

**The Central Inter-Ministerial Commission (CIMC)
on the Management of the Funds of the Government of Kosovo
on Renovation of Damages**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION ON POST-MARCH RECONSTRUCTION
Issue N°2, 1st September 2004

1. General questions

How many houses have been reconstructed so far, and how many are left to be reconstructed?

As of 31 August, the reconstruction of 414 houses has been completed (most of which suffered less damages) and 407 are under reconstruction. About 116 houses remained to be reconstructed, including many of the homes that were totally destroyed. By mid-October, the reconstruction of homes and public buildings under the Central Inter-Ministerial Commission on Reconstruction (CIMC)'s programme will be finished.

When will the reconstruction of churches start?

Following March events, an assessment of damaged religious and cultural sites was undertaken. An Implementation Committee for the Reconstruction of Religious Sites is now in place and reconstruction of religious monuments including churches is expected to start shortly.

My house was destroyed but not included in the list of the Commission of reconstruction, what can I do?

You can contact your Municipal Community Officer who will discuss your case with the Municipal Reconstruction Commission and get back to you.

I do not want my house to be reconstructed, I only want money, is it possible?

No. The CIMC reconstruction programme only covers the reconstruction of houses damaged or destroyed by March events. There is no funding available to give direct compensation for destroyed property.

2. Signature of legal documents

Why should I sign a Tripartite Agreement (TPA), what is it for?

Before the reconstruction of your house starts, yourself and the two other parties (the Municipal Reconstruction Committee and the municipal implementer (Housing reconstruction team - HRT) or NGO) need to sign a tripartite agreement stipulating what will be done with your house. This guarantees that your house will be reconstructed as it was before. The reconstruction can only start once all parties have signed it.

Can the Municipality start the reconstruction of my house without my signature on the TPA?

Reconstruction work on your house cannot start before the TPA is signed by the three parties (municipal implementer, owner and the Municipal Reconstruction Committee).

Can I sell my property once it is completely reconstructed?

Once your house has been reconstructed, you are free to do whatever you want with it, including selling it. There is no restriction.

Why do I need to sign a Completion Certificate of Assistance? What is it for?

Once the reconstruction of your house is completed, the three parties which signed the TPA need to sign the Completion Certificate of Assistance which shows that the reconstruction was done in compliance with the TPA. If you are eligible for the start-up assistance (see section 4 for more information on this), you can only get that assistance after you have signed this Completion Certificate of Assistance first. However, you should only sign the completion certificate when the work on your home is actually finished. If you have complaints that work has not been done correctly, they should be raised with the Project Manager. If the results are not satisfactory, you can then contact the Municipal Community Officer who can address this with the Municipal Reconstruction Committee.

3. Ongoing or completed reconstruction

Who should be taking care of the security of my house while it is being reconstructed?

The construction company dealing with the reconstruction of your house is responsible for the security of your house while under reconstruction. If you are not satisfied with the security provided to your house, you should contact the Project Manager. If no results, you can refer to the Municipal Reconstruction Committee.

Once completed, who will take care of the security of my house if I am not able to move in immediately?

Once your house is completed and you have signed the completion certificate of assistance, the security of your house is under your own responsibility. Police will provide general security to the area, in accordance with their available resources. You should try to come back to your house as soon as possible. You can ask the Project Manager when your house will be completed and plan your return accordingly.

I want to come back to my house, but there is no more furniture, what can I do?

If your house furniture has been completely looted or burnt, you will be eligible for the start-up assistance. You will receive 2000 Euros to buy basic furniture, goods and kitchen utensils for your house (See section 4 for further information on this). Then, you should be able to come back to your house quickly.

What can I do if I am not happy with the quality of the work done on my house? Can I complain and to whom?

If the reconstruction of your house is not in line with the TPA you have signed, you should discuss your concern first with the Project Manager. If you feel your concern is not being taken into consideration, you can then contact the Municipal Community Officer who can address this with the Municipal Reconstruction Commission.

If I have some problems with my house once the reconstruction is completed, to whom can I refer to? Is there a kind of guarantee?

All houses being reconstructed by CIMC are under 6 months guarantee from the time of the signature of the completion certificate of assistance. If you experience some problems on the part of the house which was reconstructed within the CIMC programme, you can report this to the Municipal Community Officer, who will raise the problem with the Municipal Reconstruction Committee.

4. Start-up assistance***

I have heard about the start-up assistance: Who is entitled to get it? What is it for?

The Government has decided that beneficiaries whose house furniture, goods and utilities have been completely looted or destroyed by fire will be eligible for receiving an amount of € 2000 as a start-up for the purchase of basic house furniture and household goods in order to facilitate living conditions in renovated/reconstructed houses.

What should I do to get it? When will I get it?

If you are eligible, you will need to fill in a form including your bank account details as this money will be transferred to your bank account. A Representative from the Municipal Reconstruction Committee will contact you by the time you have signed the Completion Certificate of Assistance. If you do not have a bank account, you will have to open one.

Can I use this money as I want?

When you will sign the form of the start-up assistance, you will commit yourself to spend the money given to you on furnishings and household goods for the newly rehabilitated/reconstructed house.

The start-up assistance will not be enough to replace everything I lost, will there be some other type of assistance?

The Government is aware that the start-up assistance will not be enough to compensate for everything you lost, but this is the only programme in place at this point to provide assistance.

Is the start-up assistance my only option or can I appeal?

You have the right to fill a claim with your Municipal court.

I have been hosting displaced families for several months, will I get paid some money for that?

The CIMC programme does not cover that. It only deals with reconstruction.

5. Secondary buildings and movable properties

When will the construction of secondary buildings such as stores, barns, and garages start?

An assessment is in progress and will determine Government's decision on this issue.

Will damaged or burnt vehicles be reimbursed?

The CIMC programme does not cover for that. The only movable properties taken into account are the furniture, and household goods which were completely looted or burnt.

Will my kitchen utensils like my knives and forks be replaced?

The start-up assistance can be used to replace basic household goods including kitchen utensils.

Minister Behxhet Brajshori

Head of Central Inter-Ministerial Commission (CIMC)

*** If you would like to obtain further information on the start-up assistance, your Municipal Community Officer can provide you an information leaflet