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**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA 2019-2023**

2021 Annual Progress Report

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**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

BiH Bosnia and Herzegovina

CSO Civil Society Organization

CSWs Centres for Social Welfare

DRAS Disaster Risk Analysis System

DRR Disaster Risk Reduction

FBiH Entity of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

GBV Gender Based Violence

IOM International Organization for Migration

JP Joint Programme

LDRRP Local Disaster Risk Reduction Platforms

LSGU Local Self-Government Unit

MISP The Minimum Initial Service Package

RS Entity of Republika Srpska

SDC Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

SOPs Standard Operating Procedures

SRH Sexual and Reproductive Health

ToT Training of trainers

UN United Nations

WHO World Health Organization

**GENERAL PROJECT AND PHASE INFORMATION**

The **“Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina“** is a joint intervention supported and financed by the Government of Switzerland and the United Nations (UN), implemented by the UN agencies: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in partnership with domestic authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).

The long-term Programme vision entails functional Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) governance across various levels and sectors in Bosnia and Herzegovina, throughout three phases. The first Programme phase consists of a four-year plan setting the ground for DRR through basic institutional capacities, coordination mechanisms and strategic frameworks, with a total budget amounting to USD 4.321.948.

The Project’s overall goal is as follows: ***Local governments in Bosnia and Herzegovina have improved their RR institutional capacities, frameworks, public services and partnerships, and population in risk-exposed localities is less vulnerable socially and economically to effects of disasters and climate change.***

The Programme has two main outcomes, as follows:

**Outcome 1: At least 10 local governments have adopted DRR-featuring strategies, established partnerships for effective DRR interventions, and financed actions that build community resilience thus are better equipped to prevent and respond to disasters.**

* **Outcome 2:**  **Citizens in target localities, particularly the most vulnerable population groups, have become more resilient to disasters.**

The first Programme phase has been designed as a platform for further horizontal scaling up of a good DRR model at the local level, as well as a springboard to a *bottom up* strengthening of a country wide DRR governance framework and capacities. The Joint UN Programme aims to address key DRR priorities identified by local governments and various stakeholders across various sectors: protection and rescue, education, social and child protection, health, and agriculture. The Programme puts special emphasis on improving local DRR coordination mechanisms, as well as affirming risk -informed strategic planning processes with focus on the most vulnerable population groups.

The Programme’s territorial focus is throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina focusing on a core group of **10 partner local governments** based on a pre-identified longlist of potential partner local governments highly disaster-prone. The selection process was based on methodology for selecting 10 high-risk Local Self-Government Units (LSGUs) including willingness to actively participate and support implementation of the Programme. Participating local government partners are **Banja Luka, Bijeljina, Prijedor, Srebrenica, Trebinje in the Republika Srpska (RS); Bihac, Kalesija, Kakanj, Gradačac, Sanski Most in the Federation of BiH (FBiH)**.

The main Programme partners are: Ministry of Security of BiH, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH, Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy of FBiH, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of RS, Ministry of Health of FBiH, Ministry of Education of FBiH, Ministry of Education and Culture of RS, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of RS, Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry of FBiH, Civil Protection Directorate of RS and Civil Protection Directorate of FBiH.

**STRATEGIC REVIEW AND OUTLOOK**

The beginning of the third year of implementation, as per the Programme work plan for 2021, was focused on **activities that were previously agreed upon** with the Programme partners and Steering Committee members, **to be shifted and implemented in 2021**. These efforts encompassed discussion and plan operationalization with all Programme partners in Local Self-Government Units (LSGUs).

Meetings held in February and March 2021 had a twofold meaning. The Programme team conducted meetings with five newly elected Mayors (Bijeljina, Banja Luka, Prijedor, Trebinje and Kakanj) to additionally **confirm the relevance** of the Programme objectives and activities. The process was conducted with both new and existing management of partner LSGUs, thus ensuring continuity of the Programme implementation. Also, meetings are utilized **to accelerate implementation** of the entire Programme aiming to finalize the evidence-based policy documents, knowledge enhancement of LDRRPs professionals and define priorities for each local community as a precondition for the realization of a certain number of measures within civil protection, education and social and child protection sectors.

Following the internal action plan, the Programme team managed to organize, communicate, coordinate and implement most of the results stipulated within the work plan for 2021. Achievements made are visible in **improving local strategic management** **and specific sector planning**, through developed policies in the health, education and social and child protection sectors. Furthermore, achieved strides in starting and ongoing **defining DRR priorities** and mainstreaming it through local development strategical framework, including scaling up the results at a level of both entities (e.g. **DRAS system and Guidelines for development of Shock-Responsive Social Protection/DRR Action Plans**) and championing the model through other initiatives. This way, a step forward was made toward applying an integrated approach and making **at least 600,000 people in partners' LSGUs less socially and economically vulnerable** to disasters and climate change effects.

Considering that many results planned for 2021 are realized, part of it remained delayed and shifted to be implemented in 2022 and 2023. Given the fact that the late start of Programme implementation and the COVID-19 pandemics immensely impacted the dynamics of the Programme realization, necessary adaptations of the Programme thus extending the Programme implementation until June 2023. Therefore, **updates regarding the Programme implementation and the budget focusing on Programme extension and co-financing modality** occurred in 2021, discussed and approved by the Steering Committee members in July 2021. Even though the process of mainstreaming DRR into the local development strategies started in 2021, this process will depend on the planned dynamics of changing development strategies in the partner LSGUs. However, recent changes in regulatory framework at the entity level impose obligation to local municipalities to adapt local development strategic documents is an opportunity to more prominently mainstream DRR during 2022. Significant to emphasize the **mayor's official pledge to stipulate DRR priorities** into a strategic framework gave space to start with concrete measures implementation, yet, due to the delayed overall processes task will continue in 2022 and 2023. Also, all evidence-based policies will be prolonged and completed in 2022 (UNESCO component) and annexed to the strategic frameworks using it to open communication with higher levels of government since most of those buildings are in ownership by higher levels of government.

**INTRODUCTION**

The Programme continues to **strengthen the capacities of Local Self-Government Units** (LSGUs), improving strategic and regulatory frameworks, and integrating multiple sectors into a cross-sectoral local coordination mechanism with relevant socio-economic stakeholders. Therefore, the Programme arrangements tackled local management support as the key prerequisites for ensuring that development from disasters is shifted not as occasional events but as a contentious threat through the management of risks generated and accumulated on an ongoing basis. The team managed to **compile evidence-based documentation** with steps made in translating these priorities into **cross-sectoral DRR strategic** planning. Furthermore, this is coupled with adequate **investments in human and institutional capacities** of involved development sectors to ensure policy, institutional, and knowledge management in disaster risk reduction prioritization through further implementation.

Stakeholders involved in the Programme **remained active and informed** about results achievements through the Steering Committee's strategic and decision-making collaboration mechanism. Relevant partners institutions from the state, entity and local levels aware of progress, through capacitating risk-informed decision-making and legitimising DRR and emergency preparedness systems, procedures, and policies at a local level. The **Advisory Board of the Programme was established** by the end of 2021, thus gathering various partners institutions and CSOs to support the Programme and the Steering Committee in promoting and advocating further inter-institutional coordination and cooperation in BiH.

The Programme **intervention continues to be relevant and in line** with newly established Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025, particularly, within Outcome 1. and Outcome 4., directly contributing to increasing the percentage of local authorities with local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030, together with SDG-centered and gender-sensitive strategies and implementation plans as part of a coherent development planning and management system.

The results of local elections in 2020 impacted **changes in the management structure** of local communities in 2021, creating the need to invest more time in re-introducing the approach and an overall DRR JP results structure to the newly elected local management structure. Alongside, **state government institutions faced a political crisis** in July 2021, resulting in the blockade and boycott of state central decision-making processes. At the time, the Programme didn’t have significant consequences, but the situation could deteriorate in future, especially bearing in mind the period before, during and after General Elections in October 2022. In the long run, unresolved and **status quo situations could systematically increase various risks** through all economic and social development aspects, leaving the different levels of authorities with outdated strategic adherence and guidance toward DRR actions in BiH. T**he Steering Committee mechanism shall be utilized for further** close cooperation inrecognizing the risks and design measures to support institutional partners to mitigate their possible negative effects on the Programme thus ensuring the sustainability of achieved results.

**OUTCOMES ACHIEVED FOR 2021**

**OUTCOME 1 – At least 10 local governments have adopted DRR-featuring strategies, established partnerships for effective DRR interventions, and financed actions that build community resilience thus are better equipped to prevent and respond to disasters.**

As per the Programme's shifted dynamics and agreed steps, most of the team’s focus, time and effort were made to continue capacitating LDRRPs professionals, reaching **essential preconditions for multi-sectoral planning and implementing** further actions to prevent and respond to disasters in all partner local communities.

Results achieved within this outcome emphasize **the path to contributing to local governments whose strategies and plans** are based on DRR evidence and cross-sectoral aspects, following relevant international DRR frameworks and guidelines. Achieved results portray**local policy and capacity building** development processes following discussion to sustain the Programme results with all Programme partners. In line with the previously developed entity level framework Action Plans on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies (SRH&GBViE) from 2020, supported by the Programme, **7 Action plans are developed** for local DRR partners in 2021. On the capacity building front and based on the Needs assessment of each LDRRP, previously designed concrete education to equip LDRRP with knowledge, **two remaining trainings were held**in May and July 2021.

To enhance the functionality of partner LSGUs by engaging them in the design and delivery of DRR-related actions and community resilience-building efforts, communication and collaboration with LDRRPs and local management continued to ensure the long-term functioning of LDRRPs within existing structures and procedures of local communities. In line with mayors' **expressed readiness and commitment**, an optimal model for integrating LDRRPs into the existing LSGU structure will be discussed and proposed in 2022, based on promoted and implemented model of work through the Programme. Implementation is expected by partner LSGUs upon discussion finalization and agreed to model of work. Side-by-side, civil protection administrations and partner LSGUs **managed to ensure the preconditions** for the complete operation, maintenance and further development of the DRAS system. DRAS database is **separated and located on the server** provided by the Civil Protection Administration of Republika Srpska. The same approach is applied and agreed upon with the Civil Protection Administration of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to transfer all DRAS data to a server provided by the Civil Protection Administration of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. More achievements are to be seen in 2022.

Furthermore, the focus was on completing all documents regarding the specific sectoral assessments, particularly in **the education and agriculture sectors**. While most **of the sectoral risk assessments are executed in 2021,** with the main findings being incorporated into consolidated local risk assessments, the official adoption of these documents is underway in 2022. Further steps are taken to ensure identified priorities find their place within strategic documents due to shifted dynamics of the Programme and the time needed to quality implement all activities. Therefore, **8 official letters are acquired so far** by LSGUs management stating that identified DRR priorities and implemented actions supported by the Programme will find their place in the first **strategic development process and be prepared to be adopted** in the forthcoming period (Municipality of Kakanj already started). This is the result of discrepancy in dynamics of the Programme implementation timeline and dynamics of strategic development process.

As part of the monitoring process, the increased partner LSGUs DRR **budget resources allocation** in the previous period, compared to 2017, is to be shifted for a future period due to the **late DRR mainstreaming process** into local development strategies. This indicator will be properly measured upon all local strategic documents adoption. However, monitoring of resource allocation made by the Programme team showed an **increase through specific sectors** (mostly civil protection) without a comprehensive DRR approach. For 2020, there is an increase of 14%, 10% for 2021 and 6% in 2022.

**OUTCOME 2 – Citizens in partner localities, particularly the most vulnerable population groups, have become more resilient to disasters**

Under this Outcome and during this reporting period, the focus was to accelerate the preparation and delivery number of shifted activities from 2020 to the revised plan and timeline for 2021. Delays continued to happen in 2021 caused by the COVID-19 uncertain situation resulting in applying adaptive management on a case-to-case basis. The Programme team managed to jointly agree on the work plan with partners expediting **DRR capacities, procedures and know-how** enhancements in civil protection, social and child protection, health and agriculture sector.

Achievements made in **enhancing the capacities** of all partner LSGUs thus enabling them to address disaster risks in an **integrated, vulnerability-sensitive and effective manner**, contributing to community resilience for 632,331 (F: 323,291) citizens living in these areas. Capacities for camp management and coordination amplified through **tailored camp coordination and camp management (CCCM)** training of trainers (ToT) for selected staff from Civil protection, the Red Cross and other relevant institutions from all partner LSGUs and representatives of Red Cross Associations Civil Protection Administrations at the entity level and Ministry of Security of BH. On the side of education interventions, **ten school disaster management teams were formed** enabling a cross-sectoral and holistic DRR implementation at the school level. Integrated support to **more than 6,000 children** (out of which more than 2,900 girls) provided by Teams and operationalized through developed school DRR assessments and action plans, as well as extensive DRR capacity building delivered.

Furthermore, in all **ten Programme LSGUs, Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP)/DRR SP Action Plans (DRR SP APs) were adopted** by the Centers for Social Welfare (CSWs), Mayors and Civil protection local departments in target communities. The DRR APs enable CSWs to undertake timely preparedness actions and plan social protection service continuity for the most vulnerable beneficiaries in emergencies, including children and families. The Plans will ensure coverage with **risk-informed social protection services** for more than **26,000 social protection beneficiaries**, including more than **1,800 children**. As the baseline for the development of the DRR SP APs, the **entity-level Guidelines** for the development of Shock-Responsive Social Protection/DRR Action Plans were **developed in FBiH and RS**, validated and endorsed by the Entity Ministries of Social Policy/Social Protection and Entity-level Civil Protection Administrations. Moreover, 71 health professionals **improved their knowledge and capacities** in supporting new mothers in breastfeeding and promoting exclusive breastfeeding practices before, during and after emergencies in selected municipalities.

The Programme efforts in 2021 contributed to **identifying priority DRR actions** that will increase community resilience based on multi-sectoral risk assessments and further DRR-featuring local strategies in 7 LSGUs. Identified **seven initiatives** depend on the priorities and needs of each locality, and they were related to engineering activities on flood and landslide prevention and procurement of equipment. Priority DRR actions remained partially implemented in 2021. Implementation of priority DRR actions in other partners' LSGUs will be underway in 2022 and 2023.

**OUTPUTS AND PERFORMANCE ACCORDING TO YEARLY PLAN OF OPERATION 2021**

As per the approved 2021 Annual Work Plan, the Programme team focused on implementing planned activities in line with adopted timelines and activities.

**OUTCOME 1 – At least 10 local governments have adopted DRR-featuring strategies, established partnerships for effective DRR interventions, and financed actions that build community resilience thus are better equipped to prevent and respond to disasters.**

Output 1.1 Local-level DRR Platforms are established to serve as locally-owned DRR coordination mechanisms and capacitated to mainstream DRR into local policies and strategies, and support community resilience-building.

As part of further capacitating of LDRRPs in all 10 LSGUs, progress was made in providing certain number of educations and supporting partners to quality frame future strategic and action planning regarding the DRR. Based on detailed needs assessment of each LDRRPs, it is reported that local experts were engaged to develop three concrete capacity building trainings for LSGUs: 1) Training on climate change, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development; 2) Training on project management; 3) Training on Disaster Risk Management (DRM). Training on climate change, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development has been held in 2020, while the remaining two trainings were successfully held in May and June 2021. In total 94 members (32 F and 62 M) of LDRRPs attended these trainings.

Furthermore, the Action plans on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Gender Based Violence in Emergencies (SRH&GBViE) for five partner LSGUs in Republika Srpska (Banja Luka, Prijedor, Bijeljina, Trebinje and Srebrenica) as well as for two partner LSGUs in Federation BiH (Bihac and Sanski Most) were completed in 2021. All action plans were developed in line with previously developed entity level framework Action Plans on SRH&GBViE in 2020. Due to scarce capacities additionally burdened by the COVID-19, professionals from other three partner LSGUs in the Federation of BiH (Gradacac, Kalesija and Kakanj) were not able to actively participate in the finalization of action plans therefore these action plans will be completed in 2022.

In addition, local cross-sectoral DRR partnerships were established through the 10 LDRRPs, which enabled cross-institutional dialogue and coordination of DRR work focusing specifically on agriculture component. The platform members continued to support specific-sector sub-working groups, with focus on agriculture and education sector, to further prepare inputs for DRR mainstreaming into local integrated strategies.

Output 1.2 Local government’s disaster risk assessment capacities are improved based on evidence, innovative technologies and vulnerability considerations.

As follow up to the process of consolidation of sectoral risk assessments (floods and landslides risk assessments, social and children protection, sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence) into Risk Assessments, all activities are conducted and drivers of hazard, exposure, vulnerabilities and capacities in the LSGUs are underlined. Updated multi-sectoral risk assessments are consolidated and will be officially adopted in 2022.

The reason of delay lied in the fact that additional time was needed to conduct agriculture and education risk assessments. While part of education data is obtained and realized in 2021, it was agreed that safety school assessments should be implemented by the end of first quarter in 2022.

Regarding the agriculture risk assessments, FAO developed the methodology for conducting municipality risk assessments and validated it by members of sectoral working group of the LDRRPs. Furthermore, a manual and template was established for conducting these local sectoral disaster risk assessments, including the identification of various participatory rural appraisal (PRA) tools e.g. transect walk/diagram, timeline, seasonal hazard calendar, community hazard and vulnerability map, institutional Venn diagram, pair-wise ranking and small group discussions, to be used to help identify hazards, vulnerabilities, exposure and coping capacities, especially for agriculture.

The LDRRPs members, including agricultural officers, participated in two trainings (16-17 March; 25-26 May; 27-28 Oct, 4 Nov) aimed at strengthening their disaster risk assessment capacities and helped raise awareness on disaster risk reduction in agriculture. As a result, 10 municipality risk assessment for the agriculture sector were conducted in Trebinje, Kakanj, Gradacac, Banja Luka, Bijeljina, Bihac, Sanski Most, Prijedor, Kalesija, Srebrenica and Trebinje, including focus group discussions and community consultation meetings. All members of agriculture working group were able to express their opinions and enabled to actively participate and contribute to the development of the local disaster risk assessments for agriculture.

These assessments focused on hazard identification (type of hazards, frequency, seasonality, magnitude, intensity, extent, causes of occurrence of hazards), vulnerability identification by considering all elements e.g. people, building, facilities, resources, which are prone (or exposed) to the hazard, the extent of their vulnerability and causes (e.g. physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes) of their vulnerability and coping capacity assessment (resources and available strengths, availability of resources and duration of resources). In addition, the existing and potential agricultural DRR actions and interventions were identified that can be implemented to prevent, mitigate/reduce, prepared to reduce the adverse impact of disasters on agriculture, thereby informing risk informed planning and decision-making.

Following on further enhancement knowledge and capacities of partners in institutions in utilizing the DRAS IT tool, 10 LSGUs of the Programme are using DRAS to access scientific floods, landslide, earthquakes and fires hazard data. In total, 22 LSGUs so far are using the DRAS system thus displaying synergy between different initiatives within DRR in BiH. DRAS provides information about mine suspected areas for the entire Bosnia and Herzegovina as well. These scientific hazard data are of great use for decision makers and citizens to increase disaster risk awareness for specific locality. In line with discussions in 2020 and upon receiving request from competent institutions from Republika Srpska in 2021, DRAS database is separated and now all data regarding Republika Srpska are located on server provided by Civil Protection Administration of Republika Srpska. An agreement has also been reached with Civil Protection Administration of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to transfer all DRAS data regarding FBiH and Brcko District BH from server provided by UNDP to server which will be provided by Civil Protection Administration of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This DRAS data transfer will happen in 2022. Public Relation (PR) campaign for promoting DRAS to general public using posters, radio jingles and TV commercials has been held in period from December 2020 to June 2021.

Output 1.3 Municipal/city DRR strategic and action planning frameworks are upgraded based on multi-sectoral perspective, with focus on the vulnerable population groups.

Based on the priorities identified through the sectoral risk assessments conducted in 2021 and in collaboration with the LDRRPs and the Steering Committee, it was decided to prepare draft inputs for local development strategies by the end of June 2022, so that they are ready to be integrated when each LG will be developing a new strategy or reviewing the existing one (municipality of Kakanj already initiated activities in developing new strategy, incorporating available inputs regarding DRR). The timeframe for the integration process itself will be adjusted to the dynamics of drafting or reviewing a development strategy in each LG. Inputs resulting from part of risk assessments in the field of education (VISUS methodology) will be added as annexes to the consolidated risk assessment and strategies.

**OUTCOME 2 – Citizens in partner localities, particularly the most vulnerable population groups, have become more resilient to disasters**

Output 2.1. Local level capacities for floods and landslides prevention and preparedness are enhanced through capacity development, prevention measures and awareness raising.

Following restructured and resized scope results in line with the Programme revision in 2021, priority DRR actions that will increase community resilience are identified based on multi-sectoral risk assessments in 7 partner LSGUs. Implementation of these actions in five LSGUs in 2021 has started. Priority DRR actions in Bijeljina and Srebrenica are implemented in 2021 and were related to the procurement of flood rescue equipment such as rescue boats, outboard boat engines, boat trailers, 4x4 vehicles, personal rescue equipment for rescuers and most necessary IT equipment for civil protection services. Priority DRR actions in Prijedor, Sanski Most and Bihac are partially implemented in 2021 and were related to flooding response equipment and 4x4 vehicle in Bihac, construction of flood drainage channel along Sana River in Prijedor and establishing the centre for early warning, alerting and informing of citizens in Sanski Most. The priority DRR actions in remaining partner LSGUs in 2022 will be identified and done with implementation realization across 2022 and 2023.

In line with preparatory activities in 2020, the support continued to be provided together with International Organization for Migration, as implementing partner, to organize and implement camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) training of trainers (ToT) in November 2021. The training strengthened capacities for camp management and camp coordination of 34 (F: 8 M: 26) participants from Civil protection, the Red Cross and other relevant institutions from all partners LSGUs, vertically integrating higher-level authorities representatives of Red Cross Associations and Civil Protection Administrations at the entity level and Ministry of Security of BH at the state level. One of the training goals was to bring together partners in the CCCM sector to develop a shared understanding of the roles and responsibilities in camp management, camp coordination and camp authorities in camps/collective centres. The training aimed to raise awareness of international protection and assistance principles, approaches and standards in camps and camp-like settings and build competence in using CCCM guidelines and tools.

Output 2.2. Safe school environments in partner localities are established through strengthening school capacities for disaster management and risk reduction.

The Programme partnered with the World Vision International in BiH (WVI BiH) to strengthen school DRR capacities through improving safe school environments in 10 selected primary and secondary schools. The school selection was conducted in partnership with the LDRRPs to ensure the best fit for the scope of intervention. Together with the competent education authorities, LDRRPs and the WVI BiH, UNICEF developed the selection framework criteria that looked into different aspects of school vulnerabilities to disasters, the number of children attending, and the previous school management experiences in the DRR area. Upon community consultations, the LDRRPs nominated the schools for intervention and the final approval by the competent educational authorities was issued.

School Disaster Management Teams were formed in all ten schools to reflect the multi-sector and the holistic approach in designing the school DRR action plans. The teams are linked to the LDRRPs, and their structure is tailor-made for each school based on the available community resources. It includes representatives of school management and teachers, civil protection, local governance, CSWs, health centres, police, fire departments, centres for mental health, local CSOs, and parent and student associations.

In 2021, all School Disaster Management Teams went through the envisaged DRR capacity building programme (in total 85 participants, 38 females), which resulted in the developed school DRR assessments and the corresponding action plans. In five schools, one-day workshops were held for 47 teachers (27 females) to build the capacities of teachers to include DRR into their teaching. Furthermore, one evacuation exercise in the school in Kakanj was conducted, with the participation of all relevant community stakeholders, first responders, school staff and children. This exercise was also used as an exemplar activity to mark the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, highlighting the importance of disaster-safe school environments.

Upon the DRR action plans development, the school teams prioritised specific small-scale interventions to implement with the support of the Programme. The proposed interventions (to be implemented in 2022) include reconstruction works and procurement of DRR relevant equipment, such as audio/video devices, fire extinguishers, electro installations, and COVID-19 prevention materials.

Output 2.3. Institutional preparedness and DRR capacities of social and child protection systems in partner localities are strengthened.

In 2021, 10 Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP)/DRR Action Plans (DRR APs) were developed and adopted by the Centers for Social Welfare (CSWs), Mayors and civil protection local departments in target communities. The DRR APs enable CSWs to undertake timely preparedness actions and plan social protection service continuity for the most vulnerable beneficiaries in emergencies, including children and families. The Plans will ensure coverage with risk-informed social protection services, crisis referrals and preparedness protocols for more than 26,000 social protection beneficiaries, including more than 1,800 children. As a baseline for the development of the DRR APs, the entity-level Guidelines for Shock-Responsive Social Protection/DRR Action Plans were developed in FBiH and RS, validated and endorsed by the Entity Ministries of Social Policy/Social Protection and Entity-level Civil Protection Administrations.

Following the adoption of DRR SP APs, the Programme supported 10 CSWs to design DRR grant projects incentivizing the implementation of key preparedness measures adopted in the APs. Seven of them received their first tranches of funding in December 2021. Some of the key and most innovative measures to be supported through the grants that will be implemented in 2022 are: crisis preparedness skill workshops that will enable practical knowledge on disaster adaptive behaviours by the most vulnerable social protection beneficiaries in exposed households, establishment of digital SP beneficiaries databases and digital workflow software in CSWs, CSW webpages with DRR content incorporated, emergency evacuation drills for CSW professionals as well as hardware capacity support through procurement of relevant IT equipment, DRR protective kits for CSW professionals and most vulnerable beneficiaries etc.

On the capacity-strengthening front, training on the methodologies and tools for the Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP)/DRR Action Plans development to 58 professionals is delivered gathering CSWs, civil protection departments, municipal/city social affairs’ departments, government and non-government social service providers, incl. LDRRPs members. A total of 56 participants evaluated an increase of knowledge and benefits to their practical work on the topics: i) crisis preparedness and contingency planning in social protection, ii) risk and crisis communication, iii) planning of social services in emergency contexts, iv) cross sectoral DRR resource planning and stakeholder mobilization and v) DRR monitoring and evaluation. The implementation of DRR AP grants continues to be in 2022.

As part of a broader DRR programming through other projects, intending to support horizontal scale-up of DRR integration in social protection, DRR champion SP professionals engaged from the DRR JP target CSWs (CSW Kalesija) in knowledge transfer activities and training related to the establishment of the DRR social protection model in 5 new locations in FBiH.

As part of work on the child protection component of the DRR programme, UNICEF initiated two partnerships: in Republika Srpska with Association of Social Workers RS and Federation BiH with World Vision. The key elements of cooperation are based on the development of Standard Operating Procedures for child protection in 10 targeted locations in BiH which will continue in 2022. Child protection system and its main outreach service providers – CSWs need support in the standardization of referrals in the cases of emergencies and crises. Although various child protection key documents and protocols are designed and implemented, they are fragmented. Therefore, analysis of their efficiency is required. Within initiated partnerships, support will be given in the process of design, validation and adoption of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), ensuring that all relevant stakeholders have the same understanding of the risks children face in emergencies. It will stipulate how children should have adequate support in crises, including children experiencing violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation and children separated in emergencies. Respective SOPSs will, in line with the best interest of the child, define the roles, responsibilities and procedures providing common ground for adequate child protection support for all child protection actors, especially the workers of CSWs.

Output 2.4. Preparedness and DRR capacities of local governments and healthcare institutions in partner localities to effectively address specific health-care needs of children, youth and adolescents, and women in emergency settings enhanced.

In 2021, through partnerships with the Public Health Institute of Republika Srpska (PHI RS) and NGO Fenix, supported activities increased the knowledge, awareness, and accountability of 10 primary health care centres in providing quality breastfeeding support to mothers/families. Throughout 2021 71 health professionals improved their knowledge and capacities in supporting new mothers in breastfeeding and promoting exclusive breastfeeding practices before, during and after emergencies in selected municipalities.

Support continued to the Baby-Friendly Hospitals accreditation of another six maternity wards in Republika Srpska to help increase the current low breastfeeding rate. It is of utmost importance to maintain a quality service continuity in the emergency context. It is expected for accreditation to be finalized by the end of 2022, which will have 100% of the maternity wards in RS accredited.

Despite the crucial role of public health workers in the COVID-19 pandemic response, the Federal Working Group through the Programme developed Measles Outbreak Plan at the Entity level.

This Plan will serve as a basis for the Cantonal Outbreak Response Plans development, thus representing a framework for immunization trainings that are in the preparatory stage for delivery in 2022.

Close at hand, the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) in emergencies as a series of crucial, lifesaving activities required to respond to the SRH and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) related needs of affected populations at the onset of a humanitarian crisis, continued to be implemented by appropriately trained health and non-health professionals. Therefore, three MISP trainings based on revised MISP Guidelines were enabled and implemented. Through the online training that lasted six days over three weeks, 11 medical doctors (F: 8, M: 3) from BiH built capacities on a MISP. In addition, a three-day MISP Training of Trainers (TOT) with a focus on methods and techniques of teaching adults resulted in a pool of eight new national MISP trainers for BiH (F: 5, M: 3).

Afterwards, the new national trainers facilitated a three-day MISP training for 21 health professionals (F: 11, M: 10) out of seven DRR partner LSGUs from both entities. Due to the burdened obligations and stretched capacities caused by COVID-19, fewer health workers participated in MISP training than planned.

Above mentioned education coupled with promotional activities of the importance of MISP training through the production of a short video on the implementation of MISP training in BiH.

Output 2.5. Capacities of agriculture sector and vulnerable farmers in partner localities to increase disaster preparedness and reduce disaster losses are strengthened.

In line with expected results, activities to raise awareness of the importance of disaster risk reduction occurred to help reduce the adverse impacts of natural hazard-induced disasters on agriculture among the relevant agricultural stakeholders. It has enhanced the capacities of agriculture partners to conduct municipality disaster risk assessments. It proved essential for them to have a clear understanding of the existing disaster risks, vulnerabilities and existing policy and institutional capacities to help risk-informed planning and decision making for the agriculture sector and specifically vulnerable farmers. Through the implementation and established LDRRPs, focusing on the relevant agricultural stakeholders, the Programme intervention continued to enhance coordination and collaborating disaster risk reduction and management activities at the various levels (local to national) and across sectors and stakeholders.

Based on needs assessments, ten rounds of training (1 per municipality) with 15 farmers participating from each, thus having 150 farmers (F: 57, M: 93) in total trained and awareness on DRR good practices raised.

Significant impact was visible in achieving sustainability by strengthening partnerships and alliances of the agriculture CSOs/NGOs in the LDRRPs with the other relevant stakeholders of the platform, meaning these partnerships continue beyond the lifespan of the Programme.

Output 2.6. Local level capacities, tools and procedures for disaster preparedness are tested in practice to improve cross-sectoral coordination for effective disaster response.

Preparation of Terms of Reference and planning the simulation exercise under implementation in 2022.

**TRANSVERSAL THEMES**

Utilizing an integrated model of disaster risk governance focusing on vulnerability-sensitive disaster management systems and mechanism at local level, established **LDRRPs** (139 members, 30% women) continue to serve as a platform to discuss and define DRR-related actions focusing on improving understanding of general gender issues and channelling voice of the most vulnerable community members.

Women and men benefited from the results achieved, as under different sector capacity building opportunities, with almost the same percentage of women and men educated on DRR specific themes (women involvement varied from at least 37% up to nearly 60% percentage of participation).

Climate change as a long-term change in the average weather patterns causing effects relevant for BiH context such as drought, floods, landslides,reduced agricultural yields, health and social impacts are addressed through the Programme prevention activities.

Human rights and inclusive approach to DRR continued to be an integrative element of DRR JP interventions in 2021. Over the course of development of risk assessments and DRR action plans in social protection and education sector, children and families from vulnerable groups, children with disabilities, women and other vulnerable groups were given a priority through vulnerability-disaggregated data and evidence generation which was used as a baseline for design and implementation of vulnerability-focused measures through small-scale DRR measures (implemented through small grants in social protection and education domains).

Furthermore, the composition of the SP DRR WGs and School Disaster Management Teams that involved LSGUs social affairs’ departments, social service providers, parent and student associations, associations of parents of children with disabilities, Red Cross and other vulnerability-focused CSOs enable that specific needs and priorities of the most vulnerable are integrated in DRR implementation. Likewise, DRR capacity-strengthening interventions supporting social service providers in social protection, education and health sector were crafted in line with the *leave no one behind* principle aimed at further sensitizing relevant professionals on the needs, tools and principles to adequately support and protect the most vulnerable pre, during and after emergencies. In addition, all Agriculture sector Risk Assessments and trainings included a gender component for DRR mainstreaming into local strategies thus contributing to the holistic disaster risk management at all level and achievement of goals and targets stipulated under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.[[1]](#footnote-2)

**FINANCES AND MANAGEMENT**

Following challenges that affected the management of the Programme in 2020, the Programme team and partners jointly approached using adaptive management thus investing time, resources and personal engagement to accelerate the Programme implementation. Partners with great commitment responded well in joint work organizing and implementing vast number of activities thus expediting activity implementation and being constantly available despite existing circumstances, shifted priorities and uncertainty due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Regarding the risk monitoring and management, the Programme team continued to promote and utilize the concept of DRR knowledge sharing, promotion, and advocacy in affirming broad-based and systemic local DRR governance. Team continued communicating and providing information, ensuring understanding and participation of all involved parties around planning and executing Programme errands. With this approach, occurred changes within the LDRRs membership didn’t affect agreed plans and deliverables in 2021. The UN team continued to provide support in organizing and implementing planned activities (in online and face-to-face modality) emphasizing strong ownership of LSGUs in securing their support to improve the work and ensure sustainability of **LDRRPs** in years to come.

Due to the dynamics of the Programme implementation and held consultations with the Swiss Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, **certain changes regarding the Programme document and the budget with a focus on Programme extension and co-financing modality** occurred in 2021. Given the fact that the late start of Programme implementation and the COVID-19 pandemics immensely impacted the dynamics of the Programme realization, necessary adaptations of the Programme document encompassed and integrated the following updates:

* update of data caused by the COVID-19 pandemics,
* corrections of UNDP activities regarding contribution within Outcome 2.1,
* corrections in the Programme budget, including the contributions of partner LSGUs,
* corrections in the Programme Logical Framework,
* no-cost extension of the Programme implementation period for additional six months, i.e until 30 June 2023.

As of December 31, 2021, total Programme costs for entire 2021, including SDC and UN expenditures (without Gov BiH expenditures in 2021), amounted to **USD 1,022,793.71[[2]](#footnote-3)** or 23,66**%** of the overall Programme budget. The cumulative costs of the Programme, including SDC and UN expenditures, amounted to **USD 2,223,435** or 51,44%.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Designation** | **Budgeted, period****2019-2023** | **Cumulative realized, period** **01 January 2019 - 31 December 2021** | **Realized,** **period 01 January - 31 December 2021[[3]](#footnote-4)** | **SDC** | **UN** | **Gov BiH** | **%** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Administrated Programme funds** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Outcome 1*** | **744,894** | **504,765.79** | **92,883.91** | **61,982.34** | **30,901.57** | **0** | **12%** |
|  | Output 1.1 | 163,680 | *112,387.72* | 22,118.77 | 17,766.28 | 4,352.49 | 0 | 13% |
|  | Output 1.2 | 467,455 | *328,889.28* | 44,014.97 | 19,667.15 | 24,347.82 | 0 | 9% |
|  | Output 1.3 | 113,759 | *63,488.79* | 26,750.17 | 24,458.91 | 2,201.26 | 0 | 23% |
| ***Outcome 2*** | **2,070,307** | **698,515.79** | **553,244.68** | **274,780.48** | **278,463.90** | **0** | **27%** |
|  | Output 2.1 | 1,012,782 | *278,111.86* | 275,007.78 | 86,659.36 | 188,348.42 | 0 | 27% |
|  | Output 2.2 | 217,800 | *92,915.46* | 89,019.25 | 76,922.47 | 12,096.78 | 0 | 41% |
|  | Output 2.3 | 234,000 | *111,199.93* | 66,083.94 | 26,488.65 | 39,595.29 | 0 | 28% |
|  | Output 2.4 | 373,440 | *134,698.38* | 82,355.55 | 69,968.00 | 12,387.55 | 0 | 22% |
|  | Output 2.5 | 136,935 | *81,590.16* | 40,778.16 | 14,742.30 | 26,035.86 | 0 | 29% |
|  | Output 2.6 | 95,350 | *0* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| **Project Management and Operational Costs** | **975,707** | **722,753.35** | **243,396.72** | **79,910.67** | **163,486.05** | **-** | **25%** |
|  | *3.1. UNDP* | *383,600* | *248,906.81* | 107,084.72 | 69,501.64 | 37,583.08 | - | 28% |
|  | *3.2. UNICEF* | *402,168* | *251,517.26* | 93,195.63 | 8,092.13 | 85,103.50 | - | 23% |
|  | *3.3. UNESCO* | *60,000* | *88,852.00* | 16,200.00 | 0 | 16,200.00 | - | 27% |
|  | *3.4. UNFPA* | *76,880* | *80,610.58* | 22,867.67 | 935,20 | 21,932.47 | - | 30% |
|  | *3.5. FAO* | *53,060* | *52,866.70* | 4,048.70 | 1,381.70 | 2,667.00 | - | 7% |
| **UN Common Coordination Costs** | **228,800** | **162,807.73** | **68,669.04** | **68,669.04** | **0** | **-** | **30%** |
|  | *4.1. Staff* | *183,600* | *144,740.18* | 59,814.80 | 59,814.80 | 0 | - | 32% |
|  | *4.2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials* | *36,000* | *10,423.24* | 6,110.97 | 6,110.97 | 0 | - | 17% |
|  | *4.3. Travel* | *9,200* | *7,644.31* | 2,743.27 | 2,743.27 | 0 | - | 30% |
| **Other Joint Activities** | **122,800** | **35,107.11** | **24,868.61** | **24,868.61** | **0** | **-** | **20%** |
|  | *5.1. Evaluation and plans* | *65,000* | *1,240.78* | 1,240.78 | 1,240.78 | 0 | - | 2% |
|  | *5.2. Communication and visibility* | *50,000* | *30,794.39* | 22,078.37 | 22,078.37 | 0 | - | 44% |
|  | *5.3. Miscellaneous* | *4,800* | *1,716.31* | 193.83 | 193.83 | 0 | - | 4% |
|  | *5.4. Steering Committee and Advisory Board meetings* | *3,000* | *1,355.63* | *1,355.63* | *1,355.63* | 0 | - | 45% |
| **Indirect Programme Costs** | **179,439** | **99,923.47** | **40,168.75** | **40,168.75** | **0** | **-** | **22%** |
|  | *UNDP* | *64,105* | *41,980.01* | 20,563.72 | 20,563.72 | 0 | - | 32% |
|  | *UNICEF* | *41,865* | *22,730.49* | 11,490.92 | 11,490.92 | 0 | - | 27% |
|  | *UNESCO* | *3,925* | *1,820.00* | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0% |
|  | *UNFPA* | *9,158* | *3,447.99* | 1,593.11 | 1,593.11 | 0 | - | 17% |
|  | *FAO* | *11,774* | *5,590.52* | 2,083.00 | 2,083.00 | 0 | - | 21% |
|  | *UN COMMON COORDINATION[[4]](#footnote-5)* | *24,612* | *5,916.46* |  |  | 0 | - | 0% |
|  | *MPTF* | *24,000* | *18,000* | 4,000 | 4,000 | 0 | - | 16% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL USD** | **4,321,948** | **2,223,435** | **1,022,794** | **549,942** | **472,852** |  **-** |  **24%** |

**LESSONS LEARNT**

Below is a brief overview of main lessons that were learned in this reporting period.

* The COVID-19 fluctuating situation continued to impact partners capacities and time needed to fully devote to implementation of the cross-sectoral DRR model in practice. Shifting priorities sometimes resulted in delayed engagement by relevant partners, especially in activities that require strong multi-sectoral coordination and consultations (validation and adoption of risk assessment and APs), as well as participation in specific and joint capacity-strengthening activities.
* Occurred changes in LSGUs management structure, LDRRPs and WGs composition brought several delays in partners engagement on the ground as well as the need to invest more time in re- introducing the approach and an overall DRR JP results structure to newly nominated structure of professionals in LSGUs. In situations where changes happened showed lack of knowledge and information transfer between former and existing governance structure regarding development priorities and ongoing initiatives. Hence, in some locations, more efforts are invested and still needed to shift the perception of the LDRRPs and priorities as project-formed mechanism to a fully local-government owned mechanism to integrate and systemically adopt DRR in regular local government affairs.
* More investments are needed to enhance the ownership, commitment and sustainability of DRR interventions, especially among the stakeholders/sectors that were traditionally not fully included in DRR coordination and implementation in BiH (e.g. social sectors). Some partners continue having a limited awareness on the need to integrate and prioritize DRR in regular, day-to-day sectoral management approach, which caused that one of the selected schools withdrew from the further partnership. The secondary school in Banja Luka informed that they will not request the Programme funds to implement the small-scale DRR interventions, hence the remainder funds will be distributed to other Programme locations. To overcome this challenge, the Programme team will intensify efforts to advocate for sustainable DRR interventions, including provision of opportunities for school management for networking and experience sharing with other schools.
* The Programme team continues to utilize its regular programming in social and child protection, health, agriculture and education to integrate DRR at system-level through relevant policies, procedures and strategies as well as knowledge transfer between DRR champions capacitated through this Programme to other local-level efforts (e.g. in social protection).
* Though, communication and collaboration among all Programme partners went well having regular information exchange around the Programme progress and implementation, learning experience from the Programme revision occurred in the 2021 displayed need for more collaboration and information exchange with Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. This is very much appreciated and needed to avoid further misunderstandings during Programme implementation, especially, in discussing, planning, and defining joint strategic modalities and approach in future investments regarding the DRR in BiH.

**ANNEXES**

1. **DRR JP 2021 Media Report.**
2. **DRR JP 2021 Logical Framework.**
3. **DRR JP 2021 Policy Documents and Letters of Commitment.**

The most significant Programme activities during the reporting period were actively followed by the media on the state, entity and partner LSGUs level, with in total **53 media announcements in 2021**, including video footages.

Jointly, UN, local and social media presented, promoted and addressed the significance of the Programme in their communities and throughout involvement in capacity building activities, marking International DRR Day, thus cascading information to the audience at partner LSGUs.

Several Programme events were mostly represented, focusing promotion of joint and specific sectoral capacity building opportunities, **marking the International DRR Day celebration**, on 13 October 2021, involvement and supporting broader GoGreen initiative, promoting JP via **European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction** and high-level round table **"Preparedness and response to disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina"**.

1. Goal 1. Target 1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters; Goal 11. Target 11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations; and Target 11b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. This includes funds provided through the Joint Programme Fund account as well as co-funding resources. Reporting on the amount transferred and expended through the Joint Programme Fund account will be shown in MPTF’s Consolidated Annual Financial Report and found on: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/JBA10>. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Information regarding SDC cumulative expenditure can be found in Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the Administrative Agent (Table 5.1. Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2021) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Indirect costs for UN Common Coordination are calculated under all UNDP costs. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)