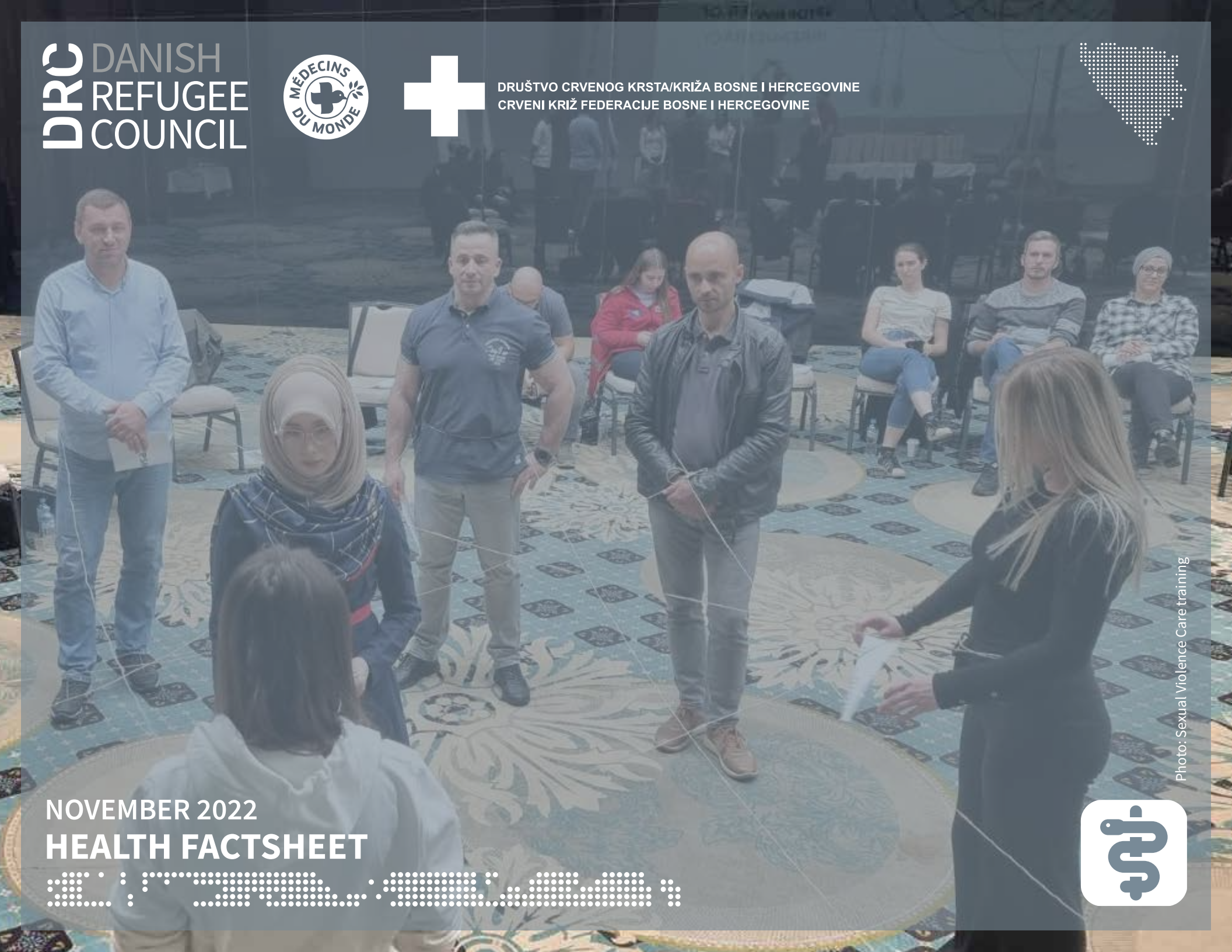


DRC DANISH
REFUGEE
COUNCIL



DRUŠTVO CRVENOG KRSTA/KRIŽA BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE
CRVENI KRIŽ FEDERACIJE BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE



NOVEMBER 2022
HEALTH FACTSHEET

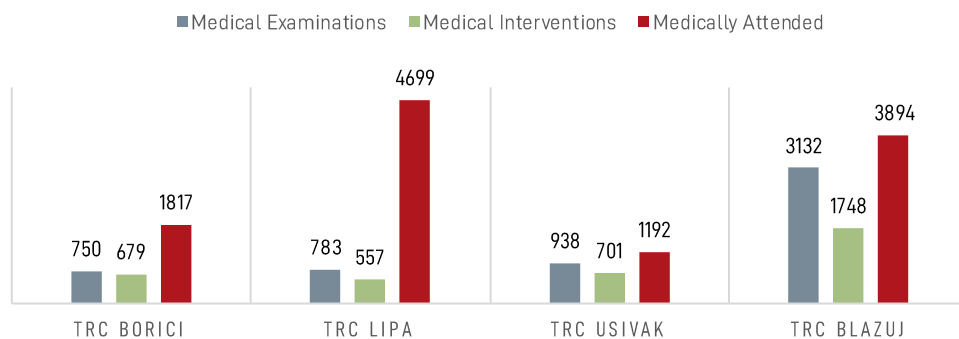


Photo: Sexual Violence Care training

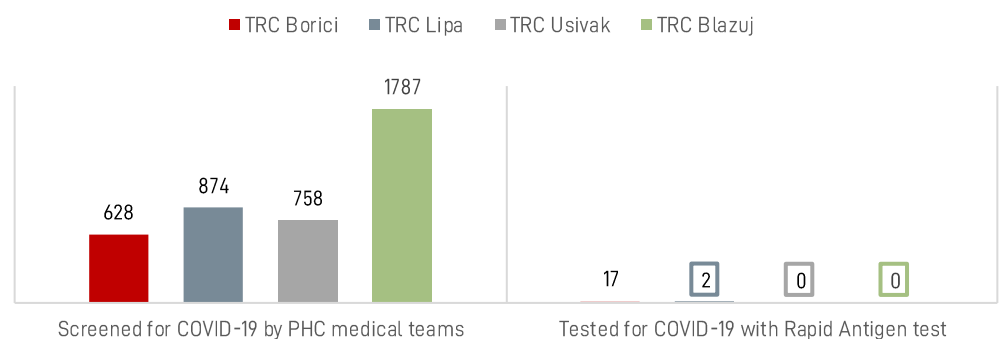
1. KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MONTHLY TRENDS

- ❖ DRC has ensured **5.603 medical examinations** and **3.685 medical interventions** in November 2022. Alongside this, there were **11.602 PoCs medically attended directly by DRC staff** inside TRCs in Bosnia & Herzegovina. Moreover, out of these, DRC facilitated **1.468 pediatric examinations & interventions** within two pediatric units in TRCs Usivak and Borici.
- ❖ DRC has facilitated **21 referrals towards PHCs** and **27 referrals towards SHCs** for specialized healthcare and diagnostics. Moreover, **10 PoCs were hospitalized** in healthcare facilities.
- ❖ As a part of DRCs COVID-19 response, **PHC medical teams performed 4.047 medical screenings** in four reception centers. Furthermore, **19 PoCs were tested for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen tests**, all of which came back negative.

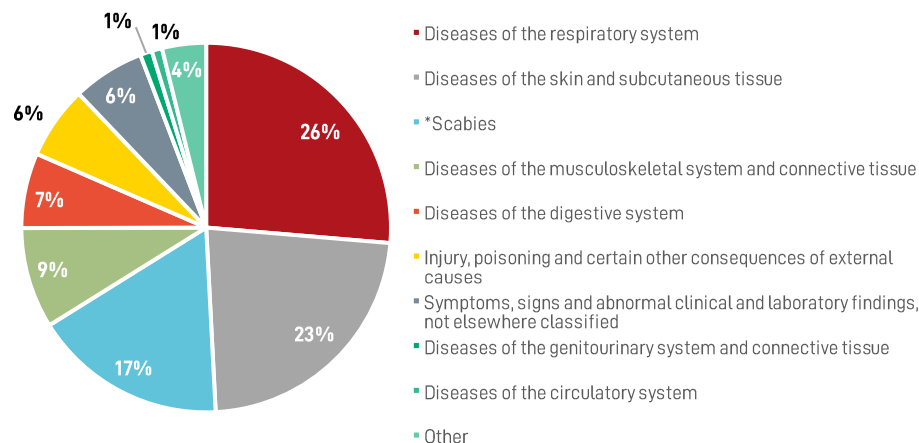
DRCs HEALTH RESPONSE INSIDE TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTERS



DRCs COVID-19 RESPONSE INSIDE TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTERS



CLASSIFICATION OF MOST FREQUENT DISEASES AND HEALTH RELATED PROBLEMS



OBSERVATIONS

- 📌 Number of medical examinations have decreased in 51% compared to October 2022, which corresponds to lower number of PoCs residing inside the centers. There is a subsequent incidence decrease among all morbidities, following the expected seasonal trend and in line with still high movement of this population.
- 📌 Majority of morbidities have the similar incidence, compared to October's data, with unexpected increase of neurological conditions of up to 115%.
- 📌 When it comes to referrals for specialized health care and diagnostics, namely PHC referrals were for laboratory services and X-ray. Moreover, SHC referrals were for specialist examination, namely psychiatrist, as well as general surgeons attending accidental injuries.
- 📌 Hospitalizations were mainly due to acute conditions needing immediate medical aid.

2. HEALTH RESPONSE

- ❖ To stress the importance of DRC's Health Response inside and outside of TRCs, DRC has developed a tool to track incoming inquiries and referrals to enhance DRCs' service provision and the quality of the response, enabling informed programme adjustments. Most of the referrals and inquiries were received inside of TRCs (99%).
- ❖ **DRC has successfully addressed 5.893 incoming health related inquires/referrals** received from other organizations in November 2022.

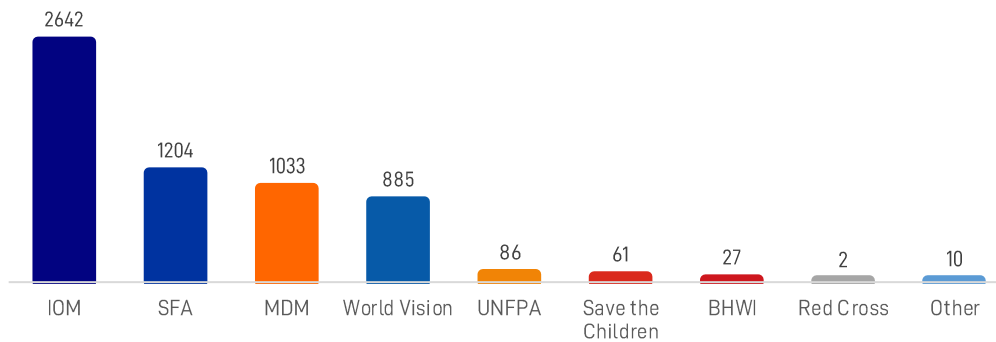
INCOMING INQUIRIES AND REFERRALS

5.893
Incoming healthcare referrals

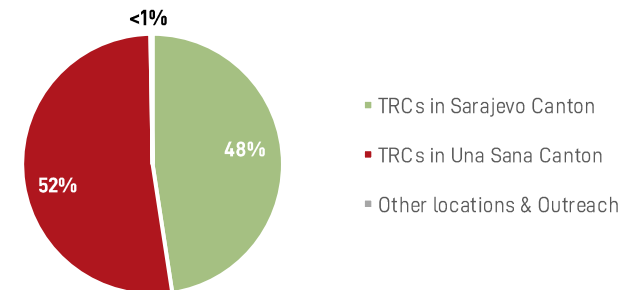
17
Health related expertise provided

49
Pediatric health expertise provided

HEALTH INQUIRIES/REFERRALS RECEIVED FROM:



INCOMING HEALTH INQUIRIES AND REFERRALS: TRCs & OUTREACH



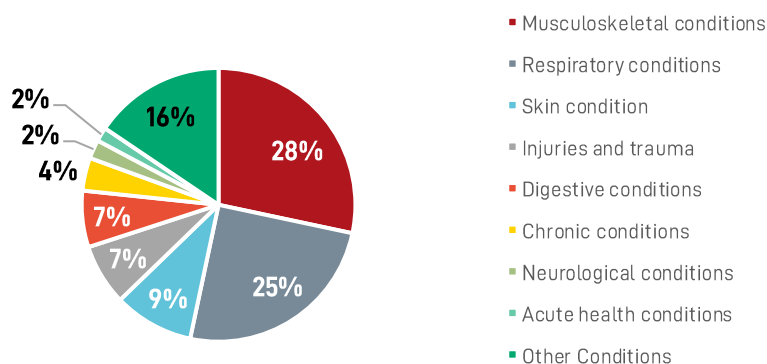
DRC ASSISTANCES & REFERRALS IN OUT-OF-SITE AREAS

180
Basic medical assistance provided

13
Different locations

34
Referrals for further support

HEALTH CONCERNES IN OUT-OF-SITE LOCATIONS



OBSERVATIONS

- 📦 Number of medical assistances in out-of-site locations have decreased in 75% compared to October 2022, which corresponds to lower number of new arrivals and PoCs spending less time in informal settlements.
- 📦 There has been no significant change in incidence of reported health conditions, compared to October 2022.

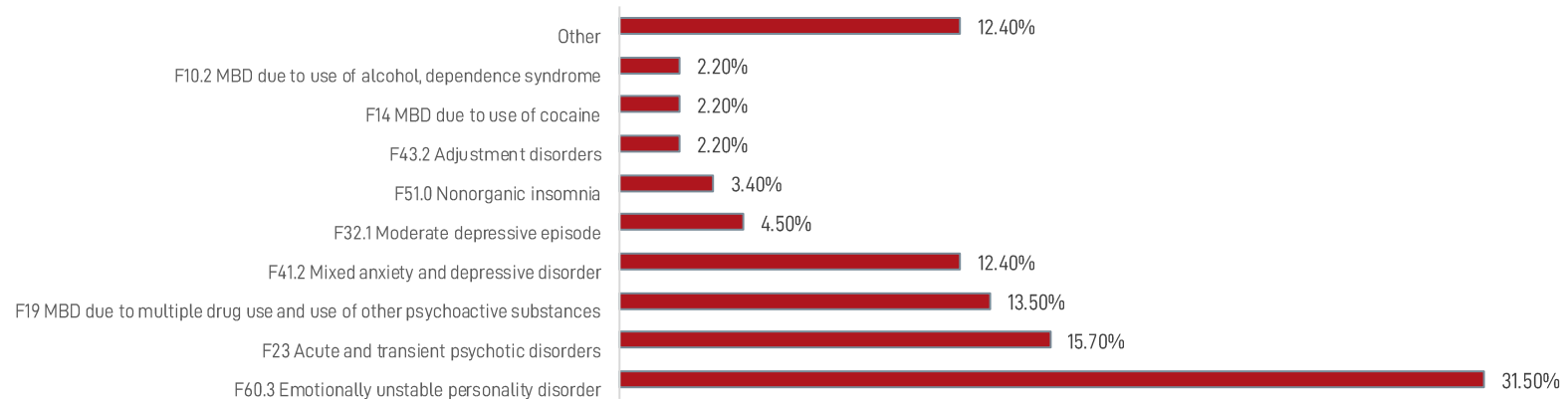


3. MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

Médecins du Monde - MDM

- ❖ During November, MDM, assisted **356 new direct beneficiaries** (336 adults, 20 children) residing in TRCs in Una- Sana Canton and Canton Sarajevo. A total of **246 individual psychological counselling sessions** were conducted. In addition, **57 group empowerment** and **15 psychoeducational sessions** were organized in TRCs for a total of **383 participants**. Psychoeducational group sessions included topics of: Depression and Symptoms of Depression, Mental Health Awareness, Communication Skills, Emotional Awareness, Stress management and Conflict resolution. Empowerment group sessions included activities related to Self-Awareness through creative techniques, Self-improvement, and Relaxation techniques
- ❖ In November, during the individual psychological counselling sessions, main concerns reported by PoCs was feeling nervous, restless, or tense, sleeping problems, excessive worrying and psychoactive substance abuse.
- ❖ MDM Psychiatrist provided regular and follow up psychiatric consultations to PoCs residing in all four TRCs. Total of **78 psychiatric care consultations** were conducted for 64 individuals (6 female beneficiaries, 58 male beneficiaries) out of which 3 were minors.

MOST FREQUENT PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSIS



Red Cross

- ❖ Red Cross Teams, supported by DRC through ECHO funding, have been operational in out-of-site locations (Tuzla, Goražde, Velika Kladuša and in Sarajevo Canton). Red Cross teams **assisted a total of 1.804 PoCs** (1.529 adult men, 57 adult women, 11 girls and 207 boys). Red Cross teams provided **761 Psychological First Aid (PFA) consultations**, with **205 MHPSS consultations done by psychologist**. Moreover, **1882 First Aid assistances** (for PoCs with muscle pain and cramps, blisters, wounds, etc.) were provided, with **257 medical consultations** performed by medical doctors.



4. THEMATIC FOCUS – SEXUAL VIOLENCE CARE

- ❖ World Health Organization have defined sexual violence as *“Any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person, regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work.”*
- ❖ Centar for Disease and Control (CDC) states that over half of women and almost 1 in 3 men have experienced sexual violence involving physical contact during their lifetimes. One in 4 women and about 1 in 26 men have experienced completed or attempted rape. Even do prevalence of sexual violence is high, due to being largely underreported, exact scope is unknown. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, during 2021, state officials recorded only 114 cases of sexual violence. Moreover, during the last decade only 8% of reported rapes had legal conclusions.
- ❖ Sexual violence against refugees and displaced people is widespread. Women and man, both young and adult, are highly vulnerable to become victims of sexual violence, during the flight and while in exile. Setting up proper activities should be considered in order to prevent and treat the consequences of sexual violence in the humanitarian context.
- ❖ In May 2022, GRETA (Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings) published a Guidance Note on addressing the risks of trafficking in human beings related to the war in Ukraine and the ensuing humanitarian crisis. The note mentions several recommendations, one of them being: *“To raise awareness among the private sector on what constitute acts of trafficking in human beings and sexual violence”*.
- ❖ In Sarajevo and Bihać, DRC organized a two-day long training course **“Understanding, Identification and Care of Sexual Violence Victims in Humanitarian Context”** to improve the quality of services provided by DRC and Red Cross Society of BiH to victims of sexual violence (SV) in BiH. The overall objective of the course was to establish a common understanding of SV by analyzing root causes, contributing and risk factors and consequences of SV. Additionally, the training course provided a platform to present the scope of SV in the world and in the humanitarian context, to brief on basic medical care available to victims and to discuss participant’s personal beliefs about SV. A specific part of the training addressed basics of the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA).
- ❖ Training was namely interactive in nature, engaging participants to express their opinions and learn practical skills in providing immediate care to sexual violence victims. Next to theoretical part of training, on types of sexual violence and how to provide proper care, group work and discussions tackled specific topics like: origins of violence, consequences of sexual violence, termination of pregnancy, medical certification of SV cases, referral pathway of SV cases and basics of PSEA.
- ❖ Total of 37 participants (DRC and RC staff) successfully completed the training, and were sensitized to provide immediate care to sexual violence victim. During the evaluation of the training, 86% of participants expressed, they will be more than comfortable in providing immediate care to SV victims upon completion of the training. Moreover, 97% of participants state that they would very likely recommend this training to their colleagues.

Health Care Services are an integral part of the Danish Refugee Council’s humanitarian assistance to migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in BiH. DRC teams ensure timely access to primary and secondary health care, nursing care, medical escorting and health education. Additionally, in cooperation with relevant public health institutions, DRC ensures sanitary-epidemiological monitoring and infection-prevention and control measures, including the measures for preventing the spread of COVID-19 infection (medical screenings, testing, isolation and vaccination). The response complements the DRC health and protection program implemented in all reception facilities and in out-of-site locations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

CONTACT

Hector Carpintero, Country Director

hector.carpintero@drc.ngo

<https://drc.ngo/our-work/where-we-work/europe/bosnia-and-herzegovina/>