

Type of Project:	Shelter Housing Durable Solution	Country: Bosnia BiH		
Approach:	Self Help	Realisation Year: 2001 - 2002		
Project name:	DuSoCC Self Help Shelter Program in Kotorsko, Doboj	Version: 1	Date:	March 2004



Initial Situation, Context

Eight years after the war ended, Bosnia-Herzegovina remains confronted with the problem of displaced persons (DPs). End of December 2002 still some 367'500 persons have been displaced within the country. While the pace of returns has increased in recent years, many DPs continue to reside in Collective Centers (CCs), where they wait for durable solutions to their housing problems. By end of December 2003 still 1'286 CC residents (1'120 in the Federation and 166 in Republica Srpska). These CCs offer, for the most part, only the most rudimentary accommodation. Many of these CCs are converted facilities such as former school-houses, closed hotels, barracks or housing containers.

Before the war started, the village of Kotorsko located north of Doboj had 1'100 houses. Apparently it was the largest Bosniak village in Doboj municipality. During the war the village was badly affected and a majority of houses is at least partially damaged. Displaced Bosnian Serbian settlers who were very resistant to Bosniak return occupied about 200 habitable houses. UNHCR estimated at that time that at least 800 households wish to return immediately to Kotorsko. After intensive efforts by the International Community the area was opened for Bosniak return.

Goals, Beneficiaries

Main objective of the ongoing DuSoCC program is to provide durable housing solution for CC residents by creation of accommodation through reconstruction or rehabilitation of destroyed or damaged private houses (mainly in rural areas) and social apartments in urban areas.

Approach

As a result of an agreement between Bosniaks and Bosnian Serbs in the area, the return activities started in January 2000 by cleaning 30 houses. Under its mandate to facilitate minority returns, UNHCR mediated the discussions between the ethnic entities. As a result of these activities more than 270 houses became cleaned and ready for reconstruction. In May 2000 Bosniaks received supply of building materials from the Federation Ministry for Refugees (FMSA) stored in Kotorsko. As soon as the building material was available on site, the first housing activities started. The returnee groups seemed to be excellent organized and therefore to be ideal candidates for a self help program. In the same time SRSA, the Swedish Rescue Service Agency expressed its strong interest to become active in the housing sector in this area. SRSA is active in this field since 1995 mainly in self help programs. Therefore the DuSoCC management of SDC/UNHCR decided to join the ongoing SRSA program by a DuSoCC- sub program. 11 seriously damaged or completely destroyed houses including a small water supply network should be rehabilitated by the SDC/UNHCR program but implemented by SRSA.

Partner(s)

- SDC/UNHCR Shelter office in Sarajevo (including FMSA)
- SRSA Agency in Tuzla
- Municipality of Doboj/Kotorsko

Implementations/Results

11 family houses repaired or reconstructed for 55 individuals. This was a part of the SRSA program for rehabilitation/reconstruction of 100 houses in Kotorsko in a Self Help Approach.

Cost, Financing

Total cost BAM 215'095 = 109'976 EUR. Average cost per person is about 2000 EUR.

Problems/Constraints

- delay in completion
- inappropriate use of building material
- "Palazzo Prozzo" Syndrome = oversized layout of the rooms

Lessons learned What was useful in the approach?

- cost effective approach (low budget solution)
- community building as a welcome side effect
- creation of "ownership"- feeling with the beneficiaries

Lessons learned What should be done different next time?

The implementation of self-help program is possible only with strict site supervision and a strict stock management.

Preconditions and Limitations for this approach

Partnership with reliable implementer is essential

Evaluations

Joint evaluation SDC/UNHCR April 2002 by H. Gloor + M. Tegegne, Evaluation Report Sept. 2002

For further information

Recommended Contacts:	R. E. Knupfer, SHA/UNHCR Project Manager Sarajevo
Recommended Institutions:	SDC/SHA desk Europ + CIS
Recommended books/reports:	SDC Fact Sheet June 2002: "The Swiss Contribution" DuSoCC Briefing Kit (CD February 2004)
Relevant other projects (links):	similar projects in Serbia and Montenegro

Annex: (technical drawings, schemata) see page: 3

Status of the houses: before

after rehabilitation



Deli Emina



Deli Emina



Koveavi Suad



Koveavi Suad



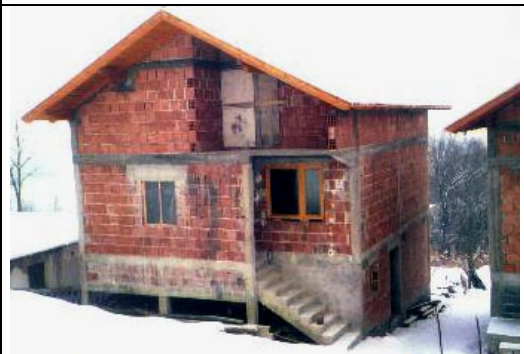
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