

Press release

Regional Conference “Human Resources for Effective Primary Health Care Service Delivery” to be held in Banja Luka on 8 and 9 October 2007

More than 150 participants registered to attend the conference

Banja Luka, 5 October 2007 - Balkans Primary Health Care Project (BPHCP) and Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of Republic of Srpska organize a two day regional conference titled “Human Resources for Effective Primary Health Care Services”, in Banja Luka on 8 and 9 October 2007. More than 150 participants from Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina are registered to attend the conference. Invited eminent speakers are coming from Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia, Hungary, UK, Canada and Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is the first of three planned regional conferences to be held during the implementation of the Balkans PHC Policy Project. The Project in total value of 7 million Canadian dollars is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and implemented from September 2006 to September 2009.

“The Regional conference brings together policy makers, managers, providers and consumers with an interest in primary health care and human resource planning for health services from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. It will provide a unique opportunity to share experiences and examine the relationships between the planning, management and use of the health workforce and the delivery of primary care services.” said Orvill Adams, Director of the Balkans Primary Health Care Project and a mediator of the conference.

Countries in the region have taken different routes to the organization and delivery of primary health care services. The conference will provide an opportunity to critically examine some of the key primary health care issues in the region through series of presentations, debates, interviews and round tables.

The Balkans Primary Health Care Project (BPHCP) is executed by a Canadian Consortium of the Canadian Society for International Health and Queen’s University supported by a team of experts in primary health care and human resource planning for health services. The key BPHCP partners in implementation of the project in Bosnia and Herzegovina are the Ministry of Health of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of Republic of Srpska, and the Department of Health of District Brcko under coordination of the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In Serbia, the key partner is the Ministry of Health.

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Program of the Conference is available on the web site www.canbph.org.*