

# Development of the First Biennial Transparency Report of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Fifth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report as combined report under the UNFCCC (BTR1 ? NC5/BTR2)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

11059

**Countries**

Bosnia-Herzegovina

**Project Name**

Development of the First Biennial Transparency Report of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Fifth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report as combined report under the UNFCCC (BTR1 ? NC5/BTR2)

**Agencies**

UNDP

**Date received by PM**

1/17/2023

**Review completed by PM**

1/19/2023

**Program Manager**

Esteban Bermudez Forn

**Focal Area**

Climate Change

**Project Type**

EA

## Expedited Enabling Activity req (CEO) ☐

### Section I - Enabling Activity Summary

#### Funding elements.

Is the enabling activity aligned with the relevant GEF funding elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF-8 Programming Directions? Is the General Enabling Activity Information table correctly populated?

#### Secretariat's Comments

EBF 1/30/2023:

This project is aligned with the GEF-8 climate change focal are strategy. Cleared.

#### Agency's Comments

#### Cost Ranges.

If there was a deviation in the cost range, was this explained?

#### Secretariat's Comments

EBF 1/30/2023:

The project has no deviations in the cost range. The costing is in line with the [information note GEF/C.62/Inf.15](#).

#### Agency's Comments

**Enabling activity summary.**

**Is the enabling activity summary clear? Are the components in Table B and as described in the enabling activity request sound, appropriate, and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objectives?**

#### Secretariat's Comments

EBF 3/15/2023:

1. Thank you, cleared.
2. Cleared.
3. Noted, cleared.
4. Cleared.

EBF 1/30/2023:

Please address the following comment:

1. The text in table B is off margins, please correct.
2. Regarding the stakeholders table, to avoid confusion, please explain what RS and FBiH (Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina) stand for the first time they are mentioned.
3. Regarding the stakeholders table, please clarify if (1) the "Gender Centers", (2) the Fund for Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency of the RS, and (3) the Fund of Environmental Protection of the FBiH are also governmental institutions. If not, please rearrange them in the appropriate category.
4. Regarding the preliminary stakeholder engagement, we recommend using a different expression (see underlined) in the following statement: " Stakeholder consultations workshops to buy them in the reporting process."

#### Agency's Comments

**14/02/2023**

1. Thank you for the GEFSEC comment. The margins in the online Portal are adjusted with the support of the GEF IT Team.
2. Thank you for the GEFSEC comment. The abbreviations, which stands for "Republika Srpska" (RS) and Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) are clarified under the Stakeholder's involvement section, where they are first mentioned. In terms of governance structure, Bosnia and Herzegovina is comprised of two Entities: the Republika Srpska (RS) and

the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) and the Brčko District. The governance structure of the country is detailed further in the EA request.

3. Agency for Gender Equality (state level institution) and Gender Centers in the entities of RS and FBiH as well as the Fund for Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency of the RS, and the Fund of Environmental Protection of the FBiH are governmental institutions, with no other source of financing.

4. The indicated statement is revised as following in the EA request: "*Stakeholder consultations workshops to engage stakeholders, and ensure their continuous involvement in the reporting process.*"

#### **Section 2 - Enabling Activity Supporting Information**

##### **Eligibility Criteria.**

**Is this enabling activity eligible for GEF funding?**

##### **Secretariat's Comments**

**EBF 3/30/2023:**

**Noted. Cleared.**

**EBF 3/28/2023:**

**Thank you for the update, and apologies for not including the following comment before:**

**Considering that the Fourth National Communication (NC4) and Third Biennial Update Report (BUR3) are yet to be submitted to the UNFCCC. Please indicate in the project proposal that the resources for the first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1), the combined Fifth National Communication (NC5) and second Biennial Transparency Report (BTR2) will be**

disbursed to the executing partner after the UNFCCC submission process of the NC3, and BUR2 is confirmed.

We also acknowledge you have uploaded the project document in English.

EBF 3/15/2023:

1. Thank you, cleared.
2. Based on your response, please include any updates, if any, related to the submission of the NC4 and BUR3 to the UNFCCC.
3. Cleared
4. Noted, cleared.

EBF 1/30/2023:

Please address the following comment:

1. The text in table C is off the margins. Please correct.
2. The fourth National Communication (NC4) and the third Biennial Update Report (BUR3) of Bosnia and Herzegovina have yet to be submitted to the UNFCCC by the time of this review. To avoid overlap with the current project, please explain when they will be submitted to the UNFCCC and amend the following sentence: *"The Fourth National Communication (NC4) and Third Biennial Update Report (BUR3) on Climate Change should be submitted by December 2022, following the Governmental adoption procedure."*
3. To avoid confusion, please explain what TTE stands for the first time it is mentioned.
4. In line with Decision 9/CMA.1, Parties may submit an adaptation communication as a component of, or in conjunction with, a BTR. Please clarify if the country intends to include their Adaptation Communication(s) as a component or in conjunction with their BTR1 and BTR2.

#### **Agency's Comments**

**30/03/2023**

1. Reference has been included in both EA Request Form and ProDoc that resources for the First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) and the combined Fifth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report (NC5/BTR2) will be disbursed to the executing partner after the UNFCCC submission process of the NC4 and BUR3 is confirmed.

**27/03/2023:**

2. Council of Ministers had its first opening session on February 2, 2023 and has so far worked on adoption of 2023 budget. Adoption of NC4 and BUR3 is on the agenda of the session of Council of Ministers scheduled for Mar 30, 2023, following which the documents will be submitted to UNFCCC. Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) meeting on the project document was held on March 09, 2023. Attendees agreed that expected project start date is June 01, 2023, thus avoiding overlap with the current project. The referred sentence has been updated in the EA request form, accordingly.

Please additionally note that the Project Document in English is uploaded to the documents section.

**14/02/2023**

1. Thank you for the GEF SEC comment. The margins in the online Portal are adjusted.

2. The submission process for all strategic documents including the NC4 and BUR3 follows that the documents are adopted first at the Entity (RS and FBiH) and Brcko District levels, and then at the State level. NC4 and BUR3 have been adopted by Entities and at Brcko District level and pending approval by Council of Ministers at State level. The adoption of the Council of Ministers has been postponed due to the elections hold in the country in October 2022. A new Council of Ministers has recently been established, and the first opening session has taken place on February 2, 2023. It is expected that NC4 and BUR3 will be on the agenda of the Council of Ministers for adoption by no later than 9 March 2023, following which the documents will be submitted to UNFCCC. As both NC4 and BUR3 have been finalized with the anticipated submission date of March 2023, there will be no overlap with the current project, as it is expected to start in April 2023. The referred sentence has been updated accordingly.

3. Thank you for the GEF SEC comment. ?TTE?, which stands for, ?Team of Technical Experts? is clarified in its first use in the EA request.

4. In line with Decision 9/CMA.1, adaptation communication will be part of BTR1 and NC5/BTR2. Accordingly, it has been reflected in the ?Project Immediate Objective? and included in Output 1.1.3 and Output 2.1.3. in the results framework table and also the narrative description of activities in the EA Request Form.

#### **Institutional framework.**

**Are the institutional arrangements for implementation adequately described?**

#### **Secretariat's Comments**

EBF 1/30/2023:

The GEF Secretariat takes note of the exceptional request of Mr. Senad Oprasic, Operational Focal Point of Bosnia and Herzegovina for UNDP's Direct Implementation Modality (DIM). His request as well as GEF Secretariat's authorization are attached in the documents section of this project in the portal.

#### **Agency's Comments**

**Monitoring and Evaluation.**

**Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?**

Secretariat's Comments

EBF 1/30/2023:

Yes, \$15,000 are budget for M&E related activities.

Agency's Comments

**Section 3. Information Tables**

**GEF resource availability.**

**Is the proposed GEF financing in Table F (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?**

**Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

**EBF 1/30/2023:**

**Yes, it is in line with GEF policies and guidelines.**

**Agency Response**

**Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):**

**STAR allocation?**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments

**Focal Area allocation?**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments

**LDCF under the principle of equitable access?**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments

**SCCF (Adaptation or Tech Transfer)?**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments

**Focal Area Set Aside?**

Secretariat's Comments

**EBF 1/30/2023:**

Yes, this is in line with the information note GEF/C.62/Inf.15.

Agency's Comments

**Rio Markers.**

**Are the Rio Markers for CCM ,CCA, BD and LD presented?**

Secretariat's Comments

EBF 1/30/2023:

Yes.

Agency's Comments

**Country endorsement.**

**Has the project been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point at the time of the EA submission and has the name and position been checked against the GEF database? Are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in Portal**

Secretariat's Comments

EBF 1/30/2023:

Yes, the project has been endorsed by the country's GEF OFP and the endorsed amounts are consistent with the amounts in the Portal.

Agency's Comments

**Response to Comments**

**Are all the comments adequately responded to? (only as applicable)**

**Gef Secretariat comments**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments



**Other Agencies comments**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments

**Council comments**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments

**STAP comments**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments

**Convention Secretariat comments**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments

**CSOs comments**

Secretariat's Comments N/A

Agency's Comments

**Project Budget Table.**

**Is the project budget table attached? Are the activities / expenditures reasonably and accurately charged to the three identified sources (Components, M&E and PMC)?**

Secretariat's Comments

EBF 3/15/2023:

1. Noted, cleared.
2. Thank you for the clarification. Cleared.

Regarding your additional comment, thank you for raising this. We confirm that the highlighted text in green is visible in the portal version of the document.

EBF 1/30/2023:

Please address the following comment:

1. Can you please include the budget notes mentioned in Column O of the "TBWP for conversion" worksheet in the excel file?
2. Office supplies are charged to project components but not to PMC. Please amend.

#### Agency's Comments

**14/02/2023:**

1. The budget note sheet is included in the TBWP excel file.
2. This is to confirm that those supply costs are related to organizing workshops and trainings (e.g., flipcharts, pencils, pads, etc.) and supporting data collection and technical work and not to project management. Budget notes in the TBWP and also the Budget Note sheet (i.e., Budget Note 7 and 17) are clarified accordingly.

#### **Additional note to the attention of GEF Programme Manager:**

With reference to the comment "\*\*\* Please highlight in green the changes made on the portal version of the CEO approval document for ease of reference. \*\*", we would like to note that there is currently a formatting issue happening in GEF Portal, and the changes made do not appear in colored highlights in the online submission section. We have informed the GEF IT Team on this, and based on the latest correspondence (dated Feb 13, 2023), the IT team is still working on the issue, and will inform us once it is resolved. For the ease of reference, the changes made are highlighted in the revised CEO approval document and the budget sheet uploaded.

#### **Environmental and Social Safeguards.**

**If there are screening documents or other ESS documents available, have these been attached?  
(only as applicable)**

#### Secretariat's Comments

EBF 1/30/2023:

Yes, they have been attached. The overall project risk is categorized as low risk,

Agency's Comments

**GEFSEC DECISION  
RECOMMENDATION.**

**Is CEO endorsement/ approval recommended?**

Secretariat's Comments

EBF 3/30/2023: The PM recommends the clearance for CEO Approval.

EBF 3/28/2023: Please address the comment above related to the eligibility criteria.

EBF 3/15/2023:

Please upload the ProDoc in English to the documents section and include any updates, if any, related to the submission status of the NC4 and BUR3 to the UNFCCC.

EBF 1/30/2023:

Please address the comments above.

**\*\* Please highlight in green the changes made on the portal version of the CEO approval document for ease of reference. \*\***

**REVIEW DATE(S)**

	<b>Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement</b>	<b>Response to Secretariat comments</b>
<b>First Review</b>	<b>1/30/2023</b>	<b>2/14/2023</b>
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	<b>3/15/2023</b>	<b>3/27/2023</b>
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	<b>3/28/2023</b>	<b>3/30/2023</b>
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	<b>3/30/2023</b>	
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>		