

# PROJECT FACTSHEET

## DISASTER RISK REDUCTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA – PHASE II

Bosnia and Herzegovina – June 2024



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in Bosnia and Herzegovina



## Disaster Risk Reduction for the benefit of people in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Joint Programme “Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina” supports disaster risk governance in the country, aligning with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 which addresses the disaster risk challenges and provides concrete actions to protect development gains from the risk of disaster.

The Programme helps prepare for and adapt to disaster risks across development sectors, focusing especially on the most vulnerable and high-risk communities. Phase II (2023-2027) aims to deepen sustainable DRR governance by replicating successful models at the local level and addressing challenges identified in Phase I. It also aims to establish DRR governance structures at the state, entity, and Brcko District levels to ensure coordination and collaboration across these levels.

Phase II will continue to focus on education, culture, social and child protection, agriculture, and protection and rescue. It will also involve finance, urban planning, health, water management, forestry, and environmental protection sectors through specific activities or DRR platforms.

At local level, the Programme will be implemented in 10 local government units: Bihac, Banja Luka, Kakanj, Bijeljina, Kalesija, Trebinje, Mostar, Laktasi, Tuzla, and Brod. It aligns with UN reform objectives, Swiss multilateral cooperation goals, and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2021-2025.

### PROJECT GOALS

The overall goal of the Programme is to reduce the social and economic impacts of disasters and climate change for people in high-risk areas. This will be achieved through a more preventive disaster risk management system, improved inter-institutional capacities, stronger regulatory frameworks, better public services, and stronger partnerships.

**In simpler terms, when Bosnia and Herzegovina adopts a proactive, integrated, climate-aware disaster risk management system through a multi-sectoral DRR governance framework, vulnerable communities will become more resilient to the increasing frequency and intensity of climate-related disasters.**

### EXPECTED RESULTS AND INDICATORS

The Programme outcomes are:

- Institutions at all levels cooperate in multisectoral DRR mainstreaming based on improved country-wide DRR regulatory frameworks, including the increased focus/emphasis on gender equality and social inclusion.
- People in risk prone localities are less vulnerable due to better capacitated institutions, improved response capacities and implemented priority measures.

**Over a 300.000 BiH citizens are expected to benefit from disaster risk reduction activities within the Joint Programme.**

## PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The Program will help create strategies, mechanisms, protocols, and tools for better coordination and communication between different levels of government and various sectors. By effectively coordinating disaster risk reduction (DRR) from the state level down to local platforms, the Program ensures a comprehensive approach involving the entire government and society to reduce risks and build resilience.

The Program will support the development of DRR-integrated strategic and action planning frameworks for state, entity, Brcko District, and local levels. It will engage multiple stakeholders in building resilience by implementing DRR measures and incorporating risk reduction into relevant policies, programs, and tools. DRR platforms will ensure strong ownership and leadership of the DRR process. This will be based on a shared understanding of DRR's multidisciplinary nature, contributing to building disaster resilience.

The Program will also identify and support the creation of disaster risk financing and risk transfer strategies, mechanisms, and tools to ensure long-term funding for DRR activities at all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## IMPORTANCE OF THE PROJECT AND PREVIOUS RESULTS

The Joint Programme recognizes that having strong laws, institutions, and strategies at both local and higher government levels is essential for making lasting changes and ensuring the long-term success of the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) system. Working with relevant partners and stakeholders, the Programme will promote inclusive policy discussions to apply good governance principles. This includes better communication between different sectors involved in DRR, aligning laws and regulations across local, regional, and national levels, and with EU directives. Introducing the DRR Strategic Framework and embedding it in relevant institutions at all levels is crucial for achieving systemic changes and ensuring continuous and sustainable improvements across all government levels.

The Joint Programme – Phase II aims to build on the successful experiences and models developed in local Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) during Phase I (2019-2023). In Phase I, the Programme introduced an integrated approach to disaster risk management and improving livelihoods at the local level. This was done by enhancing local DRR coordination, promoting strategic planning that considers risks, and focusing on the most vulnerable populations. Phase I also helped set up local DRR platforms and addressed DRR priorities identified by 10 local governments and stakeholders in key areas.

## PROJECT IN BRIEF

**NAME:** Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Phase II

**DOMAIN:** Local Governance and Municipal Service

**LAND/REGION:** Bosnia and Herzegovina

**PARTNERS:** Programme is implemented through UN agencies in BiH: UNDP, FAO, UNESCO and UNICEF in partnership with domestic authorities: the Ministry of Security of BiH, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH, the Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH, the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of RS, Federal Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Education and Culture of RS, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of RS, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry, the Civil Protection Directorate of RS and the Federal Civil Protection Directorate.

## STARTING POINT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The project is a continuation of the successfully implemented first phase, which showed that work with local communities on disaster risk reduction issues and expansion on higher level governments is necessary.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

The project aims to contribute to the reduction of risks from natural and other disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina through continuous and effective multi-sectoral disaster risk management, strategic coordination of DRR preventative, preparedness and response actions, improved capacities and integrated multi-sectoral service provision to recognized vulnerable groups.

## TARGET GROUP:

10 local governments (Bihac, Banja Luka, Kakanj, Bijeljina, Kalesija, Trebinje, Mostar, Laktasi, Tuzla and Brod), 12 entity/Brcko District institutions, 3 state institutions and at least 300,000 citizens.

**COSTS:** USD 3,974,665

## DURATION:

November 2023 – October 2027 (4 years)

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