



# NATO/PfP Trust Fund Programme - Stories from the Field

## Mostar AoR Business Expansion



Business Expansion

Goran served in the military as a professional soldier for four years before his discharge in 2004. He is a single parent living with his young son in Nevesinje. Goran invested his severance payment in vocational training to become a certified plumber, and he worked with a partner to provide plumbing services for individual households or on sub-contracts with construction companies. Goran requested plumbing tools and equipment from NTF so that he could work more efficiently and bid for more complex jobs. Since receiving the assistance, Goran and his partner have obtained additional jobs with local companies, they doubled their income and they intend to make additional investments next year to further grow their business by 40% in 2009.

## Banja Luka AoR Business Expansion



Business Expansion

Stevo lives in Banja Luka with his wife and two daughters. He is an experienced car mechanic and after discharge in 2004 he invested his severance to purchase car repair tools and equipment and to refurbish his garage. However, as Stevo's business increased, he realized that his garage lacked sufficient ventilation to safely perform many of his most popular services such as weather protection (for car underbodies) and exterior painting. Stevo therefore was limited in the number of cars he could manage and the types of services he could provide. Stevo received a ventilation system from NTF, and since installing the system his business has increased by 30% with good prospects for further growth in the warmer months of 2009.

## Rajlovac AoR Business Expansion



Business Expansion

Hanas lives with his wife and two young children in Visoko. He has been laying ceramic tiles for more than five years and after his discharge in 2004 he started working with a partner to provide tile-laying services to individual households and construction companies in and around Visoko. From NTF, he received professional tile-laying tools and his business has grown considerably. He and his partner hire an additional employee on occasion to assist on big jobs. Both Hanas' partner and their employee are former military personnel (though not NTF beneficiaries). Since receiving the assistance, the partnership improved its cooperation with a major construction company which now regularly engages the partnership to lay tiles for terraces, bathrooms, kitchens and so forth. Hanas and his partner are saving a portion of their profits to invest in purchasing a new vehicle for the business.

## News from the Personnel Transition Support Unit (PTSU)

An MoD delegation comprised of Neđo Batinić and Hasret Turković, Expert Advisors from the PTSU, and LtC. Mirsad Ahmić, Head of Human Resources Management Dept. J1 AF of BiH, participated in the NATO-RACVIAC Conference and the 9th Working Group WG1 on Resettling Redundant Military Personnel, in Rakitje, Zagreb on December 15 - 18, 2008. The purpose of these events was to exchange views, experiences and lessons learned in the area of transition and resettlement of military personnel in the region, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as to introduce information on laws and regulations concerning transition of military personnel. Progress toward realizing the key transitional tasks of each participant country since the last session was presented as well.

Together with MoD BiH representatives, participants of the conference included representatives of the ministries of defence of Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, Albania, Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Rumania, Bulgaria, Germany, USA and Norway, as well as representatives from NATO, OSCE, IOM BiH, IOM Serbia and RACVIAC. Given that the majority of participants have extensive experience in the field of resettlement it was very useful to exchange individual experiences and receive additional information on specific resettlement projects in each particular country; the legal framework related to transition; the structure and functions of established transitional capacities; budget formulation; modes of cooperation with other state institutions; and so forth.

## Spotlight on Clusters

As part of its efforts to promote sustainability of assisted projects, NTF is working to link RPs to other RPs and to entrepreneurs in the area. In Nevesinje, for example, NTF hosted a “business lunch” with RPs who are engaged in metalwork projects as well as the director of a leading metalwork company in the region. In Bijeljina, NTF invited RPs to meet with representatives from the Craft Association to explore possibilities of joining the association and forming business clusters. Forty RPs participated in this event, which was also covered by media agencies (Arena TV, Slobomir TV and Semberske newspaper). A representative from the BiH Armed Forces in Bijeljina also attended the event. Similar activities are planned for early 2009 in Bihac and Prijedor.



*LtC Ahmić of BiH Armed Forces giving presentation at Conference*

Representatives of BiH were active participants at the Conference and, together with Ms. Regina Boucault, Chief of Mission IOM Sarajevo, presented the current situation and the implementation of activities by the NATO Trust Fund for BiH. The MoD BiH presented its future obligations relating to resettlement of up to 3000 military personnel whose contracts will not be renewed in 2010 due to age limitations and in accordance with the criteria for active service applicable in the MoD, article 101. Law on Service in AF BiH.

In that context, it was stated that the future responsibility of the MoD is to build its capacities to independently carry out the Policy of Transition and Resettlement of Redundant Personnel and to secure funds needed for the realization of the Transition and Resettlement Programme. The above described activities resulted from the continuous efforts and activities of MoD BiH on capacity building and strengthening of transitional capacities in accordance with NATO interoperability requirements.



*Media coverage of NTF cluster activities in Bijeljina*

# International Visit to NTF Field Offices

A delegation of representatives from the ministries of defence of Norway and Macedonia, NATO-Sarajevo, the BiH-MoD and IOM traveled to Mostar, Banja Luka and Rajlovac barracks / NTF field offices in January 2009. The delegation met with representatives of the Armed Forces of BiH in each location, the NTF field teams as well as non-governmental organizations that provide business and agricultural training to NTF beneficiaries; and visited NTF beneficiaries at their places of work.



Delegation visit at Mostar barracks

Donors  
Countries



December 2008 & January 2009 NATO/PfP Trust Fund Project for Assistance to Redundant Personnel in Bosnia and Herzegovina



Lead Nations



For more information on the NATO/PfP Trust Fund Programme,  
visit us at one of our Regional Field Offices listed above.

Working hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30-16:00



IOM Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Office in Sarajevo

Vilsonovo Šetalište 10, 71000 Sarajevo

Phone: +387 33 64 81 37

Fax: +387 33 64 82 02

E-mail: [missionsarajevo@iom.int](mailto:missionsarajevo@iom.int)

Web: [www.iom.ba](http://www.iom.ba)