

Brussels, 13.12.2012 C(2012) 9679 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 13.12.2012

adopting a National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition and Institution Building Component for the year 2012

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)¹, and in particular Article 14(2)(a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for pre-accession assistance to candidate and potential candidate countries.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes. These programmes should be drawn up in accordance with the general policy framework referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 and the relevant multi-annual indicative planning document referred to in Article 6 of that Regulation.
- (3) The Council established an Accession Partnership or a European Partnership for all candidate and potential candidate countries. The Commission has adopted on 4 July 2011 a Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document 2011-2013 for Bosnia and Herzegovina² which presents indicative allocations for the main priorities for pre-accession assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (4) Having regard to the project proposals submitted by the countries concerned, the National Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2012 aims at providing assistance in the sectors public administration reform, justice and home affairs, private sector development, transport, social development as well as acquis related and other actions.
- (5) This Decision meets the requirements of Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities³ (hereafter: "Implementing Rules") and constitutes thus a Financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on

OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82.

² C(2011)4657 of 4.7.2011.

OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1

the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁴ (hereafter: "Financial Regulation").

- (6) It is appropriate to implement this programme partly by joint management with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in accordance with Article 53d (1) (a) of the Financial Regulation given the organisation's Annex VII Dayton Peace Agreement mandate, as well as its capacity, experience and ties with the relevant authorities at all levels, including the non-governmental sector. In addition, a part of this programme should be implemented by joint management with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in accordance with article 53d (1) (a) of the Financial Regulation in view of the organisation's technical competence and high degree of specialisation with regard to war crime cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A direct grant agreement with the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina (HJPC) would be concluded in accordance with Article 168(1)(f) of the Implementing Rules to the Financial Regulation due to its highly specialised technical competence, high degree of specialisation and sole legal and administrative power with regard to the foreseen activities in the justice sector.
- (7) The measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA Committee,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for the year 2012, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

This programme shall be implemented by centralised management except for the sector intervention in the justice sector, where a contribution agreement on joint management will be concluded with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and for the project on support to durable solutions of the Revised Annex VII Dayton Peace Agreement (DPA), where a contribution agreement on joint management will be concluded with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

It shall be implemented by means of a Financing Agreement to be concluded between the Commission and the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina in conformity with the Framework Agreement concluded between the same parties on 30 July 2008.

⁴ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1

Article 2

The maximum amount of European Union contribution shall be **EUR 84 770 995**, to be financed through Article 22.02.02 of the general budget of the European Union for 2012.

Done at Brussels, 13.12.2012

For the Commission, László Andor Member of the Commission



Brussels, 27.6.2014 C(2014) 4456 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 27.6.2014

amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2011)9104 final of 5.12.2011 adopting a National Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA -Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for the year 2011, Commission Implementing Decision C(2012)9679 final of 13.12.2012 adopting a National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition and Institution Building Component for the year 2012 and Commission Implementing Decision C(2013)9626 final of 19.12.2013 adopting a National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition and Institution Building Component for the year 2013

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 27.6.2014

amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2011)9104 final of 5.12.2011 adopting a National Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA - Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for the year 2011, Commission Implementing Decision C(2012)9679 final of 13.12.2012 adopting a National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition and Institution Building Component for the year 2012 and Commission Implementing Decision C(2013)9626 final of 19.12.2013 adopting a National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition and Institution Building Component for the year 2013

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)¹, and in particular Article 7(3) thereof,

Having regard to the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC,Euratom) No 1605/2002, (hereinafter referred to as 'Financial Regulation')² and in particular Article 84(2) thereof

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for pre accession assistance to candidate countries and potential candidate countries.
- (2) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 continues to govern on the substance legal acts and commitments made up until 31 December 2013.
- (3) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes. These programmes should be drawn up in accordance with the general policy framework referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 and the relevant multi-annual indicative planning document referred to in Article 6 of that Regulation.

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OJ L 210, 31.07.2006, p. 82

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p.1

- (4) The Commission adopted on 5 November 2011 a National Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for the year 2011.³
- (5) On 20 August 2013, the Commission amended the National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina for the year 2011 in order to change the management modes of several projects. In addition, the project purpose of component III of project 7 was amended.⁴
- (6) The Commission adopted on 13 December 2012 a National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition and Institution Building Component for the year 2012.⁵
- (7) On 29 July 2013, the Commission amended the National Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina for the year 2012 in order to rectify an error as regards the management mode for the cooperation with the OSCE.⁶
- (8) The Commission adopted on 19 December 2013 a National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition and Institution Building Component for the year 2013.⁷
- (9) In response to severe floods which hit Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2014, financial assistance in the amount of EUR 42.24 million is to be provided to deal with the consequences of this natural disaster and is mobilised to respond to short to medium term needs in affected areas. This assistance is reallocated from projects of the National Programmes for Bosnia and Herzegovina for the years 2011, 2012 and 2013 for which the implementing conditions have not been met or which do not require urgent implementation. Some of these projects may be included in future IPA programmes.
- (10) The present Decision complies with the conditions laid down in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union⁸ (hereinafter referred to as 'the Rules of Application').
- (11) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals for the reasons provided in the Annex.
- (12) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by this Decision should cover any possible claims for interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of its Rules of Application.

³ C(2011)9104 final of 5.12.2011

⁴ C(2013)5503 of 20.08.2013

⁵ C(2012)9679 final of 13.12.2012.

⁶ C(2013)4987 of 29.7.2013

⁷ C(2013)9626 final of 19.12.2013

⁸ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

- (13) The Commission is required to define the term "non-substantial change" in the sense of Article 94(4) of the Rules of Application to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer by delegation, or under his or her responsibility, by sub-delegation (hereinafter referred to as the 'responsible authorising officer').
- (14) In accordance with Article 13 (2) of Regulation No 231/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II), the IPA II Committee shall be competent for legal acts and commitments under Regulation 1085/2006. Therefore, the measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA II Committee,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Annex to Commission Implementing Decision C(2011)9104 final of 5.12.2011 is replaced by the Annex I to the present Decision.

The Financing Agreement concluded between the European Commission and Bosnia and Herzegovina on 26 July 2012, as amended on 5 December 2013 shall be modified accordingly.

The Annex to Commission Implementing Decision C(2012)9679 final of 13.12.2012 is replaced by the Annex II to the present Decision.

The Financing Agreement concluded between the European Commission and Bosnia and Herzegovina on 24 June 2013, as amended on 21 January 2014 shall be modified accordingly.

The Annex to Commission Implementing Decision C(2013)9626 final of 19.12.2013 is replaced by the Annex III to the present Decision.

Article 2

The financial contribution referred to in Article 2 of Decision C(2011)9104 final of 5.12.2011 and Article 2 of Decision C(2012)9679 final of 13.12.2012 shall also cover any possible interest due for late payment

Article 3

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions specified in the Annex.

⁹ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 11.

Article 4

Increases or cumulated changes to allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of the contribution referred to in the first paragraph of Article 2 shall not be considered substantial provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions 10.

Up to 25 % of such an increase or of a reallocation of the amounts authorised under this financing decision may serve to finance actions which were not foreseeable at the time the present financing decision was adopted, provided that those actions are necessary to implement the objectives and the results set out in the programme.

The responsible authorising officer may adopt such changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and of proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 27.6.2014

For the Commission Štefan FÜLE Member of the Commission

Changes to allocations exceeding EUR 4 million need to be approved by the IPA II Committee.

ANNEX II

NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA UNDER THE IPA TRANSITION ASSISTANCE AND INSTITUTION BUILDING COMPONENT FOR THE YEAR 2012

1 IDENTIFICATION

Beneficiary	Bosnia and Herzegovina					
CRIS decision number	2012/23589					
Year	2012					
EU contribution	EUR 84 770 995					
Implementing Authority	European Commission					
	For the Project 9 "Support to durable solutions of Revised Annex VII Dayton Peace Agreement (DPA) Implementation Strategy" the European Commission under joint management with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).					
The Financing Agreement	Concluded on 24 June 2013					
Final date for contracting	24 June 2016					
	This date applies also to the national co-financing.					
Final date for execution	24 June 2018					
	This date applies also to the national co-financing.					
Budget line(s) concerned	22.02.02: national programmes (component Transition Assistance and Institution Building) for potential candidates					
Programming Unit	Unit C1, DG ELARG					
Implementation Unit/ EU Delegation	EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina					

2 THE PROGRAMME

2.1 PRIORITIES SELECTED UNDER THIS PROGRAMME

The main priorities for IPA assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document (MIPD) 2011 – 2013 are:

- Improving the capacity and efficiency of the public administration and setting a professional civil service, so to support the country's efforts to improve the functioning of the institutions at all level of governance.
- Strengthening the rule of law by assisting the country to reform its justice sector and to fight against organised crime and corruption.

• Supporting the social and economic development, in particular assisting the country in its efforts to develop the SME sector, to alleviate unemployment and to reform the education system to help adapting the qualification framework with the requirements of the labour market, and to invest in transport and environment infrastructure.

To achieve the priorities selected for support in the programming period 2011-2013, the Commission will focus its assistance under the IPA 2012 National Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina primarily on the following sectors:

- Public Administration Reform
- Justice and Home Affairs
- Social Development
- Private Sector Development
- Transport
- Acquis related and other actions

The sectors have been selected because of their importance for Bosnia and Herzegovina's approximation in the accession process and because they were identified as priorities in the EU Enlargement Strategy.

Environment infrastructure is not covered in this programme because of the high number of infrastructure projects from previous programmes, which are waiting for implementation.

2.2 SECTORS SELECTED UNDER THIS PROGRAMME AND DONOR COORDINATION

The 2012 allocation for IPA component I is EUR 102.67 million. In addition to the assistance identified in this programme, IPA supports activities in education (Tempus with EUR 2.4 million), the implementation of the revised Annex 7 of the Dayton Peace Agreement on refugee return in Bosnia and Herzegovina (the Regional Housing Programme with EUR 12.0 million) and the Civil Society Facility (EUR 3.5 million). These projects are coordinated and implemented under the relevant Multi-beneficiary programme and will be adopted by separate Commission implementing decisions. Consequently, this Financing Proposal covers the remaining EUR 84.77 million under the global allocation of EUR 102.67 million for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The programming exercise for IPA 2012 started with a High Level Meeting on IPA coordination on 14 November 2011 and the kick-off meeting on IPA 2012-2013 programming on 17 November 2011, both in Sarajevo. The High Level Meeting was organized in response to the difficult programming exercise of IPA 2011, which almost failed because the internal Bosnia and Herzegovina coordination process did not work efficiently enough.

In the High Level Meeting, the Commission formulated recommendations for Bosnia and Herzegovina on how to improve the EU coordination process, and in particular the IPA coordination process. On IPA, the Commission proposed to examine the legal feasibility to accelerate the adoption procedure for Financing Agreements with the European Commission, the creation of working groups for the drafting of sector and project fiches, and an improved coordination with the Bosnia and Herzegovina IPA Coordination Board.

In the kick-off meeting of 17 November 2011, the Commission defined the priorities for the IPA programming for the years 2012 and 2013 and asked Bosnia and Herzegovina to prepare corresponding sector and project fiches.

Despite the Commission's thorough preparatory work, the last year's coordination problems recurred. The programming process for IPA 2012 and 2013 has witnessed significant delays due to political difficulties to reach agreement between different levels of government on the identification and formulation of projects. Following long and difficult negotiations, which were facilitated by the European Commission, the formulation phase could only be kicked off on 23 May, with a delay of two months after the end of the identification phase.

The responsibility for donor coordination in Bosnia and Herzegovina is split between the Directorate of European Integration (DEI) (for EU donors) and the Ministry of Finance (for other donors). The Ministry of Justice is in the lead in ensuring donor coordination in support of civil society organisations. In the course of the programming of the IPA 2012 and 2013 National Programmes, the DEI and the European Union Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina held a number of donor coordination meetings with EU Member States, other bilateral donors, International Finance Institutions and the UN Family represented in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Following the assessment of readiness of the identified sectors for sector approach it has been concluded that only the justice sector meets the requirements for sector support. A comprehensive Justice Sector Reform Strategy is in place, other donors are cooperating in the sector and national budget is allocated to the reform. Therefore, the 2012 national programme includes one sector fiche and eleven stand-alone projects. The measures identified in the sector fiche and in the project fiches take into account the results of past assistance and the specific lessons learnt in order to increase impact of EU assistance.

The following sectors have been selected for IPA assistance under this programme:

Public Administration Reform

Bosnia and Herzegovina needs to amend its complex constitutional framework to improve the functioning of the institutions and to bring them into a position to adopt, implement and enforce the laws and rules of the EU. The priorities for the EU support over the period 2011 to 2013 are improving the capacity and efficiency of the public administration and setting a professional civil service.

In consideration of the above priorities and of the ongoing support for the public administration reform, IPA will support in the 2012 National Programme the Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliaments at all levels of governance to improve their strategic guidance on the EU accession process, will improve the effectiveness of public procurement and will strengthen the statistical system.

Parliaments have a vital role in promoting and implementing accession related reforms. IPA will support Members of Parliaments and parliament administrations by providing technical assistance for capacity building.

The public procurement project will develop a training system for public procurement and internal audit and will contribute to the strengthening of budget and expenditure control measures. It follows the Strategy for the development of Public Procurement in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2010-2015.

The support for the statistical system follows closely the Statistical Programme of Bosnia and Herzegovina in addressing, among other priorities, national accounts and business statistics.

Justice and Home Affairs

The development of an independent and effective judiciary in line with European standards, the reform of the penitentiary, as well as improving the law enforcement capacities to continue the fight against corruption and organised crime are important conclusions of the Enlargement Strategy. The priorities for the EU support over the period 2011 to 2013 are to strengthen the independence, to enhance efficiency and effectiveness and to improve the accountability of the judiciary, to improve the situation of vulnerable groups in the penitentiary, to harmonise law enforcement legislation and to improve coordination and cooperation between law enforcement institutions, and to increase the awareness of the rights of citizens and to enhance their confidence in the judiciary and law enforcement institutions.

In the framework of the IPA 2012 National Programme, the European Commission will provide support for the judiciary reform and for the strengthening of law enforcement institutions.

The support for the judiciary sector reform stems from the Structured Dialogue on Justice¹¹, which led to an agreement between the EU and Bosnia and Herzegovina to concentrate IPA assistance in 2012 on improving judicial efficiency and accountability, improving the capacity for the execution of criminal sanctions, and achieving a high degree of coordination among all justice sector institutions.

The Justice sub-sector has a comprehensive strategy – Justice Sector Reform Strategy (JSRS), which aims to reform the justice sector institutions at all levels of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A further important strategy, on which the IPA support is based, is the National War Crimes Strategy, which aims to establish the preconditions for the processing of war crimes.

The support for law enforcement follows a sequenced support for law enforcement institutions, which started with a law enforcement project under IPA 2010. The aim is to ensure the continuous EU support for the law enforcement institutions after the

The Structured Dialogue on Justice is a newly-established mechanism of the European Commission. It aims to advance structured relations on the rule of law with potential candidate countries, even prior to the entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA). The Structured Dialogue will assist Bosnia and Herzegovina to consolidate an independent, effective, efficient and professional judicial system. At the same time, the Dialogue helps the country move further along its path towards the EU.

expiration of the of the European Union Police Mission (EUPM) mandate in June 2012.

Private Sector Development

To support the private sector development, Bosnia and Herzegovina urgently needs to improve the regulatory framework. The thereof derived priorities for the EU support over the period 2011 to 2013 are to improve capacities at State- and Entity-level, in particular of key institutions such as the Institute for Intellectual Property Rights, the Indirect Taxation Authority, the Competition Council, and, once established, the State aid Authority and the SME Department in the Foreign Investment Agency.

In consideration of the 2011 - 2013 priorities and of the ongoing support for the private sector development, IPA will assist in the 2012 National Programme for the establishment of a functional state aid system. Bosnia and Herzegovina has adopted a State Aid Law. The project will support the implementation of the state aid law, support capacity building of relevant stake holders and will provide IT.

Transport

Transport is a key element in the EU's cooperation with its neighbouring countries. Bosnia and Herzegovina is a transit country for the trans-European networks, in particular for the Corridor Vc from Budapest to the harbour of Ploče in Croatia. Therefore it is in the EU's best interest to support Bosnia and Herzegovina to comply with the Memorandum of Understanding on the core transport networks and to invest in transport infrastructure.

The priorities for the EU support over the period 2011 to 2013 are to develop a strategic framework for the transport sector, to create a functional institutional and regulatory framework and to improve the transport infrastructure in line with the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network.

In consideration of the 2011 - 2013 priorities and of the ongoing support in the area of transport, IPA will support in the 2012 National Programme activities to prepare preliminary studies and design on sections of the SEETO network routes 2a and 3, and railways, and will provide assistance to the Railway Regulatory Board.

Social Development

The priorities for the EU support over the period 2011 to 2013 are to support Bosnia and Herzegovina's efforts to comply with minimum social standards, facilitate the access of unemployed people to the labour market and improve the conditions for health and safety at work in compliance with the EU acquis, improve the social protection system at all levels of governance and address the specific needs of vulnerable groups, support the reform of the primary and secondary education systems and further support the reform of the higher education system in the framework of the Bologna process, and contribute to a more efficient, effective and better quality VET system and support the implementation of the strategy for adult education in line with the recommendations from the European Training Foundation.

In consideration of the 2011 - 2013 priorities and of the on-going support for the social sector development, IPA will support in the 2012 National Programme activities to further develop a qualification framework including primary and secondary education and vocational education and training, including also qualifications awarded following validation of informal and non-formal learning, and compatible with an extension to higher levels of qualifications.

In addition, to contribute to the Revised Annex VII DPA Implementation Strategy goals, IPA will provide capacity building support for municipality staff and civil society organisations to deliver services to most vulnerable groups and will provide durable housing solutions for 125 families and access to social assets.

Acquis related and other actions

IPA will support in the 2012 National Programme the veterinary sector to implement rabies and brucellosis vaccination campaigns to reduce risks for human and animal health and for the environment, the processing of animal by-products and a feasibility study for rendering plants.

IPA will support in the 2012 National Programme the phytosanitary/food safety sector in implementing a BiH plant health regime, seed and propagating material policy, plant breeders' rights and plant protection products management in line with the EU acquis.

The Programme will include a European Integration Facility, which will provide short-term technical assistance, a project preparation facility and will support Bosnia and Herzegovina in its participation in EU programmes.

In response to the severe floods which hit Bosnia and Herzegovina, financial assistance is to be provided to deal with the consequences of this natural disaster and is mobilised to respond to short to medium term needs in affected areas.

2.3 DESCRIPTION

Sectors	IPA	Project Description
	support (EUR	
	million)	

Public Administration Reform	6.0	
1. Enhancing capacity of parliaments in BiH in the context of EU accession	3.5	Project objective: Improved role of the Parliaments in BiH in the strategic guidance of the EU accession process. Indicative implementation modalities (2012 part): One twinning (EUR 3 500 000) to be launched in Q1/2013. The project contributes to the following MIPD priority: "Support the alignment of the legislative framework with the European acquis in all accession relevant sectors, including, if appropriate, domestic efforts to amend the constitutional framework, and help creating an efficient, professional, merit-based, accountable and transparent civil service."
2. Strengthening Public Procurement system in BiH	1.5	Project objective: Increased effectiveness of public procurement system in BiH. Indicative implementation modalities: The project will be implemented through one service contract to be launched in Q3/2013 (EUR 1 500 000). The project contributes to the following MIPD priority: "Adopt and implement the legal framework for public procurement and public financial management and control in compliance with EU standards."
3. Support to the State and Entity Statistical Institutions, phase VI	1.0	Project objective: Strengthening the BiH statistical system by improving and developing institutional capacities in the areas of National accounts, Business statistics, Financial Accounts, and Social statistics. Indicative implementation modalities: The project shall be implemented through one twinning (EUR 1 000 000) to be launched in Q3/2013. The project contributes to the following MIPD priority: "Enable the statistical system to produce and disseminate reliable statistical data in line with international and European standards in particular for national accounts and statistics in all accession-relevant areas.
Justice and Home Affairs	28.35	
4. Sub-sector fiche Justice	21.25	The specific sub-sector support objectives are based on the MIPD 2011-2013 objectives for the justice sector: 1. Strengthen the independence of the judiciary, enhance efficiency and effectiveness and improve the accountability of the judiciary 2. Improve the situation of vulnerable groups in the penitentiary, ensure proper treatment of all prisoners in accordance with EU standards and reduce overcrowding in prisons 3. Improve Sector capacity for coordination and

implementation of sector programmes.

Indicative implementation modalities (2012 part):

Measure 1: Conduct construction, renovation and reparation of courts and prosecutors' offices

This measure shall be implemented through one works contract and one service contract to be tendered in O3/2013.

Measure 2: Establish adequate system for efficient processing of war crime cases in all relevant judicial institutions in BiH

This measure shall be implemented through targeted budgetary support (EUR 7 438 000) to competent institutions of the State. A Memorandum of Understanding shall tentatively be signed in Q3/2013 followed by the disbursement of 40% of the funds as soon as the preconditions are met. Further two tranches of 40% and 20% shall be paid in Q2/2014 and Q4/2014 if the relevant conditions are met.

Furthermore, there shall be three supply contracts to be tendered in Q4/2013 and a grant contract with the OSCE (EUR 500 000) for providing assistance in the monitoring of implementation of the budget support with the OSCE having an advisory, capacity building and the coordinating role.

This grant contract shall be signed in Q4/2013 in accordance with article 190 (1)(f) RAP in view of the organisation's technical competence and high degree of specialisation with regard to war crime cases in BiH.

Selection criteria: The AOSD has assessed the capacity of the selected beneficiary to implement the action using selection criteria relevant to the action.

Award criteria:

- Relevance of the action
- Effectiveness and feasibility of the action
- Sustainability of the action
- Cost-effectiveness of the action

EU financing: 100%

Measure 3: Consolidation and further development of the Judicial Communication and Information System

This measure shall be implemented through one supply contract to be tendered in Q4/2013 and one direct award of a grant to the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (HJPC) (EUR 1 815 000) to be signed in Q1/2014. The direct grant agreement with HJPC will be concluded in accordance with Article 168(1)(f) of the Implementing Rules to the Financial Regulation due to its highly specialised technical competence, high degree of specialisatoin and sole legal and administrative power in this area.

(Measure 4 foreseen for 2013.)

Measure 5: Improve capacities of justice sector institutions for developing institutional strategic plans and policies

This measure shall be implemented through one service

		contract, tendering shall start in Q4/2013. The targeted budget supports amounts to EUR 7 438
		000, the grant contracts add up to EUR 2 315 000. The overall financial envelope for the procurement contracts
		is EUR 11 500 000.
		The sector support contributes to the following MIPD
5. Support to the Area	7.1	priority: see specific sector support objectives.Project Objective:
of Law Enforcement		The cooperation and coordination and efficiency of the law enforcement agencies in the area of fighting organised crime, terrorism and corruption is strengthened and police services are working in line with
		EU professional best practises. Indicative implementation modalities:
		It is foreseen to implement this project with a twinning (EUR 4 500 000) to be launched in Q4/2013, two supply contracts and one service contract to be tendered in Q4/2013 (EUR 2 595 000).
		The project contributes to the following MIPD priority: "Support the harmonisation of law enforcement legislation between the different levels of governance and with EU standards and enhanced cooperation and coordination among the law enforcement institutions, including with the judiciary and international counterparts."
Private Sector Development	2.5	
6. Establishment of the State Aid System	2.5	Project Objective: To ensure a competitive and transparent economic space, greater control of public spending and fulfilment of obligations deriving from international treaties containing provisions on the state aid. Indicative implementation modalities: One service contract and one supply contract to be tendered in Q3/2013 (EUR 2 500 000). The project contributes to the following MIPD priority: "Improving of the institutional and legal framework as
		well as the coordination and harmonisation of SME related public policies and support Bosnia and Herzegovina to adhere to its obligations under the IA/SAA."
Transport	6.8	related public policies and support Bosnia and Herzegovina to adhere to its obligations under the

Agreement		priority: "Develop a strategic framework for the transport sector at State- and Entity-level and support the creation of a functioning institutional and regulatory framework for all transport areas, and in particular opening of the railway transport market and improvement of the railway safety, demining and rehabilitating the River Sava waterway, transposition and implementation of the single European sky legislation."
Social Development	10.5	
8. Development of a Qualification Framework for all forms of Education	3.5	Project Objective: The Qualification Framework is further developed in BiH and implemented in all education and training institutions. Indicative implementation modalities: The project shall be implemented through two service contracts, tenders to be launched in Q3/2013 (EUR 3 500)
		O00). The project contributes to the following MIPD priority: "Support the reform of the primary and secondary education systems and further support the reform of the higher education system in the framework of the Bologna process"
9. Support to durable solutions of Revised Annex VII DPA Implementation Strategy	7.0	Project Objective: To enhance the local capacities of municipal staff and civil society organisations to deliver services to most vulnerable groups in conformity with UNHCR vulnerability criteria in an inclusive, comprehensive manner. To provide durable housing solutions for at least 125 families with most vulnerable individuals and to ensure access to rights to enable sustainability of return/reintegration or local integration of targeted groups (not limited to the housing project beneficiaries). Indicative implementation modalities: The project is to be implemented by joint management with the UNHCR in accordance with Article 53d (1) (a) of the Financial Regulation. The Contribution Agreement (EUR 7 000 000) is to be signed in Q3/2014. The UNHCR is entrusted with this task given its Annex VII DPA mandate, as well as its capacity, experience and ties with the relevant authorities at all levels, including the non-governmental sector. Annex VII clearly recognises "the leading humanitarian role of UNHCR [] with the role of coordinating among all agencies assisting with the repatriation and relief of refugees and displaced persons" (p. 2). The revised Annex VII Strategy was initiated by the UNHCR and the BiH Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees and tasked the UNCHR with a specific role as the only international organisation in BiH in the area of the right to the adequate compensation (p. 53 of the Strategy).

		As concerns operational aspects, the UNHCR has a major role in the Regional Housing Programme (RHP). It is mandatory that the RHP and this national project are implemented in very close co-operation. This national project is intended to be used inter alia for the provision of supportive measures in the area of employment, education, health, etc. for beneficiaries of RHP. Joint management with the UNHCR is a tool to achieve this close cooperation and synergies. Consequently, the UNHCR is de facto, based on its capacities located throughout the country and its role in RHP, and de iure, based on its Annex VII mandate, the only organisation in the country in the position to implement this project. The project contributes to the following MIPD priority: "Improve the social protection system at all levels of governance and address the specific needs of vulnerable groups."
Acquis Related and other actions	30.62	
10. Improvement of animal health and animal by-products control in BiH	6.58	Project Objective: Reduction of the risks to human and animal health, the environment, as well as increased economic potential of BiH. This project will also improve the ability of BiH to provide accurate statistical data on wildlife, as required by the EU. Harmonised approach to the management of animal byproducts across Bosnia and Herzegovina with feasibility study for rendering plant. Indicative implementation modalities: This project is to be implemented through two service contracts and three supply contracts, tendering shall start in Q3/2013 (EUR 6 577 500). The project contributes to the following MIPD priority: "Improve the environmental infrastructure, in particular for waste management and water and waste water treatment and enhance environmental protection." "In addition, IPA may finance actions [] such as: [] ii) acquis related actions."
11. Further strengthening of the capacities of phytosanitary sector in the fields of plant protection products, plant health and seeds and seedlings	1.50	Project Objective: To enable phytosanitary services to create and implement BIH plant health regime, seed and propagating material policy, plant breeders' rights and plant protection products management in line with acquis harmonised legislation and international obligations and standards in this area. Indicative implementation modalities: The project shall be implemented through one twinning (EUR 1 500 000) to be launched in Q3/2013. The project contributes to the following MIPD priority:

		"In addition, IPA may finance actions [] such as: []
		ii) acquis related actions."
12. European	6.15	Project Objective:
Integration Facility	0.13	The EUIF aims to strengthen capacities of Bosnia and
(incl. participation in		Herzegovina governments at all levels in fulfilling their
EU programmes)		respective roles and obligations concerning the
Le programmes)		integration into the European Union. It will support
		needs covered by all MIPD sectors, in particular the
		agriculture, environment, energy and private sector
		development areas. The political situation in BiH and its
		EU integration process require rapid responses of the
		Commission to non-programmable events. The duration
		of the procedure to amend this Decision would frustrate
		the purpose of such response.
		Furthermore, this projects aims at supporting the
		participation of BiH in EU programmes by co-financing
		the costs of the "entry-ticket" of the FP7.
		Indicative implementation modalities (2012 part):
		The Facility (EUR 3 485 495 out of which ~EUR 3 000
		000 for procurement and ~EUR 485 495 for twinning light) will be implemented through, indicatively, 10-15
		technical assistance (TA) contracts, 1-2 supplies
		procedures and 2-3 twinning light (TWL) contracts. The
		Facility will mainly cover small interventions amounting
		from EUR 50 000 to EUR 250 000 per contract.
		The indicative time frame for the launching of the
		procedures of these contracts is as follows:
		2013: 2-3 TA
		2014: 1 supply, 5-6 TA, 1 TWL
		2015: 1 supply, 5-6 TA, 1 -2 TWL.
		As far as participation in EU programmes is concerned,
		the activity will be implemented as a reimbursement of a
		part (80%, EUR 2 670 000) of the payment for the entry
		ticket after the entry ticket has been paid, on the basis of
		a specific agreement with the EU. The project contributes to the following MIPD
		priority:
		"Support the alignment of the legislative framework with
		the European Acquis in all accession relevant sectors"
		"In addition, IPA may finance actions that fall outside
		the scope of these sectors such as, but not limited to: i)
		project/sector programme identification and preparation;
		ii) acquis related actions that need to be
		adopted/implemented according to an established
		timetable (e.g. negotiating framework, NPAA, adapting
		the policy and institutional framework for the
		preparation of EU pre-accession assistance to agriculture
		and rural development, electronic communication or
		information society); iii) participation in EU
		Programmes to which the country becomes eligible unless they are included in one of the sectors chosen
		above; iv) support measures for the implementation,
		monitoring and audit of IPA programmes; v) as well as
		measures to support confidence building and
<u> </u>		incubated to support confidence building and

		reconciliation."
13. Support to the reconstruction of flood affected areas	16.39	Project objectives: Support Bosnia and Herzegovina in the reconstruction and recovery of flood affected areas. Indicative implementation modalities: The project will be implemented through a number of direct grants for the reconstruction and re-equipping of housing and local infrastructure as well as support for livelihood and job preservation and creation in the flood affected areas and health protection in accordance with Article 190(1)(a) of the Rules of Applications of the Financial Regulation for an indicative total amount of EUR 16,390,000. The number of indicative grants is estimated to an approximate number of 3. Direct grant beneficiaries will be selected among international organisations, NGOs and EU Member States' agencies based on their competence and capacity in delivering the required actions, their track record in managing EU funds in Bosnia and Herzegovina and their level of existing cooperation with the affected local authorities. The grants will be concluded indicatively in Q3 2014. Maximum EU financing for the grants will be 100% or less in case of contributions by national authorities or other donors.
TOTAL	84.77	

The essential selection and award criteria for grants (including direct award):

<u>The essential selection criteria</u> are financial and operational capacity of the applicant. <u>The award criteria</u> are relevance, effectiveness and feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

The essential selection and award criteria for Twinning and Twinning Light:

<u>The essential eligibility criteria</u>: applicants must be EU Member State administrations or mandated bodies.

The essential selection criterion is operational capacity of the applicant.

<u>The award criteria</u> are technical expertise of proposed experts, relevance, methodology and sustainability of the proposal.

2.4 CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Equal opportunity for participation of men and women and the minority representation will be assured in all aspects of programme implementation. Participation in project activities will be guaranteed on the basis of equal access regardless of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, sex or sexual orientation.

The respect for and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups will be further fostered by this programme, inter alia through the project aiming at durable solutions for refugees, internally displaced people and returnees.

The programming process included consultations with civil society and the donor community in BiH through two consultation meetings and exchange of relevant information on the process and individual proposals. All relevant institutions from

various levels of government in BiH participated in the preparation of the project fiches.

This programme will provide support in the area of public administration reform and strengthening of the judiciary. These measures will have a positive impact on the achievement of good governance.

Disaster resilience and risk prevention and management should be also integrated in the planning, preparation and implementation of projects.

2.5 ASSUMPTIONS AND PRE-CONDITIONS

The programme includes the following conditionalities:

- The Government formally endorses the projects described in the fiches, including the identified parallel co-financing commitments, by exchange of letter between the European Commission and the Bosnia and Herzegovina Government.
- The Government will ensure that beneficiary institutions have adequate financial, material and human resources in that EU financial support is used in the most effective and sustainable manner possible.

Beneficiary institutions shall participate in the formulation of the design and tender documents, including terms of reference and shall formally endorse tender documents, including terms of reference, before tendering.

The Government shall ensure the availability of land, free of ownership claims or disputes, for the construction of planned works. The Government shall ensure long-term sustainability of the actions by allocating the necessary resources, including running costs and maintenance costs.

 Beneficiary institutions organise, select and appoint members (including gender and ethnic balance) of working groups, steering and coordination committees, and seminars as required by the project activities.

Additional project specific conditions are described in the project fiches. In the event that these conditions are not met, suspension or cancellation of the project or specific activities will be considered by the implementing authority.

2.6 ROADMAP FOR THE DECENTRALISATION OF THE MANAGEMENT OF EU FUNDS

The Decentralised Implementation System (DIS) Strategy of Bosnia and Herzegovina was adopted in July 2008. In April 2010, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted decisions to nominate the Competent Accrediting Officer (CAO), the National Authorising Officer (NAO), and the National IPA Coordinator (NIPAC). The CFCU (Central Finance and Contracts Unit) and National Fund (NF) were established within the Ministry of Finance and Treasury and are functional although not yet fully staffed.

Regarding IPA Component II – CBC – some progress can be reported: The Council of Ministers adopted the Decision on the Establishment of the Operating Structure for IPA component II in September 2011, and the formal notification of this decision by the NAO was made in December. The personal appointment to the function of the Head of Operating Structure is pending. Also, the decision on the establishment of the Audit Authority has not been taken yet. As regards the other components no progress was made due to a lack of political agreement.

3 BUDGET

3.1 INDICATIVE BUDGET TABLE (DIRECT CENTRALISED AND JOINT MANAGEMENT)

		Institution Bu	(IB)		Investmen		Total (IB + INV)	Total IPA EU contribution					
	Total expenditure	IPA EU contributi		National contribution		Total expenditure	IPA EU contribution		National contribution*				
	EUR (a)=(b)+(c)	EUR (b)	% (1)	EUR (c)	% (1)	EUR (d)=(e)+(f)	EUR (e)	% (1)	EUR (f)	% (1)	EUR (g)=(a)+(d)	EUR (h)=(b)+(e)	% (2)
Public Administration Reform	6,100,000	6,000,000	98	100,000	2	155,000	0	0	155,000	100	6,255,000	6,000,000	7
1. Enhancing capacity of parliaments in BiH in the context of EU accession	3,500,000	3,500,000	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,500,000	3,500,000	4
2. Strengthening Public Procurement system in BiH	1,500,000	1,500,000	100	0	0	155,000	0	0	155,000	100	1,655,000	1,500,000	2
3. Support to the State and Entity Statistical Institutions, phase VI	1,100,000	1,000,000	91	100,000	9	0	0	0	0	0	1,100,000	1,000,000	1
Justice and Home Affairs	19,023,000	17,253,000	91	1,770,000	9	12,688,750	11,095,000	87	1,593,750	13	31,711,750	28,348,000	33

4. Sub-sector fiche Justice	12,853,000	11,253,000	88	1,600,000	12	11,400,000	10,000,000	88	1,400,000	12	24,253,000	21,253,000	25
5. Support to area of law enforcement	6,170,000	6,000,000	97	170,000	3	1,288,750	1,095,000	85	193,750	15	7,458,750	7,095,000	8
Private Sector Development	1,944,444	1,750,000	90	194,444	10	882,353	750,000	85	132,353	15	2,826,797	2,500,000	3
6. Establishment of the State Aid System	1,944,444	1,750,000	90	194,444	10	882,353	750,000	85	132,353	15	2,826,797	2,500,000	3
Transport	0	0	0	0	0	8,100,000	6,800,000	84	1,300,000	16	8,100,000	6,800,000	8
7. Support to BiH in implement-tation of the commitments in Transport Sector under the SAA	0	0	0	0	0	8,100,000	6,800,000	84	1,300,000	16	8,100,000	6,800,000	8
Social Development	3,888,888	3,500,000	90	388,888	10	8,107,500	7,000,000	86	1,107,500	14	11,996,388	10,500,000	12
8. Development of Qualification Framework in all forms of Education	3,888,888	3,500,000	90	388,888	10	0	0	0	0	0	3,888,888	3,500,000	4
9. Support to durable solutions of Revised Annex VII DPA Implementation Strategy	0	0	0	0	0	8,107,500	7,000,000	86	1,107,500	14	8,107,500	7,000,000	8

Acquis Related and other actions	11,193,442	10,255,495	92	937,947	8	22,467,500	20,367,500	91	2,100,000	9%	33,660,942	30,622,995	36
10. Improvement of animal health and animal byproducts control in BiH	2,600,000	2,600,000	100	0	0	6,077,500	3,977,500	65	2,100,000	35	8,677,500	6,577,500	8
11. Further strengthening of the capacities of phytosanitary sector	1,578,947	1,500,000	95	78,947	5	0	0	0	0	0	1,578,947	1,500,000	2
12. European Integration Facility	7,014,495	6,155,495	88	859,000	12	0	0	0	0	0	7,014,495	6,155,495	7
13. Support to reconstruction of flood affected areas	0	0	0	0	0	16,390,000	16,390,000	100	0	0	16,390,000	16,390,000	19
TOTAL	42,149,774	38,758,495	92	3,391,279	8	52,401,103	46,012,500	88	6,388,603	12	94,550,877	84,770,995	100

Amounts net of VAT

- * Contribution (public and private national and/or international contribution) provided by national counterparts
- (1) Expressed in % of the Total expenditure IB or INV (column (a) or (d)).
- (2) <u>Sector or Project rows only.</u> Expressed in % of the grand total of column (h). It indicates the relative weight of the Sector or the (stand alone) Project with reference to the total IPA EU contribution of the entire FP.

3.2 PRINCIPLE OF CO-FINANCING APPLYING TO THE PROGRAMME

The IPA EU contribution, which represents 90% of the total budget allocated to this programme, has been calculated in relation to the **eligible expenditure**, which in the case of centralised management and joint management is based on the **total expenditure**. Parallel cofinancing will be used.

10-15% of co-financing is not assured for all sectors due to the difficult economic and political situation in BiH. However, 10% of co-financing is foreseen for the entire programme.

Co-financing is foreseen per sector as follows:

Public Administration reform: 4%Justice and Home affairs: 11%Private Sector Development: 12%

- Transport: 16%

- Social Development: 12%

- Acquis-related and other actions: 9%

In the case of grants, the EU maximum funding rate for grant beneficiaries is 90 %...

4 IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Management modes and Implementation modalities

The programme will be implemented on a centralised basis by the European Commission in accordance with Article 53a of the Financial Regulation¹⁶ and the corresponding provisions of the Implementing Rules¹⁷.

The Project "Support to durable solutions of Revised Annex VII Dayton Peace Agreement (DPA) Implementation Strategy" will be implemented by the European Commission by joint management with the UNHCR following Article 53d (1) (a) of the Financial Regulation and the corresponding provisions of the Implementing Rules. The UNHCR is entrusted with this task given its Annex VII DPA mandate, as well as its capacity, experience and ties with the relevant authorities at all levels, including the non-governmental sector.

4.2 IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES FOR TWINNING PROJECTS

Twinning projects shall be set up in the form of a grant agreement, whereby the selected Member State administrations agree to provide the requested public sector expertise against the reimbursement of the expenses thus incurred.

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Regulation 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1).

Regulation 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1).

The contract may in particular provide for the long-term secondment of an official assigned to provide full-time advice to the administration of the beneficiary country as resident twinning advisor.

The twinning grant agreement shall be established in accordance with relevant provisions of Part One, Title VI and Part Two Title IV Chapter 4 of the Financial Regulation and Part One, Title VI and Part Two Title II Chapter 4 of its Rules of Application.

4.3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, NATURE CONSERVATION AND DISASTER RESILIENCE

All investments shall be carried out in compliance with the relevant EU environmental legislation.

As a consequence, since the documentation with regard to Corridor Vc and the SEETO Comprehensive Network Routes under the project Support to Bosnia and Herzegovina in implementation of the commitments in Transport Sector under the Stabilisation and Association Agreement" correspond to projects which fall within the scope of annex 1 of the EIA Directive¹⁸, an environmental impact assessment shall be made for each project¹⁹, equivalent to that provided for by the EIA Directive.

Disaster resilience and risk prevention and management should be also integrated in the planning, preparation and implementation of projects.

5 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

5.1 MONITORING

The Commission may undertake any actions it deems necessary to monitor the programmes concerned. These actions may be carried out jointly with the international organisations concerned.

5.2 EVALUATION

Programmes shall be subject to ex ante evaluations, as well as interim and/or, ex post evaluations in accordance with Articles 57 and 82 of IPA Implementing Regulation²⁰, with the aim of improving the quality, effectiveness and consistency of the assistance from EU funds and the strategy and implementation of the programmes.

The results of evaluations shall be taken into account in the programming and implementation cycle.

The Commission may also carry out strategic evaluations.

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Council Directive 85/337/EEC of 27 June 1985 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (OJ L 175 5.7.1985, p. 40).

¹⁹ Cf. Annex EIA to the corresponding investment project fiche.

Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 of 12 June 2007 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 establishing an instrument for pre-accession assistance (IPA) (OJ L 170,29.6.2007, p.1).

6 AUDIT, FINANCIAL CONTROL AND ANTI-FRAUD MEASURES

The accounts and operations of all parties involved in the implementation of this programme, as well as all contracts and agreements implementing this programme, are subject to, on the one hand, the supervision and financial control by the Commission (including the European Anti-Fraud Office), which may carry out checks at its discretion, either by itself or through an outside auditor and, on the other hand, audits by the European Court of Auditors. This includes measures such as ex-ante verification of tendering and contracting carried out by the EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In order to ensure the efficient protection of the financial interests of the European Union, the Commission (including the European Anti-Fraud Office) may conduct on-the-spot checks and inspections in accordance with the procedures foreseen in Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities²¹.

The controls and audits described above are applicable to all contractors, subcontractors and grant beneficiaries who have received EU funds.

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²¹ OJ L 292, 15.11.1996, p. 2.