

18 April 2005

## Signing of a Multi-partite Partnership Agreement

The German non-governmental organisation Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB) under the CARDS 2003 Programme of the European Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), is currently implementing the integrated return project IRP-4-NW within the municipalities of Bihać, Prijedor and Sanski Most. Under this project the reconstruction of 116 housing units will be realised within these project municipalities as well as the creation of at least 44 new jobs. The other project components include provision of technical infrastructure – water and electricity supply to the reconstructed housing units as well as capacity building of local authorities in the project municipalities.

The project is jointly implemented by the municipalities of Bihać, Sanski Most and Prijedor in close co-operation with the Una-Sana cantonal Ministry for Health and Social Policy, the Republika Srpska Ministry for Refugees and Displaced Persons and ASB.

In light of this co-operation, a joint Partnership Agreement was signed in Bihać on Monday, 18 April 2005, in hotel "Sunce". On behalf of the project partners, the Agreement was signed by Mr. Hamdija Lipovača, Mayor of Bihać, Mr. Marko Pavić, Mayor of Prijedor, Mr. Muhamed Pašalić, Deputy Mayor of Sanski Most, Mr. Jasmin Samardžić, Minister for Refugees and DPs – Republika Srpska, Mr. Ismet Kumalić Prime Minister of the Una-Sana Canton and Mr. Elmir Bojadžić, ASB SEE Regional Director.

The ceremony was attended by the EU Ambassador to BiH, H.E. Ambassador Michael B. Humphreys. In his speech, Ambassador Humphreys emphasised the importance of the project as well as the fact that gradually more responsibilities are being transferred to local and national authorities. Ambassador Humphreys expressed his strong believe that the project will be successfully implemented by all project partners.

For more information please contact:



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