

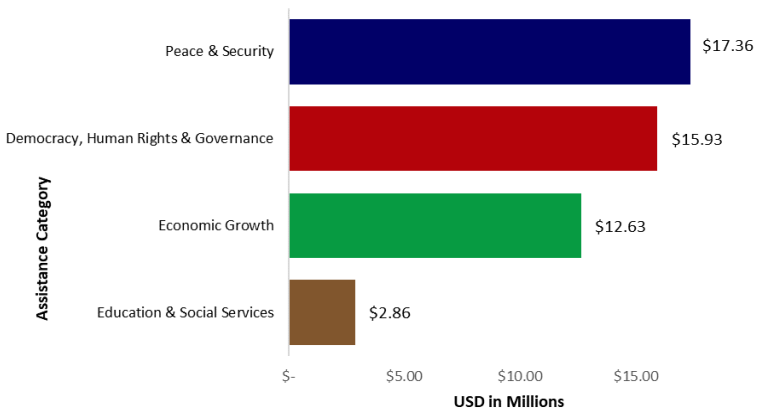


BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

U.S. government (USG) foreign assistance, coordinated by the Office of the Coordinator of U.S. Assistance to Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia (ACE), supports Bosnia and Herzegovina's (BiH) political and economic reforms, bolsters its security and stability, and reinforces its Euro-Atlantic trajectory. U.S. assistance continues to support the structures and institutions of the Dayton Agreement, which have maintained peace for over 25 years. As BiH continues its work to improve rule of law and judicial integrity and counter human trafficking, corruption, and malign influence, U.S. assistance strengthens legal institutions; helps citizens engage in civic life, participatory democracy, and anti-corruption efforts; and promotes the viability of independent and investigative journalism. These USG assistance efforts are advanced in BiH by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), U.S. Embassy Sarajevo's Public Diplomacy Section, the State Department Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), and INL's partnerships with the Department of Justice's International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP), and the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development Assistance and Training (OPDAT).

over \$2 billion USG assistance since 1992	\$47.8 million State/USAID assistance for FY 2020*	\$4.7 million COVID-19 assistance**
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FY 2020 ACE-Coordinated State/USAID Assistance to Bosnia & Herzegovina by Category (\$48.8m)



Source: ACE

*Does not include centrally managed funds or \$2.15 million in FY 2020 COVID supplemental funds.

**COVID assistance includes reprogrammed, supplemental, and other USG funds.

NOTE: The assistance highlights below are examples of results achieved by funding in each category in the chart.

CIVIL SOCIETY & POLITICAL PROCESSES ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

Through its PRO-Future reconciliation activity, which spans 75 municipalities, USAID engages key influencers and community members within the political, media, and civil society spheres to design and implement a variety of peace-building activities. Using FY 2019 funds, the program hosted a "Living Library" of women who shared their experiences as displaced persons, returnees, or survivors of violence during the war. PRO-Future also promotes the inclusion of women in municipal government and civil society and engages women in public speaking events.

The Public Diplomacy Section supports the efforts of local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) through the Democracy Commission Small Grants Program, which provides grants of up to \$50,000 to help NGOs promote democratic political processes, engage youth, spur economic growth, and address corruption. With Democracy Commission support, an organization in Visoko launched an employment-information hub on social media and a support network for job seekers. Thirty young people attended job searching workshops and were partnered with mentors from ten different businesses, leading to permanent employment for a number of them, a crucial accomplishment in a country where lessening the outward migration of youth looking for work is a critical challenge.

TRADE & BUSINESS ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

USAID's Workforce and Higher Access to Markets (WHAM) project accelerates job creation and advances BiH trade integration into EU and regional markets. It also improves the capacity of high-growth and exporting or export-ready small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the sectors of wood processing, metal processing, apparel/textiles, and information and communication technology. In FY 2020, USAID awarded 23 WHAM grants, valued at a total of \$650,000, to intermediary organizations, such as chambers of commerce or regional development agencies that represent local export-ready, high-growth SMEs located throughout the country. These grants supported much-needed workforce development, improved product quality and the use of new technology for quality management and certification, and helped businesses identify and gain access to new markets and customers. USAID assistance to SMEs and other local sources leveraged an additional \$850,000 towards these efforts. USAID expects to generate more than 732 jobs in BiH as a result of this assistance.

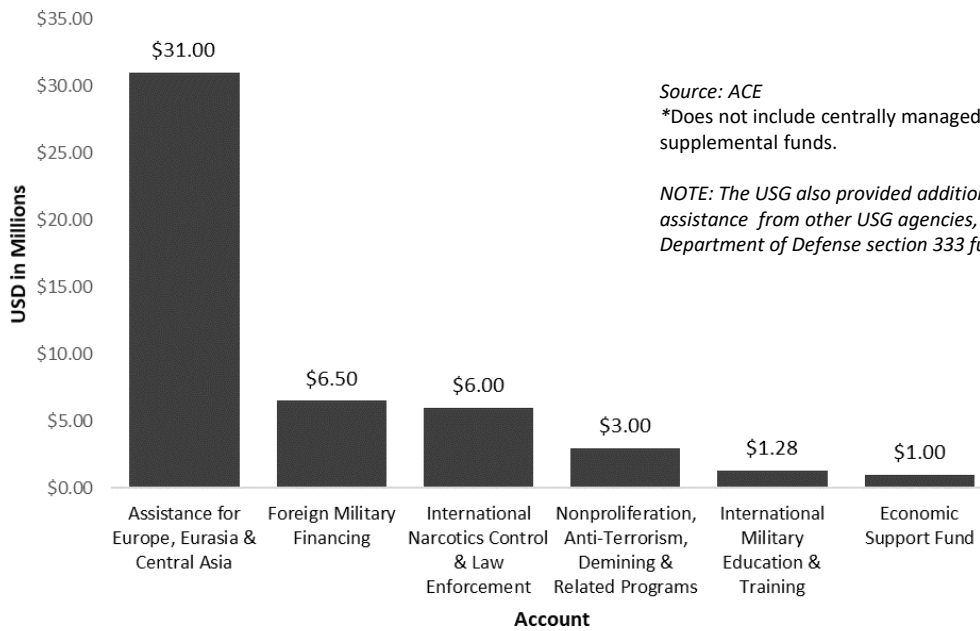
USAID's Diaspora Invest activity focuses on stimulating investment to create job opportunities for BiH citizens. In FY 2020, USAID expanded diaspora direct investment by providing grants and technical assistance to eligible early-stage SMEs. USAID partnered with 24 diaspora-owned companies through grant agreements and 37 diaspora companies through technical assistance, for a total of \$9 million in new investment and 40 new jobs.

EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

The Public Diplomacy Section sponsors an initiative, Democracy and Human Rights Education (DHRE), that partners with local NGO Civitas to facilitate civic education opportunities for more than 120,000 schoolchildren from 220 ethnically segregated villages, towns, and cities nationwide. Through classroom civics curricula, teacher training and textbook development, and extra-curricular programs, the DHRE program supports the development of higher-order thinking skills and teaching in democracy, human rights, and U.S. models of governance, including laws and civic participation. With FY 2020 funds, the program supports more than 30,000 youth as they participate in civic life beyond the classroom, engaging in projects to improve their communities and develop public policy at various levels of government.



FY 2020 ACE-Coordinated State/USAID Assistance to Bosnia & Herzegovina by Account* (\$48.8m)



Source: ACE

*Does not include centrally managed funds or COVID supplemental funds.

NOTE: The USG also provided additional FY 2020 assistance from other USG agencies, such as \$255,000 in Department of Defense section 333 funds.

INDEPENDENT MEDIA & COUNTERING DISINFORMATION ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

USAID’s Investigative Journalism project provides support to independent media outlets to produce high-quality, fact-based investigative reports on public corruption to increase public awareness of, and demand for, anti-corruption initiatives and reforms. One story helped unveil fraud in the \$5.8 million procurement of ventilators from China by the Federation of BiH (FBiH) government via a contract given to a local company registered only to process fruit and vegetables. This story resulted in an investigation by the State Prosecutor’s Office, the Public Procurement Agency, and the State Investigation and Protection Agency and led to the indictment of numerous high-level FBiH officials. As of March 2021, this trial was ongoing.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

In FY 2019, with INL support, ICITAP provided training and material assistance for 466 police officers from all 17 law enforcement agencies. Through these trainings, participating officers improved their ability to conduct organized crime investigations, basic and advanced cybercrime investigations, interviews and interrogations, domestic violence first response, land border surveillance, crime scene investigations, crowd control, and tactical training for officers of the state-level Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies. This training approach involved a needs assessment, followed by trainings delivered using certified curriculum and instructors, ensuring sustainability on the part of BiH law enforcement agencies.

ANTI-CORRUPTION, RULE OF LAW & GOOD GOVERNANCE ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

USAID’s Assistance to Citizens in the Fight Against Corruption project engages and supports citizens in unveiling and countering corruption, while building the credibility of civil society groups committed to combating corruption. Ahead of local elections in November 2020, a USAID-supported network of 74 monitors recorded 924 instances of misuse of public resources and filed 50 reports on election-related incidents with the Central Election Commission, which sanctioned at least six political candidates or political parties by the end of September.

In FY 2019, INL implemented a wide range of anti-corruption and rule-of-law projects, including trainings for 277 judicial personnel on corruption cases, financial crimes, and forensic accounting. INL also launched a program to build capacity and improve coordination between police, prosecutors, and the Sarajevo Canton’s Office of Anti-Corruption. With INL support, OPDAT focused on increasing capacity in complex investigations and prosecuting corruption crimes.

OPDAT also worked with justice sector institutions to improve the fight against corruption and trafficking in persons through specialized workshops, consultations, and case-based mentoring. OPDAT formed a virtual working group that established working relationships between anti-corruption prosecutors and the BiH Public Procurement Agency. This cooperation enabled the initiation of a money-laundering investigation of the prime minister of the FBiH in connection with the above-mentioned importation of ventilators from China.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

The Public Diplomacy Section’s Eco Challenge program engages young people, mostly under the age of 18, in environmental leadership. Students adopt a piece of neglected public land and clean it up or make improvements in energy use or air quality. Thus far, 134 teams of more than 5,000 volunteers have cleaned up lakeshores, hosted educational workshops, and shown the difference that youth can make when they take the lead to protect and preserve BiH’s natural resources.

USAID’s Energy Policy Activity (EPA) builds on critical reform initiatives implemented under previous USAID energy activities. EPA assists BiH energy sector stakeholders in the creation of an investor-friendly legislative framework in accordance with Energy Community Treaty obligations (and EU Energy Directives) and supports the integration of its energy sector into regional and EU energy markets. USAID’s Enabling Environment for Private Investment program helps BiH to achieve better coordination, management, and transparency at all levels of the energy regulatory framework, as well as provide targeted technical assistance to integrate BiH’s energy sector into regional and EU markets. Once a transparent and competitive regulatory framework is in place in BiH, it will discourage corrupt practices, and encourage Western investors to engage in local energy projects.