

**IOM/USAID Community Enhancement and Development Programme  
completes the renovation of the “Gëzimi Ynë” Kindergarten in  
Mitrovicë/Mitrovica**



Dr. Michael Farbman, USAID Mission Director Mr. Bajram Rexhepi Mayor of Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, and Mr. Andrew Phelan from IOM received a symbolic gifts for their contribution to this project

On the 27th of August 2008 an inauguration ceremony was held in the Gëzimi Ynë Kindergarten in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, to mark the completion of the building renovation implemented by the IOM through USAID funding.

The event drew a vast amount of public and media attention. Among the high-profile invitees were Dr. Michael Farbman, USAID Mission Director, Mr. Bajram Rexhepi, Mayor of Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, Bislim Ymeri, Director of Environmental Department of the Municipality. Xhelal Shabani, Coordinator of the Department of Environment and Agriculture of Municipality and Ms. Shefkije Nimani, Director of the Kindergarten .The newly renovated Kindergarten in downtown Mitrovica has 350 children from 9 months to 6 years old. The children attending this kindergarten come from Mitrovica and the surrounding villages. They are of Albanian, Bosniak and Turkish ethnicities.

This renovation project included a considerable amount of interior and exterior work. The windows of the school were replaced, the toilets redone, the cafeteria refurbished and the interior of the school repainted. Outside, the play-structure was repaired and the first 20 centimeters of top soil of the grounds was removed and disposed of, as there are concerns that lead from the Trepca complex may have contaminated the soil. This, as well as the removal of the roofing materials, was coordinated with the municipal environment department who ensured that the waste materials were disposed according to Kosovo's environmental guidelines.