



European Union Continues to Support Flood Recovery: **ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF FAMILIES**



Dragica, 35, from Bijeljina proudly shows the clothing she made. Dragica is one of the participants of the Flood Recovery Programme's entrepreneurship training and she hopes that she will be able to transform her hobby into small business.

"I want to find my place on the market and become recognizable. When people see my design, I want them to know that I made it" says Dragica.

Entrepreneurship training is part of the economic empowerment of families affected by 2014 floods and landslides.



AFTER FLOODS: ENTREPRENEURSHIP AS IMPORTANT STEP IN RECOVERY

More than 200 families whose households were hit by catastrophic floods and landslides in 2014 are given an opportunity to improve their livelihood through project financed by the European Union and implemented by UNDP and partners.

On that Monday at 5 AM, 32-year old Edina left her home in Zavidovići and traveled to Vitez, city 68 kilometers away. Four hours and eight buses later, Edina arrived on time to participate in the training on entrepreneurship implemented by the Flood Recovery – Housing Interventions Programme.

„It was a bit tiring to travel“ admits Edina. „But, when I wake up in the morning and think about not going to the training that day, I remember that everyone else will learn new things and I will not know them.“ Edina is unemployed mother of two who graduated from hairdressing school and sees this skills as a possible toll to improve her family living standard. „I would like to start doing it professionally“.

Entrepreneurship training is just the start

of many activities implemented by the Programme with an aim of economic empowerment of socially vulnerable families from 2014 floods and landslides affected areas. With this training, selected Programme beneficiaries will acquire skills needed for developing and managing their own small business which will then help them provide for their families and support recovery of the whole community.

Besides activities on supporting beneficiaries with self-employment and small business start-up, through this Programme, financed by the European Union and implemented by the UNDP and its partners, beneficiaries who will receive support in agricultural assistance and employment were also selected.

As a result, a total of 221 families from 35 municipalities and cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina will participate in economic empowerment. Programme will also provide safe housing solutions for 2,800 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged in 2014 floods and landslides.

One of the participants at the training is

Senija from Doboj who, together with her close family, grows berry fruits. When asked about what she learnt during the training, Senija replied that she was afraid that the trainer would focus more on the topics she would not understand. „After all, I am only a farmer“ she says and adds „However, the trainings were very good and understandable to all of us who did not finish universities. The trainer cleared up a lot, I learnt about business, company establishing and also about how to look at all the aspects of work and the obstacles we can encounter“.

Upon the completion of the training, participants will prepare and present their business ideas and start with the registration of their small businesses. Through Programme, participants will receive necessary equipment and tools to conduct their business ideas, as well as mentoring and consulting during the first year of business.

Participants of the training have simple wishes for their future. „I would love to be able to earn a humble salary, to be able to pay my bills“ says Edina. Sanja dreams about having her own brand. „I would like to be able to process fruits, sell juice and earn pension“.

With the support from the Flood Recovery Programme, Edina and Senija's road to entrepreneurship and better future will be made much easier.



HOMES FOR MORE THAN 240 FAMILIES RECONSTRUCTED



In the past period, with the financial support of European Union, UNDP and its partners International Organization for Migration (IOM), Arbeiter-Samariter Bund (ASB) and Hilfswerk International (HWI) have reconstructed more than 240 housing units improving living standards for their occupants.



**60 NEW HOUSING UNITS WERE BUILT
IN BIJELJINA, BROD, DOBOJ,
DOMALJEVAC-ŠAMAC, LOPARE, MAGLAJ,
MODRIČA, ŠAMAC AND TRAVNIK.**



ABOUT FLOOD RECOVERY - HOUSING INTERVENTIONS PROGRAMME

The catastrophic floods, the worst in the last 120 years, hit Bosnia and Herzegovina in May 2014. The floods affected one quarter of its territory and approximately one million people. In order to alleviate the effects of this natural disaster, Flood Recovery – Housing Interventions Programme was designed. This Programme aims to provide housing solutions for almost 3.000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged in 2014, as well as improve livelihood opportunities of the most vulnerable families.

This 15 million EUR worth Programme is financed by the European Union in the amount of 12.5 million EUR, in cooperation with the Government of Federation of BiH, Government of Republika Srpska, UNDP and local authorities. Programme is implemented by UNDP in BiH together with International Organisation for Migrations (IOM), Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB), Hilfswerk International (HWI) and partner municipalities and cities.

Programme is implemented in 44 municipalities and cities: Banja Luka, Bijeljina, Bratunac, Brod, Cazin, Doboj, Doboj Istok, Domaljevac-Šamac, Donji Žabar, Goražde, Gračanica, Gradiška, Jezero, Kakanj, Kalesija, Kostajnica, Laktaši, Lopare, Maglaj, Modriča, Novi Grad, Odžak, Orašje, Petrovo, Prijedor, Prnjavor, Sapna, Srbac, Srebrenik, Šamac, Šekovići, Šipovo, Teslić, Tešanj, Travnik, Tuzla, Ugljevik, Vareš, Vlasenica, Vogošća, Zavidovići, Zenica, Zvornik and Žepče.



FLOOD RECOVERY - HOUSING INTERVENTIONS PROGRAMME



Flood Recovery - Housing Interventions Programme represents the next phase in the EU's efforts to alleviate the catastrophic effects of the 2014 floods. First phase of the Programme, implemented from August 2014 to February 2016, achieved impressive results improving the lives of 610.000 people all over Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This Programme supports following Sustainable Development Goals:



Copyright: UNDP BiH, 2019; Photo: Aida Šunje, Jim Marshall, www.ba.undp.org February, 2019.

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Flood Recovery - Housing Interventions Programme and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.