

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

28 January 2008

GERMAN GOVERNMENT FUNDS HUMANITARIAN AID IN KOSOVO AND BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (BIH)

The Office of the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund for South Eastern Europe (ASB SEE) is currently distributing humanitarian aid in the Municipalities of Foca and Gorazde, BiH and in the Municipality of Prizren in Kosovo with funds from the German Government under the auspices of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe. These projects commenced at the end of 2007 and will be finished by February 2008.

In BiH, ASB SEE carries out winterisation project assistance (distribution of cooking and heating stoves, firewood, beds and beddings, mattresses as well as kitchen sets) for 45 vulnerable families in the Municipalities of Foca and Gorazde, out of which 35 families of all ethnic groups are returnees to these municipalities who have previously received reconstruction assistance from ASB SEE funded by the EU. These returnee families are among the most deprived families in these municipalities along with the elderly and single-parent families. The total number of beneficiaries benefiting from this project is approximately 150 people. The total value of this project amounts to €36,000.

At the same time, ASB SEE carries out winterisation project assistance for 150 especially vulnerable families of Roma/Askali, Serbian and Albanian nationalities in the Municipality of Prizren in Kosovo. There is high unemployment rate in the Municipality of Prizren, while families' incomes are insufficient to meet their most basic needs. Especially in the winter months, the situation in this municipality is extremely difficult because winters in Kosovo are harsh and long, and many people cannot adequately protect themselves from the cold weather. Therefore, ASB SEE provides firewood and warm clothing along with stoves, beds and beddings, kitchen sets, chairs and tables and hygienic items for these families. The total number of beneficiaries benefiting from this project is approximately 600 people. The total value of this project amounts to €45,000.



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.

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These projects are a continuation of similar projects of distributing humanitarian aid in BiH and Kosovo with funds from the German Government which were successfully completed in previous years of ASB SEE's assistance to these regions.

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

For further information please contact:



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