

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA: GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT (GAP)

The Governance Accountability Project (GAP) builds the capacity of municipalities, improving their ability to serve their citizens. AED designs, develops, and implements the grant fund supporting the Direct Municipal Interventions component of the program, which:

- Provides municipalities with targeted technical assistance to improve customer service profiles and administrative management systems.
- Raises levels of transparency and information flow both within local government departments and to citizens and businesses.
- Expands municipal control over revenues and expenditures.
- Improves human resource management.

AED Activities

The AED implemented grants fund supports modest investments, providing visible outputs to citizens in the short-term, and creates a context of deeper municipality-community interaction to produce solutions for local needs.

- **Material Assistance Grants** allow for the purchase of equipment and/or supplies for local governments to implement activities which require capital outlays – i.e., computers/networking equipment, limited construction, or equipment for a “one-stop” shop.

- **Community Development Grants** allow for broader community assistance and can be used to facilitate rapid completion of priorities developed by citizen groups in conjunction with the municipality – i.e., providing drinking water for a neglected neighborhood, street lighting, and small repairs to community infrastructure and public institutions (e.g. schools, clinics, etc.).

As a result of AED's work, at least forty local governments will function substantially better and provide superior service; both citizens and businesses will register increased satisfaction with municipal institutions.

Jointly funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Swedish International Development Coordinating Agency (Sida), AED, under sub-contract to DAI, manages the \$8 million grant fund of the \$20 million three-year (2004-2007) program. GAP has a main office in Sarajevo and three regional offices in Bania Luka, Tuzla, and Mostar.

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