Regional Housing Programme



REGIONAL HOUSING PROGRAMME

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

KLJUČNA POSTIGNUĆA

REGIONALNOG STAMBENOG PROGRAMA





What was the Regional Housing Programme?

As a consequence of the armed conflicts on the territory of former Yugoslavia in the 1990s, over three million people were displaced both within and beyond the borders of **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia** ("the Partner Countries"). **The Regional Housing Programme (RHP)** – a joint initiative by the Partner Countries – was established in 2012 to address the protracted displacement of these people. The Programme aimed to provide sustainable housing to the **most-vulnerable refugees and displaced persons** following the 1991-1995 conflicts, in addition to **internally displaced persons (IDPs)** in Montenegro from 1999. The RHP was the first joint post-conflict initiative between these countries in the region.



Thanks to the efforts of all RHP stakeholders, the RHP successfully provided durable homes to **11 300 most-vulnerable families** – or **close to 36 000 persons** – across the four Partner Countries after almost three decades of displacement and hardship.

Šta je bio Regionalni stambeni program?



Kao posljedica oružanih sukoba na teritoriji bivše Jugoslavije devedesetih godina prošlog vijeka, preko tri miliona ljudi raseljeno je i unutar i izvan granica **Bosne i Hercegovine, Hrvatske, Crne Gore i Srbije** („Partnerske zemlje“).

Regionalni stambeni program (RSP) – zajednička inicijativa Partnerskih zamalja – uspostavljen je 2012. godine kako bi se riješilo dugotrajno raseljavanje ovih ljudi. Program je imao za cilj da osigura održivo stanovanje **najugroženijim izbjeglicama i raseljenim licima** nakon sukoba 1991.-1995., pored **interno raseljenih lica (IRL)** u Crnoj Gori od 1999. godine. RSP je bila prva zajednička postkonfliktna inicijativa između ovih zemalja u regiji.

Zahvaljujući naporima svih zainteresovanih strana RSP-a, RSP je uspješno osigurao trajne domove za **11.300 najugroženijih porodica** – ili **blizu 36.000 osoba** – u četiri Partnerske zemlje nakon gotovo tri decenije raseljavanja i teškoća.



As a successful large-scale programme and the first joint post-conflict initiative between Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia, it is clear that the vast experience gained under the Regional Housing Programme can serve as a valuable blueprint for future co-operation in other similar contexts.

Bosnia and Herzegovina | Republic of Croatia | Montenegro | Republic of Serbia



*In all aspects, the RHP can be considered to be a **unique, ultimately transformative** and **very successful programme** … [which] should be s**howcased globally**, including as a **model for future regional co-operation** in other post-conflict or reconstruction contexts.*

– Independent Evaluation of the RHP, September 2023

Kao uspješan program velikih razmjera i prva zajednička postkonfliktna inicijativa između Bosne i Hercegovine, Hrvatske, Crne Gore i Srbije, jasno je da ogromno iskustvo stečeno u okviru Regionalnog stambenog programa može poslužiti kao vrijedan nacrt za buduću saradnju u drugim postkonfliktnim kontekstima ili kontekstima vezanim za obnovu.

Bosna i Hercegovina

Republika Hrvatska

Crna Gora

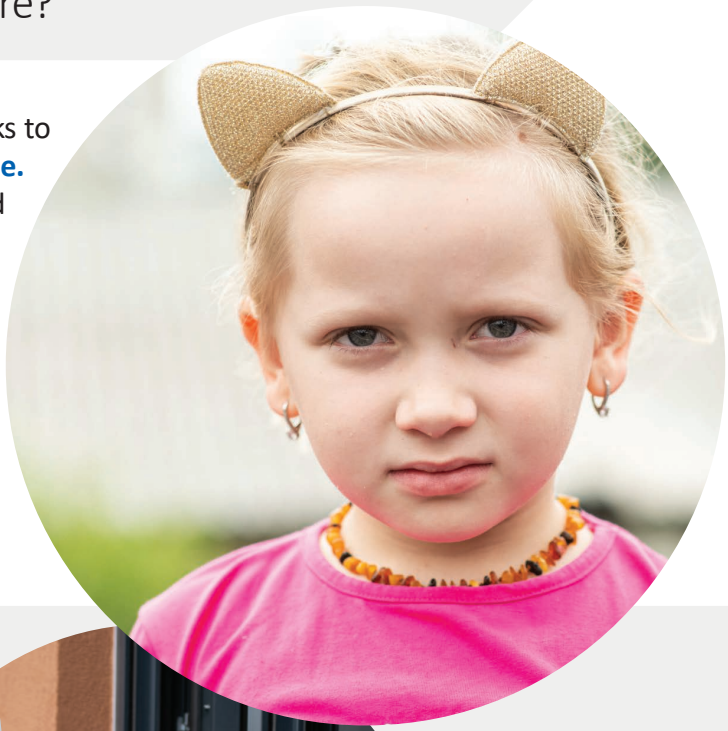
Република Србија

> *U svim aspektima, RSP se može smatrati **jedinstvenim, u konačnici transformativnim i vrlo uspješnim programom** … [što] se treba **prikazati na globalnom nivou**, uključujući i kao **model za buduću regionalnu saradnju** u drugim postkonfliktnim kontekstima ili kontekstima obnove.*
>
> *– Nezavisna evaluacija RSP-a, septembar 2023.*



What were the **key success factors of the RHP** that can be replicated elsewhere?

The RHP had a very high social impact, thanks to its **focus on the needs of the most vulnerable.** By adopting a needs-based approach, targeted at most-vulnerable refugees and displaced persons, the Programme brought concrete assistance – in the form of secure homes – to those who needed it most.







Koji su bili **ključni faktori uspjeha RSP-a koji se** mogu replicirati na drugim mjestima?





RSP je imao veoma veliki društveni uticaj, zahvaljujući svom **fokusu na potrebe najugroženijih**. Usvajanjem pristupa zasnovanog na potrebama, usmjerenog na najranjivije izbjeglice i raseljena lica, Program je donio konkretnu pomoć – u obliku sigurnih domova – onima kojima je to bilo najpotrebnije.




Photo by Danijel Ilić





Scrupulous beneficiary selection processes, often in close co-operation with local authorities, and monitored by UNHCR (the UN Refugee Agency) and the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe)[1], ensured that RHP beneficiaries were those categorised as most vulnerable.





[1] In line with its country specific mandates and within existing capacities.



Temeljiti procesi odabira korisnika, često u bliskoj saradnji s lokalnim vlastima, a koje prate UNHCR (Agencija UN-a za izbjeglice) i OSCE (Organizacija za sigurnost i saradnju u Evropi)[1], osigurali su da korisnici RSP-a budu oni koji su kategorizirani kao najranjiviji.



[1] U skladu sa svojim mandatima specifičnim za zemlju i u okviru postojećih kapaciteta.

The Partner Countries led the **design and implementation** of the Programme, as well as contributing to its financing

The RHP was spearheaded by the four countries which – in addition to part-financing the housing projects – were responsible for the full implementation cycle. They were supported in this process by three international organisations – while the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) accompanied the Partner Countries in the implementation of housing projects, coordinated RHP activities, managed donor funds and provided capacity building, UNHCR and the OSCE monitored beneficiary selection and sustainability aspects.







Partnerske zemlje su vodile **izradu i implementaciju** Programa, kao i doprinijele njegovom finansiranju

RSP su predvodile četiri zemlje koje su – pored djelomičnog finansiranja stambenih projekata – bile odgovorne za cijeli ciklus implementacije. U ovom procesu su ih podržale tri međunarodne organizacije – dok je Razvojna banka Vijeća Evrope (CEB) pratila Partnerske zemlje u implementaciji stambenih projekata, koordinirala aktivnosti RSP-a, upravljala donatorskim sredstvima i osigurala izgradnju kapaciteta, UNHCR i OSCE su pratili odabir korisnika i aspekte održivosti.











Leadership by the national authorities not only fostered ownership of the Programme, but also helped to boost the capacity of authorities to manage similar projects in future. This capacity building extended to the local level, as hundreds of municipalities were also actively engaged.





Vodstvo od strane državne uprave ne samo da je podstaklo vlasništvo nad Programom, već je i pomoglo da se poveća kapacitet državne uprave za upravljanje sličnim projektima u budućnosti. Ova izgradnja kapaciteta proširila se i na lokalni nivo jer je također aktivno angažovano na stotine opština.



The RHP benefitted from **active Donor engagement,** helped by a robust governance structure

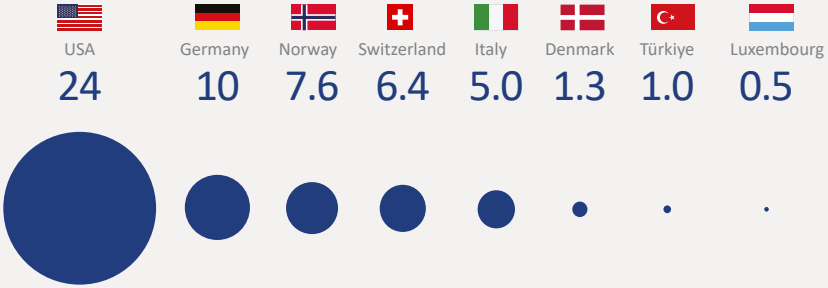
Steadfast Donor support – from the European Union in particular, which as the largest Donor contributed more than 80% of funding – as well as from 14 individual Donor countries, was vital for the success of the RHP. In addition to ensuring sufficient funds for activities, this multi-Donor commitment encouraged regional cooperation and the meeting of objectives. This engagement was facilitated by the RHP's robust governance and reporting structure, which enabled Donors to make timely and informed decisions on key issues.



DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS EUR **294** MILLION

DOPRINOS DONATORA 294 MILIONA EVRA





* of which EUR 1.2 million channeled to UNHCR

RSP je imao koristi od **aktivnog angažmana donatora,** uz pomoć robusne upravljačke strukture





Kontinuirana podrška donatora – posebno iz Evropske unije koja je kao najveći donator doprinijela sa više od 80% finansiranja – kao i iz 14 pojedinačnih zemalja donatora, bila je od vitalnog značaja za uspjeh RSP-a. Pored osiguravanja dovoljnih sredstava za aktivnosti, ova posvećenost više donatora podstakla je regionalnu saradnju i postizanje ciljeva. Ovaj angažman je olakšan snažnom strukturom upravljanja i izvještavanja RSP-a, koja je omogućila donatorima da donose pravovremene i informisane odluke o ključnim pitanjima.




The RHP offered **tailor-made housing** to beneficiaries



Offering a choice to each family empowered beneficiaries after a long period of displacement, and helped their re-/integration prospects. Beneficiaries were not only able to choose whether to remain in their places of displacement, or whether to return to their places of origin – they could also select the type of housing which was best-suited to their needs from the following seven different housing types:

RHP HOUSING SOLUTIONS DELIVERED

Apartments constructed Stana završeno	4 274
Packages of building material delivered Paketa građevinskog materijala dodeljeno	2 286
Houses reconstructed Kuća rekonstruisana	1 975
Village houses purchased Seoskih kuća kupljeno	1 755
Pre-fabricated houses completed Montažnih kuća završeno	383
Apartments purchased Stan kupljen	382
Places provided in 3 Homes for Elderly Mesta obezbeđena u 3 doma za stare	246

11 301

Number of housing units delivered

ukupan broj isporučenih stambenih jedinica

RSP je korisnicima ponudio **domove prilagođene po mjeri**

Ponuda izbora svakoj porodici osnažila je korisnike nakon dugog perioda raseljavanja i pomogla njihovim izgledima za re/integraciju. Korisnici ne samo da su mogli odabrati da li da ostanu u mjestima gdje su došli nakon raseljenja ili da se vrate u svoja mjesta porijekla, već su također mogli odabrati vrstu smještaja koja najbolje odgovara njihovim potrebama od sljedećih sedam različitih vrsta smještaja:

















A strong support, control and **project management framework** was put in place

In addition to robust support provided to Partner Countries in the form of – amongst other things – Technical Assistance, designed and managed by the CEB and provided by EPTISA Southeast Europe d.o.o[2] (implementation support) and Deloitte d.o.o Beograd (financial management), RHP implementation strongly benefitted from clear controls and solid project management facilitated by a number of handbooks and templates tailor-made for the Programme. These ensured the delivery of results as well as maximisation of capacity building.



[2] In a consortium with EPTISA Servicios de Ingenieria S.L. (Spain), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ, Germany) and Danish Refugee Council (Denmark)

Uspostavljen je snažan okvir podrške, kontrole i **upravljanja projektima**

Pored snažne podrške koja se pruža Partnerskim zemljama u obliku – između ostalog – tehničke pomoći, koju je osmislio i kojom upravlja CEB, a koju pružaju EPTISA Southeast Europe d.o.o (podrška implementaciji) i Deloitte d.o.o[2] Beograd (finansijsko upravljanje), implementacija RSP-a imala je velike koristi od jasnih kontrola i čvrstog upravljanja projektima omogućenih nizom priručnika i obrazaca prilagođenih Programu. Time je osigurano postizanje rezultata, kao i maksimizacija izgradnje kapaciteta.



[2] U konzorcijumu sa kompanijom EPTISA Servicios de Ingenieria S.L. (Španija), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ, Njemačka) i Danskim vijećem za izbjeglice (Danska)

Beyond bricks and mortar, the RHP generated numerous broader benefits for the beneficiaries and the region

For a number of RHP families, the receipt of housing and/or surrounding land enabled them to launch home-based businesses – such as catering, hair salons and small farming – providing sources of much-needed **income generation** and smoothing the way for their re/settlement. Beneficiaries were also sometimes further helped by livelihood complementary assistance delivered by NGOs outside the RHP, in the form of greenhouses and farming equipment, among others.







Under the RHP, almost 3 000 contracts were signed with companies across the region, thus stimulating **economic growth and job creation**, and generating spill-over benefits for local economies.

Osim cigle i maltera, RSP je ostvario brojne šire koristi za korisnike i regiju

Za brojne porodice RSP-a, dobijanje stambenog prostora i/ili okolnog zemljišta omogućio im je da pokrenu kućne poslove – kao što su ugostiteljstvo, frizerski saloni i mala poljoprivreda – pružajući izvore prijeko potrebnog **stvaranja prihoda** i izglađujući put za njihovo naseljavanje / ponovno naseljavanje. Podrška korisnicima se ponekad ogledala i u dodatnoj pomoći za egzistenciju koju su pružale nevladine organizacije izvan RSP-a, između ostalog u obliku staklenika i poljoprivredne opreme.







U okviru RSP-a potpisano je skoro 3.000 ugovora sa kompanijama širom regije, čime se stimuliše **ekonomski rast i otvaranje radnih** mjesta i generišu koristi prelivanja za lokalne ekonomije.

Another key benefit was the stringent respect by the RHP of **higher housing construction standards**, including earthquake building codes, across the region. In so doing, the Programme contributed to **improving local contractor expertise**.















Još jedna ključna prednost bila je strogo poštovanje **viših standarda stambene izgradnje od strane RSP-a**, uključujući građevinske propise o zemljotresima, širom regije. Time je Program doprinio **poboljšanju stručnosti lokalnih izvođača radova.**

The introduction of improved standards and materials – as well as the use of energy from renewable energy sources where possible – contributed to **energy savings**, particularly in apartment complexes, thus **reducing families' household energy bills**.











Uvođenje poboljšanih standarda i materijala – kao i korištenje energije iz obnovljivih izvora energije gdje je to bilo moguće – doprinijelo je **uštedi energije**, posebno u stambenim kompleksima, čime **su se smanjili računi za energiju u domaćinstvima**.





Finally, another key – albeit less tangible – benefit which cannot be overlooked has been the role played by the RHP in the **Western Balkans reconciliation process**. Through its focus on the most-vulnerable, regardless of origin, in addition to regular meetings and knowledge-sharing, the RHP has fostered good neighbourly relations and the re-establishment of professional relationships, thus contributing to the security, stability and prosperity of the entire region.

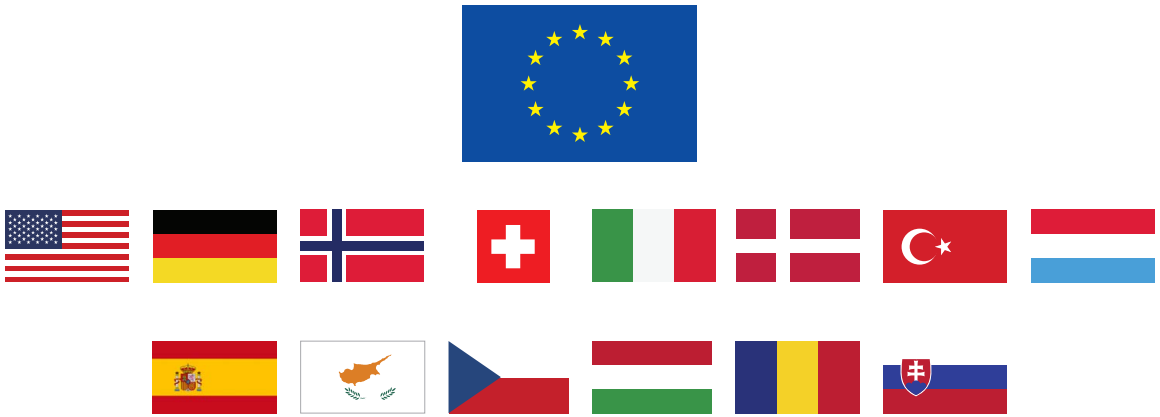


Konačno, još jedna ključna – iako manje opipljiva – korist koja se ne može zanemariti bila je uloga koju je RSP imao u **procesu pomirenja na Zapadnom Balkanu**. Svojim fokusom na najranjivije, bez obzira na porijeklo, pored redovnih sastanaka i razmjene znanja, RSP je podsticao dobrosusjedske odnose i ponovno uspostavljanje profesionalnih odnosa, čime je doprinio sigurnosti, stabilnosti i prosperitetu cijele regije.





The Regional Housing Programme is financed and supported by the international community



The Regional Housing Programme (RHP) was established 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, Türkiye, Luxembourg, Spain, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic.

Regional
Housing
Programme

This document was produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.