#### IPA National Programme 2009 Part II - Bosnia and Herzegovina

## Fiche 3 "Preparation for IPA components III and IV"

#### 1. Basic information

- 1.1 CRIS Number: 2009 / 021-650
- **1.2 Title:** Preparation for IPA components III and IV
- **1.3 ELARG Statistical code**: 01.33 Political criteria / Financial and budgetary provisions
- **1.4** Location: Bosnia and Herzegovina

# **Implementing arrangements**:

- **1.5 Contracting Authority:** European Commission
- **1.6 Implementing Agency:** European Commission
- 1.7 Beneficiary:

# Main beneficiary:

Institutions implementing components III and IV: Ministry of Transport and Communication, Ministry of Civil Affaires, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations which is in charge of environment, water and SMEs, Agency for Work and Employment, a number of entity level counterpart institutions together with number of non state actors, employer associations, trade unions, representatives of local level authorities, and state level institutions that will be designated to conduct horizontal activities in the process of implementing IPA components III and IV.

#### Other beneficiary:

Directorate for European Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina SPO. Ms. Zara Halilovic, Assistant director for EU assistance coordination Trg BiH No.1, 71000 Sarajevo

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#### **Financing:**

- **1.8** Overall cost (VAT excluded): EUR 1 000 000
- **1.9 EU contribution**: EUR 1 000 000
- **1.10 Final date for contracting:** Two years following the date of the conclusion of the Financing Agreement
- **1.11 Final date for execution of contracts:** Two years following the end date of contracting
- **1.12 Final date for disbursements:** One year following the end date for the execution of contracts

# 2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose

# 2.1 Overall Objective

To support BiH authorities in the process of European integration

# 2.2 Project purpose

To assist BiH to develop and implement Strategic Framework and Operational programmes for IPA components III and IV.

#### 2.3 Link with AP/NPAA / EP/ SAA

# European Partnership 2007

The project contributes to the following **Short-term** priorities:

Political criteria: Ensure structured and institutionalised State/Entity coordination by establishing functioning mechanisms for political, legislative and technical coordination between the State and the Entities.

Economic criteria: Support the development of improved and coordinated, economic fiscal and trade policies.

#### Medium-term priorities:

Political criteria: Ensure continued progress with taking full national responsibility for policy formulation and decision-making.

#### 2.4 Link with MIPD

The project aims to contribute to the meeting of the following priorities of the MIPD 2009-2011:

# 2.2.1 Strategic objectives for IPA assistance during the period 2009-2011

"IPA will continue to support Bosnia and Herzegovina's efforts mapping out and implementing its overall reform and development strategies as far as these strategies help achieving the requirements of the EU integration".

# 2.2.2 Strategic choices for IPA assistance during the period 2009 – 2011

Political criteria: IPA will support public administration reform.

Economic criteria: IPA will assist BiH's economic development by supporting the establishment of regulatory capacity and the enhancement of the entrepreneurial know how. It will support development of the SME sector, the economic development of the regions, and will improve trade policies. Education reform and developing national strategy on research will promote development of economy and society and active labour measures shall assist in combating unemployment.

#### 2.3.1.1 Political criteria:

Objectives and choices: *Public administration reform and governance:* Support capacity building in public administration;

#### 2.3.1.2 Economic criteria

IPA supports economic development, employment and education.

Objectives and choices: *Economic development*: Support the development of improved and coordinated economic, and fiscal and trade policies. Support SME and local economic development.

Objectives and choices: *Employment and education*: Support the reform of education system and support active labour market measures. Support improved portability of pension and social insurance systems.

# 2.3.1.3 Ability to assume the obligations of membership

Objectives and choices: *Sectoral policies*: Support the adoption of the national environment strategy. Support the energy and transports sectors.

# 2.5 Link with National Development Plan

BiH is in the final phase in drafting of the National Development Strategy (NDS) 2008 -2013 and Social Inclusion Strategy (SIS) that will serve as basis for the National development plan (NDP). It was anticipated that the NDS would be adopted in July of 2009 but this has not taken place yet. The draft version is in the final phase and its adoption is expected in September. The drafting of the SIS would last longer till some time in 2010.

The development of the Strategic Coherence Framework (SCF) and subsequently of the Operational Programmes (OP) necessary for IPA components III and IV will have to be completed in-line with the National Development Strategy and its Action plans. This naturally will be connected to the strategic planning of National budgets at all government levels.

# 3. Description of project

# 3.1 Background and justification

BIH as a potential candidate country has signed and ratified the Stabilization and Association Agreement. Implementation of the agreement started and some progress is evident, eventually the acquisition of candidate status is anticipated although the timing is unknown.

The candidate status allows BiH to access IPA components III and IV which allow for investment in the areas of transport, environment, SMEs and improving human resources to combat long term unemployment.

Although BiH has acquired some experience in programming and managing EU funds under IPA components I and II, it still lacks the knowledge, skills and institutional capacities to efficiently manage funds under IPA components III and IV.

For that reason, BiH plans to address those gaps through a continuous and systematic effort that is to be carried out under the overall coordination of the DEI with support from a number of EC-funded activities over the next two to three years. These activities follow a step by step approach with the following sequence:

Step 1: The first step to prepare for IPA Components III and IV, was a study titled "Assessment of Bosnia and Herzegovina Institutional Requirements for IPA Components III, IV and V". This study produced a report and set of vital recommendations about where the key structures necessary for the functioning of the IPA components III, IV and V ought to be located.

*Step 2:* This study was followed up by an exercise to raising awareness among relevant state level institutions about IPA components III, IV and V. This training will provide guidance to the relevant institutions to start planning for the numbers of and skills of the staff required for IPA III and IV. This training exercise is due to end in November 2009.

Step 3: Once this contract ends, a subsequent project will start funded from the IPA 2008 Project Preparation Facility. This IPA 2008 project will focus on assuring that the strategic, administrative, legal, and organizational framework necessary for the smooth functioning of the IPA components III and IV is in place. In order to do that a set of legal documents that will identify the institution of the Strategic coordinator, the members of the SCF committee and its priority working groups, (only one per component), the institutions responsible for managing the Operational programmes, the heads of the Operating structures, the members of the monitoring committees and where the monitoring committees will be located.

Once the key decisions (on who should be the Strategic coordinator, in which institutions the Operating structures are going to be located, which bodies would be acting as a secretariat for Monitoring committees) are made, the designated institutions will have to start working on developing their institutional capacities that includes, preparing training plans, determining the number of new employees required, and planning the recruitment of these new employees. (The designated institutions will need to allocate funds for these activities). These activities are required to be undertaken for the follow-up-projects under IPA 2009 and IPA 2010, where full scale project preparation activities will be undertaken for all players within the Operating structures.

Lastly, this project will support the DEI to prepare a DIS road map for accreditation of IPA components III and IV with a clear set of tasks for all responsible parties. The roadmap will provide deadlines by which each phase in the accreditation cycle must be completed. Close consultation on each step of this road map with the European Commission is essential. This project is planned to last for six months until July 2010.

Step 4: As a further step, the presently proposed project has the aim of preparing the Strategic and programming documents (SCF and OPs) of the IPA components III and IV. This process requires support to the priority working groups who would provide inputs to the SCF committee/secretariat at various stages of the SCF preparation. The members of the SCF committee are eventually the ones to agree on the overall content of the SCF and subsequently complete three stages of consultation process with the responsible parties, and then give a green light for the general public consultations for the SCF to take place.

Likewise, for the process of preparation of the OPs, programming committees will be established who will provide inputs for the drafting teams acting under the leadership of the Head of the Operating structure, and who will (on the basis of inputs from the members of the programming committees and its support staff) prepare a draft of the Operational programmes.

The project will review and update the assessment of capacity building and organisational development requirements and will support the operating structure to prepare high quality, prioritised projects which are eventually able to qualify for funding through IPA components 3 and 4.

This project is anticipated to last two years.

*Step 5:* A follow up project will be prepared for IPA 2010. The IPA 2010 project will be a full scale capacity building project that will target all relevant institutions required for IPA III and IV for further enhancing implementation capacities for projects that qualify for funding from IPA components 3 and 4. This project will further strengthen all the segments and all the

stakeholders inside the Operating structures for the IPA components III and IV which have not been covered so far or not have been properly covered including the following:

The IPA 2010 TA project is anticipated to provide assistance to the successful and smooth functioning of all the segments of the Operating structures (and even outside the Operating structure if need be /PMU units/) will be offered. This will preferably continue until the moment of when accreditation for IPA components III and IV is granted.

It is expected that these 5 steps provide throughout the process until the accreditation for the IPA components III and IV is granted to BIH.

# 3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect, sustainability and cross border impact

As a result of this project, all BIH institutions involved (MCT, MoCA, MOFTER, Agency for work and employment, the counter part entity ministries, etc) will realize the usefulness of "individual-project-level" programming with more replacing strategic "Nationalprogram""level of programming. Such awareness might work in direction that different and innovative types of arrangements among the state institutions at various levels would be taking place in order to assure the framework for proper functioning and utilization of the EU funds. Establishment of those arrangements will improve overall coordination process which in turn might result in the higher rates of growth and more dynamic national development. Over the long run, it will also result in significantly improved process of vertical and horizontal coordination not only in the areas related to process of EU integration but also in some other areas such as national planning process, strategic planning of budget, coordination of different sector's policies, etc.

#### 3.3 Results and measurable indicators

Result 1: A draft Strategic Coherence Framework for IPA components III and IV is prepared:

#### **Indicators:**

- A review report completed which will identify the next steps in preparing for IPA Component III and IV. To be finalised in the first quarter of the project.
- Final draft of the Strategic Coherence Framework completed by the end of the first year of the project.

Result 2: The drafts of the Operational programmes for IPA components III and IV are prepared;

# **Indicators:**

- At least 4. Sector studies on relevant priorities from the OPs are prepared by the end of the first year of the project
- Last drafts of the 2 Operational programs (OP per each IPA component III and IV) ready for general public consultations by the end of the second year of the project;
- Pipeline of major capital investment projects identified in the areas of transport, environment by the end of the second year of the project
- Project proposals prepared in the areas of employment, social welfare and education.

Result 3: Capacities for all the institutions involved in the Operational structures and with horizontal responsibilities are strengthened

#### **Indicators:**

- Number of the Rule books updated and adopted by the first year of the project;
- Number of newly recruited staff, quantity to be determined
- Number of the prepared Manuals on internal procedures
- Line Ministries are able to prepare at least 2 implementable projects (each in environment and transport) by end of second year of the project.

#### 3.4 Activities

#### Activities related to Result 1:

- 1.1 Draft the review report which will identify the future steps BiH authorities must undertake to prepare for IPA III and IV;
- 1.2 Support the priority working groups which will be set up to draft the SCF;
- 1.3 Provide assistance to the SCF secretariat;
- 1.4 Assuring quality control of the SCF drafts and its "national-strategic-logic" prior to submission for consultation:
- 1.5 Assuring coherence between the global objectives of the SCF, priority measures of the Operational programmes, lists of the future pipe line of major projects and available funding;
- 1.6. Two study visits for national administration conducted.

#### Activities related to Result 2:

- 2.1 Provide assistance to programming committees set up to draft the Operational Programmes;
- 2.2 Assuring quality control of the OPs drafts;
- 2.3 Conduct review of status of completion of sector studies;
- 2.4 If required support finalisation of sector studies;
- 2.5 Work with relevant Ministries to prepare pipeline of projects for transport and environment
- 2.6 If required support relevant Ministries to finalise project proposals in education, social welfare and employment.

# Activities related to Result 3:

- 3.1 Organization of trainings and preparing training agenda on the most urgent topics for utilization of the IPA components III and IV;
- 3.2 Preparing manuals for internal procedures for IPA components III and IV;
- 3.3 Assuring coherence between the manuals in institutions involved;
- 3.4 Implementing activities identified in the review report.

#### 3.5 Conditionality and sequencing

IPA 2009 TA project is one of the 5 step approach that are connected in a logical sequence (see above). A pre-condition for the present project is that the Strategic coordinator and operating structures have been nominated and the legal background has been established.

Therefore, its success depends on the success of previous projects, and on the number of preconditions of which the most important one is strong political determination to support the process, ability of institutions to locate relevant funds for their institutional capacity building, and achieving consensus among the state/entity/lower level authorities vis-à-vis their involvement in different stages and parts of the system for utilization of components III and IV. Effective cooperation by all institutions is required and a pre-condition for successful implementation of this project.

#### 3.6 Linked activities

A number of IPA 2007 and IPA 2008 projects are planned for capacity building of state level institutions for preparation of IPA components III and IV as described above. A twinning assistance project is planned to be delivered to support the Ministry of Transport and Communications to fulfil its mandate under the future IPA regulations. A Similar type of training is also planned with MOFTER and its department for SMEs to prepare it for future competitiveness projects from regional funds. There will also be a project under IPA 2008 for the environment department in MOFTER.

Once the legal decisions are adopted that define the institutions to be included in the operating structures for IPA III and IV, these institutions will have to immediately start to plan their institutional capacities and ensure that funds are available to undertake these plans. Assuming that there would not be sufficient funding for everybody out of national budgets the institutions will have to find alternative sources of financing such as IFIs, PIPs, bilateral donors, etc to at least launch and complete the initial phase of these important activities. The same condition applies to the institutions with horizontal responsibilities which would also have to develop necessary institutional capacities. Lastly, BiH and its institutions would have to do their best to locate the funds for the projects to support the preparation of the pipeline of major projects in the areas of transport and environment, and preparation and implementation of the road map for accreditation of the components III and IV. These activities need to start early and therefore their planning and the preparation of the projects have to start at once.

No other donors are involved in these activities.

#### 3.7 Lessons learned

Very little lessons can be applied from past projects as no projects in this field have been implemented to date.

An important lesson is a requirement of close cooperation with the European Commission in every step of preparing for decentralized management, especially for upcoming IPA components 3 and 4. Advice from consultants has to be verified by the services of the EC.

The lessons learned from the previous two projects (IPA 2007 and IPA 2008) are going to be used in preparing the project fiche for the follow-up IPA 2010 project that would cover the full scale capacity building for the institutions nominated as actors in implementing IPA components III and IV inside and (if need be) outside of the Operating structure.

In regards to the third component, most of the lessons learned are going to be extracted from implementing the projects from IPA 2007 "Awareness raising" and IPA 2008 IPA "PPF", so that upon completion of these two projects initial "DIS-0-stage institutional, and legislative infrastructure" will be in place (nomination of heads of OS and SC, location of OS, relationships between different bodies, delegation of horizontal responsibilities to appropriate institutions, etc).

# 4. Indicative Budget (amounts in EUR)

|                       |           |            | SOURCES OF FUNDING  |                            |      |                               |       |                       |                                  |                      |            |       |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|----------------------------|------|-------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------|-------|
|                       |           |            | TOTAL EXP.RE        | IPA COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION |      | NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION         |       |                       |                                  | PRIVATE CONTRIBUTION |            |       |
| ACTIVITIES            | IB<br>(1) | INV<br>(1) | EUR (a)=(b)+(c)+(d) | EUR<br>(b)                 | %(2) | Total $EUR$ $(c)=(x)+(y)+(z)$ | % (2) | Central<br>EUR<br>(x) | Regional/<br>Local<br>EUR<br>(y) | IFIs<br>EUR<br>(z)   | EUR<br>(d) | % (2) |
| Activities 1.1 to 3.4 | Χ         |            | 1 000 000           | 1 000 000                  | 100  |                               |       |                       |                                  |                      |            |       |
| Contract 1 (service)  | 1         | -          | 1 000 000           | 1 000 000                  | 100  |                               |       |                       |                                  |                      |            | _     |
| TOTAL IB              |           | 1 000 000  | 1 000 000           | 100                        |      |                               |       |                       |                                  |                      |            |       |
| TOTAL INV             |           |            |                     |                            |      |                               |       |                       |                                  |                      | ·          |       |
| TOTAL PROJECT         |           | 1 000 000  | 1 000 000           | 100                        |      |                               |       |                       |                                  |                      |            |       |

Amounts net of VAT

- (1) In the Activity row use "X" to identify whether IB or INV
- (2) Expressed in % of the **Total** Expenditure (column (a))

## **5.** Indicative Implementation Schedule (periods broken down per quarter)

| Contracts            | Start of Tendering | Signature of contract | <b>Project Completion</b> |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Contract 1 (service) | Q2/2010            | Q1/2011               | Q1/2013                   |

All projects should in principle be ready for tendering in the 1<sup>ST</sup> Quarter following the signature of the FA.

# 6. Cross cutting issues

# **6.1** Equal Opportunity

BiH is determined to apply the principle of equal opportunities and gender equity. This approach is already recognizable in existing laws. Harmonisation of legislation with the *acquis*, together with building up necessary capacities for utilization of the IPA components III and IV at state and subsequently at other government levels would also involve women in a whole range of different activities including programming, preparation of SCF and OPs, consulting, recruiting, institutions building, implementation of measures from the DIS road map, etc.

Considering the fact that a significant part of the activities on the project will also be devoted to training and capacity building, women should be encouraged to be equally involved in the education and training process.

#### **6.2** Environment

The project will not have negative environmental effects. The relevant institution building process and implementation of the road map for DIS together with preparing strategic and operational documents by nature of their activities, among other issues, concludes on irregularities in the sectors and undertakes appropriate measures to eliminate them. However, the process of implementing future projects under the IPA components III and IV, and in particular in the areas of transport and environment will produce a strong environmental effect. These effects are going to be rectified and mitigated by the activities of the institutions in charge of issuing SEA and EIA on the SCF and on the Priorities in the OPs. The role of these institutions is not going to be limited exclusively to programming phase, but they will also continue to be involved in the process of monitoring the implementation of the major projects, acting as watch dogs and making sure that the environmental balance is not disrupted by the implementation of those projects.

#### 6.3 Minorities

Participation in the project activities will be guaranteed on the basis of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, sex or sexual orientation. BiH has legislation pertaining to protection of minority rights. The proposed project will ensure that strategic goals from the SCF, priorities and measures from OP, measures from the DIS road map, internal policies, Strategic coordination and Operative procedures are in compliance with and are promoting minority rights.

# **ANNEXES**

- 1. Logical framework matrix in standard format
- 2. Amounts (in EUR) Contracted and disbursed by quarter for the project
- 3. Description of Institutional Framework
- 4. Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents:
- 5. Details per EU funded contract

# ANNEX I: Logical framework matrix in standard format

| LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Preparation for IPA components III and IV   | Fiche:   | Programme name and number: IPA National Programme 2009-Bosnia and Herzegovina Fiche 15 - "Preparation for IPA components III and IV  CRIS Number: 2009 / 021-650 |   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  |  | <b>Final date for contracting:</b> Two years following the date of the conclusion of the Financing Agreement   | <b>Final date for disbursements:</b> One year following the end date for the execution of contracts |
|  |  | Total budget: EUR 1 000 000  | IPA budget: EUR 1 000 000   |
| Overall objective  | Objectively verifiable indicators  | Sources of Verification  |   |
| To support the BiH authorities in the process of European integration  | SCF adopted by the European Commission;  Operational plans adopted by the European Commission;  Conferral of management from the EC to the CAO is completed;  Bosnia is in the process of receiving advance payments for the major projects in the pipe lines in the areas of environment, transport and other priority areas from the Operational programmes; | EC Country Progress report  Independent reports  EC accreditation decree  Project implementation reports   |   |
| Project purpose  | Objectively verifiable indicators  | Sources of Verification  | Assumptions   |
| To assist BiH to develop and implement Strategic Coherence Framework and Operational programmes for IPA components III and IV. | Review report recommendations are implemented;  National funding and other sources of financing for implementation of the  | EC Country Progress report  Independent auditors reports  Project implementation reports   | Stable political and economic climate  No social tensions  All involved institutions willing to co- |

|   | institutional capacity plans are located; Institutional capacity plans are in the process of implementation; SCF and Operational programs are in place;  | SCF and Operational programs   | operate  Available human and financial resources   |
|---|--|--|--|
| Results   | Objectively verifiable indicators  | Sources of Verification  | Assumptions  |
| Result 1: A draft Strategic Coherence Framework for IPA components III and IV is prepared:  Result 2:. The drafts of the Operational programmer for IPA components III and IV are prepared; | - A review report completed identifying what the next steps BiH must undertake in preparation for IPA Component III and IV. To be finalised in the first quarter of the project Final draft of the Strategic Coherence Framework completed by the end of the first year of the project At least 4 Sector studies on relevant priorities from the OP are prepared for Component IV by the end of the second year of the project - Last drafts of the 2 Operational programs (OP per each component III and IV) ready for general public consultations by the end of the second year of the project; - Pipeline of major capital investment projects identified in the areas of transport, environment by the end of the second year of the project - Project proposals prepared in the areas of employment, social welfare and education. | Minutes from the OP Working groups meetings Copies s of the updated rule books of the stake holders / institutions involved inside the implementation system for components III and IV Copies of the manual on internal procedures for the components III and IV | Stable political and economic climate  No social tensions  All involved institutions willing to cooperate  Available human and financial resources  Consensus among all the stakeholders on roles, duties and obligations within the implementation system for components III and IV is accomplished before hand |
| Result 3:Capacities for all the institutions involved in the Operational structures and with horizontal responsibilities are strengthened   | <ul> <li>Number of the Rule books updated and adopted;</li> <li>Number of newly recruited staff, quantity to be determined</li> <li>Number of the prepared Manuals on internal procedures</li> <li>Staff of line Ministries are able to</li> </ul>   |  |  |

|  | implement projects. |               |             |
|--|---------------------|---------------|-------------|
|  |                     |               |             |
| Activities   | Means               | Costs         | Assumptions |
| Activities related to Result 1:  |                     |               |             |
| 1.1 Draft the review report which will identify the future steps BiH authorities must undertake to prepare for IPA III and IV;   | TA                  | EUR 1 000 000 |             |
| 1.2 Support the priority working groups which will be set up to draft the SCF;   |                     |               |             |
| 1.3 Providing assistance to the SCF secretariat;   |                     |               |             |
| 1.4 Assuring quality control of the SCF drafts and its "national-strategic-logic" prior to submission for consultation;  |                     |               |             |
| 1.5 Assuring coherence between the global objectives of the SCF, priority measures of the Operational programmes, lists of the future pipe line of major projects and available funding; |                     |               |             |
| Two study visits for national administration conducted.  |                     |               |             |
| Activities related to Result 2:  |                     |               |             |
| 2.1 Provide assistance to programming committees set up to draft the Operational Programmes;   |                     |               |             |
| 2.2 Assuring quality control of the OPs drafts;  |                     |               |             |
| 2.3 Conduct review of status of completion of sector studies;  |                     |               |             |
| 2.4 If required support finalisation of sector   |                     |               |             |

|     | studies;  |
|-----|---|
| 2.5 | Work with relevant Ministries to prepare pipeline of projects for transport and environment   |
| 2.6 | If required support relevant Ministries to finalise project proposals in education, social welfare and employment.                  |
|     |   |
| Act | ivities related to Result 3:  |
| 3.1 | Organization of trainings and preparing training agenda on the most urgent topics for utilization of the IPA components III and IV; |
| 3.2 | Preparing manuals for internal procedures for IPA components III and IV;  |
| 3.3 | Assuring coherence between the manuals in institutions involved;  |
| 3.4 | Implementing activities identified in the review report.  |
|     |   |

# ANNEX II: amounts (in EUR) Contracted and disbursed by quarter for the project

| Contracted | Q1/2011   | Q2/2011 | Q3/2011 | Q4/2011 | Q1/2012 | Q2/2012 | Q3/2012 | Q4/2012 | Q1/2013   |
|------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Contract 1 | 1 000 000 |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |           |
| Cumulated  | 1 000 000 |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |           |
| Disbursed  |           |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |           |
| Contract 1 | 400 000   |         |         | 300 000 |         |         |         |         | 300 000   |
| Cumulated  | 400 000   | 400 000 | 400 000 | 700 000 | 700 000 | 700 000 | 700 000 | 700 000 | 1 000 000 |

## **ANNEX III: Description of Institutional Framework**

Directorate for European Integration as one of two state level institutions recommended to perform the role of the Strategic coordinator is consisting of three sectors and three units. The activities of the Sector for coordination of the EU assistance also acting in capacity of the NIPAC office are going to be key one and the leading one in the process of drafting the SCF and the Operational programs and it should be the driving and guiding force in front of the whole process of building up capacities for the IPA components III and IV.

Under the leadership of the Sector, four programming cycles have been completed so far. In cooperation with the MoFT process of planning of national co-financing amounts was completed. The sector has also assured and monitored a very complex and cumbersome consultation process including the lower level authorities and the representatives of the Civil society, and by so doing assuring their ownership in the process of preparing the project fiches. The Sector is also acting as leading institution who assures developing necessary capacities for the whole range of different stakeholders in the process of programming that includes organizing trainings, thematic workshops, presentation on different topics, etc.

Together with the MoFT, the Sector is also acting as a leading institution in the process of getting the DIS accreditation for the IPA components I and II. It is also a leading institution in charge of developing necessary structures and the heads of those structures, as well as in charge of preparing relevant rules, procedures and documents that fall under the jurisdiction of NIPAC. Thus, it is clear that the sector has gained considerable experience in a number of processes but the additional training and education is also necessary to carry out assignment and perform the anticipated roles under the foreseen DIS accreditation road map for utilization of the IPA components III and IV.

Together with following state institutions (Ministry of transport and communication, Ministry of civil affaires, Ministry of foreign trade and economic relations, Agency for work and employment), as well as number of entity level counter part institutions and a number of non state actors (employers associations, trade unions, representatives of the local level authorities). the DEI will have to assure a favourable institutional environment within which the implementation of IPA components III and IV will run smoothly.

# **ANNEX IV: Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents:**

Council regulation 1085/2006 – establishing the IPA instrument

Commission regulation 718 /2007 – implementing regulation

Frame work agreement between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Commission of the European Communities on the rules for co-operation concerning EC financial assistance to BIH in the framework of the Implementation of the assistance under the Instrument for Pre-accession assistance done in Sarajevo on 20 February 2008.

#### **ANNEX V: -Details per EU funded contract**

## Technical assistance contract (EUR 1,000,000)

The project would require three types of experts:

The first group would have to possess a considerable experience in preparing the Strategic and Operational documents preferably for utilization of the pre accession funds in the candidate countries. The eligible should be also an experts experienced in the preparation Strategic documents and operational programmes in the members states that were used for utilization of the structural and cohesion funds, (ERDF; ECF; ESF)

The second group would make the expert that possess experience in developing capacities of all the relevant stake holders that make the structures necessary for utilization of the IPA components III and IV. They would have to possess a considerable experience in preparation of the training plans and training agendas, in developing internal procedures, in developing manuals for those procedures, and combining all those activities into a one common goal of creating the functioning and sustainable operating structures.

The third group of expert would make the ones with experience of coordinating the activities of preparing the project pipe lines with the objectives and priorities from the Strategic and Operational documents that are to be prepared by the first group of experts.