



Project Partners

Serbian Ministry of Health

Vitro Group d.o.o.

Facts and Figures

- EU contribution: € 9 million
- Duration: January - December 2009
- 252 ambulances for 120 health centres across the country
- Project implemented by Preduzece za uvoz i Prodaju Motornih Vozila Vitro Group d.o.o. Beograd

Socio-economic development

New Ambulances for Health Centres

"Our medical center in Pozarevac received two cars. It might not sound like much, but to us it was a tremendous asset. The chance to work with modern emergency equipment was a big thing for us. Thanks to this donation, we manage to respond better to patients' requests and to give them the medical service they deserve and have a right to."

Srecko Botic, Director of Pozarevac General Hospital



Context

The reform of the health sector is a national priority for the Serbian government on its path towards EU membership. Within the health sector, the Emergency Medical Service needed urgent reform. According to the Ministry of Health, in 2009 Serbia had only 148 ambulances, with most of them in service for over 20 years. This created direct risks for patients. The EU purchased 252 additional vehicles, helping to meet most of Serbia's need for modern ambulances as assessed by the Ministry of Health.

Objectives

- Help the Serbian Emergency Medical Service address the problem of insufficient suitably equipped ambulances.
- Reduce the risk to patients arising from being transported in unsafe vehicles.
- Reduce the waiting time for patients in emergency situations.
- Improve access to adequate health care by providing ambulance cars to areas populated by national minorities, Roma and other underprivileged groups.
- Enable patients to receive emergency care before reaching a medical centre by supplying ambulances with additional equipment.

Impact

- Faster and better emergency medical services in Serbia.
- Increased overall access to health care for patients.
- Reduced waiting time for an ambulance in an emergency.