

Mostar "Integra" Cultural and Sports Centre

Project Financing

WBIF	Grant	WB7-BIH-SOC-05	€ 552,750
CEB	Loan		€ 12,000,000
Beneficiary Contribution	Own Contribution		€ 12,000,000
CEB	External Grant		€ 2,035,000
Total			€ 26,587,750
Total Grants			€ 552,750
Total Loans			€ 12,000,000

Project Description

Although Mostar is home to a large number of cultural societies and sporting clubs, it lacks sufficient capacity for cultural and sporting events, as present facilities are almost non-existent or are inappropriately small for the city of its size. This project relates to the construction of a cultural and sports facility, CSC Integra, in the city of Mostar with the aim of helping with the integration of three ethnic communities following the 1990's war, while also providing quality sports and cultural assembly and exhibition facilities.

The planned CSC Integra will have a total of 46,000 m² of useful space, out of which 24,000 m² will be an underground parking area and 12,000 m² cultural and sports facility space that will include office and entertainment provision. The building will offer 4,000 seats and garage facilities for 600 parking places. The project is challenged by a small land plot and its central city location, thus making traffic management difficult.

The project is carried out in three components that included:

- the completion of the revisions to the main design and drafting of operational and sustainability plans;
- amending the main construction design and completing relevant related documents;
- completing the feasibility report;
- reporting on savings in investment and operational costs directly attributed to the revisions of the tender dossier.

The facilities will benefit the population of the City of Mostar and its surrounding area, especially the youth and amongst them the disadvantaged and disabled population. The direct beneficiaries include some 18,000, including 3,500 members from approximately 50 cultural societies and 15,000 members of 105 sporting clubs.

Social benefits include a decrease in delinquencies, and drug and alcohol abuse that is widespread due to the lack of recreational facilities Mostar. Moreover, the centre will extend to the wider community allowing educational and civic use, as schools and universities are expected to utilise this facility for cultural, sport, and other events together with 40 cultural civic groups and 120 sporting clubs. The ultimate benefit of the project is the development of a social infrastructure platform that will facilitate the integration of divergent ethnic and social groups. The project should fill the gap in the provision of cultural, sports and assembly capacity, strengthen social integration by improving living conditions and quality of life in the urban area of Mostar and contribute further to the creation of conditions for sustainable development of this highly important city for the

whole southern region of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The technical assistance for project preparation phase is now completed and CEB is waiting to receive a formal loan application from BiH authorities. However, given the political situation in the country, and the Mostar constitutional deadlock, in particular, it is unlikely that the City Council would be in place to submit a request for a loan anytime soon.

In addition to WBIF technical assistance in the preparation phase, funding was provided by the Embassy of Netherlands and CEB-managed Norway Trust Account.

Results and Benefits

- the facility is expected to employ 10 full time and 20-40 part-time employees, and become the enabler of another 200 jobs created indirectly
 - a decrease in delinquencies, drugs and alcohol abuse that currently flourishes due to the lack of sporting/cultural facilities and content
 - 19 public high schools, 24 elementary schools and 2 Universities are expected to utilize this facility for cultural and sports programs and events, 40 cultural civic groups and 120 sporting clubs are expected to take part in the utilization of the facility, promotion of civil society, promotion of political, economic, social and cultural programs, peacebuilding, a decrease of animosity and integration of ethnically diverse community are expected to be other benefits
 - Direct beneficiaries will include 3.500 members of City's 50 cultural societies, 15.000 members of 105 sporting clubs. In total there will be 18.500 direct beneficiaries. In addition, direct beneficiaries will include general public (app. 300,000) from the whole region attending the cultural and sporting performances in a single year
-
- **Countries:** Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - **Code:** PRJ-BIH-SOC-004
 - **Sector:** Social
 - **Lead IFI:** CEB
 - **Status:** Preparation
 - **Beneficiary:** City of Mostar