COUNTRY HOUSING PROJECT (CHP) SERBIA

CHP AT A GLANCE
March 2019

Number of sub-projects approved
8

Number of housing units concerned
7,363

Grants approved
€132 million

Grants disbursed
€79 million

National contribution
€31 million*

BACKGROUND

Upon the break-up of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the 1990s, the Republic of Serbia gave refuge to nearly 618,000 refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia. It was one of the largest exoduses after World War Two. There are approximately 28,000 refugees living in Serbia today, with the decrease in the number resulting from their integration in the Republic of Serbia. The majority of refugees opted to stay and permanently settle in Serbia after acquiring citizenship, whereas a number of them returned and the rest decided to move to other countries.

During all these years, the Republic of Serbia has been providing housing for the most vulnerable refugee families in a concerted manner, financed from budget and donor funds. However, the funds available were disproportionate to the needs. Serbia played an important role in promoting a regional initiative that resulted in the establishment of the Regional Housing Programme (RHP). At end-2018, the RHP had already provided housing to close to 2,500 most vulnerable refugee families in Serbia.

Knez family to reunite again in the new RHP apartment - Beneficiary story of Danica Knez, Zrenjanin, Serbia

In 1995, the war reached the town of Dobropoljci in Dalmatia, Croatia, where Danica Knez lived with her husband and their three children. The same year, after divorcing her husband, she fled from Dalmatia in and headed to Serbia with her children – Sandra (14), Draza (9) and Djordje (4). They left their house without taking any belongings with them. The Knez family travelled for eight days and nights before briefly stopping in Belgrade, after which they came to Danica’s sister in Zrenjanin where they stayed for a while.

Before settling permanently in Zrenjanin - where they have lived for the past 18 years - Danica and her children moved in and out of eight temporary homes. “As a single mother of three, I found it very difficult. When I was unable to pay the electricity bill on time, the landlord would kick us out in the street, forcing us to look for a new place”, Danica recalls. Danica’s daughter Sandra, a divorced mother of two, is currently undergoing hospital treatment and the children are being looked after by their grandmother Danica. In addition to Danica and her two grandchildren, her elder son Draza also lives with her mother, while her younger son is temporarily away for work in Germany.

While talking about the hardship over the past years, Danica says she is grateful for being able to work at a farmer’s market in Zrenjanin. “My stall at the market enabled me to provide for my family all these years, and I managed to put the three children through school”, Danica says, adding that she has no intention of retiring any time soon. She intends to work for as long as she can.

She is particularly excited to move into the Regional Housing Programme – financed apartment in Zrenjanin on 25 January 2019, since this event will coincide with her daughter being discharged from the hospital. This means that the entire family – Danica, her two sons and daughter, as well as her two grandchildren – will reunite again in their new home.

“This new place is heaven for us! Finally, after so many years, I can relax a bit”, said Danica when entering her new apartment.

* Official figure as per signed Grant Agreements. The final figure will be known at the completion of each sub-project.
### FINANCIAL AND IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF SUB-PROJECTS
March 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Project</th>
<th>SRB1.C1</th>
<th>SRB1.C2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beneficiary selection</strong></td>
<td>Completed</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Start of project</strong></td>
<td>October 2015</td>
<td>June 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Completed</strong></td>
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#### SRB1
- **Provision of 64 prefabricated houses and 128 building material packages for 192 households**
- **Grant approval and grant agreement signature:** 08/04/2013 - 14/03/2014
- **Total estimated cost:** € 2,212,500
- **Grant amount approved:** € 1,993,000
- **National contribution:** € 219,500
- **Grant amount disbursed:** € 1,719,834

#### SRB2
- **Support to 870 refugee families through four different housing modalities**
- **Grant approval and grant agreement signature:** 11/10/2013 - 09/09/2014 (as amended)
- **Total estimated cost:** € 13,062,936
- **Grant amount approved:** € 11,560,936
- **National contribution:** € 1,502,000
- **Grant amount disbursed:** € 10,283,395

#### SRB3
- **Support to 800 refugee families through four different housing modalities**
- **Grant approval and grant agreement signature:** 06/12/2013 - 09/09/2014 (as amended)
- **Total estimated cost:** € 15,177,486
- **Grant amount approved:** € 10,963,918
- **National contribution:** € 4,213,568
- **Grant amount disbursed:** € 9,390,290

#### SRB4
- **Support to 1,424 refugee families through four different housing modalities**
- **Grant approval and grant agreement signature:** 23/06/2014 - 06/11/2014 (as amended)
- **Total estimated cost:** € 18,666,664
- **Grant amount approved:** € 16,659,554
- **National contribution:** € 2,007,110
- **Grant amount disbursed:** € 13,993,100

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* Official figure as per signed Grant Agreements. The final figure will be known at the completion of each sub-project.
## Financial and Implementation Status of Sub-Projects

### March 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Project</th>
<th>SRB5.C1</th>
<th>SRB5.C2</th>
<th>SRB5.C3</th>
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<td><strong>Beneficiary selection</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Start of project</strong></td>
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<td>2nd half of 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expected completion</strong></td>
<td>2nd half of 2019</td>
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<td>2nd half of 2019</td>
</tr>
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### SRB5
- **Support to 1,847 refugee families through three different housing modalities**
- **Grant approval and grant agreement signature**: 20/11/2014 - 14/08/2015 (as amended)
- **Total estimated cost**: € 52,043,857
- **Grant amount approved**: € 38,814,421
- **National contribution**: € 13,229,436 *
- **Grant amount disbursed**: € 32,144,636

### SRB7**
- **Provision of minimum 490 housing solutions for beneficiaries selected under sub-projects SRB2, SRB4, SRB5**
- **Grant approval and grant agreement signature**: 01/12/2016 - 02/10/2017 (as amended)
- **Total estimated cost**: € 9,166,861
- **Grant amount approved**: € 9,166,861
- **National contribution**: -
- **Grant amount disbursed**: € 3,900,300

### SRB8
- **Provision of 852 housing solutions (new construction, pre-fabs, building material, village houses)**
- **Grant approval and grant agreement signature**: 26/06/2017 - 31/01/2018 (as amended)
- **Total estimated cost**: € 28,769,682
- **Grant amount approved**: € 23,090,866
- **National contribution**: € 5,678,816 *
- **Grant amount disbursed**: € 7,143,635

### SRB9
- **Provision of 900 housing solutions (new construction and purchase of apartments, pre-fabs, building material, village houses)**
- **Grant approval and grant agreement signature**: 06/06/2018 - 07/03/2019
- **Total estimated cost**: € 28,769,682
- **Grant amount approved**: € 23,090,866
- **National contribution**: € 5,678,816 *
- **Grant amount disbursed**: € 7,143,635

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* Official figure as per signed Grant Agreements. The final figure will be known at the completion of each sub-project.

** Note that the grant application for SRB6, although submitted, was never approved by the RHP Fund Assembly of Donors but the housing units were included in later sub-projects.
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.