



## SDG Week in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2022

October 10-14, 2022

31 August 2022

### Concept Note - SDG Week in BiH 2022

#### Working title:

**Focus on sustainable future amidst colliding crises**

**The time for smart choices is now**

#### Theme

We live in a world where climate change and viruses pay no heed to borders or boundaries. Complex, interconnected crises are the new normal. Simply reacting to crisis after crisis only leads to short-term fixes. Moving ahead and out of crisis mode is possible with robust and cumulative responses that build long-term, sustainable and inclusive ways forward. The COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine have shown how fragile human progress can be, and both have re-emphasized the importance of the SDGs as the blueprint for a liveable and just future for everybody.

Crisis can be turned into opportunity for a concerted push towards a sustainable, inclusive and resilient future. The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs must remain our global compass.

To tackle the interconnected risks we face now in BiH, the country's institutions, businesses and people need to make smart choices that will pave the way for impactful implementation of the sustainable agenda in the country while increasing resilience, improving competitiveness and security of all. With seven years left until 2030, the focus of the SDG Week 2022 is on accelerating implementation.

#### Dates

The SDG Week in BiH 2022 will take place in the week of **10–14 October 2022**.

#### Format

The SDG Week in BiH is **an open platform for all stakeholders – from public and private sector and the civil society** - to contribute to and advocate the implementation of SDG Framework in BiH. The UN in BiH will provide support on visibility and outreach, while all events, including logistics and venues, will be organized by partnering organisations.

#### How to apply for an event within the framework of the SDG Week in BiH 2022?

An open call for proposals will be launched on September 1<sup>st</sup>. All public and private sector and the civil society agencies that have operation in BiH can apply. Selected events will be communicated to partners by September 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **SDG WEEK CALENDAR OF EVENTS (non-exhaustive. Draft version 31/08/2022):**

### **Press statement – announcing key events and promoting key messages (with Heads of all UN agencies and SDG Council)**

#### **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

##### **Event 1 Mobilising financing for implementing the SDG agenda (supported by joint SDG financing project)**

KEY IDEA: The conference aims at presenting the SDG Financing Roadmap for BiH and to feature good practices, even most brave models for sustainable development financing. In particular, the event would focus on showcasing successful practices and results from countries that established innovative financing instruments in the areas of energy, innovation and green economy. In total, 2 or 3 examples would be presented, potentially from Italy, Malaysia, Serbia or Montenegro. SDG Fund and donor countries to the SDG Fund and the INFF Facility would be invited to participate in person. The event will promote the UN Women work on optimisation of public spending through gender responsive budgeting (GRB) and on SDG Financing through panel discussion.

*Lead agency: UNDP with support of UN WOMEN*

##### **Event 2: Round table discussion on Global Compact for Migration (GCM)**

The 2030 Agenda recognizes migration as a core development consideration and marks the first time migration integrated explicitly into the global development agenda. The 2030 Agenda is relevant to all mobile populations regardless of whether internal or cross border, displaced or not: “goals and targets will be met for all nations and peoples and all segments of society.” The 2030 Agenda recognizes migrant women, men and children as a vulnerable group to be protected, and as agents of development.

The event will aim to provide overview of GCM as the first inter-governmentally negotiated agreement, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, covering all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. Focus will be on reintroducing GCM to the relevant stakeholders, including the potential engagement entry points for the stakeholders, the review process including the 1. International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), BiH participation at this event, while presenting successes, challenges and innovative approaches on Global Compact For Migration implementation in practice to incite the discussion among stakeholders in BiH. This event will be framed around the results of the 1. International Migration Review Forum held in May in New York grouping the discussion around 3 thematic areas: Inclusion and Regular Pathways, Fight Discrimination, Labor Migration And Migrant Workers’ Rights.

Participants in the round table will be the key civic society stakeholders (20-25 participants).

*Lead agency: IOM*

##### **Event 3: Reliable data on education and culture to successful implementation of SDG Framework in BiH**

Showcasing how quality and reliable data on education and culture using digital platforms for their collection can support achievement of Agenda 2030 and contribute to the implementation of the SDG Framework in BiH.

Two activities will be presented in one session:

- the first related to education “Improving Education Statistical Systems in BiH” project (part of the joint SDG financing project), This activity has just been completed and the developed tools are in use by ministries of education and statistical institutions
- the second related to culture Thematic Indicators for Culture in 2030 Agenda” The SDG week will serve as the launch event for this activity which will be implemented on the state, entity and local levels (Banja Luka, Ljubuški, Mostar, Sarajevo, Trebinje).

Participants: representatives of statistical institutions (BHAS, FZS, RZS), ministries of education and culture (MoCA, MoEC RS), majors of five cities (Banja Luka, Ljubuški, Mostar, Sarajevo, Trebinje).

*Lead agency: UNESCO*

## Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October

### **Event 1: SDG localisation session – Sarajevo region**

SDG Council in BiH organize direct communication with all local governments (LGs) in the country aiming to discuss, promote and make practical steps in localisation of the principles agreed in the SDG Framework in BiH. During the SDG Week, the SDG Council will organize the session in cooperation with LGs in Sarajevo region and discuss process of implementation of Agenda 2030, priorities and challenges in Sarajevo region.

*Independent event under the framework of the SDG Week organized by the SDG Council with support of UNDP*

### **Event 2: Contribution of volunteerism to advancing SDGs at local level**

UNDP ReLoaD project and UN Volunteers will jointly organize one-day workshops for community volunteers, members and youth representatives of CSOs engaging volunteers for their activities. Focus of the event is discussion on the subject of volunteering for SDGs in local communities and advantages of such engagement for youth and communities. Discussion will enhance understanding of SDGs, how SDGs translate to local communities, how to volunteer for SDGs, and how can individuals/organizations/governance inspire others to get informed, raise awareness, and engage. The activity will be organized in one of the partner local governments where ReLoaD project is implemented.

*Lead agency: UNV / UNDP*

## Wednesday 12 October

### **Event 1: Advancing social protection in BiH, thematic discussion with institutional partners and donors**

The event will bring together representatives of governments and development partners to instigate a policy dialogue on social protection reforms in the context of growing uncertainties. It will provide for: (i) Review of the state of play and recommendations for action in the sector; (ii) presenting of the UN position paper on social protection in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for BiH 2021-2025; (iii) Review of development partners' programmes and plans; and (iv) Exchange on opportunities for jointly accelerating social protection reforms in line with the [SDG Framework in BiH](#).

*Lead agency: UNICEF and UNDP*

### **Event 2: Thematic Discussion on Comprehensive Sexuality Education among Youth (Banja Luka session)**

UNFPA BiH will organize a thematic discussion on Comprehensive Sexuality Education among youth leveraging the longstanding collaboration with Banja Luka Youth Center. 2022 is a key year in which UNFPA BiH is working closely with the Ministry of Education of both entities for the revision of the Healthy Lifestyle/CSE curriculum and moving forward on its implementation. For this reason, it is important to have youth engagement at this stage to ensure their active participation in the development process, as UNFPA strives to ensure "nothing for youth, without youth". The thematic discussion will aim at highlighting the needs and requests of youth and ensuring their inclusion in the process of curriculum revision and CSE implementation. This would also be a platform for the Ministry of Education to be able to reach out to youth and hear their voices.

*Lead agency: UNFPA*

### **Event 3: SDG Business Mentor sessions, thematic workshops with SDG Business Mentors**

Workshops led by SDG Business Mentors in the field of creation of decent jobs and resources and environment.  
Workshop for automotive cluster with Volvo cars group (TBC).

*Independent events under the framework of the SDG Week organized by the Ministry of Programming/Heidelberg Cement with support of UNDP*

#### **Event 4: SDG4 advancement through Digital Learning and Transformation**

This event is a follow-up to the completion of the BiH country-wide consultations on Transforming Education Summit (TES), as well as country's participation at the Pre-Summit and the UN Global Summit on Transforming Education. The objective of the event is to share information with a wide range of educational stakeholders (including emerging actors such as private sector, CSOs, development partners etc.) on BiH consultations outcomes (TES Report and Statement of Commitment to Transforming Education in BiH) to mobilize support to the transformation of education that fits the needs of every child and young person in inclusive and equitable way. Moreover, the event will serve as a platform to communicate to relevant stakeholders on the actions, initiatives, good practices and results achieved so far in the digital transformation of education in BiH.

*Lead agencies: UNESCO and UNICEF*

#### **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

#### **Event 1: Celebrating International DRR Day by presenting findings of the Sendai framework mid-term review**

SDG Week will provide a platform for the Mid-Term Review of Sendai Framework. This tool is designed to assist countries in making risk-informed and prevention-oriented policy decisions to mobilize and direct the necessary means of implementation and partnerships and support the identification of solutions and best practices. BiH is one of the countries in focus to engage different stakeholders toward conducting national consultations and reviews to take stock of the implementation of the Sendai Framework to date, assessing progress made and challenges experienced in preventing and reducing disaster risk, identifying new and emerging issues, as well as changes in context since the adoption of the Sendai Framework in 2015, generating critical analysis so as to assist countries and stakeholders to formulate recommendations for prioritized, accelerated and integrated international, national and local cooperation and action in the period 2023 to 2030. Considering the economic impact of a disaster and the fact that disaster risk reduction also reduces risk-adjusted costs, the key message for the general public is that reduction and prevention are cheaper and safer than recovery – *Bolje spriječiti nego liječiti!*

The event will be organized by 'Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina' (Joint Programme), funded by the Government of Switzerland and implemented by UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO and FAO. The round table would involve approximately 50 professionals involved in the Programme, relevant entity ministries, and civil protection administrations, and BiH Ministry of Security.

*Lead agency: UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO and FAO*

#### **Event 2: Measuring inequalities and discrimination**

*OHCHR will organize a workshop with the SDG Council, the MHRR, the Human Rights Ombudsmen, the Statistical Institutes and CSOs on the importance of Human Rights Indicators in planning and strategic processes. This event will also aim to encourage meaningful participation of the civil society in the preparation of key documents including the VNR.*

*Lead agency: OHCHR / UN RCO*

#### **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

#### **Event 1: Circular futures**

Future Talks IV, a conference (presentation of the Circular Economy Roadmap for BiH) and a national digital foresight/re-imagine circular future ideas & visions launched as a side process. A simple digital space can have two layers – one to use for the visions and ideas and another – to ask everyone – kids, parents, every citizen to answer the question: my pledge to sustainable future of BiH is:....., so everyone can think about what we can do concretely.

**"Circular economy quest"** – a national digital ideation launched through the open innovation platform ("hack the problem section) that will invite everyone (universities, businesses, etc.) to share ideas and solutions to wicked problems that we select/prioritise, towards circular economy... e.g. "How can we eliminate waste in textile industry".

*Lead agency: UNDP (Accelerator Lab)*

### **Visibility/Branding**

The SDG week in BiH will be presented under a single unifying logo and branding to be used by all partners in marketing the overall week alongside individually branded events. A campaign on social media will start not later than 20 September 2022. A separate visibility plan will be developed for the SDG Week and coordinated and agreed with the RCO, the donor and key stakeholders. The official hashtags of the SDG Week is #SDGweekBIH and #sedmicaodrzivograzvoja.

*SDG week in BIH aims to be carbon neutral event and offset the total CO2 footprint of all events planned by purchasing trees on TvojCO2.ba after the event.*

### **Background**

The SDG Week in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BIH) is a nationally owned meeting, consultation and discussion platform that supports promotion of SDGs in the country. SDG Week in BIH is the UNs instrument to support the SDG Council in BIH in raising awareness and engaging key audiences in discussions over new trends leading to implementation of Agenda 2030 in BIH. The 2022 edition of the SDG Week in BIH builds on the SDG Business Weeks organized in June 2019 and October 2020. With adoption of the SDG Framework in BIH in 2021, this activity “evolved” into the SDG Week in BIH.

The SDG Week in BIH is supported by the “Translating the SDGs Framework in BIH into Sustainable and Inclusive Growth (SDG2BIH)” an initiative funded by Sweden and implemented by UNDP in partnership with UNICEF and UN Women under the United Nations’ overall support extended to the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to implement the SDG Framework in BiH.