



SITUATION REPORT #P10

4 August 2020

CONFIRMED CASES¹



12,861

208 BD

RS ENTITY

5136

FBIH ENTITY

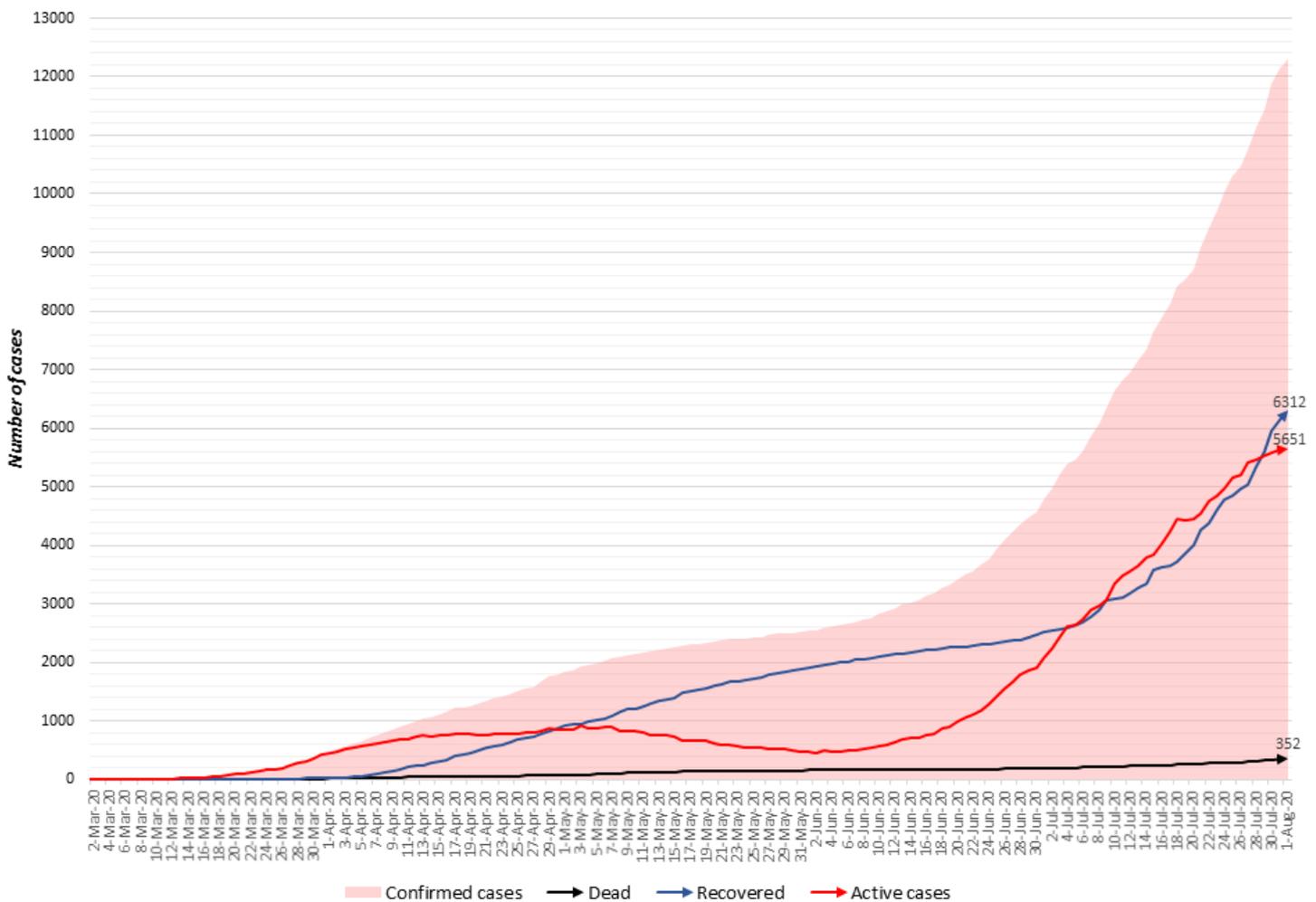
7517

DEATHS REPORTED AS
ASSOCIATED
WITH COVID-19

373

SITUATION SNAPSHOT AND RESPONSE

Overview of the ongoing COVID-19 epidemic situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, August 2nd



(Credit: WHO Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Sources: IPH FBiH, IPH RS, FMoH, MoCA)

¹ As reported on 2 August 2020 by 13:00hrs

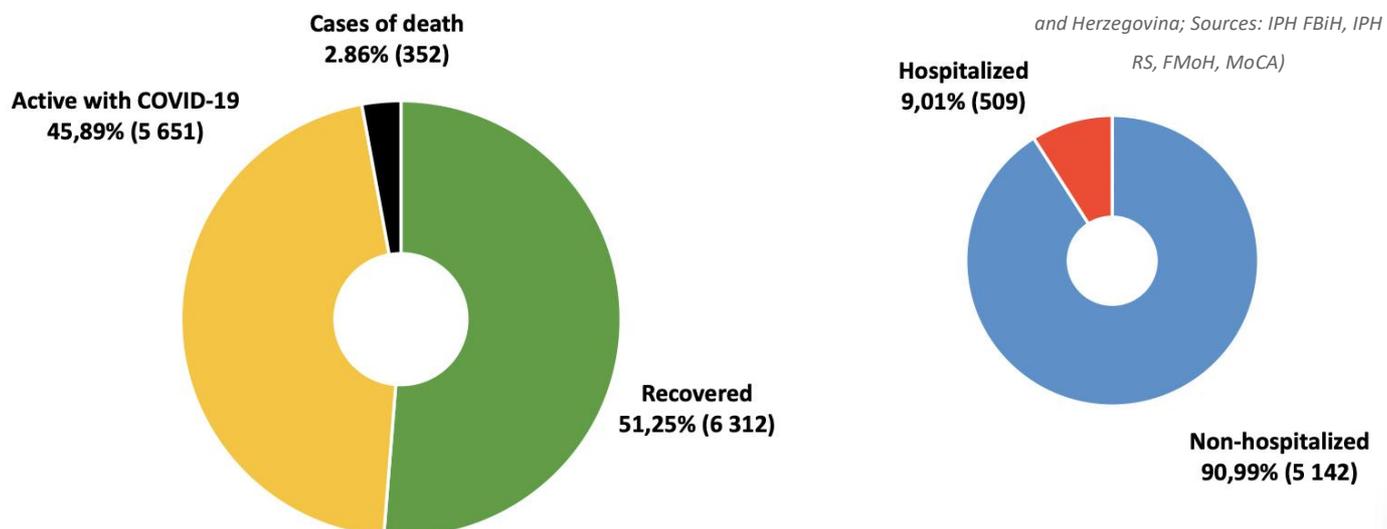
SITUATION OVERVIEW

The BiH Council of Ministers decision on State of Natural or Other Disaster (BiH's equivalent of „State of Emergency“) remains in place. At the entity levels, however, the previously declared State of Emergency in the RS was terminated on 20 May, and the State of Natural Disaster in FBiH was, likewise, lifted on 29 May. Curfews have been lifted across the entire territory of BiH, however mandatory requirement that everyone wear face masks in enclosed spaces/areas is still in place. BiH citizens entering into the country no longer need to observe self-isolation, while BiH now allows entry of EU and Schengen area citizens, with a negative COVID-19 test not older than 48 hours. Due to the recent rise in numbers of new cases across the region, stricter measures upon entry apply for anyone coming from BiH into Croatia, Montenegro and Slovenia. Flights to and from Austria resumed for Western Balkan countries as of 1 August.

New cases continue to appear throughout BiH, raising the overall daily reports to new records past week (363 on 28 July), however with a note – in some instances – higher daily numbers occur due to backlog in testing. All interested registered private labs in the FBiH Entity were called to apply for official verification which would enable them to process COVID-19 tests in support of the public health sector, while Brcko District will reportedly soon start its testing capacities as well. Unfortunately, weekly high numbers come with a continued reporting on cases of death associated with Covid19, including young people. Almost all COVID-19 isolatorium and treating facilities report maximized capacities, while in Sarajevo a final agreement was reached to open a new isolation unit with its General Hospital (capacity up to 80 beds). Sarajevo Canton remains the largest hotspot at the moment, with continued plea by the Crisis HQ to limit social gatherings and respect distancing in public spaces. Public health experts and Crisis HQs expect higher numbers of new cases following Eid holiday.

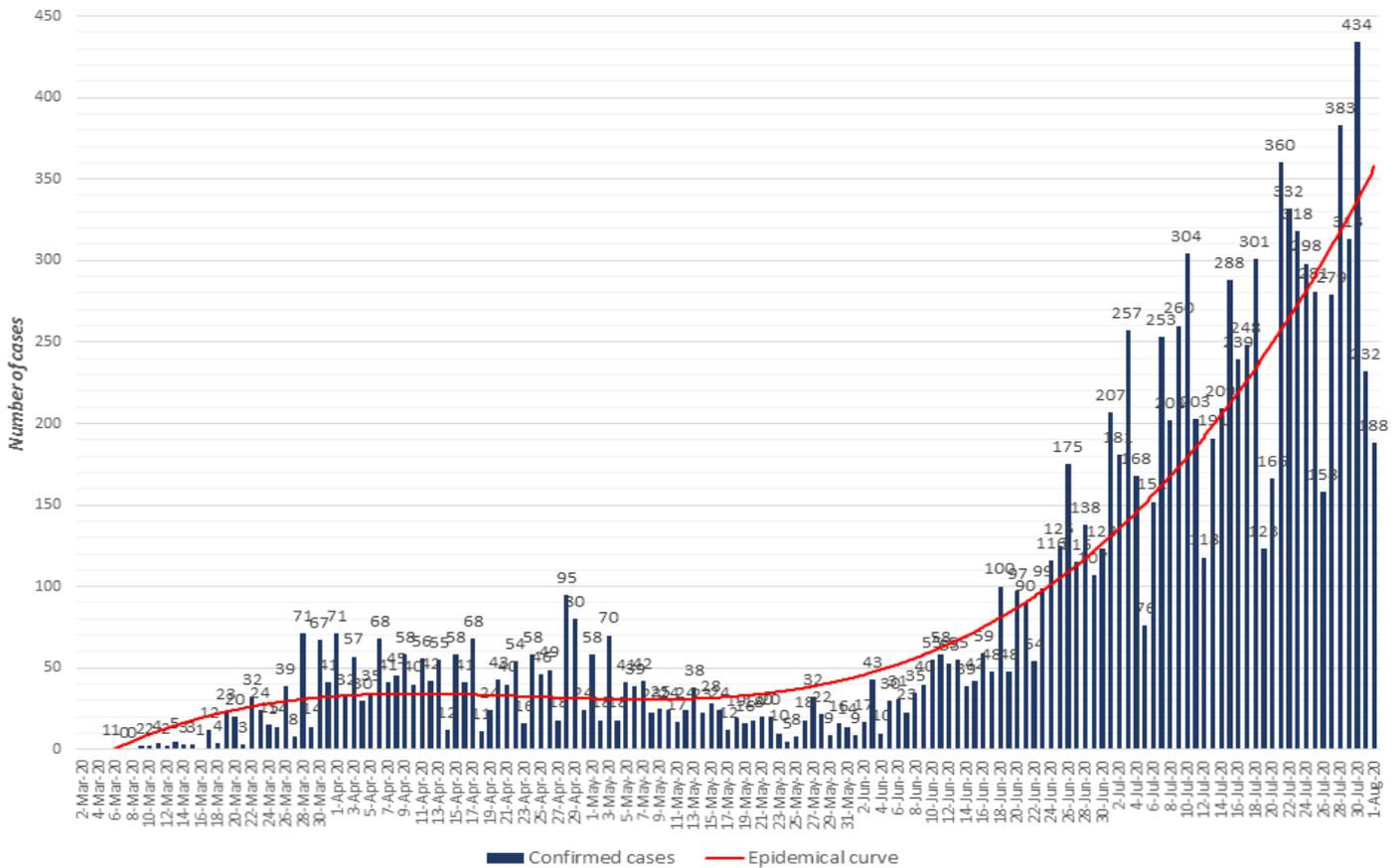
Following „State of Epidemics“ declaration in the FBiH Entity on 17 July, Brcko District made the same decision on 24 July. The working hours of catering services, including bars and coffee places are now until 23:00hrs in entire BiH, while masks are still mandatory outside if the physical distance is not possible (and in enclosed spaces). In the RS Entity, measures were prolonged until 17 August, including limitation to 50 people in any gathering (in FBiH, limitation stands at 50 people in enclosed spaces, 100 in open). Drvar Crisis HQ announced one step further and limited working hours of catering services until 18:00hrs, markets until 20:00hrs, and up to 5 people at any gathering, for the following 15 days. All Crisis HQs urge citizens to limit their movements and avoid any unnecessary public gatherings.

Distribution of COVID-19 confirmed cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina, August 2nd

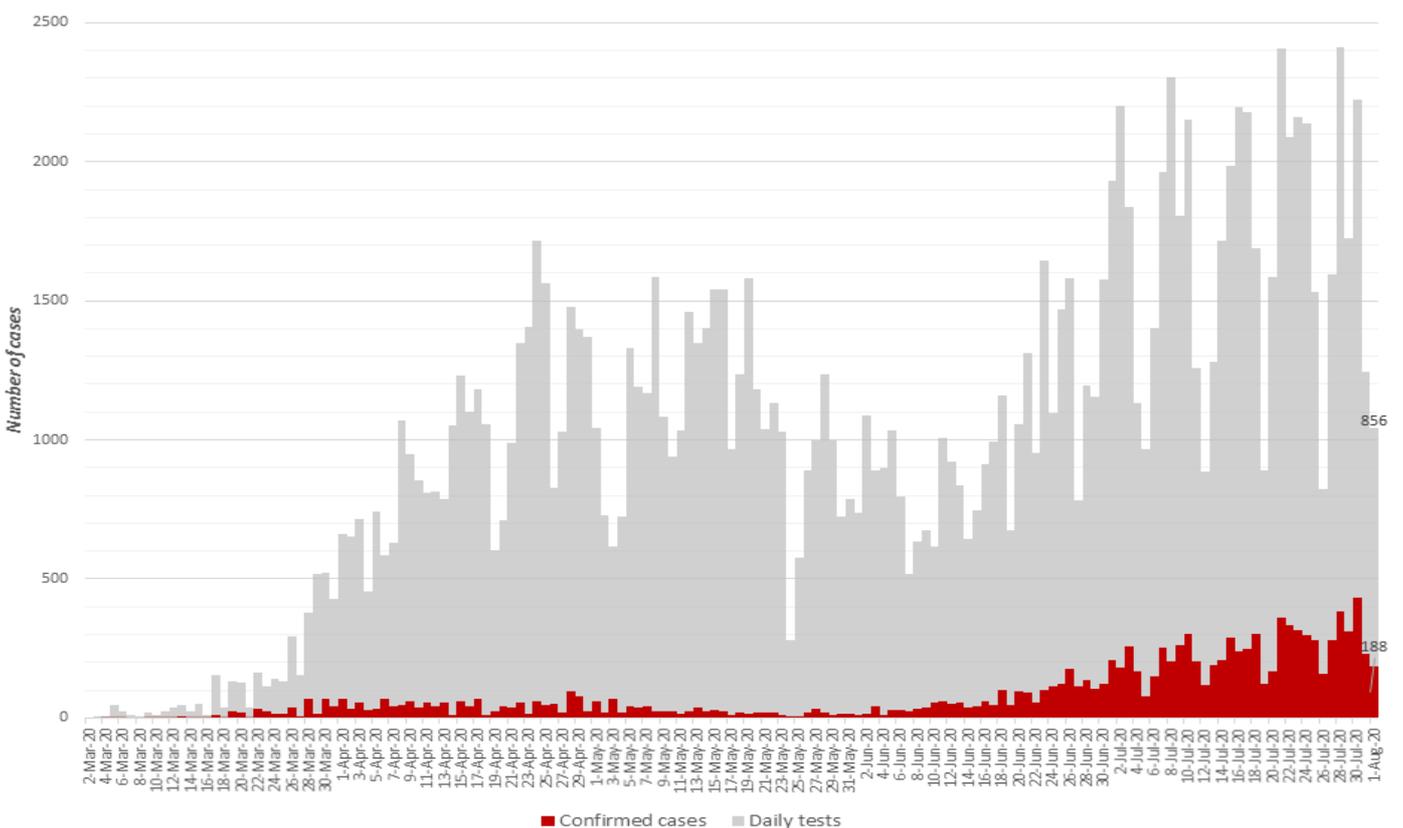




Distribution of COVID-19 positive cases and trendline in Bosnia and Herzegovina, August 2nd

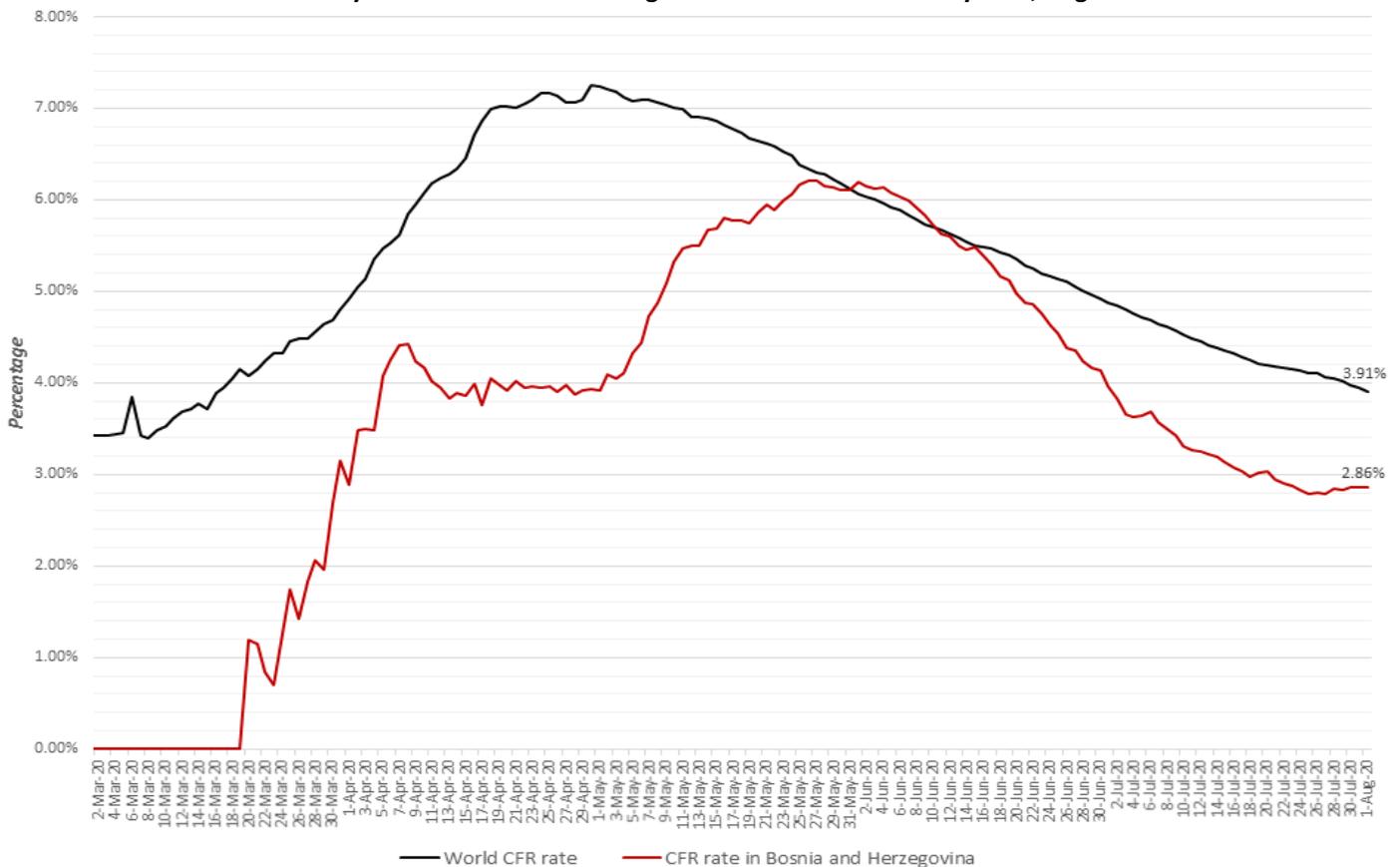


Total number of tests performed vs confirmed COVID-19 cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina, August 2nd





Case Fatality Rate in Bosnia and Herzegovina vs Global Case Fatality Rate, August 2nd



(Credit: WHO Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Sources: IPH FBiH, IPH RS, FMOH, MoCA, ECDC)

UN SUPPORT IN RESPONSE – LATEST

The United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres launched the awaited Policy Brief on Education during COVID-19 and Beyond and the “Save Our Future” Campaign on 4 August, outlining key steps necessary to reverse the disruptions COVID-19 cause to education of est. over a billion children around the world, as well as use the gap to reinvigorate education systems. While learning losses due to prolonged school closures threaten to erase progress made in recent decades, not least for girls and young women, some 23.8 million additional children and youth (from pre-primary to tertiary) could drop out or not have access to school next year due to the pandemic’s economic impact alone.

[“The Future of Education is Here”
by UN Secretary General Guterres;
full brief](#)

The key action areas outlined by the Secretary General:

- ❖ Reopening of the schools: once local transmission of COVID-19 is under control, getting students back into schools and learning institutions as safely as possible must be a top priority. UN issued guidance to help governments in this complex endeavor, balancing health risks against risks to children’s education and protection, and factoring in the impact on women’s labour force participation.
- ❖ Prioritizing education in financing decisions: Education budgets need to be protected and increased.
- ❖ Targeting the hardest to reach: seek to reach those at greatest risk of being left behind -- people in emergencies and crises; minority groups of all kinds; displaced people and those with disabilities.
- ❖ Future-orientation: including investment in digital literacy and infrastructure, an evolution towards learning how to learn, a rejuvenation of life-long learning and strengthened links between formal and non-formal

education. And we need to draw on flexible delivery methods, digital technologies and modernized curricula while ensuring sustained support for teachers and communities.

The UN team in Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue with the weekly presentations of key findings with regards to the sectoral and cross-cutting assessments conducted next week. Education is primarily in focus during August, taking into consideration preparations for the upcoming school year (starting 1st September).

The pilot tourism subsidy (voucher) scheme “Odmori u BiHaću” continues with very high interest countrywide. The 150,000 BAM worth initiative which aims to support 20 small tourism businesses is implemented through UNDP’s Municipal Environmental and Economic Governance (MEG) project financed by the Government of Switzerland. The European Union funded project EU4Agri announced public call worth 3 million BAM for support to investments in processing capacities and marketing of agri-food products, thereby also responding to the COVID-19 recovery needs.

Two innovation calls have been launched through “BOOST”, a regional acceleration program for social impact innovation, which UNDP implements in cooperation with Slovak Ministry of Finance, the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and others. BOOST will support emerging solutions which address development issues related to: digitization, economy and wellbeing. Challenges are open until mid-September for private sector entities, research institutes, academia, and civil society organizations in the Europe and Central Asia region. BOOST is available at www.boostimpact.org

UNICEF - through its partnership with DRC - is working on provision of Health care services for children, through provision of pediatric services in infirmaries in Temporary Reception centers (TRCs) Sedra and Borići, and provision of dental and ophthalmological services for children. In the previous week, the pediatric team provided 43 specialized pediatric health care services. UNICEF/DRC Medical assistant held a workshop in TRC Sedra in cooperation with partner organization NGO Fenix, with pregnant and breastfeeding mothers. Following a meeting held last week between UNICEF/DRC, Public Health Center (PHC) Bihac and PHC Cazin, plans are set to initiate immunization of children in early August.

In Sarajevo Canton, preparatory meeting was held with the Public Health Institute to coordinate immunization activities for children/parents in TRC Usivak. Together with Save the Children and World Vision, UNICEF continues facilitating non-formal education in TRCs. In total 84 non-formal educational workshops were organized for 287 children.

Office of the UN Resident Coordinator enabled an interactive chart which follows the COVID-19 trendline in BiH, including the effective reproduction factor (R). Standing page for the chart can be accessed [here](#).



**The EU4Agri project public call
worth 3 million BAM
is open until 30 September to
companies, entrepreneurs and
cooperatives engaged in
processing and/or production of
agricultural and food products.**

[Call accessed here.](#)

Source: UNDP

Check the running list of United Nations resources at the UN in BiH [website](#).