

Facts and Figures

Project title: Higher Education, Research and Applied Science Plus – HERAS+
Project duration: 2020 - 2023
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Co-financed by:
Ministry of Education and Science,
Republic of Kosovo

Implementing Consortium

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HERAS
Higher Education, Research
and Applied Science **Plus** 

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About the project

The project "Higher Education Research and Applied Science Plus - HERAS+" aims at developing a more competitive and diversified public higher education and research sector in Kosovo in line with the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), European Research Area (ERA) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

'HERAS+' contributes to a higher education and research system in Kosovo that is better governed, more international, coherent, effective and efficient, fostering students' employability and promoting the third mission of universities i.e. the socio-economic development mission.

The Project is funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) with funds of Austrian Development Cooperation, and co-financed by the Ministry of Education and Science (MES). 'HERAS+' is implemented by a highly experienced Austrian consortium represented by World University Service Austria (WUS Austria) as the lead partner, and including the Center for Social Innovation (ZSI) and the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD).

Project Partners

- Ministry of Education and Science (MES)
- Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA)
- Office of Strategic Planning (OSP), The Prime Minister Office
- University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina"
- University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti"
- University of Peja "Haxhi Zeka"
- University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"
- University of Gjilan "Kadri Zeka"
- University of Mitrovica "Isa Boletini"
- University of Applied Science in Ferizaj

Coherence and Focus Areas

The Project 'HERAS+' is built on the lessons learnt from the previous Project, titled HERAS that was financed by the same donors and implemented by the same Consortium. 'HERAS+' remains focused on the key areas in the field of higher education, research, and applied science. In addition, the 'HERAS+' treats several other eminent topics including: innovation, smart specialization, strategic development of public HEIs, and the third mission of universities.

Project Intervention

The project intervention is organized in three levels, namely, policy level, university level and research level. The following are the aimed project outputs in each intervention level:

- **Policy level:**

MES is enabled to effectively develop and implement policies along European standards in HE and research adapted to the national context. KAA has satisfactorily addressed and implemented key recommendations from the European Network of Quality Assurance Agencies (ENQA).

- **University level:**

Strategic plans of public universities are reviewed, developed, and decision-making processes are based on these strategies and better contribute to a competitive HE sector as well as to economic, social and cultural development of Kosovo (in line with the third mission of universities).

- **Research level:**

Kosovo has further advanced the quality of its research capacities and the internationalization / Europeanisation of its higher education and research system. This will also contribute to enhance research capacities at the individual level and thus strengthen the profile and employability of researchers/academics.