

IOM NTF Newsletter



NATO PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE Trust Fund Project for Assistance to Discharged Defence Personnel in the Republic of Serbia

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MAIN STATISTICAL DATA UNTIL 31 JULY 2010

Beneficiaries who received counselling at IOM offices	5,570
Submitted application to the JRP	4,094*
Applications approved and receiving project funds	4,035*

*Including 193 beneficiaries who received interest-free micro-loans, self-sustainability, stimulative or development grants

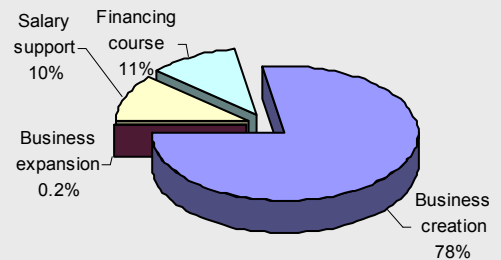
The aim of this newsletter is to provide general monthly information about the project progress as well as other relevant data for accessing the NTF assistance. This issue covers the period until 31 July 2010.

REGISTRATION

5,570 people counselled and registered

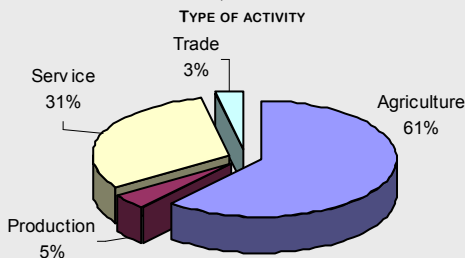
Until the end of July 2010 a total of **5,570** discharged defence personnel received one-on-one counselling and registered at the PRISMA/NTF regional offices in Belgrade, Novi Sad, Niš and Kraljevo.

APPROVED PROJECTS—TYPE OF ASSISTANCE



DIRECT ASSISTANCE - 4,094 applications processed

APPROVED PROJECTS, MICRO-BUSINESS SUPPORT



Since the beginning of 2007, through the counselling and assistance of the PRISMA/NTF client advisors, **4,094** project beneficiaries prepared their funding requests and submitted them to the Joint Review Panel for approval. Until the end of July 2010, out of this total number, **4,035** applications were approved, **16** are on hold, pending further assessment, and **43** rejected.

The majority of project beneficiaries decided to create a business in the agricultural sector, where the most frequent activities are fruit and vegetable growing, beekeeping, animal breeding or mushroom growing. Provision of services like security services, repairing, accounting and taxi companies are the next category in terms of approved cases, followed by production businesses and trade.

Contact details of PRISMA/IOM NTF regional offices
Monday to Friday 9:00–17:00

E-mail for all offices: office.ntf@iom.int
Internet: www.iomntfserbia.org

Location	Address	Phone/Fax
BELGRADE	13 Krunska, St groundfloor	011/33-40-464
NIŠ	Klub Vojske, Sindelićev trg bb (3rd floor)	018/516-600
NOVI SAD	4 Braće Jovandić St. (3rd floor)	021/65-46-564
KRALJEVO	1 Vojvode Stepe St	036/322-128



Greenhouse vegetable production

Novi Sad area - Business Creation Assistance (Grant of €1,500)

Mr. Goran Kajtes (39), worked for almost 20 years in the Army. Once discharged within ongoing defence reforms he started to analyse different opportunities on how to sustain his five-member family household. Looking at the family assets and local market opportunities Mr. Kajtes decided to start a greenhouse vegetable production.

However, he did not have the financial resources to start a business that would be large enough to allow him to recuperate the investment and at the same time provide him with some revenues. In such situation, the business creation assistance offered by the NATO/PfP Trust Fund Project was essential. Thanks to the NTF grant he managed to turn his business idea into a concrete and legally registered business. He bought some of the necessary tools, including a greenhouse and irrigation system. Today, he is very satisfied with the results achieved, and the profit already generated by his new business is a concrete proof of his success.



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Tyre repair workshop

Nis - Business Creation Assistance (first grant of €1,500 and selfsustainability grant)



Mrs. Snezana Todorovic (39) worked for six years in the Army. Once discharged within ongoing sector reforms she did not waste a time. As displaced family from Kosovo, with three very young kids Mrs. Todorovic and her husband had to find a solution on how to how sustain their family. Counting on a multiyear experience of her husband in the field of tyre repairing as well as favourable market opportunities in Nis, Mrs Todorovic decided to combine her severance payment with the NTF business creation assistance and to establish a tyre repair workshop.

Thanks to the NTF grant in the amount of €1,500 Mrs. Todorovic bought some of the necessary equipment and registered a business. In a short period of time this workshop has gained a very good reputation in Nis. During internal monitoring, this small business resulted as a very prospective and became eligible for a new, NTF selfsustainability, grant. Today, family Todorovic is very satisfied with a new business that has solved family problem both from the social and financial point of view.

Fitness Club

Belgrade - Business Creation Assistance (grant of €1,500)

After almost 28 years of military service Mr. Jovan Bratic (56), was made redundant and early retired. Once learned about the NATO/PfP Trust Fund Project and financial assistance, available to discharged defence personnel in Serbia, he decided to combine his severance payment with the NTF grant and to open a fitness club.

As a first step, he contacted the nearest NTF field office and received one-on-one counselling. Supported by the NTF Client Advisor Mr. Bratic created a business plan and applied for the business creation assistance.

Thanks to the NTF grant in the amount of €1,500, M. Bratic bought some of the fitness & gym equipment and registered a business. Today, he is very satisfied with his new job that provides a stable source of income to the Bratic family.



Monthly news

The 13th NTF Steering Committee Meeting held in June 2010

The 13th Steering Committee Meeting of the NATO/PfP Trust Fund Project for Assistance to Discharged Defence Personnel (NTF) was held on 9 June 2010 in Belgrade. The meeting was chaired by the Defence Attaché of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Belgrade Lt Col Haaverstad, representing the NTF lead country, and co-chaired by the State Secretary of the Serbian Ministry of Defence, Mr. Igor Jovicic and the Chief of IOM Mission to Serbia, Mr Gregoire Goodstein.

This meeting gathered representatives of the NTF donor countries, Norway, Denmark, Spain, Austria, United Kingdom, Czech Republic and Switzerland, as well as representatives of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia, the NATO Military Liaison Office in Belgrade and IOM. This even was also attended by the new Norwegian Defence Attache Col. Esben Aass who will be replacing Lt Col Haaverstad as of 1st August 2010 and will be chairing the next NTF Steering Committee Meetings.

The NTF Steering Committee meeting was a good opportunity to review the activities implemented since the previous meeting in March 2010 as well as to report on achieved results and plans for the forthcoming period. On behalf of Norway, NTF lead country, as well as other seventeen donor nations, SCM chairman expressed a satisfaction for the excellent results achieved by the NTF project and for the excellent level of cooperation achieved between MoD, IOM and donors.

Talking on behalf of the Ministry of Defence about the importance of the NTF support to the defence reform process in Serbia and results achieved, Mr. Jovicic stressed that 'the MoD would like to see the continuation of the NATO PfP Trust Fund project until its end (fifty year) as "the very positive results achieved by the project are the best foundation for further cooperation and the implementation of new projects'. Meeting participants also agreed that there is a need for continuing the assistance to the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia and completing the five-year period of project implementation.

While recommending the continuation of the project after June 2010, the Steering Committee noted that, although the majority of the necessary funds are already available, there is a need for additional contributions for approximately €250,000. These additional funds are necessary to respond to the needs defined by the MoD-PRISMA for the fifth year. In that view, the Norwegian Delegation to NATO will send a letter to all donor nations and coordinate fundraising for the fifth year budget.

After the NTF Steering Committee meeting, the NTF team organised a donor field visit, offering meeting participants the opportunity to visit some of project beneficiaries who have already received the assistance. That kind of events allow representatives of donor countries to assess concrete examples on how discharged defence personnel use the NTF assistance to reintegrate into civilian life.

During this event, representatives of the donor countries had the opportunity to met three project beneficiaries from the Belgrade region who started their own businesses through the NTF financial assistance. All visited beneficiaries showed the impressive results already achieved in their reintegration also expressing their

appreciation and gratitude to the NTF for the received assistance. Furthermore, all those people reported that the NTF business creation assistance enabled them to drastically improve the living conditions of their families.

The next Steering Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for the period September/October 2010.



13th NTF Steering Committee meeting, Belgrade



Donors field visit

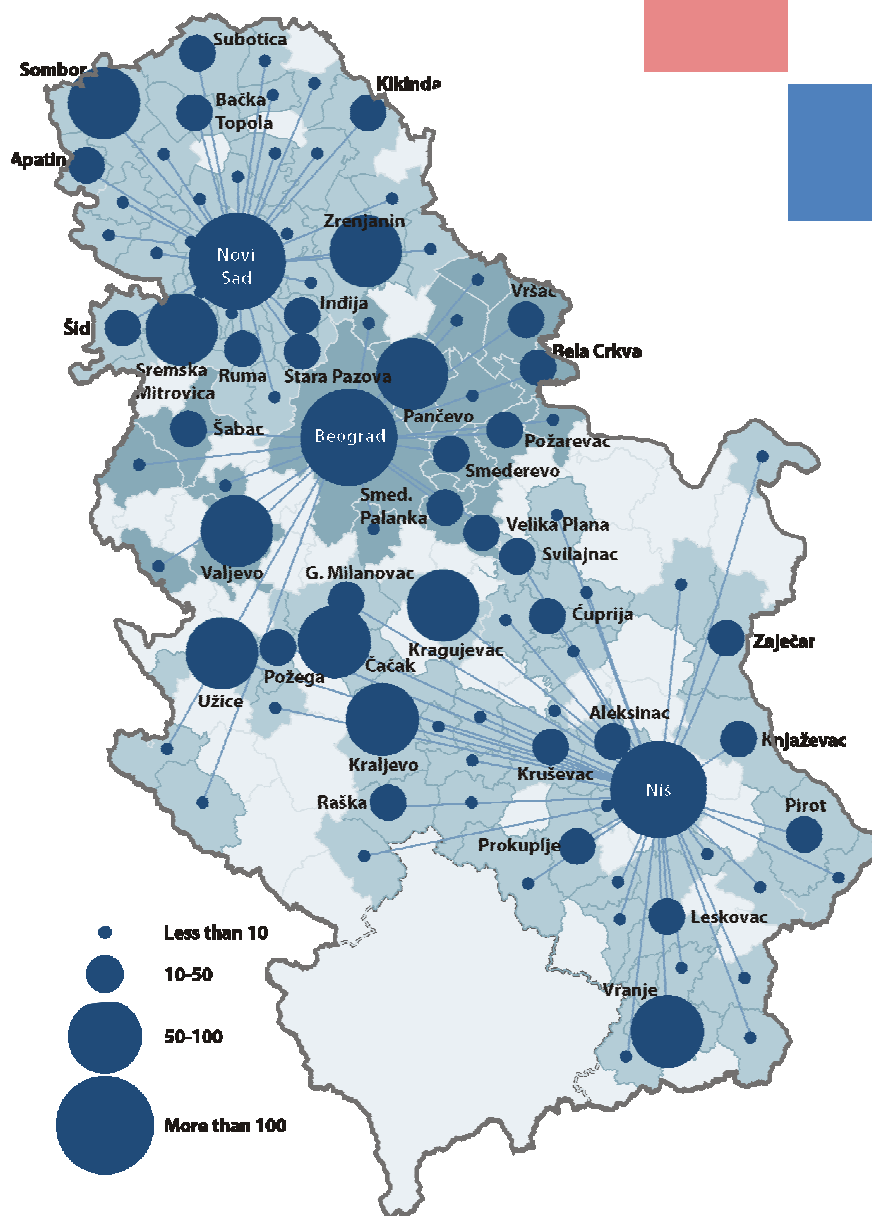
NTF Project Background

Since July 2006, in a close partnership with the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia (MoD), IOM has been implemented the **NATO/PfP Trust Fund Project for Assistance to Discharged Defence Personnel in the Republic of Serbia (NTF)**. This project is funded by 18 donor countries joined through the NATO/PfP Trust Fund: Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Ireland, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom and Norway as the lead nation, as well as Switzerland, as an external donor. The project provides technical and financial support to complement and further increase the impact of the existing MoD's Programme for Resettlement in the Serbian Army (PRISMA).

The NTF project targets discharged defence personnel, as well as their families and dependants, categorised as "high risk" by the Ministry of Defence to integrate into civilian life. Former defence personnel from the whole territory of the Republic of Serbia, that have registered with PRISMA are offered the opportunity to access micro-credit and/or grant schemes for setting up or joining micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as well as receive enhanced support services, assistance in employment generation, referral services and where appropriate vocational skills training.

Potential project beneficiaries that are primarily registered within PRISMA programme, can apply for project's assistance in any of IOM offices in the four Regional Resettlement Centres in Belgrade, Niš, Novi Sad or Kraljevo.

Geographical distribution of Registered Applicants



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) Mission was established in Serbia in 1992, as part of the United Nations Interagency framework of assistance to those displaced by the conflicts in the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The Republic of Serbia became a Member State of IOM on 27 November 2001.

Over 18 years of activities in Serbia, IOM has been working in close cooperation with the government in the fields of migration management, assisted voluntary return, resettlement,

integration of refugees and counter-trafficking. Current Mission staffing: 3 international staff, 30 national employees and 16 national consultants.



IOM - OIM

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