



Regional
Housing
Programme



Republic of Croatia
Central State Office for
Reconstruction and Housing Care

Multi-apartment buildings in Croatia

| Korenica | Knin | Glina | Benkovac |



REGIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMME

MISSION AND BACKGROUND

The Regional Housing Programme (RHP) is a joint initiative by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia (the Partner Countries). Its aim is to contribute to the resolution of the protracted displacement situation of the most vulnerable refugees and displaced persons following the 1991-1995 conflicts on the territory of former Yugoslavia, including internally displaced persons in Montenegro from 1999.

Besides providing sustainable housing tailored to beneficiaries' needs, the RHP also fosters the institutional capacity of the Partner Countries, which should be able in the future to address the housing needs not just of RHP beneficiaries but of their populations at large.

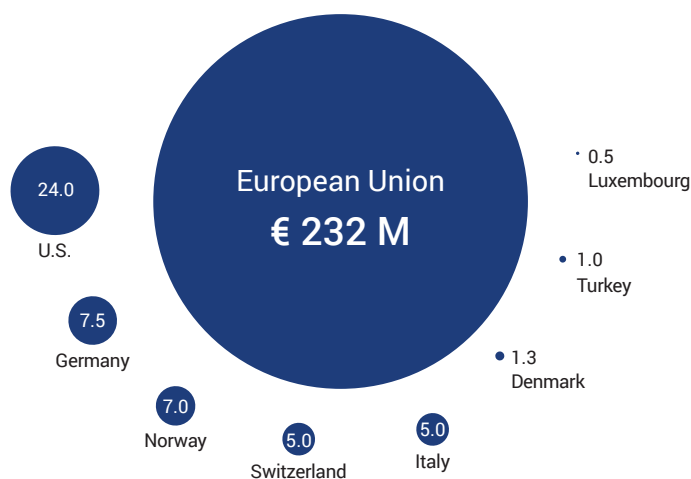
Furthermore, thanks to its regional character, the RHP contributes to improving neighbourly relations thereby promoting security and stability in the region.

STAKEHOLDERS

RHP consists of four individual Country Housing Projects which are implemented by the Partner Countries. RHP is primarily a donor funded programme; donor funds are held in the so-called "RHP Fund". In addition, the Partner Countries also participate with national contributions. The European Union is the largest Donor to this initiative having pledged EUR 232 million, out of a total of EUR 284 million pledged to date. Other Donors to the RHP Fund are the U.S., Germany, Norway, Italy, Switzerland, Denmark, Turkey and Luxembourg.

UNHCR and OSCE are tasked with helping the Partner Countries identify eligible beneficiaries, monitoring their selection and overseeing that they receive adequate protection. As such, these institutions play a crucial role in monitoring that the RHP provides sustainable housing solutions to those beneficiaries most in need.

The Council of Europe Development Bank's (CEB) roles include managing the RHP Fund and Programme implementation, including the Technical Assistance. CEB is also in charge of RHP coordination activities between all stakeholders.



PLEDGED FUNDS BY DONORS EUR 284 million



FOREWORDS

Nikola Mažar

State Secretary, Central State Office for Reconstruction and Housing Care, Croatia



"Throughout the year 2017, the Republic of Croatia has continued implementing projects within the scope of the Regional Housing Programme, and has successfully completed three sub-projects: a home for elderly and disabled persons in Glina for 75 beneficiaries, construction of two apartment buildings in Knin for 40 families and the construction of an apartment building in Benkovac for 21 families. Back in 2015, Croatia completed the first RHP sub-project in Korenica, where 29 families were provided with flats in a multi-apartment building.

The sub-project "Purchase of 101 flats" is in its final phase with four flats remaining to be purchased. The focus is now on implementation of the sub-project "Organized renovation, reconstruction and construction of 62 houses".

The Central State Office for Reconstruction and Housing Care is fully committed to continue with the implementation of the RHP in the forthcoming years through three newly proposed sub-projects, and recognizes that the RHP is part of a wider political process that has contributed to fostering stability in the region and cooperation between the Partner Countries."



Ivo Žinić

Sisak-Moslavina County Prefect

"I believe that the construction of the home for elderly in Glina is a step forward and demonstrates progress in the development of social services in the County. In addition to the construction of a new sports hall, this is another large investment in the last years which will significantly contribute to the town's socio-economic development."



Stjepan Kostanjević

Mayor of Glina

"This investment is of great importance to the City of Glina. Both the Sisak-Moslavina County and the Glina municipality will continue to provide support to the Home for the Elderly, now that it has become operational."



Renata Tominović-Ceković

Director, Home for the Elderly in Glina

"Once you are 80 years old, you know everything, but you still need to have decent living conditions, and it is up to us, younger people, to help the elderly in obtaining them. I believe that today here in Glina, we succeeded. This building was empty and devastated for years, and now life has been brought back into it."

REGIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMME IN CROATIA

Country Housing Project at a glance

Number of sub-projects approved

6

Number of housing units concerned

328

Grants approved

€ 14.0 million

Grants disbursed

€ 10.6 million

National contribution

€ 4.8 million

BACKGROUND

An estimated 550 000 people were displaced within Croatia during 1991-1992. Over the 1992-1995 period, the country received some 400 000 refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina, of which an estimated 120 000 have since acquired Croatian citizenship. In the period from 1991 to 1995, some 250 000 minority Serbs fled Croatia. The authorities have so far registered 133 140 returnees of Serbian ethnicity to and within Croatia, representing around half of those who fled their places of origin.

RHP OBJECTIVES IN CROATIA

In Croatia, the Regional Housing Programme (RHP) is expected to provide durable housing solutions to several categories of refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees either in their places of origin or places of displacement, as well as within institutions of the social welfare system. Altogether, 328 housing solutions will be delivered under the sub-projects approved so far, to the benefit of over 700 most vulnerable persons. Several other sub-projects are in the pipeline.

COMPLETED RHP SUB-PROJECTS IN CROATIA

HR1

Construction of an apartment building for 29 families in Korenica

Total estimated cost

€ 1 398 211

Grant amount approved

€ 1 048 658

National contribution

€ 349 553

Grant amount disbursed

€ 1 048 491

Completed

June 2015

HR2

Construction of two residential buildings in Knin for 40 beneficiary households

Total estimated cost

€ 3 475 781

Grant amount approved

€ 2 587 037

National contribution

€ 888 744

Grant amount disbursed

€ 2 078 871

Completed

September 2017

HR3

Reconstruction of a home for 75 elderly and disabled persons in Glina

Total estimated cost

€ 4 259 039

Grant amount approved

€ 3 085 525

National contribution

€ 1 173 514

Grant amount disbursed

€ 2 776 972

Completed **July 2017**

Handover **May 2018**

HR5

Construction of a residential building for 21 families in Benkovac

Total estimated cost

€ 1 323 103

Grant amount approved

€ 999 721

National contribution

€ 323 382

Grant amount disbursed

€ 807 236

Completed

December 2017

2018

Home for 75 elderly and
disabled persons in Glina






Reconstruction and extension of the Glina home for elderly and disabled

In Glina, a grant of EUR 3.1 million from the Regional Housing Programme supported Croatia in the implementation of the reconstruction and extension works on a home for elderly and disabled refugees, returnees and IDPs. The institution will provide the beneficiaries with adequate accommodation, social and health care and is part of the homes for elderly included in the national welfare system.

The reconstruction works started in August 2015 and the opening ceremony took place in May 2018. Sisak-Moslavina County, the owner of the facility, hired the personnel necessary for operating the institution, thereby creating several permanent jobs in the city of Glina.



Beneficiaries on the day of the official inauguration

7 May 2018





2017

Residential building for 21 families
in Benkovac





Construction of a multi-apartment building for 21 vulnerable families

Since February 2018, the RHP-financed apartment building in Benkovac has provided a home for 21 families, either former occupancy/tenancy right holders or most vulnerable refugee families from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Until the building was completed, the beneficiary families used to live in the vicinity of Benkovac in collective centres or rented apartments. Altogether 75 persons moved into this new building, 13 of whom are children and 16 are ill or disabled.

Family Vojvodić Benkovac

In 1995, Živko fled with his family from Benkovac, to Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Before the war, they had their own apartment and he was working as an electrician. Later they lived in rented accommodation and he was working as a driver for a textile company. In early 2000, the family started coming back for short periods of time to the old family house in a village near Benkovac, and reclaimed the tenants' rights, but did not manage to get an apartment in the city. Živko's daughter got married and when she had a baby, she decided to come back to Croatia with her husband and their baby. They settled temporarily in the old family house, which was partially renovated to offer minimum living standards. The only regular income of this family is a child allowance in the amount of EUR 135.





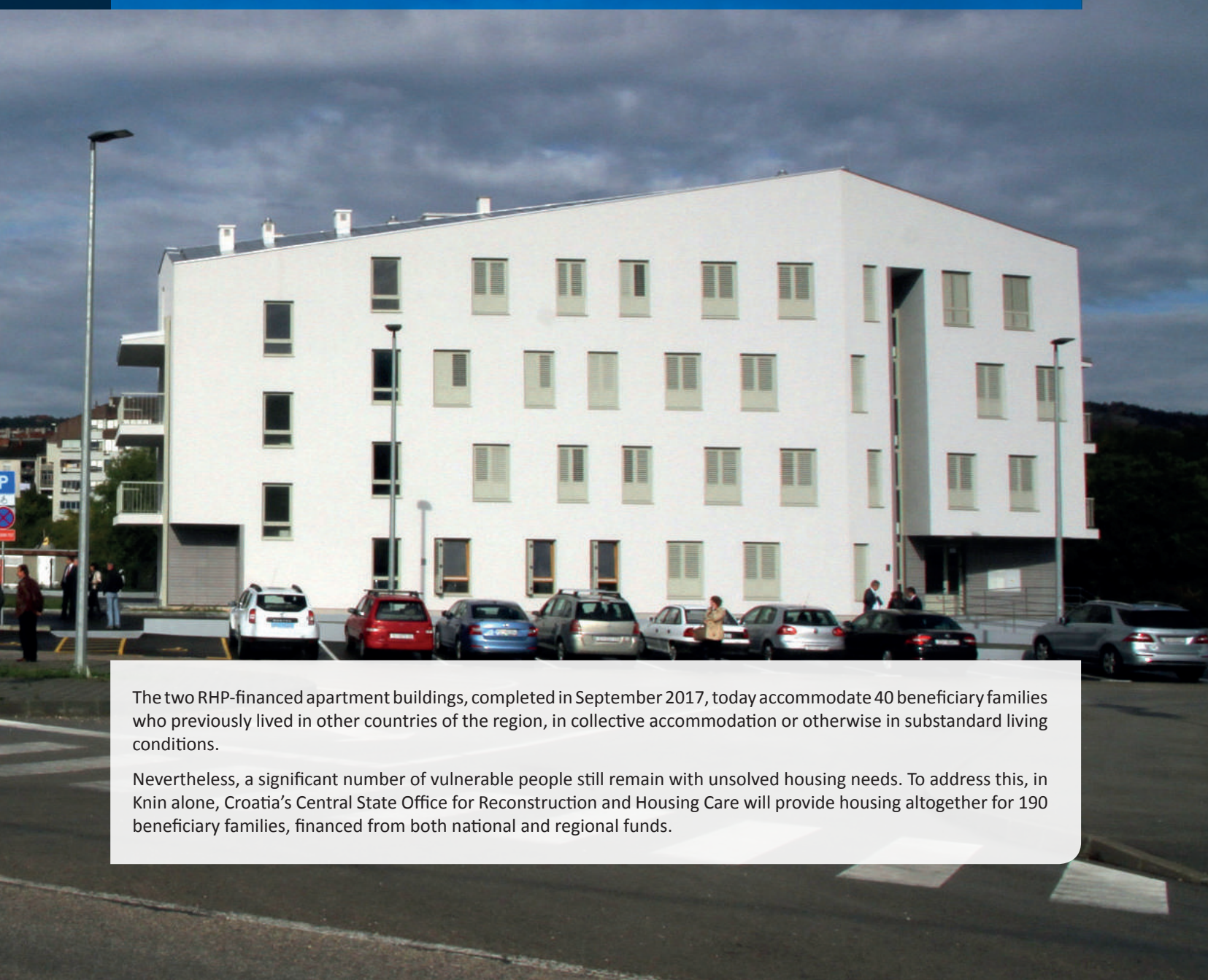
Her parents visit her and help as much as they can, although they are also in a very difficult situation – Ms Vojvodić has no income and she has serious medical problems, while Živko takes any work he can get, mostly in stone manufacturing and construction. He also occasionally writes commercials for local media. When they heard about the possibility to get an apartment in the RHP-financed building that is being constructed in Benkovac, their hopes revived. Zivko and his family moved into the new RHP building in Benkovac in January 2018.

2017

Two residential buildings for
40 beneficiary families in Knin



New RHP buildings in Knin



The two RHP-financed apartment buildings, completed in September 2017, today accommodate 40 beneficiary families who previously lived in other countries of the region, in collective accommodation or otherwise in substandard living conditions.

Nevertheless, a significant number of vulnerable people still remain with unsolved housing needs. To address this, in Knin alone, Croatia's Central State Office for Reconstruction and Housing Care will provide housing altogether for 190 beneficiary families, financed from both national and regional funds.

Family Ivanišević

Knin

Janko (68) and Slavka (65) Ivanišević fled from Knin, Croatia, in 1995 with their two young children and came to Subotica, Serbia, where they found accommodation in a collective centre made of bungalows from the former vacation settlement near the Palić Lake. The family returned from the refuge in 1999 and came to their old house near Knin, rebuilt on the ruins of their devastated family house. In 2006, the house became unsuitable for living, so they had to move to a summer house built by Slavka's sister who lives abroad. Janko Ivanišević receives a small pension, earned while working on the railway before the war. Slavka is retired and receives a monthly pension of EUR 160/month. Their son Aleksandar, who lives in the same household with his wife and two children, is occasionally employed and currently works as a driver for a furniture store.





Their daughter Mirjana works as a cleaning lady at the Knin hospital. She has three children. All members of this family make efforts to contribute and provide a better life for the new generation. Slavka has a small farm and orchard in which she works while the grandchildren are at school. The Ivanišević family has never lost hope. After all these years, they finally received an apartment in the new RHP-financed building in Knin, and the dream they all shared, came true.



2015

Construction of an apartment building
for 29 families in Korenica





First multi-apartment building completed under the Regional Housing Programme

The RHP-financed multi-apartment building in Korenica, inaugurated in October 2015, today accommodates 29 beneficiary families.

Most of the tenants are returnees from Serbia and elderly persons who previously lived in the collective centre of Golubić near Knin.

With a total cost of EUR 1.4 million of which EUR 1 million was financed by the RHP Fund and EUR 0.4 million by the national contribution, the building in Korenica was the first multi-apartment building completed under the Regional Housing Programme.



Petar Eror

Korenica

Petar Eror lived for years in a neglected house in his native Bunić village near Korenica, to which he returned after years of refuge in Serbia. Suffering from a poor health condition, he lives off his pension that he had earned working as the chief of police before the war. As the situation began to deteriorate in Croatia in the early 1990s, Petar Eror and his co-villagers left Croatia and found themselves as refugees in Serbia. During his stay in Serbia, Petar was initially living in the collective center of Zobnatica in Bačka Topola municipality but later found a foreman's job in a construction company and moved to private accommodation. As Petar grew up in Korenica municipality and still had some friends and relatives left, he decided to seek a housing solution there. Since 1999, he applied several times for a housing solution in Korenica. Finally, he managed to get selected as a beneficiary for the 29-apartment building, constructed under the Regional Housing Programme.



The building was finished in the summer of 2015, allowing people who had been waiting for 20 years to finally get their own homes. Petar now has new neighbours to spend time with and a comfortable apartment, with a health centre and all necessary infrastructure nearby. He says that he got exactly what he needed, and even more – central heating, shops and pharmacy less than a kilometre away, which will allow him to spend his retirement days in dignified conditions.



This brochure has been produced with financial assistance of the European Union.
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The Regional Housing Programme is financed and supported by the international community



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, Italy, Switzerland, Denmark, Turkey, Luxembourg, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic.