



IOM KOSOVO NEWS

Quarterly Newsletter of IOM Kosovo
November edition 2004

News in Brief

- During the last three months, the total number of Kosovars who returned through IOM's Assisted Voluntary Returns programme was 472, of which 441 returned by plane and 31 by land transportation.

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- Barbara Burri, Head of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation Office (SDC) in Pristina, visited the beneficiaries of the IOM "Employment Assistance Services for Minorities Returning from Switzerland" programme, which is funded by the Government of Switzerland.

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- In September, IOM launched a new project that aims to facilitate the voluntary return of asylum seekers from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, who are currently residing in the Canton of Vaud, Switzerland.

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- During the last three months, the IOM Counter Trafficking Unit in Prishtina has delivered trainings on human trafficking to over 50 KPS officers, who will be involved in Anti-Organized Crime and Border Police Units, as well as to the UN Department of Justice (DoJ)-Victim Advocacy and Assistance Unit (VAAU).

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- The IOM CT Unit in Pristina organized the training entitled "Skills Building Training for Anti-Trafficking Carers" for 26 participants from the main NGOs and institutions working in Kosovo to provide assistance and protection to international and Kosovar victims of human trafficking.

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Serbian returnees in Brestovik-Pejë/Pec

(and 4 in Siga/ë - while 17 houses have been finished, (9 in Siga/ë and 8 in Brestovik). Recently, 14 houses were handed over to the IDPs and more should be handed over before the winter.

IDPs returns to Siga/ë and Brestovik started

IOM and its implementing partners, THW, MPDL and Bergamo per il Kosovo, facilitated the return of 22 IDPs from Serbia and Montenegro to their home villages of Brestovik and Siga/ë in Pejë/Pec Municipality. Subsequently, IOM and partners have begun assessing the returnees' income generation needs. At present, 20 houses are under reconstruction - 16 in Brestovik and

Swedish Medical Team Operates On 22 Kosovar Patients

In September 2004, the Swedish Medical Team, coordinated by IOM, successfully performed 22 surgeries and 69 medical examinations at the Surgical Clinic of the University Clinical Centre in Pristina. Most of the surgical interventions performed were related to different abdominal and urological congenital anomalies, burn reconstructions, reconstructions of amputated fingers, contractures, auto transplantations, and haemangiomas of the extremities. The patients consisted of 12 children and 10 adults, who were selected by the University Clinical Centre in Pristina.

This IOM project, which started in April 2000 in Kosovo, was initiated by the Swedish Migration Board and coordinated by IOM. This project aims to assist patients from Kosovo, who cannot be treated locally with specialised medical treatment abroad or medical treatment performed by the Swedish Medical Team in Kosovo.



SMT performing operations at the Clinical Centre in Pristina

EU Representatives in Kosovo visit EAR/IOM CSP Projects in Rahovec/Orahovac Municipality



IOM-CSP wine production project

In October 2004, representatives of the European Union countries based in Kosovo visited the EAR/IOM Community Stabilisation Programme (CSP) projects with wine production in the village of Velika Hoca/Hoça e Madhe in Rahovec/Orahovac Municipality.

Wine production has a very long tradition in the small village of Velika Hoca/Hoça e Madhe and a total of four associations have been established by the CSP Programme since its inception in 2002. The winery association "Golema Oca" one of the most attractive and most successful IOM/CSP projects in the Rahovec/Orahovac municipality was selected by the EU delegation for the visit.

Zlatko Nakalamic, is the president of the wine association "Golema Oca" and has engaged seven families as members/workers in the transformation of grapes into wine and brandy for the domestic and foreign markets. Since the village's development depends on the agricultural sector, the CSP Programme has followed the local strategy and supported the extension of the vineyards by more than 3 hectares over the past two years.

IOM Kosovo is implementing the EAR-funded CSP which aims at improving the social and economic conditions of minority communities living in enclaves and in isolated areas throughout Kosovo, thereby stabilising the net outflow of Kosovo's minority communities.



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Assisted Voluntary Returns

Objectives

→ Assisting in the organized repatriation of Kosovar returnees including local transportation of beneficiaries from the airport or other arrival points to their place of origin with particular attention to vulnerable cases.

→ Directly assisting Kosovar returnees through reinstallation and reintegration support, either as a one-time cash payment or through a process of needs assessment in the areas of housing and basic survival with subsequent financial assistance.

The project is funded by various donors

During the period from 01 August until 31 October 2004, a total of 472 Kosovars returned through IOM's Assisted Voluntary Returns programme, out of which 441 returned by plane and 31 by land transportation. Most of the returnees came from Germany (310), the Netherlands (52), the United Kingdom (46), Belgium (22), or Croatia (16), and a small number came from various other European countries.

Since 1999 to date, a total of 187,739 returnees have been assisted by IOM. Most of the assisted Kosovars returned to the

Kosovo Humanitarian Returns Programme - Transport and Direct Assistance Components

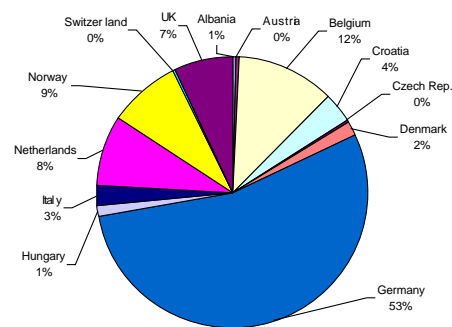
Prishtina/Pristina region (37.6%), Ferizaj/Urosevac (14.9%), Peja/Pec (13.1%), Gjakova/Djakovica (8.9%) while the rest settled in the other municipalities.

From August until October 2004, IOM also provided secondary land transportation to 478 returnees from different European countries. Since 1999 to date, 9,613 Kosovars were provided with this type of assistance.



Transport Assistance of the returnees from Switzerland at Pristina Airport

In addition, by the end of October 2004, IOM has provided transportation assistance from Kosovo to other countries for 4 people as part of the medical assistance provided under the Complex Medical Cases Programme. To date, 2,931 Kosovars have been assisted with transportation from Kosovo to other countries through various IOM initiatives, including: medical assistance, trainings, resettlements, family reunions, and repatriations for victims of trafficking.



Returnees to Kosovo in 2004, Divided by Country

Objectives

→ Promoting the return and reintegration of irregular migrants from Albania, Kosovo and the FY Republic of Macedonia through fostering the service provision and counselling capacities of local NGOs in the areas of origin.

The project is funded by EC and High Level Working Group

As part of the regular activities of this project, IOM Pristina has organized training for 5 selected partners NGOs in order to increase the capacities of the NGOs by providing better and more professional support to returning migrants. With regards to this, cooperation agreements were signed between IOM and the following NGOs: KCSF -- "Kosovar Civil Society Foundation", CRMHR "Center for Research of Migration and Helping Refugees", CDHRF -- "Council for Defence of Human Rights and Freedoms", "Mother Teresa" NGO, and SHE ERA "Women's Business Association".

The modules of the training were designed according to the needs of the NGOs, as

Fostering Sustainable Reintegration of Irregular Migrants in Albania, the F.Y. Republic of Macedonia and Kosovo by Reinforcing Local NGOs Capacity

expressed in the needs assessment performed earlier in August. In particular, the participants were interested in knowing more about the return and reintegration policies of IOM, EU and specifically the ones of the EU member states selected as sending missions (UK, Belgium, Germany and Italy). The training was accomplished in cooperation with IOM Tirana and in collaboration with Prof. Rifat Blaku, a Kosovar expert on migration issues.

In addition to the training, necessary equipment was handed over to the NGOs, fulfilling part of the project's objective of strengthening the NGOs capacities to provide services to returnees.

According to the activities planned for this period, and in cooperation with IOM Tirana, information campaign materials (brochures, leaflets and posters) were finalized and a distribution plan was developed. In addition

to this, this campaign plans to include newspaper articles, TV and radio debates in order to raise the profile of return migration issues. These activities will be organized in both host countries and countries of origin.



Signing ceremony between IOM and selected Kosovar NGOs working in the field of assisting irregular migrants

Employment Assistance Services for Members of Ethnic Minorities Returning from Switzerland and Liechtenstein (SMR)

Objectives

→ Promoting employment and self-employment for members of the Roma, Ashkalija, Egyptian and Muslim Slav communities who are voluntarily returning from Switzerland through targeted vocational, on-the-job and business training and the provision of micro-credits/grants and trade-related toolkits.

→ Promoting an increased readiness within the recipient communities to accept the returnees through the provision of training and financial assistance especially in combined projects where members of the returnee and resident community work together.

The project is funded by Switzerland and Liechtenstein

This programme has successfully reintegrated minority returnees (Roma, Ashkalija, Egyptian and Muslim Slavs) from Switzerland into the communities of Kosovo. The scope of this programme has been broadened to include ethnic Albanians and returnees from the Swiss canton of Vaud. By the end of October 2004, a total of 35 projects have been completed benefiting 106 persons directly and 372 people indirectly. These projects have created 106 long-term

employment positions, 56 of which are held by returnees and 50 by residents of the receiving community. In addition, there are 13 projects currently ongoing. The economic sectors covered by the projects are broken down as indicated in the chart below. Members of the receiving community represent a significant proportion of programme beneficiaries. The involvement of resident community members greatly serves to reduce potential disparities between those returning and their communities of origin.

Recently, programme beneficiaries were visited by Swiss journalists from the Swiss TV station, TSR, and the Swiss newspaper "24 Heures". The journalists were interesting in learning about the various reintegration activities pursued by people returning to Kosovo from Switzerland.

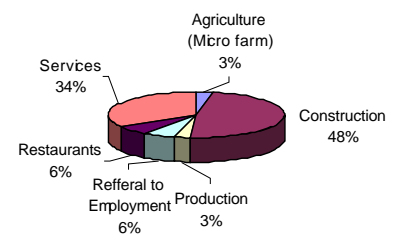
Beneficiaries of the programme funded by the Government of Switzerland were visited by Barbara Burri Head of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) Office in Pristina during a field visit to the Prizren and Dragash regions.

The Government of Liechtenstein has taken part in the above-mentioned programme and has ensured the successful return and reintegration of 11 individuals, composing 3 families. Their stability in their communities of return has been secured through 3 projects, benefiting 3 persons directly and another 8 indirectly.

The volume of sustainable minority returns to Kosovo has been steadily increasing under the Employment Assistance Services Programme. By the end of October 2004, a total of 206 individuals have returned to Kosovo. In the first 10 months of 2004, 86 individuals returned to Kosovo.



The Head of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) Office in Pristina visiting the IOM/SMR beneficiaries in Dragash/Gora region.



Returns Sustainability for Minority Communities

This IOM project, implemented in collaboration with two partner NGOs, GOAL and ASB, aims to support 53 grant projects in Magure village and Moravska District and 65 in Zhupa Valley for the reintegration of minority returnees. To date, 49 projects have been approved and are currently ongoing in Magure village and Moravska District, while 61

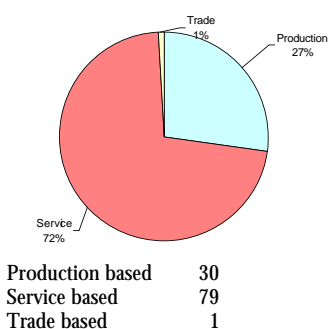
projects have been approved and are ongoing in Zhupa Valley. During the 3-month period from August until October 2004, 18 projects were approved and started in Magure village and Moravska District, while there were 26 in Zhupa Valley. In both areas, the combined total number of direct beneficiaries is 273, and 742 indirect beneficiaries.

Objectives

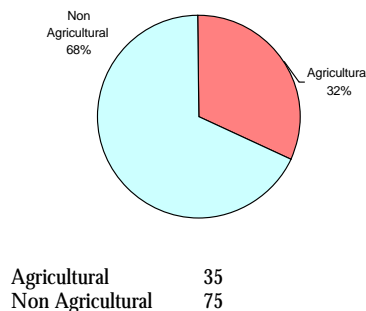
→ Facilitating the return and reintegration of returnees from Roma, Ashkali, Serbian and Bosniak communities and assisting the receiving communities in three areas in Kosovo (Moravska District in Prishtina/Pristina, Magure/a village in Lipjan/Lipljan and Zhupa Valley in Prizren) by providing income generating measures.

The project is funded by the EAR (European Agency for Reconstruction) and High Level Working Group

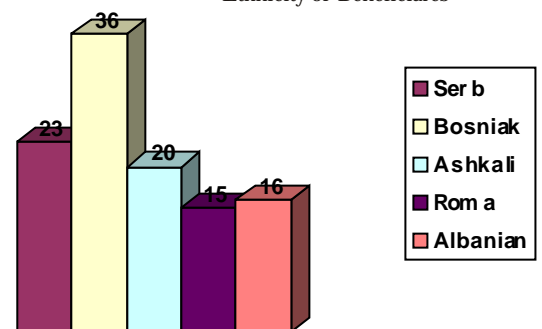
Approved projects by economic sector



Agricultural/Non Agricultural



Ethnicity of Beneficiaries



Objectives

→ Facilitating the voluntary return of rejected asylum seekers from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo province, who have overstayed their time of departure and who are currently residing in the Canton of Vaud, Switzerland, by supporting their sustainable reintegration in their countries of origin.

The project is funded by the Canton of Vaud (Switzerland)

The purpose of the project is to facilitate the assisted voluntary return and reintegration in Kosovo of persons who have a precarious status and are currently residing in the Canton of Vaud, Switzerland. In particular, this project facilitates the provision of direct assistance to the returnees, including referral to social and other services after arrival, housing support, grants disbursement, advice on projects, possibilities for training, secondary transportation to the Pristina area, etc. In addition, the project supports the social and professional reintegration of participants

Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme to Bosnia and Herzegovina and to Kosovo province for rejected asylum seekers/irregular migrants currently residing in the Canton of Vaud (Switzerland)

through measures determined on case-by-case basis.

Before departure, IOM provides returnees with relevant information that is specifically tailored to meet their needs, as requested by the Canton of Vaud. Using the operational structure of the Return Information Fund (RIF) project, IOM Pristina via IOM Bern provides information to the Swiss Federal Office for Refugees (FOR) and its designated partners. This action improves the quality and relevance of returnee counselling and pre-departure training programmes and therewith, increases the sustainability of voluntary returns of migrants from Switzerland.

During the first two months of the project, 14 information requests from the Canton of Vaud were processed through the RIF

component. Recently, the first family returned under this programme and received housing assistance, as well as the opportunity to benefit from an income-generation project.



Housing Reconstruction Assistance Provided to the First Case Returning from the Canton of Vaud

Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (VARRP) in Kosovo for Ethnic Albanian Members Returning from the UK

To date, this programme has implemented 45 projects, with 35 projects completed and 10 ongoing. These projects support 67 direct and 302 indirect beneficiaries, creating



Equipment Provided to a Grave Stone Carving Apprenticeship in Gjakova/Djakovica

67 long-term employment positions.

The projects include referrals to employment with on-the-job training (17), activities related to

construction (7), the service sector (20) and agriculture (2).

From previous experiences, IOM has learned that employment and the ability to generate a sustainable income are primary elements in the stabilisation and reintegration of returning populations and has adapted its structure to pursue these goals.

The volume of UK returnees to Kosovo has been steadily increasing under the VARRP programme. Projections indicate that the number of returnees will continue to rise. What is equally encouraging is the striking increase in the proportion of returnees who apply for reintegration assistance. This year,

Objectives

→ Facilitating sustainable returns of Kosovars from the UK to the country of origin in cooperation with the IOM in London through the provision of reintegration support of up to 1,000 GBP. Reintegration options include: vocational training courses, setting up small businesses, education support, school fees for children, costs related to training/education in the institutions where these are undertaken, employment opportunities through referrals and/or on-the-job trainings.

The project is funded by the United Kingdom

applications for assistance could reach the point that nearly 1 out of every 2 returnees applies for reintegration assistance.

This programme is designed to assist vulnerable persons returning under special and delicate conditions to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia & Montenegro, including Kosovo. The assistance focuses on individual needs and on the type of the support required for return and reintegration. Assessments and preparations are done in coordination with the IOM missions in these countries, Swiss authorities, and other partners, in order to identify the appropriate services that returnees could be referred to.

The assessment of the return and reintegration needs are prepared in coordination with the sending IOM missions. The returnees are assisted with

Assisted Voluntary Returns Programme for Vulnerable Cases to Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and to Serbia and Montenegro including Kosovo and the Return Information Fund Component (RIF)

financial resettlement grants before departure, and as soon as they arrive in Kosovo, the reintegration assistance begins. Returnees' most pressing needs are for: housing reconstruction, supplies of medicines, medical care, as well as for employment or income generation opportunities. In the flow of vulnerable

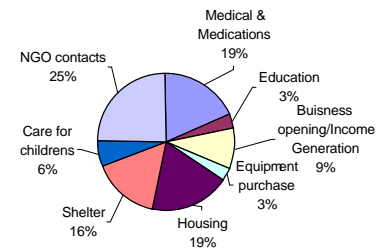
cases returning from Switzerland to Kosovo through this programme, there were 9 new cases during the three-month period from August until October 2004, making a total of 15 vulnerable cases assisted to date. From this latest group of 9 cases, 7 are currently receiving assistance and another 3 will soon receive support.

Objectives

- Facilitating the voluntary return of approximately 40 vulnerable persons from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, and Kosovo currently residing in Switzerland under the Swiss asylum regime.
- Contributing to the sustainable return and reintegration of the vulnerable persons on a case-by-case basis including financial and employment assistance, social care, housing, medical support and return transportation.
- Answering information requests through the Return Information Fund (RIF) component of the AVR Programme for vulnerable cases by providing IOM Bern with up-dated, accurate, reliable, objective and non-sensitive returns-related information supporting the returnees with the planning of their voluntary return and their sustainable reintegration in the country of origin

The project is funded by Swiss FOR (Federal Office for Refugees) Housing Assistance

Within the programme's framework, the IOM-RIF component provides answers to requests for information from Kosovo. The requests are mostly related to business opportunities, medical care, housing and transport issues, NGO contacts, and support for vulnerable returnees. During the three-month period from August until October 2004, 11 information requests were answered, mainly related to the subjects of medical treatments, medications, construction work and equipment.



Type of RIF requests

Returns of Internally Displaced Persons to the Villages of Sigë/Siga, Brestovik and Ljevosa/Ljevoša in the Pejë/Pec Municipality

In August, housing and infrastructure reconstruction work started in the villages of Sigë/Siga and Brestovik in the Pejë/Pec Municipality. Currently, the work on 17 houses has been completed, while the reconstruction of 20 additional houses is still underway. To date, 14 houses have been handed over to project beneficiaries. According to the plan, by the end of November, the project hopes to have 15-20 IDPs located in Brestovik relocation centre and 10-15 in Sigë/Siga. By the end of November, the project plans to have work on 20-25 houses completed.

Simultaneously, IOM's implementing partners are completing infrastructure works to improve the water and electrical connections in the area. Activities related to ownership and property verification for the remaining beneficiaries are still ongoing, as well as confidence building and inter-ethnic dialogue activities. IOM and its partners identified and started the implementation of balancing projects, which will benefit the receiving community and enhance their readiness to accept the IDP return process. The balancing projects include infrastructure work, such as the improvement

Objectives

- Assisting in the return and reintegration of non-Albanian IDPs in the Peja/Pec Municipality through a combination of activities at the displacement and return location including: the assessment and prioritisation of the IDPs, reconstruction of housing and community infrastructure, balancing projects for reconciling the neighbouring Kosovo Albanian population and measures to support their longer-term socio-economic reintegration into the local community.

The project is funded by Italy/UNMIK

of the water, electrical and road networks and the garbage collection system.

Technical Cooperation on Migration

Objectives

- Contributing to the rehabilitation of the labour market and the revitalization of social and economic services through the establishment of employment support mechanisms.
- Strengthening local institutions (the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Welfare) by enhancing already existing capacities to complement the employment offices' services through increased outreach to employers, capacity building trainings for the unemployed/job-seekers, employers/enterprises business consultancy, and employment matching including job referrals.

The project is funded by various donors

Through this programme, IOM staff has visited 316 enterprises in order to identify potential employment opportunities, and 76 job vacancies were identified through this outreach. EAS staff members are working alongside the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare's Regional Employment Offices staff. In the period between August and the end of October, their combined efforts have led to 231 individuals being counselled and registered as unemployed, 316 vacancies have been identified through outreach activities, and another 730 have been identified through the media. One hundred (100) referrals were made to existing job opportunities.

Employment Assistance Services (EAS)



Visit to EAS projects with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Objectives

→ Building the emergency service and civil protection capacity of the Kosovo Protection Corp (KPC) and enhancing its ability to fulfil its mission. KPCT has developed a multifaceted programme that has evolved over the past four years it is focused on:

◆ Institutional training which consists of developing and expanding the capacity of the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) that is composed of the Protection Academy, Simulation Center, two Basic Training Centers, and a Collective Training Center.

◆ A Training Management System that is complemented by a Professional Development Programme that emphasizes the Training, Operations, Logistics, and Personnel Departments.

The project is funded by the United States of America, United Kingdom and PISG/UNMIK

Phase VI of the KPCT Programme began in April 2004 and was scheduled to continue until December 2004. This phase began with a transition to a new donor that moved the KPC closer to a position from which it could fulfill its mandated missions and achieve self-sufficiency without requiring continued long-term support from the International Community. In keeping with these goals and after examining what could be accomplished in the remaining time, the IOM Chief of Mission and the KPCT Programme Manager, in consultation with the UNMIK Office of the KPC Coordinator, decided to conclude IOM's training engagement with the KPC by 15 October. In IOM's estimation, the KPC has attained a level of institutional capacity and self-sufficiency that IOM could not significantly improve upon in the time remaining between October and December. Only the Trust Fund component of the KPCT Program continued after 15 October; the rest of KPCT's activities ceased following the transfer of mission-critical assets (such as computers, desks, training equipment, etc.) to the KPC.



To celebrate the official opening of the TRADOC's Sport Hall and Amphitheater in September, a KPC basketball team challenged KFOR members to a friendly game.

Kosovo Protection Corps Training Programme (KPCT)



At the KPCT Farewell Party held in September, staff received commemorative T-shirts and certificates of appreciation

To recognize and honor the contributions of the KPCT staff, IOM held a farewell ceremony for the KPCT Programme on 29 September that was attended by LG Agim Çeku, other senior KPC officers, IOM Chief of Mission, and KPCT staff members. In addition, a more formal ceremony, marking the end of the KPCT Programme and celebrating the partnership between IOM and the KPC, was held on 7 October in the Grand Hotel. Numerous VIPs, including the new Deputy SRSG, Ambassador Larry Rossin, attended the event, which consisted of special speeches by LG Agim Çeku, UNMIK KPC Coordinator, MG Adrian Freer, KFOR KIKPC Capt. Miko Taavitsainen, USOP Chief of Mission, Philip Goldberg, IOM Chief of Mission, Enrico Ponziani, and KPCT Programme Manager, Don Guthmiller.

Institutional Training

Over the course of Phase VI, a cumulative total of 436,566 training man-hours and 11,642 training hours were offered to the KPC by IOM trainers. As KPCT prepared to conclude its programme activities, additional emphasis was given to capacity building work with the KPC, so that its members would be able to continue conducting the training courses initiated by IOM. To this end, in August, IOM trainers conducted a Basic Training Center instructor "train-up" programme that consisted of attending the Instructor Training Course (2-13 August) and the Small Group Instructor Course (16-20 August), participating in a special Initial Entry Training (IET) course run by KPC instructors and then appearing before a board of KPC IET instructors to be certified. Some of these newly certified KPC instructors are currently assisting with the teaching of the IET course in Gjakova/Djakovica and others are assisting with the IET course in Pristina.

The TRADOC ran a separate Officer Career Course (OCC) instructor "train-up" through a similar program. The new instructors attended the Instructor Training Course (19-30 July) and the Small Group Instructor Course (13-17 September). They went before a board of KPC instructors and then were certified. They are now acting as assistant instructors for the Officer Basic

Course that is scheduled to run until 19 November 2004.

Training Management

At the KPC HQ, the KPC Operations (G3) and Training (G7) Departments took the initiative to begin work on the KPC Commander's Training Guidance and Calendar for 2005. IOM staff members helped by suggesting training strategies that COMKPC must approve before finalizing the KPC 2005 Training Guidance and Calendar. This demonstrates the complete maturation and institutional adoption of the Training Management System that was introduced by IOM and developed over the course of the KPCT Programme's previous 5 phases. Through the use of this system, the KPC is better able to plan, resource, execute, and assess the training activities it wishes to conduct.

On-the-Job Training(OJT)

A primary part of IOM's mandate with the KPC is to provide on-the-job training to officers in various key positions. This OJT is given on a daily basis during the everyday interactions between the KPC officers and the IOM staff. Some areas where IOM staff has been particularly active include: 1) dissemination of practical knowledge and skills in organizational management through daily interaction with the KPC management at HQ and the Protection Zones; 2) directly involvement in the development of draft policy letters; 3) provision of immediate/daily feedback to the senior instructor as to the quality of the instructor presentations, as well as an overall end-of-course review at the end of each scheduled course. In addition, IOM staff provided daily supervision and OJT to the Protection Academy's administrative, operations, logistics, and training departments in support of scheduled courses. IOM also provided staff assistance and guidance to the Collective Training Center Commander about the daily activities, conduct, and preparation of the programme of instruction for the reserve-training programme and assisted in the preparation of schedules, duty lists, documentation, and training aids support.

Objectives

→ Engaging Kosovo Protection Corps members in civic and humanitarian work projects to assist in rebuilding the infrastructure and communities of Kosovo. The Trust Fund's emphasis in its first two years was on implementing high impact/rapidly executable infrastructure projects (housing reconstruction, civil engineering tasks, school rehabilitation, and improving community and healthcare facilities). More recently, the Trust Fund began taking on additional projects around a core focus of activity including: providing assistance to the Kosovo Fire and Rescue Service and supporting various minority returns programmes by improving conditions in ethnically mixed communities through the implementation of infrastructure and other reconstruction projects (i.e. constructing a water supply network and repairing roads and bridges).

→ Providing training in construction skills while facilitating the KPC's ability to meet one portion of their mandate, assisting in the reconstruction of Kosovo.

The project is funded by the United States of America.

Kosovo Protection Corps Trust Fund Project (KPC - TF)

IOM continued its support of 4 Trust Fund projects throughout Kosovo with intense involvement by KPC members and use of their own resources. These projects provided assistance to ethnically mixed municipalities in Kosovo and were part of the Trust Fund's ongoing emphasis on projects benefiting areas with returnees and ethnically mixed communities.

During the period from August to October, the Novake Water Supply project was completed, with the final installation of over 27 kilometers of water pipelines that will provide clean and reliable drinking water to seven ethnically mixed villages, resulting in more than 5,500 beneficiaries.

KPC members working in infrastructural projects supported by IOM-KPCT Trust Fund

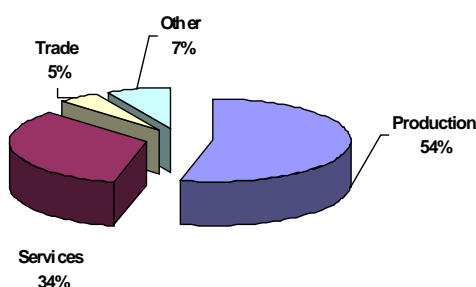


The Trust Fund Project continued its operations past 15 October and is awaiting a donation by the Government of the Netherlands for €400,000 that will be used for a number of community projects in minority and ethnically mixed areas. This work will further enhance the KPC's ability to meet their mandated responsibility of assisting in the reconstruction of Kosovo.

Community Stabilization Programme (CSP)

In the course of the first phase of the Community Stabilisation Programme (CSP I), in the southwestern region of Kosovo, 71 projects were implemented in different sectors (43 production-based, 22 services-based and 6 trade-based). Out of the total number, 25 were community projects, while the rest were individual. Most of them were concentrated in rural areas, while a limited number (9) was located in urban areas.

During this first phase, a total of 53 projects were approved and implemented in northern Kosovo mainly in the production (39) and services (11) sectors; 48 of them were individual projects and the rest were for communities.



CSP I and II - Projects by sectors

In the second phase of the programme (CSP II), in southwestern Kosovo, 96 projects were approved (45 projects production-based, 37 services-based and 9 in the trade sector). 26 of these are community projects. Direct beneficiaries belong to the Serbian, Bosniak, Roma, Egyptian and Ashkali communities.

Concerning the northern region, thus far, 112 projects have been approved and are being implemented; mainly they are production (48) and service (43) based. 20 of them are community projects. Most of the projects benefit the Serbian population since it is the largest minority group in the area. Since the beginning of this programme, more than 200 entrepreneurs from the different target areas have participated in training sessions on business planning and management.

In October 2004, representatives of the European Union countries based in Kosovo visited the village of Velika Hoca/Hoça e Madhe in Rahovec/Orahovac Municipality. The EU delegation was headed by Péter Bas Backer, Head of the Dutch Liaison Office in Kosovo, which currently holds the chairmanship of the rotating EU Presidency. Accompanied by Odran Hayes, Coordinator

Objectives

→ Contributing to the stabilisation of the situation of ethnic minority communities and enabling vulnerable communities to build sustainable livelihoods. The Programme provides grant assistance for business start-ups and expansions and for agricultural associations and support to larger-scale community development projects. In addition, it provides short courses in basic business skills.

The project is funded by the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR)

Operations Officer at the European Agency for Reconstruction and Michaela Friberg, Deputy Director of the UNMIK EU Pillar IV, the delegation visited the IOM CSP projects in wine production. The CSP provides income generation opportunities through grants disbursements, business training, and community improvement initiatives in the minority ethnic communities of Serbs, Romas, Bosnjaks, Egyptians, Ashkalis currently living under KFOR protection. To date, 322 individual and community projects have been implemented by the CSP programme throughout Kosovo.

Objectives

→ Contributing to the alleviation of unemployment and the improvement of income levels among selected minority populations and enhancing the conditions for the retention and reintegration of minorities in Kosovo by:

- ◆ Supporting existing small enterprises and the establishment of new micro-enterprises through the extension of financial and technical assistance for minority populations in the northern Kosovo municipalities and in Gracanica, Strpce/Shterpce, Dragas/h as well as the Gjilan/Gnjilane region;

- ◆ Increasing the viability and sustainability of enterprises, through assistance offered by the Business Service Centres (BSCs), by improving business knowledge and access to networks and resources, by creating business opportunities and by providing guidance to entrepreneurs.

The project is funded by the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR) and IOM

Since the programme's inception, 384 projects have been approved amounting to a total of 1,611,672 Euros. The second phase of SEDMIN was concluded with 202 approved projects. SEDMIN has entered its third phase in which 27 new projects have already been approved: 25 were grant/loan combinations (78,310 Euros) and 2 were full loans (16,820 Euros).

Support for Enterprise Development in Minority Regions (SEDMIN)

The proportion of approved projects focusing on production is rising (58%), and there is less interest in projects based on services (38%). The number of trade activities is at a standstill (4%). This is in line with the programme's mandate to encourage more production and service-based activities, which typically provide more employment opportunities for family and/or community members.

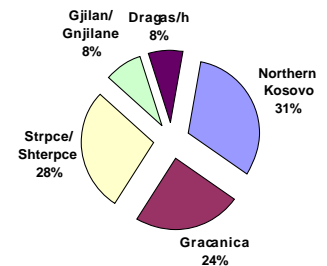
Most of the projects assisted are located in rural areas (56%); close to a third of total projects are focused on agriculture.

From the beginning, SEDMIN Business Service Centres (BSC) have organised 87 training sessions for a total of 820 participants. Over the last three months, 8 training sessions were organised for a total of 39 participants. Gracanica BSC continued with its Mentoring Programme for Business Associations (BA) by providing additional training courses in the English language, market research and fieldwork. BSCs from northern Kosovo have completed initial meetings with BAs and are developing further training programmes. The other sub-offices are finishing their assessment of the possibilities to assist BAs in their regions. Training sessions in the Technical and Economics School will be starting soon in northern Kosovo and other sub-offices are assessing if they can replicate similar training courses in their respective regions.



A handcraft sale exhibition held in Belgrade attended by SEDMIN beneficiaries

In October a handcraft sale exhibition was held in Belgrade. Women representatives of eleven Business Associations from Kosovo attended this exhibition. The women exhibited their works during the two-day fair. This was a unique opportunity for these women to present their products and establish contacts, which can assist them in further development. The IOM/EAR SEDMIN Programme, through its Business Association Development Project, facilitated attendance at the exhibition.



Project Distribution by Municipality

Kosovo Transition Initiative (KTI)

During the past three months, the KTI assisted The Research Triangle Institute RTI an American NGO which deals with local governance programmes in launching a USAID Local Government Initiative (LGI) programme. This programme had two primary objectives: to improve the legislative framework for local governance in Kosovo and to improve the effectiveness, responsiveness, transparency, and accountability of local governments. KTI, in cooperation with RTI and USAID, collected data on 25 municipalities in Kosovo to supplement LGI's contract activities. The Municipal Baseline Data Booklet that KTI collected included:

- ◆ Demographic and geographic data;
- ◆ A brief breakdown of primary data (demographic, geographic);
- ◆ Local economic indicators (primary employers, unemployment rate, number of registered and functioning businesses, business type, numbers of persons employed by registered businesses);

- ◆ Political trends;
- ◆ Budgets for the last 3 years (indicating the percentage of locally generated revenues, value of locally generated revenues, relative growth of both total budget and locally generated revenues from year to year, breakdown of the sources of locally generated revenues);

- ◆ Level of administrative staffing: organizational structure, total number of municipal employees, education/qualifications, gender, minorities, and breakdown by functional department; and

- ◆ Citizen perceptions.

During September 2004, KTI conducted municipal assessments Kosovo-wide. This included collecting information on strategy plans, economic development, municipal management, etc. 19 municipalities were assessed (7 municipalities in Gjilan/Gnjilane AoR, 3 in Prizren AoR, 2 Gjakova/Djakovica AoR, 3 Peja/Pec AoR and 4 municipalities in Mitrovica AoR) excluding six pilot municipalities that fell under RTI LGI's project on local governance. Through the

Objectives

→ Implementing the Community Infrastructure Service Project (CISP) in order to reactivate the economy through the rehabilitation of the infrastructure including the social infrastructure.

→ Implementing the Kosovo NGO Advocacy Project (KNAP) in order to strengthen the ability of the local NGO community to play a more active role.

→ Providing USAID with the reports on how monitored court cases are being conducted, on judicial and administrative problems that arise in the daily proceedings, and providing USAID with Municipal profiles.

The project is funded by the USAID/OTI

evaluation it was evident that KTI staff developed a flexible and smooth approach and received the cooperation of municipal officials in providing necessary documentation. On September 31, the KTI Programme concluded all activities.

Counter Trafficking

Programme of Assistance and Reintegration for Kosovar Victims of Trafficking, Particularly Women and Children

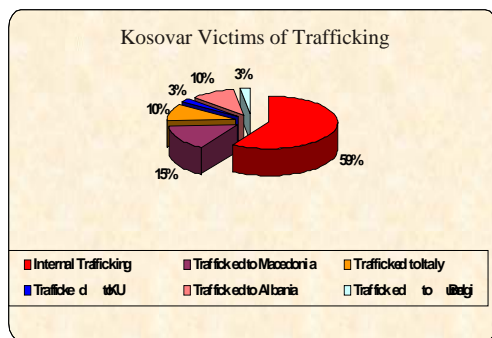
Through this programme IOM has provided protection and assistance to more than 40 Kosovar victims including medical, psychological, legal and social aid, as well as individually designed long-term reintegration support and case management including educational, vocational and income generating assistance.

IOM continues to support the establishment of a Kosovo Inter-Ministerial Commission and related Secretariat structures and terms of reference. Together with the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government (PISG), OSCE and UNMIK, IOM organized a 3-day retreat and several follow-up workshops, which resulted in the drafting of a Kosovo

Plan of Action to counteract trafficking on the levels of prevention, protection and prosecution.

As a result of IOM's effort and support, the coordination referral mechanisms for Kosovar trafficking victims have been strengthened to ensure the most effective and immediate response to protect and assist them. IOM will continue to support the process of standardizing the operating procedures for domestic victims of trafficking in Kosovo, taking care to closely integrate the prevention and reintegration interventions.

30 local and international NGOs have been assessed in order to evaluate their potential involvement as IOM partners in counteracting trafficking. One sub-grant agreement has been signed with a local NGO supporting minor victims of trafficking. Following the NGO assessment, two trainings were organized for the NGOs and shelter facilities providing support to victims of trafficking, on issues such as human trafficking, the Kosovo referral system, the helper-client relationship, psychosocial support, confidentiality issues, and other relevant areas connected with counter trafficking work.



Objectives

- Contributing to the coordination with local partner, of services to protect and assist trafficked human beings, in particular Kosovar women and children, by providing immediate assistance, protection, and long-term re-integration support.
- Ensuring public, political and community awareness of the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings and of its incidence in the Kosovar society.
- Facilitating the prevention of trafficking in the area by reducing the risk of local vulnerable groups of women and children becoming entrapped in the trafficking network.
- Building the institutional capacity of Kosovar governmental and non-governmental institutions to combat trafficking by creating a referral system responsible for the assistance, protection, support, and reintegration of Victims of Trafficking (VoT) and by assisting in the development of a Kosovo wide plan of action.

The project is funded by USAID

IOM's Counter Trafficking Unit has finalized research on trends and patterns of the trafficking phenomenon in the Balkans from both the sociological and criminal perspectives, and is currently looking into the possibilities of implementing a second phase of the research.

Development of Reliable & Functioning Policing Systems and Enhancement of Combating Main Criminal Activities & Police Cooperation

Following the Regional Thematic Seminar that took place in June 2004 in Budapest, IOM Pristina began to implement activities within Module 2 of this CARDS project under the "Development and Support of a Training Strategy" component. Since the strategy is based on analysis of needs and capacities, IOM during the last 3 months, was focused on gathering information from the identified stakeholders, delivering trainings on human trafficking and smuggling, and evaluating this work. An overview of the specialised trainings delivered by various institutions was developed and is currently updated on a regular basis.

Since one of objectives in this project is to develop, test and make available for further training curricula materials on trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration, during the last 3 months IOM Kosovo has developed and maintained regular contacts with stakeholders involved in such trainings in Kosovo, as well as with the implementer of Module I of the Project, the Council of Europe. IOM Brussels developed

questionnaires with the main aim of identifying the needs and gaps of the current institutions in delivering trainings in trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration. IOM Pristina will distribute them to relevant stakeholders in Kosovo.

IOM Kosovo has also developed comments to the Draft Outline/Backbone for a Training Manual/Handbook on smuggling and irregular migration developed by IOM Brussels. More comments from the relevant training institutions will be collected during November and December and will be provided to the Research and Development team of the project.

Three experts in counter-trafficking and law enforcement were selected out of the pool of candidate names provided to IOM Brussels. They participated in a two-day Study Visit in Rome and were provided with the opportunity to learn about the CARDS project, to discuss the content of a training manual for illegal immigration, smuggling, and trafficking in human being. The experts also had the opportunity to study the Italian

method of dealing with irregular migration issues concerning the border management and investigation on the phenomenon of organized crime.

Objectives

- Strengthening the capacities of the CARDS countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, Kosovo and the FYROM) to develop and implement regional strategies against serious forms of crime based on the acquis of the European Union and other European standards and practices by:
- Providing with the necessary tools against economic and organised crime;
- Enabling to deliver comprehensive training against trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration.

The project is funded by the European Commission (EC)

Objectives

- Contributing to the regional counter-trafficking efforts in the Balkans through coordinated assistance to victims of trafficking (VoT) who are stranded, destitute and wish to return home and offering them secure and sustainable reintegration assistance.
- Providing immediate assistance and protection to VoT including: safe shelter, medical care, social assistance, psychological counselling, assistance to return to their home countries.
- Building the institutional capacity of targeted countries to combat trafficking, through the strengthening of government and other relevant authorities' ability to implement appropriate counter-trafficking measures at the policy and operational levels.
- Contributing to the development of an in-depth and comprehensive understanding of the trafficking phenomenon through collecting and analysing data as well as on the experience suffered by the individual victims entrapped in trafficking.

The project is funded by SIDA/Sweden

From December 1999 until the end of October 2004, protection and assistance were provided to 404 foreign trafficked victims. Assistance included: safe shelter, medical care, psychological assistance and counselling, travel arrangements, as well as documentation, educational and vocational assistance. From January till 31 October 2004, 24 foreign victims have benefited from IOM's Return and Reintegration programme, 10 of them during the last 3 months.

This assistance - organized in cooperation with the UNMIK Administration, UN

Programme of Assistance for the Protection, Return and Reintegration of Trafficked Women and Children in the Western Balkans and Main Countries of Origin

Police, OSCE, various UN and international agencies, and a network of local and international NGOs - is given on a voluntary basis and is provided on the basis of standard operating procedures (SOPs) developed in 2000 and currently being finalized. The amended SOPs, established to regulate the assistance of cases of internationally trafficked victims, will include the newly involved partners, specifically, the UNMIK Department of Justice and the Department of Social Welfare, and should be signed in November 2004.

A priority of this programme is to prevent trafficking through various awareness raising and capacity building activities that target different actors, both at the governmental and non-governmental levels within the local and international communities. During the past 3 months, the IOM Counter Trafficking Unit was focused on continuing the training series on the issue of human trafficking established in December 2003. In close coordination with the Kosovo Police School, in the last 3 months, IOM has delivered 2 day and a half long trainings on human trafficking to experienced KPS officers joining special units, and becoming Anti-Organized Crime Officers and Border Police Officers. During the last 3 months, approximately 50 additional police officers benefited from these trainings, making a total of 200 police officers trained. About 7 international UNMIK TPIU officers observed and actively participated in these activities.

One of the most recent training activities was a training in October delivered to the UN Department of Justice (DoJ) Victim Advocacy and Assistance Unit (VAAU). IOM, together with the OSCE Victim

Assistance and Support Section (VASS), has provided basic training in human trafficking to the second generation of Victim Advocates. Until the end of December 2004, IOM plans to be involved in the second module of trainings for the first and second generations of Victim Advocates.

As part of the effort to improve the regional response to the phenomenon of trafficking, 2 IOM researchers have developed a comprehensive analysis of trafficking trends in the Balkans. The research was published during the months of July-August and was officially launched in October 2004.

Within this project, IOM is also supporting local NGOs in assisting foreign victims of trafficking through different sub-grants. In July 2004, an agreement was concluded with a local NGO, in order to provide foreign victims with a dignified return to their country of origin. Between August and September 2004, IOM supported and sponsored the functioning of the shelter managed by the NGO.



Training of the Kosovo Police Service on trafficking in human beings issues

Counter Trafficking: Prevention & Capacity Building Activities in Kosovo and FYR of Macedonia

The project was launched in October 2004 at the IOM Kosovo office; at this time, staff from IOM's Missions in Kosovo and Macedonia was informed about the two-year project, its objectives, and the expected results. The aim of the meeting was to ensure the staff's full involvement and commitment. This meeting was intended to be a forum for discussing and sharing information among the participants of both missions and was

focused particularly on the intervention itself, as well as on the staff structure and planning. Within the framework of this project, IOM Kosovo has developed a matrix of the activities to be implemented by the two IOM Missions, relevant organizations and governments on prevention through awareness raising and info campaigns as well as capacity building and training to NGOs, governmental organizations and law

enforcement. During November and December 2004, this matrix will be completed and used as a tool for the systematic collection of information, an assessment tool for the counter trafficking activities, as well as for mapping the existing local and international structures and for selecting governmental structures and NGOs according to the specific individual focus areas of the project.

Objectives

- Establishing a functional Government and NGO infrastructure capable of raising awareness on the issue of trafficking at the regional level and local level.
- Creating a well co-ordinated, efficient and functional referral network at Governmental and Non Governmental level building upon existing referral structures, both at a country/region levels as well as regionally.
- Facilitating and building a regional NGO network and to strengthen the linkage between NGOs and other relevant national and regional institutions;
- Effectively training the Law Enforcement personnel from all participating countries in knowledge, measures and procedures of effective preventive border management, including the prevention of document fraud, use of border management equipment and language training, based on the National Governments' strategies and International/EU Standards.

The project is funded by Finland

Additionally, a Gap and Needs Analysis matrix was developed. This matrix will further serve as a tool for the research and assessment period and will include an analysis of the successes and failures of counter

trafficking activities over the past 4 years. It is proposed to be completed during November-December 2004 and will provide support information in the development and coordination of the country specific Action Plans.



IOM Staff meeting launching the project

Measures to Counteract Trafficking in Human Beings, Particularly Women and Minors, from/via Southeastern Europe - Kosovo

This programme has included the provision of individual and group psychological counselling to both local and foreign victims of human trafficking in order to mitigate the trauma reported as a consequence of the trafficking experience and initiate the healing process for the trafficked persons. IOM Kosovo has continued distributing the psychological study concerning the trauma suffered by trafficking victims - "A General Review of the Psychological Support and Services Provided to Victims of Trafficking." Besides using the study to raise the awareness of the general public or various interested institutions/organizations, the study has been used in the various trainings, awareness raising efforts and capacity building activities organized by IOM with governmental structures, law-enforcement, and non-governmental structures in Kosovo involved in counteracting human trafficking. As a follow up to the NGO training organized in July 2004 when 8 NGOs underwent training on the regional problem of human trafficking, the Kosovo referral system, psychosocial support, confidentiality issues and other relevant areas connected with counter trafficking work IOM Kosovo organized

a second training in October 2004. The "Skills Building Training for Anti-Trafficking Carers" was organized for 26 participants from the main NGOs and institutions working in Kosovo to provide assistance and protection to foreign and local victims of human trafficking. Two Italian experts with extensive experience and expertise in assisting and counseling victims of human trafficking conducted the training. Besides strengthening the networking and cooperation mechanisms among the different local partners active in combating trafficking in human beings in Kosovo, the training sought to reinforce the skills and competencies of caregivers. Emphasis was given to the importance of an appropriate and effective approach in the "help-relationship". The psychologist working with IOM's Counter Trafficking Unit performed a Kosovo-wide assessment of local key health institutions/organizations, which provide psychological support to traumatized persons. This has been part of IOM's efforts to support the capacity building of a local network of mental and psychosocial professionals involved in combating human trafficking.

Objectives

- Contributing to the enhancement of a trans-national approach in Southeastern Europe countries to counteract trafficking in human beings, in particular women and minors, while strengthening local capacities. The assistance provided ranges from immediate support, medical care and psychological counselling to legal support and long-term re-integration assistance.
- Increasing the awareness and understanding of local partners on the trafficking experience, specifically on the psychological trauma suffered by the victims and the importance of psychosocial assistance and counselling for trafficked persons.
- Building local capacity by establishing a referral system of local mental and psychological professionals and of establishing a referral system of professionals responsible for providing legal assistance and counselling to trafficked victims.
- Building the institutional capacity of the governmental authorities responsible for the criminalization and prosecution of trafficking in human beings through targeted awareness, technical cooperation, and training activities.
- Developing an in-depth and comprehensive understanding of the current scope and dimensions of the trafficking phenomenon in the Balkans and Italy.

The project is funded by Italy

Migration Health

Swedish Medical Team (SMT)



SMT Team performing physiotherapy treatment

Since 2000, the Swedish Medical Programme, in cooperation with IOM, has evacuated 51 medical cases with different pathologies to Sweden and to Bosnia and Herzegovina. During the period from August to October, 2 medical cases were evacuated to Sweden and 1 to Banja Luka/Bosnia and Herzegovina. During this year, 5 Swedish medical teams specialized in Plastic Surgery, Paediatric Surgery and Histopathology came to

Kosovo in order to share their knowledge about performing advanced medical interventions with local medical staff.

The Swedish Medical teams specialized in Plastic, Reconstructive and Paediatric Surgery continued the cooperation with the Surgical Clinic in Pristina developed over the period from 2000 to 2004. During their last visit in September 2004, the plastic surgeons examined 69 patients and performed 22 surgical procedures. Without this intervention all the patients would have had to seek treatment possibilities in other countries. This visiting team of Swedish medical experts was composed of Dr. Erkki Tarpila, plastic surgeon, Dr. Lennard Krysander, plastic surgeon, Dr. Magnus Berggren, hand surgeon, Dr. Peder Drott, paediatric surgeon and Christina Carlström, psychiatric nurse; all were from the University Hospital of Linköping in Sweden.

Objectives

- Assisting patients from Kosovo, who cannot be treated locally, with specialised medical treatment abroad.
- Initiating cooperation between Swedish teams of experts and Kosovar health care professionals in order to provide immediate medical assistance for those who can be treated locally
- Diminishing the longer-term need for outside referrals of patients by building local capacity and regional cooperation.

The project is funded by Sweden

Health Assessment of Migrants

From 2000 through the end of 2003, health assessment assistance has been offered to 2,762 Kosovars. In the first six months of 2004, health assessments were provided to 296 applicants for immigration visas.

Objectives

- Since 2000, IOM Kosovo, at the request of the Australian, Canadian, New Zealand and US Embassies has been conducting a health assessment for Kosovar applicants for immigration visas.

The project is funded by USA, Canada, New Zealand and Australia

Objectives

- IOM is acting as intermediating agency in securing access for treatment abroad for complex medical and surgical cases, for which treatment is not available in Kosovo. This is performed by IOM in collaboration with various NGOs who are covering the related costs. IOM assists them with patient selection and/or movement support.

The project is funded by IOM

Medical Assistance for Complex Medical Cases

Since June 1999, IOM Kosovo has assisted in the medical evacuation of 412 Kosovars in need of treatment for congenital heart anomalies, reconstructive surgery, ophthalmology, orthopaedic, and other serious conditions. In the period from August until October 2004, 2 medical cases were evacuated to Canada in cooperation with the NGO, "Samaritan's Purse Heart Project".

Objectives

- Developing minimum standards for the mental health assistance offered to trafficked victims through the formation of an expert team representing government health institutions, inter-governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and academic institutions.
- Awareness raising, knowledge transfer, and capacity building in the skills needed to address the mental health needs of victims of trafficking through the implementation of a regional "training of trainers" workshop, covering ten countries in Eastern and Southeastern Europe.

The project is funded by USA

Mental Health of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings: Development of a Minimum Standard of Care and a Regional "Training of Trainers" Workshop

The Mental Health and Trafficking Training was developed with the sponsorship of the Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration on behalf of the US Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

The aim of this training was to provide an overview of the mental health aspects of the trafficking process and to discuss minimum standards of care that should be established in this area.

The "Mental Health of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings" is

approaching its second phase of the implementation process at the country level. The aim of this phase is to build the country level capacity for understanding the need, as well as the capability, to implement minimum standards of mental health assistance for trafficked persons.

In this phase, a training opportunity will be given to the participants from thirteen different countries. They will organize, in coordination with expert practitioners, the same type of trainings they received, to serve as a resource across the region and to learn from one another's experiences.