

2013 Annual Programme

Return and Reintegration of Minority Communities: 03 - 2013 / 02

1 IDENTIFICATION

Project Title	Return and Reintegration of Minority Communities
CRIS Decision number	2013/ 024-216
Project no.	03
MIPD Sector Code	2. Justice and Home Affairs 7. Social Development
ELARG Statistical code	01.63
DAC Sector code	15240
Total cost (VAT excluded)¹	€ 3.7 million
EU contribution	€ 3.33 million
Management mode	Centralised. Activity 2 will be implemented in Joint Management with UNHCR.
EU Delegation in charge	European Union Office in Kosovo*
Implementation management	European Union Office in Kosovo. Activity 2 will be implemented by UNHCR in Joint Management.
Implementing modality	1 Grant Contract, 1 Contribution Agreement with UNHCR
Project implementation type	C01
Zone benefiting from the action(s)	Kosovo

¹ The total project cost should be net of VAT and/or of other taxes. Should this not be the case, clearly indicate the amount of VAT and the reasons why it is considered eligible.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

2 RATIONALE

2.1 PROJECT CONTEXT: ISSUES TO BE TACKLED AND NEEDS ADDRESSED

Activity 1

For 12 years, Roma Ashkali, and Egyptian (RAE) internally displaced persons (IDPS) have lived in dilapidated camps and collective centres. This has particularly been the case with families that were displaced in municipalities in Northern Kosovo where they were also exposed to lead contamination. One of these camps, Cesmin Lug, was closed in 2010 and a second one, Osterode, is expected to be closed this year. These closures are the result of an exemplary and unique partnership between the donors, the Ministry of Communities and Returns, and the municipality of Mitrovicë/a. What remains is a camp in Leposaviq/Leposavić municipality, home to 40 families.

This project seeks to continue the successful partnership of these partners and address the unsafe living conditions of the RAE in Leposaviq/Leposavić camp by building or rehabilitating housing for up to 40 RAE families and up to six families from the majority community (social cases).

This project represents phase two of the EU-MRSI project. Its main objective is the permanent closure of Leposaviq/Leposavić camp and the resettlement of up to 40 RAE families.

Activity 2

The 1999 conflict in Kosovo produced nearly two million displaced persons out of which an estimated one million remained within the Balkan region. Twelve years after, some displaced persons and refugees in neighbouring countries are willing to repatriate in safety and dignity but their numbers are relatively small if compared to those who wish to integrate in their current locations. Accordingly, efforts continue to be made by various donors to support the rights-based voluntary return of refugees including those who have lost their property or are landless. These efforts have yielded some positive results.

Currently the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia hosts 1,519 refugees out of which 1,149 are from Kosovo, including 1,099 Roma, Ashkalia and Egyptian (RAE). At present, 88 families (397 individuals) without housing solution have expressed the wish to return to Kosovo. In addition, Montenegro currently hosts 9,367 refugees from Kosovo of which 88 families (496 individuals) from the RAE communities have registered for voluntary return to Kosovo (as of end of 2011).

Therefore, this project aims to support the rights-based voluntary return to Kosovo of the RAE communities currently displaced primarily in Konik settlement in Montenegro and Suto Orizari municipality in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The project will provide them with housing and socio-economic support in their municipalities of origin or other locations to which they wish to return thus enabling them to successfully return and reintegrate to Kosovo. While their key concerns regard the availability of housing assistance in Kosovo and their economic sustainability, unresolved property issues constitute an additional obstacle for their return. The latter is further complicated by the fact that, prior to their flight, many of the RAE communities used to reside in informal settlements that no longer exist. A large challenge and pre-condition for the implementation of this project is the allocation of public land allocation for landless RAE beneficiaries by the respective municipalities. The government is well aware of this issue and has been asked to provide clear assurances that allocation of public land will take place.

If land can be secured, the project will provide an opportunity for the RAE families to find a durable solution for their living situation. It will at the same time contribute to ending the protracted

refugee situation in the two neighbouring countries and promote good neighbourly relations in the region. A smooth return of the beneficiaries of this project will provide for the realization of a responsibility-sharing framework that could become a best practice for the region. Finally, the interest in rights-based voluntary return among refugees will be enhanced.

2.2 LINK WITH MIPD AND SECTOR STRATEGIES

The **MIPD for Kosovo 2011- 2013** reports that: ‘There is a lack of adequate action regarding the social inclusion of specific groups including Roma. Access of members of vulnerable groups to education, health care, and social protection remains a serious concern. The effective inclusion of all groups and communities is crucial to progress towards the reconciliation between communities that remains a major challenge in Kosovo’

Furthermore under its section 3 – Main Sectors for EU Support for 2011-2013 the MIPD states: "Equal opportunities and non-discrimination will be respected as regards gender at the programming and implementation stage, particularly in relation to socio-economic support programmes. Persons belonging to minority communities and vulnerable groups' concerns will be reflected in all activities programmed under IPA, in particular when it concerns public services, legislative matters and socioeconomic development".

The MIPD 2011-2013 also confirms that "Ensuring the delivery of public services to all people in Kosovo and establishing a professional, accountable, accessible, representative public administration free from political interference continues to be a key European Partnership priority".

In February 2010 the government of Kosovo endorsed the Ministry of Communities and Returns' (MCR) Strategy for Communities and Returns (2009-2013). Under chapter III "Vision and Aims" the strategy states that one of its main goals is: "Sustainable return of displaced persons to Kosovo by; (i) ensuring support for return of all returnees to Kosovo, (ii) ensuring conditions for information provision regarding voluntary returns and (iii) ensuring adequate conditions in the place of return, or place of displacement within Kosovo, for the sustainable return and reintegration".

Furthermore, the project also falls squarely within the government's Strategy for the Integration of Roma Ashkali and Egyptian Communities in which a particular section is dedicated to return and reintegration of displaced RAE communities.

Furthermore, activity II in particular will signify a timely implementation of the decision of the government of Kosovo and governments of Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia respectively, to enhance their cooperation and facilitate the voluntary repatriation of RAE families from both countries by means of bilateral inter-governmental agreements which is expected to be signed during 2012.

2.3 LINK WITH ACCESSION PARTNERSHIP (AP) / EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP (EP) / STABILISATION AND ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT (SAA) / ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

The government's **European Partnership Action Plan (EPAP) 2012** provides criteria for recognition of human rights and protection of all minorities. In particular the EPAP highlights the challenges that RAE communities face in light of poor economic standing and the challenges to their reintegration both in the process of voluntary and forced return. An additional challenge is consolidation of the strategic framework for regularization of informal settlements.

Therefore, additional measures are planned for the regulation of informal settlements and to implement legal and policy framework for the voluntary return (Priorities 44-47). In particular, EPAP in its action (45.1) aims to: "to complete the legal and policy framework for the regulation of informal settlements and ensure their implementation"; action (46.3) calls for: "integration of all communities in Kosovo education system, while respecting all the specifics and differences", while action (46.4) calls for: "providing health services to minority communities, with priority to Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian community".

Both projects are fully in line with the Kosovo 2011 Progress Report which calls for, "Respect for and protection of minorities' cultural rights. The report indicates that there has been some progress on integrating minority communities, but these efforts need to continue to foster their (RAE) socio-economic integration. However, the government needs to step up its efforts to take the lead in addressing the issue of IDPs". Furthermore the report states that: " The authorities should increase their commitment to address urgent issues affecting the lives of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians community, and especially their access to education, health, housing and social protection". In this regard the MCR sees both projects as a direct response to the above comments of Progress Report 2011 and a good opportunity to further address the inclusion of RAE communities in Kosovo society.

Similarly, both projects are also fully in line with the recommendations of the joint conference between the EU and government of Kosovo in May 2011 regarding RAE civil registration, employment and housing. In particular, action 1 of the Housing section of the Paper "Forty Actions to Boost the Implementation of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians Strategy and Action Plan", states: "The camps in Osterode and Leposaviq/Leposavić should be swiftly closed. Moreover a separate section on housing states: "Housing/return-related needs before receiving repatriated persons should be planned and identified by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare" while action 9 states that: " The allocation of land for return purposes should be systematically ensured for at least forty-year period".

2.4 PROBLEM ANALYSIS

Activity 1

At the end of the 1999 conflict in Kosovo, Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians (RAE) fled imminent violence in the ethnic Albanian South of the city of Mitrovicë/a, and took refuge in makeshift camps in the Serb-controlled North, including Leposaviq/Leposavić. Almost thirteen years later, Leposaviq/Leposavić camp (established by UNMIK) remains home to 40 ethnic RAE IDP families, with a total of 164 residents.

The camp is deteriorating with collapsing ceilings, tiny rooms with up to nine people living in each (32 families have only one room each), unhealthy conditions, leaking roofs, inexistent drainage, lack of insulation and chimneys that present serious fire hazards. Such conditions can lead to stress and frustrations, gender based violence and illegal immigration to Western Europe. In addition, recent testing in Leposaviq/Leposavić camp indicates a problem with elevated blood lead levels in children. Therefore this project will include health education on issues such as lead contamination, lead testing, and treatment.

It is important to note that Mitrovicë/a municipality explicitly supports the resettlement of Leposaviq/Leposavić camp residents. This is demonstrated by a letter from Mitrovicë/a Mayor to Mercy Corps, which is implementing the current RAE return project, on 25 January 2012 asking for assistance in finding a solution for the RAE families in Leposaviq/Leposavić. His letter further

mentions the desperate need to close collective centres in the city that are also in deteriorating conditions. The municipality expressed a willingness to contribute to this project by donating land for both Leposaviq/Leposavić camp residents originating from Mitrovicë/a and the social cases and IDPs from the Albanian majority community.

This project represents the continuation of joint efforts by the EU, the government of Kosovo, and the Mitrovicë/a municipality in finding durable solutions for the RAE IDPs who fled during the conflict. The current resettlement project, funded by the EU and implemented successfully by Mercy Corps, is in its final stages of closing Osterode camp, the last of the lead contaminated camps in Mitrovicë/a municipality. The new EU-MRSI (II) project will seek to resettle 40 plus families and close Leposaviq/Leposavić camp together with resettling a balancing component of six families (IDPs and social cases) living in collective centres in Mitrovicë/a.

The main institutional actors involved in this action are: (i) Ministry of Communities and Returns which has an overall mandate for communities and voluntary return; (ii) Ministry of Health which will provide directions for medical testing and treatment, overall monitoring of health and provide medications, (iii) Ministry for Labour and Social Welfare which will provide employment and vocational services as well as social protection services particularly for children; (iv) Mitrovicë/a municipality which is facilitating the resettlement of RAE families and (v) Leposaviq/Leposavić municipality where the families are still displaced.

In addition, other international and Kosovo stakeholders will be involved in the process: (i) Mercy Corps which has been successfully implementing the current EU-MRSI phase I and is proposed to implement the next phase as well; (ii) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – supervises and coordinates the social issues of resettlement as well as providing protection for the vulnerable; (iii) Kosovo Foundation for Open Society (KFOS) – has established a learning centre in Roma Mahalla, through another EU-funded project, providing teaching and learning to RAE children (iv) The Roma Ashkali Documentation Centre (RADC) – a Kosovo NGO active in resettlement process; (v) RAE Community Leaders from Roma Mahalla and Leposaviq/Leposavić camp who actively participate in decisions; and (vi) RAE families who are the beneficiaries in the resettlement process and without whose collaboration resettlement could not take place.

Activity 2

By the end of 2011, it was reported that some 176 RAE families (a total of 893 family members) had expressed their desire to voluntarily return home to Kosovo to UNHCR offices in Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Currently, their return is not taking place due to: 1) Landlessness and/or unclear land ownership; 2) Lack of funding for return packages (housing and income generation).

Noteworthy, these persons registered their interest to return as early as 2009. MCR together with other stakeholders, NGOs and other donors have undertaken an extensive assessment to establish the needs against the resources available. Currently, the financial resources available to the Kosovo government are limited and therefore the request for assistance to support these persons under this project.

Furthermore, despite some progress made in establishing a legal and institutional framework to protect minority communities in Kosovo, the implementation to ensure that minorities who return are properly integrated into the society still remains weak. Since the beginning of 2011, new Municipal Offices for Communities and Returns (MOCRs) have been established to support returnees and help them reintegrate into their communities or places of return. The slow pace of

voluntary returns affects the implementation of local integration strategies for populations that have opted for this durable solution in their respective host countries.

Therefore, this project will have a direct impact on reducing the protracted refugee situation, which will also bring stability and prospects for development at the Kosovo-wide and regional level. In addition the project will support MOCRs in concerned municipalities with strengthening their institutional and individual capacities which will have multiplier effects considering the number of other RAE refugees that will return from third countries.

The interest to return of the vast majority of this group, currently in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro, has been compromised by the fact that many have been awaiting several years for sustainable housing solutions and reintegration assistance in Kosovo.

Taking into consideration that the number of those interested to return is significantly higher than those to benefit from this project, all identified returnee families will be individually and systematically assessed for socio-economic viability and possible direct interventions taking into account primarily their vulnerability, but also their gender and age aspects among others.

The fundamental principle in the context of identification of durable solutions for concerned RAE families is the principle of voluntary and well informed decision reached through an inclusive and participatory process. In that regard, beneficiary families are offered rights-based approach giving equal priority to any of the options selected, either through return to place of origin in a safe and dignified manner or resettlement to another location of desire in Kosovo.

The main institutional actors involved in this action are: (i) Ministry of Communities and Returns who have an overall mandate for communities and voluntary return; (ii) Concerned Kosovo municipal authorities the return will take place; (iii) Respective government institutions in fYRoM and Montenegro who are currently providing for displaced RAE families and want to support for their right-based and informed decision to return to Kosovo;

In addition other international and Kosovo stakeholders will be involved in the process such as (i) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Kosovo Office who is proposed to implement this activity; (ii) UNHCR Offices in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro who provides assistance and protection to RAE families in respective countries and will facilitate right-based and informed decision for return to Kosovo (iii) UNHCR Kosovo implementing partners who will be engaged in the different stages and components of the activity; (iv) RAE Community Leaders who actively participate in decision-making; and (v) RAE beneficiaries in the resettlement process, who without their collaboration, resettlement could not take place.

2.5 LINKED ACTIVITIES AND DONOR COORDINATION

These activities build on previous EU assistance to support voluntary return and reintegration of ethnic minorities under both IPA and CARDS instruments as follows:

Project name/ amount	Start/End	Objectives/Activities/Results
Return and Reintegration in Kosovo (RRK phase III) – (€ 4.0	Nov 2011 - Apr 2014	The overall objective of this project is to contribute to the Kosovo government's and the MCR's efforts in promoting a tolerant multi-ethnic environment, based on the universal respect of human rights, conducive to the sustainable return and reintegration of at least 140

million)		minority IIDP, IDP, and refugee families by consolidating efforts of central and local government authorities in cooperation.
The EU Mitrovicë/a RAE Support Initiative (EU-MRSI) – (€ 5.0 million)	Feb 2010 - Jul 2012	The overall objective of this project is the closure of the lead-contaminated Cesmin Lug and Osterode Camps for RAE IDPs. The specific objective of this project is economically productive, secure and healthy reintegration of up to 90 RAE families from Cesmin Lug and Osterode IDP Camps to Roma Mahalla or other location.
Return and Reintegration in Kosovo (RRK phase II) (€ 4.0 million)	Aug 2009 - Jul 2011	Supporting MCR to implement effective policies and operational frameworks for returns. Contributing to a stable multi-ethnic society in Kosovo based on tolerance and promotion of human and minority rights enabling sustainable return and reintegration of at least 160 minority IDPs and refugees. Assisting municipalities to design and manage returns and reintegration projects in coordination with all stakeholders.
Return and Reintegration and Cultural Heritage (€ 3.7 million)	June 2008 - Oct 2010	Supporting MCR to implement effective policies and operational frameworks for returns; Assisting municipalities to design and manage returns and reintegration projects in coordination with all stakeholders.
Institution Building to the MCR (€ 1.16 million)	Jan 2007 - Jun 2009	The project aims to build the organisational and management capacity of MCR to fulfil its mandate. The project involves: (i) training for staff in the ministry and other public organisations dealing with minorities and returns; (ii) organisational development and (iii) strengthening service-oriented management systems and processes within the Ministry.
Multi-sector returns projects (€ 16.7 million)	2004 - 2008	Implementation of multi-sector organised group return and resettlement projects, including housing reconstruction, small-scale infrastructure repairs, grants for business start-ups, food and non-food items, promoting inter-ethnic dialogue and integration, community development, and legal assistance for returnees. Some 600 families, mainly RAE and Serb, have returned to their place of origin as a result of this programme. This includes support for the return of Roma to the Roma Mahalla district in Mitrovicë/a. Returns projects are designed and implemented in coordination with MCR, UNMIK and municipal administrations and implemented by international NGOs. Further projects to support returns to Peja/Pec, Kline/a, Istog/k municipalities were launched in early 2007.
Housing reconstruction (€ 7 million)	1999 - 2003	Reconstruction of 959 houses for ethnic minority families (including 462 houses for RAE) as part of a wider housing reconstruction programme (reconstruction of 17,000 houses, mainly for Kosovo Albanians).
Targeted economic and community development actions in disadvantaged minority areas (€	2002 - 2012	At the end of May 2012, over 1,700 projects have been implemented by these programmes to improve the conditions of minority communities in Kosovo as well as for sustainable returns by contributing to job creation and the improvement of living conditions among the minority population. The projects mainly focus on socio-economic assistance for small family businesses (start-ups and

14.625 million)		expansion of existing ones), but also include the refurbishment of social, education and health infrastructure, and the strengthening of community services, including in areas where minority returns have taken place. Overall some 75% of the socio-economic assistance is disbursed to Serbian community, <u>some 15% to RAE communities</u> and the rest to other communities.
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The proposed projects will also link with the actions of other donors in the sector, notably the UK government funded project in Prizren municipality as well as the US government funded initiatives that support spontaneous return. The projects will also provide technical assistance and capital investment support to a number of municipalities.

In addition both projects will seek co-ordination and synergies with other ongoing EU-funded project namely EU-Community Stabilisation Programme phase II (EU-CSP II) as well as other projects in the fields of Public administration reform and municipal infrastructure investment.

The project will maintain good relationships with the OSCE municipal teams that have been assisting municipalities in the areas of Human Rights and Good Governance.

The MCR remains very committed to the proposed projects both financially and institutionally. MCR continuous to coordinate sector related policies and actions directly with respected municipal authorities and has indicated to contribute with co-financing.

Specific to Activity I:

This project represents a follow-on to the successful EU-MRSI I project conducted in collaboration between the EU Office in Kosovo, the Ministry of Communities and Returns (MCR), and the municipality of Mitrovicë/a. Co-financing by the EU and MCR allowed for the construction of new housing for 84 RAE families from Cesmin Lug and Osterode camps, provision of adequate health care and treatment, livelihood assistance to beneficiaries, and social services. The municipality of Mitrovicë/a allocated enough land in Roma Mahalla to resettle not only RAE families from Cesmin Lug and Osterode camps but also those currently living in Leposaviq/Leposavić. In addition since 2009, there is a Mitrovicë/a Local Steering Committee, comprised of different stakeholders including RAE leaders, which meets monthly to discuss RAE resettlement issues.

Specific to Activity II:

UNHCR as one of the main UN agencies in the field has been involved in providing protection, legal aid and overall monitoring of minority returns as well as emergency shelter repairs from 1999 to 2011. In particular during 2010-2011 UNHCR was involved in direct cooperation with the MCR in provision of full housing reconstruction assistance targeting various categories of persons of concern, including members of RAE communities.

The project will work closely with UNHCR offices in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro, with the central authorities in Kosovo as well as with the respective local authorities including the Municipal Office for Communities and Returns (MOCR).

2.6 LESSONS LEARNED

Activity I

MCR with its years of experience in working with returning IDPs, is well positioned to continue its efforts to now close Leposaviq/Leposavić camp and work with its residents there. The resettlement needs of the residents are constantly changing and require patience and listening ability. Reports indicate that regular interaction with camp leaders, including the leader from Leposaviq/Leposavić, and residents has greatly enhanced the knowledge of the many challenges associated with RAE resettlement.

Reintegration remains a challenge for RAE returnees particularly as concerns their livelihoods, given the high unemployment rates in the municipality of Mitrovicë/a. Nonetheless, with trainings, livelihood packages, short-term construction jobs, and contribution to employers willing to hire RAE workers, some families have found regular employment. In addition, under the EU-MRSI I project, working with school directors, health providers, legal offices for documents, and the Albanian receiving community to socially integrate the resettled families, has shown significant progress. These interactions and procedures to gain community support will serve as lessons learned for the EU-MRSI (II).

Experience has shown that the implementation of the action is rather difficult in the midst of political tensions and limited accessibility in North Kosovo. Therefore, it is proposed that the current implementing partner of the EU-funded project, Mercy Corps, who implemented the closure of Cesmin Lug and is still implementing the closure of Osterode camp, is selected to carry out this follow-up project. Mercy Corps been identified as the most suitable implementing partner in these particularly difficult circumstances due to its knowledge of the process, its political neutrality, the established cooperation with Mitrovicë/a municipality, their close and trustful working relationship with RAE leaders, and their substantial experience in return and resettlement projects.

Activity II

In the course of the decade, several donors have funded returns programmes in identified locations within Kosovo. While many returnees have found a durable solution and reintegrated in the Kosovo society, other return projects have demonstrated that housing alone is not sufficient for a sustainable return/reintegration. Socio-economic reintegration remains a challenge for returnee communities particularly considering high unemployment and lack of general investment in Kosovo. At the same time, continuous monitoring has indicated that families belonging to Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities show a very high rate of return and reintegration. Once returned they make full use of the assistance provided as they return with the entire family and seek to thrive in the existing Kosovo environment. The project will continue to look at the best ways to offer employment possibilities and income generation activities.

The lack of Kosovo civil status documentation is one of the constraints which affect mainly members of RAE communities. Especially vulnerable families with limited financial means and families whose members do not have a birth certificate (never registered) or whose members are not born in Kosovo experience limitations in the access to civil and civil status documents. Without proper civil registration documents the reintegration becomes more challenging as the returnees face problems in accessing basic human rights i.e. public services, education, health and social assistance. Therefore, this project will also assist the beneficiaries in registering and obtaining civil status documentation in order to ensure sustainable return and reintegration of RAE families targeted by this project.

3 DESCRIPTION

3.1 OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

To contribute to a stable multi-ethnic society in Kosovo by enabling the sustainable return and reintegration of RAE families

3.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE(S) OF THE PROJECT

- To close Leposaviq/Leposavić camp and enable the sustainable resettlement of up to 40 RAE families by ensuring economically productive, secure and healthy reintegration to Roma Mahalla or other locations.
- To enable a dignified and sustainable voluntary return and reintegration of up to 60 RAE families currently residing in informal settlements in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro through provision of housing and socio-economic support, as well as enhanced engagement of central and local governmental actors and other relevant stakeholders.

3.3 RESULTS

Activity I

Result 1:

Rights-based resettlement of up to 40 RAE IDP families on the basis of principles and procedures outlined in the newly revised Manual for Sustainable Return.

Result 2:

Improved health and healthy living environment for up to 40 resettled families in Roma Mahalla and other sites.

Result 3:

Improved income-generation opportunities for up to 40 returnee families and 6 receiving community families.

Result 4:

Increased access to basic social services such as education, civil registration and legal assistance provided for up to 40 returning RAE family beneficiaries.

Result 5:

Improved social and cultural environment to facilitate sustainable community development while facilitating sustainable and peaceful reintegration/reconciliation between returnees and receiving community.

Activity II

Result 1:

Equal access to rights and services for all beneficiaries of this project is ensured through provision of civil and civil status documents.

Result 2:

Based on a well informed decision, the voluntary return of up to 60 RAE displaced families and improvement of basic living conditions in their return locations has been facilitated.

Result 3:

Sustainability of the return and reintegration of up to 60 returnee families enhanced through provision of tailor-made socio-economic support and facilitation of interethnic dialogue between returning and receiving communities.

3.4 MAIN ACTIVITIES

Activity I

1. During the kick -off phase of the project, the implementing agency seeks to develop and obtain the following key documents to ensure maximum impact of planned activities:

- Establishment of Camp Working Group (CWG), including their scope or work
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the implementing agency and CWG.
- MoU signed between the implementing agency, the municipality of Leposaviq/Leposavić/q, and the regional UNMIK office.
- A series of MoU's signed between the implementing agency and the applicable municipalities where RAE families originated, to ensure support and sustainability during the process.

Technical assistance, on-the-job training, and mentoring will be provided to municipal authorities, to ensure that the process goes smoothly with the maximum positive impact for the community.

2. In technical terms this action will consist of multi-faceted interventions aimed at supporting a dignified and sustainable resettlement of up to 40 RAE families. Activities in different sectors (housing, income generation, community health, technical assistance for municipal authorities, social integration, etc) will be implemented in parallel:

Housing & Neighbourhood Infrastructure

Housing opportunities will be provided for resettling families based on the family size from 45 to 95m², following the Manual for Sustainable Returns (MSR) adopted by the MCR. This involves physical relocation of up to 40 families. The neighbourhood infrastructure will be also provided, as per municipality urban planning.

Community Health

Children from 0-6 years of age currently living in Leposaviq/Leposavić camp will undergo medical screening and blood lead level testing. Those identified with blood lead levels above 45 mg/dl will undergo treatment following the protocols adopted by the Ministry of Health. Community health education activities will be also be implemented, to encourage better diet and hygiene habits.

Livelihoods and Income Generation

Income generation assistance (materials not cash) will be provided to resettled families to generate family businesses. A member of the family will undergo business development trainings to create an appropriate business plan, based on market needs and beneficiary capability. Guidance will also

be provided throughout the life of the project. Apprenticeships, internships and vocational education opportunities will be provided for beneficiaries.

Increase access to formal education

During implementation of the EU-MRSI (I), technical assistance was provided to primary schools in both northern and southern Mitrovicë/a. Three parent-teacher associations were established as part of the project and they continue to meet regularly. It is anticipated that the majority of children resettling from Leposaviq/Leposavić camp to Roma Mahalla will continue with their education in Serbian schools in northern Mitrovicë/a. The project will provide assistance to all vulnerable children attending school in the form of stipends, educational materials (notebooks, pencils, etc). Further technical support will be provided to schools and the parent-teacher associations, as necessary.

Legal Support

Legal assistance, particularly in obtaining personal documentation (from the GoK), will be provided to resettled families. Legal assistance on property issues will also be provided, as necessary.

Conflict mitigation, negotiation and advocacy

The project will implement community outreach, disseminate information, facilitate open community meetings for constructive dialogue, conduct joint trainings for returnee and receiving communities, and implement community development through joint social activities.

Activity II

Activity 1

- 1.1 Support municipal authorities in the organization and facilitation of information visits through 8 Go and See Visits (104 participants)
- 1.2 Support and assist the municipal authorities in the beneficiary selection process and allocation of public land for the landless cases, following the standard beneficiary selection procedure as stipulated in the MCR's Return Guidelines.
- 1.3 Support municipal authorities in facilitating pre-return meetings and events for the receiving community.
- 1.4 Support the beneficiaries in obtaining civil and civil status documentation.

Activity 2

- 2.1 Support the beneficiaries in obtaining land and related documentation (i.e. right of use) for construction of housing by working closely with Kosovo's central and local authorities.
- 2.2 Construction or rehabilitation of 60 returnees' dwellings (individual or social housing).
- 2.3 Support authorities in the voluntary return of 60 families to Kosovo, and provision of standardised Return Package (food, non-food items, and furniture).

Activity 3

- 3.1 Advise and assist municipal authorities in ensuring that all returnees have access to basic infrastructure, including water, electricity and sewage.

3.2 Design and deliver tailor-made economic sustainability packages focused on skills development and income generation activities.

3.3 Facilitate interethnic dialogue between returning and receiving community

3.4 Monitor the overall reintegration process.

All activities will be coordinated closely with relevant stakeholders in Kosovo, Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia dealing with return/reintegration issues.

3.5 ASSESSMENT OF PROJECT IMPACT, CATALYTIC EFFECT AND CROSS BORDER IMPACT (WHERE APPLICABLE)

Activity I

Considering the successful implementation of EU-MRSI I and the good relationships established with key stakeholders such as municipalities and community leaders, it is anticipated that the phase two of EU-MRSI will have a significant impact. An assessment conducted by UNHCR in 2012 indicated that the majority of families wished to resettle to Roma Mahalla in Mitrovicë/a municipality.

The project is fully aligned with the government strategies and action plans with increased inter-institutional cooperation. The involvement of local and central government authorities in the project is very significant for its success. Its activities will continue to coordinate with government and international actors (including UNHCR, OSCE, WHO, UNICEF and KFOR) as well as civil society to ensure coherence, partnership and a fully inclusive approach.

Of a particular importance is the involvement of Mitrovicë/a municipality health authorities which will lead, supervise and monitor health-related activities, in particular medical testing and treatment of lead affected beneficiaries. This has been a cornerstone of successful health intervention during the resettlement of RAE beneficiaries from Cesmin Lug and Osterode camps.

Activity II

Drawing from the experience of similar activities undertaken in Kosovo since 1999 that proved to be successful, the impact of the project is expected to result in the sustainable return and reintegration of RAE families. A direct involvement of central government institutions and ministries will improve the coordination between the central and local government.

This project will be fully aligned with the government-led strategy cascading down with the MCR Strategy for Communities and Returns thus contributing to the overall efforts in increasing the involvement of central and local authorities in the return process, promote tolerance and human rights and effective participation of minorities in socio-economic development of Kosovo.

The project activities will continue to be conducted in close coordination with government and international actors (including UNHCR, UNKT, OSCE, and KFOR) as well as civil society to ensure coherence, partnership and a participatory and inclusive approach.

There will also be close co-operation with government bodies and organizations in the region, particularly with the Republic of Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to

foster the cross-boundary dimension of the return process. The project will also link to EU initiatives at the regional level that facilitate the wider return process in the Western Balkans.

This project will contribute to the humanitarian aspect of RAE families, it will contribute to decreasing the protracted number of displaced persons and to the eventual closure of informal settlement in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro.

Both these projects will help reduce the impact of the discrimination against the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians communities and will boost the ongoing efforts of peace-building initiated by the government of Kosovo and its partners in the proposed areas of return. For the property-less displaced persons, this project will address their property related problems and provide them with an adequate housing solution.

3.6 SUSTAINABILITY

Activity I

MCR remains committed to fulfilling its mandate within the returns/resettlement process, and will be fully involved in the project. This creates a sense of ownership and responsibility in the resettlement process. MCR has confirmed that it will co-finance the action with € 170,000.

In addition, municipal authorities will allocate land for the construction of housing, and commit to assist during the implementation of the proposed action and the integration process. Investment commitment from two key authorities is likely to ensure future interest and thus sustainability of the long term social integration of RAE. Of a particular importance for sustainability of the project is the involvement of municipal authorities in facilitating access to health, social services and education needs for RAE resettled families, which has been very well supported in the current EU-MRSI project and will continue in phase II.

The comprehensive approach of the project, incorporating housing, health, education, economic development, social integration and capacity building, has been specifically designed to foster a long-term sustainable solution for the overall livelihoods of the beneficiaries.

Activity II

The experience of MCR and its partners in past returns projects in Kosovo has proved successful by *a)* establishing a climate of trust between the receiving and the returnee communities and *b)* identifying those displaced persons and refugee families who are fully committed to come back and remain in Kosovo for a successful return project.

The MCR is in the process of signing agreements with relevant institutions in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro to facilitate the return of its citizens to Kosovo which further proves the commitment and intention of the Kosovo government to the return process. In addition, the MCR has considerably increased inter-action and cooperation with municipal authorities dealing with return related activities and has committed €0.2 million co-financing for the implementation of this project.

A key advantage for MCR in this type of cross-boundary activities is its close cooperation with UNHCR in Kosovo while the latter also has an extensive presence in the field and in the countries of displacement.

To this end, UNHCR Kosovo will closely coordinate with its offices in Montenegro and in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia during all stages of the project in order to facilitate and expedite communication with potential beneficiaries and organisations present in the field. Furthermore, UNHCR has very close cooperation with authorities and the displaced RAE beneficiaries as well as very close cooperation with MCR and concerned municipalities on all issues of return and protection of minority rights, which will further support the sustainability of this project.

3.7 ASSUMPTIONS AND PRE-CONDITIONS²

Activity I

Main assumptions of the projects are:

- Availability of land in municipalities in Kosovo to accommodate families originating from those respective areas prior to the 1999 conflict, other than Mitrovicë/a municipality which has already clearly expressed readiness to accommodate RAE families.
- The political situation in northern Kosovo (including Leposaviq/Leposavić) remains reasonably stable and does not deteriorate to the point where the project is delayed.
- Families agree to resettle to Roma Mahalla – Mitrovicë/a municipality and other locations of their choice
- The municipality's commitment to reintegration is not affected by municipal elections in 2013.

Main preconditions of the project are:

- MCR, Mitrovicë/a municipality and other potential municipalities agree to participate in the project.
- Up to 40 minority and 6 majority families agree to participate in the project.

Activity II

Assumptions:

- Prevalence of positive attitudes of the displaced to return and remain in Kosovo.
- Ability and willingness of the municipal institutions to provide equal access to basic rights and services
- Security situation remains conducive to sustainable return of minorities.
- Beneficiaries are willing to be engaged in income generation activities.
- Willingness of the receiving community to engage the beneficiaries in the community and social activities.

² Assumptions are external factors that have the potential to influence (or even determine) the success of a project but lie outside the control of the implementation managers. Such factors are sometimes referred to as risks or assumptions but the Commission requires that all risks shall be expressed as assumptions. Pre-conditions are requirements that must be met before the sector support can start.

- Continued cooperation between central and local authorities, MCR and UNHCR.

Main preconditions that are considered to be critical for the success of this project:

- Bilateral agreements are signed between Kosovo and Montenegro, between Kosovo and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia specifying the modalities of cooperation and coordination for the return of RAE communities to Kosovo.
- Coordinated effort between the central and municipal government, and the international community to secure land for construction of houses for returnees.
- Meaningful involvement of the Kosovo authorities in gaining ownership over this return project and in contributing to the overall success and sustainability of the project.

4 IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

Activity I

Considering the complexities and political situation in North Kosovo, it is proposed that the current implementing partner of the EU-funded project, Mercy Corps, who successfully implemented the closure of Cesmin Lug and is currently implementing the closure of Osterode camp, will carry-out the continuation of this project. Due to their in-depth knowledge of the preceding return and resettlement projects, their excellent cooperation with Mitrovicë/a municipality and the established working relationship with RAE leaders, Mercy Corps is particularly suited for the implementation of this particular project in the given situation.

For these reasons and in accordance with Article 168(1)(b) Financial Regulation IR, the EU Office will sign a grant contract of € 1.53 million with Mercy Corps by means of a direct award for the implementation of this action.

Activity II

Considering the long-lasting involvement of UNHCR in minority rights, protection and returns issues as well as their specific inter-action with RAE displaced families in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro, UNHCR is best placed to implement this project. UNHCR has been chosen as the implementing organisation for this project due to (i) its presence and experience in Kosovo, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro which enables it to successfully conduct cross border activities, (ii) its very close cooperation with authorities and RAE beneficiaries in displacement, (iii) its participation in discussions on inter-governmental agreements between Kosovo and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia respectively, (iv) its close cooperation with the MCR and concerned municipalities on all issues of return and protection of minority rights.

For these reasons and in accordance with Article 53d of the Financial Regulation, the EU Office will sign a Contribution Agreement of € 1.8 million with UNHCR for the implementation of this action.

4.1 INDICATIVE BUDGET

Indicative Project budget (amounts in EUR)

PROJECT TITLE			SOURCES OF FUNDING									
			TOTAL EXPENDITURE	IPA CONTRIBUTION		BENEFICIARY CONTRIBUTION					PRIVATE CONTRIBUTION	
	IB (1)	INV (1)	EUR (a)=(b)+(c)+(d)	EUR (b)	% (2)	Total EUR (c)=(x)+(y)+(z)	% (2)	Central EUR (x)	Regional/ Local EUR (y)	IFIs EUR (z)	EUR (d)	% (2)
Activity 1												
contract 1.1 (grant contract)	X		1.7	1.53	90							
parallel co-financing	X					0.17	10					
Activity 2												
contract 2.1 (Contribution agreement)	X		2.0	1.8	90							
parallel co-financing	X					0.2	10					
TOTAL IB			3.7	3.33	90	0.37	10					
TOTAL INV												
TOTAL PROJECT			3.7	3.33	90	0.37	10					

NOTE: DO NOT MIX IB AND INV IN THE SAME ACTIVITY ROW. USE SEPARATE ROW

Amounts net of VAT

(1) In the Activity row, use "X" to identify whether IB or INV (2) Expressed in % of the **Total** Expenditure (column (a))

4.2 INDICATIVE IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE (PERIODS BROKEN DOWN BY QUARTER)

Contracts	Start of Tendering/Call for Proposals	Signature of contract	Project Completion
Contract 1.1 – Activity I	Q2 2013	Q2 2013	Q2 2015
Contract 2.1 – Activity II	Q2 2013	Q2 2013	Q2 2015

4.3 CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

4.3.1 *Equal Opportunities and non discrimination*

Gender issues shall be actively mainstreamed throughout both projects within both target institutions/organisations and activities/outputs.

At municipal level, decision making processes shall take place in full consultation with RAE IDPs and refugees (both men and women, and particularly displaced minority women). Efforts shall be made to further empower gender focal points already established within municipalities.

Special efforts will be made to engage women on different issues such as hygiene and diet for children and will also work with the same to engage them on different skills development programmes such as tailoring but will also advice the same to take courses on reading and writing.

Socio-economic measures will be tailored to equally take into consideration the specific needs of male and female beneficiaries.

4.3.2 *Environment and climate change.*

Environmental issues shall be actively mainstreamed throughout both projects. Project staff shall include a short-term environmental specialist to define environmental protection strategies and ensure close follow-up throughout project life.

In line with the EU EIA Directive, any work involving the reconstruction of dwellings and medium water supplies, and the upgrading or construction of rural roads may require an Environmental Impact Assessment. Care will also be taken to ensure that so far as possible construction techniques and materials are environment friendly. Particular attention shall be given to the disposal of waste construction materials.

Disaster resilience and risk prevention and management should be integrated in the planning, preparation and implementation of projects.

4.3.3 *Minorities and vulnerable groups*

Both projects primarily targets RAE minority families willing to return to their place of origin or integrate in their place of displacement in Kosovo. Kosovo's Constitutional Framework provides for protection of linguistic rights and both projects will, wherever necessary, make

use of different community languages. Members of RAE communities remain the most vulnerable and marginalise group of communities in Kosovo. Tailored measures / positive actions shall be considered to counteract the high level of discrimination these communities are exposed to.

Since 2003 a system of “fair share” has been in use at municipal level, whereby a set percentage of the municipal budget should be spent directly on the minority communities. This aspect shall be taken into consideration by the project when negotiating with municipalities their co-financing contribution to the project budget.

4.3.4 *Civil Society/Stakeholders involvement*

Involvement of civil society has been an integral part of previous EU-funded return related projects and will continue to remain so under both proposed projects. Civil society organisations provide assistance in cross-border cooperation, inter-ethnic dialogue facilitation, and community outreach, information dissemination, conducting joint trainings for returnee and receiving communities, and implementing community development through joint social activities.

ANNEXES

- 1. Log frame**
- 2. Description of Institutional Framework**
- 3. Reference list of relevant laws and regulations only where relevant**
- 4. Details per EU funded contract(*) where applicable**
- 5. Project visibility activities**

ANNEX 1: Logical framework matrix in standard format

LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Fiche		Project title and number		Return and Reintegration of Minority Communities: 04 - 2013 / 02
		Contracting period expires three years after the conclusion of the Financing Agreement.		Execution period expires two years after the final date for contracting.
		Total budget:	€ 3.7 million.	
		IPA budget:	€ 3.3 million.	
Overall objective	Objectively verifiable indicators (OVI)	Sources of Verification		Assumptions
To contribute to a stable multi-ethnic society in Kosovo by enabling the sustainable return and reintegration of RAE families.	<p>I. Leposaviq/Leposavić Camp is closed and uninhabited.</p> <p>II. Number of RAE displaced persons and refugees that have voluntarily returned to Kosovo has increased.</p>	<p>Leposaviq/Leposavić Camp demolished.</p> <p>EU Progress Report on Kosovo.</p> <p>Statistics and reports prepared by the Ministry of Communities and Return.</p> <p>Municipal monitoring reports.</p> <p>Data from UNHCR Offices in Kosovo, Montenegro and former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.</p>		RAE leaders and community members play a constructive and active role in the resettlement plan implementation.
Specific objective	Objectively verifiable indicators (OVI)	Sources of Verification		Assumptions

<p>- To close Leposaviq/Leposavić camp and enable the sustainable resettlement of up to 40 RAE families by ensuring economically productive, secure and healthy reintegration to Roma Mahalla or other locations.</p> <p>- To enable a dignified and sustainable voluntary return and reintegration of up to 60 RAE families currently residing in informal settlements in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro through provision of housing and socio-economic support, as well as enhanced engagement of central and local governmental actors and other relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>1. # of RAE families resettled from Leposaviq/Leposavić IDP camp.</p> <p>1. 60 RAE displaced and refugee families have voluntary returned and reintegrated in Kosovo.</p> <p>2. At least 42 returned RAE families remain in situ after 12 months (70%).</p>	<p>Signed TPAs and Certificates of Completion confirming that IDPs received keys of the house.</p> <p>EU Progress Report on Kosovo, Statistics and reports prepared by the Ministry of Communities and Return, Municipal monitoring reports, External Evaluation, UNHCR Statistics, Interim and Final reports.</p>	<p>1.The political and security environment remains stable and conducive for return of IDPs and refugees from minority communities. 2. Central and municipal authorities and other local stakeholders maintain and are willing to increase involvement to accomplish sustainable resettlement. 3. Camp residents will be willing to move away from the camp to resettle and reintegrate into Roma Mahalla in the South of Mitrovicë/a or other realistic location of their choice within Kosovo.</p> <p>1. Prevalence of a positive attitude of refugees and IDPS to return to Kosovo.</p> <p>2. Close cooperation with the selected municipalities and coordination with other actors involved.</p> <p>3. Willingness of municipalities to allocate appropriate land in a timely manner for landless RAE, and</p> <p>34. Receiving community demonstrates positive attitude towards RAE return.</p>
<p>Results</p>	<p>Objectively verifiable indicators (OVI)</p>	<p>Sources of Verification</p>	<p>Assumptions</p>
<p>Activity I</p> <p>Result 1: Rights-based resettlement of up to 40 RAE IDP families on the basis of principles and procedures</p>	<p>1.1# living units constructed or renovated</p>	<p>Signed Resettlement Statements, final</p>	<p>1. RAE parents will allow testing and subsequent treatment for lead poisoning</p>

<p>outlined in the Manual for Sustainable Return.</p> <p>Result 2: Improved health and healthy living environment for up to 40 resettled families in Roma Mahalla and other sites.</p> <p>Result 3: Improved income-generation opportunities for up to 40 returnee families and 6 receiving community families.</p> <p>Result 4: Increased access to basic social services such as education, civil registration and legal assistance provided for up to 40 returnee RAE family beneficiaries.</p> <p>Result 5: Community development activities mitigate the potential for conflict and facilitate sustained, peaceful reintegration and reconciliation between returnees and receiving community.</p> <p>Activity II</p> <p>Result 1:</p> <p>Equal access to rights and services for all beneficiaries of this project is ensured through provision of civil and civil status documents.</p>	<p>for camp residents.</p> <p>2.1. % of RAE children, ages 0 - 6, that completed treatment for lead poisoning shows 10% decrease blood lead levels (disaggregated by age and gender).</p> <p>3.1 # of income generation grants provided for families, vocational trainings, apprentices/ internships opportunities provided.</p> <p>4.1 % of school-age children continuing attending formal school classes following resettlement, personal documents provided to those 'resettled.</p> <p>5.1 # of joined activities held between benefiting and receiving community on social integration, advocacy, and conflict mitigation.</p> <p>1.1 Information provision activities target approximately 300 individuals.</p> <p>1.2 Up to 60 families of minority displaced and refugees have made a free and well-informed decision to return voluntarily.</p> <p>1.3 Physical return of up to 60 RAE displaced and refugee families facilitated and humanitarian needs of the returnees met upon arrival and sustained for 6</p>	<p>technical acceptance by technical committee.</p> <p>Roma Mahalla Ambulanta & Main Family Medicine Center medical records, BLEMs database.</p> <p>Beneficiaries develop business plans and grants are provided.</p> <p>Beneficiary Selection List.</p> <p>Beneficiary Evaluation Form.</p> <p>Tripartite agreements.</p> <p>UNHCR and partners monitoring reports.</p>	<p>for their children.</p> <p>2. Medical staff at health clinics, the municipal department of health and the RAE community will continue on the prescribed paths of long-term treatment plans for recovery from lead poisoning.</p> <p>1. Continued interest of beneficiaries in sustainable voluntary return and reintegration.</p> <p>2. Security situation conducive to sustainable return.</p> <p>3. Willingness of local authorities and service providers to collaborate and cooperate.</p> <p>4. Willingness of municipalities to allocate appropriate land in a timely manner for landless RAE.</p>
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<p>Result 2: Based on a well informed decision, the voluntary return of up to 60 RAE displaced families and improvement of basic living conditions in their return locations has been facilitated.</p> <p>Result 3: Sustainability of the return and reintegration of up to 60 returnee families enhanced through provision of tailor-made socio-economic support and facilitation of interethnic dialogue between returning and receiving communities.</p>	<p>months.</p> <p>1.4 All returnee families are in possession of civil and civil status documentation (i.e. birth registration certificates, marriage certificates, ID cards, etc.).</p> <p>2.1 All returnee families are in possession of property documentation (i.e. right of use for the land allocated by the municipality).</p> <p>2.2 Access to basic services for up to 60 families is improved (i.e. health, education, etc.).</p> <p>2.3 Interethnic dialogues between returning and receiving community.</p> <p>3.1 Up to 60 reconstructed dwellings (individual or social housing) for returnee families completed with all necessary infrastructure components.</p> <p>3.2 Up to 60 returnee families receive business counselling, and are supported through agricultural inputs, income-generation grants and/or vocational trainings.</p> <p>3.3 Access to basic services for up to 60 families improved.</p>	<p>Interview/assessments with beneficiaries.</p> <p>UNHCR and partners monitoring reports.</p> <p>Implementing Agency and Municipal Progress Reports.</p> <p>Interviews/assessments with beneficiaries.</p> <p>Tripartite Agreements.</p> <p>Certificates of Completion.</p> <p>Economic development database.</p> <p>Agreements and MOUs of beneficiaries.</p> <p>Municipal Monitoring and evaluation reports.</p>	<p>1. Support from central and local authorities and relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>1. Beneficiaries are willing to acquire basic skills and local conditions exist for suitable income generation activities.</p> <p>2. Willingness of beneficiaries to engage in the community and social activities.</p> <p>3. Support from central and local authorities and relevant stakeholders.</p>
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Activities to achieve results	Means / contracts	Costs	Assumptions
<p>Activity I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support families in signing resettlement agreement. - Construction of row houses and corresponding infrastructure and facilitate physical relocation of families from Leposaviq/Leposavić to Roma Mahalla or other locations. - Facilitate and support existing mechanisms of Steering Committee and Task Forces around the resettlement of IDPs from Leposaviq/Leposavić. - Revise existing memorandum of understanding between Mercy Corps, the community and Mitrovicë/a municipality. - Medical screening of children upon resettlement and treatment of those displaying elevated blood lead levels. - Income generation opportunities through provision of individual business grants. - Provision of apprenticeship/internship opportunities, including vocation education. - Short term jobs opportunities for beneficiaries through construction of row houses. - Coordinate with municipality and other actors to increase attendance of RAE children to schools. - In collaboration with contracted lawyer and municipal authorities provide legal support to beneficiaries to obtain personal documentation. 	<p>EU: Grant Contract with Mercy Corps</p> <hr/> <p>MCR: Contract with Mercy Corps.</p>	<p>IPA funding: One grant contract: € 1.53 million</p> <hr/> <p>Co-financing: one contract: € 0. 17 million.</p> <hr/> <p>Total Action: € 1.7 million.</p>	<p>1. Representation from the municipality, international stakeholders such as UNHCR, OSCE, DRC, local NGOs, camp representative are willing to continue their support and participation in the Local Steering Committee, devoting real time and action to the reintegration of RAE community from Leposaviq/Leposavić camp.</p>

<p>- Conduct joint social integration projects, between benefiting and receiving communities.</p> <p>Activity II</p> <p>Activity 1</p> <p>1.1 Support municipal authorities in the organization and facilitation of information visits through 8 Go and See Visits (104 participants)</p> <p>1.2 Support and assist the municipal authorities in the beneficiary selection process and allocation of public land for the landless cases, following the standard beneficiary selection procedure as stipulated in the MCR's Return Guidelines.</p> <p>1.3 Support municipal authorities in facilitating pre-return meetings and events for the receiving community.</p> <p>1.4 Support the beneficiaries in obtaining civil and civil status documentation.</p> <p>Activity 2</p> <p>2.1 Support the beneficiaries in obtaining land and related documentation (i.e. right of use) for construction of housing by working closely with Kosovo's central and local authorities.</p> <p>2.2 Construction or rehabilitation of 60 returnees' dwellings (individual or social housing).</p> <p>2.3 Support authorities in the voluntary return of 60 families to Kosovo, and provision of standardised Return Package (food, non-food items, and furniture).</p> <p>Activity 3</p> <p>3.1 Advise and assist municipal authorities in ensuring</p>	<p>EU: Contribution Agreement with UNHCR.</p> <p>MCR: Contract with UNHCR.</p>	<p>One Contribution Agreement: € 1.8 million.</p> <p>Co-financing: one Contract: € 0.2 million.</p> <p>Total Action: € 2.0 million.</p>	<p>MCR and municipalities are equipped and staffed to carry out project tasks.</p>
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that all returnees have access to basic infrastructure, including water, electricity and sewage.

3.2 Design and deliver tailor-made economic sustainability packages focused on skills development and income generation activities.

3.3 Facilitate interethnic dialogue between returning and receiving community

3.4 Monitor the overall reintegration process.

ANNEX 2: Description of Institutional Framework

The return process in Kosovo is originally established under UNMIK/ORC and later followed-up by UNMIK/OCRM.

The MCR was formally established in March 2005 and since then has encountered problems endemic to any new central governmental institution. However the MCR has continued to build its capacities and today has entirely assumed a role of policy-maker, policy-coordinator and overseer of implementation across governmental institutions and nongovernmental partners.

The government of Kosovo has approved the MCR Strategy for Communities and Returns (2009-2013) and the latest Guidelines for the Implementation of Return Support leading policy documents in the return process.

Project Steering Committee for this project should be comprised by all relevant stakeholders, including Ministry of Communities and Return, MLGA, EU Office in Kosovo, and other stakeholders identified during the inception phase of the project and as deemed necessary.

ANNEX 3: Reference list of relevant laws and regulations only where relevant

- The MCR Strategy for Communities and Returns (2009-2013).
- Guidelines for the Implementation of Return Support.
- Revised Manual for Sustainable Return.
- Strategy for the Integration of RAE Communities in Kosovo 2009-2015.

ANNEX 4: Details per EU funded contract(*) where applicable:

Contract 1.1/Activity I: 1 Grant contract of € 1.53 million through direct grant award procedure.

Contract 2.1/Activity II: 1 Contribution Agreement of €1.8 million.

ANNEX 5: Project visibility activities

The European Union Office in Kosovo has developed clear visibility guidelines and ensures that all projects which are implemented in Kosovo are fully in line with these guidelines. Project visibility is also clearly stipulated in all contractual documents whereby the contractors/implementers are obliged to adhere to all EU visibility requirements.

A detailed plan of visibility actions will be defined mainly during the inception phase of both projects, in close coordination between the Contracting authority, the contractor and the beneficiary institutions.