



DEVELOPMENT EMERGENCY MODALITY

Joint Programme 2022 Annual Progress Report

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UNCT/MCO: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2022

JP title: Strengthening Bosnia and Herzegovina's resilience to address the impact of the Ukraine war on food security and incomes of most vulnerable groups

Thematic SDG Areas: Food systems transformation; Decent jobs & universal social protection;

PUNOS: FAO, UNDP

Stakeholder partner: National Government; Sub-national Governments; Civil Society Organizations; Humanitarian actors; IFIs/DFIs; Private sector;

Gender Marker: Gender-responsive (for example, the JP aimed to respond to specific gendered needs, such as linking social assistance with GBV response services or maternal health support)

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Annual Progress

Overall JP self-assessment of 2022 progress:

On-track (expected annual results-achieved)

Overall Progress

Output 1.1. Federation of BiH (FBiH) and Republika Srpska (RS) institutions and development partners have improved evidence (data, analysis and capacity) for addressing the crisis in access to farm inputs (fuel, fertilizers, agrochemicals, seeds, finance):

- Three assessments analyzing impact of crisis conducted and completed in 2022: one assessment for Republika Srpska, one for Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and one assessment to compare foreign trade of BiH and Serbia.

Output 1.2. Food security demand by the most vulnerable is matched with recommendations for adequate policy and food centres' infrastructure and supply:

- 175 representatives from vulnerable population groups who are benefitting from the social protection and social care system engaged in the assessment

- 75 representatives from vulnerable population groups who are outside the social protection and social care system but may face food deprivation and food insecurity included in the assessment

- 52 meal centres country-wide were included in the assessment that aimed to generate data and information on the distribution,

assets, resources and user demographics of all soup kitchens providing food services to the vulnerable groups facing food insecurity in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- Soup kitchen mapping report and Rapid Assessment of Food Safety and Availability for BiH developed and completed.

Output 1.3. FBIH and RS institutions and development partners have improved capacities for crisis management response:

- Two contingency plans have been developed, one per entity, with clear sets of recommendations what policies to change/improve.

SDG Acceleration progress towards the SDGs, focusing on the main SDG targets

The Joint UN Programme contributed to the below listed SDG targets by establishing an evidence base on food insecurity and poverty in Bosnia and Herzegovina aggravated by the ongoing compounded crises, which previously was unexplored and under the radar of both local governments and development partners. UNDP assessed both the supply side of the issue through the soup kitchen mapping, as well as the demand side through the rapid assessment of food security and availability across the country, with a focus on vulnerable groups, and will take this work further towards design and implementation of food security interventions:

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

1.b. Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.

2.1: By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.

2.b: Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round.

2.c: Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility.

The Joint UN Programme also contributed to the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2021- 2025 and more specifically to these outcomes:

- Outcome 1: By 2025, people benefit from resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth ensured by the convergence of economic development and management of the environment and cultural resources.
- Outcome 3: By 2025, people have access to better quality and inclusive health and social protection systems.

Constraints that were encountered and any adjustments that were made to strengthen the relevance and effectiveness of the JP and the coherence and coordination of UN system support.

• The Rapid Assessment of Food Security and Availability focused only on vulnerable populations, and the results presented in this study exclusively refer to the current assessment of the situation for the most deprived categories of the population. There are no public registers of vulnerable categories, thus the research methodology had to take this into account and rely on innovative approaches to carry out this research.

• Work with soup kitchens had to be adjusted several times to reflect the general lack of resources that these meal centres face. However, the end result provided the country for the first time with relevant, comprehensive and detailed context of the soup kitchens' capacities, the context of work and the demographics of the users, which will be essential for the creation of new adequate policy and other types of food security interventions in the country.

Next steps, scaling and sustainability [up to half a page]

The impact study and report has been shared with all relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina with a set of clear recommendations for policy adjustments in order to respond to the increasing food insecurity in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The impact study will serve as the basis for consultations and preparation of targeted programmatic initiatives by the UN development system and the donor community in Bosnia and Herzegovina to address the gaps and priorities identified in the study.

Strategic Partnerships and Communications

Explain how diverse stakeholders were engaged with the JP

All relevant stakeholders as per the info provided above have been engaged in the assessment with the primary focus on collective relevant data. All stakeholders have been engaged in the validation of the findings and recommendations to ensure fully alignment with the current policies, needs and priorities.

Key meetings and events organized

JP steering committee/ Strategic partners/ donors Kick-off meeting
programme board meetingevent

Priority Cross-cutting Issues

Cross-cutting results/issues

Gender equality and human rights, including children’s rights, were specifically targeted through the assessment of food security and availability across Bosnia and Herzegovina by assessing the levels of food poverty and food accessibility among women and children (both on the individual level and household level). The research and the recommendations also tackled food poverty coping mechanisms from the viewpoint of gender equality.

How did the JP apply the Gender Marker

The JP is Gender-responsive (for example, the JP aimed to respond to specific gendered needs, such as linking social assistance with GBV response services or maternal health support). Adaptation of existing programmes (e.g. revision of eligibility criteria, removal of conditionalities);

JP address the below cross-cutting issues and principles of leaving no one behind

Human Rights	Persons with disabilities	Youth	Environmental and social standards
No	No	No	No

Contribution to enhancing SDG Financing

Drafted a bill, strategy, and/or approved a law increasing the fiscal space for the policy in focus	Produced financing, costing, diagnostic feasibility analyses as a basis to invest or increase spending on the SDGs	Improved efficiency (cost savings) in the management of programmes/schemes	Improved effectiveness (value for money; i.e. social impact of \$1 spent) of spending	Drafted policies/regulatory frameworks or developed tools to incentivize private sector investment on the SDGs	Structured new financial instruments (public, private or blended) to leverage additional funding
No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No

How and in which area your JP contributed to enhancing SDG financing

The impact assessment includes specific and targeted recommendations geared towards improving efficiency and effectiveness of implementation of relevant policies in BiH that respond to the current food crisis.