

SCHOOL RECONSTRUCTION IN TRNAVA



Ekrem Salihu, president of MZ Trnava with CDC members and CHF representative in front of the school "15. Novembar"



The reconstructed school has capacities for more than 250 children

TRNAVA, SRBIJA — Through the USAID-funded Community Revitalization through Democratic Action, CRDA program, CHF International is supporting the community projects in the region of Southern Serbia. The reconstruction of the school "15. Novembar" in the community Trnava in Preševo municipality is one of these examples.

Ekrem Salihu, member of the Community Development Council (CDC) in Trnava, a village close to the Macedonian border, compares the conditions in the old school with the present conditions.

"In the past we had 120 pupils, who attended only first four classes in the old school. Our dream was to have a modern school, where the classes can be conducted in a safe building, with capacities adequate for the needs of Trnava", says Ekrem Salihu.

Nowadays, the new school has the capacity for about 250 pupils, including the kindergarten. "15. Novembar" is a

modern school with sanitary blocks, heating facility room, water supply system, electricity and cabinet equipped with four computers.

"It is also my pleasure to say that this project was also the motive for the people from our community to organize themselves", says Salihu. "They came to the idea to use also the old building, turning it into a village library and place where community members gather together."

Ekrem Salihu also emphasizes that CHF helped people believe that they can have influence on the quality of life in Trnava by participating in civil works and by making the decisions about some important projects in their community.

Community of Trnava is one of the communities in this region, where women are also very active as committee members.

"It is not only that we have a new school", explains Ekrem. "What is the more important, we have trust that the things in Trnava can change."