



ASB OFFICE FOR SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

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

22 November 2004

ASB started an additional return project in Municipality of Prizren

Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB), an implementing partner of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), has started an additional return project for 20 minority families to the Zhupa Valley, funded by the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government (PISG). Since the beginning of November 2004, the reconstruction of family houses for most vulnerable families has begun. This project is the third return project in the region in 2004 implemented by ASB.

The aim of the project is to assist 20 minority families in sustainable return to their homes of origin. Along with the physical reconstruction, the ASB Mission in Kosovo will also support the returnees and the receiving communities with economic assistance and sustainability measures. Additionally measurements will be undertaken to facilitate reconciliation and interethnic dialogue in order to sustain the return of the IDPs.

In order to facilitate the project, ASB co-operate s with all relevant UNMIK institutions, the Provisional Institutions for Self-Government and with KFOR which ensures the security of the returnees.

Since 2000, ASB has been active in the region. So far, more than 1,800 houses have been reconstructed for families whose houses were damaged or destroyed during the war. Through these efforts, more than 12,000 refugees were able to begin a normal and peaceful life again.

For more information please contact:



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