Rules of the

**MUNICIPAL PERFORMANCE GRANT**

for the fiscal year 2023

based on the performance assessment of fiscal year 2021

Gusht, 2022

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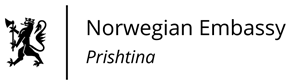
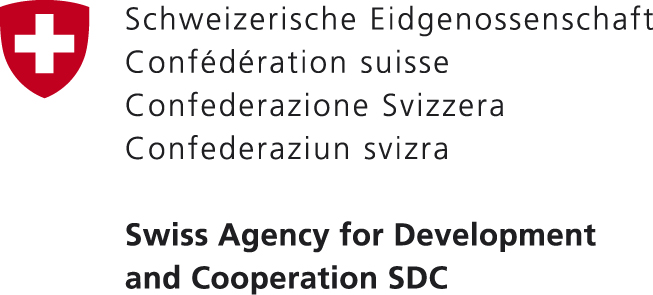
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# Foreword

In 2009, Kosovo was the first country in the region to approve a performance-based financial incentive scheme, through the allocation of funds to municipalities as an incentive to improve local governance. At the end of 2017, the Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA), in partnership with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), developed and agreed to co-finance a unique performance grant allocation scheme for municipalities. In 2019, Sweden and Norway decided to co-finance the MPG scheme. In 2022, the EU through Sweden also joins the MPG scheme.

Between 2018 and 2021, about EUR 14 million have been allocated to the beneficiary municipalities, as municipal performance grants. Between 2022-2025, the amount of the municipal performance grant is expected to be around EUR 30 million. This grant aims to improve the performance of municipalities in the areas of 'democratic governance', 'municipal management' and ‘service delivery’.

The Municipal Performance Grant 2023 will be awarded to municipalities in accordance with the grant calculation criteria and the score achieved in the municipal performance based on a number of indicators spread over the three main areas mentioned above.

The grant amount in 2023 is expected to be around EUR 7.8 million. All of Kosovo’s municipalities enjoy the right to participate in the municipal performance grant, according to the conditions set out in these rules. The grant for the years 2022 – 2025 is expected to be co-funded by the Government of Kosovo represented by MLGA and contributors such as EU, Sweden, Switzerland and Norway.

The Municipal Performance Grant (MPG) aims to foster competition between municipalities, following the principle that better performance is accompanied by greater grant value. Therefore, the MPG aims to support municipalities in two ways: first, by encouraging municipal compliance with minimum legal standards (basic standards); second, by stimulating 'real' performance that goes beyond legal ('mandatory') requirements.

The MPG is based on the following principles:

* Municipalities must meet a number of minimum conditions to be eligible for a grant on an annual basis;
* For all municipalities that have met the minimum conditions, the amount of grant that each municipality receives is based on the performance achieved in the performance indicators compared to the performance of all other municipalities, as well as other elements of the assessment criteria as defined in these rules.

Once municipalities are eligible, the amount of the grant will be determined by the relative points (score) earned on the performance indicators. The indicators are a reflection of government policy objectives, which aim to realize the overall vision of municipalities as *'vibrant democratic local government institutions that provide quality services and respond to the needs and priorities of citizens'*.

This document sets out the context, objectives, rules, criteria and procedures for evaluating and awarding the municipal performance grant.

This document also informs all stakeholders about the rules and procedures of the performance grant.

The document sets out the responsibilities of stakeholders at the central level, including: (i) the technical team responsible for evaluating performance grants; (ii) the performance grant committee, responsible for allocating the municipal performance grant; (iii) the appeal commission responsible for reviewing municipal appeals and (iv) the group responsible for preparing the municipal performance grant rules and addressing them to the MPG commission for approval;

MLGA and donors encourage all relevant local actors to consider the municipal performance grant as a good opportunity to better understand municipal performance (including improved areas and those where there is a need for improvement) and to be part of sound competition with other municipalities in an effort to improve municipal capacity and provide efficient and effective public services to citizens.

The results of the municipal performance assessment will be publicly announced by the MLGA and will be communicated to all municipalities.

# Municipal Performance Grant - Introduction

# Introduction

Municipalities in Kosovo, as subjects of decentralized local government, play an important role in organizing the public sector. In addition to being responsible for providing a range of services, municipalities on the one hand serve as the first point of contact between citizens and the state, and on the other hand, enable citizens to participate in decision-making.

Local administration is considered one of the main pillars of the state and promoter of social and economic development. Compared to many other countries, the municipalities in Kosovo stand relatively well in service delivery. However, there is still a need for improvements in the exercise of municipal's own competencies, given the high unemployment rate in the country and the low rate of economic development. Consequently, there is a need to improve financial control and management, as well as greater investment through strategic projects. Local institutions should encourage public servants to continuously develop their capacities, to create a modern local administration capable of providing efficient services to all citizens without distinction.

The findings from local and credible international institutions reports still highlight problems with public administration reform. This remains one of the country’s main strategic priorities, for which special attention is required. Local governments need to increase the intensity of their work and provide a new governance approach that would increase citizens' trust in their local institutions. Naturally, success or failure will depend on the joint commitment in building a functioning administration and the commitment of municipal institutions to respond to these problems.

Having this in mind, the Municipal Performance Grant sets a number of objectives for local government to increase institutional capacity to exercise its competencies and effectively address issues that affect the lives of citizens.

In this regard, the following topics have been identified as priority objectives for improving municipal performance, as follows:

* **Municipalities should function as local democratic institutions -** respecting the legal standards of transparency, with a strong municipal assembly that represents the citizens and has the power to oversee the executive, while the citizens have the opportunity to express their concerns and suggestions;
* **Municipalities should have an effective and efficient municipal management** - which is neutral and impartial; and
* **Municipalities should provide qualitative** **services** - in response to the priorities and needs of citizens, treating everyone equally.

# Legal basis

Municipal Performance Grant (MPG) rules are regulated by Regulation 01/2020 on Municipal Performance Management System and the Municipal Performance Grant Scheme.

Other material and procedural aspects are subject to treatment in the MPG Rules set out in this document.

# Purpose

The MPG is provided in the form of financial support to municipalities and aims to stimulate them to improve performance in certain areas, namely democratic local governance, good municipal management and service delivery.

# Key topics

Taking into account the analysis of critical factors that may prevent municipalities from becoming *'vibrant democratic local government institutions that provide quality services'*, the MPG will focus on the following three topics:

* Democratic governance;
* Municipal management;
* Provision of services.

These three topics are further divided into ten sub-topics as presented in Table 1. Within these sub-topics, 30 performance indicators have been identified, from which 27 performance indicators will be measured for the performance 2021. This will allow municipalities to receive 92 points (out of 100 points) in the performance assessment 2021. For further explanation please see section 2.3. The obtained points determine the amount of grant a municipality receives based on its performance.

**Table 1: Three main topics and ten sub-topics with maximum points**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topics and sub-topics** | | Maximum possible points |
| **1. Democratic governance** | | 38 |
| I | Role of the municipal assembly as an oversight body | 11 |
| II | Participation, citizen consultation and inclusion | 12 |
| III | Transparency, access to information and integrity | 15 |
| **2. Municipal management** | | 28 |
| IV | Financial management | 13 |
| V | Contract management | 7 |
| VI | Human resource management | 8 |
| **3. Provision of services** | | 26 |
| VII | Administrative services | 6 |
| VIII | Spatial planning, public transport and the environment | 8 |
| IX | Pre-university education | 4 |
| X | Primary health care | 8 |
| **Maximum number of points that can be obtained** | | 92 |

# Geographical coverage

The MPG is a financial instrument created for all municipalities in Kosovo. Access to the MPG is available to all municipalities that meet the minimum conditions set out in this document.

# Strategic orientation

The MPG is an additional grant to municipalities provided for in the Annual Law on Budget of Kosovo - table of budget allocation of the Ministry of Local Government Administration. The strategic goal is to integrate the municipal performance grant in the Law on Local Government Finances of Kosovo or Law on Public Financial Management and Accountability, and regulation by the special law on municipal performance.

The MPG is provided as an additional financial support to the capital projects of municipalities, the amount of which is determined based on the grant allocation formula with variables such as: population size, geographical size, ethnic composition calculated on the basis of the fixed amount[[1]](#footnote-2), as well as performance points.

With regard to spending of the municipal performance grant, all existing government rules (which apply to capital investments within the general grant), shall apply in terms of grant use, planning, reporting and accountability. This means that municipalities can use their legal tendering, contracting and technical acceptance procedures. The grant may be included in the regular audit of the National Audit Office. Thus, the MPG is administered as a government grant to municipalities. The only features added here are the minimum conditions and performance indicators.

Since the plan is for the MPG to become part of the legal framework for local finances in the coming years as well as the specific law on municipal performance and performance grant, it should be harmonized as much as possible with current government systems and administrative procedures of Kosovo.

Line ministries and donors wishing to delegate related responsibilities and funds to local governments will be encouraged to align their grants with the MPG provisions, which are based on the measure of good governance. This would also create an advantage for their (sectoral) grant and MPG. For example, the same minimum conditions can be used, maybe in combination with a minimum percentage of performance points (score). Donors wishing to invest in issues related to good governance will be encouraged to channel their funds directly into the joint MPG fund.

# Structure of rules and targeted audience

This document explains the criteria, rules and procedures for managing a Municipal Performance Grant:

Chapter 1 - provides a brief overview of the MPG justification and areas where it focuses.

Chapter 2 - defines the minimum conditions, performance indicators, and principles for grant allocation and MPG auditing.

Chapter 3 - introduces the process of assessing municipal performance from data collection to grant allocation.

The annexes provide more detailed assessment guidelines (scoring) for the minimum conditions (annex 1) and for performance indicators (annex 2), which provide definitions of what is measured, where the data come from and how it is measured. Annex 3 - provides the template for the scorecard and scoring guideline to be used for communication of performance points (score) to municipalities. Annex 4 - describes in detail how grant amounts are calculated for each municipality once the performance scores are known. Annexes 5, 6, 7 and 8 describe the Terms of Reference of the technical group for MPG assessments; the municipal performance grant commission; the appeals commission and the technical group for drafting the MPG Rules. Annex 9 provides contact information.

This document aims to inform all actors of Kosovo municipalities, including mayors, directors, senior leaders, Municipal Performance Management System (MPMS) coordinators, members of municipal assemblies, as well as civil society and citizens interested.

MPG rules are of interest to all ministries that develop policies for municipalities, as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that address local service delivery and local governance. This document can also serve as a summary for development partners who are considering joining a municipal performance grant.

# Municipal Performance Grant - Design Parameters

# Basic principles

The MPG is based on the following principles:

* Municipalities must meet a number of minimum conditions each year to be eligible for a grant on an annual basis (pursuant to Section 30.2 of the Regulation on MPMS and the Municipal Performance Grant Scheme);
* For all municipalities that have met the minimum conditions, the additional grant received by each municipality is based on its relative score achieved in the municipal performance grant indicators (its points compared to those of all other municipalities) as well as other criteria of the allocation formula, in accordance with Section 30.3 of the Regulation on MPMS and the Municipal Performance Grant Scheme.

The minimum conditions are intended to ensure that the amount available is allocated only to municipalities that are able to use the funds efficiently, effectively and economically; are capable to absorb funds and spend them responsibly; have reviewed municipal acts deemed illegal by the supervisory authority and reported in a timely manner to the MPMS.

Municipal performance grant indicators (and relative scores) aim to incentivise competition between municipalities to ensure additional financial resources, but also the goal of being among the municipalities with the highest scores in key performance areas. Publication of assessment results (and public discussion regarding the analysis of assessment results) is an important aspect of the MPG.

# Minimum conditions

The MPG for 2023 sets four minimum conditions as follows:

* 1. Municipalities must have reported the data to the MPMS by the deadline, according to the article 13 of the MPMS/MPG Regulation[[2]](#footnote-3);
  2. Municipalities must have complied with the legal obligation to review municipal acts deemed illegal by the supervisory authority[[3]](#footnote-4);
  3. The audit opinion should be at least unmodified with an emphasis on the matter; and
  4. Municipalities must have spent 75% or more of the final budget on capital investments;

Municipalities that fail to meet any of the 4 o above-mentioned conditions, cannot receive a municipal performance grant.

The rationale for the minimum conditions is that:

* Municipalities must have reported data to the MPMS on the performance of 2021, according to the deadline.
* The grant will be awarded to those municipalities that have complied with the legal obligation to review municipal acts deemed illegal in 2021 by the supervisory authority[[4]](#footnote-5).
* To receive the grant, municipalities must have a sufficiently sound financial management system, as evidenced by the individual regularity audit reports for 2021, published by the NAO; and
* The grant will be awarded only to those municipalities that have demonstrated that they have sufficient capacity to absorb the additional funds, as indicated by the rate of expenditure of the final budget for capital investments in the individual regularity audit reports for 2021, published by NAO.

All four minimum conditions must be met before the municipality qualifies for the Municipal Performance Grant. Annex 3 provides the template to communicate to each municipality the results of the minimum condition assessment.

The sources of data for all four minimum conditions are set in annex 1 of these rules.

# Municipal performance indicators

The main source of data for the MPG indicators is the MLGA Municipal Performance Management System (MPMS).

As seen in Table 2 below, a total of 30 municipal performance indicators were identified (3 frozen in this assessment) within the three main topics and ten sub-topics (see Table 1 above). **It is important to mention that 27 indicators will be evaluated to determine the grant awarded in the FY 2023, for which the assessment is based on the performance of 2021. The maximum number of points for the 28 indicators to be evaluated is 92 points.**

**Table 2: Summary of municipal performance grant topics for the performance assessment 2021[[5]](#footnote-6)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Topic / Indicator field** | # max. of points |
| **I. DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE** | | **38** |
| **I** | **The role of the municipal assembly as an oversight body** | **11** |
| 1 | Timely approval of the annual municipal budget proposal | 2 |
| 2 | Discussion of quarterly budget reports by the Municipal Assembly | 3 |
| 3 | Discussion on the municipal performance report by the Municipal Assembly for the previous year | 2[[6]](#footnote-7) |
| 4 | Discussion of the external auditor's report and action plan for addressing the recommendations as well as discussion of the findings and recommendations from the internal audit in the Municipal Assembly | 4 |
| 5 | Municipal Assembly meetings with the participation of the Mayor | 2 |
| **II** | **Citizen participation, consultation and inclusiveness** | **12** |
| 6 | Citizen participation in public meetings, disaggregated by gender | 4 |
| 7 | Municipal acts and local policy documents consulted with the public | 4 |
| 8 | Public hearings on the Medium Term Budget Framework (MTEF) and municipal budget | 4 |
| **III** | **Transparency, access to information and integrity** | **15** |
| 9 | Assembly meetings made public and broadcasted live online | 3 |
| 10 | Meeting the criteria of the official website of the municipality | 4 |
| 11 | Publication of public procurement documents of the municipality | 2 |
| 12 | Publication of reports on public consultation processes | 4 |
| 13 | Reporting the annual integrity plan to the Municipal Assembly | 2 |
| **II. MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT** | | **28** |
| **IV** | **Financial management** | **13** |
| 14 | Level of updating the property tax register | 3 |
| 15 | Level of property tax bill collection (no debts, interest, penalties) | 5 |
| 16 | Level of addressing the recommendations of the National Audit Office | 5 |
| **V** | **Contract management** | **7** |
| 17 | Level of Implementation of the procurement plan | 3 |
| 18 | Compilation and publication of the list of municipal properties planned for commissioning | 4 |
| **VI** | **Human resource management** | **8** |
| 19 | Vacancies processed through HRMIS[[7]](#footnote-8) | 2 |
| 20 | Women in leadership positions in educational, health and cultural / sports institutions | 5 |
| 21 | Women appointed to political positions in the municipality | 3 |
| **III. PROVISION OF SERVICES** | | **26** |
| **VII** | **Administrative services** | **6** |
| 22 | Administrative requests reviewed within the legal deadlines | 4 |
| 23 | Reviewed applications for construction permits | 2 |
| **VIII** | **Spatial planning, public transport and the environment** | **8** |
| 24 | The surface of the territory of the municipality covered by regulatory plans (detailed) or zoning maps | 3 |
| 25 | Settlements involved in local public transport | 3 |
| 26 | Implementation of the local action plan in the environment | 2 |
| **IX** | **Pre-university education** | **4** |
| 27 | Children attending kindergarten - rural and in general[[8]](#footnote-9) | 4 |
| 28 | Passing in the national Matura exam – 12th grade | 4 |
| **X** | **Primary health care (PHC)** | **8** |
| 29 | m2 of Primary Health Care spaces per 10000 inhabitants | 3 |
| 30 | Level of compliance with the ratio 1 family doctor and 2 nurses per 2000 inhabitants | 5 |
| **Total points** | | **92** |

The indicators reflect municipal performance areas that (i) are considered important for the good functioning of the municipal structures as entities of democratic local governance and (ii) are, at all levels for all municipalities, considered to have scope for improvement. The MPG focuses on areas where municipalities need and can make further improvements. The grant will create incentives to facilitate this change.

Different indicators have different maximum scores, related to their attributed weight and importance. Annex 3 has a detailed guideline on the allocation of the points within the maximum scores. The points have been calibrated such that good and acceptable levels of performance are rewarded but that, for each indicator, sub optimal performance are given very little or no points, which means that the points really stimulate good performance (instead of mediocre performance). It also means that municipalities that perform well on a number of indicators will receive substantially more points than the ones that show ordinary performance.

It is important to note that the indicators have been selected and formulated in such a way that they are more or less equally attainable by all municipalities, irrespective of the population or area size and economic strength. In principle, the indicators reflect the attributes that all municipalities ‘ought to have' - as they are part of good local governance, which belongs to all citizens of Kosovo.

Indicator no. 3 (orange in Table 2) is ‘frozen’ which means that the results for this indicator will not be taken into account in the total points, due to the late publication of the MPMS 2020 report by MLGA.

Indicator no.19 (orange in Table 2) is ‘frozen’ which means that the result for this indicator will not be taken into account in the total points, due to the amendment of the law on public officials and the lack of secondary legislation regarding the civil service recruitment procedures.

Indicator no. 27 (orange in Table 2) is 'frozen' which means that the result for this indicator will not be taken into account in the total points, because there are currently no accurate data for this indicator and as a result these data were not reported in the MPMS.

# Sources of funding for the municipal performance grant

The MPG for the year 2023 is expected to be co-financed by the Government of Kosovo (from the budget allocation of the MLGA), the European Union; Sweden, Switzerland and Norway.

The MPG financing plan for 2023 is as shown in Table 3 below. All the amounts planned for the MPG are indicative and are subject to approval by the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo and donors.

To monitor the impact of projects on citizens, social audit will be implemented within the MPG. The amount for social audit for 2023 is deducted from the total amount of MPG. Therefore, table 3 presents the MPG indicative amount that will be allocated for municipalities.

**Table 3: Sources of funding for the Municipal Performance Grant 2023 (in Euro)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Funds** | **Source** | **Total 2023** |
| Indicative MPG amount available for municipalities | Government of Kosovo / MLGA | 3,500,000 |
| Donors (EU, Sweden, Switzerland Norway) | 4,271,500 |
| Budget for social audit | Donors (EU, Sweden, Switzerland, Norway) | 78,500 |
| Total | | **7,850,000** |

# Calculation of the amount of the municipal performance grant

The indicators are defined in such a way that all municipalities, independent of their size, location or economic strength, can be a good performer provided they make an effort to perform as a democratic local government serving its people.

MPG is allocated in that way that 90% of total grant amount is allocated based on formula, while 10% of total grant amount is allocated for additional reward for three (3) municipalities with best performance.

The first place receives 5% of the total grant amount; the second place receives 3% of the total grant amount and the third place receives 2% of the total grant amount.

If two or more municipalities have the same result of performance, then the reward amount for the relevant place is proportionally allocated.

The amount of MPG is based on formula (90% of total grant amount of MPG) is determined by:

* + - The relative performance of each municipality as measured against the defined performance indicators; and
    - The amount of the municipal performance grant in the total grant allocated.

In fact, the municipal performance grant will be allocated on the basis of relative scores, in such a way that two municipalities that have the same score will receive an equal relative addition to the share of capital investments of the general grant. This means that both municipalities will be awarded a grant that is the same percentage of their total grant (while the absolute amounts of the municipal performance grant will vary). The size of the absolute amount is proportional to the total grant. The rationale for this is clear: a municipality that has a larger overall grant needs a larger amount to have the same incentive in terms of improving its performance. Annex 4 shows how the MPG allocation is calculated.

# Criteria for using the municipal performance grant

The grant is used to finance municipal projects for the benefit of citizens, in accordance with the following rules and principles:

* MPG is used only for capital investments and cannot be used for salaries, goods, services or subsidies.
* The municipality is free to decide for which investments the municipal performance grant will be used. It is recommended that municipalities focus on concrete projects, limited in number, to avoid lengthy administrative procedures and to use the funds within the fiscal year.
* The grant must be used by the municipality in accordance with applicable law. In case the municipality does not spend the grant in accordance with these rules and legislation in force, the contractual obligations to economic operators are transferred to the municipality itself.
* The use of the grant is subject to the rules of supervision and control in accordance with the legislation in force for the management of public finances and the rules of the performance grant.

# Municipal performance grant audit

MPG expenditures may be audited as part of a regular audit by the National Audit Office.

* MLGA and donors may agree to carry out a *special annual audit* to review certain aspects related to MPG). Audit may include functioning of MPG, procurement processes, technical acceptance procedures of services, payments, etc. Details for this audit are specified in cooperation with the donors.
* If the violations and irregularities identified by the audit are ascertained, the MLGA and donors may decide to exclude the municipality from the right to benefit from the grant for a certain period, in accordance with Article 42.2 of Regulation 01/2020 for the Municipal Performance Management System and the Municipal Performance Grants Scheme.
* To monitor the impact of projects on citizens, social audit will be implemented within the MPG. Social audit may include monitoring of performance and project planning processes at the municipal level. Social audit will be paid from a share of the MPG funds (from donors) and be conducted by civil society organisations. The results of the social audit shall be reported to the MPG Commission.

# Municipal Performance Grant - Assessment process

# Institutional arrangements

The Municipal Performance Grant Commission and the technical group are the bodies responsible for evaluating and allocating the municipal performance grant.

The Appeals Commission reviews and decides on municipal appeals.

The preparation of the Performance Grant Rules before each assessment cycle is done by the Working Group responsible for drafting MPG Rules established by the Secretary General of MLGA.

# Municipal Performance Grant Commission

The Municipal Performance Grant Commission is the highest decision-making body for the MPG.

The duties and responsibilities of the Municipal Performance Grant Commission are as follows:

* + Establishing the rules and procedures of the commission’s work;
  + Overseeing the process and ensuring that the Technical Group has followed the assessment criteria and procedures set out in the performance grant rules;
  + Endorsing the performance assessment results for the MPG;
  + In case of irregularities, the Commission may return the assessment process for reconsideration;
  + Informing municipalities about the results of the grant assessment;
  + The Grant Commission may not change the assessment results and grant amounts without fully applying the assessment process in accordance with MPG rules;
  + In case of change of the assessment results as a result of the appeal decision issued by the Appeals Commission, the grant commission through the technical group makes changes in the assessment report and notifies the relevant municipality of the final result.

The Municipal Performance Grant Commission is established by a decision of the Secretary General of the MLGA, the composition of which is defined in Article 35.4 of Regulation 01/2020 on the Municipal Performance Management System and Performance Based Grant Scheme, as follows:

* 1 member from MLGA (General Secretary/Chairperson),
* 1 public official of the leading level of the ministry;
* 1 public official from the ministry responsible for finance;
* 1 observer from European Union in Kosovo;
* 1 observer from Sweden;
* 1 observer from Switzerland;
* 1 observer from Norway; and
* observers from civil society.

Members of the MPG Commission may not be officials involved in the Technical Group and the Appeals Commission at the same time. Members have the voting right while the observers can provide their suggestions but do not have a voting right.

# Technical group

The technical group is a professional level body composed of public officials of the unit responsible for municipal performance and representatives of donors.

The duties and responsibilities of the technical group are as follows:

* + Implementation of performance appraisal and calculation standards as defined in MPG rules;
  + Calculation of the grant amount according to the formula defined in the rules of the MPG;
  + Drafting the assessment report for the grant and addressing it for endorsement to the MPG Commission;

The Technical Group is established by a decision of the Secretary General of the MLGA in accordance with Article 34.1 of Regulation 01/2020 on the Municipal Performance Management System and Performance Based Grant Scheme, the composition of which is as follows:

* 3 members from the MLGA unit responsible for municipal performance;
* 2 members from the DEMOS project (representing contributing entities);
* 1 member from CSO as an observer.

# Appeals Commission

The Appeals Commission reviews and decides on appeals submitted by municipalities regarding their performance appraisal to the MPG, pursuant to Section 39 of Regulation 01/2020 on the Municipal Performance Management System and Performance Based Grant Scheme.

The duties of the Appeals Commission are:

* Review of grant appeals submitted by municipalities;
* Taking decisions on appeals submitted.

The Appeals Commission consists of 3 members and 2 observers:

* 2 representatives from MLGA (one of them Chairperson)
* 1 external representative (from a CSO)
* 2 observers from the DEMOS project

The Appeals Commission will not review the complaints related to the data source used during the assessment.

Members of the grant commission or technical group may not be members of the Appeals Commission.

# 3.1.4. Working Group responsible for drafting MPG Rules

The Working Group responsible for drafting these MPG Rules is established by decision of the General Secretary of MLGA**.**

The working group is responsible for:

* Preparation of MPG rules before each assessment cycle;
* Submitting the rules to the Secretary General of the MLGA and donors for approval;

The composition of the working group is established according to section 32.2 of Regulation 01/2020 on MPMS and the Performance Based Grant Scheme.

Working group consists of 2 MLGA officials (one chairperson) and 2 DEMOS project representatives (as representatives of donors).

# Timeline

The MPG assessment process starts each year when the data regarding municipal performance becomes available. The table below shows the tentative grant allocation timeline for 2023 according to 2021 performance assessment.

**Table 4: Tentative timeline of the assessment process**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **MPG 2023** |
| Adoption of rules | August 2022 |
| Data collection | August 2022 |
| Assessment / scoring process | August 2022 |
| Approval of assessment results | August 2022 |
| Communication of results to municipalities | August 2022 |
| Period for complaints | August-September 2022 |
| Confirmation of final results and of grant amounts | September 2022 |
| Transfer of funds | January-February 2023 |
| Use of funds | FY 2023[[9]](#footnote-10) |

# Assessment procedures

# 3.3.1 Assessment Period for Municipal Performance Grant (Grant Management Cycles)

The assessment period for the municipal performance grant is divided into 3 main stages:

**1.1. Performance period -** which means the year for which the performance of the municipality is evaluated. Based on these rules of MPG 2023, the municipal performance of 2021 is assessed;

**1.2. Assessment period -** means the period in which the performance appraisal for the MPG is performed i.e. the municipal performance for the MPG is assessed in 2022 for the performance assessment of the year 2021

**1.3. Allocation period and utilization of grant -**means the year in which the grant is made available for use by municipalities. Under these rules the grant will be available to municipalities in 2023.

# Preparations for assessment of MPG

The preparatory procedures for the assessment of MPG are as follows:

* The Working Group responsible for drafting the MPG Rules prepares the MPG rules for the fiscal year 2023 (year of allocation) for the performance of municipalities of 2021.
* The drafted rules are submitted to the Secretary General of the MLGA and to donors.
* The MPG rules prior to assessment process are authorized (approved by the Secretary General of MLGA and the donors.
* Upon approval, the MPG Rules are distributed to municipalities and published on the website of the MLGA.
* The assessment process starts according to the timelines defined in table 4 of these rules.

# Data collection and assessment

The Technical Group collects the data for the assessment of the municipal performance grant. This data is derived from the following documents:

1. Municipal Performance Management System (MPMS) Report 2021 of MLGA, published by MLGA;
2. Report on the functioning of the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo for 2021, published by MLGA and the Report on assessment of legality of municipal assembly acts 2021;
3. Regularity audit reports for the year 2021 for each of the 38 municipalities, published by the NAO;

Data used from these sources allow for identification of municipalities that fulfil 4 minimum conditions for the municipal performance grant (see Annex 1). The data are also used to assess MPG indicators (see Annex 2). Once that is done, the scorecard (see template in Annex 3) will be filled in with scores for each municipality. The total score will be entered in the grant allocation table, which will calculate the amount of the municipal performance grant for each municipality that is eligible (Annex 4).

# Communication of results to municipalities and the complaint procedure

After the MPG Commission approves the results for the MPG, within 7 days, it shall communicate the scorecards to the municipalities. The communication of the performance results of the respective municipality is done only by providing information on whether the municipality has qualified or not, as well as the performance points for the MPG. The amounts and ranking of the municipalities will be communicated only after the completion of the appeals process.

After communication of results, municipalities have the right to appeal within **7 days from the moment of receiving the scorecard from the ministry**, if they do not agree with the assessment results.

The complaint can be filed by the municipalities for procedural and material reasons of the MPG assessment.

The complaint cannot dispute the source of the official data used during the assessment.

If a municipality claims that the assessors of the MPG have made errors in the assessment of its performance, it can exercise its right of appeal under the following procedures:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Steps and timelines in a complaint process** | | |
| 1. | If, after receiving the scorecard, a municipality is of the opinion that procedural or material mistakes have been made in the performance grant assessment, the municipality has the right to file a complaint to the appeal commission.  The complaint should:   * Be justified with factual data; * Be signed by the mayor and be protocolled; * Be submitted in writing to:   Appeals Commission  Ministry of Local Government Administration  E-mail: info.mapl@rks-gov.net  After submitting the complaint, the MLGA confirms in writing the receipt of the complaint. | Within 7 days from the receipt of the scorecard, before 16:00 |
| 2. | The Appeals Commission reviews the complaints and makes a decision on the complaints filed. | Within 7 days after complaint period closure |
| 3 | In case of change of the assessment scores as a result of the Decision of the Appeals Commission, the MPG Commission, through the Technical group, corrects the assessment report and notifies the municipality. | Within 14 days after the decision of the Appeals Commission |

In case a complaint of one or more municipalities is successful and leads to the change of MPG results, this will also have an effect on the size of the grant to other municipalities. All changes in the grant allocation after the complaints process are approved by the MPG Commission.

# Finalising and publishing the assessment results and grant allocation

Once the Appeal Commission has decided on the complaints, the MPG Commission, through the technical group, makes changes to the assessment report and the subsequent allocation of the municipal performance grant is considered final.

The final results and grant amounts will be communicated to municipalities so that they can plan the use of the municipal performance grant.

MLGA publishes the final performance assessment report on its website.

# Measures to ensure objective assessment

There is a risk of mistakes during the municipal assessment process for MPG. This means that non-objective assessment affects the undeserved distribution of the performance grant.

In order to avoid this risk, the Regulation on MPMS as well as Performance Grant Rules set out the following quality assurance mechanisms:

* Verification process - which enables comparison of data reported with documents or facts that prove authenticity;
* Implementation of complaint procedures both in the case of drafting the performance report and in the assessment process for the MPG.
* Involvement of donors in all MPG and performance assessment processes;
* Active involvement of civil society in the capacity of decision-makers (in the MPG Appeals Commission) as well as in the capacity of observers in the MPG Commission and possibly in the Technical group;
* Verification of the quality of grant allocation by external consultants (optional).
* Possibility of declaring performance data invalid in cases of non-compliance with quality criteria (Article 21 of the Regulation on MPMS) in accordance with the relevant Methodology;

# Annexes

**Annex 1: Assessment Guide – Minimum conditions**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| # | Minimum condition | Minimum condition definition | Legal basis | Data source | Criteria  Municipality met/did not meet |
| 1 | Municipalities must report data to the MPMS within the set deadlines | Municipalities must report their performance to the MPMS within the deadline set in the Regulation on Performance | Regulation No. 01/2020 on the municipal performance management system and the Performance Based Grant Scheme, Article 13 | MPMS Report 2021, MLGA | Yes, if the municipality has reported to the MPMS on time  No, if the municipality has not reported to the MPMS on time |
| 2 | Municipalities must  adhere to the legal  obligation for reviewing municipal acts assessed as incompliant by the supervisory authority | Municipalities must have reviewed all municipal acts assessed as incompliant in 2020 by the supervisory authority. The review for the purposes of the Municipal Performance Grant is a procedural criterion, which implies the obligation of the municipality to review in the Municipal Assembly the acts assessed as incompliant by the supervisory authority, without presupposing the final content of the reviewed act. | Law No. 03/L-040 on Local Self-Government | Report on the functioning of the municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo for the period January – December 2021 and the Report on assessment of legality of Municipal Assembly acts 2021 | Yes, if the municipality has reviewed the legal acts by the municipal assembly  No, if the municipality has not reviewed the legal acts by the municipal assembly |
| 3 | The audit opinion should be at least ‘unmodified opinion with emphasis of matter’ | The annual audit opinion at least *‘unmodified*  *opinion with emphasis*  *of matter’[[10]](#footnote-11)* | 1. Law No.03/L-048 on Public Finance Management and Accountability (LPFMA) 2. Regulation No. 01/2017 on Annual Financial Reporting of Budget Organizations issued by the MoF. International Public Sector Accounting Standards | Individual audit reports on regularity for the year 2021 published by the NAO | Yes, if municipality receives *unmodified opinion or unmodified opinion with emphasis of matter*  No, if municipality receives qualified or adverse opinion, and if NAO disclaims an opinion. |
| 4 | Municipalities should have spent 75% or more of the final budget for capital investments | At least 75% of the final  budget for capital investments spent | 1. LPFMA Financial Rule no.01-2013 on Public Funds Expenditure | Individual audit reports on regularity for the year 2021 published by the NAO | Yes, if the municipality has spent at least 75% or more of the final capital investment budget  No, if the municipality has spent less than 75% of the final budget on capital investments |

**Annex 2: Assessment Guide for the Performance Indicators**

The table below shows the 30 performance indicators. The way how indicators from the MPMS are measured, is described in the MPMS documents. The table below contains brief definitions on how indicators are measured. Indicators no. 3, 19 and 27 are not taken as basis in the MPG 2021 performance assessment for the fiscal year 2023

| # | Indicator | Brief definition |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **I . DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE** | | |
| **I** | **Role of the Municipal Assembly as supervisory body** | |
| 1 | Timely approval of the annual municipal budget proposal | Indicator measure the level of compliance of municipal bodies’ legal obligation to draft and submit the municipal budget proposal for approval, and its approval by the municipal assembly. The annual municipal budget proposal for year n+1 has to be submitted to the MA on September 1st, at the latest. The budget proposal has to be approved by MA and submitted to the Ministry of Finance on September 30th, at the latest. The legal basis related to the drafting and approval of the annual budget proposal is provided by the Law on Public Financial Management and Accountability. Performance measurement of this indicator is based on the measurement of: i) timely submission of the municipal budget proposal to MA and ii) timely submission of the approved municipal budget proposal to the Ministry of Finance. |
| 2 | Discussion of quarterly budget reports by the  Municipal Assembly | Indicator measures compliance of municipal authorities with the legal obligation of presenting and discussing quarterly budget reports in the municipal assembly. Budget reports should be submitted for discussion on a quarterly basis to the municipal assembly, i.e., reports should be submitted to the municipal assembly by the mayor.  Legal basis for preparing and presenting quarterly budget reports to the MA is provided in the Law of Public Financial Management and Accountability.  Performance measurement of this indicator is based on the measurement of timely presentation of quarterly reports (within 30 days after the end of the quarter) by the mayor, to the MA, for each quarter; observing compliance with dates: 31 January, 30 April, 31 July, and 31 October of the assessed fiscal year. |
| 3 | Discussions on the previous year municipal performance report by the Municipal Assembly | Indicator measures municipal compliance with legal obligations to present and discuss the results of the annual municipal performance from the Municipal Performance Management System (MPMS) in the MA. For assessment purposes, the Municipal Performance Report (year n-1) has to be an agenda point in one of the MA meetings before June (year n).  Through this indicator, the MA is able to annually discuss and hold the executive into account for the municipal performance. Performance measurement of this indicator is based on the measurement of timely presentation of the report, specifically it is required to prove as evidence that the PMS report has been included as a reporting heading in the municipal assembly’s agenda after the publication of the report; with the calendar year when report is published. |
| 4 | Discussion of the external auditor’s report and action plan for  addressing the recommendations and discussion of the findings  and recommendations of the internal audit in  the Municipal Assembly | For the grant scheme, this indicator aggregates readings from two PMS indicators 3.2.4 and 3.2.5;  Indicator 3.2.4 measures municipal performance regarding compliance to submit the National Audit Report to MA for discussion, including the action plan. Legal basis for this submission is given in the Law on NAO, imposing the obligation on behalf of municipal authorities to report to MA on planned and executed activities related to findings and recommendations of the NAO specified in their Annual Regularity Audit Reports; Measurement of performance is based on the following criteria: i) discussion of the NAO report in the MA; and ii) discussion of the action plan to address NAO recommendations; specific evidence is required to confirm fulfilment of the criteria within stipulated time frame.  Indicator 3.2.5 measures municipal performance regarding compliance to submit and discuss the report of the Internal Audit to the MA, including the action plan related to findings. Measurement of performance is based on the following criteria: i) discussion of the Internal Audit report in the MA; and ii) discussion of the action plan to address Internal Audit report recommendations; specific evidence is required to confirm fulfilment of the criteria within stipulated time frame. |
| 5 | Meetings of the Municipal Assembly with the participation of the mayor | Indicator measures municipal performance with respect to the mayors’ obligation to report to the MA, measuring mayors’ attendance in the MA meetings. Performance measurement is based on evidence proving the presence of the mayor in the working sessions of the MA, namely the lists of participation or reports of meetings of the MA. |
| **II** | **Participation, consultation with citizens and inclusion** | |
| 6 | Citizen participation in public consultations, disaggregated  by gender | For the grant scheme, this indicator aggregates readings from two PMS indicators 3.1.2 and 16.1.3;  Indicator 3.1.2 measures the level of citizen participation in all municipal public consultations relative to the number of inhabitants in the municipality. The maximum participation rate for this indicator is considered 3% of the number of inhabitants of the respective municipality. Measurement of performance for this indicator takes into account for following: all public consultation activities, including public meetings, budget hearings and consultations on municipal acts.  Indicator 16.1.3 measures the participation of women in public consultations as a percentage of all participants in public consultation activities; This is an indicator of gender equality, derived from the general participation of citizens in public consultations. |
| 7 | Municipal acts and local policy documents consulted with the  public | Indicator measures performance with regards to the level fulfilment of the municipal assembly’s obligation in terms of public consultation after the drafting of general acts. For the purpose of this indicator, based on the stipulation in Article 8 of Administrative Instruction 01/2015), public is consulted with respect to general acts adopted by MA. Measurement of performance for this indicator is based on the evidence on the following: (i) number of general acts and policy documents passed during the year, and (i) number of general acts and policy documents passed during the year that were subject to public consultations. |
| 8 | Public hearing on the Medium-Term Budgetary Framework (MTBF)  MTBF and municipal budget (proportional to # of residents) | Indicator measures performance of municipal authorities to organize MTBF and budget hearings, using 10,000 inhabitants as a reference for the municipality population size, that is to put the number of hearings in the context to population size. For municipalities with 10.000 inhabitants or less, minimum number of hearings is set to 2. Legal context for this indicator is drawn from the Law on Public Financial Management and Accountability, and Administrative Instruction (MLGA) No. 06/2018 on Minimum Standards of Public Consultations in Municipalities. Measurement of performance for this indicator is based on the documentary evidence for the following criteria: (ii) number of public consultations for the annual municipal budget (ii) number of public consultations on MTBF; and (iii) number of inhabitants in the municipality. |
| **III** | **Transparency, access to information and integrity** | |
| 9 | Assembly meetings made public and broadcasted live | Indicator measures performance of the municipal authorities to timely announce MA meetings, and to provide live broadcast of MA meetings and of its committees. Online streaming is also considered a broadcast for the purposes of this indicator, stipulating that streaming is available in the official website of the municipality. Proper notification on the forthcoming MA meeting is subject to criteria that regulate publication, content, timeliness, and language. Legal basis for this indicator is given in the Administrative Instruction (MLGA) No. 04/2018 on the Transparency in Municipalities. Performance level of the indicator is based on the documentary evidence regarding the following criteria: (i) number of MA meetings; (ii) number of notifications for the MA meetings; and (iii) number of MA meetings that were broadcasted live. |
| 10 | Fulfilment of criteria on municipality’s official website | Indicator measures the level of performance of the responsible municipal authorities to manage the website, by providing specified content and regularity of updates. Criteria for the municipal website content is given in the Administrative Instruction (MLG) No. 01/2015, specifying the necessary content (population of website) for public institution websites and in Administrative Instruction (MLGA) No. 04/2018; For the purposes of this indicator, performance measurement is subject to documentary evidence of fulfilment a stipulated list of 8 criteria. |
| 11 | Publication of public procurement documents | Indicator measures the performance of municipal authorities with regards to compliance with the required regulations on publication of public procurement documents, the annual procurement plan, report on implementation of procurement plan in the foreseen period, public contracts;  The Indicator is calculated by awarding points for compliance with each of the 3 categories (publication of documents). This is an important indicator for transparency, allowing for public oversight and accountability regarding management of public funds by the municipal authorities. Performance of this indicator is based on the evidence available to establish compliance regarding: (i) publication of the annual public procurement plan; (ii) publication of the report on the implementation of public procurement plan; and (iii) publication of public contracts. |
| 12 | Publication of minutes of public consultation processes | The indicator measures the % of public consultation processes which are followed by a report within the timeframe listing the requests of citizens and interest groups as well as explanations for the rejection of their requests, according to the UA on minimum public consultation standards.  Indicator is important to monitor the accountability of the municipal authorities towards their constituency, allowing citizens to monitor their inputs, and keeping municipal authorities accountable. Performance of the indicator is measured on two criteria: (i) number of public consultations during the year; and (ii) number of public consultations where report has been uploaded in the municipal website within 30 days. |
| 13 | Reporting on the annual plan of the Integrity Plan to the Municipal Assembly | Indicator measures performance of the municipal authorities with regards to fulfilment of the obligation to report on the implementation of the integrity plan during the assessed year. Inherently ensuring transparency and accountability for anti-corruption measures foreseen by the integrity plan as a preventive instrument against corruption. Performance of this indicator is assessed based on the evidence that informs that the Annual implementation report of the Integrity Plan has been presented and discussed by the MA during the year up to December 31. |
| **II. MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT** | | |
| **IV** | **Financial management** | |
| 14 | Update of property tax register | Indicator measures the performance of the municipal authorities regarding the implementation of obligation related to the rassessment of buildings for property tax purposes within the calendar year. The rassessment of buildings for property tax purposes refers to the obligation to identify and record changes to the existing buildings, in order to enable property tax billing as required by law, and it must be performed on annual basis. Law stipulates that 20% of properties (buildings) must be re-visited for verification purposes, to ensure consistency between registration and actual state of the property. Legal basis for this indicator is the Law No. 06/L-005 on Property Tax. Performance of the indicator is calculated based on the obtained information regarding: (i) number of properties (buildings) in the municipality; and (ii) number of properties (buildings) in the municipality that have been verified. |
| 15 | Level of property tax collection (no debt, interest, penalties) | Indicator measures the performance of municipal authorities in enforcing their legal obligation regarding the collection of property tax, expressed as a percentage of the total invoiced property tax within one year. It calculates the rate of collection in one year, excluding debts from last year’s bills, interest payments and penalties. The measurement of the level of property tax collection refers to the evaluated year. This indicator assesses municipal authorities by measuring the level of property tax collection compared to the tax invoiced during the evaluated year. Legal basis for this indicator is the Law No. 06/L-005 on Property Tax.  Performance of the indicator is calculated based on the obtained information regarding: (i) invoiced sum for property tax total for the year; and (ii) collected sum for invoiced property tax total for the year. Indicator does not measure the total property tax collected value, as the total amount may also include older debts carried over from previous years, interest payments and penalties; specifically it only measures the level of tax collected during the reporting year. |
| 16 | Level of addressing of recommendations of the National Audit Office | Indicator measures performance of the municipal authorities with regard to full implementation and addressing of the high and medium level recommendations, explicitly presented in the NAO audit report. In the NAO audit report (n-2), which refers to the fiscal year (n-3), are presented recommendations for implementation or addressing, which should be fully implemented and addressed in the year (n-1). Indicator is an important measure of the responsiveness of the municipal authorities with regards to recommendations given by the NAO. Indicator performance is assessed based on the evidence of addressing of the listed recommendations, as a percentage of addressed recommendations with respect to listed recommendations. |
| **V** | **Contract management** | |
| 17 | Level of the procurement plan implementation | Indicator measures performance of the municipal authorities with respect to implementation of the annual municipal procurement plan, assessing performance based on the level of spending of the planned budget via procurement activities. Specifically, indicator uses financial information to assess performance between the planned, and executed budget via procurement. Indicator is an important measure of effectiveness and efficiency of municipal authorities to plan and execute budget via the public procurement unit, ensuring compliance with the procurement laws, rules and regulations. Performance of the indicator is assessed based on the available documentary evidence on the following: (i) total budget spent via procurement; and (ii) total budget planned for procurement activities. |
| 18 | Compilation and publication of the list of  municipal properties planned to be allocated for use | Indicator measures performance of the municipal authorities in discharging their obligations in the domain of local economic development, specifically to prepare and publish the list of properties planned to be allocated for use to interested parties in accordance with the Law on Allocation for Use and Exchange of Municipal Immovable Property. Performance of the indicator is based on the evidence that inform the following criteria: (i) prepared and updated list with municipal assets planned to be allocated for use; and (ii) publication of the updated list of municipal properties planned to be allocated for use. |
| **VI** | **Human resources management** | |
| 19 | Vacancies processed through the HRMIS | Indicator measures performance of the municipal authorities to ensure compliance with the management of human resources in the municipality, ensuring that all employment vacancies are processed via the electronic system HRMIS (human resources management information system). Performance of the indicator is assessed based on the provided information for: (i) total number of new employments of civil servants during the year in municipality and its subordinate institutions; and (ii) total number of new employments of civil servants during the year in municipality and its subordinate institutions processed via the HRMIS. |
| 20 | Women in leadership positions in education, health and culture institutions | Indicator measures the level of performance of municipal authorities with regards to achieved levels of gender equality in leadership positions in the subordinated intuitions of the municipality in the areas of education, healthcare, culture, and sports. Indicator measures the percentage of compliance with the gender equality target, measuring the percentage of women in high management position in municipal bodies and subordinate institutions. The legal basis for this indicator is Law No. 05/L -020 on Gender Equality and the Kosovo Gender Equality Program. Performance of the indicator is established based on evidence on: (i) total employees in higher management positions in municipal bodies and subordinate institutions, and (ii) number of women in high management positions in municipal bodies and subordinate institutions. |
| 21 | Women appointed in political positions in the municipality | Indicator measures the level of performance of municipal authorities with regards to achieved levels of gender equality in the politically nominated positions in the municipality structures. Indicator measures percentage of compliance with the gender equality target, measuring the percentage of women in politically nominated positions in the municipal authorities. Indicator measures the appointments in political positions such as the position of deputy mayor, municipal director, political advisor and other politically mandated positions. The legal basis for this indicator is the Law No. 05/L -020 on Gender Equality and the Kosovo Gender Equality Program. Performance of the indicator is established based on evidence on: (i) total persons in politically nominated positions in the municipality; and (ii) number of women in politically nominated positions in the municipality. |
| **III. DELIVERY OF SERVICES** | | |
| **VII** | **Administrative services** | |
| 22 | Cases of administrative requests reviewed within legal deadlines | Indicator measures the effectiveness of the municipal authorities in reviewing requests submitted by citizens and organizations in the course of the evaluated year. Accordingly, municipal authorities are obliged to review all citizens’ applications within specific deadlines, depending on the nature/domain of the request. Only cases registered (submitted) via the Municipal Citizen Centre are considered and accounted for measurement purposes. Indicator measures the percentage of cases reviewed with respect to overall cases managed by the municipal system. Legal basis for the indicator is Law No. 05/L-031 on the General Administrative Procedure and a broad set of laws and bylaws that regulate specific durations of procedures. Performance of the indicator is assessed by obtaining information on: (i) number of cases reviewed by the municipality during the year; and (ii) number of cases reviewed by the municipality within legal time limits. |
| 23 | Reviewed requests for building permits | Indicator measures performance of municipal authorities with regards to the effectiveness of reviewing requests for building permits. Specifically, this indicator measures the percentage of reviewed applications, without prejudicing positive or negative outcomes of the building permit application, since eligibility or compliance of each or any of the applications for building permit may not be prejudiced. Percentage of reviewed submissions is based on the number of applications submitted in the course of the reported year. Legal basis for this indicator is Law No. 04/L-110 on Construction and the Law on Local Self-Government. Performance of the indicator is assessed based on the evidence available for the following criteria: (i) number of applications for construction permit in the course of the year; and (ii) number of applications reviewed in the course of the year. |
| **VIII** | **Spatial planning, public transport and environment** | |
| 24 | Area of municipal territory covered by (detailed) regulatory plans or zoning maps | Indicator measures performance of the municipal authorities in their discharge of mandate to produce and implement legal instruments that regulate land use, such as detailed regulatory plans. Specifically, indicator measures percentage of municipal territory that is covered with detailed regulatory plans or zonal maps as legal instruments that regulate use of land. Performance is measured as percentage of territory that is covered with either zonal maps or detailed regulatory plans. Legal basis for this indicator is Law No. 04/L-174 on Spatial Planning. Performance level of the indicator is based on the evidence provided for the following criteria: (i) total area of the municipality in ha; (ii) total area of the municipality that is covered with planning instruments. i.e. Detailed Regulatory Plan or Zonal Map in ha. |
| 25 | Settlements covered by local public transport | Indicator measures the performance of municipality with regards to organizing public transportation services for each and every settlement in the municipality, and for the benefit of its citizens. Performance is measured as the percentage of settlements that are included in the public transport system in relation to the total number of settlements in the municipality. Legal basis for this indicator is given in the Law for Local Self-Government, and Law No. 04/L-179 on Road Transportation. Performance of the indicator is assessed based on the evidence regarding the following criteria: (i) number of settlements in the municipality; and (ii) number of settlements provided/covered with public transportation. |
| 26 | Implementation of the local environmental  action plan | Indicator measures the performance of the municipality in preparing and implementing local action plans, which represent the necessary local action plans for environmental protection. Performance is measured by the implementation of the annual activities specified in the plan. Consequently, performance measurement in developing the planning document for the environmental protection action plan is also measured through implementation. The legal basis for this indicator is provided in Law on 03/L-025 on Environment Protection. Indicator performance is assessed based on the information available for the following criteria: (i) number of planned local environmental action activities; and (ii) number of implemented activities from the list of planned actions. |
| **IX** | **Pre-university education** | |
| 27 | Children attending  Kindergarten – rural and overall | Indicator measures the performance of the municipal authorities to increase the number of children that attend kindergartens as part of the early education. Indicator provides percentage of children of age 0-3 that attend kindergartens, measured for all children of the age in the municipality and for children in rural areas. Challenge for the municipality is to build, and run kindergartens to meet the demand of the population. Indicator also collects disaggregated data on gender of children/attendance of girls. Performance of the indicator is assessed from the evidence for the following criteria: (i) number of children of age 0-3 in total, rural, and girls; (ii) number of children of age 0-3 that are enrolled in kindergarten in total, rural, and girls. |
| 28 | Matura test (grade 12) results | Indicator measures the general level of passing the required threshold as a condition for recognizing the passing of the state Matura exam, namely evaluates the learning achievements of students at the level of completion of the 12th grade, i.e. in the upper secondary level. At the end of grade 12, students sit for a state Matura exam, with the threshold for passing set at 40%, students that pass have the right to continue in upper education. Legal basis for this indicator is Law No. 05/L-018 on Final Exam and State Matura. Performance of the indicator is assessed at percentage of students that have scored above 40% of the points in the test. Specifically, evidence is needed for the following criteria: (i) number of students that have completed 12 grade, disaggregated by gender; and (ii) number of students that have completed the test with a score 40% or higher, disaggregated by gender. |
| **X** | **Primary Health Care (PHC)** | |
| 29 | PHC spaces in m2 per 10,000 inhabitants | Indicator measures performance of the municipal authorities with regards to building and running facilities for the Primary Health Care, based on the population count in the municipality. Specifically, indicator measures total available area of PHC in m2 per 10,000 inhabitants, providing the density ratio of the available infrastructure against the population size. Legal basis for the municipal competencies on primary healthcare is given in Law No. 04-L-124 on Health. Performance on this indicator is assessed based on evidence on these criteria: (i) population in the municipality; and (ii) total areas of PHC facilities in the municipality. |
| 30 | Report fulfilment level of 1 family physician and  2 nurses per 2,000 inhabitants ratio | Indicator measures performance of the municipal authorities to ensure compliance with regards to the targeted ratio of 1 medical family team (1 family medicine doctor and 2 nurses) per 20,000 people. Indicator is measured as a percentage of compliance of the current ratio of available family medicine teams compared to the targeted ratio. Specific target ratio is established by the Ministry of Health and is given in the Administrative Instruction No. 07/2017. Indicator performance value is determined based on evidence on the following criteria: (i) number of facility medicine teams in the municipality; and (ii) population size in the municipality. |

**Annex 3: Template for Scorecard and scoring guideline**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Summary of results on municipal performance grant 2021** | | |
|  |  |  |
| **#** | **Minimum condition** | **Assessment** |
| **1** | Municipalities should have reported data to the MPMS within the set deadlines |  |
| **2** | Municipalities should have adhered to the legal obligation for reviewing municipal acts assessed as incompliant by the supervisory authority |  |
| **3** | The audit opinion should be at least ‘unmodified opinion with emphasis of matter’ |  |
| **4** | Municipalities should have spent 75% or more of the final budget for capital investments |  |
| ***The municipality is qualified/not qualified for the performance grant*** | | |
| **#** | **Fields and sub-fields of performance indicators** | **Assessment** |
| **I** | Role of the Municipal Assembly as supervisory body | 0 |
| **II** | Citizen participation, consultation and inclusiveness | 0 |
| **III** | Transparency, access to information and integrity | 0 |
| **Score** for municipal governance | | **0** |
| **IV** | Financial management | 0 |
| **V** | Contract management | 0 |
| **VI** | Human resources management | 0 |
| **Score** for municipal management | | **0** |
| **VII** | Administrative services | 0 |
| **VIII** | Spatial planning, public transport and environment | 0 |
| **IX** | Pre-university education | 0 |
| **X** | Primary Health Care (PHC) | 0 |
| **Score** for service delivery | | **0** |
|  |  | |
| **Final Score** | | **0** |



|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Performance Assessment 2021 – Municipality XXX |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **#** | **Indicator** | **Assessment guidelines** | **Value as in the source** | **Max. score** | **Assessment** | **Data Source** | **Comments** |
| **1** | **Democratic Governance** | | | **38** | **0** |  |  |
| **I** | **Role of the Municipal Assembly as an oversight body** | | | **11** | **0** |  |  |
| **1** | Timely approval of the annual municipal budget proposal | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 99.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 100%. | 0.00% | 2 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.2.1 |  |
| **2** | Discussion of quarterly budget reports by the Municipal Assembly | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 74.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is 75% - 100%. | 0.00% | 3 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.2.2 |  |
| **3** | Discussion on the previous year municipal performance report by the Municipal Assembly | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is lower than 100%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 100%. | 0.00% | 2 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.2.3 | This indicator has not been scored. For more details, you can refer to the Rules of the Municipal Performance Grant for the Fiscal Year 2023 |
| **4** | Discussion of the external auditor's report and action plan for addressing the recommendations and discussion of the findings and recommendations of the internal audit in the Municipal Assembly | • 0 points if the average of two indicators in MPMS is less than 49.99%,  • 2 points if the average of two indicators in MPMS is 50% - 99.99%,  • 4 points if the average of two indicators in MPMS is 100%. | 0.00% | 4 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicators 3.2.4 and 3.2.5 |  |
| **5** | Meetings of the Municipal Assembly with the participation of the mayor | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 89.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 2 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.2.6 |  |
| **II** | **Participation, consultation and inclusion of citizens** | | | **12** | **0** |  |  |
| **6** | Citizen participation in public consultations, disaggregated by gender | • 0 points if the average of two indicators of the result in MPMS is lower than 39.99%,  • 1 point if the average of two indicators in MPMS is from 40% - 69.99%,  • 2 points if the average of two indicators in MPMS is form 70% - 89.99%,  • 4 points if the average of two indicators in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 4 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicators 3.1.2 and 16.2.3 |  |
| **7** | Municipal acts and local policy documents consulted with the public | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 39.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 40% - 69.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 70% - 89.99%,  • 4 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 4 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.1.3 |  |
| **8** | Public hearing on the Medium Term Budget Framework (MTBF) and municipal budget | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 39.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 40% - 69.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 70% - 89.99%,  • 4 points if the result in MPMS is higher or equal to 90%. | 0.00% | 4 | 0 | MPMS Report, Indicator 3.1.4 |  |
| **III** | **Transparency, access to information and integrity** | | | **15** | **0** |  |  |
| **9** | Assembly meetings made public and broadcasted live online | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 39.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 40% - 59.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 60% - 89.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 3 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 2.1.1 |  |
| **10** | Meeting the criteria of the official website of the municipality | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 39.99%  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 40% - 59.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 60% - 89.99%,  • 4 points if the result in MPMS is higher or equal to 90%. | 0.00% | 4 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 2.1.3 |  |
| **11** | Publication of public procurement documents of the municipality | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 89.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90% | 0.00% | 2 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 2.2.2 |  |
| **12** | Publication of reports of public consultation processes | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 39.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 40% - 59.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 60% - 89.99%,  • 4 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 4 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.1.5 |  |
| **13** | Reporting the annual Integrity Plan before the Municipal Assembly | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is lower than 100%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 100%. | 0.00% | 2 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.4.1 |  |
| **2** | **Municipal Management** | | | **28** | **0** |  |  |
| **IV** | **Financial management** | | | **13** | **0** |  |  |
| **14** | Level of updating the property tax register | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 84.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 85% - 99.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is 100% | 0.00% | 3 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 19.1.3 |  |
| **15** | Level of property tax bill collection (no debts, interest, penalties) | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 39.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 40% - 59.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is 60% - 84.99%,  • 5 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 85% | 0.00% | 5 | 0 | MPMS report  Indicator 19.1.4 |  |
| **16** | Level of addressing the recommendations of the National Audit Office | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 29.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 30% - 49.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 50% - 84.99%,  • 5 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 85%. | 0.00% | 5 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.3.3 |  |
| **V** | **Contract management** | | | **7** | **0** |  |  |
| **17** | Level of implementation of the procurement plan | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 59.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 60% - 89.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 3 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.3.1 |  |
| **18** | Preparation and publication of the list of municipal properties planned for commissioning | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 50%,  • 4 points if the result in MPMS is 100%. | 0.00% | 4 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 19.1.2 |  |
| **VI** | **Human resource Management** | | | **8** | **0** |  |  |
| **19** | Vacancies processed through HRMIS | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 89.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 2 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 3.5.2 | This indicator has not been scored. For more details, you can refer to the Rules of the Municipal Performance Grant for the Fiscal Year 2023 |
| **20** | Women in leadership positions in education, health and culture institutions | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 50% - 79.99%,  • 5 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 80%. | 0.00% | 5 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 16.1.2 |  |
| **21** | Women appointed in political positions in the municipality | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 59.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 60% - 99.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is equal to 100%. | 0.00% | 3 | 0 | MPMS report,  16.1.3 |  |
| **3** | **Service provision** | | | **26** | **0** |  |  |
| **VII** | **Administrative services** | | | **6** | **0** |  |  |
| **22** | Administrative requests reviewed within legal deadlines | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 69.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 70% - 89.99%,  • 4 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 4 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 1.1.2 |  |
| **23** | Reviewed building permit requests | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 89.99%  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 2 | 0 | MPMS report,  7.2.1 |  |
| **VIII** | **Spatial planning, public transport and environmental protection** | | | **8** | **0** |  |  |
| **24** | Surface of municipality’s territory covered by (detailed) regulatory plans or zoning maps | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 29.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 30% - 69.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 70%. | 0.00% | 3 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 7.1.1 |  |
| **25** | Settlements involved in local public transport | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 79.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 80%. | 0.00% | 3 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 10.1.2 |  |
| **26** | Implementation of the Local Environmental Action Plan | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 89.99%  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. | 0.00% | 2 | 0 | MPMS report,  15.1.1 |  |
| **IX** | **Pre-University Education** | | | **4** | **0** |  |  |
| **27** | Children attending kindergarten - rural and general | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 50% - 79.99%,  • 4 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 80%. |  | 4 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 17.3.1 | This indicator is not scored. For more explanations, please refer to the Municipal Performance Grant Rules for Fiscal Year 2023. |
| **28** | Passing rate in the national Matura exam in 12th grade (disaggregation by gender) | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 2 points if the result in MPMS is 50% - 89.99%,  • 4 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. |  | 4 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 17.3.5 |  |
| **X** | **Primary health care** | | | **8** | **0** |  |  |
| **29** | Primary Health Care space in m2 per 10,000 inhabitants | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 49.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 50% - 89.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is equal to or higher than 90%. |  | 3 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 18.1.1 |  |
| **30** | Report fulfilment level, 1 family physician and 2 nurses per 2,000 inhabitants | • 0 points if the result in MPMS is up to 29.99%,  • 1 point if the result in MPMS is 30% - 59.99%,  • 3 points if the result in MPMS is 60% - 89.99%  • 5 points if the result in MPMS is equal or higher than 90%. |  | 5 | 0 | MPMS report,  Indicator 18.2.1 |  |
| **Final result** | | |  | **92** | **0** |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | \*\* The score refers to the Albanian language version of the data source |  |  |  |  |

# Annex 4: Template for calculation of allocated grant amounts

The allocation of the Municipal Performance Grant, which is provided as an addition to the capital investment part of the general grant, is determined by the relative performance of each municipality as measured against defined performance indicators. At the same time, the performance is allocated in such a way that two municipalities that have the same score will get an equal relative additional grant (meaning that with the same score, they would both get 5 or 10% more, while the absolute amounts of the additional grant will differ).

In order to achieve this, the following steps are required to calculate the allocations:

* Firstly, the assessment scores for each municipality are weighed with the share of the general grant that each municipality receives for that year (on a basis of a weighted allocation formula, taking into account various expenditure needs based variables as defined by the government). This is the weighted score.
* Secondly, the relative share of each municipality in this weighted score is calculated.
* Thirdly, this latter relative share in the weighted performance score is multiplied by the total amount available for the 2023 Municipal Performance Grant.
* Fourth, the municipal performance grant allocates additional remunerations to the highest performing municipalities. Ten (10) per cent of the total grant amount is allocated to the top three highest performing places. The first place receives 5% of the total grant amount; the second place receives 3% of the total grant amount and the third place receives 2% of the total grant amount. If two or more municipalities are having the same performance score, then the amount of reward for the designated place is divided proportionally for that number of municipalities with the same result.

This may seem complicated, but the example below can help clarify.

The table on the next page shows an example of the calculation of the municipal performance grant allocation, using the general grant allocated for 2023, as per the government's budget circular, under the following assumptions (as example) that (i) all municipalities have met the minimum conditions and (ii) that all municipalities have achieved exactly the same score of 92 points (which is unlikely in reality, but which allows each municipality to be treated equally in this example).

The following steps are taken to calculate the allocations:

* The share of the municipal grant in the total grant is determined by dividing the municipal general grant (column 3) by the total general grant (total column 3). This is a percentage called 'relative share of the general grant' (column 4);
* The weighted performance score is then calculated as shown in column (7) by multiplying the performance assessment score (column 6) with the relative share in the general grant and the results of meeting the minimum conditions (reflected in column 5), which is either 1 if the minimum conditions are met or "0" if the minimum conditions are not met (column 5). A municipality that does not meet the minimum conditions is excluded from further calculations (and the value in columns 6 to 10 will show a “0”).
* The municipal 'calculated weighted score' (in column 7) is then divided by the total of the 'calculated weighted score' (i.e., the total of column 7), to obtain the 'relative share weighted score' (column 8);
* Finally, this "relative share weighted score" is multiplied by the total amount of funds available for the Municipal Performance Grant in a year (total amount of the Municipal Performance Grant). This leads to the municipal performance grant allocation as reflected in column 9.



Column 10 shows the grant allocation for each municipality as a percentage of its general grant allocation (column 3). In this example, it shows that all municipalities get an average increase of 3.10% to the general grant allocation.[[11]](#footnote-12)

Column 11 shows the remuneration allocation assuming that all municipalities have the same performance.

Column 12 shows the total value of the municipal performance grant for each municipality after the remuneration allocation. So, to column 9 - calculated value for the MPG, the amount of award is added and gives us the total value of MPG for each municipality.

Column 13 shows the grant allocation for each municipality as a percentage of the total grant allocation (column 3). In this example, this shows that all municipalities receive a 2.8%-6.5% increase in overall grant allocation.

In fact, and as not all municipalities will meet the minimum conditions, it is anticipated that, through the municipal performance grant, municipalities with a score above average will see a noticeable increase in their capital budget.

The table above is available as an Excel spreadsheet for those who are interested.

# Annex 5: Terms of reference - MPG Commission

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**Republika e Kosovës**

**Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo**

**Qeveria - Vlada - Government**

Ministria e Administrimit të Pushtetit Lokal

Ministarstvo Administracije Lokalne Samouprave

Ministry of Local Government Administration

**Terms of reference**

**for**

**the Municipal Performance Grant Commission**

1. **Brief summary**

This document clarifies the role and functions of the Municipal Performance Grant Commission. The main function of the Municipal Performance Grant Commission is to guarantee the integrity of the assessment system by formally assuming responsibility for the assessment results and the ensuing calculations for the allocations of the determined rules. The Commission cannot change the results of the assessment, but only ensure that the Technical Group (TG) has followed the rules.

**2. Role and functions of the Municipal performance grant Commission**

The main function of the municipal performance grant commission is to guarantee the integrity of the assessment. The main functions of the Municipal Performance Grant Commission are the following:

* + Set the rules and procedures for the Commission's work;
  + Oversee the process and ensure that the Technical Group has followed the assessment criteria and procedures set out in the performance grant rules;
  + Endorses the performance assessment results for the grant;
  + In case of irregularities, the Commission may return the assessment process for reconsideration;
  + Notify municipalities about the results of the grant assessment;
  + The grant Commission cannot change the assessment results and the amount of the Grant without fully applying the assessment process in accordance with the grant rules;
  + In case of change of the assessment score as a result of the decision on appeal issued by the appeal commission, the grant commission, through the technical group, makes changes in the assessment report and notifies the relevant municipality of the final result.

**3. Administration of the Municipal Performance Grant Commission**

* It is preferable for members of the Municipal Performance Grant Commission to understand and speak English.
* The Chairperson of the MPG appoints the secretariat for the technical administration of the work of the commission, ensuring the preparation of meeting agendas, meeting announcements, minutes, working documents and other procedural issues.
* The agenda and relevant documents must always be attached to the meeting notices.
* Minutes are prepared for each meeting and approved by the Municipal Performance Grant Commission.
* Decisions of the Municipal Performance Grant Commission are taken by a majority of votes.
* Any member of the Municipal Performance Grant Commission may request the convening of further meetings in coordination with the Chairperson.

# Annex 6: Terms of reference - Technical group

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**Republika e Kosovës**

**Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo**

**Qeveria - Vlada - Government**

Ministria e Administrimit të Pushtetit Lokal

Ministarstvo Administracije Lokalne Samouprave

Ministry of Local Government Administration

**Terms of reference**

**for**

**the Technical Group (TG)**

**2. Duties and responsibilities of the Technical Group (TG):**

The main functions of the TG are the following:

* Implementation of MPG assessment rules and standards;
* Data collection, their analysis and verification;
* Assessment of municipal performance according to MPG rules;
* Calculation of the grant amount according to the formula defined in the MPG rules;
* Ensure data transfer for the scorecards according to the source;
* Drafting the assessment report for the grant and addressing it for endorsement to the Grant Commission;
* Presentation of the MPG assessment report to the MPG Commission
* Provide necessary clarifications according to the requests of the Municipal Performance Grant Commission and the Appeals Commission;

**3. Administration of the TG**

* The Chairperson of TG prepares the agenda and chairs the TG meetings.
* The agenda and relevant documents should be attached to the notice of TG meetings.
* Minutes are prepared for the TG meetings and approved by all members.
* TG members should be public officials of the unit responsible for municipal performance within MLGA. Representatives of donors also participate in the TG as decision makers.
* It is preferable for TG members to understand and speak English.

# Annex 7: Terms of reference - Appeal Commission

**Republika e Kosovës**

**Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo**

**Qeveria - Vlada - Government**

Ministria e Administrimit të Pushtetit Lokal

Ministarstvo Administracije Lokalne Samouprave

Ministry of Local Government Administration

**Terms of reference**

**for**

**Appeals Commission**

This document clarifies the role and functions of the Appeals Commission (AC).

Pursuant to Regulation on Municipal Performance Management System and Municipal Performance Grant Scheme, Article 39, municipalities can file an appeal against the decision on the assessment of MPG. However, complaints cannot dispute the source of official data used for the assessment.

**2. Duties and responsibilities of the Appeals Commission (AC):**

The main function of the AC is as follows:

* Review of grant complaints submitted by municipalities ensuring that they meet the conditions described in point 3.3.4 of the MPG Rules;
* Making decisions on complaints filed by municipalities in accordance with Article 39 of Regulation 01/2020 on MPMS and PG Scheme.

**3. Administration of the Appeals Commission**

* The Chairperson of the Appeals Commission convenes the meetings of the commission.
* Agenda and working materials must be attached to the meeting notice;
* The minutes are prepared for each meeting and signed by the members of the commission.

# Annex 8: Terms of reference - Working Group for drafting MPG rules

**Republika e Kosovës**

**Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo**

**Qeveria - Vlada - Government**

Ministria e Administrimit të Pushtetit Lokal

Ministarstvo Administracije Lokalne Samouprave

Ministry of Local Government Administration

The Working Group for drafting the MPG Rules is responsible for:

• Preparing MPG rules before each assessment cycle in accordance with Regulation 01/2020 on Municipal Performance Management System and Municipal Performance Grant Scheme;

• Submitting the rules to the Secretary General of the MLGA and donors for approval;

The composition of the working group is established according to Article 32.2 of Regulation 01/2020 on MPMS and Municipal Performance Grant Scheme.

The MPG Rules are approved by MLGA in consultation with donors either through a meeting or email exchange.

**Annex 9: Contacts**

**1. Venera Çerkini – Deputy Secretary General of the MLGA**

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**2. Diellor Gashi - Director of the Department for Municipal Performance and Transparency in MLGA**

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1. Formula of the general grant allocation is defined in the Law on Local Government Finance (Law no. 03 / L-049) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. The deadline for reporting of performance data by the municipality is 45 calendar days, from the moment of receipt of the request for reporting by the ministry. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Review for the purposes of the MPG is a procedural criterion, which implies the obligation of the municipality to review in the Municipal Assembly acts deemed illegal in 2021 by the supervisory authority, without presupposing the final content of the reviewed act. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Supervisory authority means the MLGA and line ministries [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. A more detailed explanation of the topics, indicators and colours can be found in the text and in annex 2. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. This indicator is frozen because the MPMS report for 2020 performance was published by MLGA after the deadline for discussion of the municipal performance report by the MA [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. This indicator is frozen due to the amendment of the law on public officials and the lack of secondary legislation regarding the civil service recruitment procedures. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. This indicator is frozen in this assessment cycle due to lack of data in MPMS. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. The donor share of MPG funds can be used during 2023 and 2024. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. NAO provides several types of opinions:

    Unmodified opinion:

    • If it is concluded that the financial statements are prepared, in all material aspects, in accordance with the applicable financial framework

    Qualified opinion:

    If having obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence, the auditor concludes that misstatements, individually or in the aggregate, are material, but not pervasive, to the financial statements; or

    If the auditor was unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence on which to base an opinion, but concludes that the effects on the financial statements of any undetected misstatements could be material but not pervasive

    Adverse opinion:

    If having obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence, the auditor concludes that misstatements, individually or in the aggregate, are both material and pervasive to the financial statements

    Disclaim an opinion:

    If having been unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence on which to base the opinion, the auditor concludes that the effects on the financial statements of any undetected misstatements could be both material and pervasive. If, after accepting the engagement, the auditor becomes aware that management has imposed a limitation on the audit scope that the auditor considers likely to result in the need to express a qualified opinion or to disclaim an opinion on the financial statements, the auditor should request that management remove the limitation.

    Emphasis of the matter:

    If the auditor considers it necessary to draw the user’s attention to a matter presented or disclosed in the financial statements that is of such importance that it is fundamental to their understanding of the financial statements, but there is sufficient appropriate evidence that the matter is not materially misstated in the financial statements, the auditor should include an Emphasis of Matter paragraph in the auditor’s report. Emphasis of Matter paragraphs should only refer to information presented or disclosed in the financial statements. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. As can be seen, given the assumptions, the calculations show an equal relative increase of the general grant for all municipalities as all have the same score. 3.05% is precisely the performance grant amount as share of the general grant (7,771,500/255,210,000). In fact, because some municipalities will not meet the MCs, while also the scores differ, the relative increase will be (much) higher depending on the relative performance. In fact, the actual allocation a municipality gets depends on its relative score and on the Municipalities that have (or notably those that have not met) the minimum conditions. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)