 2011, while the first results are published on September 2012.

³³ Tina Volk e.d. Studies on the Agriculture and Food Sector in Central and Eastern Europe. Agriculture in the Western Balkan Countries në http://www.iamo.de/dok/sr_vol57.pdf. 2010.

1.15.1. Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN)

The institution in charge for the collection, processing, analysing and publication of the FADN data in Kosovo is the MAFRD, respectively the Division of Statistics operating under the Department of Economic Analyses and Agriculture Statistics. Administrative Instruction No. 06/2011 determines the criteria for the farms to be included in the system of farm accountancy, for the establishment of the data collection network, agriculture household accountancy and for the identification of the annual incomes. Farm Accounting Data Network System (FADN) was established in 2005 as a Pilot Project and started with 50 farms, gradually increasing the number of farms in 2008 and up to a total of 300 farms. It is considered that FADN network in Kosovo is still not sufficiently developed in the absence a comprehensive sample selection. This is as result of lack of “Farm Frame” Register, knowing that the last Agriculture Census took place in 1960.

Based on statistics of the Household Survey (KSA), 192,500 farming households are estimated to exist in Kosovo. Out of this number only 5,000 farms are over 1 European Economic Unit (ESU) which forms the FADN field of observation. The FADN data collected from 300 farms provides a rate of 6% (of the selected sample) or 0.15% of the total number of agriculture households. Classification of the FADN sample is performed after the calculation of the European Economic Size (ESU) coefficients is completed. Using standard outputs for the first time is done classification of farms according to size and type of production and economic size and at the same time are specified key sectors of agriculture. So, through the use of this method is made possible reconstruction of the structure of the agricultural sector in Kosovo. Based on these results it is found the number of agriculture households (192 500)³⁴, out of which 49% or approximately 93 thousand farms has over 2000 SO that form the observation area and produce 82% of the total production value. The data collected and processed by the sample farms represent somewhat agricultural sector of Kosovo.

The questionnaire is used/acquired satisfactory, however, still requires time for the recorders that will use it to familiarize with. Also the software is tested by entering the newly collected data. Based on the FADN results, livestock farms that use pasturages (mainly dairy cows), mixed farms with mixed crops, and livestock farms are the most important segments of the agricultural sector in Kosovo.

Through the use of mSO is done classification of sample farms by AHS 2008. All farms in total in 2008 have produced an estimated value of 573 million euro production. Farms which are found under the threshold (51% of total farms) have produced 18% of total production, while the farms above the threshold have produced over 82%. Sampling plan on Kosovo should be reviewed as some of the types of farms are not included/represented (especially farms that cultivate different types of livestock/mixed). With this method MAFRD will be able to classify (rebuild) the structure of the agricultural sector in Kosovo. This will serve as a starting point or as a policy guide for agriculture-rural development, and is a good base as agricultural census will be conducted and

³⁴ Evaluation and recommendations for the FADN System in Kosova-Barkazsy Levente TAIEX Expert. March 2012.

the original structure of agricultural holdings will be reviewed. Standard management of total production calculation in Kosovo helps in assessing the potential sectors and assessment of potential and simultaneously identifies the main branches of agriculture.³⁵

1.16. Market Measures

On 18 December 2006, the European Commission had proposed to establish a single Common Market Organization for all agricultural products, to replace the existing 21 CMOs. The move was a major step in the ongoing process of streamlining and simplifying the CAP for the benefit of farmers, administrations and companies handling agricultural products.

The creation of a single Common Market Organization (CMO) has slimmed down legislation in the farming sector, improved its transparency and made the policy more easily accessible. It is an example of applied better regulation and therefore forms an integral part of the Lisbon strategy. The creation of a single CMO has been the most significant technical simplification of the CAP yet undertaken.³⁶

Kosovo has initially established bilateral trade agreements with countries in the region, but in 2006 these bilateral agreements were substituted by a multilateral agreement – CEFTA. Kosovo has liberalised agriculture products circulation markets since the first year that CEFTA came into effect (2007), and has eliminated the 10% tariff rate and quantity quotas for all agricultural products of the CEFTA member states. Since 13 December 2011, Kosovo has benefited also from the agreement (Council Regulation (UE) N° 1336/2011) on EU autonomous trade measures. According to this agreement, Kosovo enjoys unlimited and duty free access to the EU market for its products.³⁷ On the other hand, civil society representatives consider that Kosovo has not yet received anything from CEFTA. They consider that the conditioning actions, subsidies, dumping prices, unfair competition, and poor quality of food imports with questionable ingredients continue to undermine Kosovo's agriculture and consumers. Their suggestion is that the mechanisms of supervision activities and market inspection firmly implement the Law on Dumping, Law on Competition, Law on Standardization, and Law on Consumer Protection; and against those working in conflict with the law and damaging costumers, punitive measures taken, i.e. obtaining licenses.³⁸

A working group on trade policies has been established within the Ministry of Trade, which mainly addresses agri-business problems and anti-balancing and anti-

³⁵ Meeting of TRT 7 Agriculture and Rural Development. Presentation "Farm Accountancy Data Network". Ekrem Gjokaj. MAFRD. October 2012.

³⁶ Agriculture and Rural Development. Agriculture Markets at: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/markets/index_en.htm.

³⁷ Taxation and Customs Union at: http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/customs/customs_duties/rules_origin_preferential/article_784_en.htm.

³⁸ NGO 'Konsumatori'. Selatin Kaçaniku. November 2012.

damping protection measures with the participation of the business community. Other mechanisms established in the field of trade policies are: Subcommittee on Agriculture and Phytosanitary (for CEFTA, operates under MAFRD); Committee on evaluation of import measures (inter-ministerial committee); Sub-working group on trade policies in agriculture (operates under the Ministry for Trade and Industry).³⁹

Law No. 03/L-114 on Value Added Tax regulates the value added tax payable at 16% of the taxable value of imports, other taxable inflows and supplies excluding zero-rated supplies. Article 10 of this Law (Chapter IV) describes the zero-rated supplies for: exports, supply of goods and services related to the international transport of goods and passengers; irrigation of agriculture land as well as imports and supply of other agriculture goods (livestock, horticulture, cereals, agriculture machinery and mechanisation etc.)

Most of agriculture inputs and equipment is exempt from customs taxes and VAT (regulation no. 2004/13, no.2004/35, 2006/4, 2007/12 and no. 2007/31).

Tax policy measures directed at the agricultural sector include:

1. Abolition of duty and reduction/removal of VAT on agricultural inputs;
2. Abolition of duty and reduction/removal of VAT on concentrated feed used on animal nutrition;
3. Abolition of duty and reduction/removal of VAT for certain categories of animals for further breeding;
4. Abolition of duty and reduction/removal of VAT on capital goods for agriculture and selected agro-processing.⁴⁰

With the Law on Livestock No. 204/33, Law on Planting Material No.2 004/13, Law on Seeds No. 2003/5, and Law on Plant Protection Products No. 03/L-042 MAFRD has established the legal and administrative mechanisms to licence enterprises for agriculture inputs trading (sales, export, and import).⁴¹

1.17. Quality Policy

Three EU schemes known as PDO (protected designation of origin), PGI (protected geographical indication) and TSG (traditional speciality guaranteed) promote and protect names of quality agricultural products and foodstuff.

- *PDO* - covers agricultural products and foodstuffs which are produced, processed and prepared in a given geographical area using recognized know-how.

³⁹ Feasibility study Structure-eng. 2012.

⁴⁰ Meeting of TRT 7 Agriculture and Rural Development. Presentation "Implemented measures in primary production". Nysrete Doda. MAFRD. October 2012.

⁴¹ Answers to the Feasibility Study Questionnaire. June 2012.

- *PGI* - covers agricultural products and foodstuffs closely linked to the geographical area. At least one of the stages of production, processing or preparation takes place in the area.
- *TSG* - highlights traditional character, either in the composition or means of production.⁴²

In Kosovo, the draft Law on Geographical Indications is being drafted and it includes rules and criteria for production of distinguishable characteristic products from the country of origin. The trade mark is protected by the Law on Trade Marks No. L-026/2011. The protected geographical origin of wines is regulated by the Law on Wines No. 02/L-8 and Law No. 04/L-019 Amending and Supplementing the Law on Wines No. 02/L-8. The Law No. 02/L-8 protects wines produced in a specific geographical region. This law determines the conditions to be met by products of designated geographical origin and authorises MAFRD to issue by-laws setting the conditions to be met for the designation of protected geographical origin wines and the designation of localities with protected geographical indications.

MAFRD issued the Administrative Instruction No. 03/2009 on Stipulation of the Vineyard Territory in Kosovo, which determines the vineyard territory in the Republic of Kosovo divided into regions, sub-regions, vineyard areas and vineyard localities.⁴³ Drafting of the AI setting criteria on wine protected designation of origin and description of geographical indications is in the process. With Instruction is foreseen classification of vine varieties represented in ampelographic structure, yield limitation, all of which will be achieved in accordance with the European Council Regulation number 491/2009 of 25 May 2009.

1.18. Preparation of Agriculture and Rural development Plan 2014-2020

In order to have the agriculture and rural development policies aligned with the EU's common agricultural policies and IPA II, Minister with the Decision 656/12 has established the Steering Group for the preparation of ARDP 2014-20 which will be based on the draft Regulation of IPA II of EC. The Steering Group in charge to prepare the ARDP 2007-13 consists of various stakeholders from the public and private sector and in consultation with socio-economic partners and other interested parties, and civil society organizations, local action groups, organizations of agricultural producers, municipalities, agri-businesses and civil society. During this process of dialogue are organized informative seminars, working groups have been established and information will be exchanged to enable the participation of socio-economic partners in all development process of the new program, which will be the basic policy for years.

1.19. Challenges in the Sector

1. Insufficient human resources for legislation (Legal Department);
2. Lack of budget and capacities for full implementation of legislation;

⁴² Agriculture and Rural Development. EU Agricultural Product Quality Policy at: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/quality/index_en.htm.

⁴³ Answers to the Feasibility Study Questionnaire. June 2012.

3. Insufficient advancement of capacities for providing extension (advisory) services and low level inclusion of farmers into extension services;
4. Payment department has limited IT infrastructure;
5. Insufficient advancement of electronic registers;
6. Improvement in implementation of laws/insufficient efficient implementation of legislative framework on issues related to food safety;
7. Low income in agriculture and rural households;
8. Lack of complete sources of data;
9. Insufficient budget and human resources;
10. Unbearable loans-high interest rates;
11. Use of agriculture land for other purposes;
12. Poor organisation of rural community;
13. Insufficient human capacity building in the MAFRD and at the local level;
14. Unfinished land consolidation;
15. Small average size of farms and constant fragmentation of land.⁴⁴

1.20. Annexes

1.20.1. Annex I. List of individual meetings

Name	Organisation	Position
Hysni Thaqi	MAFRD	Head of Rural Development and Advisory Services
Mediha Halimi	MAFRD	Officer of FADN & Agricultural product's prices
Muhamet Gubetini	MAFRD	Chief of Personnel Division
Nysrete Doda-Gashi	MAFRD,	Chief of Division for farm investments (Managing Authority)
Shefki Zeqiri	MAFRD	Head of Legal Department
Sebahate Haradinaj	MAFRD	Head of Department for European Integration and Policy Coordination
Agron Berdyna	MAFRD	Chief of Division for European Integration
Agim Nuha	MAFRD, Paying Department	Head of Administration Division (Paying Department)
Ismajl Kastrati	MAFRD,	Chief of IT and Registers division (Paying Department)
Prof. Adem Demaj	Kosovo Association of Organic Farming (KOAA)	President of the Association
Emine Daci	Kosovo Chamber of Commerce (KAC)	Agriculture Advisor to the president of KAC
Zenel Bunjaku	Initiative for Agricultural Development of Kosovo (IADK)	Executive Director
Bexhet Basha	Renewal of Agriculture (RoA)	Executive Director
Mustafe Kastrati	GIZ	Economic Development Promotion Advisor
Xhevat Lushi	GIZ	Economic Development Promotion Advisor

2. Fisheries

2.1. Institutional framework

The institution responsible for regulating the fisheries is the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, namely the Livestock Production Department. Fishing is covered by the Department of Animal Breeding and Poultry, Beekeeping and

⁴⁴ Challenges agreed during TRT 7 Plenary Workshop. April 2013.

Fisheries. As this is the only department responsible for all these fields, capacities for covering the entire field of fisheries are limited.

There were 6 (six) inspectors within the Livestock Department who have also carried out, among others, activities in the field of fishing. However, following an internal reorganisation within the Ministry, these inspectors have been transferred to the Department of Payments, so these inspectors do not cover the fishing sector now. Inspectors have acted based on the annual plan of inspections, which has also consisted in inspections in fisheries and agriculture. Inspectors' competencies are defined by the Law on Fishery and Aquaculture, articles 51, 52, 53 and 54. On the other hand, competencies of fishing guards are defined by articles 44, 45 and 46 of the same law.

Other carriers of activities in the fishing sector involve the KFRSF (Kosovo Federation for Recreational and Sportive Fishing) as well as 15 local associations of fishermen. The Federation faces problems in performing its tasks stipulated by the Law on Fishery due to the lack of funds.

2.2. Legal framework

MAFRD is responsible for the legislation on fishery. The sector of fishery and aquaculture has so far been covered by the following legislation:

- Law No. 2006/02 - L85 on Fishery and Aquaculture was adopted by the Assembly of Kosova on 10 October 2006 and promulgated by UNMIK Regulation No. 2006/58 on 20 December 2006.
- A/I No. MA-NO 24/2007 on Sportive and Recreational Fishing and Sportive and Recreational Fishing Equipment.
- A/I no. MA-NO 09/2008 on Licencing of Aquaculture Activities.
- A/I no. MA-NO 07/2009 on Determination of Fishing Regions and Zones.

In the final stage of drafting is an administrative instruction on "Prevention and Control of Aquatic Animal Diseases." The Food and Veterinary Agency has the mandate to draft this Instruction, which has established a working group including all stakeholders.

2.3. Current Situation in the Fisheries Sector

Fisheries, including aquaculture, is a vital source of nutrition, employment, trade and financial welfare all around the world. Hence, it must be managed responsibly, so as to preserve, manage and develop fish stocks, while paying attention to the conservation of the ecosystem and biodiversity. Kosovo has a considerable potential of sweet waters and relatively close distances to the markets, so the development of the fishery and aquaculture in particular may provide great opportunities for employment and profiting as well as other opportunities for country's economic growth.

Currently, the fisheries sector faces many obstacles in terms of growth. Both municipal and central governments have created a vacuum in terms of the fish stock management.

The intensive fish production sector has suffered heavy damages after the 90s, and the socially-owned fish ponds cannot be used to activate the production due to the failure to define the ownership. This has then resulted in the lack of investments in the production recovery.

The status of the lakes, rivers and accumulations in several regions is not satisfactory, due to the pollution of the surrounding environment and heavily damaged river beds, mainly as a result of sand extraction and erection of bifurcations along river streams. Obligations to implement applicable legislation and rules on fishery and absence of law enforcement mechanisms also represent obstacles to the growth of the fishery. Other factors that contribute to a standstill in the fishery are radical changes in state organisation, scant possibilities for hiring the needed management and control personnel and [poor] organisation of water guards to prevent fishing during the breeding period and the use of prohibited fishing equipment.

In the past, the Livestock Production Department has organised several meetings to sensitize municipalities, private farmers and association to drafting development projects and fish stock conservation plans. Work should be done in developing concrete projects and in finding sources for the development of aquaculture and preservation of fish stocks. Preliminarily, a professional evaluation of fish stocks must be carried out and development opportunities should be identified.

Based on the analyses conducted by the MAFRD with regard to domestic production of fish by the current ponds and fresh and frozen fish import, the fish consumption is 0,8 kg per capita i.e. below any average consumption rate compared to other countries of the region, which consume 3.0 kg per capita in average, as well as with other countries of the EU, which consume about 26 kg per capita. This is a result of a shortage of fish in the market and of the fresh fish in particular. The eating culture and the high price of fish meat, which is considered as luxury meet, may also be considered as factors that contribute to the low fish consumption rate. Some initiatives to support and facilitate the growth of fish have been taken so far. One should mention the reduction of the VAT to level zero and of the customs duty for fish products.

2.4. Current situation in Aquaculture

Aquaculture in Kosovo dates back to the 60s, initially with a carp fish pond in Radevë, and later with a considerable number of fish ponds in Istog and Zubin Potok and several mini ponds in other regions of Kosovo. The biggest carp pond in the village of Radevë of the Lipjan municipality has an area of 80 ha. Considerable investments were made in 1987 in renovation of dikes, pipelines and reproduction centres (incubators), which were not used unfortunately.

Fish production in this pond during the 80s has reached 80 t/consumption fish/y and 30-50 t/year of seeds of different sizes for the development of aquaculture and population of water resources with fish. Unfortunately, the pond remains unused or used very little

as a consequence of considerable massive destruction of infrastructure, lack of funds and failure to define the ownership.

The fish pond in Istog has an area of 3.15 ha and grows Californian trout in an intensive system. It has incubators that produce a considerable amount of fish larvae and breeds used for its own needs and population of other ponds in the territory of Kosova with fish. The pond has also started to invest in fish processing lately. According to the data available with the LPD, it is estimated that 150 million of fish seeds are produced per year in average. The pond is well constructed and has a capacity of 500-700 t/consumption fish/y. The pond covers around 60% of the overall fresh fish production in the country.

The fish pond in Zubin Potok is one of ponds constructed according to the standards and with a production of 80 t/y. It cultivates trout fish and has the potential to increase the production capacity. The sector of aquaculture is small in Kosova compared with other countries of the region and Europe and produces a minimum amount of around 700 t/y. The trout produced in Kosovo is mainly consumed in restaurants, and very little or not at all in the market. There are 33 fish ponds in Kosovo. 3 of them breed carp fish and the other 30 breed trout fish.

No. of ponds	Fish species	Total surface surface under water/ ha	Production t/year	Quantity of spent food t/year	Food origin	No. of fish seeds produced or purchased	Type of farm/ pond
							No. by category
					Denmark		
30	Trout		670		Netherland	178.000/Pr.	21- Catering
3	Carp		30		Italy	2.610.000/Bl.	1 - Commercial
					Bulgaria		11 - Combined
Total = 33		4/ ha	700	around 2.000 t/y	94:3:2:1	2.788.000	33

Total number of employees in this sector is considered to be around 128 fulltime employees.

The nutrition base is mainly imported, from countries as are Denmark, Netherlands, Italy, etc. The base of these data refers to year 2012. Vast majority of the ponds grow fish for the needs of their clients, and less for market needs. Given the water resources and the market demand, there are prospects for the development of aquaculture. The LPD activities for raising the awareness about the intensive fish growth have resulted in a large number of requests for financial support for building new ponds. MAFRD should seek new financial sources for the development of intensive aquaculture via loans. Potential rivers that can be used for growing trout fish in Kosova are Drini, Lumëbardhi i Pejës, Reqani, Lepenci, Brodi in Dragash, Restelica in Dragash, Binqa in Viti and other rivers. Given the stream flow of 17.9 m³/sec, always allowing the biological minimum of the flow (according to measurements carried out by experts), these rivers would help produce about 2400 t/y.

- *Nutrition value of Fish*

The quality of fish meat based on chemical composition is not lagging behind compared with meat of other animals and poultry. No matter whether it is fresh water fish or sea fish it has a high nutritional value and based on energy composition it ranks in biologically high value foods and it is raw material for the processing industry.

Type of meat	% of fat	% of proteins	% of water	EM in J/100g
Beef	15.4	18.8	64.8	895.5
Pork		17.2	60.0	1120.2
Chicken	22.1	19.1	68.7	731.5
Eggs	11.0	12.8	75.0	413.8
Carp	11.5	10.7-14.4	63.0-79.0	514.1-1070.0
Trout	4.3-20.9	20.0	75.0	491.1

In terms of health and nutrition fish meat fulfils requirements of various customers both in terms of essential amino-acids, fat and energy value. The human body uses 95% of the nutrients in the fish meat (96% protein and 91% fat). According to statistical data, 80% out of the total population in our planet does not receive the necessary amount of the animal origin proteins (35g proteins/ day), so consumption of fish meat will compensate for these requirements. In terms economy, fishery as a branch of the economy is dealing with breeding and fishing, whit which are linked a big number of specific activities as are processing industry, food processing industry, animal feed processing industry, ship production industry, etc. Most of the fish production around the world (65%) is obtained by economic fishing in the oceans and seas, while 10% is obtained by breeding of fish and 25% from freshwaters (lakes, rivers, reservoirs, etc.).

Trout has more specific breeding requirements, it needs high quality water rather than large spaces covered with water and therefore require more investment than large fish species of warm water, and good balanced food especially in the first stage. According to global norms about 40kgare produce per square meter, while in our conditions about 20kg/square meter or 200 t/ha due to lack of equipment, what increases the cost of fish production. In our fishery to produce one kg of carp are spent in average 2.8-3.4 kg of feed and 0.2-0.4 kg of manure while in case of trout in average 2 kg of feed to one kg weight depending on the quality of the food.

2.5. Licensing and Inspection

The MAFRD, in cooperation with the KFRSF, decides on fishing zones, fishing quantities, fishing equipment, etc. The Federation of Fishermen conveys the decisions to the local associations of fishermen. On the other hand, decisions on aquaculture are taken by the MAFRD and are executed as such by the Inspectorate. First requests for licensing have

already been filed and first licenses will be issued soon. According to the legislation in force, the MAFRD is responsible for licensing in the field of aquaculture at the national level, and the licensing of fishermen for sportive and recreational fishing is a delegated competence of the KFRSF. The Federation of Sportive Fishermen organises professional trainings for fishermen. The MAFRD participates in the Licensing Commission with one member. The Kosova Federation of Sportive Fisherman reports to the MAFRD on the number of issued licences.

In 2012, the KFRSF has issued 1850 fishing permits in total and that by age groups/categories. The Federation of Sportive Fishermen has established contacts with the associations of the fishermen of the region and beyond to exchange experiences and organise fishing competitions. Only 1 (one) competition is organised per year at the level of the states of the region. The competition is organised by the Association of Sportive Fishermen.

Inspector's competencies are defined by the Law on Fishery and Aquaculture i.e. its articles 51, 52, 53 and 54. Competencies of Fishing Guards are defined by the Law on Fishery and Aquaculture i.e. its articles 44, 45 and 46.

Inspectors' competencies involve:

- Inspection of fishing permits (licences);
- Inspection of equipment used for fishing;
- Inspection of fishing amounts;
- Inspection of all aquaculture activities.

All the sanctions are provided by the the Law on Fishery and Aquaculture. Articles 59, 60, 61 and 62 of the Law regulate fines in financial means against physical and legal persons for contravention. These articles prescribe forbidden activities in fishery and aquaculture. Apart from punitive measures elaborated under Article 4.1.3, other punitive measures are also applied, such as confiscation of equipment, fishing tools and caught fish. According to the Law on Fishery and Aquaculture, application of such measures is a competence of fishing guards appointed by the user of the right for the fishing region. The user of the fishing region reports to the MAFRD on applied measures.

Following the verification of the law, inspectors record the breach and recommend it for referral to the court. Based on inspector's record, the MAFRD Legal Office prepares the case and refers it to the court. Following the case review, the court takes a decision and informs the parties accordingly. With regard to aquaculture, the Department of Livestock Production (DLP) obtains information on developments and eventual diseases, etc. through the regional offices of the Ministry and livestock and veterinary inspectors. On the other hand, the DLP obtains information on developments in terms of fishing, repopulation with fish and the quantities of caught fish from the Federative of Sportive Fishermen, which collects the information from the local associations of fishermen. The DLP is also provided with other information through these two information systems, as required.

The LPD has prepared a questionnaire with the aim of collecting information on fishing developments on the component of aquaculture. Livestock inspectors are responsible for the completion of the questionnaire field. The collected information is updated and serves as a good source of information on the current situation of the fishery i.e. aquaculture and steps to be taken with the aim of advancing activities in this field.

- *Authority to manage with fishery resources*

MAFRD each year issues decisions to authorize the Federation of Sportive/Recreation Fisherman to limit fishing, issues daily and yearly permits and monitors fishing. Validity of authorization is for one year and last year it has been issued on 03 April 2012. FSRF is obliged for each calendar year to report on same issued to the MAFRD.

Fish export and processing:

The largest fish production company in the country “Trofta” has exported in Macedonia and has started with the technological processing process.

Support from Donors:

TAIX Expertise:

Legislation assessed and commented;

Aquaculture and water industry assessed

Findings and recommendations:

Contamination of open waters as threat for development

EU Directive on water should be achieved by 2015

Border cooperation necessary

Technical Assistance;

GIZ experts in cooperation with local experts;

Fish species

- Trout
- Carp

Mainly given to

- The technology for fish farms according to the intensive conditions (hatch – place

- reserved (place dedicated for breeding of fish, equipment, quality of water, etc.)
- Production planning.

Education

Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary within in its curricula for bachelor and master studies has included the subject of Fisheries and Aquaculture, what will help to prepare staff that will work in this field in the Republic of Kosovo.

Projects

A joint regional project is being implemented (N, AL, RKS, MN, BiH) on fish processing and utilization of leftovers from aquaculture and fishing, financed by the Norwegian Government. This will have an impact on creation of better practices in fish breeding and in knowledge transfer from the regional countries and Norway.

2.6. Challenges in the Sector

1. Lack of financial support in fishery;
2. Low level of processing of fish;
3. Insufficient use of existing capacities fish ponds (experience, outdated technology, water quality, nourishment);
4. Lack of professional experiences in the field of aquaculture;
5. Lack of fishery strategy;
6. High level of water pollution;
7. Degradation of river basins;
8. Lack of fishery stock inventory.⁴⁵

3. Forestry

3.1. General Overview

Kosovo is located in the central part of the Balkans Peninsula. It is located in the northern geographic latitude between 41°50'58 "and 43° 51'42" and geographic longitude between 20 ° 01'30" and 21°48'02". Kosovo's area is around 10,887 km², with 1,739,825 million inhabitants⁴⁶ with density of 160 inhabitants/km². The Republic of Kosovo is bordered with: Albania in South-West, Macedonia in South-East, Serbia in East, North and North-East, and Montenegro in the West. Kosovo's territory features forests such as: Kopaunik, Mokra Gora Mountains, Pyjet e Thata [Dry Mountains], Zhleb, Hajla, Mokna, Bjeshkët e Nemuna (Albanian Alps) [Cursed Mountains], Pashtrik, Koritnik, Pyjet e Jezercit [Jezerci Mountains], Nerodimja and Sharri Mountains. Drenica Mountains are located in Central Kosovo. As a result of climatic, orographic, geologic and pedologic factors the following forest associations were established: Oak Forests (*Quercetum farnetto-cerris* Rud.), Beech Forests (*Fagetum moesiacea scardicum* Cras.), Beech and Fir Forsets

⁴⁵ Challenges agreed during TRT 7 Plenary Workshop. April 2013.

⁴⁶ Census of Population, Family Economies and Apartments in Kosovo, 2011.

(Abieto Fagetum Jov.), Spruce and (Picketum excelsae), Gray bark pine Forests (Pinion heldreichii), Pine Forests (Pinus sp.) and Dwarf mountain pine (Pinion Mughii Pawl.)

The total forest area in Kosovo is estimated at about 464 800 ha, or in other words 41% of Kosovo's territory is covered by forests, of which 60% are Forests owned by the state and 40% are privately owned. 32 200 ha of forest land is bare (without trees), while 90% of forest land is covered with leafy species, other part is with coniferous species and mixed coniferous and leafy species. Based on the Inventory of 2003 the total volume of standing timber is around 53 million m³, annual growth is predicted at 1.3 million m³ (3 m³ per hectare per year), and about 350 000 ha (75% of the forest area) requires silviculture interventions of various kinds. Mostly needed are cleaning and thinning operations.⁴⁷

3.2. Chronological Development of Forestry Management in Kosovo

Historically, management of forests and forest resources in Kosovo was subject to development of political and social system. Historically, wars, conflicts, and political, economic and social crisis have caused the damage of forests and forestry resources, resulting with degradation of large forest areas and other natural resources. Huge demands for timber after First World War and Second World War as well as after the Recent War, and the need for trees for heating and other family needs have resulted with continued negative trends in both quantity and quality of forests. There were other objectives of exploitation in place in Kosovo's territories, especially after World War II and during the last decade of 20th century. Unfortunately, even after 1999, and until today, the damage of forests continues, mainly through illegal logging, forest diseases and defectors, damage of forest land, damage of flora and fauna, including rare and endangered species.

Lack of sufficient number of staff and competent staff (lack of knowledge and competences) is an additional factor that has plagued the sector to present days. Economic, social and environmental relevance was never understood sufficiently by the governments and society in general.

Since 2000 until today, forestry sector is supported by foreign donors, starting with material investments (emergency phase), human capacity building, establishment of management and organization structures, drafting of legal and strategic framework and concluding with support in forest management planning and harmonization of managing concepts with me Acquis Communautaire. This support will certainly result with the improvement of managing practices and legal framework.

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD) through Kosovo's Forestry Agency (KFA) and Forestry Department (FD), has continuously undertaken activities in order to improve the organizing structure and managing structure of

⁴⁷ TRT 7 Meeting on Forestry and Fishery. Presentation "Main Achievements and Challenges in the Field of Forestry" Besim Zogaj, KFA. November 2012.

forests and forestry land and wildlife by drafting legal acts and bylaws, strategies and plans. Also, during this time, large forest areas were planted with new trees. The success of forestation is a topic that requires a more genuine approach. In addition, Forest Management Board was established; as were some Associations of Private Forest Owners and several long term management plans (ten-year) plans were drafted.

Among the main challenges in the field of forestry remain the high level of illegal logging, protection of forests and forest lands from fires, diseases and natural disasters, the functioning of the courts and inefficiency in reviewing cases, non fulfilment of forest exploitation plans, insufficient number of staff especially inspectors, low preparation of municipalities in terms of organization, training and logistics to undertake new powers, the use of wood for heating and low utilization of other alternatives, insufficient coverage of forests with the long-term forest management plans, and increase of forested surfaces.⁴⁸

3.3. Forestry Resources⁴⁹

During 2002-2003, an inventory of Kosovo's forests was completed. General data as a result of this process can be summarized as follows:

- Overall forest areas and forestry land is calculated to be around 464 800 hectares or 42.69% of total territory of Kosovo, or about 0.27 hectares per capita. This average is below the average in Europe, where there is 1.26 ha per capita;⁵⁰
- Area of public (state) forests is 278 880 ha or 60%;
- Private forests 185 920 ha or 40%;
- The calculated area of 464 800 ha is bigger for about 8% compared to records of the past of 428.000 ha. This is understandable considering that some areas that used to be meadows and pastures were left untreated, which in the past were used intensively as pastures by livestock in remote rural areas. Migration of population from these areas and non-use of pastures and meadows has caused changes in them from being an agricultural land into forests, through natural regeneration (sprouting of seeds coming from nearby trees);
- Forest structure is dominated by deciduous forests with about 90%, mainly dominated by Beech and Oak Forests;
- Conifer forests cover about 7% of the total area and is mainly dominated by types of fir, and about 3% includes all other types of deciduous and conifer forests;
- Total volume of forests is calculated to be 33.5 million m³, from which mass, a volume of 25.9 mil.m³, includes trees with a Brest High diameter above 7 cm. Total volume of private forests is about 19.5 mil. m³, from which a volume of

⁴⁸ TRT 7 Meeting on Forestry and Fishery. Presentation "Main Achievements and Challenges in the Field of Forestry" Besim Zogaj, KFA. November 2012.

⁴⁹ Inventory of Kosovo's Forests, 2003/2004.

⁵⁰ UNECE, MCPFE &FAO, 2007, State of Europe's Forests 2007.

- 14.5 mil. m³ includes trees thicker than 7 cm of diameters;
- Annual growth (forest yield) of forests according to Forest inventory is 1.3 mil m³/year;
- Annual growth of forests in terms of thickness and height, and growth of volume per hectare and total growth are of special importance in applying forest management methods, annual planning for forest use and meeting the needs of population, without violating the principle of consistency (sustainable forest management);
- Area of bare forests is between 20 000 – 30 000 ha. Some of these areas are located in good land (fertile land) while some are in non-fertile land.

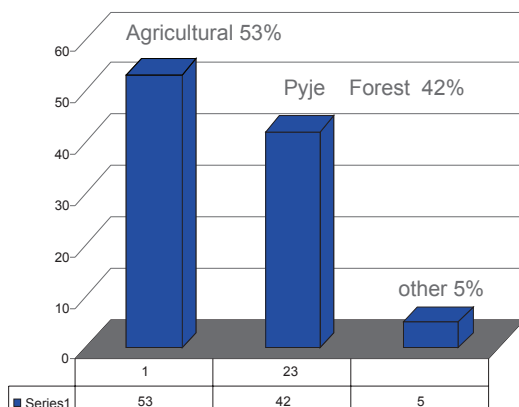
Division and taking evidence of areas according to the quality of land and type of land is necessary and it enables realistic planning of forestation and proper selection of seedlings for forestation. It must be noted that such a division is necessary to be done with the inventory of forests which is on-going and most likely will end this year.

- Presence of illegal logging is spread in about 40% of public forests and 29% of private forests.⁵¹

By all standards, data on quantity of illegal logging are very big. The situation with conifer forests regarding illegal logging and damages is even worse due to higher market value per m³ of the product. It is suggested to undertake urgent activities for minimizing legal action with long-term consequences. It is suggested to undertake fighting causes of the problem (preventive measures), instead of fighting measures against current situation with executive measures. Also, low forests in public ownership are exposed to illegal logging to a large extent.

In the following diagrams the overview of structure of natural resources, structure of forest ownership and structure of types of forests according to origin is presented.

Diagram.1 Land structure in Kosovo



⁵¹ Policy and Strategy Paper on Forestry Sector Development 2010 – 2020, p. 15.

Diagram 2. Structure of forestry ownership

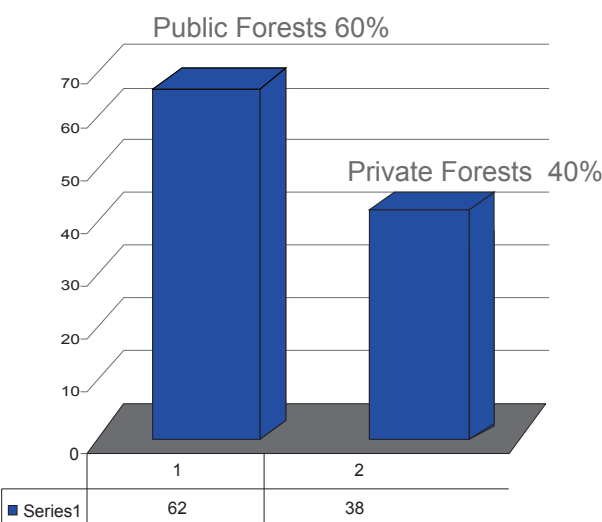
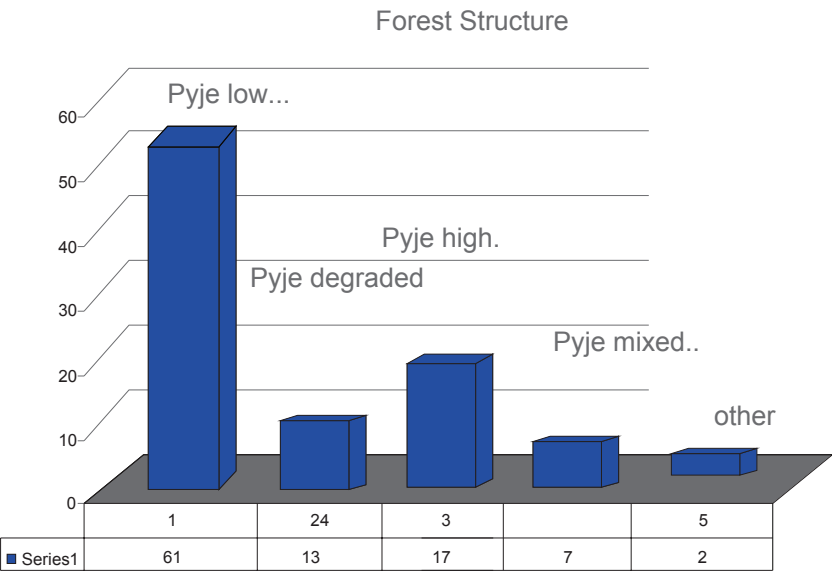


Diagram 3. Forestry structure according to origin



3.4. Brief Comparison of Kosovo Forests and Forestry with European Figures

- Average forestry coverage in Europe is around 44%;
- Forestry coverage in Kosovo is around 42.69%;
- Forestry areas in Europe increased during past 15 years;
- Forestry areas also increased in Kosovo during past 13 years for about 8%;
- Total forestry volume in Europe increased for about 358 mil.m³;
- Total forestry volume in Kosovo is calculated at 53⁵² mil/m³, it increased compared to 30.4⁵³ mil/m³ in 1979;
- Europe's forests are covered by management plans about 90%;
- Kosovo's forests are covered by management plans about 20%⁵⁴
- Area of protection forests in Europe, during past five years, increased for about 5%;
- Area of protection forests in Kosovo is still not included as a managed category of forests, even though it is mentioned as a legal forest category in the Draft Law for Forests;
- Forests are under public ownership in about half of EU member states while a high percentage under private ownership in the other half of EU member states;
- In Kosovo, forests are under public ownership about 60% and under private ownership about 40%
- Public participation in decision-making in EU member states has increased;
- Public participation in decision-making in Kosovo has started.

3.5. Forestry Policies and Forestry Development Strategies

Every country needs to have its forestry "policy" in order to be able to use forests for human benefit. The first step in drafting forestry policies is identification of opportunities and formulation of proposals as a continued process, defined to maintain the balance between forestry resources as potential supplier on one hand, and meeting different needs of society as a consumer on the other. There is a close coordination between forestry policy and policies and other sectors, which affect or are affected by forestry, such as: Agriculture Policies, environment, rural development, industry, tourism and employment.

Activities undertaken by responsible institutions:

Political priorities of the Kosovo's Economic Development are defined in the Government Programme 2011-2014, adopted in April 2011. In the context of the first pillar of this programme - "Sustainable Economic Development and Growth" is related to overall objectives of forest management, which consists of increasing the contribution of forestry sector in the national economy and increasing of social and environmental role of forests. The percentage of 42% of participation of forests in Kosovo's total territory,

⁵² Inventory of Kosovo's Forests, FAO, 2002/2003.

⁵³ Simarska Enciklopedija , 20.10.1983, p.290,

⁵⁴ Support to forest management planning with GIS, February, 2012.

climatic and geologic conditions provide opportunities for the sector to participate into national GDP with 4%-8%⁵⁵ instead of current participation of 2.5%-3.5%.

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD), Forestry Department (FD) and Kosovo's Forestry Agency (KFA) have drafted documents and development strategies which include development of forestry sector. The main adopted documents include:

1. "Green Book", May 2003;
2. Agricultural and Rural Development Plan 2007-2013;
3. Agricultural and Rural Development Plan 2009-2013;
4. Agricultural and Rural Development Plan 2010-2013;
5. Strategy for Game Management in Kosovo, 21.10.2003;
6. Document on Policies and Development Strategies of Forestry Sector in the Republic of Kosovo 2010-2020.

The above documents were drafted by MAFRD-FD-KFA, with financial support and technical assistance of governmental and non-governmental organizations of different countries. Strategic development documents from number 1-4, have partially addressed development of Forestry sector, which is implied easily from their title, where the main focus was on setting long-term development trends of Agricultural and Rural Development sector and efforts were made to harmonise these sectors with EU standards and Acquis Communautaire. Long-term trends and goals for development of forestry and game management were presented in more details in the strategies listed in 5 and 6.

The document on Policies and Development Strategies of Forestry in the Republic of Kosovo 2010-2020 has analysed the role of the Government of Kosovo in developing the sector with special emphasis on the importance of understanding the economic, social and environmental role of the sector, to continue the analysis with development and strengthening of institutional and regulatory framework, development of modern management of forests, consolidation of forestry land, management of protected zones, cooperation with line ministries and cross-sectorial cooperation on other issues. Furthermore "Forestry Strategy" lists a number of weaknesses identified in the forestry sector, some of which are given in the following section.

Weaknesses of Forestry Sector⁵⁶ stated in the Strategy

The main institution responsible for forestry issues, Kosovo Forestry Agency (KFA) was established based on an UNMIK regulation of 2000 as Kosovo's Forestry Authority and it was transformed into Kosovo's Forestry Agency in 2003, but there are still many difficulties. In the following section I provide a justification for this statement, by mentioning causes such as:

⁵⁵ Policy and Strategy Paper on Forestry Sector Development 2010 - 2020, p.9.

⁵⁶ Policy and Strategy Paper on Forestry Sector Development 2010 - 2020, p.10.

“Staff competence, lack of funds and resources, mandates (responsible persons) and unclear roles, inadequate planning and inadequate control and monitoring. According to this document, the listed weaknesses produce the following:

1. Lack of collection of sub-optimal revenues from selling logging products;
2. Logging permits in some cases are based on informal criteria;
3. Wood market is not fully transparent and it does not promote an efficient market for sound business;
4. Non-use of logging remains, especially where illegal logging takes place;
5. Forest management does not take place consistently, which leads to reduction of productivity and reduction of the value of standing logs;
6. Forests were not protected from fires, diseases and defectors.

Despite these statements, it must be noted that KFA and FD have undertaken several activities in order to improve forest and forestry land management, including implementation of the project for forest cleaning and forest fito-sanitary measures, capacity building through the Twinning Project, drafting of management plans with support from Norwegian Forestry Group (NFG), Sustainable Empowerment of Decentralized and Private Forestry - SNV/SNVP, development of human capacities and harmonisation of legislative framework of forest and forestry land management with EU through “Twinning” project, Certification of Forests -USAID, Exploration of production and use of Biomass and payment for environmental services (PES) – BB/ SNVP and other projects supported by FAO and Swedish SIDA.

- *Forestry policies and challenges*

Kosovo still lacks concrete forestry policies in the following segments:

- Setting of policies for privatization of forests (denationalization, restitution or another form to increase percentage of private forests and forest surfaces that represent practices utilized in all countries in transition);
- Setting of targeted percentage of forest and forest land property and ownership in Kosovo and funds for meeting objectives, including time and costs;
- Setting development policies for education and training in Forestry (time and cost);
- Setting forestry policies regarding division of forests according to relevance: Economic Forests, Protection Forests, Forest Reserves (types of reserves), and setting of percentage of Natural Protected Zones in Kosovo by specifying: total area, regions, and implementation time;
- Setting methods for treating certain types of forests and period of time for meeting the objective;
- Average forestry growth (increment), aimed at Kosovo-wide level (Measures for meeting the objective, time and cost);
- Total area for forestation for a ten-year period of time (type of forestation, type of seedlings plants and total cost);
- Development of targeted forestry infrastructure, (rate of forestry reachability) for a ten-year period of time (type of infrastructure, number of meters per

- hectare (m/ha) and cost);
- Ten-year planning for protection of forests pest and diseases; area to be included in the proposed measures, including total cost);
- Forestry certification – goal, specifying the targeted area for certification, time and objective;
- Harmonization of legal framework and standards for forest management with EU standards and *Acquis Communautaire* in Forestry sector – time and cost;
- Setting targeted participation of forests in the rate of Renewable Energy and sequestration of CO₂;
- Integration of development strategies for the use of forests with Wood Industry, by preserving ecological and biological balance of forests.

Setting of objectives of Forestry Development Policy would support strategic development of the sector and stopping of ad-hoc actions and activities.

3.6. Forestry Program

- *General aspects*

Management of state (public) forests of Kosovo need to be defined with Forestry Management Plans which usually are for a ten-year duration period. They describe long-term forestry management in time and spatial aspects and present conditions and objectives of forest management and forestry land. Management plans determine optimal growth of forests, annual growth, forests use and forms of use, areas that will be forested and type of forestation (forestation of bare areas, meliorating forestation, re-forestation) and to determine parcels, type of young plants, number of forest seedlings per hectare, etc. The content of management plans and setting of objectives need to be in line with Forestry Policies and Development Strategy of Forest Management.

- *Undertaken activities*

Kosovo's Forestry Authority has completed an inventory of National Forests in 2002/2003, supported by World Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). Later on, it started to draft managing plans from the funds of Kosovo's Consolidated Budget and Norwegian Forestry Group (NFG).

Some data⁵⁷ show that by now managing plans were drafted for 21 managing units, which cover about 92000 hectares or 20% of total Kosovo's area. Forest area covered by managing plans of high forests is about 28 688 hectares with a volume of 6 235 266 m³ and average volume of about 217.30 m³. Total annual growth expressed in m³/year is calculated at 188 4999. While, according to the referred document, the average of illegal logging, expressed in growth percentage is calculated at 56%, the KFA considers based on the strategic document 40% are illegal felling in state sector and 20% in the private sector.

⁵⁷ Support to Planning of Management of GI- , NFG, February, 2012.

Kosovo Forestry Agency is under the process of implementing the second inventory of forests Kosovo-wide. We could not get data from the second inventory under way as the work is still on-going. It is worth mentioning that SNV/SNVP as part of the project: “Sustainable Empowerment of Decentralized and Private Forestry” has drafted several management plans for private forests and public forests, mainly for young forests and degraded forests. This forest category was not properly addressed by management plans so far, despite the large participation of these forests in the total area of forests in the Republic of Kosovo. Based on this fact, SNVP, in addition to other activities specified in the ToR, is developing activities for harmonization of methodology and suitable form of drafting, implementing, monitoring and assessment of management plan and promotion of relevance of this forest category. With SIDA support, and proposed by FD and KFA, two project proposals were drafted by Sweden’s SIPU:

- Silvicultural treatment of young forests in Kosovo;
- Establishment of Forestry Training Centre.

It is worth mentioning that with NFG support, the forestry data centre was established (FisKos) in September 2012. Among other things, KFA has implemented the following activities:

- Drafting of the Management Plans at the level of the management units for 25,707.85 ha financed from the budget of the Republic of Kosovo in the amount of €199,184.43; and drafting of the Management Plan at the level of the management units for 10,000 ha financed by FAO;
- Planned 141,518.30 m³ of bulk timber from public forests, achieved 41,798.69 m³, while in private forests marking of 180.210 m³ and felling of 134,966.04 m³; and planning of silviculture treatments in 788/ha, pre-commercial thinning, shearing, cleaning. Execution on 1000 ha.

Regarding protection of forests from illegal cutting:

- At competent courts are filed 5466 reports for a wood quantity of 17,340.71 m³; while the confiscated wood quantity amounts at 5,621.60 m³ (as of 30/09/2012).

Regarding the Forest Inspection:

- 678 inspections undertaken at business entities, municipalities, markets, road traffic, and forests plots; 399 reports drafted; 156 cases reported to courts; 44 decisions taken; and a wood quantity of 815.02 m³ confiscated.

Regarding protection of forests from fires⁵⁸:

⁵⁸ Remark: Forest fires affected 3500ha. Types of fires: surface, low, high and combined fires. Source of fire: imported (Macedonia, Albania and Serbia). Domestic fires, as result of negligence, burning of stubble fields and dump sites, and arson.

- 50 additional employees/4 months were engaged for protection against forest fires based on the memorandum of understanding between MLSW and MAFRD;
- To extinguish fires have assisted: KFA, MA, KFOR, KSF, Emergency Directorates, fire-fighters – tools starting from shovels to helicopters;
- National inventory of forests through NFG. Data from the field completed, the final report, May 2013;
- Drafting of MP at the level of MU for 25,707.85 ha (Financed from the budget 199,184.43€);
- Drafting of MP at the level of MU for 9,434 ha (financial support of FAO);
- Forestation of 545 ha of bare forest surfaces, and filling in of 302ha based on estimations in forested surfaces from year 2011 – financed from the budget - €352,950.00;
- Support to associations, MAs and PFs with seedlings for forestation of 20ha;
- Supply with mold, humus, seed, inputs and trays for seedling production. Financed from the budget - 49,318.50€;
- Production of 1,699,000 seedlings of different species and systems, out of which 1,400.000 seedlings are provided by KFI while 400.000 are imported;
- Construction of a new greenhouse and repair of two KFI's greenhouses, financed from the budget - 22,987.66€;
- Supply with uniforms and summer shoes, financed from the budget - 25,908.60€;
- Supply with vehicles. Financed from the budget - 45,555.55€;
- Supply with firearms and ammunition, Financed from the budget - 89,310.00€;
- Reconstruction of the forest road 'Koretniku 2, financed from the budget 28,524.00€;
- Engagement of 1600 workers based on the MoU between MAFRD and MLSW from 15.10-15.11.2012 for forest activities (thinning, cleaning, pruning, etc);
- Cultivation and breeding of wild animals.

KFA activities with donors in 2012:

- National inventory of forests – Donation of the Norwegian Government - implemented (NFG);
- Twinning Project – Support to 9 components of the sector, financed by the European Commission;
- Support to private sector (SNV);
- Drafting of the program for sanitation of diseases and pests. International experts have evaluated the health of forests and needs for lab equipment needed for diagnosis and forecast for KFA-FAO;
- Arrival of the FAO experts to evaluate the applied methodology, results of forestation and drafting a national plan of forestations – FAO;
- Drafting of the monitoring framework and evaluation of the forestry strategy 2010-2020, on what are working two experts (International and National) FAO;
- Establishment of a forest information system on what the necessary analysis are completed, on 05.12.2012 presentation of the first system's model – FAO⁵⁹.

⁵⁹ TRT 7 Meeting on Forestry and Fishery. Besim Zogaj. KFA. December 2012.

Weaknesses in forestry management planning:

- Lack of coherence in relation to management planning with forestry policies and strategies;
- Processing of information outside Kosovo and non-presence of Kosovo staff during data processing;
- Challenges in practical implementation of management plans;
- Lack of local forestry production and yield tables.
- Incomplete forestry codification in Kosovo.
- Non-definition of all forestry categories with management plans.

Civil society on the other hand, considers that the challenge in this field remain property-legal matters which result with illegal logging, land classification, denationalization and the law on denationalization, long and bureaucratic procedures, and the use of wood as the main heating fuel for citizens.⁶⁰

3.7. Forestry Legislation

Activities undertaken by MAFRD

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD), Forestry Department (FD) and Kosovo Forestry Agency (KFA), in cooperation and coordination of local and international consultants, have drafted the Law on Kosovo's Forests 2003/3 and has subsequently completed two (2) amendments of the Law. It is worth mentioning that the Law was the first to be passed the Assembly of Kosovo for covering MAFRD. This year, the above-mentioned institutions, in cooperation with international organizations that support forestry sector in Kosovo, have drafted the Draft Law on Kosovo's Forests, for approval. The same was adopted by the Government and it has been processed to the Assembly of Kosovo, for approval. Also, institutions in charge of forest and forestry land management and game and hunting management have drafted and approved so far 38 administrative instructions, three of which have been revoked.

The Law on Kosovo's Forests no. 2003/3, amongst else, has regulated administration and management of forests and forestry land as well as management of private forests and forests in National Parks. The Law regulates issues such as: the right to use forests, renting forest land, the right of ownership over forests, organization and management structures of management and administration of forests and forestry land, drafting of management plans and annual plans, use of log and non-log products, protection from fire, protection from diseases and defectors, functioning of institutions for forest protection (Inspection and Forest Guards), and it also defines fines for violations and illegal management of forests and forestry land. It is worth mentioning the requirement of the law to manage forests in compliance with statement of principles for global consensus on management, conservation and sustainable development of all forests in

⁶⁰ TRT Meeting on Forestry and Fishery. Presentation "Achievements and Challenges for Private Forests Management". Bashkim Gashi, Private Forests Owners' Association. November 2012.

Annex III of the Report of United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio De Janeiro, 3-14 June, 1992), by respecting the following principles:

- Preventive principle;
- Conservation of biologic diversity;
- Principle of human equality; and
- Sustainable ecological development.

In the following section, a list of main legal acts for management and administration of forests and forestry land as well as legal acts related to forests and forestry land is provided.

Base laws

- Law on Kosovo's Forests, 2003/3.
- Amendment of Law on Forests, 2004/29.
- Amendment of Law on Forests 2005/49.
- Law on Hunting 2005/02- L - 53.

Laws related to forests and forestry

1. Law on Environment Impact Assessment, 2010/03 -L -214.
2. Law on Environment Protection 2009/03-L-025.
3. Law on Local Self-Governance 2008/03/2004.
4. Law on Nature Protection 2010/03/-L-233.
5. Law on Special Protection Zones 2008/03- L- 039.
6. Law on Strategic Environment Assessment 2010/03 -L- 230.
7. Law on Protection from Fire 2006/02- L41.
8. Law on Mines and Minerals 10/03/-L- 163.
9. Law on Young Plant Material 2004/13.
10. Law on Kosovo's Waters 2004/24.
11. Law on Land Regulation 2011/04-L- 040.

Challenges - Weaknesses

- Insufficient transparency during drafting of laws and bylaws;
- Lack of analysis and understanding of EU legal acts;
- Reflection of subjectivity of line ministry representatives and representatives of organization units within the Ministry itself.
- Insufficient coordination and cooperation between ministries during drafting of laws;
- Insufficient implementation of laws and legal acts;
- Contradictions of laws with laws of other related ministries, especially with the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) and Ministry of Economic Development (MED);
- Uncertainties in setting objectives and their reflection on law implementation.

3.8. Administrative and Managing Structures of Forests, Forestry Lands and Wildlife Management

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development is the highest institution for administration and management of forests in Kosovo. Forest governance is done in three levels: the central level which consists of the Department of Forestry (policies and legislation) and Kosovo Forest Agency (executive powers); Central and Regional Level that have the responsibility of management, planning, monitoring, control and inspection of the forest; as well; Local level responsible for forest protection and issuing permits for transport and tendering.⁶¹

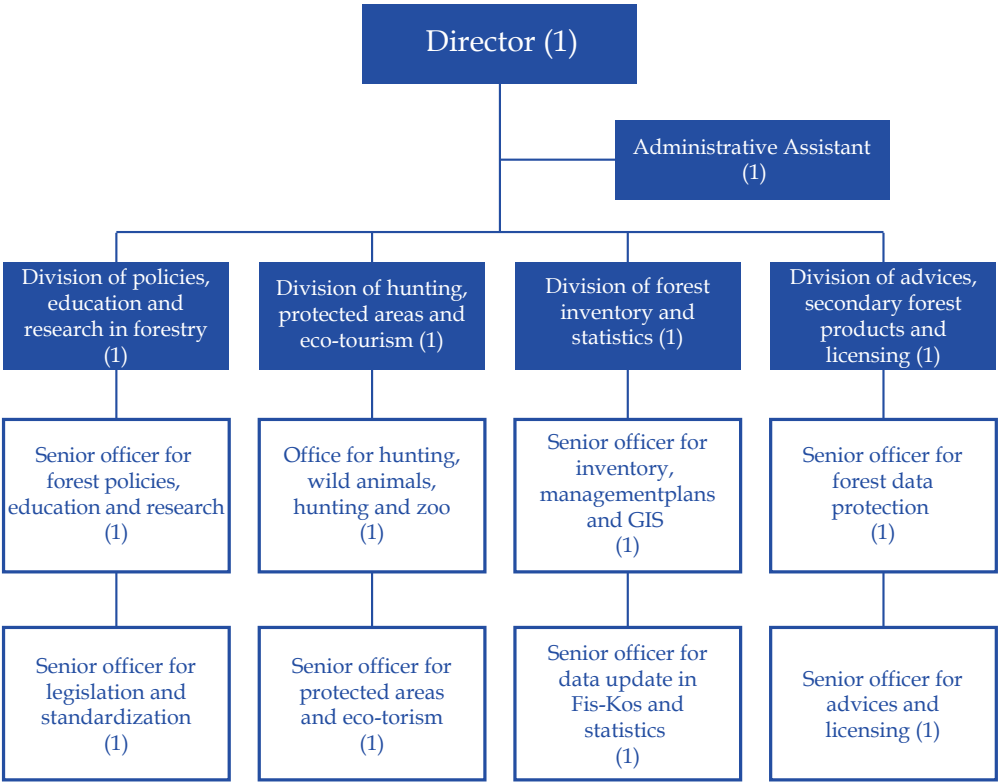
3.8.1. Department of Forestry (DoF)

Department of Forestry is an organization unit within MAFRD, responsible for drafting forestry policies, laws and bylaws for forest and game management, provision of training in forestry and game management. DoF is also responsible for defining general rules and for managing, monitoring and supervising their implementation. It updates the data in FisKos as well as other data in forestry sector. DoF is also responsible for licencing physical and legal persons, and for drafting a methodology for long-term and short-term managing plans, develops financial projects and also undertakes and coordinates its activities with other ministries.⁶²

⁶¹ TRT 7 Meeting on Forestry and Fishery. Presentation “Main Achievements and Challenges in the Field of Forestry” Besim Zogaj, KFA. November 2012.

⁶² TRT 7 Meeting on Forestry and Fishery. Presentation “Institutional and Legislative Developments in the Field of Forestry” Hysen Abazi, MAFRD. November 2012.

No. 1 Organization structure of Forestry Department



The above scheme shows that DoF consists of four divisions with a total number of 14 employees.

Weaknesses:

- DoF does not have a completely clear organization structure and well-defined role. This is also proved in the “Strategy” (p.11) which among else reads that DoF has a controlling/inspecting role for operations in order to implement laws, in reality this function has been transferred to the Agency;
- Insufficient number of staff and in disproportion with the organizational structure;
- There is a lack of leading and responsible structures for private forests;
- There is a lack of leading structures and persons in charge of pastures;
- There is a lack of leading structures and persons in charge for providing assistance and guidance in marketing forest and non-forest products, etc. It is worth mentioning that a new organizational structure is in the process of approval.

3.8.2. Kosovo Forestry Agency (KFA)

It was established based on the Law for Kosovo's Forests 2003/3 and legal acts on establishment of the Executive Agencies in Kosovo, in 2003. It is an institution responsible for managing public forests and forestry land and controlling the management of forests in national parks. It is also responsible for implementing legal acts and bylaws that regulate management of forests and forestry land.

KFA Structure

- Department of Central Administration Services;
- KFA Coordinating Departments located in six regional centres: Prishtinë, Mitrovicë, Pejë, Prizren, Ferizaj and Gjiilan;
- Department of Forest Management;
- Department of Management of Pastures, Game, Hunting and Eco-tourism;
- Department of Silviculture, Research and Nursery;
- Procurement Office.

Key responsibilities⁶³

- It implements forest legislation and administrative instructions related to administration of forests and forestry land;
- Through inventory recording, it follows development of forestry resources in Kosovo;
- It selects and marks trees for cutting, it receives completed works;
- It issues permits for collecting non-forests products;
- It controls wood mass locations, storage, processing and wood transport;
- It supervises and follows the forest operational work of silviculture to ensure meeting contract requirements as per permits, annual operational management plans of forests in line with workplace standards.

Revenues per year generated by KFA are:

- 2010 – € 807,459.00
- 2011 – € 1,378,608.00
- 2012 – € 278,112.024

⁶³ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development at <http://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/>.

Investment of KFA on important projects by year						
Project name	Investment 2007	Investment 2008	Investment 2009	Investment 2010	Investment 2011	Investment 2012
	102,946.26	382,341.54	464,130.00	408,250.11	542,815	872,854
Forestation of bare surfaces	50,471.00	184,189.67	254,049.92	264,324.50	161,570.00	350,220.00
Purchase of hammers	-	24,640.00				
Management Plans		63,200.00	126,391.00	57,416.24	232,526.38	199,718.37
Supply with winter uniforms	49,175.00	81,904.00	59,493.60	34,717.37	53,200.00	25,837.60
Maintenance of forest infrastructure						28,524.00
Supply with firearms and ammunition						89,310.00
Supply with official vehicles				26,690	60,000.00	45,555.55
Construction of a new greenhouse and repair of two existing greenhouses						22,987.66
Supply with humus soil and seed for seedlings production	3,300.26	28,407.87	24,195.00	25,102.00	35,519.00	110,700.70

3.8.3. Department of Silviculture, Research and Nursery (Kosovo's Forest Institute)

This department is located in Peja and it is responsible for:

- Preparation of annual plans for production of forest seedlings;
- Preparation of plans for forestation and re-forestation;
- Data collection in order to conduct applied research in forestry;
- Identification of forest pests and diseases and proposing measures for fighting them;
- Support for trainings, workshops and consultations in the field of forestry;
- Support for and provision of professional advice for drafting legal acts, strategies, and programmes in forestry sector and wild life management, etc.

Production of seedlings in the KFI Forest Nursery by year							
Type of seedlings	Year 2007	Year 2008	Year 2009	Year 2010	Year 2011	Year 2012	Total
Pinus Nigra	100,000	220,000	220,000	220,000	267,500	299,000	1,326,500
Pinus Silvestris	200,000	600,000	570,000	550,000	565,500	860,000	3,345,500
Picea Abies	120,000	220,000	210,000	220,000	190,500	220,000	1,180,500
Pseudo Dugllazi	20,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	54,000	100,000	294,000
Larix Europea	40,000	80,000	70,000	80,000	42,500	20,000	332,500
Robinja Akaci	55,000	50,000	50,000	50,000			205,000
Quercus Robinja	-	-	-	75,000	75,000		150,000
Quercus Pubescent	-	-	-	75,000	75,000	75,000	225,000
Quercus conferta						75,000	
Acer pseudoplatanus						50,000	
Total	535,000	1,210,000	1,160,000	1,310,000	1,270,000	1,699,000	5,184,000

3.8.4. Forests Management Board

Forest Management Board was established by the Decision Nr.11/52 of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo. The Board responsibilities include supervision, coordination and implementation of successful and sustainable Forest Development Strategy and Action Plan for years 2010-2020 approved by the Kosovo Government.⁶⁴ Some of the main challenges faced by the Board are: lack of work space, inter-institutional cooperation, lack of basic knowledge about the sector and lack of readiness of the parties involved that this sector is supported and to improve dramatically, and support and coordination of activities with international partners, lack of awareness of some of the parties involved in this sector on the importance of forests as a national asset with significant economic, ecological and tourism value, etc.⁶⁵

3.8.5. Role of municipalities on Forest Management

The role of municipalities is defined by the Law No. 03/L-040 on Local Self Government, Article 18, under delegated powers regarding public forests, defined in paragraph f) of this Law where is written: point f) forestry protection on the municipal territory within the authority delegated by the central authority, including the granting of licenses for the felling of trees on the basis of rules adopted by the Government. Also the role of municipalities in the forestry sector is supplemented by the Law No. 03/L-153 amending

⁶⁴ TRT 7 Meeting on Forestry and Fishery. Presentation "Institutional and Legislative Development in the Field of Forestry" Hysen Abazi, MAFRD. November 2012.

⁶⁵ TRT 7 Meeting on Forestry and Fishery. Presentation "Achievements and Challenges for development of forestry" Kushtrim Cukaj, Forest Management Board. November 2012.

and supplementing the Law no.2003/3 on Kosovo Forests “Article 29.0, 29.13 stipulates the following: Issuance of licenses for using wood as competence shall be delegated to municipalities and point d) of this section regulates provision of wood tracking services by the respective municipal bodies.

Despite these delegated powers, municipalities still face many difficulties and uncertainties such as:

Lack of appropriate organizational and management structures and operational to carry out its responsibilities and mandate defined by the above mentioned laws;

No appropriate functioning in the line, central and municipal (local) level;

Lack of competent and experienced staff in the field of forest management;

Blaming the centre and vice versa;

Inappropriate treatment and functioning difficulties in the context of other municipal departments (No harmonization of organizational structures between municipalities);

Lack of equipment and documentation necessary for forest protection, delays in the tendering of forests and forest areas planned by KFA;

Negligence in planning and implementation of annual plans, by neglecting fulfilment of the local population needs for wood, and many other difficulties.

3.9. Challenges in the Sector

1. Gaps in the current legislation for investors, contractors and users;
2. Insufficient implementation of laws and secondary legislation;
3. Insufficient coordination in drafting/implementation of legislation;
4. Insufficient budget and non-prioritisation of the forestry sector.
5. Insufficient professional and public awareness capacities on forestry;
6. Unnecessary dispersion of forest management competencies;
7. Difficulties in transferring/updating forests and forest lands from the former forest economies to the MAFRD-KFA based on the Law on Forests;
8. Lack of division of forests in the environmental aspect (categorisation);
9. Use of non-wood forest products and hunting without criteria;
10. Low level of implementation of logging plan;
11. Lack of National Surface Forestation Program;
12. Overuse of wood potential and lack of heating alternatives;
13. Bad condition (damaging) of forests from illegal logging, fires and diseases.⁶⁶

4. Food Safety

4.1. Food Safety Policies

The core objective of the EU food safety policy is to protect consumer health and interests

⁶⁶ Challenges agreed during TRT 7 Plenary Workshop. April 2013.

while guaranteeing the smooth operation of the single market. As result, consumer protection policy should be an integral part of the Government social and economical policy.⁶⁷ According to the Article 1 of the Law for Consumer Protection, published just recently by the Kosovo Assembly (on 20th of November), basic rights of a consumer shall be regulated and protected when purchasing commodities, services and other forms in the free market while seller, manufacturer and supplier should take all obligations to be in service of the consumer.

Agriculture production and food security is considered strategic sector of Kosovo aiming to ensure safe and high quality food based on international standards, further development of agricultural production and processing capacities, and improvement of the food chain in the country. Through the sector, it is also aimed the fulfillment of the local food demand, providing employment, reducing agriculture product imports and increasing the export capacities, integration to international organizations, improving rural livelihood, sustainable development and achieving economic growth in Kosovo⁶⁸.

Production of sufficient amounts of food by keeping acceptable nutritive characteristics, to meet increasing demand to feed population, was and remains one of the most humane but also a challenging activity for all food producers. However, the production of sufficient quantities of food, which is also safe, is not always an easy job to be done. Two statements of the two most important organizations for food (FAO) and health (WHO) that “the access to quality and safe food is fundamental individual right”.⁶⁹, and “disease caused by contaminated food is one of the most prevalent health problems..”⁷⁰, makes very clear the importance of food production.

General objectives of EU Food law are laid down in the Regulation EC 178/2002. It sets out general criteria related to food, the responsibility of food and feed businesses to ensure that only safe food/feed is placed on the market, and that foods/feeding stuffs that are unsafe are withdrawn from the market.⁷¹ Consumers seek cheap food which does not represent risk, and they believe that food safety should be addressed in the farm and during processing⁷².

4.2. Short Overview of the Agro-Food Sector in Kosovo

Even though large discrepancies in official data are reported, and tend to result from the utilization of different data sources and the consistent recirculation of outdated information⁷³, Statistical office of Kosovo (ASK, 2010), reports that Kosovo's covers 242

⁶⁷ Consumer protection program 2010 – 2014, December 2009.

⁶⁸ The National Research Program of the Republic of Kosovo, 2010.

⁶⁹ FAO/WHO World Declaration on Nutrition 1992.

⁷⁰ FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Safety, Geneva 1983.

⁷¹ EU Food Legislation – Some Recent Developments at <http://www.worldfoodscience.org>.

⁷² CAST Commentary The Direct Relationship between Animal Health and Food Safety Outcomes

⁷³ AgCLIR: Kosovo Commercial Legal and Institutional Reform Diagnostic of Kosovo's Agriculture Sector.

817 hectares of arable land are used to produce certain amount of food (tables 1 and 2). Despite this, Kosovo still remains a massive importer of agricultural products (table 3). Annual agriculture imports amounted 384.6 Million €, corresponding to 24.4 percent of total imports in 2007⁷⁴. Unfortunately, imports increased linearly from year to year, and in 2011 exceeded half billion € (table 3).

Although currently some 70 percent of the needs of Kosovo's population for agricultural products are met by imports, the agricultural sector has the potential to be able not only to substitute imports and assure adequate food supply for the population, but also to export its products⁷⁵. This issue was discussed but not sufficient arguments were presented, as there are some products which do not meet the local market needs, while there are some products which are exported. In order to do this a more efficient use of resources and genetic potential of both animals and plants should be done by applying appropriate technologies and better production and hygienic practices. Reduction of the level of imports and removal of non reliable or false foods may also have a positive effect on this regard.⁷⁶ With regard to locally produced food in Kosovo, ASK reports the amount of 1,084,712 tons of different plant origin food (fig 1.).

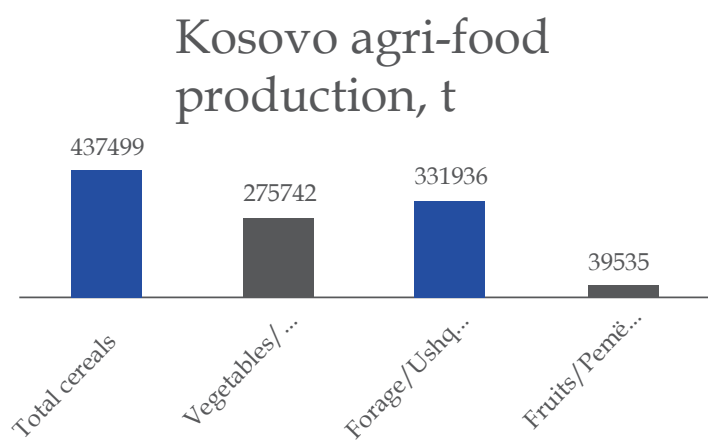


Fig 1. The amount of plant origin products produced during 2008 (Source: ASK, 2010⁷⁷)

⁷⁴ Agriculture and Food Processing Industry, Kosovo 2008.

⁷⁵ Agriculture and Food Processing Industry, Kosovo 2008.

⁷⁶ TRT 7 meeting on Food Safety. NGO Konsumatori, Selatin Kaçaniku. January 2013.

⁷⁷ Agriculture Household Survey 2008, KSA 2010.

Table 1. Food producing animals and poultry in Kosovo, ASK (2010)⁷⁸

Type of animal	Number
Cattle	341,608
Buffalos	412
Pigs	26,770
Sheep and goats	180,128
Poultry	2,213,406
Beehives	43,297

Table 2. The value of animal products sold inside Kosovo during 2008 (ASK, 2010)⁷⁹

Sold animal products, ASK (2010)	000 EUR
Meat	2,331
Milk	20,995
Cheese	5,074
Fats	343
Other dairy products	1,480
Eggs	1,389
Honey	958
Other products	565
Total	33,139

Based on the same source of data, Kosovo farmers are spending around 66 million Euros in agricultural inputs, with the highest investment for mineral fertilizers (49%) and animal feed (21%), while in pesticides and veterinary services are invested 3.4 and 3.8 mil € respectively. About 40% of the budget of Kosovo families is spent on food and non alcoholic drinks reaching 2.519 €/per family for 2010, which is an increase for 3% compared with 2009⁸⁰.

⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ Agriculture Household Survey 2008, KSA 2010.

⁸⁰ Household Budget Survey 2010, KSA (2011).

Table 3. Imports of food, drinks, tobacco and fats in Kosovo (000 €) during 2009-2011),

Year	Food and live animals	Beverages and tobacco	Plant and animal lipids	Total
2009	323,764	87,284	15,994	427,042
2010	353,684	96,485	17,349	467,518
2011	411,827	114,363	19,292	545,482

Data given from Central Bank of Kosovo (reported in⁸¹) show some higher imports of food and food products, 476.5 and 560.1 mil € for 2010 and 2011 respectively.

4.3. Institutional Framework on Food Safety

Based on Food Law nr 03/L-016 published in Official Gazette of Republic of Kosovo on 25/03/2009, Responsible Institutions for food control in Kosovo are the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD), Kosovo Food and Veterinary Agency (KFVA) and Ministry of Health (MH). Inside MAFRD, Kosovo Institute for Agriculture (KIA), Department of Plant Protection and Production (DPPP) and Livestock Department are also involved in food and feed control. Actually, the role of MAFRD related to food safety is not completely defined, but it is expected that by the adoption of the new Food, its role will be clarified. Within the Ministry of Health, the National Institute of Public Health (NIAPH) makes analyzes and quality assessment of food items and nutrition of population.

Main responsibilities for food safety issues locally produced, processed or imported, is the Kosovo Food and Veterinary Agency (KFVA) with Veterinary and Phytosanitary Border Control as well with Veterinary, Phytosanitary and Sanitary Inspectorate. Even though the inclusion of KFVA under Prime Minister's office was judged as "increased Politicization" and "potential to create conflicts of interest by being both the "player and referee,"⁸² the KFVA has proved to be professional and motivated body to implement food safety requirements and EU food safety, animal health and plant health standards⁸³.

There are also bodies involved in food control in municipality levels such are sanitary, veterinary and agricultural inspectorates, but their role and responsibilities are not fully defined. According to their field of responsibility, MAFRD and MH will prepare respective legal documents for criteria of imported foods. The Food Law is in the amendment process, and if it is to be adopted, the institutional competencies and responsibilities for Food Safety will be clearly defined.

⁸¹ Answers to the questionnaire on the preparation of the Feasibility Study for a SAA.

⁸² USAID, 2010. AgCLIR: Kosovo Commercial Legal and Institutional Reform Diagnostic of Kosovo's Agriculture Sector.

⁸³ Commission staff working document, 10.10.2012 SWD(2012) 339.

4.3.1. Kosovo Food and Veterinary Agency (KFVA)

KFVA is the competent body for food safety in the Republic of Kosovo. It is established by the Law on Veterinary No. 21/2004 and has been further strengthened by the Law on Food No. 03/L-016.⁸⁴ KFVA originates from Central Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory developed under umbrella of MAFRD. With the adoption of the new Food Law (article 36), the KVFA was directly linked with the Prime Minister's office. Based on article 38, of this law the Agency is the authority in charge for control, verification and inspection of food and foodstuffs in all levels of food chain. KFVA is also the responsible authority to regulate the combat and prevention of infectious animal diseases, veterinary medical practice, the circulation of products of animal origin, veterinary control of the import, export and transit of live animals and products of animal origin, and the rights and obligations of public and local government institutions, as well as of individual persons, in this field.

Organization of the Agency is provided by the Regulation No. 03/2010 for organization of KVA and Regulation No. 01/2011 on Internal Organization and Systematization of Job Positions.⁸⁵ The Agency is led by the Chief Executive (CE). Directly linked with CE, there are two bodies: Management Board and the Scientific Council. In addition to the Office of the CE, the Agency is composed of five organizational units in the level of directorates (Public Health, Animal Health and Welfare, Inspection (veterinary and phytosanitary), Laboratory, and Administration) and six (6) regional offices.

More detailed structure of these directorates is as follows:

Public health directorate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hygiene of Food of Animal Origin• Food Hygiene non-animal origin• Animal byproducts• Residues in food	Animal Health and welfare directorate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Animal health• Animal Welfare• Animal registration and identification• Animal Health Control
Laboratory directorate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pathoanatomy and pathohistology• Bacteriology, mycology and parasitology• Serology and molecular diagnostics• Food Microbiology• Food Chemistry and veterinary residues• Analysis of raw milk	Inspectorate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internal Veterinary Inspectorate• Border Veterinary Inspectorate• Internal Phytosanitary Inspectorate• Border Phytosanitary Inspectorate• Sanitary Inspectorate
Administrative directorate	

Laboratory Activities of KFVA are performed through following laboratories:

- Food and Veterinary Laboratory

⁸⁴ TRT 7 meeting on Food Safety. Presentation "Institutional Development in the area of Food Safety. Gani Kamberi. KVFA. January 2013.

⁸⁵ TRT 7 meeting on Food Safety. Presentation "Institutional Development in the area of Food Safety. Gani Kamberi. KVFA. January 2013.

- Pato Anatomy and Pato Histology laboratory;
- Bacteriology, parasitology and mycology laboratory;
- Serology and molecular diagnostic laboratory;
- Food microbiology laboratory;
- Food chemistry laboratory and residues;
- Laboratory analysis of milk.

Following microbiological analysis of food can be done:

- Microbiological parameters which are defined;
- *Escherichia coli* - ISO 16649-2:2001;
- Enterobacteria - ISO 21528-2:2004;
- Total mesophylic microorganisms ISO 4833:2003;
- *Salmonella* spp. - ISO 6579:2002;
- *Listeria monocytogenes* - ISO 11290-1:1996/ Amd.1: 2004;
- Staphylococci coagulase positive - ISO 6888-1:1999;
- Coliform - ISO 4328:2006;
- *Bacillus cereus*-ISO 7932:2004.

These are Food categories examined within Food Laboratory:

- Meat and meat products;
- Milk and milk products;
- Eggs and egg products;
- Swabs.

Following aspects of food control are covered:

- Food chemistry, veterinary residues and analysis of Milk residues.
- Determination of presence of antibiotics in milk, eggs and meat with routine methods
- Determination mycotoxins Afla M1 in milk Elisa;
- Determination of chloramphenicol in milk Elisa;
- Determination of sulfonamides with HPLC in milk.

Determination of fat, protein, lactose, density, total dry residue, non-fat dry residue, freezing point, density and acidity. Physical and chemical parameters are carried out by the method infra red FTIR (Milko Scan) The number of colonies of bacteria (NBC) are performed using cytometry flow method (BactoScan), Determination of somatic cells in raw milk apparatus (Fosomatec minor) with fluoro-Optikon method-electronic

Table 4. Dairy Laboratory Activities within KFVA⁸⁶

Year	Number of tested samples	
	Bacteria	Somatic cells
2008	19,034	15,570
2009	11,502	12,475
2010	12860	14,358
2011	12323	15,999

During 2011, 16805 samples are analyzed in chemical indicators (Milkoscan). During 2012 (as of 30/07/2012 a total of 10037 milk samples were analyzed. Most specimens are from dairy/milk producers but are analyzed samples such as those from IADK projects MEGVET, USAID etc.

Despite the samples analyzed, the civil society considers that warnings made by them in cases of danger from food products are not properly treated by the state institutions. Some concrete cases include imported tomatoes that were cultivated with excessive phytohormones or maize imported effected by aflatoxin.⁸⁷

4.3.2. National Institute for Public Health in Kosovo (NIPH)⁸⁸

The NIPH represents a multidisciplinary scientific and educational facility and is in charge of developing the health strategy in the field of epidemiology, health education and promotion, disease prevention, laboratory diagnosis and health information. The scope NIPH is regulated by the Law no. 02/L-78 on Public Health. NIPH exercises referent activity in the field of public health as follows:

- Health planning and programming;
- Data processing, analyzing and publishing in the field of health economics;
- Work quality control;
- Control of epidemiological preparedness and response;
- Management and evaluation of the epidemiological and contagious diseases;
- Management of extensive immunization program;
- Management of intra-hospital infections;
- Analysis and evaluation of sanitary conditions in public and private facilities;
- Analyzing and evaluating the quality of potable water;
- Analysis and evaluation of sanitation;
- Analyzing and evaluating the food quality and nutrition;
- Analysis and evaluation of air pollution;
- Analysis and evaluation of hygiene in preschool and school facilities;

⁸⁶ Food and Veterinary Agency at <http://www.auv-ks.net/?page=1,83>. November 2012.

⁸⁷ NGO Konsumatori. Selatin Kaçaniku. Maj 2013.

⁸⁸ Human Ecology at http://www.niph-kosova.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14&Itemid=10.

- Analysis and management of activities related to environmental microbiology;
- Evaluation and control of laboratories that operate in the field of public health;
- Reference center in the field of public health for TB, HIV/ AIDS and STIs;
- Reference center in the field of public health for zoonosis;
- Reference center in the field of public health promotion and health education;
- Analysis, assessment and management of health care to specific categories population with social medical importance and malignant, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and similar;
- Collection, processing and analysis of data from the Health Information System (HIS) and proposal of measures for the promotion and management of HIS;
- u) Collection, processing and analysis of data from Geographic Information System (GIS) and to propose measures for the promotion and management of GIS.

Center of Testing Laboratories (hereinafter CTL) is a department within the National Institute of Public Health which has established, documented, implemented and maintains a quality management system according to international standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005. According to the organizational scheme of NIPH, CTL functions as a separate unit working without being dependent on the work and activities taking place in other centers (departments) of NIPH. CTL's main activity is the analysis of physical-chemical, analytical and microbiological parameters of water and food. CTL has professional and experienced employees who continually advance. Also, CTL is equipped with modern equipment and computer support so that products can be tested using testing methods from the scope of accreditation.

Equipment regularly maintained and calibrated so that each time the result obtained is accurate and reliable. With a professional staff and appropriate equipment, independence and impartiality as well as continuous improvement CTL is able to fulfill the requirements according to ISO/IEC 17025:2005.

• **Scope of the NIPH Center of Testing Laboratories**

Requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2005 in CTL apply on development of quality management, administration and technical operations. Scope of CTL is testing physical, chemical, microbiological and analytical parameters of food and water before, during and after treatment.

Description of the scope of accreditation

1. Laboratory for physical-chemical, microbiological and analytic analysis of potable water and recreation water.⁸⁹
2. Laboratory of food quality control for the following products:
 - milk and milk products;

⁸⁹ SMWW – Standard Methods for Water and Waste Water.

- meat and meat products;
- eggs;
- fats and oils;
- flour and flour products;
- spices and condiments;
- sweets and similar products;
- processed vegetables and fruits;
- alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks;
- kitchen salt;
- tea, coffee.⁹⁰

3. Microbiological Laboratory of food and water for the following products:
milk and milk products;

- meat and meat products;
- eggs;
- fats and oils;
- flour and flour products;
- spices and condiments;
- sweets and similar products;
- processed vegetables and fruits;
- alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.⁹¹

Analytic laboratory of food security control:

Metals - Zn, Cu, Cd, Pb, Co, Ni, Na, K, As - with method APHA3111B for water and Cd, Pb, Zn, Cu, Fe, Na, Ni - with method AOAC 999.11 for food and As - with method AOAC 986.15A for food - AAS;

Metal residues: Pb, Cd, As, Se, Zn, Cu, Fe, Al, As, Cr, Mn, Ni, Sb, Hg, by method EPA 6020A- ICPMS;

Cations (Li^+ , Na^+ , NH_4^+ , K^+ , Mg^+ , Ca^+) Anions (F^- , Cl^- , Br^- , NO_2^- , NO_3^- , PO_4^{3-} , SO_4^{2-}), by method ISO 10304-1:2007(E)- Ion Chromatograph;

Mycotoxins - aflatoxin, fumonisin, deoxynivalenol (DON), ochratoxin and zearalenone through; Aflatest, Aflatest FIGS, Afla B, Afla M₁, Afla M₁ FL+, Fumoni test, Ochra test, Zearala test, DON test, by method AOAC;

E. coli O157, *Listeria monocytogenes*, Enterotoxin and *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella*

Caffeine, Saccharin, Aspartame, Acesulfam K, Na Benzoate, K Sorbate by method AOAC

⁹⁰ AOAC - Official Methods of Analysis of AOAC International.

⁹¹ ISO Methods - Regulation of Microbiological Criteria.

- HPLC;

Organochlorine pesticides and Trihalometanet with method EPA- GCMS;

Organic carbon with method ISO - TOC.

The Centre of Testing Laboratories has applied to expand the scope of accreditation for 62 abovementioned parameters at KAD. The Centre of Testing Laboratories during 2012 participated in 12 verifications of quality of analysis/capacity of testing (Proficiency Testing -PT) for Verification of quality of analysis (Proficiency Testing - PT) on urinary iodine- with CDC Atlanta/USA for program EQUIP(*ENSURING THE QUALITY OF URINARY IODINE PROCEDURES*) 4 times per year;

Verification of quality of analysis (Proficiency Testing - PT) by Kazakh Academy of Nutrition/Laboratory of IDD prevention 2 times per year;

Participation of CTL laboratories - in verification of quality of analysis (Proficiency Testing - PT) for Pb in blod with CDC-Atlanta/USA for the program LAMP(Lead and Multielement Proficiency) 4 times per year;

Participation of CTL laboratories - in verification of analysis „Proficiency testing in IPA 2011” University of Ljubljana for the program PT 9 - Determination of trace elements in total diet- Pb, Cd, As, Se, Zn, Cu, Fe;

Participation of CTL laboratories - in verification of analysis „Proficiency testing in IPA 2011” TUBITAK UME, Turkey for the program PT-2 - Drinking Water - with trace elements (10-200) µg/L Al;

(1-20) µg/L As, (1-10) µg/L Cd, (10-100) µg/L Cr, (10-100) µg/L Cu, (10-100) µg/L Fe,

(10-50) µg/L Mn, (10-50) µg/L Ni, (1-50) µg/L Pb, (1-20) µg/L Sb, (50-300) µg/L Zn,

150 mL (0,5-5) µg/L Hg, and anions (0,5-10) mg/L F-, (5-50) mg/L PO₄-3,

(10-150)mg/L Cl -, (5-50) mg/L NO₃-, (0,1 - 1) mg/L NO₂-, (10-100) mg/L SO₄-2.⁹²

4.3.3. Kosovo Institute for Agriculture (KIA)

Kosovo Institute for Agriculture (KIA) is a public institution founded in 1947, which operates as part of MAFRD. It is a complex of 12 Laboratories clustered in three laboratory facilities, as well as a research station of 170 ha arable land.

KIA's main function is focused on Applied and adaptive research on:

⁹² Kosovo national Institute of Public Health. April 2013.

- Plant production and protection;
- Animal husbandry;
- Seed testing.

Laboratory analyses of agricultural inputs and products of plant and animal origin, and Training and advisory services are activities of KIA.

Core Competencies of KIA are as follows:⁹³

- Technical and scientific support for technical departments MAFRD;
- Quality control of agricultural inputs, food and the preservation of the environment;
- Investigate the varieties of crops (wheat, barley, corn and potatoes) in agro-ecological conditions of Kosovo;
- Research works towards the creation of cultivars of wheat, maize hybrids etc;
- Preparatory work on the creation of a gene bank for different cultures;
- Evaluation of the production qualities and soil fertility in Kosovo;
- Research, identification and inventory of harmful biological agents (pests, pathogens, weeds, etc.).

As required by the LAW No. 03/L-069 on Accreditation, and Administrative Instruction No. 2009/02 Kosovo Accreditation Directorate (KAD) which operates under the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), there are six bodies already accredited operating or have resources to cover food quality and food safety control.

Table 5. List of accredited laboratories with KS EN ISO/IEC 17025/2006 standard⁹⁴

Name of the lab/company	Field of expertise
N.Sh. „AGROVET“ Rr. Naum Veqilhargji nr.15 Fushë Kosovë “Agrovët”,	Minerals in Foods of animal and plant origin, non alcoholic beverages (drinks) and alcoholic beverages, seasonings, oils, grease, drinking water, soil properties.
	Laboratory tests: soil, minerals, and industrial wastes, plant tissue, Industrial water and irrigation, fertilizers
	Pesticide residues in food of plant and animal origin, soil, dust, water, irrigation water industrial and dielectric oils and sampling according to ISO methods 10381-1/2002, ISO 10381-2/2002, ISO 11146
	Pesticides organophosphates in foods of plant and animal origin, by EPA 8141 method
Center of Testing Laboratories- IPH, Rrethi i spitalit p.n. Prishtine Tel.+381 38 541 432 Mob. +377 44 124 285 E-mail: dzogaj@yahoo.com	Laboratory analysis of drinking water and recreational water, Food quality control laboratory, Microbiological laboratory food and water
Korporata Fito sanitare „Sara & Meti“, sh.p.k Prishtinë, Email: fadilmusa@hotmail.com	Laboratory of plant protection agricultural laboratory

⁹³ Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development at <http://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/?id=4,723,0,737>.

⁹⁴ http://www.dak-ks.org/repository/docs/Organizmat_te_Akredituar.pdf

Fabrika për prodhime farmaceutike „Trepfarm“ Sllatinë e Madhe, Fushë Kosovë, Republika e Kosovës	Laboratory analysis of pharmaceutical products
“Compact Group” Sh.p.k Gumënishtë- Gjilan, Tel: +381(0)280 330 022 www.ujidea.com E-mail:compactgroup@ujidea.com	Laboratory analysis of water “DEA”
“M&Silloi” sh.p.k Xërxe-Rahovec, Xërxë-Rahovec Tel: +381 (0) 29 633 733 Fax:+381 (0) 29 633 744	Laboratory for flour, wheat bran, pasta, snacks testing, oil and bread

KAD has already done also some Pre-assessment visits and it is in the procedure of accreditation of the following laboratories: Laboratory of “Magic Ice” company for production of milk and its products, Laboratory of “Bylmet” company for production of milk and its products, company for production of flour “Univerzal Food “ in Fushë Kosovë.

The KIA, authorized initially by MAFRD and now from KFVA for control of various agri-food products and inputs, is in process of accreditation of the laboratories and DAK has already started to check the documentation and finished pre-assessment visits in KAI premises.

KFVA has also applied for accreditation for Food and Veterinary Laboratory at the Kosovo Accreditation Directorate for these laboratories: a. Laboratory of Serology; b. Laboratory of Food Chemistry; c. Laboratory of Veterinary Residues; d. Laboratory of Food Microbiology; e. Laboratory Analysis of Raw Milk.

During the preparatory phase for accreditation of Food and Veterinary Lab, with support of the Twinning project number KS/07/AG/IB01 “Food Safety and Veterinary Services”, the Quality Management System (Quality System Procedures, Quality System Forms, System Quality Manual, Quality Manual Lists and Standard Operating Procedures for all Laboratories), are prepared, translated, and adapted with the EU standards. Laboratory of Serology and Veterinary Residues participated in the Proficiency Test with laboratories accredited by the Friedrich Loeffler Institute in Germany and Italy respectively. The staff that will be responsible for the laboratory accreditation process has been appointed; the number of professional staff in the laboratory has been increased, as well as professional capacity building of staff has been done through various training offered by projects⁹⁵.

4.3.4. Other Institutions Capable of Contributing in Food Safety

There are also other institutions in Kosovo, which with their experiences, expertise and infrastructure may give valuable support in food safety area. Within the University of Prishtina, Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary, and Faculty of Natural sciences (Department of Chemistry and Biology), are two institutions with valuable experience

⁹⁵ Answers to the questionnaire on the preparation of the Feasibility Study for a SAA, 2012.

and expertise in this field. Especially, within the FAV there are some state of the art laboratory equipments in the area of food and feed testing, which may serve this goal either by providing infrastructural or professional support. The consumers consider that lot of efforts need to be made in order to establish neutral laboratories which would create independent access to safety and quality of food.⁹⁶

4.4. EU Legislation on Food Safety and the Harmonization of Kosovo Legislation

The core principles of EU food safety legislation are based on Regulation EC 178/2002 where general principles and requirements of food law are laid down⁹⁷. This document strengthens the rules applicable to the safety of food and feed circulating in the internal market. Regulation also defines a framework for controlling and monitoring the production, prevention and management of risks. It also creates the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), which is the reference point for the scientific control and evaluation of food and feed.

Article 1 of the Regulation provides the basis for the assurance of a high level of protection of human health and consumers' interest in relation to food, laying down all procedures that have a direct or indirect impact on food and feed safety stating clearly the necessity of application in all stages of production, processing and distribution of food and feed dedicated for other than domestic purposes⁹⁸. Overall requirement of EU legislation related with Food safety is that no food stuff dangerous to health and/or unfit for consumption may be placed on the market.

This regulation is organized in five chapters and 65 articles, with 18 and 28 articles respectively used to define General Food Law principles and establishment and operation of European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Regulation is amended with Regulation (EC) No 1642/2003, Regulation (EC) No 575/2006, Regulation (EC) No 202/2008 and Regulation (EC) No 596/2009.

4.5. The Food Hygiene Package

The 'Food Hygiene Package' of EU legislation, came into force on 1 January 2006. This Package is made of three main Regulations:

- Regulation (EC) 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs;
- Regulation (EC) 853/2004 setting out specific hygiene requirements for foods of animal origin;

⁹⁶ TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. NGO Konsumatori. Selatin Kaçaniku. January 2013.

⁹⁷ Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety.

⁹⁸ Ibid.

- Regulation (EC) 854/2004 setting out specific requirements for organizing official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption.

The Regulation (EC) No 852/2004, being a body of law, lays down the core hygiene rules for foodstuffs. This Regulation is part of this package, and following acts contribute to better complete it;

Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin in order to guarantee a high level of food safety and public health;

Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 putting in place a Community framework for official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption and laying down specific rules for fresh meat, bivalve mollusks, milk and milk products.

The following acts supplement Community legislation on food hygiene:

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 laying down the general principles of food law. This Regulation explains the food safety procedures and establishes the European Food Safety Authority;

Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 reorganizing official controls on foodstuffs and feeding stuffs so as to integrate controls at all stages of production and in all sectors;

Directive 2002/99/EC laying down the conditions for placing products of animal origin on the market and the restrictions applicable to products from non-EU countries or regions of non-EU countries subject to animal health restrictions.

There are many other documents produced by EU to cover the field of food safety within Aquis Communautaire (AC). As required and agreed within the EU community, every country aspiring to join the EU must firstly harmonize their national laws, regulations and procedures making effective the entire EU legal structure, within the AC. Kosovo institutions have followed, common principles to do that, organizing this process into three steps: transposition, practical implementation and the execution. Significant efforts are being done, to firstly build a complete legal infrastructure with due harmonization with EU requirements. So far, there are 30 Laws and more than one hundred administrative instructions or similar documents adopted from respective institutions in the area of Food safety.

The KFVA, as main player in the area of food safety, has managed to transpose a high level of legislation from the Hygienic Package legislation. Based on regulations of the EC and Parliament No. 852/2004, 853/2004, 854/2004 and 882/2004, draft-regulations such is the draft-regulation for setting microbiological criteria for food products (EU Regulation No. 2073/2005), the draft regulation for setting conditions of animal health and public health and veterinary certification for import of raw milk and its products

(EU regulation no. 605/2010) are prepared⁹⁹.

4.6. Food Safety Legal Framework in Kosovo

The foundation of all aspects dealing with food in Kosovo is Food Law nr.03/L-016 published in Official Gazette of RKS. The Law on Food is to a great extent in compliance with the Regulation of the European Council and Parliament No. 187/2002. The law has XII chapters, composed of 50 articles, which regulate:

- the general principles and requirements related to food hygiene (for people and animals);
- principles of risk analyses (analyses, notice, safeguarding, transparency, protection of consumers interests).
- Safe food;
- Non safe food;
- Registration and licensing of food business operators, import-export;
- Obligation of food business operators;
- Research;
- New food and GMO;
- Declaration of food, designation;
- Official control (authorizations, responsibilities);
- Official controls' plan;
- Laboratories (reference and authorized);
- Management of crises and emergent cases;
- Bodies of the Agency and other issues related to food for people and animals.¹⁰⁰

This law is actually being amended and it is expected to be adopted by the end of 2013. Besides the Law on Food, the issue of food safety is directly and indirectly regulated also by:

- Law on Veterinary No. 2004/21 and Law on Animal Care No. 02/L-10 (the issue of health and welfare of animals);
- Secondary legislation acts for implementation of the above mentioned laws and legislation on phyto-sanitary.

The following are being finalized:

- Draft regulation on food additives within the process of creating the secondary legislation in the area of food safety;
- Secondary legislation for registration – approval of food business operators;

⁹⁹ Answers to the questionnaire on the preparation of the Feasibility Study for a Stabilization and Association Agreement, June 2012.

¹⁰⁰ TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. Presentation "Legislation Development". Gani Kamber, KVFA. January 2013.

- Regulation on the Fight of Fish Illnesses – Aquatic Animals.¹⁰¹

Effective food control at the national level can be undermined by the existence of fragmented legislation, multiple jurisdictions, and inconsistencies in enforcement and weaknesses in food surveillance and monitoring¹⁰². This is why Kosovo Institutions are investing a lot of their effort in completing necessary legislation in all fields, including agriculture and food and their harmonization with EU principles. From the total of 326 laws published in Official Gazette of Republic of Kosovo until 23d of October 2012, there are 26 laws of which 16 directly and 10 indirectly cover the area of agriculture and food. There is also a number of Administrative Instructions adopted, and from the total of 136 AI published on web page of the MAFRD there are 63 AI related to food.

Within this legal framework, Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo has also adopted the Law nr No. 04/L-121 on Consumer Protection which regulates and protects the basic rights of a consumer when purchasing commodities, services and other forms in the free market and obligations of the seller, manufacturer and supplier.

One of the main challenges in this area remains the lack of human resources, as a consequence of non transfer of veterinary, phyto-sanitary and sanitary inspectors from municipalities to KVFA.¹⁰³

Kosovo Legislation on Food Hygiene Package

- Regulation No. 10/2011 on official controls undertaken to ensure verification of compliance with the Law on Food and animal feed and rules on health and welfare of animals.
- Regulation No. 11/2011 on hygiene of food productions.
- Regulation No. 12/2011 on determination of specific hygiene for foods of animal origin.
- Regulation No. 13/2011 on determination of specific rules on organization of official controls of foods of animal origin dedicated for human consumption.

Other regulations:

- Regulation No. 27/2012 on microbiological criteria of food products.
- Regulation No. 17/2012 on determination of animal health conditions and Public health and veterinary certification for import of un-processed milk and its products in the Republic of Kosovo.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰¹ Ibid.

¹⁰² Second FAO/Who Global Forum Of Food Safety Regulators, 2004. Building effective food safety systems.

¹⁰³ TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. Presentation “Legislation Development”. Gani Kamber, KVFA. January 2013.

¹⁰⁴ TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. Presentation “Legislation Development” Gani Kamberi, KVFA. January 2013.

4.7. Veterinary Policy

There are three laws adopted by the Kosovo Assembly to regulate veterinary policy. Law on Veterinary nr.2004/21 which passed parliamentary procedures on 16th of June 2004 and is published in official gazette of RKS on the 01.11.2007, is the basis of the overall function of veterinary sector in Kosovo. Second law used by veterinary authorities is Law no.02/1-10 on Animal Welfare and the third one is Law no.2003/26 on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices. Veterinary policy in use by KFVA is also being completed with respective administrative instructions (AI) to implement specific tasks defined with primary legislation. These documents are either produced based on EU legislation or are in a process of harmonization with it.

As related to identification, registration and control of movement of animals, several secondary legal documents are produced to enhance the health and the safety of animals and consumers. Regulation V-UA_2003_09 2003 was adopted to ban the free circulation and marketing of live poultry in order to prevent spread of contagious diseases. With the same intention, Administrative Instruction V-UA_2004_04 was produced. This document forbids the import of cool hens. AI V-UA_2004_07 regulates the preservation of food of the barn door fowls from contagious diseases. There are many other documents produced to regulate specific tasks. See annexes for complete list.

4.8. Placing on the Market of Food, Feed and Animal By-products

The Veterinary Law regulates the circulation of livestock, products of animal origin, veterinary control of the import, the export and transit of live animals and products of animal origin. This Law also, determines the rights and obligations of central and municipal government institutions, as well as of individual persons in this field. Besides the Law on Veterinary, this area is regulated also by the Law on Food as well as by the Regulation on Hygienic Package which includes:

- Regulation No. 10/2011 on official controls undertaken to ensure verification of compliance with the Law on Food.
- Regulation No. 11/2011 on Hygiene of Food Products.
- Regulation No. 12/2011 on Determination of Specific Rules on Hygiene of Animal Origin Foods.
- Regulation No. 12/2011 on Determination of Specific Rules for Organization of Official Controls of Animal Origin Foods dedicated to human consumption.
- Regulation 27/12 on Microbiologic Criteria of Food Products.¹⁰⁵

Pursuant to Regulation No. 11/2011 on “Hygiene of Food Products”, the primary responsibility for food safety lies on food business operators, while KVFA is responsible for licensing of food business operators in Kosovo. Food business operators which carry out a production, processing or distribution phase of animal origin food are approved by

¹⁰⁵ TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. Presentation “Legislation Development”. Gani Kamberi, KFVA. January 2013.

the competent authority which also registers all other food business operators with all their units. It remains a responsibility of food business operators to provide the competent authority with regular information on their premises, including announcement of important changes in their activities as well as eventual close of existing premise. Food business operators may place on the market their animal origin products in Kosovo only if they are produced and treated exclusively in enterprises which meet the relevant criteria of the Regulation No. 11/2011 on Hygiene of Food Products.¹⁰⁶

The KVFA has carried out an assessment of Kosovo's agro-food establishments (in milk, meat, slaughterhouses, cold storage and dairy). Until now there are 125 active and 11 non-active food business operators dealing with food products of animal origin. KFVA has also approved 25 foreign companies to distribute food products with animal origin (table 6). All these businesses passed through procedures of approval as described with the AI NR.9/2004 on licensing activities of the food industry, non-food and construction and certification of agricultural products. Businesses were obliged to meet requirements specified with Regulation NO.11/2011 on hygiene of food stuffs and Regulation NO.12/2011 laying down specific rules on hygiene of food of animal origin.

The current processing sector capacities are poorly aligned with the products in demand. Typically, new plants beginning with used equipment/limited financing, and lack of experience support for processed technology and sanitary facility design¹⁰⁷. That is why there is a perception among consumers that imported brands from countries with a higher proportion of HACCP-certified production is safer and higher quality. As a result, consumers are more sensitive to quality than price¹⁰⁸. In general, there is a lack of quality standards (and food safety standards) in processed products intended for both local and foreign markets. Supported by international donors (USAID, EC, GIZ, etc), some of the processing units operating in Kosovo have implemented HACCP system.

As reported by¹⁰⁹ currently 35% of milk processing capacities in Kosovo is HACCP certified. This confirmed also by Kosovo Dairy Processing Association (KDPA), since six biggest milk processors are either certified or will do that by the end of this year¹¹⁰ since they are being supported by EC funds. In regard to meat and meat products, there is only one HACCP certified company¹¹¹; while, none of milk and egg producers/processors are HACCP certified.

The situation related to application of internationally accepted standards (ISO, Global

¹⁰⁶ TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. Presentation "Market Placement of Food, Feed and Animal By-products". Gani Kamberi, KVFA. January 2013.

¹⁰⁷ Infrastructure Investment Strategies For Increased Agro-Industrial Outputs In Kosovo, Siti INSIANA, 2010.

¹⁰⁸ Kosovo AgStrat-Animal Products Study, 2010.

¹⁰⁹ Ibid.

¹¹⁰ KDPA (Personal correspondence).

¹¹¹ KMPA (Personal correspondence).

GAP, HACCP), based on the number of certified companies or number of those interested to get certified with HACCP, ISO and other standards has increased, this indicates that the situation is improving. The number of companies which receive support as from international institutions also from national institutions is increasing, while with improvement of general infrastructure, they can also implement easier the required food safety requirements. The NGO “Konsumatori” considers that the support from international donors and national institutions is not satisfactory in terms of projections and development of the sector in order to ensure the quality and safety of food.¹¹² The requirements for implementation of food safety standards are set out also by the Regulations No. 11/2011 and No. 12/2011.

Table 6. The structure of licensed animal origin food businesses¹¹³

Type of activity	Number of operators	Status
Cold storage	21	Active
Dairy processing	28	Active
Dairy processing	5	Not active
Meat Processing	36	Active
Meat Processing	6	Not active
Slaughterhouse (Big animals)	34	Active
Poultry slaughtering	4	Active
Egg processing	1	Active
Fish processing	1	Active

Every consignment of products of animal origin or live animals shall undergo the veterinary control when imported to Kosovo from a third country. The person responsible for the imported consignment should make sure that all products of animal origin are presented for inspection at the border. Veterinary control is performed in all Border Crossing Points (BCP) and customs warehouses¹¹⁴. There are also sanitary inspection procedures in place. Sanitary monitoring includes the control of quality of food, control of hygienic and sanitary conditions in industrial-food facilities, in trade, health, catering, educational and cultural buildings, sports and recreation, private and public facilities. Sanitary Inspectorate shall issue a sanitary certificate, subject to the

¹¹² TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. NGO “Konsumatori”, Selatin Kaçaniku. January 2013.

¹¹³ Food and Veterinary Agency at <http://www.auv-ks.net/?page=1,86>.

¹¹⁴ Veterinary Inspection at http://ceftatradeportal.com/kosovo/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&layout=item&id=50&Itemid=63&lang=en.

fulfillment of foreseen sanitary criteria. These activities are regulated by two main legal instruments: Law on Sanitary Inspectorate of Kosovo No. 2003/22 and Regulation No. 2003/39 on the Promulgation of the Law on the Sanitary Inspectorate of Kosovo.

The main challenge in this area remains the implementation of legislation as well as organization of KVFA, specifically inclusion of municipal inspection and border control.

115

4.9. Food Safety and Control

Within the procedures of approval of food business operators, KFVA authorities have established a regular scheme of control of approved businesses. Businesses are classified into three groups depending on the scale of the risk they represent (low, medium and high) and three to six official controls per year are foreseen. The Veterinary inspection in Republic of Kosovo is regulated by Veterinary Law no 2004/21.

From January 2009 until March 2011, an EU funded project named Health and Food Safety, Meeting EU Standards in Food Safety and Veterinary Services in Kosovo with a budget of 2 million € was implemented. Project partners were the Food and Veterinary Agency, MAFRD, Ministry of Health, Chief Sanitary Inspector, Sanitary Inspectorate, State Agency for Consumer Protection and Food Safety of Lower Saxony, the State Food and Veterinary Service, Lithuania. The objectives of this project were to create an institution responsible for the entire food chain “from farm to fork” and to help control bodies to audit of the food industry rather than inspection¹¹⁶. The Kosovo institutions are also planning to continue to support completion with official personnel for the agro-food sector as an important instrument for development of agro-food policies¹¹⁷. Food safety and quality is proposed as priority field ¹¹⁸ to National Research Council which defined the following areas to be considered:

- Food security, quality and implementation of safety standards at farming and processing level;
- New technologies to increase agricultural production;
- Agriculture sustainable development (land, animals, plants, irrigation, etc);
- Animal production, improvement and health;
- Plant protection and improvement;
- Control of Zoonosis;
- Impact of global changes on the effects on agriculture production;
- Added value to agriculture products by improved processing and marketing

115 TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. Presentation “Market Placement of Food, Feed and Animal By-products”. Blerim Hajdari, KVFA. January 2013.

116 Health and Food Safety. Meeting EU Standards in Food Safety and Veterinary Services. Kosovo. <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/case-studies/kosovo.pdf>.

117 National Background Report On Agro-Food Research For Kosovo, 2009.

118 Ibid.

- activities;
- Improve competitiveness of the agricultural production and substitute imports and export to other markets;
- Support sustainable development and improve the quality of life through promotion of farming and other non farming activities without causing any damage to the environmental resources;
- Support to agriculture production and rural diversification;
- Residue of pesticides and heavy metals;
- Preservation of agricultural (animals and plants) genetic resources;
- Increasing the production and use of forestry;
- Aligning Kosovo's agriculture policies with that of the EU.¹¹⁹

Inspection Directorate is the main responsible body in charge of control activities and enforcement. Duties and responsibilities of this directorate are: implementation of policies in the area of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary. Implementation of these policies is done through official controls by inspectors of relevant sectors under the legislation in force¹²⁰.

There are nine (9) Border Inspection Point (BIP):

- Hani i Elezit;
- Vermica;
- Kulla;
- Bernjak;
- Merdare;
- Dheu i Bardhë;
- Stanqiq;
- International Airport Prishtina;
- Railway Station (Hani i Elezit).

Full control of all these points, covering also internal control is a very difficult task to be completed due to insufficient human capacities and logistics especially in closing the line from the sampling to having the result.

To do so the following are some of the tasks to be fulfilled from responsible institutions to meet their obligations:

- the enhancement of the facilities for phytosanitary and veterinary import controls as well as the capacity to transfer samples;
- strengthening of the food safety and phytosanitary controls;
- finalizing the transfer of the food safety and veterinary inspectors from municipalities to the KFVA¹²¹.

¹¹⁹ The National Research Programme of the Republic of Kosovo, 2010.

¹²⁰ Answers to the questionnaire on the preparation of the Feasibility Study for a SAA, 2012.

¹²¹ Communication from the commission to the European parliament and the council, Brussels, 10.10.2012.

During 2012, the inspections were carried out base on the Work Plan, National Sampling Plan and based on the consumers' appeals. These include:

- 43,067 operational inspections of businesses;
- 86 court appearance letters;
- 222 unsealing cases;
- 194 veterinary certificates for export;
- 2,187 phyto-certificates for exports.

The following activities were undertaken as well:

- 943 certificates for conductors;
- 1,278 import licenses;
- 522 animal confiscations;
- 3,750 analyses samples;
- 4,284 smears from the working surfaces, equipments, hands and personnel uniforms;
- 25 temporary prohibitions of activity.

The following exterminations were carried out:

- 504,684 kg food products, animal origin products and plant origin products.
- 99,908 liters of fluids;
- 373 stocks with infective diseases;
- 739,088 saplings, packages, etc.¹²²

Besides the achievements mentioned on the above, it is assessed that there is a lack of necessary mechanisms and performances related to oversight and inspection of placement to the market of food ingredients.¹²³

4.10. Specific Rules for Feed

Overall EU feed safety policy as defined in EU Regulation 183/2005 on Feed Hygiene requires that all Feed business operators responsible for the primary production of feed should take all necessary measures to prevent, eliminate or reduce feed safety hazards during the production, preparation, cleaning, packaging, storing and transport of these products. From Feed business operators other than at the level of primary production of feed is required to adopt appropriate measures to guarantee the safety of the products that they manufacture, transport or use¹²⁴.

Law No.2004/33 on Livestock and Law No.2004/21 on Veterinary adopted by Kosovo government, requires from feed business operators to ensure that feed materials and compound feeds put into circulation in the territory of Kosovo, whether or not containing

¹²² TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. Presentation of Iliriana Zumberi. KVFA. January 2013.

¹²³ TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. NGO "Konsumatori", Selatin Kaçaniku. January 2013.

¹²⁴ REGULATION (EC) No 183/2005 laying down requirements for feed hygiene.

additives, be of sound, genuine and of merchantable quality. When put into circulation or used, feed materials and compound feed, whether or not containing additives, must not represent any danger to animal or human health or to the environment. To enforce this, other by law documents are produced to closely regulate the sector.

The following are main documents related to feed:

- AI MA - NR 17/2006 lays down the criteria on Animal Feed Quality Control and additives.
- AI-No. 19/05 and AI no. 10-2011 defines requirements on the licensing of production, companies, intermediaries and traders of animal feeds and additives.

There are also two other regulations that deals with ingredients used in animal nutrition (AI MA - NR. 02/2006 on Feed stuffs) and AI MA - NR 28/05 which defines issues on Compound feeds. There is another bylaw in this field (AI MA - NR.08/2006 on the Establishment of the Standing Committee for Feed) thought to help institutions and feed business operators.¹²⁵

Department of Livestock of the MAFRD, actually under reorganization, is responsible body for licensing Feed business operators based on procedures laid down in AI MA - NO. 19/2005 (amended with MA -NO. 10/2011) on licensing of producers, brokers and traders of animals feed and additives. There are altogether 116 feed business operators licensed in Kosovo during 2012 either as businesses that have extended their licenses (82 operators) or are newly licensed (34). What is worth to be mentioned is that there are no producers licensed up to now. Of total number of businesses operating in this field, the majority of them are retailers (93 operators).

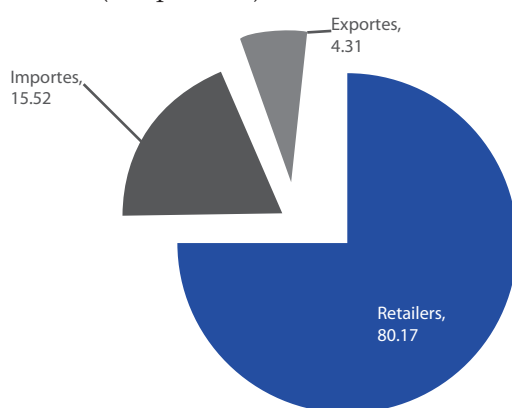


Figure 2. The structure of feed business operators¹²⁶.

It is very common that, compound feed is also produced within a farm either for internal

¹²⁵ Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development at <http://www.mbpzhr-ks.net/>.

¹²⁶ MAFRD, Department of Animal Production.

use or market. None of these businesses are applying or are in a process of any quality assurance scheme or certification based on internationally required standards such as ISO, HACCP, or other.

4.11. Phytosanitary Policy

Phytosanitary service of Kosovo is mandated: to enforce the national legislation; ensure the compliance with EU legislation; inspection of import and export; control of national services of inspection; carry out diagnostic analyses; phyto-sanitary control/research; issuing phyto-sanitary certificates; field inspections; research of plant diseases, pests, preparation of the list for diseases and quarantine pests.¹²⁷ The main Laws related to phytosanitary inspection in Kosovo are Law No. 03/L-029 on Agricultural Inspection, LAW No. 02/L-95 on Plant Protection, Law NO. 2003/20 on Pesticides, Law No. 03/L-042 on Plant Protection Products.

Imports of plants into the Republic of Kosovo are regulated by Administrative Instruction no. 16/2006 and Law on Plant Protection. Phytosanitary control is under KFVA organized in two units: Domestic Phytosanitary Inspectorate and Border Phytosanitary Inspectorate.

There are phytosanitary inspectors (Agriculture Officers) employed in the Kosovo municipalities. All are graduated agricultural engineers but, as with the sanitary inspectors, there is no information about the organization for which they work, the Crop Protection Department (CPD). The role of these inspectors with regard to food control seems unclear. They do a certain amount of “checking”, which apparently includes checking expiry dates of products and visually examining fruit and vegetables, although they do not take samples because of alleged jurisdictional issues between them and the Institute of Public Health (IPH). The new laws on seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides to some extent formalize the relationship between the MAFRD inspectors and the municipality inspectors.

Department for Plant Production and Protection of the MAAFRD is the responsible authority to license businesses to either import or distribute agricultural inputs. Following table presents licensed businesses in this sector.

¹²⁷ TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. Presentation “Phyto-sanitary Policies”. Shaqir Rexhepi, KVFA. January 2013.

Table 7. Structure of licensed operators of agricultural inputs¹²⁸

Type of activity	Number of operator ¹²⁹
Importers of artificial fertilizers	26
Artificial fertilizer dealers	58
Importers of PPP	6
PPP distributors	72

There are 162 agro-input businesses operating in Kosovo with the majority of them dealing with fertilizers (table 7) but, of important issues related to this field is that the number of operators distributing agricultural inputs is much bigger than identified. There are even cases of selling these types of products especially during the full season in agriculture, even in very uncommon places such are grocery stores or gas stations.

Some of the challenges that remain in this area are more effective organization of the control service, division of responsibilities, implementation of laws (including here also courts), as well as cooperation among all stakeholders.¹³⁰

4.12. Challenges in the Sector

1. Lack of adequate implementation of existing secondary legislation in the field of food safety;
2. Insufficient inter-institutional cooperation between the competent central authority and municipal bodies, business operators and civil society organisations;
3. Insufficiently clear responsibilities of all stakeholders on food safety;
4. Difficulties in transferring veterinary, sanitary, phytosanitary inspectors to the Food and Veterinary Agency (FVA);
5. Insufficient human capacities in the FVA;
6. Lack of categorisation of border inspection points;
7. Lack of system for disposition/recycling of animal by-products;
8. Insufficiently advanced system for registration and identification of live animals such as: births, deaths, harvests, movements, their import and export;
9. Insufficiently advanced programs for protection of animal health;
10. Stagnation in the testing labs (Accreditation, human recourses, infrastructure, legislation etc);
11. Lack of functional systems and sufficient level of ICT technology between institutions;
12. Lack of implementation of strategy for advancement of agro-food enterprises.¹³¹

¹²⁸ KFVA, Phytosanitary Inspectorate.

¹²⁹ Ibid.

¹³⁰ TRT 7 Meeting on Food Safety. Presentation "Phyto-sanitary Policies", Shaqir Rexhepi, KVFA. January 2013.

¹³¹ Challenges agreed during TRT 7 Plenary Workshop. April 2013.

4.13. Annexes

4.13.1. Annex I: The List of laws published in Official Gazette until 23.11.2012 related to Food safety

Law no. 02/L-10 on Animal Welfare
Law no.2003/5 on Seeds
Law no.02/L-9 on Irrigation of Agriculture Lands <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Law no.03/L-198 on Amending and Supplementing Law no. 02/L-9 on Irrigation of Agriculture Land
Law no.2003/10 on Artificial Fertilizers
Law no.2004/21 on the Veterinary
Law no.2004/24 on Water
Law no.2004/33 on Livestock <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Law no.03/L-243 on the Amending and Supplementing no. 2004/33 on Kosovo Livestock
Law no.2003/22 on the Sanitary Inspectorate of Kosovo
Law no.2004/13 on Planting Material
Law no.02/L-85 on Fishery and Aquaculture
Law no.02/L-95 on Plant Protection
Law no.02/L-116 On Chemical
Law no.02/L-78 On Public Health
Law no.02/L-111 On Apiculture
Law no.03/L-042 On Plant Protection Product <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abolishes: Law no.2003/20 On Pesticides
Law no.03/L-029 On Agriculture Inspection
Law no.03/L-016 On Food
Law no.03/L-098 On Agriculture And Rural Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Law no. 04/L-090 on Amending and Supplementing the Law no. 03/L-098 on Agriculture and Rural Development
Law no.03/L-119 On Biocide Products and Annex
Law no.02/L-8 The Wine Law <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Law no. 04/L-019 on Amending and Supplementing the Law no. 02/L-8 on Wines
Law no. 04/L-114 on Flour Fortification
Law no. 04/L-085 on Organic Farming <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abolishes: Law no. 02/L-122 On Organic Farming
Law no. 04/L-121 on Consumer Protection <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abolishes: Law no.2004/17 on Consumer Protection• Abolishes: Law no. 03/L-131 on Amendment and Supplementation of the Law No. 2004/17 on Consumer Protection

4.13.2. Annex II. The list of Administrative Instructions related to food safety

Regulation NO.10/2011	On official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance of the food and feed law, animal health and animal welfare rules
Regulation NO.11/2011	Regulation on hygiene of food stuffs
Regulation NO.12/2011	Regulation no of laying down specific rules on hygiene of food of animal origin
Regulation NO.13/2011	Laying down specific rules for the organization of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption
V_AI_2003_09	Banning the free circulation and marketing of live poultry in order to prevent spread of contagious diseases
V_AI_2004_04	On the forbiddance of the import of cool hens, in order to save the health of poultry and the health of consumers
2005/24	Promulgation of the Law No.02/L-10 on Animal Welfare
V_AI_2004_07	Concerning the preservation of food of the free range fowls from contagious diseases
V_AI_2004_09	On the licensing of food, non-food and construction industry and on certification of agricultural and industry products
V_AI_2004_11	On establishment, responsibilities, functions and organization of veterinary and food service in Kosovo
V_AI_2004_13	Import of live poultry
S_AI_2004_20	Kosovo sanitary inspectorate
S_AI_2004_26	On working uniform
V_AI_2005_01	Ai on setting the conditions for licensing the facilities of milk processing and package
V_AI_2005_03	Ai on animal identification and registration
MA-NO. 07/2005	Definition of the conditions for licensing of the commercial activities, import, wholesale and retail of the veterinary medicinal products and veterinary medicinal devices
V_AI_2005_05	For the amendment and completion of the administrative instruction no. 9/2004 on the licensing of food, non food and construction industry activity and on certification of food industry products.
V_AI_2005_07	For definition of the conditions for licensing of the commercial subjects that perform commercial activities, import, wholesale and retail of the veterinary medicinal products and veterinary medicinal devices
V_AI_2005_08	For bio-security points

V_AI_2005_09	For prohibition of illegal slaughtering and marketing of unstamped meat in public places
V_AI_2005_10	Against contagious zoonotic disease, rabies
V_AI_2005_14	Against Newcastle disease
V_AI_2005_17	AI on circulation of live animals within territory of Kosovo
MA-NO.22/05	AI on License of the ambulances, stations and veterinary clinics
V_AI_2005_18	On veterinary control of import, transit of food and non-food products of animal origin, live animals and animal breeding material
V_AI_2005_22	On license of the ambulances, stations and veterinary clinics
V_AI_2005_24	Against zoonotic disease, avian influenza
V_AI_2005_26	About the measures on monitoring of the certain substances and their residues in live animals and products of animal origin
S_AI_2005_02	About the way of going basic knowledge on safety and quality of food articles and personal hygiene of the persons working in the production and selling of the food articles
S_AI_2005_07	Duties and competencies of Kosovo sanitary inspectors
S_AI_2005_08	Technical –technological standards that should be fulfilled by food production facilities (factories)
S_AI_2005_12	On labeling of food products
S_AI_2005_13	For procedures of label approval
PH_AI_2006_04	For the amendment and change of administration instruction ma-no.13/05 on the license of subjects for repacking of artificial fertilizers
PH_AI_2006_05	For designation of the authorized institution for the conduction of the analyses, searches and the evaluation of cs of Kosovo
PH_AI_2006_06	For the registration and license of the cultivator of the grape, producers and processors
PH_AI_2006_10	For the artificial fertilizers quality
PH_AI_2006_11	For the definition of the criteria for the taking of samples and vine assessment
PH_AI_2006_16	On determining of the fees for phytosanitary inspection in the border inspection points
S_AI_2006_05	For organization of sanitary inspection in Kosovo
S_AI_2006_10	For the Artificial Fertilizers Quality
S_AI_2006_11	For implementation of law of Sanitary Inspection of Kosovo
V_AI_2006_01	For certification of slaughterhouses, meat processing plants and their inspection
V_AI_2006_02	Raw materials of the animal's compound feed

V_AI_2006_07	For the establishment of permanent commission for the breeding animals
V_AI_2006_08	For the establishment of permanent commission for the animal feed
V_AI_2006_013	Of compensation altitude for obligatory veterinary health inspection, in the Kosovo's boundary inspection posts
V_AI_2006_14	On fixing the maximum residue limits
V_AI_2006_17	On quality control of animal feed material and additives
V_AI_2006_19	For placing live animals in quarantine
V_AI_2006_20	Quality standards and grade of fresh milk
V_AI_2006_22	For keeping of animal herd book
V_AI_2006_24	For humanly animal slaughter
V_AI_2006_25	Reporting of activities of licensed private veterinary practitioners
V_AI_2006_26	On marketing authorization of veterinary medicinal products placed in Kosovo
V_AI_2006_27	On control, prevention and eradication of foot and mouth disease in Kosovo
V_AI_2006_28	On control and eradication of blue tongue disease
V_AI_2006_29	On establishing the scientific committee for evaluation of veterinary medicinal products
V_AI_2006_31	For transport of animals
V_AI_2006_32	On establishing the fees for veterinary medicinal products
V_AI_2006_33	On measures for the control of classical swine fever
V_AI_2006_34	For prevention, control and eradication of TSE disease in Kosovo
PH_AI_2007_03	For the amendment of the administrative instruction ma – no. 12/2004 on the registration of the producers of planting material
PH_AI_2007_04	For the amendment of the administrative instruction ma – no. 14/2004 on the registration, licensing and fixing of the fee for importers, exporters and traders of planting material
PH_AI_2007_06	On pricing fees of phytosanitary control services
PH_AI_2007_07	For content, form and record procedures on quantity, type and variety of planting material produced, marketed and destructed
PH_AI_2007_15	For the amendment and completion of the administrative instruction ma – no. 25/2005 for selling of forests trunks and woods assortments
PH_AI_2007_17	On the establishment and functions of regulatory service and advisory board on artificial fertilizers

PH_AI_2007_19	On the permission of import, placement in the market and usage of authorized pesticides
PH_AI_2007_20	On the determining of criterions for the official control of quality, package, labeling, marketing and other necessary controls of the planting material
PH_AI_2007_24	On the sportive-recreational fishing means and equipments on the sportive - recreational
PH_AI_2007_29	On assessment form and content of data to the phyto-certificate for export, re export and phyto-certificate on the internal movement of plants, plant productions and other facilities
S_AI_2007_05	Forbidden of smoking and placement of signs of prohibition, signs in packing of tobacco products by manufacturers and importers
S_AI_2007_06	Prohibition of sale of tobacco products to persons younger than 18 years
S_AI_2007_07	Measures for reducing and limiting of smoking
V_AI_2007_02	For the amendment completion of the administrative instruction ma nr.07/2005 dated 31.03.2005 on defining conditions for licensing of business operators who carry out wholesaling and retailing activity of import and marketing of veterinary medicinal products and veterinary medicinal equipment
V_AI_2007_05	On definition of the live stock markets conditions
AI_2007_08	Defining the level of the fees for export and re-export
V_AI_2007_13	For licensing of the business operators carrying out activity of collection, storage and marketing of hides of live animals origin
V_AI_2007_14	Registration of production for the designation of reproduction animal genetically value
V_AI_2007_18	On professional veterinary activities of the Kosovo veterinary order
V_AI_2007_21	Concerning the function, competencies, and responsibilities of the Kosovo veterinary and food laboratory
V_AI_2007_25	On amending of administrative instruction ma-no. 18/2005 on 06.07.2005 of veterinary control of import, transit food and non food products of animal origin, live animals, and animal breeding material
V_AI_2007_26	On combating and eradication of tuberculosis brucellosis and leucosis disease in cattle
PH_AI_2008_05	On snail breeding and their production floatation
PH_AI_2008_11	On recognition and acceptance of white cereals cultivars
PH_AI_2008_12	On testing of the value of cultivation and using - VCU of the potatoes varieties
PH_AI_2008_13	On recognition and acceptance of maize hybrids
PH_AI_2008_14	On the classification of planting material

PH_AI_2008_20	On creation register of the producers, importers, exporters, deponents and distributors of plants, plants products and other pallets in MAFRD
PH_AI_2008_22	On permission of the placement in the market, use of active substances and registration of products commercial name for plants protection that contain active permitted substances for usage
PH_AI_2008_24	On internal and external registers of the production companies, grape, wine and other production by grape and wine
PH_AI_2008_26	On the field inspections of white cereals
PH_AI_2008_31	On registration and licensing of matrix orchards for rootstock and graft wood for fruits and grape - vine
V_AI_2008_06	For prevention, control, combating and eradication of anthrax disease
V_AI_2008_07	On combating and eradication of brucellosis at ovine, caprine and porcine animals,
V_AI_2008_09	On the license of the activities of aquaculture
V_AI_2008_15	For prevention, combating, and eradication of contagious bee disease
V_AI_2008_17	For determination of the egg quality
V_AI_2008_18	For veterinary health conditions of the operators for breeding, production and placing in to the market of fish, noma and other products
V_AI_2008_19	For the amendment competitions of the administrative instruction ma-no. 26/2005 about the measures on monitoring of certain substances and their residues in live animals and products of animal origin
V_AI_2008_21	For definition of the procedures for acceptance of testing samples
V_AI_2008_25	On the animal insemination
V_AI_2008_27	For inspection and monitoring of infections bovine rhinotraheitis (IBR)- and bovine viral diarrhea (BVD)
V_AI_2008_29	For prevention, control, combat and eradication of babesiosis disease in cattle, sheep, goats and dogs
V_AI_2008_30	For veterinary pharmacology
V_AI_2008_32	For prevention, control, combat and eradication of salmonellosis disease in poultry
PH_AI_2009_01	On packaging and labeling of certified seed
PH_AI_2009_04	On setting of taxes for license of subjects that are dealing with import and trading of the artificial fertilizers
PH_AI_2009_08	On setting of taxation for the registration of subjects, test of varieties for the production cultivation value and printing of labels for cereals seeds
PH_AI_2009_09	On the authorization of certification on plant protection products

PH_AI_2009_11	On assessment of criterions for import, export and internal market of wine and other products from grape and wine
PH_AI_2009_13	On assessment of conditions, facilities and equipment for deployment in the market for plant protection products
PH_AI_2009_15	On setting the parameters of physical and chemical analyzes of wine
PH_AI_2009_16	On setting of criterions for putting of indications in the label
V_AI_2009_02	Concerning of non commercial pet animal movement conditions
UNMIK Nr 2001/19	On the control of Border Inspection Points and other places
PH_AI_2010_11	On registration of plant producers, processors, importers, distributors, deponent, packers, exporters, plant wholesale sellers, other parts and plant products

V-veterinary, PH- Public Health, S-sanitary

4.13.3. Annex III. List of participants in TRT 7 Meetings on Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries, Forestry, and Food Safety

1	FVA – Chairman	Flamur	Kadriu
2	MEI/Co-chairman	Hysni	Nura
3	GIZ – Secretariat	Venera	Mjekiqi
4	M.A. Vushtrri	Afrim	Bajrami
5	GIZ	Agim	Rysa
6	MAFRD	Agron	Berdyna
7	KFA	Ahmet	Zejnnullahu
8	FAO	Aleksandar	Nikolovski
9	Customers Association	Ali	Gagica
10	USAID/NOA	Arben	Musliu
11	FAV	Arben	Mehmeti
12	Sports/Recreational Fisherman Federation	Arianit	Sllamniku
13	Customer Protection	Artan	Demolli
14	EUOK	Artan	Osmani
15	REC	Avdullah	Nishori
16	Independent Expert/GIZ	Avni	Ramadani
17	FVA	Bahti	Murati
18	MAFRD	Bajram	Imeri
19	M.A. Lipjan	Bajram	Rizani

20	Kosovo Assembly	Bajram	Badivuku
21	AKPPP	Bashkim	Gashi
22	UP/FAV	Bedri	Dragusha
23	MLGA	Besim	Murtezani
24	M.A. Vushtrri	Besim	Demiraj
25	UNDP/Dragash Project	Besnik	Cecelia
26	GIZ	Besnik	Vasolli
27	FVA	Blerim	Hajdari
28	MEKA	Burim	Piraj
29	KNIPH	Drita	Zogaj
30	MEI	Dritero	Arifi
31	MAFRD	Ekrem	Gjokaj
32	Kosovo Chamber of Commerce	Emine	Daci
33	NRS	Ergin	Hajredini
34	FVA	Fahrije	Asllanaj
35	Kosovo Police	Faik	Krasniqi
36	UP/FAV	Fatezim	Latifi
37	MAFRD	Fatmir	Lahu
38	FVA	Faton	Haziri
39	Swedish Embassy	Fatos	Mulla
40	MEI	Fatos	Kryeziu
41	Municipality of Prishtina	Fexhri	Hyseni
42	MAFRD	Fjolla	Cakuli
43	FVA	Gani	Kamberi
44	IADK	Gursel	Arifi
45	SNV-CNVP	Haki	Kola
46	KSA	Haki	Kurti
47	MAFRD	Hakile	Xhaferi
48	Twinning Project	Hans Joachim	Kloss
49	MAFRD	Hysen	Abazi
50	MAFRD	Idriz	Gashi
51	FVA	Ilirjana	Zymberi
52	Enology	Ismet	Haxhimurati
53	M.A. Fushë Kosovë	Isuf	Maxhera

54	AKPPP	Izet	Morina
55	Kosovo Police	Jakup	Veseli
56	Twinning Project	Jeton	Muhaxhiri
57	SIT-Kosova	Kadri	Gashi
58	FVA	Kujtim	Uka
59	Forest Managemnt Plan	Kushtrim	Cukaj
60	FVA	Lamir	Thaqi
61	MAFRD	Luan	Statovci
62	MAFRD	Lulzim	Shamolli
63	M.A. Fushë Kosovë	Mehmet	Gërguri
64	Municipality of Prishtina	Merita	Tolaj
65	M.A. Lipjan	Milazim	Miftari
66	MAFRD	Milhan	Wolff Dieter
67	MAFRD	Mirjeta	Salihaj
68	Independent Expert/GIZ	Muhamet	Kamberi
69	FAO	Naser	Krasniqi
70	FVA	Naser	Krasniqi
71	FVA	Nazmi	Collaku
72	MEI	Nertila	Gojani
73	MAFRD	Nysrete	Doda
74	NGO 'Drita e Krushës'	Ola	Syla
75	KCC	Parim	Bajrami
76	Independent Consultant/GIZ	Qazim	Kukalaj
77	UNDP/Dragash Project	Rreze	Duli
78	Sports/Recreational Fisherman Federation	Sadik	Dragaj
79	FVA	Sadik	Heta
80	GIZ	Samir	Hyseini
81	MAFRD	Sebahate	Haradinaj
82	NGO Konsumatori	Selatin	Kaçaniku
83	FVA	Shaban	Gallopeni
84	Kosovo Customs	Shaqir	Beqiri
85	MAFRD	Shefki	Zeqiri
86	M.A. Lipjan	Shqipe	Rexhepi
87	FVA	Skender	Jonuzi

88	Office W.V	Sylejman	Bala
89	M.A. Fushë Kosovë	Sylejman	Shabani
90	MESP	Tafë	Veselaj
91	MAFRD	Tahir	Halitaj
92	FVA	Valdet	Gjinovci
93	MESP	Vehbi	Ejupi
94	GIZ	Wolff Michael	Mors
95	UP/FAV	Xhavit	Ramadani
96	FVA	Xhemajl	Dervishi
97	GIZ/RED	Xhevat	Lushi
98	KCV	Xhevdet	Krasniqi
99	Assembly of Kosovo	Ylber	Sherifi
100	N.P.T "Bylmeti"	Ymer	Berisha
101	Bylmeti	Zijadin	Gojnovci

4.13.4. Annex IV List of participants in the plenary workshop of TRT 7 on Agriculture, Rural Development, Forestry, Fisheries and Food Safety

1	KFVA - TRT Chairman	Flamur	Kadriu
2	MEI - TRT Co-Chair	Hysni	Nura
3	GIZ -Secretariat	Venera	Mjekiqi
4	MEI	Taulant	Kryeziu
5	MEI	Dritero	Arifi
6	GIZ	Besnik	Vasolli
7	IADK	Zenel	Bunjaku
8	FVA	Faton	Haziri
9	MAFRD	Elhami	Hajdari
10	KFA	Ahmet	Zejnullahu
11	MAFRD	Shefki	Zeqiri
12	KFA	Habib	Elshani
13	KFA	Besim	Zogaj
14	MAFRD	Hysen	Abazi
15	MAFRD	Tahir	Ahmeti
16	NGO "Konsumatorët"	Ali	Gagica
17	NGO "Konsumatorët"	Hazir	Berisha
18	MAFRD	Hysni	Thaqi
19	MAFRD	Bajram	Imeri
20	MAFRD	Fatmir	Lahu

21	MAFRD	Isuf	Cikaqi
22	MAFRD	Idriz	Gashi
23	Independent Expert/GIZ	Muhamet	Kamberi
24	Independent Expert/GIZ	Qazim	Kukalaj
25	N.R.S	Ergin	Hajredini
26	MAFRD	Shqipe	Dema
27	Municipality of Fushe Kosove	Sylejman	Shabani
28	MAFRD	Ylber	Kuçi
29	FVA	Shaban	Gollopeni
30	MAFRD	Ekrem	Gjokaj
31	MEI	Hysni	Nura
32	UP 'Haxhi Zeka' Peja	Ismaj	Cacaj
33	UP 'Haxhi Zeka' Peja	Bakir	Kelmendi
34	NGO 'Konsumatori'	Selatin	Kaçaniku
35	NIPHK -MH	Arbëresha	Jaka
36	MAFRD	Vjollca	Bucaliu
37	NIPHK -MH	Antigona	Ukëhaxhaj
38	FVA	Gani	Kamberi
39	FVA	Kujtim	Uka
40	GIZ	Agim	Rysa
41	FVA	Xhemajl	Dervishi
42	MEI	Fatos	Kryeziu
43	KFVA	Shaqir	Rexhepi
44	MAFRD	Hakile	Xhaferi
45	MESP	Vehbi	Ejupi
46	FVA	Ilirjana	Zymberaj
47	FVA	Eroll	Shehu
48	FVA	Alush	Musaj
49	MAFRD	Kapllan	Halimi
50	MAFRD	Bekim	Hoxha
51	Kosovo Customs	Shaqir	Beqiri
52	ECKK	Parim	Bajrami
53	FVA	Valdet	Gjinovci
54	FVA	Naser	Krasniqi



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