



Project Summary:

## **Transparent and Accountable Public Enterprises in BiH**



Kingdom of the Netherlands



## Problem

Bosnia and Herzegovina copes with lack of accountability and transparency within public sector at all levels of government. One of the biggest issue that was mostly neglected is related to transparency and accountability of public enterprises. Internal documents and regulations of public enterprises transpose the principles contained in the state and entity laws on administration, i.e. the principles of legality, transparency, openness, accountability, professionalism and impartiality. However, current practice indicates that the members of management and supervisory boards of public enterprises are rather uninterested in work results while their selection is a matter of agreement between the political parties in power, with very little accountability for business results of the given enterprises to citizens. Transparency in the publication of business results is limited, especially when it comes to business indicators, plans and results. Business results are usually reviewed at the meetings of the assemblies and supervisory boards, with only limited participation of the public and citizens. Reporting on performance indicators is almost entirely limited to annual business plans and annual reports, which are not readily available to the public.

## Main Idea

Situation in regard to transparency and accountability of public enterprises in BiH can be improved by: preparing and applying of amendments to relevant regulations on public enterprises that define their obligations in this area; creating guidelines for public enterprises for preparation and publication of annual plans and reports in a form easily understandable for general public, with providing of technical support to selected public enterprises to do that (and by that to create some good practices). By increased transparency of public enterprises, preconditions for greater participation of the public (citizens, NGOs, etc.) in monitoring of work and results of public enterprises will be created, which will contribute to increase of their accountability.

## Objectives and Expected Results

### Overall Objective:

Improved transparency and accountability of public enterprises in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### Specific Objective:

Developed, promoted and initiated changes in regulations on public enterprises in order to increase transparency of planed and implemented activities.

### Expected Results:

1. Comparative study on transparency and accountability of public enterprises prepared and presented.
2. Guidelines for preparation of annual plans and reports prepared and implemented in targeted public enterprises and promoted.
3. Amendments to regulations on public enterprises defining obligations in terms of transparency drafted and put into parliamentary procedure.

## Main Activities

1. Preparing and conducting the research and preparation of comparative study based policy paper, presentation of findings and policy recommendations (roundtable, press conference etc.);
2. Selection of public enterprises, signing the MoU, defining the work plan, preparing guidelines for preparation and publishing user-friendly annual plans and reports of public enterprises, organization of workshops with enterprises' representatives, providing technical assistance in preparation of annual plans/reports, publishing the annual report/plans on enterprises websites, organization of workshop for finalization of guidelines incorporating feedback, presentation of the guidelines for public enterprises (press conference);
3. Selection of regulation improvement working group members, analysis of current legal provisions and draft of amendments to relevant legal acts, presentation of drafts and their finalization within working group, press conference for presentation of amendments, meetings with government and political party representatives;
4. Conducting the communication focused stakeholder analysis, preparation and promotion of tailor made policy products (briefs, notes, and blogs), preparation and publishing press releases, regular use of social media.

## Project Roles

- Lead applicant: Eda – Enterprise Development Agency, Banjaluka
- Partner: Transparency International in BiH

## Timeline

Decembar 1, 2016 – July 31, 2018

## Source of Funding

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in BiH, within the program MATRA Grant 2016.