

IOM NTF Newsletter



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

CONTENTS Statistical Data, p.1 – Success Stories, p.2 – Monthly news, p.3 – General info, p.4

MAIN STATISTICAL DATA FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD July 2006 - June 2011

Beneficiaries who received counselling at IOM offices	6,025
Submitted application to the JRP	4,596*
Applications approved and receiving project funds	4,547*

* Including 232 beneficiaries who received interest-free micro-loans, self-sustainability, stimulative or development grants

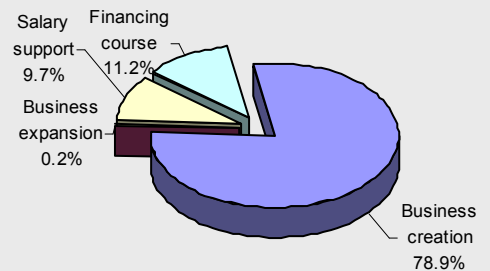
The aim of this newsletter is to provide general monthly information about the project progress as well as other relevant data for accessing the NTF assistance.

REGISTRATION

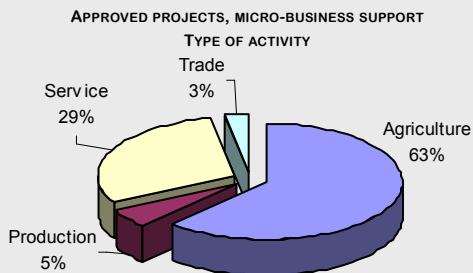
6,025 people counselled and registered

During the five years of project implementation a total of **6,025** 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 - 4,596 applications processed



Since the beginning of 2007, through the counselling and assistance of the PRISMA/IOM client advisors, **4,596** project beneficiaries prepared their funding requests and submitted them to the Joint Review Panel (JRP) for approval. Out of this total number, **4,547** applications were approved and **49** were 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.

According to the NTF Exit Strategy all IOM NTF field offices in four MoD Regional Resettlement Centres (RRCs) are closed as of 30 April 2011. Even after the end of the NTF project the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia will continue to perform resettlement activities aiming to support reintegration of discharged defence personnel into civilian life.

MoD offices	Address	Phone/Fax
BELGRADE	13 Krunska, St ground floor	011/32 01 081
NIŠ	Klub Vojske, Sinđelićev trg bb (3rd floor)	018/509 367
NOVI SAD	4 Braće Jovandić St. (3rd floor)	021/48 35 193
KRALJEVO	1 Vojvode Stepe St	036/308 401

NTF E-mail: office.ntf@iom.int • Internet: www.iomntfserbia.org • YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RcdSIA4b_1A



Vegetable production

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

Mr. Željko Drinić (49), worked for 27 years in the Army. Once made redundant within reform process of the Serbian Army, he started to analyse different opportunities on how to find a civilian job that would enable him to sustain his three-member family household. Considering his age and the very unfavourable job opportunities in the town of Bačka Palanka, Mr. Drinić decided to make the best use of the plot of land owned by his family and start a vegetable production.

The business creation assistance offered by the NATO/PfP Trust Fund Project was essential to turn such business idea into a concrete and legally registered business. Through the NTF grant in the amount of €1,500 Mr. Drinić was able to buy some of the necessary equipment and to register an agricultural household. 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.



Servicing, maintenance and repair of elevators

Niš - Business Creation Assistance (first grant of €1,500 + self-sustainability grant)



Once discharged within ongoing defence sector reforms, Mr. Marko Milojković (27) did not waste any of time. Looking at his skills and local market opportunities he decided to join the efforts with his friend, skilled maintenance worker, and to establish a small partnership company specialized for servicing, maintenance and repairing of elevators.

Although this business idea was well developed, Mr. Milojković was faced with lack of financial sources. In such situation, the NTF business creation assistance in the amount of €1,500 was a crucial. Just in a short period of time this small company became very successful. Following a positive NTF monitoring Mr. Milojković became eligible to also receive a self-sustainability grant.

Today, he is very satisfied with his new civilian job that provides him not only a stable source of income, but also fostered his reintegration into civilian life.

Café Pizzeria "Rio"

Belgrade area - Business Creation Assistance
(first grant of €1,500 + self-sustainability grant of €1,500)

Mr. Vojkan Ivković (46), ex Sergeant Major, worked for more than 23 years in the Army. As soon as became early retired Mr. Ivković started to analyze different opportunities how to complement his limited family budget. Once analyzed market and received one-on-one individual counselling at the Belgrade NTF field office he decided to start his own business and register a café pizzeria.

Thanks to the NTF business creation assistance Mr. Ivković bought some of the necessary equipment and registered a business. Very soon these small businesses become very popular in Smederevska

Palanka town, especially at lunch and dinner time, offering a quality food and professional service. Following a positive NTF monitoring Mr. Ivković became eligible to receive also a self-sustainability grant. As he said, this new job supported his smooth

reintegration into civilian life, but also enabled him to sustain his three-member family.



Main results of the NATO/PfP Trust Fund Project for the Republic of Serbia (July 2006 - June 2011)

Over the five-year period of implementation, the NATO/Partnership for Peace (PfP) Trust Fund Project for Assistance to Discharged Defence Personnel in the Republic of Serbia (NTF project) has achieved significant results in many fronts. It assisted numerous discharged defence personnel and their families in their reintegration into civilian life; through a wide range of capacity building activities combining formal trainings, coaching and learning-by-doing methodologies, the project supported the defence sector reform process and strengthened the MoD capacities to deal with future resettlement activities also related to the professional Army; at the local community level, it enhanced Serbia's socio-economic development and democratization as well as contributed to stability within the Western Balkans region.

As concerns the direct project beneficiaries, a total of 6,025 individual have received individual counselling, while 4,596 of them received financial assistance to support their reintegration into civilian life; a total of 3,586 new micro and small enterprises were registered and 442 former defence staffs found employment in existing companies in Serbia.

As evaluated by external experts, such extremely positive results have gone beyond the initial targets, contributing to making this project as a possible model/example for future similar NATO/PfP activities; in that regard the conclusions in the latest External Independent End-of-project Summative Evaluation Report, from April 2011 (page 40) report as follows: "Compared to other projects that support socio-economic reintegration of discharged military personnel, this project goes beyond the immediate needs and takes a comprehensive, medium-term time-frame to address the difficult and complex multi-dimensional issue of reintegration of discharged personnel. It has earned an outstanding record in terms of customer friendliness and in terms of the already known and much appreciated ICRS that IOM has used in other projects in the past and that was so successfully used in this project thanks to the high standards set and the very high staff quality".

Considering the excellent results achieved as well as the good reputation, the NTF project, as one of the largest and most comprehensive resettlement projects ever financed by the NATO PfP, has attracted the attention of different countries within and beyond the region. In that view, the NATO PDD has also published a feature story about the NTF project at the NATO website (http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/news_74420.htm).

Regarding the self-sustainability of the NATO/PfP support and the long term impact of the donors' investments, after five years of the NTF implementation, the Program for Resettlement has become an integral part of the Ministry of Defence. As confirmed by the Ministry at the last Steering Committee meeting held on May 2011, existing capacities built through the programme have become permanent part of the MoD that will continue to exist and perform similar resettlement activities even after the end of the NTF. On the basis of valuable experience and lessons learned through the five-year NTF project, the MoD is currently developing a new resettlement project with two-year duration, that will be focused on professional soldiers and further professionalization of the Armed Forces.

The screenshot shows a news article on the NATO website. The header includes the NATO logo and navigation links. The article title is "Trust Fund project helps former Serbian defence personnel find jobs in the private sector" dated 17 May, 2011. The text describes the project's success in helping discharged personnel find employment. A video player for "NATOCHANNEL.TV" is embedded, showing a video titled "NATO Partnership for Peace Trust Fund Project" dated 18 May, 2011. Below the video is a "FROM THE EVENT" section with links to "Partnership for Peace Trust Funds" and "Serbia, NATO's relations with". A "MULTIMEDIA" section offers a "Six Colours-documentary (Flash)" and a link to order DVD copies.

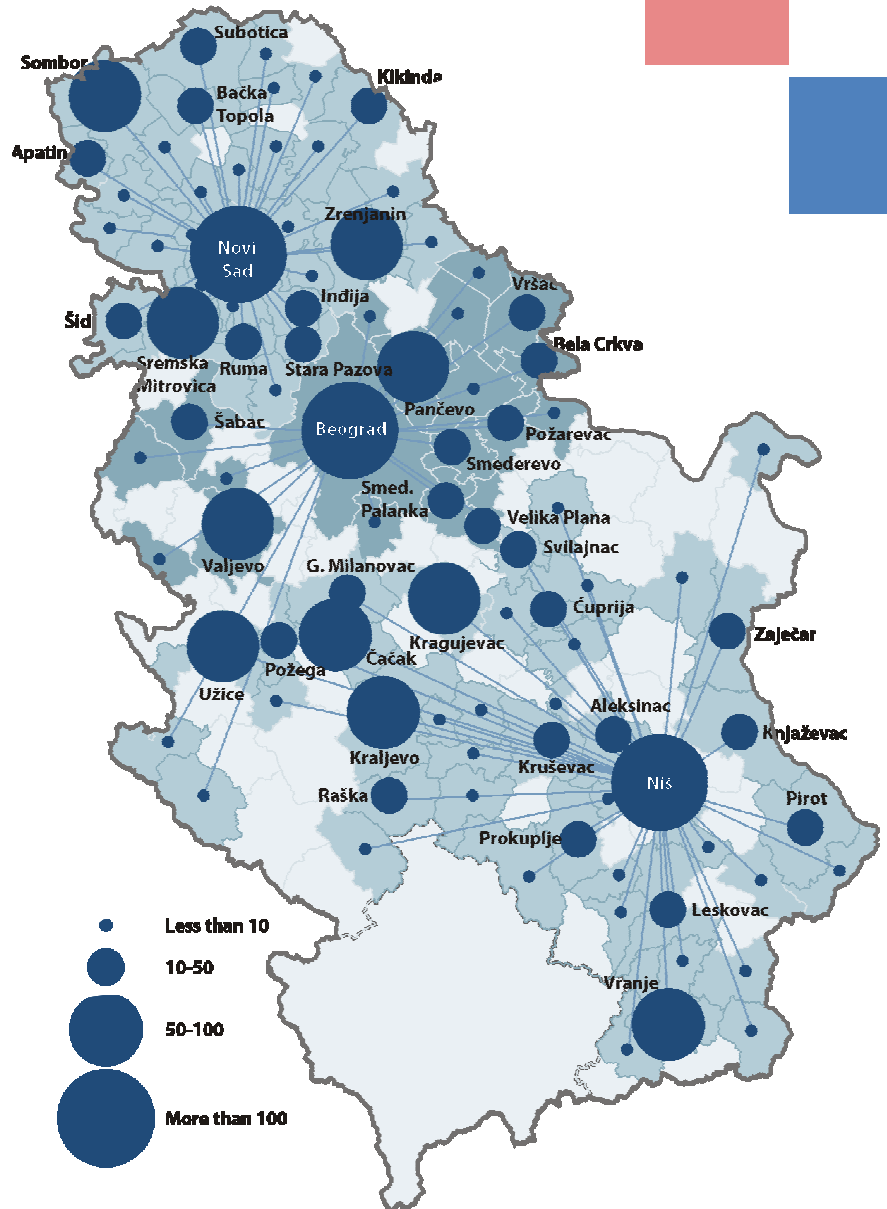
NTF Project Background

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, categorised as "high risk" by the Ministry of Defence, as well as their families and dependants.

Until 30 April 2011 former defence personnel from the whole territory of the Republic of Serbia, that have registered with PRISMA, had an opportunity to access grant schemes and/or micro-credit 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. In line with the NTF exit strategy, all four NTF field offices at the MoD Regional Resettlement Centres in Belgrade, Niš, Novi Sad and Kraljevo are closed at the end of April 2011. As it is planned, the remaining NTF activities will be gradually handed over to the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia until 30 June 2011.

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 33 national consultants.



IOM - OIM

IOM Mission to Serbia, Office in Belgrade
 Držićeva 11, PO Box 23, 11120 Belgrade 35
 Phone: +381 11 38 21 703
 Fax: +381 11 24 12 739
 E-mail: iombeograd@iom.int
 Web: www.iom.int