



ASB OFFICE FOR SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

# P R E S S R E L E A S E



Stabilitätspakt für Südosteuropa  
Gefördert durch Deutschland  
Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe  
Sponsored by Germany

8 June 2009

## **ASB SEE CONSTRUCTS AN APARTMENT BUILDING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KRUŠEVAC, SERBIA WITH FUNDS FROM THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT**

The Office of the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund for South Eastern Europe (ASB SEE) has recently received funds from the German Foreign Ministry (GFM) under the auspices of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, to close down the collective centre "Velika Lomnica" in the Municipality of Kruševac and provide durable solution for eight refugee/IDP families and two socially-vulnerable families through the construction of an apartment building with 10 apartments in the Municipality of Kruševac, the Republic of Serbia. The total value of this project amounts to € 208,350 of which € 165,000 is being provided by GFM, € 20,000 by the municipality of Kruševac and € 23,350 by ASB SEE. The construction works will be completed by February 2010.

The aim of this project is to provide durable housing solution for eight families who still have the status of refugee or IDP and are still living in the collective centre "Velika Lomnica" in the Municipality of Kruševac, as well as for two vulnerable social welfare cases from the same municipality. By constructing this building, ASB SEE will significantly improve their living conditions along with employment prospects and social life in their community. This will help them with successful integration into Serbian society. This municipality is located in the Rasinski district, about 180 km south of Belgrade, and currently has 480 refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia as well as over 7,890 displaced persons from Kosovo. Taking care of refugees and displaced persons represents a huge problem for this municipality which is not in a position to support them without an external support such as ASB SEE's assistance.

The Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Displaced Persons, UNHCR and the Municipality of Kruševac will be closely working with ASB SEE on the implementation of this project emphasizing the importance of the co-operation of various institutions and international NGOs in finding the best durable solutions for refugees and IDPs. Similar projects of building apartment buildings were undertaken by ASB SEE in the municipalities of Leskovac, Pančevo and Paraćin with funds from GFM since 2002 until 2008 in order to assist refugees and displaced persons who decided not to return to their country of origin and support them in their integration into Serbian society.



A project funded by  
the German Foreign Ministry

German Foreign Ministry  
Referat GF07  
Werderscher Markt 1  
10117 Berlin, Germany

Tel: 0049 1888 17 3758  
Fax: 0049 1888 17 53758



Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund  
Deutschland e.V.

This project is implemented by  
the Office of the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB)  
in the Republic of Serbia

Ul. Antifašističke borbe 27/8  
11070 Novi Beograd, Serbia

Tel. +381 11 311 28 50  
Fax +381 11 311 67 39  
e-mail: [asb.serbia@asb-see.org](mailto:asb.serbia@asb-see.org)  
[www.asb-see.org](http://www.asb-see.org)



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The Stability Pact is based on key experiences and lessons from worldwide international crisis management. Conflict prevention and peace building can be successful only if they start in parallel in three key sectors: the creation of a secure environment, the promotion of sustainable democratic systems, and the promotion of economic and social well-being. Only if there is progress in all three sectors can a self-sustaining process of peace be achieved. In the founding document, more than 40 partner countries and organisations undertook to strengthen the countries of South Eastern Europe "in their efforts to foster peace, democracy, respect for human rights and economic prosperity in order to achieve stability in the whole region". Euro-Atlantic integration was promised to all the countries in the region.



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Since 1992, ASB SEE has been providing assistance to sustainable return of refugees and displaced persons in SEE Region through emergency repairs of destroyed houses, mine-clearance, reconstruction of social infrastructure and provision of humanitarian aid with funds from the German Government. Until now, ASB SEE has implemented projects funded by the German Government for a total value of € 40 million and reconstructed more than 2,332 houses in this region.

For further information please contact:



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Tel. +381 11 311 28 50  
Fax +381 11 311 67 39  
e-mail: [asb.serbia@asb-see.org](mailto:asb.serbia@asb-see.org)  
[www.asb-see.org](http://www.asb-see.org)



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