



Government  
of the Republic  
of Serbia

*The Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) in Serbia is a medium-term development framework aimed at reducing the key forms of poverty by creating material and other prerequisites and by providing opportunities to each person to provide the basic subsistence for themselves and their families.*

*The PRS offers an analysis of causes, characteristics and profile of poverty in Serbia, as well as main strategic guidelines for eliminating them in the coming years. The Government of Serbia is committed to economic growth and development, for which reason the PRS activities are geared towards economic development and growth, prevention of emergence of new poverty and care for the traditionally poor groups.*

*The final PRS document was adopted on October 16, 2003, whereas on February 17, 2005 the Government authorized the Deputy Prime Minister to regularly inform the Government on the Strategy implementation process, in cooperation with the PRS Implementation Focal Point.*

**ŽARKO ŠUNDERIĆ, MANAGER OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION FOCAL POINT**

## Evidence and Action Based Policy Making

Policies of the Government of Serbia should answer the needs of people to live a better and safer life. The policies should be defined based on the circumstances in Serbia, available human and natural resources, at all times taking into account finding solution to urgent problems.

With the aim of making realistic Government decisions, yet optimistic in their attempt to provide for a better living of Serbian citizens, it is necessary that the plans, decisions and strategic documents are based on accurate, timely, accessible and systematically collected data.

The data collected in Serbia by the Republic Statistical Office and other public administration agencies and civil society organizations are to:

- Increase the transparency of the work of the Government, as citizens have the right to know how and why governments have made decision which will have impact on them;
- Improve policy making by enabling making evidence-based decisions;
- Enable more effective resource allocation by making better government decisions on the choice of policies and programmes to be implemented;
- Provide feedback on the impact of specific measures, which shall influence future policies and programmes.

The statistical system of Serbia has improved significantly over the previous period. Draft legislation has been prepared for endowing the Republic Statistical Office with a more comprehensive mandate, accountability and right to monitor poverty trends in Serbia, identify the most vulnerable groups of population and the main poverty risk factors. Data accessibility has improved, as well as the cooperation of the Republic Statistical Office with data beneficiaries.

Five years after the development of the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS), another round of the Living Standards Measurement Survey (LSMS) was conducted in 2007, enabling an overview of the impact of the implemented PRS-set measures.

The 2007 LSMS round included comprehensive consultations with the data beneficiaries so that the funds invested in the survey may be used effectively and that the survey may be adapted to the needs of the beneficiaries.

Experts of the Republic Statistical Office were given full support of the World Bank statistical experts.

However, in addition to the collection of data and an overview of the current situation, the Government should take a step further in the sense of corporate social responsibility. It is vital to ascertain which policies/activities implemented by the Government do contribute to a better life of Serbian citizens.

Therefore, the Deputy Prime Minister's PRS Implementation Focal Point initiated the Policy Impact Analysis in January 2008, which is to take into account all the policies implemented between 2003 and 2007.

The analysis shall be finalized by September 2008, in cooperation with a large number of partners. The existing adopted policies shall be systematized and the policies which are being implemented shall then be identified.

The policy impact assessment should be a basis for the development of new policies and the revision of existing Government policies, so that all the measures are fully based on the needs of end beneficiaries and that the most cost-effective measures are implemented in the future.

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### WORLD BANK Serbia to Get Loan of USD 46.6 Million

The Board of Directors of the World Bank approved a USD 46.6 million loan to Serbia on 19 March 2008 for the Project of Delivery of Improved Local Services to be implemented over the next four years.

The Project consists of four components.

The Project aims to assist the line ministries and local institutions to improve delivery of health, education and social protection services in a decentralized environment.

The first component thereof amounting to USD 7 million should improve the efficiency of health, education and social protection at the local level.

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## First Results of Impact Policy Analysis 2003-2007

Partners of the Deputy Prime Minister's Poverty Reduction Strategy Implementation Focal Point (PRS IFP) from the Center for Liberal Democratic Studies produced a first output of the impact policy analysis – the database containing all strategic policies adopted by the Government of Serbia between 2003–2007.

The database may be downloaded at the PRS IFP website [www.prsp.sr.gov.yu](http://www.prsp.sr.gov.yu).

The analysis includes all areas of significance for poverty reduction in Serbia (education, health, infrastructure, macroeconomics, employment, social policy, agriculture and rural development).

The main menu of the database provides for six options:

- Overview of policies by criteria – enabling the user to obtain overview of individual activities meeting the defined criteria by selecting institution, field or strategy;
- Overview of specific policies – providing insight into each specific policy;
- Overview of policies by groups – enabling the user to obtain overview of specific activities relating to selected vulnerable group;
- Codebook of institutions – providing overview of institutions covered by the database and acronyms;
- Codebook of strategies – providing overview of strategies covered by the database and acronyms;
- Information on the PRS IFP – basic information and contacts.

The database is a source of data on policies contained in strategies, related objectives, key indicators and targeted vulnerable groups.

The database shall contribute to transparent work of the Government, since citizens and civil society shall be able to find policies and measures overtaken by the Government by adopting specific strategic documents.

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**ŽARKO ŠUNDERIĆ, MANAGER OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S  
POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION FOCAL POINT**

## Evidence and Action Based Policy Making

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First steps of enhancing the statistical system of Serbia have been made. The future period should see improvements in the field of statistics regarding the coordination between national and international actors, building human and financial capacities in the field of statistics and improving data accessibility.

The Republic Statistical Office has the mandate to inform on an annual basis on who the poor people in Serbia are, where they live, their education and age structure, gender and income sources. The Government should define a vision of poverty reduction based on the data available and continue with the realization of the vision on a daily basis. The data should be used to link the accountability of politicians, Government and the population.

### WORLD BANK

## Serbia to Get Loan of USD 46.6 Million

*Continued from page 1*

The second component amounting to USD 12.2 million is to support provision of services to vulnerable groups and fund innovations in delivery of services to persons with special needs, Roma, the internally displaced persons and refugees as well as establishment of institutions for protection of human rights.

The provision of support for the competent ministries in taking on new roles stipulated in the Law of Local Self-Government will be supported through the third component amounting to USD 7.4 million.

The fourth component in the amount of USD 16.5 million will be spent on training and equipment for schools, primary health care centres, social welfare centres and local agencies so as to enhance their response to the needs of households in their environment.

The project was created jointly with the ministries of education, health, labour and social policy which will implement it with the support of the Ministry for Public Administration and Local Self-Government.

## New Start-Up Credit Line

Mladjan Dinkić, Minister of Economy and Regional Development in the Government of the Republic of Serbia has stated that a new credit line totalling USD 2.2 billion was announced for business start-up. The deadline for submission of applications is 15 May.

Having visited the business company „Snežan“ in Borča, Dinkić told the press that everyone believing they can initiate their own business may apply for these funds in the premises of the Republic of Serbia Development Fund or in the regional development agencies.

He recalled that these are the most favourable loans requiring no mortgage for start-ups and that they target the young primarily.

The Minister stressed that the interest rate is 1%/annum only, the repayment period is 1-5 years with a one year grace period.

He also stated that a competition for loans without mortgage

for start-ups on the territory of Kosovo and Metohija had also been published the previous day.

In respect of Kosmet, the loans will be granted also to the current owners of craft shops and SMEs under more favourable conditions. The repayment period is up to 7 years and mortgage is not required for amounts of up to EUR 15,000. Mortgage is required for higher amounts, and half of it by pledge, Dinkić said.

He added that 1500 loans were disbursed in 2007 and a total of 6000 persons were employed.

The Minister stressed that, according to the SME Agency data, most of the loans had been approved in the food, beverages and tobacco production sector, followed by machinery, metals and metal items production, production of chemicals and fibers, wood processing, electrical and optical instruments production and textile industry.

## First Results of Impact Policy Analysis 2003–2007

*Continued from page 1*

The database is important for enabling national and international stakeholders who wish to contribute to the development of Serbia to get informed efficiently and quickly and harmonize their frameworks with the strategic framework of Serbia.

The database may be highly informative for all line ministries in preparation and creation of annual operational plans. This shall enable harmonization of long-term strategic goals of Serbia both with program plans developed on an annual basis and with the allocation of budget resources.

Reality indicates that envisaged policies do not ensure their implementation, wherefore the PRS IFP shall in spring 2008, in cooperation with all interested stakeholders, identify those measures which have already been or are being implemented. This shall be followed by analyzing impact of specific policies on society and the poorest population. Findings of the analysis shall be finalized in September 2008, and shall have direct impact on defining policies for improving life of the poorest population in the following period.

The database on strategies of the Republic of Serbia may be downloaded at the PRS IFP website [www.prsp.sr.gov.yu](http://www.prsp.sr.gov.yu)

## Free Shares Registration

An invitation to citizens to apply to acquire free shares was published on January 25, 2008 and applications will be received until July 31, 2008.

The right on free shares have all citizens that are over 18 years of age before or on December 31, 2007 and that acquired citizenship before January 2, 2008 and residence on the territory of the Republic of Serbia before June 30, 2007. Besides, another condition is that they are registered in the electoral register within the municipal authorities on a day of acquiring the status of the ownership holder and that they have not received free shares so far. Free shares can be obtained by internally displaced people from Kosovo and Metohija.

It has been estimated that about 4,000,000 citizens are entitled to receive gratis shares and that they will receive equal amount of free shares amounting to 4 billion EUR, meaning that each citizens will receive shares amounting to 1,000 EUR.

The only documents required for the application are identity card and bank account. If not provided with the bank account, citizens will be given free-of-charge bank account at the Post Savings Bank.

The citizens may apply to receive gratis shares at 3,500 post counters in 1,400 locations. The application procedure takes 5 minutes only.

The citizens living abroad shall apply to the diplomatic-consular offices while for bed-ridden patients or prisoners, the application procedure will be performed by a special commission.

The citizens who in the application procedure submit incorrect data will be subject to fines amounting to 5,000-10,000 RSD, while the fines from 10,000 to 50,000 RSD are envisaged for employees of the post or diplomatic-consular offices if fail to comply with prescribed procedures.

The Privatization Agency will register citizens who apply within the set deadline into the records of rightful owners and issue a certificate thereof by December 31, 2008 that will be delivered on the address stated in the identity card.

First payments of sold shares within the Privatization Registry will be effectuated early next year, while it is expected that trading with these shares will start in first half of next year.

Shares of six public enterprises are currently envisaged for gratis distribution of shares: NIS, EPS, JAT, Telekom, Galenika and Airport „Nikola Tesla“, and on January 28 registration of pensioners, former and current employees in these enterprises has started aimed at receiving gratis shares. They will receive shares amounting to 200 EUR per year of tenure, calculated according to estimated market value of the enterprise prior to the privatization. The employees of those enterprises will register at the National Employment Service and they will need a copy of identity card and employment book, certificate on citizenship and certificate on number of years of tenure.

Registration for gratis shares in 25 branch offices of the NES in Serbia will be possible from 14:00 to 19:00. It is estimated that some 150,000 pensioners, former and current employees of the public enterprises will apply for gratis distribution of shares.

First to apply will be employees of NIS and JAT in the period from January 28 to March 31, then Telekom and Airport „Nikola Tesla“, from March 31 to May 31 and then Galenika and EPS from May 31 to July 31.

For information: Info Center 0800 100 300



## Three Billion Dinars for Employment

Approximately RSD 3 billion will be invested by the state into employment this year which is 25% more than last year. These funds will be directed through the National Employment Service to subsidizing new job creation, capacity building and trainings for job, job fairs, „job clubs“ said Vladimir Ilić, State Secretary for Employment at the Ministry of Economy and Regional Development.

The subsidies for new job creation will be increased to between EUR 1000 to 2000. The least developed areas will receive the highest subsidies - EUR 2000. All employers employing Roma nationals, persons over 50 or persons with disabilities will be granted an additional EUR 500.

Ministry of Economy and Regional Development [www.merr.sr.gov.yu](http://www.merr.sr.gov.yu)  
National Employment Service [www.rztr.co.yu](http://www.rztr.co.yu)

### NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

## Subsidies for New Job Creation

The National Employment Service announced a public call for disbursement of subsidies to employers for opening and equipping new posts.

The subsidies for opening and equipping new posts will be granted to employers opening up to 50 new posts. The amount of each subsidy depends on the level of development of the municipality of new employment. The subsidy for the least developed municipalities will total RSD

160,000, for the underdeveloped municipalities -RSD 130,000 and for other municipalities RSD 80,000.

Additional RSD 40,000 on these will be approved to employers who chose to employ a member of one of the vulnerable categories among the unemployed: persons with disabilities, Roma community members, persons over 50 or children without parental care.

[www.rztr.co.yu](http://www.rztr.co.yu)

### GOVERNMENT OF SERBIA

## Call for Organisation of Public Works

The Government of Serbia has announced a call for organisation of public works of interest to the Republic of Serbia in 2008.

The funds for organising public works in the amount of RSD 650,000,000 have been ensured in the 2008 Budget of the Republic of Serbia.

Public works will be organised in the areas of social, humanitarian, cultural and other activities, maintenance and rehabilitation of public infrastructure and environmental protection.

The funds allocated for public works will also be used for payment of persons engaged thereon, with the compensation of commuting costs, security and health at work, training for concrete tasks related to public works, execution of public works up to the amount of 10% of the value of funds approved for public works.

For additional information, please contact Ministry of Economy and Regional Development, Bulevar Kralja Aleksandra 15, Belgrade at 011/311-4227

Information may also be obtained in NES branches and [www.merr.sr.gov.yu](http://www.merr.sr.gov.yu)

### REPUBLIC AGENCY FOR SME DEVELOPMENT

## Seminars for Business Start-ups

The Republic Agency for SME and Entrepreneurship Development has been organizing seminars for start-ups aimed at raising the level of knowledge of local managers.

4000 beginners - potential beneficiaries of loans for beginners, the unemployed, future owners of SMEs and shops, students, etc - are to be trained in the course of this year.

The aim of the Agency is to support the capacity of companies' growth through training.

The Republic Agency for SME and Entrepreneurship Development operates within the Ministry of Economy and Regional Development. It executes four types of activities: support to beginners, support to the existing entrepreneurs and SMEs, assistance to the

existing and the potential exporters, and innovation and research.

The Republic Agency coordinates a network of 14 regional agencies and centers.

The Agency will also provide technical support to the Development Fund in implementation of its programme related to employment promotion and economic development through granting loans to legal entities and entrepreneurs.

The ultimate aim of the Agency is to contribute to decreasing the number of unemployed persons and increasing the number of business start-ups and shops and poverty reduction.

Telephone of the Agency:  
011/344-6601

[www.sme.sr.gov.yu](http://www.sme.sr.gov.yu)

### OSCE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

## Central Government Engagement

OSCE Mission in Serbia announced a call for project proposals relating to development of mechanisms linking the citizens experiencing problems in local communities with central authorities, for instance, their representatives in the Parliament of the Republic of Serbia. The call is open to associations of citizens, NGOs, trade unions, local media and schools.

The projects will be implemented in the municipalities of Bor, Preševo, Subotica, Niš, Vršac, Kragujevac, Pirot, Sjenica, Gornji Milanovac i Šid.

Democratization Department, OSCE Mission to Serbia  
Connect Project, Čakorska 1, Beolgrade, [ddconnect@osce.org](mailto:ddconnect@osce.org)  
[www.osce.org/serbia](http://www.osce.org/serbia)

## Job Fairs for Persons with Disabilities

The Association of Enterprises for Training and Employment of Persons with Disabilities of Serbia (UIPS) organised job fairs for persons with disabilities since September 2007 through to February 2008.

The UNDP-supported and funded project aims at creating conditions for professional rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities through promotion of equal rights for all. The Association represents a business association of companies who train and employ persons with disabilities.

According to the World Bank data, 74.5% of persons with disabilities in the Republic of Serbia are unemployed. According to the Poverty Reduction Strategy of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, 50% of the total number of persons with disabilities have no education or have only primary education. 10% of them have graduated from secondary schools and only 7% have acquired a university diploma.

UIPS 011/2040-400

Email: [registry.yu@undp.org](mailto:registry.yu@undp.org)

[www.mestozamene.org.yu](http://www.mestozamene.org.yu)

[www.undp.org.yu](http://www.undp.org.yu)

## Win-Win Project for Women

The Association of Business Women (UPZ) is implementing the project „Women Economic Rights and Right to Employment vs. Privatisation“ or „Win-Win“ in five regions. The aim of the project is to assist the unemployed women or those who are being made redundant in the privatisation process. The assistance takes the form of education and informing women about their rights, and the rights of employers. The information component of the project is implemented through round tables with employers and information-sharing meetings. The UNIFEM-supported project is implemented in five Serbian regions: Niš, Valjevo, Sremska Mitrovica, Zrenjanin and Belgrade in the first half of 2008.

Sanja Popović Pantić, Project Coordinator, 011/216-90-01

E-mail: [uips.office@gmail.com](mailto:uips.office@gmail.com)

[www.poslovnezene.org.yu](http://www.poslovnezene.org.yu)

## Competition: „My Street/Village/City 2010“

A competition entitled „My Street/Village/City 2010“ for children group art or literary award was launched by the Society for Protection and Improvement of Mental Health of Children and Youth, civil society contact organizations for children within the programme of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Implementation Focal Point.

Children aged 6- 18 in a peer group (class, preschool group, workshop) are to discuss poverty in their environment and changes they wish to see by 2010 and then convert their deliberations into a painting, a poem or an essay. The deadline for submissions is 26 May 2008. The art work should be accompanied by a letter in which the children explain who they would spend RSD 40,000 (ensured by the company Zdravlje Atavis from Leskovac) - the award for the best art work.

The submissions will be sent to the Peoples' Office of the President of the Republic of Serbia, the Government of the Republic of Serbia, ministries of education, labour and social policy, infrastructure and finance, the Council for the Rights of the Child of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, PRSP Implementation Focal Point and shall serve as a valuable source of recommendations and priorities in defining measures for reducing poverty among children.

Address: Society for Protection and Improvement of Mental Health of Children and Youth, For the Competition, Bulevar Nemanjica 67a, Trzni centar „Zona 1“ shop no. 39, 18000 Nis.

[www.oknis.org.yu/zadecu](http://www.oknis.org.yu/zadecu)



## USAID Supports Opening of the Youth Entrepreneurship Centre in Medvedja

The USAID Program for Economic Security has signed an agreement with the municipality of Medvedja defining the areas of cooperation and support to the implementation of the project „Initiative for Development of Youth Entrepreneurship in Medvedja“.

The agreement was signed by Mr Michael Pilsbury, Director of the Program for Economic Security and Mr Slobodan Drašković, mayor of the municipality of Medvedja.

The project provides for establishment of the Youth Entrepreneurship Centre in Medvedja, aimed at providing various services and resources to the potential and existing young entrepreneurs in this municipality as well as becoming a key institution to develop and harbour the culture of youth entrepreneurship.

The project is implemented by the non-governmental organizations: Peoples' Parliament from Leskovac and GOJA from Medvedja and is a part of a wider program entitled Initiative for Development of Youth Entrepreneurship in Serbia“ implemented in Leskovac and Lebane. The Republic Ministry of Youth and Sports also contributed to this project.

The transitional processes to market economy have had a negative impact on

the employment possibilities as well as onto the creation of an extremely competitive market environment where the young and inexperienced entrepreneurs who do not possess the necessary market, business and managerial skills find themselves unable to respond to challenges and maintain profitable businesses.

Young people constitute 33% of the population of the municipality of Medvedja and many of them are unemployed. The establishment of the Centre for Development of Youth Entrepreneurship shall assist them not only to find but to create themselves a job that would earn them a living and to participate actively in all the local community activities.

The aim of the USAID Program for Economic Security is support to the development of SMEs and new job creation for the most vulnerable population in the underdeveloped regions of Serbia. The work with young people and investments into their education and entrepreneurial skills is one of the top priorities of this USAID program.

For more information on USAID programmes please contact:

Jasmina\_maljovic@dai.com

Tel: 011/363-9900

[www.serbia-montenegro.usaid.gov](http://www.serbia-montenegro.usaid.gov)

## USAID Call: Program for Economic Security

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) has launched a call for projects aimed at enhancing economic security of vulnerable groups and promoting economic development in underdeveloped municipalities. The projects will be supported within the framework of the 2008 Program for Economic Security.

The projects need to be aligned with the main objectives of the program: enhancing economic security of vulnerable groups of population and capacities for sustainable and balanced economic development in the less developed regions of Serbia: Kraljevo, Kuršumljija, Preševo, Medvedja, Bujanovac, Prijepolje and Novi Pazar.

For more information: 011/363-9900; [scopes@dai.com](mailto:scopes@dai.com), [www.scopes-serbia.org](http://www.scopes-serbia.org)

USAID in Serbia, Embassy of the USA, Kneza Miloša 50, Belgrade

Email: [comments-Belgrade@usaid.gov](mailto:comments-Belgrade@usaid.gov),

[www.serbia-montenegro.usaid.gov](http://www.serbia-montenegro.usaid.gov)

## CALL OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SERBIA

### Loans for Underdeveloped Areas

A competition for loans to companies and entrepreneurs in underdeveloped areas totalling RSD 2 billion was launched by the Ministry of Economy and Regional Development and the Fund for Development of Serbia in late March. Investors of 35 least developed Serbian municipalities will be eligible to apply for loans ranging from RSD 500,000 to 2,500,000.

The repayment period is seven years with 1% annual interest rate and one year grace period.

A competition for loans for project of transformation of innovations into final products amounting to RSD 250 million was announced at the same time. The projected repayment period is seven years, with one year grace period. The interest rate to be paid by the investors in the least developed municipalities will amount to 1% and 3% for those coming from other Serbian municipalities.

These loans are currently the most favorable available at the Serbian financial market.

The Ministry of Economy and Regional Development has also prepared a Draft Law on Regional Development providing for establishment of a state regional development agency, regional development community and the regional development fund.

Other calls of the Ministry: <http://www.merr.sr.gov.yu>

## MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Severance to Job

The Government of Serbia has once again allocated budget funds for the project „Severance to Jobs“. The programme enables redundant employees to secure new jobs through investment of their severance pays.

The 2008 project should enable 1000 unemployed persons to turn their ideas into reality.

Over the past year, since the onset of the project implementation, almost 600 redundant employees availed themselves of this form of support.

Most of them were interested in investment of severance pays into private business start-ups. 500 persons exercised the right to financial support of the self-employment project amounting to RSD 210,000 in 2007. The funds were invested into establishment of small companies, in the production, services and skills sectors for the most part.

Some 100 beneficiaries of the project opted for investing a part of their severance pays into new employment with 18 private employers.

These being socially vulnerable categories receiving severance pays in the amount not exceeding EUR 3000 or living on the verge of poverty, the project supported the employers with RSD 80,000 per newly employed person.

This form of employment took well in south Serbia where most of the redundant employees contracted new employment in textile industry.

In future, new possibilities will be offered to employees who were made redundant as technical surplus or due to bankruptcy of their enterprises.

One of them is the advisory and financial support component of the project which will be extended to persons who wish to establish cooperatives engaged in production or services.

This year, the employees who were made redundant due to bankruptcy of an employer and who were, thus far, eligible only for self-employment subsidies, will be given the possibility to apply for support for indefinite employment with the private employer.

The project will support new employment with RSD 100,000 and these funds will be invested into additional trainings with the employer or equipping of a new post. The project will be implemented by the project team of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the National Employment Service (NES) until the end of 2008. The funds have been ensured by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and the Government of Serbia.

Ministry of Economy and Regional Development  
011/3345-243, [www.merr.sr.gov.yu](http://www.merr.sr.gov.yu)

## PILOT PROGRAMME IN PROKUPLJE Entrepreneurship in schools

The business incubator centre Prokuplje shall complete the pilot program on entrepreneurship in two secondary schools by the end of March. The programme aims to provide necessary knowledge and experience in establishment and managing of businesses to secondary school students and to develop entrepreneurial spirit and climate among young people.

The program contains four modules: introduction in entrepreneurship, administrative procedures, good practices and access to financial institutions.

This programme is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway and the Commune Hemnes.

Business incubator centre Prokuplje

Aleksandar Jelic, Manager

Telephone: 027/339-339

Email: [aleksandar.jelic@theinitiatives.org](mailto:aleksandar.jelic@theinitiatives.org)



## Initiation of Database of NGO Projects - Cooperation with Business Sector

Deputy Prime Minister's Poverty Reduction Strategy Implementation Focal Point (PRS IFP) launched the development of the Database of NGO Projects - Cooperation with Business Sector.

In order to motivate businesses to take active part in PRS implementation, the Database shall provide an overview of CSO projects which contribute to poverty reduction among vulnerable population, which may be funded by businesses.

The Database shall represent an instrument which is to facilitate partnerships between CSOs and businesses and joint financing of initiatives contributing to poverty reduction.

Wider consultations with representatives of all three sectors shall be organized: businesses, relevant ministries, CSFP, SCTM and other relevant actors. Criteria are to be identified to be used

for assessing CSO applications for entering the Database.

The Database represents a part of activities initiated by development of a complementary Database of Good Practices in the Field of Corporate Social Responsibility of most successful Serbian companies, which was launched by the PRS IFP in cooperation with Serbia Investment and Export Promotion Agency (SIEPA).

The Project is implemented with support of the Balkan Fund for Local Initiatives (BCIF), until June 2008.

Balkan Fund for Local Initiatives (BCIF), Gospodar Jevremova 45, Belgrade

011/2622-511, baza@bcif.org,  
[www.bcif.org](http://www.bcif.org)

Deputy Prime Minister's Poverty Reduction Strategy Implementation Focal Point, 311-4605,  
[www.prsp.sr.gov.yu](http://www.prsp.sr.gov.yu)

### OFFICE FOR ROMA ISSUES IN ČAČAK

## Environmental Project on Roma Settlements

Office for Roma Issues in Čačak launched the activity „Be a Friend and Clean my Environment“ which procured garbage bins for Roma settlements in Sajmište and Stari Grad in cooperation with the UNDP and Committee for Human Rights.

The aim of the project is to improve hygienic conditions in parts of the city inhabited by the majority of Roma and illegal disposal areas.

The coordinator of the Office Miroslav Mitrović said that this is the beginning of a long-term initiative for poverty reduction and improvement of health of Roma population.

The Office applied for a project to solve the issues of water supply and sewage network for 48 families living in mixed settlements.

EUR 11,500 was obtained with help of the two humanitarian organizations and local governments for procuring and installing the garbage bins.

### POPULATION POLICY IN SERBIA

## Birth Incentive Policies

Birth incentive policies are defined in the Birth Incentive Strategy adopted in January 2008.

Strategic documents are harmonized with UN and other international documents and undertaken liabilities of the country.

Significant resources shall be allocated from the Budget of the Republic over the next years, through financing the law-stipulated rights to allowances in the mandate of the Republic and through NIP resources for developing the missing priority services. Some of 2008 measures to be implemented are: redefined MOP, allowances for care, increased parent allowance, allowance of full amount when maintaining pregnancy, provision of favorable housing loans, active measures of labor markets with the aim of employing unemployed parents, education manuals for teachers, associates, parents, students, pro-

motion and usage of modern contraceptive measures, capacity building of health institutes and provision of free medicines for fertility treatment, employment of 40 Roma coordinators for more efficient exercise of rights, etc.

Funds for some priority activities in 2008 are lacking due to the overall lack of resources in the budget of the Republic, but also because resources could not be planned for some activities, which calls for regulations which have to set forth the rights of beneficiaries and liabilities of the country.

Apart from the increased funds from the budget of the Republic for achieving strategic goals, local governments provide significant resources in the development of services in their mandate, in particular for provision of land with infrastructure and financing of employees to provide the services.

## AFFIRMATION OF SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT ERSTE Foundation Awards

Ten organizations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia were awarded by ERSTE Foundation for their social responsibility projects in the field of social integration.

The ERSTE Foundation award is granted with the aim of supporting social engagement and making it more visible.

Awarded organizations helped people, social and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities and trauma, children and marginalized adults.

The competition was open for non-profit organizations, public sector, individuals, religious communities and media. More than 400 projects were submitted to the competition, with 293 projects meeting the criteria. International committee selected 30 projects, shortlisting 20 projects and awarding 10 projects with EUR 85,000.

The first prize of EUR 20,000 was awarded to Bosnian non-government organization Infohouse for the project Financing Volunteers 2007. The project aimed at stimulating social volunteering and connection of young people and enterprises in BIH, so as to increase their confidence and future prospects.

The second award of EUR 15,000 was awarded to City Libraries of Zagreb for the project Wide Open Library Doors. The project enables children and youth with special needs to access libraries, teaching them useful skills and stimulating their social integration.

Third place was shared by two projects awarded with EUR 10,000 each.

The non-government organization Kiosk of Serbia selected a photograph as a medium for tearing down prejudice. Their project entitled Communication - Photograph Workshops for Young People living in Multiethnic Groups was initiated in 2005 with Albanian, Serbian and Roma students in South Serbia. Kosovo, Sandzak and Vojvodina got involved in the project in 2006 and Croatia and Bosnia in 2007.

Six projects were awarded with EUR 5,000.

Organization Friends of Tuzla established the Center for Women Entrepreneurship, providing jobs and practice for unemployed women. The Belgrade Center for Integration of Youth opened a home for children living in the street within the project Invisible Child. The Project large Game of equal Opportunities is implemented by the Slovenian Association Mladinski Ceh, supporting unconventional means for integrating marginalized children. Kings of the Street are the first Ljubljana papers dealing with the issue of homeless people. Association Steps of Hope manages the Center for Children with Multiple Disabilities in Tuzla. Support for Roma Children in Education, Mental and Social Development and Integration is a project implemented by organization Bread of Life two suburban settlements in Belgrade.

Special award of ten-day visit to Vienna was awarded to Committee for Human Rights of Leskovac and its founder Dobrosav Nesić.

Organizations whose projects were shortlisted selected one project to be awarded in the field of Social Responsibility. The award was granted to the organization Friend of Tuzla and their project Center for Women Entrepreneurship.

ERSTE Foundation award was established in 2007. The next competition in this field in 2008 shall be open in September.

ERSTE Foundation  
Maribel.koeniger@erstestiftung.org  
[www.erstestiftung.org](http://www.erstestiftung.org)



## MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL POLICY: Info-Center

Info-Center of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy opened providing information to citizens on rights in the field of labor and social policy. Minister Rasim Ljajic will be answering citizens' questions twice a month.

During the first day of work, more than 200 citizens called the Info-center set by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and every third one was interested in rights to social protection and financial assistance.

Over 20% of citizens asked for additional information regarding rights to employment or called to report irregularities in inspection work. About 60 calls referred to veterans-disability protection, payment of veterans' disability allowance, opportunity of employment of the disabled, pension and disability

insurance, when payment of pensions from Slovenia will start and possibility to include tenure accomplished in Croatia in calculation of pension basis. There were 12 people calling regarding family violence.

Info-center works from 9-15, and citizens may call the following phones:  
Social and family-legal protection

011/303-86-61

Persons with disabilities and veteran protection 011/303-86-77

Family violence 011/303-86-61

Labor and labor inspection 011/303-86-77

Pension and disability insurance 011/334-78-09

Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, 011/361-62-43

[www.minrzs.sr.gov.yu](http://www.minrzs.sr.gov.yu)

## Website of Social Environment Researchers

Aimed at enabling information exchange among researchers, promoting their opportunities and research results, a portal ([www.mrezaisp.org](http://www.mrezaisp.org)) of the association of the Network of Social Environment Researchers has been uploaded recently.

Members of this portal are researchers collecting, processing and interpreting data regarding the social sector - social protection, employment, public health and social housing in order to plan and

improve activities aimed at solving social issues.

The ISP network is a non-governmental association of citizens. The launching of the web site has been enabled by support received from the Deputy Prime Minister's PRS Implementation Focal Point.

Citizens' association „ISP Network“

Tel: 011/2335-620

E-mail: [office@mrezaisp.org](mailto:office@mrezaisp.org)

[www.mrezaisp.org](http://www.mrezaisp.org)

## MINISTRY OF SCIENCE

### 134 New Flats for Young Scientists

Young research workers will be able soon to move to 134 flats the building of which has been financed by the Foundation for solving housing problems of young research workers. They will move into second out of set number of planned buildings for which the Ministry of Science has allocated 100 million RSD.

In Novi Sad building of 27 flats for young scientists will start soon.

In 2008 the amount of 6.5 million EUR was allocated within the National Investment Plan for procurement of the capital equipment.

Fields for which funds are allocated are as follows: physics and astronomy, chemical science, biomedicine, mining, geology, transport and machine engineering, agriculture, information and communication technologies and the social sciences and humanities.

The main criterion for allocation of funds was procurement of the capital equipment that cannot be procured in Serbia and that can be used by various beneficiaries.

Ministry of Science, 22-26 Nemanjina Street, Belgrade

Tel: 011/2688-047, E-mail: [info@nauka.sr.gov.yu](mailto:info@nauka.sr.gov.yu), [www.mntr.sr.gov.yu](http://www.mntr.sr.gov.yu)

## Homes for Internally Displaced People

New twenty housing units will be provided within the program „Social Housing in Protective Environment“ in Vranje in March aimed at improving living conditions of the IDPs. 14 internally displaced families from Vranje collective centers will be provided with new place to live as well as two internally displaced families from poor private accommodation and three socially vulnerable families. Besides, one housing unit has been allocated within the program „Halfway House“, for accommodation of children without parental care who are over 18 and do not meet criteria to live in children's homes any longer.

The building was financed by the UNHCR, implemented by InterSos, while the implementation of the program „Social Housing in Protective Environment“ has been agreed with the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy.

Within the program, EAR financed building of a housing unit in Niš municipality where 16 families moved in April 2007. UNHCR will finance building of a housing unit for 16 families in Zaječar municipality.

InterSos, 11, Prote Mateje Street, Belgrade, 011/435-244, 011/439-186

E-mail: [sosinter@eunet.yu](mailto:sosinter@eunet.yu); [www.intersos.org](http://www.intersos.org)

## AUTONOMOUS WOMEN CENTER

### Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection in Nine Municipalities

Increasing number of registered domestic violence cases, increasing number of criminal charges, abbreviation of prosecuting procedure, higher number of pronounced protection measures, better understanding of responsibilities of perpetrators as well as inclusion of victims in planning protection measures and protection improvement represents results of the action in domestic violence prevention and protection implemented in nine municipalities in 2006 and 2007.

This action was implemented by the Autonomous Women Center within the program of development of good practices in the field of domestic violence, and results were presented within the public discussion called „European cities and regions taking a position“

The program was implemented in partnership with municipalities of Loznica, Smederevska Palanka, Kragujevac, Čuprija, Golubac and Belgrade municipalities of Voždovac, Lazarevac, Palilula and Zvezdara in the period 2006-2007.

Activities implemented in Lazarevac included organization of the first Self Help Group aimed at helping victims of domestic violence and acquiring significant acknowledge for coordination model operation and development within the competition of the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities and ERSTE Bank Foundation.

In Lazarevac and Smederevska Palanka support by local lawyers for free legal aid to victims of violence was provided.

In Kragujevac a procedure of admission of victims in health institutions was developed enabling easier and faster delivering of health care services.

In 2007 Golubac and Čuprija organized for the first time campaigns regarding women victims of violence.

In Loznica a procedure of cooperation with police station was developed enabling 24-hour per day readiness of the center for social work and the police in cases of violence.

Besides successful Lazarevac „mobile team“ stopping violence, this service became available in Belgrade municipalities of Voždovac and Palilula in 2007.

The Municipal office for psychological and legal aid in Zvezdara is providing its services to everybody.

In Palilula an office for gender equality started its work, the same as Voždovac commission for gender equality, and implements also programs of economic strengthening of women and especially of women victims of violence.

Autonomous Women Center, 5a Tirsova Street, Belgrade

Tel: 011/2687-190

E-mail: [dobre-prakse@azc.org.yu](mailto:dobre-prakse@azc.org.yu)

[www.azc.org.yu](http://www.azc.org.yu)

## National Youth Strategy

Some 16,000 youths of Serbia participated in the development of the National Youth Strategy drafted by the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

The aim of the Ministry is to ensure better living conditions for youth in Serbia, in cooperation with other ministries, local governments, non-government organizations and business partners. Youth defined the largest problems they face, their priorities and what society should do in order to overcome these problems. Surveys indicated, for example, that every third young person is willing to initiate their own business.

Assistant Minister of Youth and Sports Ivana Kovacevic believes that the Government of Serbia shall soon adopt the Strategy and that the Action Plan will be implemented in the envisaged time framework. The process shall be contributed to by local offices for youth, which enable the implementation of the Strategy.

Kovacevic said that 22 more offices for youth will be open in the next month, which shall enable the implementation of the National Strategy for Youth at the local level.



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

**450 million RSD Allocated for Modernization of Ten Villages**

Ten villages will receive RSD 45 million each from the National Investment Plan within the project of the Ministry of Agriculture „Serbian Village of XXI Century“. The project envisages provision of the overall infrastructure in selected villages.

The Ministry of Agriculture has announced that the open competition will be invited for this project the details of which have not been defined yet. The minimum requirement is that the village has no infrastructural issue solved and less than 1,000 inhabitants.

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management  
22-26, Nemanjina Street, Belgrade, tel: 011/361-6580  
E-mail: office@minpolj.sr.gov.yu, [www.minpolj.sr.gov.yu](http://www.minpolj.sr.gov.yu)

**Seminar on Marketing and Sales for Agricultural Companies**

USAID Agribusiness Project is organizing seminars on marketing and sales for 12 agricultural companies in Serbia.

The direct motive to organize the seminar is preparation for the forthcoming 75. international agricultural fair in Novi Sad.

USAID Agribusiness and Economic Security Project will provide financial and technical support to joint appearance of 12 small and medium enterprises from entire country at this biggest agricultural exhibition in the region.

USAID Agribusiness Project supported in February participation of companies from Serbia at three biggest international fairs of food and agricultural products: fair of fruits and vegetables in Fruit Logistica in Berlin, fair of organic products Biofach in Nurnberg, and the biggest Near-Eastern food fair, Gulfood, in Dubai. Expected results are over 13 million USD in agreed businesses so far.

The goal of the USAID Agribusiness Project is to increase the sales of agricultural products and number of working places in Serbian agriculture through improving competitiveness of Serbian producers in local, regional and international markets. USAID Agribusiness Project was launched in September 2007 and it is planned to last until 2011.

USAID Agribusiness Project,  
[www.serbia-montenegro.usaid.gov](http://www.serbia-montenegro.usaid.gov)

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND WATER MANAGEMENT: Rural Development Office opened in Arandelovac**

Rural Development Office of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management was opened early February in Arandelovac. The objective of this office is to support registered agricultural producers contributing with new projects to the agricultural development.

The office should facilitate introduction of direct financing of primary agricultural production. The lending procedure in 2008 represents an innovation. Each registered agricultural producer will receive long-term loan with the bank, and difference of 2.5% up to the interest rate set by the bank will be financed by the Ministry.

Contact and information: 011/361-6580, info center:011/361-1878  
E-mail: office@minpolj.sr.gov.yu, [www.minpolj.sr.gov.yu](http://www.minpolj.sr.gov.yu)

**NIP: 15 Companies Receive EUR 3.15 Million**

Mladen Dinkić, Minister of Economy and Regional Development and Dragan Đilas, Minister in charge of the National Investment Plan have signed agreements with 15 companies that will receive EUR 3.152 million from the NIP and employ 1448 employees.

The funds are disbursed in the form of grants and the companies shall also contribute their own funds in the amount of EUR 68.3 million.

The beneficiaries of these grants are „Itekt“ for their Bečej plant, „Gorenje“ for their investment in Valjevo and „Monbat“ for their Indjija

plant. The companies „Visaris“ from Belgrade, „Kovis“ from Baška Palanka, „Djovani Nord“ from Sešanj, „4BR Tref“ from Novi Pazar, „Eskimos“ from Indjija, „DIV Cabros“ from Loznica, agricultural cooperative „Moravac“ from Leskovac, „Mokom“ from Vranje, „Jugovoće“ from Bojnik and „Drenik“ from Belgrade also received the funds.

Regional Development Sector,  
Ministry of Economy and Regional Development, tel: 011/2138-93  
[www.merr.sr.gov.yu](http://www.merr.sr.gov.yu)  
NIP Office, tel: 011/328-6956  
[www.nip.sr.gov.yu](http://www.nip.sr.gov.yu)

## WORLD BANK

**Grants for Innovations in Agriculture**

The World Bank has launched a competition for financing innovative projects in the agriculture within the Development Idea Fair in 2008. The subject of this-year International Development Idea Fair is sustainable agricultural development.

Out of the total grant proceeds amounting to four million USD 25-30 projects with the most original idea regarding sustainable agricultural development will be financed.

It is expected that proposed projects envisage support to small agricultural producers to make a name on the market and enable to the poor to get the land to cultivate.

Projects regarding promotion of environmental protection, climate changes and protection of plants and animals are also eligible.

Winners will be selected in Washington on September 24 and 25, 2008.

World Bank, 86-90 Bulevar Kralja Aleksandra, Belgrade  
[www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)  
[www.developmentmarket.org](http://www.developmentmarket.org)

## SUPPORT TO DANUBE-REGION MUNICIPALITIES

**EUR 1.5 million in Six Years**

Within the project of technical support to economic development to municipalities of Majdanpek, Golubac, Zaječar and Sokobanja implemented by German Organization for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) a Seminar of Labor Planning was held in Belgrade in early February.

The GTZ partner on this project is the Ministry of Economy and Regional Development. In next six years Germany will support through various projects four municipalities in eastern Serbia that were receiving grants only sporadically.

The German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development allocated the amount of 1.5 million EUR for the first stage of the project of support of Danube-region municipalities.

Representative of the local self-governments and private and NGO sector from these four municipalities, Ministry of Economy and Regional Development, GTZ, German Embassy, Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities and regional development offices participated at the seminar.

The sector for regional development of the Ministry of Economy and Regional Development, 15, Bulevar Kralja Aleksandra, Belgrade  
Tel: 011/2138-93

[www.merr.sr.gov.yu](http://www.merr.sr.gov.yu)

**USAID support for 3rd International Fair of Agriculture in Bujanovac**

Third Bujanovac International Fair of Agriculture was held in Bujanovac in April 7-9, where more than sixty agricultural companies and food producers presented their products.

General sponsor of the fair is the municipality of Bujanovac, and the manifestation was co-funded by the Development Agency of Bujanovac and Presevo and USAID - Program of Economic Safety. The fair was attended by high officials of the USAID Mission to Serbia, representatives of the Coordination Body for Southern Serbia, Nagip Arifi, mayor of the municipality and many official guests of the Fair.

The aim of the Fair is to establish and establish new business contacts and strengthen cooperation between farmers and food producers in the region, which shall enable local companies to promote their products and enter new markets. USAID supported the Fair through a number of promotional activities and marketing materials and covered costs of the workshop on business planning and management of farmer households.

Two „student companies“ attended the fair: from Bujanovac high schools, within the program Achievements of Youth: High School Sezai Suroi and High School Sveti Sava.

USAID program of Social Safety assists development of SMEs and is implemented in seven municipalities with highest unemployment rate: Kraljevo, Kursumlija, Bujanovac, Medvedja, Presevo, Novi Pazar and Prijepolje.

More information on USAID programs: [www.serbia.usaid.gov](http://www.serbia.usaid.gov)

## MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL POLICY

### Development of Sustainable Local Social Services

Municipalities involved in the project „Support to Implementation of the Social Protection Development Strategy“ of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy may apply for the second stage of the project, envisaging implementation of the adopted strategy.

One of the components is focused on development of sustainable local and inter-municipal social services.

Within the first stage of the project, 24 municipalities were selected (12 individual and 3 intra-municipal applications) with which Memorandum on Cooperation were signed creating therefore preconditions for support of the process of development of local and inter-municipal strategic papers in the field of social policy.

Involvement of municipalities are as follows: Subotica, Kikinda, Kanjiza, Stara Pazova, Zrenjanin, Vrsac, Bela Crkva, Plandiste, Alibunar, Loznica, Valjevo, Cacak, Ivanjica, Krusevac, Bor, Zajecar, Knjazevac, Sokobanja, Jagodina, Svilajnac, Despotovac, Rekovac, Paracin and Cuprija.

Financial and technical support to the project is provided by the UK Department for International Development and Ministry of External Affairs of Norway.

Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, 22-24 Nemanjina Street, Belgrade  
Tel: 011/361-63-43  
[www.minrzs.sr.gov.yu](http://www.minrzs.sr.gov.yu)

### Partnership for Tomorrow

Program Partnership for Tomorrow supports small projects up to CAD 10,000 with the aim to establish partnership and relations between Canadian organization, individuals and businesses and organizations from Balkan, Central Asia and Eastern-European countries. Some of the priorities are the following: democracy, rule of law, international norms and standards, transition to the market economy, support to civil society.

The condition is to be provided with an invitation letter from a Canadian institution and signed agreement with it.

The program is financed by the Canadian Agency for International Development  
Maja Popovic, 011/3063-079  
[www.ptp2.ca](http://www.ptp2.ca)

### SOS TELEPHONE: Free Legal Aid to Victims of Violence

SOS telephone for women and children victims of violence is implementing a project „free legal aid regarding family legal relations“ provided to women and children victims of violence together with Vračar municipality, as a holder of the project.

Implementation of the Project is in conformity with the efforts made by the Ministry of Justice to introduce free legal aid in Serbia. The system is important due to the high number of Serbian citizens that due to the poverty lack money to engage the lawyer.

Right to free legal aid through the SOS telephone is granted to women victims of domestic violence, abused children and students in fami-

lies, schools, on the street, women and children with legal right to be maintained, beneficiaries of permanent financial support, women receiving minimum wage or pension, the unemployed and those exempted from paying fees in conformity with the law.

The Project is supported by the Fond for Legal Aid and is implemented by the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the UNDP and it is financed by the Agency for International Development and Cooperation and Swedish CIDA.

SOS telephone for women and children victims of violence, 011/33-47-007

E-mail: [sostelefon@eunet.yu](mailto:sostelefon@eunet.yu),  
[www.sos-telefon-beograd.org.yu](http://www.sos-telefon-beograd.org.yu)

## MINISTRY OF HEALTH

### Reorganization of Primary Health Care Facilities

The objective of the project of the Ministry of Health „Support to the Capitation Implementation in the Primary Health Care“ that launched its activities in 2007 and will last until 2010 is to provide professional support in the reorganization and improvement of work of the primary health care facilities, in order to provide fast and efficient health service to all patients.

Reorganization of the primary health care facilities is based on the principle of selected physician and a new financing model of the primary health care (capitation) will accompany this reform.

For pre-school and school children it is envisaged to have selected physician in the field of pediatrician and dentist. All adults are entitled to select a general practitioner. Women and girls over 15 are entitled to select gynecologist.

The most important tasks of the selected physician is to be dedicated to promotion of health and preventive health care services as well as to warn its patients on risk factors endangering their health.

There are 28 primary health care facilities participating in the project: Subotica, Kikinda, Pancevo, Sombor, Novi Sad, Sremska Mitrovica, Šabac, Požarevac, Kragujevac, Čuprija, Zajecar, Užice, Čačak, Kruševac, Niš, Pirot, Leskovac, Novi Beograd, Zemun, Palilula, Voždovac, Zvezdara, Smederevo, Savski Venac, Vračar, Kraljevo, Valjevo and Vranje.

Computer equipment amounting to 2.5 million EUR will be procured to these primary health care facilities.

The Project of the Ministry of Health is financed by the European Union through the European Agency for Reconstruction and partners are also Republic Health Insurance Fund and Serbian Public Health Institute.

Ministry of Health, 22-25 Nemanjina Street, Belgrade, 011/361-6251, fax: 011/265-6548  
[www.zdravlje.sr.gov.yu](http://www.zdravlje.sr.gov.yu)

### Invitation to Send Abstracts Concerning Examples of Good Practice in Primary Health Care Facilities in the Republic of Serbia

The Project „Policy of Primary Health Care on Balkan“ is being implemented through the partnership between the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia and Canadian Government. The Project objective is to develop policies and strategies of the primary health care (PHC) to direct future PHC system development in Serbia. In order to ensure that PHC policy measures reflect positions of beneficiaries and health care providers as well as other main stakeholders, the Project is using various approaches and methods to collect information and assess successful activities as well as important areas for the primary health care.

The Project's objective is to provide and exchange experience regarding good practice examples within the PHC in Serbia, so for and in the first half of 2008 it plans to organize a Workshop on good practice examples in the primary health care in Serbia.

Therefore, the Project invites all various primary health care facilities in the Republic of Serbia to submit abstracts of up to 500 words describing good practice examples in one of following five areas:

- \* reduction of social exclusions and monitoring of availability and accessibility of health care services to the vulnerable groups;
- \* implementation of the gender equality strategy in primary health care institutions;
- \* linking of primary and secondary health care services;
- \* sector cooperation with public and private sector regarding prevention of diseases and health improvement;
- \* implementation of the guidelines on good clinical practice.

The abstracts should contain the following:

- \* good practice description;
- \* population covered by described good practice;
- \* examples of results achieved or changes caused by described good practice.

The Project will support case studies and participation at the Workshop. The case studies will be included in the publication on implementation of good practice within PHC in Serbia.

For more information: 011/324-0088  
[predrag.zivotic@canbhp.org](mailto:predrag.zivotic@canbhp.org)  
[miodrag.stefanovic@canbhp.org](mailto:miodrag.stefanovic@canbhp.org)

### Amount of Allowances for Families without Income - April 2008

Allowance for families without income in April: RSD 4,825 for one family member, RSD 6,630 for two family members, RSD 8,441 for three, RSD 9,039 for four, RSD 9,657 for five and more family members.

Allowance for assistance and care for another person for April is RSD 6,033.

Child allowance for first, second, third and fourth child in March was RSD 1,601 and RSD 2,082 if increased.

Average pension in the Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Allowance, for the self-employed for March 2008 is RSD 17,343. The lowest pension is RSD 9,082.40.

Average pension in the Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance for farmers in March 2008 was RSD 16,649. The lowest pension is RSD 6,867.78.

Average pension in the Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance for the employed in March 2008 was RSD 17,783. The lowest pension is RSD 9,082.40.

### Deputy Prime Minister's Poverty Reduction Strategy Implementation Focal Point

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