

### **B.1.1. Objectives, Methodology , Evaluation Team**

Chapter 2 of the terms of reference<sup>1</sup> (TOR) described the overall objective of the evaluation as follows: “to assess the appropriateness of ECHO’s intervention and to what extent the overall objective had been achieved, with a retrospective look at the past three years’ interventions. The evaluation will analyse the phase out strategy adopted by ECHO, its sustainability and the decision to consolidate interventions in some sectors in 2003”. In the context of a final ECHO disengagement from Serbia, the objective was therefore twofold, looking at achievements of past activities, and analysing implementation and prospects of the decision to withdraw.

The TOR further stated that the evaluation should focus its work on two specific sectors: Health (analysed in a separate report), and *Durable Solutions*.

Shelter and repatriation/return activities had indeed been consistently funded by ECHO, though significant needs were still stressed by partners and most other actors involved in this sector. The main objective of the final 2002 strategy was to promote the sustainability of the shelter solutions provided and to facilitate the return process of refugees. The evaluation was instructed by ECHO to focus on refugees from BiH and Croatia. Kosovo IDPs, whose fate still depends from protracted political discussions, could not be considered in the same immediate perspective.

Finally, nine *desired results* were specifically listed in the TOR. For clarity purposes, they have been copied as headings of chapters B.2.1 to B.2.9 below. The evaluation methodology has been adapted to reflect this approach. Desired results were translated into a frame containing corresponding evaluation questions, judgement criteria and indicators (see Annex F), which was systematically used by the evaluation team during projects assessments and interviews.

The evaluation was divided in three standard phases: (i) briefing and desk study in Brussels from 26 to 28 March 2003, (ii) field mission to Serbia from 31/03 to 18/04, and (iii) preparation of the draft report, final debriefing and presentation of the report on 28 May.

The team was made of three consultants, out of whom Ms *Donatella Bradic* was tasked to draft the present sector report on Durable Solutions (shelter and return for refugees).

---

<sup>1</sup> see Annex B