

More funds from the Netherlands and UK for humanitarian reconstruction projects engaging the Kosovo Protection Corps



Signing the one-year Trust Fund Contract

In November 2005, the Government of the Netherlands and the Government of the United Kingdom pledged their financial support for a combined amount of 800,000 Euros to fund the continuation of the IOM Trust Fund Programme conducted with the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC). Mr. Peter Bas Backer, Head of the Netherlands Liaison Office in Pristina and Mr. Enrico Ponziani, Chief of IOM Mission in Kosovo signed a one-year contract that provides 400,000 Euros to the programme, while concurrently Mr Mark Dickinson, Head of the British Office in Pristina, signed a Letter of Intent for an additional 400,000 Euro in support of the IOM Trust Fund.

The proposed Trust Fund projects will be implemented in cooperation with the KPC, in particular its engineering units, which will be responsible for a major portion of the technical work, as well as regular members of the organization. For the most part, the planned projects will take place in areas inhabited by communities with a mixed ethnic composition.

Some of these new Trust Fund projects will result in the construction of several fire stations and the rehabilitation of a water system in a multi-ethnic area of Kosovo. IOM has developed a mutually beneficial, working relationship with the KPC over the past five years. To date, over 148 various humanitarian projects have been completed throughout Kosovo. These additional projects will further contribute to the IOM Trust Fund's current emphasis on projects promoting sustainable returns of ethnic minorities by improving the living conditions in their communities.