



Sanitation in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Situation and Challenges

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Bosnia and Herzegovina (B&H)

The State of Bosnia and Herzegovina is the central authority with only limited and specific powers.



Entity

Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH)

Entity

Republic of Srpska (RS)

Brčko District
FBiH



The Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is an integral part of the Dayton Peace Agreement and has created a very specific governance structure comprised of two Entities - FBiH and Republic of Srpska .

Brcko District FBiH (BD FBiH) was established in March 2000.

The two Entities and the BD FBiH are politically, administratively and legally largely fiscally autonomous.

The Entities have their own respective constitutions and hold all responsibility not explicitly assigned to the State by the Constitution of B&H.



Institutional framework for health, water management and environment

B&H (countrywide) level

At the state level, institutions are established with the main task of playing the role of overall coordinators in certain areas especially in the part of:

- Coordination of EU accession and
- Implementation of international obligations related to signed Conventions, agreements etc.

Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MoFTER)

Definition of policy, basic principles, coordination of activities and harmonization of plans of entity authorities and institutions at international level in the fields of agriculture, energy, environmental protection, development and utilization of natural resources, and tourism.

- **Coordination of activities for Water Convention and**
- **Protocol Water and Health-**

The Ministry of Civil Affairs

Responsible for carrying out tasks and discharging duties which are within the competence of B&H and relate to defining basic principles, coordinating activities and harmonising plans of the Entity authorities and defining a strategy at the international level in the fields of health and social care.



The main institutions at entity levels -regarding to PWH-

Federation of BiH	Republic of Srpska
<p>FBiH Ministry of Agriculture, Water-Management and Forestry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative functions at FBiH level in the water sector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agency for the Sava River Catchments Area, based in Sarajevo; - Agency for Adriatic Sea Catchments Area, based in Mostar. 	<p>Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> responsible for professional, administrative and technical services in the areas for which it has been organized, based on the Law on Waters <p>"Vode Srpske" Bijeljina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a public institution which manages water, public water resources and hydro technical engineering structures and systems, rivers, streams and lakes of RS, in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Waters and other relevant legislation.
<p>FBiH Ministry of Environment and Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> performs administrative, expert and other tasks related to the competence of the FBiH in the field of protection, conservation and improvement of the environment. 	<p>Ministry of Spatial Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> performs administrative, professional and technical jobs in protection, preservation and improvement of the environment.
<p>FBiH Ministry of Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> among other activities directly performs administrative, expert and other tasks in the context of safety of water intended for human consumption. 	<p>The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> performs administrative, professional and technical duties in accordance with law. Especially it takes care of the quality of drinking water (for human consumption)
<p>FBiH Institute for Public Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the tasks of this Institute is to control the safety of water for human use 	<p>The Institute for Health Protection of RS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a health institution whose scope of work and activities are regulated by the Law on Health Protection of RS and by the Law on Scientific and Research Work of RS. The Department for Sanitary Chemistry of the Institute of Public Health of RS has the primary task to perform quality control and safety of water intended for human consumption.



The main institutions at entity level

-regarding sanitation-

FBiH: According to the Constitution of FBiH, there are 10 cantons and they regulate the manner and content of the performance of public utilities. In the context of water management, an important role in the affairs of cantons is to provide water for the use of citizens, social and economic subjects, and other users. Also, **the cantons regulate the collection, treatment and disposal of wastewater.**

RS: The Law on Local Self-Government of RS stipulates that **local authorities are obligated to provide direct services in the areas of water supply and wastewater collection and treatment.** In order to perform these tasks, the local government may establish a separate company or assign duties to a company.

In accordance with the provisions of the Law on Waters, local communities participate in the procedures of issuing water acts.

RS authorities and local governments, within their competence, manage water resources as a good of public interest and are responsible for protection from damage, destruction, or irresponsible and illegal use, in accordance with the Law on Water and other laws.



Legislation which refer to sanitation



Federation of BiH

- ✓ Law on Water of the FBiH (OG FBiH 70/06),
- ✓ Law on Water Protection FBiH (OG FBiH 33/03),
- ✓ Water management Strategy of the FBiH 2010-2022,

Republic of Srpska

- ✓ Law on Water of the RS (OG of RS 50/06, 92/09, 121/12),
- ✓ Integrated water management strategy of the RS 2014 -2024.

The laws are in line with EU policies, directives, regulations and standards.



Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)

Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment (as amended by Commission Directive 98/15/EC) and Regulation (EC) 1882/2003 and Regulation (EC) 1137/2008)

Transposition status in FBiH

Transposition of the UWWT Directive is already well advanced (89%). Majority of the Directive's provisions have been transposed by

- **the Decree on conditions for wastewater discharge to natural recipients and in public sewerage system** (Official Gazette of FB&H, No. 101/15).

Transposition of the remaining provisions of the Directive has not been determined, except for Annex II where transposition is planned for 2017 through adoption of the relevant secondary legislation (i.e. the Decree on Urban Waste Water Treatment in FBiH).



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Implementation status in FBiH

Implementation of this Directive is still at an early stage. So far, agglomerations discharging more than 2,000 p. e. of UWW have been identified within IPA 2007 project Support to B&H Water Policy.

Deadlines for meeting the requirements for collection and treatment are linked to the date of accession as a baseline year.

Collecting systems, in compliance with the UWWT Directive, will be provided between 12 and 18 years after B&H accession.

Secondary treatment of UWW will be provided in all agglomerations 18 years after B&H accession, at the latest. Significant efforts are still required to comply with the requirements of the UWWT Directive.



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Transposition status in Republic of Srpska

Requirements of the UWWT Directive have been transposed (49%) through several legal acts:

- Law on Water (Official Gazette of RS, No 50/06, 92/09 and 121/12),
- Regulation on conditions of waste water discharge into surface waters (Official Gazette of RS, No 44/01) and
- Regulation on conditions of waste water discharge into the public sewer system (Official Gazette of RS, No 44/01) and
- Rulebook on the treatment and wastewater disposal in areas of towns and villages where there are no public sewers, (O. G. RS 68/01).

Full alignment of the national legislation with the provisions of this Directive is planned for 2017.



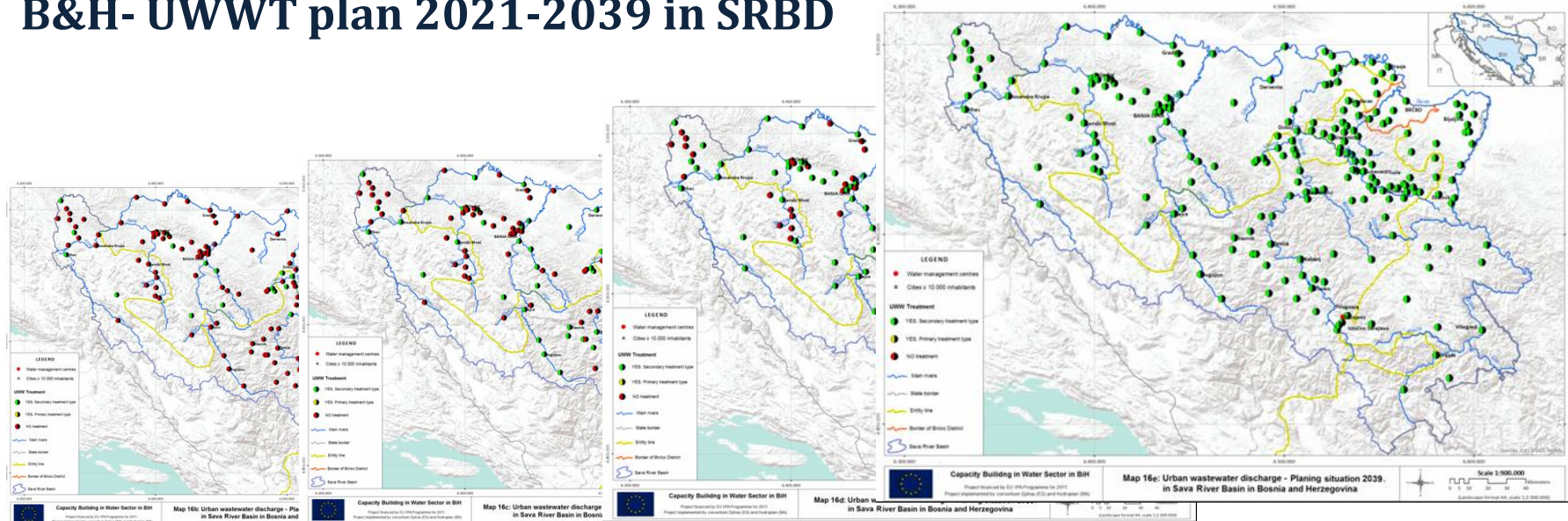
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Implementation status in Republic of Srpska

Implementation of the UWWT Directive has not started yet and the precise implementation plan has not been developed. Current efforts are focused on establishing a national regulatory framework.

B&H- UWWT plan 2021-2039 in SRBD





Sanitation

The analysis of anthropogenic pressure in B&H showed that 44 % of people are living in 95 % settlements of less than 2,000 residents.

Bearing in mind that according to the EU UWWT Directive all settlements with a “population equivalent” of more than 2,000 must have an UWWTP, it may be generally stated that a centralised UWWTPs will not have to be built for over a third of the population in B&H since their wastewaters will be dealt with locally through the installation of the so-called “packaged plants” or septic tanks.

Due to lack of reliable data on the number and distribution of the population with public wastewater collecting system connections, the degree of those connections has been assessed on the basis of past projects and studies. The assessment shows **36 % of the people in RS** and **47 % of the people in FBiH** as though **having connection to a public wastewater collection system** in BiH.

Sanitation

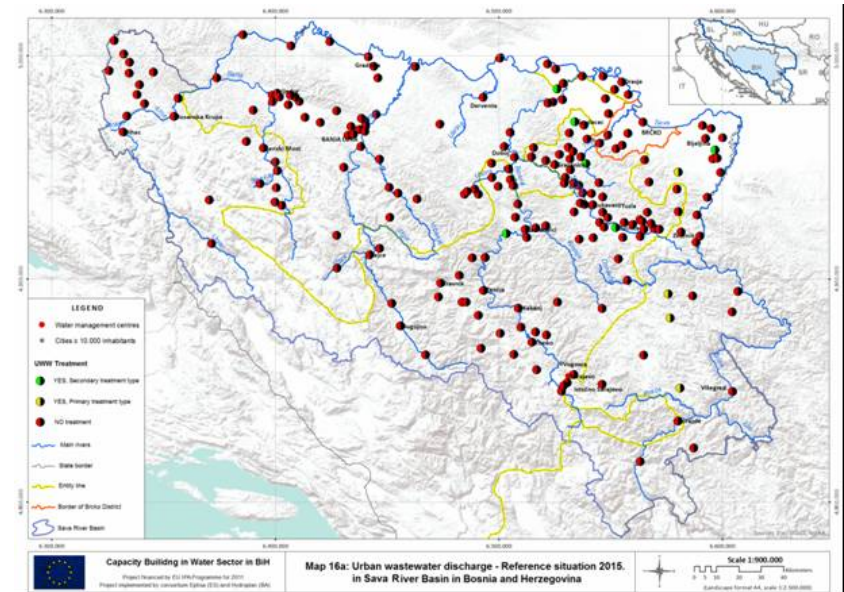
The existing wastewater collection systems cover mostly the central parts of urban areas and involve, almost as a rule, two or more direct discharges into the nearby watercourses.

For the time being, there are only 12 active UWWTPs in the B&H.

- **in the FBiH**
Gradacac, Srebrenik, Žepče, Trnovo, Odžak, Živinice, Grude, Čitluk and Ljubuški.
- **in the Republic of Srpska**
Bijeljina, Trebinje and Bileća.

It is expected that wastewater treatment plants will soon be put to use – in Sarajevo.

The assessments show that by the end of 2015 **only 5 %** of the population in B&H have been provided with an UWWTP.





General conclusions

- ✓ The most important task in the field of water use is to provide drinking water of the highest quality for the population and industries.
- ✓ Protected areas of the sources have not been established in a large number of cases. Even where they are established, the measures are usually implemented only in protected area I.
- ✓ The perceived needs in the field of sanitation and UWWTP are huge.



Challenges

⇒ to ensure safe and efficient management of the water supply and sanitation systems by strengthening capacities of water and sanitation system managers, as well as promoting cooperation and exchange of experience.

⇒ strengthening of the capacities in addressing sustainable management of water resources and better management of water- and sanitation-related risks to human health, including the impact of water-related natural disasters on human health and the environment.

⇒ promoting the efficiency of water supply and sanitation systems, and thereby contributing to the greening of the economy.

⇒ raising awareness on the challenges faced in the region of achieving equitable access to water and sanitation and the need to adopt equity-oriented governance frameworks.