Regional Housing Programme

Beneficiaries

in Bosnia and Herzegovina
As a consequence of the armed conflicts in the 1990s in the former Yugoslavia, over three million people were displaced both within and beyond the borders of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia. Over the past two decades, sustained efforts by the four concerned states, supported by the international community, have enabled the majority of those affected to return home or find other durable solutions.

Despite these considerable efforts, many people still remain displaced throughout the region. The Regional Housing Programme (RHP) – a joint initiative by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia (the Partner Countries) - aims to provide sustainable housing to the most vulnerable refugees and displaced persons following the 1991-1995 conflicts.

The RHP in Bosnia and Herzegovina will altogether provide over 3,202 housing units to vulnerable refugee families, by the end of 2021. In May 2019, 865 housing units have already been handed over. This includes the re/construction of 624 individual houses, the construction of 221 new apartments and the provision of 20 building material packages. The plan is to deliver a further 700 housing units in 2019 and the remaining 1,637 in 2020-2021.

Today, over 4,500 vulnerable families have already received a durable home in the four Partner Countries thanks to the Programme. The housing modalities provided include:

- Provision of flats and houses through building, reconstruction, renovation or purchase;
- Provision of construction materials;
- Accommodation in social welfare institutions.
Esmir Dervic, Travnik

Esmir lives with his six-member family in a house that was reconstructed thanks to the RHP in the old part of the city of Travnik. Next to the house, he has planted three rows of raspberries. He also plans to produce greenhouse vegetables in the future. As a complementary livelihood support, Esmir received a mower/ lawnmower as a donation from the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM) – U.S. Department of State and the Catholic Relief Services (CRS).
Until 1992, Ana Plavcic lived in the village of Nadioci near Vitez, with her three children. After a brief period spent in Germany, in 1996, the family came back to Nadioci, to live as subtenants at Ana’s sister-in-law’s place. Ana applied for assistance from the Regional Housing Programme, thanks to which a new home was built for the Plavcic family in 2017.

Today, Ana shares the new ground-floor house with her paralysed son and with her other son, his wife and their three children.
Between 1973 and 1992, Janja lived in her house with her husband and their two children. While trying to get away from the war in Sarajevo, Janja and her family fled to Croatia and lived there until eight years ago.

Thanks to the assistance from the Regional Housing Programme, Janja’s completely destroyed house was reconstructed with new floors, walls, ceiling, roof, gutters, doors, bathroom and the entrance hall.
Risto and Dusko Andjusic are brothers who live with their families in a house built thanks to the Regional Housing Programme in Trebinje. In 1991, the two brothers fled from Dubrovnik, Croatia to Trebinje, where they both got married. Risto is a father of three while Dusko has two children.

Thanks to the BPRM and CRS, they received a two-wheel tractor and a mower, which they use to earn additional income by ploughing, transporting crops and mowing.
As a young couple, Mersija and Enes lived in the municipality of Kotor Varos. As they were forced to leave their home during the war, they settled in Travnik, where they lived until 2008 when they moved to Bosanski Petrovac.

In May 2018, after having moved countless times, Mersija and Enes, with their four children, moved into the newly constructed RHP building in Bosanski Petrovac.
The Dedovic family lived for over 40 years as subtenants. During the war they fled from Foca to Gorazde, where they lived in an unfinished house for 27 years. All these years, they had to get drinking water from a nearby source and were forced to use an improvised bathroom next to the house.

Since May 2019, they have a new home in the RHP-financed building in Gorazde.
Milka is a single mother and, for the last 15 years, she had been living with her son and her mother in an old, small state-owned house, which is part of the once well-known Ljubija mine. This house was one of the dozen accommodations Milka and her family had lived in since 1995 when they fled their hometown of Podvidaca, in the municipality of Sanski Most. This place was also the last temporary accommodation of the Radakovic family before they moved into the newly constructed RHP building in Prijedor in July 2018.
After leaving his home town of Rogatica in 1992, Omer had to move ten times during the following 26 years. In 1995 he met Aida, who became his wife and with whom he has three children. In September 2018, the Dizdarevic family settled in their new RHP-financed apartment in Zenica.

The new home is close to the school the children go to, with a good transport connection to Omer’s current job.
When the war started, Damir Barucic fled from Zvornik, and Hasveta from Ugljevik, to Tuzla, where they met. In collective accommodation in Tuzla they lived for years. Today, Damir, his wife Hasveta and their three-year old son live in a new apartment build within the Regional Housing Programme.

While Hasveta is employed, Damir, with a 80% disability, spends most of the time with his son and growing the sheep he received from the CRS as socio-economic support intended for RHP beneficiaries, financially supported by the BPRM and the Government of Switzerland.
During the war, Amir moved from Cajnice, where he was born, to Sarajevo. He lived and worked in Sarajevo for 15 years. In 2006, he married Melisa with whom he got four children. In 2014, the family moved to Foca Ustikolina, hoping to find better working and living conditions there.

In October 2017, the RHP-financed building in Ustikolina became a new home to the Becirevic family – improving their lives for good.
Kenajid Karamujic lived in Bratunac, eastern Bosnia. During the war he first fled to Srebrenica, then Tuzla, and finally came to Sarajevo in 1999, where he met Melisa and married her in 2008. They had three children: two boys Amir and Almir and a girl called Ajka. In Sarajevo, the Karamujic family had to move five times, from one house to another.

In June 2018, they moved into the new multi-apartment building constructed within the Regional Housing Programme in the municipality of Ilidza, Sarajevo.
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The Regional Housing Programme (RHP) was set up to provide durable housing solutions to vulnerable refugees and displaced persons following the 1991-1995 conflicts on the territory of former Yugoslavia. The RHP is implemented by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia and mostly financed by the international donor community. The main donor is the European Union. The other donors are the United States of America, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, Italy, Denmark, Turkey, Luxembourg, Spain, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic.