

Type of Project:	<b>Education Schools</b>	Country:	<b>Kosovo</b>
Approach:	<b>New construction</b>	Realisation Year:	<b>2003 - 2004</b>
Project name:	Branko Radicevic School in Mitrovica	Version:	1
		Date:	Dec. 2004



### Initial Situation, Context

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

As the Municipality was not able to put a land plot on disposal for the school, the project had to be abandoned and the Co-of decided to reallocate the funds to Northern Mitrovica where the needs are still big.

### Goals, Beneficiaries

The aim was to improve the school situation. The school was overcrowded and by providing an additional space in an extension of the building the school situation was quite improved for children and professors.

### Approach

The work consists in construction of a new building with 5 classes, 3 offices and the necessary sanitary facilities.

During the work, the programme was modified as the school became a musical school. Consequently some classes were divided into two or three smaller rooms to be used as instrument practice rooms.

### 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 Megaron for the execution of the project.

Construction of one new building on the premises of the existing Branko Radicevic School.

The building will be used as musical school and has fifteen rooms and the necessary sanitary facilities.

### Implementations/Results

Construction of one new building on the premises of the existing Branko Radicevic School.

The building will be used as musical school and has fifteen rooms and the necessary sanitary facilities.

**Constructions:**

Year 2003-2004. The construction is traditional with blocks and concrete horizontal and vertical beams and pillars, with thermo-insulated façade, wooden roof structure covered with clay tiles. Windows are of PVC with thermopane glass. The floors are covered with ceramic tiles in the corridors and bathrooms, with PVC tiles in the classrooms and with carpet in the three offices. The walls are plastered and painted. The building is connected to the water, canalisations, electricity and telephone networks and equipped with lightning conductor.

**Cost, Financing**

Financed by FOR.

Total cost: € 241'811 (CHF 362'717) = about € 302.-/m2. Studies 5'950, Building works € 235'661, Divers € 200

**Problems/Constraints**

For this school, we had some delays, first of all 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.

We had again to wait for the building permit that was approved but not signed. Finally the work started effectively on October 15<sup>th</sup> 2003.

As we started so late, we had to stop the works for the winter time and resumed it beginning of March 2004. We had again some delays due to the March events in Kosovo and the programme modifications. Finally the works were completed on June 17<sup>th</sup> 2004.

Generally, the main difficulty for this project, as well as other projects in the Northern part of Mitrovica is that expats only can go there alone. We could not send one of our local architects, nor ask the architect from there to come to Pristina. The same is valid with the contractor. Beside that, it is very difficult and almost impossible in Kosovo to phone the numbers starting with 064. (Northern Mitrovica)

Furthermore, some documents have to be translated into Albanian and Serbian or from Serbian and we did not have the respective staff in Pristina, but had to employ people in Mitrovica.

Another problem was the programme modification after beginning of the works. The general plan and the structure of the building were not affected, but the internal room repartition was modified. The project was initiated by the director of the school who preferred to use the new extension as the musical school, and to get back the space occupied by them in the main building. We got for that the agreement from the Ministry.

**Lessons learned      What was useful in the approach?**

The preparation of the program with UNHCR was a good starting point.

The use and adaptation of similar projects implemented by our SDC office in Belgrade.

**Lessons learned      What should be done different next time?**

We should have asked the implementation of the infrastructure (water, electricity, canalisations, telephone) by the municipality prior to the construction work.

**Preconditions and Limitations for this approach**

- The first precondition was 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**

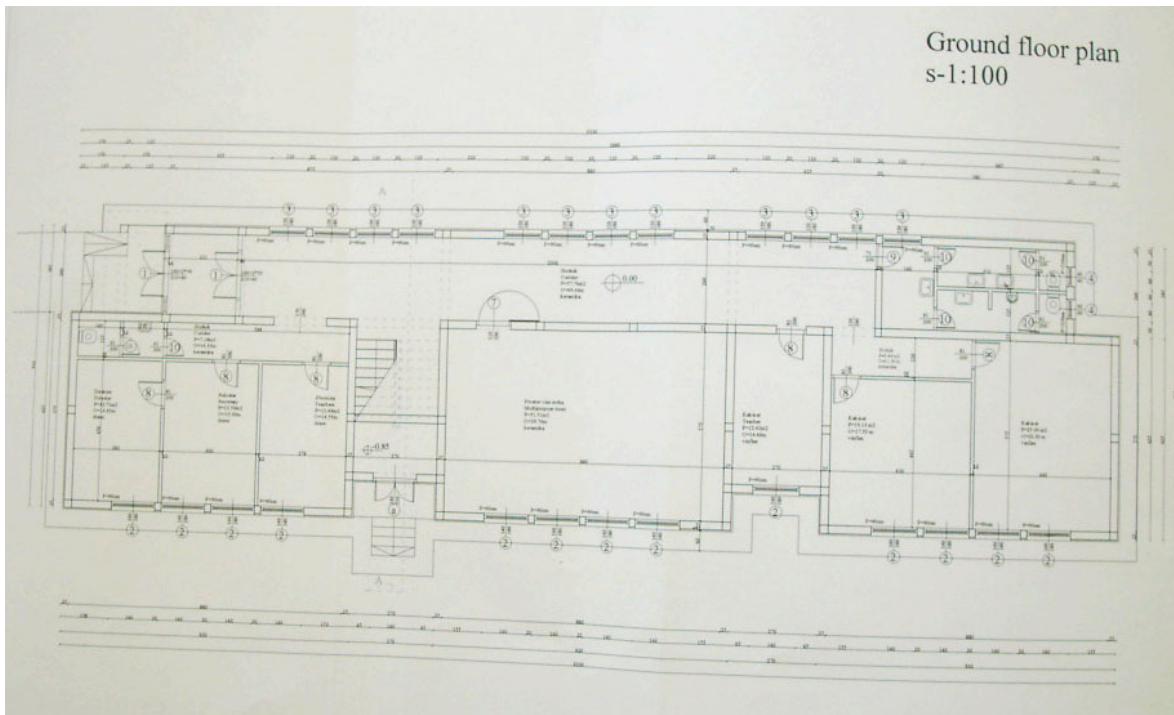
Next school year, a practical evaluation can be obtained through visits and from the school director and the school authorities in Mitrovica

**For further information**

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

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

**Ground floor**



**First floor**

