



## SHA Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit Specialized Group for Construction Virtual Library of "Best Practices"

| Type of Project: | Housing                | Country:           | Kosovo     |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Approach:        | Contracted works       | Realisation: Year: | 2003-2004  |
| Project name:    | Duso – Dubrave (Istog) | Version 1          | Date: 2004 |





## **Initial Situation, Context**

The village of Dubrava (5km from Istog) was badly destroyed during the conflict. From a population of approximately 1'750 inhabitants in 1998, (60% K-Albanian, 8% K-Serb, 2% K-Bosnian and the rest mainly Ashkali), there are currently remaining approximately 1'000 inhabitants.

The general concept for this project was developed by DRC (Danish Refugee Council), with the assistance of GOAL, ICMC (International Catholic Migration Commission), CDHRF, Haxhi Zeka, UNMIK ORC (Office of Returns and Communities) and UNHCR.

## Goals, Beneficiaries:

The overall goal of the programme was to contribute to sustainable return and reintegration of K-Ashkali families from Montenegro to Kosovo in the Dubrava village.

## Approach:

The work includes: 28 new build houses all from V category, build by contractors; The rehabilitation of the Cultural Centre (For tolerance building activities, training etc); External works (sports field, fence, play ground etc), done with participation of local population; Return assistance, in cooperation with DRC; Income generating programme, in cooperation with ICMC; The electricity connection including two new transformers, done by contractor; The water distribution network, done by contractor.

## Partner(s):

The following partners participated in this programme:

- FOR, (Federal Office for Refugees) for the financing of the project.
- UNHCR for selection and return support.
- DRC (Danish Refugee Council) for return support and for tolerance building activities, training etc
- ICMC (International Catholic Migration Commission) for support in Income generating programmes
- UNMIK/ORC (Office of Returns and Communities)
- Other humanitarian actors like GOAL, CDHRF and Haxhi Zeka.
- Municipality of Istog, for administrative support, building permits etc.
- Local Representatives of the village.
- The contractors Ekonkos, Çeta, Vendi and Mirembajtja for the execution of the project.

## Implementation/Results:

Construction of 28 new build houses (All the families are living in their new houses). Rehabilitation of the Cultural Centre where all communities are doing many activities; sports field renovation, electricity distribution network; water distribution; and participation also in the Income Generation Programme in agricultural and different fields and in the return support with food and cash.

#### Constructions:

Year 2003. The construction is traditional with blocks and concrete horizontal and vertical beams and pillars, with thermo-insulation on the ceiling, wooden roof structure covered with clay tiles and hydro isolation; wooden windows. The bathrooms are done with ceramic tiles and complete equipment. The floors on the rooms are covered with wooden boards. The walls are plastered.

#### Cost, Financing:

Financed by FOR. Total cost: € 465'660.00 (CHF 698'490.00)

| Construction of 28 houses | € 331'340 |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Cultural Center:          | € 35'740  |
| Water supply:             | € 13'184  |
| Electricity distribution: | € 43'410  |
| Return support:           | € 14'755  |
| Income generation:        | € 15'431  |
| External works, sports    | € 11'800  |

#### **Problems/Constraints:**

In general there were no problems during the implementation of the project and as well no delays. The tripartite agreements for 23 families were signed in the beginning of August, the rest in the beginning of September. Another general Tripartite Agreement was signed between us, UNMIK Municipal representative and Local Municipal representative. We had verbal agreement with other parties (ICMC and DRC) that they will do also the balancing works (for both communities), but at the end they didn't do that.

## Lessons Learned: What was useful in the approach?

The improvement of the standards in houses was very much appreciated from the beneficiaries especially the tools and equipments (Income Generation Programme) that we gave them for starting making a profit and cultivating their plots and also one hundred euros per family that we gave as return support.

## Lessons learned: What should be done different next time?

Before we start with implementation of the project we should get from other partners on written form the engagement that they will do the works they promise.

### Preconditions and Limitations for this approach:

- The first precondition was support in returning and reintegration of RAE refugees.
- Close Cooperation with local Authorities. (Municipality: Directorate for Reconstruction, Cadastre, Urbanism, etc.)
- Construction Office with administrative and technical capacity to implement the project.

#### For further information:

| Recommended Contacts:            | Coof Pristina  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Recommended Institutions:        | SDC/SHA, desk Europe +CIS                              |
| Recommended books/reports:       | SDC/SHA Fact Sheet June 2002: "The Swiss Contribution" |
| Relevant other projects (links): | Similar SDC/SHA Projects in Kosovo.                    |

Annex: Pictures from the projects see page: 3; plans see page: 4

# Pictures of the different parts of the project

Electrical supply









Income Generation Programme



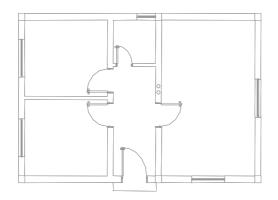
Water supply



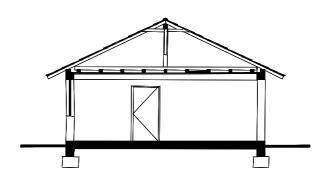


## Plan of the project (Type 65m2)

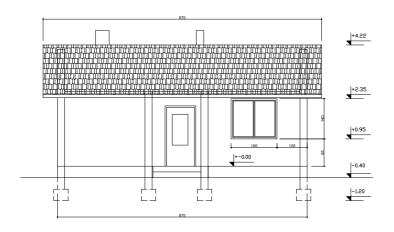
## **Ground floor**



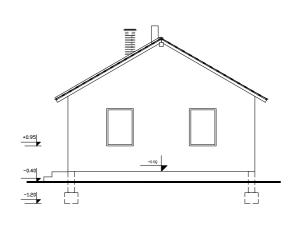
Ground floor plan.



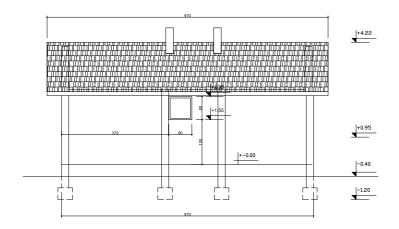
**Typical section** 



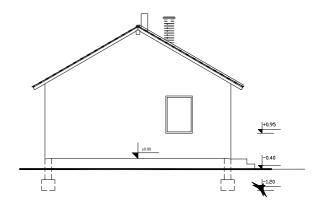
Entrance façade.



Side façade 1



Back façade.



Side façade 2