

A close-up photograph of a wooden pencil with a sharpened lead tip, resting on a document. The document features a line graph with a grid. The y-axis has labels '100' and '50'. The x-axis has labels '93' and '98'. The pencil is positioned diagonally from the top left towards the center. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the document and the pencil's body.

Kosovo Accreditation Agency 2022

FLAMUR ABAZAJ
SENIOR OFFICER FOR
MONITORING AND EVALUATION,
KAA

Introducing the KAA



- ▶ **The Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA) is a state agency of the Republic of Kosovo, and it was founded in 2008.**
- ▶ Since then, the KAA has been serving as the sole External Quality Assurance and Accreditation Body regulating the higher education market in Kosovo.
- ▶ The KAA primary responsibilities are:
 - ▶ Accreditation of Public and Private Higher Education Institutions;
 - ▶ Accreditation of new Higher Education Institutions and their programs;
 - ▶ Accreditation of new programs at accredited Higher Education Institutions;
 - ▶ Continuous monitoring of Quality at accredited Higher Education Institutions.

Introducing the KAA



- ▶ **KAA has successfully completed all foreseen accreditation procedures in Kosovo within the calendar year 2022**
 - ▶ **11 institutional accreditation**
 - ▶ **124 programme accreditation**
- ▶ All programmes that were evaluated in 2022 have already been issued accreditation decisions based the State Council of Quality's decision (KAA Accreditation Board).
- ▶ The main bodies composing the KAA are:
 - ▶ The Kosovo Accreditation Agency (Administrative and Implementing Office);
 - ▶ State Council of Quality (Decision and Policy Making Body)
 - ▶ Appeals Committee (Appeal review body)

CAA in 2022



- ▶ Internal processes:
 - ▶ **Monitoring and Post-Accreditation Procedures**, processes that has been foreseen for a time now, have been established and starting the academic year 2022/23 implemented.
 - ▶ Piloting for the academic year 2022/23 for a variety of different monitoring types.
 - ▶ **Kosovo Subject Area Code**, Internal Project
 - ▶ Expanding on the ESAC in order to better cover the codes for interdisciplinary and new fields.

KAA in 2022



▶ Projects:

- ▶ **TAIEX Grant**, a European Union program dedicated to assistance and support for the institutions with Euro-integration aspirations.
 - ▶ Supported via the Croatian Accreditation Agency
- ▶ **US Embassy in Kosovo**, Guidelines for student engagement in internal and external quality assurance of Kosovo Higher Education
 - ▶ Creation of student manual for HEIs to stimulate student involvement and engagement
- ▶ **Twinning with AQ Austria**, HERAS+ Project, capacity building projects to address recommendations provided by ENQA.
- ▶ **Digitalization**, QAINTE Project, part of the digitalization of the KAA by creating more intuitive and user-friendly web-platforms
 - ▶ Both projects are financed via the Austrian Development Agency (ADA)

KAA in 2022



- ▶ Cooperations and Memberships:
 - ▶ **EQAR Visit to Kosovo**, June 2022
 - ▶ **ENQA Affiliate Membership**, Regained in September 2022
- ▶ Promoting partnerships with the regional agencies:
 - ▶ Meetings have been held with the accreditation agencies in Albania, North Macedonia, and Montenegro.
 - ▶ A regional conference is planned for 2023 with more agencies from the Western Balkan countries to establish further cooperation.

Challenges



- ▶ Digitalization
 - ▶ Creating platform for the accreditation applications, academic staff declarations, and other utilities.
- ▶ Law on the Kosovo Accreditation Agency
 - ▶ Currently under review in the Education Committee of the Kosovo Assembly

Thank you for your attention!



Any questions?



Flamur Abazaj

Kosovo Accreditation Agency

Address: Student's Center, 2nd floor
10000 Prishtina, Republic of Kosovo

Tel: +383 38 212762

Email: Flamur.abazaj@rks-gov.net

Website: <https://akreditimi.rks-gov.net/>