



UNITED NATIONS  
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



# 2021 UN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

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## FOREWORD BY UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR

Whilst sustainable development advanced across Bosnia and Herzegovina during 2021, the health, social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to disrupt and slow down progress. As with 2020, the pandemic adversely affected families, front line workers, health systems, and the economy. On behalf of the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, I express our sincere condolences to all who lost their loved ones during this difficult time.

Today we face the risk that decades of social and economic progress could be reversed, and that we may not meet the commitments of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Yet, every crisis presents opportunities. Despite the challenges, the pandemic provides a once in a generation opportunity to build forward better with a fairer, greener, more prosperous and inclusive recovery. Effectively harnessing this opportunity is even more important given the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and most recently, the impacts of the Ukraine conflict.

The 2021 Bosnia and Herzegovina Results Report sets out key achievements of the United Nations agencies, funds, and programmes, who have worked together with the authorities, civil society, the private sector, international partners, and citizens across Bosnia and Herzegovina to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. It highlights new ways of responding to challenges, including innovative initiatives to reimagine education, enhance health systems, invest in 21st-century jobs, promote just and green energy transition, and strengthen social cohesion and work to ensure that no one is left behind, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized.

For example, in March 2021, the United Nations supported the authorities to secure vaccines through **COVAX**, assessed and modernised ultra-cold chain storage across the country, and supported procurement of medical equipment and PPE. Vaccine hesitancy was tackled through public awareness campaigns, whilst working with Red Cross volunteers helped to reduce pressure on the health systems.

In May, the United Nations signed [a new 2021-2025 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework \(UNSDCF\)](#) with the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The framework outlines shared priorities covering prosperity, social protection, governance, and peace while ensuring that those who are most vulnerable are not left behind. These priorities are underpinned by rigorous analysis and were agreed following comprehensive consultation across Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In August, young people of Bosnia and Herzegovina took over various United Nations social media accounts as part of the **'Month of Youth'** and thirty youth champions discussed their work and goals during a youth café organised in Banja Luka. During the visit of the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth in October, young people raised their priorities and solutions for their future.

August also saw leading IT companies and the Chamber of Economy of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina commit to the Women Empowerment Principles, paving the way for other companies and institutions. The Action Coalition for Bodily Autonomy was also launched as the first part of Generation Equality in Bosnia and Herzegovina in September. By the end of the year, three multi-stakeholder Generation Equality Action Coalitions were in place.

In October, the [first SDG week for Bosnia and Herzegovina was held](#) involving a live audience of over 800 people and more than 70 local, regional and global speakers. Implemented in cooperation with the newly established SDG Council in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Week built upon the milestone of the Council of Ministers officially endorsing the **SDG Framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the first countrywide sustainable development strategy for over a decade. Awards for the third generation of SDG Business Pioneers were also given this year, involving 75 companies with 106 applications.

For UN Day 2021, the [first #ImagineChange United Nations Festival in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#) was held. Various leaders, innovators, entrepreneurs,

activists, and communities showcased how they are making positive contributions every day. Hundreds of people gathered at the National Museum's botanical garden to celebrate positive actions from across the country.

Many other activities are highlighted in this report, including the Reimagine Education programme where the United Nations agencies teamed up with the ministries of education and IT companies to close the digital divide and support students and teachers with new skills. The Disaster Risk Reduction programme provided technologies and training to strengthen the country's risk preparedness and response coordination capacities. With United Nations assistance, 17,000 new trees were planted in 34 locations.

As we move forward into 2022, a year that marks the 30th anniversary of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a Member State of the United Nations, the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to seek to accelerate sustainable development across the country, including ceasing the opportunity to build **forward better with a fairer, greener, more prosperous and inclusive recovery**. Together with the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, we will continue to work to ensure that no one is left behind. I extend my appreciation to the authorities, citizens, and our partners who continue to work with the United Nations on these efforts to #ImagineChange.



*Ingrid Macdonald*

*The United Nations Resident Coordinator in Bosnia and Herzegovina*

# UN COUNTRY TEAM

Seventeen United Nations agencies, funds and programmes comprise the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is chaired by the United Nations Resident Coordinator (RC), who is the designated representative of the United Nations Secretary General for development operations in the country.

As a family of specialised agencies, the UNCT works with partners to support Agenda2030 and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Merging the comparative advantages of the various United Nations organisations under the 2021–2025 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina provides tailor-made solutions that address the needs of the most vulnerable, the disadvantaged and those who are at risk of social exclusion in the country.

## Agencies with a country office presence



International  
Labour  
Organization



THE UNITED NATIONS  
MIGRATION AGENCY



The UN Refugee Agency



## Project offices with an in-country presence



United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



## Non-resident agencies



Investing in rural people



UNITED NATIONS  
HUMAN RIGHTS

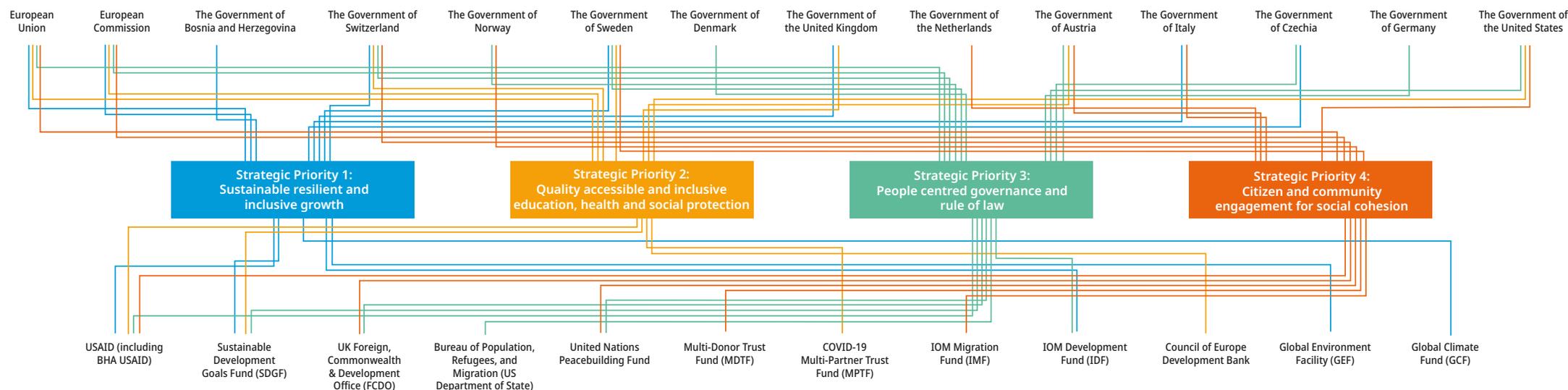


UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



# KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UN SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY

Whilst supporting critical COVID-19 response and recovery efforts and at the same time strengthening efforts to achieve a more prosperous inclusive fairer and greener future throughout the country, one where no one is left behind, the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to forge new partnerships and initiatives in 2021.



# KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY AND THE REGIONAL CONTEXT

Bosnia and Herzegovina has made significant development progress in recent decades. Significant increases in economic growth and institutional stability have been accompanied by the mutually reinforcing and complimentary goals of EU accession and, more recently, Agenda 2030.

Between 1990 and 2019 life expectancy at birth in Bosnia and Herzegovina increased by 6.5 years, mean years of schooling increased by 2.8 years and expected years of schooling increased by 2.2 years. Over the same period GNI per capita increased by around 737.8 per cent despite persistently high unemployment with 15.7 per cent of the working age population out of employment in 2019. Bosnia and Herzegovina is currently ranked 73rd on the Human Development Index.

In 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic caused both a decline in domestic demand and unfavourable external economic trends triggering a sharp economic contraction of 3.2 per cent of GDP. As the pandemic receded, Bosnia and Herzegovina exceeded both domestic and international expectations and returned to growth, with a 4 per cent increase in GDP in 2021. Despite this recovery, low investment, outmigration, and lack of institutional reform, continue to present a challenge to sustainable development and poverty reduction.

The economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was borne disproportionately by the poorest and most vulnerable sections of the population in the country. Many citizens had to borrow extensively to cover

basic needs, while school-aged children and families faced significant challenges in accessing education. Within society, declining mental health, and increased obligations in terms of domestic, care and social work highlighted gaps in social safety nets and social protection.

[Read more: Social Impacts of COVID-19 in Bosnia and Herzegovina \(Second Household Survey\)](#)

Women were affected disproportionately. Sectors with the highest rates of female employment experienced the heaviest job losses, while demand for unpaid domestic, care and social work deepened already

existing gender inequalities, with women reporting an increase in the number of hours they spend cleaning, in household management and maintenance and cooking. At the same time, restrictions in movement and a deepening of economic and social stress in families, caused a significant increase of violence against women.

[Read more: Gender Equality in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

Following several years of recurrent crisis, the political situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina further deteriorated in 2021. Challenges to the constitutional framework of the country and a blockade of state

level decision-making and appointments, intensified political gridlock amid concerns that growing political polarisation represented a fundamental obstacle to practical reforms necessary to improve the development outlook for many in the population.

In parallel, continued cases of threats and intimidation targeting civil society, including independent journalists, increased concerns over the protection of human rights of all people throughout the country and the protection of an open civic space. At the extreme of the political spectrum, hate speech continued throughout 2021, with manifestations of ethno-nationalist rhetoric, increased instances of the glorification of convicted war criminals, and denial of genocide continuing to hamper efforts to build trust in the country.

[Read More: Survey on Youth Emigration in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

As a result of these tensions, Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to manage increased emigration, with in particular growing numbers of young people expressing their commitment to leaving the country.

[Read More: National Human Development Report: Social inclusion in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

Despite these challenges, the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina and all levels of government continued to work to achieve a more prosperous inclusive and greener future for all. In April 2021, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted the SDG Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina establishing the first countrywide strategic framework for sustainable development in over a decade. A product of a three-year consultative process, the Framework outlines a joint vision of future development priorities under the SDGs, building on the requirements for accession to the European Union. This process was facilitated by an SDG Working Group in Bosnia and Herzegovina, comprised of representatives of state, entity and Brčko District authorities.

To ensure the alignment of strategic planning processes across the country with the SDG Framework, an SDG Council in Bosnia and Herzegovina was established by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina in April 2021. The SDG serves as a mechanism to horizontally and vertically integrate relevant authorities and stakeholders, and has helped ensure that the 2021–2027 Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Entity Sustainable Development Strategy is fully aligned with the SDG Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina, while a similar process is also being advanced in Republika Srpska and in Brčko District as well as at the cantonal and municipal level.

## UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM SUPPORT TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA THROUGH THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

The 2021–2025 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) outlines four strategic priorities with five outcomes for joint work by 2025:



**Strategic Priority #1 - Sustainable resilient and inclusive growth;**



**Strategic Priority #2 - Quality accessible and inclusive education, health and social protection;**



**Strategic Priority #3 - People centred governance and rule of law;**



**Strategic Priority #4 - Citizen and community engagement for social cohesion.**

On the 20th May 2021 a new five-year Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) was signed by the United Nations Resident Coordinator and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This Framework reaffirms their joint commitment to work in close partnership for results that will help all people in Bosnia and Herzegovina to live longer healthier and more prosperous and secure lives.

Despite 2021 beginning with a new wave of COVID-19, acute vaccine shortages, disrupted education for thousands of pupils and students and a boiling migration management crisis, under the UNSDCF great strides were made in forging new partnerships for Sustainable Development for Bosnia and Herzegovina.



## KEY RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2021

In 2021, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Bosnia and Herzegovina made a notable contribution towards the **convergence of economic growth and sustainable and inclusive development**.

- Following the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina the UNCT supported the authorities in establishing an [ecosystem for systemic SDG financing](#) and thus enabled informed and targeted investment of public funds and the mobilisation of additional financing. Legal and by-law frameworks regulating the coherent strategic planning system in both entities were also enforced, alongside the new Development Strategy for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2021 – 2027 and strategies for 88% of local governments.
- In parallel, the United Nations advanced the country's capabilities for **shock-responsive social protection**, providing support to social protection services, crisis referrals and preparedness protocols for more than 26,000 beneficiaries, [including more than 1,800 children](#).

The United Nations also made a noteworthy contribution towards **employment and livelihoods**:

- 17,544 women and men benefited from improved livelihoods, 450 people got new jobs and almost 1,000 young people - women and vulnerable population groups - **gained entrepreneurial** and professional skills that helped them access the labour market.



**17,544 men and women** benefited from improved livelihoods



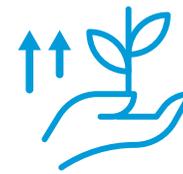
**1,000 young people** gained entrepreneurial and professional skills

- 30,600 people were linked to sustainable value chains and benefitted from a 30 per cent increase in the selling price of their produce.

The United Nations supported Bosnia and Herzegovina to fulfil international commitments and undertake practical reforms in support of **decarbonisation and the energy transition**.

- This included assisting Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) to present its [second national climate pledge](#) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), marking its renewed commitment to the landmark 2015 Paris Agreement. With submission of this document, Bosnia and Herzegovina committed to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 33.2 per cent by 2030, and almost 66 per cent by 2050, compared to 1990 levels.

In parallel, capacities of stakeholders across the country to protect **nature and biodiversity** were enhanced, including a campaign aimed at raising awareness among the public on the importance of protected areas for the preservation of biodiversity. The proportion of important sites that are designated as protected areas increased by 2.7 per cent.



Proportion of important sites that are designated as protected areas

**increased by 2.7 per cent**

The United Nations further provided support to all ministries of education to **improve access to and the quality of formal education** for all children. This involved the introduction of standards, addressing data gaps in education, and the provision of innovative digital learning solutions to support children and education professionals. This support had a particular focus on ensuring that opportunities were improved for the most vulnerable, such as asylum seekers,

children on the move, children with disabilities and children without access to online or blended learning.

- The United Nations and its partners provided training for **1,426 teachers** on digital/blended learning and contributed towards enhanced critical thinking, entrepreneurial, digital and soft skills among children, youth and adults and updated the entrepreneurship curriculum and supported policy frameworks for the creation of a knowledge-based society and jobs of the future.

The United Nations and its partners provided training for **1,426 teachers** on digital/blended learning



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- To address the **learning needs of young children** and to teach them emotional literacy and self-regulation educational **TV shows, such as 'Kids Scientists'**, were produced and broadcast and reached an estimated audience of 870,000 of which around 30,000 were children.

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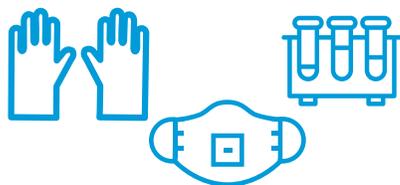


The United Nations continued to actively support the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to **reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021**. The country's response was strengthened through vaccine procurement, capacity building of health

workers, improvement of the surveillance system and reporting on COVID-19 vaccination uptake, setting up the cold chain and by risk communication campaigns that reached over 3.7 million people.

- The United Nations provided personal protective equipment, laboratory consumables, **COVID-19 testing kits and medicine** and up to 100 health institutions countrywide benefitted from 10.4 million pieces of vital **medical equipment and supplies**.

100 health institutions benefitted from **10.4 million pieces** of vital medical equipment and supplies.



©Joint Reimagine Education Programme

- Migrants in five temporary reception centres across Bosnia and Herzegovina were offered 1,078 doses of vaccines.

The United Nations ensured the further strengthening of **routine vaccination** at the primary care level with at least 3,500 children reached through catch up activities, with special focus on vulnerable groups such as Roma children and children on the move.

- In addition to supporting the opening of five new Early Childhood Development Centres, 2,000 kindergarten children and 1,000 primary school pupils benefitted from **Nutrition Friendly Kindergartens/Schools**.

**2,000** kindergarten children and **1,000** primary school pupils benefitted from Nutrition Friendly Kindergartens/Schools



- The United Nations supported **the initiation of a Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination programme**, which is a major milestone in combating cervical cancer among women.

Over the past year, the United Nations continued to provide support for the **prevention, combating** and **addressing of violence against women and girls in Bosnia and Herzegovina**.

- The Gender Equality Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina was supported in establishing three rape crisis centres, and health service providers were capacitated to provide **psychosocial support to female survivors of gender-based violence**. In addition, 693 professionals, including education and the police, increased their capacity to prevent and respond to online violence.



©UNICEF

- Children benefitted from an increased awareness of violence against children, including 18,840 children reached in schools and 14,000 participants through extracurricular activities.
- A total of 343,722 children, parents and caregivers were provided with **mental health and psychosocial support** and messaging, including 5,862 children reached directly through services.



343,722 children, parents and caregivers were provided with

## mental health and psychosocial support

Working to address the challenges posed by the increased irregular flow of migrants and asylum seekers through the Western Balkan route the United Nations provided direct assistance to over 15,000 migrants and asylum seekers and supported the **strengthening of migration governance in Bosnia and Herzegovina**. This initiated the transfer of responsibility for the coordination of the migrant response and the management of migrant reception centres and assistance services to the relevant domestic authorities and included the opening of



the new Temporary Reception Centre (TRC) Lipa in November 2021. The new TRC **is equipped to provide protection and sensitised assistance to up to 1,500 migrants and asylum seekers**, including single adults, families and unaccompanied children. TRC Lipa is the first reception facility managed by the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina (MoS) through the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA).

The new TRC is equipped to provide protection and sensitised assistance to up to



## 1500 migrants and asylum seekers

United Nations agencies supported communities and local authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to enhance social cohesion and peacebuilding.

- UNCT supported the participation of over 7,400 citizens in public life and local decision-making through local community forums.
- UNCT engaged over 1,500 young people in capacity building and **community level initiatives** that promoted dialogue, social cohesion and appreciation of diversity.

UNCT engaged over

## 1,500 young people

in capacity building and community level initiatives



Video: United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina: 2021 Review



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

# Sustainable resilient and inclusive growth

**Outcome 1.** By 2025, people benefit from resilient inclusive and sustainable growth ensured by the convergence of economic development and the management of environment and cultural resources.

Alignment with SDGs:



Contributing UN Agencies:

**FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, UNW, UNDP, UNDRR, UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA and UNICEF.**

Budget:

 **Planned 2021**  
**\$ 44,197,011**

 **Expenditure 2021**  
**\$ 28,719,395**

The United Nations made a noteworthy contribution to the implementation of key climate change policies and laws. This included the Roadmap for the Nationally Determined Contributions and the Implementation Plan for the Climate Finance Strategy and the Law on Air Protection of the Federation of Bosnia and

Herzegovina. The United Nations relatedly supported the authorities in developing the 'Guidelines and Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on the Environment and Economy of Bosnia and Herzegovina'.



These efforts were reinforced **by decarbonisation and energy efficiency actions**. Through the support of the United Nations 42 public buildings were retrofitted, benefiting 203,101 people and reducing energy consumption in the public sector from 198 to 196 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>. The first GHG information system was designed and now serves as an institutional data source for monitoring climate change. The [www.TvojCO2.ba](http://www.TvojCO2.ba) **online marketplace** was launched in 2021, offering the opportunity to buy and plant trees through the platform. Over 17,000 new trees planted at 34 locations were purchased by 132 individuals and 38 companies via the digital platform. These trees will absorb 20 kilotons of CO<sub>2</sub> over their lifetime, which by comparison amounts to the level of CO<sub>2</sub> that 10,000 cars using gasoline produce on average in a year. The United Nations supported the authorities and utility companies in **reducing fuel consumption for municipal waste transportation** and in implementing low carbon alternatives for the transport and collection of waste.

**17,000** trees planted at 34 locations, and in their lifetime, they will absorb **20 kilotons of CO<sub>2</sub>**



Moreover, the United Nations supported the **resilience of stakeholders countrywide**: 42 local governments mainstreamed climate change, **disaster risk management** and energy efficiency perspectives into their local development strategies and budgets or introduced disaster resilience scorecards. Authorities received support in assessing the resilience of the public health systems and in prioritising actions aimed at their strengthening as well as for the develop the 'Roadmap for Roadside Technical Inspection in Bosnia and Herzegovina'. **Camp coordination and management capacities** of local civil protection stakeholders were enhanced in order to prepare them to respond to situations where a significant proportion of the population needs temporary shelter, including during climate change related natural disaster contexts. Thirty-

three medical doctors from seven municipalities gained strengthened capacities for the **provision of healthcare services to vulnerable population groups in cases of emergency**. Complementary to these efforts, the United Nations provided support to the private sector and farmers to increase their resilience to climate change. An integrated tool, for example, that helps interconnect energy and water systems and manage the impact of energy production on water systems was set in function. Moreover, the guidelines and best practices for micro, medium and small-sized enterprises for delivering energy efficient products and providing renewable energy equipment for Bosnia and Herzegovina have been updated.

UNCT provided economic support to a wide range of stakeholders in the country as part of its COVID-19 recovery assistance, including state and entity ministries and 13 business development support organisations (hubs). As a result, their capabilities to **lead and support the digital transformation of the economy were developed**. Leveraging technology, the United Nations supported the development of an **online platform in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina that fully digitalises the establishment of eligibility of small businesses and sole entrepreneurs** to receive public financial support. Hence, 20,000 small businesses and entrepreneurs received fast support totalling USD 35 million in the form of subsidies to overcome the negative effects of the COVID-19 crisis.

**20,000** small businesses and entrepreneurs received fast support totalling **USD 35 million** in the form of subsidies



Public employment services received assistance to set in function the online learning platform 'the Online Learning Journey', which offers online courses on the monitoring and evaluation of the performance of employment services, the profiling of their clients and active labour market programmes. Applying the platform's way of working, the United Nations facilitated the establishment of 12 local cluster platforms that brought together municipal



decision makers, academia, the private sector and representatives of farmers organisations to inform public policy and orient investments in order to warrant long-term agriculture sector competitiveness. Ten municipalities were supported to develop local agriculture and rural development plans or tourism development plans, charting the development pathway for these sectors. The conceptualisation of the first science and technology park in Banja Luka was initiated with the support of the United Nations.

By applying **smart growth principles in order to accelerate green economic growth in the private sector** 240 companies from various industries (agri-food, IT, tourism, textiles, apparel and footwear) were able to connect to various value chains and thereby enhance their competitiveness and introduce green business models. The total value of private sector investment attracted as a result of the UNCT support amounted to USD 6.9 million. Occupational safety and job security guidelines were developed for the textiles, clothing, leather and footwear manufacturing sectors. The online self-assessment tool **'Digital Pulse'** was launched to help companies assess their level of digital doing business; 800 companies assessed their digital maturity and received online customised advice

on how to improve their digital doing business. A third generation of 22 companies - SDG Business Pioneers - were selected through a national competition scheme and received awards for their contribution to the green economy. Ten companies endorsed the Women's Empowerment Principles.

The United Nations continued to harness the **potential of the diaspora** for the development of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The United Nations facilitated the **continued transfer of knowledge from Bosnian and Herzegovinian diaspora to institutions** and enhanced the capacities of the authorities to leverage diaspora resources and knowledge for economic development through a **digital web portal**. The United Nations supported the formation of a BiH diaspora organisation in Germany to enable their collective voice and support for the development of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Total value value of private sector investment**

 **USD 6.9 million** 

Focus was given to enhancing the **entrepreneurial and professional skills** of youth and women from

remote areas, the long-term unemployed, persons with disabilities and ethnic minorities, which helped to create 125 new businesses (45 start-ups) 54 of which are led by women. UNCT contributed to the **improvement of the rural livelihoods of those small-scale family farmers "left-behind"**. Forty households of small fruit and berries producers received seedlings and equipment coupled with capacity building to enhance their resilience. The **Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights**, which focuses on the care economy, was launched in partnership with the Agency for Gender Equality of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the two entity gender centres. The knowledge gap related to the economic position of women in Bosnia and Herzegovina was addressed through two key studies that were developed: 'Women's Economic Empowerment in Bosnia and Herzegovina' and 'Resilience of women owned businesses'.

The capacities of the authorities for **land-use planning and industrial safety** were enhanced alongside enhanced cooperation and coordination among relevant experts within the country as well as across borders. As per the Stockholm Convention and the Montreal Protocols, the capacities of the **authorities were enhanced** to address the issue

of **persistent organic pollutants** and in order to develop environmental management plans for three priority sites contaminated by persistent organic pollutants as well as to revise the relevant regulatory frameworks.

A **permanent exhibition at the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina** opened its doors to the public for the first time since 1992, offering a selection of unique archaeological artefacts that portray the material and cultural heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina since prehistoric times. The Museum of Contemporary Art of Republika Srpska **enhanced its access for persons with physical disability**, the elderly and those with difficulty walking by installing an elevator for these new audiences. Greater inclusion of the audience for cultural life has been achieved and has thus enhanced their well-being and created a sense of belonging and shared identity in line with the principle of leaving no one behind. The United Nations supported the launch of the **Culture|2030 Indicators** in five cities. The aim was to monitor the progress that the enabling contribution of culture makes to the national and local implementation of the SDGs and to enable evidence based and targeted policymaking in the culture sector.

## Our stories

### Choosing Peaches over Apples

To fight against the undesirable consequences of temperature fluctuations caused by climate change, Vaso Savić's family orchard is adapting for its own benefit by cultivating peaches.

### Local Communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina recognise the importance of Improving Social and Child Protection for the most affected and Vulnerable groups of the population in Emergencies.

Local Disaster Risk Reduction Platforms are trained in strategic and action planning for disaster risk management within the social protection sector.

### Love is FEMALE says Radomirka Alić

The founder of the 'Slatki Zalogaј' patisserie in Srebrenica is pushing all limits with her growing business, which is supported by the 'BizUP' programme.

### Museum Renovation leads to the Rediscovery of a Forgotten Exhibition

After three decades, thanks to energy efficient building renovation at the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina the public is able to see a reminder of the prehistoric age in the form of the impressive monoxyl.

### An Artistic collaboration turns a Nuclear Bunker into an Art Gallery

Turning a bunker into a permanent exhibition celebrating tolerance and diversity has lifted it from the historical constraints of its construction and has turned it into a prestigious regional cultural institution committed to preserving cultural heritage, connecting places, spaces and people.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

# Quality accessible and inclusive education, health and social protection

**Outcome 2.** By 2025, people benefit from more inclusive and higher quality educational programmes focused on 21st century skills for enhanced employability, well-being and active participation in society.

Alignment with SDGs:



Contributing UN Agencies:

ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR and UNICEF

Budget:

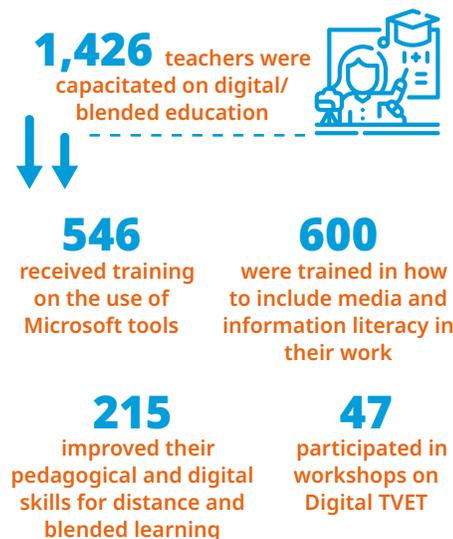


In 2021, United Nations advocacy efforts contributed to no schools having to close in the 2021/2022 school year in Bosnia and Herzegovina. To address the education data gaps the UNCT conducted an

'Assessment of the Professional Needs of Teachers' and an 'Assessment of the Quality of Online and Blended Learning'.



A total of 1,426 teachers were capacitated on digital/blended education. Of this number 564 primary and secondary teachers received training on the use of Microsoft tools for the provision of quality and inclusive learning, 600 teachers were trained in how to include media and information literacy in their work with pupils, 215 teachers improved their pedagogical and digital skills for distance and blended learning and 47 teachers participated in workshops on Digital TVET.



The information management system (IMS) and distance learning platform e-skole for the primary and secondary education levels was provided in **Una-Sana Canton**. The development of IMS for higher education in Republika Srpska was also supported. In partnership with Microsoft, Office 365 A1 educational licenses were delivered to all primary and secondary teachers (2,490) and pupils (27,222) in Una-Sana Canton.

Through the development of **Technical Standards on ICT Tools in the Education Sector** the authorities were supported in establishing basic standards for the provision of ICT tools for education purposes.

To improve inclusive education for children with disabilities the United Nations initiated the introduction of Assistive Technology (AT) in education, prioritising Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) in two pilot locations: Republika Srpska and Sarajevo Canton. AAC software was procured, 54 professionals (47 female) were trained in using it and the first AT catalogue for inclusive education in Bosnia and Herzegovina was developed.

At least 1,314 (381 girls) children on the move were reached through the provision of formal and non-formal education opportunities. This included the Akelius Digital Language course that enables blended learning of English and other languages and the placement of refugee/migrant children in apprenticeship schemes. The United Nations



advocated for the inclusion of vulnerable children into the regular education system, including children on the move and those under international protection, and supported the schools in this practice.

The United Nations IT Girls Initiative aimed at promoting digital literacy among girls and young women and [closing the digital gender gap](#) was expanded to 24 secondary schools in the two entities, with 340 Arduino sets (an open-source platform comprising a programmable circuit board and software to write and upload computer code) distributed to the selected schools together with teacher training. The entrepreneurship curriculum was renewed and introduced into two secondary schools in Sarajevo, helping the teachers and pupils to apply more innovative approaches and attitudes to their learning routines.

A methodology to strengthen 21st century skills for active and productive participation in society for adolescents and youth was rolled out, with focus on those from marginalised communities. Thirty-nine education service providers from 25 secondary schools in Una-Sana Canton benefitted and at least 615 young people gained skills that will help them access the labour market. Fifty girls aged 13 to 15

had the opportunity to discover the world of virtual reality and 3D modelling by creating a prototype of their future city. Over 300 youth leaders launched a plethora of solutions ranging from businesses, TV shows, apps and website to policy proposals aimed at improving the position of youth in the country.

To support job creation and the development of the IT sector and address the skill deficit, the United Nations conducted quantitative and qualitative research into the anticipated skills needs for the future development of the IT sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This will inform the Strategic Skills Development Plan for the IT Sector. The capacities of 29 teachers were strengthened in Digital TVET.

A total of 300 private sector professionals benefitted from knowledge exchange on gender equality through the promotion of women's employment in male dominated industries such as the metal industry.

## 300 private sector professionals



benefitted from knowledge exchange on gender equality



©Joint Reimagine Education Programme

**Outcome 3.** By 2025, people have access to better quality and inclusive health and social protection systems.

Alignment with SDGs:



Contributing UN Agencies:

IOM, UN Women, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC and WHO

Budget:



In 2021, the United Nations completed a comprehensive cold chain assessment for the immunisation programme and 100 per cent rehabilitation of the cold chain was initiated. Support for nearly 100 health institutions throughout the country (clinics, hospitals and public health institutes) meant that more than 10.4 million pieces of medical items (medical supplies, personal protective equipment and testing material) were procured and delivered to the health system. More specifically, more than 830,000 items of personal protective equipment were delivered to 29 social care institutions in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The United Nations procured laboratory consumables, technical equipment, including two 'next generation' whole genome sequencers, and donated dexamethasone and other medicines as well as 295,968 PCR tests.

## 830,000 items



of personal protective equipment were delivered to 29 social care institutions in the FBiH

To help our partners better address COVID-19 misinformation and increase vaccine uptake, the United Nations continued to provide technical support to the relevant authorities for crafting evidence based accurate messaging and provided training for public health professionals and communicators. More than 3.7 million people were reached through online platforms, the [vaccine.ba](#) blog reached 786,510 people in 2021 and the Facebook page had a reach of 687,295, including 328,500 engagements. Pairing health authorities with the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina resulted in a total of 246,577 persons being reached, while transportation to vaccination sites assistance benefitted 1,976 persons over 60

years of age and 951 persons with disabilities. It also allowed for 7,523 contacts to be traced and 2,944 persons to receive their vaccines in their community setting. The capacity to detect new variants or new pathogens that might occur in the future was built.

## 3.7 million people were reached through online platforms



### vaccine.ba blog

reached 786,510 people in 2021

Over 3,500 children were reached through United Nations supported routine catch-up immunisation activities. The UNCT together with its partners finalised the Preparedness and Outbreak Response Plans for Measles in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and continued to support efforts to address anti-vaccine sentiment and restore overall trust in immunisation. People on the move were included in the national vaccination programme with 788 migrants receiving their first, 286 their second and 4 migrants receiving their third dose.

With COVID-19 continuing to impact children and families in 2021, the UNCT supported capacity building for more than 200 mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) professionals. Such support allowed 343,722 children, parents and caregivers to receive MHPSS support and messaging, including 5,862 children and caregivers reached directly by services. Access to [Blue Phone counselling](#) increased to 8,550 calls in 2021, which is double the number in 2020. A pilot programme run with Sarajevo Canton public health centres enabled the installation of 30 digital displays in waiting rooms and hallways

across nine public health centres. This streamlined communication between the health centres and patients by offering accurate timely and dynamic information, especially to vulnerable categories such as survivors of gender-based violence, wartime rape and pregnant women.

**343,722 children, parents and caregivers received**

## **MHPSS support and messaging**

**The social and child protection systems were strengthened.**

This included the adoption of guidelines for the assessment and the referral of children with disabilities, protocols on cooperation among social service providers, and referral schemes. Furthermore, the Manual for the Development of an Individual Plan for Early Identification of Disability and Adequate Referral was produced as part of the support provided to the child disability reform. Herzegovina-Neretva Canton revised its Law on Social Protection and allocated a budget for implementation of a functional assessment in 2022, while Zenica-Doboj Canton committed to apply the same approach the following year. Two entity level comprehensive strategies on social protection were initiated in cooperation with the entity ministries of social protection and the entity level associations of social workers. The 2019 draft Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Law on Support to Families with Children was revised in order to increase coverage and ensure equal access to child cash benefits, raising the initial cost from BAM 25 to 65 million. Social protection and inclusion action plans were developed in three new local communities, with support provided to vulnerable families and children registered as social protection beneficiaries through social entrepreneurship schemes.

The United Nations supported the authorities in **addressing violence against children.** The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Brčko District adopted the strategic programmes and the Action Plans for Combatting Violence against Children in the Digital Environment for the period 2021–2024. Over 700 professionals enhanced their capacities on the protection of child victims of online violence

and abuse, justice proceedings regarding cybercrime involving children, the collection of digital evidence, and the identification and reporting of online violence. In collaboration with the ministries of education and the pedagogical institutes and CSO partners, over 110,000 children from more than 320 schools benefitted from secondary prevention programmes that protect children from violence through early identification of risk factors. Referral mechanisms were established to provide multisectoral and coordinated support to children at risk in 75 municipalities (11 in the Federation and 64 in Republika Srpska).

In 36 municipalities across the two entities, over 2000 service providers from the police, justice, social protection, healthcare, education and civil society sectors **improved their capacities to protect victims of domestic violence**, including case management, informing the victim and risk assessment and response to sexual violence. The new draft Law on Protection from Domestic Violence was adopted by the House of Representatives and the Parliament of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In Republika Srpska, a policy proposal for municipal budget planning for specialist services and a draft amendment to the rulebook on the financing of safe houses were developed to improve access to specialist services.

Multisectoral coordination with the two entity gender centres and the Safe Network was improved through regular meetings of multisectoral teams and referral mechanisms to discuss case management and coordination issues. A city-wide campaign in Banja Luka run to raise awareness about sexual violence and sexual harassment reached over 200,000 people. A policy proposal together with guidelines for services addressing sexual harassment in the public space was developed. To streamline capacity development processes within the Ministry of Healthcare in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina the UNCT built a certified e-learning system for medical professionals that addresses the provision of services for survivors of gender-based violence.

**City-wide campaign in Banja Luka run to raise awareness about sexual violence and sexual harassment reached over 200,000 people**



Partnering with the association 'Vive žene' and the Ministry of Interior of Tuzla Canton, police officers demonstrated changes in their behaviour leading to an increase in the number requests for protection measures in reported cases of domestic violence up from 20 per cent in 2019 to 93 per cent in 2021. The Ministry of Interior of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina standardised its approach to pre-service training of police officers on how to respond to domestic violence by developing a training curriculum for new cadets. Six municipalities were supported in gender-transformative work using the 'Communities that care' approach and involving over 170 boys and girls, 9 religious leaders and 3 educational institutions aiming to become 'schools of excellence'.

The State Action Plan on Roma Inclusion 2021–2025 is now gender sensitive and reflects priorities from the Roma Women's Platform. Overall, 385 women and girls, mostly Roma and those living in rural areas, now have better information about the protection services that are available to them in their local communities.



## **385 women and girls from marginalised groups**

**now have better information about the protection services that are available to them in their local communities**

Information and advice on access to rights and entitlements in relation to asylum and other associated procedures was provided through the established two-way communication with communities, particularly at entry points and in the temporary reception centres throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. As part of the Generation Equality campaign, three joint Action Coalitions were launched: The Action Coalition for Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) was launched in Sarajevo and the Action Coalition on Gender-Based Violence was launched in Banja Luka, in addition to the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Security, with the support of the United Nations and in partnership with the Agency for Gender Equality of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### **Our stories**

#### **Asal's First Day at School**

Asal is one of sixty boys and girls from the temporary reception centre for refugees and migrants who enrolled in formal education in Sarajevo.

#### **Digital Learning: A look into the future**

Reimagine Education works with authorities, school staff and pupils in Bosnia and Herzegovina to close the digital divide and step into the future of education.

#### **Police officers in Bosnia and Herzegovina spark a movement to fight Violence against Women**

In Tuzla canton of Bosnia and Herzegovina, for the first time in history, a campaign has brought together 1,600 police officers to advocate for ending violence against women and challenge the harmful norms that contribute to gender-based violence.

#### **Vaccines have saved our Lives in the past, as they will from now on**

Senior citizens of Sokolac rolled up their sleeves to get vaccinated to protect both themselves and others, to contribute to the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and to be able to see their grandchildren.

#### **Roma Women Break the Silence**

Four Roma women from the Kakanj area share their experiences of violence and send a message of encouragement to other women.

### STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

## People centred governance and rule of law

**Outcome 4.** By 2025, people contribute to and benefit from more accountable and transparent governance systems that deliver quality public services and ensure the rule of law.

Alignment with SDGs:



Contributing UN Agencies:

**IOM, ILO, UNW, UNDP, UNDRR, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC and WHO**

Budget:

 **Planned 2021**  
**\$ 23,921,370**

 **Expenditure 2021**  
**\$ 47,357,440**

To support informed policy planning and budget allocation for the achievement of the SDGs related to education as well as to enable the development and delivery of more inclusive evidence based and gender sensitive policies and regulatory frameworks the UNCT facilitated professional and [technical capacities development of the statistical](#) and educational institutions, creating [statistical data ecosystems in the field of education](#). This contributes to ensuring the principle of 'leaving no one behind' and

is in line with the relevant [education strategies at all education levels in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#): The Strategy of Education Development in Republika Srpska 2016–2021, the Priorities for Development of Higher Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2016–2026 as well as the Enhancement of Quality and Relevance of Vocational Education and Training in Bosnia and Herzegovina, based on the Riga conclusions 2021–2030.

The United Nations continued to support the entity line ministries of health by improving the policy framework, including the development of [standard operational procedures for medical and psychosocial support for survivors of violence](#) and by creating innovative IT solutions (bots, e-learning systems, digital boards) that were piloted in Canton Sarajevo in nine public health centres.

In the year that marked the 75th anniversary of UNICEF, the relevant institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina [continued to implement the 2019 Convention of the Rights of the Child \(CRC\) Concluding Observations](#). In collaboration with the Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the [Regional ECA Minimum Set of Child Protection Indicators was piloted](#). The aim was to identify missing information and assess the capacities to manage minimum data on child protection, including data on violence against children. In addition to the challenges associated with harmonised data management on child rights and child poverty, which undermines evidence based policy efforts, programming and investments in all child-relevant sectors, the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), which is a source of 33 indicators on the SDGs, has yet to be implemented, which means that children and women are left out of the planning processes in some sectors.

The UNCT initiated the introduction of [Integrated Case Management \(ICM\)](#) between the local centres for social welfare and the employment offices aimed at establishing referrals among social service providers and increasing the employability of social protection beneficiaries. Building on the recommendations of the social service workforce assessment, three-year action plans were developed in the two entities and in Brčko District. Line ministries initiated the establishment of a professional supervision system that will contribute towards the prevention of professional burnout and advocate for an increase in social workers over time.

Government partners in the reform of the [justice systems for children](#) were supported through the advancement of the legal regulatory frameworks, the capacitating of over 300 professionals, the strengthening of child friendly procedures and the enhancement of data management. In 2021, the High Judicial Prosecutorial Council declared

the minimum standards for child friendly interview rooms as mandatory for all the justice institutions. The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Brčko District adopted the [Strategic Programmes and Action Plans for Combating Violence against Children in the Digital Environment for the period 2021–2024](#). Over 700 professionals enhanced their capacities on the protection of child victims of online violence and abuse, justice proceedings, the collection of digital evidence, and the identification of and reporting on online violence. The UNCT ensured child protection support for 3,314 [children on the move](#), including 1,878 unaccompanied children (UAC) through means such as legal guardianship, case management, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and protection standards, in addition to operating four child friendly spaces for children in families and reaching 1,227 UAC children.

## Over 700 professionals

[enhanced their capacities on the protection of child victims, justice proceedings, the collection of digital evidence, and the identification of and reporting on online violence](#)



©UN Women



Check out the [Best Interests of the Child Guidelines \(BICG\)](#) that were developed by institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the NGO Network 'Stronger Voice for Children', supported by UNICEF.

In order to foster the effectiveness of tripartite social dialogue the development of **regional performance monitoring tools within the economic and social councils (ESCs) in the Western Balkans was supported**, which improved their impact on policymaking and labour dispute resolution and industrial relations. Both the Economic and Social Council and the Agency for the Amicable Settlement of Labour Disputes of Republika Srpska adopted the regional performance benchmarking frameworks that will serve as a basis for the establishment of the Performance Benchmarking Software. To increase capacities and outreach, UNCT supported knowledge building on effective approaches to address undeclared work through peer exchanges among labour inspectors in Canton Sarajevo and Republika Srpska.

**The Global Action Plan to End Statelessness and Bosnia and Herzegovina's pledge to systematically address the remaining issues related to statelessness were also supported.** Asylum seekers, refugees and persons granted subsidiary protection were provided with access to a fair and efficient refugee status determination (RSD) procedure, legal assistance and remedies and other rights related to their status, including the facilitated naturalisation of refugees who have stayed in the country for five years. **Over 15,000 migrants in temporary reception centres (TRCs) were registered and assisted. Border management and migration management was strengthened** through the secondment of additional service for foreigner's affairs (SFA) and border police officials at entry points and in SFA registration offices as well as through the procurement of specialised equipment and training.

The **transfer of responsibility** over the coordination of the migrant response to the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of the management of temporary reception facilities to the SFA also began in 2021. Following the opening of a reception centre with 1,500 beds, the total reception capacity was at 5,280 places and sufficient to accommodate the migrants estimated to be present in the country. Overall, **206 migrants (including 3 children) were assisted to return voluntarily to their countries**

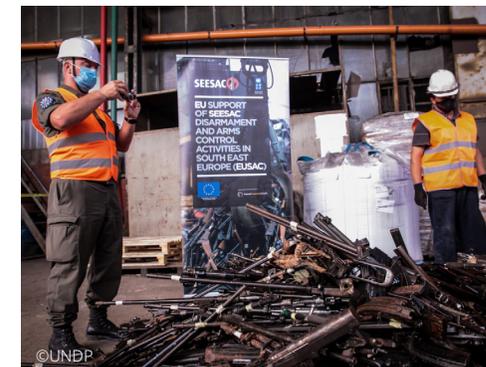
**of origin.** A further 175 benefitted from reintegration assistance upon their voluntary return to their countries of origin. The UNCT worked with the SFA, law enforcement officers, judges, prosecutors and other relevant partners to **advance the reform of the counter trafficking (CT) systems** and piloted a new approach to the capacity building of national stakeholders in order to tackle the lack of identification of (potential) victims of trafficking (p/VOTs) in mixed migration flows, using simulation exercises. Overall, **502 participants, including 250 staff from TRCs, were trained on the referral mechanism** for better identification of p/VOTs.

The UNCT supported the authorities in initiating the design of the **SDG Financing Framework**, which will provide a forecast assessment of the financial resources necessary to achieve the set targets by 2030 as well as identify public and private financing mechanisms and approaches to mobilise these resources. The support provided to the entity ministries of water, agriculture and forestry on water sector reform programmes and inclusive policy processes resulted in amendments to the Law on Principles of Local Self-Governance in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and empowered local communities. Support was also provided for the design of the Small Arms and Light Weapons Strategy 2021–2024, the adoption of the road safety and war crimes strategies, the design of the draft cybersecurity regulatory frameworks and for the gender action plans for eight local governments. Leveraging technology, the UNCT developed a digital tool – **Public consultations 2.0 platform** – to increase transparency and to enable interactive and structured public involvement in public consultations. With UN support, more than 500,000 women and men benefited from better public services, particularly water supply and wastewater management services, waste management, energy efficiency and social services. The UN focused on enhancing digital skills of public servants and introduction of information systems and digital tools to further contribute to quality performance and public service delivery.

The capacities of 12 ministries of interior and 3 state level institutions to implement the **Regional Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Roadmap** were strengthened and the implementation of the



**Ammunition Weapons and Explosives Master Plan Framework** aimed at eliminating the security threats posed by unstable ammunition stockpiles, arms proliferation, **aging military facilities and infrastructure was advanced.** The UNCT assisted the authorities in the development of standard operational procedures for the detection, control and processing of crimes pertinent to illegal small arms. Support was provided for more than 70 exchange and capacity development events that involved more than 1,400 representatives of the law enforcement agencies and specialised equipment for more effective detection of illicit firearms were delivered and over 2,000 pieces of small arms were destroyed. The Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of



Bosnia and Herzegovina were supported in disposing in a safe and environmentally friendly manner of 30 tonnes of unstable and surplus ammunition, which reduced the quantity of surplus ammunition by 0.55 per cent down to 5,460 tonnes.

**Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina were supported in disposing of 30 tonnes of unstable and surplus ammunition**

## Our stories

### [Increasing the Capacities of Labour Inspectorates through Peer Review](#)

A total of 42 inspectors from seven labour inspectorates in the Western Balkans participated in the Employment and Social Affairs Platform (ESAP) 2 project.

### [#Ibelong](#)

After years of conducting a legal battle, Nina received a positive decision on the acquisition of Bosnian and Herzegovinian citizenship based on facilitated naturalisation in April 2020.

### [For greater Safety of all Citizens](#)

Bosnia and Herzegovina destroys 1,972 pieces of small arms and light weapons.

### [Speaking Out](#)

An exhibition dedicated to the experiences of survivors of conflict related sexual violence and the experiences of children born out of war was opened to mark the International Day for the Elimination of CRSV.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

# Citizen and community engagement for social cohesion

**Outcome 5.** By 2025, there is stronger mutual understanding, respect and trust among individuals and communities.

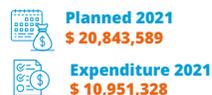
Alignment with SDGs:



Contributing UN Agencies:

**ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNFPA and UNICEF**

Budget:



To support communities and local authorities in building sustainable capacities, skills and tools to enhance social cohesion and peacebuilding in Bosnia and Herzegovina the United Nations continued to build upon programming to empower local communities, engage citizens and civil society in local development and promote inclusive dialogue, critical thinking, innovation and [youth and media activism](#). These efforts complemented those undertaken by authorities, notably in the context of the SDG Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

the Bosnia and Herzegovina Funding Instrument for the Gender Action Plan (FIGAP), the Bosnia and Herzegovina Strategy to Prevent and Combat Terrorism and the two entity development and youth strategies. Considering the emigration trends, [especially among the youth](#), one challenge encountered when working in marginalised communities related to the transfer of knowledge between generations and ensuring the durability of the results in terms of community capacities.

The United Nations continued to support the empowerment of civil society, particularly young people in the country as well as across the Western Balkans. More than 500 civil society organisations (CSOs) strengthened their capacities and implemented projects in 53 localities, with a direct impact on more than 100,000 people through initiatives addressing the needs of youth and the most vulnerable. With UNCT support, more than 300 women and men (of which more than 80% were women) took part in civic forums on social cohesion, [fostering inclusive decision-making, intercultural understanding and peaceful and democratic development](#). With the first Women Mentoring Network and the new [Women's Forum for Development \(WF4D\) platform](#), the UNCT brought together over 100 female business leaders to share their knowledge and experience and enabled countrywide collaboration for women to gain the tools to become leaders and representatives of their communities.

The United Nations continued to build trust in the media in South East Europe (SEE) by [supporting the creation of youth newsrooms and triggering the active citizenship of youth as well as their trust in the media](#) through the journalistic work of their peers and by partnering with the Centre for Development of Youth Activism in Sarajevo. As such, youth from

the seven project beneficiaries were supported in bringing international topics closer to their peers and reporting on freedom of expression and similar topics. Ten training sessions were organised for 39 young journalists, [resulting in close to 50 articles on the SEE Youth Newsroom platform](#).

The United Nations worked to [strengthen data management on child rights](#) by supporting the Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina in completing a database for monitoring the situation of children and women in Europe and Central Asia and generating new child rights data through research. This included a longitudinal Household Survey on the Social Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Through the [UPSHIFT programme](#), which was first launched to overcome the challenges in implementation caused by the COVID-19 related restrictions, UNCT combined video tutorials, online tools and in-person exchanges to promote youth engagement and social innovation, tackling the topics of tolerance, identity and societal differences through an exploration of themes related to the arts and music, mental health, environmental protection and social cohesion.

Working closely with faith-based organisations and religious communities the United Nations built a cohort of 100 youth-peer trainers to amplify positive



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messages, notably sermons given in Islamic, Orthodox and Catholic places of worship and interfaith meetings in various communities (including [during 16 Days of Activism](#)). This helped **build support systems for vulnerable women and survivors of violence as well as solidify support and cooperation between the peoples and communities of Bosnia and Herzegovina**. Together with the Interreligious Council, psychosocial support to survivors of war crimes was expanded through members of the clergy by developing an e-learning course and facilitating online youth exchanges across different ethnic, cultural and religious groups.

Reaching over 57 million individuals in the Western Balkans and in the Bosnian Diaspora overseas, the UNCT **supported national online campaigns against extremism and hate speech**. Through the Bosnia and Herzegovina Resilience Initiative (BHRI), the United Nations supported 20 community media partners, the training of 350 young community journalists, which created 900 positive youth focused

stories that reached five million people and engaged 100,000 actively. Training for media representatives and spokespersons helped raise awareness among local media on the importance of fair and professional reporting on migration issues. The BHRI also supported 500 youth and 37 youth clubs and centres, [facilitating over 300 youth led initiatives in 67 communities](#). Youth platforms in 28 communities were supported in working more closely with local government, while the three umbrella youth councils were supported in working with the Ministry of Civic Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina to revitalise the state Commission for Cooperation with Youth.

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*“Youth’s perspective is often missing in the journalistic reporting of the region. Gathering young and aspiring journalists and equipping them with additional tools to express themselves professionally is a unique opportunity for bridging this gap.” – UNESCO [project participant](#).*

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The BHRI also supported

## 500 youth and 37 youth clubs and centres

facilitating over 300 youth led initiatives in 67 communities



Working on a bottom-up regional framework for social cohesion, community resilience and empowerment the UNCT **also supported authorities and communities in advancing inclusive peacebuilding and reconciliation processes throughout the region**. In light of the increase in divisive rhetoric, United Nations partners invested in activities fostering trust building and critical thinking, especially among young people such as with the [Regional Youth Peace Lab](#), in order to address the latent risks of conflict, [bridge social divides](#) and counter radical narratives. New prevention models rooted in a participatory and

bottom-up approach helped integrate the challenges experienced in communities and propose adapted responses. Moreover, supporting beneficiaries from within communities contributed to generating and sustaining local knowledge and skills. This work was achieved through a regional network of community liaison points (CLPs) who provided community stakeholder resources to help drive change and counter negative influences and to continued partnership with faith-based organisations and religious leaders.

The lessons learned helped increase the influence of key institutional partners, such as social welfare centres and mental health institutions, as well as community partners, teachers, parents and youth leaders to further disseminate messages that counter division, violence and extremism. Overall, the work of the UNCT to advance inclusion, peace and reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkans contributed to the process of increasing trust in local institutions and intercultural dialogue. According to a recent study conducted in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, 38 per cent of the respondents indicated that they have increased trust in members of other ethnic groups and feel more competent and more motivated to take action to improve life in their communities.

### Our stories

#### [Dialogue for the Future](#)

Final video-look at the results achieved through the initiative across Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia.

#### [Young People show Community-impact whilst marking Youth Day across Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

The Providing Support to Youth in Local Communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina project partnered to organise a series of events in Jablanica, Bileća, Prijedor and Bugojno.

#### [Turn Up the Volume! Youth Voices - Youth Activism & Youth Voices - Media](#)

The Bosnia and Herzegovina Resilience Initiative (BHRI) was launched to provide positive alternatives to divisive narratives and influences. In these two short documentaries, youth and local partners speak about their experiences, actions and connections.

#### [BiH Interreligious Council's Youth Network presents „All you need to know“ series: on \[Shabat\]\(#\), \[Easter\]\(#\), \[Christmas Česnica\]\(#\) and \[Islamic Prayers\]\(#\).](#)

The short stories were jointly prepared to mark the Interfaith Harmony Week

## PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE 2030 AGENDA

The endorsement of the SDG Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina by the authorities in April 2021 provided an opportunity to leverage and galvanise partnerships in the country towards sustainable development. With the countrywide vision and agreed priorities provided by the Framework, offer a platform for more effective and efficient aid coordination in the country and will improve opportunities for alignment between international and national partners in the country.

Building upon the SDG Business Week event that was organised in 2019 and 2020, the United Nations worked to raise the visibility of sustainable business practices in Bosnia and Herzegovina by launching the [SDG Week in 2021](#). The SDG Week promoted the newly adopted SDG Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina among private and public sector actors, including authorities at all levels, businesses, international partners, academia and CSOs. With an increase in received applications (105) and applicant companies (75) SDG Week enabled a stronger understanding of the value and relevance of the SDG Framework for overall stability and sustainable development, but also ownership of the 2030 vision in the country.

The process of preparing the SDG Financing Framework was launched in 2021 to provide a common tool for all levels of government in the country to improve financing of the SDGs through existing financing approaches, policies and instruments and the development of new and innovative policies and instruments. With support from the United Nations 'Towards the SDGs Financing Ecosystem in Bosnia and Herzegovina', funded through the global SDG Fund a SDG Financing Working Group was established with representatives of the ministries of finance at all levels and the members of the SDG Council. As the initial step, work on the Development Finance Assessment

(DFA) and Public Expenditure Review (PER) was initiated and advanced in the last quarter of 2021. This provided the analytical baseline for the preparation of the SDG Financing Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the first half of 2022.

### Transformative partnerships in 2021

The United Nations actively cooperated with the SDG Council and key institutional stakeholders for Agenda 2030 in the country, which is tasked by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina with coordinating, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the SDG Framework and Agenda 2030 in the country. The SDG Council brought together important stakeholders, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Directorate for Economic Planning of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry for European Integration and International Cooperation of Republika Srpska, the Development Planning Institute of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Brčko District Department for Economic Development.

The efforts of the United Nations to support the country's [transition towards a low-carbon economy](#) have been reinforced by **strong partnerships with the private sector**. Since 2019, for example, through the [SDG Business Pioneers Awards](#). The United Nations recognised the efforts of champion companies that have contributed to the achievement of the SDGs by adopting sustainable and low-carbon business models and industry practices. The United Nations has also partnered with mobile operators in the country. One example being the pilot for the first SMS based emergency alert service for Brčko District. Partnerships have also been realised for food delivery by online providers, optimising food waste and



establishing pilot efforts aimed at reducing the use of single-use plastics, and business associations such as Bit Alliance, to support the digital transformation of the economy.

**Data partnerships** and engagement with civil society for grassroots data collection, such as the non-governmental organisation 'Žive Staze' in the agriculture sector, as well as with universities for stronger connectivity between science and development have been expanded. The United Nations continued to work with local authorities to strengthen data management and on harmonisation, to support the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), a source of 33 indicators on SDGs that is paramount to the inclusion of children, women and citizens in planning processes. The second round of the [Household Survey on the Social Impact Assessment of COVID-19](#)

[in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#), involving a representative sample of 1,800 households, was conducted. The survey found that the lives of the population in the country have deteriorated in many ways and that children, women and vulnerable population groups have been hardest hit by this crisis.

The creation of statistical data ecosystems in the field of education was chaired jointly by the three statistical institutions: the Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Federal Office of Statistics for the Entity of the Federation of Bosnia Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics. In cooperation with 16 ministries of education, at all levels, these institutions successfully partnered to create a system of accurate and timely data collection as a prerequisite for quality reporting and policymaking processes.

The United Nations continued to leverage **multi-partnership based employment mechanisms at the local level** in order to bring together local governments, public employment services, employers, educational institutions and NGOs. This has proven to be an effective and customised approach to the specific employment challenges faced by local communities. Furthermore, new partnerships were established with 10 new local governments for the implementation of **social entrepreneurship schemes** and the integrated case management model. The aim was to contribute to a shift towards activating the social protection system to stimulate work integration and employability for the most vulnerable categories through integrated solutions and schemes.

**Education and capacity building partnerships strongly supported resilience and social transformation.** The UNCT partnered with the ministries of education to implement the United Nations joint project **'Reimagining Education for Marginalised Girls and Boys during and post COVID-19'**. The UNCT cooperated with leading EdTech companies, such as Tobii Dynavox, to provide solutions and expertise as well as with Microsoft to procure the MS Operating System for schools, which consequently allowed for the purchase of 40 per cent more ICT devices for schools. Microsoft also offered Office 365 A1 licenses and capacity building for all interested education institutions, schools and teachers in all administrative units of the country. The Girls Advance Lab programme, which supports the empowerment of 100 girls across Bosnia and Herzegovina through mentorship and grassroots funding, was supported in helping to prevent violence through online products that reached more than 2,500 girls in 2021.

As part of another joint United Nations regional programme for social cohesion in the Western Balkans, the United Nations worked with the University of Sarajevo and the Ministry of Education, Science and Youth of Sarajevo Canton to develop teaching material that will enrich the methodology

used for teaching the digital culture narrative. The UNCT continued to mitigate the toxic legacy of war-related pain and trauma by promoting equitable and transformative views and attitudes concerning gender and ethnic and cultural identity. To strengthen resilience to extremism the UNCT worked with pedagogical partners to implement the MoviEQ methodology in schools in the Una Sana Canton and rolled out the Toxic Masculinity Module in vulnerable communities that have a low level of social cohesion and a high number of marginalised youth.

The issue of violence against women, particularly sexual violence and sexual harassment, rapidly came to the attention of the public discourse via the Facebook platform 'Nisam tražila' (I did not ask for it) as a response to dismissive and misogynistic public and social media reactions to the testimony of a Serbian actress denouncing her acting teacher for rape. The UNCT led the process of mapping ongoing interventions aimed at **combating violence against women** and girls as well as outlining the next steps towards a joint programme on tackling sexual violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The UNCT continued to support the country's humanitarian response to the **refugee and migrant** situation, with stronger focus on strengthening the capacities of local authorities and institutions to integrate children on the move into the local education and social welfare systems. The United Nations stepped up its partnership with **universities** in 2021, including support for the design of online training courses for civil servants and university students on sustainable development and the SDGs as well as digital resources for teaching that promote social cohesion and peacebuilding. With the aim of promoting the inclusion of migrants and asylum seekers in Bosnian and Herzegovinian society, the **'No Nation Fashion' brand** was launched. No Nation Fashion is an initiative that brings together the private sector, fashion designers and artists with migrants residing in temporary reception centres across the country. The project helps highlight the positive potential of migration and the contribution

that migrants can bring to their host society. It also showcased the talent and economic potential of the fashion and design industry in the country.

The United Nations facilitated a **wide network of civil protection and disaster response organisations** (including the civil protection authorities, Red Cross, local governments, etc.) to contribute to more effective horizontal coordination in this area.

**Advocacy partnerships** have also been among the main tools that the United Nations has used for leverage in achieving a wider impact. A countrywide network of youth and environmental protection civil society organisations has been set in motion as a national climate action movement. The United Nations also engaged in the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights, which focuses on the care economy and promoting gender equality.

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"At the beginning our parents were telling us 'Get away from that, why do you need that, you will not earn anything'. However, we demonstrated differently. Now my parents share my Facebook posts on their social medias. Now they all comment our actions." – *Female youth participant, youth-led programming of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Resilience Initiative.*

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"The Media Literacy Workshop opens a number of questions for its participants. How to choose the info we need in the sea of information, why it is important to be informed, what content the media offers and what role new technologies play in their distribution. Each workshop emphasises the importance of working on topics such as stereotypes, prejudice, discrimination and importance of learning how to recognise false news and protect our personal data online." – *Facilitator of the Media Literacy Workshop.*

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## UNITED NATIONS COHERENCE, EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY

Taking into consideration lessons learned, the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina has adopted measures to further strengthen coherence, effectiveness and efficiency with the aim of reducing transaction costs for the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and advance the coordination of international support in the country.

Building upon the extensive consultation process with the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, civil society, communities, the private sector and academic and international partners that occurred in 2020, the 2021–2025 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) was officially signed in May 2021. The UNSDCF presents a new partnership agreement between the United Nations and the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, taking advantage of the opportunities provided by United Nations reforms geared towards increasing coherence, effectiveness and efficiency at the country level.

Within this context, the 2021–2025 UNSDCF incorporates new areas of engagement with partners in Bosnia and Herzegovina in areas such as sustainable economic growth, social cohesion and human rights. These thematic areas were less represented in the previous programming cycles but were assessed as highly relevant and effective within the current country context. To that end, the UNCT reconfigured its composition and substituted three United Nations entities under the new UNSDCF to be better capacitated to meet its obligations and deliver upon its new commitments.

Furthermore, the newly endorsed UNSDCF includes five strategic outcomes across four priority areas. The previous UNCT programming cycle, the 2015–2020 UNDAF, consisted of 13 strategic outcomes whereas the 2021–2025 UNSDCF demonstrates the UNCT's efforts to narrow its strategic focus and increase its effectiveness.

Further progress was achieved in strengthening United Nations cohesion, efficiency, and effectiveness by preparing a single 2021–2022 Joint Work Plan in

support of UNSDCF implementation in March 2021. The Joint Work Plan outlines joint United Nations outputs in support of UNSDCF implementation and all individual contributions of United Nations entities to these joint outputs, including a budgetary framework disaggregated by secured funding and resource mobilisation targets. As such, the Joint Work Plan provides a clear and transparent overview of the United Nations annual targets as well as the baseline for annual strategic discussions with the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina within the UNSDCF Steering Committee. This approach drastically reduces transaction costs for national and international partners and facilitates more coherent effective and efficient collaboration with government and non-government partners in the country. In anticipation of the formal establishment of the UNSDCF Steering Committee, the 2021–2022 Joint Work Plan was reviewed electronically and endorsed by the relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In accordance with the provisions of the UNSDCF and efforts to further reduce transaction costs, the UNCT also pioneered the practice of using the endorsed UNSDCF as the reference point for formal endorsement of the individual projects of agencies and joint United Nations programmes that require formal signature from the authorities in the country. The UNSDCF provisions foresee that the United Nations entities and partners will use the minimum documents necessary, namely the signed UNSDCF and endorsed Joint Work Plans, to implement programmatic initiatives. Within this context, the initiated practice rests upon the formal confirmation by the Office of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina that the proposed programmatic initiatives are aligned with the already endorsed UNSDCF and its outcomes. Once the UNSDCF Steering Committee is fully operational, the intention is to facilitate this process through the UNSDCF Steering Committee.

The UNCT continued to play a strong role in COVID-19 risk communication on social media, with particular emphasis on promoting vaccination efforts (with the

[first arrivals of the COVAX vaccines](#) to Bosnia and Herzegovina) as well as the continued use of personal preventive measures (including with the [#SummerSense campaign](#) and the [United Nations Resident Coordinator](#) OpEds). Risk communication efforts also included vaccination awareness [public campaigns](#) with the relevant health authorities in the country, most notably [#Zbogonihkojevolis](#) and [Čuvam sebe, čuvam tebe](#).

With stronger United Nations Communications Group coordination support, the [United Nations #ImagineChange Festival in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#) was launched for the very first time on the occasion of United Nations Day. Twenty selected participants of the fair, including youth bands, musicians, chefs, animators and poets, all partners of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in Bosnia and Herzegovina who are actively working on achieving positive change in their local communities and beyond, made a visit to the National Museum, which was an [unforgettable and different experience for thousands of citizens](#). The Festival

was announced through a series of seven #UNDay talks and short videos featuring representatives of the United Nations who spoke to their [partners](#) and [youth](#) across Bosnia and Herzegovina about their positive actions and the future they would like to see.

The United Nations social media accounts in Bosnia and Herzegovina acted as a platform for amplifying the voices of active and engaged youth in the country, including the #YouthLead August Takeover campaign that featured [30 youth champions](#) identified through the work of the United Nations agencies throughout the country. The youth champions had a chance to [discuss their challenges and ideas with United Nations senior management](#) in Bosnia and Herzegovina at a joint event that was held in Banja Luka as well as with the [United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth](#) during her visit. A youth call for artistic expression of the #Next25Years in Bosnia and Herzegovina was issued in May, stemming from the partnerships with the OSCE Mission in the country and concluding with a [joint discussion with the winners and other participants](#).



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For the first time, a joint public outreach campaign presenting the key pillars of the new 2021–2025 United Nations Sustainable Development Coordination Framework [accompanied its official signing in May](#). It featured [commitment videos by representatives of the UNCT](#) explaining the key focus areas of their planned work. The joint campaign also involved key international partners, a practice that was seen during the joint communication around the presentation of the 2020 Country Results Report.

The signed UNSDCF was soon complemented by the 2021–2025 Joint Communications and Advocacy Strategy, which guides the work of the United Nations Communications Group.

The United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina was one of the first to respond to the [#NisamTrazila movement](#) early in 2021, including statements and social media cards under the leadership of the UN Women office. Generation Equality was officially launched later in the year through a comprehensive social media campaign that gave a voice to activists, the CSO sector, youth, government representatives and the international community who joined together in order to by 2026 reduce the gender inequality gaps that impede the full and free development of women and girls across the globe. Generation Equality was also highlighted within this year's [16 Days of Activism campaign](#).

Leveraging key partnerships was within the focus of the effort to bring the climate crisis and action clearly into in the public and institutional focus, through [joint support for promoting the country's](#)

[updated Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDCs\)](#), outlining policy recommendations, IPCC report findings and [using opportunities such as COP26](#) to address them. [Joint statements](#) with multilateral partners highlighted unwavering support for peace and trust building in the country, while also drawing attention to [local champions of peace](#) such as [Bosanski Petrovac](#).

Bringing the year to a close, the United Nations team published the ['2021 Partnership for Development'](#) snapshot of key highlights and announced the production of quarterly newsletters.

Recognition of the joint efforts and strong coherence of the United Nations system was underlined by the high-level visits by United Nations representatives to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide, Alice Nderitu, visited Bosnia and Herzegovina in June, traveling and talking to people in Sarajevo, Srebrenica, Mostar, Stolac, Žepče, Bihać and Bosanski Petrovac. Reaffirming our

valued cooperation with Bosnia and Herzegovina as a Member State, the visit of the Under-Secretary-General was followed in September by the United Nations Development Coordination Office Regional Director for Europe and CIS, Gwi Yeop Son, in October by the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Miroslav Jenča, and in November by the United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, Jayathma Wickramanayake.



## EVALUATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

In line with the Bosnia and Herzegovina 2015–2020 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Final Evaluation, additional efforts were invested to strengthen the functionality of the UNSDCF Steering Committee and thereby the national strategic oversight of UNSDCF implementation. Following the formal endorsement of the 2021–2025 UNSDCF, the UNCT, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, initiated a discussion with the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the objective of establishing a new UNSDCF Steering Committee. This was to ensure a countrywide representation, links with the existing SDG coordination mechanism in the country (the SDG Council in Bosnia and Herzegovina) and the highest level of decision-making representation in the UNSDCF Council. With the new UNSDCF Steering Committee set-up,

providing more active and strategic engagement as well as opportunities for synergies with the ongoing SDG related activities in the country, the challenges recognised in the UNDAF Final Evaluation should be adequately addressed.

Regarding the internal coordination mechanism and challenges related to the work of the Results Groups, as identified in the UNDAF Final Evaluation, the UNCT has adopted a new Guidance Note on Results Groups that complements the work and responsibilities of the Programme Management Team (PMT). Under the new Guidance Note, the PMT, identified in the UNSDCF as the single inter-agency body, coordinates and oversees the technical implementation of the UNSDCF whereas the Results Groups facilitate UNSDCF implementation through joint and strategic engagement under each UNSDCF

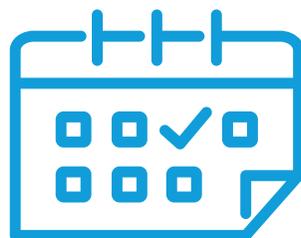
strategic priority. Accordingly, the PMT will focus on developing the annual joint work plans guided by the priorities of the Results Groups, updating the Common Country Assessment (CCA), preparing the annual United Nations Country Results Reports and regularly updating UNINFO (the digital UNSDCF platform). Complementary to this, the Results Groups will focus on identifying opportunities for joint strategies, policies, positions, advocacy messages, joint programmes and resource mobilisation approaches as appropriate. With the PMT primarily including deputies and senior programming officers from the agencies and the Results Groups and the heads of agencies, the key challenge of ensuring adequate and relevant representation in the internal coordination mechanism, as identified in the UNDAF Final Evaluation, should be addressed.



# FINANCE AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION

**2021 planned:**

**\$ 110,535,475**



**2021 delivered:**

**\$ 121,200,237**

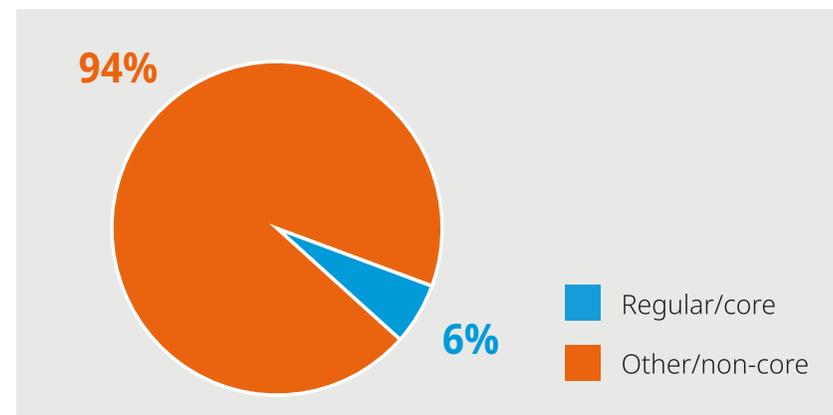


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The 2021-2022 Joint Work Plan, under the 2021-2025 UNSDCF, foresaw a total budget of \$171,341,710 for the initial two years. At the moment of Joint Work Plan creation, \$125,624,097 were available, thus leaving an estimated \$45,717,613 to be mobilized.

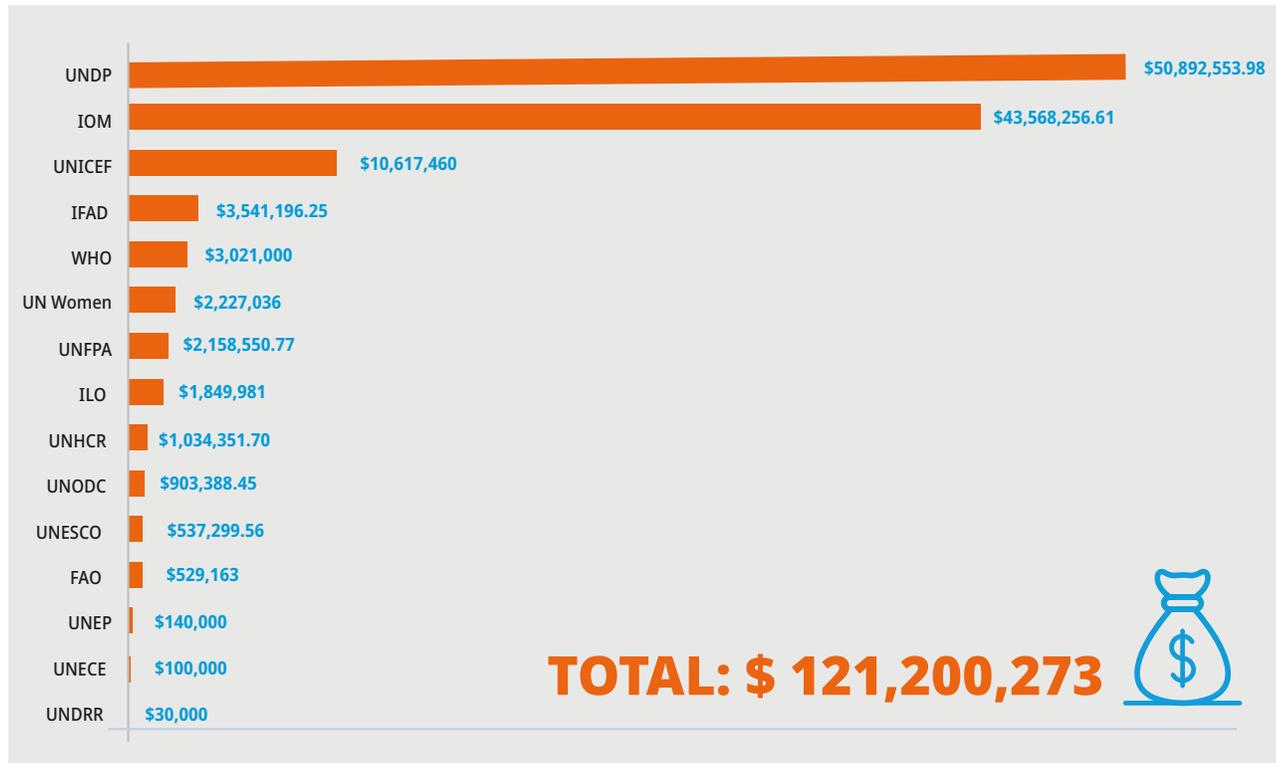
At the end of 2021, the collective UNCT delivery was \$121,200,237. As per the agencies' reports, a total of \$131,862,863 were mobilized in 2021, of which \$8,071,060 are from regular or core resources, and \$123,791,803 from other or non-core resources.

## 2021 mobilized resources

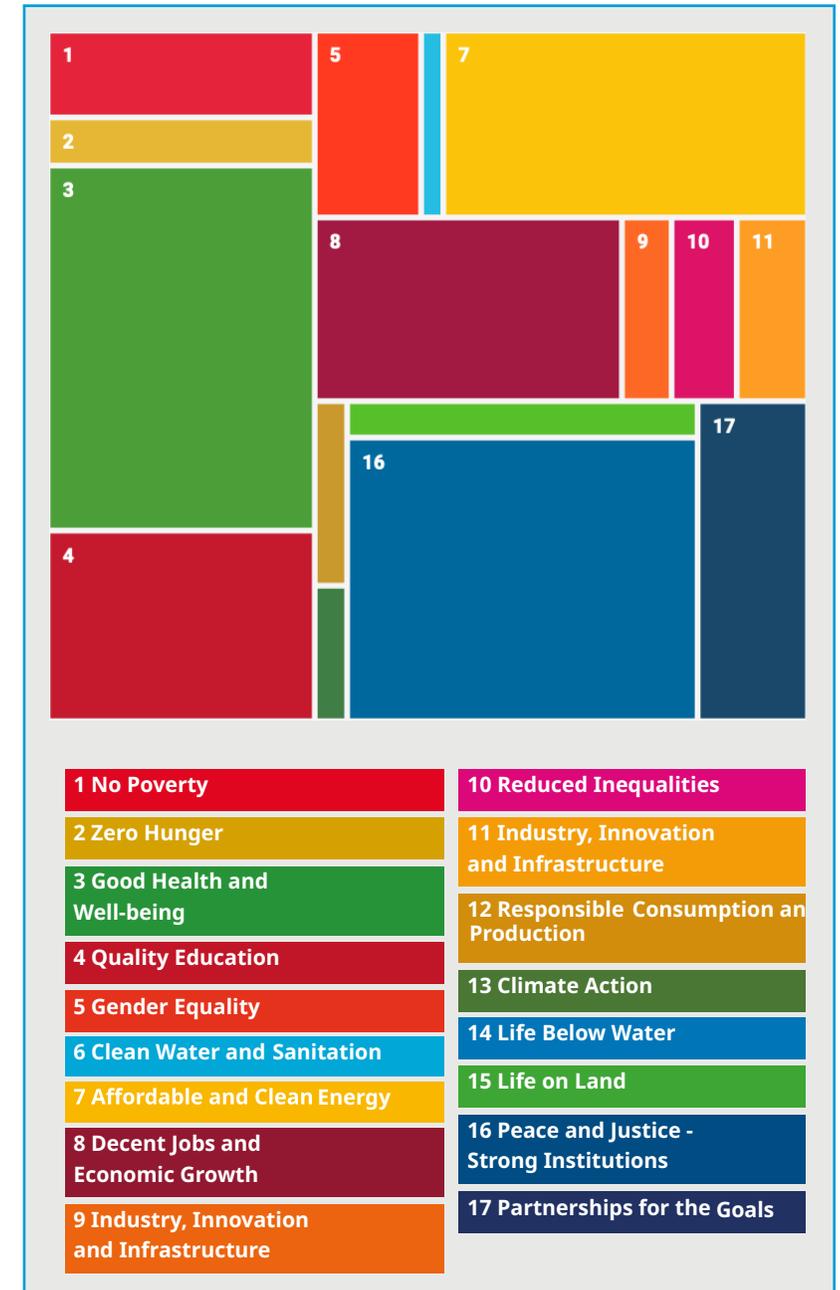


	2021 PLANNED	2021 EXPENDED
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1	\$44,197,011.00	\$28,719,395.28
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2	\$21,573,505.00	\$34,172,074.10
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3	\$23,921,370.00	\$47,357,439.53
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4	\$20,843,589.00	\$10,951,328.42
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$110,535,475.00</b>	<b>\$121,200,237.33</b>

## United Nations agencies delivery (USD) 2021:



## United Nations resource allocation across the Sustainable Development Goals



## UNITED NATIONS IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA IN 2022

The UNCT will continue to focus on implementation of the 2021–2025 UNSDCF and delivering on its commitments together with domestic and international partners. The UNCT will update the Common Country Analysis (CCA) to provide a more accurate assessment of the country context as well as the baseline for 2022 programming. Based on the updated CCA, the UNCT will review its first biennial Joint Work Plan (2021–2022) in support of UNSDCF implementation. The review will ensure that the outputs and activities of the Joint Work Plan continue to be aligned with the strategic outcomes of UNSDCF as well as the current country context and the SDG priorities as stipulated in the SDG Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina that was adopted by the authorities in April 2021.

The UNCT will also strengthen the work of its Results Groups and thus facilitate more focused and strategic engagement of the UNCT under each distinct UNSDCF strategic priority, including joint policy recommendations, joint programmes, position papers and resource mobilisation approaches. The identified annual targets of the Results Groups will also contribute to the annual review of the 2021–2022 Joint Work Plan and to its revision and alignment with the annual UNSDCF objectives in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Within this context, the UNCT will continue its efforts to ensure full national ownership of the UNSDCF implementation and its full alignment with the SDG priorities in the country. The UNCT intends to work closely with the relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina on the formal establishment of the UNSDCF Steering Committee, which is responsible for overall strategic oversight of UNSDCF implementation. Under the leadership and coordination of the Regional Coordinator, the UNCT will organise the inaugural session of the 2021–2025 UNSDCF Steering Committee, following its formal endorsement, and jointly review the updated CCA analysis, the 2021 Country Results Report and the 2021 Joint Work Plan against the needs and priorities set forth in the SDGs, as defined in the SDG Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In 2022, the UNCT will also focus on finalising its next Resource Mobilisation Strategy with the objective of strengthening its cohesive and strategic approach to resource mobilisation and expanding its financing leverage through the adoption of new and innovative financial instruments. With a 70 per cent funding gap in the indicative UNSDCF Funding Framework, the launch and implementation of the UNCT Resource Mobilisation Strategy in 2022 is an essential priority for the United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



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## KEY PROGRAMME PARTNERS

Agency for Watershed of the Adriatic Sea	City of Sarajevo	NGO Genesis Project	Safe network
Association "Vive žene" Tuzla	Danish Refugee Council	NGO Laboratorium	Sava River Watershed Agency Sarajevo
FBiH Association of Municipalities and Cities	FBiH Bureau of Statistics	NGO Network Stronger Voice for Children	Central-Bosnia Canton Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports
Association of parents of children with disabilities "Neven" Prijedor	FBiH Civil Protection Administration	NGO Vaša prava	Sarajevo Canton Institute for Women's Health and Maternity
FBiH Association of Social Workers	FBiH Environmental Fund	Office for Harmonization and Coordination of the Payment System in Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	Sarajevo Canton Institute of Public Health
RS Association of Social Workers	FBiH Gender Center	Public Institution "Vode Srpske"	Sarajevo Canton Ministry of Education, Science and Youth
Brčko District Department for Agriculture	FBiH Institute for Public Health	Red Cross	Sarajevo Canton Ministry of Health
Brčko District Department for Public Safety	FBiH Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry	Roma Women's Association "Bolja budućnost"	Sarajevo Canton Ministry of PPCEP
Brčko District Department of Education	FBiH Ministry of Education and Science	Roma Women's Network	Sarajevo Canton Public Health Institute
Brčko District Department of Health and Other Services	FBiH Ministry of Energy, Mining and Industry	RS Association of Municipalities and Cities	BiH Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA)
BiH Agency for Gender Equality	FBiH Ministry of Environment and Tourism	RS Association of Psychologists	State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA)
BiH Agency for Statistics	FBiH Ministry of Health	RS Civil Protection Administration	The Inter-Religious Council of BiH
BiH Directorate for Economic Planning	FBiH Ministry of Internal Affairs	RS Fund for Environment Protection and Energy Efficiency	Tuzla Canton Ministry of Education and Science
BiH Directorate for European Integration	FBiH Ministry of Justice	RS Gender Center	University of Banja Luka
BiH High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council	FBiH Ministry of Labour and Social Policy	RS Institute for Public Health	Una-Sana Canton Institute of Public Health
BiH Labor and Employment Agency	FBiH Ministry of Spatial Planning	RS Ministry of Administration and Local Self-Government	Una-Sana Canton Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports
BiH Ministry of Civil Affairs	FBiH Ministry of Trade	RS Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry	Una-Sana Canton Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Policy
BiH Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations	FBiH Ministry of Water Management, Agriculture and Forestry	RS Ministry of Economy and Entrepreneurship	Una-Sana Canton Pedagogical Institute
BiH Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees	Herzegovina-Neretva Canton Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports	RS Ministry of Education and Culture	World Vision International
BiH Ministry of Justice	Herzegovina-Neretva Canton Pedagogical Institute	RS Ministry of Energy and Mining	Youth Association "Ružičnjak" Mostar
BiH Ministry of Security	Humanitarian organisation "Genesis" Banja Luka	RS Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports	Zenica-Doboj Canton Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports
Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Canton 10 (K10) Ministry of Science, Education, Culture and Sports	RS Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	West Herzegovina Canton Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports
Bosnia and Herzegovina Women's Initiative	Media	RS Ministry of Justice	
Sarajevo Canton	Una-Sana Canton Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Policy	RS Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology	
Tuzla Canton	Mozaik Foundation	RS Ministry of Trade and Tourism	
Sarajevo Canton Centre for Social Work		RS Pedagogical Institute	
Una-Sana Canton Centre for Social Work		RS Statistical Institute	

# LARGEST CONTRIBUTORS 2021

