

CBR Development in Republika Srpska (RS), Bosnia and Herzegovina

In partnership with Ministry of Health of RS and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency.

Dates:	April 2002 to June 2004
Primary sites:	Primarily in the Republika Srpska, Secondarily in Bosnia-Herzegovina
Budget:	\$1,925,000 CAD
Donor:	Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), with contributions from Queen's University, Republika Srpska partners

Overview

The ICACBR has been working in the Balkans since 1993. ICACBR projects in the region began during the Bosnian War as part of the international post-conflict efforts to reconstruct the healthcare system. The ICACBR introduced the concept of community-based rehabilitation (CBR) to the Balkans during the conflict in 1993. Since these previous projects, CBR has been a core priority of national rehabilitation service reform in both the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH) and the Republika Srpska (RS).



In cooperation with the Ministry of Health of Republika Srpska and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency, this project worked to improve the Republika Srpska's healthcare and social systems community approach to disability management. Community management of disabilities is an important step in supporting people with disabilities to live independently. Included in the projects planned activities were:

- The project was to educate five clinicians and two peer counsellors about clinical skills, community care skills and problem-solving techniques. These individuals were to be provided with educational content and trained to educate other healthcare professionals, increasing the impact of their training.
- The project would work to develop course content, teaching and learning resources for eight workshops on management, clinical techniques, and peer counselling. On-site education about CBR was to be provided for 120 people, enabling them to implement CBR and peer counselling programs in their communities.
- The project team would work to create a multidisciplinary diploma education program in community-based rehabilitation that would be provided to over 25 students. This diploma was intended to give them skills to implement CBR programs independently.
- The team planned to run four information sharing workshops for stakeholders to advance the healthcare policy and CBR legislation relating to disability issues.

- The project planned to systematically collect and analyze data about CBR in the region. This would allow the project to prepare papers and enable evidence-based policy development.
- A conference series and workshops for healthcare providers, policy makers and other stakeholders would be organized by the ICACBR team. These events were intended to stimulate discussion of CBR development in terms of area of service delivery, education, and policy. This initiative would provide resources to CBR workers in point-of-care and policy creation roles. These events were also intended to inspire interest in CBR workers to further ongoing local development of CBR programs. .

Sources and Project Resources

2. CBR Development in Republika Srpska (RS), Bosnia and Herzegovina project details page*
3. CBR Development in Republika Srpska (RS), Bosnia and Herzegovina website archives*
4. Intro to Development of CBR Srpska Module 1
5. Manual: Assessment and Treatment of the Cervical and Thoracic Spine

*used to generate this report