

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Program Title:	Minority Returns
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	168-0311
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$3,856,000 AEEB
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$400,000 AEEB
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$2,500,000 AEEB
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2005

Summary: This USAID program assists minority returnees and displaced persons in returning to their homes, thus helping to re-establish a multi-ethnic society. USAID's program focuses on access to basic utilities and services, and on improving economic self-sufficiency for returnee families. As an integral part of institutional strengthening activities that were initiated in order to assist public utility companies, USAID continues to provide support in the restructuring of the energy sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Access to Basic Services (\$1,326,000 AEEB, \$200,000 AEEB carryover). USAID will use FY 2004 funds to benefit up to 1,000 households of minorities returning to their communities through the provision of basic services, such as water and electricity, and the reconstruction of schools. USAID will continue leveraging its resources by entering into partnerships with other donors or local authorities who will provide funds for housing reconstruction. The contractor is Parsons of Delaware (prime).

Improving Economic Self-Sufficiency (\$2,530,000 AEEB, \$200,000 AEEB carryover). In FY 2004 USAID will continue to provide economic opportunities to selected minority returnee communities throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. Targeted will be families that cannot avail themselves of any type of existing credit mechanisms. Strengthening of economic activities in returnee communities ensures the sustainability of those who have returned. In FY 2004, USAID will support approximately 2,000 returnee families with suitable aid, such as small grants or social loans. Additionally, 40 local communities and/or NGOs will be provided with adequate training for capacity building and community advocating. In FY 2004, USAID also will support returnee farmer groups engaged primarily in dairy production. This activity will demonstrate to returnees the benefits of collaboration and help them to organize themselves into an appropriate cooperative model. Agricultural cooperatives or associations will then be trained and assisted in business management, product development, and market linkages development. Grantee is Land O' Lakes.

FY 2005 Program:

Improving Economic Self-Sufficiency (\$2,500,000 AEEB). In FY 2005, USAID will request funds for the continuation of the improvement of economic opportunities for minority returnees. In FY 2005 USAID intends to build up the sustainability of the most vulnerable minority returnee families through the provision of appropriate income generation opportunities. FY 2005 implementers will be U.S. registered NGOs in cooperation with local NGOs. Currently, economic initiatives include provision of the loans and grants through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) and IRC (International Rescue Committee).

Performance and Results: USAID's support in re-establishing multi-ethnic society through facilitation of minority returns has exceeded its targets. The lives of more than 129,000 minority returnees were directly impacted through the provision of access to basic services, including electricity, water, schools, health centers, and roads/streets. Seven hundred and fifty families were directly impacted, representing one-

fifth of the total minority returns registered since 2000. Sustainability of those returns is ensured through provision of economic opportunities such as small grants and loans. To date, more than 1,950 families received some type of economic incentives that contributed to income generation. The grants/loans were provided for agriculture activities (75%), services (16%), production (5%) and trade (4%). One third of the total number of disbursed grants/loans was provided to women.