



РЕПУБЛИКА СРБИЈА
Комесаријат за
избеглице

***THE CONDITION AND THE NEEDS OF
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN
COLLECTIVE CENTRES IN THE
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA***

JANUARY 2010

I Introduction

In the course of June in 1999, more than 200.000 Serbs and other non-Albanians were forced to leave the territory of Kosovo and Metohija or were displaced within the province. During the registration of internally displaced persons in the year 2000, approximately 186.000 internally displaced persons were taken records of in Serbia outside of KiM. The emigration continued also after 1999. Until this day about 210.146 IDPs have been registered within Serbia proper.

At the time when the IDPs came from KiM, Serbia was already burdened with many years of caring and accommodating a vast number of the refugee population from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. With the aim to provide emergency care and accommodation for the most vulnerable internally displaced persons, the capacities of the existing collective centres in which the refugees have already been accommodated have been made available. The Republic of Serbia granted objects that were owned by social enterprises as well as those that were municipal facilities. At this moment, in the Republic of Serbia there still exist 60 collective centres (43 on the territory of Serbia proper and 17 in KiM) accommodating 1105 refugees and 3792 internally displaced persons, out of whom 105 refugees and 558 IDPs are residing in the collective centres on the territory of KiM.

The National Strategy for Resolving the Issues of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons envisages that all collective centres are to be closed down gradually. The planned closure of the collective centres commenced immediately following the adoption of the Strategy, i.e. in 2002. Given the fact that the majority of those accommodated in the collective centres are internally displaced persons, the shutting down of the collective centres requires that adequate solutions be found for these people. Resolving the problems of internally displaced persons presents one of the priorities for the Government of the Republic of Serbia. The leading principles in resolving the issues of IDPs foresee the right of IDPs to return. Considering that the security conditions in KiM, already for a prolonged time, do not permit a more substantial return of internally displaced persons to their previous places of residence, the Republic of Serbia, within the scope of its capacities, carries out projects with the goal to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable categories of IDPs until the conditions for their return have been established.

By the end of 2008, the Commissariat for Refugees has, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organisation for Migration, conducted a study on the condition and the needs of the refugee population in the Republic of Serbia. Aiming at an improved planning of activities as well as of the resources required for the closure of the remaining collective centres, during December 2009 the Commissariat for Refugees, in cooperation with UNDP, realised the Project "Support for the Implementation of the National Strategy for Resolving the Problems of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons through a Needs Analysis of Internally Displaced Persons accommodated in Collective Centres in the Republic of Serbia" within the framework of which a survey was conducted on internally displaced persons from Kosovo and Metohija who are accommodated in the 43 collective centres on the territory of the Republic of Serbia outside KiM.

II Most Important Facts on Internally Displaced Persons Accommodated in Collective Centres

- The age and educational structure of IDPs in collective centres is less favourable in relation to the entire population of IDPs
- The average IDP household in collective centres has three members
- The unemployment rate among internally displaced persons is 41%, which is significantly higher than the local population
- 58% of IDPs in collective centres do not realise a personal income
- The most common source of income to IDPs in collective centres is the so-called „Kosovo Compensation“
- 55% of households of IDPs in collective centres dispose of less than 5,000 RSD per member per month
- 603 households can be considered as extremely vulnerable
- The main obstacle for return is the bad security situation in KiM

III Examination of the Needs of IDPs in Collective Centres

Through the creation of proper housing conditions, most of the internally displaced persons would be able to leave the collective centre. However, 10% of those interviewed are irresolute and do not have a clear vision concerning an acceptable solution in order for them to leave the collective centre.

The most desirable solutions for leaving the collective centre are:

- Social housing in a protected environment – 29.9% of households
- Purchase of a village house – 27.9% of households
- Assistance regarding building material – 16.9% of households
- 4% of internally displaced persons view the return to KiM as the only solution for leaving the collective centre
- 32% of households require legal aid, primarily for the resolution of property relations and legal representation before courts in KiM

IV Statistical Data

1. Demographic Characteristics of Internally Displaced Persons in Collective Centres

1.1 Age and Gender Structure

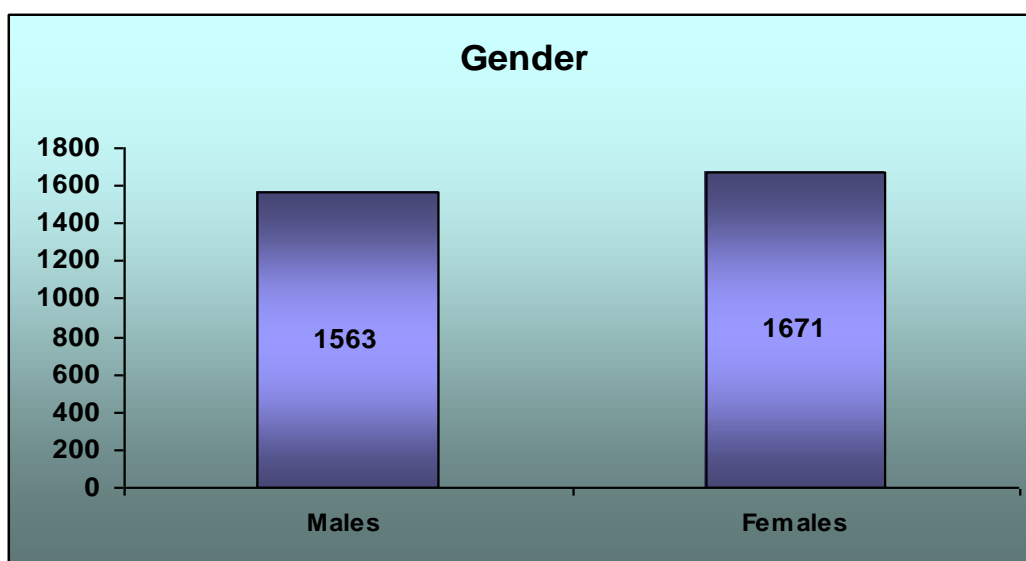
Table 1.1 Displaced Persons by Age group and Gender

Age	Gender (Number and Percentage)				Total (Number and percentage)	
	Males		Females			
00-06	59	3.77%	58	3.47	117	3.62
07-14	203	12.99	193	11.55	396	12.24
15-18	103	6.59	125	7.48	228	7.05
19-64	993	63.53	1117	66.85	2110	65.24
65 i više	205	13.12	178	10.65	383	11.84
Total:	1563	100.00	1671	100.00	3234	100.00

The majority of the displaced population in collective centres is in an active working age between 19 and 64 years of age (65%). The population of internally displaced persons in collective centres is considerably younger than the refugees accommodated in collective centres, or 22.9% of the accommodated are younger than 18 years of age, in comparison to refugees for whom this percentage totals 7.8%.

Nevertheless, the figures indicate that the average age of IDPs accommodated in collective centres, in relation to the entire IDP population, is slightly higher and so is the percentage of those younger than 18 years of age much less, while the percentage of the group between 19-64 is even 15% higher than among the total IDP population. This could also be the consequence of the time passed, considering the fact that the registration of internally displaced persons was carried out in the year 2000 and that the natural growth of this population is now smaller than before the displacement.

There are no significant structural differences between IDPs in collective centres and the overall IDP population in regards to gender.

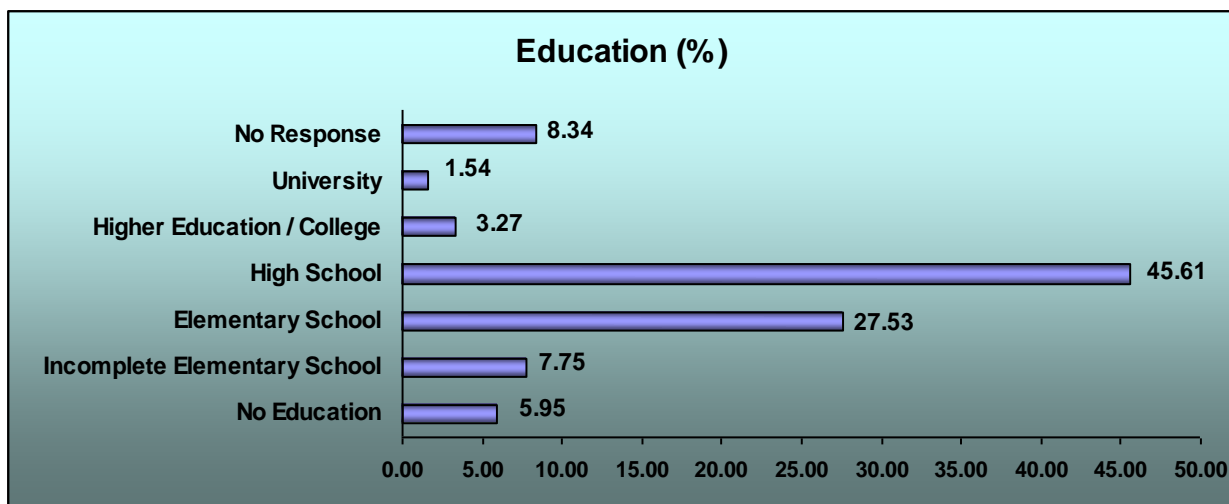


1.2 Education

The educational structure of internally displaced persons in collective centres is somewhat less favourable than the whole IDP population. 13.7% of the accommodated have either no education or they have only partially completed elementary school. The majority of people have completed elementary school, namely 45.6%, whereas less than 5% of the accommodated have actually graduated from college or university.

Table 1.2 Displaced Persons by Gender and Education

Education	Number and Percentage					
	Males		Females		Total	
No Education	48	3.69	114	8.03	162	5.95
Incomplete Elementary School	69	5.30	142	10.00	211	7.75
Elementary School	225	17.29	524	36.90	749	27.53
High School	817	62.80	424	29.86	1241	45.61
Higher Education / College	46	3.54	43	3.03	89	3.27
University	23	1.77	19	1.34	42	1.54
No Response	73	5.61	154	10.85	227	8.34
Total:	1301	100.00	1420	100.00	2721	100.00



1.3. Household Size

The household size is one of the most important factors for planning housing solutions. Unlike the displaced population residing in the collective centres with an average household of 1.8 members, households of internally displaced persons are considerably more numerous with an averaging 3.17 family members. Single households are represented with less than 19% (for refugees 52%), but the percentage of households with 5 or more family members is higher than 25%, which requires particular attention during the programming of activities

Table 1.3 Household Size

Number of Household Members	Number and percentage of Households	
1	183	18.77
2	189	19.38
3	163	16.72
4	178	18.26
5	147	15.08
6	72	7.38
7	27	2.77
8	7	0.72
9	7	0.72
11	1	0.10
12	1	0.10
Total:	975	100.00

The average household size amounts to **3.17**

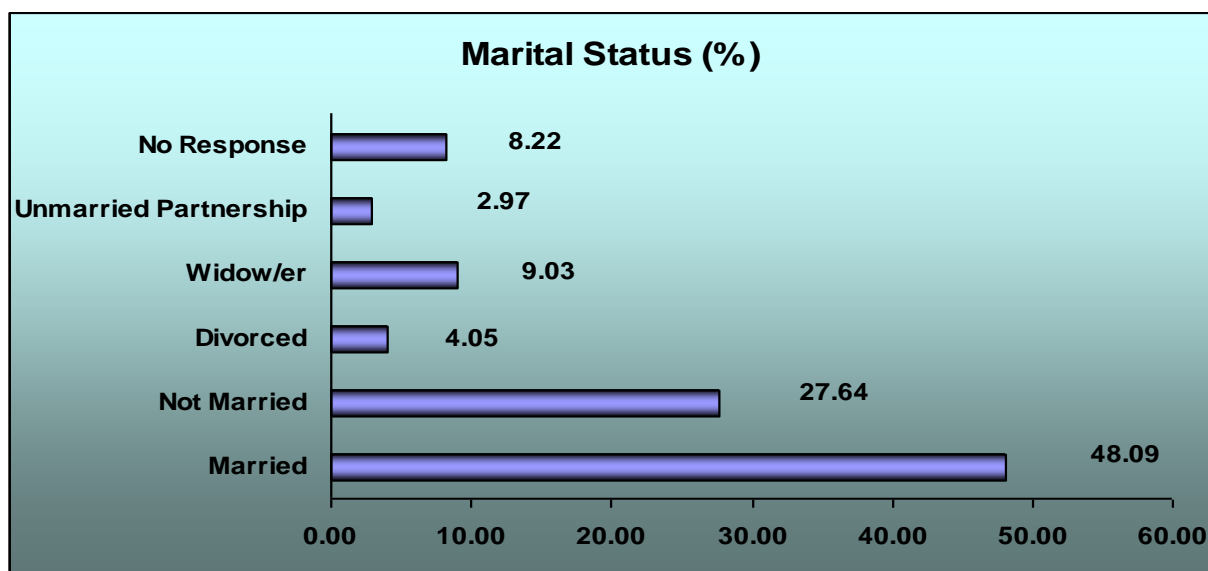
1.4 Marital Status¹

Considering the average size of families accommodated in a collective centre it is evident that the majority of the accommodated are either in a marital or unmarried partnership. It is interesting to note that a significant number of persons did not want to elaborate on their marital status.

Table 1.4 Marital Status

Marital Status	Number and Percentage of Persons	
Married	1199	48.09
Not Married	689	27.64
Divorced	101	4.05
Widow/er	225	9.03
Unmarried Partnership	84	3.37
No Response	195	7.82
Total:	2493	100.00

¹ Only adults were examined



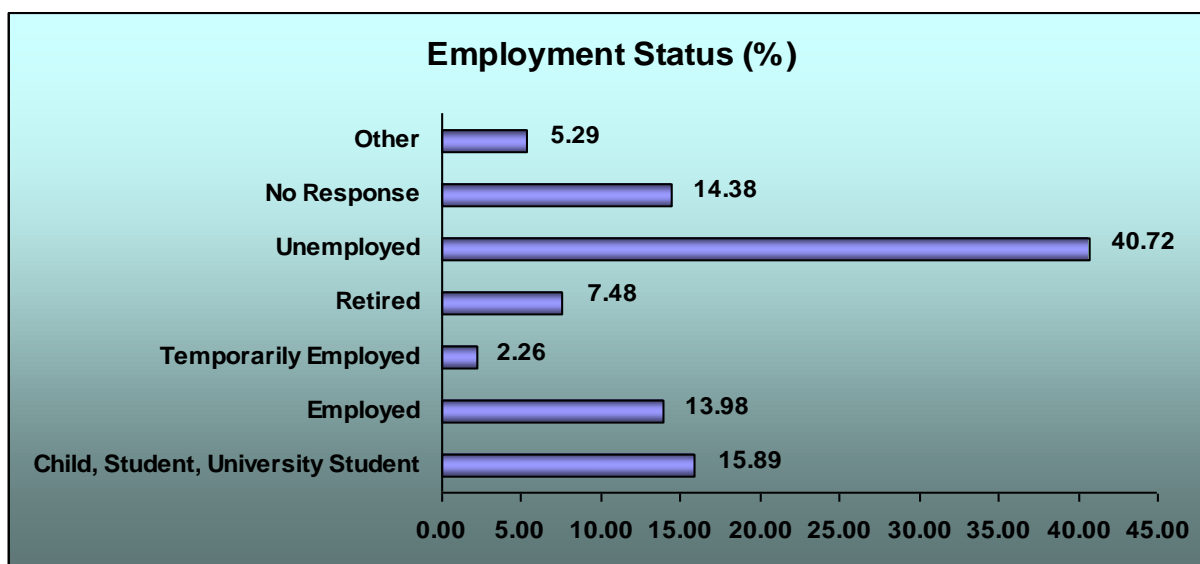
2. Material Situation of Internally Displaced Persons accommodated in Collective Centres

2.1 Employment Status

As much as 40.7% of internally displaced persons in collective centres are unemployed. If the rate were to be calculated only in relation to those who are fit for work, this data would be more unfavourable. At the same time there are 452 persons residing in collective centres are employed permanently (a number of persons who receive compensation through the National Employment Service consider themselves employed).

Table 2.1 Employment Status of Internally Displaced Persons

Employment Status	Number and Percentage of Persons	
Child, Student, University Student	514	15.89
Employed	452	13.98
Temporarily Employed	73	2.26
Retired	242	7.48
Unemployed	1317	40.72
No Response	465	14.38
Other	171	5.29
Total:	3234	100.00

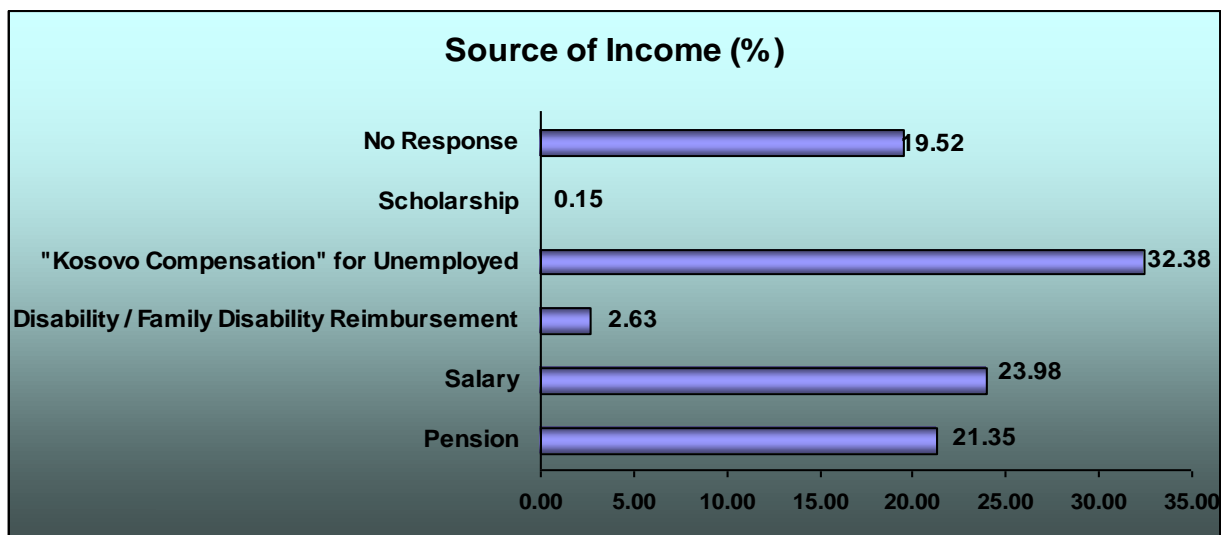


2.2 Personal and Other Income

Less than a half of internally displaced persons accommodated in collective centres have a personal income, or more precisely 42%. The most common source of income is the so-called "Kosovo Compensation" for persons who have remained without a job due to their displacement (443 persons), followed by salary (328 persons) and pension (292 persons).

Table 2.2.1 Source of Personal Income of Displaced Persons

Source of Income	Number and Percentage of Persons	
Pension	292	21.35
Salary	328	23.98
Disability / Family Disability Reimbursement	36	2.63
"Kosovo Compensation" for Unemployed	443	32.38
Scholarship	2	0.15
No Response	267	19.52
Total:	1368	100.00



Apart from personal income, a number receives also an additional income on the basis of social vulnerability, namely 274 households. Generally, this means assistance in shape of child support, which 198 families receive.

Table 2.2.2 Income of the Household

Income of the Household	Number and Percentage of Households	
Family Social Allowance	73	26.64
Parental Allowance	3	1.09
Child Support	198	72.26
Total:	274	100.00

With the analysis of the income that households dispose of per family member it can be concluded that 16% of the households do not have any income, while another 39% of households have less than 5.000 RSD per family member at their disposal. The amount that 28% of internally displaced persons accommodated in collective centres have per household member runs between 5.000 and 100.000 RSD.

Table 2.2.3 Total monthly income per household member

Total Monthly Income per Household Member	Number and Percentage of Households	
No Income	157	16,10
Up to 5.000 RSD	377	38,67
5.000-10.000 RSD	279	28,61
10.000-15.000 RSD	78	8,00
No Response	84	8,20
Total:	975	100.00

3. Health and Working Vulnerability

3.1. Health Vulnerability

Among the internally displaced persons in collective centres there are 40 slightly and moderately mentally challenged and 12 heavily mentally disabled internally displaced persons. As well, there are 143 disabled persons who require different types of assistance.

Table 3.1.1 Disability

Physical Disability	Number of Persons
Motile (able to move)	86
Motile, yet requiring assistance of a second person or wheelchair	35
Immobile	22
Persons with amputations of limbs	3

At the same time another 410 persons declared to be suffering from some kind of chronic disease. Among the chronically ill persons, there are also persons on dialysis, persons who suffer from insulin dependent diabetes, cancer and psychiatric diseases.

Table 3.1.2 Chronic Patients in Need of Additional Support

Patients in Need of Special Support	Number of Persons
Psychiatric Illness	25
Diabetic on Insulin	58
Patient on Dialysis	18
Malignant Diseases	27
Total:	128

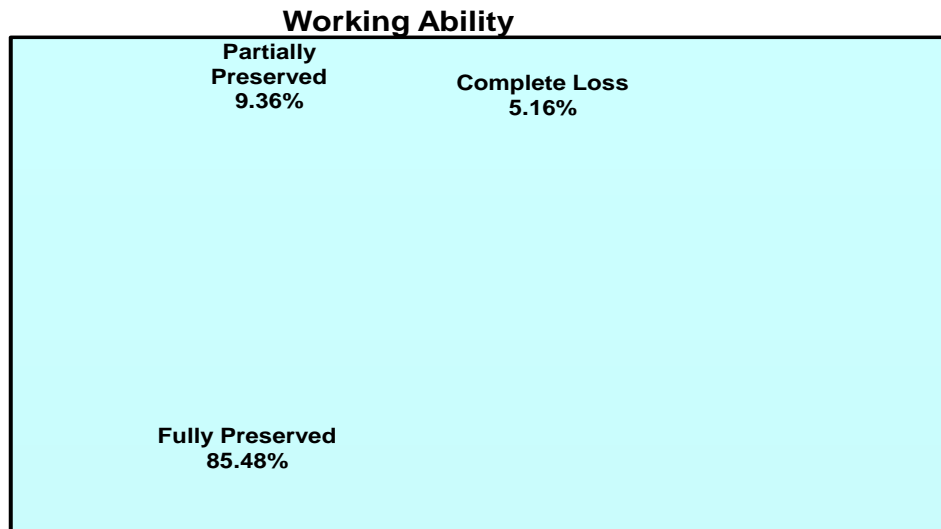
3.2. Working Ability (persons aged between 15 and 65 years)²

Given that the largest number of those accommodated is fully capable of working, it is crucial to take the appropriate actions to increase the employment rate in order to enable internally displaced persons to independently provide for their own living.

Table 3.2 Working Ability

Working Ability	Number And Percentage	
Fully Preserved	1954	85.48
Partially Preserved	214	9.36
Complete Loss	118	5.16
Total:	2286	100.00

² Facts regarding working ability have not been documented but were assessed only on the basis of statements and self assessments

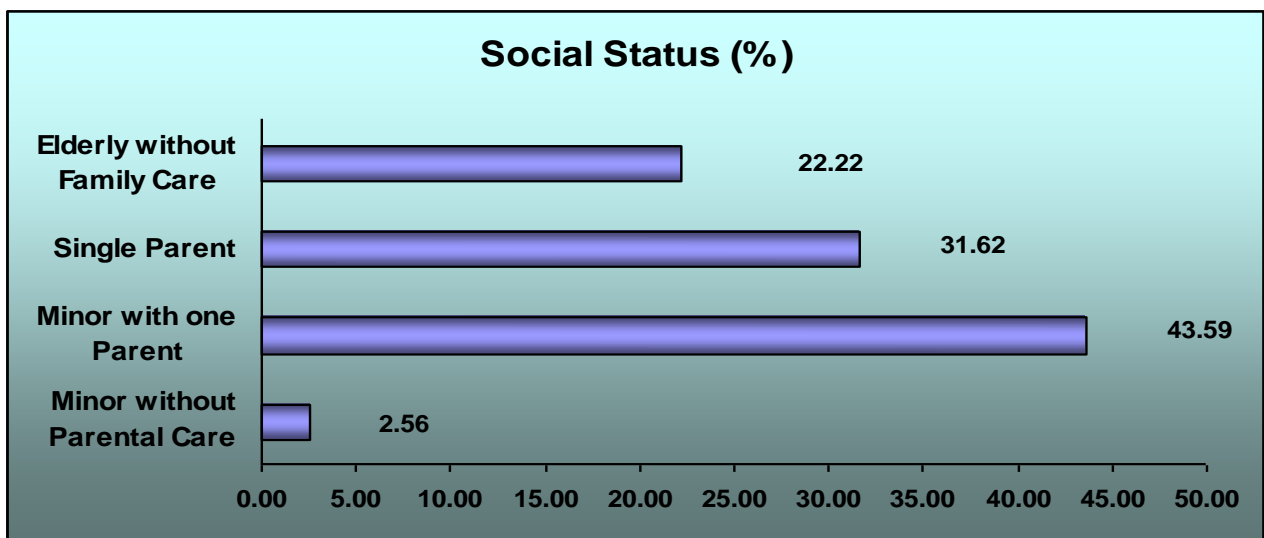


4. Socio-economic Vulnerability

Internally displaced persons in collective centres are usually affected as children with one parent, followed by single parents and much less so refugees in collective centres as elderly without family care.

Table 4.1 Social Status

Social Status	Number And Percentage	
Minor without Parental Care	3	2.56
Minor with one Parent	51	43.59
Single Parent	37	31.62
Elderly without Family Care	26	22.22
Total:	117	100.00



Taking into account the extremely difficult material situation of families in general as well as families with a disabled household member, almost two-thirds of all households accommodated in collective centres are households that are very much vulnerable and require special support.

Table 4.2 Form of Vulnerability of Displaced Persons

Form of Vulnerability	Number of Persons
Single Parent	37
Elderly without Family care	26
Extremely Poor Families	437
Households with a Disabled Family Member	103
Total:	603

5. Property in Kosovo and Metohija

5.1. Type of Property

Internally displaced persons accommodated in collective centres have owned 1108 objects in Kosovo and Metohija. Only 62 households did not have any assets on the territory of KiM.

Table 5.1 Type of Property

Type of Property	Number of Objects
House	628
Apartment	158
Agricultural Land	242
Commercial Space	18
Without Property	62
Total:	1108

5.2. Current Status of Property

Regarding the current status of the property of persons accommodated in collective centres, as much as 22% of households can not dispose of their property since it is usurped, and another 10 percent of the owners have no information about their assets. Even though 30% of the property remains to be under the ownership of the respective proprietors, they still cannot use it, mainly due to security issues.

Table 5.2 Current Status of Property

Current Status of Property	Number And Percentage of Households	
Under the Landlord's Ownership	298	30.56
Occupied	216	22.15
Exchanged	5	0.51
Sold	41	4.21
Rented out	2	0.21
Unsettled Ownership Relations	128	13.13
Unknown	99	10.15
No Response or No Property	186	19.08
Total:	975	100.00

5.3 Physical State of Property

When it comes to the physical state of the objects, more than a half of the owners declared that their buildings were destroyed, 56.55%, whereas 11.25% of property has a high degree of damage, or to be exact, it is uninhabitable.

Table 5.3 Current State of Property

Current State of Property	Number And Percentage of Households	
Destroyed	397	56.55
Highly Damaged - Uninhabitable	79	11.25
Damaged - Inhabitable	45	6.41
Undamaged	63	8.97
Unknown	118	16.81
Total:	702	100.00

194 families have filed requests for the restoration of destroyed or damaged property through the provisional institutions in Kosovo and Metohija, international organisations, the Ministry for Kosovo and Metohija, international and national NGOs as well as through the local self-governments. Out of that number, 6 have signed a contract for reconstruction, 26 received a positive decision, 14 received a negative decision, and 138 requests remained unanswered. The outcome of the claims of usurpation of property is similar. Most of the lawsuits have remained without a reply (over 65%). A large number of people have problems with submitting the request for pending property relations.

The fact is, however, that the number of claims submitted is extremely small compared to the total number of households that used to dispose of property prior to their displacement.

6. Preferred Durable Solution for Leaving the Collective Centre

The largest number of people has opted for a variant of social housing in protected conditions. If the number of families who opted for this type of solution is compared with the number of households that are in extremely vulnerable, it can be concluded that the assessment of respondents on the need for additional support through the social protection system is quite realistic. Given the average size of households, the expected result would be that 272 families would rather opt for a rural household.

Moreover, after several years of providing construction materials to families in collective centres, 16% of households continue to have the need for this type of support. The reason for this lies in the fact that one of the conditions for obtaining such a type of assistance is that the construction is legal, namely that the ownership of the land which is located in an urban area intended for individual housing construction is settled and that the process of legalisation has already commenced. After the entry into force of the new Law on Planning and Building and Re-opening the deadline for the registration of facilities to be legalised, it is realistic to expect that a considerable number of these facilities could now be included in programmes of distribution of construction materials for the completion of unfinished buildings.

About 9% of households could actually leave the collective centre by means of a single goods-financial support. A little less than 3% of households could be taken care of through their accommodation in social welfare institutions.

It is important to note that 35 families do not see any other solutions for themselves other than return, regardless of the conditions that they can be provided with in KiM. The assumption is that those families have already reported themselves to UNHCR and the Ministry for Kosovo and Metohija concerning their inclusion in the organised return, but same as before, not even the bare minimum of conditions for return have been provided thus far.

Table 6.1 Preferred Durable Solution for Leaving the Collective Centre

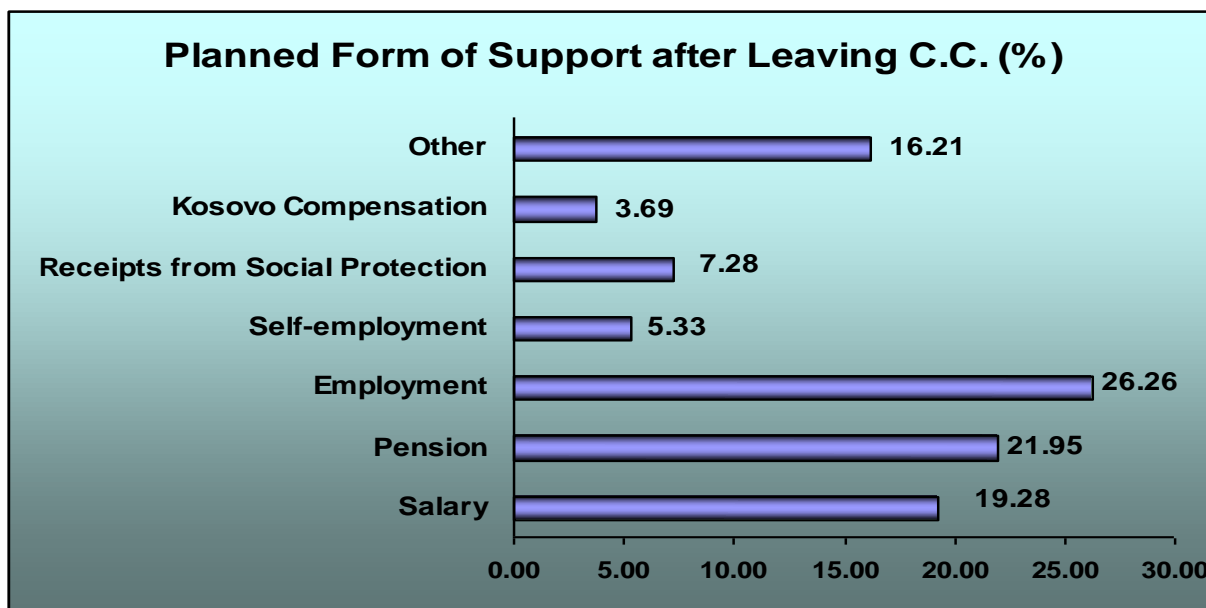
Preferred Solution for Leaving C.C.	Number And Percentage of Households	
	Number	Percentage
Return to Previous Place of Residence	35	3.59
Social Housing in a Protected Environment	292	29.95
Village Houses	272	27.90
Building Material Packages	165	16.92
Accommodation in Institutions for Social Protection	28	2.87
Goods-financial Support	85	8.72
Other/No Response	98	10.05
Total:	975	100



After leaving the collective centre, the majority of households would provide funds from their personal income, although a certain number (71 households) would still rely on social welfare as their source of income. In order to enable families to provide an income themselves, further assistance is required for the employment and self-employment of 318 families. Unfortunately, 36 households still rely solely on the "Kosovo Compensation".

Table 6.2 Planned Form of Support after Leaving the Collective Centre

Planned Form of Support after Leaving C.C.	Number And Percentage of Households	
Salary	188	19.28
Pension	214	21.95
Employment	256	26.26
Self-employment	52	5.33
Receipts from Social Protection	71	7.28
Kosovo Compensation	36	3.69
Other	158	16.21
Total:	975	100.00



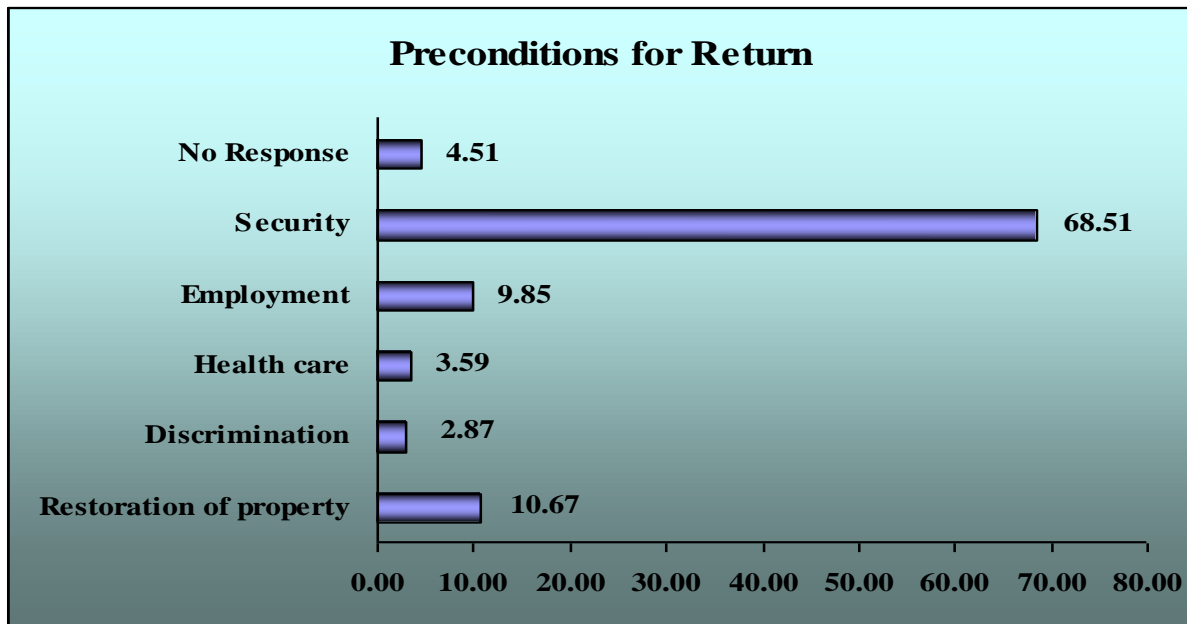
7. Return

Given that the basic principle that is emphasised in all international documents relating to solving the problem of displaced populations is the freedom of choice between return and local integration, and taking into account that the conditions for such a choice do not exist concerning internally displaced persons from Kosovo and Metohija, a special part of the survey deals with exploring what preconditions need to be fulfilled for the return to KiM.

Table 7.1 Preconditions for Return

Preconditions for Return	Number And Percentage of Households	
Restoration of property	104	10.67
Discrimination	28	2.87
Health care	35	3.59
Employment	96	9.85
Security	668	68.51
No Response	44	4.51
Total:	975	100

From these results, it becomes rather evident that the basic precondition for the return to the place of residence is safety. 68% of households considered that the security conditions do not exist. Next in importance is the restoration of property and employment, or economic security, to be more precise.



The problems that people have in exercising their rights in Kosovo and Metohija are supported by the fact that out of 314 families that have expressed their need for legal assistance (32% of all accommodated), 75% require this help in order to be represented before courts and for the settlement of property relations in Kosovo and Metohija.

Table 7.2 Preconditions for Return

The Number of Families in Need for Some Type of Legal Aid	
Obtaining Documents	76
Representation before Courts	103
Property Relations	135
Total:	314

ANNEX 1.

COLLECTIVE CENTRES IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

	<i>County</i>	<i>Municipal</i>	<i>Collective Centers</i>	<i>Refugees</i>	<i>IDPs</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	južno-banatski	KOVIN	OMLAD. NASELJE ČARDAK I KUĆICE	140	46	186
2	južno-banatski	PANČEVO	CENTAR TO	41	71	112
3	mačvanski	ŠABAC	VARNA OOCK	82	13	95
4	podunavski	SMEDEREVO	ORA RADINAC	59	439	498
5	šumadijski	KRAGUJEVAC	DEČJE ODMARALIŠTE TRMBAS	4	179	183
6	šumadijski	KRAGUJEVAC	PKB MALOPRODAJA "MD-EH"	1	77	78
7	šumadijski	RAČA	KARAĐORĐEV DOM	4	186	190
8	pomoravski	JAGODINA	KOLARE	15	52	67
9	borski	KLADOVO	KARATAŠ	83	72	155
10	borski	NEGOTIN	INEKS KRAJINA HOTEL KRAJINA	13	179	192
11	zaječarski	ZAJEČAR	KC VILE - DP "ROMULIJANA"	12	59	71
12	zlatiborski	POŽEGA	BARAKE RATKO MITROVIĆ	1	101	102
13	zlatiborski	UŽICE	PRIHVATNI CENTAR ZABUČJE	33	1	34
14	zlatiborski	UŽICE	GP ZLATIBOR STANDARD	24	42	66
15	moravički	IVANJICA	DUBRAVA PRILIČKI KISELJAK	34	4	38
16	raški	KRALJEVO	'ŠATORSKO NASELJE-STARI AERODROM"	0	128	128
17	raški	KRALJEVO	DP MAT.I BOG.BANJA - "ŽIČA"	31	85	116
18	raški	KRALJEVO	NORVEŠKA KUĆA BERANOVAC	8	0	8
19	nišavski	GADŽIN HAN	O.Š.VITKO I SVETA	24	23	47
20	nišavski	DOLJEVAC	MOSTOGRADNJA	10	23	33
21	nišavski	NIŠ	ODMARALIŠTE TREM - SIĆEVO	10	36	46
22	nišavski	SVRLJIG	HOTEL SVRLJIG	7	13	20
23	nišavski	SVRLJIG	KC IZVOR	16	6	22
24	toplički	KURŠUMLIJA	RADNIČKO ODMARALIŠTE SELOVA	34	45	79
25	pirotski	BELA PALANKA	HOTEL ES I REMIZIJANA	37	82	119
26	jablanički	VLASOTINCE	STARA CIGLANA	4	20	24
27	jablanički	LESKOVAC	ATINA	3	67	70
28	pčinjski	BUJANOVAC	STARA CIGLANA	1	52	53
29	pčinjski	BUJANOVAC	SALVATORE	0	199	199
30	pčinjski	BUJANOVAC	DEČJI VRTIĆ	0	70	70
31	pčinjski	BUJANOVAC	MOTEL KAMPING	0	86	86
32	pčinjski	VRANJE	MOŠTANICA	1	27	28
33	pčinjski	VRANJE	O.Š. 1. MAJ VRTOGOŠ	4	32	36
34	pčinjski	VRANJE	RASADNIK	0	97	97
35	pčinjski	VRANJE	OŠ P.DEVEDŽIĆ	0	21	21
36	pčinjski	VRANJE	DOM UČENIKA	0	23	23
37	Beograd	PALILULA	PIM KRNJAČA	239	107	346
38	Beograd	OBRENOVAC	PIM UŠĆE	21	11	32
39	Beograd	ZEMUN	OŠPI UGR."7.JUL"	0	112	112
40	Beograd	VOŽDOVAC	NEUROPSIH. AVALA STUD. CENTAR	0	98	98
41	Beograd	GROCKA	BARAKE NOVI AUTOPUT	0	59	59
42	Beograd	GROCKA	BARAKE GRAĐEVINAR	0	139	139
43	Beograd	MLADENOVAC	GP NAPRED	4	52	56
Total in Republic of Serbia out of Kosov and Metohija				1000	3234	4234

	<i>County</i>	<i>Municipal</i>	<i>Collective Centers</i>	<i>Refugees</i>	<i>IDPs</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	KiM	ŠTRPCE	JUNIORSKI KLUB NA BREZOVICI	0	103	103
2	KiM	ŠTRPCE	LAHOR-ŠARA NA BREZOVICI	0	153	153
3	KiM	ŠTRPCE	ELEKTROKOSMET NA BREZOVICI	11	38	49
4	KiM	ŠTRPCE	TRŠENJA NA BREZOVICI	0	20	20
5	KiM	LEPOSAVIĆ	ZGRADA POŠTE SOČANICA	10	18	28
6	KiM	LEPOSAVIĆ	DOM ZDRAVLJA	8	10	18
7	KiM	LEPOSAVIĆ	SPORTSKI CENTAR	4	4	8
8	KiM	LEPOSAVIĆ	BARAKE GEOSONDE	5	25	30
9	KiM	LEPOSAVIĆ	SAMAČKI DOM LEŠAK	14	14	28
10	KiM	LEPOSAVIĆ	KOPAONIK	2	15	17
11	KiM	ZUBIN POTOK	VELJI BREG	13	33	46
12	KiM	ZUBIN POTOK	DONJE VARAGE	23	25	48
13	KiM	ZUBIN POTOK	GAZIVODE	13	23	36
14	KiM	ZUBIN POTOK	BRNJAK	0	7	7
15	KiM	ZVEČAN	BANJSKA	2	2	4
16	KiM	PRIŠTINA	ĐURĐEVAK GRAČANICA	0	81	81
17	KiM	GNJILANE	ŠILOVO - HLADNJACA	0	32	32
Total in Kosovo and Metohija				105	603	708
TOTAL				1105	3837	4942