



## QUARTERLY REPORT NO. 12

Property Rights Program (PRP)  
FY2017  
(January 1 – March 31, 2017)



**APRIL 2017**

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by Tetra Tech.

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**Cover Photo:** On February 10, 2017, PRP held a high-visibility launch event to announce the adoption of the National Strategy on Property Rights. Each table at the event included a sign from PRP's "For Our Common Good" social behavior change campaign. With the adoption of the NSPR, this recognized campaign platform will be used to bring to light other property rights themes being addressed with improved legislation throughout the course of Strategy implementation.

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## **DISCLAIMER**

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.



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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AGE	Agency for Gender Equality
ATRC	Advocacy Training & Resource Center
BIRN	Balkan Investigative Reporting Network
CCPR	European Commission Liaison Office Support to Civil Code and Property Rights Project
CDCS	Country Development Cooperation Strategy
CLARD	Center for Legal Aid and Regional Development
CLE	Contract Law Enforcement Project
CoM	Court of Merit
CMO	Case Management Office
CRM	Case Record Management Specialist
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DO	Development Objective
DPM	Deputy Prime Minister
ECHR	European Court of Human Rights
E4E	Engagement for Equity
EU	European Union
EULEX	European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo
EULUP	European Union Land Utilization Project
EUSR	European Union Special Representative in Kosovo
GCG	Gender Coordination Group
GCS	Government Coordination Secretariat
GoK	Government of Kosovo
HUDOC	Human Rights Documentation
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
IR	Intermediate Result
JSSP	Justice System Strengthening Program
KBA	Kosovo Bar Association
KCA	Kosovo Cadastral Agency
KCBS	Kosovo Center for Business Support
KJC	Kosovo Judicial Council

KPCVA	Kosovo Property Comparison and Verification Agency
MESP	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
MCO	Municipal Cadastral Office
MGO	Municipal Gender Officer
MLGA	Ministry of Local Government Administration
Moj	Ministry of Justice
NSPR	National Strategy on Property Rights
PFD	Partnerships for Development
PRP	Property Rights Program
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RTK	Radio Television of Kosovo
SAA	Stabilization and Association Agreement
SPO	Strategic Planning Office
STTA	Short-Term Technical Assistance
STARR	Strengthening Tenure and Resource Rights
USAID	United States Agency for International Development



# INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The absence of an effective property rights framework in Kosovo weakens democratic governance, impacts human rights, disempowers women and impedes sustainable economic growth. The USAID/Kosovo Property Rights Program promotes effective donor and government stakeholder coordination to develop a National Strategy on Property Rights (the National Strategy) and strengthen property rights legislation; supports the development of improved court procedures to efficiently adjudicate property claims and disputes; works closely with civil society organizations to support activities to prompt changes in social attitudes and behavior concerning the ability of women to exercise their property rights; and improves service delivery in municipalities to increase the general public's understanding of property rights and make it easier for citizens to exercise their property rights.

More specifically, PRP has been working closely with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) as the lead Government of Kosovo (GoK) agency in the development of the National Strategy and in other relevant legislative initiatives. PRP has helped the MoJ to adopt and apply a very inclusive approach to developing the National Strategy, using five separate theme-based working groups representing a wide range of government institutions, donor organizations and projects and civil society groups. (These included the European Union-funded Civil Code and Property Rights (CCPR) project, which ended its operations in June 2016.) With the adoption of the National Strategy by the GoK in January 2017, PRP is now focusing its efforts on supporting the development of implementing legislation and is working closely with all relevant GoK bodies to advance that work.

PRP is working closely with the Kosovo Judicial Council (KJC) and four Courts of Merit (CoMs) to develop and pilot improved court procedures related to property claims, and will also help courts remove constraints in practice that women face in inheriting property. PRP assistance to improve court performance also informs the development of more consistent judicial practice in adjudicating property claims. Results produced by PRP in these areas contribute to achieving USAID/Kosovo's Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) Development Objective 1 "Improved Rule of Law and Governance that Meets Citizens' Needs." Improved legislation and court procedures also support creation of an Improved Economic Governance and Business Environment under the CDCS Development Objective 2 "Increased Investment and Private Sector Employment."

PRP is continuing its national media campaign and grassroots public outreach activities in Kosovo communities to prompt changes in social attitudes and behaviors inhibiting women from inheriting and owning property. PRP also provides technical assistance to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to develop and implement activities aimed at supporting women's property rights and to complement PRP's public outreach activities.

At the municipal level, PRP is working with local administrations to improve their own practices and procedures related to property rights; provide useful legal information to their citizens to enable them to more efficiently transact their rights to property; and engage more effectively with their communities on property rights issues.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD AND KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

This Quarter was very productive for PRP: it saw important developments in major initiatives in progress – the National Strategy on Property Rights; caseload management reform in Kosovo courts; the national media campaign and local grassroots activities on women’s property rights; and activities in the municipalities of Viti/Vitina and Shtërpçë/Štrpce designed to help municipal administrations in Viti/Vitina and elsewhere improve their practices and procedures related to property rights and enable their citizens to exercise their property rights more easily and efficiently.

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### OBJECTIVE I: BETTER COORDINATION AND POLICY PRIORITIES

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**GOK APPROVES NATIONAL STRATEGY ON PROPERTY RIGHTS.** On January 18, 2017 the Government of Kosovo approved the National Strategy on Property Rights, along with its Action Plan. The Action Plan indicates, for each strategic objective, the specific measures, activities and sub-activities required to implement the National Strategy, indicators to monitor implementation, the institutions responsible for each action, and the expected costs of implementation.

The GoK Decision calls for the creation of a Steering Committee to be chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Kuci to oversee the implementation of the National Strategy, as recommended by the MoJ and PRP.

**PACKAGE OF DRAFT LAWS ON INHERITANCE FINALIZED, APPROVED BY THE GOK AND SUBMITTED TO PARLIAMENT.** During this Quarter, the GoK approved and sent to Parliament the package of revisions to three laws, (the Law on Inheritance; the Law on Notary; and the Law on Non-Contested Procedure), which are designed to address two problems of major concern related to inheritance: (1) difficulties women face in receiving their inheritance share (arising from the practice of omitting women heirs from the Act of Death and the tradition of women renouncing their inheritance in favor of male heirs); and (2) the practice of not formalizing inheritance in general, with the result that many land records remain registered to deceased persons and are often very out of date. Among other things, the revisions call for providing extensive notice of inheritance proceedings; create additional safeguards to prevent heirs from being excluded from inheriting or forced to renounce their inheritance; and introduces a “constructive notice” principle with respect to inheritance cases that are over 10 years old. These legislative changes are contemplated by the National Strategy.

The draft legislation is currently in second reading.

**WORK PROGRESSES ON OTHER DRAFT LEGISLATION CONTEMPLATED BY THE NATIONAL STRATEGY.** During this Quarter, PRP supported the MoJ in drafting legislation to implement the National Strategy. This includes the following legal acts:

*The Concept Document for the Law on Urban Construction Land approved by GoK.* With the approval of the Concept Document, work has commenced on preparing the draft law.

*Law on Property and Other Real Rights.* The Concept Document and the draft Law have been developed in parallel, to expedite the process. (Among other things, the changes will transform into outright ownership rights 99-year leaseholds and use rights of urban construction land, and will also clarify and confirm the right of foreigners to own land).

*Five sub-legal acts under the Law on the Kosovo Comparison and Verification Agency* have been finalized. They are needed to support the implementation of the law.

The Concept Document for Legislation on Sale of Apartments with a Tenure Right. Revisions to this law will extend the deadline for applications to privatize apartments with tenure rights.

The Concept Document for Revisions to the Law Governing Municipal Property (to improve the legal regime governing a municipality's ability to allocate land for use and exchange it). The Concept Document has been sent to the GoK for approval.

**HIGH-VISIBILITY LAUNCH EVENT HELD TO ANNOUNCE THE ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY.** The launch event was held on, February 10, 2017, and, at the suggestion of USAID, at the Swiss Diamond Hotel. The event featured remarks by the US Ambassador, the First Deputy Prime Minister, and the Minister of Justice. It opened with the performance of the well-known song "Era" (The Wind) performed by the children's choir, Okarina, and also featured a brief video with clips from participants who helped develop the National Strategy. The event ended with a brief presentation on the National Strategy given by Mr. Lulzim Beqiri, who served as Chair of the Core Technical Group.

As a follow-up to the conference, Mr. Xhevat Azemi of PRP appeared on the RTK 2 Morning Live Show, where he spoke on the National Strategy.

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## **OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVED COURT PROCEDURES RELATED TO PROPERTY CLAIMS**

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**KJC APPROVES PRP'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON RESULTS TO DATE AND NEXT STEPS TO IMPROVE CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT, BASED ON PRP'S EXTENSIVE EMPIRICAL FINDINGS.** During this Quarter, PRP made a presentation to the Kosovo Judicial Council of its findings and recommendations emerging from its analysis of over 1,900 pending cases in its three pilot courts. (PRP's review of pending cases was necessary in order to fully identify the junctures at which unnecessary delays occur, identify the causes and craft effective solutions.). PRP also briefed the KJC on the results to date of measures that PRP began introducing in December of 2016.

Once PRP has tested the improved caseload management practices in the courts for six months and has achieved tangible results, PRP will approach the KJC and urge that these practices be adopted in the other Basic Courts.

### **PRP MAKES PRESENTATION TO USAID MISSION DIRECTOR ON WORK TO IMPROVE CASEFLOW OF PROPERTY CASES AND PREVENT CASE BACKLOG.**

The presentation was attended by the Mission Director, Deputy Mission Director and several officials from the Office of Democracy and Governance. The presentation was very well received.

### **CONSENSUS REACHED WITH COM JUDGES ON NEXT STEPS IN CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT REFORM.**

PRP held a workshop for the court presidents, case administrators and officials from the Case Management Offices of PRP's three pilot courts (Courts of Merit), where PRP presented its detailed findings and the specific next steps PRP proposes taking in the CoMs to institutionalize practices and approaches in case management that will enable the courts to adjudicate property cases and other civil cases more efficiently. The workshop included a presentation by PRP STTA Joseph Traficanti, former Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York State Courts, which provided guidance on how to manage caseload more effectively, drawing on his own extensive personal experience in reforming caseload management and court management overall. The judges and officials welcomed this initiative and expressed their full support to make it a success in their courts.

### **IMPROVED CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT PRACTICES APPLIED IN PILOT COURTS.**

During this Quarter, PRP continued testing in the CoMs some new practices that will streamline the courts' adjudication practice. The new practices center on the following innovations:

- 1) Shifting the administrative work from Judges to Judicial Associates. By the end of this Quarter, PRP's Record Management Specialists have taken a total of 916 decisions since mid-December 2016.
- 2) Engaging the Courts' Case Management Offices in Caseflow Management. PRP is working with the CoMs to increase the engagement of the Case Management Offices and establish the practice of early review of filed claims to winnow out immediately and remove from the court dockets those cases with defective or inadequate claims.
- 3) Dissemination of Decisions of Court of Appeals. PRP has initiated the new practice of disseminating the Court of Appeals decision among the civil judges, to improve judicial practice and increase its consistency.

**TRAINING PHASE COMPLETED FOR INITIATIVE TO PRODUCE CASE SUMMARIES IN ALBANIAN OF DECISIONS OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS RELATED TO PROPERTY RIGHTS.** During this Quarter, the PRP completed its selection and hiring of the 16 Interns that will prepare summaries of relevant decisions of the European Court of Human Rights related to property rights.

This was followed by an orientation session with a presentation on PRP objectives and on this initiative. Weekly training sessions ensued. The first two training sessions focused on "An Introduction to the European Court of Human Rights, Sources of International Human Rights Law and HUDOC (the database of ECHR decisions)," and "Technicalities in Research: Citing, Paraphrasing, and Referencing." The interns also received training in legal writing, legal reasoning, and drafting, outlines and arguments and on the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in the area of property rights; and the relevance of the ECHR decisions on property rights for Kosovo. The instructors also developed the criteria for selecting the cases to be summarized. It is expected that a total of from 120-150 ECHR decisions will be summarized, with many of them addressing rights of displaced persons. The interns will commence their production of case summaries in early April.

**WORKSHOP WITH THE KOSOVO BAR ASSOCIATION TO TRAIN TRAINERS AND SUPPORT PROPERTY RIGHTS INSTRUCTION.** PRP, together with the KBA and its Training Center, organized a training-of-trainers workshop to enable the KBA to provide training to its new lawyer-members. PRP and Judge Traficanti introduced best international practices in teaching courses, preparing training curricula, and developing training modules. The training was highly interactive, with the participants developing and presenting their own presentation. Among the topics selected were the division of matrimonial property and issues related to women's inheritance of property. Participants have also recommended that a training module be developed on European Court of Human Rights decisions.

**COORDINATION WITH THE USAID JUSTICE SECTOR STRENGTHENING PROGRAM.** During this Quarter, PRP continued to coordinate its caseflow initiative with USAID JSSP. The projects were in regular contact and both have agreed that as PRP identifies backlog cases as a part of its work in its CoMs, it will refer those cases to JSSP counterparts. To date, PRP has referred more than 50 backlog cases to JSSP for them to dispose.

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### **OBJECTIVE 3: ENHANCED WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO USE PROPERTY IN PRACTICE**

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**PRP COMPLETES PRODUCTION OF NEXT ROUND OF PSA'S ON WOMEN'S PROPERTY RIGHTS.** During this Quarter, PRP completed production of a new round of PSAs for PRP's campaign, *For Our Common Good*. The PSAs are designed to evoke viewers' memories of happy moments with their families and prompt reflection on the importance of treating one's children (sons and daughters), and one's siblings (brothers and sisters) equally, regardless of gender.

There are three different PSAs, each designed for a separate target groups (parents, sons and daughters). The PSAs are interrelated, and portray the story of the same family from three different

perspectives. There is a set of three PSAs in Albanian and a separate set in Serbian (using actors who are native speakers in each set). All PSAs end with the message “Equal Love = Equal Rights” and the campaign slogan: “Kosovo citizens for equal property rights.”

Each PSA will be shown for a period of 1 month (initially) on national TV stations (3 Albanian, 1 Serb) and local TV stations (6 Albanian, 3 Serb), covering most regions of Kosovo. Airing began on April 3, 2017. There is also a version of the PSAs for radio broadcast.

### **PRP PREPARES BILLBOARD CAMPAIGN TO COMPLEMENT MEDIA CAMPAIGN.**

Along with the new round of PSAs, PRP has also prepared a new round of billboards as part of its campaign, *For Our Common Good*. The billboards will be displayed starting April 1, 2017, in 11 municipalities. The billboards placed in Serbian communities will be in Serbian, and the rest will be in Albanian (and 1 of them, in Prishtinë/Pristina, will be in English).

The billboards feature scenes from the new PSAs, to reinforce the campaign. The billboards also display the campaign tagline: Kosovo citizens for equal property rights, and #ForOurCommonGood (which is also displayed in the closing scene of the media PSAs), to generate social media interaction.

**FIRST REGIONAL PUPPET THEATER PERFORMANCE ON GIRLS’ AND BOYS’ EQUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS.** Around 350 third- and fourth-graders from two schools in Viti/Vitina and from grades 1-5 of a smaller school in the nearby village of Ramian, attended the puppet show. PRP distributed souvenir tickets for the kids in advance. Banners and booklets with the text of the play in three languages were printed as well.

This activity, planned for 14 municipalities around Kosovo, has been developed on the basis of a pilot initiative that PRP carried out in October 2016 (organized around the International Day of the Girl Child) for which PRP commissioned a play on the subject of equal inheritance rights of girls and boys. PRP used the pilot phase to test and fine-tune the play for maximum impact and to determine that the appropriate target audience for the play is second- and third-graders.

In addition to supporting the puppet theater performances, PRP will be working with the teachers of the participating classes to inform them of the context and purpose of this initiative and to encourage them to work with their classes to reinforce the message of the play. PRP has also designed and printed a two-question survey targeted to students on the play and its message. This survey will be distributed to the children through their teachers. PRP will collect the surveys afterward and review the children’s responses.

### **OFFICIAL RECEPTION HELD IN VITI/VITINA TO COMMEMORATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY.**

To mark International Women’s Day (March 8), PRP organized with the Viti/Vitina municipal administration a reception in Viti/Vitina on March 8, 2017. Miranda Jolicoeur from USAID and Mayor of Viti/Vitina, Sokol Haliti, gave remarks to open the event and emphasized the importance of supporting and empowering women in exercising their property and inheritance rights. A local woman, Nurie Bajrami, who is also a business owner and a Head of Women’s Association in Viti/Vitina, addressed the audience by sharing her experiences as a property owner and the support that she provides to other women in Viti/Vitina.

### **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON WOMEN’S PROPERTY RIGHTS IN ŠTRPCE /SHTËRPCË.**

PRP organized the round-table discussion in close cooperation with the Municipal Gender Officer of Štrpce/Shtërpçë Municipality in which an ethnically mixed group of around 40 women took part. The discussion focused on the law governing women’s property rights, the challenges that women face in exercising their property rights, and proposals for addressing these challenges. PRP showed some of its PSAs on women’s property rights in Serbian and Albanian. A representative from Kosova Women for Women, a USAID E4E recipient organization, also made remarks.

Women from Štrpce/Shtërpçë acknowledged the need to continue with these discussions, and recommended expanding the audience to include men and youngsters.

## **INTERNAL DRAFT OF FINAL REPORT ALL-BUT-FINALIZED ON FINDINGS FROM PRP'S SECOND NATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY ON PROPERTY RIGHTS.**

With its expert, Dr. Sandra Joireman PRP has finalized its internal draft of this Report. PRP plans to formally announce the findings at an event to be scheduled in late April or early May.

Findings indicate that PRP's media campaign on women's property rights has reached large segments of Kosovo's population and has prompted discussion and debate throughout Kosovo society.

PRP's second, midcourse National Survey on Property Rights was conducted in all 38 Municipalities of Kosovo, encompassing 1,500 households, which is the number required to produce a statistically significant and representative sample.

## **PRP AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF VITI/VITINA RECEIVE MS. DIANNA PALEQUIN, COUNTRY ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR FOR US STATE DEPARTMENT, DURING HER 3-DAY VISIT TO KOSOVO.**

PRP facilitated the meeting, which informed Ms. Palequin about the issues that Kosovo faces with respect to property rights, the historical context, and the importance for Kosovo of continued support in the property rights sector, which is a key element for improving the Rule of Law and for spurring economic growth. The work of the USAID Property Rights Program and the results achieved to date were also noted.

In addition to PRP representatives, the Mayor of Viti attended the meeting, together with the Director for Geodesy, Property, and Cadaster and the Director for the Culture, Youth and Sports Department of Viti/Vitina municipality.

## **JOINT ACTIVITY HELD WITH KOSOVO BAR ASSOCIATION AND FORUM OF WOMEN JUDGES TO MARK INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY.**

To mark Women's Month and International Women's Day, PRP organized a conference, "Legal Perspectives on Equal Property Rights for Current and Future Legal Professionals." Ms. Miranda Jolicoeur of USAID made remarks to open the event, and these were followed by remarks by panelists, who represented the Kosovo Bar Association, the Forum of Woman Judges and Prosecutors, the Chamber of Notaries, the Office of Ombudsperson and the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network. The panelists raised a number of issues for discussion from their professional practice.

Many members of the audience were law students. This event is part of PRP's aim to engage youth in awareness-raising activities on women's property rights.

## **PREPARATIONS FOR CONFERENCE WITH VITI/VITINA HIGH-SCHOOLERS TO MARK CONSTITUTION DAY (APRIL 10).**

PRP is working with Viti/Vitina municipal officials to hold an event with local high-schoolers on the legal issues surrounding property rights in Kosovo and rights guaranteed by the Kosovo constitution. The event will feature a panel of officials from the Constitutional Court, the local Branch Court, the municipal administration, and a local notary, along with PRP. The winner will be announced of an essay contest conducted among the students on the topic of the Kosovo Constitution and Property Rights. The event is scheduled to take place in Viti/Vitina high school "Januz Zenjullahu," on April 7.

## **FACILITATING CIVIL SOCIETY'S ENGAGEMENT ON INHERITANCE REFORMS.**

PRP and ATRC have agreed to promote discussion of inheritance issues among E4E sub-grantees and to support their development of joint recommendations for the Parliamentary commission reviewing the inheritance package of laws.

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## **OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVED COMMUNICATION, ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF PROPERTY RIGHTS**

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### **PROCESS MAPPING COMPLETED FOR PROPERTY REGISTRATION BASED ON SELECTED MUNICIPALITIES.**

During this Quarter, PRP completed its research of the laws and procedures governing property registration and related practices on the ground in Viti/Vitina and Štrpce/Shtërpçë, and developed a process map that identifies the steps, fees and documents

required for registering property rights arising from, respectively, (1) inheritance; (2) a court decision; (3) a purchase and sale; and (4) legalization.

The information gathered will be made available to Municipal Cadastral Offices, which have reviewed PRP's drafts, and will serve as the basis for the development of information products for citizens.

#### **DEVELOPING INFORMATION FOR CITIZENS ON PROPERTY REGISTRATION.**

During this Quarter, using the results of the research and analysis described above, PRP developed prototypes of legal information for citizens to serve as accurate and useful guides for registering property arising from inheritance, a court decision, a purchase and sale, and legalization.

The information, following clearance from program management, will be published in both hard-copy and electronic form and will be updated periodically to reflect any changes made to property related legislation during the course of implementation of the National Strategy on Property Rights.

**DEVELOPING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTIONS TO IMPROVE MUNICIPAL SERVICES TO CITIZENS.** During this Quarter, PRP substantially completed its identification of matters that need to be addressed at the national and local levels to make the registration process more efficient and straightforward. PRP will present recommendations to national and local counterparts in the coming weeks and strive to address the matters identified.

**INTRODUCTORY MEETING WITH DRAGASH/DRAGAŠ MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS TO EXPLORE AVENUES FOR COOPERATION.** PRP, together with Ms. Miranda Jolicoeur and Marina Dimitrijevic of USAID, met with the Mayor of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality, the Head of the Municipal Cadastral Office and the Municipal Gender Officer, to explore opportunities for cooperation. PRP described the work of the project and its ongoing activities in support to Viti/Vitina and Štrpce/Shtërpçë municipalities and proposed as an initial activity an information session there on women's property rights in coordination with the MGO in April. The Mayor and the Head of the MCO described the general operation of the cadastral office there, focusing on its challenges to keep up with increased demand during the peak travel season when the diaspora return. Local traditions vis-à-vis women's ability to exercise their property inheritance rights were also discussed as playing a prominent role in Dragash/Dragaš society.

# PROJECT ACTIVITIES

## OBJECTIVE I: BETTER COORDINATION AND POLICY PRIORITIES

### ACTIVITY I.1: SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL STRATEGY ON PROPERTY RIGHTS

#### ***The Government of Kosovo Approves the National Strategy on Property Rights and Action Plan***

The GoK took this action at the regular meeting of Ministers held on Wednesday, January 18. Deputy Prime Minister Kuci sent a letter to USAID Mission Director James Hope thanking USAID for its support in drafting the National Strategy and to express the Government's commitment to implementing measures that the National Strategy calls for.

The draft National Strategy includes a complete Action Plan for implementing the National Strategy. The Action Plan includes, under each strategic objective, concrete measures, activities and sub-activities, indicators, the implementing institutions, and the expected costs required for implementation.

The GoK's Decision approving the National Strategy and establishing the Steering Committee to oversee Implementation was based on a draft prepared by the Moj and PRP.

#### ***PRP Helped Achieve Timely GoK Approval of National Strategy by Intervening to Have National Strategy Described Correctly in Agenda for Meeting of GoK Ministers***

It came to light that the Government Coordination Secretariat, which is responsible for preparing documentation for Government meetings, was providing incorrect information about the National Strategy, failing to reflect accurately the opinion of the Ministry of Finance on financial impact. This was causing delays in Government action on the National Strategy until PRP intervened and brought this error to the attention of the GCS.

#### ***High-Visibility Event Held to Announce National Strategy to Kosovo Public***

The launch event was held on February 10, 2017, and, at the suggestion of USAID, at the Swiss Diamond Hotel. The event featured remarks by the US Ambassador, the First Deputy Prime Minister, and the Minister of Justice. It opened with the performance of the well-known song "Era" (The Wind) performed by the children's choir, Okarina, and also featured a brief video with clips from participants who helped develop the National Strategy. The event ended with a brief presentation on the National Strategy given by Mr. Lulzim Beqiri, who served as Chair of the Core Technical Group.

As a follow-up to the conference, Mr. Xhevat Azemi of PRP appeared on the RTK 2 Morning Live Show, where he spoke on the National Strategy.

#### ***Moj Reports to EU on Status of National Strategy***

Mr. Lulzim Beqiri, Head of the Moj Office for European Integration included a report on the status of the National Strategy when he presented information to the EU at a meeting in Brussels in January 2017.

**The GoK Decision can be found here:**

[http://kryeministri.ks.net/repository/docs/Vendimet\\_e\\_Mbledhjes\\_se\\_128-te\\_te\\_Qeverise.pdf](http://kryeministri.ks.net/repository/docs/Vendimet_e_Mbledhjes_se_128-te_te_Qeverise.pdf)

## ***PRP Undertakes Several Actions to Developing Consensus on Implementing the National Strategy***

*PRP Holds Workshop with Key GoK Stakeholders on Implementing the National Strategy.* The workshop brought together the Strategic Planning Office (SPO) of the Office of the Prime Minister and the European Integration and Policy Coordination Department of the Ministry of Justice. The purpose of the workshop was to seek input from two key Government institutions on effective ways to implement the Strategy, focusing primarily on the respective roles of the future Steering Committee, which will oversee the implementation of the Strategy, and of the Secretariat of the Steering Committee, which will track implementation. The workshop produced consensus on general approaches and demonstrated the institutions' commitment to implementing the National Strategy. The SPO noted that it views the National Strategy process as a model to be replicated going forward.

*Meeting with MoJ on Next Steps for Implementing National Strategy.* A number of MoJ advisors and officials attended the meeting, which focused on the Legislative Plan approved by the Government for 2017, and the Legislative Plan of the MoJ for 2017; the involvement of PRP in implementing these Legislative Plans; and the high visibility event to announce the adoption the National Strategy.

*PRP Develops Strategy for Advancing the Implementation of the National Strategy.* The National Strategy calls for legislative amendments to over 40 legal acts that fall within the authority of a number of different ministries and agencies. PRP has proposed that the implementation of the National Strategy be overseen by a Steering Committee chaired by, in a manner analogous to the Core Technical Group for the development of the National Strategy, with the Strategic Planning Office acting as the Secretariat of the Steering Committee. PRP secured the support of all relevant stakeholders for this approach, and this approach is reflected in the GoK Decision approving the National Strategy.

During this Quarter, PRP began steps to hire a team of four to six experts that will work directly with counterparts and will be directed and coordinated by PRP, in order to advance the technical work of developing the draft legislation in an efficient and coordinated manner,

### ***Organizing Presentations on the National Strategy***

PRP developed plans to make presentations on the National Strategy in various venues and to various groups, in order to raise public awareness. During this Quarter, PRP made a formal presentation of the National Strategy to the Gender Coordination Group that the program supports. PRP has been contacted by the Office of Ombudsperson with a request for such a presentation.

### ***PRP Planning Conference on National Strategy for Municipal Stakeholders with the Ministry of Local Government Administration***

During this Quarter, PRP, together with the MLGA, began preparations for the conference, which is intended to inform municipal officials about the National Strategy, with a focus of issues that are directly relevant to municipal administration and policy. The conference is tentatively planned for late April or early May 2017

### ***Minister of Justice Expresses Thanks to USAID and PRP***

Minister Hoxha requested a meeting with representatives of USAID and PRP to express her gratitude for the continued support the MoJ receives from the Mission and the program. Also present was the Minister's political advisor, Ms. Njomëza Zejnullahu.

## **ACTIVITY 1.2: SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF A LEGAL FRAMEWORK THAT AFFORDS CITIZENS WITH CLEAR, EQUITABLE AND ENFORCEABLE PROPERTY RIGHTS**

### ***Package of Draft Laws on Inheritance (Draft Law on Notary, Draft Law on Inheritance, and Draft Law on Non-Contested Procedure) Approved by GoK and Submitted to Parliament***

During this Quarter, the GoK approved the draft package of amendment to laws concerning inheritance (the Draft Law on Notary, Draft Law on Inheritance; and Draft Law on Non-Contested Procedure) and sent the package to the National Assembly of Kosovo for adoption. PRP developed these amendments in close cooperation with the MoJ. This package of revisions is designed to improve the legal framework governing inheritance; facilitate the resolution of delayed inheritance matters; and improve safeguards against coerced renunciation and the exclusion of heirs (which affects primarily women). These legislative changes are contemplated by the National Strategy.

### ***“Inheritance Package” of Legislation Passes First Reading in Parliament***

The MoJ has requested PRP’s support in working with the members of the Parliamentary Commission for Legislation that is reviewing the “inheritance package,” to secure their understanding of the meaning and significance of the proposed revisions. (The MoJ has reported that the Chamber of Notaries has begun lobbying members of Parliament against the proposed changes to the package of laws, apparently objecting to the increased responsibilities the law imposes on notaries when they handle non-contested inheritance proceedings.)

### ***PRP Takes Part in First Working Session of Parliamentary Commission Working Group to Review Inheritance Package***

PRP participated in the first meeting of the Parliamentary Commission Working Group established by the Assembly Committee for Legislation, to review the inheritance package of draft legislation.

### ***PRP Performs Additional Research at Request of Parliamentary Working Group***

The Working Group requested that PRP provide research on current EU member states’ practice with respect to two issues raised by the Chamber of Notaries at the first working session of the Working Group: (1) entry requirements to become a notary; and (2) registration requirements for notaries. PRP completed the research and provided its findings to the Working Group on April 5.

### ***GoK Approves Concept Document for Law on Urban Construction Land***

PRP helped draft this concept document in accordance with the policy directions set out in the National Strategy. With the approval of this concept document, work has now begun on drafting the draft Law. The concept document contemplates converting socially owned rights in urban construction land – a Yugoslav legacy – into full ownership. The new law will ensure that the building and the land underneath are joined as a single property unit that can be registered in the cadastre and transacted in the land market. (Under the Yugoslav approach, which is still in force, rights in the land are use rights, not ownership rights, which impedes marketability.)

### ***PRP Prepares Draft of Concept Document for Revisions to Law on Property and Other Real Rights Revised and Provides to MoJ and Working Group***

PRP developed this concept document using the recommendations found in the National Strategy on Property Rights and its supplementary Concept Notes. The revisions address priority issues cited by the NSPR, such as: converting 99-year-long user rights to outright private ownership; eliminating the Yugoslav legacy, “construction land”; and creating the legislative basis for foreigners to own real property in Kosovo.

The Working Group comprises representatives of the line ministries and agencies for whom this legislation is most relevant. These include the Ministry of Agriculture, the Privatization Agency, and the Ministry for Local Government Administration, as well as the MoJ and PRP.

PRP gathered comments from the first review of the draft by Working Group members and have revised it accordingly.

### ***PRP Drafting Revisions to the Law on Property and Other Real Rights***

To expedite the work on this important law, PRP has commenced drafting the Law and the Concept Document in parallel.

### ***PRP Reviews Concept Document for Legislation on Sale of Apartments with a Tenure Right***

This Concept Document was released for public consultation on January 13, 2017. PRP has provided its comments to MESP, which is overseeing this work.

### ***PRP Provides Guidance to USAID PFD the Draft Law for the Treatment of Constructions without a Permit***

USAID PFD has been supporting the development of this draft Law. The meeting focused on comments on the Draft Law provided by the Legal Office of the Office of Prime Minister.

### ***PRP Seeking Legal Experts to Expedite Implementation of the National Strategy on Property Rights***

As has been reported previously, PRP is planning to hire a team of four to five legal experts to assist in the development of draft legislation to implement the National Strategy, and to monitor its implementation. During this Quarter, PRP advertised for these positions. After reviewing the applications submitted, PRP decided to re-advertise the positions in order to attract a bigger pool of applicants.

In addition, PRP decided to place a separate notice soliciting applications for the position of an expert to work with the Strategic Planning Office, since the skills and responsibilities required to track and report on Strategy implementation are different from those of the legal drafting experts.

### ***Sub-Legal Acts Finalized for Law on KPCVA***

At this workshop, participants finalized the five sub-legal acts to support the implementation of the Law on the Kosovo Comparison and Verification Agency. PRP played the lead role in preparing the first drafts of these sub-legal acts, which were drafted in advance of the adoption of the Law. PRP has ensured that the finalized sub-legal acts are in compliance with the National Strategy.

### ***PRP Completes Review of Issues in Notary Practice at Request of MoJ***

The MoJ has sought PRP's guidance on reports of inconsistent practice among notaries related to property rights. PRP is completing its review and provided to the MoJ.

### ***KCA Provides Draft Law on Cadastre to PRP for Review and Comment***

PRP is analyzing the Draft Law on Cadastre of Immovable Property with the aim of developing suggestions and recommendations. PRP will provide written comments in the coming days. The draft has not yet been posted for public notice and comment.

## **Cooperation and Coordination with Other Stakeholders**

### **PRP and Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) Discuss the Implementation of the NSPR**

At the meeting were Mr. Arben Çitaku, General Secretary and Mr. Servet Spahiu, Director of Department for Planning, Construction and Housing of MESP. Mr. Çitaku expressed his readiness for MESP to receive technical support from PRP to assist in developing legislation required by the National Strategy; and also topics to be discussed at the subsequent meeting with the Minister of MESP concerning the draft Law on Cadastre.

### **Meeting with USAID and Minister of MESP**

The meeting focused on issues surrounding the draft Law on Cadastre in the context of the National Strategy, as well as the Minister's plans for some internal reorganization. The Minister affirmed MESP's support to ensure that the Law on Cadastre is consistent with the National Strategy. USAID Partnerships for Development also attended the meeting.

### **Introductory Meetings with New EU-Funded Civil Code Project**

During this Quarter, PRP had several meetings with members of the new EU-funded project, "Support to the Civil Code Phase 2." PRP first met with Mr. Alfonse Benjamin Lentze, Team Leader, Prof. Dr. Haxhi Gashi and Mr. Emrush Ujkani, legal experts of the project to describe the work underway to implement the National Strategy, noting that work on revisions to the Law on Property and Other Real Rights is proceeding so as to address as soon as possible the salient issues identified in the National Strategy; and that this will not preclude SCCP2 from further refining the law when it is incorporated into the Civil Code. PRP also urged SCCP2 to take part in working groups formed to implement the National Strategy and pledge to keep the project informed of developments. It was also agreed that the two projects will meet regularly on a monthly basis.

PRP had follow-up meetings with SCCP2 to acquaint them with PRP's various outreach activities. PRP noted its readiness to conduct outreach activities jointly with SCCP2 as opportunities arise.

PRP also provided legal briefings to SCCP2 on the current status of specific legislative initiatives.

PRP is looking forward to continuing with SCCP2 the close cooperation PRP enjoyed with the predecessor project.

### **Policy Discussion with the Agency for Civil Registry and Moj**

The Moj Legal Office requested PRP to participate in a discussion with officials of the Civil Registration Agency, who were seeking to change provisions in the package of laws on inheritance that the GoK has sent to the Parliament (and which the Moj developed with PRP support). It was pointed out that PRP and the Moj had reached out to the Agency on several occasions to discuss these matters as the draft laws were being prepared, with the Agency failing to attend these meetings; and that the draft laws had been posted for public notice and comment prior to being finalized.

The Agency's concerns are related to its inability to ascertain with complete certainty all of the heirs to an estate, since the Civil Registry does not contain complete information. The Agency proposed that notaries should be required to verify the list of heirs, but this is not feasible and would not adequately safeguard citizens' rights.

PRP takes the view that the best way to address this problem is to have robust notification requirements to ensure that all potential heirs learn of the inheritance proceeding and have the opportunity to take part. The Moj supports PRP's view.

### ***The Minister for European Integration Informs the Government about an Upcoming SAA Sub-Committee Meeting on Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, and Food Safety***

The meeting, which was held in Brussels on March 21 between Kosovo and EU representatives, addressed Kosovo's efforts in land consolidation and in increasing the productive use of arable land.

One of the Kosovo delegation members, the Director of the Legal Department at the Ministry of Agriculture, was also a member of the Core Technical Group of the National Strategy. The Director assured PRP of his commitment to emphasize at the meeting that the Government of Kosovo now has a strategy to increase Kosovo's arable land productivity. (Objective 5 of the National Strategy focuses on interventions promoting productive use of immovable property to fuel economic growth, including land consolidation through effective spatial planning.)

### ***Discussion of KPCVA and Related Matters with European Union Special Representative Office (EUSR)***

At the meeting for the EUSR were Mr. Nikolaos Ladis Kavallaris, Political Adviser on Dialogue Implementation, Mrs. Katarina Grbesa and Mrs. Edita Kusari, Legal Advisors on Rule of Law and Legal Section of European Union Special Representative Office in Kosovo. The meeting focused on the recently approved National Strategy on Property Rights, the status of implementation of the agreement on the return of cadastral documents, and opportunities for assisting the Kosovo Property Comparison and Verification Agency. PRP expressed its readiness to sponsor joint activities and events as opportunities arise.

### ***Discussions with KPCVA on Needs for Technical Support***

PRP met with Ms. Florije Kika, acting Deputy Executive Director of the KPCVA, to discuss the KPCVA's needs for technical assistance in connection with the implementation of the National Strategy on Property Rights and with preparations for conducting the comparison of cadastral documents, when those are returned by Serbia.

### ***PRP Meets with MoJ for Its Evaluation of Donor-Funded Projects in the Justice Sector***

PRP met with Mr. Agron Hoti, Advisor to the Minister of MoJ for Strategic Planning and Donor Coordination, who is conducting this evaluation for the MoJ.

### ***PRP Meets with EU Consultants Evaluating Completed EU Land Utilization Project (EULUP)***

PRP met with Mr. Michael Hegarty and Mr. Alush Sadikaj, who are conducting the evaluation of EULUP, which was carried out during the period 2010-2013 period; the main beneficiaries were the Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and Rural Development, and the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, and Mr. Xhevat Azemi of PRP was a then-member of the Steering Committee on behalf of the Kosovo Property Agency. It appears that the EU is contemplating a follow-on project related to agricultural land use policy.

### ***PRP Observes a Meeting between Ferizaj/Uroševac Citizens and MESP Officials***

The group of citizens was led by Mr. Visar Hoti, the director of the Ferizaj/Uroševac TV station, "Tema." The citizens claim that the Ferizaj/Uroševac municipal administration is unlawfully and unfairly taking private land in the center of the city and they are seeking the assistance of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning to help address the situation. Attending for MESP were representatives of the Housing Department, the Inspectorate and the Legal Office. MESP requested a written statement and promised to respond.

PRP attended the meeting as an observer at the request of USAID.

## **PRP Support to MoJ in Connection with “Skopje Process”**

PRP supported the MoJ in analyzing the National Strategy to determine the extent to which it incorporates recommendations from the inter-institutional initiative on Durable Solutions for Displaced Persons from Kosovo, Technical Working Group, Property Rights following the Skopje conference (“Skopje Process”). It has been determined that the National Strategy incorporates all of the principal recommendations.

## **Encouraging Public Outreach and Promoting Media Coverage of Property Rights Issues**

### **Official Event Held to Announce the Adoption of the National Strategy on Property Rights**

The event held on, February 10, 2017 at the Swiss Diamond Hotel. The event featured remarks by the US Ambassador, First Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Justice. It opened with the performance of the well-known song “Era” (The Wind) by the children’s choir, Okarina, and also featured a brief video with clips from participants who helped develop the National Strategy. The event ended with a brief presentation on the National Strategy given by Mr. Lulzim Beqiri, who served as Chair of the Core Technical Group. The event was well attended (approximately 140 people) and very well received by the participants.



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PRP had a three-fold purpose in organizing this event: to celebrate the adoption of the National Strategy with the persons and institutions who helped to develop it; to inform the Kosovo public about the National Strategy and its importance for them; and to emphasize the importance of implementing the National Strategy and call for the continued support of Kosovo institutions in developing implementing legislation.

#### **US Amb. Delawie’s Remarks:**

<https://xk.usembassy.gov/launch-national-strategy-property-rights/>

PRP distributed copies of the National Strategy and a brochure for the public on the National Strategy, in Albanian, Serbian and English.

The event also received extensive media coverage, and the entire event was broadcast live over RTK 1. Below are links demonstrating the breadth of media coverage of the event. In addition, the entire event was broadcast live over RTK 1.

### **PRP Appears on RTK 2 Morning Live Show**

Mr. Xhevat Azemi spoke on the National Strategy on Property Rights. It is noteworthy that, following the live broadcast, a number of studio staff approached Mr. Azemi with questions about property rights

### **DPM’s Op-Ed Piece Published and Receives Wide Coverage**

As soon as the National Strategy was adopted, PRP informed Mr. Jeremy Green of USAID/Washington of this development, and Mr. Green promptly initiated contact between Reuters journalists and the DPM’s Office to arrange for publication of the op-ed piece in the Reuters web journal *Place*, as previously discussed. The op-ed written by First Deputy Prime Minister Kuci, with the support of PRP, for the Thomson Reuters Foundation, entitled “Why land and property rights are key to my nation’s future,” has been published and widely distributed by

#### **Op-ed from DPM Kuci:**

<http://www.thisisplace.org/i/?id=9fb60ee3-c65c-411d-8b04-fe515d2af246>

other media outlets and social media users. There has been a high pickup for the blog and it is continuing to be shared (so far, there have been around 1,300 shares, whereas the post has reached over 3,000 people).

**Exclusive article from Reuters:**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-kosovo-landrights-lawmaking-idUSKBN154233>

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/kosovo-launches-drive-encourage-women-claim-property-rights-152121430.html>

In addition to the op-ed, Reuters followed up with an article with quotes from the DPM's op-ed. The Reuters article characterized the adoption of the National Strategy as a step that will "revolutionize its land laws and will, for the first time, clearly define formal ownership and encourage women to inherit and own land in their own right." Here are links to the article:

The Reuters article was also published on the cover page of the Monday issue of the local, daily newspaper Koha Ditore (see below).

The social media also picked up on the op-ed and Reuters article (see below a select number of Twitter feeds). The

Thomson Reuters Foundation, the "This is Place" Reuters account, and the Reuters authors tweeted about the op-ed and article.

Both USAID Kosovo and USAID Europe/Eurasia followed up with tweets. The news was further distributed by social media accounts with high traffic. The Millennium Challenge Corporation Kosovo Office posted the Reuters article along with a caption on their Facebook page. Former Deputy Foreign Minister Petrit Selimi tweeted about the op-ed. Kosovo Ambassador in Washington D.C. Vlora Çitaku retweeted. Through tweets and retweets thousands of users were reached out (see below select social media interactions).

## **OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVED COURT PROCESSES RELATED TO PROPERTY CLAIMS**

### **ACTIVITY 2.1: ASSIST KJC AND STAKEHOLDERS TO IDENTIFY GAPS IN LAW, PROCEDURE AND COURT PRACTICES THAT CONSTRAIN EFFICIENT RESOLUTION OF PROPERTY CLAIMS AND DISPUTES AND PROTECTION OF THE PROPERTY RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND MEMBERS OF NON-MAJORITY COMMUNITIES**

#### ***KJC Approves PRP's Recommendations on Next Steps to Improve Caseflow Management, Based on PRP's Extensive Empirical Findings***

During this Quarter, PRP made a comprehensive presentation to the Kosovo Judicial Council of its findings and recommendations emerging from its analysis of over 1,900 pending cases in its three pilot courts. (PRP's review of pending cases was necessary in order to fully identify the junctures at which unnecessary delays occur, as well as to identify the causes and craft effective solutions.). The presentation included empirical findings and recommendations to screen claims as they are filed; reallocate administrative work from judges to associates and engage the associates in case preparation and schedule of upcoming case events. PRP also presented for discussion the short-term and long-term strategies for improvement of adjudication of property right cases.

Once PRP has tested the improved caseflow management practices in the courts for six months and has achieved tangible results, PRP will approach the KJC and urge that these practices be adopted in the other Basic Courts.

Short-term strategy – having judges specialize in family law and property rights matters. Among the recommendations that PRP made to the KJC is to establish court sub-divisions of judges to focus on family and property rights matters. The family relations and property rights matters present the most complex disputes to adjudicate. Creating these specializations will enable judges to become more adept at dealing with such cases and help unify judicial practice.

Long-term strategy – creating an adjudicatory body for formalizing property rights. PRP also presented its analysis that shows that a high percentage of the courts' caseloads are undisputed claims brought by citizens to formalize their property rights; and suggested that a special adjudicatory body be established to handle such claims, which would enable them to be resolved more efficiently and would also reduce the courts' conventional caseloads.

Conclusions from the KJC members. The KJC members acknowledged and expressed gratitude for PRP's assistance in the area of property rights; noted the depth of the analysis and cogency of the recommendations; and affirmed their support for PRP to proceed with next steps.

#### ***PRP Makes Presentation to USAID Mission Director on Work to Improve Caseflow of Property Cases and Prevent Case Backlog.***

The presentation was attended by the Mission Director, Deputy Mission Director and several officials from the Office of Democracy and Governance. The presentation was very well received.

#### ***Consensus Reached with CoM Judges on Next Steps in Caseflow Management Reform***

PRP held a workshop for the court presidents, case administrators and officials from the Case Management Offices of PRP's three pilot courts (Courts of Merit), where PRP presented its detailed findings and the specific next steps PRP proposes taking in the CoMs to institutionalize practices and approaches in case management that will enable the courts to adjudicate property cases and other civil cases more efficiently. The workshop included a presentation by PRP STTA Joseph Traficanti, former Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York State Courts, that provided guidance on how to management caseflow more effectively, drawing on his own extensive personal experience in reforming court management and caseflow management. The judges and officials welcomed this initiative and expressed their full support to make it a success in their courts.

### **Addressing Constraints that DP's Face in Adjudicating Property Disputes**

PRP met with the EU-funded project in Serbia, "Promotion and Protection of Property Rights of IDP's, Refugees and Returnees upon Readmission Agreements." The two projects pledged to exchange information and keep each other current with developments. PRP noted that it is seeking to obtain the courts' agreement to prioritize cases involving DPs and will also explore possibilities for having court fees waived for DPs. For its part, the EU project promised to provide PRP with information on cases involving DPs in PRP's CoMs. (That project informed PRP that they have a data base containing information on 5,000 claims filed among the Kosovo justice institution related to property matters.)

### **PRP Launching Court Internship Program for Three Members of non-Majority Communities**

PRP has interviewed and plans to hire three young law graduates to work as interns in PRP's CoMs. The interns will be supporting the work of the Legal Associates and assisting judges in improving the adjudication of property rights cases.

## **ACTIVITY 2.2: IMPROVE COURT PROCEDURES, GUIDELINES AND LAWS AND IMPLEMENT REFORMS IN THE COURTS OF MERIT TO MORE EFFICIENTLY RESOLVE PROPERTY CLAIMS AND DISPUTES**

### **Applying Modern Caseflow Management Methods in Courts of Merit**

During this Quarter, PRP continued testing in the CoMs some new practices that will streamline the courts' adjudication practice.

Shifting the administrative work from Judges to Judicial Associates. With PRP's Record Management Specialists assuming the new role of Legal Associates, PRP is introducing practices to increase the responsibilities of Legal Associates in drafting decisions, judgments and other directive motions to be issued by the judge's chamber. By the end of this Quarter, PRP's RMS's have taken a total of 916 decisions since mid-December 2016. These include 196 decisions to dispose the case, and 700 procedural actions related to the first and second stage of a case (answering the claim, correcting the claim, exempting from court fees, etc.). On average, they have drafted 14 decisions per day, including 3 dispositions per day.

Based on these successes, PRP plans to hire an additional six Legal Associates so that this new approach to caseflow management work can be extended to all civil judges within the three CoM.

Engaging the Courts' Case Management Offices in Caseflow Management. PRP has also been working closely with the CoMs Case Management Offices staff to increase their engagement in caseflow management. PRP has found that many cases are carried on court dockets for considerable periods of time before ultimately being dismissed on procedural grounds. PRP is working with the CoMs to increase the engagement of the Case Management Offices and establish the practice of early review of filed claims to winnow out immediately and remove from the court dockets those that cannot move forward. These innovations are among the improved practices that PRP is introducing in the CoMs to improve those courts' efficiency and effectiveness.

During this Quarter, the PRP RMS's assisted the CMOs in screening cases immediately when they are filed and in rejecting those that contain inadequate information. The RMS's have also developed guidelines for filing claims that instruct the CMO staff and private parties on the various legal and filing requirements. The PRP RMS's have also provide guidance and instruction on using a standard template for court fee payments. The new practice has succeed in weeding out defective claims before they are assigned to judges.

Dissemination of Decisions of Court of Appeals. PRP has initiated the new practice of disseminating the Court of Appeals decision among the civil judges, to support the unification of judicial practice. Judges have responded very positively to this initiative.

### **PRP Develops Initiative to Make Available to Kosovo Courts and Policymakers the Judicial Practice of the European Court of Human Rights in the Property Rights Sphere**

The Kosovo Constitution provides in Article 22 that, among other things, the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and Its Protocols (the Convention) are directly applicable in Kosovo and shall have priority over laws and acts of Kosovo institutions. In connection with property rights, it should be noted that the Protocol of the Convention guarantees protection of private property rights (Article 1, Protection of Property). Furthermore, Article 53 of the Kosovo Constitution provides that human rights and fundamental freedoms are to be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR).

Thus, decisions of the ECHR are binding on Kosovo courts and lawmakers and Kosovo courts are bound to adjudicate cases, including cases involving property rights, in accordance with the ECHR. At the same time, most ECHR decisions are not available in Albanian. (Only decisions involving Albania or its citizens are available in the Albanian language.) As a consequence, a body of law that is of central importance and directly applicable in Kosovo that concerns human rights, including property rights, is effectively unavailable to most judges and policymakers in Kosovo.

As reported previously, PRP has developed an initiative to produce summaries in Albanian of at least 120 ECHR decisions that address property rights issues, in order to make the practice of the ECHR in this area available to judges and others in Kosovo and enable them to apply that practice in their own adjudication of property rights cases.

The work is overseen by three local STTA experts who are to work with 16 law student interns to produce the case summaries. The STTA experts are well qualified to provide instruction to the law students and oversee their work.



Kickoff training session to selected ECHR Case Summary Interns.

D. CUIZON / USAID PRP

During this Quarter, PRP completed its selection and hiring of the 16 Interns that will prepare summaries of relevant decisions of the European Court of Human Rights related to property rights.

This was followed by conducted an orientation presentation on PRP objectives and on this initiative. Weekly training sessions ensued. The first two training sessions focused on “An Introduction to the European Court of Human Rights, Sources of International Human Rights Law and HUDOC (the database of ECHR decisions),” and “Technicalities in

Research: Citing, Paraphrasing, and Referencing.” The interns also received training in legal writing, legal reasoning, and drafting, outlines and arguments and on the jurisprudence of the ECHR in the area of Property Rights; and the relevance of the ECHR decisions on property rights for Kosovo. The instructors also developed the criteria for selecting the cases to be summarized. It is expected that a total of 120-150 ECHR decisions will be summarized, with many of them addressing rights of displaced persons.

The interns will commence their production of case summaries in early April.

### **PRP assisting KBA Training Center to Train Trainers for New Lawyer**

PRP, together with the KBA and its Training Center, organized a training-of-trainers workshop to enable the KBA to provide training to its new lawyer-members. PRP and Judge Traficanti introduced best international practices in teaching courses, preparing training curricula, and developing training modules. The training was highly interactive, with the participants developing and presenting their

own presentation. Among the topics selected were the division of matrimonial property and issues related to women's inheritance of property. Participants have also recommended that a training module be developed on European Court of Human Rights decisions.

### ***PRP Shares Presentation with USAID CLE and USAID JSSP***

PRP has shared its presentation with the other two USAID rule of law projects to help identify further areas for cooperation.

### ***Coordination Meeting with JSSP for Synergy in Courts***

PRP and JSSP met to discuss ways to combine their efforts in the Ferizaj/Uroševac Court (Civil Division). PRP and JSSP intend to share findings and develop a common approach in working with the courts that will also enable them to meet their respective objectives.

### ***Coordination with USAID JSSP***

During this Quarter, PRP continued to coordinate its caseload initiative with JSSP. The projects have been in regular contact – principally with the JSSP Court Administration Advisor John Ferry. Following the agreement between the two projects related to the disposition of backlog cases in Ferizaj/Uroševac Basic Court, PRP identified more than 50 backlog cases in the course of its work and referred those cases to JSSP for them to dispose.

PRP invited JSSP to its presentation to the KJC; has shared with JSSP its report on caseload management in the CoMs; and also agreed to provide comments on JSSP's draft case management plans.

## OBJECTIVE 3: ENHANCED WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO USE PROPERTY IN PRACTICE

### ACTIVITY 3.1: ASSIST DEVELOPMENT OF SUBSTANTIVE AND PROCEDURAL LAW TO BOLSTER AND SAFEGUARD THE ABILITY OF WOMEN TO EXERCISE THEIR PROPERTY RIGHTS FREELY AND EQUITABLY

PRP's work under this activity is described under Objective 1.

### ACTIVITY 3.2: CHANGE SOCIAL ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS CONCERNING WOMEN'S PROPERTY RIGHTS

#### PRP Completes Production of Next Generation of PSAs on Women's Property Rights



During this Quarter, PRP completed production of a new round of PSAs for PRP's campaign, *For Our Common Good*. The PSAs are designed to evoke viewers' memories of happy moments with their families and prompt reflection on the importance of treating one's children (sons and daughters), and one's siblings (brothers and sisters) equally, regardless of gender.

There are three different PSAs, each designed for a separate target groups (parents, sons and daughters). The PSAs are inter-related, and portray the story of the same family from three different perspectives. There is a set of three PSAs for the Kosovo Albanian audience, and a separate set for the Kosovo Serb audience (a total of six products). The PSAs are about one minute in length and 30 seconds in length for the long and short versions, respectively. Local Albanian actors and local Serb actors were used for the respective versions. The Kosovo Albanian PSAs are in less formal, colloquial language (but avoiding slang or region-specific terms), with the aim of people relating more to them (leaning toward the spoken language of Kosovo). All PSAs end with the message "Equal Love = Equal Rights" and the campaign slogan: "Kosovo citizens for equal property rights."

The first PSA (targeting parents) is the story of the two parents' decision to raise their children equally, just as they are born equally, and it culminates with their decision to give them an equal share of inheritance. The PSA includes statements on the importance of treating the son and the daughter equally, also in allocating shares of property.

The second PSA (targeting daughters [women]) is the story of the daughter of the parents from the first PSA, and her recognizing her equal right to property, and being thankful that she was raised as an equal to her brother. The daughter is married and has a family of her own; however, her parents' house and the fond memories with her brother allow her to feel as an equal part of her family. When she is given her equal share of inheritance by her parents, she accepts it not as a gift, but as her right. This PSA aims to portray a stronger model of women, who knows her rights and is willing, if necessary, to demand them.

The third PSA (targeting sons [men]) is the story of the brother from the same family. He is very supportive of the idea of equality, because he was how he was raised, and sharing the inheritance with his sister is only natural for him. The son has a family of his own, and he puts himself in his father's shoes, by emphasizing how unimaginable it is for him to treat his daughter as someone less than his son.

In the PSAs the mother emphasizes that parents should treat their children equally, and that as a mother, she wants to believe that no mother could act otherwise. This is done to strike a chord about how parents choose to raise their children and the values they impart to them – as reflected in the allocation of parental property.

Each PSA will be shown for a period of 1 month (initially) on national TV Stations (3 Albanian, 1 Serb) and local TV stations (6 Albanian, 3 Serb), covering most regions of Kosovo. Airing began on April 31, 2017.

There is also a version of the PSAs for radio broadcast, and they are being aired 6 times per day in 13 different radio stations, 11 of which are Albanian, and 2 are Serbian.

### ***PRP Prepares Billboard Campaign to Complement Media Campaign***

Along with the new round of PSAs, PRP has also prepared a new round of billboards as part of its campaign, *For Our Common Good* campaign. The billboards will be displayed around Kosovo, starting April 1, 2017 in 11 municipalities of Kosovo (five in Prishtinë/Pristina, and one in each of the following: Ferizaj/Uroševac, Rahovec/Orahovac, Podujeve/Podujevo, Skënderaj/Srbica, Graçanicë/Gračanica, Viti/Vitina, Malishevë/Mališevo, Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, Štrpce/Shtërpçë, and Pejë/Peć [total 15]). Two of these billboards (Graçanica and Štrpce/Shtërpçë) are in Serbian, and the rest 12 are in Albanian, while one out of the five billboards in Prishtinë/Pristina is in English. The billboards will be displayed in these 11 municipalities for a period of three months; the locations of the billboards within some of the bigger municipalities will be changed each month, with the aim of reaching more people.

The billboards for the month of April feature the characters from the new PSAs, to reinforce the campaign. Four different (scenes from the PSAs are to be used for the billboards in Albanian, and two different scenes from the PSAs will appear in the Serbian version of the billboards.

The billboards feature the campaign tagline: Kosovo citizens for equal property rights, and #ForOurCommonGood (which is also displayed in the closing scene of the media PSAs), to generate social media interaction.

### ***First Puppet Theater Performance in Regions on Girls' and Boys' Equal Property Rights Held on March 8 in Viti/Vitina***

Around 350 school children, including third- and fourth-graders from two schools in Viti/Vitina, and pupils from grades 1-5 of a smaller school in the village of Ramian attended the performance. PRP distributed souvenir tickets for the kids in advance. Banners and booklets with the text of the play in three languages were printed as well.



Students in attendance for the puppet theater performance in the Viti/Vitina House of Culture.

This activity, planned for 14 municipalities around Kosovo, has been developed on the basis of a pilot initiative that PRP carried out in the month of October 2016 (organized around the International Day of the Girl Child) in which PRP commissioned a play on the subject of the equal inheritance rights of girls and boys to be performed by the Dodona Puppet Theater troupe for Prishtinë/Pristina elementary schools. PRP used the pilot phase to test and fine-tune the play for maximum impact and to determine that the

appropriate target audience for the play is second- and third-graders.

This round of performances will take place in elementary schools in Prizren, Pejë/Peć, Gjakova/Đjakovica, Gjilan/Gnjilane, Ferizaj/Uroševac, Vushtrri/Vučitrn, Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, Skënderaj/Srbica, Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Klinë/Klina, Viti/Vitina, Malishevë/Mališevo, Kaçanik/Kaçanik, Shtime/Štimlje. (One consideration in selecting the sites is the availability of a suitable venue for the performances.)

In addition to supporting the puppet theater performances, PRP will be working with the teachers of the participating classes to inform them of the context and purpose of this initiative and to encourage them to work with their classes to reinforce the message of the play – the equal property rights of girls and boys. To this end, PRP has prepared letters to the teachers that explain the purpose of the puppet show, along with the printed script of the play, for them to refer to when discussing the puppet show with the children. PRP has also designed and printed a two-question survey for the school children on the play and its message. This survey will be distributed to the children through their teachers. PRP will collect the surveys afterward and review the children's responses.

If the initiative generates a good response, PRP will extend it to other municipalities and schools. PRP is also planning to have a Serbian version of the play developed for performances in communities in Kosovo.

### ***Following up the Puppet Show with a School Lesson***

PRP met with the directors of the schools that attended the puppet show to request their support for PRP's initiative to have the teachers provide a lesson to reinforce the message of the puppet show. PRP provided materials for the teachers that include the script of the puppet show and the two-question questionnaire for the children to complete.

### ***Official Reception Held in Viti/Vitina to Commemorate International Women's Day***

To mark International Women's Day (March 8), PRP organized with the Viti/Vitina municipal administration a reception in Viti/Vitina on March 8, 2017. Miranda Jolicoeur from USAID and Mayor of Viti/Vitina, Sokol Haliti, gave remarks to open the event and emphasized the importance of supporting and empowering women in exercising their property and inheritance rights. A local woman, Nurie Bajrami, who is also a business owner and a Head of a prominent women's association in Viti/Vitina, addressed the audience by sharing her experiences as a property owner and the support that she provides to other women in Viti/Vitina.

The program also featured a performance by a local children's choir and background music performed by a local musician. The women's association served traditional food prepared by association members. About 150 participants attended the event, which was covered by local media.

### ***Round Table Discussion on Women's Property Rights in Štrpce/Shtërpçë***

PRP organized the round-table discussion in close cooperation with Municipal Gender Officer of Štrpce/Shtërpçë Municipality. An ethnically mixed group of around 40 women attended. The discussion focused on the law governing women's property rights, the challenges that women face in exercising their property rights, and proposals for addressing these challenges. PRP showed some of its PSAs on women's property rights in Serbian and Albanian. A representative from Kosova Women for Women, a USAID E4E recipient organization, also made remarks.

Women from Štrpce/Shtërpçë acknowledged the need to continue with these discussions, and recommended expanding the audience to include men and youngsters.

***Internal Draft of Final Report All-But- Finalized on Findings from the Second National Public Opinion Survey on Property Rights.***

PRP has been working with its expert, Dr. Sandra Joireman, to finalize its internal draft of this Report. PRP plans to formally announce the findings at an event to be scheduled in late April or early May.

Findings indicate that PRP's media campaign on women's property rights has reached large segments of Kosovo's population and has prompted discussion and debate throughout Kosovo society.

PRP's second, midcourse National Survey on Property Rights was conducted in all 38 municipalities of Kosovo, including household surveys in North Mitrovica/Mitrovicë, Zvečan/Zvečan, Leposavić/Leposaviq, and Zubin Potok/Zubin Potoku. PRP's subcontractor, UBO Consulting, surveyed 1,500 households, which is the number required to produce a statistically significant and representative sample for all of Kosovo's 38 municipalities. In addition, UBO also conducted 30 in-depth interviews with key informants on property rights – representatives of civil society organizations, the Government of Kosovo, the local government of Viti/Vitina municipality and representatives of the Judiciary.

***PRP and the Municipality of Viti/Vitina Received Ms. Dianna Palequin, Department of State Country Assistance Coordinator, as Part of Her Three-Day Visit to Kosovo.***

PRP facilitated the meeting, which informed Ms. Palequin about the issues that Kosovo faces with respect to property rights, the historical context, and the importance for Kosovo of continued support in the property rights sector, which is a key element for improving the Rule of Law and for spurring economic growth. The work of the USAID Property Rights Program and the results achieved to date were also noted.

In addition to PRP representatives, the Mayor of Viti/Vitina attended the meeting, together with the Director for Geodesy, Property, and Cadastre and the Director for the Culture, Youth and Sports Department of Viti/Vitina municipality.

***Joint Activity Held with the Kosovo Bar Association and Forum of Women Judges and Prosecutors to mark International Women's Day***

To mark Women's Month and International Women's Day, PRP organized a conference, "Legal Perspectives on Equal Property Rights for Current and Future Legal Professionals." Ms. Miranda Jolicoeur of USAID made remarks to open the event, and these were followed by remarks by panelists, who represented the Kosovo Bar Association, the Forum of Woman Judges and Prosecutors, the Chamber of Notaries, the Office of Ombudsperson and the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network. The panelists raised a number of issues for discussion from their professional practice.

Many members of the audience were law students. This event is part of PRP's aim to engage youth in awareness-raising activities on women's property rights.

In addition, at the conference the three winners were announced and awards were presented for the best essays on the topic of women's property rights. The contest was held among law students attending the University of Pristina.

***Planning Roundtable on Women's Rights in Dragash/Dragaš***

This will be the first event of its kind in Dragash/Dragaš, which is an isolated and very traditional community. PRP is organizing the roundtable with the Municipal Gender Officer, and will have the two-fold purpose of describing women's property rights to local women and girls and to identify women from the community who are ready to play an active role in further community activities. The event will held in April.

### ***Appearance on Radio Kosova***

In this quarter, PRP gave a 30-minute interview on Radio Kosova, program called “Vizioni i Gruas” [translation “A Woman’s Vision”] to discuss on salient issues related to women’s property rights, and the ongoing public outreach campaign *For Our Common Good*. The interview was transmitted on March 19. A representative of Kosova Women for Women, an E4E sub-grantee, also took part in the interview.

### ***Preparations for Conference with High-Schoolers in Viti/Vitina to Mark Constitution Day (April 10)***

PRP is working with Viti/Vitina municipal officials to hold an event with local high-schoolers on the legal issues surrounding property rights in Kosovo and rights guaranteed by the Kosovo Constitution. The event will feature a panel of officials from the Constitutional Court, the local Branch Court, the municipal administration, and a local notary, along with PRP. The winner will be announced of an essay contest conducted among the high-schoolers on the topic of the Kosovo Constitution and Property Rights. The event is scheduled to take place in Viti/Vitina high school ‘Januz Zenjullahu,’ on April 7.

### ***Planning Further Activities in Štrpce/Shtërpçë***

The Municipal Gender Officer has informed PRP of a reported increase in domestic violence against women, and she believes that disagreements over property inheritance are a contributing factor. PRP is exploring conducting activities on women’s and girls’ equality with high schools of both communities (Albanian and Serbian). PRP and the MGO agreed to meet with the Directorate of Education in Štrpce/Shtërpçë pursue this further.

## **ACTIVITY 3.3: BUILD CAPACITY OF ATRC AND CSO’S TO ENABLE THEM TO CARRY OUT ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF WOMEN’S PROPERTY RIGHTS**

### ***Work with Agency for Gender Equality to Co-chair the GCG***

PRP supported the Agency for Gender Equality (AGE) in conducting a regular meeting of the Gender Coordination Group on Women’s Property Rights. Members exchanged information on their current activities. PRP made a presentation on the National Strategy on Property Rights and awarded certificates to the citizen advocates for the completion of the training on “Advocacy and Public Outreach for Women’s Property Rights.”

### ***PRP Makes Address at the Concluding Ceremony for Legal Aid Initiative of the E4E Sub-Grantee, CLARD***

For ten months, CLARD, in cooperation with Iliria College in Pristina, supported a legal aid clinic for citizens, using Iliria College law students as legal counselors. PRP and ATRC have worked closely with CLARD in connection with the implementation of the project.

The ceremony was held at Iliria College and featured remarks by the College President, the national Ombudsman, the Executive Director of ATRC, the Director of CLARD, and the PRP Chief of Party. The approximately 20 students who completed the legal aid program received certificates.

### ***Facilitating Civil Society’s Engagement on Inheritance Reform***

PRP and ATRC have agreed to promote discussion of inheritance issues among E4E sub-grantees and to support their development of joint recommendations for the Parliamentary commission reviewing the inheritance package of laws.

## **PRP Provides Guidance to Sub-grantee on Public Outreach and Communication Materials**

PRP met with the Kosovo Center for Business Support (KCBS) to guide them through the project activities planned under the E4E fund. KCBS is planning outreach and awareness-raising activities and turned to PRP for guidance on messaging and effective techniques for public outreach.

KCBS's activities included a round-table in Viti/Vitina, with PRP in attendance, which focused on women's property rights and current law and practice in inheritance.

## **Monitoring E4E Sub-grantee with ATRC**

As part of its regular follow-up meetings with sub-grantees, PRP met with BIRN to discuss the legal amendments to the Law on Inheritance, the Law on Notary, and the Law on Non-contested procedure. BIRN shared with PRP their own recommendations they provided to the Kosovo Assembly based on their court monitoring and findings.

PRP also provided guidance to BIRN on its TV show "Drejtësia në Kosovë," [Translated: "Justice in Kosovo"] which addressed the legal changes to the laws that tackles the matter of equal property rights in Kosovo.

### **BIRN Justice in Kosovo Program:**

<http://kallxo.com/ligjet-e-pafavorshme-per-grate/>

#### **Links to PRP PSAs and News Features:**

*PSA target audience women*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwJeHjPG8Hg> (85 second version)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZQlAd9rI5c> (25 second version)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87lnB337z4w> (17 second version)

*News Feature Story women*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0nVw-4EJJE>

*PSA target audience men*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5Emkau4i\\_U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5Emkau4i_U) (85 second version)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZbmUg4qHO8> (25 second version)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qX3ETApIHCo> (17 second version)

*News Feature Story men*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ccgNWxIHQ0>

## **OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVED COMMUNICATION, ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF PROPERTY RIGHTS**

### ***Process Mapping Completed for Property Registration***

During this Quarter, PRP completed its research of the laws and procedures governing property registration and related practices on the ground in Viti/Vitina and Štrpce/Shtërpçë, and developed a process map that identifies the steps, fees and documents required for registering property rights arising from, respectively, (1) inheritance; (2) a court decision; (3) a purchase and sale; and (4) legalization.

The information gathered will be made available to Municipal Cadastral Offices, which have reviewed PRP's drafts, and will serve as the basis for the development of information products for citizens.

### ***Developing Information for Citizens on Property Registration***

During this Quarter, using the results of the research and analysis described above, PRP developed prototypes of legal information for citizens to serve as accurate and useful guides for registering property arising from inheritance, a court decision, a purchase and sale, and legalization.

The information, following clearance from program management, will be published in both hard-copy and electronic form and will be updated periodically to reflect any changes made to property related legislation during the course of implementation of the National Strategy on Property Rights.

### ***Developing Recommendations for Actions to Improve Municipal Services to Citizens***

During this Quarter, PRP substantially completed its identification of matters that need to be addressed at the national and local levels to make the registration process more efficient and straightforward. PRP will present recommendations to national and local counterparts in the coming weeks and strive to address the matters identified.

### ***Introductory Meeting with Dragash/Dragaš Municipal Officials to Explore Avenues for Cooperation***

PRP, together with Ms. Miranda Jolicoeur and Marina Dimitrijevic of USAID, met with the Mayor of Dragash/Dragaš municipality, the Head of the Municipal Cadastral Office and the Municipal Gender Officer, to explore opportunities for cooperation. PRP described the work of the project and its ongoing activities in support to Viti/Vitina and Štrpce/Shtërpçë municipalities and mentioned briefly the upcoming plans for a joint activity with the MGO in Dragash/Dragaš on women's property rights in April. The Mayor and the Head of the MCO talked on the developments in the MCO, and broadly focused on discussing local traditions that prevent women's ability to exercise their property inheritance rights.

### ***Coordination with E4E Sub-Grantee Operating in Viti/Vitina***

PRP provided guidance on property rights to the Kosovo Center for Business Support (KCBS), in connections with its 11-month project, "Women's right to inheritance, their empowerment."

### ***PRP Analyzes Viti/Vitina Municipal Acts Affecting Property Rights***

PRP analyzed legal acts of Viti/Vitina municipality governing the use of municipal property and provided guidance to municipal officials.

# PROJECT SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance Indicator	DO & IR that the project supports	Baseline	Target Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Actual Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Target LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3+Y4]	Actual LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Quarter 12 Reported Results
<b>OBJECTIVE 1: IMPROVE COORDINATION AND POLICY PRIORITIES</b>							
I.1} Number of strategies drafted and approved by the government	DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent & Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government	0	1 [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=N/A]	0 [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=N/A]	1 [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=0] [Y4=0]	1 [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=0]	Government of Kosovo Approves the National Strategy on Property Rights
I.2} Number of laws drafted and approved /Accepted by line ministry/government as a result of USG assistance	DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent & Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government	0	4 [Y1=0] [Y2=2] [Y3=2]	4/D [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=3]	6 [Y1=0] [Y2=2] [Y3=2] [Y4=2]	4/D [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=3]	GoK Approves Draft Package of Amendment to Laws Concerning Inheritance (Draft Law on Notary, Draft Law on Inheritance; and Draft Law on Non- Contested Procedure) and sent to Assembly of Kosovo for approving.  The Law Governing Municipal Property
I.3} Number of secondary legislation drafted and approved	DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent & Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to	0	10 [Y1=1] [Y2=6] [Y3=3]	10 [Y1=6] [Y2=2] [Y3=3]	14 [Y1=1] [Y2=6] [Y3=3] [Y4=4]	11 (2A+9D) [Y1=6] [Y2=2] [Y3=3]	The Concept Document on Property and Other Real Rights

Performance Indicator	DO & IR that the project supports	Baseline	Target Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Actual Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Target LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3+Y4]	Actual LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Quarter 12 Reported Results
	<i>Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government</i>						
<b>OBJECTIVE 2: IMPROVED COURT PROCEDURES RELATED TO PROPERTY CLAIMS</b>							
2.1} Number of court procedures and secondary legislation related to court function and/ or improved court performance adopted and approved	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector</i>	0	<b>8</b> [Y1=1] [Y2=3] [Y3=4]	<b>0</b> [Y1=0] [Y2=0] [Y3=0]	<b>12</b> [Y1=1] [Y2=3] [Y3=4] [Y4=4]	<b>0</b> [Y1=0] [Y2=0] [Y3=0]	N/A
2.2} Number [average] of days it takes for courts to resolve a property case reduced.	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector</i>	1249 (Days Average)	<b>1061</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=1186] [Y3=1061]	<b>KJC Database/ Court Records-TBD</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=?] [Y3=?]	<b>936</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=1186] [Y3=1061] [Y4=936]	<b>KJC Database/ Court Records-TBD</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=?] [Y3=?]	N/A
2.3} Percent of property disputes cases resolved in courts [within 2 years]	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector</i>	32%	<b>52%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=37%] [Y3=52%]	<b>KJC Database/ Court Records-TBD</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=?] [Y3=?]	<b>72%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=37%] [Y3=52%] [Y4=72%]	<b>KJC Database/ Court Records-TBD</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=?] [Y3=?]	N/A
2.4} Percent of court users satisfied with court services on resolving property disputes	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs</i>	<b>22%</b>	<b>42%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=42%]	<b>28%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=28%]	<b>52%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=42%] [Y4=52%]	<b>28%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=28%]	N/A

Performance Indicator	DO & IR that the project supports	Baseline	Target Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Actual Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Target LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3+Y4]	Actual LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Quarter 12 Reported Results
	<i>IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector</i>						
2.5} Number of judges, lawyers and court staff trained with USG assistance	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector</i>	0	150 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=50] [Y3=100]	92 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=0] [Y3=92]	450 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=50] [Y3=100] [Y4=300]	92 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=0] [Y3=92]	Workshop with the Kosovo bar association to train trainers and support property rights instruction  PRP's case flow initiative in CoM
2.6} Number of USG-assisted courts with improved case management related to resolution of property claims and disputes	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector</i>	0	8 [Y1=4] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=4]	0 [Y1=0] [Y2=0] [Y3=?]	9 [Y1=4] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=4] [Y4=1]	4 [Y1=0] [Y2=4*] [Y3=?]	
2.7} Number of legal courses or curricula developed/upgraded with USG assistance	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector</i>	0	8 [Y1=1] [Y2=3] [Y3=4]	0 [Y1=0] [Y2=0] [Y3=?]	12 [Y1=1] [Y2=3] [Y3=4] [Y4=4]	0 [Y1=0] [Y2=0] [Y3=?]	
<b>OBJECTIVE 3: ENHANCED WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO USE PROPERTY IN PRACTICE</b>							

Performance Indicator	DO & IR that the project supports	Baseline	Target Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Actual Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Target LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3+Y4]	Actual LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Quarter 12 Reported Results
3.1} Number of people from civil society and “E4E CSO-s” staff trained to implement program activities in support of USAID/ Kosovo program objectives	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen’s Needs</i> <i>IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government</i>	0	<b>80</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=40] [Y3=40]	<b>22</b> [Y1=4] [Y2=18] [Y3=?]	<b>80</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=40] [Y3=40] [Y4=N/A]	<b>45</b> [Y1=4] [Y2=41] [Y3=?]	N/A
3.2} Number of communication outreach products, developed and disseminated by PRP and “E4E CSO-s”	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen’s Needs</i> <i>IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government</i>	0	<b>60</b> [Y1=10] [Y2=25] [Y3=25]	<b>89</b> [Y1=5] [Y2=47] [Y3=37]	<b>70</b> [Y1=10] [Y2=25] [Y3=25] [Y4=10]	<b>89</b> [Y1=5] [Y2=47] [Y3=37]	PRP completes production of next generation of psa’s on women’s property rights (6 products)  PRP prepares billboard campaign to complement media campaign (6 billboards)  Theater’s script “Grandpa’s lap”  National Strategy on Property Rights brochure  “Flatra” magazine
3.3} Number of communication and outreach campaigns, developed/supported by USG assistance	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen’s Needs</i> <i>IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government</i>	0	<b>1</b> [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=0]	<b>1</b> [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=0]	<b>1</b> [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=N/A] [Y4=N/A]	<b>1</b> [Y1=0] [Y2=1] [Y3=N/A]	N/A

Performance Indicator	DO & IR that the project supports	Baseline	Target Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Actual Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Target LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3+Y4]	Actual LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Quarter 12 Reported Results
3.4) Number of communication outreach activities and events developed and implemented by PRP and “E4E CSO-s to change cultural attitudes and behaviors about women’s property rights	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen’s Needs</i> <i>IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government</i>	0	<b>107</b> [Y1=7] [Y2=50] [Y3=50]	<b>56</b> [Y1=7] [Y2=28] [Y3=21]	<b>114</b> [Y1=7] [Y2=50] [Y3=50] [Y4=7]	<b>56</b> [Y1=7] [Y2=28] [Y3=21]	High-visibility launch event held to announce the adoption of the national strategy  Puppet theater performance on girls’ and boys’ equal property rights  Official reception held in Viti/Vitina to commemorate international women’s day  Roundtable discussion on women’s property rights in Sterpce/Shterpce  Joint activity held with Kosovo bar association and forum of women judges to mark international women’s day
3.5) Percentage of citizens who have been reached by PRP and E4E lead social behavior campaign and recognize the PRP and E4E CSO campaign/brand/identity/logo/ messages/ content	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen’s Needs</i> <i>IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government</i>	0	<b>40%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=20%] [Y3=40%]	<b>76%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=76%]	<b>40%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=20%] [Y3=20%] [Y4=N/A]	<b>76%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=76%]	N/A
3.6) Percentage of citizens [with negative attitude] who report changing their attitude/behavior about women’s rights to inherit property and engage in economic activities after exposure to PRP and/or E4E CSO communication and outreach products, activities and events	<i>DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen’s Needs</i> <i>IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent &amp; Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government</i>	<b>36%</b> (Negative attitude)	<b>16%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=26%] [Y3=16%]	<b>27%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=27%]	<b>16%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=26%] [Y3=16%] [Y4=16%]	<b>27%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=27%]	N/A

Performance Indicator	DO & IR that the project supports	Baseline	Target Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Actual Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Target LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3+Y4]	Actual LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Quarter 12 Reported Results
3.7} Number [percentage] of women who file inheritance claims in the court	DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent & Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government	0.3%	10% [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=10%]	3% [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=3%]	30% [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=10%] [Y4=30%]	3% [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=3%]	N/A
3.8} Number [percentage] of women inheriting property	DO: Improved Rule of Law and Governance that meet Citizen's Needs IR: More Efficient, Transparent, Independent & Accountable Justice Sector; Civil Society Strengthened to Increasingly Engage Constructively with Government	3.8%	8.8% [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=8.8%]	7.5% [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=7.5%]	33.8% [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=8.8%] [Y4=33.8%]	7.5% [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=7.5%]	N/A
<b>OBJECTIVE 4: IMPROVED COMMUNICATION, ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF PROPERTY RIGHTS</b>							
4.1} [Number of] Land administration offices established or upgraded: The number of land administration and service offices or other related facilities that the project physically establishes or upgrades.	DO: Increase Investment and Private Sector Employment IR: Improved Economic Governance & Business Environment	0	4 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=2] [Y3=2]	0 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=0] [Y3=0]	4 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=2] [Y3=2] [Y4=N/A]	0 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=0] [Y3=0]	N/A
4.2} Number of days to conduct property transactions reduced due	DO: Increase Investment and Private Sector Employment	28 (Days)	26 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A]	N/A [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A]	24 [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A]	N/A [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A]	N/A

Performance Indicator	DO & IR that the project supports	Baseline	Target Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Actual Yr. 3 [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Target LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3+Y4]	Actual LoP [Y1+Y2+Y3]	Quarter 12 Reported Results
to improved information systems [in participating municipalities]	IR: Improved Economic Governance & Business Environment		[Y3=26]	[Y3=26]	[Y3=26] [Y4=24]	[Y3=?]	
4.3} Number of parcels corrected or incorporated into land system [in participating municipalities]	DO: Increase Investment and Private Sector Employment IR: Improved Economic Governance & Business Environment	0	<b>240</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=80] [Y3=160]	<b>0</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=0] [Y3=0]	<b>440</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=80] [Y3=160] [Y4=200]	<b>0</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=0] [Y3=0]	N/A
4.4} Land rights formalized [in participating municipalities]	DO: Increase Investment and Private Sector Employment IR: Improved Economic Governance & Business Environment	0	<b>240</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=80] [Y3=160]	<b>0</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=0] [Y3=0]	<b>440</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=80] [Y3=160] [Y4=200]	<b>0</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=0] [Y3=0]	N/A
4.5} Percent of citizens with increased knowledge of their property rights	DO: Increase Investment and Private Sector Employment IR: Improved Economic Governance & Business Environment	27%	<b>42%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=42%]	<b>51%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=51%]	<b>52%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=42%] [Y4=52%]	<b>51%</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=51%]	N/A
4.6} Number of municipal officials in participating municipalities trained in property related issues.	DO: Increase Investment and Private Sector Employment IR: Improved Economic Governance & Business Environment	0	<b>20</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=20]	<b>0</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=0]	<b>40</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=20] [Y4=20]	<b>0</b> [Y1=N/A] [Y2=N/A] [Y3=0]	N/A

# SUCCESS STORY

The PRP project success story is provided on the next page.



# SNAPSHOT

## KOSOVO PROPERTY RIGHTS PROGRAM (PRP)

On January 18, 2017, the Government of Kosovo adopted the National Strategy on Property Rights, a comprehensive analysis of the legal and institutional obstacles in Kosovo’s property sector today and have resulted in widespread informality, create impediments for citizens in exercising their property rights, and prevent full and effective use of land for investment, development and economic growth.

The National Strategy is the culmination of an 18-month-long initiative of extensive research, analysis, discussion and debate that engaged nearly 50 experts and institutional stakeholders. The MoJ led this initiative, with PRP support. The National Strategy presents recommendations for specific measures to address the problems identified, based on over 150 pages of analysis, along with a detailed Action Plan that indicates the legislative actions and timetable for implementing the National Strategy.

The inclusive and dynamic approach taken in organizing and conducting the development of the National Strategy was cited by an EU evaluation team as a model for future reform initiatives.

The Government of Kosovo, with PRP support, held a high-visibility event to announce the National Strategy to the public. The event featured remarks by the US Ambassador, the First Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and the Minister of Justice. It opened with the performance of the well-known song “Era” (The Wind) by the children’s choir, Okarina, and also featured a brief video with clips from participants who helped develop the National Strategy. The event ended with a brief presentation on the National Strategy given by MoJ official Lulzim Beqiri, who served as Chair of the Core Technical Group.

The event had a three-fold purpose: to celebrate the adoption of the National Strategy with the persons and institutions who helped to create it; to inform the Kosovo public about the National Strategy and its importance for them; and to emphasize the importance of implementing the

National Strategy and call for the continued support of Kosovo institutions in developing implementing legislation.

The event received extensive national media coverage.

Immediately following the adoption of the National Strategy, DPM Hajredin Kuci's Op-Ed Piece, on which PRP assisted, was published in the Reuters web journal Place. The article is entitled "Why land and property rights are key to my nation's future," and has received wide media coverage. (<http://www.thisisplace.org/ii?id=9fb60ee3-c65c-411d-8b04-fe515d2af246>)

Furthermore, there has been significant progress in developing legislation to implement the National Strategy. The GoK has approved and sent to Parliament the package of proposed legislation (with revisions to the Law on Inheritance; the Law on Notary; and the Law on Non-Contested Procedure) that is designed to address major concerns related to the commonplace practice of women being excluded from inheritance proceedings or renouncing their inheritance share; and to the high incidence of outdated land records in the cadastre – many parcels are registered to deceased persons – which prevents many current citizens from possessing full rights to land.

In addition, efforts are well underway to develop legislation to revise key laws such as the Law on Property and Other Real Rights; the Law on Urban Construction Land; and the Law on Municipal Land.

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# PROJECT BRIEF UPDATE

The PRP project brief update is provided on the next page.





# PROJECT BRIEF UPDATE

## KOSOVO PROPERTY RIGHTS PROGRAM (PRP)

The rule of law in Kosovo is constrained by poorly defined and enforced property rights, especially the property rights of women and members of minority communities. The absence of an effective property rights regime weakens democratic governance, impacts human rights, disempowers women and impedes sustainable economic growth.

The overall goal of the program is to improve the property rights regime in Kosovo, strengthen the rule of law, and increase economic growth and investment. The Property Rights Program (PRP) is implemented under four objectives:

- Objective 1: Better Coordination and Policy Priorities
- Objective 2: Improved Court Procedures Related to Property Claims
- Objective 3: Enhance Women’s Rights to Use Property in Practice
- Objective 4: Improved Communication, Access to Information and Understanding of Property Rights

### OUR WORK

This Quarter was PRP achieve significant milestones in major initiatives – the National Strategy on Property Rights; caseload management reform in Kosovo courts; public outreach activities to change social attitudes and behavior with respect to women’s property rights – and continued engagement with municipal administrations and communities.

Under **Objective 1**, on January 18, 2017, the Government of Kosovo adopted the National Strategy on Property Rights, along with a detailed Action Plan that indicates the legislative actions and timetable for implementing the National Strategy. The National Strategy presents comprehensive analysis of the legal and institutional obstacles in Kosovo's property sector today and is the culmination of an 18-month-long initiative of extensive research, analysis, discussion and debate involving nearly 50 experts and institutional stakeholders, led by the Ministry of Justice with PRP support. The National Strategy presents recommendations for specific measures to address the problems identified, based on over 150 pages of analysis.

With PRP support the Government of Kosovo held a high-visibility event to announce the National Strategy to the public. The event featured remarks by the US Ambassador, the First Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and the Minister of Justice, and a number of other interesting vignettes. The event received extensive national media coverage.

In addition, there has been significant progress in developing legislation to implement the National Strategy. The GoK has approved and sent to Parliament the package of proposed legislation (with revisions to the Law on Inheritance; the Law on Notary; and the Law on Non-Contested Procedure) that is designed to address major concerns related to the commonplace practice of women being excluded from inheritance proceedings or renouncing their inheritance share; and to the high incidence of outdated land records in the cadastre, which prevents many current citizens from possessing full rights to land. Efforts are well underway to develop legislation to revise the Law on Property and Other Real Rights; the Law on Urban Construction Land; and the Law on Municipal Land.

Immediately following the adoption of the National Strategy, DPM Hajredin Kuci's Op-Ed Piece was published in the Reuters web journal Place. The article is entitled "Why land and property rights are key to my nation's future," and has received wide media coverage.

(<http://www.thisisplace.org/i/?id=9fb60ee3-c65c-411d-8b04-fe515d2af246>)

Under **Objective 2**, PRP secured the approval of the Kosovo Judicial Council for PRP's initiative to introduce modern case management practices and methods in its pilot courts (Courts of Merit (CoMs)), based on the findings, and resulting recommendations, from PRP's analysis of data from 1,971 pending civil cases and 1,276 disposed cases. Following its presentation to the KJC, PRP conducted a workshop with judges, court administrators and other officials from the CoMs to discuss next steps in PRP's case management reforms.

These reforms are now well underway. To date, with PRP's assistance, a total of 916 decisions have been issued in the three courts using the new case management techniques.

PRP also made a presentation of its work in the courts to the USAID Mission Director.

In addition, for PRP's initiative to create summaries in the Albanian language of at least 120 decisions of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) that address property rights issues, this Quarter saw the completion of hiring and training of the interns and their commencement of substantive work. (The Kosovo Constitution provides that the European Convention on Human Rights and the decisions of the ECHR have dominant legal force in Kosovo, yet since most ECHR decisions are not available in Albanian, most Kosovo judges do not have ready access to this important case law.)

For its **Objective 3**, PRP has produced the next generation of PSA's on women's property rights for TV, radio and the social media, with airing commencing on April 3, 2017, along with a national billboards campaign to complement the media campaign.

Furthermore, PRP has completed the analysis of the results from its second nation-wide National Property Rights Survey, and they demonstrate that PRP's media products have reached a significant portion of the society and have prompted discussions and debate of women's property rights at an unprecedented level. PRP will formally present its report on this Survey in the next Quarter.

PRP also launched its puppet theater initiative in the regions with a performance for 350 third- and fourth-graders from schools in Viti/Vitina municipality. PRP commissioned the puppet show, which emphasizes the equal inheritance rights of girls and boys. PRP will be bringing the show to grade schools throughout Kosovo and will work with teachers to have follow-up class activities to reinforce the message of the play.

Under Objective 4, PRP, in close collaboration with the municipal administrations of Viti/Vitina and Shtërpçë/Štrpçe completed its process mapping that identifies the steps, fees and documents required for registering property rights arising from (1) inheritance; (2) a court decision; (3) a purchase and sale; and (4) legalization, respectively.

Using those results of that research and analysis, PRP has developed prototypes of legal information for citizens to serve as accurate and useful guides for registering property.

PRP has also had an introductory meeting with officials of the Dragash/Dragaš municipal officials to explore avenues for cooperation and assistance.



PRP marked International Women's Day with the slogan "Equal Love = Equal Rights," in cooperation with municipality of Viti/Vitina, where several activities were organized to emphasize the importance of property rights for women's economic empowerment; and the right of daughters to be treated equally as sons in inheriting property. The event where the Mayor and USAID Representatives spoke was preceded by the puppet theater show, "Grandpa's Lap," on the topic of equality between girls and boys, where around 300 kids from Viti/Vitina elementary schools were in the audience.

USAID PRP



In light of March activities, to mark the International Women's Day, PRP, in cooperation with Kosovo Bar Association and the Forum of Women Judges and Prosecutors, held the conference: "Legal Perspective on Equal Property Rights - Established and Future Legal Profession Generations." The panel consisted of legal professionals, while in the audience were law students and legal interns from Kosovo. PRP products were distributed and discussed, among other related topics.

USAID PRP



PRP, in cooperation with the municipality of Shtërpçë/Štrpçe, held a roundtable discussion on women's property rights, with women from the local communities, about issues that hinder them from exercising their property rights successfully. PSAs featuring citizens in support of women's property rights under PRP's campaign were shown and PRP brochures, pins, and palm-cards were distributed.

USAID PRP

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# MEDIA

During this Quarter, use of social media was emphasized to share regular updates about PRP, particularly activities under Objective 3. The table below presents PRP activities and social media trigger messages published by PRP's *For Our Common Good* Facebook page, USAID/Kosovo's and US Embassy's Facebook pages. These messages were designed to reach target audiences discussed above in order to further raise awareness about the property rights regime in Kosovo.

## SOCIAL MEDIA TRIGGER MESSAGES



"Progress on property rights is essential to a better future for the people of Kosovo...The difference made in people's everyday lives is how the strategy will ultimately be judged." This was Ambassador Delawie's message today at the launch of the National Strategy on Property Rights by the Ministry of Justice with the support of the USAID Kosovo Property Rights Program. The launch of the Strategy is the culmination of an 18 month-long, inclusive, government-led process to bring Kosovo's property rights regime into the 21st century. Read the complete remarks here: <https://goo.gl/USXHrG>

<https://www.facebook.com/kosovo.usembassy>  
Published on February 10, 2017



Yesterday, members of the U.S. House of Representatives delegation from the House Democracy Partnership met with several NGOs and businesses who have received grants from the Embassy and USAID Kosovo. We are proud these organizations were able to show off the great work they are doing in #Kosovo!

<https://www.facebook.com/kosovo.usembassy>  
Published on February 20, 2017



Equal Love = Equal Rights was the slogan of today activities marking International Women's' Day in Viti. Our Property Rights Program in partnership with municipality of Viti have organized several activities to emphasize the importance of property rights for women's economic empowerment; and the right of daughters to be treated equally as sons in inheriting property.

This event was complemented by puppet theater show on the topic of equality between girls and boys, needless to say that some 150 kids were anxious to see the show. Për Të Mirën Tonë

<https://www.facebook.com/usaidskosovo>  
Published on March 8, 2017



Check out the Op-Ed piece, "Why Land and Property Rights are Key to my Nation's Future," by Kosovo Deputy Prime Kuçi, published this week in the Reuters web journal, Place.

#USAIDPropertyRightsProgram, in partnership with #PërTëMirënTonë, USAID Kosovo

<https://www.facebook.com/PerTeMirenTone>  
Published on January 25, 2017



Legal perspectives on equal property rights were discussed today at conference in Pristina. Women and men from judiciary raised many issues related to the subject matter. Our colleague Miranda Jolicoeur, acting Democracy Office Director spoke about how USAID is addressing the issue by working in partnership with Kosovo institutions and civil society to increase public awareness about women property rights. The event was organized by our Property Rights Program in partnership with Oda e Avokatëve të Kosovës [Kosovo Bar Association] . #IWD2017 Për Të Mirën Tonë

<https://www.facebook.com/usaidskosovo>  
Published on March 2, 2017

## **PUBLICATIONS**

The following print and digital publications covered PRP Activities this quarter.

### **Reuters**

'Kosovo launches drive to encourage women to claim property rights'

<http://mobile.reuters.com/article/idUSKBNI54233>

January 20, 2017

### **Place**

'Why land and property rights are key to my nation's future'

<http://www.thisisplace.org/li/?id=9fb60ee3-c65c-411d-8b04-fe515d2af246http://koha.net/?id=55&l=136824>

January 20, 2017

### **The Office of the Prime Minister**

'Deputy Prime Minister Kuçi: National Strategy for Property Rights, sustainable model of economic growth'

<http://www.kryeministri-ks.net/?page=2,9,6541>

February 10, 2017

### **Index online**

'Presentation of the National Strategy for Property Rights'

<http://m.indeksonline.net/lajmet/prezantohet-strategjia-kombetare-per-te-drejtat-pronesore-58703/>

February 10, 2017

### **Koha net**

'Guaranteeing the right to property remains a priority of the Ministry of Justice'

<https://koha.net/?id=27&l=156330>

February 10, 2017

### **Klan Kosova**

'National Strategy on Property Rights Introduced'

<http://klankosova.tv/prezantohet-dokumenti-per-strategji-kombetare-per-te-drejtat-pronesore-video/>

February 10, 2017

### **Kosova info**

'Kuçi: national strategy for property rights, model of sustainable growth introduced'

<http://www.kosova.info/kuci-strategjia-kombetare-per-te-drejtat-pronesore-model-i-qendrueshem-i-rritjes-ekonomike/>

February 10, 2017

### **Telegrafi**

'Strategy for Property Rights presented'

<http://telegrafi.com/prezantohet-strategjia-per-te-drejtat-pronesore/>

February 10, 2017

### **Kallxo.com**

'Kosovo is done with the National Property Strategy'

<http://kallxo.com/kosova-behet-strategji-kombetare-te-prones/>

February 10, 2017

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