

Swiss Agency for Development and
Cooperation (SDC)

Reestablishment of the Cadastre in Kosovo



BSB+ Partner
Ingenieure und Planer

Introduction

The long ethnic conflict in Kosovo ended ceased with the NATO engagement in 1999. After the U.N. resolution 1244 was signed, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) started to rebuild peace and stability. The Kosovo Cadastral Agency (KCA) was established and local personnel was trained and equipped. The Swiss engineering company BSB+Partner, Consulting Engineers assisted KCA by leading the survey work and developing a GIS system for cadastral purposes. A lot of the original cadastral information had been destroyed, so KCA was lacking information.

The re-introduction of a land and property management system is one of the main priorities of the UNMIK in re-establishing efficient mechanisms of governance in the provinces. A functional cadastral system is a pre-requisite for implementing reconstruction activities, upholding the rule of law, promoting economic development and resolving long-standing conflicts and uncertainties.



Actual situation

Since 2000 significant investments, in terms of money and know-how transfer in Surveying and Geodesy, have taken place within the Kosovo Cadastre Support Program. Yet, the situation at KCA can not be characterized as sustainable.

The structures of KCA and Municipal Cadastre Offices (MCO) are still young and unstable. Although the transfer of responsibilities to local staff and institutions took place in 2003, management and technical skills of the local stakeholders still need to be improved.

Continuations of the support as well as the improvement of the professional education and development are considered as crucial factors.

Strategy

During the first project phase BSB+Partner actively set-up and managed the SURVEY/GIS Unit (SGU): In the ongoing phase they will take an advising role to support local head and staff of the unit.

Therefore, instead of a permanent presence the supporters (2 persons) will generally operate on a bi-monthly schedule. At any time the local experts are fully in charge and take all responsibilities.



Goal and objective

- Kosovo maintains a well-functioning, transparent and accessible land and property registration service.
- The technical tasks such as surveying and GIS within the cadastral agency is consolidated and the attained quality and sustainability of the projects components achieved in a previous phase are assured.



Outputs

Management skills of SGU and MCO staff are sufficient to handle the tasks of cadastral surveying:

- Local SGU staff and MCO staff are enabled to maintain the reference network and can handle the transformation processes to integrate existing data
- Local SGU and MCO staff is enabled to integrate vectorized data and to actualize the cadastral information system
- Possibilities to improve education of local professionals in Surveying and Geodesy are assessed, curricula are defined and education in well-known Kosovar institutions is initialized

Activities

Swiss experts provide management support for technical experts within KCA until 2007. They support design, preparation and execution of management training programs for local KCA and MCO staff.



Methods

The project objective shall be achieved by using the following methods/instruments:

- Allocation of Swiss experts in KCA
- Training and coaching of local KCA staff
- Supporting the local education institutions in curricula development and coordination of professional development in the fields of Surveying and Geodesy
- Daily on the job support for KCA staff
- Workshops for KCA and MCO staff

Conclusion

The acceptance of the project increased massively by the visible proof of the quality reached by applying modern land survey methods.

In lesser stable countries it is crucial to apply a land information system with a strict management of strongly consistent data to prevent non-conformity.

In developing countries projects run slower and shall be simple, simple, simple. – To gain any sustainability a continuous decreasing support up to five years shall be taken into account for cadastre projects.

