Kosovo has the smallest general government revenues in the Western Balkan region

The level of general government revenues in Kosovo was 26.1% of GDP in 2018, compared to the Western Balkans average of 37.1% and the EU average of 45.2%. This is largely due to its narrow tax-base, stemming from high rate of informality in the economy, the large dependence on remittances, the low labour-market participation, and the large tax debts of individuals and enterprises. At the same time, the general government revenues of Kosovo grew most significantly between 2008 and 2018 – at an average rate of 3.8%.

Chapter 2: Public finance and economics
2.6. General government revenues as a percentage of GDP, 2008 and 2018
2.7. General government revenues per capita, 2008 and 2018
2.8. Annual average growth rate of real government revenues per capita, 2008-18

Kosovo spends the most on public procurement among Western Balkans

In 2018, 37% of Kosovo’s general government expenditures were used in the procurement of goods and services, compared to an average of 24% in the region. This represented an 11% of Kosovo’s GDP. In comparison to 2011, the share of procurement in expenditures decreased 12 p.p.

Chapter 7: Public procurement
7.1. Government procurement spending as a share of total government expenditures, 2011 and 2018
7.2. Government procurement spending as a percentage of GDP, 2011 and 2018

Citizens in Kosovo have the highest level of confidence in the judiciary system in the Western Balkan region

According to the Gallup World Poll, 46% of the citizens in Kosovo indicated to have confidence in the judiciary system and the courts in 2019. While this marked the highest level in the Western Balkan region, it was well below the OECD and OECD-EU averages of 56%. Between 2009 and 2019, citizens’ level of confidence in the judiciary system has increased in the OECD region whereas the regional average of the Western Balkans remained the same, and that of Kosovo decreased slightly by 2 p.p.

Chapter 10: Serving citizens
10.3. Citizen confidence in the judiciary system and the courts, 2009 and 2019

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/99 and the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on Kosovo’s declaration of independence.
### Fiscal balance (2018) % of GDP

- **Kosovo:** -2.9%
  - **Western Balkans:** -0.3%
  - **OECD:** -2.9%
  - **EU-28:** -0.7%

### Government gross debt (2018) % of GDP

- **Kosovo:** 17.0%
  - **Western Balkans:** 49.4%
  - **OECD:** 108.6%

### Government investment (2017) % of total government expenditures

- **Kosovo:** 24.4%
- **Western Balkans:** 11.9%
- **OECD:** 6.2%

### Public sector employment as % of total employment (2018)

- **Kosovo:** 30.8%
- **Western Balkans:** 27.2%
- **OECD:** 21.1%
- **OECD-EU:** 23.7%

### Gender equality in public sector employment (2018) % of women

- **Kosovo:** 29.2%
- **Western Balkans:** 40.9%
- **OECD:** 60.2%
- **OECD-EU:** 61.8%

### Formal powers of the legislature to amend executive budget proposal (2019)

- **Kosovo:** 33.3% Unrestricted
- **Western Balkans:** 16.7% Mixed

### Identification, measure and disclosure of sources of fiscal risks (2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Macro economic shocks</th>
<th>Change in debt interest rates</th>
<th>Environmental degradations</th>
<th>Public-Private Partnerships</th>
<th>State-owned enterprises</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kosovo</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Western Balkans</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OECD</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*While not directly related to general forecasting parameters there are narrower fiscal risks that arise from specific sources. For example, the possible need to provide fiscal support to state-owned enterprises.*

Public Procurement

Functionalities provided by the e-procurement system (2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tender announcement</th>
<th>E-submission of bids</th>
<th>Notification of award</th>
<th>E-invoicing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Balkans</td>
<td>● ▲ ●</td>
<td>100% 0% 0%</td>
<td>50% 0% 50%</td>
<td>100% 0% 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>● ▲ ●</td>
<td>97% 3% 0%</td>
<td>81% 13% 6%</td>
<td>97% 3% 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD-EU</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>35% 23% 42%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ●: Provided on central e-procurement system
- ▲: Only on that of specific procuring entity(ies)
- ●: No

Source: OECD Survey on Public Procurement

Strategic public procurement by objective (2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Support to green public procurement</th>
<th>Support to SMEs</th>
<th>Support to innovative goods and services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Balkans</td>
<td>23% 68% 10% 0%</td>
<td>100% 68% 16% 6%</td>
<td>13% 58% 13% 16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>23% 68% 10% 0%</td>
<td>100% 68% 16% 6%</td>
<td>13% 58% 13% 16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD-EU</td>
<td>23% 68% 10% 0%</td>
<td>100% 68% 16% 6%</td>
<td>13% 58% 13% 16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ●: Policy/strategy both at the central level and at the level of some specific procuring entities
- ▲: Policy / strategy at the central level
- ▲: Policy/strategy at the level of some specific procuring entities
- ●: No policy / strategy

Source: OECD Survey on Public Procurement

Human Resources Management

Level of delegation of HRM in line ministries at the central government level (2019)

Composite index from 0 (lowest) to 1 (highest)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Kosovo</th>
<th>Western Balkans</th>
<th>OECD</th>
<th>OECD-EU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>0.56</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td>0.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD Survey on Strategic Human Resources Management in Central/Federal Governments

Separation between regular HRM practices and those for Senior Civil Servants (2019)

Composite index from 0 (lowest) to 1 (highest)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Kosovo</th>
<th>Western Balkans</th>
<th>OECD</th>
<th>OECD-EU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD Survey on Strategic Human Resources Management in Central/Federal Governments

Institutions

Status of the head of Centre of Government (2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Kosovo</th>
<th>Western Balkans</th>
<th>OECD</th>
<th>OECD-EU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Civil servant</td>
<td>Political appointee</td>
<td>Civil servant</td>
<td>Civil servant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD (2019) Questionnaire for the Western Balkans on Organisation and Functions of the Centre of Government

Digital Government

Existence of a list with fully digital services provided in the public sector (2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Kosovo</th>
<th>Western Balkans</th>
<th>OECD</th>
<th>OECD-EU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, but it is not available online</td>
<td>Yes, but it is not available online</td>
<td>Yes, and it is available online</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes, but it is not available online</td>
<td>Yes, and it is available online</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>33% 17%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>33% 17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>7%  75%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>7% 75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>11% 63%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>11% 63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: OECD (2019) Survey for the Western Balkans on Digital Government
Government at a Glance: Western Balkans 2020

Government at a Glance: Western Balkans presents information on public governance in the Western Balkan region – covering Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia, and compares it to OECD and OECD-EU countries. This first regional edition features 40 indicators on public finance, public employment, centre of government, budgeting practices and procedures, human resources management, public procurement, digital government, core government results and serving citizens. Governance indicators provide important benchmarks on public administration systems, practices and performance. Indicators are presented in a user-friendly format using charts, with brief descriptive analyses of the major findings, and a methodological section on the definition of the indicator and any limitations in data comparability.

Outcomes

Satisfaction and confidence across public services (2019)

Education system
- Kosovo: 56%
- Western Balkans: 57%

Health care
- Kosovo: 57%
- Western Balkans: 52%

Judicial system
- Kosovo: 46%
- Western Balkans: 33%

National government
- Kosovo: 31%
- Western Balkans: 34%

Source: Gallup World Poll

Ease of doing business (2020)

Composite indicator from 0 (worst) to 100 (best)

- Kosovo: 73
- Western Balkans: 73
- OECD: 78
- OECD-EU: 77


Share of top and bottom performers in mathematics in the Programme for International Student Assessment [PISA] (2018)

Top
- Kosovo: 0%
- Western Balkans: 2%
- OECD: 11%
- OECD-EU: 11%

Bottom
- Kosovo: 77%
- Western Balkans: 54%
- OECD: 24%
- OECD-EU: 21%

Bottom performers are students who reached a score below 2 in the assessment, while top performers are those who reached a score of 5 and 6.

Source: OECD, PISA 2018 Database

Notes
The public finance and economics data for Western Balkans countries, which are based on the IMF’s World Economic Outlook and the IMF’s Government Financial Statistics databases – harmonised with the System of National Accounts (SNA), were extracted on 19 February, 2020. For the OECD and the EU28 averages – also based on the SNA – data were extracted from the OECD Government at a Glance online database from the last available update: 4 January, 2020 (financial government accounts: 21 January, 2020). The SNA government debt definition differs from the definition of debt applied under the Maastricht Treaty and for this reason the EU average is not presented here. Western Balkans, OECD and EU28 averages for public finance and economics are weighted.

For more information on the data (including full methodology and figure notes) and to consult all other Country Fact Sheets: http://www.oecd.org/gov/government-at-a-glance-western-balkans-a8c72f1b-en.htm

The Excel spreadsheets used to create the tables and figures in Government at a Glance: Western Balkans 2020 are available via the StatLinks provided throughout the publication: https://doi.org/10.1787/a8c72f1b-en