**United Nations**

**Country: Bosnia Herzegovina**

**Project Document**

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| **Project Title: Armed Violence Prevention in BiH (AVPBIH)** |
| **UNDAF Outcome(s):** By 2014, Government adopts policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks to address human security challenges, including threats posed by communicable diseases and disasters, landmines and small arms and light weapons, armed violence, and also addresses the issues of migration and women, peace and security.  |
| **Expected CP Outcome(s):**  |
| **Expected Output(s):** Output 1: Data collection mechanisms on armed violence, community safety, and gender based violence developed and used to ensure informed reviewing, updating, and improving of armed violence prevention policies.Output 2: Local community safety mechanisms enhanced and capacity of government institutions and civil society organization strengthened to prevent and respond to armed (and other forms of) violence in 20 locations across the country.Output 3: Armed violence prevention promoted as a comprehensive and multi-faceted concept at all levels of government and public through awareness raising and joint advocacy |
| **Implementing Partner:**  |
| **Responsible Parties:** UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women and UNV |

Total Budget USD **4,313,233.21**

Allocated resources: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Government \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Regular \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Other:
	+ Donor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Donor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Donor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* In kind contributions \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unfunded budget: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Programme Period: 2012- 2016

Programme Component

Project Title: Armed Violence Prevention in BiH (BIH)

Project ID: tbd

Project Duration: 3 year, 10 months

Management Arrangement: Support to National Implementation Modality at local levels.

**Agreed by (UN):** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1. SITUATION ANALYSIS**

**Context**

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) declared independence in 1992. In the four-year war that followed (1992-1995), over 100,000 citizens lost their lives, more than 2.2 million became refugees or IDPs, a large number were subject to unlawful detention and torture, and over 50,000 women and children were raped. In addition, 70% of pre-1992 industrial capacity and infrastructure was destroyed, and the GDP fell from USD $8.2 billion in 1990 to an estimated USD $2.2 billion in 1996.

Since the end of the war, the BiH Council of Ministers, in coordination with the two entities (the Federation of BiH (FBiH) and the Republika Srpska (RS)) and the Brcko district, and with the support of international organizations, has undertaken a series of socio-economic and political reforms. These have yielded significant economic growth over the past decade, the return of refugees and IDPs, and a period of relative peace and stability. Considerable national and international efforts have been invested in the reforms of the defence and security sectors, with the result that BiH is a member of the NATO Partnership for Peace, and signed the Stabilization and Association Agreement with the European Union on 16 June 2008, thus entering into a contractual relationship with the EU for the first time and becoming subject to EU requirements.

Nevertheless, the legacy of armed violence remains and continues to threaten the scope and pace of BiH’s reform and development efforts. The UNDP *Human Security Perception Survey* 2010 suggests a low security perception and a lack of confidence in law enforcement and judicial institutions. This survey, which was conducted in 45 municipalities and cities identified the three key risks and threats to community and citizens’ security as: 1) high level of unemployment/economic insecurity; 2) significant presence of narcotics and weapons in the community, and 3) migrations (UNDP, 2010). An increase of violence in the post-war period towards those who are less powerful – mainly women and children –also appears to have become a part of everyday life (see below).

While important progress has been to improve the economy in BiH, significant developmental challenges remain. The Human Development Index ranked BiH below the regional average in 2011. Moreover, the newly introduced Multidimensional Index of Poverty, as reported in the *Human Development Report for 2011*, suggests that 0.8 per cent of the population suffer multiple deprivations while an additional 7.0 per cent are vulnerable to multiple deprivations. According to this index, significant regional disparities in the poverty rate exist across BiH. Added to this is the persistently high unemployment rate in BiH - currently at 27% (BiH Statistics Agency). Of particular concern is the unemployment rate for youth aged 16-24 which stands at 57%. Faced with limited livelihood opportunities, and with access to illegal weapons, some of these youth may be tempted to take up a life of armed crime.

**Small Arms and Light Weapons Contributing to Armed Violence**

The widespread availability of small arms and light weapons (SALW), especially illegal possession, presents a continuing challenge to safety and security in BiH. It is estimated that 1.2 million weapons are in civilian possession, 70% of them illegally held (Centre for Security Studies, 2010). The number of criminal acts involving SALW increased by 50% between 2007 and 2009, and it is estimated that approximately 60% of homicides in FBiH are committed with firearms (Centre for Security Studies, 2010). In addition, SALW increase the risk of lethality in cases of domestic, family and gender-based violence. In 2006, 70% of a total of 206 registered victims of domestic violence were threatened with arms.

The BiH authorities have, with UNDP's help, adopted a *Strategy for the Control of SALW*, covering various aspects of SALW control. UNDP has also assisted the authorities in SALW collection and destruction initiatives, including raising awareness of SALW collection initiatives (Savjet ministara BiH, 2008). However, the continued widespread presence of SALW, and increased usage, along with the fragmented nature of the laws and regulations governing civilian possession across BiH[[1]](#footnote-1), suggests that further support is required in this sector. Indeed, until this issue is effectively addressed, the easy access to weapons remains one of the key risks of armed violence.

**Mine Action to Tackle the Legacy of Armed Violence**

BiH remains one of the most mine contaminated countries in South East Europe with the overall suspect area of 1,442.84 km2, or 2.81 percent of the country’s territory.Mines contaminate more than 14,000 locations throughout BiH. The BiH Mine Action Centre (BHMAC) has recorded 7,957 mine/explosive remnants of war (ERW) casualties in the period 1992–2010 (1,653 killed; 6,304 survivors). Between 1997 until the end of 2010, BHMAC recorded a total of 107 mine clearance casualties (43 killed; 64 injured); and 225 cluster munitions casualties (44 killed; 181 injured) between 1992 and 2011.

Mine clearance has been underway since the cessation of the war in 1995. UNICEF has supported BHMAC extensively over the past decade, particularly in mine action policy development, capacity building for mine risk education, and strengthening local mine action capacities. Current trends, however, indicate that it may take decades before landmines and ERW are fully removed from the country. At the same time, the BiH Government has lacked funds for implementing the *National Mine Action Strategy* (Vijeće ministara BiH, 2008), thus failing to procure demining equipment and to introduce new demining techniques. This situation has affected the whole country, but particularly the communities returning to mined areas and depending on the land for their living.

**Gender-Based and Sexual Violence as Manifestation of Armed Violence in BiH**

Violence against women continues to be widespread in BIH and is interwoven with discrimination and gender based prejudices. Important progress is being made, however, to combat the problem. Significantly, domestic violence is slowly becoming a matter of legislation and public interest in BiH, as evidenced by the adoption of new legislation and the agreement of the BiH *Strategy for Combating Violence* that creates a state-wide strategic framework for combating domestic violence. These strategic documents are, however, in need of revising and updating to match the requirements of the legally-binding *Istanbul Convention[[2]](#footnote-2)* (*Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence*), and to ensure a comprehensive policy framework for preventing gender-based violence and protecting victims, including provisions relating to the use, or threat of, firearms in gender based violence.

Still, the capacities of BiH institutions to combat both domestic and all forms of gender-based violence remain limited. The social and health care institutions, law enforcement agencies, and the judiciary are lacking both awareness and capacity to process cases of gender-based violence and ensure proper protection of victims.[[3]](#footnote-3) The visibility of the problem also remains low as a result of a lack of proper data collection mechanisms and prevalence surveys.

Recovery from wartime trauma and transitional justice constitute important parts of BiH's social reality today. Women who survived sexual violence during the war are therefore viewed as a particularly vulnerable group of armed violence victims. In this context, improving the network of support for women and girls victims of armed conflict has been prioritized as an objective of the BiH *Action Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security* (Agencija za ravnopravnost spolova Bosne i Hercegovine i Ministarstvo za ljudska prava i izbjeglice BiH, 2010). The Action Plan specifically envisages programmes for helping women, victims of wartime violence, and their economic and other empowerment. UNFPA and UN Women have supported the BiH authorities in drafting the *Program for Improving the Status of Women Victims of Wartime Rape, Sexual Abuse and Torture in B-H* (Ministarstvo za ljudska prava i izbjeglice BiH, 2011), which is currently awaiting adoption.

UNFPA and UNICEF have piloted mechanisms for multi-disciplinary responses to violence against women and children, the so-called "referral mechanisms" in over 30 localities, including capacity strengthening of professionals in education, health, social, CSO sectors. Piloting of provision of services to enhance employability among women survivors of GBV has also begun, with support of the UNFPA. Moreover, UNDP has been working to support and build effective mechanisms for free legal aid for victims of gender-based violence, including legal assistance and representation, as well as developed two pilot witness support offices in Sarajevo and Banja Luka. Still, a large part of the country remains uncovered by the referral mechanisms and legal aid systems, and more systemic solutions need to be sought.

**Children as Victims and Perpetrators of Armed Violence**

In the context of armed violence prevention, children can be viewed both as perpetrators and victims of violence. A total of 23 percent of elementary and high school kids from BiH have held guns, supervised by adults (UNDP Human Security Portfolio Manager, as cited in SEESAC, 2006). In the period January 2008 – September 2009, Federation police statistics indicated that SALW were used in 20 cases of juvenile crime, and 25 cases where juveniles were victims of SALW crime (UNICEF, 2010). A total of 293 cases of violence in schools were registered in 2010. Official data on the use, or threat, of arms in such acts of violence is not available, but media reports on armed violence in schools have greatly alarmed the public (http://www.starmo.ba/crnhronika/item/3025-sarajevo-pucnjava-u-%C5%A1koli-ranjen-u%C4%8Denik.html).

The BiH authorities have attempted to address the issue of violence against children and juvenile violence by adopting two strategies – *Strategy for Combating Violence against Children* (Ministarstvo za ljudska prava i izbjeglice BiH, 2007) and *Juvenile Justice Strategy* (Ministarstvo za ljudska prava i izbjeglice BiH, 2006). Neither of the two strategies makes specific reference to the use of arms in violence.

UNICEF has worked extensively on establishing mechanisms for the protection of both women and children from violence, mostly by means of developing and implementing a new national curriculum for the prevention of violence involving children in primary education, through establishing referral mechanisms for the protection of women and children, and piloting safer community action plans involving schools in a number of municipalities. UNICEF has also supported the BiH authorities in preventing peer violence in 27 schools in 9 pilot municipalities. In addition, UN Women has worked with young people to develop the *16 Days of Activism Campaign – Youth Say NO to Violence*, as well as the peer methodology for education on *Ending Violence Against Women and Girls.*

In summary, high unemployment, socio-economic deprivation, and gender inequality, along with the widespread availability of arms, psychological scars from the war, and persistent political instability, create fertile grounds for illegal activity, anti-social behaviour, and armed violence, and continue to contribute to a prevailing feeling of personal and general insecurity in BiH.

**The UN’s response**

The UN Country Team (UNCT) in BiH has placed a strong emphasis on enhancing human security, improving access to justice and reducing violence (UNDAF Outcome 4).

As outlined above, UN agencies have already invested considerable effort in tackling different aspects of violence, such as reducing the availability of SALW, clearing mine fields, identifying at-risk groups, and working on preventing violence against the most vulnerable groups, most notably women and children. A mapping of the UN agencies' and BiH Government's work on armed violence prevention has assessed the interventions of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women and UNV as being highly relevant and working towards addressing different aspects of armed violence prevention (Karadjinovic, 2012).

The mapping also highlighted, however, that armed violence prevention has not been addressed as a comprehensive concept by the BiH authorities or international organizations in B-H. Moreover, that serious gaps exist in the collection and analysis of victimization data, in the implementation of existing policies, and in monitoring and evaluation efforts. Significantly, the mapping referred to the considerable potential in replicating initiatives that have been piloted at the level of local communities in BiH (Karadjinovic, 2012). These findings have served as the basis for formulating this Joint Programme on armed violence prevention by the UN agencies in BiH.

The *Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development* from 2006, which was signed by BiH among other countries, highlights the need for a comprehensive approach to armed violence prevention, taking into account the multifaceted nature and multiple drivers of armed violence. Such an approach demands a coordinated UN programmatic response – one that is able to draw upon the distinct experience and sectoral expertise from individual UN agencies to address the diverse drivers of crime and violence whilst ensuring enhanced partnership and coordination at national and community levels. Through a co-ordinated effort to deliver as one, the UNCT will also strengthen its voice and influence with the Government of BiH to implement policies and strategies to address armed violence, and to maintain the momentum behind the necessary broader political reforms.

**2. STRATEGY**

The overall objective of the Armed Violence Prevention Programme is “*to enhance the capacity of the Government of BiH and local communities to prevent armed violence*”. The Programme will predominantly support Outcome 1 (Human Security) of BiH’s UNDAF, whilst contributing to Outcome 2 (Social Inclusion).

Despite being a signature to the *Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development*, armed violence prevention has not yet been applied as an operational concept in BiH. Although different components of armed violence prevention are being addressed as distinct, human security challenges, a comprehensive, multi-sectoral, approach to preventing armed violence has not yet been pursued by the authorities. This Joint Programme seeks to address this gap.

The Joint Programme will play to the strengths and added value of individual agencies and existing projects (see Annex 1), whilst seeking to create synergies between them so that the overall impact of the programme is greater than the sum of its individual parts. The programme has been informed by a mapping of the UN agencies' and BiH Government's work on armed violence prevention, and a wide consultation with all relevant stakeholders in BiH in the sectors involved in violence prevention, particularly violence against women and children.

The Joint Programme will place a strong emphasis on encouraging/facilitating co-ordination amongst relevant government agencies, capacity development, and creating an enabling policy and institutional environment for community level initiatives. In so doing, the Joint Programme will work ‘upstream’ to support the development of policies and to increase institutional capacity, and ‘downstream’ to support the implementation of innovative projects to enhance community security that can be subsequently scaled up. Advocacy work will be supported to generate the necessary political will for change. All outputs and activities will pay particular attention to the gendered dimensions of violence.

The Joint Programme will be guided by the following principles:

* ***National ownership****:* UN participating agencies will ensure that the Joint Programme reflects national perspectives and is linked to the country’s national, entity, cantonal and municipal development plans and policies. The programme will, as much as possible, rely on national expertise and capacities; ensuring that planning processes are participatory and work towards building national credibility and ownership. Systematic capacity assessments of municipal authorities and service providers will enable the Programme to work from a strong evidence base that can inform activities as well as providing a sound baseline for partner agencies to track changes over time.
* ***Conflict/armed violence sensitivity:*** In light of the differing and changing political and security contexts across BiH, the Programme will be informed by regular assessments of armed violence dynamics, including data from perception-based surveys. Such an analysis will be essential to inform programme interventions and risk management strategies. It will also help ensure that UN-supported interventions “do no harm”.
* ***Working in partnership***: The participating UN agencies have cultivated a wide range of government and civil society partners, and have worked with them effectively in designing and implementing activities. The Joint Programme will seek to strengthen these partnerships and will use dialogue and training opportunities to reinforce the importance of strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation. The Programme will seek to deepen partnerships with municipal-level actors (government and non-government) to build local capacities and mechanisms to improve community security and safety, including for victims of GBV, SV, violence against children and other forms of armed violence. Partnerships with national and local NGOs and universities will be further developed to engage in research, network building and advocacy. Synergies will be sought with all other parties working on AVP in BiH, including UNODC.
* ***Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment:*** The advancement of gender equality, including women’s participation in decisions that affect their safety and security is a crucial element of post-conflict recovery efforts in BiH. This is consistent with the international community’s commitment to these issues as expressed in UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009) and 1960 (2010).The Programme places a strong emphasis on strengthening women’s security and access to justice, and empowering women to advance gender equality.

**3. PROGRAMME OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS**

**Programme Outcomes**

The Joint Programme will primarily work to achieve Outcome 4 (Human Security) of UNDP BiH’s UNDAF, whilst contributing to progress against Outcome 2 (Social Inclusion).

*Primary Outcome:*

Outcome 4: By 2014, Government adopts policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks to address human security challenges, including threats posed by communicable diseases and disasters, landmines and small arms and light weapons, armed violence, and also addresses the issues of migration and women, peace and security.

*Secondary Outcome:*

Outcome 2: By 2014, Government develops and implements policies and practices to ensure inclusive and quality health, education, housing and social protection, and employment services.

**Programme Outputs**

The Joint Programme will work with the BiH Government and its relevant institutions and agencies to address the issues and challenges posed by armed violence by advancing three outputs:

***Output 1: Data collection mechanisms on armed violence, community safety, and gender based violence developed and used to inform the development and implementation of armed violence prevention policies.***

This output will support the strengthening of national capacities for data collection and analysis on armed violence, and the review and strengthening of policies and legislation relating to armed violence prevention and reduction. Since the country does not have developed system of data collection especially related to AVP victims or incidents, the project will work to provide assistance and support in establishment of data collection.

A prerequisite for effective action to prevent and reduce armed violence is having a clear assessment of the drivers, risk factors, distribution and perpetrators/victims of armed violence within a particular setting, and an understanding of how these have changed over time. The Programme will seek to ensure that comprehensive data exists on these factors, and that it is used to inform the review and strengthening of a number of policies and legislation associated with armed violence prevention and reduction, including on small arms, mine action, community safety and violence against women and children. Where necessary, the Programme will support the development of capacities for strategic policy coordination, such as the Coordination Board on SALW, to help ensure the progressive implementation of policies and associated strategies and action plans. Targeted support will also be given to advance the implementation of agreed policies and strategies, including, for example, on the collection and destruction of illegal weapons.

All activities under this Output will build on previous efforts to enhance policies and data collection mechanisms (Karadjinovic, 2012). A particular focus will be placed on strengthening institutional capacities for data collection and policy development and implementation.

***Indicative activities:***

1. *Support development of a gender-sensitive armed violence data collection, management and dissemination system*
	1. *Undertake baseline assessments (including perception surveys) on safety and security in 20 localities.*
	2. *Train relevant institutions (the statistical bureau, ministries of interior, the police) on the maintenance and use of the database.*
	3. *Support the statistical bureau to conduct surveys of GBV and perceptions of safety/security (building on GBV prevalence survey pilot).*
	4. *Strengthen national and local capacities, including NGOs, for monitoring of GBV, SV, and armed violence cases that will lead to improved efficiency and efficacy of law enforcement and judicial capacities for investigation and trial processing.*
	5. *Strengthen capacities of existing referral mechanisms (for the protection of women and children victims of violence) to collect data on access to protection services and costs of violence.*
	6. *Create a risk assessment system to identify families and children at risk of offending or becoming victims of armed violence.*
	7. *Develop a framework of gender- and age-sensitive performance indicators for evaluation of armed violence prevention and reduction initiatives.*
	8. *Support to establishment of weapons registration system in line with the EU Directives.*
	9. *Support to the development of an education module for police and judicial institutions on data collection.*
2. *Support the development or strengthening of legislation, policies and coordination capacities addressing armed violence prevention*
	1. *Support development of legislation governing weapons possession, trade and collection.*
	2. *Support the SALW Coordination Board in updating the SALW strategy, ensuring necessary linkages with other strategic documents and a focus on violence against women and children.*
	3. *Support the SALW Coordination Board in implementing the SALW strategy, including the establishment of a firearms registry and support for weapons collection.*
	4. *Support the review and strengthening of the national law on mine action, including cluster munitions.*
	5. *Support the establishment of national procurement capacities for mine action.*
	6. *Support the review and strengthening of policy and legislation on GBV so that it is consistent with the European Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.*
	7. *Support the review and strengthening of policies concerning prevention of violence against children and juvenile justice with specific consideration of access to and the threat and use of arms in violence by and against children.*

***Output 2: Local community safety mechanisms enhanced and capacity of government institutions and civil society organization strengthened to prevent and respond to armed (and other forms of) violence in 20 locations across the country.***

This output will seek to enhance levels of safety and security in at least twenty targeted communities by strengthening local government and civil society capacities to develop and implement community safety plans. These plans will be developed through participatory processes (involving community leaders, local government officials, law enforcement agencies, women’s groups and other civil society organizations) and will address different themes/sectors (including crime prevention, violence against women and children, tools of violence, education and access to justice). The community safety plans will complement local development plans that have been developed with the support of UNDP’s Integrated Local Development project.

The Joint Programme will support implementation of these plans through the provision of financial resources to targeted municipalities, as well as by encouraging cooperation with, *inter alia*, government ministries, mine action teams, referral mechanisms for victims of violence, legal aid centres, school safety networks and civil society organizations. Specific activities will be supported to strengthen the responsiveness and prevention capacities at the community levels that build on the work of these institutions and organizations to enhance public safety, reduce crime, prevent GBV and violence against children, support the victims of violence, and to educate the public on the risks of violence and response strategies.

***Indicative activities:***

1. *Develop and strengthen participatory community safety planning processes at local level to ensure the identification and assessment of safety/security risks, and response strategies*
	1. *Provision of technical assistance to establish twenty community security forums, including training on their role and functions, based on lessons learned derived from 5 pilot projects.*
	2. *Support participatory planning processes to develop community security plans (drawing on armed violence data) to tackle armed violence, ensuring synergies with other community-based interventions focusing on risk identification, assessment and security plans.*
	3. *Monitor and regularly assess community security forums and implementation of community safety plans.*
	4. *Support the establishment of weapons collection points at police stations and encourage the collection of illegal weapons.*
2. *Build local level capacities for the prevention of, and protection from, armed and other violence, including:*
	1. *Referral Mechanisms for GBV:*
		1. *Map gaps in availability and accessibility of services in response to gender based violence.*
		2. *Support municipal-level institutions from six sectors (police, judiciary, health, education, social services and NGO) to establish referral mechanisms for GVB in 20 locations .*
		3. *Support training on GBV prevention and treatment/response, including guidelines on GBV RMs, for law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors (20 professionals per municipality)*
		4. *Multi-disciplinary capacity development activities for law enforcement officers, social workers, teachers and health professionals on violence against boys and girls, prevention and treatment*
		5. *Develop guidelines on RMs, including on services to deal with GBV and men and boys as perpetrators of violence*
		6. *Support the economic empowerment of victims of violence and sustainability of shelters through income generation schemes.*
		7. *Conduct training of police, judges and prosecutors on AVP, GBV, SV and juvenile justice including witness/victim support and free legal aid.*
		8. *Build the capacities of NGOs to monitor trials in courts and to encourage the increased effectiveness of the judiciary in processing cases.*
		9. *Support the establishment of centres for rehabilitation work with men in at least 3 locations, and develop their replication potential*
		10. *Monitoring and regular assessment of RMs implementation*
		11. *Prepare a lessons learned report on GBV RMs in BiH and share knowledge internationally*
	2. *Referral Mechanisms for war time SGBV:*
		1. *Establish referral mechanisms for survivors of wartime SGBV in at least 5 locations*
		2. *Awareness raising and educational support for professionals from relevant institutions about the psychological consequences of traumatic events and re-traumatisation of witnesses*
		3. *Support the establishment of a multi-disciplinary team/support network for victims/witnesses of SGBV*
		4. *Develop a manual for working with survivors of wartime torture and SGBV, including models for rehabilitation, psycho-social support and care for survivors*
		5. *Support the development of a Protocol on mutual cooperation of institutions and organizations on provision of support to victims/witnesses in war crime cases, sexual violence and other criminal cases*
		6. *Capacity development of selected partner NGOs to establish and run self-help groups providing psycho-social support;*
		7. *Support economic empowerment of victims of GBV and SV through income generation projects*
		8. *Monitoring and regular assessment of RMs implementation*
		9. *Prepare a lessons learned report on wartime SGBV RMs in BiH and share knowledge internationally*
	3. *Violence prevention education in schools*
		1. *Undertake a survey of teachers, children’s and parent’s attitudes towards violence*
		2. *Support the establishment of school coordination boards for violence prevention and reduction in 20 localities*
		3. *Training of teachers on methodologies to conduct workshops on violence prevention and conflict resolution with children*
		4. *Training of children on peer support methodologies for violence prevention and conflict resolution*
		5. *Awareness raising and training of children and teachers on gender-based violence*
		6. *Support the development and/or strengthening of coordination and cooperation mechanisms between schools, parents and local communities (Parent Councils, Student Councils, Parent-Teacher Associations)*
		7. *Support the establishment of school-based safety networks and work with local communities to identify at-risk groups and prevent children's access to firearms*

***Output 3: Armed violence prevention promoted as a comprehensive and multi-faceted concept at all levels of government and public through awareness raising and joint advocacy***

This output will seek to enhance understanding of the concept of armed violence prevention whilst at the same time supporting targeted civil society campaigns and initiatives to promote public safety and support the victims of violence. The Joint Programme will develop a joint advocacy and public information campaign during the inception phase, incorporating SALW control, mine awareness, violence against women (using the principles of the Secretary General’s Campaign to EVAW - UNiTE) and children, and promotion of the role of women in preventing armed violence of the project. This will involve the development of education materials, training curricula and awareness raising activities with individual institutions, local communities, and the wider public. The Programme will work in collaboration with civil society organizations to undertake education and awareness raising activities.

1. *Develop an advocacy and public information strategy on armed violence prevention,*
	1. *Support for the development of educational and awareness raising materials*
	2. *Research on costs of armed violence and presentations to authorities*
	3. *Development of partnership with civil society organizations*
2. *Support national campaigns to prevent violence and promote community security*
	1. *Support for the 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women*
	2. *Support for the ‘Engage Men Initiative’ in BiH*
	3. *Support for the development of a campaign against illegal possession of SALW*
3. *Support for mine risk education*
4. **RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK**

See Annex 2.

1. **INTENDED BENEFICIARIES**

Ultimately, the beneficiaries of the Joint Programme are the citizens and authorities of BiH. The successful achievement of the programme objective should result in a safer, more just and peaceful BiH, with more responsive institutions that promote public participation in policymaking. The Joint Programme’s emphasis on empowering BiH citizens and municipal authorities to work together to prevent armed violence and enhance community security should bolster capacity to address conflicts in a non-violent manner.

The direct beneficiaries of the Joint Programme are the core institutions responsible for safety, law enforcement, gender equality, victim assistance and child protection. These institutions will benefit from programme activities through support for institutional capacity development and extension of services provided by government agencies and civil society to the broader population. These include institutions such as the BiH Council of Ministers; State, Entity and Cantonal level ministries, including Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Services; Bureaus for Statistics; State Parliamentary Commission of Gender; the Coordination Board for SALW; BiH Gender Equality Agency and the Gender Centers of the Federation and RS; Municipalities of targeted localities; Community Security Forums; the Police, Prosecutors, Courts and Legal Aid providers; the BiH Mine Action Centre; and civil society organizations, women and youth associations and networks.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY**

All project activities will from the start be implemented by national and/or local community institutional partners, or in close partnership with them. All activities will be executed within the existing public services system, avoiding duplication and parallel structures, and in close alignment with relevant BiH national policies and planning frameworks. Capacity strengthening of institutions will be one of the key approaches. Specially tailored advocacy for budgetary commitments by local institutions for continued operations of services to be established will be carried out. The work at the community level will ensure replication potential and will be complemented by work at the policy level to encourage an enabling environment. The Programme will also partner with NGOs to act as watchdogs and to exert pressure on officials to maintain progress. An emphasis will also be placed on empowering citizens and communities to express their concerns and access their rights in order to enhance the responsiveness of local authorities and service providers.

1. **RISKS AND MITIGATION STRATEGY**

The Joint Programme will develop and regularly update a risk and mitigation strategy. A risk log will be maintained by the participating agencies that will assist them in monitoring and reporting on risks. The risk log will document key risks and suggested mitigation strategies.

*Risk Assessment*

Risks that would endanger the success of the Programme as a whole include: an increase in political tensions leading to instability, and obstacles arising from political disputes, disagreements and from the fragmentation of the administrative and governance structure in the country. The deepening economic crisis may also influence the setting of government priorities, with the result being that armed violence prevention is down-played, and hence receives lower budgetary allocations.

*Risk Mitigation*

Mitigation of overall Programme risks consists primarily of continuous monitoring of the political situation with the support of the RC’s Office, continuous monitoring of delivery of key results, regular joint planning sessions with programme partners, and a flexible programme design that allows for adjustments in programme activities in order to respond to the on-set of risks.

The UN agencies will develop a public information campaign and undertake advocacy to clearly articulate the objective of UN’s support and progress against strategies, whilst demonstrating how UNDP’s support to government, civil society, and communities is enhancing the lives of ordinary people in BiH. The mitigation strategy also includes prioritizing institutional capacity development of governmental and non-governmental counterparts, increasing engagement with municipal and community leaders, and placing an emphasis on conflict sensitivity in all programme activities, as well as strengthening outreach to BiH communities at local levels.

1. **MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

The Armed Violence Prevention Programme will be executed utilizing a combination of direct implementation, partnerships with state/entity and municipal counterparts, and national implementation modality at municipal levels, under the overall coordination of the programme board and in line with a results-based management approach. Although BiH signed the SAA to date was not ratified by the BiH Government and did not enter into force therefore the Gov of BiH did not enter into any contractual obligations with EU. The absorption capacities of BiH to date was about 30% of IPA programmes due to complex political and administration structures. In addition, 17% of VAT is saved through DIM implementation modality. The participating UN agencies will take full responsibility for the achievement of programme outcomes and outputs as well as for the administration of financial and human resources. The management of allocated funds will be carried out according to UNDP financial rules and regulations, based on an annual workplan with a detailed budget. The participating UN agencies will be responsible for managing and reporting back to donors on the resources allocated to the workplan, based on a consolidated report.

The management structure of the programme will be as follows:

*Programme Board*

In order to provide overall strategic guidance and oversight for the Armed Violence Prevention, a Programme Board will be established. Its members will meet biannually to review the overall programme workplan and provide guidance and assistance in resolution of any difficulties experienced during implementation. They will also be responsible for overseeing programme reviews on an annual basis (see section 8) and at other designated decision points during the course of execution. Moreover, the Programme Board will act as a coordination mechanism to ensure that initiatives in different entities are harmonized, and that donors and other key stakeholders are closely involved with the Programme and have opportunities to harmonise their approaches and support with government authorities.

The Programme Board will consist of the following roles:

* ***Executive***, representing programme ownership, and acting as chair of the board, in this case, the UN Resident Coordinator.
* ***Supplier***, to provide services for implementation of the programme, individuals or groups representing the interests of the parties concerned which provide funding and/or technical expertise to the project. This includes representatives from participating UN agencies and donors*.*
* ***Beneficiary****,* to ensure the realization of programme benefits, in this case, representatives of the relevant institutional stakeholders as nominated by the relevant highest level governmental body of BiH, as well as NGO representatives.

*Programme Assurance*

The Program Assurance role supports the Programme Board by carrying out objective and independent programme oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures appropriate programme management milestones are managed and completed. Programme assurance has to be independent of the Programme Manager, and so this role is held by one of the UNCT’s monitoring and evaluation specialists.

*Programme Management*

The Armed Violence Prevention Programme will be coordinated by an Armed Violence Prevention Programme Manager (SBIV/2). The Programme Manager will have the authority to oversee programme implementation and decision-making on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Programme Board. S/he will be responsible for day-to-day management and decision-making for the Joint Programme and will ensure that the programme produces the results specified, to the required corporate standards and within the constraints of time and cost. The Programme Manager will also be responsible for ensuring that the activities of the four agencies are complementary and mutually supportive, as well as ensuring regular liaison and coordination between participating UN agencies, external communication, and compilation of consolidated progress reports. The Programme Manager will report to a UNCT (participating UN agencies) Programme Steering Committee and will work closely with the management and monitoring representatives of all participating UN agencies and the RCO.

The Programme Manager will manage a Joint Programme team, consisting of five Project Coordinators and Officers and one Project Associate. The Programme team will be responsible for day-to-day implementation of the project activities. Three of the Project Coordinators/Officers will act as informal coordinators of the three Project Outputs, thereby assisting the Programme Manager in ensuring effective coordination between agency staff for the delivery of project outputs. An M&E Officer from the RCO will assist the Programme Manager and Project Officers in monitoring the progression of results. The Programme Manager will convene bi-weekly working-level meetings with the Project Coordinators/Officers to ensure effective collaboration.

During the initiation of the programme, monthly meetings will be held of the Programme Management Committee (PMC), after which they will be held at quarterly intervals. These meetings will, among other things, monitor progress against project outputs, based on information gathered in quarterly progress reports (see below).

**UNRC Office (Or UN agencies M&E Team or Consultant)**

Direct oversight, M&E

**Programme Board**

Relevant Representatives of Council of Ministers of BiH, AVPP, UNRC, nominated parliamentarian from BiH parliament, representative from an NGO

**Armed Violence Prevention Programme**

New York

**UNFPA**

PO &

Consultants

**UNFPA**

**Specific**

**Activities**

**UNDP/UNV**

PO & Consultants

**UNDP/UNV**

**Specific**

**Activities**

**UNICEF**

PO &

Consultants

**UNICEF Specific**

**Activities**

**UN Women**

PO & Consultants

**UN Women Specific**

**Activities**

**Programme Management Committee**

Representatives of UNRC, Participating JP Agencies, Key Government counterparts and other invitees (experts, key stakeholders, national authorities, donors)

**Joint Programme Manager-Coordinator**

**(coordination and synergies)**

1. **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**
2. **Internal Monitoring and Evaluation**

In-house monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of implementation progress will be coordinated through the Resident Coordinator’s Office, and performed on the basis of the Results and Resource Framework, which specifies the Joint Programme implementation targets/milestones, along with the regular programme progress reports (see Table 1) and visits to programme sites. Internal M&E will be performed by the Joint Project Team in close collaboration with an M&E Officer from the RCO.

|  |
| --- |
| **Table 1: Reporting schedule** |
|  | Deliverables | Description | Schedule |
| 1 | Quarterly Reports | Quarterly financial and narrative reports will be used to review progress and provide programme and policy guidance | Quarterly |
| 2 | Half-yearly Interim Review | Half-yearly evaluation by programme team to assess progress towards programme results articulated in the RRF and provide recommendations, including revision of work plans | Half-yearly |
| 3 | Final Review Report | Final programme evaluation to assess achievement of programme results articulated in the RRF and document lessons learned | 100% programme completion |
| 4 | Audit Reports | Annual internal or external audit in line with UNDP rules and regulations  | As per UNDP BiH audit schedule  |

Furthermore, the following tools will assist programme monitoring:

* A Risks Log will be maintained in ATLAS and updated quarterly through regular review of the external environment that may affect the programme implementation. The Programme Manger will be responsible for updating this information.
* A Quality Log will record progress towards the completion of activities, using the ATLAS activity definition page. The Programme Manager will be responsible for updating this information.
1. **External Monitoring and Evaluation Missions (Mid-term and at end of Project cycle)**

In addition to the internal M&E, two external independent evaluations will be conducted during the course of the programme, consisting of an M&E expert and a specialist in armed violence prevention and community security. The mission team will make field visits as well as conduct comprehensive stakeholder interviews to assess the extent to which progress has been made towards programme objectives and outcomes. Donor and stakeholder involvement in this process will be encouraged. In addition to evaluation reports, the M&E missions will produce documents describing best practices and lessons-learned. Copies of the evaluation reports will be distributed to the donors and the BiH Council of Ministers.

The Programme Monitoring Framework (Annex 3) provides a summary of outcomes, outputs, activities, indicators (qualitative and quantitative), and means of verification to be performed by the project. These form the basis of the programme monitoring and evaluation system, which will be further refined during the inception phase of the Joint Programme. The PMC will be responsible for monitoring the progress of the activities in the RRF and of overseeing the collection of information against indicators. These will be reported annually to the Programme Board. The annual reviews will be implemented collectively by national partners, participating UN organizations and an M&E specialist from the RCO. Annual review results will be in a single report, thus reducing transaction costs. A common format for reporting based on results-based reporting will be used as far as possible.

1. **ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

See Annex 4.

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**Annex 1: Description of Participating UN Agencies**

**UNFPA**

For more than 30 years, UNFPA has been in the forefront of advocating for women, promoting legal and policy reforms and gender-sensitive data collection, and supporting projects that improve women's health and expand their choices in life. UNFPA implements various interventions to end gender based violence, including advocacy, data collection on prevalence, indicators of change, male involvement and prevention, training for the service providers and government staff, and support to legislative and policy changes. UNFPA is also involved in the empowerment of women through capacity building for both central and local governments and NGOs.

In BIH, UNFPA has helped to promote awareness about women’s rights and gender based violence through awareness raising, publications, media, local government involvement and capacity building of service providers and NGOs. For the last three years, UNFPA in BIH has focused on supporting the Gender Centres to develop the entities’ strategies to combat family violence. The Agency also works on SGBV by supporting the development of a SGBV Referral Mechanism Model. The model has been tested in two pilot municipalities. UNFPA also conducted a survey on violence against women and children.

**UNDP**

UNDP, in undertaking its activities, will build on its existing programmes of support to the BiH Government in the areas of public administration reform, transitional justice, small arms control and community safety, and institutional capacity development. This work is augmented by the provision of high quality research on themes such as social inclusion and social trust. At the same time, UNDP is able to draw upon its significant experience of successful collaboration with NGOs and the private sector, through its Local Governance portfolio, the Area-based Development Programme, and activities such as the Growing Sustainable Business initiative.

Gender is a key focus area of UNDP’s Social Inclusion Portfolio, within which UNDP has supported the implementation of the gender laws through the formation of chapter-based working groups. In addressing GBV, harassment and sexual harassment, the working groups developed a series of recommendations which were incorporated into the Gender Action Plan (adopted in 2006). These recommendations are being used as a valuable tool to raise awareness among duty bearers about gender-based violence and its consequences. UNDP also provided grant support to a number of NGOs for the implementation of projects on the elimination and/or prevention of violence against women and SGBV.

**UNV**

Operational in BiH since 1996, UNV has been involved in the implementation of a number of large, complex joint programmes (focused on multi-sectoral assistance to war-affected populations, community capacity building, capacity building of CSOs and regional reconciliation, and community development of local environmental action plans) which have enabled UNV in BiH to gain proven experience in the areas of capacity building of civil society (including in the areas of local development and governance), youth capacity building, and social reconciliation.

UNV in BiH brings to the table expertise on volunteerism, civic engagement and youth to UN activities and projects. More specifically, this includes knowledge and best practices on: advocating for volunteerism and civic engagement in all its forms; integrating citizens, particularly youth, in development and peace building activities at the local and national level; and mobilizing volunteers at a local and national level. Through partnerships with UN agencies and CSO actors, UNV is well positioned to play a significant role in supporting the involvement of community level stakeholders in developing and enhancing local level community safety mechanisms.

**UNICEF**

UNICEF will bring a wealth of expertise to the Joint Programme when it comes to prevention of violence and armed violence committed by, and against, boys and girls. Indeed, UNICEF has a solid experience of establishing referral mechanisms in BiH to ensure a better prevention and response to cases of violence against children, as well as providing technical expertise in improving the prevention of violence/armed violence through the education system.

In advancing the Joint Programme, UNICEF will be able to draw upon its existing programmes to support reform of the juvenile justice system and to enhance the system of social protection and inclusion for children in BiH, including working with municipalities to develop and implement action plans to respond to cases of violence against children, and to support municipalities in delivering services to prevent and respond to cases of violence against children.

**UN Women**

UN Women will bring a wealth of experience in working to advance gender equality, in establishing partnerships with broad range of stakeholders, in strengthening women´s civil society and in supporting gender advocates within government. This provides an important basis for the future work and contribution to gender equality and empowerment of women. Innovative approaches to implementation of Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB), UNSCR 1325 and Prevention of Violence against women and Girls in BiH have helped UN Women forge new types of partnerships that go beyond working with NGOs and gender mechanisms. UN Women in BiH has also explored and will continue to explore innovative approaches to capacity development of civil servants (under the GRB initiatives) and civil society organizations (under initiatives to address violence against women).

UN Women has proved to be a successful broker and catalyst of partnerships between CSOs and the government. In the work towards EVAW, UN Women supports the gender equality mechanisms and all other responsible institutions, as well as the civil society organizations and other non-governmental actors to implement national, regional and international commitments to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG), and to mainstream measures to prevent VAWG in state and entity-level policy frameworks. UN Women also assists the gender equality mechanisms and relevant ministries to expand the range and geographical coverage of the minimum quality standards for services in response to VAW. UN Women works within the framework of the global Secretary General’s UNiTE Campaign (2008-2015) to promote and strengthen youth leadership and social activism for preventing and ending VAW and the enhanced engagement of men and boys in cultivating zero tolerance to VAWG.

1. The legislation on civilian possession of arms in BiH is fragmented and governed by 12 different laws across the entities and cantons (Karadjinovic, 2012). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Istanbul Convention is the first legally binding European instrument to set standards for legislation and policies to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence. It includes specific provisions on the integration of possession of firearms in risk assessments in cases of gender-based violence, and for a set of services to be available to all victims/survivors of gender-based violence. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Trial monitoring of gender-based violence cases (supported through UNDP/UNFPA and UN Women projects) has exposed delayed procedures, lack of witness protection, lenient sentencing policy, and a lack of compensation for the victims (Centar za pravnu pomoć ženama Zenica, 2011 and Udružene žene Banja Luka i Lara Bijeljina, 2011). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)