

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION LEADERS IN KOSOVO

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## Abstract

Kosovo Education system in general and the pre-university system in particular after the war went through a comprehensive reform process. The new Law for Pre-university education was approved, new curriculum was developed in 2001 and then the new Curriculum Framework was approved in 2011, piloting of curricula started and the Kosovo education strategic plan was prepared. Education system was decentralized and thus the role of school directors is empowered, but also requirements for the profession were regulated through administrative instruction on Standards for Directors. Therefore, this changes brought about the need to prepare and organize different professional development programs for school directors to facilitate practical implementation of these Standards. In order to identify the required needs of school directors in Kosovo to implement these Standards and the new curriculum, a study was prepared and conducted following a mixed methodology, both qualitative and quantitative. The key question in this study was aimed to identify the extent to which the existing professional development programs for directors fulfill their needs to achieve all Standards and would also support them in implanting the new curriculum. This study provided recommendations for necessary improvements in the training programme for directors, which were based on findings and discussion with stakeholders in education regions in and central Ministry of Education in Kosovo. A new training programme was developed and its implementation is still ongoing. Following the Kosovo Curriculum Framework, Ministry of Education has developed and is currently implementing Core Curriculum for ISCED 1, 2 and 3. This presentation will resume with suggestions for further steps in this process.

**Keywords:** *Curriculum, standards, school director, professional development, piloting.*