



Children and Youth on the Move in Kosovo



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4
projects implemented in 2024

4,106
beneficiaries in 2024
88% child
12% adult

1.9M CHF
multi-annual financial volume for the migration projects active in 2024

In 2024...

- **12,000** border crossings
- **22,000** IDPs living in Kosovo, and a record **1,100** internal displacement flows
- Around **17,000** Kosovars repatriated to Kosovo
- **14.2%** of GDP was remittances

Map of CYM intervention



Context

The war in ex-Yugoslavia in the late 1990s has given Kosovo the second highest rate of emigration among OECD countries, with over 338 000 citizens leaving between 2012 and 2022. Today, Kosovo experiences **transit, immigration, and emigration** flows:

- Kosovo has been designated a **safe third country**, decreasing yearly asylum applications in Western Europe from tens of thousands to around 2500.
- Syrian, Turkish, Moroccan, Iranian, and Ukrainian young nationals represented most international protection applications to Kosovo in 2023. In 2023, the highest recorded number of forcibly displaced and stateless persons came from Afghanistan, Syria, and Morocco.
- The closing of the Belvedere reception centre leaves two reception centres. Those not accommodated live in poor conditions in informal settlements.
- Kosovo is a **destination country for labour** immigrants from South Asia.
- Kosovo produces the Balkan's second highest number of child asylum seekers. Reasons for emigration include employment, where they are vulnerable to exploitation. This is susceptible to increase with the 2024 visa liberalisation scheme.
- Young girls, especially from minority communities, are **trafficked** for sexual exploitation in nightclubs, residences, and massage parlours, recruited by promises of marriage and employment.

Minorities in Kosovo

The Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians are the most vulnerable to child violence, human trafficking, and exploitation for child labour in the main export scrap recycling industry. There are many children begging in street situations. They lack access to basic needs and services due to socio-economic marginalisation and discrimination.

Refugees of Serbian nationality also experience discrimination and the denial of their property rights upon returning to Kosovo due to the rift between Kosovo and Serbia.

Tdh CYM Projects in Kosovo

In 2024, the 4 CYM implemented in Kosovo focused on:

- Provision of **learning support to Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians children** through increasing their level of learning achievement and attendance; providing capacity building to the professionals; raising awareness; introducing child safeguarding policies; improving cooperation between key actors.
- **Social Justice for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians communities** through social inclusion and equality policies and practices, raising awareness and fighting the negative image surrounding these communities, removing obstacles to their participation to economic, political, and civic life.
- Providing services (MHPSS, educational, and medical) and empowering **children and youth in street situations** or exposed to **violence, abuse, or trafficking, and affected by migration**, with skills and support services to better integrate in the labour market.

Local partners

The Ideas Partnerships, Syri i Vizionit, RADC, Balkan Sunfloëers, KOMF (Executive Board of the Coalition of NGOs for child protection), VORAE - Voice for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians NGO, Municipality of Prizren, Municipal Office for Return and Communities, Center for Social Work in Prizren, Educational Institutions, Employment Agency, Local Businesses

Alignment with Theory of Change

- Target groups:** Focus on children and youth in pre-mobility, fixed in the migration process
- Information (Pathway 1):** Learning and mainstreamed within and beyond the actors involved
- Protection (Pathway 2):** CYM are better protected and accompanied along migratory routes and in crisis contexts
- (Re)integration (Pathway 3):** CYM are better integrated in their society
- Advocacy (Pathway 4):** Multi-stakeholder coordination is established to strengthen community level safety nets and resilience

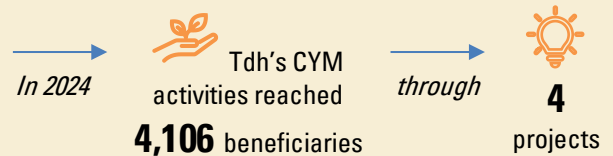
Differentiation approach: Protective Accompaniment

Priority areas of intervention:

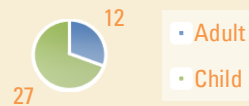
1. Strengthening systems and services
2. Enabling CYM and their families as actors in their protection, development, and advocacy

Integration with PrEx: Child Protection, Gender and Diversity, Access to Justice

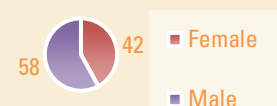
CYM 2023 Key Data in Kosovo



Age (%)



Gender (%)



648 children benefited from MHPSS intervention, including Case Management

1,520 children, youth, families, and communities' members affected by migration benefited from training, counseling, or awareness-raising sessions assistance.



Contact

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Sources: Tdh, iDMC, HRW, OSCE, Prague Process



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