

THE FUTURE  
STARTS TODAY  
29-30 OCTOBER 2015



**KOSICT**

# **KosICT**

29-30 October, 2015

# FINAL REPORT

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## 1. About

On the 29th and 30th of October, 2015, STIKK (Kosovo Association of Information and Communications Technology), in partnership with Innovation Centre Kosovo, organised the fourth edition of the KosiCT Regional Conference, at Emerald Hotel, with the motto “**The Future Starts Today**”. This year’s conference covered 4 different topics, which were: **Virtual Reality, Mobile Development, Industry 4.0, and Internet of Things**.

The #KosiCT15 promo video can be found here: [https://youtu.be/ru7nbQ\\_8ru0](https://youtu.be/ru7nbQ_8ru0)



Join the world of tech and get a glimpse of Virtual Reality, find out how Internet of Things connects every machine, what automation looks like with Industry 4.0 and what kind of role does Mobile have now and in the future.

The conference provided a variety of opportunities with parallel sessions, 21 speakers, including 5 developers session, and other forms of capacity-building (panel sessions, fireside chats etc.) in different fields, such as business development, management, software development, engineering, outsourcing, angel investment, pitching as well as a Kanban project management game. The conference presented unlimited opportunities and access to ideas for those interested in these respective fields, all the while also opening doors to new dimensions and providing insight to further fuel innovation and development in Kosovo.

## 2. Agenda

### Day 1 (29 October, 2015) // Emerald Hotel (ROOM A)

	9:00	Registration & Coffee
<b>Welcome Speeches</b>	9:30	Mr. Shkumbin Brestovci – President of the STIKK Board Mr. Blerand Stavileci – Minister, Ministry of Economic Development Ms. Christina Gehlsen – Deputy Ambassador, Embassy of Germany to the Republic of Kosovo Ms. Vjollca Dibra – Political Advisor for Media, Ministry of Trade and Industry
	10:00	Florian Stadlbauer – Executive Director at Deck13 Interactive
	10:45	Endri Tolka – COO/CFO at YouVisit
	11:30	Discussion Panel
<b>Virtual Reality</b> <i>Moderated by: Jeta Zagragja</i>	12:00	Lunch
<b>Mobile Development</b> <i>Moderated by: Drin Mulliqi</i>	13:30	Christian Kulas – Managing Business Analyst at Capgemini Germany
	14:15	Matthias Hamburg – Managing Consultant at Sogeti Germany
	15:00	Ermal Sadiku – CEO at LinkPlus IT
	15:45	Discussion Panel
	16:15	Sum-Up

### Day 2 (30 October, 2015) // Emerald Hotel (ROOM A)

	09:30	Registration & Coffee
<b>Industry 4.0</b> <i>Moderated by: Alejtin Berisha</i>	10:00	Rolf Glunz – Sales Director at Imbus AG
	10:30	Mentor Sahiti – CEO at Adaptivit
	11:00	Peter König – SAP Coordinator and Lecturer at UBT College
	11:30	Villu Arak – Co-founder at Funderbeam
	12:00	Discussion Panel
	12:30	Lunch
<b>Internet of Things</b> <i>Moderated by: Alejtin Berisha</i>	13:45	Blaž Umek – Manager of Product Development at IPKO Telecommunications
	14:15	Kiril Izov – Lead of SMS&P organization at Microsoft for Bulgaria, Macedonia, and Kosovo
	14:45	Stoyan Boev – Managing Director at ICB
	15:15	Falk Schubert – Vice President Sales EMEA at PAY.ON
	15:45	Discussion Panel
	16:15	Closing

### 3.1. Dev Sessions

#### Day 1 (29 October, 2015) // Emerald Hotel (ROOM B)

Dev Talks	10:00	developing@uni-pr.edu & Using web scrapping techniques in mobile web development – Blerim Rexha, Professor at University of Prishtina, and Valon Xhafa, Ilir Osmanaj and Hekuran Kastrati, Computer Engineering Students
	10:40	Indoor Localization and Guiding System – Ardian Haxha and Egzon Mjeku, Adaptivit
	11:20	VR and the Future – Milot Shala and Bardh Shasivari, Rolling Rabbits
	12:00	Lunch
	13:30	Mechatronics and Robotics – Valmir Hoxha, UBT College
	14:10	Social Media and E-Governance – Faik Ispahiu, Kallxo.com

#### Day 2 (30 October, 2015) // Emerald Hotel (ROOM B)

Workshop	10:00	Deliver Projects on-time using Lean-Kanban Techniques // PART 1 by Ivaylo Gueorguiev
	12:30	Lunch
	13:45	Deliver Projects on-time using Lean-Kanban Techniques // PART 2 by Ivaylo Gueorguiev

### 3. Opening Speeches

KosICT 2015 has been officially opened by the STIKK Board President, Mr. Shkumbin Brestovci, who while greeting the attendees, has made it clear that one of the most fascinating aspects of this conference is that it inspires a lot of people to take an opportunity for professional and personal advancement.



"The companies of the ICT sector in Kosovo have the need for workforce, and I believe that this conference is a good way of to inspire students and young people in general to enter this topic and learn as much as possible."

- Mr. Shkumbin Brestovci, KosICT 2015

The first honourable guest speaker was Mr. Blerand Stavileci, Minister of Economic Development of the Republic of Kosovo. Mr. Stavileci has once again confirmed the support that his ministry and the Government of Kosovo for STIKK and the whole ICT sector.



"The cross-over effect that the ICT sector has with other economic sectors shows us the revolutionary changes that happen in daily basis."

- Mr. Blerand Stavileci, KosICT 2015

KosICT had the honour of having Ms. Christina Gehlsen, Deputy Ambassador at the Embassy of Germany to the Republic of Kosovo, as guest speaker. Ms. Gehlsen specified that besides the important effect of the ICT sector on the Kosovo economy, it is also an important sector for foreign investments, and, very importantly, how Germany is targeting many fields of the ICT sector that will be supported in the upcoming years.



"The positive effect of the IT industry on job creation is amplified by the fact that IT is both a labour intensive and a skills intensive industry."

- Ms. Christina Gehlsen, KosICT 2015

Ms. Vjollca Dibra, as the Advisor at the Ministry of Trade and Industry, presented various activities that her Ministry is working on in order to support the ICT sector. The Ministry's priorities and main activities are the re-functionalization of the National Council for Economic Development, counselling voucher scheme, and the Bernica Tech Park.



"It has been mentioned that very soon we are hoping to establish the Tech Park in Bernica for purposes of strengthening and empowering businesses, in particular those that focus on the IT sector."

- Ms. Vjollca Dibra, KosICT 2015

## 4. Day 1

### 4.1. Virtual Reality

"Virtual reality is the first step in a grand adventure into the landscape of the imagination."

- Mark R. Levy

During this session, which has been moderated by Ms. Jeta Zagragja, Mr. Florian Stadlbauer (Deck13 Interactive) and Mr. Endri Tolka (YouVisit) shared their views on how the concept of Virtual Reality opened the world's eyes to a whole new concept of content viewing.

The definition aside, the concept of virtual reality is very intriguing and promising. From zoos, companies and schools offering tours of their campuses online to doctors using it to enter and explore the inner organisms of their patients, virtual reality seems to offer solutions for many of the modern problems. Nonetheless, virtual reality is also used to enhance entertaining endeavours such as computer games. In fact, the overall quality of a game is strongly related to the quality of the virtual reality. The quality of virtual reality in turn is defined by the so-called breadth of information and depth of information. These two features respectively measure how enriched with elements is the virtual reality and how well it evokes, portrays or simulates the 'real' reality.



## 4.2. Mobile Development

"Your mobile device quickly has become the easiest portal into your digital self."

*- Phil Nickinson*

The very interesting and informative group, consisting of Mr. Christian Kulas (Capgemini Germany), Mr. Matthias Hamburg (Sogeti Germany), and Mr. Eral Sadiku (LinkPlus IT), has taken us through the fascinating world of Mobile Development, and the powerful effect it has on our professional per personal life. This session has been moderated by Drin Mulliqi.

Reports for internet usage repeatedly mention the increase in the usage of mobile apps to access the internet. Mobile devices in general – and smartphones more specific – are becoming increasingly the main access point to the internet and virtual reality. This new reality requires a shift in the focus of the programming and in general business processes related to IT so far.

The importance of mobile development is unquestionable; without a doubt, it is crucial for the success of many businesses. The question that arises now is how to integrate it in the most efficient way in the existing processes of the companies. Many companies have been created to do just that – help the already established businesses in this digital transition. Harnessing the power of this new dimension and catching the momentum have been two main elements that have been presented during KosICT 2015.



### 4.3. Developers Sessions

Meanwhile, in a smaller over packed room above the main event, KosiCT 2015 offered a developers session, which presented the local developments of IT in Kosovo. What would #KosiCT15 truly be without something for the tech geeks and enthusiasts? That is why we invited sessions featuring Prof. Blerim Rexha and his students, Faik Ispahiu, journalism disrupter together with two municipal representatives from Prishtina and Gjakova, Milot Shala & Bardh Shasivari, futuristic programmers, Ardian Haxha and Egzon Mjeku, young enthusiasts from AdaptivIT, Valmir Hoxha, mechatronics and robotics fanatic.

These sessions presented the participants with unique developments in regards to social networking, where the UP representatives talked about a social app that finds out the hidden features of facebook like unfriending, removal of likes, views, profile views etc. Afterwards the boys from AdaptivIT presented an application that they had developed for Indoor Localization and Guiding System that secures the places from unforeseen disasters. Next, Milot and Bardh talked about the experience on developing in virtual reality context, where there exists a different environment for developers than those we are usually used to, where motion sickness and other types of human psychology behaviour is involved.

After the lunch, Valmir Hoxha from UBT talked about mechatronics and robotics, and a device that UBT scientists had developed. In the end, Faik Ispahiu from Kallxo.com talked about the implication of tech into the social life and how easy it is now to generate content about things happening around you. Moreover, two representatives from municipalities of Prishtina and Gjakova talked about their municipality initiatives in terms of tech, respectively one talked about the e-governance in Prishtina, and the smart city in Gjakova.

Differently from the business-dominated presentations, we are aware that technology is learned better by doing. That is why we have organised a special workshop just for those interested in that particular topic on the second day. In this workshop participants had the chance to see and hear about the development of many interesting products. Most importantly, that session was designed to inspire them on how to use those specific technologies for their own benefits. During the course of the day, participants had the chance to access the background of several projects. The session offered opportunities to gain insight in how these teams surmounted the difficulties and optimised the technologies available to serve them.



## 5. Day 2

### 5.1. Industry 4.0

"Smart Products will enable completely new value propositions and business models.  
This is where Industry 4.0 kicks in."

*- Capgemini Consulting*

KosICT 2015 tapped into management and business models by having a deeper look into Industry 4.0. For this session we had Mr. Rolf Glunz (Imbus AG), Mr. Mentor Sahiti (Adaptivit), Mr. Peter König (UBT College), and Mr. Villu Arak (Funderbeam). This session has been moderated by Alejtin Berisha.

The primary purpose of this industrial revolution this time will be to further increase the ability of factories to mechanize their production processes. This would implicate that there would be more products produced in less time and with fewer costs. The process although simple in theory is complicated in practice, with many stakeholders opening the debate on how to proceed next. There have been examples of entire cities dedicating their spaces to advancing the cause of Industry 4.0. Although many milestones have been achieved, many more are still in the process.



## 5.2. Internet of Things

"The "Internet of things" has become ubiquitous, connecting people, products, and services around the globe, building new networks and communities, generating limitless data, and creating a staggering array of business opportunities and threats."

*- Harvard Business Review*

This topic of the second day which magnificent importance of the future has been presented by Mr. Blaž Umek (IPKO Telecommunications), Mr. Kiril Izov (Microsoft Bulgaria, Macedonia, and Kosovo), Mr. Stoyan Boev (ICB), and Mr. Falk Schubert (PAY.ON). This session has been moderated by Alejtin Berisha.

Considered as the true next big thing, Internet of Things is truly remarkable. Combining know-hows and technologies from many sources, the Internet of Things takes on a revolutionary approach that would potentially change our lifestyles for the better.

Internet of Things refers to enabling automation in previously non-digitized devices. Imagine your fridge telling you without opening it what does it contain, or even sending a text to your phone telling you that you're out of milk. Well, this is just a very simple example of how the Internet of Things will improve our lives.



## 6. Business Lounge

Besides the information shared within and throughout presentations of our speakers, KosICT created an environment of cooperation and partnerships. Being aware of the importance of such environments, KosICT created the so-called business lounge; there representatives from different companies were offered the opportunity to socialise and discuss privately. The business lounge proved very successful both because of the cooperation and discussions taking place and due to the social media presence of its participants.

Outside of the business lounge, KosICT maintained its reputation of an IT melt-point for the region. The largest ICT regional conference was where the paths of many famous individuals representing different companies crossed. This diversity created opportunities for connections during breaks or question sessions. The informative aspect served also for many students and young-entrepreneurs; KosICT offered them a glimpse at how the future in IT will look like and a valuable opportunity to invest in their growth.

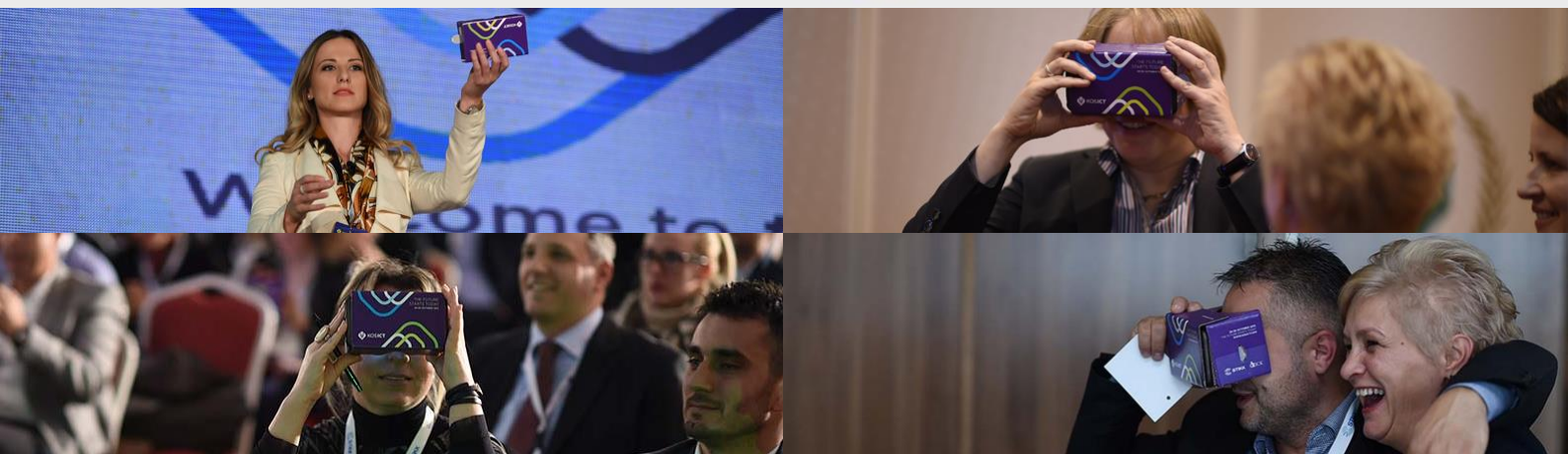
# BUSINESS LOUNGE



## 7. Gifts

This year KosICT brought Virtual Reality to Kosovo in form of specially designed VR Cardboards. Together with informative material, this gift gives the conference a special flair, and is memorable for the participants.

In order to match our gift, in cooperation with [Rolling Rabbits](#), we have also launched the KosICT VR app, which can be found here: [kosict.com/app](http://kosict.com/app).



## 8. Sponsors and Supporters

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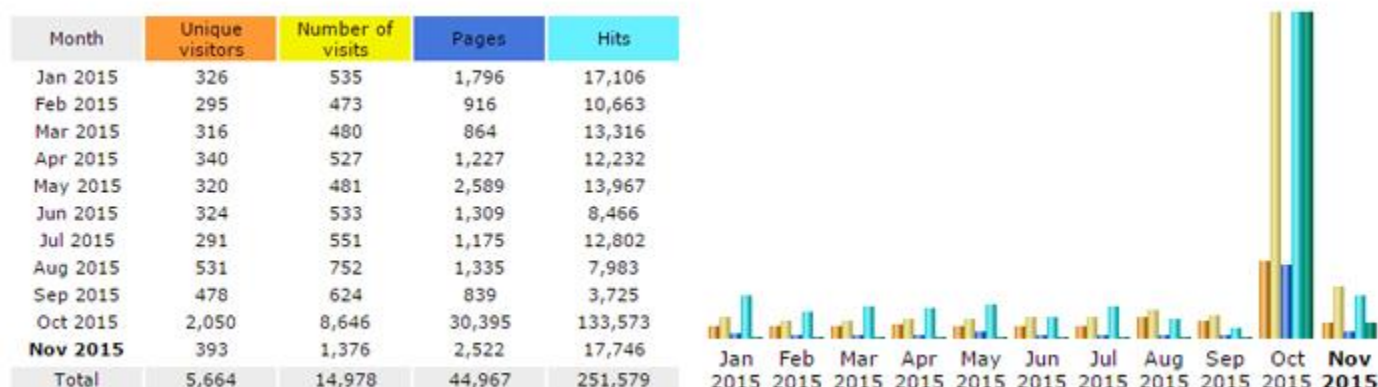
### MEDIA SPONSORS



## 9. Statistics

### 9.1. KosiCT website

This year the conference was attended by around 250 participants representing: ICT Professionals, ICT Associations, Tech entrepreneurs, CEO's, Policymakers and Academia from the whole region including Albania, Germany, Estonia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, and USA.



Various articles about the conference itself, the speakers, topics, etcetera, have been prepared prior, during, and after KosiCT. Those can be found on [kosict.com/news](http://kosict.com/news). The interest about the KosiCT conference could be noted in the number of viewers of the web page [kosict.com](http://kosict.com), which had around 8,646 viewers, approximately 2,050 of those being unique viewers.

Moreover, the whole KosiCT conference has been recorded and live-streamed on our YouTube channel [youtube.com/kosict](http://youtube.com/kosict). Our Medial Partner, Radio Television of Kosovo programme "Multimedia", has prepared two shows specifically for our conference, which you can be found here: [Part 1](#) (Albanian only) and [Part 2](#) (Albanian only).

We also want to thank our other Medial Partner, Telegrafi.com, for creating a special page on their website for KosiCT, which can be found on [telegrafi.com/ekonomi/kosict](http://telegrafi.com/ekonomi/kosict).

## 9.2. Facebook feedback



As seen on the statistic provided by Facebook, the KOSICT account has 2,417 likes as of today, and the total reach of People during the KOSICT week has been around 52,412.

During the two days of the conference, KOSICT's Facebook page was very active concerning Likes, Comments and Shares. As seen in the above graph, those days reached around 200 people on average that were directly liking, commenting or sharing the page.

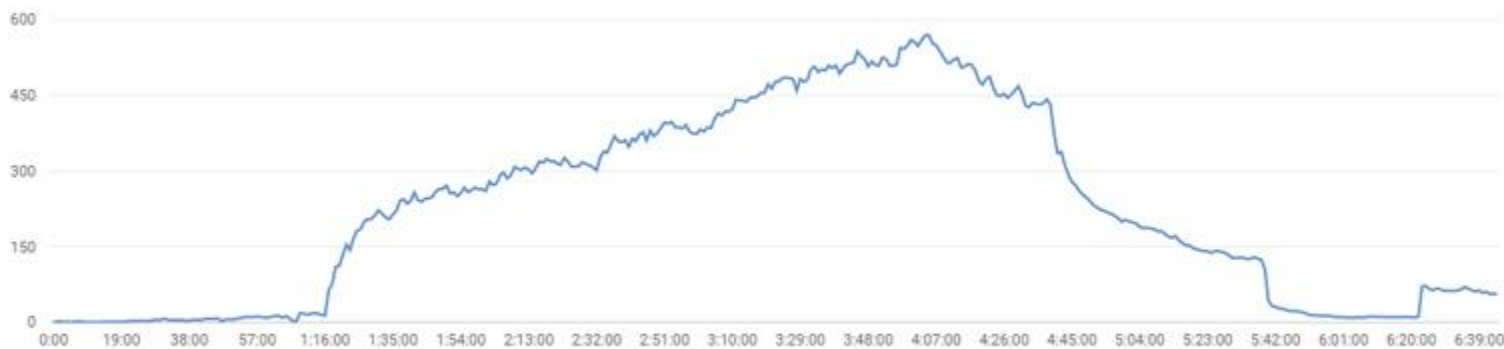
## 9.3. Twitter feedback

The twitter username of @KOSICT grew by 29.2% during the conference. The total number of users that are following the conference has increased to 427.



## 9.4. YouTube feedback

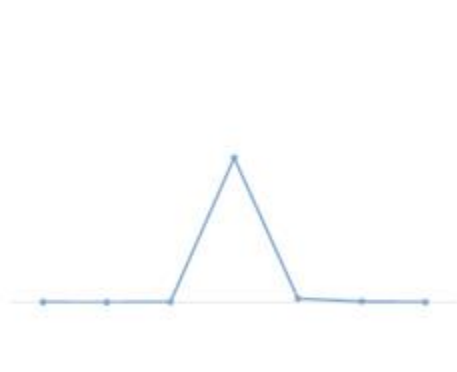
Our YouTube channel [youtube.com/kosict](https://youtube.com/kosict) has received more than 15,000 views, and offered a collective watch time over 45,000 minutes of content. These statistics are mainly collected from our Live-stream content from both days.



The chart timeline doesn't correspond exactly to the video timeline, because some parts of the original live stream aren't included in the recording.

Views

16,879 ▲



Watch time

Minutes

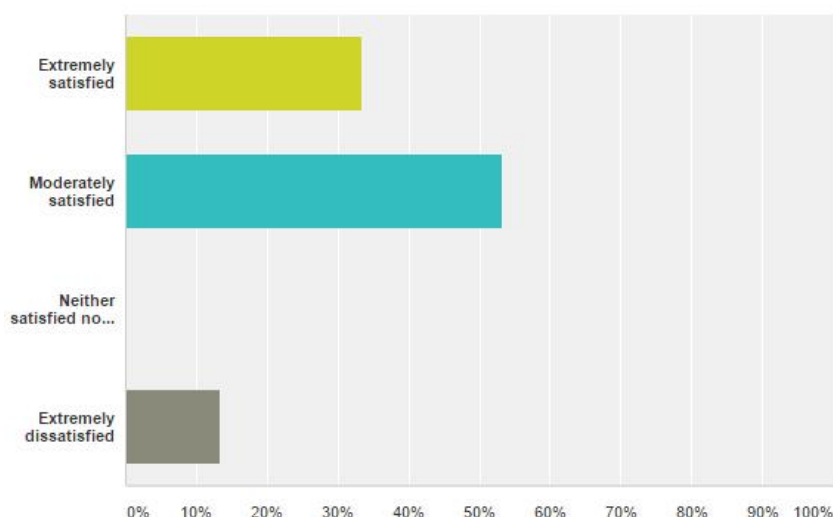
47,502 ▲



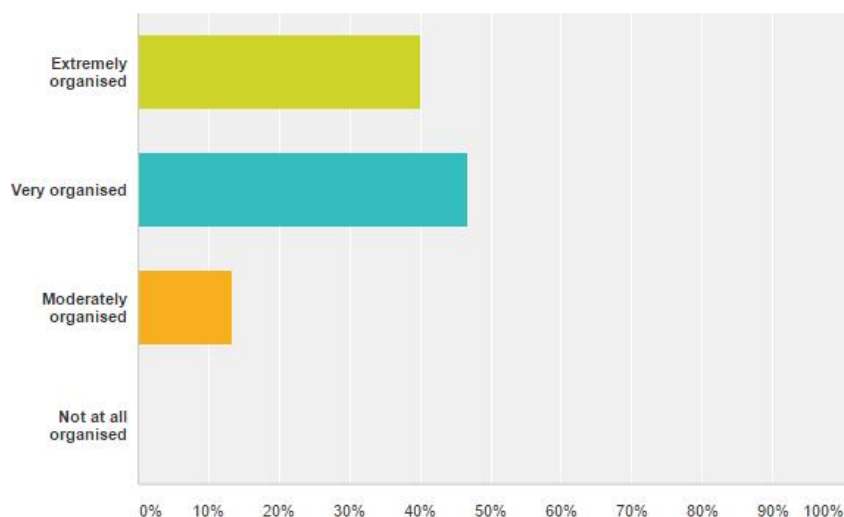
## 9.5. Survey Statistics

After the event was finished, we received many positive comments and feedback. In addition, we sent out a request for feedback from the outcome of which was very positive.

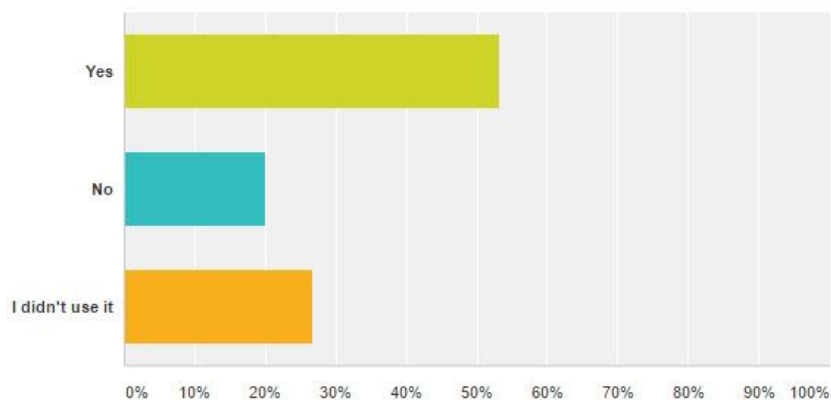
### Overall, were you satisfied with the conference?



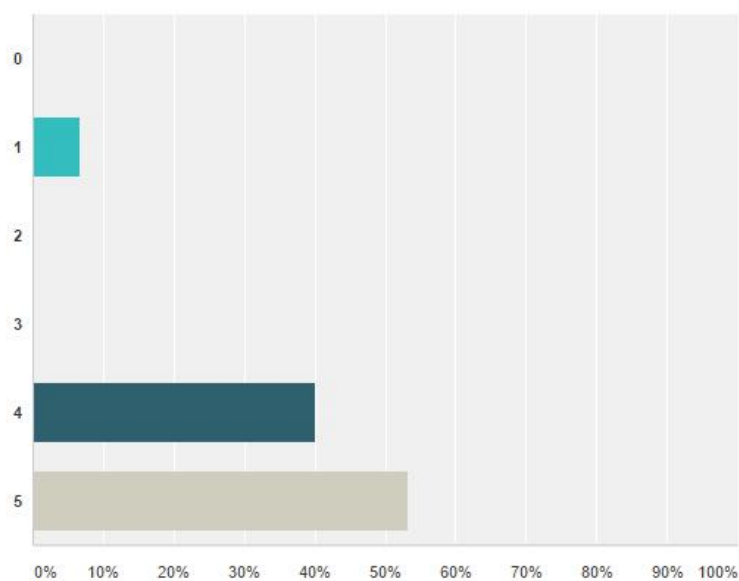
### How organised was the conference?



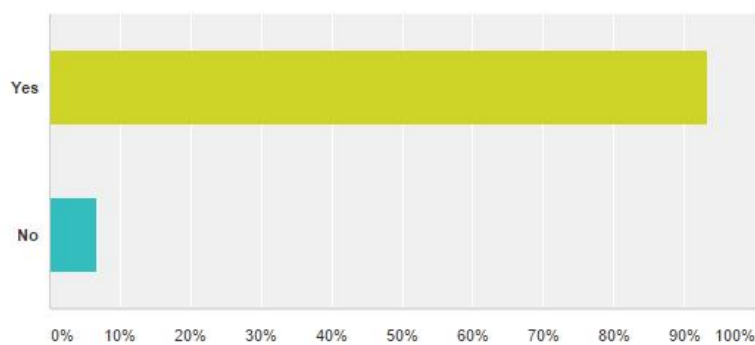
### Did you like the VR Cardboard gift?



### How likely is that you would recommend #KosICT Conference to a friend or colleague? (5 being most likely)



### Will you be attending KosICT 2016?





THE FUTURE  
STARTS TODAY  
29-30 OCTOBER 2015



**Thank you for your support!**

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Vjollca Çavolli'.

Vjollca Çavolli

Executive Director  
STIKK

