



Project “Safe Community”

The Project „Safe Community“, headquartered in Stockholm, is one of the most important projects being implemented by the World Health Organization (WHO). It has existed since 1989 and refers to injury prevention and the improvement of life quality of all population groups in any environment.

The International Network of Safe Communities comprises 227 members. At the moment, there are three communities on the territory of the Former Yugoslavia that have obtained the safe community status: Bački Petrovac, Novi Sad and Varaždin.

The City of Banja Luka will be granted the safe community status this year and the certificate will be promoted on May 4, 2011. The motto of the Safe Community of Banja Luka is: *Clean, safe and sound city!*

Banja Luka is the only local community in Bosnia and Herzegovina that has applied for obtaining the safe community status. Furthermore, the city is expected to be the leader in the establishment of a network of safe communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Safe Community of Banja Luka aims at the promotion of safety through the prevention of injuries, violence and suicide and through the mitigation of natural disaster consequences through the activities directed towards all age groups with the final objective to decrease the level of injuries.

Activities of the Safe Community of Banja Luka are carried out within a whole range of programs implemented in a multi-partner cooperation among institutions and organizations from public, private and NGO sector, citizens and the media.

Our determination to promote safety and injury prevention is reflected in the vision, objectives and motto of the Safe Community of Banja Luka.

The Safe Community Project for Southeast Europe is managed by the National Center for Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion from Novi Sad, which was appointed as the Developmental Center for Safe Communities within the WHO Collaborating Center on Community Safety Promotion in June 2009 at the First Regional Conference of Southeast Europe Safe Communities, which took place in Novi Sad.

The mission of the Safe Community Project is the establishment of safe communities based on the WHO indicators that recognize injury risk factors and put their effects under control. The aforementioned mission is designed to be accomplished through

the promotion of safety, healthy life styles and culture of health in order to decrease the frequency and number of injuries and accidents.

The vision behind the Safe Community Project is to create a safe and sound living and working environment where everybody would have an equal right to be safe and healthy.

The implementation of activities within the Safe Community Project is based on the principle that safety is a basic human right and that it is cheaper and more humane to prevent than to cure.