



ANNEX C1: Twinning Fiche

Project title: "EU for further development of statistics system in BiH".

Beneficiary administration: Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Institute for Statistics of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Institute for Statistics of Republika Srpska, the Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Twining Reference: BA 19 IPA ST 01 23

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EU funded project

TWINNING TOOL

1. Basic Information

1.1 Programme: IPA 2019 Annual Action Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina; CRIS reference 2019/041-213 Objective 1, direct management mode

For UK applicants: Please be aware that following the entry into force of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement¹ on 1 February 2020 and in particular Articles 127(6), 137 and 138, the references to natural or legal persons residing or established in a Member State of the European Union and to goods originating from an eligible country, as defined under Regulation (EU) No 236/2014² and Annex IV of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement³, are to be understood as including natural or legal persons residing or established in, and to goods originating from, the United Kingdom⁴. Those persons and goods are therefore eligible under this call.

1.2 Twinning Sector: Statistics

1.3 EU funded budget: EUR 1 000 000

1.4 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions; Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

2. Objectives

2.1 Overall Objective(s): To increase the volume of statistical data in/for BiH and further increase compliance with EU acquis

2.2 Specific objective: To strengthen the statistical system institutional capacities and to further harmonise statistics in BiH with EU acquis and standards by improving Business, Tourism Information Society, Labour force and Balance of payments statistics

2.3 The elements targeted in strategic documents i.e. National Development Plan/Cooperation agreement/Association Agreement/Sector reform strategy and related Action Plans

Article 111 of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) concluded between BiH and the EU in June 2008, stipulates cooperation of Parties to the Agreement in improving development of effective and responsible public administration. In the most part, the cooperation will be directed toward development of institutions, encompassing all levels of public administration in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Article 88 of the SAA stipulates that the state and entity statistical institutions should meet the needs of their national and international customers (both public administration and private sector). The SAA further notes that the statistical system in the country should respect the fundamental principles of statistics issued by the United Nations, the

¹ Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.

² Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action.

³ Annex IV to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, as revised by Decision 1/2014 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers (OJ L196/40, 3.7.2014)

⁴ Including the Overseas Countries and Territories having special relations with the United Kingdom, as laid down in Part Four and Annex II of the TFEU.

European Statistical Code of Practice, and the stipulations of the European Statistical law.

The development of the statistics in BiH is based on the “*The Strategic Development of Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2030*“.

The strategy is a roadmap to provide the fulfilment of the set goals and priorities. It says: *Providing statistical indicators that are essential for the implementation of economic policy measures, monitoring economic development, and comparing the local economy with the economies of other nations is the fundamental strategic objective in the field of business statistics...*

In the strategy is also mentioned that “*In addition to the use of new data sources, special attention will be paid to the continued use of data sources owned by state authorities and public companies in the production of official statistics. This will be done in an effort to reduce the costs associated with producing official statistics and the burden on businesses and citizens who provide data through traditional statistical surveys and researches.*”

Goal 1.2 of the Strategy defined improvements and expected results in business statistics and among listed are:” *Detailed data sets on structural business statistics published; Statistical register of business entities supplemented by the statistical unit corresponding to the definition set by the EU; Business statistics produced based on the statistical unit corresponding to this definition of the company; Complete implementation of the new FRIBS/EBS regulation for short-term business statistics (coverage, statistical unit, periodicity and publishing of detailed short-term business indicators data sets)*

Also: The primary strategic objective for structural statistics is to produce high-quality and timely data on structural characteristics of the agricultural output, energy statistics, transport, science, innovation and ICT in accordance with EU standards.

The basic strategic objective in the area of population and social statistics is to improve data content on population, labour market.... and one of the expected result is production of all required labour market statistics indicators and their transmission to Eurostat”

Goal 1.4 of the Strategy defined improvements and expected results such as: “*Production of satellite accounts in the area of tourism statistics; Improvement of the science, technology and innovation statistics as well as information-communication technologies in accordance with the Digital Agenda for Western Balkans*”

3. Description

3.1 Background and justification:

The strategic goal of Bosnia and Herzegovina is the accession to the European Union. BiH applied for EU membership in February 2016. In 2019, the European Commission provided opinion on Bosnia and Herzegovina’s application for membership of the European Union {COM (2019) and stated: “*Bosnia and Herzegovina is overall at an early stage regarding its level of preparedness to take on the obligations of EU membership and needs to significantly step up the process to align with the EU acquis and implement and enforce related legislation.*”

On 15 December 2022, Bosnia and Herzegovina received the candidate status for EU membership.

The latest EC 2022 Country report for Bosnia and Herzegovina describes the areas of statistics that are the subject of this project, as follows:

” Bosnia and Herzegovina is at an early stage of preparation in the area of statistics. Limited progress was made, notably by completing a survey on income and living standards. The country should enhance cooperation, coordination, decision-making processes and the legal basis to develop the national statistical system in key areas, increasingly applying European and international standards. In order to better support policy analysis, improvement is needed on the provision of timely, exhaustive and countrywide statistics on government finances, national accounts and the labour market...

*On **classifications and registers**, the Statistical Business Register continues to be maintained, but data received from administrative sources remains insufficient. The main business demography statistics were sent to Eurostat in February for the first time...*

..... Quarterly balance of payments and international investment position data were transmitted. GDP time series by production, income and expenditure is now available for the period 2000-2022. Bosnia and Herzegovina has also put in place adequate infrastructure for data transmissions to Eurostat and the European Central Bank.

*On **business statistics**, short-term statistics for industry, construction and services are not fully available and will need to be established in line with the requirements of the EU acquis.*

Tourism statistics are limited to data on accommodation, but a private and business travel survey was conducted for the reference years 2018 and 2019...

*On **social statistics**..., Neither the labour cost index nor the structure of earnings survey are implemented. Job vacancy and social protection statistics are collected regularly.”*

The three statistical institutions and the Central Bank of BiH are the producers of official statistics in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The statistical system of BiH is governed by the state-level Law on Statistics which assigns coordinating authority to the Agency for Statistics of BiH (BHAS) with respect to the two entity statistical institutions (Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics/RSIS and the Institute for Statistics of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina/FIS). The state-level competences include collecting, processing and disseminating statistical data on a countrywide basis, based on data collected by state-level authorities or provided by entity institutions (RSIS and FIS). The Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina is the official producer of the following statistics: government finance statistics, financial accounts statistics, balance of payments, foreign direct investment, international trade in services, and monetary and financial indicators.

The statistics has continuously improved over the past years, but development is still slow and should be much faster and further improved considering the needs of community and users' requirements. Compliance with EU standards is at an early stage in many areas. Significant efforts are needed especially to provide the compliance of statistics with the EU acquis. Therefore, there are several long term challenges ahead of BiH statistics: increasing the volume of statistical data, specifically the number of indicators; further harmonization of existing statistics with the EU standards; and increased use of administrative data sources in production of statistics.

BiH is expected to provide higher level of quality and credibility, as well as better availability of basic statistics. Thus, the development of business statistics is important also as one of the conditions for the development of national accounts /NA (macroeconomics statistics). BiH statisticians have a specific document, the 2015 Sector Review on Business Statistics in BiH at their disposal; this document was prepared with the assistance of Eurostat and clearly defines future priorities of business statistics in BiH. The following issues identified by Sector Review on Business

Statistics will be targeted by this action: *“The Statistical Business Register/SBR does not contain information on enterprise groups (EG) although it is evident that multinational enterprises are active in BiH. ...The Structural Business Statistics/SBS variables for Section K not yet developed according to the (new) FRIBS/EBS regulation ... A number of Short Term Statistics indicators is missing (e.g. Services Producer Price Index/SPPI and Index of Services Production/ISP) and some (like Index of Production in Construction/OPC) should be improved and fully harmonised with EU standard (according to the new proposed FRIBS Regulation “*

The use of administrative data sources is in general high on the international statistics agenda since it has huge qualitative and financial benefits for statistical institutions. It is a long-term process which requires continuous and strategic work. The statistical institutions started to work with administrative data sources in BiH to increase its use and improve the quality of statistics. In the proposed action the administrative sources will be examined for the use in production of the labour market statistics - statistics on wages and salaries and number of employed persons.

External statistics, including Balance of Payments (BoP) statistics, International Investment Position, international trade in services, Foreign Direct Investment is the responsibility of the Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina (CBBiH) and currently it is produced in accordance with up-to-date international methodology. The BoP Vadamecum is the reference document for the data transmission for external statistics in the EU. Candidate countries are assessed according to the fulfilment of the mentioned criteria. Full reporting as prescribed by Balance of Payment Vadamecum is still not possible due to both non-availability of data and lack of appropriate mechanism of data transmission. Inter alia, Production of Monthly Balance of Payments Statistics is standard within the European Statistical System (EU Regulation 555/2012). This imposes a need on BiH to produce monthly BoP with required methodology, data sources, data processing and data transmission to Eurostat.

Through the implementation of the ongoing Twinning project IPA 2017, the monthly BoP should be compiled as a pilot compilation for a selected period (one selected year), including draft methodology for the compilation. An additional result of the project should be a GEO distribution implementation plan for the compilation of the balance of payments for BiH.

GFS/EDP statistics, compiled by the CBBH, also requires a secure, automated and reliable mechanism for data transmission to the Eurostat. Current practise is based on manual data transformation, formatting and delivery to the Eurostat.

Further to improvement of respective statistical areas, this project will contribute to further improve cooperation between statistical institutions and strengthen coordination mechanism. Regular common activities within the project course and expert mission from EU Member State Partner Administration provide an opportunity for statistical staff from the aforementioned three institutions to work more together, learn and develop common methodology. As mentioned in the Commission 2019 Analytical Report: *“These issues are of particular relevance in order for European methodology to be applied in a harmonised manner”*.

Analytical report can be found at:

3.2 Ongoing reforms:

As mentioned earlier in the text, the development of the statistics in BiH is based on the “The Strategy for Development of Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2030“.

The statistics has continuously improved over the past years, but development is still slow and should be much faster, considering the needs of community and users’ requirements. One of the reasons is the lack of staff (in terms of number and competencies) in all institutions, the non-existing administrative registers in some areas, and the insufficient use of available administrative sources.

Compliance with EU standards is at an early stage in many areas, so continuous work and significant efforts are required to ensure alignment of statistics with the EU standards.

This Action will enable continuation in this process and further development of a statistical system in accordance with EU standards and obligations from the Stabilisation and Association Agreement. The ultimate goal is to ensure reliable data for all the users, including all government levels which should base their plans on reliable statistics.

According to the IPA II and related documents, statistics is part of Democracy and governance sector and area where improvements are needed. In the Indicative Strategy Paper, in the part dedicated to 1. Democracy and governance needs and capacities in the sector are defined (1.2. Objectives, results, actions and indicators):

“EU assistance aims to support Bosnia and Herzegovina in improving its public sector management, including public financial management, by applying the Principles of Public Administration. A closely linked key objective is to support Bosnia and Herzegovina on its Economic Reform Programme preparation and implementation in order to have a sound basis for socio-economic and structural reforms. Thereto closely related is the support for the statistical system to improve its capacities to produce reliable statistics. Further EU assistance will support the parliamentary assemblies and the civil society to play a key role in the accession process.”

Among the expected results the following one is for statistics:

“More reliable macro-economic, business, social and demographic, multi-domain statistics, statistics output, financial and agricultural statistics; Regional statistical classification harmonised with the nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) regulation;” The need to support improvements of statistical system is recognised both by BiH and EU.

In the Sector Planning Document (SPD) for Democracy and governance, in part 1.1 Description and problem analysis it is stated:

“The development of the statistical system in BiH is one of the obligations of the Stabilization and Association Agreement, but also the prerequisite for ensuring comparable, reliable, objective and accurate data that is the basis for good Development of the statistical system is a complex process requiring continued dialogue with statistical data users, reporting units and other institutions in charge of

the official statistics activities as well as the constant monitoring and application of international standards. Special care in this process is taken in order to provide and maintain appropriate human and material resources.”

The importance of statistics in the accession process is underlined in the new Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA III) Programming Framework for the period 2021-2027. “...Also part of cluster 1 (Fundamentals) under the enhanced enlargement methodology, reliable, objective and timely statistics are crucial for decision-makers for evidence-based policy development and monitoring and evaluation of implementation of policies. They are equally important for citizens to scrutinise governments’ performances and the use of public finance.

Statistics provide the basis for evidence-based policy development and monitoring and evaluation of implementation of policies. ...The priority will be to ensure support to IPA III beneficiaries in meeting the EU acquis requirements under chapter 18 (Statistics) and to build capacity for administrative data and high quality statistics production and use in all sectors. The national statistical institutes will be supported to develop the methodology and ensure the production and dissemination of statistical information in various areas such as macro-economic and price statistics, demographic and social statistics, regional statistics, and statistics on business, transport, external trade, agriculture, environment, science and technology. Sex-disaggregated data should be made available where relevant. The line institutions will be supported in building capacity for administrative data and statistics production, storage and use for evidence-based policy-making.”

The specific objective of IPA III support in this area is to modernise public administrations at all levels of government, strengthen statistical systems and economic governance, and hence contribute to sustainable growth and to improve competitiveness which is complementary to overall vision of PAR Strategic framework. Thus this Action contributes directly to implementation of IPA III specific objectives. Further strengthening of statistical system which is planned by this Action will also directly contribute to fulfilment of related IPA III strategic objective.

3.3 Linked activities:

In terms of ongoing public administration reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which statistics has important role, please see Bosnia and Herzegovina Country report 2022 at:

<https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-10/Bosnia%20and%20Herzegovina%20Report%202022.pdf>

Through implementation of national and multi-beneficiary projects, currently the EU is the only donor for BiH statistics. The most visible results and progress in BiH statistics are achieved through the implementation of the IPA national projects complemented by activities within IPA multi-beneficiary projects. The additional benefit of projects are extensive learning, joint work and collaboration of staff from three statistical institutions. EU funded projects also provide more efficient transfer of knowledge, adoption of EU acquis and further harmonisation with EU standards.

The following EU projects are related to this proposal:

IPA 2017 Twinning project “Further Support to the Reform of Statistics System in Bosnia and Herzegovina” with 5 Components: Business Statistics (with sub components for Short Term Statistics, Structural Business Statistics and Statistical Business register), Labour markets statistics, Agriculture Statistics, Administrative data sources, Monthly Balance of Payments Statistics. Duration is 24 months (it started in March 2021 and will be extended until September 2023).

This project would be the input for this Twinning project in respective areas.

IPA 2019 Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programme. Short business statistics and Labour force survey projects are among 14 Statistical projects/SP for BiH. It lasts 36 months and should be finished in March 2024.

The Twinning has been planned in a way to avoid overlapping with current regional projects activities.

It is important to mention that all three statistical institutions from BiH are involved in the activities of all the aforementioned projects.

3.4 List of applicable *Union acquis*/standards/norms:

Legislative framework on statistics in BiH is regulated at three levels of government.

Business Statistics

- Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on European business statistics, repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics (Text with EEA relevance); PE/81/2019/REV/1 OJ L 327, 17.12.2019, p. 1–35 (NEW LEGAL BASIS FOR BUSINESS STATISTICS)
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197 of 30 July 2020 laying down technical specifications and arrangements pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European business statistics repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics (Text with EEA relevance); OJ L 271, 18.8.2020, p. 1–170

Tourism Statistics

- Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2011 concerning European statistics on tourism and repealing Council Directive 95/57/EC
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1051/2011 of 20 October 2011 implementing Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning European statistics on tourism, as regards the structure of the quality reports and the transmission of the data

International Methodological References related to Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA) compilation:

- Tourism Satellite Accounts: Recommended methodological framework; UNWTO/UN/OECD/EUTOSTAT 2008 (TSA-RMF 2008)

- International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics 2008 (IRTS 2008); UN
- International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics 2008 Compilation Guide (IRTS 2008 Compilation Guide); UN
- European Implementation Manual on Tourism Satellite Accounts; EUROSTAT 2001 (TSA-EIM 2001)
- Measuring the role of tourism in OECD economies - The OECD manual on TSAs and Employment; OECD 2000
- The System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA 2008): Setting a satellite system for tourism is considered (see para. 29.89-29.101)
- The European System of Accounts 2010 (ESA 2010): TSA is mentioned (see para. 22.123-22.129)

Information Society Statistics

- Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on European business statistics, repealing 10 legal acts in the field of business statistics (Text with EEA relevance); PE/81/2019/REV/1 OJ L 327, 17.12.2019, p. 1–35 (ICT Enterprise survey)
- Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 October 2019 establishing a common framework for European statistics relating to persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples, amending Regulations (EC) No 808/2004, (EC) No 452/2008 and (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 (Text with EEA relevance); PE/63/2019/REV/1; OJ L 261I, 14.10.2019, p. 1–32 (ICT Households/individuals survey)
- Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) laying down the technical specifications of data requirements for the topic 'ICT usage and e-commerce' for specific reference year pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council
- Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) specifying the technical items of the data set, establishing the technical formats for transmission of information and specifying the arrangements and content of the quality reports on the organisation of a sample survey in the use of information and communication technologies domain for the specific reference year in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Balance of Payments Statistics

- Regulation (EC) No 184/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 January 2005 on Community statistics concerning balance of payments, international trade in services and foreign direct investment, as amended by the Commission Regulation (EU) No. 555/2012 of 22 June 2012 and Regulation (EU) No. 2016/1013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016.
- Regulation (EU) No 549/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on the European system of national and regional accounts in the European Union Text with EEA relevance

- Regulation (EC) No 2516/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 November 2000 modifying the common principles of the European system of national and regional accounts in the Community (ESA) 95 as concerns taxes and social contributions and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 2223/96
- Council Directive 2011/85/EU of 8 November 2011 on requirements for budgetary frameworks of the Member States
- Council Regulation (EC) No 479/2009 of 25 May 2009 on the application of the Protocol on the excessive deficit procedure annexed to the Treaty establishing the European Community (Codified version)
- Council Regulation (EU) No 679/2010 of 26 July 2010 amending Regulation (EC) No 479/2009 as regards the quality of statistical data in the context of the excessive deficit procedure

3.5 Components and results per component

Component 1 for Business Statistics with three sub-components:

1.1 Statistical business register/SBR sub-component

Result 1.1: Volume of characteristics in SBR increased and quality of data improved, in line with EBS; guidelines for the profiling process for large and complex Enterprise groups developed

1.2 Structural Business Statistics/SBS sub-component

Result 1.2: SBS variables for Section K developed according to the EBS regulation; Methodology for the implementation of statistical unit “enterprise” in structural business statistics developed in line with new EBS regulation

1.3 Short Term Statistics/STS sub-component

Result 1.3.1: New Service Producer Price Indices (SPPIs) produced in line with EBS Regulation and deflators for wholesale trade and trade and repair of motor vehicles (G45, G46) developed

Result 1.3.2: CREI indicator in Construction Statistics (with three variables: Construction starts, Works completions, Vacancy rates) developed according to the EBS requirements

Component 2 - Tourism Statistics

Result 2: Preparation activities for development of Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA) completed

Component 3 - Information Society Statistics/ISS

Result 3: Working methodology for the ICT surveys (from data collection to dissemination) on households, individuals and enterprises modernised

Component 4 for: Labour Statistics:

Result 4: The methodology for the production of statistics on wages and salaries and number of employed persons based on administrative sources developed

Component 5 for Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Balance of Payments Statistics

Result 5: Plan for further improvements in data collection and processing related to external sector statistics developed in line with the EU BoP Vademecum requirements; IT infrastructure and procedure required for automated data transmission and data availability defined

3.6 Means/input from the EU Member State Partner Administration(s)*:

3.6.1 Profile and tasks of the Project Leader:

In line with the Twinning Manual (Section 4.1.3), the Member State Project Leader (PL) is expected to be an official or assimilated agent with a sufficient rank to ensure an operational dialogue at political level. This should guarantee the capacity to lead the implementation of the project and the ability to mobilise the necessary expertise in support of its efficient implementation.

Involvement of the Member State PL(s) is expected during the preparation of the Member State proposal and attendance of the PL to the selection meeting is obligatory as well as the participation in quarterly meetings of the Project Steering Committee. Participation in some communication and visibility activities is expected (Twinning Manual Section 5.7).

The Member State PL is supported by the RTA, who works on-site with the Beneficiary administration.

The MS PL should fulfil the following criteria:

Qualifications and skills

- Proven contractual relation to public administration, as defined under Twinning manual 4.1.4;
- University degree, or equivalent professional experience of 8 years in public administration
- Fluent written and spoken English.

Specific professional experience

- At least 3 years of professional experience in the area of statistics gained within an EU Member State (MS) National Statistical System

Tasks:

1. Conceive, supervise and coordinate the overall preparation of the project;
2. Coordinate and monitor the overall implementation of the project;
3. Liaise with the Project Leader from the Beneficiary Institution;
4. Co-chair, with the Beneficiary Project Leader, the project implementation at the Steering Committee meetings;
5. Execute administrative issues (i.e. signing quarterly reports, Operative side letters, addenda, etc.)
6. Ensure correct and successful implementation of the project and its sound financial management.

3.6.2 Profile and tasks of the Resident Twinning Adviser (RTA):

In line with the Twinning Manual (Section 4.1.6), the RTA can come from a Member State administration or mandated bodies (full or ad hoc). The RTA is the backbone of a Twinning project throughout its entire duration and he/she is in charge of the day-to-day implementation.

The RTA is expected to provide advice and technical assistance to the representatives of the Beneficiary administration. The RTA keeps the Beneficiary PL informed about the implementation and reports regularly to the Member State PL. During the project implementation, the RTA regularly updates the work plan to be transmitted to the Project Steering Committee under the authority of the Member State PL. The RTA will have a critical role in coordination of inputs in project. He/she will be supported by short-term experts.

One RTA over a period of 24 months and short term experts will implement the objectives listed in this Standard Twinning Project Fiche.

The RTA has the responsibility to guide the work of the team.

Short term experts will work in close cooperation with the RTA and the beneficiary administration staff in order to meet the specific objectives as set out in Standard Twinning Project Fiche.

The RTA is expected to fill the following:

Qualifications and skills

- Proven contractual relation to public administration or mandated body, as defined under Twinning manual 4.1.6;
- University degree, or equivalent professional experience of 8 years in public administration
- Fluent written and spoken English.

General professional experience

- At least 3 years of general professional experience in the area of statistics gained within an EU MS National Statistical System

Specific professional experience:

- Experience with relevant EU legislative and institutional requirements related to the various components of this project;
- Experience in management, leadership, communication and coordination;
- Relevant working experience in the Western Balkans will be considered an asset.

Tasks:

- Overall supervision of the project implementation and coordination of all activities, as well as management of the project administration;
- Advise on statistical standards and practices in EU MS;
- Coordination of the activities of the team members in line with the agreed work programmes to enable timely completion of project outputs;
- Preparation of the Terms of Reference for the Short/Medium Term Experts;
- Where appropriate, participation in project's workshops;
- Preparation of project progress reports;
- Permanent contact with the BC Project Leader;

- Liaison with the EU Delegation Programme Manager;
- Liaison with other relevant projects.

The RTA is expected to ensure, together with the beneficiary administration, the achievement of the objectives listed in section 2. In order to do so, and if fully justified, the RTA may propose alternative and/or complementary project activities and/or results to those identified in the section 3.5.

3.6.3 Profile and tasks of Component Leader

Qualifications and skills

- University or, equivalent professional experience of 8 years in public administration
- Fluent written and spoken English.
- At least 3 years of professional experience in the area of statistics gained within an EU MS Administration.

Specific professional experience:

- At least 3 years of experience in the area for which component leader is proposed;
- Overall knowledge of relevant EU legislative and institutional, requirements related to the various components of this project;
- Experience in twinning/technical assistance projects or other similar international projects in the field of indirect taxation would be an advantage.

3.6.4 Profile and tasks of other short-term experts

Short-term experts are officials or assimilated agents of a Member State public administration, or mandated body. They deliver their expertise under the overall responsibility of the Member State PL and the coordination and supervision of the RTA. Terms of Reference (ToR) for short-term expert(s) will be elaborated by the RTA. The ToR for the short term experts is to be agreed with the EU Delegation Programme Manager and with the BC Project Leader in cooperation with the beneficiary institutions.

The short-term experts are expected to have:

- At least 3 years of specific professional experience in a specialised national administration;
- University degree, or equivalent professional experience of 8 years in public administration
- Fluent written and spoken English;

4. Budget

EUR 1 000 000, 00

5. Implementation Arrangements

5.1 Implementing Agency responsible for tendering, contracting and accounting European Union Delegation:

The EU Delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Contact point:

Ms. Dijana Sikima, Programme Manager

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5.2 Institutional framework

Bosnia and Herzegovina consists of two Entities and the Brčko District. Two Entities, Republika Srpska (RS) and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) have a high level of autonomy and the majority of competencies. The Brčko District (BD) is directly under the sovereignty of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Both Entities have their own government, ministries and other administrative organisations including statistical institution

Three statistical institutions: state level Agency for Statistics of BiH/BHAS, two entity statistical institutions - Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics/RSIS and the Institute for Statistics of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina/FIS together with the Central Bank of BiH are the producers of official statistics in Bosnia and Herzegovina. (Statistical Bureau of Brčko District is the Branch Office of the BHAS.)

In EC 2022 Report for Bosnia and Herzegovina statistical system is described as follows:

“According to the constitutional and legal framework the competences for statistics rest with the State and the two entities. The state-level competences include collecting, processing and disseminating statistical data on a countrywide basis, based on data collected by state-level authorities or provided by entity institutions. The latter are required to provide the state-level agency with data necessary to compile countrywide statistics.

In economic and financial matters, the Central Bank compiles and disseminates the following statistics: government finance statistics, financial accounts statistics, balance of payments, foreign direct investment, international trade in services, and monetary and financial indicators. It also cooperates with responsible institutions of other states and international organisation.

The state-level institutions relevant to this chapter are the Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Central Bank; the relevant institutions at entity level are the Institute for Statistics of the Federation entity and the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics.”

Competences, responsibilities and mutual relations between the Agency and the entity statistical institutes are regulated by: the Law on Statistics of BiH (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 26/04 and 42/04), the Law on Statistics of FBiH (Official Gazette of FBiH,

No. 63/03) and 9/09); the Law on Statistics of RS (Official Gazette of RS, No. 85/03) and the Agreement on implementation of harmonized methodologies and standards in producing the statistical data in BiH (2005).

The statistical system of BiH is governed by the state-level Law on Statistics adopted in 2004. The Law defines the area of statistics, the authority of the BHAS and relations between state and entity statistical institutes. According to this Law, BHAS has a coordinating role for all statistical activities within BiH. The state-level competences include collecting, processing and disseminating statistical data on a countrywide basis, based on data provided by entity institutions or data collected by state-level authorities in accordance with internationally accepted standards. The Agency is also responsible for international cooperation and representing the country abroad.

Entity laws on statistics are mostly harmonized with BiH Law and they clearly stipulate the obligation of entity institutes to harmonize their methodologies, standards and practices with referent regulations defined by the Agency. Entity statistical institutes are in charge of collection, processing and distribution of data at the entity level, in accordance with the entity statistical laws (Law on Statistics of RS and Law on Statistics of FBiH). Provision of data to the BHAS is a legally binding task. BHAS is financed from the BiH budget and entity statistical institutes are financed by their respective entity budgets.

5.3 Counterparts in the Beneficiary administration:

5.3.1 Contact person:

Ms. Jasna Samardzic, Head of International Cooperation and European Integrations Department, - Senior Programme Officer

Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHAS), Zelenih beretki 26, 71000 Sarajevo

5.3.2 PL counterpart

Ms. Vesna Čužić, Director of the Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHAS), Zelenih beretki 26, 71000 Sarajevo

5.3.3 RTA counterpart

Ms. Selveta Hot, International Cooperation and European Integrations Department

Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHAS) Zelenih beretki 26, 71000 Sarajevo

6. Duration of the project

Duration of the project is 24 months.

7. Management and reporting⁵

7.1 Language

The official language of the project is English. All formal communications regarding the project, including interim and final reports, shall be produced in the language of the contract.

7.2 Project Steering Committee

A project steering committee (PSC) shall oversee the implementation of the project. The main duties of the PSC include verification of the progress and achievements vis-à-vis the mandatory results/outputs chain (from mandatory results/outputs per component to impact), ensuring good coordination among the actors, finalising the interim reports and discuss the updated work plan. Other details concerning the establishment and functioning of the PSC are described in the Twinning Manual.

7.3 Reporting

All reports shall have a narrative section and a financial section. They shall include as a minimum the information detailed in section 5.5. of the Twinning Manual. Reports need to go beyond activities and inputs. Two types of reports are foreseen in the framework of Twinning: interim quarterly reports and final report. An interim quarterly report shall be presented for discussion at each meeting of the PSC. The narrative part shall primarily take stock of the progress and achievements vis-à-vis the mandatory results and provide precise recommendations and corrective measures to be decided by in order to ensure the further progress.

8. Sustainability

The action will produce sustainable results since it is designed to support the capacity building of the beneficiary institutions but which require additional assistance in the complex process of the harmonisation with the Acquis and the latest international standards in the field of statistics. All outcomes related to this action are linked to the relevant Strategy for Statistics and established procedures at all levels of the government and will result in sustainable outcomes.

9. Crosscutting issues (*equal opportunity, environment, climate etc...*)

The planned activities are complementary to the Principles of Public Administration, and in accordance with the Strategic Framework for Public Administration Reform 2018-2022, as well as the Public Finance Management Strategy. Improving quality and volume of statistical indicators would improve monitoring of implementation of the above-mentioned strategies.

Based on the fundamental principles of promoting equality and combating discrimination, participation in the action will be guaranteed on the basis of equal access regardless of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation as well as taking into account promotion and participation of people with disabilities. During implementation of activities, full respect of minorities and

⁵ Sections 7.1-7.3 are to be kept without changes in all Twinning fiches.

vulnerable groups will be ensured. The project will contribute to addressing the rights-based approach by strengthening the capacity of the government to ensure citizens' rights are being respected and the capacity of citizens to demand their government work to ensure their rights through improving the transparency and efficiency.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

It is expected that gender equity will be fully observed in the drafting legislative framework and regulations. Regarding all capacity building activities, these will be available and accessible equally to men and women. Envisaged training(s) will be equally available to men and women. Gender sensitive language will be maintained throughout the entire project cycle. All analyses and drafting legislation will be conducted using gender-sensitive methodologies, and gender will be mainstreamed in all activities and deliverables related to the implementation of this Action. In general, gender perspective will be maintained ensuring that the results of the project impact positively on gender equality as well. Gender sensitive language will be maintained throughout the entire project cycle.

Equal opportunities and non-discrimination

Based on the fundamental principles of promoting equality and combating discrimination, participation in the Action will be guaranteed on the basis of equal access regardless of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

The principles of equal opportunities are duly taken into account throughout the project cycle and the Action will promote an environment that is conducive and enabling to gender equality, ensuring equal participation of women and men in all Action activities, as well as taking into account promotion and participation of people with disabilities.

Minority and vulnerable groups

Bosnia and Herzegovina is committed to a policy of social inclusion of minority and marginalised social groups, notably Roma, persons with disabilities, young persons, internally displaced persons, and women. During implementation of activities anticipated in the Action, full respect of minorities and vulnerable groups will be ensured. Thus, during the implementation of the Action, there shall be no direct or indirect discrimination against any person based on gender, age, marital status, language, sexual orientation, political affiliation or conviction, ethnic origin, religion, social origin or any other status.

Environmental considerations

The Action aims at strengthening statistical system in order to ensure efficient, transparent and responsible public administration in BiH. As such, the Action is environment and climate change-neutral.

The Action and the activities deriving from the Action will not have any negative impact on the environment nor jeopardise environment, health and security in the future. The activities deriving from this Action will be delivered in the most environmentally friendly possible way.

Civil society development and dialogue

Civil society organisations have been consulted throughout the design of the interventions foreseen in the PAR Sector Planning Document) including sub-sector Public Financial management, which is supposed to represent the basis for the Action development. When it comes to the implementation of this specific Action, all envisaged activities will be open to cooperation and setting of synergies with CSOs and other interested non-stakeholders.

Good governance, with particular attention to fight against corruption

All relevant requirements to insure a sound financial management of the Twinning Project will be fulfilled in accordance with the principle of good governance.

All necessary provisions will be taken to fight against corruption in accordance with the IPA Implementing Regulation.

10. Conditionality and sequencing

Conditionality

N/A

Sequencing - Key milestones will be:

1. Approval and launch of the Twinning Project Fiche;
2. Selection of the twinning partner;
3. Signature of the Twinning Contract;
4. Establishment of the Steering Committee;
5. Commencement of the implementation of the Twinning;
6. End of the implementation period;
7. Submission of the final report.

11. Indicators for performance measurement

Indicator for Result 1.1 - Characteristics on more Enterprise groups available in SBR; Developed guideline and description of the profiling process for large and complex Enterprise available; New BD variables produced and delivered to Eurostat.

Indicator for Result 1. 2 - First variables for Section K published and delivered to Eurostat; Methodology and procedures for the consolidation of structural business statistics variables for statistical unit “enterprise” developed and available

Indicators for Result 1.3-New Service Producer Price Indices (SPPIs) published and sent to Eurostat; Deflator for wholesale trade and trade and repair of motor vehicles (G45, G46) prepared; CREI indicator published and sent to Eurostat

Indicator for Result 2 - Report on available sources in BiH for TSA prepared

Indicator for Result 3 - Web link for ICT surveys available on web sites of three statistical institutions in BiH

Indicator for Result 4 - The methodology for the production of statistics on wages and salaries and number of employed persons (by gender, age, economic activities...) based on administrative sources available in three statistical institutions

The first data on wages and salaries and number of employed persons (by gender, age, economic activities...) based on administrative sources produced

All above mentioned do not exist yet and should be available by the end of project implementation

Indicator for Result 5:

- Pilot compilation of monthly BoP finalised;
- Needs analysis completed and action plans for meeting requirements from BoP Vademecum prepared
- Need analysis and design of automated data for transmission for public finance and external statistics completed

12. Facilities available

Office space: Sufficient office space shall be allocated by the BHAS to the MS Twinning Partner for the RTA, the Project Assistant(s) and for the short-term experts on mission. Meeting space will be provided when necessary.

Logistical support: The project office at the BHAS will be furnished with the necessary number of telephones and PC's with e-mail and internet access. Free use of photocopying and fax machines will be provided by the beneficiary.

ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

1. The Simplified Logical framework matrix as per Annex C1a (compulsory)

Annex C1a : Simplified Logical Framework IPA 2019 Twinning

	Description	Indicators (with relevant baseline and target data)	Sources of verification	Risks	Assumptions (external to project)
Overall Objective	To increase the volume of statistical data in/for BiH and further increase compliance with EU acquis	Statistical institutions and Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina (CBBH) produce and make available to public more data harmonised with EU standards	Web, publications	Lack of human capacities in beneficiary institutions might slow down the process	
Specific (Project) Objective(s)	To strengthen the statistical system institutional capacities and to further harmonise statistics in BiH with EU standards by improving Business statistics, Labour force statistics and Balance of payments statistics	Improved methodologies and increased number of indicators in Business, Labour statistics, and Balance of payments statistics;	Web: BHAS, Eurostat; RSIS, FIS; CBBIH		Full cooperation between all involved partners
Mandatory results/outputs by components	Business Statistics: <i>Statistical business register/SBR component</i> Volume of characteristics in SBR increased and quality of data improved, in line with EBS; guidelines for the profiling process for large and complex Enterprise groups developed New BD variables produced	Characteristics on more Enterprise groups available in SBR Guidelines and description of the profiling process for large and complex Enterprise available developed New BD variables	Web sites of the three statistical institutes		Full cooperation between all involved partners

	<p>1.2 Structural Business Statistics/SBS component SBS variables for Section K developed according to the EBS regulation; Methodology for the implementation of statistical unit “enterprise” in structural business statistics developed in line with new EBS regulation</p> <p>1.3 Short Term Statistics/STS: New Service Producer Price Indices (SPPIs) produced in line with EBS Regulation and deflators for wholesale trade and trade and repair of motor vehicles (G45, G46) developed</p> <p>CREI indicator in Construction Statistics (with three variables: Construction starts, Works completions, Vacancy rates) developed according to the EBS requirements</p>	<p>produced and delivered to Eurostat.</p> <p>First variables for Section K published and delivered to Eurostat</p> <p>Methodology and procedures for the consolidation of structural business statistics variables for statistical unit enterprise developed and available</p> <p>New Service Producer Price Indices (SPPIs) published and sent to Eurostat</p> <p>Deflator for wholesale trade and trade and repair of motor vehicles (G45, G46) prepared</p> <p>CREI indicator published and sent to Eurostat</p>	<p>Web sites of three statistical institutes</p> <p>Web sites of three statistical institutes</p> <p>Web sites of the three statistical institutes</p> <p>Web application available in three statistical institutes</p>	<p>Unavailability of EU experts for respective statistical areas might make it more difficult to achieve high quality and sustainable results.</p> <p>Availability of data sources (reporting units) could be one of the risks for the CREI indicator development</p>	
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	<p>2. Preparation activities for development of Tourism <i>Satellite Accounts</i> (TSA) completed</p> <p>3. Working methodology for <i>the ICT surveys</i> (from data collection to dissemination) on households, individuals and enterprises modernised</p> <p>4. <i>Labour Statistics</i>:</p> <p>The methodology for the production of statistics on wages and salaries and number of employed persons based on administrative sources developed</p> <p>5. <i>CBBiH: Balance of Payments Statistics</i></p> <p>Plan for further improvements in data collection and processing related to external sector statistics developed in line with the EU BoP Vadamecum requirements;</p>	<p>Report on available sources in BiH for TSA prepared</p> <p>Web link for ICT surveys available on web sites of three statistical institutions in BiH</p> <p>The methodology for the production of statistics on wages and salaries and number of employed persons based on administrative sources available in three statistical institutions</p> <p>The first data on wages and salaries and number of employed persons based on administrative sources produced</p> <p>Pilot compilation of monthly BoP finalised;</p> <p>Needs analysis completed and action plans for meeting requirements from BoP Vadamecum prepared</p>	<p>Web sites of the three institutions</p> <p>CBBH web</p>		
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	Defined IT infrastructure and procedure required for automated data transmission and data availability	Need analysis and design of automated data for transmission for public finance and external statistics completed			
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