



## ANNEX C1: Twinning Fiche

**Project title:** EU's support to capacity building and gradual Union acquis alignment in the Food safety sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Beneficiary administration:** Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina in cooperation with competent authorities of the two entities, namely Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska, and Brčko District of BiH

**Twining Reference:** BA 18 IPA AG 01 19

**Publication notice reference:** EuropeAid/166812/DD/ACT/BA

**EU funded project**

***TWINNING INSTRUMENT***

## GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS:

BiH – Bosnia and Herzegovina

BDBiH –Brčko District of BiH

CAs - Competent Authorities: Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BIH, Food Safety Agency of BiH, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republika Srpska, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of Republika Srpska, Administration for Inspection Affairs of Republika Srpska, FBiH Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry, FBiH Ministry of Health, FBiH Administration for Inspection Affairs, cantonal ministries of agriculture and public health institutions and competent institutions of Brcko District of BiH

EFSA – European Food Safety Agency

FBIH – Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

FBOs – Food Business Operators

PL – Project Leader

RS – Republika Srpska

RTA - Resident Twinning Adviser

## 1. Basic Information

- 1.1 Programme: Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) to Bosnia and Herzegovina: Commission Decision no: 2018/041-502, Annual Action Programme IPA 2018 (direct management)

*Suspension clause:* Please note that the awarding of the contract is a subject to the condition of the prior conclusion of a financing agreement which does not modify the elements of the call for proposals (this will be the case, for instance, if the budget initially foreseen is different or if the timeframe, the nature or the condition of the implementation are altered). If the precedent condition is not met, the contracting authority will either abandon the call for proposals or cancel the award procedure without the applicants being entitled to claim any compensation.

*"For British applicants: Please be aware that eligibility criteria must be complied with for the entire duration of the grant. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 12.2 of the General Conditions to the grant agreement."*

- 1.2 Twinning Sector: AG

- 1.3 EU funded budget: 1 500 000 EUR

## 2. Objectives

### 2.1 Overall Objective(s): *to modernise agri-food sector and foster rural economy in BiH*

At the level of the overall objective, the annual programme for IPA 2018 expects modernising and restructuring agro-industrial sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), including economic empowerment of life in rural areas. For such objective, reaching food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary requirements of the EU and progressing in approximation of the legislation and practices of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the EU rules and standards is of crucial relevance for the country, representing its obligation to implement that stems from the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (Article 95).

### 2.2 Specific objective: *to support Union acquis alignment and implementation of policy measures in the areas of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary standards*

In the context of the above overall objective, the specific one is expected to provide for efficient legislation, gradually aligned with Union acquis, and its effective implementation, as well as consolidated procedures related to the official controls across the policy area, in order to ensure consumer health protection are all part of the overall food safety system.

Fulfilling preconditions for control, monitoring and traceability through whole food chain have become key challenge and preconditions for food export. Establishing a system for monitoring and proving quality and safety of food requires considerable personnel, material and financial resources, as well as establishing the legal framework as well as functioning mechanisms and institutional capacities for its implementation.

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

BiH is a potential candidate country for the EU accession following the Thessaloniki European Council of June 2003. Since then, a number of agreements between the EU and Bosnia and Herzegovina have entered into force - visa facilitation and readmission agreements (2008), Interim Agreement on Trade and Trade-related issues (2008). The Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) has been ratified and entered into force on 1 June 2015 whereas the SAA adaptation was enforced on 1 February 2017. The SAA replaced the Interim Agreement on trade and trade related matters, which had been in force since 1 July 2008. Amongst other provisions, the SAA clearly calls for that "Cooperation between the Parties shall focus on priority areas related to the Community acquis in the field of agriculture and veterinary and phytosanitary domains".

BiH submitted its application for the EU membership in February 2016 and received the European Commission's (EC's) Questionnaire in December 2016. After BiH submitted its replies to the EC in February 2018, the additional questions were delivered to BiH in June 2018 and replied in February 2019<sup>1</sup>.

European Commission's Strategy for the Western Balkans<sup>2</sup> published in February 2018 points at the Western Balkans region's significant economic potential with higher growth rates than that of the EU and its increasingly interesting market for EU goods and services that is gradually becoming part of European value chains. The level of economic integration with the Union is already very high, due to the Stabilisation and Association Agreements. However, further efforts are needed to increase the competitiveness of the Western Balkan economies, address high unemployment, especially among the young and create business opportunities not least for local players. In spite of all progress on reforms, many structural issues remain, including much to be done to align with Union acquis, establish or build up the related institutions, and ensure implementation capacity as well as apply EU rules and standards across all policy areas.

The 2019 Analytical Report accompanying the Commission Opinion on Bosnia and Herzegovina's application for membership of the European Union<sup>3</sup> stresses that Bosnia and Herzegovina has some level of preparation in the area of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy. In the medium-term, the country should further harmonise its official veterinary and phytosanitary control systems with EU rules, improve its institutional arrangements in order to avoid overlapping competences and strengthen its control and coordination chain. Amongst other priorities and recommendations, it is indicated that in the coming year, Bosnia and Herzegovina should in particular introduce inter-laboratory comparative tests, to increase their administrative capacity, in particular inspection services and laboratories and speed up preparations for national reference laboratories, notably by increasing the accreditation of laboratory methods used in hygiene, veterinary and phytosanitary controls, food and feedstuff analysis.

The Indicative Strategy Paper for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014-2020 (ISP)<sup>4</sup> foresees IPA II support to create an efficient, sustainable and innovative agro-food sector which is competitive in the EU market and offers employment, social inclusion and better living standards for farmers and the rural population. In line with the ISP, IPA II shall support modernisation and restructuring of the agriculture and agro-industrial sector in BiH, in particular to with a view to complying with the EU veterinary and phytosanitary requirements

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<sup>1</sup> More details on relevant Union acquis Chapters in the context of this project at: [http://www.dei.gov.ba/dei/direkcija/sektor\\_strategija/Upitnik/odgovoriupitnik/Archive.aspx?langTag=en-US&template\\_id=120&pageIndex=2](http://www.dei.gov.ba/dei/direkcija/sektor_strategija/Upitnik/odgovoriupitnik/Archive.aspx?langTag=en-US&template_id=120&pageIndex=2)

<sup>2</sup> A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/euwestern-balkans-strategy-credible-enlargement-perspective\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/euwestern-balkans-strategy-credible-enlargement-perspective_en)

<sup>3</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20190529-bosnia-and-herzegovina-analytical-report.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20180817-revised-indicative-strategy-paper-2014-2020-for-bosnia-and-herzegovina.pdf>

and to support the progressive approximation of BiH legislation and practices to Union *acquis*.

Therefore, IPA II assistance will support BiH in developing an efficient, sustainable and innovative agro-food sector which is competitive on the EU market and offers employment, economic inclusion and quality of life for the rural population. Application of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary standards in the agro-food chain will increase production in competitive sectors of BiH like meat and dairy, fruits and vegetables, crops and cereals, fisheries and improve the quality products base. It will also enhance BiH's approximation to further EU accession stages and financial assistance programmes after 2020.

The "Strategic Plan of Rural Development of BiH (2018-2021) - Framework document"<sup>5</sup> defines "improving institutional systems and capacities and harmonization of the legal framework in agriculture and rural development, at all governmental levels with the aim of gradual approximation to the EU CAP" as one of its strategic objectives. More specifically, it defines one of its support measures as the development of public food safety and agri-food quality infrastructure and services, including harmonization of food safety legislation, in line with the EU standards and best practices to support the development of competitiveness of agri-food products, which correlates with the overall objective.

The Strategic Program of Agriculture and Rural Development of RS (2016-2020) has set of 6 strategic objectives, five of whom which are autonomous objectives, and the sixth objective is a general horizontal objective that has a link and impact on the achievement of each of the five autonomous strategic objectives. Improving the legislative framework in the food safety sector refers to the adoption and harmonization of food regulations at the level of RS. The adoption and harmonization of regulations on the level of BiH have been defined through the sixth strategic objective. Systematic Development of the Agriculture and Rural Sector (6th Strategic Objective) - refers to all those activities and measures that need to be taken in order to create an institutional, legal and systematic framework for the implementation of operational objectives and measures for creating an incentive environment for the development of the sector in whole. Therefore, most of the tasks and activities under this goal are a precondition for the implementation of the strategic platform as a whole. Support for the development of the quality policy for agricultural and food products is defined through the 3rd Strategic Objective - Increasing the level of marketability and finalisation of agricultural production. Registered geographical indications are voluntary standards that facilitate easier sale of agricultural products at higher prices and hence the improvement of the system and the promotion of the introduction of standards for geographical indications in the Republic of Srpska is one of the measures that will facilitate the sale of agricultural products and increase the revenues of the producers of products that will meet these standards, products with geographical origin and food of traditional reputation).

Mid-term strategy of development of agriculture sector in FBIH 2015-2019 sets building up a solid foundation for faster and more efficient development, namely for establishing a modern, productive, technologically progressive and environmentally as well as socially sensitive economic sector, ready to respond to global socio-economic and climate changes, capable of providing for an adequate and prosperous position, primarily in the region, and then at the international scene. Therefore, the focus of development will be on strengthening communication, co-operation, horizontal and vertical interconnection of all actors in the

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<sup>5</sup>[http://www.mvteo.gov.ba/data/Home/Dokumenti/Poljoprivreda/Strategic\\_Plan\\_for\\_Rural\\_Development\\_of\\_BiH\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.mvteo.gov.ba/data/Home/Dokumenti/Poljoprivreda/Strategic_Plan_for_Rural_Development_of_BiH_Eng.pdf)

This Strategic Plan is designed "through a *middle-up*, entity-led approach that seeks to fully respect entity, BD BiH and state competencies, whilst promoting practical solutions that will ensure that real and measurable progress can be made in the interests of all main agriculture and rural stakeholders in the sector who need practical support and assistance to be able to develop their businesses and rural communities over the next four years and beyond" (page 3 of the English version). Strategic documents of the entities, already in force, are taken into consideration in preparation of the Strategic plan.

sector as well as on building efficient business alliances that will enable effective and efficient exchange of information, innovative ideas, but above all, strengthen all forms of technology transfer and good business practices. In that way, a competitive, market-adjusted sector will be built, which will be the foundation for improving the quality of life of all citizens, especially rural population. The set vision will be achieved via realising the following strategic goals: development of agriculture and related sectors by raising the technical-technological level, more efficient use of available resources, and respecting demands of modern markets; provision of conditions for a stronger generating more stable income within the agricultural sector and improving the quality of life in rural areas; sustainable management of natural resources and adaptation of agriculture to climate changes; adjustment of the institutional-legislative framework and agricultural policy to EU CAP, acknowledging the degree of development of the FBiH agricultural sector.

### **3. Description**

#### **3.1 Background and justification:**

Agriculture and the food industry are important branches of the economy of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), its Entities and Brcko District (BD), both in terms of their contribution to the economy and overall employment and socio-economic development. In regard to the Federation of BiH, agriculture Gross Added Value (GAV) was between 707 million (2006) and 857 million KM (2015), and its participation in FBiH DGP is falling, being 4.6% in 2015. Related to Republika Srpska, the agriculture GAV in 2015 (857 million KM) is almost identical to the figure for 2016 (897 million KM), having exceeded 900 million KM in certain years. Participation of agriculture in RS GDP is falling, amounting to 9.3% in 2015. As for Brcko District of BiH, the agriculture GAV is growing in absolute terms (52 million KM in 2006, and 66 million KM in 2015); while in relative terms its participation in BD BiH GDP has fallen from 14% in 2006, to 10% in 2015<sup>6</sup>.

The Copenhagen criteria which provide the membership criteria which BiH must attain, includes the economic criteria that states that producers have the capability to cope with competitive pressure and market forces within the Union. These requirements have been articulated in the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA). In this context, SAA prescribes an obligation to harmonize food safety and veterinary legislation in BiH in order to comply with relevant EU legislation.

The sector set up<sup>7</sup> covers the state level, two entities, BDBiH, cantons in the FBiH and in some services, like inspections, local self-governments units (municipalities and cities). The sector competences are divided among the state level, two entities, cantonal ministries of agriculture and public health institutions in the FBiH, competent institutions of BDBiH, inspection authorities of the entities, cantons, BD BiH and local self-government units (municipalities and cities). Namely, competent institutions in the sector are: Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BIH, Food Safety Agency of BiH, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of RS, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of RS, Administration for Inspection Affairs of RS, Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry of FBiH, Ministry of Health of FBiH, Administration for Inspection Affairs of FBiH, relevant departments and inspection services of Brcko district BiH and ministries of agriculture and public health institutions in cantons in FBiH.

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<sup>6</sup> Strategic plan of rural development of BiH 2018-2021 – Framework document: [http://www.mvteo.gov.ba/data/Home/Dokumenti/Poljoprivreda/Strategic\\_Plan\\_for\\_Rural\\_Development\\_of\\_BiH\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.mvteo.gov.ba/data/Home/Dokumenti/Poljoprivreda/Strategic_Plan_for_Rural_Development_of_BiH_Eng.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Sector institutional and legal overview in the country can be found in the country's replies to the Commission's Questionnaire at: [http://www.dei.gov.ba/dei/direkcija/sektor\\_strategija/Upitnik/odgovoriupitnik/Archive.aspx?pageIndex=1&langTag=en-US](http://www.dei.gov.ba/dei/direkcija/sektor_strategija/Upitnik/odgovoriupitnik/Archive.aspx?pageIndex=1&langTag=en-US)

In accordance with the Constitution and relevant competencies, laws and by-laws are developed and adopted at the level of BiH, RS, FBiH, BDBiH. Such legal system whereby different regulations apply at different administrative levels in BiH requires their harmonisation especially in the wider context of the European integration.

As for the laboratories in the sector, there is a network of private and public laboratories authorised for official controls by the competent authorities of the entities, namely Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska.

It is expected that capacities of competent authorities in the sector and FBOs for all components of the project will be significantly improved through various types of education activities, to ensure the knowledge base transfer and skills improvements, based on the assessment of realistic needs of the Food safety sector in BiH. It is also expected that current status of implementation and/or operability, functionality etc. will be evaluated in each of components and their targeted fields and verifying progress of project activities on regular basis, including the reporting along the intervention logic requirements (performance measurement, indicators of achievements), proposing mitigating or remedial or other appropriate measures in order to reach the sector result targets.

Also, for the purpose of better understanding and obtaining of specific experience, direct transfer of knowledge and practical demonstrations, where appropriate, like study visits, should be organised in such manner to cover relevant topics identified as priorities during the writing of the first work plan. It should take into consideration a complex structure of the food safety sector in BiH, comprising all competent stakeholders and relevant needs, like translation.

### **3.2 Ongoing reforms:**

As stated in the 2019 Analytical Report accompanying the the Commission Opinion on Bosnia and Herzegovina's application for membership of the European Union, , with regard to the **placing on the market of food, feed and animal by-products**, the country's official food and feed controls system is yet to be fully aligned with the *acquis* and duly implemented. Administrative capacities at all levels are adequate but they are insufficient with regard to inspection services and need to be improved particularly on professionalisation of the staff and improvement of quality of the inspection service's work by introducing inter-laboratory comparative tests. The state-level Laws on food (2004) and on veterinary medicine (2002) and relevant amendments to the state-level Law on agriculture, food and rural development need to be aligned with the *acquis*. The country needs to ensure full implementation of the hygiene package in a harmonised way across the country.

Food business operators need training on specific EU safety and quality requirements. Bosnia and Herzegovina implements its food safety monitoring plan in a satisfactory manner. The country's crisis management plan and operative emergency measures need to be improved; the risk assessment system needs strengthening, and the maintenance of food safety databases should be harmonised across the country. Bosnia and Herzegovina fully participates in the European Commission's rapid alert system for food and feed (RASFF), implementing appropriate inspections and reporting back to the Commission on the results.

In the area of **general food safety, food safety rules and specific rules for feed**, Bosnia and Herzegovina increased its export of a number of commodities (like fish, honey, potatoes and milk and dairy products, poultry etc.) to the EU by complying with EU rules and aims to further gradual alignments with the EU requirements to enable more export to the EU.

As regards **genetically modified organisms**, the Law on GMOs (2009) provides for shared competences at the state, entity, Brčko District and canton levels. The Law and its implementing acts lay down the procedure and conditions for contained use, cross-border transfer, deliberate release into the environment and placing on the market of GMO and products consisting of, containing or originating from GMOs. Inspection activities are performed at entity, Brčko District, and cantonal level and within the administrative units of local self-governance.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has a council for GMOs that acts in advisory and monitoring capacity. Based on the signed Protocol, the *Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Regioni Lazio e Toscana* from Rome, Italy, serves as a reference laboratory for Bosnia and Herzegovina, as the country does not have its reference or authorised laboratory for testing, controlling and monitoring of presence of GMO in food and feed.

The main issue in the food sector in BiH is ensuring the unobstructed continuation of exports of agricultural goods, especially milk and dairy products, poultry and red meat, fruits and vegetables and products from fruit and vegetables through further harmonisation of regulations and development of institutional capacities in the field of agriculture and rural development, fisheries, phytosanitary policy, food safety and veterinary medicine.

Gradual approximation of food safety legislation in Bosnia and Herzegovina to Union Acquis will significantly affect to the ability of country to improve production of safe and quality food and to meet export market requirements. Stakeholders, such as food business operators (producers, processors, including in particular those export oriented), farmers and agricultural associations, young people and the rural population will benefit from these activities by getting possibility to increase share on domestic market as well.

Competent Authorities (CAs) transposed Regulation 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of January 28, 2002 defining general principles and requirements of food safety and food safety procedures.

Based on Food Laws, numerous of EU Regulations, Directives and Decisions have been transposed in the BiH food safety legislation, i.e. in the field of hygiene and official controls, GMOs, food additives, food contaminants, provision of food information to consumers etc.

As stated in the Final report of Twinning light project "Support to enhancing export potential of agricultural and food products to the EU" concluded in March 2015, competent authorities for performing official controls should meet a number of operational criteria set in the above mentioned Regulation to ensure their impartiality and effectiveness. For performance of the official control the sufficient number of suitably qualified and experienced staff shall be available. The competent authorities should also ensure that, where the competence to carry out official controls has been delegated from the central level to a regional or local level, there is effective and efficient coordination between the central level and those regional or local levels.

Bosnia and Herzegovina recently adopted a Rulebook on quality systems for foodstuffs (Official Gazette of BiH, 90/18), which is partially approximated to existing EU legislation. There is significant potential for registering products as Protected Designation of Origin (PDO), Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) or Traditional Specialities Guaranteed (TSG) in BiH.

This project should help competent authorities (CAs) in BiH, as specified in section 3.1, to build the system prescribed by Rulebook on quality systems for foodstuffs. Producers of this type of products also need support in order to fulfil legislative requirements and it will be one of the activities of the project.

This project will also contribute in detecting of gaps and overlaps in domestic food safety legislation. It will also support CAs and FBOs in solving key issues in the food safety sector such as limited implementation capacities, inspection capacity in domain of development of operational programmes, plans, procedures, official controls, hygiene package implementation, GMO, consumer's protection, quality policy, risk management and risk communication etc.



### 3.3 Linked activities:

Bosnia and Herzegovina has benefited from significant EU assistance related to capacity building and supplies in the fields of agriculture, rural development, food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary. Large scale CARDS, OBNOVA, PHARE programmes paved the way to revitalisation of sectors via post-war/humanitarian and reconstruction aid interventions of approximately 60 MEUR invested into livestock regeneration, machineries and related equipment, capacity building start up etc.

IPA 2007-2013 assistance followed up with app. 27 M EUR invested in institutional capacity building - technical assistance that supported upgrades of policy and legislation, including also preparations for IPARD as well as supplies for information and payments systems within the country's relevant institutions. It also covered a few grant projects that channelled assistance measures in standards certification, transfer of knowledge, provision of assets etc. to rural population and farmers in competitive sectors of fruits and vegetables, medical plants, dairy etc. Large scale technical assistances were also provided for Union acquis alignment in the food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary areas. There were specific diagnostics and equipment provided to laboratories and inspectorates, supplies (vaccines for animal disease control, like those against brucellosis, rabies and classical swine fever), support to animal identification and movement control system, Border Crossing Points with relevant facilities for sanitary and phytosanitary controls etc<sup>8</sup>.

In addition, EU provides technical assistance to BiH focused on sectors priority areas through TAIEX, Twinings and BTSF programmes.

IPA 2007 Technical assistance project supported the EU approximation in the sector legislation in period of 2009-2011.

IPA 2008 supplies provided for equipment for laboratories improving food controls.

IPA 2011 Twinning light project "Support to enhancing export potential of agricultural and food products to the EU" implemented by the Lithuanian State Food and Veterinary Service in the period of September 2014 - March 2015 provided for assistance in enhancing capacities of institutions for the implementation of official controls on food and feed safety and quality, animal health and public health in line with EU standards and technical requirements and improved competitiveness of food business operators (FBOs) for export of agricultural and food products to the EU. From the side of the Beneficiary country, it was jointly implemented by Food safety and Veterinary services in BiH.

Project named "Increasing Food Safety System in Bosnia and Herzegovina", which includes a component for the Salmonella national control program is financed by the Czech Development Agency and covers the period 2018-2020. More specifically, the Food safety sector is involved in activities related to strengthen capacities of official controls (inspection services and laboratories) in the area of food additives.

FARMA II project (funded by USAID and SIDA), started in 2016. It is a five year agricultural and agribusiness development program that builds on the achievements of the previous activities supported by USAID and the Government of Sweden. FARMA II provides for a facilitative approach to increase the competitiveness of commercially-orientated producer organizations (POs) and upgrade the capability of public services to meet and sustain EU compliance. The Food safety sector is mainly supported in the area of enhancing capacities of official controls in pesticides residues, risk assessment, honey quality etc.

A general lesson learnt, which applies to all sectors, is that policy and legislative developments needs to be evidence-based, cost-benefit and subject to appropriate and timely internal and external stakeholder consultations within the legislative and policy-making process. This is the key to ensuring the implementation and enforcement of adopted policies

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<sup>8</sup> Source of information: Strategic plan of rural development of BiH 2018 – 2021 Framework document

and legislation. Therefore the action shall ensure consistency with the horizontal public administration reform (PAR) efforts.

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

This sector has a large number of adopted and harmonised regulations with EU legislation. The project will be focused on following legislation:

- Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety.  
(The corresponding document in domestic legislation: Food Law („Official Gazette B&H“, 50/04).
- Council Directive 90/219/EEC of 23 April 1990 on the contained use of genetically modified micro-organisms; Commission Directive 94/51/EC of 7 November 1994 adapting to technical progress Council Directive 90/219/EEC on the contained use of genetically modified micro-organisms; Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 March 2001 on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms and repealing Council Directive 90/220/EEC - Commission Declaration; Regulation (EC) No 1946/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2003 on transboundary movements of genetically modified organisms; Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 on genetically modified food and feed; Regulation (EC) No 1830/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 concerning the traceability and labelling of genetically modified organisms and the traceability of food and feed products produced from genetically modified organisms and amending Directive 2001/18/EC  
(The corresponding document in domestic legislation: Law on Genetically modified Organisms (Official Gazette of BiH, 23/09)
- Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.  
(The corresponding document in domestic legislation: Rulebook on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules (Official Gazette BiH“, 5/13, 62/17).
- Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs.  
(The corresponding document in domestic legislation: Rulebook on food hygiene (Official Gazette BiH“, 4/13).
- Regulation (EC) No. 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin.  
(The corresponding document in domestic legislation is Rulebook on hygiene for food of animal origin (Official Gazette BiH“, 103/12).  
Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption. (The corresponding document in domestic legislation: Rulebook on organisation of official controls of products of animal origin intended for human consumption (Official Gazette of BiH, 103/12).

- Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products, amending Regulations (EC) No 999/2001, (EC) No 396/2005, (EC) No 1069/2009, (EC) No 1107/2009, (EU) No 1151/2012, (EU) No 652/2014, (EU) 2016/429 and (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulations (EC) No 1/2005 and (EC) No 1099/2009 and Council Directives 98/58/EC, 1999/74/EC, 2007/43/EC, 2008/119/EC and 2008/120/EC, and repealing Regulations (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 89/608/EEC, 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC, 91/496/EEC, 96/23/EC, 96/93/EC and 97/78/EC and Council Decision 92/438/EEC (Official Controls Regulation) Text with EEA relevance.  
(There is no corresponding document in domestic legislation).
- Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 668/2014 of 13 June 2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs.  
(The corresponding document in domestic legislation: Rulebook on quality systems for foodstuffs (Official Gazette of BiH, 90/18).

Full sector institutional and legal overview in the country can be found in the country's replies to the Commission's Questionnaire<sup>9</sup>

### 3.5 Results per component

Capacity building and support to gradual Union acquis alignment in the food safety sector are of utmost importance for better food safety and quality but also well protected public health, enhanced reliable data registries as well as the prerequisites for the increased domestic production and export potential. It is also expected to provide establishment of better cooperation between all the interest groups, as well as strengthening of the institutional capacity of the food safety services in BiH and rising of public awareness.

Therefore, it is expected that this Twinning project will reach **the overall sector result that safety and quality of food is improved by an advanced level of food safety policies implemented and Union acquis aligned legislation**. To achieve it, this Twinning assistance will cover the following components:

#### **Result 1 - Component 1: Food safety legislation in BiH reviewed and gradual alignment with Union acquis ensured**

This component requires reviews of existing legislation, including operating procedures, assessment of needs for improvements in view of relevant updates, revisions and upgrades, renewals, where appropriate and relevant, in order to improve the scope of gradual alignment with Union acquis and its effective implementation across the sector.

Sub-Result 1.1 Food safety legislation in BiH reviewed and recommendations for its amending provided with a number of prepared legal acts

<sup>9</sup> [http://www.dei.gov.ba/dei/direkcija/sektor\\_strategija/Upitnik/odgovoriupitnik/Archive.aspx?langTag=en-US&template\\_id=120&pageIndex=2](http://www.dei.gov.ba/dei/direkcija/sektor_strategija/Upitnik/odgovoriupitnik/Archive.aspx?langTag=en-US&template_id=120&pageIndex=2)

Sub-Result 1.2 Drafts of legislation on official controls, harmonised with the EU legislation, prepared

Indicator: Decreased gap between the legislation of BiH and Union acquis regarding food and feed safety; number of prepared legal acts.

**Result 2 - Component 2: Capacities of CAs and FBOs for implementation of legislation and EU standards in the field of food hygiene and official controls of food improved**

Sub-Result 2.1 Services in the food safety sector in BiH enabled to intensify their operability in the field of official controls

Indicator: At least 100 employees of selected competent authorities knowledgeable of legislation and EU standards in the field of food hygiene and official controls

Sub-Result 2.2 Enforced capacities of FBOs to implement HACCP/HACCP based procedures

Indicator: At least 30 selected FBOs implementing HACCP/HACCP based procedures

**Result 3 - Component 3: System of registration of products as PDO, PGI and TSG<sup>10</sup> in BiH established**

Sub-Result 3.1 Complete legal basis and guidelines for registration of products as PDO, PGI and TSG in BiH drafted

Sub-Result 3.2 FBOs informed and trained on implementation of requirements for registration of products as PDO, PGI and TSG

Indicator: Register of PDO, PGI or TSG in BiH is in place and functional

**Result 4 - Component 4: Capacities for Risk assessment in BiH strengthened**

Sub-Result 4.1. Competent authorities in BiH produce scientific and expertise opinions.

Sub-Result 4.2. Improved capacities of Food safety Agency to collect and analyse data.

Indicator: At least 50 % of Risk management measures based on risk assessment carried out.

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

Proposals submitted by Member State shall be concise and focused on the strategy and methodology and an indicative timetable underpinning this, the administrative model suggested, the quality of the expertise to be mobilised and clearly show the administrative structure and capacity of the Member State entities. Proposals shall be detailed enough to respond adequately to the Twinning Fiche, but are not expected to contain a fully elaborated project. They shall contain enough detail about the strategy and methodology and indicate the sequencing and mention key activities during the implementation of the project to ensure the achievement of overall and specific objectives and mandatory results/outputs.

The interested Member State(s) shall include in their proposal the CVs of the designated Project Leader (PL) and the Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA), as well as the CVs of the designated Component Leaders-(CLs).

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<sup>10</sup> Protection of Geographic Indication, Protection of Designated Origin, Traditional Specialties Guarantee

The Twinning project will be implemented by close co-operation between the partners aiming to achieve the mandatory results in sustainable manner.

The set of proposed activities and indicators will be further developed with the Twinning partners when drafting the initial work plan and successive rolling work plan every three months, keeping in mind that the final list of activities will be decided in cooperation with the Twinning partner. The components are closely inter-linked and need to be sequenced accordingly.

The project will be implemented in the form of a Twinning Contract between the EU Delegation and EU Member State(s).

The implementation of the project requires an MS Twinning Project Leader (MS PL), Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA), Component Leaders (CLs) and short-term experts (STEs).

The PL, RTA and Component Leaders must meet the minimum criteria as specified in the Twinning Fiche.

### **3.6.1 Profile and tasks of the PL:**

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

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

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

The MS Project Leader should fulfil the following criteria:

- University degree in the food safety or in veterinary medicine or in public health or in agricultural sciences or in other field relevant to the scope of this Twinning project or equivalent professional experience of 8 years. The University degree will be considered as asset;
- At least 3 years of experience in the food safety field. 6 years will be considered as asset;
- Experience in at least one international or EU funded project with similar nature will be considered as asset;
- Fluency in English is required (spoken, written);
- Computer Literate.

Tasks:

- Conceive, supervise and coordinate the overall preparation of the project;
- Coordinate and monitor the overall implementation of the project;
- Ensure coordination of the work of the RTA
- Liaise with the Project Leader from the Beneficiary Institution;
- Co-chair, with the Beneficiary Country Project Leader (with the EU Delegation involved), the regular project implementation Steering Committee meetings;
- Execute administrative issues (i.e. signing reports, side letters, etc.)
- Ensure a close political steering.

### **3.6.2 Profile and tasks of the RTA:**

In line with the Twinning Manual (Section 4.1.6), The RTA is the backbone of a Twinning project throughout its entire duration and the RTA is in charge of the day-to-day implementation.

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

The RTA will be located in the premises of the Food Safety Agency of BiH, based in Mostar.

The RTA will be seconded for 36 consecutive months within the country and is expected to work on a permanent day-to-day basis in the beneficiary country for the duration of the project. Where duly justified, as necessary and relevant for the project effectiveness or supporting particular issues of high (expertise based, strategic, location based vis-à-vis other administrative centres in the country etc.) importance, there may be some short term missions of RTA within the country (in line with provisions of the Twinning Manual).

RTA should fulfil the following criteria:

- University degree in the food safety or in veterinary medicine or in public health or in agricultural sciences or in other field relevant to the scope of this Twinning project or equivalent professional experience of 8 years. The University degree will be considered as asset.
- At least 3 years of experience in the food safety field. 6 years will be considered as asset.
- Experience in a management capacity on at least one international or EU project related to food safety sector will be considered as asset;
- Proficiency in report drafting,
- Organisational and planning skills,
- Fluency in English required (spoken, written),
- Computer Literate.

Tasks:

- Carry out day-to-day implementation of the Twinning Project in the Beneficiary Country;
- Provide technical advice and support to the Twinning Project beneficiaries;
- Guarantee smooth implementation of the different activities delivered;
- Assess continuously the Twinning Project in all stages and provide link to compare it with the specified benchmarks/results and time-frame;
- Prepare quarterly reports and monthly reports;
- Make recommendations for maximizing project outputs.

### **3.6.3 Profile and tasks of Component Leaders:**

Component leader 1:

- University degree in the food safety or in veterinary medicine or in public health or in agricultural sciences or in other field relevant to the project component;

- Minimum three years of experience in the field per component. 6 years will be considered as asset;
- Fluency in English required (spoken, written);
- Computer Literate.

Component leader 2:

- University degree in the food safety or in veterinary medicine or in public health or in agricultural sciences or in other field relevant to the project component;
- Minimum three years of experience in the field per component. 6 years will be considered as asset;
- Fluency in English required (spoken, written);
- Computer Literate.

Component leader 3:

- University degree in the food safety or in veterinary medicine or in public health or in agricultural sciences or in other field relevant to the project component;
- Minimum three years of experience in the field per component. 6 years will be considered as asset;
- Fluency in English required (spoken, written);
- Computer Literate.

Component leader 4:

- University degree in the food safety or in veterinary medicine or in public health or in agricultural sciences or in other field relevant to the project component;
- Minimum three years of experience in the field per component. 6 years will be considered as asset;
- Fluency in English required (spoken, written);
- Computer Literate.

Tasks:

- Support and coordination of all project activities in line with the agreed work program to enable timely completion of project mandatory results and delivery of the outputs;
- Establish and maintain cooperation with all beneficiaries involved in the implementation of the project, and with other related projects (ensuring the avoidance of overlapping), in close coordination with the RTA and Project Leader.

### **3.6.4 Profile and tasks of other short-term experts:**

Short-term experts are officials or assimilated agents of a Member State public administration, or mandated body. They deliver their expertise under the overall responsibility of the Member State PL and the coordination and supervision of the RTA.

Short-term experts deliver the bulk of support to the Beneficiary administration through specific activities in the Beneficiary country, including workshops, seminars, training sessions, meetings with officials of the Beneficiary administration, joint drafting sessions, etc. Before and after their missions to the Beneficiary country they are expected to dedicate the necessary time to preparation and reporting work (Twinning Manual, Section 4.1.7).

Minimum requirements are:

- University degree in the field related to the assignment or equivalent professional experience of 8 years. The University degree will be considered as asset.
- Minimum of 3 years of experience in the field related to the assignment,

- Proficiency in report drafting,
- Organisational and planning skills,
- Fluency in written and spoken English and computer literacy;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills.

#### **4. Budget**

##### **Maximum Budget available for the Grant**

The total budget for this project is EUR 1 500 000.

Relevant provisions of eligible costs and those necessary for the project implementation to be included into Twinning budget are in Section 6.2 of the Twinning Manual.

Translation and interpretation services: in line with Annex A1 of the Twinning Manual, the official language of the project is the one used as contract language under the IPA instrument (English). All formal communication regarding the project, including interim and final reports shall be produced in the language of the contract.

Nevertheless, to facilitate a wide range of beneficiaries and smooth communication, translations of reports and relevant outputs (material) are to be translated. In that respect and operationally project-wide, it is expected that there will be considerable volume of translation and interpretation necessary for the implementation of activities. Therefore, these services should be foreseen under the relevant budget heading and sub-heading (see Twinning Manual Section 6.2.8).

A full-time language assistant is to be envisaged to recruit (in addition to the full-time RTA Assistant). The provisions for the recruitment of the RTA assistant (Section 6.2.13) also apply for the recruitment of the Language assistant.

Visibility costs: it is envisaged that the project should provide for a widely spread range of activities on visibility and communication of EU support throughout the project implementation. Therefore, the twinning budget must include these costs in line with relevant provisions specified in the Twinning Manual. The initial work plan (in line with the template C19 of the Twinning Manual) should also include a detailed communication and visibility plan (see section 5.7 of the Twinning Manual) to be agreed with the EU Delegation and the Beneficiary. The maximum cost for such plan corresponds to 3% of the overall Twinning budget.

As per Section 6.2.12 of the Twinning Manual, the expenditure verification report (see also Section 5.5.4 of the Twinning Manual) shall be submitted together with the Twinning project final report. It can be provided by a national institution for independent external auditing, for instance the Court of Auditors, or by an audit firm contracted to perform this task. The cost invoiced by the auditing institution to the Member State is eligible for reimbursement by the budget of the Twinning project.

#### **5. Implementation Arrangements**

##### **5.1 Implementing Agency responsible for tendering, contracting and accounting:**

Delegation of European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Contact person: Maja Dosenovic, Programme Manager

Address: Skenderija 3a, 71000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Email: [delegation-bosnia-and-herzegovina-twinning@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-bosnia-and-herzegovina-twinning@eeas.europa.eu)

[delegation-bosnia-and-herzegovina-procurement@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-bosnia-and-herzegovina-procurement@eeas.europa.eu)



## **5.2 Institutional framework**

Beneficiary Administration is Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina in cooperation with competent authorities of the two entities, namely Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska, and Brčko District of BiH.

Full sector institutional overview is provided in in the country's replies to the Commission's Questionnaire at:

[http://www.dei.gov.ba/dei/direkcija/sektor\\_strategija/Upitnik/odgovoriupitnik/Archive.aspx?pageIndex=1&langTag=en-US](http://www.dei.gov.ba/dei/direkcija/sektor_strategija/Upitnik/odgovoriupitnik/Archive.aspx?pageIndex=1&langTag=en-US)

The results of the project will not lead to a change of the institutional framework as described.

## **5.3 Counterparts in the Beneficiary administration:**

*The PL and RTA counterparts will be staff of the Beneficiary administration and will be actively involved in the management and coordination of the project.*

### **5.3.1 Contact person:**

Dalibor Vidačak, senior adviser for communication and international cooperation  
Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Kneza Višeslava bb  
88 000 Mostar  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

### **5.3.2 PL counterpart**

Džemil Hajrić, Director  
Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Kneza Višeslava bb  
88 000 Mostar  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

In Line with Twinning Manual Section 4.2.3, the Beneficiary PL is appointed by the Beneficiary administration and expected to operate at the appropriate political level to administer the project, and entrusted with the power and responsibility to guarantee ideal conditions for the implementation of the activities and full ownership of the results achieved. The Beneficiary PL acts as the main interlocutor of the Member State PL. The Beneficiary and Member State PLs work in close cooperation and ensure the overall steering and coordination of the project. The Beneficiary PL must devote part of his/her working time to supervise the project.

### **5.3.3 RTA counterpart**

Dragan Brenjo, Deputy Director  
Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Kneza Višeslava bb  
88 000 Mostar  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

As per Section 4.2.4 of Twinning Manual, to facilitate communication and exchange of information between the implementing partners, for each Twinning project the Beneficiary should designate a member of its staff as the counterpart of RTA. The RTA counterpart should be fluent in the language used under the Twinning project and support the RTA whenever necessary for all contacts with the Beneficiary administration. The RTA should therefore be familiar with the structure and competences of the Beneficiary administration and be able to act as a facilitator in view of the organisation and implementation of activities. The RTA counterpart shall also support the Beneficiary PL for the daily coordination of activities.

#### **5.3.4. Component Leaders counterparts:**

Component 1

Amela Isić, Head of Department

Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Kneza Višeslava bb

88 000 Mostar

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Component 2

Zehra Gilić, Head of Department Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Kneza Višeslava bb

88 000 Mostar

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Component 3

Maida Mujkić, senior associate

Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Kneza Višeslava bb

88 000 Mostar

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Component 4

Dragan Tomović, Head of Department

Food Safety Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Kneza Višeslava bb

88 000 Mostar

Bosnia and Herzegovina

## **6. Duration of the project**

Duration of the execution period is: 36 months (implementation period) + 3 months.

*Provisional schedule of implementation:*

Launching of the call for proposals (Date): Q3 2019

Start of project implementation (Date): Q1 2020

Project completion (Date): Q1 2023

Duration of the execution period: 36 months + 3 months.

## **7. Management and reporting**

### **7.1 Language**

The official language of the project is the one used as contract language under the IPA instrument (English). All formal communications regarding the project, including interim and final reports, shall be produced in the language of the contract<sup>11</sup>.

### **7.2 Project Steering Committee**

A project steering committee (PSC) shall oversee the implementation of the project, whose members are: the Contracting Authority (EU Delegation), the Member State PL, the junior Member State PL(s) (in case of consortium), the Beneficiary PL as well as the RTA and the RTA counterpart and nominated representatives of relevant sector institutions: Food Safety Agency BiH, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of RS, Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry of FBiH, Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Water Management of Brcko District of BiH,. The nominations will be formally asked from these institutions by the Contracting Authority (EU Delegation) at the start of the project. The main duties of the PSC include verification of the progress and achievements via-à-vis the mandatory results/outputs chain (from mandatory results/outputs per component to impact), ensuring good coordination among the actors, finalising the interim reports and discuss the updated work plan. The Project Steering Committee convened by the RTA meets at quarterly intervals and is jointly chaired by the Member State PL and the Beneficiary PL. The draft update of the work plan is prepared by the RTA, who circulates it to all members of the Project Steering Committee at least two weeks in advance of a meeting. In case of exceptional needs, extraordinary meetings of the Project Steering Committee can be convoked. Given the important duties of the Project Steering Committee, members must make sure to attend meetings for the whole duration of the meetings. Venues of those meetings may be rotated between main administrative centres in the country i.e. Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Brčko District of BiH, Mostar.

Other details concerning the establishment and functioning of the PSC are described in the Twinning Manual.

*Important note: IPA 2018 annual country programme foresees twinning projects for Food safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary sectors in BiH, one per sector. Therefore, there will be three twinning projects in total. It is expected that those three projects will closely cooperate and ensure relevant information share for better effectiveness within the policy area. In that respect, it is expected that those three Twinning projects will host joint PSC meetings of all three projects during the year, so as to provide for a good cooperation and share of experience and best practice together with their partners from the EUMS. The frequency of meetings and other details are to be defined when the project starts/at the time of writing the first work plan.*

### **7.3 Reporting**

All reports shall have a narrative section and a financial section. They shall include as a minimum the information detailed in section 5.5.2 (interim reports) and 5.5.3 (final report) of the Twinning Manual. Reports need to go beyond activities and inputs. Two types of reports are foreseen in the framework of Twinning: interim quarterly reports and final report. An interim quarterly report shall be presented for discussion at each meeting of the PSC. The narrative part shall primarily take stock of the progress and achievements via-à-vis the mandatory results and provide precise recommendations and corrective measures to be decided by in order to ensure the further progress.

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<sup>11</sup> For reference to translations, please see under Section 4.

## **8. Sustainability**

The sector complexity implies many stakeholders across the sector in the country. They should be all efficiently gathered under a coherent project implementation framework. The lead and coordinating beneficiary administration will support that, ensuring close cooperation between all competent stakeholders and that all agreed actions are deemed relevant by all involved stakeholders. Regular communication and information share will be ensured via project bodies, like Steering Committee and gatherings like technical groups, of relevant representatives of the sector administrations in BiH, where deemed appropriate, to serve as advisory, consultative etc. in their joint work with the EUMS implementing partner.

Gathering all competent stakeholders in such sector approach will also contribute to improved communication between the sector administrations and operators (non-state actors, like food business operators etc.).

Food safety legislation and guidelines drafted in the project framework and the training of the staff involved in official controls of food and the food business operators (FBOs) is a considerable effort in improving the food control system in BiH and this benefit shall endure well beyond the project timeframe.

Development of new legislation/amendment of existing legislation shall be carried out respecting all national procedures, especially those related to (fiscal/ regulatory) impact assessments, public consultations, inter-ministerial coordination etc.

The project dynamics will take into account the capacities of counterparts and beneficiaries, supporting the Public Administration Principles in work with staff of the sector administrations (merit based policy etc.). It will ensure avoidance of undermining transparency, accountability and legal certainty in decision making, as for the benefit of the sector effectiveness within the policy area as a whole.

Close cooperation with other projects and support instruments (like TAIEX) in the sector will be ensured.

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

Food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy measures and controls will contribute to practices compliant with relevant quality standards, general and specific sanitary and phytosanitary requirements, animal and plant health and protection regulations etc.

The project is a technical intervention aiming at strengthening administrative capacities with a view to EU accession. Equal opportunity principles and practices in ensuring equitable gender participation and non-discrimination within the project will be guaranteed.

As for *environmental* issues in specific, the project will enhance good environment – friendly practice, via improving bio-security measures, including general hygiene and other related standards, to contribute to protection of natural resources, energy efficiency based animal holding at the farm level, health risk resilience etc. The project will also tackle the field of animal waste (animal by-product) management both at policy and implementation level. It may enable measures to regulate and remove improper disposal of animal carcasses, pathogenic material and agricultural chemicals with negative effects both on environment and health.

As for *engagement with civil society and other non-state actors*, due to the scope of domain, the project will enable an active involvement of civil society and other non-state actors, like professional veterinary organisations, hunting associations, animal holdings etc. The experts' support in advisory and trainings may provide for more synergies between policies and active engagement of the above groups in their implementation.

The dimension of *equal opportunities* will also be a part of the sector performance monitoring and relevant data will be aggregated. The project will not only provide for equal opportunities to services and direct assistance, but will also ensure capacities for delivering support in a gender sensitive way. It also includes gender sensitive language throughout the project implementation. It will enable equal access of men and women to trainings and information not only across institutions but also at the civil society and non-state actors level. As for capacity building, principles of equal opportunities and gender sensitive practice will be duly reflected. The project will develop gender indicators and coherent usage, monitoring and analyses of sex-disaggregated and gender data. Positive impact is therefore expected both under the sector policy (including impact on economy) indicators and its social dimension (health risks resilience).

*Related to minorities and vulnerable groups*, with such strong equal opportunities' dimension, the project will also ensure that discrimination against any minorities and vulnerable groups is prevented.

## **10. Conditionality and sequencing**

Risks:

- Sector complexity and a wide number of stakeholders at various levels of the administration.
- Insufficient sector coordination and cooperation amongst relevant stakeholders.

Mitigation measures to be undertaken will include:

- Facilitation of cooperation between all relevant stakeholders. It will be ensured that all agreed measures are deemed relevant by all stakeholders involved.
- Regular communication and information exchange between all stakeholders will be ensured via sector coordination mechanisms as well as the Steering Committee etc.
- Inclusive and evidence based policy and legislative development will be provided.
- Avoidance of promoting any practices that may undermine transparency, accountability and legal certainty in decision making.
- Close cooperation with other projects and support instruments (like TAIEX) in the sector will be ensured.

## **11. Indicators for performance measurement**

Please see section 3.5 and Annex I.

Beneficiary Administration will ensure appropriate accountability, inclusive and evidence based approach in policy and legal development.

## **12. Facilities available**

In line with Sections 4.26 and 6.2.10 of the Twinning Manual, the Beneficiary is solely and entirely responsible for providing all necessary office equipment to ensure effective working conditions for the project. Beneficiary shall also make available the necessary infrastructure for Member States to carry out their tasks. In particular, office space adequately equipped shall be available to the RTA and RTA assistant(s) as from the day of arrival. The Beneficiary is expected to make available, free of charge, meeting rooms and space for training for the implementation of project activities and conference facilities.

In respect of the aforementioned, the beneficiary institution will provide:

- Office space for MS experts,

- Telephone,
- Fax,
- Necessary staff input,
- Internet connection.

*n.b. According to the Twinning Manual, Article 6.2.6: “No cost related to the participation of Beneficiary staff in activities (or their follow-up) organised in the Beneficiary country can be covered by the Twinning project. It is an obligation of the Beneficiary administration to ensure that its officials can profitably attend those activities.” In that respect, the Beneficiary administration has to make certain funds available from their budget to cover the costs that are not covered by the Twinning, such as accommodation and travel, for staff of beneficiary institutions involved in the project, which can be important for implementation of some activities taking place out of the staff's bases.*

## **ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE**

1. Logical framework matrix in standard format (compulsory)
2. Project/sector relevant publicly available Conclusions/agreements between EU and the Beneficiary resulting from the political dialogue<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> More information at: [www.europa.ba](http://www.europa.ba)

## ANNEX 1: Logical framework matrix in standard format

	<b>Description</b>	<b>Indicators (with relevant baseline and target data)</b>	<b>Sources of verification</b>	<b>Risks</b>	<b>Assumptions (external to project)</b>
<b>Overall Objective</b>	To improve safety and quality of food**  **As linked and contributing to what is indicated in the IPA 2018 Action document	<i>Agricultural products export rate*</i>  * As indicated in the IPA 2018 Action Document	<i>EC Country reports; DG AGRI statistics; DG SANTE Country profiles; WB, ERP, OIE, FAO, SWG RRD reports; Competent Authorities' reports in BiH; Statistics reports in BiH.</i>	<i>Sector complexity and a wide number of stakeholders at various levels of the administration;</i>	Governments in BiH are committed to reforms in sectors
<b>Specific (Project) Objective(s)</b>	<i>To support Union acquis alignment and implementation of policy measures in the area of food safety**</i>	<i>Status of acquis alignment in the food safety sector  Number of food samples taken through official controls</i>	<i>EC Country reports; DG AGRI statistics; DG SANTE Country profiles; WB, ERP, OIE, FAO, SWG RRD reports; Competent Authorities' reports in BiH; Statistics reports in BiH.</i>	Insufficient sector coordination and cooperation amongst relevant stakeholders.	Governments in BiH are committed to reforms in sectors
<b>Mandatory results/outputs by components</b>	<i>Overall: safety and quality of food is improved by an advanced level of food safety policies implemented and Union acquis aligned legislation  Result 1 - Component 1: Food safety legislation in BiH reviewed and gradual alignment with Union acquis ensured;  Result 2 - Component 2: Capacities of CAs and FBOs for implementation of legislation and EU standards in the field of food hygiene and official controls of food improved;  Result 3 – Component 3: System of registration of products as PDO, PGI and TSG in BiH established;  Result 4 – Component 4: Capacities for Risk assessment in BiH strengthened.</i>	<i>Level of acquis alignment in the food safety sector* ( number of legislative acts aligned with the acquis supported by IPA 2018 assistance)  Number of food samples taken through official controls</i>	<i>EU sector reports Competent Authorities' reports in BiH Statistics reports in BiH Project reports</i>	Insufficient absorption capacities of the stakeholders, both institutional and final beneficiaries.  Low level of efficiency of implementation, monitoring and evaluation system.	Adequate number of staff is assigned in accordance with policy objectives;  Agri-food operators cooperate and transpose EU aligned standards and practices into their farming and businesses



<p><b>Sub-results per component (optional and indicative)</b></p>	<p>1.1 Food safety legislation in BiH reviewed and recommendations for its amending provided with a number of prepared legal acts.</p> <p>1.2 Drafts of legislation on official controls, harmonised with the EU legislation, prepared</p> <p>2.1 Services in the food safety sector in BiH enabled to intensify their operability in the field of official controls;</p> <p>2.2. Enforced capacities of FBOs to implement HACCP/HACCP based procedures</p> <p>3.1 Complete legal basis and guidelines for registration of products as PDO, PGI and TSG in BiH drafted</p> <p>3.2 FBOs informed and trained on implementation of requirements for registration of products as PDO, PGI and TSG</p> <p>4.1 Competent authorities in BiH produce scientific and expertise opinions</p> <p>4.2. Improved capacities of Food safety Agency to collect and analyse data</p>	<p>Decreased gap between the legislation of BiH and Union acquis regarding food and feed safety; number of prepared legal acts</p> <p>At least 100 of employees of selected competent authorities knowledgeable of legislation and EU standards in the field of food hygiene and official controls</p> <p>At least 30 selected FBOs implementing HACCP/HACCP based procedures</p> <p>Register of PDO, PGI or TSG in BiH in place</p> <p>At least 50 % of Risk management measures based on risk assessment</p>	<p>EU sector reports Competent Authorities' reports in BiH Statistics reports in BiH Project reports</p>		
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