

# Women Lead the Way Towards Peace and Security in Bosnia and Herzegovina (WPS)



## STRATEGIC PROGRAMME UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND (PBF)

<p><b>THEMATIC AREAS:</b></p> <p>Women, Peace &amp; Security Transitional Justice</p>	<p><b>WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE?</b></p> <p>Advance the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda and empower women to be key agents of peace and social cohesion in Bosnia and Herzegovina.</p>
<p><b>DURATION:</b></p> <p>Oct 2023 – Oct 2026</p>	<p><b>HOW?</b></p> <p>Improving services and policies for conflict-affected and marginalized women while amplifying their voices, engagement and partnerships. Supporting institutions responsible for implementing UNSCR 1325, ensuring women's active participation in decision-making, fostering accountability, and building a more inclusive society that values women's contributions and addresses their needs.</p>
<p><b>INVESTMENT:</b></p> <p>USD 5 million</p>	
<p><b>TARGET BENEFICIARIES:</b></p> <p>Women peacebuilders, CSOs, activists, women from marginalized communities or ethnic minorities, women returnees, survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, their families, and children born of wartime rape.</p>	<p><b>WHO IS INVOLVED?</b></p> <p><b>Signatory for BiH:</b> Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH  <b>Project led by:</b> UN Women (lead agency), IOM, and UNFPA  <b>Implementing Partners:</b> BiH Agency for Gender Equality, FBiH Ministry of Health, RS Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, NGO <i>Snaga žene</i></p>
<p><b>WHERE?</b></p> <p><i>Selected local communities across Bosnia and Herzegovina (Bileća, Bihać, Cazin, Foča, Gacko, Kiseljak, Kneževo, Konjic, Kotor, Mostar, Nevesinje, Novo Goražde, Olovo, Prijedor, Rogatica, Srebrenica, Stolac, Trebinje, Višegrad, Zavidovići, West Herzegovina Canton).</i></p>	<p><b>WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED SO FAR (by January 2025)?</b></p> <p><b>Forged impactful partnerships</b> with key organizations, including the BiH Agency for Gender Equality, Sarajevo Film Festival (SFF), and Al Jazeera Balkans, to advance gender equality and peacebuilding, ensuring women's voices are amplified across platforms.</p> <p><b>Completed a comprehensive WPS assessment</b>, providing valuable insights into WPS agenda implementation and key human security concerns to guide future initiatives in BiH.</p> <p><b>Identified 17 target local communities</b>, and initiated community dialogues, laying the groundwork for impactful, context-driven interventions.</p> <p><b>Enhanced healthcare capacity</b> by training over 100 professionals to deliver inclusive, survivor-centered services, significantly improving care for those affected by conflict.</p> <p><b>Conducting two parallel mapping processes</b> in the creative industry to identify key areas for intervention and growth.</p> <p><b>Launched a mentoring program</b> for journalism students, fostering the next generation of peacebuilders and advocates.</p> <p><b>Conducting an evaluability assessment</b>, ensuring that all efforts are measurable, sustainable, and impactful.</p>

*The Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) is the United Nations' leading instrument to invest in prevention and peacebuilding, in partnership with the wider UN system, national and subnational authorities, civil society organizations, regional organizations and multilateral banks. The Fund supports joint UN responses to address critical peacebuilding opportunities, connecting development, humanitarian, human rights and peacebuilding pillars.*