

## Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Phase II

### ANNUAL PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2025

| Programme Title & Project Number                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results <sup>2</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme Title: Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Phase II</li> <li>• Programme Number (if applicable)</li> <li>• MPTF Office Project Reference Number:<sup>3</sup> 00140534</li> </ul> | <p>Country/Region: Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p>Priority area/ strategic results</p> <p><i>By the end of Phase II, the legislative and institutional frameworks for the establishment and functioning of DRR platforms at each level would be strengthened and state, entity, Brcko District, and at least 14 municipal DRR platforms established, and functioning based on a modality developed during Phase I.</i></p> <p><i>The Program will support development of vertical, horizontal, and inter-sectoral coordination and communication strategies, mechanisms, protocols and tools. Effective coordination of disaster risk reduction from state level to entity, and local platforms will ensure an all-of-government and all-of-society approach to reducing risk and building resilience.</i></p> <p><i>Through the established platforms, Programme will support DRR-mainstreamed strategic and action planning frameworks development for state, entity, Brcko District, and local level for all sectors and will ensure multi-stakeholder engagement in building resilience, by implementing DRR measures and mainstreaming risk reduction across relevant sectoral policies, programmes and instruments.</i></p> |
| Participating Organization(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Implementing Partners                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNDP</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> <li>• UNESCO</li> <li>• FAO</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National counterparts (government, private, NGOs &amp; others) and other International Organizations</li> </ul> <p><i>The main Programme partners are the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of Republika Srpska, the Ministry of Health of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Education of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Education and Culture of Republika Srpska, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republika Srpska, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Civil Protection Directorate of Republika Srpska and the Civil Protection Directorate of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.</i></p>                                                                                                                                    |

<sup>1</sup> The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

<sup>2</sup> Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;

<sup>3</sup> The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as “Project ID” on the project’s factsheet page the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

### Programme/Project Cost (US\$)

Total approved budget as per project document: 3,974,665

MPTF /JP Contribution<sup>4</sup>:

- UNDP 749,851
- UNICEF 459,461
- FAO 255,984
- UNESCO 168,204

Agency Contribution<sup>5</sup>

- UNDP 165,536.78
- UNICEF 310,103.04
- FAO 50,042.40
- UNESCO 110,808.00

Government Contribution: 189,605.34

Other Contributions (donors) 1,650,000

Government of Switzerland

Government of the United Kingdom 3,093

**TOTAL: 2,479,188.56<sup>8</sup>**

### Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.

Assessment/Review - if applicable *please attach*

Yes ☐ No ☒ Date: dd.mm.yyyy

Mid-Term Evaluation Report – if applicable *please attach*

Yes ☒ No ☐ Date: 02.12.2025.

### Programme Duration

Overall Duration (months) 46

Start Date<sup>6</sup> 16 January 2024

Original End Date<sup>7</sup> 31 October 2027

### Report Submitted By

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<sup>4</sup> The MPTF or JP Contribution, refers to the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations, which is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

<sup>5</sup> Agency Contribution for 2024 and 2025

<sup>6</sup> The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

<sup>7</sup> As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

<sup>8</sup> Total for agency contributions, government contributions and other contributions (donors)

## Contents

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <b>LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS</b> .....                                                                                                                                                                                               | 4  |
| <b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 5  |
| <b>PURPOSE</b> .....                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 5  |
| <b>OUTCOMES ACHIEVED FOR 2025</b> .....                                                                                                                                                                                          | 6  |
| Outcome 1: 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..... | 6  |
| Outcome 2: People in risk prone localities are less vulnerable due to better capacitated institutions, improved response capacities and implemented priority measures.....                                                       | 7  |
| <b>OUTPUTS AND PERFORMANCE ACCORDING TO YEARLY PLAN OF OPERATION 2025</b>                                                                                                                                                        | 7  |
| Output 1.1 Functional state, entity/Brcko District and 4 new municipality DRR platforms based on updated DRR legislative and institutional frameworks.....                                                                       | 7  |
| Output 1.2 Strategic and Action Planning frameworks for state/entity and Brcko District and 4 new local DRR platforms enable mainstreaming vulnerability-sensitive and Gender-Responsive DRR. ..                                 | 10 |
| Output 1.3 DRR Financing strategy and mechanisms for all levels of DRR governance are in place.                                                                                                                                  | 11 |
| Output 2.1. DRR capacity development (training manuals, guidance), awareness raising, and knowledge management improved at state, entity/BD level and at least 10 municipalities in BiH.....                                     | 11 |
| Output 2.2. Disaster Risk and emergency communication capacities, resources and procedures operational in 10 municipalities. ....                                                                                                | 13 |
| Output 2.3. Disaster management capacities, resources, policies and procedures in CSW, child protection, World heritage and agriculture on state, entity level and disaster response plans at local level improved.....          | 13 |
| Output 2.4. Specific sector-related disaster risk reduction measures identified, implemented, monitored and evaluated in targeted localities/authorities. ....                                                                   | 14 |
| <b>TRANSVERSAL THEMES</b> .....                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 15 |
| <b>FINANCES AND MANAGEMENT</b> .....                                                                                                                                                                                             | 17 |
| <b>LESSONS LEARNT</b> .....                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 20 |
| <b>ANNEXES</b> .....                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 22 |



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

|               |                                                                  |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BiH</b>    | Bosnia and Herzegovina                                           |
| <b>CC</b>     | Climate change                                                   |
| <b>CSO</b>    | Civil Society Organization                                       |
| <b>CSWs</b>   | Centres for Social Welfare                                       |
| <b>DRAS</b>   | Disaster Risk Analysis System                                    |
| <b>DRM</b>    | Disaster Risk Management                                         |
| <b>DRR</b>    | Disaster Risk Reduction                                          |
| <b>EU</b>     | European Union                                                   |
| <b>FAO</b>    | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations          |
| <b>FBiH</b>   | Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina                             |
| <b>JP</b>     | Joint Programme                                                  |
| <b>LDRRP</b>  | Local Disaster Risk Reduction Platforms                          |
| <b>LG</b>     | Local Government                                                 |
| <b>RS</b>     | Republika Srpska                                                 |
| <b>SDC</b>    | Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation                     |
| <b>SDGs</b>   | Sustainable Development Goals                                    |
| <b>SFDRR</b>  | Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction                     |
| <b>SOP</b>    | Standard Operating Procedure                                     |
| <b>SRSP</b>   | Shock-Responsive Social Protection                               |
| <b>ToT</b>    | Training of trainers                                             |
| <b>UN</b>     | United Nations                                                   |
| <b>UNDP</b>   | United Nations Development Programme                             |
| <b>UNESCO</b> | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| <b>UNICEF</b> | United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund           |



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025, the Programme achieved significant progress in institutionalizing disaster risk reduction across Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), particularly in terms of strengthening policy, regulatory, and institutional frameworks for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) platforms at state, entity, and local levels, setting benchmarks for standardized risk assessment methodologies to be embedded into law. State, entity, and local DRR Platforms advanced disaster governance through strategic planning, adoption of EU-aligned methodologies for risk assessment, and improved crisis communication capacities. The Ministry of Security of BiH initiated drafting of the BiH DRR Strategy 2026–2030, simultaneously with Republika Srpska initiation of the RS DRR Strategy, while Federation of BiH launched entity-level DRR strategic frameworks, reinforcing multi-sectoral coordination and preparedness.

Additionally, Programme strengthened institutional and community resilience through targeted investments and capacity building. Civil protection units improved operational readiness via mobility and technical upgrades in Bihac and Bijeljina, landslide mitigation in Kakanj and Kalesija, and enhanced firefighting capabilities in Trebinje. Strategic partnerships established the Knowledge Network for DRR in BiH, fostering collaboration between government, academia, and civil society for evidence-based risk management. Capacity-building initiatives included trainings on Protection and Rescue Plans, Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, and Project Cycle Management, equipping institutions and local DRR platforms with tools for effective planning, recovery, and transparent implementation.

The Programme also conducted a participatory Midterm Review of the Joint Programme, as part of which a workshop was held with representatives from all levels of government and programme partners to assess progress, identify challenges and define measures for improvement. Additionally, in June 2025, Programme representatives and representatives from the Civil Protection Administration FBiH attended a Training Workshop on Post Disaster Needs Assessment and Recovery Planning for ECIS Countries. The training emphasized the role of preparedness within comprehensive disaster risk management, and covered the pre-disaster context and disaster impacts, methods for analyzing macro-economic and human consequences, and identifying recovery needs.

## PURPOSE

The *Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Phase II* represents a joint effort of the Government of Switzerland and the United Nations (UN), implemented by UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, and FAO in close partnership with domestic authorities across Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). This collaborative initiative builds on the achievements of the first phase and continues to advance the country's resilience to disasters and climate change through systemic, sustainable solutions.

The Programme's long-term vision is to establish functional disaster risk reduction governance across all levels and sectors in BiH. This vision is pursued through three consecutive phases. The first phase (2019–2023) laid the foundation for DRR by strengthening local institutional capacities, coordination mechanisms, and strategic frameworks, with a total investment of USD 4.32 million. Its goal was to ensure that local governments in BiH improve their risk reduction capacities, frameworks, public services, and partnerships, thereby reducing the social and economic vulnerability of populations in disaster-prone areas.

Building on this progress, the second phase (2023–2027) focuses on deepening and expanding these efforts. With a budget of USD 3.97 million, Phase II aims to support authorities in BiH to enhance inter-institutional capacities, regulatory frameworks, public services, and partnerships, ultimately reducing the social and economic impacts of disasters and climate change on communities most at risk. The



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overarching objective is to establish a more preventive disaster risk management system that integrates multiple sectors and levels of governance.

This phase is structured around two key outcomes, as follows:

- Outcome 1: 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.
- Outcome 2: People in risk prone localities are less vulnerable due to better capacitated institutions, improved response capacities and implemented priority measures.

To achieve these outcomes, the Programme will facilitate upgrading strategic frameworks and cross-sectoral dialogue, encouraging accountability, and voicing out the needs of hazard-exposed vulnerable population groups to achieve real progress in disaster risk reduction. Through the established DRR platforms, Programme will support DRR-mainstreamed strategic and action planning frameworks development for state, entity, Brcko District, and local level and will ensure multi-stakeholder engagement. Due attention will be paid to conflict-sensitive Programme management, through constant monitoring of the overall political and socio-economic situation. This will be coupled with support to the Steering Committee and Advisory Board in recognizing the risks and design of mitigation measures related to possible negative effect to the Programme implementation.

## OUTCOMES ACHIEVED FOR 2025

- Outcome 1: 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.

During the reporting period, and under Outcome 1, the Programme strived toward systemic change by strengthening policy, regulatory, and institutional frameworks for DRR platforms at state, entity, and local levels. Result-focus targets here aimed at strengthening the institutional frameworks for DRR platforms, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities for stakeholders at all governance levels. Simultaneously, benchmarks were set for standardization of risk assessment methodologies, that will be embedded into law, ensuring consistency and reliability across the country. Through these measures, Outcome 1 not only strengthened governance and institutional resilience, but has also created a foundation for sustainable, inclusive, and evidence-based disaster risk management across BiH.

The Programme strengthened disaster risk governance by integrating social protection and education institutions into DRR coordination structures, enabling a shift from infrastructure-focused risk management toward safeguarding people, essential services and social care continuity. It also facilitated legal and regulatory alignment across disaster management, social protection and education sectors, producing endorsed recommendations that now underpin the formal integration of social services and schools into preparedness, response and recovery planning.

In 2025, DRR Platforms events across BiH delivered significant progress in disaster risk governance. At the state level, the Ministry of Security reestablished the DRR Platform and initiated drafting of the DRR Strategy for BiH 2026-2030, committing to a coordinated, multi-sectoral approach. Republika Srpska revived its DRR Platform, conducting a comprehensive risk analysis and triggering the development of an entity-level DRR Strategic Framework. The Federation of BiH launched its first DRR Platform, developing EU-aligned risk assessment methodology and prioritising local government empowerment, inter-sectoral cooperation, and early warning systems. At the local level eight DRR Platforms strengthened crisis communication capacities, critical for saving lives and ensuring coordinated emergency response, while an additional session addressed public procurement integrity in crisis, vital



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for timely and transparent resource allocation. Collectively, these actions lay the foundation for inclusive, evidence-based risk management and governance in BiH.

The Civil Protection Administration FBiH, with Programme support, presented its risk assessment methodology, reviewing alignment with EU and UNDRR guidelines and ISO 31000 standards, and discussing practical application. Of significance were the local-level applicability and capacity building, marking a key step toward harmonized, evidence-based risk assessments. This initiative is critical for informed decision-making, prioritizing investments, and embedding disaster risk reduction into a legal framework.

- Outcome 2: People in risk prone localities are less vulnerable due to better capacitated institutions, improved response capacities and implemented priority measures.

During the reporting period, and under Outcome 2, the Programme strengthened institutional and community resilience through targeted disaster prevention, mitigation, and preparedness measures, building on Phase I achievements.

Specifically, the Programme strengthened disaster preparedness and operational capacity of civil protection units while fostering institutional cooperation between municipalities and emergency services. These interventions collectively reduce vulnerability, safeguard communities, and ensure local authorities are equipped to respond effectively to future disasters.

Importantly, in 2025, the Programme strengthened collaboration between the Ministry of Security of BiH, academia, and civil society by establishing the Knowledge Network for Disaster Risk Reduction in BiH, aligned with the EU Civil Protection Knowledge Network. This milestone enhances cross-sector engagement and institutionalizes evidence-based risk management to improve prevention, preparedness, and timely coordination for protecting communities and advancing sustainable development. Additionally, targeted trainings in Banja Luka equipped coordinators and practitioners in Republika Srpska to independently prepare Protection and Rescue Plans, ensuring coordinated planning with the Civil Protection Administration. Two Post-Disaster Needs Assessment trainings in Sarajevo strengthened capacities across state, entity, and cantonal levels for damage and loss assessment, PDNA methodology, and recovery planning, enabling evidence-based disaster recovery. Additionally, local DRR Platform representatives enhanced their ability to plan and implement development projects through Project Cycle Management training, gaining practical skills in logical framework design, goal setting, and monitoring and evaluation to ensure transparency, efficiency, and sustainability of local DRR initiatives.

## OUTPUTS AND PERFORMANCE ACCORDING TO YEARLY PLAN OF OPERATION 2025

In accordance with the approved 2025 Annual Work Plan, the Programme team focused on implementing planned activities in line with adopted timelines and activities.

- Output 1.1 Functional state, entity/Brcko District and 4 new municipality DRR platforms based on updated DRR legislative and institutional frameworks.

DRR platforms serve as formal mechanisms that bring together institutions, sectors, and stakeholders to plan, implement, and monitor DRR measures in a systematic way. Importantly, DRR Platforms help institutionalize risk reduction by embedding standardized methodologies, financing strategies, and legal frameworks into national and local policies. This ensures sustainability and long-term impact, moving from *ad-hoc* responses to proactive, preventive measures. Below is a 2025 synopsis on the developments regarding DRR Platforms, at state/entity/local levels.



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In 2025, a series of DRR Platform events took place across BiH. At the state level, the Ministry of Security of BiH, supported by the Joint Programme, marked the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction with a high-level event that gathered over 100 representatives from government, UN agencies, academia, and civil society. This event operationalized the reestablishment of the state-level DRR Platform, with impact geared toward the development of the DRR Strategy for BiH 2026–2020. The event conclusions emphasized the need for a joint, coordinated approach across all sectors, the creation of a stable multi-sectoral financing model, and the integration of DRR into governance systems. As a direct outcome, MoS BiH initiated drafting of the state-level DRR Strategic Framework.

In RS, the DRR Platform focused on strategic priorities and comprehensive risk analysis. Participants conducted situational and SWOT assessments of major hazards<sup>9</sup>, while identifying vulnerabilities in cultural heritage, agriculture, and infrastructure. The event reinforced the importance of evidence-based, integrated risk management and led to a formal request to the RS Government to approve drafting of an entity-level DRR Strategic Framework.

FBiH achieved a milestone by establishing its first DRR Platform, fulfilling a 2019 government decision with Programme support. With over 100 participants, the event institutionalized DRR as a governance priority, committing to adopt an EU-aligned risk assessment methodology and technical guidelines to ensure harmonized, high-quality data for decision-making. The event underscored the urgency of a multisectoral approach informed by vulnerability, stronger inter-sectoral cooperation, and empowering local governments to implement preventive measures. It also highlighted the need for public awareness campaigns and enhanced early warning systems.

At the local level, eight DRR Platforms were held across both entities. The overarching theme was ‘Strengthening Capacities for Crisis Communication’, carrying significance for improving coordination and operational effectiveness during emergencies. Over 70 participants gained practical insights into how clear, timely communication saves lives, reduces panic, and ensures synchronized action across governance levels. An additional platform focused on public procurement in crisis situations, addressing challenges of urgency, transparency, and integrity in emergency response. This discussion produced actionable recommendations for strengthening institutional preparedness and safeguarding procurement processes, ensuring resources are deployed efficiently and ethically during disasters. The DRR Platforms did not take place in Tuzla, Bihac and Laktasi, mainly due to the workload of DRR Platform members. These platforms are planned in 2026.

The Programme contributed to broadening disaster risk governance beyond core emergency response structures by embedding social sector institutions within DRR coordination mechanisms. Through targeted technical support, social protection authorities, Centers for Social Welfare and education institutions were incorporated into DRR platform processes, shifting the focus of risk management from infrastructure protection toward protection of people, services and continuity of social care.

As a local institutional advancement, Centers for Social Welfare in Kalesija and Bihac were formally designated members of the Local Disaster Management Headquarters. This ensured the presence of social protection actors in decision-making on preparedness, response and early recovery and provided them with access to municipal emergency resources. This measure operationalizes the role of social services within crisis management structures and represents an important step toward institutionalizing protection-oriented disaster response at the local level.

The Programme also supported a comprehensive cross-sectoral legal and regulatory analysis covering disaster management, social protection, child protection and education sectors. The analysis also included

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<sup>9</sup> Floods, landslides, earthquakes, extreme weather, industrial accidents, and public health threats



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an assessment of legal compliance by the education system with the Comprehensive School Safety Framework. The analysis identified concrete legal entry points for aligning protection-and-rescue legislation with sectoral legislation on service provision and clarifying institutional responsibilities during emergencies. The findings were validated through multi-ministerial consultations and joint technical workshops. The endorsed recommendations now provide the basis for the formal integration of social services and schools into disaster preparedness, response and recovery planning.

Although 16 school facilities were initially planned for assessment, a total of 23 schools in Laktasi, Brod, Tuzla, and Mostar were evaluated using the VISUS (Visual Inspection for defining Safety Upgrading Strategies) methodology, producing standardized, comparable multi-hazard safety data covering earthquakes, fire, floods, wind, and operational risks. The assessments provided clear star-based safety ratings, identified structural and non-structural vulnerabilities, and offered prioritized, cost-conscious recommendations for safety improvements. This established a solid evidence base to guide decision-making on school retrofitting and resilience investments. Beyond technical outputs, the process strengthened BiH capacity through active engagement of local experts and academic partners and raised public awareness of school safety as a governance priority. Most importantly, the 2025 results provide a concrete advocacy tool for dialogue with ministries and relevant authorities, enabling a shift from ad hoc interventions toward systematic, risk-informed planning and creating practical entry points for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into education policies, infrastructure strategies and long-term sector planning in BiH.

In the reporting period, agriculture sector representatives<sup>10</sup> participated regularly in DRR platform meetings. These meetings were organized at state, entities and Brčko District levels, as well as the four newly established/strengthened municipal DRR platforms. Through regular participation, the agriculture sector contributed to discussions on legislative and institutional updates related to DRR governance and promoted the integration of agricultural damage and loss considerations into broader DRR coordination mechanisms. Moreover, in this way, the agriculture sector ensured that agriculture-specific risks (floods, droughts, landslides, pests and diseases) were systematically reflected in platform deliberations, while strengthening vertical coordination between state, entity and municipal agriculture institutions.

FAO provided technical backstopping to agriculture representatives to enhance their effective engagement in platform processes, including clarification of roles and responsibilities within updated DRR institutional arrangements. This contributed to making the platforms more functional, multi-sectoral and responsive to agriculture-related disaster risks. As a result, the agriculture sector is now regularly represented and actively contributing to DRR coordination processes across governance levels, ensuring that disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness measures systematically address vulnerabilities in agricultural production systems and rural livelihoods.

DRAS system has been transferred to the Civil Protection Administration of Republika Srpska (CPA RS) in the previous reporting period. Transfer to the Civil Protection Administration of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (CPA FBH) was postponed because of appointment process for the new director of CPA FBH and because of waiting for the required inputs from the CPA FBH on necessary adaptation of DRAS for the needs of CPA FBH. These inputs from the CPA FBH were received in November 2025, and the DRAS adaptation and migration to the CPA FBH will be conducted in 2026.

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<sup>10</sup> Including ministries responsible for agriculture, forestry and water management at state and entity levels, as well as local agricultural departments and advisory services



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- Output 1.2 Strategic and Action Planning frameworks for state/entity and Brcko District and 4 new local DRR platforms enable mainstreaming vulnerability-sensitive and Gender-Responsive DRR.

During the reporting period, several important strides were accomplished in terms of shaping a coherent disaster risk reduction system in BiH. At the state level, Ministry of Security of BiH, with support of the Programme, initiated a drafting of the BiH DRR Strategy for 2026-2030. The document is currently in draft form. Republika Srpska reinforced this direction by requesting approval for its own entity-level RS DRR Strategic Framework, following a comprehensive review of hazards and vulnerabilities. Both processes are being guided by a UNDP individual expert for strategy development. The FBiH Civil Protection Administration has already adopted the “Development Program for Protection and Rescue 2021–2028,” which may be updated to serve as a DRR Strategy.

Standardizing risk assessment methodologies is essential for effective disaster risk governance as it ensures that all levels of government use consistent approaches to identify hazards, assess vulnerabilities, and prioritize measures. To advance this goal, the Civil Protection Administration of the Federation of BiH, with Programme support, organized a workshop that brought together representatives<sup>11</sup> from state, cantonal, and municipal levels. The workshop introduced the FBiH Methodology for Hazard and Risk Assessment, reviewed its alignment with EU and UNDRR guidelines and ISO 31000 standards, and explored practical application. Participants stressed the importance of making the methodology workable at the local level, especially in municipalities with limited capacities, and called for additional technical guidance and training. The event fostered constructive dialogue across governance levels, marking a key step toward harmonizing risk assessment practices throughout the Federation.

To ensure that disaster risk planning captures not only hazard exposure but also population vulnerability, the Programme supported the integration of social sector risk dimensions into DRR strategic and action planning processes at entity levels. Technical assistance introduced vulnerability profiling methodologies into risk assessment processes, incorporating indicators related to poverty, disability, child protection risks and service dependency. This contributes to standardizing risk assessments so that preparedness planning considers who is at risk, not only what is at risk.

A central component of this work was the operationalization of Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) within the country wide DRR framework. In 2025, entity-level SRSP feasibility and contingency financing assessments (coupled with the SRSP costing tool) were finalized and presented to senior policymakers, providing the first comprehensive analysis of how existing social protection systems can be used to deliver assistance during and after disasters to the most vulnerable groups. The assessments demonstrated operational options for both vertical expansion (temporary increase of benefits for existing beneficiaries) and horizontal expansion (temporary inclusion of newly affected households) and defined administrative procedures for delivering emergency cash assistance through existing social welfare systems.

The evidence generated through this process informed policy dialogue and ongoing social protection reforms at entity level. Findings were used in drafting sector guidance and contributed to the inclusion of emergency preparedness and response provisions within the new Law on Social Services and the Law on Professional Standards of Social Work in FBiH. By linking disaster response mechanisms with routine welfare administration, the Programme strengthened institutional coordination between civil protection and social protection authorities and advanced a shift from ad-hoc post-disaster assistance toward predictable, system-based response mechanisms.

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<sup>11</sup> A total of 38 (F:11) participants

During the reporting period, the Programme also strengthened risk-informed planning in the education sector. The Child-Centered Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) methodology has now been finalised, providing a complete technical and operational cycle guide for risk assessment, planning and implementation at the school level. The methodology is closely aligned with the newly developed Republika Srpska Manual for conducting risk assessments and developing DRR plans in education institutions, representing a significant reform step toward standardizing preparedness practices across schools. Together, these instruments move DRR in education from ad-hoc activities to a structured institutional process, enabling schools and education authorities to systematically identify risks, plan preventive measures and define clear roles during emergencies. By embedding child-centered risk analysis into official planning procedures, the reform strengthens institutional preparedness while ensuring that children's safety, continuity of learning and psychosocial protection is considered within broader disaster management systems.

Through the functioning Agriculture DRR platforms, sector representatives participated in structured consultations and planning processes to ensure that agriculture-related disaster risks, vulnerabilities and capacities were systematically integrated into DRR strategic and action planning documents. The agriculture sector contribution focused on mainstreaming agriculture-specific risk profiles<sup>12</sup> into multi-hazard DRR strategies, as well as ensuring that agricultural livelihoods and rural communities are explicitly reflected in vulnerability assessments and prioritization matrices. Additionally, the contribution also focused on integrating risk-informed agricultural planning measures into DRR action plans, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness measures, encouraging inclusion of smallholder farmers and vulnerable rural households in local DRR planning processes, as well as promoting gender-responsive approaches in agricultural DRR interventions, recognizing differentiated impacts of disasters on women and men in rural areas, particularly regarding access to land, inputs, advisory services and decision-making processes.

- Output 1.3 DRR Financing strategy and mechanisms for all levels of DRR governance are in place.

The Joint Programme team have been focusing on establishment of DRR platforms and start of developing DRR strategic documents at state, entity and Brcko District government levels. These processes were highly time consuming and were including the same actors from all government levels who should provide inputs for the financing strategies and mechanism. Therefore, the Joint Programme team decided to first incorporate the need of developing financing strategies and mechanism into DRR strategic documents and then to include financing experts in the process of developing financing strategies and mechanism, based on recommendations from DRR strategic documents. Therefore, start of activities is postponed for 2026.

- Output 2.1. DRR capacity development (training manuals, guidance), awareness raising, and knowledge management improved at state, entity/BD level and at least 10 municipalities in BiH.

During 2025, and in close collaboration with the Ministry of Security of BiH, two important milestones were reached in strengthening cooperation with academia and civil society, in line with the EU Civil Protection Knowledge Network (EU Decision 2021/1956). The first event brought together academic representatives and field-experts, facilitating cross-sectoral engagement with a view to enhance prevention and preparedness. More importantly, the second event culminated with a signing of the MoU between the Ministry of Security and academia institutions in BiH, and civil society organisation,

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<sup>12</sup> Floods, droughts, landslides, extreme temperatures, pests and diseases



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establishing the ‘Knowledge Network for Disaster Risk Reduction in BiH’. The goal here is to strengthen collaboration between science, practice, and decision-makers, while improving timely coordination and evidence-based risk management.

In June 2025, the Republika Srpska Civil Protection Administration advanced disaster preparedness by training coordinators and partner institutions to develop a Protection and Rescue Plan with a vulnerability assessment. The trained working group can now independently draft these critical documents, ensuring effective coordination and stronger community resilience to natural disasters.

Also, during the reporting period, two Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) trainings in Sarajevo strengthened institutional capacities and coordination for post-disaster recovery across state, entity, and cantonal levels. Participants enhanced their skills in damage and loss assessment, PDNA methodology, and recovery planning, ensuring faster, evidence-based response and building more resilient communities.

Local DRR Platform representatives strengthened their capacity for planning and implementing development projects through a Project Cycle Management training. Participants gained practical skills in logical framework design, goal and indicator setting, and all phases of the project cycle, with a strong focus on monitoring and evaluation to ensure transparency, efficiency, and sustainability of local DRR initiatives.

Through the Agriculture DRR platforms, capacity development activities were undertaken to enhance institutional knowledge, technical competencies and coordination mechanisms for risk-informed agricultural planning and disaster preparedness.

Key achievements include:

- Development and adaptation of agriculture-focused DRR training materials and guidance, including integration of agricultural risk assessment methodologies and damage and loss considerations into DRR processes;
- Delivery of targeted capacity development sessions for representatives of ministries responsible for agriculture, forestry and water management, agricultural advisory services and municipal agriculture departments in at Trebinje, Bihac, Banja Luka, Tuzla, Brod, Kalesija, Laktasi, Kakanj, Bijeljina and Mostar municipalities;
- Strengthening of institutional knowledge management mechanisms within the agriculture sector to ensure systematic documentation, sharing and replication of good practices related to agricultural DRR and climate change adaptation;
- Awareness-raising activities aimed at improving understanding of agriculture-related disaster risks (floods, droughts, extreme weather events, pests and diseases) and promoting prevention and preparedness measures;
- Enhanced vertical and horizontal coordination within the agriculture sector to support timely information exchange during risk assessment, planning and response processes.

Special attention was given to promoting vulnerability-sensitive and gender-responsive approaches in agriculture DRR capacity development activities, ensuring that the differentiated impacts of disasters on women and men in rural areas are recognized in planning and response measures. As a result, the agriculture sector at state, entity/Brčko District and municipal levels has improved its technical and institutional capacities to contribute effectively to multi-sectoral DRR governance structures, strengthening prevention, mitigation and preparedness measures within the agricultural domain.



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- Output 2.2. Disaster Risk and emergency communication capacities, resources and procedures operational in 10 municipalities.

A series of eight ‘Strengthening Capacities for Crisis Communication’ trainings were organized and held, carrying significance for improving coordination and operational effectiveness during emergencies. Over 70 participants<sup>13</sup> from local partner communities across BiH gained practical insights into how clear, timely communication saves lives, reduces panic, and ensures synchronized action across governance levels.

- Output 2.3. Disaster management capacities, resources, policies and procedures in CSW, child protection, World heritage and agriculture on state, entity level and disaster response plans at local level improved.

The Programme enhanced institutional capacities to strengthen social resilience, especially for vulnerable groups, thereby contributing to managing social impacts of disasters. A country wide learning and networking event on Shock-Responsive Social Protection held in December 2025 brought together social protection authorities, civil protection agencies and local governments. Champion locations presented practical models and tested know-how for linking social assistance and disaster response, including locally financed emergency cash assistance schemes.

Vulnerability and risk assessment and Standard Operating Procedures/DRR Plan methodologies for social protection institutions in emergencies were disseminated and training provided to social welfare practitioners across participating locations, strengthening preparedness of front-line services to identify and support vulnerable households during crises.

To strengthen continuity of protection services during emergencies, the Programme supported the development of a structured training and professional supervision framework for the social service workforce, with a focus on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for children and families in crisis situations. The curriculum was developed in cooperation with relevant social policy ministries and professional service providers and aligns with European interdisciplinary therapeutic standards for work with children and young people.

The training framework focuses on community-based preparedness, response and recovery and includes five thematic modules: (i) impact of crises on children and ethical principles of MHPSS support, (ii) identification of psychological reactions and need for crisis intervention, (iii) provision of psychological first aid and emergency support tools, (iv) loss, grief and crisis communication with children and adolescents, and (v) resilience, recovery and ongoing psychosocial support to children, families and professionals. Social service professionals have been nominated by competent ministries to participate in the MHPSS in emergencies training cycle, ensuring institutional ownership and nationwide coverage. Roll-out is scheduled for 2026 and is expected to strengthen the ability of social welfare services to provide timely psychosocial support and maintain essential child protection services during emergencies.

The Programme initiated the development of Disaster Risk Management Plans for selected necropolises of the UNESCO World Heritage site Stećci – Medieval Tombstones Graveyards in BiH, establishing a structured and context-specific framework for risk reduction. A tailored methodology for identifying and assessing natural and social risks was developed, aligned with World Heritage standards and existing site management documents. The draft framework clarifies institutional roles and responsibilities, strengthens coordination with civil protection services and local communities, and provides practical, implementable guidance for site managers across 28 necropolises (including 11 in FBiH). Field assessments and

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<sup>13</sup> 78 (F:28) participant



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stakeholder consultations conducted in 2025 are informing site-specific risk analyses and priority measures. The process remains ongoing, with continued collaboration with heritage institutions, experts, and communities to ensure long-term resilience and effective application of the Plans.

- Output 2.4. Specific sector-related disaster risk reduction measures identified, implemented, monitored and evaluated in targeted localities/authorities.

During the reporting period, the Programme carried out several impact-orientated activities with the aim of strengthening cooperation between local governments and civil protection units. These measures strengthened the preparedness and operational capacity of civil protection units at the local level, while also fostering institutional cooperation between municipalities and civil protection services in planning, procurement, and monitoring of DRR activities.

Through targeted investments in priority projects, the Programme strengthened local disaster preparedness and response capacities across BiH. In Bihac, the procurement of a specialized cargo vehicle improved the mobility and operational readiness of civil protection teams, enabling life-saving rescue operations in hard-to-reach and flood-prone areas. Bijeljina enhanced its material and technical capacities to respond effectively to natural and man-made disasters, particularly floods, reducing vulnerability and safeguarding communities. In Kakanj and Kalesija, landslide and rockfall mitigation measures protected critical infrastructure, ensuring safe passage on local roads, and shield residents from cascading hazards, significantly reducing disaster risk. Trebinje boosted its firefighting and rescue capabilities through modern equipment that improves mobility, safety, and operational efficiency in challenging conditions. Collectively, these interventions reduced vulnerability, strengthened preparedness, and built resilient communities, ensuring that local authorities are equipped to protect lives and infrastructure against future disasters.

Complementing infrastructure-based measures, the Programme advanced a systemic approach to disaster preparedness by piloting social protection-based disaster risk reduction at the local level. In 2025, the City of Bihac established and budgeted a contingency line for emergency cash assistance to vulnerable households — the first locally financed SRSP mechanism in BiH. The scheme enables rapid post-shock support without reliance on external humanitarian appeals, reducing negative coping and protecting children.

Building on these results, additional local governments are preparing to adopt similar arrangements in 2026, using the operational procedures and costing model developed through the Programme.

Crucially, the Bihac model is now serving as an entry point for disaster risk financing reforms. Through the Jobs and Social Protection Accelerator (MGA) partnership with the World Bank, disaster-insurance solutions for vulnerable populations are being piloted using social protection as the delivery system. The approach links risk-financing instruments (e.g., insurance or contingent financing) with predefined social protection triggers and beneficiary registries, allowing payouts to be rapidly channeled to affected households through existing payment mechanisms.

Building on the risk assessments and priorities identified through the Agriculture DRR platforms, sector-specific DRR measures were designed to address the most pressing agriculture-related hazards, particularly floods, droughts, extreme temperatures, soil erosion and pest outbreaks. Specific interventions focused on i) identification of priority agricultural DRR measures through participatory consultations, ii)



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implementation of practical field-level DRR measures<sup>14</sup>, iii) integration of agricultural DRR measures into municipal planning and budgeting, iv) monitoring and evaluation of implemented measures.

Special attention was given to ensuring that implemented measures respond to the needs of vulnerable rural households and smallholder farmers, including women engaged in agricultural production, thereby contributing to more inclusive and resilience-oriented local development. As a result, targeted localities now have operational, agriculture-specific DRR measures that move beyond planning and contribute directly to reducing disaster risks in agricultural production systems and strengthening the resilience of rural communities.

## TRANSVERSAL THEMES

### Gender equality

The selection of partner local governments was carried out to ensure women's empowerment and equal participation in DRR planning. A vulnerability-sensitive model led to the establishment of local DRR platforms (135 members, 34% women) for inclusive discussion and planning. At the strategic level, the Programme Steering Committee includes 20 members from 16 institutions (35% women), alongside UN and Swiss Embassy representatives.

During the reporting period, the Programme particularly focused on collaboration and support of activities that came directly from the Civil Protection Administration FBiH and the Republika Srpska Civil Protection Administration. The implementation of all Programme and DRR-related activities of these two entity civil protection administrations are carried out by women, as permanent members of the Steering Committee. As such, additional encouragement was given to strengthened communication on planned activities amongst these partners, and mutual participation at activities organized by each of the entity administration, thus also strengthening inter-entity cooperation.

This focus will continue in 2026, in empowering women from these two entity administration, while also offering joint modalities for implementation of activities that are similar.

### Social inclusion

The Programme operationalized a vulnerability-centered disaster risk reduction approach by linking preparedness and response mechanisms with existing social protection systems. Instead of relying solely on post-disaster humanitarian assistance, local authorities were enabled to identify and support at-risk households in advance through established welfare institutions and administrative data.

In 2025, this translated into concrete operational changes. The City of Bihac established a local contingency budget for emergency cash assistance, enabling rapid financial support to vulnerable households without waiting for external humanitarian funding. In Kalesija and Bihac, Centers for Social Welfare became formal members of municipal Disaster Management Headquarters, allowing social protection services to participate directly in emergency decision-making and response planning informed by vulnerability and inclusion lenses.

Using social registries, household vulnerability assessments and the involvement of Centers for Social Welfare in emergency coordination structures, municipalities gained the capacity to map vulnerable

<sup>14</sup> Including promotion and testing of good agricultural practices that reduce vulnerability to climate-induced hazards (e.g. improved soil and water management, resilient crop varieties, risk-informed cropping practices)



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populations and prioritize assistance during crises. Emergency cash assistance modalities, continuity planning for social services and school safety measures ensured that children, persons with disabilities and low-income households could be reached rapidly during shocks.

The approach improves both equity and efficiency of disaster response by enabling assistance to be delivered through public systems, reducing response time, improving targeting accuracy and ensuring that disaster support reaches those most affected rather than only those most visible.

### Anticorruption

Integrity is embedded across Programme activities, especially in financial and procurement processes. All interventions follow UN integrity standards and Code of Conduct. In collaboration with civil protection bodies, emergency procurement procedures are being developed to ensure transparency without delays.

In terms of implementation, and to enhance resilience against corruption, the Programme delivered a training on public procurement in crisis situations, addressing challenges of urgency, transparency, and integrity in emergency response in the Municipality of Kakanj. The discussion produced actionable recommendations for strengthening institutional preparedness and safeguarding procurement processes, ensuring resources are deployed efficiently and ethically during disasters. Key recommendations included: developing pre-approved supplier lists; strengthening staff capacity through simulations and targeted integrity training; and improving coordination with higher-level institutions.

### Bridge-building in line with Switzerland's Cooperation Programme<sup>15</sup>

The concept of bridge-building, as identified in the Swiss Cooperation Programme pertains to core principles of Switzerland's international cooperation: local ownership, decentralization, community participation, and long-term sustainability. In terms of the Joint Programme, the focus is placed on identifying how and to what extent did the Programme equip social actors to build bridges across key social divides between people and systems.

Throughout 2025, the Programme's support to DRR Platforms at state, entity and local levels helped BiH move toward a more coherent and inclusive disaster risk governance system. By bringing together government institutions from all levels of government, and an array of other social actors, such as academia, civil society, and sectoral authorities, these platforms created shared spaces in which responsibilities could be clarified, risks jointly analyzed, and priorities aligned. The revitalization of the state-level DRR Platform, coupled with the initiation of a new national strategy has signaled increased levels of national ownership, while local platforms reinforced intra and inter-entity coordination, especially on crisis communication, providing an example how operational collaboration builds trust and bridges across administrative levels.

The Programme's collaboration with the Ministry of Security of BiH in 2025 significantly strengthened cooperation between government, academia and civil society. By convening researchers and practitioners from both entities and Brcko District BH, this support created a space for dialogue that allowed scientific knowledge, operational experience and policy priorities, bridging gaps to ensure effective preparedness and prevention. The cooperation was formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding, establishing the Knowledge Network for Disaster Risk Reduction in BiH, with actors from the entire BiH. By creating

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<sup>15</sup> With the Swiss Cooperation Programme in Bosnia & Herzegovina 2025-2028, Switzerland puts a focus on bridge-building encapsulated in the following goal: *"To contribute to a peaceful and cohesive democratic society, which is progressing towards European integration, and has effective institutions and public services and a thriving green economy, by building bridges between people and institutions"*.



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a joint mechanism for collaboration and coordination, this Network enhances local ownership of DRR processes and strengthens long-term sustainability.

The two PDNA trainings are an additional example how the Programme continued to build bridges between institutions and governance levels in line with the Swiss Cooperation Programme's emphasis on local ownership, decentralization, and longterm system strengthening. By bringing together participants from state, both entities and cantonal administrations, the trainings created a shared technical foundation for postdisaster recovery planning. Through joint learning in damage and loss assessment, application of PDNA methodology, and structured recovery planning, institutions that normally operate in silos were encouraged to work collaboratively, developing a common language and shared analytical tools that support coordinated, evidencebased decisionmaking after disasters. As such, this process strengthened institutional relationships, fostering trust and mutual understanding across administrative levels. In doing so, the trainings bridged gaps between systems responsible for emergency response, social and economic recovery, enabling a more coherent and timely approach to postdisaster action. Ultimately, these trainings again set the example of how capacity development can serve as a bridge between people, institutions, and systems, towards shared responsibilities.

## FINANCES AND MANAGEMENT

In terms of challenges which largely affected the overall management of the Programme, the team invested significant effort to ensure solid foundation for future implementation of activities. Harmonized multi-agency modality and approach displayed and ensured commitment to jointly and timely implement plans and mitigation measures to overcome different challenges.

The reporting period was marked by several political and institutional challenges affecting the overall implementation pace. The political crisis that unfolded in February 2025, relating to the indictment issued against Milorad Dodik, created a climate of heightened instability and limited institutional functionality at all governance levels. Simultaneously, the resignation of Nenad Nesic, Minister of Security, further contributed to reduced coordination capacities at the state level. Together, these developments resulted in a noticeably slower dynamic in the implementation of activities across both state and entity institutions.

In addition to the challenges at higher administrative levels, progress was overall constrained by procedural delays within the Brcko District, where the Government undertook a lengthy process of appointing DRR Platform members, which extended far beyond initially anticipated timelines. This prolonged appointment procedure created additional bottlenecks in advancing activities that required District-level engagement and formal participation of platform members.

In terms of risk monitoring and management, ongoing efforts in DRR knowledge sharing, promotion, and advocacy play a crucial role in fostering new concepts and areas of collaboration. Significant effort was dedicated to promoting the Programme's goal and concept as a long-term initiative aimed at establishing comprehensive, systemic DRR governance across all levels of government. This involved providing key information, ensuring a clear understanding, and uniting all stakeholders around the benefits of a multi-sector approach, as well as its future integration and strengthening within existing institutional frameworks and systems.

As of December 31, 2025, total Programme costs, including SDC<sup>16</sup>, UN and Gov BiH expenditures, amounted to USD 1,704,715.67 or 43% of the overall Programme budget.

<sup>16</sup> These are tentative figures, and the final figures will be the ones in the official financial report produced by the MPTFO.



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| Designation                                         | Budgeted,<br>period<br>2023-2027 | Cumulative realized, period<br>01 November 2023 -<br>31 December 2025 | Realized, period<br>01 January 2025 -<br>31 December 2025 | SDC <sup>17</sup> | UN                | GOV               | %          |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| <b>Administrated Programme funds</b>                |                                  |                                                                       |                                                           |                   |                   |                   |            |
| <b>Outcome 1</b>                                    | <b>1,202,310</b>                 | <b>601,438.82</b>                                                     | <b>354,965.84</b>                                         | <b>230,135.94</b> | <b>124,829.90</b> | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>51%</b> |
| Output 1.1                                          | 692,690                          | 268,307.80                                                            | 176,648.66                                                | 127,177.00        | 49,471.66         | 0.00              | 39%        |
| Output 1.2                                          | 432,420                          | 310,346.47                                                            | 157,993.91                                                | 82,635.67         | 75,358.24         | 0.00              | 74%        |
| Output 1.3                                          | 77,200                           | 22,784.55                                                             | 20,323.27                                                 | 20,323.27         | 0.00              | 0.00              | 30%        |
| <b>Outcome 2</b>                                    | <b>1,432,380</b>                 | <b>488,102.05</b>                                                     | <b>412,595.06</b>                                         | <b>151,963.03</b> | <b>71,026.69</b>  | <b>189,605.34</b> | <b>35%</b> |
| Output 2.1                                          | 54,600                           | 37,550.29                                                             | 26,437.05                                                 | 26,437.05         | 0.00              | 0.00              | 69%        |
| Output 2.2                                          | 41,000                           | 36,732.55                                                             | 20,324.04                                                 | 20,324.04         | 0.00              | 0.00              | 90%        |
| Output 2.3                                          | 218,180                          | 37,688.19                                                             | 37,688.19                                                 | 34,688.19         | 3,000.00          | 0.00              | 23%        |
| Output 2.4                                          | 1,118,600                        | 376,131.02                                                            | 328,145.78                                                | 70,513.75         | 68,026.69         | 189,605.34        | 34%        |
| <b>Project Management and Operational Costs</b>     | <b>968,468</b>                   | <b>434,934.65</b>                                                     | <b>237,007.65</b>                                         | <b>95,111.00</b>  | <b>141,896.65</b> | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>45%</b> |
| 3.1. UNDP                                           | 339,968                          | 231,051.04                                                            | 107,886.15                                                | 45,628.18         | 62,257.97         | 0.00              | 68%        |
| 3.2. UNICEF                                         | 184,800                          | 95,003.04                                                             | 58,427.30                                                 | 14,614.05         | 43,813.25         | 0.00              | 51%        |
| 3.3. UNESCO                                         | 143,700                          | 79,009.65                                                             | 41,438.06                                                 | 9,134.06          | 32,304.00         | 0.00              | 55%        |
| 3.4. FAO                                            | 300,000                          | 29,870.92                                                             | 29,256.14                                                 | 25,734.71         | 3,521.43          | 0.00              | 10%        |
| <b>UN Common Coordination Costs</b>                 | <b>163,200</b>                   | <b>76,563.19</b>                                                      | <b>37,272.77</b>                                          | <b>37,272.77</b>  | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>47%</b> |
| 4.1. Staff                                          | 132,000                          | 63,368.32                                                             | 31,019.59                                                 | 31,019.59         | 0.00              | 0.00              | 48%        |
| 4.2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials               | 14,400                           | 6,933.26                                                              | 4,706.40                                                  | 4,706.40          | 0.00              | 0.00              | 48%        |
| 4.3. Travel                                         | 16,800                           | 6,261.61                                                              | 1,546.78                                                  | 1,546.78          | 0.00              | 0.00              | 37%        |
| <b>Other Joint Activities</b>                       | <b>60,747</b>                    | <b>30,759.84</b>                                                      | <b>17,719.71</b>                                          | <b>17,719.71</b>  | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>51%</b> |
| 5.1. Evaluation and plans                           | 5,000                            | 4,217.59                                                              | 4,217.59                                                  | 4,217.59          | 0.00              | 0.00              | 84%        |
| 5.2. Communication and visibility                   | 33,947                           | 18,026.45                                                             | 9,537.33                                                  | 9,537.33          | 0.00              | 0.00              | 53%        |
| 5.3. Miscellaneous                                  | 5,000                            | 2,217.94                                                              | 1,161.47                                                  | 1,161.47          | 0.00              | 0.00              | 44%        |
| 5.4. Steering Committee and Advisory Board meetings | 16,800                           | 6,297.86                                                              | 2,803.32                                                  | 2,803.32          | 0.00              | 0.00              | 37%        |

<sup>17</sup> These are tentative figures, and the final figures the ones in the official financial report produced by the MPTFO.

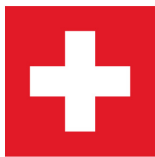


| Designation                            | Budgeted,<br>period<br>2023-2027 | Cumulative realized, period<br>01 November 2023 -<br>31 December 2025 | Realized, period<br>01 January 2025 -<br>31 December 2025 | SDC <sup>17</sup>              | UN                | GOV               | %          |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| <b>Indirect Programme Costs/AA fee</b> | <b>147,560</b>                   | <b>72,917.12</b>                                                      | <b>42,218.38</b>                                          | <b>42,218.38</b>               | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>0.00</b>       | <b>51%</b> |
| UNDP                                   | 46,187                           | 22,811.55                                                             | 12,415.23                                                 | 12,415.23                      | 0.00              | 0.00              | 49%        |
| UNICEF                                 | 36,714                           | 13,623.81                                                             | 8,954.26                                                  | 8,954.26                       | 0.00              | 0.00              | 37%        |
| UNESCO                                 | 11,004                           | 3,822.00                                                              | 3,383.27                                                  | 3,383.27                       | 0.00              | 0.00              | 51%        |
| FAO                                    | 18,914                           | 8,616.15                                                              | 8,616.15                                                  | 8,616.15                       | 0.00              | 0.00              | 46%        |
| UN COMMON COORDINATION <sup>18</sup>   | 15,004                           | 7,512.61                                                              | 3,849.47                                                  | 3,849.47                       | 0.00              | 0.00              | 50%        |
| MPTF <sup>19</sup>                     | 19,736                           | 16,531.00                                                             | 5,000.00                                                  | 5,000.00                       | 0.00              | 0.00              | 84%        |
| <b>TOTAL USD</b>                       | <b>3,974,665</b>                 | <b>1,704,715.67</b>                                                   | <b>1,101,779.41</b>                                       | <b>574,420.83<sup>20</sup></b> | <b>337,753.24</b> | <b>189,605.34</b> | <b>43%</b> |

<sup>18</sup> Indirect costs for UN Common Coordination are calculated under all UNDP costs.

<sup>19</sup> This amount reflects the Administrative Agent fee per the Standard Administrative Arrangement and is not an indirect support cost.

<sup>20</sup> These are tentative figures, and the final figures are the ones in the official financial report produced by the MPTFO.



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## LESSONS LEARNT

Implementation of DRR activities under the Joint Swiss UN Programme “Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina” in 2025 generated several important lessons.

- Early and continuous engagement of the Agriculture Sector is critical: Regular participation of agriculture institutions in DRR platforms significantly improves the quality of multi-sectoral coordination. Where agriculture representatives were actively engaged from the outset, DRR strategies and action plans better reflected sector-specific risks such as drought, floods, pests and livestock diseases. Lesson: Agriculture must be systematically integrated into DRR governance structures, not consulted only at later stages of planning.
- Integrating social sectors strengthens people-centered DRR Governance: Disaster risk governance mechanisms have traditionally focused on civil protection and infrastructure. The inclusion of social protection institutions, Centers for Social Welfare and education authorities in DRR platforms significantly improved the understanding of population vulnerability and service continuity during crises. Lesson: Effective DRR requires systematic integration of social sectors within coordination and decision-making structures to ensure that preparedness and response measures address the needs of vulnerable populations.
- Risk assessments must translate into practical agricultural measures: While risk assessments provide valuable technical data, their impact depends on the translation of findings into concrete agricultural DRR measures at municipal level. Participatory consultations with local agricultural departments and farmers proved essential in prioritizing feasible and context-specific interventions. Lesson: Linking risk analysis directly with farm-level and municipal-level action increases ownership and effectiveness of DRR measures.
- Risk assessments must incorporate population vulnerability dimensions: Traditional disaster risk assessments tend to prioritize hazard exposure and infrastructure damage. Integrating social vulnerability indicators, including poverty, disability, and child protection risks into risk analysis processes improved the ability of local authorities to identify households most at risk and prioritize preparedness and response measures accordingly. Lesson: Disaster risk assessments that combine hazard analysis with social vulnerability profiling provide a more comprehensive basis for planning and targeting interventions.
- Institutional capacity gaps remain a key constraint: Despite progress, institutional capacities at municipal level, particularly within agricultural departments, vary significantly. Some municipalities require continuous technical backstopping to mainstream agricultural DRR into development planning and budgeting processes. Lesson: Capacity development should be iterative and long-term rather than limited to one-off training events.
- Social protection systems can serve as effective disaster response mechanisms: The development and piloting of shock-responsive social protection mechanisms demonstrated that existing welfare systems can be leveraged to deliver timely assistance during crises. The establishment of a municipal contingency budget for emergency cash transfers in Bihac illustrated how local governments can use social protection systems to provide rapid support to affected households. Lesson: Linking disaster preparedness with existing social protection systems enables faster, more predictable and scalable assistance to vulnerable populations.
- Farmer-level engagement strengthens sustainability: Engagement of farmers through awareness raising and practical demonstration of DRR good practices improved acceptance of risk-informed agricultural approaches. Farmers respond positively to measures that demonstrate visible economic and production benefits. Lesson: Practical demonstration and peer learning are more effective than purely theoretical training when promoting agricultural DRR practices.



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- Prepared social service workforce is critical for post-disaster recovery: Disasters affect not only infrastructure but also the wellbeing and psychosocial health of affected populations, particularly children and families. Strengthening the preparedness of social workers and child protection professionals through structured training and operational protocols improves the capacity of institutions to provide psychosocial support and maintain essential services during emergencies. Lesson: Investing in preparedness of social service professionals is essential for ensuring continuity of protection services and supporting community recovery after disasters.
- Local ownership determines long-term sustainability: Where municipal authorities actively integrated DRR measures into local planning documents and budgets, sustainability prospects improved significantly. Lesson: Institutional anchoring of DRR measures is more important than the scale of the intervention itself.
- Local institutional ownership drives sustainability of DRR reforms: Where municipalities formally integrated social services into disaster management structures and adopted local preparedness measures, such as contingency financing or sectoral preparedness plans, progress proved more sustainable. Institutional anchoring within local governance structures ensured continuity of initiatives beyond project-based support. Lesson: Embedding DRR measures within formal local governance and budgeting systems is essential for long-term sustainability.

The Programme encountered a challenge in its efforts to strengthen cooperation between local governments and civil protection services, which is an essential relationship for effective disaster risk reduction. Although joint planning, procurement and implementation of DRR measures were intended to reinforce local ownership and ensure that interventions were both relevant and sustainable, it became clear that in several partner municipalities a structural divide persisted between civil protection units and municipal administrations. This divide was particularly visible in public procurement processes, where unclear roles and limited communication hindered coordinated action. Through the Programme's interventions, these actors were nonetheless brought together to jointly implement five DRR priority measures across BiH, creating practical opportunities for collaboration and shared responsibility.

As a result, operational cooperation began to improve, with civil protection services becoming more engaged in municipal processes and local governments gaining stronger insight into the requirements for effective preparedness and response. The experience also generated valuable lessons: namely, that technical capacity-building alone is insufficient without parallel efforts to clarify administrative procedures, strengthen interdepartmental communication, and support municipalities in institutionalizing cooperation frameworks. These insights now guide the Programme's next steps, ensuring that future interventions place even greater emphasis on bridging institutional divides and embedding cooperation mechanisms that can endure beyond project cycles.

Finally, several challenges emerged regarding the functionality and engagement of DRR Platform members from Brčko District. Membership approvals faced prolonged delays, and the representatives nominated often lacked the relevant technical profiles required for meaningful participation. Moreover, operational constraints, frequently amplified by political sensitivities, further limited the ability of Brčko District actors to participate consistently in Programme activities and events. Overall, building disaster resilience proved most effective when institutions were engaged early and consistently. Continuous participation helped shift the understanding of disaster risk from a narrow focus on hazards toward a broader picture that includes risk mitigation, early prevention and post-disaster needs assessments. Risk assessments became far more meaningful when translated into practical measures that communities could realistically implement, especially when they reflected both technical hazards and social realities such as poverty, disability and protection need. Across the board, the most durable gains emerged where preparedness was treated not as an extraordinary task but as an integral part of how local institutions function, plan and serve their communities.

## ANNEXES

### 1. DRR JP 2025 Logical Framework

| DISASTER RISK REDUCTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA – PHASE 2 2023-2027                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Indicator                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Baseline                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Target                                                                                                | Cumulative result 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Impact/project purpose:</p> <p>Social and economic effects of disasters and climate change for people in risk-prone areas are reduced thanks to more preventive disaster risk management system, better inter-institutional capacities, regulatory frameworks, public services and partnerships.</p> | Number of citizens (sex and LNOB disaggregated) who benefit from improved disaster risk prevention and preparedness in partner localities.                                                                                                                       | Limited multi-hazard data available.<br>445,384 citizens are living in 6 partner localities which were included in the phase 1 of joint Programme (Banja Luka, Bihac, Bijeljina, Kakanj, Trebinje and Kalesija). | At least 700,000                                                                                      | In total 711,954 (F: 365,856) citizens are living in 10 partner local communities involved in phase 2 of the Joint Programme. All citizens will directly and indirectly benefit from updated DRR evidence-based and planning documentation using a multisectoral model through joint work of education, civil protection, agriculture and social/child protection sectors.                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | % of local governments country-wide that apply an integrated and whole-of-government approach to DRR.                                                                                                                                                            | 7% or 10 local DRR platforms established through Programme interventions in phase 1.                                                                                                                             | 10 % or 14 risk-exposed local governments apply an integrated and whole-of-government approach to DRR | 4 new local DRR platforms established and recognized by local management as future forum of professionals in analysing, planning and counselling DRR bodies.<br>In total, 14 local governments (including 10LGs from the phase 1 of the JP) apply an integrated and whole-of-government approach to DRR through or 10% of local governments country-wide                                                                            |
| <p>Outcome 1</p> <p>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.</p>                                                               | Number of interventions, measures or programmes supported or influenced by the SDC that are based on comprehensive disaster risk assessment.                                                                                                                     | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 6 interventions, measures or programmes.                                                              | In 2025, 5 interventions (DRR priority Targeted investments improve mobility and readiness for rescue operations in Bihac and Bijeljina, mitigating landslide risks in Kakanj and Kalesija to protect critical infrastructure and residents, and enhanced firefighting and rescue capabilities in Trebinje.)                                                                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Number of regional, national and local systems supported or influenced by the SDC that ensure that investments in disaster risk prevention and reduction enhance the resilience of persons, communities, countries and their assets, as well as the environment. | 6                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 14                                                                                                    | 1 – In the City of Bihac, disaster risk and vulnerability assessments informed the adoption of a municipal contingency budget for the first locally funded emergency cash assistance scheme in BiH. The measure strengthens local preparedness to provide timely financial support to vulnerable households during crises and demonstrates the integration of risk-informed social protection measures into municipal DRR planning. |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Number of legal acts, strategies/action plans adopted that enables effective DRR mainstreaming across relevant sectors.                             | 0                                                               | 24                                                                                                                                                                                     | ..... The Programme is actively working on 2 sets of laws in the entities, BiH DRR Strategy and RS DRR Strategy, Risk Assessment Methodology in FBiH, although none of these documents are adopted yet.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                   |
| Output 1.1<br><br>Functional state, entity/Brcko District and 4 new municipality DRR platforms based on updated DRR legislative and institutional frameworks.                                        | Number of functional DRR platforms.                                                                                                                 | 6 multisectoral and participatory DRR platforms at local level. | At least 14 DRR platforms at local, entity/BD and state level bringing together representatives from public, social, economic and non-governmental sectors established and functioning | 4 new local DRR platforms established and recognized by local management as future forum of professionals in analysing, planning and counselling DRR bodies.<br>6 existing local DRR Platforms and 1 existing entity level DRR Platform (Republika Srpska) revitalized to ensure sustainability of multi sectoral approach to DRR and holistic management in risk prevention and preparedness. Additionally, also revitalised are the entity FBiH DRR Platform and the state-level BiH DRR Platform.<br>Cumulative result for 2025 is 13 functional DRR platforms.                                                                                                                                         | 353 (F: 135) DRR professionals are involved in work through joint and specific engagement of local DRR platforms. |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Number of new municipalities applying DRAS system.                                                                                                  | 22                                                              | 26                                                                                                                                                                                     | 24 new municipalities are applying the DRAS system                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | DRAS institutionalized at state/entity level.                                                                                                       | No                                                              | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                    | DRAS has been institutionalised in Republika Srpska                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Number of risk assessments at state level, entity/district and municipal levels.                                                                    | 0                                                               | 8                                                                                                                                                                                      | FBiH and RS entities (2) risks assessments have been initiated, although not yet adopted                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                   |
| Output 1.2<br><br>Strategic and Action Planning frameworks for state/entity and Brcko District and 4 new local DRR platforms enable mainstreaming vulnerability-sensitive and Gender-Responsive DRR. | Number of DRR strategic/action planning frameworks developed considering all-of-government approach.                                                | 0                                                               | 3                                                                                                                                                                                      | Activity started in 2025. The Ministry of Security initiated drafting of the BiH DRR Strategy 2026–2030, simultaneously with Republika Srpska initiation of the RS DRR Strategic Framework, while Federation of BiH launched entity-level frameworks, reinforcing multi-sectoral coordination and preparedness.<br><br>To support strategic planning from a social sector perspective, a cross-sectoral legal analysis of disaster risk management frameworks was conducted in the social protection and education sectors, identifying legal entry points to strengthen the integration of population vulnerability, service continuity and school safety considerations within DRR strategic frameworks. |                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | % of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies and the Sendai Framework. | 0%                                                              | At least 4%                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Number of risk financing strategies developed.                                                                                                      | 0                                                               | 1                                                                                                                                                                                      | Activity has not started in 2025. Activities are planned for 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                   |



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| Output 1.3<br><br>DRR Financing strategy and mechanisms for all levels of DRR governance are in place.                                                                                         | Number of risk financing and transfer mechanisms and tools developed for the long-term financing of DRR activities and measures.                     | 0   | 2                                                                                         | Activity has not started in 2025. . Activities are planned for 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | Number of awareness raising campaigns developed and delivered.                                                                                       | 0   | 6                                                                                         | Activity has not started in 2025. Activities are planned for 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | Number of people who thanks to insurance consider that they can more easily recover from shocks and adverse events.                                  | 0   | 100                                                                                       | Activity has not started in 2025. . Activities are planned for 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Outcome 2<br><br>People in risk prone localities are less vulnerable due to better capacitated institutions, improved response capacities and implemented priority measures.                   | % of people at-risk covered by early warning systems or local preparedness.                                                                          | TBD | TBD                                                                                       | Baseline and target will be defined upon completion of disaster risk assessments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | # of vulnerable citizens (disaggregated by sex) in partner localities benefiting directly from DRR measures as a result of the Programme assistance. | 0   | TBD                                                                                       | Baseline and target will be defined upon completion of disaster risk assessments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | # of government representatives (sex disaggregated) benefiting from capacity building initiatives                                                    | 0   | At least 135 (F: 46) DRR professionals which are involved in work of local DRR platforms. | 230 DRR professionals from 10 local partner communities have benefited from capacity building trainings. Out of 230 professionals who participated in DRR trainings, 81 were female.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Output 2.1.<br><br>DRR capacity development (training manuals, guidance), awareness raising and knowledge management improved at state, entity/BD level and at least 10 municipalities in BiH. | Number of DRR capacity development/training packages delivered and institutionalized.                                                                | 0   | 10                                                                                        | 12 DRR training events were delivered during 2025, on Project Cycle Management, Crisis Communication, PDNA and Crisis Coordinators.<br><br>1 DRR training for social protection and civil protection counterparts delivered in 2025 on vulnerability risk assessments and DRR action planning in social protection sector.                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | % of women participation in DRR Trainings.                                                                                                           | 0   | At least 20%.                                                                             | Out of 230 professionals who participated in DRR trainings, 81 were female.<br><br>Out of 49 participants, 23 were female.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | # of persons (sex and LNOB disaggregated) trained on climate change issues.                                                                          | 0   | 150 (members of DRR platforms at all levels)                                              | Activity has not started in 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Output 2.2.<br><br>Disaster Risk and emergency communication capacities, resources and procedures operational in 10 municipalities.                                                            | Number of Communication strategies, protocols and SoPs developed for improved emergency communication capacities, resources and procedures.          | 0   | 10                                                                                        | At the local level, eight DRR Platforms were held across both entities. The overarching theme was 'Strengthening Capacities for Crisis Communication', carrying significance for improving coordination and operational effectiveness during emergencies. Over 70 participants gained practical insights into how clear, timely communication saves lives, reduces panic, and ensures synchronized action across governance levels. |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | Number of cross-sectoral, multi-hazard response plans established or updated for improved capacities, resources and procedures in DRR response.      | 0   | 4                                                                                         | The Programme initiated updates of the RS risk assessment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |



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| <p>Output 2.3.</p> <p>Disaster management capacities, resources, policies and procedures in CSW, child protection, World heritage and agriculture on state, entity level and disaster response plans at local level improved.</p> | Number of updated Entity-level Manuals on the Role of CSWs in emergencies developed.                                                                  | 0                                                                                                                                            | 2                                                   | Activity has not started in 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Number of entity-level DRR Child Protection SoP Guidelines developed.                                                                                 | 0                                                                                                                                            | 2                                                   | Activity has not started in 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Number of SoP protection mechanisms of World Heritage sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina, adopted and being implemented at four UNESCO designated sites. | 0                                                                                                                                            | 4                                                   | In 2025, the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) for protection and disaster risk reduction (DRR) was initiated at 11 localities of the Stećci Medieval Tombstones Graveyards. Technical work is ongoing to establish site-level protection mechanisms that will strengthen preparedness, coordinated response, and long-term safeguarding of UNESCO World Heritage sites. |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Number of improved disaster response plans for agriculture based on updated risk assessments.                                                         | 0                                                                                                                                            | 5                                                   | For municipality of Trebinje, Bijeljina and Kakanj disaster response plans updated in 2025, two more to go in 2026 for Banja Luka and Bihac.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Number of established/updated multi-hazard response plans.                                                                                            | 0                                                                                                                                            | 5                                                   | In 2025 draft of two new multi-hazard plans established for Tuzla and Mostar, in 2026 three more to be finalized.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p>Output 2.4.</p> <p>Specific sector-related disaster risk reduction measures identified, implemented, monitored and evaluated in targeted localities/authorities.</p>                                                           | Number of persons benefiting from nationally or locally implemented DRR measures.                                                                     | Social and child protection beneficiaries: 39,231 (16,947 F), including 10,483 children (5,032 F) from the 1st Phase of the Joint Programme. | 45,231 SP beneficiaries, including 12,483 children. | Civil protection units improved operational readiness via mobility and technical upgrades in Bihac and Bijeljina, landslide mitigation in Kakanj and Kalesija, and enhanced firefighting capabilities in Trebinje. In total, 112,591 beneficiaries (56,819 F) will benefit from these interventions.                                                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Number of children in schools that have DRR Safe School Model in place.                                                                               | 6,219 (2,915 girls) from the 1st Phase.                                                                                                      | 7,419                                               | Activity has not started in 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Number of teachers or educational personnel trained.                                                                                                  | 97 teachers (48 F)                                                                                                                           | 129 (at least 65 F)                                 | Activity has not started in 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |