

Srpsko Gorazde

Today, the Local Return and Reconstruction Task Force (RRTF) for the Gorazde area met to discuss the problems related to return to Srpsko Gorazde.

The OHR and the UNHCR as the RRTF co-chairs have asked the authorities of Srpsko Gorazde to initiate the immediate resumption of reconstruction projects in Srpsko Gorazde. Reconstruction of housing for returnees stopped a few weeks ago. Further international assistance to the municipality will depend on action taken by the authorities in that regard.

The UNHCR will monitor the individual cases of former residents of the municipality of Srpsko Gorazde who have chosen to exercise their rights in relation to return and repossession of their property.

Actual returns will be followed up on a case-by-case basis and will also serve as an objective indicator of progress achieved in the municipality of Srpsko Gorazde.

The OHR and the UNHCR emphasize the right of every individual to return, to his home and property, as well as to freedom of movement, which in this case also includes the right of the individuals to cultivate their land.

With the High Representative's increased focus on the implementation of rights to return and property across Bosnia and Herzegovina, the authorities' respect for citizens rights and action taken in that regard – measurable by the number of resolved claims and actual returns – will be used as an indicator of compliance with the Dayton Peace Agreement and eligibility for international assistance.

The OHR and the UNHCR call on the authorities of Srpsko Gorazde to immediately take the requested steps in order to solve the problems in the municipality.