



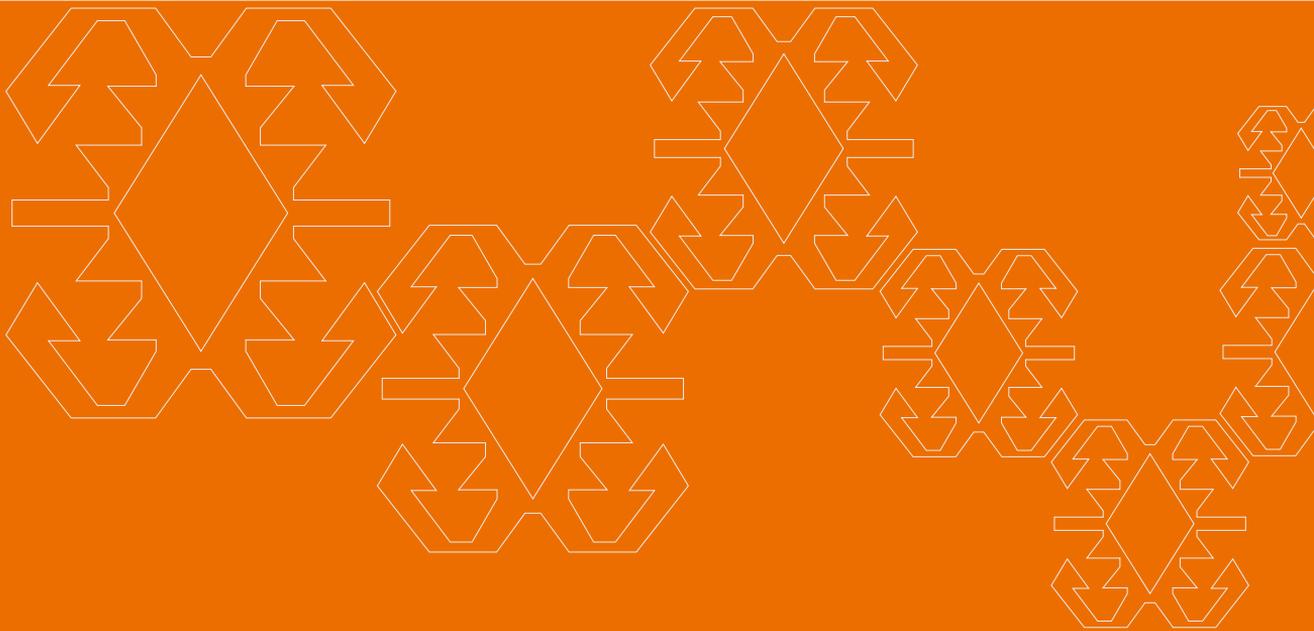
World Vision®  
Bosnia and Herzegovina



CHILD WELL-BEING ANNUAL REPORT:  
OVERVIEW FOR 2014

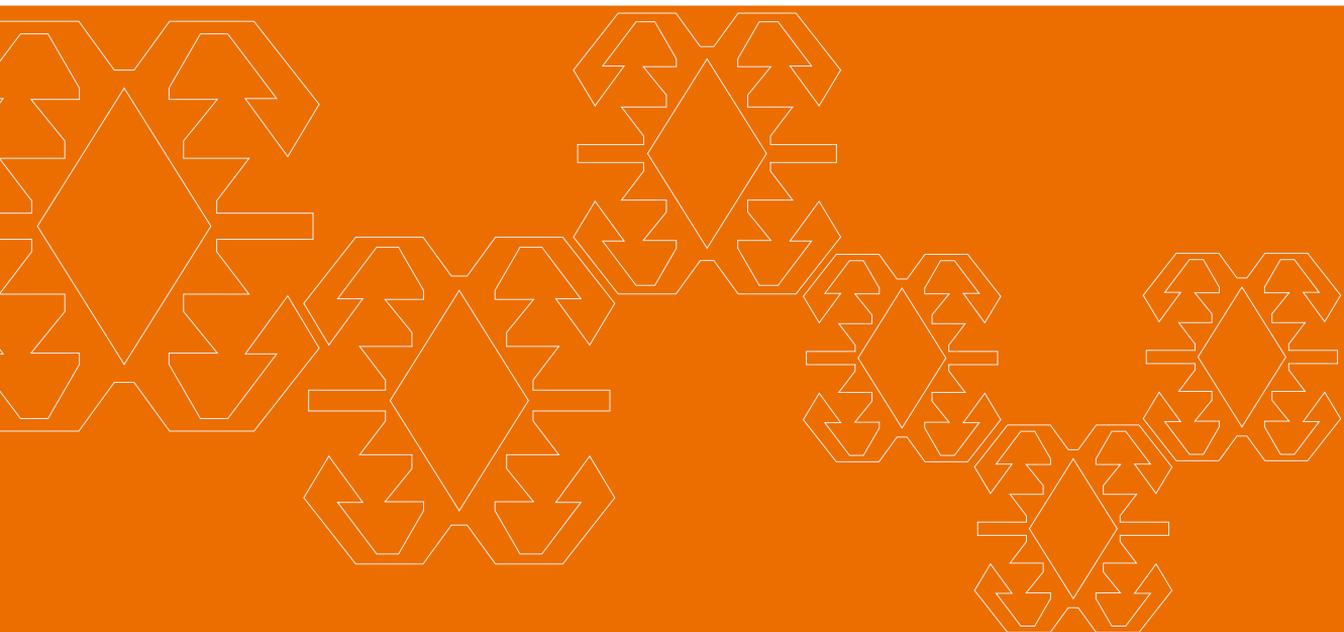
Our vision for every child,  
life in all its fullness.

Our prayer for every heart,  
the will to make it so.



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# FOREWORD



In 2014, World Vision Bosnia and Herzegovina (WV BiH) faced deep challenges as we sought to uphold our existing commitments to communities, whilst seeking to respond to those made vulnerable by the country's worst floods and landslides in living memory.

These endeavours have stretched our resources, both human and financial. The flooding in BiH affected over one million people living within 46 municipalities, including more than 60% of the country's children. The fallout of this national crisis, including its socioeconomic impact, continues to be felt, and it hurts most those already vulnerable and impoverished.

Humanitarian obligations also required WV BiH to stretch beyond the typical boundaries of its Area Development Programmes and grant-funded projects to address the critical needs of the most vulnerable children living in flood-affected areas, including children with disabilities, children aged 0-5 and Roma children.

WV BiH now has a geographic emphasis on 39 municipalities across both political entities of the country and a presence deeply embedded in more than 145 partnerships as well as 170 schools. The value of our local engagement was made evident through our ability to respond within the first 24 hours of the floods to mitigate the worst effects. Furthermore, WV BiH is one of very few agencies that has specifically set out to respond to the needs of Roma communities in flood-affected areas and to advocate on their behalf.

We recognise that, ultimately, organisational effectiveness and innovation is only made possible through teamwork whereby trust, mutual respect and celebrating diversity become the driving force.

It is therefore through solidarity with those we serve, with each other and as one nation undivided that WV BiH aims to improve child well-being, protection and participation in BiH.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Bearup'.

Sarah Bearup  
National Director  
World Vision Bosnia-Herzegovina

## WHO WE ARE?

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Founded in 1950, World Vision works in more than 90 countries and employs more than 45,000 staff.

World Vision has been in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) since 1994, implementing relief, development and advocacy interventions for the well-being of children and their families, especially the most vulnerable. To date, World Vision's interventions have reached more than one third of the country's population.

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In 2014, WV BiH contributed to the well-being of **172,393** children

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## WHERE WE WORK?

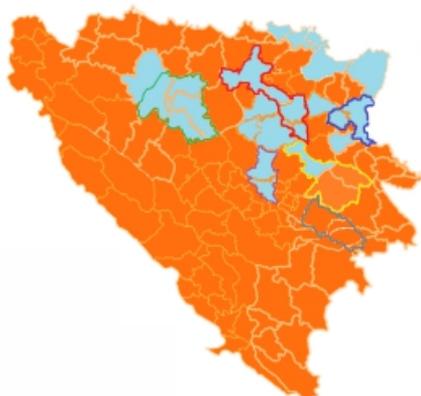
World Vision works across Bosnia and Herzegovina implementing various grant-funded projects in the areas of health, interfaith and gender.

World Vision also operates six Area Development Programmes (ADPs) encompassing 19 municipalities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Supported by World Vision Taiwan and World Vision Korea, each ADP focuses on a distinct geographical area and partners local stakeholders to improve the well-being of children.

Although the ADPs may vary in size, context and population and each is unique, they all seek to support families and communities to address child well-being.

When Bosnia and Herzegovina was hit by record-breaking floods in May 2014, World Vision responded within the first 24 hours expanding its scope from ADPs to 11 neighbouring municipalities affected by this natural disaster. As part of restoring basic needs and strengthening the resilience of flood affected communities, World Vision responded by delivering food and non-food items; providing targeted interventions in the sector of water, sanitation and hygiene promotion; fulfilling specific needs of children by opening Child Friendly Spaces; providing shelter rehabilitation support and ensuring food security and livelihood for agricultural producers and livestock breeders.

World Vision employs staff in five offices across the country which are based in Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Zenica and Tuzla.



- Vrbas ADP
- Ozren ADP
- Lašva ADP
- Krivaja ADP
- Majevisa ADP
- Jahorina ADP
- Other flooded areas where WV intervened

## WHAT WE DO

### INTRODUCTION

WV BiH celebrated its 20th anniversary of working for, with and on behalf of the people of BiH in 2014. During this period, its programmes have evolved from relief-focused action to community development and engagement with partners for the improved well-being of children.

In the same year, BiH was affected by unprecedented floods caused by heavy rainfall, which required a significant shift in our approach to immediately and effectively respond to changing community needs, in particular those of children.

Therefore, the 2014 report highlights WV BiH's contribution to child well-being achieved through its harmonised efforts in development and disaster management.



## COMMUNITIES SENSITIVE AND RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN



WV BiH continued working towards improving child protection in BiH by strengthening existing and establishing new Child Protection Coalitions and Child Youth Boards. Child Protection Coalitions are comprised of key stakeholders from the field of child protection who are continuously working on strengthening systems on the local level. For example, in Kalesija Municipality, Child Protection Coalition advocated for the establishment of Center for Mental Health and Center for Family Support that would benefit approximately 9,500 children.

Child Youth Boards enable active participation of children while conducting preventive activities in the area of child protection, promotion of healthy life styles and realization of children's proposals. In 2014, the number of coalitions increased from 3 to 9, while the number of functional boards rose from 12 to 31.

As part of the emergency response, WV BiH established 19 Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs). These safe havens were an immediate response to protect children by providing spaces to regain a sense of normalcy through a well-structured set of educational, recreational, creative and psychosocial activities. In total, the CFSs registered and provided daily support to 2,557 children. Children expressed their satisfaction with the CFS activities, stating they helped them not only overcome stress after the floods, but also develop new skills and meet new friends.

Over the year, WV BiH continued its efforts on strengthening relations with faith partners, as well as implementation of spiritual nurture of children and interfaith activities, which cut across the organization's work.

WV BiH's engagement in the segment of faith and development, which drives transformational development, is manifold. First, WV BiH expanded work within faith and development to parents of children and youth participating in activities. Second, children, youth and adults from different ethnic and faith backgrounds participate in peace-building activities, and these groups also joined other projects, such as the Channels of Hope initiative, to focus on issues WV BiH partner communities recognize as important, with interfaith themes underlying their engagement. Moreover, in cooperation with church partners, WV BiH has moved forward from exclusively religious education related themes and extended joint cooperation to social engagement of faith partners in community life, which leads to better utilization of their capacities in the communities they serve.

## WHAT WE DO

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**343** active members of Children Youth Boards

More than **6,620** children participated in Spiritual Nurture and Interfaith activities

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“We learned how to protect ourselves in difficult situations; we learned about culture and how to help other people...”

The most beautiful event was humanitarian action. We helped two girls from one village.

I'd really like the CFS to remain active as long as possible and to be as interesting as possible as the days go by.”

Girl attending CFS

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# WHAT WE DO IMPROVED HEALTH, EDUCATION AND LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR CHILDREN

## HEALTH

“47% of children up to 15 years old used dental health services. The overall percentage of the population in Republika Srpska that visited a dentist in 2011 was 20%.

We've achieved a dramatic improvement in providing dental care and protection to children.”

A staff member at Pale Health Care Centre

In cooperation with three HIV and four tuberculosis centres for the Roma community, as well as 41 outreach staff working with the population, WV BiH reached 6,962 Roma citizens in over 50 settlements.

Improved collaboration among Roma and the staff of health institutions, including 76 nurses specialising in polyvalent patronage, resulted in a rise of 17.4% in the number of Roma receiving directly observed treatment for tuberculosis.

WV BiH has invested substantial effort to prevent and detect HIV, with testing a prerequisite for diagnosis, treatment and care for people living with the virus. All the staff at the three HIV centres employed education panels and interactive approaches to information sharing, which increased recognition of HIV among the population.

Through a range of activities and cooperation with representatives of different religions, 992 people from various Muslim, Orthodox, Catholic and Jewish congregations also raised their awareness of HIV-related stigma.

In addition to TB and HIV related activities, in the segment of health programming, WV BiH is contributing to the improvement of access to dental health services for children as well as increasing awareness. Data reveals activities related to oral health in one programme area were highly successful. Specifically, 97% of girls and 92% of boys reported they had visited a dentist in the previous 12 months, while 75% had seen a dentist two to four times in the same period.

**77** children with disabilities reached in Dobojski area

**6,962** Roma citizens reached as part of health programming



97% of girls

92% of boys

reported that they visited dentist in the last 12 months

## EDUCATION

In its Area Development Programmes, WV BiH organized school competitions, where students presented projects for the improvement of formal education in their schools and communities. With this activity, students had the opportunity to experience the decision-making responsibility, democracy, transparency, and the importance of teamwork in the implementation of the selected projects. The evaluation showed the children's life skills had developed, enabling them to participate more in decision-making processes to upgrade school conditions.

Peer educators working with the Majevisa ADP offered sessions on violence among their group, healthy lifestyles and nutrition to 658 children.

WV BiH has focused on the inclusion of Roma children in formal education by encouraging local stakeholders and communities to act and establishing key partnerships to foster success and ownership. In the Lasva ADP region, workshops for children and parents, as well as campaigns promoting the importance of education for the Roma, were the focus for activities that reached 315 children and 68 parents.

As part of the emergency response after record-breaking floods, WV BiH reconstructed 19 schools, one kindergarten and one playground benefitting 4,816 children, as well as established 19 Child Friendly Spaces where 2,557 children were registered attending.



**2,557** children  
registered in  
Child Friendly Spaces

## WHAT WE DO

# INCREASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES TO IMPROVE CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING

"I invested the money I received through loans in tools. I had more orders, so my sons, who were unemployed, started working with me. It's so much easier now."

Džemal

A key element of WV BiH's economic development interventions is the provision of capacity-building opportunities for local farmers.

On-site visits to the beneficiaries of the Majevisa ADP's business-plan activities showed that they were all highly satisfied with the project's outcomes, recognised their potential for income generation and were committed to their respective plans in the long run. As confirmation, each beneficiary formally declared he or she would provide part of their production to families in need over the next three years.

Subsidised loans, totalling 82,708 US dollars and offered in cooperation with EKI, a microcredit foundation, supported 58 families, including 111 children. Monitoring visits to families who have repaid these loans reveals they used the credit to purchase agricultural inputs and supplies to contribute to household income.

Meanwhile, 11 small businesses in the Lasva ADP region received support through a joint project between WV BiH and the Kakanj municipal authorities. The model consists of three parts: capacity building, application of knowledge to develop business plans and business start-up activities.

As part of the WV BiH emergency response, 1,905 families were supported with seeds and fertilizers, while another 5,500 were assisted through vaccinations of livestock.

**3,690** children benefitted by WV economic development



## DISASTER MANAGEMENT

During the period from May to September 2014, a total of **355,892 individuals, including 123,593 children**, benefited from WV BiH's response to the floods in 24 municipalities.

World Vision responded by delivering food and non-food items; providing targeted interventions in the sector of water, sanitation and hygiene promotion; fulfilling specific needs of children by opening Child Friendly Spaces; providing shelter rehabilitation support and ensuring food security and livelihood for agricultural producers and livestock breeders.



“No one had enough money to repair the damage to our school, which isn't pretty but for us is dear. There was even talk that classes wouldn't start on time. Then luck smiled on us. WV BiH thought of us and renovated our school. They painted it in lively colours and changed the windows, which were weak as autumn leaves. They also made the toilets much prettier. Our school now looks like one from our dreams.”

A letter sent to WV BiH by an 11-year-old boy

“Child Friendly Space is an excellent place for it provides me with the opportunity to bring my children for a professional treatment. It also gives my children the opportunity to play with other children. I see that they are happy here and I hope it will be open as long as possible since currently there is no institution that takes care of children such as mine”

Parent of two children with special needs

## CONTACTS:

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### Jahorina ADP

Emerika Bluma 27, Sarajevo  
tel: 033 265 685

### Majevica ADP

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### Ozren ADP

Nesiba Malkića 7, Tuzla  
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### Lašva ADP

Skolska 10, City Centar Metalurg, Zenica  
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