

MONTHLY OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW IN NUMBERS FEBRUARY 2022

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

Report No. 12



 <b>326</b> MHPSS services provided to women, girls and men	 <b>11</b> Pregnant women supported
 <b>463</b> SRH services provided to women, girls, boys and young men	 <b>1716</b> Adolescent boys' Participation in skills education
 <b>240</b> Participants reached during COVID 19 preventive awareness sessions	 <b>425</b> Women and adolescent girls' participation in empowerment activities
 <b>279</b> Contraceptives distributed	 <b>768</b> Distributed dignity kits

**ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

Preventing abuse and addressing these outcomes as early as possible are the main priorities in order to protect and support gender-based violence survivors. During February, different types of violence have been addressed by the UNFPA team, and were mostly related to physical violence in case of men, and forced / arranged marriages with cases of sexual violence in case of women. Incidences of violence occurred in the country of origin and/or during the movement. UNFPA MHPSS experts intervened and assisted in 21 crises situations due to triggers of anxiety attacks, post-traumatic reactions and frequent panic attacks, and other difficulties caused by the disturbed psychological state of GBV survivors.

In addition, in February, a Gender-based violence working group was held in Una Sana Canton to address overall protection needs of the affected population and ensure coordinated approach.

*Considering specific vulnerabilities, 15 single women were supported with distinct services such as mental health support and peer support groups in order to feel empowered to share their unique experiences.*

 <b>35</b> First time GBV survivors assisted
 <b>89</b> Comprehensive GBV services provided

# Humanitarian response in Bosnia and Herzegovina: *supporting women and youth*



February 2022

## Participation and Empowerment oriented assistance



\*Names have been changed for protection of survivors' identity

### Omar's story

The story of a 18-year-old young man shows that when one has the willpower to do something, nothing can stop him. Though he is young in age, the young man has come a long way to get to the Temporary Reception Center Miral in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This exemplary young man has many characteristics that distinguish him from his peers on the move, but the most interesting detail is that, although he stays in the Center, he regularly attends online lectures at the University of Pakistan. Omar says that he always loved to study and while his peers spent time hanging out he read books.

*"I was supposed to get married after tenth grade. I even liked the girl and asked my parents to ask for permission from her family but, we were from different castes. Culture and tradition came before love."*

Omar knew that the only way to change something in his community would be to pursue an education. He says, since UNFPA opened the Center in Miral he hasn't missed an activity. He realised he could learn a lot from those activities, stating how benefiting it is to communicate with someone who has the knowledge and will to teach other people as well.

*"They motivated me to re-enroll in college and get in touch with my professor from my home country. With all of the help and support I've received, I began attending online lectures."*

During the day Omar listens to the lectures over his phone, continuing to study through the night. Conditions are difficult but schooling gives him motivation and hope for a better future, because he would like to improve the education system in his Pakistan since he does not agree with the current system. In the past, Omar has won awards for public speaking and newspaper article, and he was given space and time at the UNFPA Center in Miral to present the topic of "Marriage" to other migrants and refugees, improving his skills until he fulfils his dream of becoming a social worker.

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UNFPA provided GBV training for Service for Foreign Affairs' personnel engaged in TRC Lipa, aiming to educate on the basic concepts of GBV and understanding the different forms of violence which should contribute to prevention, timely identification and response.

*"Thanks to the GBV training, I now fully understand the severity of trauma survivors have to live with and, more than ever, I appreciate the services available to alleviate the suffering."*

- Participant of GBV training



2400

Estimated migrant/refugee population in BiH



12

Women headed households



3

LGBTQI persons supported



3

UNFPA Woman and Girls Centers



4

UNFPA Boys and Young Men Centers

## Fast facts

Communication and literacy present a key to connecting with the world. Ensuring equal opportunities for the vulnerable populations, UNFPA teams in Women and Girls' Centres observed a significant positive effect of diverse empowerment sessions and Women and Girls Committee Meetings where migrant and refugee women and girls' social skills are improved through discussions and exchange of information & experiences.

*"Everyone can find one word or sentence that keeps them strong each day. Hope, peace, love or a motivational quote. I have decided to stick with love, hate is too great a burden to bear."*

- Woman, 29, Afghanistan



### DONORS

UNFPA BiH IS GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING DONORS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

European Union, Basque Government, Austrian Development Agency and UNFPA Humanitarian Action Fund



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