

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

14 March 2007

ASB mine-cleared area of 615,000 m² in Croatia with funds from the German Foreign Ministry

The Office of the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB) in the Republic of Croatia has recently completed mine-clearance of 615,000 m² in the Municipalities of Pakrac, Sodalovci, Osijek/Antunovac, Petrinja, Sisak, Lipik, Sunja, and Skradin with funds from the German Foreign Ministry under the auspices of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe. The total value of this project amounts to € 797,211 and it was carried out in close co-operation with the Croatian Centre for Demining.

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. A large number of civilians, including returnees, has become mine victims upon their return to war-affected areas. Many of the incidents happened while returnees were tending sheep, gathering wood, and farming. Therefore, in these municipalities, ASB mine-cleared agricultural areas, individual yards and houses enabling the population to lead a safe and normal life without a constant fear of becoming landmine victims.

Since 1996, the German Government through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the auspices of the Stability Pact allocated € 4,160,000 for humanitarian mine-clearance of 3,115,347 m² in war-affected areas of Croatia. Until now, ASB conducted mine-clearance of approx. 3.9 million m² in Croatia. However, according to the Croatian Centre for Demining, there are still 1,147 km² which are suspect to be mine-contaminated in Croatia. Along with mine-clearance, the German Government has been supporting projects such as reconstruction of houses of cat. 1-3 and the provision of humanitarian aid.

For further information please contact:



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

Embassy of Germany in the Republic of Croatia
Ulica grada Vukovara 64
10 000 Zagreb, Croatia

Tel : +385 01 6158 105
Fax : +385 01 6158 103



Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund
Deutschland e.V.

The project is implemented by:
Office of the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund
in the Republic of Croatia

ASB Country Office
Trg Vladimira Nazora 3
Ivanić Grad, Croatia

Tel: +385 1 2883 141
Fax: +385 1 2883 142

E-mail: ecasbmo@zg.htnet.hr
web: 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.