

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**  
**AN INITIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR BOSNIA AND**  
**HERZEGOVINA IN 2001**

**1. IDENTIFICATION**

<b>Beneficiary state:</b>	<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>
<b>Programme:</b>	<b>Council Regulation (EC) No.2666/2000</b>
<b>Year:</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>€37.3 million</b>
<b>Expiry date:</b>	<b>31.12.2003 contracting</b> <b>31.12.2004 disbursement</b>
<b>Sector:</b>	<b>AA</b>
<b>Group:</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Budget line:</b>	<b>B7-541</b>
<b>Implementing Body:</b>	<b>European Commission Delegation on behalf of the local authorities</b>

**2. SUMMARY**

Council Regulation (EC) n° 2666/2000 of 5 December 2000 provides a legal basis for the use of funds from the budget heading B7-541 under the CARDS Programme. Art. 2 of the Regulation stipulates that the Community assistance shall, inter alia, be for reconstruction, aid for the return of refugees and displaced persons, facilitating social development and strengthening the rule of law. This Financing Proposal responds to these objectives and makes specific provision for a first tranche of assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina of EURO 37.3 million for 2001.

This component consists of:

**Return - €37.3 million:** To support and sustain breakthrough (minority) and spontaneous returns, to assist the Property Legislation Implementation Plan, and to ensure the sustainability of return through the development of business and employment opportunities in return areas.

The slow return and re-integration of displaced persons and refugees remains one of the main obstacles to the restoration of political stability and the return to economic and social normality in Bosnia and Herzegovina. As long as hundreds of thousands remain displaced, recovery will be slow and inefficient. The capacity of the international community to provide a rapid and flexible response to support the return process has been challenged by the sheer volume of returnees.

This Programme is in line with the objectives defined in Annex 7 of the General Framework Agreement for Peace, the priorities identified by the Return and Reconstruction Task Force (RRTF), the analysis of the UNHCR<sup>1</sup>, and the "Agenda for Regional Action" of the Stability Pact<sup>2</sup>. Additional funding is required in 2001 to consolidate existing, and achieve additional sustainable returns.

**Maximum available: €37.3 Million**

<sup>1</sup> See statements of UNHCR Secretary General, Ms. Ogata, at the Humanitarian Issues Working Group of 11<sup>th</sup> September 2000.

<sup>2</sup> Adopted by the Steering Committee of the Stability Pact's Return Initiative on 11 June 2001.

### 3. BACKGROUND

According to the UNHCR figures released in March 2001, 4,026 minority returns were registered throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina in January 2001, more than double the number recorded in January 2000. This reflects the continuation of the increasing return trend established last year. In 2000, there was a considerable increase in minority returns and a number of significant breakthroughs particularly in Eastern Republika Srpska. Some 67,000 returns were registered during the year, double the number recorded in 1999. During 2000, the donor community committed funds to reconstruct or repair approximately 8,000 houses and apartments for returnees, to rehabilitate the supporting infrastructure and to provide support for the sustainability of these returns. However, there remain significant funding needs for those that are already in the process of returning and are awaiting assistance.

Approximately 518,000 people are registered with the UNHCR as still displaced within Bosnia and Herzegovina and according to the RRTF approximately 249,600 property repossession claims have been filed, of which 25% have been solved by April 2001. The implementation of the Property Legislation Implementation Plan initiated and imposed by the High Representative in October 1999 may lead to the relocation of at some 450,000 families, i.e. approximately half of the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The State Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees estimates that a further 300,000 refugees are still living abroad, and that the majority of the refugees are now located in the Former Republic of Yugoslavia (200,000) and Croatia (80,000). In view of the recent changes within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia the return issue now has a regional dimension, which is likely to increase over the next few years. According to available statistics<sup>3</sup> approximately 1.2 million people still remain displaced within the countries of former Yugoslavia as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2001 (excluding Kosovo). More than 60,000 people are currently living in collective accommodation in the region.

In order to take advantage of the momentum gained, in year 2001 the European Commission will continue supporting the return of Refugees and DPs with increased attention to regional cross-border issues in line with the recommendation from the Stability Pact - Regional Return Initiative.

The International Community is now starting to reap the fruits of its past efforts. From the political point of view the local authorities are for the first time becoming actively involved in the sector. In November 2000 the BiH Council of Ministers established the Return Fund under the responsibility of the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees. The Return Fund would not only provide the financial means to support the return of Refugees and DPs but also be part of the decision making process and co-ordinate all the return-related activities. Furthermore, in January 2001 a Protocol on Co-operation was signed between the Local Authorities (both at state and entity level), the UNHCR and the OHR (as co-chairs of the Reconstruction and Return Task Force) to identify the needs in the sector and set up priorities of intervention. At regional level and under the auspices of the Stability Pact Working Table I a co-ordination mechanism is being established between representatives from Croatia, BiH and FRY with the aim of (a) exchanging data on property repossession, (b) harmonising the property legislation, and (c) removing the remaining obstacles for return.

There is an urgent need for integrated assistance to the Return Sector in BiH in order to capitalise upon the increasing levels of spontaneous return, and to ensure that the assistance is **delivered before the winter arrives when building work is forced to stop**. Hence this programme has been prepared in advance of the formal approval of the Country Strategy Paper and the Multi-annual Indicative Programme by the Commission. However, the Programme is consistent with the principles identified in the CSP and the priorities elaborated within the MIP.

#### Legal and institutional framework

Annex 7 of the General Framework Agreement for Peace provides the basis for the implementation of programmes to support the return of Refugees and DPs. The international community, under the auspices of the Return and Reconstruction Task Force (RRTF), has subsequently introduced a number of initiatives designed to assist refugees and displaced persons to return to their original

places of residence and to provide them with a sustainable income stream. These initiatives have provided support for the reconstruction of housing, the rehabilitation of basic infrastructure, the creation of business and employment opportunities, and the provision of a physically safe and secure environment.

The RRTF has defined the following priorities for the year 2001:

- facilitate an increase regional **cross-border returns** from Croatia and FRY to BiH;
- support **breakthrough minority returns**;
- **consolidate returns** that have already taken place and remain unassisted;
- provide **flexible support** for spontaneous returns;
- support the **Property Law Implementation Plan (PLIP)**;
- establish programmes targeting the **sustainability of returns**.

In order to maximise the results of the Return Programme in 2001 and reduce the cost of reconstruction per housing unit (a) the self-help methodology might be incorporated into housing rehabilitation projects also to facilitate community development and contribute to improved occupancy rates and (b) lowered reconstruction standards are recommended.

The 2001 programme has been designed in close co-operation with the Reconstruction and Return Task Force which provide its members (OHR and UNHCR as co-chairs, CRPC, EC, German Govt., IMG, IOM, OSCE, SFOR, UNDP, UNMIBH, US Govt. and the World Bank) with a forum in which policies can be developed and activities co-ordinated aimed at ensuring the sustainable return and reintegration of Refugees and IDPs.

In November 2000, the BiH Council of Ministers established the "Return Fund", a state body led by the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees to co-ordinate all activities in the return sector. Representatives from the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees will be fully involved in the decision making process up to the awarding of contracts.

In January 2001 a Protocol on Co-operation was signed between the Local Authorities (both at state and entity level), the UNHCR and the OHR (as co-chairs of the Reconstruction and Return Task Force) to identify the needs in the sector and set up priorities of intervention.

In view of an International Community's medium term exit strategy, it is likely that the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees will take over the role of the RRTF in the year 2004.

In the de-mining sector, in January 2001 the Council of Ministers established a new De-mining Commission (the previous one was dismissed by the OHR) under the Ministry of Civil Affairs and Communications. This body shall take over the responsibility of co-ordinating all de-mining activities in close consultation with all donors.

## **4. PROGRAMMING CONTEXT**

### **4.1 The programme rationale**

This Programme builds upon and consolidates the achievements of previous Programmes financed under PHARE and OBNOVA in support of the return of refugees and displaced persons and of reforms in the judicial system.

### **4.2 The programming criteria**

The main programming criteria are:

- To provide assistance that can be contracted and absorbed quickly and efficiently;
- To ensure a sense of local "ownership" of the Programme, and in particular that it accords with the priorities established by the local authorities, the Reconstruction and Return Task Force and the international community;
- To ensure that the individual Programme components are mutually supportive of the primary goal of facilitating sustainable return, and that they are also consistent with the priorities and planned

interventions in other key Sectors: Economic Regeneration, Institution Building and Infrastructure Rehabilitation;

- To work closely with other donors in order to avoid duplication.

#### 4.3 Choice of sectors

The sectors have been chosen taking into account the immediate need for this assistance. Specifically for the return of refugees it is imperative not to miss the construction season of 2001.

### 5. PAST EC FUNDING

Past EC funding has been focused on infrastructure repair, sustainability measures and activities to facilitate the return of Refugees and Displaced Persons.

PROGRAMME	SUM (MEURO)	DESCRIPTION
Essential Aid (Phare 1996)	9	Integrated return projects
Europe for Sarajevo (Obnova 1996)	8	Reconstruction of housing and related infrastructure
Special Aid to Refugees (Obnova 1996)	26	Rehabilitation, monitoring and TA
Social Infrastructure and Housing (Phare 1997)	6	Integrated return projects and monitoring
Assistance to the Return of Refugees (Obnova 1997)	37	Housing credit schemes, integrated return projects, vocational training
1998 Integrated Return Programme (Obnova 1998)	111	Integrated return projects and sustainability measures
1999 Integrated Return Programme (Obnova 1999)	69	Integrated return projects and sustainability measures
2000 Integrated Return Programme (Obnova 2000)	53	Integrated return projects and sustainability measures

Since 1996, approximately Euro 319 million have been committed under both the PHARE and OBNOVA instruments through Integrated Return Programmes (IRP) to facilitate the return of refugees and displaced persons.

European Community funds have been used to implement sustainability measures, rehabilitate dwellings, basic utilities and social infrastructure. The total number of dwellings that will have been reconstructed with EC funds (ECHO and DG ER) is approximately 25,000 units. Additionally support has been provided by supporting Annex 6 and 7 GFAP institutions (e.g. CRPC, Benefits Commission) and by addressing civil society issues strictly related to return.

#### Donor Co-ordination

The responsibility for the overall co-ordination of international donor assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina lies with the Reconstruction and Return Task Force (RRTF) co-chaired by the OHR and UNHCR. The High Representative, who is selected by and accountable to the Peace Implementation Council, is the highest civil authority and is responsible for the implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace. The PIC Brussels Declaration (May 2000) reinforced the mandate of the OHR to provide political leadership and to ensure the co-ordination of donor activities.

This programme has been developed in close co-operation with the OHR/RRTF and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). It carefully takes into account the current and prospective activities of other donors in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly the programmes developed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and other bilateral donors, notably the EU Member States.

The programme also reflects the on-going discussions of the Working Table I of the Stability Pact, particularly with regards to the regional dimension of the assistance.

### 6. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The wider objectives of the Programme are:

- to contribute to national and regional stability;

- to support the implementation of Annex 7 of the General Framework Agreement for Peace, which guarantees the right to return;
- to support the implementation of the conditionality set out in the EU Road Map regarding the return process;
- to contribute to the establishment of the rule of law and the respect for minority rights.

The immediate objectives of the Programme are:

- to achieve an additional 14,000 sustainable returns of refugees and displaced persons to their pre war homes by:
  - supporting spontaneous return movements;
  - ensuring the sustainability of the return process by supporting, inter alia, the economic regeneration of return areas through the development of business and employment opportunities;
  - supporting the Property Legislation Implementation Plan through the provision of information relating to double occupancy and usage status of housing units reconstructed with funds donated by the international community;
  - providing a physically secure environment for the return of refugees and displaced persons.

## 7. ACTIVITIES

The assistance will be organised around four components

### 7.1 Housing Related Activities

#### *Justification*

In 2000, there was a considerable increase in minority returns and a number of significant breakthroughs in the return process. Some 67,000 returns were registered during the year, double the number recorded in 1999. During 2000, the donor community committed funds to reconstruct or repair approximately 8,000 houses and apartments for returnees, to rehabilitate the supporting infrastructure and to provide support for the sustainability of these returns. However, there remain significant funding needs for those that are already in the process of returning and are awaiting assistance.

#### *Scope of Work*

The activities of this programme component will cover sustainability and civil society measures, the reconstruction of housing and minor technical infrastructure works, and will be composed of two envelopes:

An Integrated Return Programme (IRP - 19 MEURO), the aim of which is to:

- (a) support and consolidate breakthrough (minority) and regional returns;
- (b) support the Property Legislation Implementation Plan and;
- (c) achieve sustainable returns.

A Flexible Reaction Mechanism (FRM - 11 MEURO), the aim of which is to:

- (a) support fresh spontaneous returns (no old caseloads);
- (b) support regional cross-border returns not identified in the IRP and;
- (c) support the Property Legislation Implementation Plan
- (d) achieve sustainable returns.

In the framework of the sustainability measures, job creation activities to stimulate economic regeneration and generate employment opportunities in return areas will be included in each project in close co-ordination with the Quick Impact Facility (see 2.2 below).

Additionally, in each project an amount has been set aside to strengthen the local capacities and address civil society issues strictly linked to the return process (access to education, etc.). For this purpose, all organisations implementing the IRP and FRM projects would enter into partnership agreements with local institutions and/or authorities.

## **7.2 Support to the sustainability of return**

### *Background and Justification*

Since 1999 the EC Delegation allocated 5.5 MEURO through Care International to establish and manage the Quick Impact Facility (QIF), the broad objective of which is to contribute to the sustainability of the refugee return process, mainly through the provision of support to business and employment creation activities.

The QIF provides grant funding and technical assistance to three principal groups:

- SMEs in refugee return areas;
- NPOs implementing sustainability measures in refugee return areas;
- Local governmental agencies involved in refugee return and economic regeneration activities.

The QIF is contributing to enterprise development and the creation of new employment opportunities through the adoption of an integrated approach of working together with SMEs, NPOs, local service providers and local municipalities. Furthermore, the QIF is playing an important catalytic role in difficult return areas where conventional market economy structures, such as banking facilities, are not available.

In order to sustain these activities, and to meet the increased demands arising from spontaneous returns 3 MEURO are allocated to this component.

### *Scope of Work*

The funds will be utilised for the following activities:

- Grant funds in support of enterprise development and employment generation;
- Technical assistance to SMEs, NPOs, and local governmental agencies.

## **7.3 Support to the Housing Verification and Monitoring Mission (HVM)**

### *Background and Justification*

Under the OHR umbrella, the Housing Verification and Monitoring Project originated from a pilot project implemented by World Vision and co-funded by ECHO and US Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration Affairs (BPRM). The goal of the project was to create a system of verification for housing units reconstructed with international donor funding along with a database to store and process the gathered information. The HVM project succeeded in creating a highly effective system of verification, which identifies empty reconstructed housing units and the beneficiaries of reconstruction projects who are double occupants. A double occupant refers to a reconstruction project beneficiary who is illegally utilising alternative properties and thereby preventing the return of the pre-war owner or usage right holder.

The HVM reports on empty houses and double occupants are turned over to the OHR Regional RRTF and to the municipal property commission charged with issuing evictions notices to double occupants. In many areas HVM information is the only reliable data on double occupants in a given municipality on which basis eviction notices can be issued.

The information supplied by HVM to the PLIP process is a pivotal and crucial factor in the successful implementation of the Property Legislation Implementation Plan. The HVM Project has been written into the formal text of the PLIP and the continuation of the HVM project has been identified by OHR as a high priority.

### *Scope of Work*

The HVM project consists of a Central Project Management Office located in Sarajevo, seven regional HVM offices in Banja Luka, Brcko, Mostar, Sarajevo, Travnik, Tuzla, Zenica, and Zagreb with sub-offices in Bihac, Drvar, and Pale. Based in these offices, HVM verification staff provide full coverage for the verification of reconstructed housing units and temporary address through Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The regional dimension of this programme component lies with the fact that Temporary Addresses located in Croatia are verified by HVM Zagreb staff (the funding for which is not included in this Financing Proposal) in co-ordination with housing verifiers in the Croatian Government Office of Displaced Persons and Refugees. Within the next three months an additional office will be set up in Belgrade to extend the exchange of information to the FRY.

HVM Verification Teams conduct field verification of reconstructed housing units and of the temporary addresses currently being used by non-returned beneficiaries and temporary addresses used by beneficiaries prior to return.

The HVM database generates relevant HVM reports on empty houses and on double occupant Beneficiaries and their family members. This information is sorted by the Municipality in which an empty housing unit is located for the Empty House reports and by the Municipality where an eviction of a double occupant needs to occur for Double Occupant reports. These reports contain only the information necessary in order to assist in the further allocation of a vacant housing unit or for an eviction.

#### **7.4 Support to de-mining activities**

##### *Background and Justification*

During 1997/1998 the Commission contracted two commercial companies to train and equip the Emergency Response Teams Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Mine Clearance Teams, respectively.

In April 1998 a MoU was signed between the Commission and Entity Governments that provided for and EOD and Mine Clearance capability to be established under the umbrella of the Entity Civil Protection Authorities, vehicles, equipment and trained personnel being available from the previous programme.

In September 1998, the Commission contracted the Humanitarian Organisation HELP Germany to undertake *Phase 1 of the UDT Sustainment Programme*. The primary aim of the programme is to fulfil the objective of the MoU for the "Creation of Sustainable Unexploded Ordnance Disposal Teams (UDT) in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska".

*Phase 2 of the UDT Sustainment Programme* started in 1999 with the aim of transferring the operational responsibility from HELP to the Civil Protection Authorities and was accomplished by September 2000. At Canton/Regional level, a network of mine clearance/EOD teams were available for live tasks and operations in support of the implementation of the Commission funded return projects. Furthermore by the end of Phase 2, the Civil Protection Authorities were independent government service reporting directly to the respective entity Prime Ministers and working in full co-ordination with the Commission for Demining and the Mine Action Centers.

The success of Phase 2 enabled the Commission to commence the *Phase 3 of the UDT Sustainment Programme* and establish in October 2000 direct agreements with the Civil Protection Authorities and further reduce the role of HELP to the Monitoring and Supervision.

This current proposal is to implement *Phase 4 of the UDT Sustainment Programme* by providing support (MEURO 3.3) to the two Civil Protection authorities for a period of 12 months, in line with the existing Civil Protection funding cycle, and to continue funding the monitoring and supervision activities. Given that the operational responsibility lies entirely with the Civil Protection Authorities, the aim of this last phase is achieve the insitutional and capacity building necessary to achieve a full integration of the Civil Protection Authorities with other institutions, including the Mine Action Centers. With the support of the Monitoring and Supervision Unit, the creation of a state, single coherent structure for de-mining in BiH will be encouraged in close co-operation with the State and Entity institutions (e.g. De-mining Commission) as well as the other key players in the sector.

##### *Scope of Work*

The programme will support the following specific activities:

- support to the Civil Protection authorities for a period of one year;
- financing of the Monitoring and Supervision Unit.

This programme will be monitored and supervised by the EC Delegation in Sarajevo who shall:

- a) monitor the implementation of the programme on the basis of regular reports;
- b) carry out regular monitoring and evaluations to follow the progress of the programme and its components as well as ex-post evaluations after the completion of the programme. In this task, the Delegation will be assisted by three units: Monitoring Support, the De-mining Supervision and Monitoring and the Housing Return Monitoring.

The accounts and operations of the programme components will be checked at intervals by an outside auditor contracted by the Commission without prejudice to the responsibilities of the European Commission, including the European Antifraud Office (OLAF) and the European Union's Court of Auditors.

## 8. BUDGET

Programme Component	Budget in MEURO
1. Housing and sustainability activities:	
<i>Integrated Return Programme</i>	19.0
<i>Flexible Reaction Mechanism</i>	11.0
Sub-total	30.0
2. Support to the sustainability of return	3.0
3. Support to the HVM	1.0
4. Support to de-mining activities	
<i>Support to the Civil Protection Authorities</i>	2.94
<i>Financing of the Monitoring and Support Unit</i>	0.36
Sub-total	3.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37.3</b>

## 9. INDICATIVE DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE (M € cumulated)

Sector	Dec 2001	June 2002	Dec 2002	June 2003	Dec 2003
Return	17.7	20.5	31.9	31.9	37.3

## 10. IMPLEMENTATION

### *General implementation arrangements*

The Programme will be implemented by the Delegation of the European Commission in Sarajevo on behalf of the local authorities, in close collaboration with the RRTF and the local authorities, particularly at State and Entity levels.

Full devolution will apply to the management of the Programme by the Delegation.

### *Selection of implementing partners*

#### Component 1

#### *The Integrated Return Programme (IRP)*

NGOs are invited to put forward project proposals on the basis of priority areas and guidelines specified in the Call for Proposals Dossier. An Evaluation Committee will evaluate project proposals and eventually make recommendations for funding. The whole procedure is fully in line with the Practical Guide to EC External Aid procedures.

#### *The Flexible Reaction Mechanism (FRM)*

NGOs, which have already successfully implemented complex return projects or have been ECHO Framework Partners, will forward to the Delegation project proposals to support spontaneous/regional returns or the implementation of the property legislation. On receiving proposals the Delegation will register them, keep in a safe place and make sure that no information on their content is disclosed to any third party. A Standing Assessment Committee, comprising representatives from the RRTF (UNHCR, OHR), the EC Delegation, the State Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees and the Association of Refugees and DPs will regularly meet. Priority areas, where significant spontaneous or regional returns are taking place or where there is a need to support the implementation of the property legislation will be identified. Received Project Proposals addressing the needs in one of the priority areas would then be brought before the Standing Assessment Committee and eventually recommended for funding. The technical and financial evaluation of recommended project proposals would be carried out by the Delegation. Priority areas identified by the Standing Assessment Committee will be kept confidential until the relevant contracts are signed.

#### Component 2

Following a Call for Proposals a Grant of External Aid contract will be signed for a duration of one year to implement this component.

#### Component 3

The OHR/Housing Verification and Monitoring Mission (HVM) implemented by World Vision is currently co-financed by ECHO, US BPRM and World Vision. Under the umbrella of the OHR, this is the only programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina that physically carries out random checks of the usage status of housing units for the purpose of supporting the implementation of the property legislation. A Grant for External Aid contract will be signed with World Vision.

#### Component 4

All de-mining activities will be contracted directly by signing Grant for External Aid contracts with the Entity Civil Protection Authorities (CPAs).

A Grant for External Aid contract for the supervision and monitoring of the activities carried out by the Civil Protection Authorities will be awarded following an International Call for Proposal.

## **11. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND AUDIT**

This programme will be monitored and supervised by the EC Delegation in Sarajevo who shall:

- a) Monitor the implementation of the programme on the basis of regular reports;
- b) Carry out regular monitoring and evaluations to follow the progress of the programme and its components as well as ex-post evaluation after the completion of the programme. In this task, the Delegation will be assisted by three units: Monitoring Support, the De-mining Supervision and Monitoring and the Housing Return Monitoring.

The accounts and operations of the programme components will be checked at intervals by an outside auditor contracted by the Commission without prejudice to the responsibilities of the European Commission, including the European Antifraud Office (OLAF) and the European Union's Court of Auditors.

## 8. RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

### *Risks*

The Programme will be implemented in a complex and fragile environment, and its successful completion will be dependent upon a number of conditions. The principal risks which may affect the implementation of the Programme:

- Political stability in the Country and in the region;
- The failure of the State and Entity Governments to fulfil their obligations under the General Framework for Peace and the Stability Pact, the conditions set out in subsequent Peace Implementation Councils, or the deadlines established by the High Representative;
- The unwillingness of local communities to work constructively and effectively towards the reintegration of returnees;
- The uncertainties surrounding the peace process within BiH, and the possibility that hostilities might be resumed in parts or the whole of BiH;
- The possibility that a new political or military crisis might erupt in the region, which might threaten the stability of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina, or might inhibit the inter-regional or cross-border co-operation necessary to ensure the safe return of refugees and displaced persons;
- The possibility that the international community might withdraw or reduce their financial support to BiH;
- The Recipients of the assistance lack the institutional, budgetary and human resource capacity to support the implementation of the Programme.

### *Assumptions*

This Programme is predicated on the assumption that the Governments of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its constituent Entities will:

- accept their responsibilities under the General Framework Agreement for Peace;
- work constructively to create the legislative, economic, social and security environment supportive of the return of refugees and displaced persons.

<i>INTERVENTION LOGIC</i>	<b>OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS</b>	<b>MEANS OF VERIFICATION</b>	<b>ASSUMPTIONS</b>
Overall Objectives			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Democratic stabilization in BiH and the region</li> <li>• Implementation of Annex 7 of the GFAP</li> <li>• Implementation of the EC Road Map</li> <li>• Contribution to the establishment of the rule of law and the respect for minority rights</li> </ul>			
<b>Specific Objectives</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return of Refugees and Displaced Persons</li> <li>• Promote regional returns</li> <li>• Sustainability of returns</li> <li>• Strengthen the capacity of the local institutions in the sector</li> <li>• Implementation of the Property Legislation Plan (PLIP)</li> <li>• Create a physically secure environment for return</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of the occupancy rate of rehabilitated dwellings on program completion and ex-post</li> <li>• Number of regional returns</li> <li>• Number of sustainable jobs for returnees</li> <li>• Capacity of the local institutions to take over responsibility in the sector</li> <li>• Number of successful property repossessions against the total number of filed claims</li> </ul>	EC Return Monitoring database; Housing Verification and Monitoring Mission database; Progress reports on the implementation of the sustainability measures; RRTF/PLIP statistics; Reports on de-mining activities.	
<b>Results</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About 2,500 dwellings repaired</li> <li>• Increased capacity of the local institutions to manage, co-ordinate and monitor the return process</li> <li>• New jobs for returnees created</li> <li>• Increased data on double occupancy by individuals which benefited from reconstruction programs but have not vacated the illegally occupied property</li> <li>• Clearance of mines and Unexploded Ordnance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of rehabilitated dwellings</li> <li>• Number of strengthened local institutions</li> <li>• Number of jobs created for returnees</li> <li>• Number of double occupancy cases identified</li> <li>• Areas de-mined and declared safe</li> </ul>	EC Return Monitoring database; Housing Verification and Monitoring Mission database; Progress reports on the implementation of the sustainability measures; RRTF/PLIP statistics; Reports on de-mining activities.	

Activities			
Return Programme consisting of : (a) housing and infrastructure repair, (b) capacity building of the local institutions, (c) sustainability measures (e.g. creation of jobs for returnees).	NPOs contracted in the framework of the Integrated Return Programme and the Flexible Reaction Mechanism	30 MEuro (19 MEuro for the Integrated Return Programme and 11 MEuro the Flexible Reaction Mechanism)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued co-operation by local authorities and satisfactory implementation of the PLIP</li> <li>- Continued application of positive and negative conditionality</li> </ul>
Financial support to the Quick Impact Facility (QIF)	Grant Funding	3 MEuro	
Financial support to the Housing Verification and Monitoring Mission (HVM)	Grant of External Aid Contract with World Vision	1 MEuro	
De-mining	Contract with the Civil Protection Authorities and the Monitoring and Supervision	3.3 MEuro	