

CREATION OF A RISK REDUCTION STRATEGY IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA IN LIGHT OF SENDAI FRAMEWORK

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Abstract: *According to the EM-DAT report, 432 natural disasters occurred in the world in 2021, which represents a kind of negative record. They caused thousands of human victims, while damages were measured in hundreds of billions of dollars. The field is very poorly studied theoretically, and theoretical knowledge and positive experiences from the country and abroad have not found adequate application in practice. There are many proofs of these claims, and the ones from the floods that hit Republic of Srpska, i.e. Bosnia and Herzegovina, in 2014 are special. No lessons were learned from the previous floods in 2010, so the consequences of this natural disaster in 2014, especially human casualties and material damage, were catastrophic. Even the legislation in the field of protection and rescue, due to its incompleteness, does not provide theoretical assumptions for the implementation of protection and rescue measures.*

Key words: Natural hazards, Anthropological hazards, Disaster, Risk reduction, Sendai framework

1. INTRODUCTION

The European Commission document “Risk Assessment and Mapping Guidelines for Disaster Management” (SEC (2010) 1626 final), defined 11 most frequent hazards, which can be divided into two main groups:

(1) Natural hazards: Floods; Extreme weather conditions; Fires; Seismic and volcanic activities; Pandemics; Animal diseases.

(2) Anthropological hazards: Industrial accidents; Radiological accidents; Infrastructure damage; Cyber security; Terrorism.

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To efficiently oppose and combat against these natural and anthropological hazards, we first need to identify them, analyse them, then take preventive measures of an adequate response. One of the first tasks of the Sendai framework is “understanding the risk of disasters”, and that first of all implies the collection and availability of data relating to different hazards, risk assessment and vulnerability, followed by the sharing of good experiences. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 is an international document adopted by the majority of The United Nation member countries (including Bosnia and Herzegovina) at the World Conference held in the period of 14 March to 18 March in the year of 2018 in Sendai, Japan and which was accepted by the United Nations General Assembly. It should be emphasized that one of the Sendai Framework goals is to significantly increase the number of countries with national, regional and local strategies for disaster risk reduction.

In accordance with the Conclusions adopted by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the 57th session, held on 9 November 2022 (CM Conclusion number: 05-07-1-2590-125/22 from 29 November 2022;) the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina is in charge, in cooperation with the responsible institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, international organizations, non-governmental sector and civil society organizations, of coordinating activities for the preparation of the proposal of The Bosnia and Herzegovina Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy for the upcoming period. Respecting the basic provisions on jurisdiction in the field of civil protection and protection and rescue in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and issued by “Framework Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, and considering the main goals and tasks of The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, and respecting the stated conclusions of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, this paper will deal with the ways and modality of adoption of a strategy/strategies for disaster risk reduction on all government levels and provide certain recommendations and guidelines in the creation of the same.

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SYSTEM IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The System of Protection and Rescue in Bosnia and Herzegovina is organised in accordance with its constitutional structure (two entities). In Bosnia and Herzegovina, there is no Bosnia and Herzegovina Protection and Rescue System, but rather a protection and rescue system in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which tells us that it is complex and made up of institutions and establishments at all levels of government organization. Most simply said, there is no Bosnia and Herzegovina Civil Protection, but rather civil protections in Bosnia and Herzegovina, on the level of both entities – Republic of Srpska and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as on the level of Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This complex organization is shown in Figure 1, which demonstrates what the organization of the protection and rescue system in Bosnia and Herzegovina is like at all levels of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2.1. Protection and Rescue System at the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina

At the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in the area of protection and rescue, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina have the jurisdiction. The jurisdiction mainly comes down to coordination activities and the biggest role in preparation of all activities, and in order to make the necessary decisions for activation of protection and rescue system, the Ministry of Security with its Protection and Rescue Sector has the jurisdiction. Legislative framework for this type of activity can be found in the Law on Ministries and Other Administrative Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Law on Ministries and Other Administrative Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina “Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina” No. 5/03, 42/03, 26/04, 42/04, 88/07, 35/09), as well as the Framework Law on

Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Framework Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina “Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina”, No. 50/08):

Article 1 defines the subject of the law, which states, among other things:

- roughly determines the protection and rescue of people and material assets in case of natural or other disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- carries out the coordination of the activities of institutions and bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina, entity administrations of civil protection and competent authority for civil protection of Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- the system of protection and rescue of people and material assets in case of natural or other disasters in the entities and Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina is determined by the laws of the entities and laws of Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

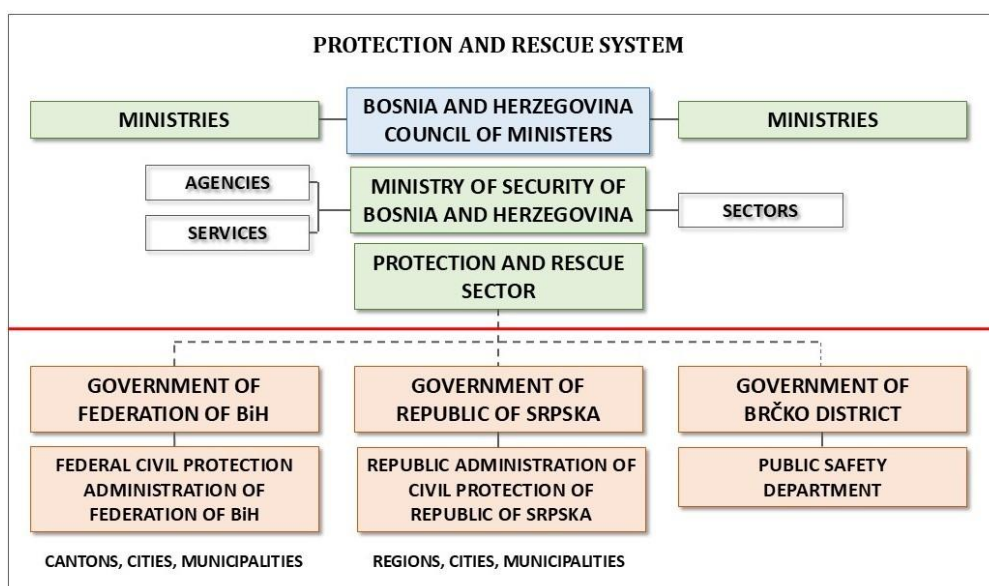


Figure 1. Schematic representation of the connection between protection and rescue institutions

Source: Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Protection and Rescue Sector
<http://www.msb.gov.ba/onama/default.aspx?id=1653&langTag=sr-SP-Cyrl>

Article 4 determines the principles of cooperation:

- institutions and bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina are responsible for international cooperation in the interest of implementing international legal obligations, as well as coordinating the implementation of assistance and experience exchange programs with the institutions and bodies of the entities and Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as providing help in case of natural or other disasters of larger proportions, especially those with potential cross-border effects;
- in the interest of exchange of experiences and knowledge, scientific and technological achievements, and material equipping in the area of protection and rescue, competent institutions and bodies of the entities and Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina can cooperate with other institutions which are significant for protection and rescue in case of

natural or other disasters in neighbouring or other countries with a same or similar level of organization;

- competent institutions and authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the entities and Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina are obliged to mutually coordinate cooperation activities.

Article 6 prescribes the way to achieve international cooperation:

- the international cooperation from Article 5 of this law is accomplished by the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- in carrying out activities from paragraph (1) of this article the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina cooperates with competent institutions and authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the entities and Brcko District.

In the aspect of preparation of strategic level documents, and with respect to the Constitutional structure of Bosnia and Herzegovina, this law prescribes:

Article 19 defines the programs and plans:

- the organization and implementation of protection and rescue in case of natural or other disasters at the level of institutions and bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina is carried out on the basis of the Protection and Rescue System Development Program and the Protection and Rescue Plan at the level of institutions and bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina in case of natural or other disasters;
- the Program and Plan referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article are drawn up on the basis of the assessment of threats from natural or other disasters;
- the Program and Plan referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article contain guidelines for conceptualising the Protection and Rescue System Development Program and the Protection and Rescue Plan in the entities and Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Article 20 defines the content of the program:

- the Protection and Rescue System Development Program of institutions and bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina determines **the policy and strategy** of protection and rescue of people and material goods in case of natural or other disasters, defines development programs and projects and **strategic** directions for the development of protection and rescue in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2.2. Protection and Rescue System at the level of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The main carrier of the activity in the area of protection and rescue in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is the Federal Administration of Civil Protection. In accordance with the defined jurisdictions the Federal Administration of Civil Protection, as an independent administration responsible to the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, among else performs the following jobs and tasks (Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters “Official Gazette of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina” No. 39/03, 22/06 and 43/10):

- implements the already determined policies and ensures execution of the federal laws and other **federal regulations in the area of protection and rescue**;
- creates a vulnerability assessment of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, composes the Protection and Rescue System **Development Program** in Case of Natural or Other Disasters of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

- proposes the Protection and Rescue Plan in Case of Natural or Other Disasters of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- brings regulations on the content, manner and deadlines of reporting on natural or other disasters;
- organizes, prepares and trains headquarters, units and commissioners of civil protection, protection and rescue services;
- organizes and synchronizes the implementation of protection and rescue measures, as well as organizes and implements fire protection and firefighting tasks;
- prepares and creates elements for the functioning of basic activities within the budget of Federation;
- organizes the Federal Operational Center of Civil Protection
- achieves international cooperation in the area of protection and rescue, in accordance with regulations brought by competent government authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- provides instructions to cantonal administrative bodies, cantonal institutions and municipal administration services for the execution of federal policies, Law on Protection and Rescue and other federal regulations in the area of protection and rescue of people and material assets;
- carries out inspection supervision in the area of protection and rescue;
- organizes and executes the Program of Demining as part of the Anti-Mine Action Strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- keeps prescribed records and conducts other businesses of protection and rescue, in accordance with law and other regulations and general acts;
- performs the function of professional service of the Federal Headquarters of Civil Protection and Federal Commission for Damage Assessment in case of natural or other disasters;
- conducts other businesses of protection and rescue which are placed under the authority of the Administration by law

Cantonal administrations of civil protection with their operational centers function on a cantonal level (ten cantons). Internal organization of cantonal administrations of civil protection is adjusted to the specifics of each canton and it is set up so that it can respond to obligations in the execution of measures of protection and rescue. During outbreaks of major natural or other disasters cantonal administrations of civil protection, with the help of other cantonal or municipal bodies, as well as through the functioning of the cantonal headquarters of civil protection takes over leadership activities and coordination in the efforts of protection and rescue of people and material assets.

2.3. Protection and Rescue System at the level of Republic of Srpska

The main carrier of activity in the area of protection and rescue in Republic of Srpska is the Republican Administration of Civil Protection of Republic of Srpska. Since June 2016 the Republican Administration of Civil Protection acts as an independent republican administration in Republic of Srpska. Up to that point it was a part of the Republic of Srpska Ministry of Interior.

The Republican Administration of Civil Protection is based in East Sarajevo and is sectoral organized both at the Administration level and through five regional centers in Banja Luka, Bijeljina, Doboj, Sokolac and Trebinje. In accordance with its jurisdictions the Republican Administration of Civil Protection is carrying out, among other things, the following tasks (Law on Protection and Rescue in Emergency Situations of Republic of Srpska *Српске “Official Gazette of Republic of Srpska”* No. 121/12):

- monitors, coordinates and implements the already determined policies and guidelines and ensures execution of laws and other regulations in the area of civil protection;
- creates a Protection and Rescue Equipping Program;
- creates a vulnerability assessment of Republic of Srpska territory and proposes civil protection plan of the Republic;
- prepares elements of defense plan of the Republic in the field of civil protection;
- coordinates activities of the subjects with significance to protection and rescue in case of natural or other disaster in the Republic;
- carries out coordination between subjects participating in protection and rescue on the territory of the Republic between subjects for protection and rescue of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina, neighboring and other countries;
- obtains and processes data on all types of phenomena and threats which can lead to natural or other disasters;
- organizes and executes tasks of observation, notification and warning;
- provides professional help and gives instructions for the work of civil protection bodies of a city or municipality;
- keeps prescribed records and conducts other businesses in the area of civil protection in accordance with law.

2.4. Protection and Rescue System at the level of Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina

At the level of Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina the protection and rescue system functions within the Department for Public Safety of Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Within the Department for Public Safety of Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance with its jurisdictions, among else, jobs performed are (Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters in Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina “Official Gazette of Brcko District,” No.29/16.):

- preventive action and saving people and material assets threatened by fires;
- accidental and other calamities;
- floods;
- traffic accidents;
- civil protection tasks;
- demining tasks;
- removing and destroying unexploded ordnance and mine explosive devices;
- observation and notification tasks;
- physical and technical security of Government of Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina objects and
- other tasks of protection and rescue in accordance with the laws of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

3. SENDAI FRAMEWORK

One of the often interpreted definitions at various conferences and science fairs is the definition of “Disaster risk reduction” (Disaster risk reduction-DRR) which clarifies the disaster risk reduction as a conceptual framework of the elements considered for the purpose of minimizing vulnerability and risks of disasters through society as to avoid or limit harmful effects of hazards and facilitate sustainable development (Agic, S., (2015), Subregional concept of risk

reduction from natural and other disasters in the area of the Western Balkans, ISBN 978-9958-738-09-8 Sarajevo: National and university library of Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Disaster risk reduction includes a complex system of social relations, comprised of political, economic, technical participatory components and components of resource mobilisation. General Assembly of the United Nations, as the most significant institution on a global level regularly debates and draws conclusions on the issue of disaster risk reduction, confirms the seriousness of the problem of natural or other disasters or accidents, as well as the need to treat this problem at all levels of social organization – from global to local. General Assembly of the United Nations has adopted, in total, 12 resolutions in the area of disaster risk reduction (<https://www.bing.com/search?q=unisdr.org&form=MSNSB1&refig=244ee1e8e39842eab9100f5d073a0f84&mkt=en-xl&ocid=mailsignout>. accessed 02 July 2024 at 10:40). The resolutions brought before Sendai primarily represented a platform for an international disaster risk reduction framework. Throughout history we had the UN resolutions in the period of 1999-2005, which aimed to strengthen the awareness of the need for a planned response to natural or other disasters from the highest-global level all the way to the lowest-local level. For the period of 2005-2011 the need to compose International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) is emphasized. Only recently, after adopting the Hyogo Declaration for the period of 2005-2015 the establishing of disaster risk reduction system was initiated in the operative-preventive sense, during which special financial funds are established and targeted projects formed, which are implemented on a regional and national level. Hyogo Framework “Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters”, was the first comprehensive international agreement in the area of disaster risk reduction and represents the last step for bringing forward the Sendai Framework.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for the period of 2015-2030 is an international document adopted by the majority of The United Nation member countries (including Bosnia and Herzegovina) at the World Conference held in the period of 14 March to 18 March in the year of 2018 in Sendai, Japan and which was accepted by the United Nations General Assembly. This Strategy is a successor.

With the Sendai Framework the need for focused action through four priorities is expressed (http://www.platformabh.ba/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Promotivni-materijal-Sendai-okvira_SRPSKI-JEZIK-LATINICA.pdf accessed 03 July 2024 at 9:28):

Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk

Policies and practices concerning the disaster risk management should be based on an understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions beginning with: vulnerability, capacity, from exposure of persons and assets, hazard characteristics and to the environment. This knowledge can be of great significance for disaster risk assessment, prevention and mitigation, as well as for the development and implementation of preparedness and effective response to disasters.

Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to better manage disaster risk

Disaster risk governance at the national, regional and global levels is of great significance for an effective and efficient management of disaster risk. Clear vision, plans, the division of competences, the organisation of guidance and coordination within and across sectors, as well as participation of relevant stakeholders, are needed. Therefore, strengthening disaster risk governance for prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation is necessary, as well as collaboration and partnership across mechanisms and institutions for the implementation of instruments relevant to disaster risk reduction.

Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for community resilience

Public and private investment in disaster risk prevention and reduction through structural and non-structural measures are essential to enhance the economic, social, health and cultural resilience of persons, communities, countries and their assets, as well as the environment. These can be drivers of innovation and instigate job creation. Such measures are cost-effective and aim to save lives, prevent and reduce losses and damages, all to ensure effective recovery and rehabilitation.

Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in the process of recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

The steady growth of disaster risk, including the increase of people and assets exposure, combined with the lessons learned from past disasters, indicates the need to further strengthen community disaster preparedness for response, take action in anticipation of events, integrate disaster risk reduction in response preparedness and ensure that capacities are in place for effective response and recovery at all levels. Empowering women and persons with disabilities to publicly lead and promote universally accessible response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction approaches is key.

In addition to the four priorities in the Sendai Framework itself, there are also seven goals which should be achieved by its realization. These goals are global, however they can be designed and applied at the local level as well. They are (<https://ruczrs.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Okvir-za-smanjenje-rizika-od-katastrofa-iz-Sendaija-za-period-2015.-2030..pdf> accessed 03 July 2024 at 10:00):

Goal A: Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by the year 2030, as to lower the average per 100,000 global mortality rate in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015;

Goal B: Substantially reduce the number of people affected by disasters globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015;

Goal C: Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product by 2030;

Goal D: Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, among else through developing their resilience by 2030;

Goal E: Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;

Goal F: Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030;

Goal G: Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030.

The UN Sendai Framework Implementation Report of August 2023 clearly states that there is advancement regarding the implementation, however not sufficient to accomplish all the intended goals by 2030. It is especially emphasized that there is very little progress at the local community level, and that's where the insufficient financial support is emphasized which, in

most cases, comes down to the financing of the reactive part and not prevention and risk reduction.

3.1. Legal framework for developing a disaster risk reduction strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina according to the Sendai Framework

The Sendai Framework promotes a range of activities which need to be executed at national and local level, followed by regional and global level for each of the four priority areas individually. Furthermore, the Framework emphasizes a line of new questions and aspects, highlighting risk prevention, which represents an innovative disaster risk reduction approach. That approach insists on new national document adoption and reviewing the existing ones, as to ensure a complete implementation in accordance with the Sendai Framework. All of the countries have an obligation to follow and report their Framework realization, representing an important contribution towards the general goal of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies development, as well as encouraging further learning and improving progress in the implementation of policies and good practices in the field of disaster risk reduction.

The documents that would be a guide at the Bosnia and Herzegovina level during the adoption of this Strategy are:

- Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Framework Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina (“Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina”, No. 50/08.);
- Notification of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina from the 24th session held on 28 January 2021 in connection with acceptance of the Action Plan for implementation of the Taix mission of expert assessment of the civil protection system in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Action Plan for implementation of the Taix mission of expert assessment of the civil protection system in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2020-2025, of December 2020;
- Conclusions of the 57th session of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, held on 23 May 2016;
- Disaster Risk Assessment of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Case of Natural or Other Disasters (adopted at the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina session held on 18 April 2012);
- Protection and Rescue Plan of Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Case of Natural or Other Disasters (adopted at the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina session held on 19 March 2014);
- Protection and Rescue Plan of Institutions and Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Case of Natural or Other Disasters (Decision on bringing forward the Protection and Rescue Plan of Institutions and Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Case of Natural or Other Disasters was adopted at the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina session held on 19 March 2014 “Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina”, no: 27/14);
- Instructions on the method and procedure of crossing the state border when receiving and/or sending international assistance in protection and rescue (adopted at the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina session held on 11 June 2009 “Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina”, no 56/09);
- Instructions for interdepartmental coordination when receiving, sending and transiting international aid in the field of protection and rescue (adopted at the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina session held on 3 September 2013 “Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina”, No. 77/13);

- Agreement on cooperation between the Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the field of responding to natural or other disasters (2009);
- Standard operating procedures for the engagement of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina in providing assistance to civil authorities in responding to natural or other disasters (2010);
- Standard operating procedures for communication and informing the public in protection and rescue (2017);
- Law on Protection and Rescue in Emergency Situations of Republic of Srpska („Official Gazette of Republic of Srpska,” No. 121/12);
- Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters („Official Gazette of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina,” No. 39/03, 22/06 and 43/10);
- Law on fire protection and firefighting („Official Gazette of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina” No. 64/09);
- Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters in Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina („Official Gazette of Brcko District” No. 29/16).

In addition to the aforementioned acts, assistance in drafting strategy/strategies at all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina, can also be a positive practice in adopting some other strategies in areas like: Framework Energy Strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina until 2035, Framework Strategy for the Implementation of the Istanbul Convention in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Framework Traffic Strategy 2016-2030 and others. It is important to emphasize Constitutional jurisdiction in which the entity's role is important as well as enabling Bosnia and Herzegovina to respect its international commitments.

3.2. Implementation of the Strategy

In accordance with the Constitutional authorities and laws which regulate this area at all levels of Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is necessary for the entities and Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina to bring forward their own Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies. In this part it is crucial to utilize the Sendai goal E: “Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020.”

This strategy/ these strategies would cover the period from January, 2025 to the end of December, 2030, and would be implemented through five one-year dynamic activity plans which will on an annual basis be produced by the entities (Republic of Srpska and Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina), Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The four one-year actions plans of the aforementioned levels would make up a one-year action plan of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

For the purpose of achieving the goals of the Strategy, a significant number of institutions at the level of local self-government units, the entities, Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Bosnia and Herzegovina level, should be included in its implementation. Monitoring of enforcement of the Strategy and the Dynamic activity plans for the period of 2025-2030, would be carried out by the authorities responsible for the protection and rescue system of the entities, Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in such a way that everyone performs control at their own level and undertakes measures for execution of their own dynamic plans. Reporting on progress in implementation of the Strategies and dynamic plans at the level of entities, Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina would be carried out through

the Council of Ministers. At all levels (the entities, Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina) it is recommended to establish a formal reporting system that will enable an overview of the realization of activities from the dynamic plans and areas that need to be improved. Upon expiration of the period provided for implementation of the Strategy at the end of 2030, the entities, Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina should perform the final evaluation of their dynamic plans and provide recommendations, conclusions, lessons learned and best practice in their implementation.

4. CONCLUSION

Creating and adopting a strategic document for Bosnia and Herzegovina in disaster risk reduction area would realize a range of crucial national and international obligations of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Some of the domestic obligations are implementation of the aforementioned decisions of Council of Ministers brought during the period of 2021 and 2022, which regard this area. Good practice would also apply, as well as recommendations of the expert team that analyzed the situation in the area of protection and rescue in Bosnia and Herzegovina through the TAIEX program, which delivered certain recommendations from an expert level, one of which is bringing forward a disaster risk reduction strategy. Furthermore, a Program for the development of protection and rescue system of institutions and bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period 2021-2025 would also be implemented, especially its third strategic goal: "Advancement of international cooperation and realization international commitments". Regarding the international commitments, firstly the resulting obligations of the Sendai Framework would be realized, followed by the EU decisions on the EU Civil Protection Mechanism as well as the European Commission Disaster Risk Management guidelines from 2019.

Creating and adopting a strategic document for Bosnia and Herzegovina in disaster risk reduction area would not represent a transfer of competence from the levels of the entities to the level of the country, as the Sendai Framework, and especially Goal E foresees and recommends the creation of strategies at all levels starting with the most vital-local level and all the way to the national, regional and international level, respecting the specificities of each country separately. Considering these recommendations, and with regard to the specificity of the Bosnia and Herzegovina administrative system, it is possible to create some sort of Disaster Risk Reduction Framework Strategy that would be comprised of the strategies of the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions, entity strategy and Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina strategy. The strategies of all the levels, which would be autonomous with their specificities, would be a component of the national strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina as an international subject recognised by the United Nations.

The Sendai Framework as an international document is adopted by 187 UN member countries, including Bosnia and Herzegovina. Currently 126 countries have made their own national strategy while 102 countries also have meticulous local disaster risk reduction strategies. Despite the Framework recognising government institutions as primary actors responsible for disaster risk reduction it requires responsibility distribution with other actors, such as local authorities, private sector, non-government sector and others. Exactly in that request Bosnia and Herzegovina with all its specificities of administrative arrangement can find its way to arrange such an important area that would in the end help with saving lives, property, environment and would significantly reduce financial costs originating from natural or other disasters.

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Framework Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina “Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina”, No. 50/08;

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Law on Protection and Rescue in Emergency Situations of Republic of Srpska “Official Gazette of Republic of Srpska” No. 121/12;

Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters “Official Gazette of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina” No. 39/03, No. 22/06 and No. 43/10;

Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Assets in Case of Natural or Other Disasters in Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina “Official Gazette of Brcko District” No. 29/16.

<https://www.bing.com/search?q=unisdr.org&form=MSNSB1&refig=244ee1e8e39842eab9100f5d073a0f84&mkt=en-xl&ocid=mailsignout> accessed 02 July 2024 at 10:40;

http://www.platformabh.ba/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Promotivni-materijal-Sendai-okvira_SRPSKI-JEZIK-LATINICA.pdf accessed 03 July 2024 at 9:28;

<https://ruczrs.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Okvir-za-smanjenje-rizika-od-katastrofa-iz-Sendaija-za-period-2015.-2030..pdf> accessed 03 July 2024 at 10:00