

P R O J E C T

H O P E

Suisse/Schweiz

Republic of Serbia – Humanitarian Assistance Programme

Humanitarian Assistance Programme is completed

A Humanitarian Assistance Programme in the Republic of Serbia has been successfully completed. With support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), over US\$ 1.88 million in medical humanitarian assistance could be provided to the cities of Novi Sad and Nis in Serbia and Montenegro.

In response to a shortage of locally produced medicines, in October 2001 Project HOPE Switzerland, in partnership with the city governments of Novi Sad and Nis, the governments of the Republic of Serbia and the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the Serbian Orthodox Church and the Centre for Public Health and Preventative Medicine in Ormylia, Greece, initiated this programme. The objective was to provide at least US\$1 million in medical humanitarian assistance to bridge the time period during which required medicines or medical materials would not be available locally. The donated medicines, equipment, and medical textbooks have improved the treatment of patients and allowed for the introduction of new techniques in the treatment of cardiology and pulmonary conditions. Although there is still a great need for the more expensive medicines and medical equipment, domestic production of medicines and medical supplies is slowly returning to normal levels.

March 2004