

Bosnia and Herzegovina



Located on the Balkan Peninsula
Bosnia and Herzegovina is
almost landlocked, except for
26 kilometers of Adriatic Sea.



A message from Seida Saric Country Director, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Through our organization, Muslim, Catholic, and Orthodox Serb women have found a place where they can talk freely and become friends, without fear of being judged. They have more initiative, are stronger, more open, more active, and have ideas for projects in the community. To see women taking charge of their lives in this way also provides other women in the community with examples of what they are capable of accomplishing.

Bosnia and Herzegovina remains a very poor country where women, unless they are educated, continue to play traditional roles. It is only with the assistance of our Sponsors that we are able to expand into new regions of the country and reach more women. We continue to be deeply grateful for every Sponsor who provides a woman in Bosnia and Herzegovina with opportunities and hope for the future: thank you!

Seida Saric



Women suffered horribly as rape and torture was used as weapons of war.

Thanks to the courage of these women who spoke out about the crimes they endured, for the first time ever, rape was prosecuted in international courts as a war crime.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, women receive rights awareness training and job skills training. Women for Women International is helping the women throughout this war-torn country take active roles in their communities.

IN BRIEF

For decades Bosnia and Herzegovina was part of Yugoslavia. But in 1992 (the 1992-95 war) a war of ethnic-cleansing killed hundreds of thousands of people, severely injured 200,000, and terrorized millions.

Language: Serbian, Croatian or Bosnian

Life expectancy (female): 82.19 years

Life expectancy (male): 74.74 years

Population: 4,590,310

Per capita income: \$6,600

Unemployment: 45.5% official rate

Literacy (female): 94.4%

● 96% of our program participants can read more than their name

● 95% of our program participants can write more than their name

Literacy (male): 99%

Access to safe drinking water: N/A

Learn more about our program in Bosnia and Herzegovina at www.womenforwomen.org/bosnia

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A Day In the Life

A typical woman in Bosnia and Herzegovina starts her day around daybreak. She sees her husband off to work, if he's employed, and their children off to school. She cleans her home daily, from dishes to laundry. If a woman lives in the country, she tends to her farm during the day; if she lives in the city, she does chores and errands.

When she has time to socialize, she visits neighbors and family members in the afternoons. In the evenings, she prepares dinner for her family. She and her family usually eat three times each day, meals that she cooks herself from scratch.

One Woman's Story: Sahzija

Sahzija's husband was killed during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the early 1990's, leaving her with two children to support and no means to provide for them, in a country torn apart by brutal conflict.

After turning to Women for Women International, Sahzija took small business training courses. When she graduated, she received business loans through our microcredit program.

Sahzija stresses just how hard things were for her in the beginning. But now, after much hard work, she has opened three beauty salons with her daughters, one for each of them to run. She's created a steady source of income for herself and her family, and has helped rebuild not only her life but her community's hope for the future.



HOW DO I SAY?

Dear <Name>	Draga <Name>
How are you?	Kako si?
How is your family?	Kako je tvoja familija?
Please tell me about yourself	Molim te pisi mi o sebi
My name is . . .	Je se zovem
I am happy to write you	Sretna sam stu ti mogu pisati
I am thinking of you	Mislim na tebe
Congratulations	Cestitam
Thank You	Hvala
Goodbye	Pozdrav

