ADDRESING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

UNFPA Boys and Young Men Centre officers in Temporary Reception Camps observed a higher reporting rate of violence experienced in the country of origin by Afghan adolescents. Out of a total of eleven newly identified protection cases, nine fall into this category.

UNFPA in synergy with legal guardians invested efforts in creating modalities to best respond to the specific needs of the survivors.

UNFPA continuously works on facilitating access to crucial services for survivors of multiple forms of violence.

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

- 286 MHPSS services provided to women and girls.
- 241 SRH services provided to women, girls, boys, and young men.
- 1534 Adolescent boys’ participations in life skills education.
- 656 Participants reacted during COVID-19 preventive awareness sessions.
- 460 Adolescent girls’ participations in empowerment activities.
- 341 Contraceptives distributed.
- 610 Distributed Dignity kits.
- 61 GBV cases identified.
- 108 Comprehensive GBV services provided.

In September, two GBV survivors of rape were provided with urgent HIV testing.
Farah's story

Facing your fears becomes more than a phrase for people on the move who endure various hardships daily. Farah* described her journey which was embedded in fear and uncertainty. Heavily pregnant Farah and her husband’s marriage was hit with stark discontent by both their families. Fearing for their lives, the only option was to leave. Farah currently lives in a Temporarily Reception Facility in Bosnia and Herzegovina. "The journey was quite difficult for me, for each step I made, I would think of a possible situation which would endanger the life of my then unborn child. I lost trust in people, no one could reason with my thoughts because I simply did not feel safe."

"The UNFPA team offered a helping hand, regular doctor's appointments throughout my pregnancy and guidance from social workers which I haven't had before. For many, a simple conversation might not seem like much, but for me, it is the act of genuine kindness and care." - Farah

As an invaluable member of the Women and Girls Committee, together with other women and girls, Farah with full support of the UNFPA team, contributes to raising the voice of all female residents, and, is actively involved in decision making and coming up with ideas in the Women and Girls Center. Farah concludes that now she knows that her opinion is respected and positive changes are made.

* Name has been changed for protection of the individual’s identity
Through joint discussion and exchange of ideas, the GBV Working group deepens participants’ understanding of GBV which, as a result, ensures better coordination through a **DO NO HARM** approach.

Peer Support Group was organized for women and girls in Temporary Reception Centers which lead to discussions on risks and how to recognize warning signs women manifest in challenging circumstances.

**Fast facts**

5500
Estimated migrant/refugee population in BiH

167
Women and girls at risk of violence

14
Women headed households

9
LGBTQI+ persons supported

2
UNFPA Woman and Girls Centers

4
UNFPA Boys and Young Men Centers

"It is hard but also, I need to talk about that. I see now I am not the only one who survived violence and that my story is important too. We are supporting each other here."

- Peer support group participant

September 2021

**DONORS**

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

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