



Bosnia and Herzegovina

PROGRESS REPORT¹

on recent developments regarding research and innovation cooperation in/with Western Balkans (Period: June 2016 – June 2017)²

1 Policy actions and legislative initiatives (legal and strategic framework)

Conference of Ministers responsible for Research and Innovation within Bosnia and Herzegovina has been established, as well as BiH Council for Science.

In order to promote H2020 and other scientific research initiatives, info days and other events were regularly organised by the Ministry's Department for Science, so that 15 info days, workshops and seminars were held. Horizon 2020 was promoted by the Ministry at all BiH public universities, as well as at the Chambers of Commerce at State and Entities level, SMEs, and Development Agencies, and it was presented to the BiH Science Council. In cooperation with the relevant Entity and Cantonal institutions, activities are continuously carried out on implementation of the Memorandum between BiH and the EU related to BiH membership in the EU H2020 programme.

Implementation of the Funding Programmes to Support Science and Research at all levels of the governance in BiH continues throughout 2016 and 2017. Ministry of Civil Affairs is implementing the Programmes:

- 1) Support to Participation in the EU Funding Programmes, COST and EUREKA (Current Call is opened until 5 October 2017)
- 2) Support to innovation activities (Dead-line was end of July 2017)

Draft of the BiH Revised Strategy on Research and Innovation 2017-2022 has been finished in December 2016, but it is still not approved by all relevant authorities.

BiH Award for Science has been introduced in 2017.

¹ **Important Note:** The progress reports are collected in preparation of the meeting of the Steering Platform on Research and Innovation for the Western Balkans and will be made available for the participants. Based on this report, please prepare one PowerPoint slide, which will be used during the meeting to present the main topics of the progress report to all SP members. Please send the report and the PowerPoint slide by September 1, 2017 to Ms. Ines Marinkovic at marinkovic@zsi.at.

² The last Steering Platform was held in Sarajevo on June 7, 2016. All related information is also available online here: <https://wbc-rti.info/object/news/15251>



2 Development of international cooperation and actions on integration into ERA

BiH participates in the work of the NCP structure, ERAC, ESFRI, SFIC, the SGHRM, the JRC, Helsinki Group and it appointed the members of the Program Committees for H2020, as well as in the EU member states Working Group on Open Science.

So far, fourteen institutions have signed the European Charter for Researchers and a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, with two institutions were granted HR Logo.

EURAXESS Mobility Researchers Day in BiH was organized in Banjaluka in collaboration with the University of Sarajevo and the University of Banja Luka. The conference was an opportunity for researchers to be informed about the possibilities of mobility (Marie Curie actions) in the region and the EU. Researcher's Night 2016 was organized in Sarajevo, Banjaluka, Bijeljina and Mostar.

Within the framework of bilateral cooperation with the Republic of Slovenia and Montenegro, both schemes are currently on-hold, due to internal procedures within the Country.

Bilateral S&T Agreement with Austria was signed in 2017 and Agreement with Russia is ready for signature.

3 Important events, meetings, training activities, studies etc.

COST info day, Sarajevo, Banjaluka April 2016

MSCA Campaign in Underperforming Countries, Banjaluka October 2016

Researcher's Night, September 2017

JRC Training on citizen engagement in Policy relevant Science, Technology and Innovation, October 2017

4 Outlook and perspectives

(e.g. upcoming relevant meetings, policy actions etc.)

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5 Other relevant information related to Research and Innovation cooperation in/with Western Balkan economies)

(e.g. relevant publications, relevant online (information) platforms etc.)

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