

ANNUAL STATISTICS REPORT

2021-2023

by

KOSOVO ERASMUS+ OFFICE

February 2024



Introduction

Erasmus+ programme is the EU programme that supports areas of education, training, youth and sport in Europe and neighboring regions. It has an estimated budget of €26.2 billion for the period (2021-2027) which is nearly double the funding compared to its predecessor programme (2014-2020). Kosovo as part of Western Balkans region is considered a priority region for cooperation with EU within the Erasmus+ programme with a total budget of €374Mil for the period 2021-2027.

Kosovo Erasmus+ Office (KEO) is the focal point for all actors involved in the Erasmus+ Programme in the area of Higher Education, Vocational Education and Training (VET), Youth and Sport. The mandate of the KEO under the Erasmus+ Programme covers the entire spectrum of supporting, promotion and dissemination activities related to the Erasmus+ actions open for Kosovo. Besides its main role KEO also endeavors to annually analyze data and statistics which are gathered by European Commission per country and per region. The main objective of the annual statistics report is to see the progress Kosovo institutions are making year by year vis-a-vis opportunities available from this program, but also following the trends of mobility and project partnerships.

By keeping data and analyzing these trends KEO seeks to cross reference them with discussion and points raised with HEIs throughout the year, keep the records of all the figures and plan our activities and strategies based on the collected data. Working with data is important and essential for KEO as they point out the areas where Kosovo HEI strengths and weaknesses are and how to best address them with our targeted activities. KEO also disseminates and shares this report with internal and external stakeholders in order to synergies with potential partners in addressing weaknesses which annual data point out.

Overall, gathering annual statistics data for Erasmus activities in Kosovo also serves several important purposes:

1. **Evaluation of Impact:** Annual statistics allow policymakers, educators, and stakeholders to assess the impact of Erasmus activities in Kosovo. This evaluation helps determine whether the program is meeting its objectives, such as enhancing the quality of education, promoting internationalization, and fostering cultural exchange.
2. **Resource Allocation:** Data on Erasmus activities assist in allocating resources effectively. By understanding participation rates, mobility trends, and areas of focus, authorities can allocate funding, support services, and infrastructure to areas where they are most needed, ensuring that the program operates efficiently.
3. **Quality Improvement:** Analyzing annual statistics enables institutions to identify areas for improvement. By examining factors such as student satisfaction, academic performance, and institutional partnerships, stakeholders can implement measures to enhance the quality of Erasmus experiences and outcomes for participants.
4. **Policy Development:** Data-driven insights inform the development of policies and strategies related to international education

and mobility. Decision-makers can use annual statistics to identify emerging trends, address challenges, and adapt policies to better support the objectives of the Erasmus program in Kosovo.

5. **Promotion and Advocacy:** Annual statistics serve as a tool for promoting the Erasmus program and advocating for its continued support. Highlighting the achievements, benefits, and successes of Erasmus activities in Kosovo helps raise awareness, attract funding, and garner support from various stakeholders, including government agencies, educational institutions, and the public.
6. **Transparency and Accountability:** Publishing annual statistics promotes transparency and accountability in the management of Erasmus funds and activities. By making data publicly available, stakeholders can track progress, monitor performance, and hold responsible parties accountable for achieving program goals and objectives.

Overall, gathering annual statistics data for Erasmus activities in Kosovo is essential for informed decision-making, program improvement, and ensuring the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of the Erasmus program in the country.

OVERALL FIGURES for the period 2021-2023

The success and raise in benefits from Erasmus+ programme in Kosovo is evident as the figures in Kosovo speak for themselves: from 2021-2023, there were 2398 students and academic staff moving to Europe and 1304 moving to Kosovo through the **international credit mobility** action of the Erasmus+ programme. From 2021-2023 **Capacity building in higher education** projects selected involving Kosovo as a partner were 24, while projects coordinated by Kosovo HEIs were 8 and instances of participation from Kosovo HEIs in selected projects were 57.

From 2021-2023, there was 1 **Erasmus Mundus Design Measures** project and 36 Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Scholarships were granted to students from Kosovo for that period while 2 Jean Monnet modules coordinated by AAB college. Only in 2023 there were 14 Erasmus Mundus scholarships awarded to Kosovo students which is the highest number so far in one year from EMJMD since 2016.

In the last call 2023, Kosovo won 18 Erasmus+ projects in total in the area of higher and vocational education. The highest score was achieved by 13 Erasmus+ Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education, which is the highest number of such projects received by HEIs in Kosovo since the inception of Erasmus+ programme. In the 2023 call the first structural project (Strand 3) from University of Prishtina/Faculty of Education was awarded for this period involving Kosovo Ministry of Education Science Technology and Innovation.

In the **VET sector** Kosovo was awarded 5 projects in Capacity Building in the field of Vocational Education and Training. This is also very big success taking in consideration that Erasmus+ action for VET in Kosovo was opened for the very first time in 2021. There were also 2 projects awarded in **Virtual Exchanges** where Universum College is a partner institution. 14 Erasmus Mundus scholarships were awarded in 2023 which is 5 more than in 2021. In the areas of **youth and sport** - Capacity Building in the field of Youth 9 projects were successful and in Capacity building in the field of sport 4 in total with one of them being coordinated by Kosovo basketball Federation for the first time.

COMPARISON OF DATA FOR THE PERIOD 2021-2023

DATA PER ACTION 2021-2023

1. KA1 International Credit Mobility (ICM)

Kosovo participates in Erasmus+ KA1 International Credit Mobility projects in the role of partner Country since 2015. Continuously the trends have been on the rise for both students and staff in incoming and outgoing mobilities by 20-30% year by year. In the new generation of Erasmus+ program (2021-2027) until now the trends are in

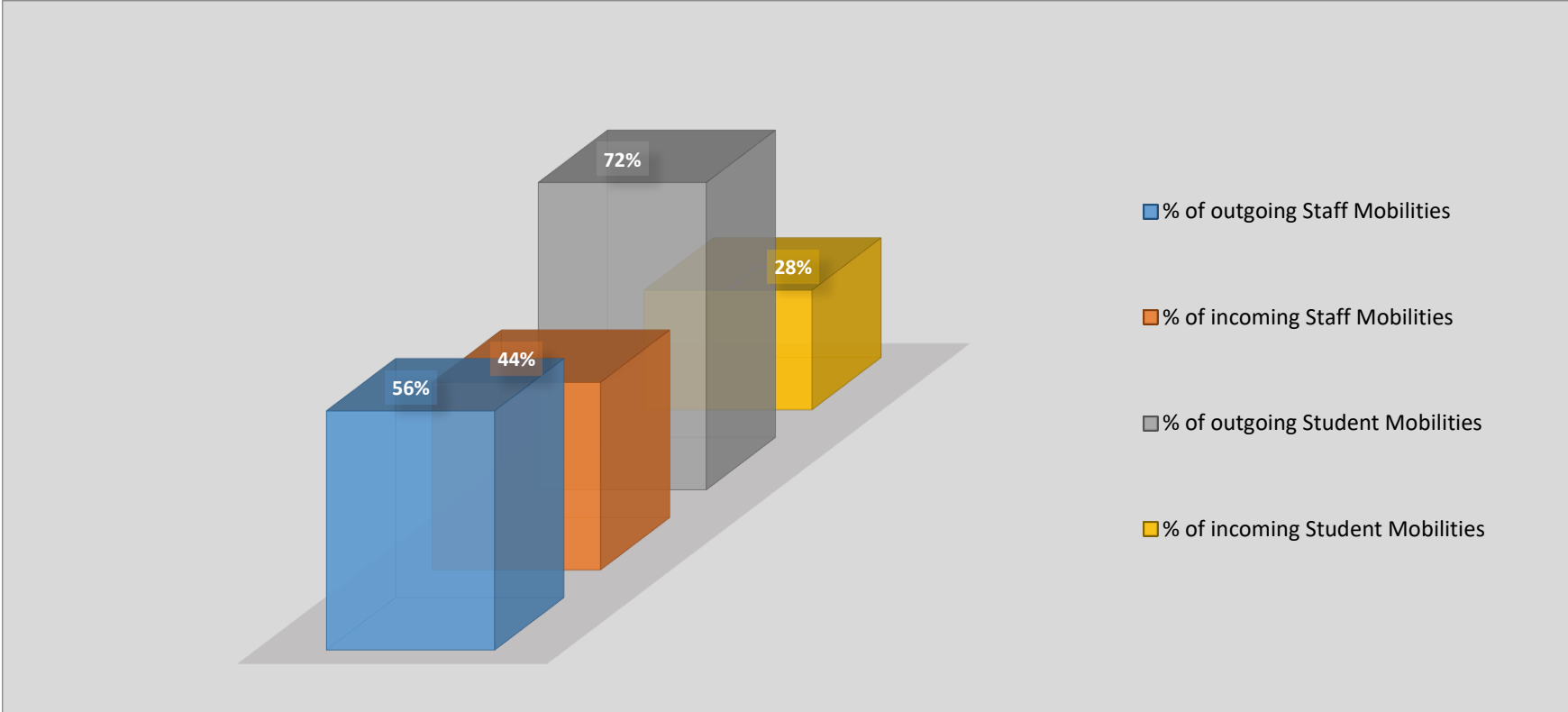
From 2022 until 2023 the Kosovo Higher Education Institutions have benefited with **3702** mobilities (incoming and outgoing staff and students) with 2023 incrementally we have reached the highest number so far of outgoing and incoming students and staff through ICM:

Kosovo	2022	2023	TOTAL
Students and staff outgoing to Europe	1132	1266	2398
Students and staff incoming to Kosovo	599	705	1304

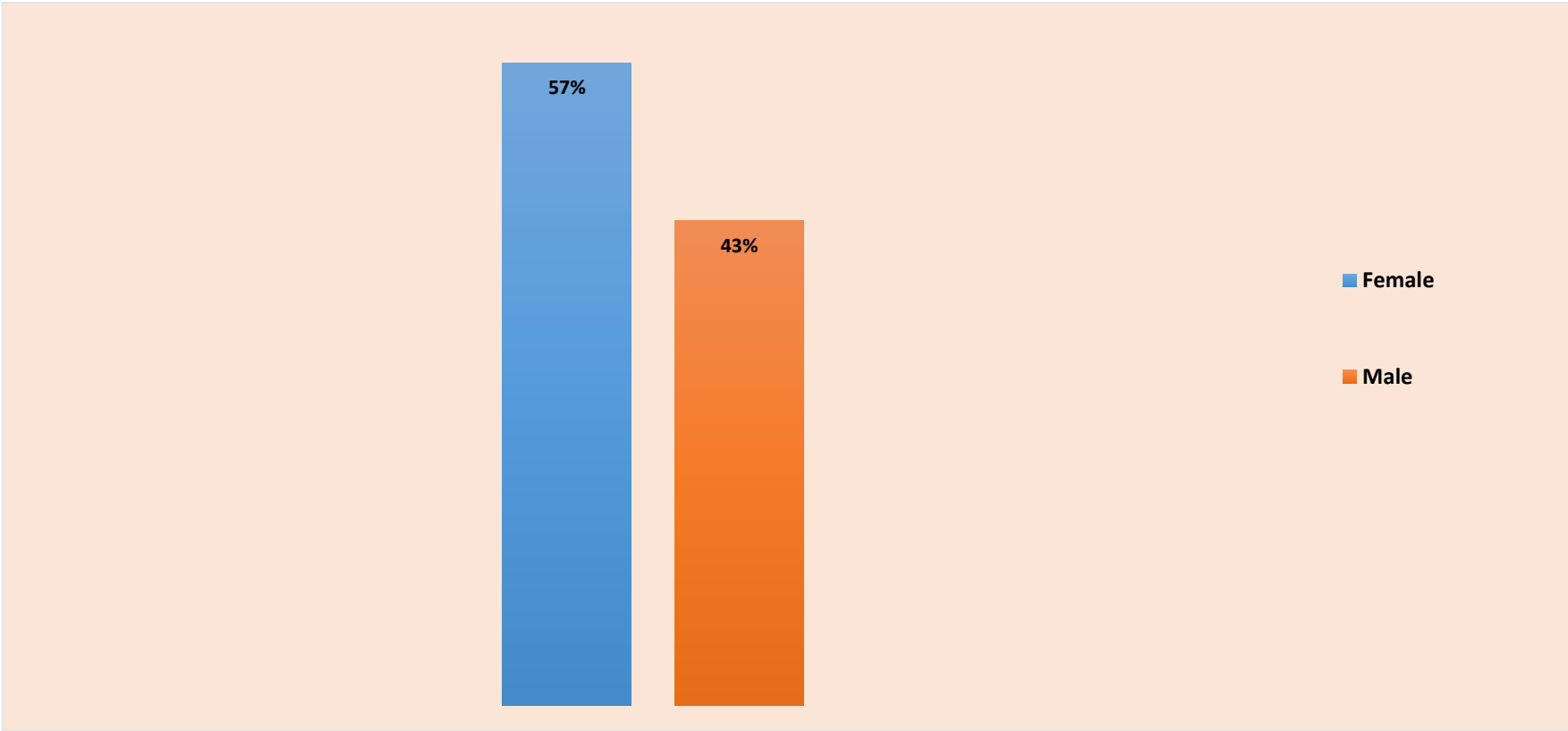
Kosovo ICM Mobility FY 2022-2023



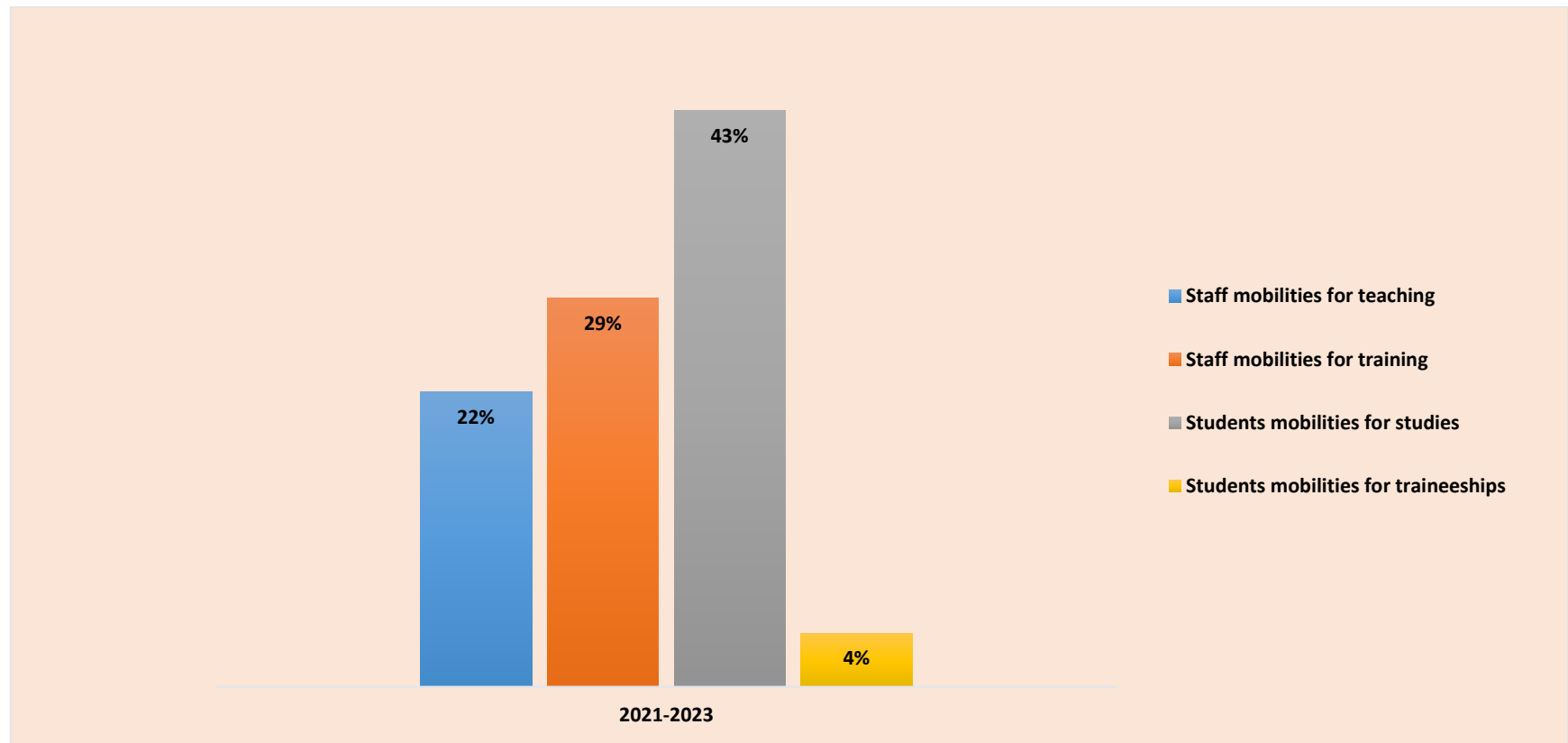
Kosovo 2023	STAFF - OUT	STAFF - IN	STUDENTS - OUT	STUDENTS - IN
Total	Sum of Outgoing Staff Mobilities	Sum of Incoming Staff Mobilities	Sum of Outgoing Student Mobilities	Sum of Incoming Student Mobilities
1971	507	406	759	299



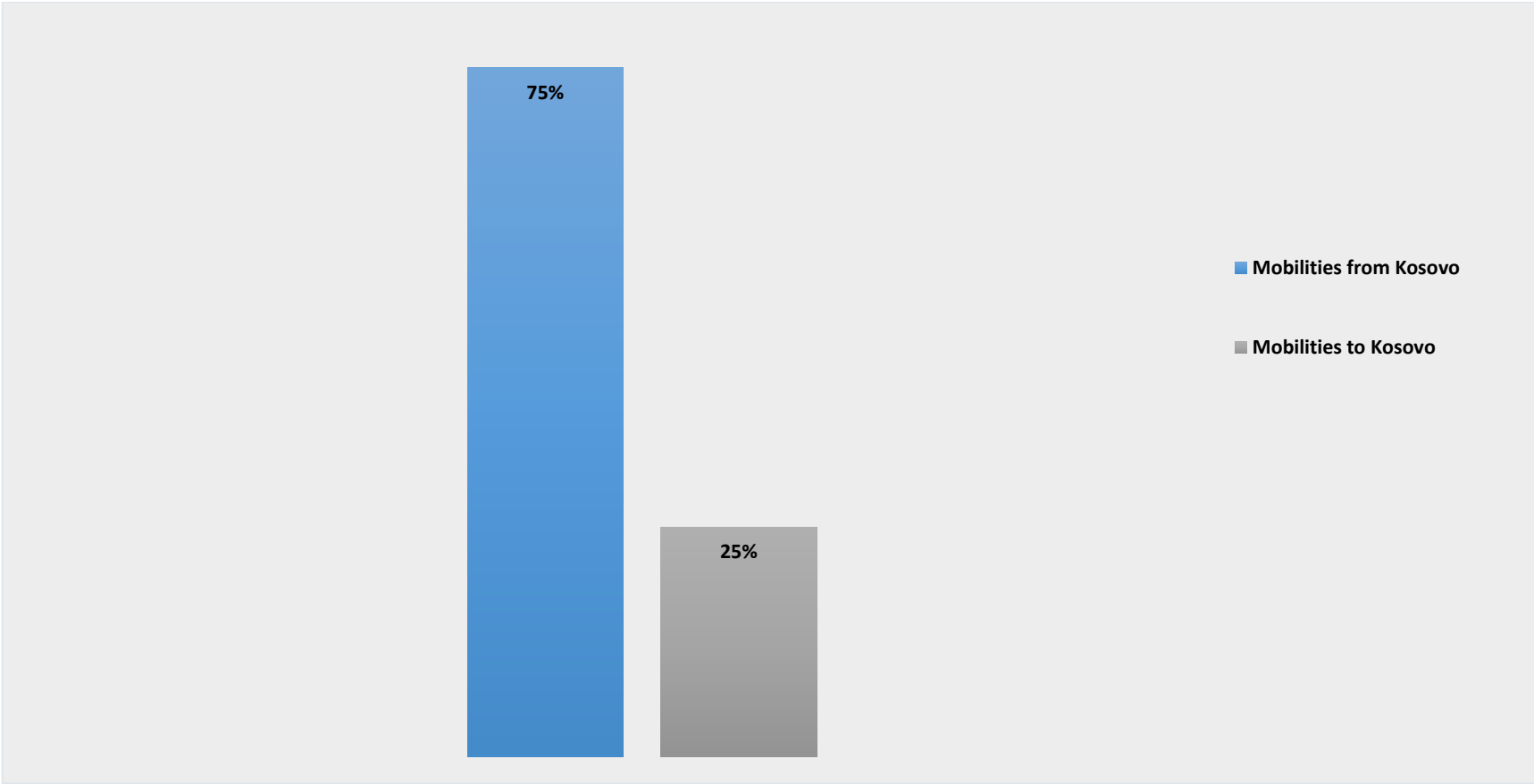
Kosovo		2021-2023
Gender		%
Female		57%
Male		43%



Kosovo	2021-2023
Type of activity	%
Staff mobilities for teaching	22%
Staff mobilities for training	29%
Students mobilities for studies	43%
Students mobilities for traineeships	4%



Kosovo		2021-2023
Directions		%
Mobilities from Kosovo		75%
Mobilities to Kosovo		25%



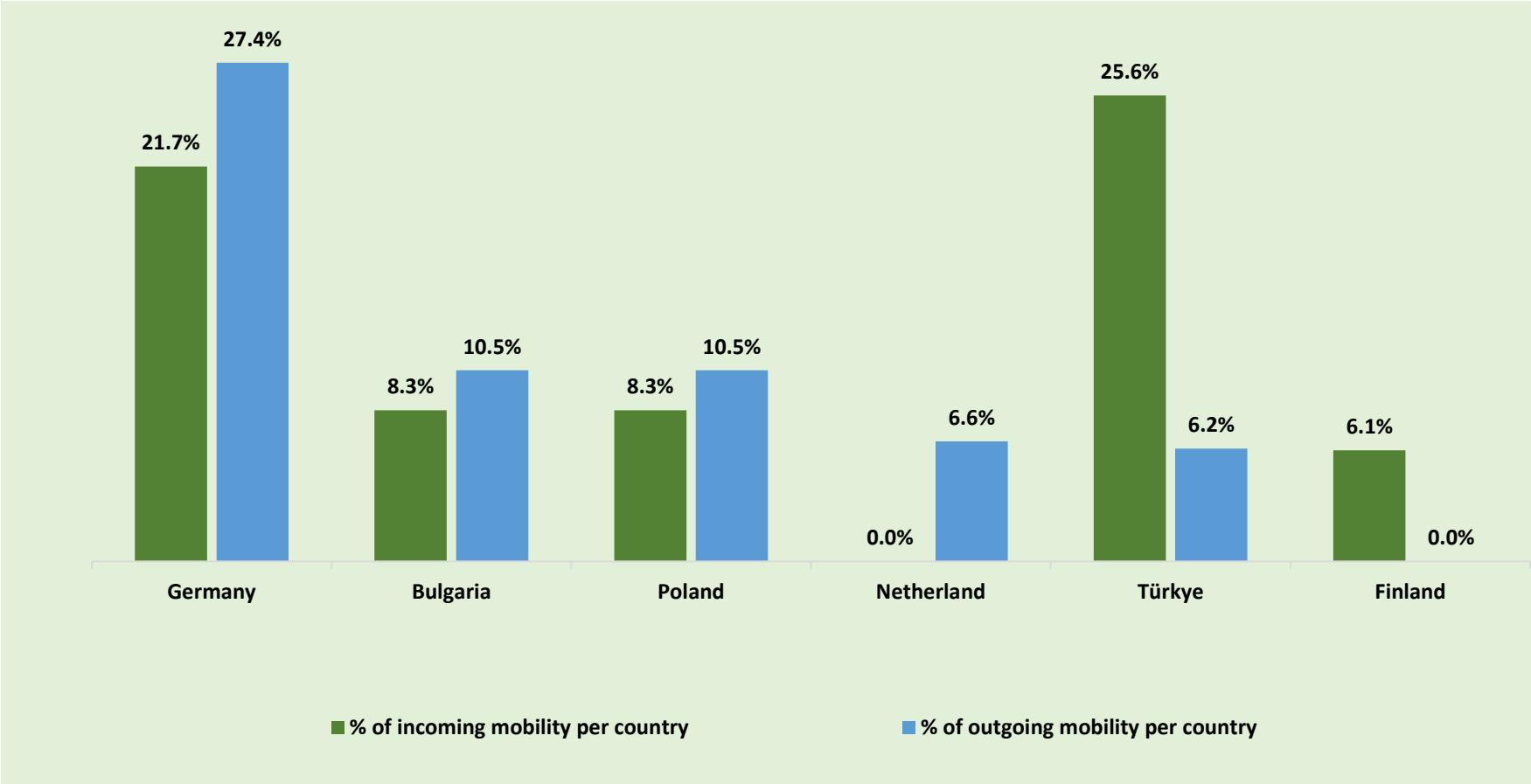
TOP 5 COUNTRIES FOR IN & OUT MOBILITY

There are slight changes in the list of top 5 countries where outgoing mobility of staff and students takes place in 2021-2023. The list is led by Germany, Bulgaria, Poland, Netherland and Turkey as top five destination for outgoing staff and students of Kosovo in 2021-2023. In previous years' top 5 countries of destination for outgoing students from Kosovo (between 2015-2019) were → **1. Germany / 2. Türkiye / 3. Poland / 4. UK / 5. Portugal**, while list of students incoming to Kosovo from top 5 sending countries were → **Germany 2. Finland 3. Denmark 4. Austria 5. Italy**.

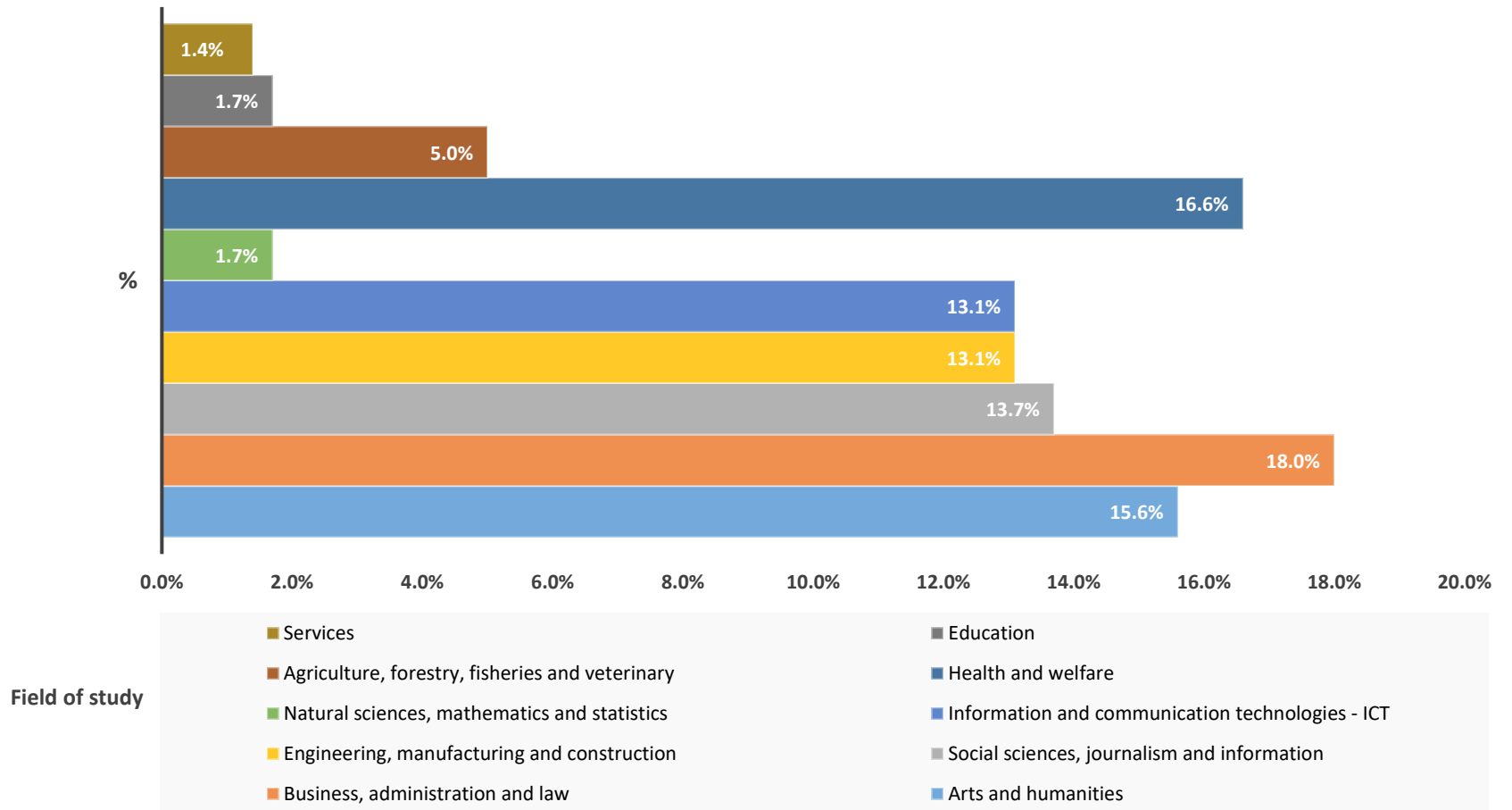
Main destinations for Kosovo students through ICM for the period 2021-2023

Country	Outgoing mobility to Europe	Incoming mobility to Kosovo
Germany	27.4%	21.7%
Bulgaria	10.5%	8.3%
Poland	10.5%	8.3%
Netherlands	6.6%	0%
Türkiye	6.2%	25.6%
Finland	0%	6.1%

Statistics chart for top 5 Countries for incoming and outgoing mobility for the period 2021-2023:



ICM Statistics with % per field of study for the period 2021-2023:



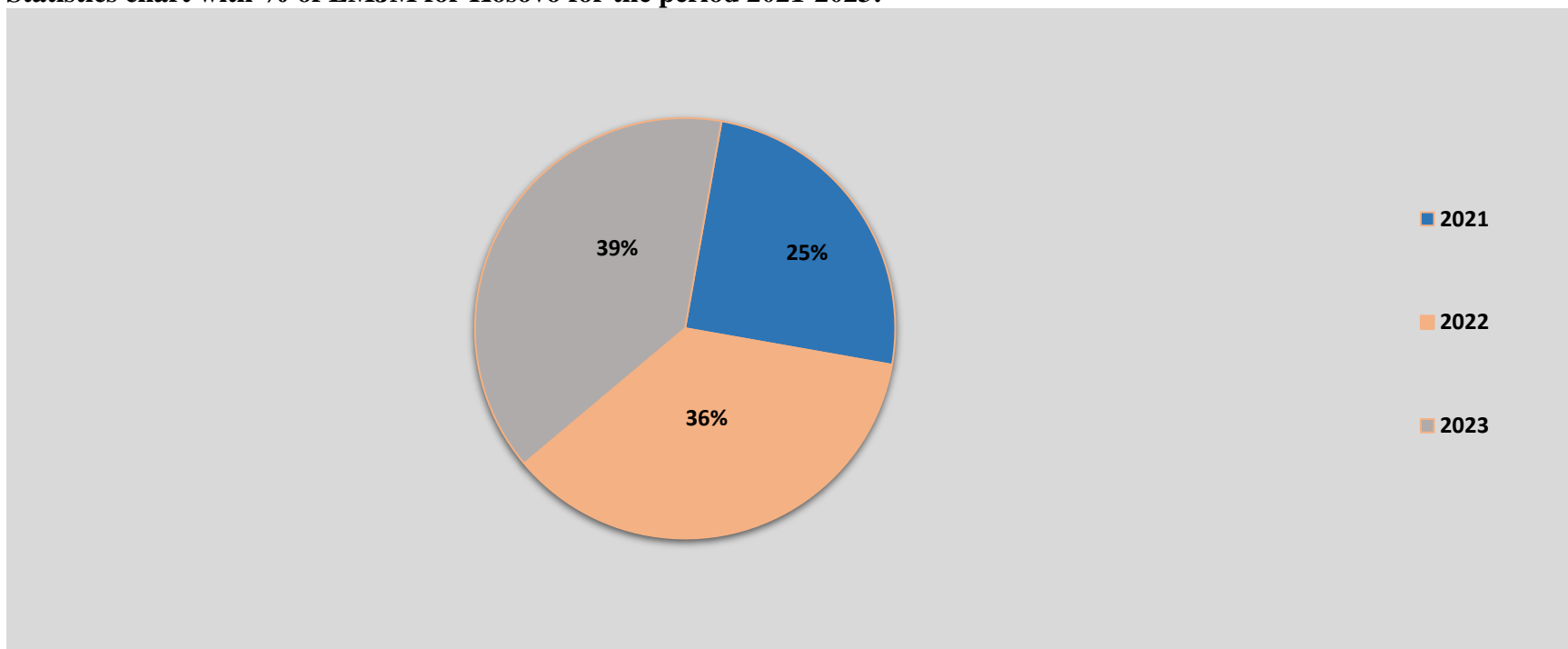
2. KA1 Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM)

Kosovo students are fully eligible to apply for full Master studies through the Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters program. For the period 2021-2023, there were 36 students selected from Kosovo. However a gradual progress is seen in increasing number of succesful applications for EMJM scholarships for each year.

Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM) for Kosovo for the period 2021-2023:

2021	2022	2023	Total 2021-2023
9	13	14	36

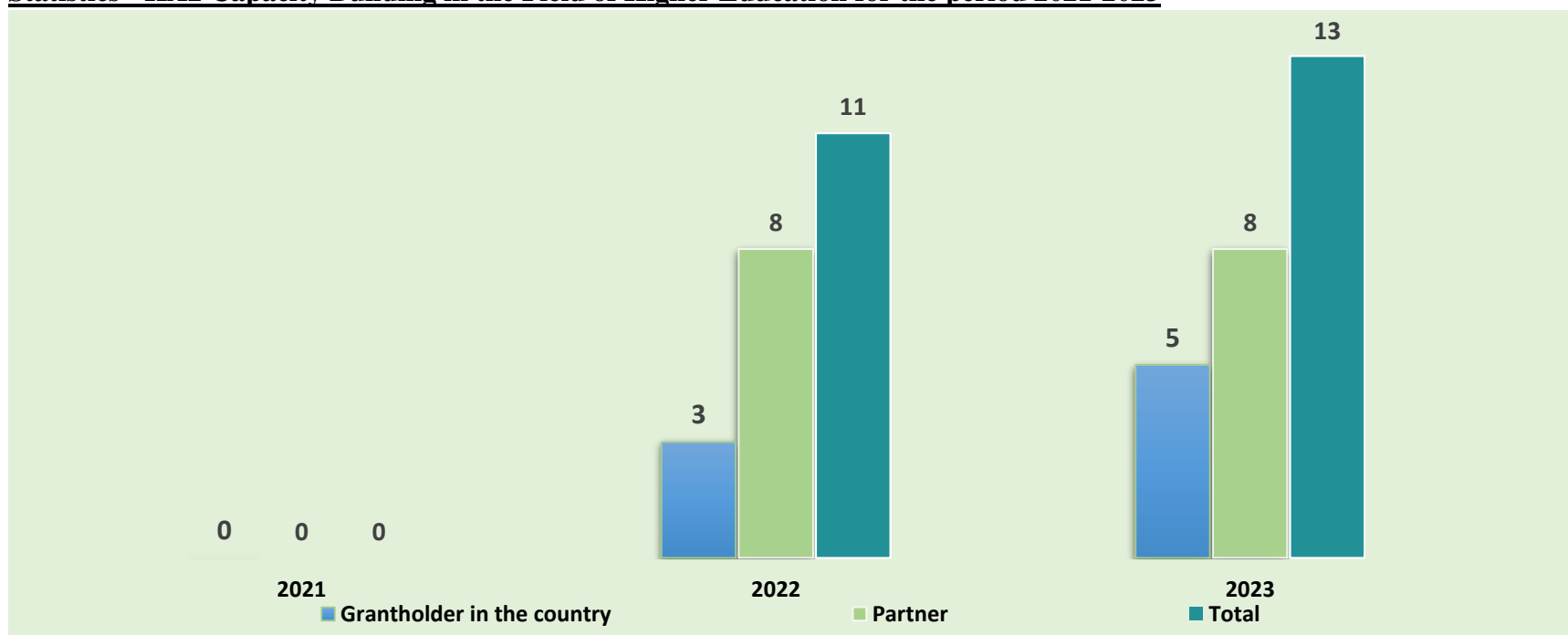
Statistics chart with % of EMJM for Kosovo for the period 2021-2023:



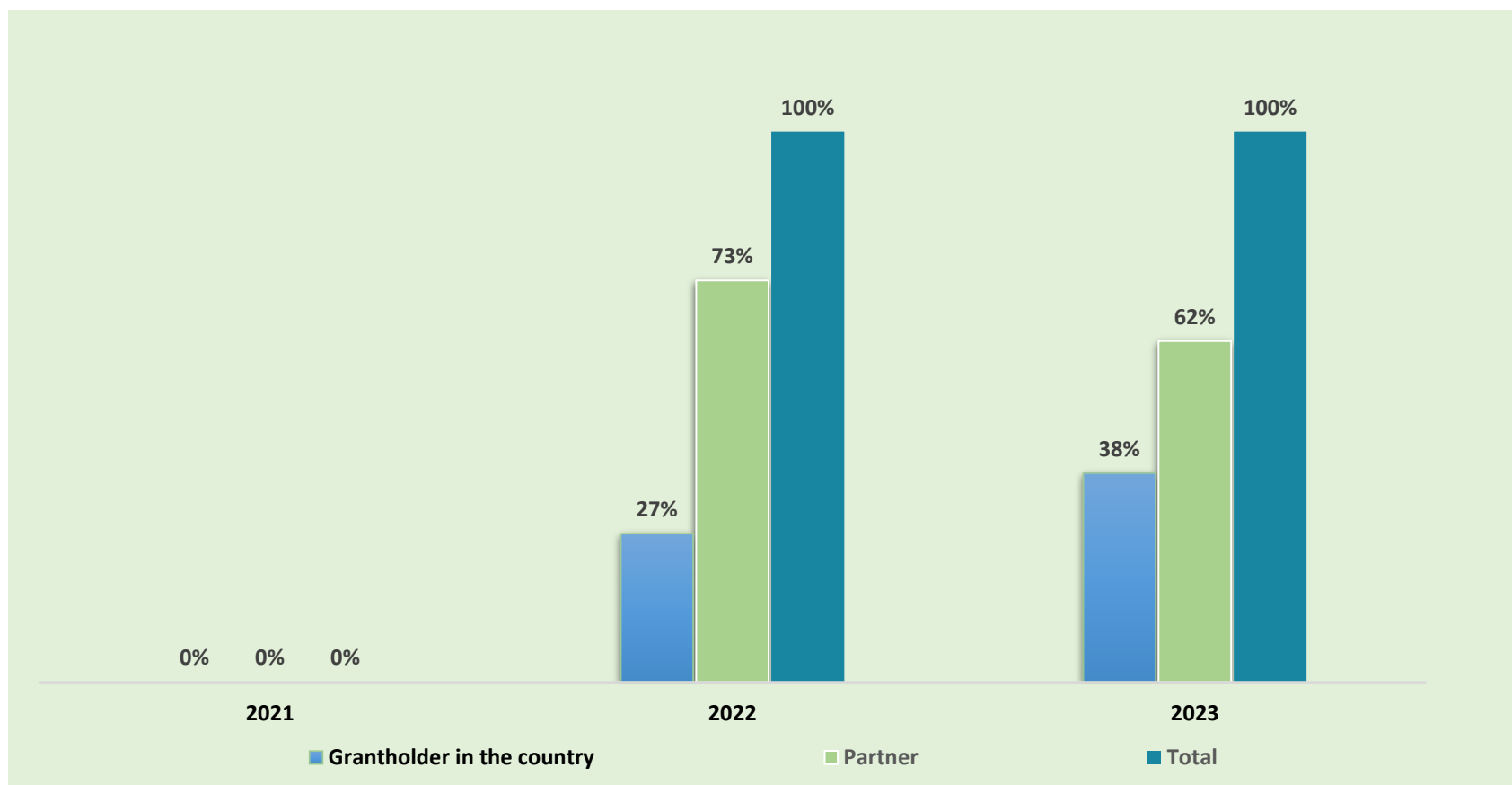
3. KA2 Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education

KEO CBHE Projects from 2021 to 2023	Grant holder in the country	Partner	Total Number of projects
2021	Pandemic period		
2022	3	8	11
2023	5	8	13
Total	8	16	24

Statistics - KA2 Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education for the period 2021-2023



Statistics chart with % of KA2 Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education for the period 2021-2023



4. Jean Monnet

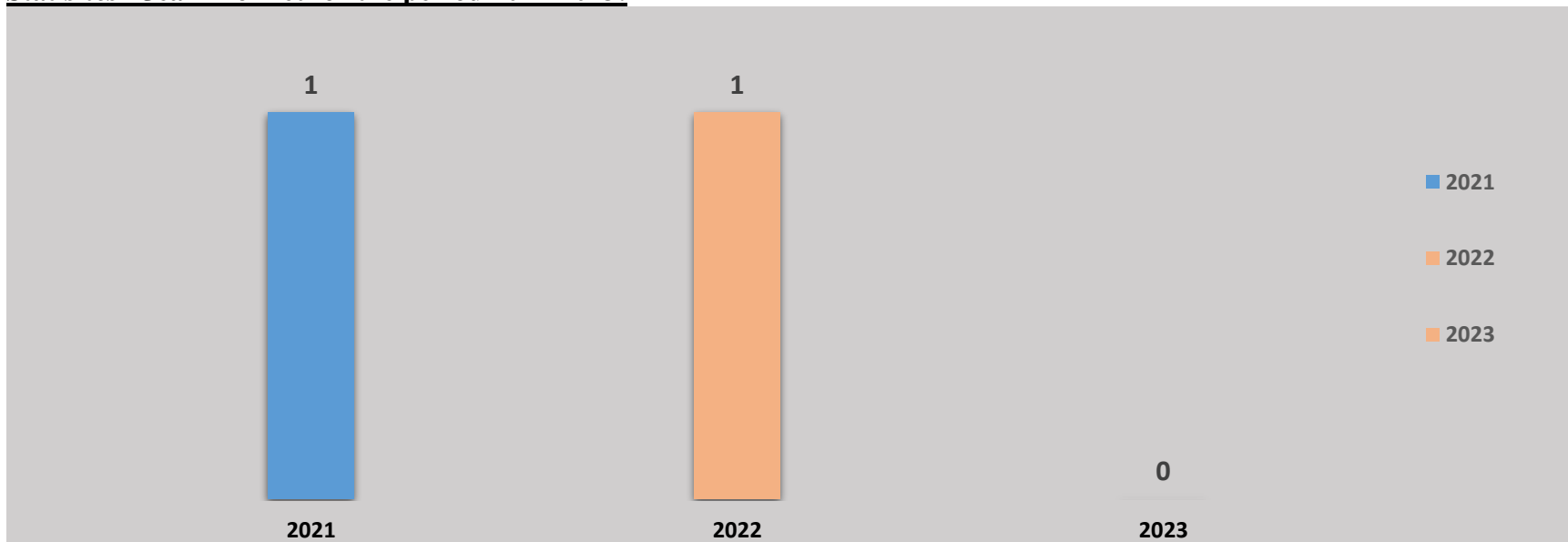
The biggest challenge in Erasmus+ actions in higher education pose actions within Jean Monnet. One of the reason is the rigid competition and demanding preconditions for obtaining Jean Monnet grant with an accent on the very strict assessment procedure, but also the low interest of higher education insitutions in this particular action. Overall, it has been noticed that the interest in Jean Monnet program is moving very slowly.

In 2022, there was one succesful selection in Jean Monnet module from Kosovo and also in 2023, there was one succesful selection in Jean Monnet.

Jean Monnet for Kosovo for the period 2021-2023:

2021	2022	2023	Total 2021-2023
1	1	0	2

Statisitcs - Jean Monnet for the period 2021-2023:



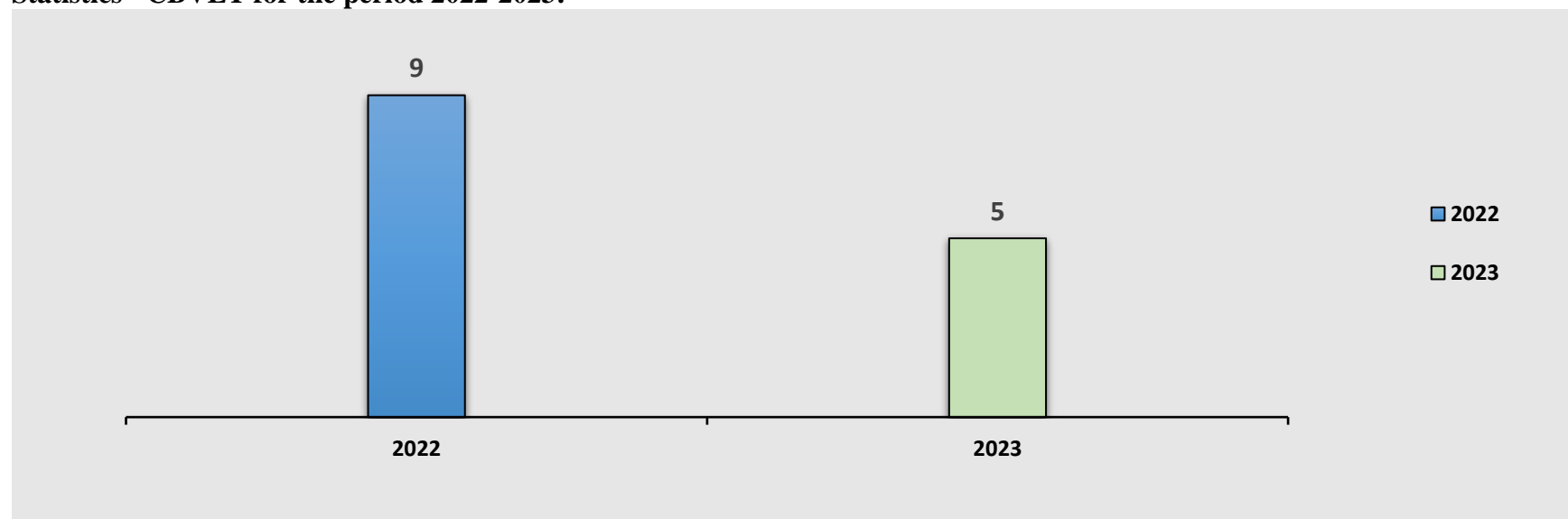
5. Capacity Building in the Field of Vocational Education and Training - VET

In the new generation of Erasmus+ programme, VET schools in Kosovo received Erasmus+ grants by winning in 9 Capacity Building in the field of Vocational Education and Training projects in 2022 and 5 CBVET in 2023. This year the promotional activities were increased also with the assistance and involvement of state actors such as Agency for VET and Adult Education and the Ministry of Education Science Technology and Innovation as well as joint efforts of KEO and donor projects in the field of VET in Kosovo. This remains one area which requires particular focus and capacity building in order to raise capacities of VET schools and providers to establish partnership and become more internationalised.

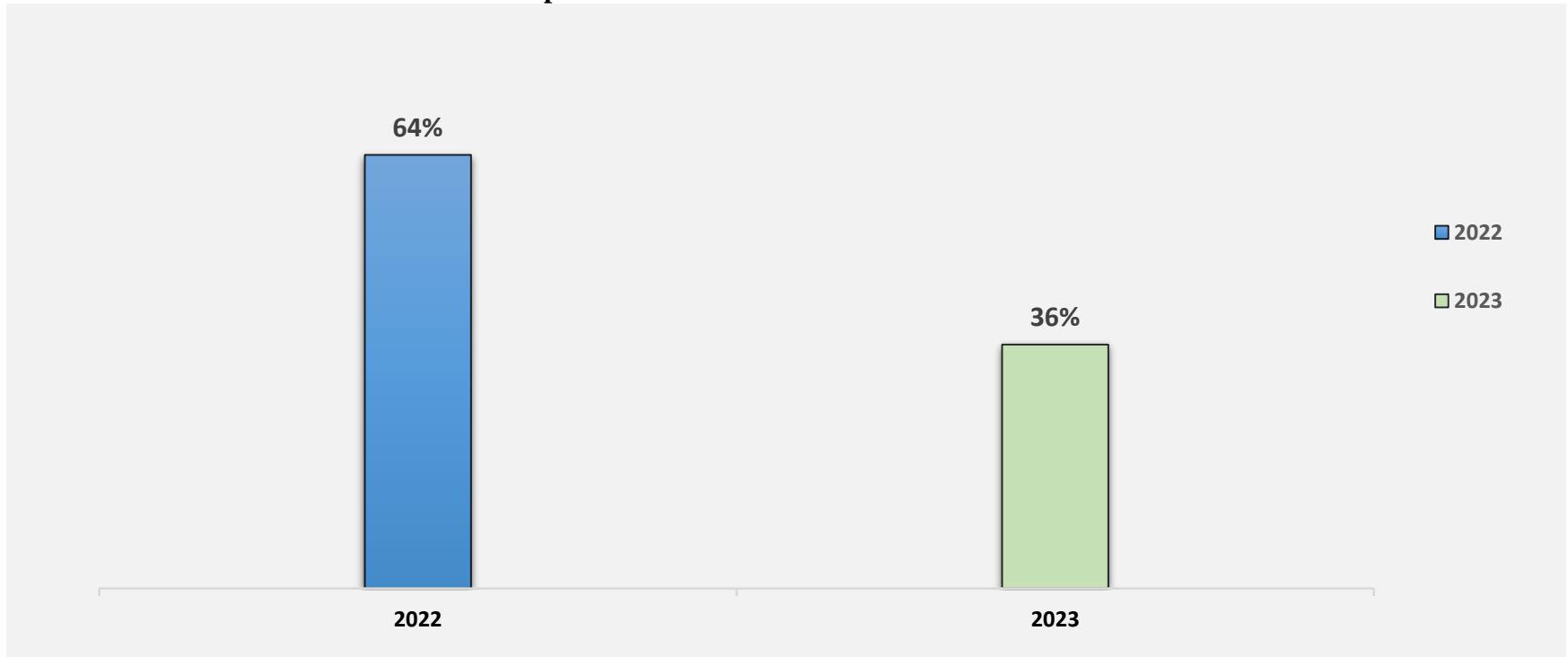
Capacity Building in the Field of VET for Kosovo for the period 2022-2023:

2022	2023	Total 2022-2023
9	5	14

Statistics - CBVET for the period 2022-2023:



Statistics chart with % of - CBVET for the period 2022-2023:



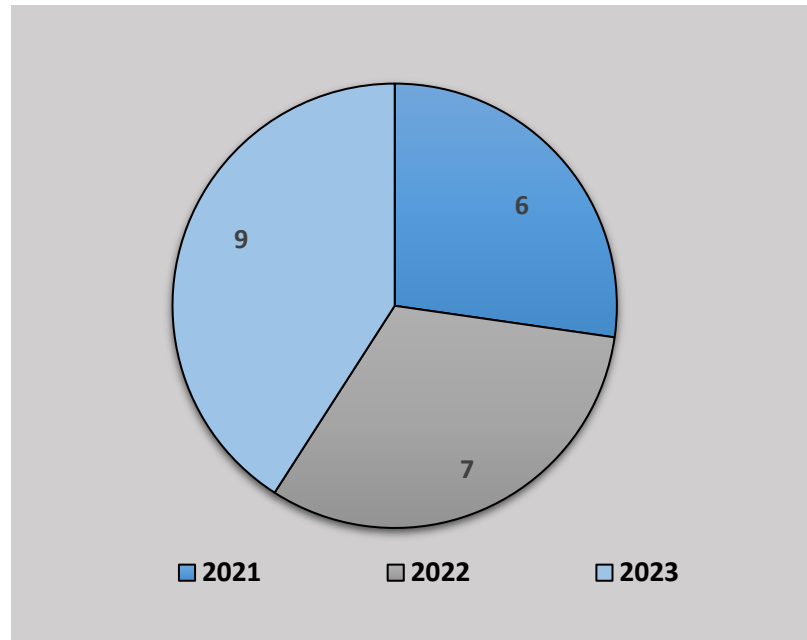
6. Capacity Building in the Field of Youth

Capacity Building in the field of Youth were presented to Kosovo in 2021. Considering the fact that this opportunity is also new to Kosovo, the number of applications and the results are satisfactory at this level of development and they have been increasing incrementally throughout this period.

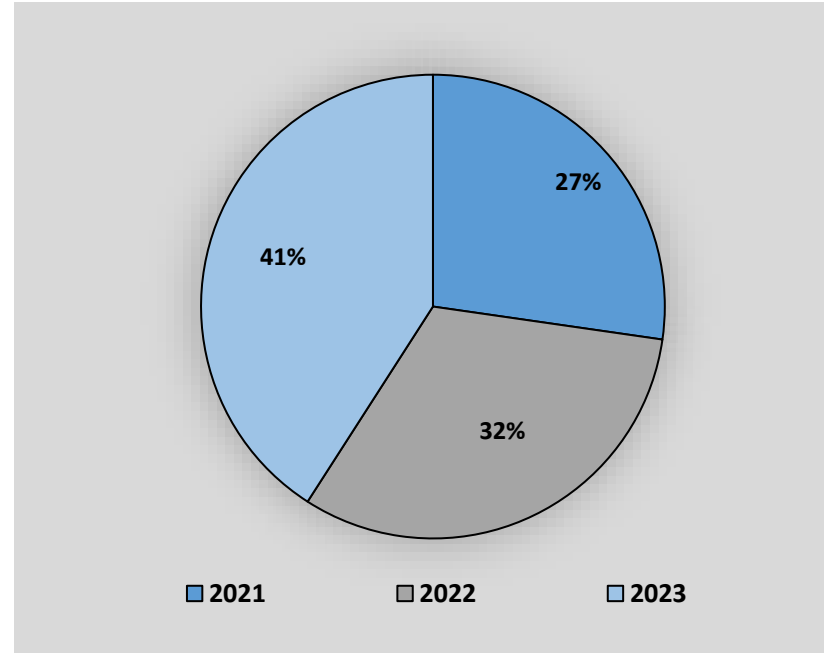
CB in the Field of Youth for Kosovo for the period 2021-2023:

2021	2022	2023	Total 2021-2023
6	7	9	22

Statistics - CB in the Field of Youth for 2021-2023



Statistics chart with % - CB in the Field of Youth 2021-2023:



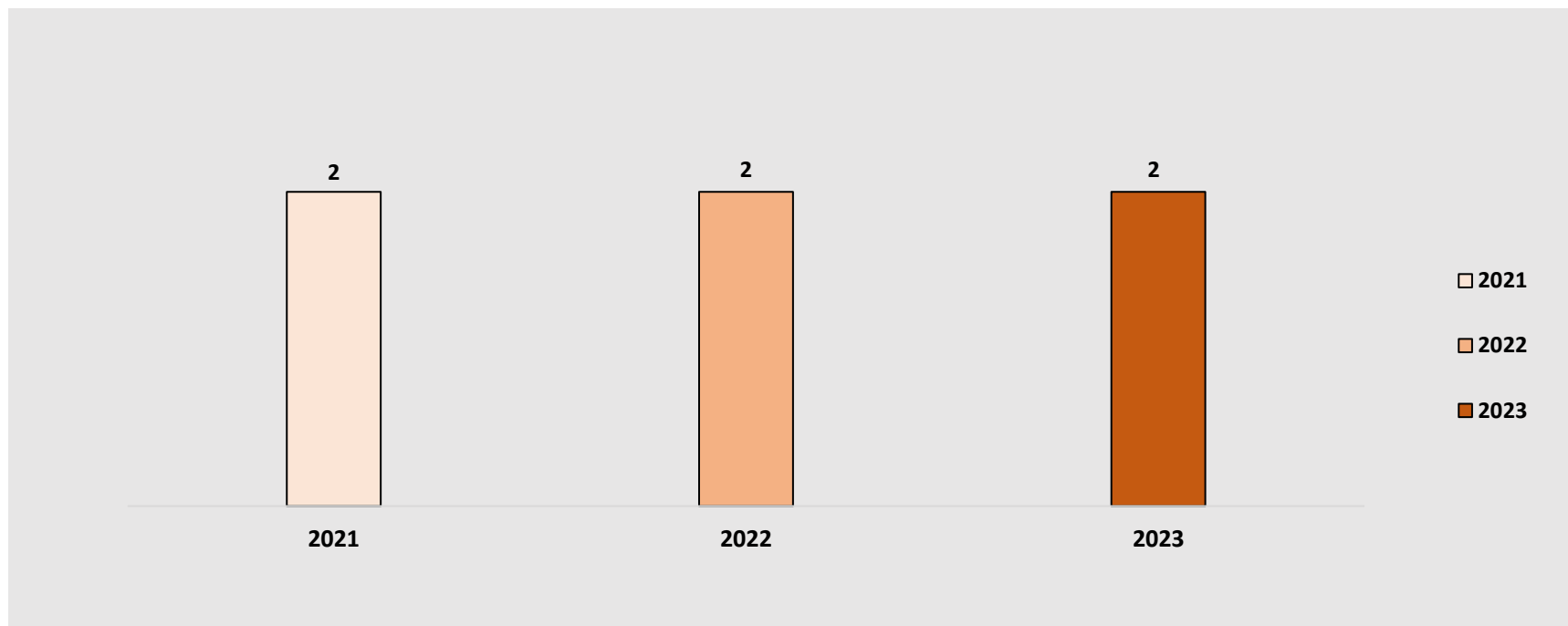
7. Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange (EVE)

There were 2 projects awarded in Virtual Exchanges for three years in a row where in all three years UNI -International College is a partner institution.

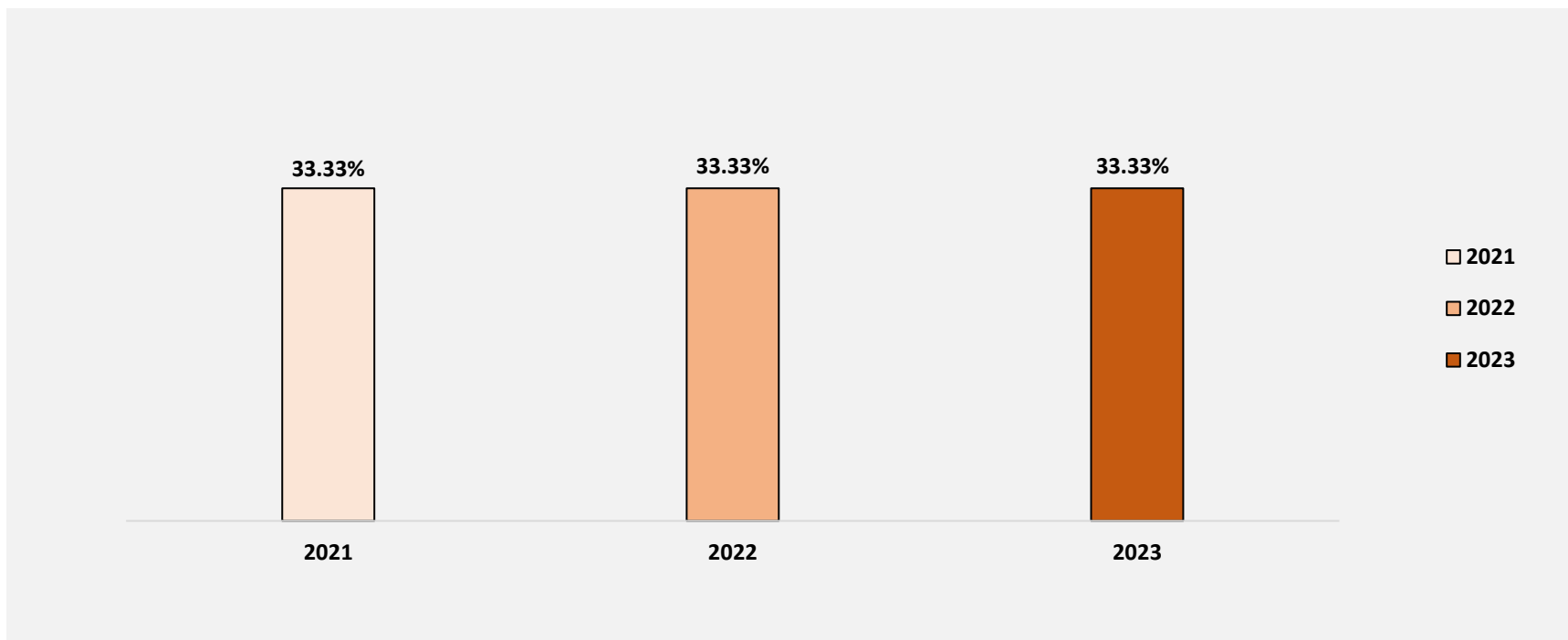
EVE for Kosovo for the period 2021-2023:

2021	2022	2023	Total 2021-2023
2	2	2	6

Statistics – EVE for the period 2021-2023



Statistics chart with % - EVE for the period 2021-2023



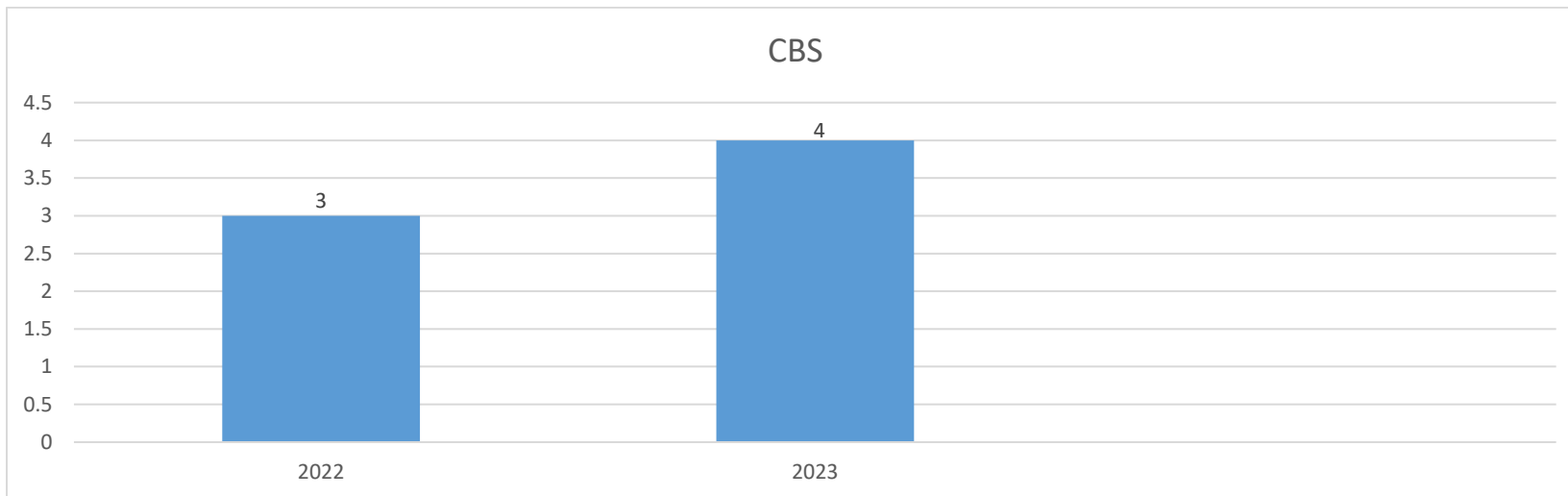
8. Capacity Building in the Field of Sport

In the area of capacity building in the field of sport tremendous promotional efforts were given by Kosovo Erasmus+ Office in order to outreach to the whole sports community in Kosovo. These effort were assisted by the Kosovo Olympic Committee with which KEO has formed an excellent cooperation. During the year 2022 and 2023 total of 6 projects have been awarded from Kosovo. This is good result considering the fact that from Western Balkans region the first selection of projects was in 2022. Also for the first time in the Western Balkans a project is coordinated by a sports entity in the region this year. Kosovo basketball federtaion is coordinator of a project in Capacity Building in the field of Sport which marks a great success for Kosovo sports community.

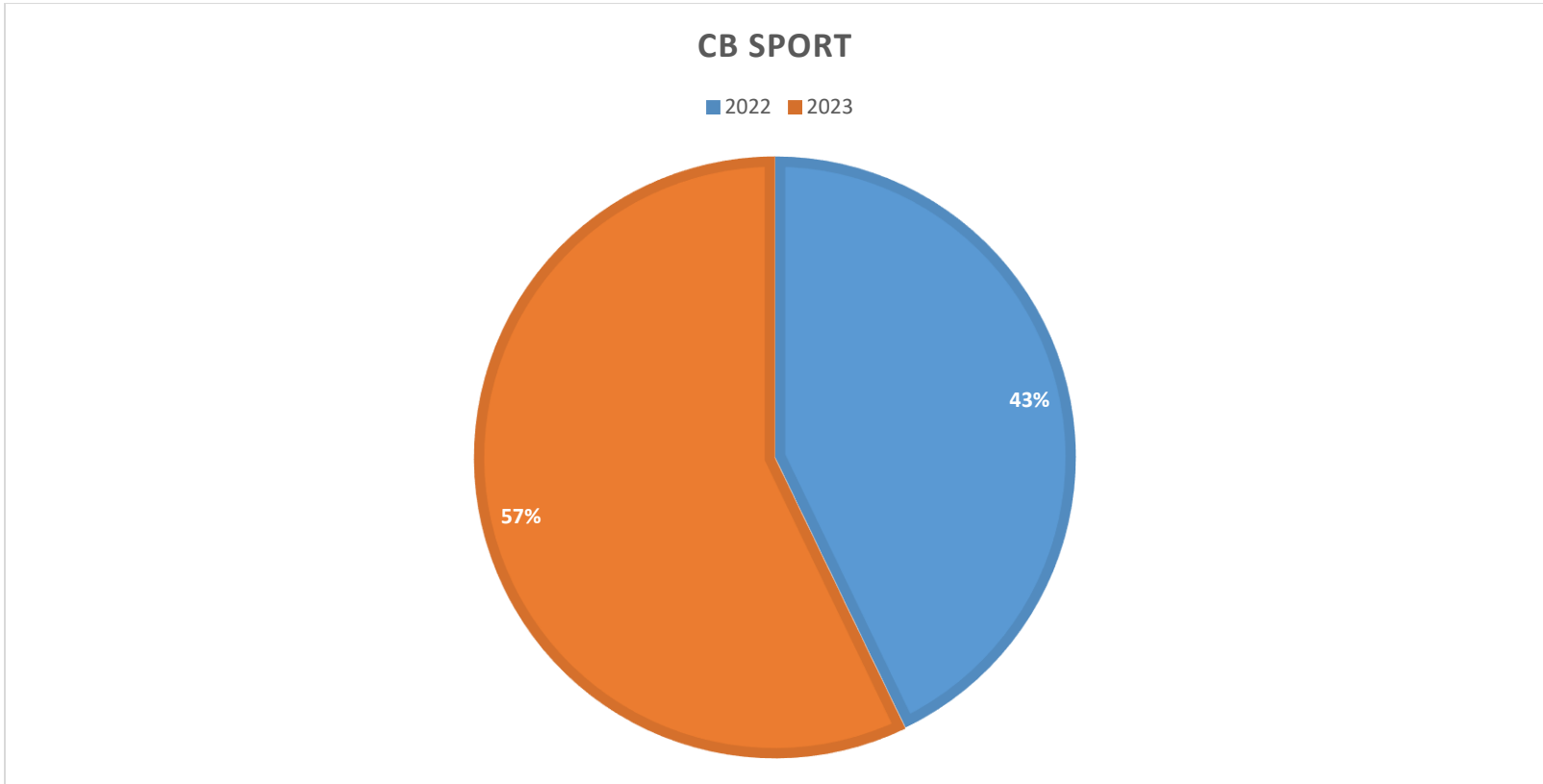
CB in the Field of Sport for the period 2022-2023:

2022	2023	Total 2022-2023
3	4	7

Statistics – CB in the Field of Sport for the period 2022-2023



Statistics chart with % - CBS for the period 2022-2023



Conclusion

The report highlights a significant increase in the utilization of Erasmus+ funds across various actions within the programme in Kosovo, with an annual rise ranging from 20-35%. This trend underscores the growing importance of strengthening internal capacities within institutions to effectively absorb and benefit from these funds. With the introduction of the new Erasmus+ program for 2021-2027 and the opening of more actions, the need for enhanced capacity remains crucial for maximizing the program's benefits in the years ahead.

It is suggested that national authorities, in collaboration with the Kosovo Erasmus Office and the EU Office in Kosovo, should explore avenues for integrating successful project outcomes from Erasmus+ actions into broader national reforms in higher education, vocational education and training (VET), as well as other policy areas such as youth and sport. This integration requires coordinated efforts to ensure that project results contribute effectively to national reform agendas.

Streamlining and coordinating actions are essential to ensure that project outcomes are seamlessly integrated into national reform processes. By aligning Erasmus+ project results with broader national objectives, Kosovo can optimize the impact of the program across various sectors and enhance its overall effectiveness in advancing key policy goals.