

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

2 July 2007

ASB signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CROMAC at value of €764,000

On 22 June 2007, the Office of the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB) in the Republic of Croatia, represented by Mr. Wolfgang Raschka, Head of ASB Office in Croatia and the Croatian Centre for Demining (CROMAC), represented by Mr. Oto Jungwirth, CROMAC Director, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Sisak based on which the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany directly commits to fund mine-clearance in Croatia in 2007. In accordance with this MoU, ASB will implement mine-clearance of approx. 637,000 m² in six counties. One mine-clearance project will be carried out in each county which are Osiječko-baranjska county, Karlovačka county, Šibensko-kninska county, Požeško-slavonska and Ličko-senjska county, while two projects will be carried out in Sisačko-moslavačka county. The total value of these projects amounts to € 764,000.

Signing ceremony was also attended by Dr. Laurids Hoelscher, Deputy Ambassador to the FR Germany and Mr. Mirko Ivanušić, CROMAC Deputy Director. Mr. Oto Jungwirth, CROMAC Director expressed his gratitude to the Government of the FR Germany for all previous donations for mine-clearance activities carried out in Croatia which comes to amount of approx. € 6 million.

Since 1996, mine-clearance of the war-affected areas in Croatia had been a precondition to the safe return as well as to reconstruction projects and further socio-economic development undertaken by ASB. Since 1999, the German Government through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs directly and under the auspices of the Stability Pact allocated € 4,993,558 for mine-clearance of 3,707,626 m² in war-affected areas of Croatia. Until now, ASB conducted mine-clearance of approx. 4.5 million m² in Croatia. Along with mine-clearance, the German Government has been supporting projects such as reconstruction of houses of category 1-3 and the provision of humanitarian aid.

For further information please contact:



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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.