

PROJECT FACTSHEET

Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bosnia and Herzegovina – February 2022



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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HOW TO REDUCE RISKS AND MITIGATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF DISASTERS?

Reducing the risk and disasters that impact the country and its citizens is one of the state policy's critical development issues.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is exposed to various disaster risks, and in the last decade, we have witnessed more and more frequent catastrophes caused by extreme climatic and weather occurrences.

In May 2014, the catastrophic floods affected a quarter of its territory and one million people, about 27%. The total damage was approximately USD 1.7 billion, while economic losses exceeded USD 1.5 billion. In addition, significant damage and losses were caused by other disasters such as droughts, forest fires, earthquakes, and finally, the COVID 19 pandemic.

Climate change impact analyzes indicate that an increase in the intensity and frequency of weather extremes can be expected in the region. It could lead to disasters of different magnitude. This shows the importance of cross-sectoral cooperation, coordination, and effective risk management.

The Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2023 (DRR) project, co-financed by the Government of Switzerland together with UNDP BiH, UNICEF, FAO, UNFPA i UNESCO, supports institutions in better disaster risk managing and increasing the resilience of 10 local communities.

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This program establishes mechanisms for cooperation and coordination between the rescue services education, social

and child protection, health and agriculture services, which are the key for long-term effective and development-oriented risk management in local communities.

This project's approach increases the security of citizens, protects material and other goods, and encourages cooperation with higher government levels.

Key implementation project partners are the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina as the leading institutional partner, the Federal Administration for Civil Protection, the Civil Protection Administration of Republika Srpska, the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of Republika Srpska, the Federal Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Education and Culture of Republika Srpska, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of RS, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry, ten local self-government units (Banja Luka, Bihac, Bijeljina, Gradačac, Kakanj, Kalesija, Prijedor, Sanski Most, Srebrenica, and Trebinje).

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The project aims to improve local authorities' institutional capacities, frameworks, public services, and partnerships for disaster risk reduction, thus population will be socially and economically less vulnerable to the effects of disasters and climate change.

In short, the project will support disaster risk reduction and protection of the population, including vulnerable groups, from the crises consequences in BiH.

EXPECTED PROJECT RESULTS

The project is expected to achieve the following results:

1. At least 10 local governments have adopted DRR-featuring strategies, established partnerships for effective DRR interventions, and financed actions that build community resilience thus are better equipped to prevent and respond to disasters
2. Citizens of partner units, especially the most vulnerable groups, have become more resilient to disasters.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of project activities will establish local platforms for disaster risk reduction, connecting the protection and rescue sector, education, social and child protection, health, and agriculture, in line with municipal risk assessment findings and priorities for disaster risk reduction.

Schools in local communities will actively work to create a safe school environment to respond more effectively to disasters.

By strengthening the role of social welfare centers, local communities will improve the protection of the most vulnerable groups in crisis.

Finally, one of the most critical project segments is the institutionalization of the DRAS online platform, which provides updated information about floods, landslides, and earthquakes exposure.

PROJECT IN BRIEF

NAME:

Disaster risk reduction for sustainable development in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2023.

DOMAIN:

Local governance and municipal services

LAND/REGION:

Bosnia and Herzegovina

PARTNERS:

UNDP BiH, UNICEF, FAO, UNFPA and UNESCO, Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, line ministries and institutions at the state and entity levels, 10 local self-government units.

STARTING POINT / BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The 2017 World Risk Report ranks Bosnia and Herzegovina as highly exposed to natural hazards. According to the World Bank's Global Fund for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, more than 20% of Bosnia and Herzegovina's territory is subject to floods, which affect an average of about 100,000 people a year and have a negative impact on about \$ 600 million in gross domestic product.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

The project aims to improve institutional capacities, frameworks, public services and partnerships for disaster risk reduction for the local authorities. On the other hand, the population in risk areas is socially and economically less vulnerable to the effects of disasters and climate change.

TARGET GROUP:

10 local self-government units, at least 100 institutional and non-governmental members of the DRR platform, at least 600,000 citizens, 50,000 citizens from vulnerable groups (of which 50% are women), 3,000 children, 3,000 vulnerable citizens with access to health and social services, 60 farmers

COSTS:

USD 4,321,948

(of which the Swiss participation is 2.4 million USD)

DURATION:

January 1, 2019 - June 30, 2023 (4,5 years)

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