OPEN DATA KOSOVO

2017

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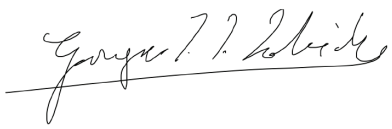
Georges J. L. Labrèche
Founder

Three years ago, **Open Data Kosovo** started as prototype to experiment the idea that grassroots interpretation of data could bridge the gap between government institutions and disenfranchised citizens. Looking back into what we've accomplished in such a short period of time, I'm amazed at how far we've traveled beyond the concept of open data to become an established reference in the world of civic technology. This journey was made by our tireless team of adventurer problem-solvers; our strengths rooted in a passion for social responsibility and community engagement.

No matter the nature of the work to be done, Open Data Kosovo can be trusted to design creative ways in which implementation will have positive social impact. Consider for instance how our tech for good community engagement activities alone have thus far involved over 2,000 youths with a strong emphasis on gender balance and job creation. Working with us is an investment in youth and in making the world a happier place.

We are eternally grateful towards our partners and clients who trusted us with their ambitions, without them none of our achievements would have been possible. As you read about our organization and familiarize yourself with our activities, I invite you to approach us with your problems and let us provide you solutions wrapped in positive social impact.

Sincerely,
Georges L. J. Labrèche



Community

Open Data Kosovo has a strong mandate towards the development of a local vibrant tech scene that fosters equal participation for women and minorities. Our community works as a lab that encourages civic responsibility by leveraging interest in learning about nascent and enabling technologies as an opportunity to develop digital solutions for social good.

Since our inception, we have engaged over 600 young citizens in series of gender-balanced digital product development mentorships, trainings, and workshops. In a country challenged by issues related to high youth unemployment and corruption, our participants acquire digital skills that not only increase their employability but transforms them into socially responsible active citizens.

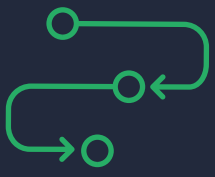
Building

Training and Digital Capacity Building

Equipping youth, academics, CSOs, journalists, activists, advocacy groups, and government officials with the digital literacy required to optimize their work with relevant digital know-how.

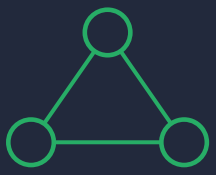
Data Collection

Equipping youth, academics, CSOs, journalists, activists, advocacy groups, and government officials with the digital literacy required to optimize their work with relevant digital know-how.



Data Processing

Transforming messy data into comprehensible and actionable data that can be used, re-used, and build upon.



Data Analysis

Transforming raw data into useful information, extracting insights and trends to provide analysts with the knowledge they need to engage in data-driven decision-making.

Data Visualization

Making data accessible and comprehensible to a wider audience through development of intuitive and dynamic visualizations solutions. Bringing investigative capabilities to the public.

Data-Driven and Evidence BasedPolicy Proposals

Providing solutions, action plans, and policy papers that are based careful analysis and objective interpretation of available data.

Micro-tasking and Crowdsourcing Platforms

Transforming large jobs into rapidly processed micro-tasks distributed across multiple actors ranging from targeted communities to global audiences.

API Development

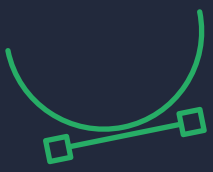
Making data readily available to technical teams and software engineers so that they can focus their resources on product development rather than data processing.

Mobile App Development

Conceptualizing, designing, and implementing mobile solutions across multiple platforms with a focus on human centered designs and user experience best practices.

Full-Stack Web Development

Producing custom made and scalable web application to fit any business requirement and specifications, from back-end to front-end development.

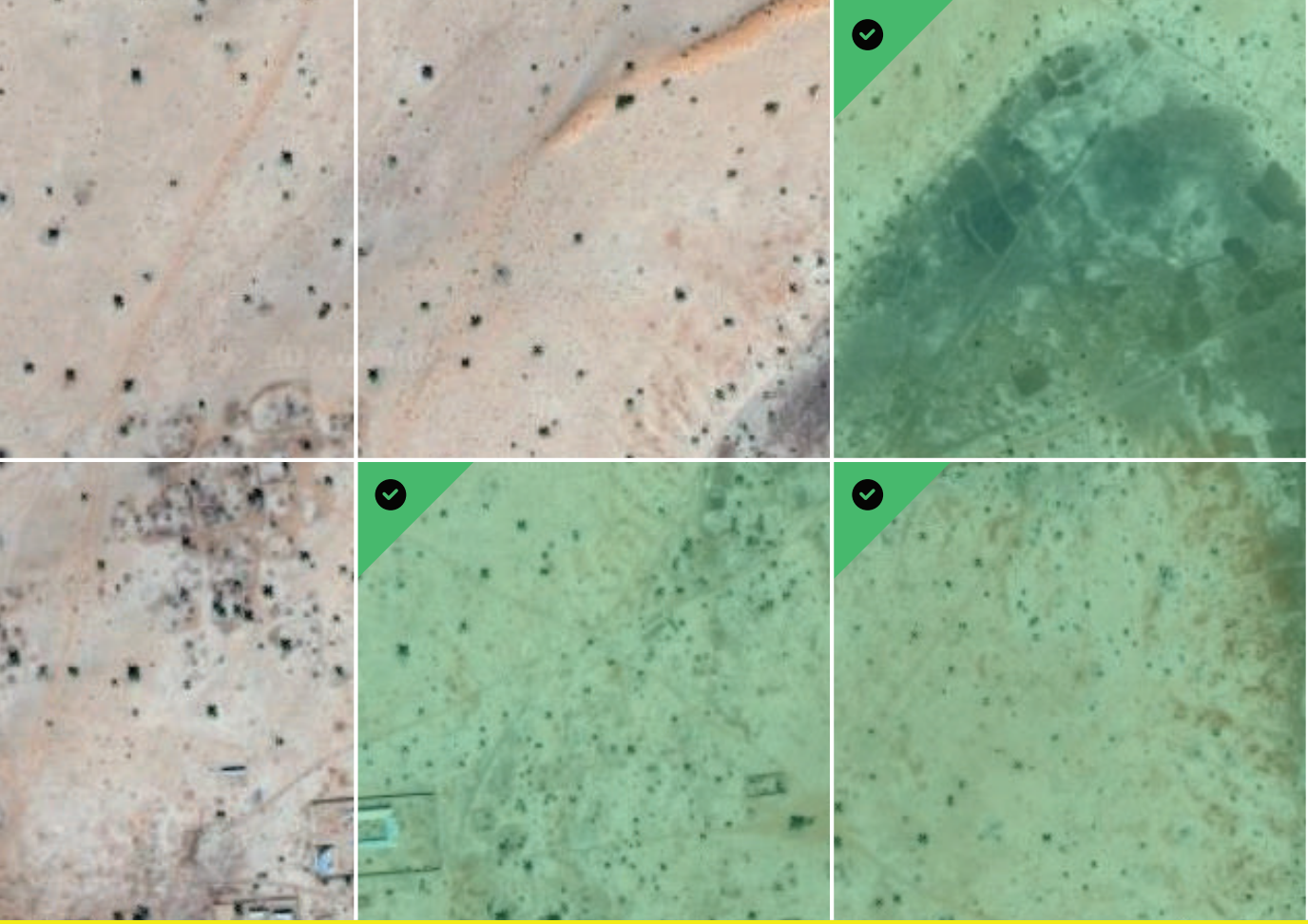


Graphic Design

Designing digital-end product look and feel as well as user journeys. Presenting information in approachable mediums.

Agile Scrum Consultancy

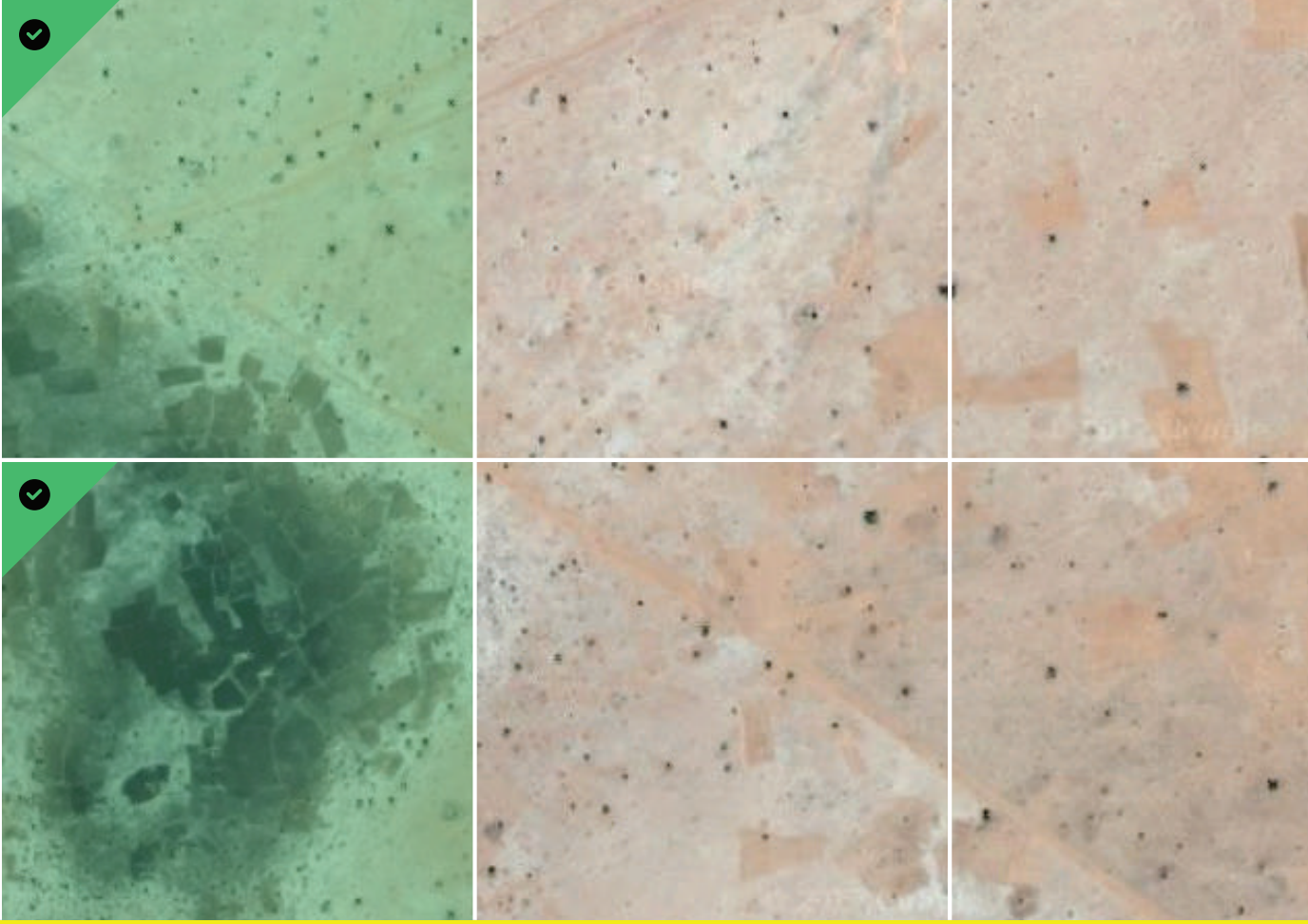
Proving Agile Scrum project management consultancy for product development projects that maximize communication, rapid client feedback integration, and frequent deliverables.



Decode Darfur

The **Decode Darfur** application is a satellite image processing crowdsourcing platform. It is designed to support Amnesty International's human rights violation research by identifying and geo-locating systematic man-made destruction perpetuated in remote villages in Darfur.

The application was launched in October 2016 that engaged over 30,000 digital volunteers who contributed over 10,000 hours of work (equivalent to someone working full-time for over 4 years) to identify and map over 326,000 square kilometers of satellite images of remote and vulnerable villages in Darfur. The digital volunteers were then asked to compare high-definition satellite images of the identified villages but taken at different time periods. The purpose was to look for evidence of attacks by helping identify significant changes in buildings and structures over time (e.g. intact villages in the before picture and burnt villages in the after picture). Using a desktop or phone, users were asked to compare recent satellite images of Darfur villages with older ones to determine where damage had occurred in the past two years.



147
Countries

28,600
Volunteers

1,146,602
Tasks Submitted

283
KM² Every Hour

326,066
Square KM Decoded

9,065
Hours Contributed

Decode the Difference

Using the remote locations mapped in our recent Decode Darfur project, Amnesty International invited Decoders to compare two images of the same village and identify significant change in buildings and structures over time.

The platform built by Open Data Kosovo is designed to support Amnesty International's human rights violation research by identifying man-made destruction perpetuated in remote villages in Darfur by local government militias.

Milena Marin
Senior Innovations Campaigner
Amnesty International

"I have worked with Open Data Kosovo to get Amnesty Decoders off the ground, an innovative platform for volunteers around the world to use their computers or phones to help human rights researchers sift through large volumes of data such as pictures, satellite images and documents. It was great working with Open Data Kosovo, their dedication an understanding of technology for non-profits was extremely appreciated."

Amnesty Humans Rights Education

Amnesty Human Rights Education (HRE) is a free learning platform aimed at educating students in human rights. It offers three courses: The importance of defending human rights, Who is a Human Rights Defender?, Building a society that respects human rights. Each course has its own info graphic video, a case study and a quiz.

ODK also designed an accompanying social media campaign to promote the platform's use. As the project's target audience was primarily young people aged 18-30, integrating the campaign through Instagram fell in line with their avid social media habit. Post reaches were maximized by adding three layers of hashtags, one referencing the overall campaign, the second referring to that week's theme and the third relating to the day specific theme. The campaign posts six times throughout the week, encouraging students to comment and ask questions along the way. Since Instagram displays posts as tiles in rows of three, posting six in a row allows for the creation of thematic block sections, ensuring simple navigation between sections.

Krittika Wishwanath
Global Human Rights Education Project Manager
Amnesty International

"We (The International Human Rights Education team at Amnesty International) have been working with Open Data Kosovo on different projects over the past few months. They supported us in a time sensitive project by creating our new microlearning platform in less than a week! They have also been helping us to build our strategy on microlearning in social media. The people we have worked with in Open Data Kosovo are reliable, professional, passionate and creative. They have produced quality and exciting outputs in an extremely efficient manner for us. We look forward to continue working with them and wish them all the very best in their work,"

Andrew Russell

UN Development Coordinator

UNDP Resident Representative

"ODK is more than just another start-up. It is a example for others that demonstrates the endless possibilities for innovation and cutting edge professional services in Kosovo. It is part of a broader youth-led movement that is creating the future now."

Luisa Vazquez

User Experience Designer

Dartmouth College Class of 2018

"I am so immensely grateful for these past two months at Open Data Kosovo. Whether it was sharing music in the office, teaching me about Kosovo, or collaborating on projects, everyone welcomed me with open arms. They constantly inspired me with their enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work. I could not have asked for a better workplace that both gave me the freedom to explore projects I was passionate about and constantly challenged me to learn and grow. Thanks ODK for a wonderful summer"

Kreshnik Gashi
Chairmain of the Board
RAEPC

"We had the opportunity and the great pleasure to work with the young professionals from Open Data Kosovo in cooperation with Girls Coding Kosova, in a project that supported the digitalization of the services of the Electronic Communications Regulatory Authority of Kosovo. We at ARKEP were fascinated by the hardworking team of experts who build software which is helping day to day work of our staff in one hand and made possible for the companies that work with us to interact completely electronically with ARKEP, thus reducing bureaucracy and increasing transparency in the sector of electronic communications services on the other hand. We were one of the few fortunate institutions who had a chance to be supported by ODK."

Lendita Kika
Quality and Safety Manager
Civil Aviation Authority Kosovo

"We are very pleased with the dedication and planning that ODK staff put into the work of this project and thankful to be selected as the second Institution that receives the support from Techstitution projects given to Kosovo Institutions"

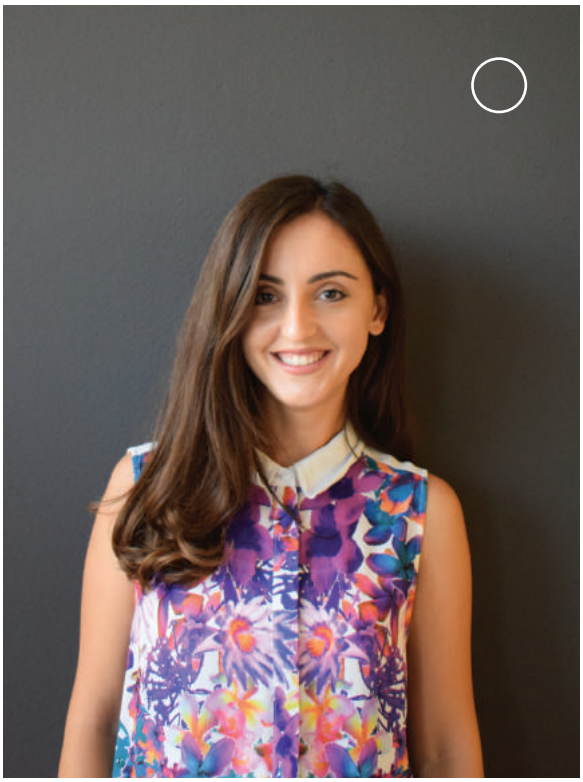
Techstitution

Techstitution is a project aimed at imparting practical software engineering skills to young people through the digitization of platforms used by public institutions. The project engages youth in democratic processes and learning of new software skills, in order to contribute to the formation of 'smart institutions' that deliver high-quality services to Kosovo citizens. The project is supported by the UNICEF Innovations Lab and the Austrian Development Agency. The first institutional partnership was established in November 2016 with the Regulatory Authority of Electronic and Postal Communications (RAEPC) and has resulted in digitization of the RAEPC's services.

Tech4Policy

Tech4Policy empowers young women to design digital solutions to governance and democratization challenges in Kosovo's municipalities. Through close engagement with citizens and local leaders, Tech4Policy strives to improve governance in Kosovo's municipalities all while boosting employability of young women in the high-potential ICT sector. Over two years, Tech4Policy will work with 10 municipalities and engage 250 young women across Kosovo in digital product development that will serve its citizens and contribute to social well-being.

MR. ROBOT
TECH 4 POLICY

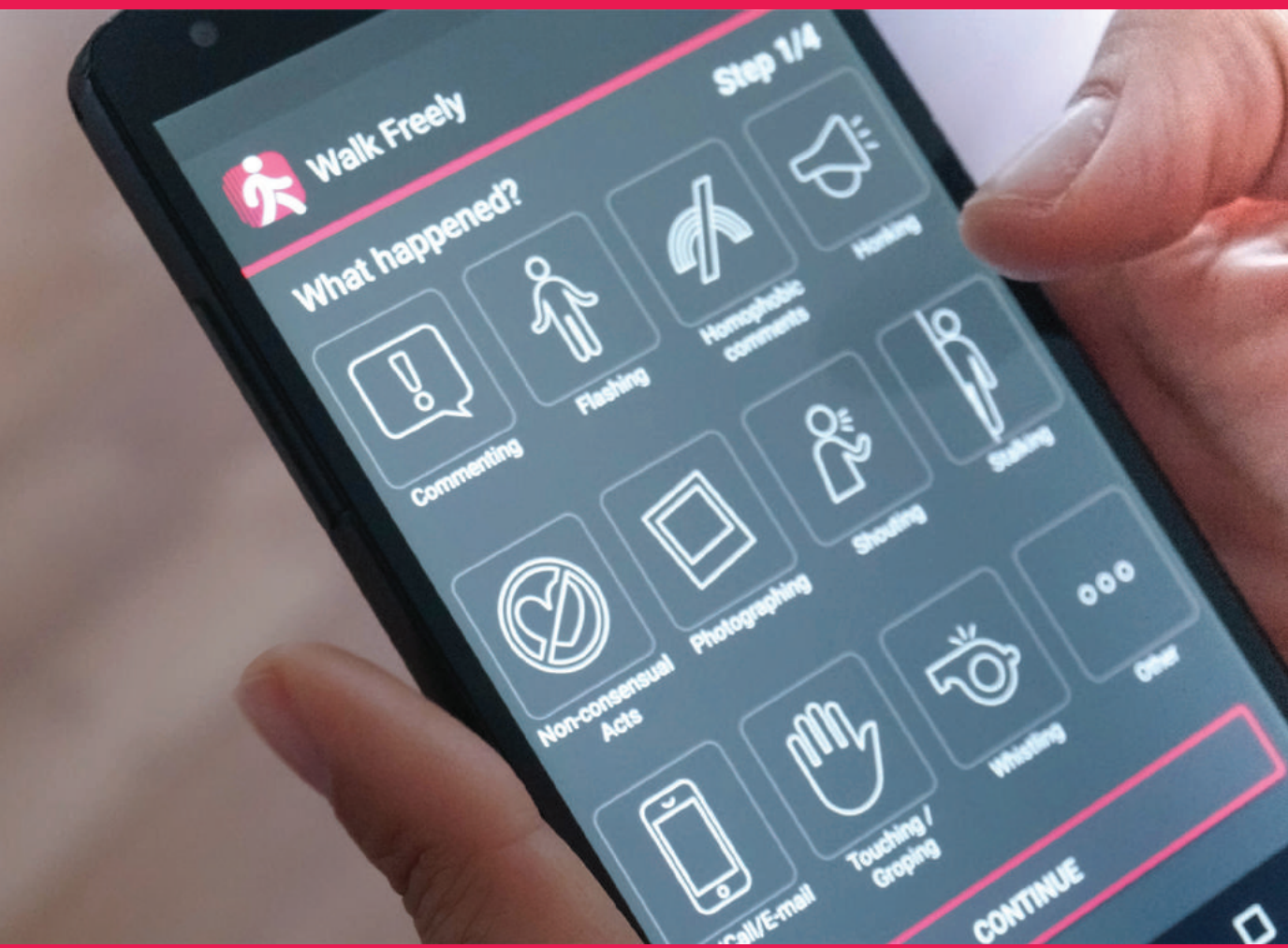


Blerta Thaçi
Project Manager

The entire concept of work in **Open Data Kosovo** is to become more flexible and to contribute to good causes - all this gave me the opportunity to grow academically and personally. In Open Data Kosovo we use different forms of technology to communicate across borders. Everything is much more dynamic and fast-paced with their management principals. I must say, Open Data Kosovo creates a sense of belonging that offers a long-term relationship and a professional development opportunity to new organizations like Girls Coding Kosova.

Walk Freely

Ec Shlirë (Walk Freely) is a mobile app co-developed between Open Data Kosovo and Girls Coding Kosova. The app enables users the ability to report sexual harassment that they have been subjected to and provides them with data analysis tools in order to highlight trends and patterns of harassment. The app is the end-product of a series of workshops with young women from Kosovo who were taught how to programme mobile apps. Available for for Android since February 2016, the app has been downloaded more than 1,000 times and has collected nearly 400 reports.


Walk Freely
Step 1/4
What happened?
Commenting
Flashing
Homophobic comments
Honking
Non-consensual Acts
Photographing
Shouting
Stalking
Whistling
Other
Touching / Groping
CONTINUE

Internet for Peace

ODK offers technical support to Countering Violent Extremism campaigns in Kosovo and Albania that lack the digital expertise required to leverage the internet towards efficiently disseminating and propagating their counter-narrative. The digital assistance provided by ODK revolves around:

1) analyzing user engagement data such as comments
2) creating engaging online content to increase campaign resonance.

ODK's activities includes a range of tech-enabled advisory services including scoping, defining social media engagement and online content creation strategy, data analysis, and reporting. The project is supported by the U.S. State Department and as a result of the data collected, ODK has created the online initiative **Internet4Peace**, which tries to combat violent extremism through online channels.

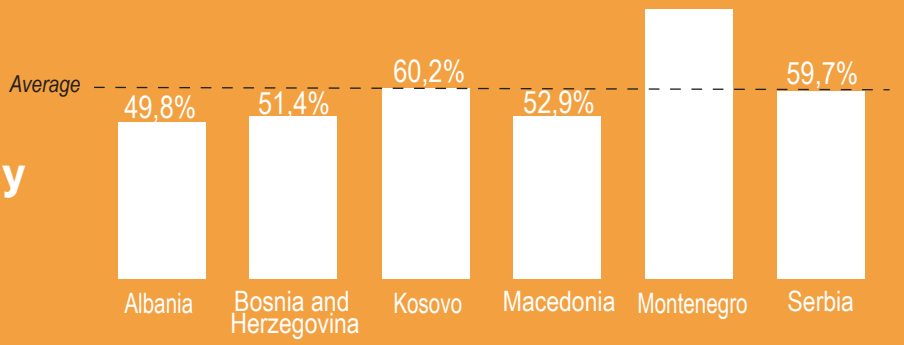
Dafina Olluri
Project Manager

Open Data Kosovo is so much more than a working place for me. Being part of this humbling organization gave me the opportunity to grow professionally and as a person. It allows me to fulfill my ambitions of contributing to our community through actively seeking transparency in our society. The Open Data Kosovo team is passionate about good ethic and always ready for new challenges headed our way!

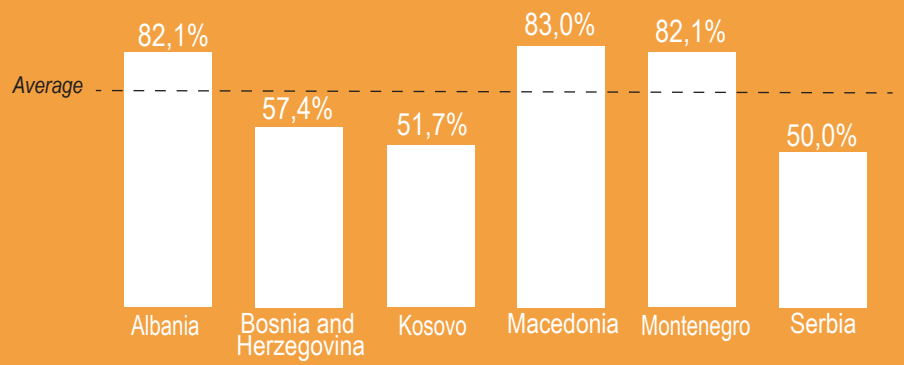
Accountability Technology and Institutional Openness Network in South East Europe - ACTIONSEE

ACTIONSEE is an EU funded project of the regional network of organizations with the same name. The project aims at enhancing the involvement of civil society and media organisations in the creation of public opinion, policy-making and participation in decision-making processes. One of the central outputs of the project is The Regional Openness Index which measures the degree of openness of public institutions in Kosovo, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, and Albania over the course of 4 years. Open Data Kosovo has completed this measurement for the year 2016.

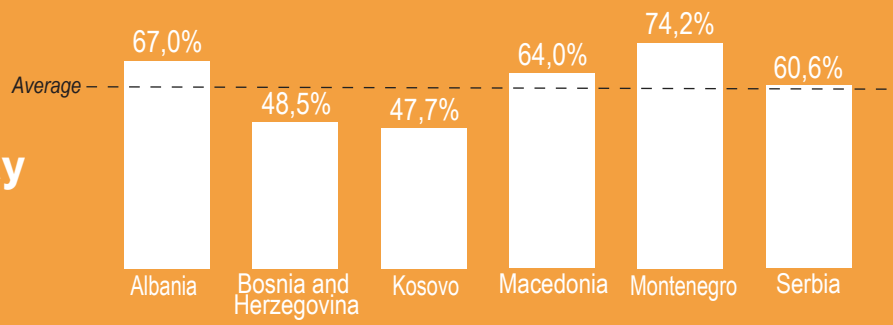
Transparency



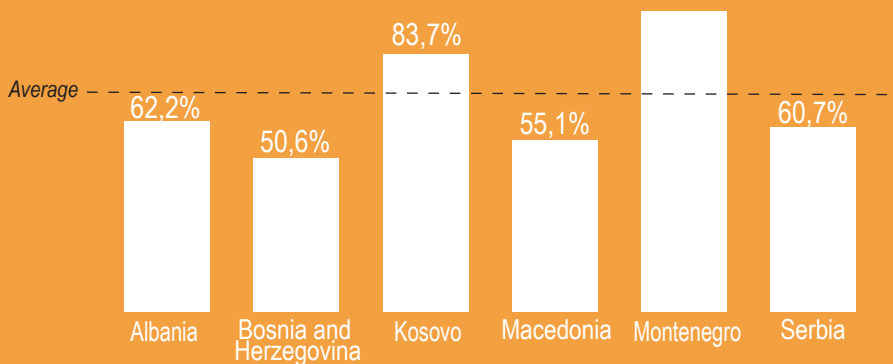
Awareness

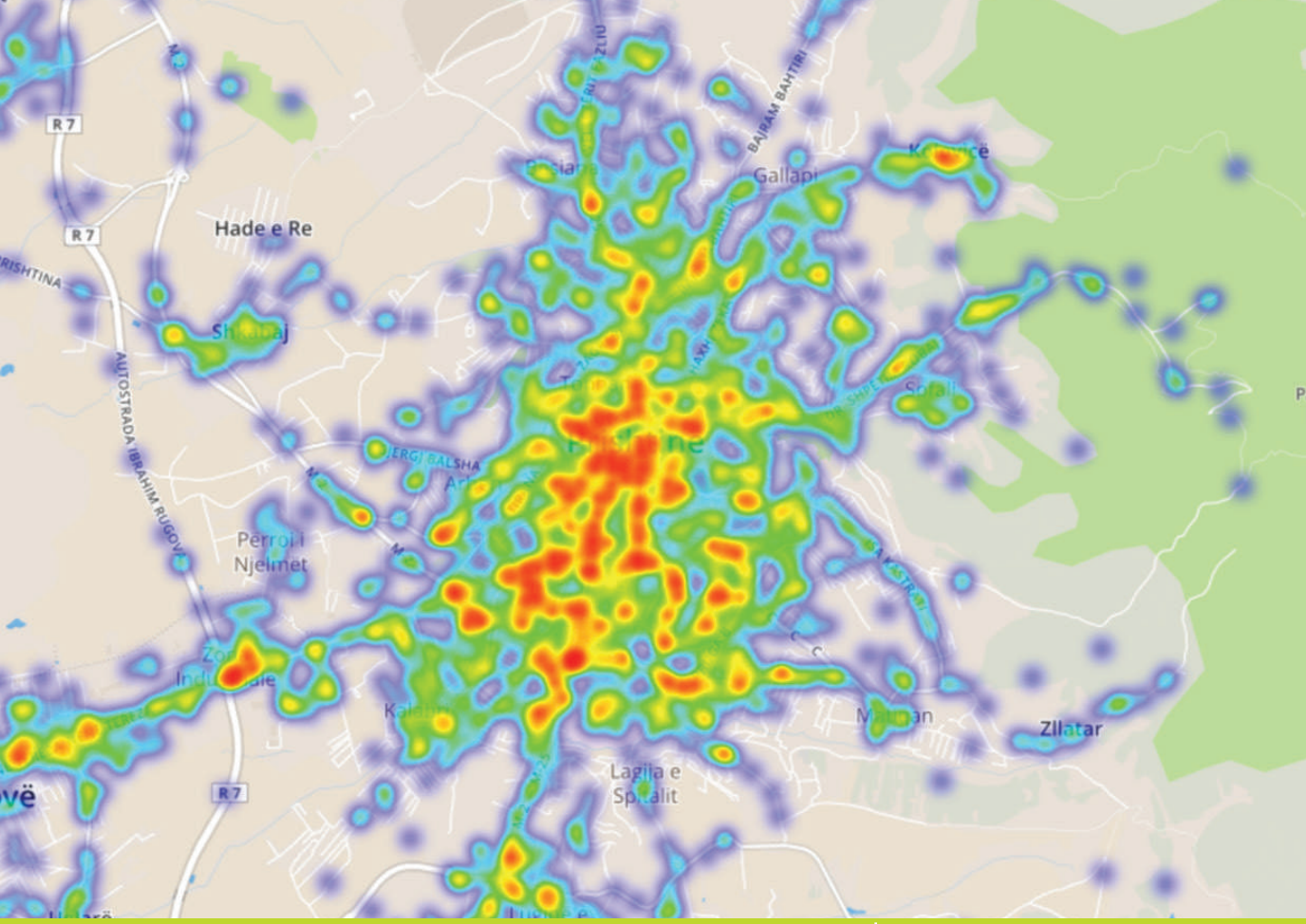


Accessibility



Intergrity



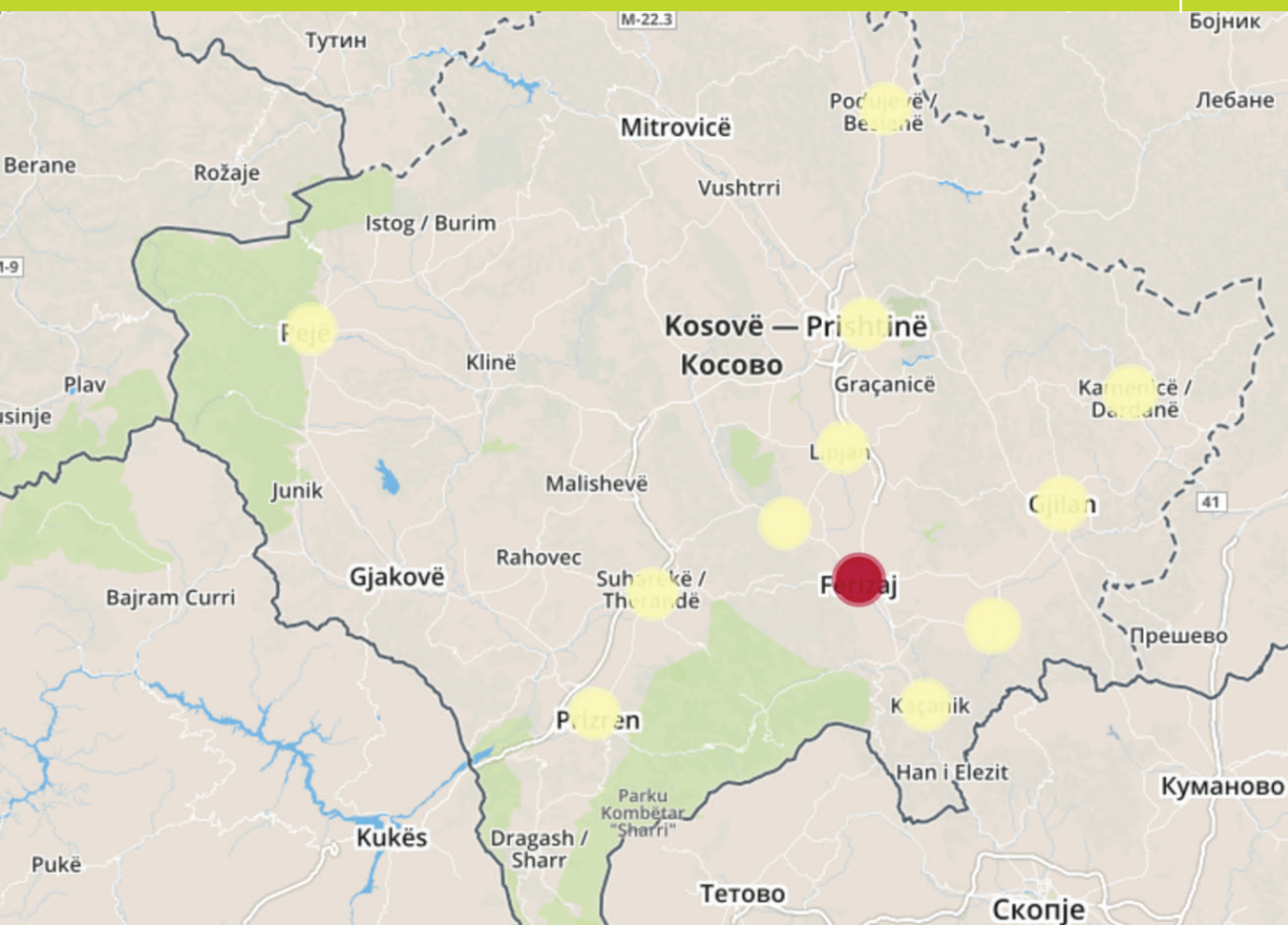


112 Emergency Calls Crowdsourcsing Platform

A **crowdsourcing platform** that geolocated 23,000 emergency calls in Pristina received over a 2 year period. The geolocated data was then analyzed to extract geo-sensitive trends and patterns inherent to certain types of emergencies from which preventive measures were drawn. Further insights were extracted through term analyses of the emergency call transcripts.

E-Prokurimi

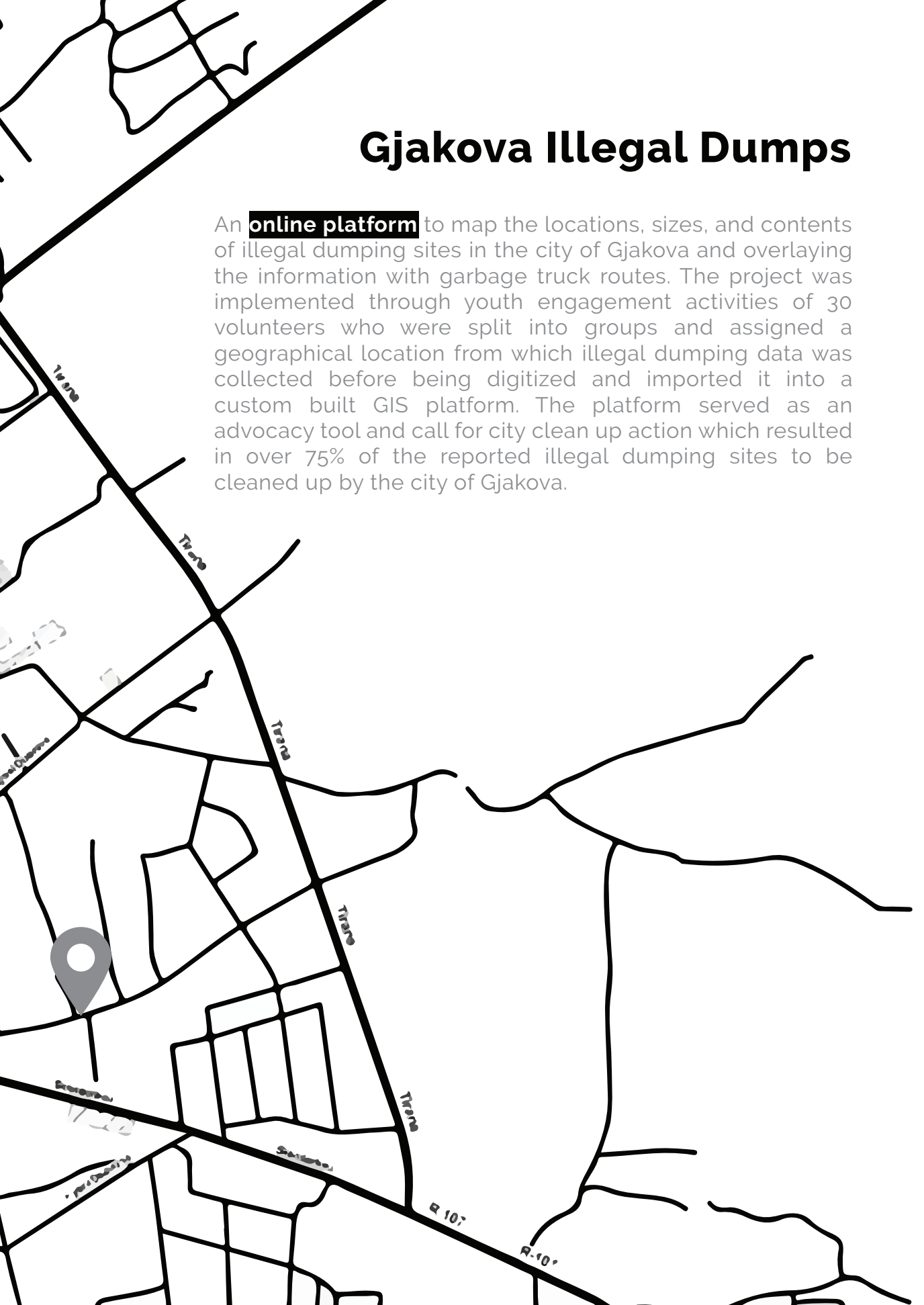
Open Data Kosovo has been working with municipalities on collecting and visualizing their procurement data into the **E-Prokurimi** platform. A key element of this platform is its red flag algorithm that automatically detects irregularities in the procurement processes. The platform was created through a series of workshops that not only trained local youth how to process and visualize the data in question, but taught them how to retrieve the data in the first place through Freedom of Information (FOI) requests. Through the trainings, the engaged youth acquired data processing skills that allowed them to contribute towards government transparency efforts in their municipalities.



Gjakova

Gjakova Illegal Dumps

An **online platform** to map the locations, sizes, and contents of illegal dumping sites in the city of Gjakova and overlaying the information with garbage truck routes. The project was implemented through youth engagement activities of 30 volunteers who were split into groups and assigned a geographical location from which illegal dumping data was collected before being digitized and imported it into a custom built GIS platform. The platform served as an advocacy tool and call for city clean up action which resulted in over 75% of the reported illegal dumping sites to be cleaned up by the city of Gjakova.



Search for businesses, owners, or authorized persons for companies registered in Kosovo

Search the Person

Person Status ▼

Search the Business

Business Status ▼

Municipality ▼

SEARCH

Open Businesses

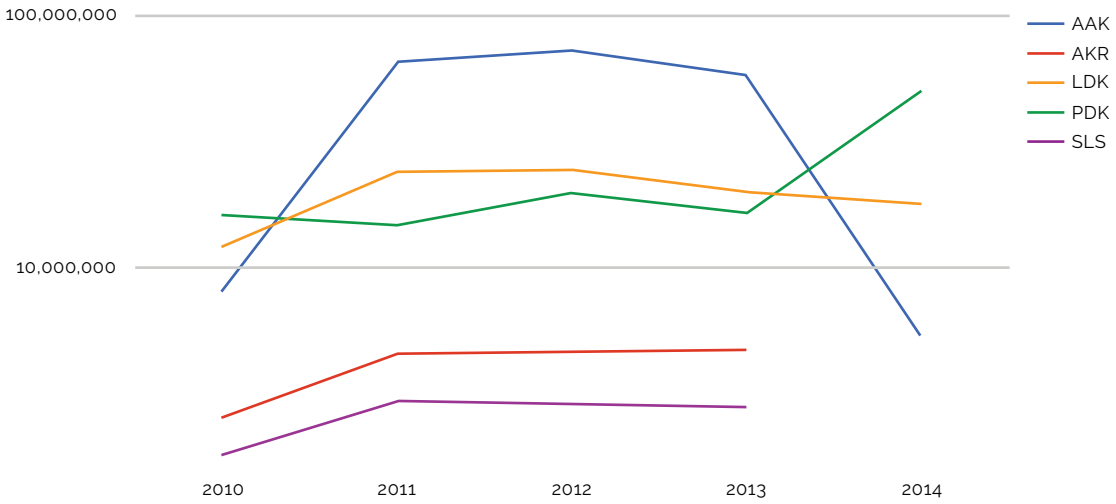
An **online platform** that contains data from over 170,000 Kosovo businesses using data generated from scraping the Kosovo Business Registration Agency website. The data is searchable by sex, age, and type of business. With these inputs selected, the platform also generates different forms of visualizations showing business statuses, common industry or business activities operated most per city, and the biggest capital businesses in the country.

Open Government Data Portal

The **Open Government Data Portal** was developed by Open Data Kosovo to serve as a tool for government officials to enable transparency through the publication of government datasets. Institutionalizing the usage of the data portal was an important success factor for this project and a comprehensive training programmed aimed at government officials was also designed and implemented.

Search data

Eg. environment



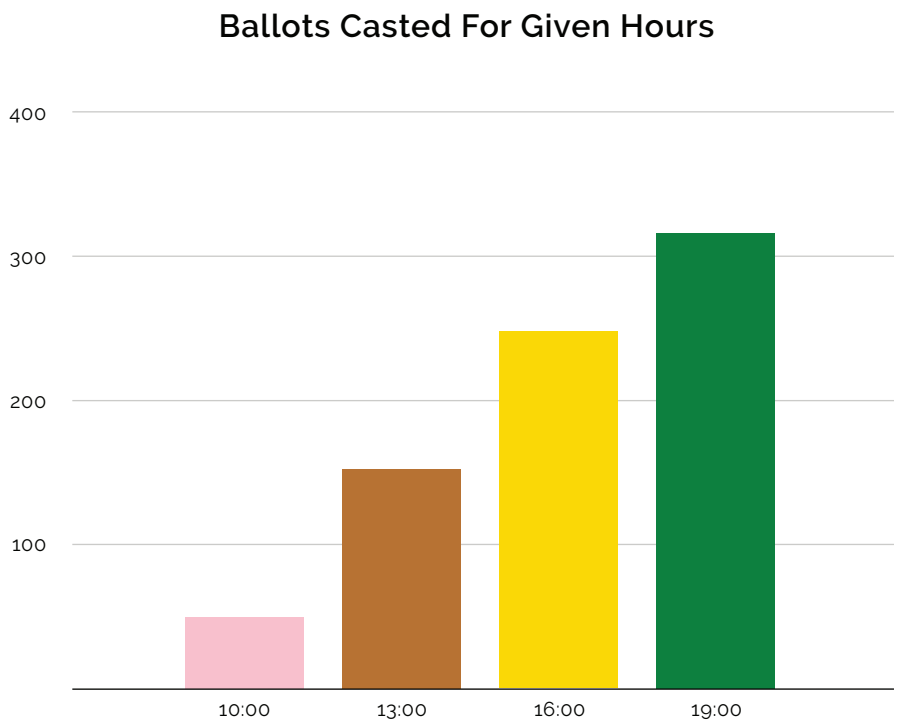
Asset Declaration Visualizer

A **dynamic visualization** of yearly total and median values of assets declared by parliamentary deputies. The platform allows users to explore party members' individual and joint assets throughout the years as well as the composition of their assets (real estate, shares, cash, etc).

Kosovo Election Monitoring Visualiser

Election Monitoring Data Visualizer drawing on different election monitoring sources and their observed irregularities.

A prototype data visualization platform that presents election monitoring data collected by election observers from the Democracy in Action (DiA) initiative. The platform displays election ballots and their observed irregularities, offering disaggregation by hour, gender, municipality, and polling station. t



GCK
Girls
Coding
Kosova

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL

UN
DP

Canada

METAMORPHOSIS
foundation for internet and society

CENTAR ZA
DEMOKRATSKU
TRANZICIJU

ZaštoNe

MJAFT!

Fundacja
ePaństwo

kohovolit.eu

Ministry of European Integration

Ministry of Public Administration

opendatakosovo.org