# ANNUAL REPORT 2014
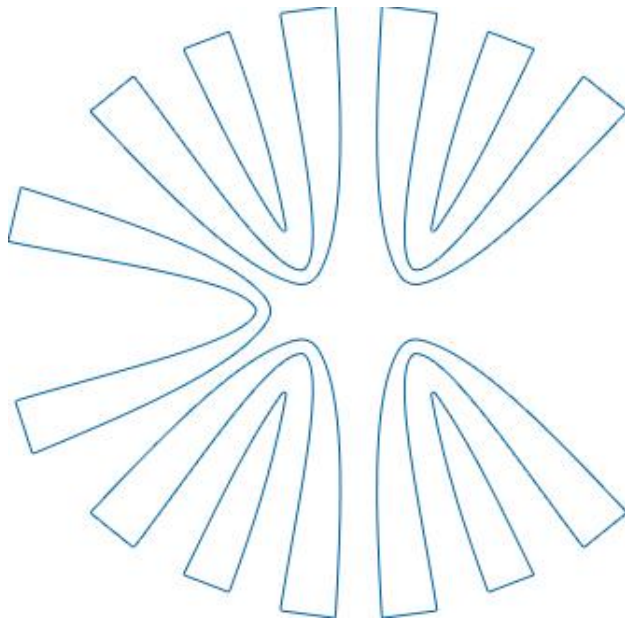
Short Version

**Prepared for**
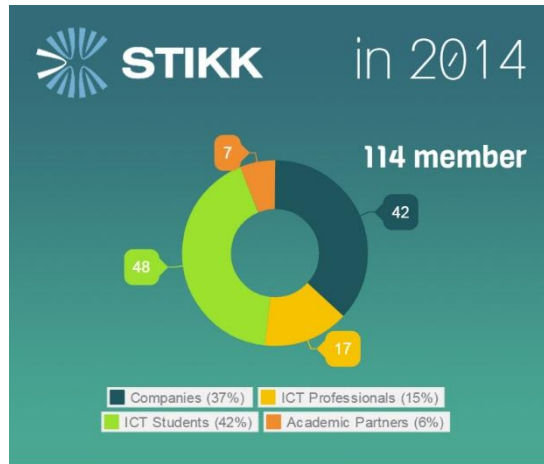
## STIKK ASSEMBLY MEETING

**02 April, 2015**

**09:00 at Innovation Centre Kosovo**
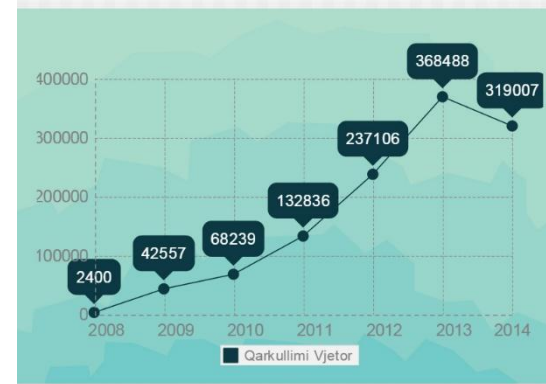
STIKK in 2014

**114 member**

- Companies (37%)
- ICT Professionals (15%)
- ICT Students (42%)
- Academic Partners (6%)

42 / 48 / 17 / 7

**12+ Projects**

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Republika e Kosovës — Republika Kosovo — Republic of Kosovo — Qeveria — Vlada-Government

Athena Projektledelse

giz

ICK Innovation Center Kosovo

spark ignites ambition

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BRITISH COUNCIL

**138** trainees

**13** trainings organised

Trainees — Female / Male

Trainings organised — Connected with IT / Connected with Business



**15+ konferenca/B2B**

KOS ICT · CeBIT · IT&BPO NEAR-/OFF-& ONSHORING FORUM GERMANY 2014 · AUSTRIA

**20+** Grupe Punuese/ Tryeza të Rrumbullakta

**7 Publikime**

STIKK — ANALIZA E MANGËSISË SË SHKATHTËSIVE NË TIK

STIKK — ANALIZA E TREGUT TË TIK NË KOSOVË

STIKK — Clirimi i Potencialit Eksportues të Kompanive Kosovare të TIK

STIKK — Ekosistemi Funksional për Bizneset e Reja

STIKK — MINISTRIA E INOVACIONIT & TEKNOLOGJISË

STIKK — FEMRAT NË TEKNOLOGJI

South East Europe IT Industry Barometer (SEE ITIB) 2014 – Results for Kosovo

Claus Traeger - consim Consulting — April 2014

giz / consim

| Year | Qarkullimi Vjetor |
|------|-------------------|
| 2008 | 2400 |
| 2009 | 42557 |
| 2010 | 68239 |
| 2011 | 132836 |
| 2012 | 237106 |
| 2013 | 368488 |
| 2014 | 319007 |

■ Qarkullimi Vjetor

**2,365 Njerëz** na pëlqejnë në  f

**1,101 Njerëz** na ndjekin në  t

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During 2014, STIKK has held these activities, which are in accordance with its objectives:

## Objective 1. Create conducive legislative and policy environment for a rapid development of the ICT sector

Regarding objective 1, STIKK has held important meetings ranging from the Prime Minister, Mr. Hashim Thaçi, who visited STIKK in April 2014; Mr. Bujar Kelmendi, Legislative and Counselling Sector Leader of the Kosovo Customs; Mr. Blerand Stavileci, Economic Development Minister, etc. The STIKK staff also participated in different seminars and roundtables, which had as an objective a better life for a Kosovar citizens.

A very important factor for STIKK's success in 2014 was the creative approach that has been offered in order to improve and create more opportunities for business-making in the ICT sector. Exemption of ICT goods from custom taxes, Kosovo ICT market analysis, ICT skills gap analysis, are just some of the many contributions of STIKK.

## Objective 2. Human resource development consistent with the ICT sector demands

Through the STIKK Training Academy a great number of trainings have been organised with topics like: Sales management, promotion and marketing, customer relationship management, "Kosovo Young Coders", networking, IT basics, WomInnovation, and many others. These trainings have offered know-how from different areas of IT for different categories of citizens, where often the activities were focused on marginalised groups, such as females in IT and youngsters.

STIKK has also created a platform for experience and opportunity exchange. This mainly happened through the job fair - *"Your carrier on track"*, the American Chamber of Commerce job fair, Business Tuesday, etc. In addition to that, STIKK continued signing agreements with different important partners, such as the British Council regarding the training for Android, Social Media Management, and Internet Marketing.

## Objective 3. Provide services to members, with a view on creating new business opportunities

STIKK has offered to its members a variety of activities, where worth mentioning are the information session for participation in HORIZON2020 with focus on ICT, the Open Government Partnership workshop, the IT export strategy workshop for South-East Europe, the "Diaspora Women in Business" forum, etc. In particular, the participation of STIKK and its members on CeBIT 2014 is considered as a great success.

Besides the above mentioned points and their great importance, the KosICT 2014 conference is one of the most important pillars of success for STIKK and ICK. The three days conference has resulted in 200 participants, who were IT professionals that gathered to discuss about the newest trends in this field.

Last but not least, the B2B event "Nearshoring Kosovo" was very important. This activity was organised by STIKK in cooperation with ICK and the Austrian Chamber of Commerce. In this activity, five Austrian companies and companies from Kosovo have presented their businesses and have identified the opportunities for partnership in the future. A similar B2B activity has been offered during KosICT 2014, where German and Norwegian companies participated.

## Objective 4. Creating conditions for a sustainable activity of the STIKK

Regarding this objective, the following activities have been organized. In the month of July, for the fifth time the National Albanian Day of Information and Communication Technology was organized in Prizren by STIKK and AITA; GIZ donated 4 Pin Boards, through which Project Team Manager of GIZ in Kosovo, Ms. Veronika Hofinger, congratulated STIKK for the work that has been accomplished; Media coverage of the "Young Coders Kosovo" project and the visit from Prishtina's Mayor, Mr. Shpend Ahmeti.

In April, the 6th annual assembly was held, where the achievement and outcomes of the year 2013 were presented to the participants by the Executive Director, Ms. Vjollca Çavolli. Additionally to this, the statute was approved, and new STIKK board members were appointed by the participants. STIKK also participated in the roundtable with the topic *"Usage of social media in the communication municipality-citizen"*; in public consultations and presentation of the IPA II programme - Cross-border cooperation 2014-2020 Kosovo - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM); and the last two drafting workshops of the National IT Strategy were organized.

In order to ensure maximum professionalism, STIKK delegated staff members to take part in different trainings and activities. A high number of these activities were trainings about advocacy, lobbying, project proposal writing, one workshop about the ICT export strategy in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina). In the end, STIKK organized fun activities, such as the New Year party on 19 of December, which is a STIKK and ICK tradition. Another point worth mentioning is that STIKK offered a presentation to the Serb community, where inclusion in the ICT industry has been promoted in front of students and professionals.

## Objective 5. Support members in exercising social responsibility of the ICT sector

Considering the social aspect, STIKK offered contribution in various ways. In April, the Blood Donation day was organised, and besides STIKK, ICK, and Athene staff, contributions were made also from member companies. In September, the Blood Donation tradition continued, where the ICK incubation teams and representatives from STIKK member companies were part of it.

On a different note, STIKK also contributed in the drafting of the Strategic Plan for Protecting Children from Online Risks.

Annual Report 2014

## 2014 Publications

- IT Barometer Kosovo http://stikk-ks.org/uploads/downloads/IT_Barometer_Kosovo.pdf
- ICT Skills Gap Analysis http://stikk-ks.org/uploads/downloads/STIKK_market_analysis_ENG.pdf
- Kosovo ICT Market Analysis http://stikk-ks.org/uploads/downloads/STIKK_market_analysis_ENG.pdf
- Women in Technology http://stikk-ks.org/uploads/downloads/Women_in_Tech_-_Summary__English__01.pdf
- Enabling Startup Ecosystem http://stikk-ks.org/uploads/downloads/Enabling_Startup_Ecosystem__eng_.pdf
- Unleashing the Export Potential of Kosovo ICT Companies http://stikk-ks.org/uploads/downloads/Unleashing_the_export_potential__eng_.pdf
- Ministry of Technology and Innovation http://stikk-ks.org/uploads/downloads/Ministry_of_Tech_and_Innovation__Eng_.pdf

## Board Meetings

During 2014, six STIKK Board meetings were held, four regular meetings (7 February, 14 May, 24 July, and 11 November), and two extraordinary meetings (24 January, and 8 April).

## STIKK Staff

During the period January-December 2014, STIKK has hired 7 employees. Additionally, 17 different consultants were involved for the year 2014, and sub-contractual obligations have been established with 27 different parties.

## STIKK Members

6 new companies have joined STIKK during 2014: Rikon, Epaytech, Eltring shpk, Trigonomi, Meduza dhe Ameble, bringing the total number to 42 company members. Now, STIKK has 114 paying members (42 companies, 17 professionals, 48 students, and 7 academic institutions).

## Income and Expenses

During 2014, STIKK made an income of 319,007€ (15.51% less than 368,488€ from 2013), and had expenses of 325,881€ (4.21% less than 339,595€ from 2013).

## Financial Audit of STIKK

The independent audition company "Balluku & Zhaveli", which was chosen by the Assembly members of 2014, will do auditing of all transactions and financial procedures for the period 1 January - 31 December 2014. This auditing will be implemented during March 2015, and the final report will be presented during the 2015 Assembly Meeting.