

### Western Balkans WBIF Investment Framework WBIF An initiative funded by the European Union BUILDING THE EUROPEAN FUTURE TOGETHER

### BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

#### **Partners:**

 Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees, Bosnia and Herzegovina

### Estimated total investment:

• €104.5 million

#### **CEB** loan:

€60.0 million

## Beneficiary contribution:

• €42.7 million

#### **Grant funding:**

- WBIF Bilateral Donors<sup>1</sup>: €1.2 million
- Spain<sup>2</sup>, Norway<sup>3</sup>, and the CEB: €3.9 million

# Closure of Collective Centres and Alternative Accommodation Locations

The 1990s conflicts in the former Yugoslavia led to the displacement of more than 1 million people within the borders of nowadays Bosnia and Herzegovina. At the end of 2011, some 113,000 were still displaced, out of whom some 8,500 lived in collective centres and alternative temporary accommodation. Many of those were unemployed, elderly, ill, or otherwise socially vulnerable.

This project aims to provide housing solutions for about 7,200 refugees and internally displaced persons who were living in collective centres or alternative accommodation at the end of 2012. Specifically, the project entails the construction and rehabilitation of 82 buildings in 45 municipalities and cities throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. These are then provided to beneficiaries based on social, non-for-profit rental housing model or within institutional accommodation (welfare) centers.

The project benefits from grant support from the WBIF Bilateral Donors, Spain, Norway, and the CEB. The grants were essential for defining the institutional and regulatory frameworks as well as for managing the project.

### **Results:**

- 2,600 housing units rehabilitated and/ or built.
- 7,200 refugees and internally displaced people with adequate housing solutions (including places in elderly homes or other types of welfare centres).

### Status:

- 150 families will have moved into new locations by the end of 2019 (eight collective centres and alternative accommodation locations will have been closed).
- Works are ongoing in remaining locations in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska.



New homes and beneficiary in Maglaj, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2018.

Socia

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The EU is the largest donor to the WBIF with over €1 billion in grants to date. In addition, 20 bilateral donors have supported the WBIF since inception. The largest individual cumulative pledges to date have been made by Norway, Sweden, Austria, Germany, United Kingdom, and Italy. See <a href="https://wbif.eu/about/bilateral-donors">https://wbif.eu/about/bilateral-donors</a> for details.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Through the Spanish Social Cohesion Account, a trust fund managed by the CEB. See <u>https://coebank.org/en/project-financing/donors-and-trust-funds/trust-funds/</u> for details.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Through the Norway Trust Account, a fund managed by the CEB.