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# BiH Development TIMES

United Nations Development Programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina

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## "Where will I be in 2015?": UNDP Launches Second Phase of Millennium Development Goals Campaign

The public information campaign on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) enters its second phase in October, following the release of the National Human Development Report (NHDR) that set a baseline for MDGs scorekeeping in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The campaign's second phase aims to improve the public's understanding of MDGs and to build partnerships for development. Several commercial companies have shown interest in joining the campaign. Further programme activities that will directly benefit BiH citizens are to be defined soon.

The second phase also involves cooperation with universities. Local experts involved in the making of the Millennium Development Goals report will participate in open discussions with students and professors. This includes a competition for the best research work on an alternative analysis of MDGs, which aims to inspire students and professors to give a second opinion and participate in the open debates on MDGs.

The competition for the best journalism on MDGs topics marks the inclusion of this civil society's segment in the campaign. Journalists are expected to spread information about MDGs among the general population.

The NGO sector remains a critical part in the process, as an independent, active and objective MDG monitor.



Milenijumski  
razvojni  
ciljevi

Gdje ću JA biti 2015?



## GOVERNANCE/POLICY

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### Seven Pilot Municipalities Welcome SUTRA Initiative SUTRA: A test for the future relationship between international donors and domestic authorities

UNDP and the BiH Human Rights and Refugees Ministry, in cooperation with entity ministries, presented the SUTRA (Sustainable Transfer to Return-related Authorities) initiative to seven pilot municipality mayors on 17 September.

The municipalities Derventa, Doboj, Lukavac, Mostar, Srpski/Bosanski Brod, Travnik and Tuzla will be the focus of a joint EU, UNDP and Human Rights and Refugees Ministry project that, in cooperation with entity ministries, aims to strengthen the local authorities at the central and municipal levels. The main objective of this initiative is to enable the local authorities to effectively coordinate, strategically plan and successfully manage returns, thus preparing them for full ownership of the process. The State Commission for Refugees and Displaced Persons (SCRDP) adopted this project as a joint project and it is a part of the state strategy to implement AnnexVII.

The seven pilot municipalities that are SUTRA's priority cluster will be partners for implementation at the local level, in line with the methodology for the prioritisation of return needs throughout BiH, developed by the SCRDP with the support of the UNDP-SUTRA team. The methodology is based on objective criteria that have ranked all 147 municipalities in a single database, the most comprehensive such database available in the country.

The European Union and UNDP are financing SUTRA with 2.2 million euros. Matching funds are being provided by the state and entity ministries through the SCRDP, making the project worth a total of 4.4 million euros.

Human Rights and Refugees Minister Mirsad Kebo, along with Jasmin Samardzic and Edin Music of the entity line ministries, who have been involved in the project's first phase, urged the municipalities to contribute to and fully support the project's implementation.

"It is particularly important to stress that SUTRA is the first project of this kind in BiH and that its results will define future relationships between domestic authorities and the international donor community," said Mr. Kebo.

### UNDP Supports Implementation of the most Comprehensive Gender Equality Law in the Region

UNDP Resident Representative a.i. Moises Venancio and Human Rights and Refugees Minister Mirsad Kebo signed the Project Document for UNDP's support to implement BiH's gender equality law on 4 September.

The project's goal is to protect and promote gender equality, thus contributing to a human rights-based development process.

Project activities will include supporting the establishment of a state-level gender agency within Mr. Kebo's ministry, and to develop partnerships between entity gender centres and other civil society organizations.

The two-year project is worth US\$400,000 - US\$275,000 from the Japanese government, US\$100,000 from UNDP and US\$25,000 from UNICEF.



Mr. Mirsad Kebo, Minister for human rights and refugees BiH and UNDP Resident Representative a.i., Mr. Moises Venancio signing the Project document

### Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) delve into the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Process

UNDP organized pilot workshops on human resource, financial management and advocacy skills in Sarajevo for 20 local NGOs that are involved in evaluating Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in BiH.

The training falls under the Empowerment of Civil Society and Strengthening Democratic Governance sections of the MDGs process project. The programme's objective is to strengthen the capacity of NGOs to monitor progress toward the MDGs.

The project's development objective is also to deepen democratic governance, with a special emphasis on increased participatory and transparent decision-making mechanisms through the MDG process planning, implementation and monitoring/evaluation that come with the empowerment of civil society. It is fully funded by UNDP.



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## GOVERNANCE/INSTITUTIONS



### First-Ever Comprehensive International Aid Review for BiH Shows Dramatic Drop in Future Assistance

The first-ever report to give an overview of international assistance to BiH between/from 1996 and/to 2002 has been prepared by UNDP's Project "Programme Support to BiH in the Management and Coordination of Development Resources" working through its Units at the State, Entity and Brčko District Governments.

The report also emphasises that it is high priority, as outlined by UNDP Resident Representative a.i. Moises Venancio and BiH Prime Minister Adnan Terzic, for BiH to take over ownership of its own development making sure that the country's limited resources are effectively used and oriented at benefiting the citizens of BiH.

The main part of the publication is an analysis outlining who has been doing what and where regarding external aid to BiH. The figures in the report predict a dramatic fall in international aid in the future. Though an average of about US\$750 million has come in every year for the past seven years, the report shows that this will no longer be the case in future, as indicated by a sample of bilateral donors, the World Bank, European Union and the IMF.

The report can be found at [www.undp.ba/publications](http://www.undp.ba/publications)



Report is available for download at [www.undp.ba](http://www.undp.ba)

### UNDP Report Suggests Best Practices in Civil Service Training

UNDP has released a comparative study of selected countries of Central and Eastern Europe on lessons learned and best practices in civil service training that was prepared in May. Beneficiaries of the project are the BiH government and international partners dealing with public administration reform and civil service training.

The report contributes to the civil service reform at all levels of government in BiH. It presents a series of case-studies that reviews the approaches to civil service training in six Central and Eastern Europe countries between 1989 and 2003, based both on documents and the personal experience of the author and others in Albania, Armenia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania and Slovenia.

The report suggests that five factors shape the form and effectiveness of the civil training systems: sustained political commitment, without which everything fails; strategic vision to guide the process and avoid pitfalls; a professional career-based civil service as a final goal to shape human resource management structures; the strength of the financial and human resource base with appropriate funding mechanisms and donor coordination; and the end goal of good quality service and good governance.

The publication is available at [www.undp.ba/publications](http://www.undp.ba/publications)

### Best Practice workshop to be organized

Following publication of the report on best practice in civil servant training within the context of public administration reform in Eastern and South Eastern European countries, UNDP will conduct a workshop on this topic in December.

This workshop gives representatives from all government structures, international partner organisations and civic and business groups an opportunity to hear prominent public administration reform specialists (from the countries analysed in the report) speak about their countries experiences and the lessons they learned, as well as to pose questions and seek an exchange of views about the practical implications for public administration reform and civil servant training in BiH.

**In the next issue: Updated version of citizens' guides to be printed soon**

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## HUMAN SECURITY

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### UNDP Resident Representative Moises Venancio Speaks at Human Security and Economic Development Conference

"Human security is multi-faced in nature, with economic development being only one component that is necessary for human security to exist," said UNDP Resident Representative a.i. Moises Venancio at a conference on the economic aspects of security organized in Trieste, Italy, by the OSCE and the Sarajevo-based Center for Security Studies on 2-5 October. The conference brought together academics, diplomats and senior-level politicians from Southeast Europe to discuss the links between human security and economic development, and the steps the region will have to take to progress in both areas.

Mr. Venancio pointed out that for human security to be attained in the region, people must work on advancing all the elements that make up such security. That includes political security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security and economic security.

"As citizens, neighbours, decision-makers and intellectuals, we all have the responsibility for human security and we all have the responsibility to make it work," he said.

### First Comprehensive Small Arms Needs Assessment for BiH Released

UNDP has issued the first comprehensive needs assessment on small arms and light weapons (SALW) in BiH. The assessment provides a detailed overview of the current state of affairs pertaining to small arms and light weapons in BiH, in particular highlighting areas where attention and/or activities are required and presenting options for reform by drawing upon good international practice.

The assessment's main points consider various public campaigns, the legal framework, and the roles of the military industry and the international community. The assessment also highlights the need for more overall public awareness on light arms possession and the danger that comes with it. It shows the possibility and willingness for cooperation between local and international institutions as well, which should increase citizens' confidence in local governments' fight against crime.

The assessment is available at [www.undp.ba/publications](http://www.undp.ba/publications)

### BiH to Assume Co-Chairmanship of the Board of Donors for Mine Action

The BiH government is expected to take over co-chairmanship of the Board of Donors for Mine Action at the next Board session in November. The Board is the group of key donors for mine action in the country and is currently co-chaired by UNDP and OHR. The government's move to take over co-chairmanship of the Board is in keeping with its policy of assuming increased ownership over mine action. The minister of civil affairs, who is responsible for mine action, will represent the BiH government on the Board of Donors.

### UNDP Clears 60,000m2 of Land from Mines

The UNDP through its Direct Demining Project (DDP) in September 2003 saw the completion of its mine clearance activities at the Ilidza Cable Canal and the FAMOS Industrial Complex. The airport emergency access road at Sarajevo airport has also been cleared of mines.

The successful conclusion of the mine clearance activities at the FAMOS Industrial Complex has allowed for the location to be put to productive use, thus increasing employment in the area. This project was made possible through the donations made by the Italian Government.

Demining within the framework of the Direct Demining Project is continuing, and it is expected that the project will carry out the clearance activities in the remaining areas of the Ilidza City Park by mid-December.



Mine clearance

### Budget Re-balance Sets BHMAL Staff Salaries Payment in Motion

The BiH Government has approved a budget re-balance for BiH for 2003. This sets the process in motion for BiH Mine Action Centre (BHMAL) salaries from July, August, September and October to be paid by late November.

The initial 2003 BiH budget earmarked insufficient funds for BHMAL staff salaries. The Board of Donors for Mine Action provided a loan through UNDP earlier in the year for the BHMAL salaries to be paid for the first four months of 2003. Due to the protracted rebalancing process however, those funds were depleted leaving BHMAL staff without salaries.

## AREA-BASED DEVELOPMENT



### UK Embassy Representatives Visit

Second Political Secretary Alex Cole and Projects Assistant Sabina Djapo visited the Srebrenica Regional Recovery Programme (SRRP) on 6 October to receive an update on the progress of the programme activities funded by the United Kingdom Embassy.

The UK's support of SRRP has focussed on business support and related economic development projects as well as youth development in Srebrenica, Milici and Bratunac municipalities. The UK has committed 219,000 pounds.

**In the next issue: UNDP has proposed a project for the long-term accommodation for displaced people from the Podrinje region with specific needs in Banovici Municipality - 12-19 new apartments and an information center in Tuzla, worth a total of 430,000 KM.**

**Also in the next issue: The completion of a project in Posavina**

### Brcko District Guarantee Fund Fully Operational

The Brcko District Guarantee Fund (GFBD) has begun approving its first loan guarantees. As of this writing, seven loan guarantees worth a total of 38,000 KM have been approved.

The loan guarantees have been approved for the clients of MCO EKI, who are being financed by the Brcko Rural Microcredit Facility Fund and the Rural Loan Fund.

The GFBD is a financial institution established by UNDP and the Brcko District government to help develop the District's agricultural sector. The Fund has a District-financed guarantee portfolio of 300,000 KM.

### Integrated Return Project for Central Bosnia Canton

The Integrated Return Project (IRP) completed three projects by early September. The return programme to Gornji Vakuf-Uskoplje and Donji Vakuf, funded by the European Commission with more than 900,000 euros, included the reconstruction of infrastructure projects and 97 houses, as well as training and technical support to NGOs and training and technical support for the local authorities.

Also part of IRP was intra-municipal return in Gornji Vakuf-Uskoplje and minority return to Travnik (funded by the Dutch Embassy), with 56 houses reconstructed and repairs made to the infrastructure.

IRP is currently developing a Project Document that will show a new course of UNDP presence in Central Bosnia Canton. The new role should be more development-related than it has been so far.

### UNDP-SRRP Donors to Visit

Following the successful completion of the first year of its three-year Srebrenica Regional Recovery Programme (SRRP), UNDP is organizing a donor visit on 6 November.

The visit will make it possible to brief current and future project donors on the success and activities undertaken so far, in hopes of future partnerships in the project for the next two years.

The initial programme budget was more than US\$12 million. To date about US\$6 million has been received and committed to the programme. In less than a year, 760 vulnerable families alone (about 3,000 individuals) have directly benefited from the SRRP.

## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The BiH Council of Ministers and UNDP are preparing the National Strategy for Information Society Development. This policy document will point the way for BiH to bridge the digital gap and define its path towards the rest of the modern world.

### E-Legislation Reform and E-Government Reform Projects Soon to be Launched

Following the conclusions and recommendations of the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Forum, UNDP, in cooperation with the BiH government, has developed two new projects within the ICT for Development portfolio - the e-legislation reform and e-government reform projects - which are now in the preparation phase. They are to be funded by the Norwegian government and will begin being implemented by the end of the year.

The e-legislation reform project addresses the lack of a legal environment conducive to realizing the full potential of ICT for economic development in BiH. It provides a framework and support structure for legislative change, the training of legal professionals and the collection and publication of existing legal resources in the ICT sector.

The project envisages a number of new or revised laws, curricula for a Centre for E-Legislation Development, databases of legislation and legal professionals, and a web service to make this information widely accessible.

UNDP's assistance in this area will be to bridge the digital gap that now separates BiH from its European partners, by strengthening the private sector and its legislative operating environment, while indirectly supporting innovative forms of good governance.

**In the next issue: CISCO Academy to open in Banja Luka, more on the ICT strategy**

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## OTHER

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### Experts, Economists Participate in International Conference

Leading world economists discussed transition challenges hindering economic development and globalization's impact on countries in transition at Sarajevo University's Faculty of Economics' international conference on 10 and 11 October. About 200 leading experts presented papers.

The participants discussed, among other issues, long-term disparities in economic growth in transitional and developing countries, income division, inequalities and poverty, the effects of global agreements on free trade, and the effects of market liberalization on economic growth in developing and transitional countries.

At the Ministers vs. Economists round table, politicians and economists expressed their views before a large audience.

The Faculty of Economics organized the conference with Bologna's Centre for International Development, Edinburgh's Centre for Economic Reform and Transformation, UNDP, the World Bank and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.



Large audience at the International economic conference in Sarajevo

### UNDP, UN Support Opening of Safe House for Domestic Violence Victims

A safe house for women and children victims of violence, managed by the NGO Buducnost, opened in Modrica on 16 September. The centre's reconstruction was financed by the UN Mission in BiH, with support from UNDP.

The safe house is a continuation of a project that provided temporary shelter beginning in December 2000. More than 230 women and 450 children used the temporary shelter, where they found safe accommodation and other support, depending on their needs.

The new shelter in Modrica is the only one in the Republika Srpska, though the number of people in BiH that need this type of protection has increased.

### Global Microfinance Training Held in Sarajevo

Sarajevo hosted the How Donors Can Make a Difference global microfinance training in September, designed for donor agencies' staff that support microfinance from all over the world. The focus was on the role of donors in supporting financial systems.

The training was based on case studies where participants had an opportunity to learn about techniques, analyses and design of a microfinance investment. Participants also discussed the importance of an enabling policy and sector environment for microfinance operations and the role donors can play in promoting enhanced legal frameworks, accountability, industry services and donor coordination.

The training was organized by the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor and the United Nations Capital Development Fund's Special Unit for Micro Finance, which is the policy and technical support unit for microfinance for UNDP country offices around the world. UNDP in BiH provided overall support in organization of the training.

The next course in the series will be held in Kenya from 10 to 14 November.

### UNDP Resident Representative in Iraq Henrik Kolstrup Recovering in Denmark

Former Resident Representative UNDP in BiH Henrik Kolstrup was badly injured by a truck-bomb explosion at the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq on 19 August. Mr. Kolstrup had multiple injuries and was put under constant hospital care. He is now in Denmark, and his condition is improving. Although injured and hospitalized himself, Mr. Kolstrup was struck most by the death of Sergio di Mello, a colleague and a friend whom he had known for a long period.

Mr. Kolstrup was the UNDP Resident Representative and the UN Resident Coordinator in BiH for three years beginning in 1999. In August of this year he was appointed UNDP Resident Representative in Iraq. Before coming to BiH, Mr. Kolstrup worked for UNDP in New York, Angola, Mozambique, and for UNHCR in Swaziland.

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## MEET UNDP STAFF



In each issue of the Newsletter we will introduce one or two of our Staff members to you so that you get to know better our Development practitioners that are part of UNDP's worldwide team covering 166 countries.



### Larisa Serdarevic, Programme Operations Support Assistant

Name: **Larisa Serdarevic**

Born: **15 January 1975**

Place of birth: **Zenica, BiH**

Married: **No, but happily in love**

Education/Experience: **Finishing Economic Faculty. Have worked with International Medical Corps, UNICEF and OSCE. Joined UNDP three years ago, as Programme Assistant. I work with project budgets and all kinds of projects and finance-related issues.**

Reasons for joining UNDP: **Honestly, I needed a job and it sounded tempting.**

What would I change in UNDP: **In UNDP in general, I would decrease bureaucracy, increase efficiency; in UNDP CO, things have changed a lot in the past two years, and we have continued with the positive trend.**

How do I see my future: **Resting with my family under a palm tree on some tropical island.**

I like the best: **Children (especially my little niece).**

I dislike the most: **Fraud, dishonesty, lies.**

How do I see my professional future: **I will tell you when I see it.**



### Dzenan Kapetanovic, Country Office Programme Team Assistant

Name: **Given and still the same as it was before YES. (Currently I am working on some cosmetic changes and once I complete all the necessary procedures it will be the same as it was.)**

Born: **As far as I can remember just one had a different approach. All others including me and myself were to follow the standard biological matrix. If the question means when, then I am afraid that I could not be of much help since at the time when it happened I was too young. (Maybe not only then but just maybe.) To those who are really interested to learn more I would recommend Baseskija's books.**

Place of birth: **Hospital, at least that's what I have been told.**

Married: **Yes. (for more listen to Fazla, Emir, Kemo, Tifa & Mo Selection)**

Education/Experience: **Still ongoing process (for more details see V.I. Lenin). Significant, but mainly in the areas that I cannot without difficulties bring into relation with the current post.**

Reasons for joining UNDP: **So far fully justified.**

What would I change in UNDP: **May I skip this one?**

How do I see my future: **If I let you know then it might distract you from your own.**

I like the best: **Is this on the record?**

I dislike the most: **Is this on the record?**

How do I see my professional future: **Are you sure that I am the one who should answer this?**



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## Photo Gallery - PERUCAC LAKE CLEANUP

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### Perucac Lake Cleanup

Perucac Lake is a 52-km long manmade lake created by the building of a dam and is located on the border between BiH and Serbia. UNDP has coordinated efforts to begin cleaning part of the shore of litter, such as plastic bags and bottles. The surface for the cleaning activities is 9,000m<sup>2</sup> and the length of the lake where we are planning to implement the activities is 15 km.

Besides litter, the biggest problem is pieces of wood strewn about from the illegal cutting of the nearby forest.

The cleanup is planned for 60 days and is being done in three phases.

The project also has a reconciliation component, as it employs 10 Serbian and 10 Bosnian workers, and is also significant because it is the first joint ecological project between BiH and Serbia and Montenegro to take place after the war.

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