

Type of Project:	<b>Infrastructure – DuSoCC Durable Solutions for Collective Centre Residents</b>	Country:	<b>BiH – Bosnia-Herzegovina</b>	
Approach:	<b>Power and Water Supply</b>	Realisation - Year:	<b>1999/2000</b>	
Project Name:	<b>Doboj (Republika Srpska) : Power and Water Supply Network Reconstruction in Čajre area</b>	Version:	<b>2</b>	Date: <b>06 December 2005</b>

## Čajre (Doboj, RS) – Power and Water Supply Network Reconstruction



Čajre (Doboj RS) – Power and Water Supply Project: opening ceremony held on 16 January 2000

### Context – Situation in BiH

Ten years after the war ended, Bosnia-Herzegovina remains confronted with the problem of displaced persons (DPs). As of the end of December 2004, 309,240 persons were still displaced in the country. While the pace of returns has increased in recent years, many DPs continue to reside in Collective Centres (CCs) where they await durable solutions of their housing problems. These CCs provide, for the most part, only the most basic accommodation. Many are converted facilities such as former schoolhouses, closed hotels, barracks or housing containers.

### Housing, the main objective of the DuSoCC Programme – Infrastructure complementary

The main objective of the “Durable Solutions for Collective Centre Residents” (DuSoCC) programme, a SHA secondment at UNHCR Sarajevo was to provide durable housing solutions for CC residents: creation of decent accommodation by reconstruction or rehabilitation of destroyed or damaged private houses (mostly in rural area) and social apartments (in urban area). Complementary to the DuSoCC housing programme some small-scale infrastructure projects in water supply and power network rehabilitation have been implemented as well to make return to rural context sustainable.

### Approach – Return in clusters: Combination of a shelter programme with infrastructure rehabilitation

Under its mandate to facilitate minority return, UNHCR had a long series of discussions in 1998 to try and launch the return process in Doboj municipality for Bosniaks from Čajre (Miljkovac local community). This is an important return area since it is outside of the Zone of Separation (ZOS) and close to town (distance about 3 km) and, therefore, represents a relatively “deep” return. Talks involved the authorities and local community members and focussed on creating the opportunity for returnees to begin visiting and cleaning their houses and, due to the sensitive nature of the situation, the discussions went on through May 1999 with house cleaning beginning in June 1999. Čajre was one of the first minority return areas in Doboj municipality and the return movement soon became significant. It paved definitely the way for even more minority returns to the region.

In anticipation of the breakthrough in Čajre, Mercy Corps Europe / Scottish European Aid (MCE/SEA) was engaged as the implementing partner of both SV (Stichting Vluchteling - a private Dutch agency) and UNHCR to carry out house reconstruction. Together, these donors financed the rehabilitation of 34 houses in the village of Čajre. UNHCR will provide building material and labour for 12 houses of which 7 are owned by current CC residents wishing to return. Additional 22 beneficiaries will be assisted under the SV Project providing building material on a self-help basis (while completing their houses, these 22 beneficiaries will be able to overnight at their neighbours who got labour assistance).

At the beginning the village of Čajre has neither a working power network nor a working water supply system. Both of these systems are seriously damaged and require reconstruction. Past experience clearly shows that condition of infrastructure is essential in order to support the return and reintegration of returnees. Therefore, the reconstruction of the infrastructure in Čajre should be viewed as an urgent need.

The project targeted returnees leaving CCs as well as other minority returnees. In fact the project benefited all categories of returnees in the area, including 7 families presently accommodated in CCs and 36 additional minority families (returning DPs).

The DuSoCC project management decided to participate in the mentioned programme. MCE/SEA agreed in the financing of the reconstruction of seven completely destroyed houses in favour of DuSoCC as a compensation for the financing of the infrastructure component by UNHCR/SHA. The reconstruction of houses for the seven families presently accommodated in CCs will be considered as a part of 1999 UNHCR shelter programme in Doboj area.

### Preconditions for this approach

Joint venture between two implementing partners.

### Implementation – Results

Durable housing solution in favour of 7 families with 31 individuals, former CC residents in Zenica.

Side effect: power and water supply in favour of 43 returnee families in total.

Additional impact: successful repopulation of a formerly completely deserted area.

### Budget – Čajre Water and Power Supply Project

total costs BAM 198,516 (21.03.2000) = EUR 101,500.

### Lessons learnt

- What was useful in the approach?
  - the successful job sharing within the framework of a combined shelter/infrastructure programme;
  - the strong synergy effects.
- What should be done differently next time?
  - Nothing – we’re very satisfied with the results we achieved with this job sharing approach in Čajre.

### Evaluation

Joint Evaluation-SHA/UNHCR of DuSoCC programme to BiH, 21 - 30 April 2002

Heinrich Gloor, Consultant, SHA/SDC, Bern & Melesse Tegegne, EESS/DOS, Geneva

EESS Mission Report 02/09

### For further information

<b>Recommended contacts:</b>	René Edward Knupfer, SHA Seconded at UNHCR Vladikavkaz
<b>Recommended institutions:</b>	SHA Berne, Specialised Group for Construction (Heinrich Gloor)
<b>Recommended books/reports:</b>	DuSoCC Briefing Kit (CD, 31 December 2004 release)
<b>Relevant other projects (links):</b>	--- (none)