



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends,

When I envisioned the first year of the Teach For Kosova Fellowship, I imagined organizing a Summer Institute with students, and I imagined Teach For Kosova teachers having an immediate impact in the classroom starting in September. While the year has still been a considerable success, like many others, we had to adapt.

The coronavirus has changed the way so many of us live our day to day lives and has taught us all about humanity. Despite our best efforts, we were humbled by how little control we have in this situation; schools closed unexpectedly for two weeks and then for the rest of the year. This year, school and classes have been shortened and there is fear that it is a lost year for many children – especially those in our most vulnerable communities.

Amidst the difficulty, we knew that the need for leadership in education was perhaps more important than ever. In 2020, Teach For Kosova recruited its first cohort of fellows, held its first Summer Training Institute, placed its first group of teachers in schools, and formalized our work with the global Teach For All organization through a Memorandum of Understanding.

The 17 fellows we recruited, whom you can learn more about below, represent our inaugural cohort of young leaders who are committed to being advocates for educational equity. They are a diverse group of leaders who are passionate about social change, a better education system, and ensuring that all kids have access to opportunities.

While Teach For Kosova has just completed its first year, we are eager to continue our movement for quality education. This coming year, we will be supporting our current fellows as they teach for the first time; we will be expanding our impact through different community-based projects; and, we will recruit 20 new Fellows who will become our second cohort. We cannot wait to share with you the impact that our organization begins to have in the lives of students and in the wider communities we serve.

If there is one thing this year has taught us, it is how connected and dependent we are on one another. Thank you for being a friend of Teach For Kosova and for helping us develop along the way. And thank you for believing that together we can work to ensure that Kosova's students have access to quality education.

With gratitude,
Egzon Gashi



TEACH FOR KOSOVA ADVISORY BOARD



Athena Palmer



Dukagjin Pupovci



Vedat Gashi

“ Together we can make a difference. ”



Armend Berisha



Fatmir Krasniqi

A YEAR IN REVIEW

2020 presented many challenges and obstacles with the COVID-19 Pandemic. However, through hard work and dedication, the Teach For Kosova team accomplished its goals for the year.



Highlights from 2020

- Conducted Kosova-wide research on the situation, issues and possibilities for improvement of the education system
- Recruited our first cohort of Fellows
 - 17 Fellows - 70% women; 25% from minority communities)
- Formalized partnerships with 9 municipal education directorates
- Signed agreements with 5 Public Universities for the recruitment of future fellows
- Organized Conference on Education with local stakeholders (representatives of Municipalities, schools, Ministry of Education, civil society, etc)
- Implemented our first Summer Institute (5 weeks/25 days of intensive training on leadership and teaching)
- Monthly post-institute thematic sessions with Fellows
- Recruited 4 teachers from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities
- Placed 8 Fellows in Kosova's public schools
- Conducted Focus Groups and Information sessions with University students
- Launched call for applications for the 2021 Teach For Kosova cohort

CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION IN KOSOVA



On February 27th, 2020, Teach For Kosova organized a conference on education in Kosovo. At the conference, more than 10 municipal leaders were present, ranging from directors of education to mayors and deputy mayors, and principals from schools with which we have worked closely in the past. Additionally, at the conference there were local, national, and international actors along with Teach For Kosova board members. We were privileged to have speeches in support of our organization by Deborah MacLean, Public Affairs Officer from the US Embassy, Professor Dukagjin Pupovci of Kosova Education Center, and the Mayor of Kamenice, Qendron Kastrati.

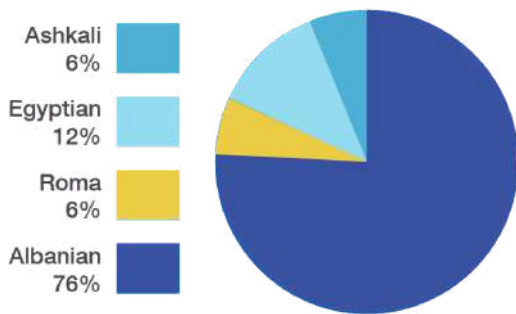
Teach For Kosova presented the organization's development, the planned summer training institute, and the details of the 2-year teaching and leadership development program. Finally, Teach For Kosova asked for all stakeholders in education to support us in our mission of ensuring that all of Kosovo's children have access to a quality education.



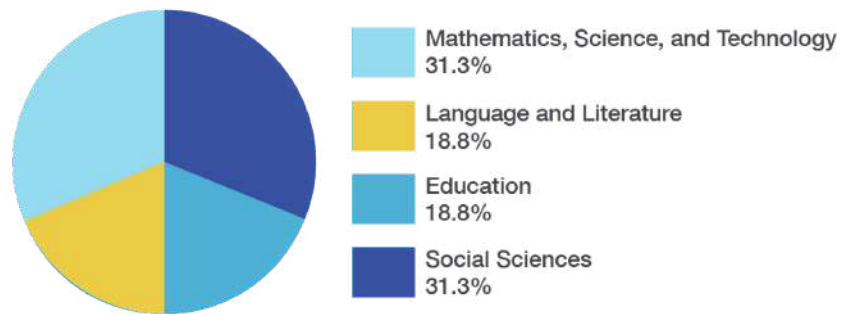
TEACH FOR KOSOVA'S FIRST COHORT

In 2020, TFK recruited, trained and placed its first-ever Cohort of 17 outstanding young leaders. We continue to recruit and diversify the collective leadership force which will work to create systemic change.

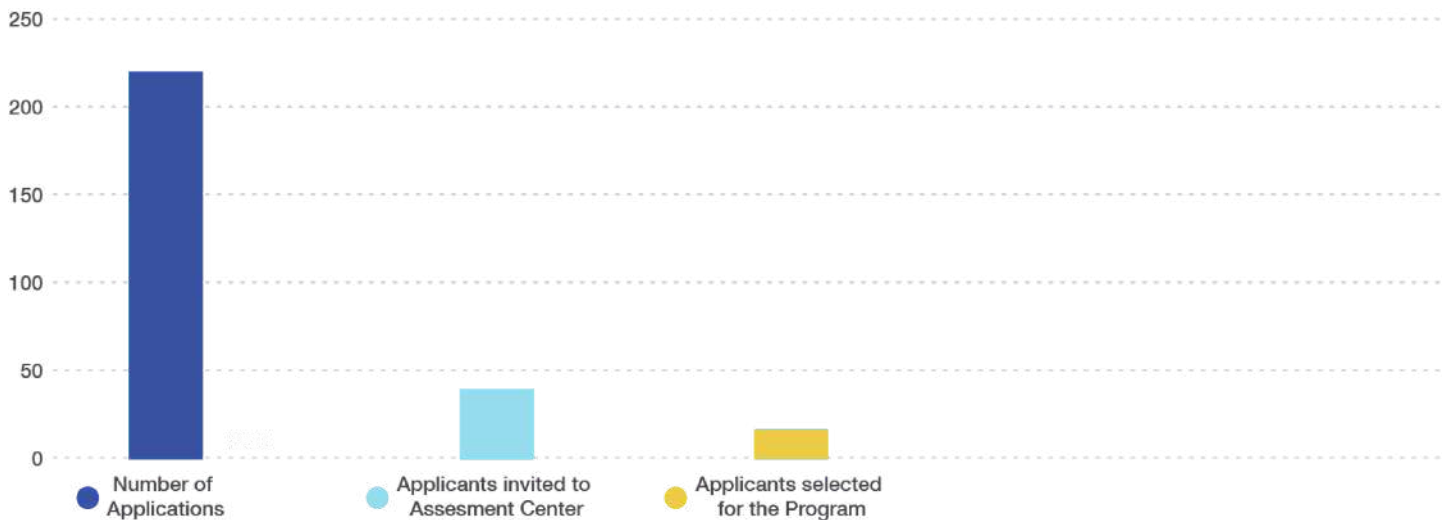
Ethnicity



Fields of Study



Recruitment 2019-2020



- 220 applications received
- 47 Applicants invited to Assessment Center
- 17 accepted into program

7.7% of applicants were accepted

TEACH FOR KOSOVA'S FIRST COHORT



BELKIZE ISLAMI-XHAFERI

Hometown: Gjilan, Kosova
Bachelor: Applied Sciences
Master: Automation of production processes

My name is Belkize Islami Xhaferi and I am 29 years old and come from Gjilan. I finished primary and secondary school in Ferizaj, then continued my bachelor studies and graduated in 2013 from the Faculty of Applied Sciences.

From a young age I was engaged in social activities and I was always involved in the protection of minority rights as I also come from a minority community in Kosova. During my studies I was part of various projects where through my commitment I called and advocated for the education of girls from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. I also advocated for the protection and promotion of women's rights from these communities.

I continued my master's studies in the field of Automation of Production Processes at the Technical Faculty in Prishtina and am on the cusp of graduating. I continue to be a civil society activist in Peja, another city in Kosova.

My desire is to see as many girls from communities completing higher education and more employed women. I hope that one day I will be the model of a powerful woman surrounded by other young women pursuing their dreams.



PETRIT MATOSHI

Hometown: Kamenica, Kosova
Bachelor: Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology
Master: Cultural Heritage and Tourism Management

My name is Petrit. I am 25 years old and come from Kamenica.

I finished primary and secondary school in my hometown. I studied in the field of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina." I continued my master's studies in the field of Cultural Heritage and Tourism Management at the University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti".

Since 2016 I have been engaged in archaeological campaigns such as: excavations, conservation, and restoration in Kamenica Castle, which were organized by the Archaeological Institute of Kosovo. I am an active part of civil society in Kamenica, as a collaborator of several local NGOs, part of the Forum for Cultural Heritage in the Municipality of Kamenica, participant in several actions for waste disposal in different areas in our municipality, and an organizer of several sports activities.

In March of 2020 I was introduced to Teach for Kosova and without thinking for a long time was convinced that this is what I want to do. I want to be a teacher and follow in the footsteps of my father and sister. The news of my admission to this organization, in addition to making me very happy, also filled me with a sense of great responsibility.

I think that children should be treated equally and that a different approach to showing affection be used. This approach involves giving the floor to all children, hearing all of their opinions, involving them in activities, in games, in tasks, and creating an inclusive classroom so that they do not feel left out. After all even without being physically close there are many other ways make a child feel accepted and safe, and I will dedicate all my devotion and love to them.

- Gentiana Gashi

SUMMER INSTITUTE 2020

A CLOSER LOOK



- Trained 17 exceptional Fellows
- 150 hours of training over 5 weeks
- In our post-institute survey, 100% of fellows said they would recommend the fellowship to a friend or family member



- A total of 12 guest speakers were invited to share their knowledge and professional experiences with TFK staff and Fellows.
- Former Prime Minister Albin Kurti, current President and Head of Parliament Vjosa Osmani, and the Dean of the School of Education Blerim Saqipi were three of our distinguished guests



TRAINING SESSIONS

A CLOSER LOOK



Summer Institute

From July 13th to August 14th, 2020, Teach For Kosova facilitated our first Summer Institute with 17 Fellows. Each day consisted of a full day of trainings with facilitated sessions, group discussions, and a variety of activities. Fellows were introduced to different concepts related to teaching, leadership, having a growth mindset, building relationships with education stakeholders, receiving feedback, and much more.

Additionally, during weeks 3 and 4 of Institute, Fellows had the opportunity to practice teaching both virtually and in person. Each fellow was provided with a class of students (consisting of other fellows) and a Teach For Kosova staff member. Fellows were observed and received feedback from both their students and the Teach For Kosova observer.

Additional Training

A major component of the Teach For Kosova Fellowship program is in-service training provided to all Fellows during their time as teachers.

In-service training consists of monthly observations by our Director of Program in fellow classrooms as well as monthly thematic trainings as a full group.

In late 2020, Fellows participated in two virtual training sessions held in the months of October and November.

STRATEGIC PARTNERS



Teach For All

Teach For All has provided Teach For Kosova with continuous support and guidance as the organization continues to grow and develop.

Our work with Teach For All was formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding signed in October of 2020.

01



Between January 2019 and August 2020, Teach For Kosova implemented our first project, which was supported by the Advocacy Training and Resource Center (ATRC)-USAID. With this funding, Teach For Kosova was able to conduct community visits in Gjakova, Mitrovica, and Malisheva where the team observed classrooms, organized focus groups, and ultimately used this information to create a Teacher Profile.

As a result of our partnership with ATRC-USAID, Teach For Kosova was able to recruit, train, and place Fellows in municipalities around the country.



02

STRATEGIC PARTNERS



Innovation Centre Kosovo (ICK) supported Teach For Kosova when the organization initially launched in 2018.

ICK provided Teach For Kosova with a fully sponsored co-working space where the TFK team completed much of the work needed to launch as a successful organization.



The Kosovo Foundation for Open Society (KFOS) supported Teach For Kosova's partnership with 5 Public Universities throughout Kosova. These partnerships will allow us to expand our recruitment for future Cohorts and hold information sessions with the Universities.

03



Coca-Cola HBC was one of the main sponsors of Teach For Kosova's first Summer Institute. Coca-Cola supported our Institute with materials, funding, as well as beverages for staff and participants.

04

05



STRATEGIC PARTNERS

PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

Municipality of Drenas
Municipality of Fushë Kosova
Municipality of Kamenica
Municipality of Mitrovica
Municipality of Prishtina

Municipality of Ferizaj
Municipality of Gjakova
Municipality of Malisheva
Municipality of Peja
Municipality of Prizren

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Mentoring Our Future
Roma Versitas Kosovo

Teachers' Union (SBASHK)

UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

University of Mitrovica "Isa Boletini" Haxhi Zeka University (Pejë)
University of Applied Sciences in Ferizaj

OUR STAFF



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Join the Conversation

@teachforkosova





LËVIZJE PËR ARSIM CILËSOR

“ One day, all children in Kosova – regardless of their community or ethnicity – will have access to an education system which prepares them for lifelong success. ”

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