

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

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German Government and ASB continue to implement humanitarian mine-clearance in 2006 in the Republic of Croatia

The Office of the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB) in Croatia has received funds from the German Foreign Ministry under the auspices of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe to implement mine-clearance of 660,000 m² in the Municipalities of Pakrac, Sodalovci, Osijek/Antunovac, Petrinja, Sisak, Lipik, Sunja, and Skradin. The total value of this project amounts to € 800,000 and will be implemented within the period of 1 March 2006 until 31 December 2006.

In these areas, ASB will carry out mine-clearance of agricultural areas, individual yards and houses which will contribute to normalisation of life in these war-affected municipalities and to their further social and economic development. This project will be carried out in close co-operation with the Croatian Centre for Demining (HCR).

From the very beginning of its return and reconstruction programme in Croatia, ASB has been providing an extensive humanitarian mine-clearance in order to secure sustainable return and reconstruction, and to ensure stable local communities throughout the war-affected areas.

Since 1996, the German Government through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the auspices of the Stability Pact allocated € 3,404,600 for humanitarian mine-clearance of 2,528,575 m² in war-affected areas of Croatia. Until now, ASB conducted mine-clearance of approx. 3.2 million m² in Croatia. However, according to HCR, there are still 1,174 km² which are suspect to be mine-contaminated in Croatia which presents a constant threat to everyday living in these areas. Along with mine-clearance, the German Government has been supporting projects such as reconstruction of houses of categories 1-3 and the provision of humanitarian aid proving to be a valuable partner of ASB in this region over the last years.

For further information please contact:



A project funded by
the German Foreign Ministry

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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.