



Fast Facts

Area: Kosovo

Duration: November 1999 to August 2000

Implementing UN Agencies: UNICEF

Other Implementing Partners: Japan Emergency NGOs, Kosovo Force (KFOR)

Budget: \$437,533.21

Key Words: Education; youth and children; post-conflict reconstruction

BACKGROUND

The peace agreement of 12 June 1999 ended armed hostilities in the province of Kosovo in the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. After the conflict ended, the Kosovar population of more than 1.3 million people, including those who remained in the province during the conflict and those returning from displacement into neighboring regions, required immediate humanitarian assistance. A rapid

assessment by UNICEF of village schools in the province showed that 37 percent of schools had been severely damaged or entirely destroyed. The reconstruction of education facilities was not only important for the province's immediate peacebuilding needs but was also an essential component for the longer-term human security of Kosovo.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The project's objective was to provide emergency repairs to two primary schools in Decani municipality, the Lan Selimi Primary School in the village of Lumbardh and the Jusuf Gevalla Primary School in the village of Prapacan. This enabled pupils to resume

their interrupted education as quickly as possible. Moreover, to guarantee pupil's health and personal security, the project de-mined the school areas as well as installed in-school sanitation facilities for the first time.

BENEFICIARIES

Reconstruction was complete by August 2000 and opening ceremonies were held at both schools as children returned for the 2000-2001 academic year. The rebuilt Lumbardh school's inaugural class

numbered 299 children from grades 1-8 and 18 teachers, while the school at Prapacan re-opened with 512 children and 30 teachers.