

Type of Project:	Education Schools	Country:	Kosovo
Approach:	Repair/Rehabilitation	Realisation Year:	2003
Project name:	Sveti-Sava School in Mitrovica	Version:	1
		Date:	Dec. 2004



Initial Situation, Context

In the frame of the support to the minorities, SDC planned to assist the Serb community in Kosovo, and therefore budgeted since two years approx. 500,000 CHF for the KS-school of Lipjan/Lipljan.

As the Municipality of Lipjan was not able to find a land plot for the school, the project had to be cancelled and the Coof decided to reallocate the funds to Northern Mitrovica where the needs are still big.

Goals, Beneficiaries

The aim was to improve the teaching for children and professors in the school which was overcrowded and to provide an additional space for classrooms in the existing building.

Approach

Originally it was planned to build one extension to the existing building. Finally, due to plot limit constraints, the construction consisted in the partition of one internal gymnastic space into two classrooms, plus other smaller internal adjustments.

Partner(s)

The following partners participated in this programme:

- FOR, for the financing of the project.
- The Ministry of Education Sciences and Technology in Pristina.
- The regional director of Education in Mitrovica.
- The School Director.
- The UNMIK administration in Northern Mitrovica.
- The Municipal department of reconstruction and planning, and the cadastre department.
- The architect Vlada Radulovic in Mitrovica for project and for supervision.
- The contractor TAK for the execution of the project.

Implementations/Results

Construction of two classrooms in the existing gymnastic room of the Sveti-Sava School.
 Construction of one small classroom in the old entrance of the school.
 Construction of one library in one space in the first floor hall.

Cost, Financing

Financed by FOR.

Total cost: € 46'818 (CHF 70'227) = about € 234.-/m2. Studies: € 4'900, Building works: € 41'918.

Problems/Constraints

For this school, we had to wait and to modify the project before getting the building permit.
 We had some delays again, in signing the tripartite agreement with the MEST (signed on 03.09.2003). The contract with the contractor was then signed on the same day and the work started effectively.
 As the works were mainly internal works, we could complete them on November 5, 2003.

Generally, the main difficulty for this project, as well as for other projects in the Northern part of Mitrovica (Serbian area) is the fact that expats only can go there alone. We cannot send one of our architects in Pristina, nor ask the architect from Mitrovica to come to Pristina. The same is valid for the contractor. Beside that, it was very difficult and almost impossible to phone the numbers starting with 064. (Northern Mitrovica). Furthermore, some documents had to be translated into Albanian and Serbian language or from Serbian into Albanian. We did not have the respective staff in Pristina, but had to employ people in Mitrovica.

Lessons learned What was useful in the approach?

The contacts with the UNICEF office in Mitrovica in the preliminary phase.

Lessons learned What should be done different next time?

Nothing particular!

Preconditions and Limitations for this approach

- The first precondition was to be informed about the general situation in the minority schools in Kosovo.
- Close Cooperation with local Authorities. (Education, Cadastre, Urbanism, etc.)
- Construction Office with administrative and technical capacity to implement the project.

Evaluations

Not necessary; we saw that the new classes were used immediately after completion!

For further information

Recommended Contacts:	Coof Pristina
Recommended Institutions:	SDC/SHA, desk Europe +CIS
Recommended books/reports:	SDC/SHA Fact Sheet June 2002: "The Swiss Contribution"
Relevant other projects (links):	Similar SDC/SHA Projects in Kosovo and Serbia and the Balkans

Annex: (technical drawings, schemata, fotos) see page: 3

A new Classroom (Nov. 2003)

