What are informal settlements?

Informal Settlements (IS) are human settlements that do not facilitate inhabitants to exercise their rights on a permanent living standard, particularly on proper housing.

What characterizes informal settlements?

Informal settlements are characterized by:
1. Informal or insecure land tenure;
2. Inappropriate or lack of access to basic services;
3. Inadequate participation or lack of participation in governance;
4. Sensitivity and even discrimination.

Informal Settlements (IS) are human settlements that do not facilitate inhabitants to exercise their rights on a permanent living standard, particularly on proper housing.

Which are informal settlements in Gjakova?

Based on characteristics of informal settlements the following three neighborhoods have been identified as priorities in Gjakova:

1. "Brekoc" neighborhood
2. "Kolonia" neighborhood
3. "Piskota-Dardanija" neighborhood

Workshop supported by:
MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY
ASSOCIATION OF KOSOVO MUNICIPALITIES
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & SPATIAL PLANNING
OSCE AND UN-HABITAT

Field Workshop on Informal Settlements in Gjakova/ Djakovica

Gjakova/ Djakovica
26 April 2007
Until now, a joint work of Gjakova Municipal Government, as key partner in the process, MESP, as owner of the process, CDF and 'Urban Plus' studio, as implementing partner and the community has been addressing the issue of Brekoc neighborhood.

These are the achievements:
- Drafting of a URP (Urban Regulation Plan) for IS Brekoc neighborhood and establishment of a strategy to implement the plan;
- Increasing community awareness on IS in order to prevent any future informal settlements;
- Community organization/ involvement;
- Construction of a community center;
- Cooperation between institutions;
- Experience in handling and regulation of informal settlements and the urban, social and economic integration within the city structure and incorporation of URP of IS Brekoc in UDP.

What has been done in addressing these informal settlements?

URP Drafting process for IS “Brekoc” neighborhood

Stages of the URP drafting process

- Analysis of urban situation
- Definition of borders of IS Brekoc
- Drafting URP
- Public discussion pursuant to the Law on Spatial Planning, Administrative Direction for URP and the procedure for launching a public discussion
- Its submission for adoption by the Municipal Assembly