

State of play, relevant approaches and perspectives related to financial mechanisms, and challenges and plans in the context of climate-resilient agriculture and water protection

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Challenges in Agriculture and Water Sectors

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Vulnerability of Agriculture & Water

- Agriculture, especially the water sector, is highly vulnerable to climate change
- Extreme events in BiH: floods, droughts, heatwaves, storms, hail
- Direct impacts: risks to human lives, food security, infrastructure and economy

Source: World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal – BiH:
<https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/bosnia-and-herzegovina>

National Adaptation Plan (NAP)

- Bosnia and Herzegovina among 41 economies with submitted NAP
- Officially published on 21 December 2022 (UNFCCC NAP Central)
- Process coordinated by MoFTER with UNDP / GCF support
- 1,300+ representatives involved across all levels of government
- Comprehensive analysis of risks, vulnerabilities and sectoral adaptation measures

Source: • NAP Central – Submitted NAPs (BiH): <https://napcentral.org/submitted-naps>

Sectoral Focus of NAP

- Agriculture and water resources as priority sectors
- Irrigation system rehabilitation and construction
- Efficient & rational water use policies
- Modern irrigation techniques
- Development plans for irrigation and drainage systems
- Institutional reforms in water management

National Strategies & Frameworks

- FBiH Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy 2021–2027 (draft, 2022)
- RS Strategy for Agriculture & Rural Areas 2021–2027
- RS Strategy for Integrated Water Management (Annex 6: irrigation)
- BiH Rural Development Framework 2018–2021
- Agricultural Land Management Strategy (2011)

National Strategies & Frameworks

- Brčko District Irrigation Feasibility Study (2017)
- Water Management Plans (Sava, Trebišnjica, Adriatic basins)
- Water Management Strategy FBiH 2010–2022

Sources:

- RS Strategy Agriculture & Rural Areas 2021–2027 (RS Gov): <https://www.vladars.net/sr-SP-Cyrl/Vlada/Ministarstva/mps>
- FBiH Draft Agriculture Strategy 2021–2027: <https://fmpvs.gov.ba>

Research and Development

- Zurovec et al. (2015): Agriculture & climate change challenges in BiH
- Marković et al. (2019): Adaptation in maize production (soil liming, phosphorus fertilization)
- Ongoing GCF/UNDP projects: flood resilience, hydrological forecasting, early warning

Sources:

- Zurovec O. et al., Agriculture 2015: <https://www.mdpi.com/2077-0472/5/2/245>
- Marković M. et al., Springer Climate Change Management 2019: https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-03383-5_13

Institutional & Legal Framework

- State level: MoFTER – UNFCCC, ICPDR, ISRBC, UNECE Water Convention
- Entities & BD:
 - RS: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Water + JU Vode Srpske
 - FBiH: Federal Ministry + Cantonal ministries/agencies
 - BD: Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Water Management
- Legal framework: Entity + BD laws on waters
- 5 Management Units: RS (Sava, Trebišnjica), FBiH (Sava, Adriatic), BD (Sava)

Sources:

- Law on Waters RS (Official Gazette RS): <https://www.voders.org>
- Law on Waters FBiH: <https://fmpvs.gov.ba>

From Strategies to Financing Adaptation

- Having set the strategic and institutional framework,
- we now focus on the key question: financing adaptation in the agriculture and water sectors.

Core Funding Sources – Water & Agriculture Adaptation

- Green Climate Fund (GCF): NAP project (USD 2.56m), Flood Risk Mgmt (USD 14.4m)
- Adaptation Fund: STAZA project (USD 10m) – resilience in agriculture
- UNDP / EU4AGRI (EUR 23.15m) – rural/agriculture support
- World Bank: Agriculture Resilience & Competitiveness Project (matching grants)
- EU IPA II/III: ≥ EUR 314.9m (environment, climate action, rural/agriculture)
- Interreg IPA: cross-border agro-tech projects (~EUR 6.4m)
- WBIF: grants + loans for infrastructure, water & rural development

Sources:

- UNDP/GCF NAP Grant: <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/undp-supported-national-adaptation-plan-project-benefits-us25-million-gcf-grant>
- UNDP/GCF Flood Risk Mgmt: <https://www.undp.org/bosnia-herzegovina/press-releases/green-climate-fund-greenlights-144-million-towards-strengthening-flood-resilience-bosnia-and-herzegovina>
- Adaptation Fund STAZA: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/project/increasing-climate-change-resilience-in-the-agricultural-sector-of-bosnia-and-herzegovina-staza>
- UNDP EU4AGRI: <https://www.undp.org/bosnia-herzegovina/projects/eu4agri-0>
- World Bank Agriculture Project: <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/598961648043356204/pdf/Bosnia-and-Herzegovina-Agriculture-Resilience-and-Competitiveness-Project.pdf>
- EC IPA BiH: https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/enlargement-policy/overview-instrument-pre-accession-assistance/bosnia-and-herzegovina-financial-assistance-under-ipa_en
- Interreg IPA: <https://interreg-hr-ba-me.eu/interreg-vi-a-ipa-programme-croatia-bosnia-and-herzegovina-montenegro-three-strategic-projects-worth-30-8-million-euro-approved>
- WBIF Overview: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Balkans_Investment_Framework

EU and IPA Support

- IPA II (2014–2020): EUR 314.9m allocated to environment, climate, agriculture
- IPA III (2021–2027): focus on environment, climate action, energy & rural development
- EU grant (2024): EUR 17m+ for water/sanitation infrastructure
- Interreg IPA: technology and agriculture cross-border programs
- Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF): blends grants and loans for larger infrastructure

Sources:

- EC IPA II: https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/enlargement-policy/overview-instrument-pre-accession-assistance/bosnia-and-herzegovina-financial-assistance-under-ipa_en
- EC IPA III performance: https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/performance-and-reporting/programme-performance-statements/instrument-pre-accession-assistance-ipa-iii-performance_en
- EU 2024 water/sanitation grant: https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/performance-and-reporting/programme-performance-statements/instrument-pre-accession-assistance-ipa-iii-performance_en
- Interreg HR-BA-ME: <https://interreg-hr-ba-me.eu/interreg-vi-a-ipa-programme-croatia-bosnia-and-herzegovina-montenegro-three-strategic-projects-worth-30-8-million-euro-approved>
- WBIF: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Balkans_Investment_Framework

Key Takeaways on Financing

- BiH benefits from multiple international funding instruments
- Strongest support: Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund, EU IPA
- UNDP and World Bank provide technical assistance and grant schemes
- Funding targets: water infrastructure, irrigation, climate resilience in agriculture
- Future need: better absorption of IPA III, stronger project pipelines, entity-donor coordination

Thank you