



ANNUAL REPORT

2025



Executive Director's Note

Dear supporters, friends and members of our community,

The year 2025 marked a special chapter in the journey of Rin'ON. From our beginnings as an informal youth club in December 2013 to registering as a non-governmental organization in 2017, we have built a shared path with young people to empower rural communities. At the heart of our mission is the belief that young people are the engine of change and that they must have the space, tools and support to become catalysts for the future they desire. Guided by integrity, respect, diversity and inclusion, we have created programs that allow young people to take the lead and make a tangible difference.

Throughout the past year, our youth have demonstrated extraordinary energy and creativity. We expanded our programs to include more villages and offered new opportunities for cooperation between young people from different communities. Working with high school councils and village councils has led to concrete projects led by the young people themselves that address local issues and foster social cohesion. Through cultural, sports, social and educational activities, we created safe spaces where young people can explore their identities, express their talents and develop skills that will accompany them throughout their lives. Partnerships with local and international organizations have allowed us to deepen our impact and share best practices with wider networks.

We look to the future with confidence. The energy, courage and commitment we see in the new generation convince us that the continuity of Rin'ON's values is in safe hands. Our commitment to investing in the next generation, preserving the spirit of collaboration and ensuring that every young person feels heard and empowered will remain unwavering. We thank all our donors, partners, volunteers and community members who supported us during this year. Together we are building a brighter and more equitable future for everyone.

Sincerely,

Granit Sadiku

Executive Director, Rin'ON



Youth lead's Note

Leading the day-to-day work at Rin'ON means a lot to me. I started as a volunteer, and being trusted now as a deputy director and leader is something I'm truly grateful for.

It's an organization I care deeply about, so having the opportunity to contribute to its daily work is not something I take for granted. Being close in age to the volunteers, and having been one myself just a year ago, makes communication more open and natural. There's a sense of trust and understanding, as I can relate to their needs and challenges from recent experience, which helps create a supportive and approachable environment. Looking ahead, I'm excited about the chance to make a real impact, bring in new ideas, and grow together with Rin'ON. At the same time, the increased responsibility is a challenge, but I see it as a valuable part of the learning process and something I'm gradually growing into.

Sincerely,

Anjeza Gashi

Deputy Director, Rin'ON



Table of Contents

Mission & Vision Theory of change	4
2025 Impact report Belonging, Voice & Growth	5
Our Volunteer of the Year	7
Rural Youth & Community Leadership	8
Rri'ON Program	9
Expression, Play & Collective Energy	11
PROJECTS Resilient and Inclusive Communities	12
Sport4Inclusion	15
Innovation Catalyst Initiative for Minorities	16
Comm'ON Ground	17
Local Peace	18
Introducing Our Team	19
Partners & Plans for the future	20

Mission & Vision

The vision of Rin'ON is a future where active youth are the driving force behind a vibrant and improved community.

Rin'ON mission is to actively engage and empower youth in rural areas, amplifying their voices and dismantling the barriers that hinder their civic engagement.

Through our initiatives and partnerships, we aim to equip young individuals with the tools, knowledge, opportunities, and confidence they need to become catalysts for positive change within their communities.

Theory of change

Civic participation among young people in Kosovo is low. Youth are not actively involved in their communities, even less so in rural areas. However, Rin'ON has identified that youth are willing to do so, but simply lack the tools, confidence, and motivation. This low participation also means that there is a lack of youth-driven approaches and peer-to-peer engagement on common youth issues such as online disinformation, bullying, unemployment and lack of inclusion among young people of different genders, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds.

Rin'ON provides:

1. A safe space and cool group to belong to by providing an accessible platform for young people to openly express their opinions and concerns and to join the network of RinONistas who are agents of change across Ferizaj.
2. Community Service Initiatives and other educational, social and cultural opportunities to engage young people from different backgrounds to engage with their peers in their communities in a fun way.
3. Trainings and tools to build both the personal and professional skills they need to work towards a better future for themselves and their community.

Communities are stronger when youth participate. Young people are connected to

their communities, schools, and peer networks. Engaging them in initiatives that address local issues ensures that interventions are relevant, culturally sensitive, and embraced by the community. Investing in youth is an investment in the future. Equipping young individuals with skills, values, and a sense of social responsibility can lead to lasting positive changes as they grow into leaders, professionals, and active citizens.

2025 Impact report

Impact Areas

Belonging, Voice & Growth

Rin'ON creates spaces where young people feel they belong, are listened to, and can grow at their own pace. Through our activities at the youth centre, informal conversations, and structured workshops, young people find room to explore who they are, what they care about, and how they want to engage with the world around them.



486 Young People Reached!

In 2025, Rin'ON reached a total of 486 young people through its activities and programs, reflecting our continued commitment to meaningful youth engagement and community impact.



73 Volunteer Meetings!

Throughout 2025, 73 volunteer meetings were organised, creating consistent spaces for coordination, teamwork, and strengthening collaboration among volunteers.



13 Movie Nights!

Rin'ON hosted 13 movie nights during 2025, offering informal spaces for reflection, dialogue, and community engagement through film and discussion. Total: 413 participations representing 219 unique individuals.



3 Skills Development Activities!

A Microsoft workshop engaged 4 participants in strengthening digital skills. Training I involved 16 participants, focusing on peace education, inclusion, community building, and youth engagement. Training II reached 34 participants (23 unique individuals) and covered non-formal education, minority inclusion, nonviolent communication, youth participation, and community resilience.

Volunteer meeting- Nerodime, June 14th

Parku Kastrioti, Nerodime, June 14th. An outdoor volunteer meeting focused on the role of sport in community impact and building sustainable communities through shared activities, strengthening connections and teamwork among volunteers.



Movie Night – Zaskok, August 28th

A screening of “HER”, a documentary directed by Rin’ON’s 2024 Volunteer of the Year, Djellza Musliu, was held at the local school. The film explores themes of gender equality and resilience through the story of a female FSK soldier. The activity brought together a mixed Albanian–Ashkali audience and encouraged reflection and discussion on inclusion and strength in diverse communities.



Training II- Youth Center, September 20th/21st

A two-day training facilitated by Council of Europe trainer Cihan Kılıç equipped Rin’ON participants with practical tools in non-formal education, inclusion, nonviolent communication, and youth participation. Throughout the training, Cihan introduced a range of interactive and engaging activities that were new to the volunteers and had not been experienced in previous sessions. These methods helped participants better understand the concepts through practice, encouraged active involvement, and created a dynamic learning environment.



Volunteer of the Year

“

My name is Jona Arifi, I am 18 years old. Being part of RinON this year has been a very special and meaningful experience for me. Through this journey I had the chance to meet amazing people, learn many new things, and be part of activities that had a positive impact on our community. It made me feel grateful and happy to contribute in my own way. I truly enjoyed this experience because it helped me grow, gain new knowledge, and create beautiful memories with other young people. I believe volunteering is very important for young people because it helps us learn, connect with others, and make a positive difference in the community.

”



Rural Youth & Community Leadership

We work in villages where opportunities for young people are limited and often overlooked. By collaborating with rural youth, village councils, and other local actors, we support communities to identify their own priorities and take collective action — with young people playing an active role in shaping local life



6 Villages Reached!

In 2025, Rin'ON reached 6 villages: Greme, Seqishtë, Paldenicë, Mirash, Talinoc i Muhaxherëve and Mollopolc, through its activities, expanding its impact to rural communities.



43 Village Council Members!

A total of 43 village council members were engaged, strengthening local leadership and encouraging active participation in community development



4 Community Activities!

Four community initiatives were implemented, with one activity carried out in four of the villages, addressing local needs and fostering community involvement.



2 Educational Videos!

Two educational videos created from rural youth of Talinoc and Mirash villages during the Rri'ON Program



Rri'ON Program

The Rri'ON – Active Youth Program in Villages was implemented in the villages of Talinoc i Muhaxherëve and Mirash, engaging middle school students in a structured learning and participation process. The program aimed to strengthen life skills, promote active citizenship, and encourage young people to take part in the development of their local communities. Through interactive sessions and practical activities, participants were introduced to themes such as teamwork, communication, peacebuilding, and community engagement.

Initiatives

Within the Rri'ON – Active Youth Program in Villages, participants from Mirash and Talinoc i Muhaxherëve implemented a series of community-based initiatives aimed at strengthening inclusion, creativity, and youth engagement.

Mirash

In Mirash, young people implemented the “Classroom Painting” initiative, transforming school classrooms into more inclusive and inspiring spaces. The process engaged over 70 peers in sharing ideas and drawings, with final designs selected together with school staff. Students, volunteers, and teachers then worked collaboratively to bring the classrooms to life, strengthening ownership and belonging within the school environment.



The second initiative, the “Inclusive Sports Day”, engaged 32 participants and promoted gender equality, inclusion of persons with disabilities, and respect through teamwork-based sports activities and mixed-group games, highlighting sport as a tool for unity and cooperation.



Talinoc i Muhaxherëve

In Talinoc i Muhaxherëve, participants implemented two creative initiatives. The first, “Silent Theatre”, used physical theatre inspired by the “Pyramid of Hate” to explore stereotypes, exclusion, and the consequences of violence, while also presenting positive alternatives based on empathy and understanding.



The second initiative, an educational video on bullying and identity, raised awareness on different forms of bullying, including cyberbullying, and encouraged reflection on stereotypes and prevention strategies through storytelling and animation.



Both initiatives were presented during the program’s final event in front of teachers, students from the school, and many members of the local community, creating space for discussion and reflection on inclusion, discrimination, and respectful communication.

Across both villages, the initiatives demonstrated strong youth engagement, creativity, and collaboration with schools and the wider community, showing how young people can actively contribute to positive social change.

Expression, Play & Collective Energy

Through sports, arts, and creative activities, we bring people together across ages and backgrounds. These shared experiences create trust, joy, and connection, strengthening relationships within communities and opening new ways for young people to express themselves and contribute.



9 sport activities

A total of 9 sport activities were organised throughout the programme period, contributing to physical engagement, teamwork, and active participation among participants.



11 art activities

11 art activities were organised, providing space for creativity, self-expression, and community engagement through various artistic methods and workshops.

Loops of Hope was a symbolic sport-based initiative that raised awareness about breast cancer and showed solidarity with those affected. Held at Freedom Park, participants walked or ran loops with the shared goal of reaching 100 kilometers in total. After each loop, they received a pink ribbon symbolizing support, remembrance, and hope. Beyond the physical activity, the initiative strengthened community spirit and encouraged empathy and collective support for individuals and families impacted by breast cancer.



An art-based activity was organized during the summer break, bringing volunteers together in a relaxed and creative setting. The gathering provided an opportunity for our volunteers to paint freely, express their creativity, and connect with one another beyond structured activities.

Alongside painting, the group also enjoyed a karaoke session, adding a lighthearted and joyful element to the experience.



Projects

Resilient and Inclusive Communities

Rin'ON, as part of a consortium led by the Advocacy Training and Resource Center (ATRC) and in partnership with the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN Kosovo) and Community Building Mitrovica (CBM), contributes to building Resilient and Inclusive Communities across different regions of Kosovo. The project promotes inter-ethnic cooperation and social cohesion and builds the capacities of local actors in the Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE), including empowering youth as agents of change.

Our role in the consortium focuses on mitigating youth vulnerability against violent extremism, especially in rural and hard-to-reach areas by:

- Fostering social cohesion by bringing together youth from different ethnic backgrounds in social and volunteering activities and through awareness raising campaigns;
- Encouraging community agency by supporting high school councils and village councils in implementing grassroots initiatives in their communities;
- Strengthening youth's sense of purpose and equal access to opportunities through workshops, social and cultural activities;
- Empowering youth to become active agents of change in their communities.

The project “Resilient and Inclusive Communities” is funded by the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) and has been implemented since September 2024. The project will continue until the end of June 2026.



Key activities in 2025

Monthly Movie Nights and Discussions

In 2025, we organised 13 movie nights with a total of 219 participants.

In June, we screened *Memory*, a short film by Ilirjan Himaj about an elderly man living with Alzheimer's who gets lost while trying to return home. After the screening, the director joined an open discussion with the audience, creating space for reflection on elderly care, solidarity, and the importance of more inclusive and compassionate communities.



High School Student Council partnerships & Initiatives

In 2025 we partnered with 5 high school student councils.

As part of the High School Student Council Meetings & Initiatives, students from Kuvendi i Arbërit High School carried out a scientific experiment to assess bacteria in shared school spaces. By collecting samples and analyzing them under a microscope, they identified areas more sensitive in terms of hygiene.

The activity strengthened students' scientific skills while raising awareness about cleanliness, personal responsibility, and collective care in creating a safer and healthier school environment.



Village Council partnerships & Initiatives

In 2025 we partnered with 4 village councils.

As part of the Village Council Meetings & Initiatives, a collaboration was launched with the village of Mollopolc. During the first meeting, held in the village's traditional oda, residents expressed interest in promoting their newly discovered waterfalls and creating an inclusive team to support social development, local tourism, and opportunities for young people.





Workshops for Youth

As part of the Workshops for Youth, we organized the training “Inclusive Communities through Peace Education.” Through interactive tools such as the “Iceberg of Culture” and the “Wheel of Identity,” participants explored identity, culture, and perception, while activities like the “Signs Simulation” and the “Plane Scenario” encouraged reflection on group dynamics, stereotypes, and unconscious biases.

Discussions on microaggressions and the “Pyramid of Hate” highlighted how everyday behaviors can contribute to exclusion, emphasizing the importance of empathy and responsible action. Participants expressed strong appreciation for the training, noting increased awareness and motivation to promote inclusion, tolerance, and peace within their communities.



“Through the project activities, I had the opportunity to actively participate, contribute ideas, and develop new skills while working with others on community-focused initiatives. For me, Rin’ON is much more than just a group — it feels like a second family. The staff are very supportive and understanding toward volunteers, creating a welcoming and positive environment. I feel happy and grateful to be part of Rin’ON as a volunteer.

”

Ardit Legjisi
Volunteer



Sport4Inclusion

As part of the Sport 4 Inclusion project, Rin'ON organized a sports activity with young people, using play as a tool to address discrimination and promote inclusion. Through methodologies learned from PLAY International, participants engaged in games that encouraged cooperation, respect, and communication among diverse communities. Activities took place both indoors and outdoors, creating a dynamic and inclusive environment.



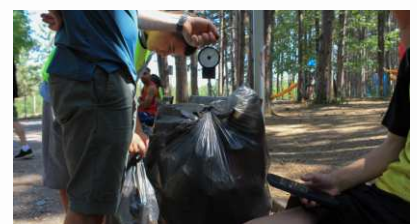
Key activities

As part of this project, we implemented the “Move for the Community” campaign, promoting sport, solidarity, and unity.

On August 9th, at Freedom Park, dozens of young people and community members came together for a day of sports and collaboration. Within the Sport 4 Inclusion project, participants took part in the Tetrathl'ON Tournament, featuring four disciplines: Vertical Run, CrossFit Short Race, Spogomi (eco race), and Jump Rope Endurance.

Through this campaign, we encouraged teamwork and communication through mixed teams, promoted environmental awareness, and strengthened civic engagement and cooperation among communities.

This project was implemented from April to September 2025 with the support of Play International and co-funded by the European Union and the French Development Agency (AFD).



E-Include – Digital Bridge to Community

The e-Include – Digital Bridge to Community project aimed to promote digital inclusion and legal empowerment for the Ashkali community in Dubrava, Ferizaj. Through practical trainings, outreach activities, and legal support, the project helped community members gain access to online public services and strengthen their knowledge of civic rights. More than 100 residents benefited from the project.



Key activities

Key Activities

- Organized four practical sessions on the use of the **eKosova Platform**, including account registration, step-by-step application processes, and independent access to online public services.
- Conducted door-to-door outreach activities within the Ashkali community in Dubrava, Ferizaj.
- Held legal advisory sessions with a lawyer, focused on inheritance rights, fundamental citizen rights, access to legal services, employment and labour relations, discrimination and legal protection, as well as guidance on administrative and institutional procedures.
- Supported participants in using digital tools for information, self-advocacy, and access to public services independently and safely.



This project was implemented by The Foundation House within the framework of the “Support to Civil Society in Kosovo” programme, funded by the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and implemented by LuxDev, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation Agency, from October 2025 and is expected to be completed in March 2026.

Comm'ON Ground

Within the Comm'ON Ground – Film • Dialogue • Mural project, Rin'ON implemented a community mural in the village of Doganaj, in close collaboration with local youth and children, turning the activity into a participatory and civic engagement process.

During the painting process, participants actively contributed to the mural's creation, expressed their creativity, and helped shape a public space in their community.

The activity highlighted the importance of public spaces as places for collaboration, creativity, and civic participation, where the community not only witnesses change but actively creates it.



The project also included film screenings and dialogue sessions focused on identity, gender equality, mental health, and safe spaces for youth

“Prishtinë 2002” – A short film directed by Trendelina Halili, followed by a discussion with the director on memory, identity and post-war life in Kosovo, where young participants shared their views on equality, the environment, and civic engagement.



Performance film screening by Saranda Sadikaj (Ms Indefinite). An artistic and interactive session exploring identity, gender norms, self-expression, feminism, and social pressure through performance art and open discussion.

This project was implemented from September to November 2025 with the support of UNDP Kosovo through the initiative “Enhancing Civic Space, Social Cohesion and Innovative Public Engagement Models”, implemented by Youth Initiative for Human Rights Kosovo (YIHR KS).



Local Peace

Following their participation in a human rights training organized by Local Peace, our volunteers Jona and Joni took the initiative to further promote awareness of labour rights within their community.

In November, they designed and facilitated their first workshop on workers' rights, engaging young people in discussions on dignity, equality, and rights in the workplace.

Building on this experience, and together with Rin'ON volunteers, they contributed to the creation of a mural at the Youth Centre. The mural serves as a visual representation of the values promoted through the training and workshop activities, highlighting the importance of human rights, equal opportunities, and decent working conditions.

This initiative demonstrates how capacity-building activities can empower young people to transform knowledge into action, take leadership roles, and contribute to positive change within their communities.

Donor: Local Peace



This initiative was implemented from November to December 2025 in partnership with Local Peace and supported by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

Introducing Our Team



Granit Sadiku
Executive Director



Anjeza Gashi
Deputy Director



Chiara Dedeken
Strategic Advisor



Ardian Sadiku
Finance Manager



Albina Avdyli
Program Manager



Arlinda Sejdiu
Project Manager



Muhamer Duda
Project Manager



Jona Arifi
Volunteer Coordinator

Partners & Plans for the future

Rin'ON is a Ferizaj-based NGO dedicated to empowering youth and building stronger communities. Through our initiatives and partnerships, we equip young people with the tools, knowledge, opportunities, and confidence they need to become catalysts for positive change.

Over the past 12 years, we've built a vibrant network of young changemakers. We believe communities thrive when youth are actively involved. Young people are deeply connected to their communities, schools, and peers—and when they're engaged in addressing local issues, solutions are more relevant, culturally sensitive, and embraced by the community. Investing in youth means investing in a better future for all.

Our work is made possible thanks to the incredible support of our funders, partners, staff, and volunteers. We are especially grateful to our donors and partners, whose generous contributions make our mission possible:

- Global Community Engagement & Resilience Fund (GCERF)
- Advocacy Training and Resource Center (ATRC)
- World Student Christian Federation-Europe (WSCF-E)
- Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN)
- Community Building Mitrovica (CBM)
- Local Peace
- Youth Peace Ambassadors (YPAN)
- Play International
- The Foundation House
- Youth Initiative for Human Rights
- Directory of Education of Ferizaj
- Universum International College
- The villages: Greme, Seqishtë, Paldenicë, Mollopolc, Mirash and Talinoc
- The schools: "Pjetër Bogdani", "Kuvendi i Arbërit", "Tefik Çanga", "Astrit Bytyçi", "Ismail Qemaili", "Dy Dëshmorët", "Ali Hadri", "Pesë Dëshmorët e UÇK".

Building on the progress we've made this year, Rin'ON remains committed to our mission of engaging and empowering youth in rural areas, amplifying their voices, and breaking down the barriers to civic participation.

 Klubi Rin'ON

 klubi_rinon

 rinon-ngo.org



From 2026 to 2027, Rin'ON will focus on:

- Creating a safe and welcoming space where young people feel a sense of belonging—a place where they can freely express their thoughts, concerns, and ideas. We will continue to grow and strengthen our vibrant community of RinONistas.
- Supporting more youth-led and community-driven initiatives, as well as providing educational, cultural, and social opportunities that bring together young people from diverse backgrounds in fun, meaningful ways.
- Providing training and tools to help youth build the personal and professional skills they need to shape a better future for themselves and their communities.

We are deeply grateful to our donors, supporters, and every individual and organization that stands with us in this mission.



Thank You