

MONTHLY OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW IN NUMBERS | MARCH 2023

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

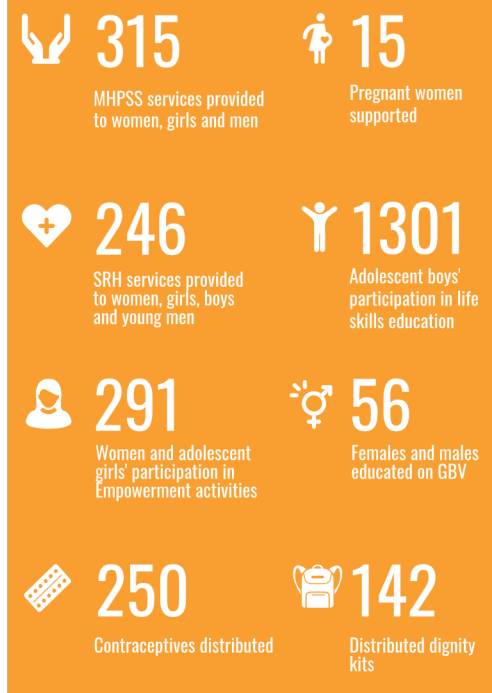
Report No. 23



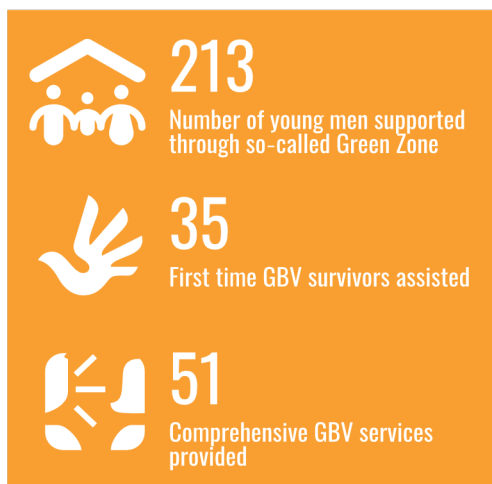
In March, extremely vulnerable persons, including single women and pregnant women who underwent readmission to Bosnia and Herzegovina were supported by UNFPA with comprehensive gender-based violence services, including mental health and psychosocial support and sexual and reproductive health services due to victimization and traumatization they reported to have experienced. In close collaboration with local health centers, ad hoc SRH examinations were arranged, ensuring timely access to potential life-saving services. UNFPA and the local health center stand ready to support vulnerable populations with ad hoc and urgent sexual and reproductive health services, including HIV testing.



In the reporting month, UNFPA representatives met with newly appointed state and local officials, and reiterated their joint commitment to ensuring the protection of vulnerable groups, survivors of violence, as well as migrants and asylum seekers. UNFPA will continue to support government and local institutions' efforts in managing GBV, SRH and MHPSS response within the mixed migrations context.



UNFPA Gender-based Violence (GBV) specialists work tirelessly to bring awareness to the issue of GBV focusing on adolescent boys. In the presence of assigned legal guardians, UNFPA held a workshop with adolescent boys raising awareness to prevent and combat GBV.



March 2023

Participation and Empowerment oriented assistance



Aisha's Story

Aaisha, a courageous young woman has for the first time decided to share her story. Although, as she states, it was only intended to be told the day she arrived at her destination, but the trust and support she received through psychological counselling, has empowered her to give us a glimpse into her life, her struggles and dreams.

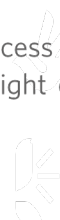
Despite the fact that she received an education in the country where she grew up, Aaisha knew that the community she was in was not motivating enough to help her reach her full potential.

"I decided to seek a country that will help me create better living conditions and give me an opportunity to pursue my education. A place where I would be valued for being a woman."

However, things did not work out as imagined. During her journey, she was faced with unimaginable hardships that would become part of her lifelong experience. A survivor sexual violence attempt, despite the immense fear and helplessness, Aaisha knew she had to fight to survive, and she succeeded.

"The support and professional help I received in the UNFPA Women and Girls Center has helped me to put the past behind, continue pursuing my education in IT sector and look forward to a better future."

With EU support, UNFPA is able to ensure vulnerable women like Aaisha have access to a safe environment where they feel empowered to speak and seek help. Stories like Aaisha's help shed light on the immense risks single women on the move face every day.



Humanitarian response in Bosnia and Herzegovina: supporting women and youth



March 2023



Adolescence for girls on the move marks a time of exacerbated vulnerability and heightened risk to GBV. Given that many adolescent girls grow up during movement, they often carry memories of trauma and suffering. In March, with the help of EU, UNFPA supported adolescent girls through individual MHPSS consultations and group sessions, facilitating recovery and healing, as well as, empowering them to participate in age-appropriate social activities and other existing supportive services.

With support of EU, UNFPA in close cooperation with SRH experts from local health centers organized group and individual preventive SRH counselling sessions with adolescent boys and young men focusing on meeting their sexual and reproductive health needs by providing accurate information, improving their health-seeking behavior and ensuring access to male-friendly services in local health centers.



4485

Number of total arrivals in 2023*



92

Women headed households



3

LGBTQ+ persons supported



2

UNFPA Women and Girls Centers



3

UNFPA Boys and Young Men Centers

Fast facts

"In my community it is not common to talk about HIV openly. For me it was an awakening experience to learn that some of the things I have done in the past, may have exposed me to HIV and other Sexually transmitted infections (STIs). I now know what to do to properly protect myself and spot the early signs of infection."

Young man, 23



* Interagency Weekly Update (20- 26 MARCH 2023)

DONORS

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

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



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Funded by
the European Union



CENTER FOR BOYS AND YOUNG MEN

مرکز الشباب والأولاد
مرکز برای پسران و مردان جوان
جوان اور لڑکوں کے لئے مرکز
د عوان او هلكانو مرکز

For young men, simply learning a new skill can be very valuable and empowering. UNFPA with EU support assists young men and youth with life-skills helping them boost-confidence and achieve self-sustainability.

