

Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Report on Multi-Stakeholder Consultations and Technical Analysis for Advancing Sustainable Development Goals

A joint UN Report in Support of Sustainable Development Goals



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1. Introduction

On September 2015, Bosnia and Herzegovina along with 192 UN member states, committed to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which consists of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. The text from the global agreement highlights:

“Agenda 2030 is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet.”

The SDGs have been arranged under the following themes:

People: Determined to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.

Planet: Determined to protect the planet from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future generations.

Prosperity: Determined to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature.

Peace: Determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.

Partnership: determined to mobilize the means required to implement this Agenda through a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity.

The SDGs represent a transformative Agenda which seeks to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental. One of the success factors of Agenda 2030 is a follow-up and review process which seeks countries to report on SDG implementation. Thus, it is recognized that regular country-led robust, inclusive and participatory reviews are fundamental in achieving the SDGs. The 2030 Agenda includes a strong integrated follow-up and review (FuR) framework covering reviews at country, regional and global levels.

This report represents the findings from several technical and consultative processes undertaken to support Agenda 2030 and the SDGs in BiH. It includes:

Section 1: begins with an introduction to the methods and approaches including descriptions of technical methods and an introduction to the consultative approaches undertaken.

Section 2: presents the results of the consultative workshop and stakeholder led prioritization of SDG targets. This consultation was undertaken based on the five themes described above but each of the groups identified common themes applicable for BiH which are described at the outset. This section also draws from results of Zamisli2030 and technical analysis to support findings.

Section 3: presents the results from technical assessments to support the analysis of policy context in BiH. This includes a rapid integration assessment (RIA); preparation of a SDG dashboard and complexity assessment of interconnections between SDG targets.

Section 4: provides some conclusions, recommendations and next steps for supporting SDGs in BiH.

Method and Approaches to SDG Support

From consultations undertaken it is clear from the citizen's perspective that the primary agenda is accession to the European Union (EU). The Agenda 2030 is a universal framework which applies also to EU member states. In view of current trends, the EU Acquis – the body of common rights and obligations binding on all members – is likely to evolve towards requiring heightened attention to environmental sustainability. To anticipate this evolution, economies of the region should devise more ambitious sustainable policies and programmes. In addition to the traditional approach to economic convergence, and convergence around common standards of democratic governance, it is timely to introduce the concept of convergence requirements in outcomes and practices on sustainability with a view to achieving Agenda 2030. Therefore, EU accession and Agenda 2030 should be considered as mutually reinforcing.

To support country efforts in implementing the SDGs, the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) has committed to developing a strategy for effective and coherent implementation support, under the acronym 'MAPS', paying special attention to the cross-cutting elements of partnerships, data and accountability. MAPS acronym stands for Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support.

- **Mainstreaming** means landing the SDGs across governance levels, and all the way to local plans for development; and subsequently into budget allocations.
- **Acceleration** means targeting domestic (and UN) resources at priority areas, paying special attention to synergies and trade-offs across sectors (reflecting the integrated nature of the agenda), bottlenecks, financing and partnerships, and measurement.
- **Policy Support** means ensuring that the skills and expertise held in the UN development system is made available in a timely way and at the lowest cost possible.

A MAPS mission was undertaken in BiH during the week of 28 May to 1 June. It consisted of a range of international experts from United Nations agencies (see Annex 4). To support the MAPS mission, the UN Country Team has promoted an ongoing technical and consultative processes. The technical approaches included:

1. **Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA)** is a study that supports countries in mainstreaming the SDGs into planning across governance levels and determining their relevance to the country context, and different governance levels, and interlinkages across targets. The methodology determines development priorities, and mapping SDG targets aligned to the development and sectoral plans.¹
2. **SDG dashboard and complexity analysis** - Information dashboards are tools at the tip of the iceberg in a system that produces and uses information. We can expect that SDG dashboards will be at the crux of monitoring and implementation challenges of the 2030 Agenda for at least two reasons. First, countries are expected to adapt SDG targets and indicators to their contexts. The monitoring and

¹ RIA is based on UN methodology and the experience of the countries that have already undertaken this assessment (Belarus, Armenia, Serbia, Montenegro, Ukraine, Tajikistan), as well as on the expert contributions of researchers to the methodology applied in the BiH context. Details on the methodology and approach to undertaking this is contained in Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA), Facilitating mainstreaming of SDGs into national and local plans, UNDP 2017

reporting requirements for this framework are prompting countries to review their statistical systems and capacities, improve interoperability between different data systems, and better integrate data from external sources. Second, effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda will require countries to use whole-of-government approaches as well as leveraging real engagement from stakeholders in parliaments, civil society, and the private sector.

Using the available indicators from the SDGs enables the development of a SDG dashboard which highlights progress being made based on available data. It also provides a nuanced picture through developing a network of interlinkages between goals and targets. This allows the identification of areas, where progress is achieved and could be used as a pivot point for leveraging further progress across linked goals. It could also be used to identify critical stumbling blocks, or bottlenecks, which hold back progress in many sustainable development efforts. The methodology is applied as follows:

- First, a network of SDGs targets and their mutual influence was identified. This was done using the Mans-Nilsson scale². An initial set of relationships was developed from literature that looks at connections between SDGs.
- Second, highly influential targets by counting the number and strength of connections, influences from this target³ were identified.
- Finally, we used the SDG dashboard to assess status of each target based on available data.

The use of the RIA and the SDG dashboard provide an insight into the current situation and future potential for SDG achievements and setting a foundation for sustainable development going forward. More detail on these are in Section 3.

The Consultative Approach

On 3rd April 2017 a high-level SDG conference was held under the auspices of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which marked an official launch of the country to address the 2030 Agenda in a comprehensive and multi-stakeholder fashion.

The consultations which are the subject of this report are building on previous endeavors undertaken. These include in Imagine2030/Zamisli2030⁴ initiative that was started in October 2016 engaging over 1,200 citizens across country to date with the aim to gain insights into positive and negative associations with the past and the present, the vision for 2030, SDG and target priorities as well as solutions to burning issues in BiH society. Other outreach activities included:

- Country-wide “Postcards from the Future Competition” conducted in 2017.
- [International Women’s Day Campaign](#) “50-50 by 2030” jointly marked according to the UNCG Annual Work Plan for 2017.
- International [Conference “Clean Air for All”](#) organized on the occasion of the UN Day 2017, with focus on air pollution and relevant SDGs.

The consultative process undertaken with over 250 participants on 29-30 May 2018 was to support MAPS mission and key objectives were:

² Using the scale proposed in Måns Nilsson et al. Policy: Map the interactions between Sustainable Development Goals. *Nature* 534, 320–322 (16 June 2016) doi:10.1038/534320a. <http://www.nature.com/news/policy-map-the-interactions-between-sustainable-development-goals-1.20075>

³ Using first and second order connections. Second order connections came with coefficient 0.5.

⁴ www.zamisli2030.ba

- *Utilize the results of all pre-MAPS tools, including Zamisli2030, RIA, SDG Dashboard, Complexity analysis, UNDP/UNECE*
- *Consult vision 2030 in Bosnia and Herzegovina covering the 5 Ps of the SDGs forming a basis for a shared vision of 2030 BiH*
- *Focus on the key opportunities and constraints in the 5 Ps that will be reviewed in the workshop*
- *Clarify accelerators, enablers and bottlenecks and where investments will have the largest overall impact on different development dimensions*
- *Provide elements/inputs for the SDG Framework in BiH document by focusing on SDG targets*
- *Clarify areas for further follow-up technical work and groups that need to be established and engaged in the technical work*

To organize effective consultations and considering the breadth of Agenda, there were four theme groups, following 5Ps of Sustainable Development supported by facilitators from UN agencies. The participants were then divided in smaller working groups, up to 10 people each, focusing on certain aspects of Agenda. The participants included representatives of institutions, civil society and private sector from Republika Srpska, Brčko District, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as BiH level representatives. Each group was asked to come up with a vision statement, constraints and opportunities to reaching the vision and suggested priority targets from the SDG agenda to make progress towards the vision. To support consultations, the RIA and complexity analysis were used to help participants understand the current policy context and key interactions between the SDGs for each theme. This enriched the discussions but also provided an additional base to review key policy objectives.

2. Stakeholder Consultation Results and Analysis

Common Policy Issues

This section presents common issues and priorities expressed across the consultation groups. From discussions it is clear there are dimensions that do not strictly fall into the targets and SDGs. This includes primarily the need to ensure long-lasting reconciliation, social cohesion and peace in BiH. To the extent possible this report concerns itself with an emphasis to key SDGs and associated targets. Several cross-cutting issues were observed from the consultation and these include:

Democratic governance and peace – Many of the constraints listed by all groups reflected on the need for more coherent and transparent governance institutions, which are corruption free. Clearly the impact of effective governance and administrative arrangements emerged from all groups with specific references to the need for much greater transparency and rule of law, creating effective administrative arrangements in a complex governance system in BiH and promoting a more just and stable society. There was also references to the division of administrative responsibilities across entities in BiH and how greater coherence in policy areas could help to drive dividends for society in BiH. Given the emphasis also placed by all groups on the opportunity that future EU accession provides for BiH's sustainable development, there is momentum to strengthen effective institutions and foster better governance, peace and the rule of law to meet potential EU benchmarks going forward.

Education – was mentioned by every group for all types of education needs from addressing segregation among ethnic groups in schools, and through different curricula, improving compulsory education (both access and quality) including early childhood education, to more opportunities for vocational education and skills development, and improving knowledge on sustainable development and natural resources management. In the planet theme, education was also captured from the perspective of increasing awareness to the effects of urban air pollution on human health. The foundation of the education system to support sustainable development was clear. Further discussions on this point are included under each theme.

Economic potential – while this was mentioned in various ways, the potential of some sectors such as agriculture and tourism (tying into effective natural resources management), the need for additional financing to meet development needs but also the untapped potential of the creative young people and human capacity were highlighted across the groups. In respect of challenges, inequality of opportunity, segregation of the labor market and insufficient economic development emerged strongly. This area is also one where broader policies that influence sustainable development are important. Especially when it comes to fiscal and monetary policy the incentives (or disincentives) these play in relation to promoting economic growth and investment into different sectors can impact the ability to meet SDG targets.

Natural resources – the abundance and the quality of natural resources was mentioned across the groups, including the need for sustainable use of these resources. While human capital was often highlighted, all the groups emphasized natural resources as an asset to support sustainable development in BiH. This would require the development of a whole of BiH strategy to support this vision of a clean, green BiH which could be in the form of a commitment to greener growth principles in economic development and sectoral strategies.

While the main approach developed for this MAPS mission was to undertake the stakeholder consultation there were some additional issues not identified by the participants which should be considered as highly relevant to sustainable development. These include issues such as, **health, food security, poverty, social protection and gender** and **addressing inequality** remain key policy outcomes for the people of BiH. Some of these issues were highlighted within themes but did not feature as a common issue across themes. This does not mean they are less important.

Particularly, in relation to **gender equality** issues, some of the discussions indicated the need for a deeper reflection. Some participants identified legal obligations for gender parity as proof of gender equality results and that, there are no gender issues to worry about. In this regard, the only significant emphasis to gender was in the people theme. This was highlighted by the importance of reducing gender discrimination, recognizing the value of unpaid and care work, and improving sexual and reproductive health. However, the MAPS team believe the issue of gender deserves to be considered as a cross-cutting issue across all themes and especially in relation to equality of opportunity for economic resources and labor market access.

The following sections will look at the results from each of the groups. The results will focus on prioritized SDG targets that emanated from both the consultative processes and technical analysis that were used to support the MAPS mission and consultation.

Summary of Prosperity Theme Consultation and Analysis

Prosperity is of critical importance to ensure all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature. More than forty (40) participants joined this thematic group, including representatives from private sector and chose freely which sub-group they wished to join. This led to some mixed, though still primarily homogenous groups. The discussions were lively and highly participatory and there was a lot of convergence between the findings making it easy to reach a consensus across the sub-groups.

Vision statement: *By 2030 Bosnia and Herzegovina is an economically developed, socially just country, with a rule of law, decent work, modern infrastructure, responsible use of natural resources and eradicated poverty.*

The constraints and opportunities to reaching this vision are defined as:

Constraints	Opportunities
Inadequate education system	EU accession
Inadequate and complicated administrative governance system	Natural and human resources of BiH
Unfavourable business environment and lack of public financial incentives	Diaspora

All groups listed “inadequate education system” and the “skills mismatch with the needs of the labour market” as one of the key constraints to development followed by “complex administrative system” and “lack of the rule of law”. “Corruption” was also seen as a serious difficulty as well as “lack of public incentives for business development” and “unfavourable business environment” in general, while unstable political environment and outflow of skilled labour force were some of the other aspects

mentioned under constraints. The three common opportunities were almost identically formulated by all four sub-groups.

Priority areas and relevant SDG targets:

The “Prosperity” group prioritized different targets from SDG 4, SDG 7, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 16 (see Figure 1). Under this theme the dominant priorities focused on the importance of (i) education and adequate skills for labour market; (ii) enabling environment for sustainable enterprises; (iii) fight against corruption; (iv) effective and sustainable use of natural resources; (v) address issues of inclusion in all areas of society.

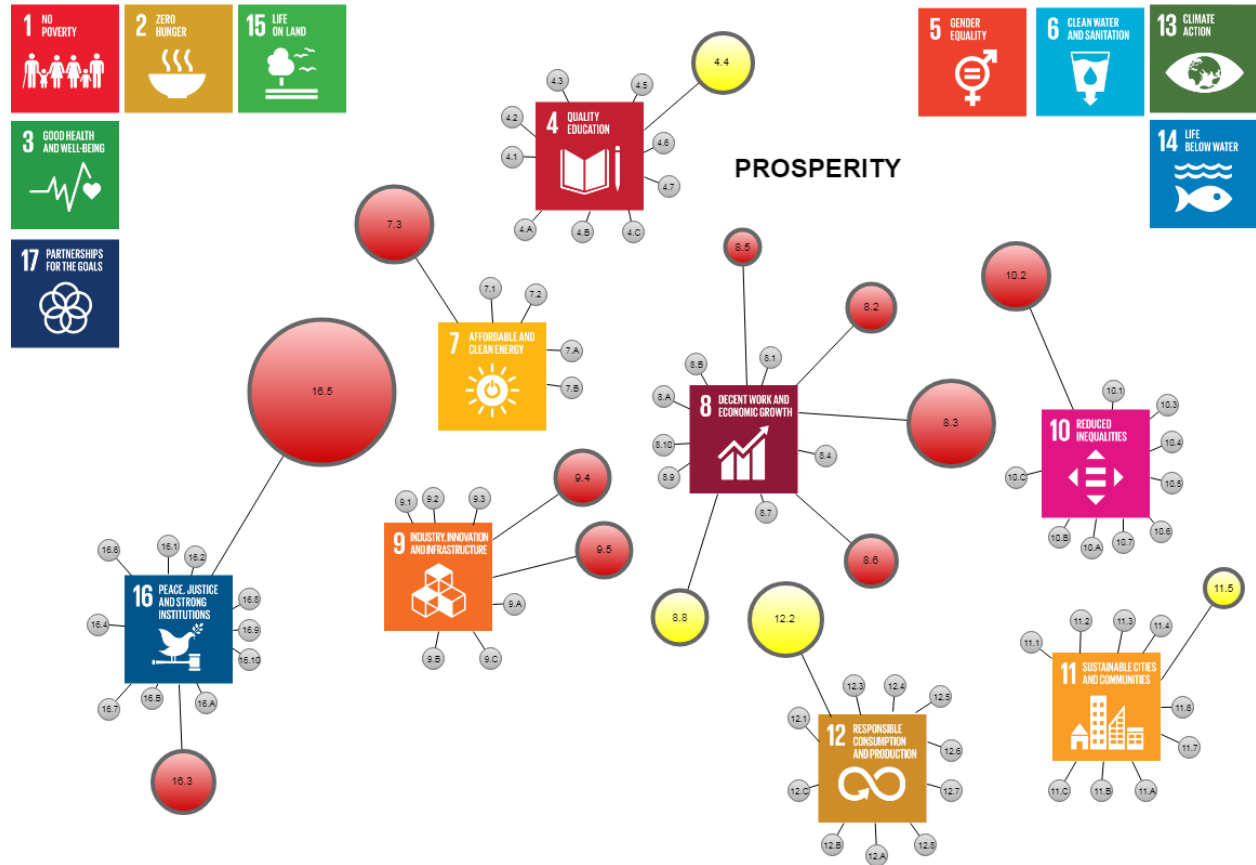


Figure 1: Prioritized goals and targets by group participants

Legend
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger circles have greater influence value based on complexity analysis (see section 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Targets are colored by status; Green – on track to meet target; Yellow – close to meeting target; Red – off track to meet target • All non-prioritized targets are colored gray and moved closer to respective goals

A detailed list describing each priority target is included in Annex 1. The discussions around priorities revealed a more diversified understanding of what should be the specific areas of intervention and key actions to advance progress towards Prosperity. Nevertheless, the areas identified were common to all four groups. There was a general agreement that SDG 4, 12 and 16 were closely interlinked with the Goals

directly linked to Prosperity i.e. Goals 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. For example, target 4.4 (vocational education) was seen as a tool to achieve targets 8.6 (youth in education and employment). Although, eradicating poverty and social inclusion were mentioned in the joint vision statement of the Prosperity group, the discussions in the sub-groups revealed that further capacity building is needed to understand the concept of leaving no-one behind (LNOB). All the priority targets chosen by the groups are not on-track and therefore represent key policy areas to be addressed.

High level of alignment with Zamisli2030 findings in the area of Prosperity

Both the vision statement for Prosperity theme and priorities identified during SDG consultations matches perspectives of citizens collected through Zamisli2030 initiative, including sectors that need to be in focus (agriculture, tourism) and linking Prosperity SDGs with SDGs 4, 12 and 16.

Prosperity – Citizens of BiH want:

- Economic prosperity in a country that is socio-economically stable, open for cooperation and investment.
- Investments in technology, innovations, production, restarting industries, development of new sectors (IT, tourism, green economy, “care sector”)
- Investments in entrepreneurship of women and young people in general, which constitutes a key requirement for stemming emigration, ensuring existence and better future, i.e. for sustainable development of BiH
- Strengthening of the economy and economic development through advantages offered by agriculture, primarily by environmentally clean agricultural and organic production.
- Ensuring full employment, with a particular focus on young people and on employment of women.
- Developed infrastructure for social and sustainable development, construction of new and expansion of existing housing and cultural, sports and recreational facilities.
- Construction of new roads and improvements to existing roads.
- Cities with repaired and clean streets, water running 24 hours a day, lower reliance on gas, wood or coal, investment in wind/solar power plants.
- Equal opportunities for education, employment and personal fulfillment, equality of women and men, ensuring equal pay for equal work and to have more women in leadership positions in the social/political/economic life.
- A society that offers new opportunities, new value systems, which values knowledge and skills, offers a chance of advancement, efficiently uses its resources and offers prospects for development and fulfillment of individual potential of every inhabitant, and that can retain its trained, educated and creative people.

In terms of identified priority targets, there is a match with the following targets: 4.4; 4.7; 7.2; 8.1; 8.3; 8.5; 8.6; 9.4; 9.5; 10.2; and 16.5. Additional targets that were identified as important by citizens but not during consultations or complexity analysis are the following: 7.2; 7.a; 7.b; 9.3; 11.1; 11.2; 11.6; 12.3; and 12.4 .

Current Policy Support on Prosperity

The findings of the Prosperity group are in conformity with the findings of the RIA report (see section 3 and annex 2). The RIA report indicates an 87% alignment of current policies and strategies with the SDG goals directly linked to Prosperity and has the most significant level of policy support in BiH. Although, the lack of assigned budgets to policies and the lack of a monitoring and evaluation systems in place weakens the ability to assess progress and impact of these policies.

For example, life-long learning, capacity development of vocational education was found to be an area well-articulated in strategic policy frameworks. Analysis (shown in Figure 1) highlights that interventions targeting unemployment and reducing gaps in supply and demand for skills (Target 4.4) could represent

an acceleration point for SDGs. The RIA report also confirms the same finding for the development focused policies that relate to combatting unemployment, supporting entrepreneurship and innovation and enabling business-friendly environments (Targets 8.2, 8.3). These policy approaches need more effort judged by the current off-track progress and representing a need to promote an increased focus on private sector policies. A focus on youth engagement in productive sectors is also needed (Target 8.6).

Integrated Policy Issues

The participants in this thematic area placed a high priority on promoting human centred approaches. However, as stated an emphasis to policies that support people’s prosperity were identified also such as improvement in energy efficiency (Targets 7.3), infrastructure, ICT (Targets .9.4, 9.5). It is also recognized policies that promote sectoral growth are needed to gain promote broader levels of GDP (reference to key sectors in agriculture and tourism in Zamisli2030). These issues also highlight the needs for fiscal and monetary policies to promote growth but to be coordintated with labor supply especially when it comes to youth which was highlighted. Importantly, one of the key cross-cutting issues identified is the need for better governance and reducing corruption (Target 16.5).

Summary of People Theme Consultation and Analysis

The “People” group of SDGs invests directly into capabilities, potential and opportunities to improve quality of living of all human-beings and leaving no one behind. The consultations brought together people from various groups including officials from all administrative levels, to representatives of business sector, civil society, academia, donor community and representatives of vulnerable groups. The “People” group brought together around 60 participants. The prioritization of targets was a challenging process and ended up in choosing some 17 targets across 10 SDGs which were most frequently picked up and collectively chosen by respective members of sub-groups. The “People” group had no time to consolidate all inputs into one group vision, and a set of agreed challenges and opportunities, thus below is a compilation of what groups mentioned.

Across the 6 people groups the shared visions included common themes:

- Healthy population, longevity
- Education, including lifelong learning
- Active participation and citizenship
- Jobs
- Life free of violence, security
- Individuals can achieve their potential, have equal opportunities and fulfill their needs
- Social support and quality services
- Inclusive, empathic, solidary and gender equal society where citizen can exercise their rights
- Prosperity
- Happiness and hope

The constraints and opportunities to addressing these various visions are defined as:

Constraints	Opportunities
Inequalities in opportunities and culture of nepotism	EU accession process and EU funds

Lack of educated workers	Foreign investment (Infrastructure in rural areas / inadequately developed)
Political instability / non-existence of the rule of law / corruption / party affiliation	New technologies (education / employment)
Poor implementation/enforcement of polices and laws	Human resources: We have smart and creative people, but they are not given enough opportunities
Low quality education and practical knowledge at universities	We have motivated and creative young people / a lot of initiatives / civil sector / activism
The education system is incompatible with the labor market and not up to date with contemporary trends, skill mismatch.	Diaspora
Gender discrimination / violence	Natural resources and Geographical position (sea)
Brain drain / migration	Tourism / agriculture
Complex and poor public administration and governance/ inadequate budget allocation	Strengthening local community / reducing departure / migration is key
Lack of support for entrepreneurship / young people have no opportunity	Need of standardization / quality assurance / improvement
Political and economic instability in the country	Need of Good public service system / sufficient number of hospitals / schools etc.
Gray economy	New trends in the use of technology / key for BiH development, better access to knowledge / entrepreneurship, etc. --- IT sector opportunity
Insufficient information on the rights of citizens (i.e. Social protection systems)	Better awareness and changing stereotypes
Inadequate coverage of healthcare	Sexual education and eliminate unwanted pregnancies
Gender - adequate legislation exists but not implemented	Inclusive (internal) policies and laws providing rights for all
Young - the educational role of the family is neglected / raised only in school wrongly; Many young people do not want to work or for a small salary	Adequate policy/legal/normative framework (although not implemented well enough)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depopulation / trends: Demography / low birth rate / no policies /out-migration • Low quality of services (in the public service system) • Inequality in society / no middle class • Unequal access to resources • Insufficient involvement in decision making • Lack of hope for the future, apathy 	Access and coverage of health and education services (quality an issue)

Priority SDG targets derived from identified challenges and opportunities⁵

The “People” group prioritized different targets from SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 16 (see Figure 2). Under this theme the dominant priorities focused on the importance of (i) addressing poverty, food security and growth policies; (ii) good health and education; (iii) good governance and fight against corruption; (iv) gender equality; (v) issues of social inclusion in all areas of society.

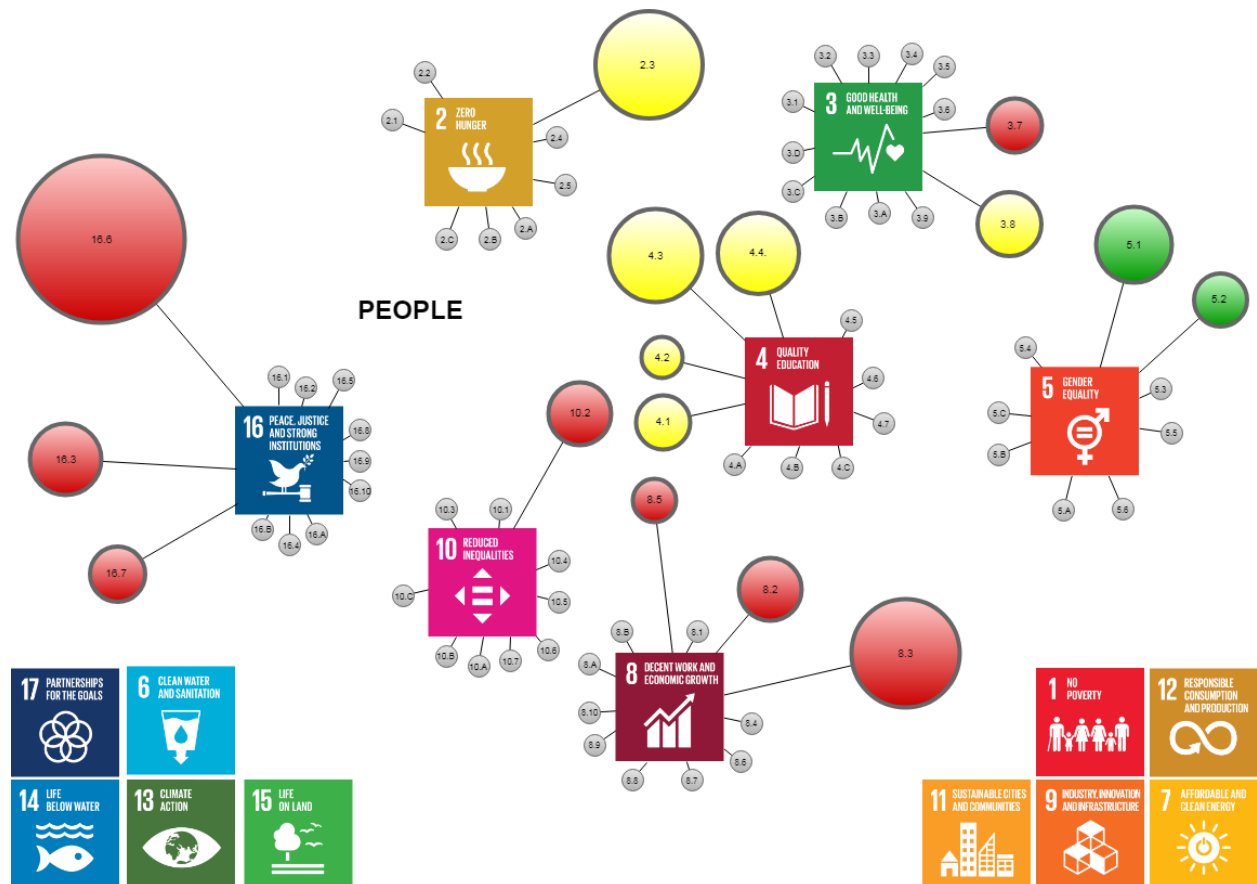


Figure 2. Prioritized goals and targets by group participants.

Legend
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larger circles have greater influence value based on complexity analysis (see section 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targets are colored by status; Green – on track to meet target; Yellow – close to meeting target; Red – off track to meet target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All non-prioritized targets are colored gray and moved closer to respective goals

A detailed list describing each priority target is included in Annex 1. The size of the group and the range of issues made it difficult to achieve consensus on defining a vision and priority constraints and

⁵ Many sub-teams were identifying individual SDG 17 targets, but they were not priorities due to the lack of consensus in prioritization – all of them seemed to be equally important

opportunities. As participants clearly viewed this theme as one which particularly affects their daily lives there was a lot of interest to see multiple issues addressed.

The groups underscored governance issues, corruption, poor policy implementation and especially the continued ethno-political tensions and the political deadlock as roadblocks for the formulation and implementation of policies to accelerate progress. Investment in young people and education (quality and better matched to today's challenges and labour-market) were identified among opportunities to drive quicker progress. Health was a key part of all the vision statements and there were concerns expressed about the quality of services in general, including for the provision of health.

From the selection of targets, it is notable that SDG 1 was not reflected in the priorities, even when it comes to poverty in all its forms. However, the MAPS team through technical analysis (see Section 3) identified two targets of importance under this theme related to income and multidimensional poverty (Target 1.1 and 1.2). On social protection there was not significant attention, however the social protection of pregnant women was mentioned during the discussion. The challenge of unequal opportunities is also indirectly linked to financial constraints of vulnerable people in the country. The MAPS team feels there is significant need to address the issues of social protection as it relates to addressing vulnerability, poverty eradication and leaving no-one behind.

High level of alignment with Zamisli2030 findings in the area of People

Constraints, opportunities and priorities identified during SDG consultations matches perspectives of citizens collected through Zamisli2030 initiative.

People – Citizens of BiH want:

- Educated population with open minds and hearts.
- Depoliticisation of education.
- Free, quality, inclusive education aligned to world trends. Investments in well-trained and adequately paid teachers.
- Total overhaul or comprehensive adaptation of the educational system for existing and future generations, from content to teaching methods and application of new technologies.
- Obligatory education through the end of secondary school. Formal and informal education, opportunities for lifelong learning.
- Development of practical skills, development of work ethics and critical thinking in young people.
- Universal health care. Modern and strong health care system offering everyone quality treatments and care.
- Healthy and happy citizens and promotion of healthy life styles.
- Their future in their country, where the quality of life of all is subject of discussion and attention, where there is genuine attention to the population needs. Developed local communities attending to the quality of life of their residents and of every individual.
- Better living conditions. Reduction/eradication of poverty.
- Progress for every generation.
- Strengthening of family as the pillar of a healthy society.

In terms of identified priority targets, there is a match with the following targets: 1.1; 1.2; 2.1; 2.3; 2.4; 3.8; 4.1; 4.7; 5.1; 5.2; 8.3; 8.5; and 10.2. Additional targets that were identified as important by citizens but not during consultations or complexity analysis are the following: 1.3; 1.4; 3.c; 4.4 and 5.5.

Current Policy Support on People

From assessment of the RIA (see Section 3 and Annex 2), the integration of “People” SDGs into development planning at various administrative levels is well addressed vertically across SDG 4 on Education, especially for targets), 4.3 (VET and University), 4.4 (Skills for employment) and 4.7 (Knowledge and skills for Sustainable Development). There is substantial emphasis on this challenge, while the obstacle or bottleneck lies in SDG 16, because institutions do not work homogeneously, institutions are underdeveloped, and corruption is another issue that requires pay attention.

Integrated and Coordinated Policy Issues

SDG 3 “health” issues and provision of services are strongly related to SDG 16 on challenges with inclusive decision-making and very fragmented development of institutions (for example people belonging to one administrative unit may receive health services strictly only in the administrative unit they are affiliated with). SDG 4 “education” issues are highly correlated with prioritized targets of SDG 8, especially disconnect between supply of the formal education and demand of the labour market, especially when it comes to youth.

SDG 5 “gender equality” Lack of understanding of the complexity of issues related to gender equity. Namely, during our discussions it was clear that for some participants the fact that the laws talk about gender parity was taken as proof that there are no gender issues to worry about. There is a strong need to focus on those aspects that go beyond legal issues, including things like deeply held social norms and expectations related to gender roles, gender socialization etc.

The SDG principle of “leaving no one behind” (LNOB) was an integral part of all discussions and had not raised many concerns in terms of its definition. It is clear many of the SDG targets prioritized reflect the need for access to equal opportunities, access and ownership of resources and basic services, for example SDG target 10.2 – inclusion for all.

A focus on children, adolescents and youth and digital opportunities. There was ample agreement that policy makers need to co-create opportunities together with children, adolescents and youth to participate more actively and become more engaged in all aspects of their lives and in society (beyond just political parties, we talked about the importance of engagement within their families, schools, local communities, municipalities, etc.) to create more respectful and inclusive societies. There was also discussion about digital technologies creating new opportunities for direct engagement, exchanges and sharing among youth -- both within BiH as well as with neighborhood countries, EU and more broadly. It was also mentioned that this could contribute towards building more cultural understanding, tolerance and reducing hate-speech across communities in BiH.

Summary of Planet Theme Consultation and Analysis

The “Planet” dimension of the SDGs underpins the entire 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including its economic and social dimensions. Indeed, the Agenda states that *“social and economic development depend on the sustainable management of our planet’s natural resources”*. With the ever-growing recognition of the intimate links between human well-being, economic prosperity and a healthy environment, sustainable and efficient management of natural resources is now an imperative for the achievement of at least 12 out of the 17 SDGs, particularly given that several Goals are inherently

dependent on higher resource productivity coupled with ecosystem restoration, resource conservation and reducing pollution of all kinds.

The “Planet” group discussed the “Planet” dimension of the 2030 Agenda in the context of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The “Planet” subgroup discussions convened around 35 participants including UN facilitators and UNCT staff, representatives of civil society, Republika Srpska, Brčko District, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as BiH level representatives.

Outcome of discussions

Vision statement: *By 2030 Bosnia and Herzegovina is adapted to climate change, sustainably managing its water, land and forest resources, and ensuring biodiversity conservation and quality of life by taking appropriate measures to reduce disaster risk and to provide good air quality for all.*

The constraints and opportunities to reaching this vision are defined as:

Constraints	Opportunities
Low level of environmental awareness & education for SD	<p>Increase levels of environmental awareness through awareness raising campaigns at different levels including through the media</p> <p>Strengthening (environmental) education starting from pre-primary level</p> <p>Abundance of natural resources (including opportunities for promoting eco- and rural tourism)</p>
<p>Insufficient economic development and access to appropriate financial incentives</p> <p>Low technological development as related to the environment</p> <p>Insufficient infrastructure, inadequate financial resources, and unsustainable use of natural resources</p>	<p>EU accession and improved capacities to access to EU funds and other donor sources</p> <p>Introducing and promoting public-private partnerships</p>
Lack of integrated inter-sectorial planning at all government levels	<p>Strengthening local governance and of cooperation between authorities, NGOs and the private sector</p> <p>Institutional strengthening at all levels</p>
No systematic investment into environmental issues	<p>Promoting the sustainable use and management of natural resources</p> <p>Green jobs and green products</p>
Inadequate implementation of existing laws	Strengthening capacity of environmental control & inspection systems

Priority SDG targets derived from identified challenges and opportunities⁶

The “Planet” group prioritized key constraints and opportunities and agreed on different targets from SDG 4, SDG 6, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 14, SDG 15, and SDG 16 (see Figure 3). The theme relies on the importance of investing in (i) education and awareness raising, (ii) urban air quality, (iii) disaster risk reduction, (iv) natural resources management, (v) promotion of green jobs & products, (vi) environmental awareness, (vii) climate change adaptation, and efficiency & (viii) transparency at all levels of society. It’s a theme that promotes a diverse range of policy issues many of which need more attention given many appear to be off-track to meet the SDG targets.

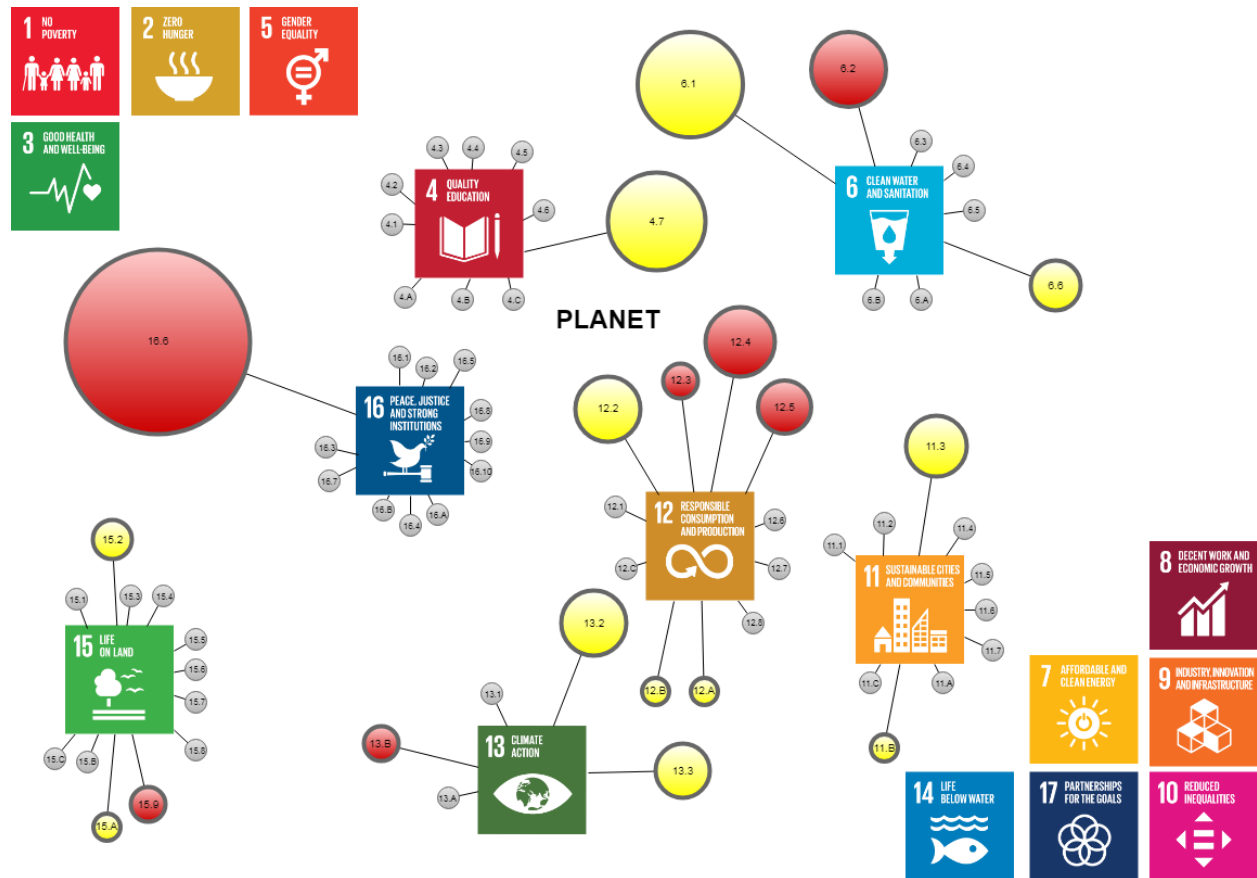


Figure 3. Prioritized goals and targets by group participants.

Legend
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larger circles have greater influence value based on complexity analysis (see section 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targets are colored by status; Green – on track to meet target; Yellow – close to meeting target; Red – off track to meet target All non-prioritized targets are colored gray and moved closer to respective goals

Interestingly, the consultation on this group highlighted key constraints and opportunities prioritized reflecting cross-cutting issues. The importance of investing in education and awareness raising (Target

⁶ Many sub-teams were identifying individual SDG 17 targets, but they were not priorities due to the lack of consensus in prioritization – all of them seemed to be equality important

4.7) and of promoting efficiency & transparency at all levels of society through increased accountability and strengthened institutions (Target 16.6).

High level of alignment with Zamisli2030 findings in the area of Planet

Vision, constraints, opportunities and priorities identified during SDG consultations matches perspectives of citizens collected through Zamisli2030 initiative.

Planet – Citizens in BiH want:

- Clean water and protection of water and forest resources. Preservation of biodiversity.
- Investment in clean and renewable energy sources. Reduction of use of fossil fuels. Electric cars and charging stations.
- Trash sorting and recycling and reuse of secondary raw materials as primary ones.
- A country with high environmental standards and citizens who actively participate in protection of environment and have a responsible attitude to nature.
- Sustainable management of natural resources. Adequate regulation in place and enforced, with the goal to protect land, water and air.
- Environmental awareness of adults built on early education of children about environment.

In terms of identified priority targets, there is a match with the following targets: 4.7; 6.1; 6.3; 6.6; 12.2; 12.3; 12.4; 13.2; 13.3; 14.1; and 15.2. Additional targets that were identified as important by citizens but not during consultations or complexity analysis are the following: 11.1; 11.2; 11.6; 13.a; 15.1 and 15.5.

Current Policy Support on Planet

From the perspective of the Planet goals the RIA report promotes related SDGs in particular, water and sanitation (Targets 6.1 and 6.2), sustainable consumption and production (nearly all targets), climate action (Targets 13.1, 13.2, 13.3 and 13B) and life on land (Targets 15.2).

Integrated Policy Issues

There is a need to actively promote policies in this area given many of these SDG targets are off-track. The breadth and emphasis of these issues require integrated policy approaches to be developed which could address these challenges. These include:

- Climate change adaptation (Target 13.1), especially as this is considered off-track and climate policies will need to be better reflected in sector approaches most notably in the agriculture sector;
- Water management coordination and disaster risk reduction (in relation to SDGs 6 and 13 in general and SDG target 11.b on climate change, resilience to disasters and disaster risk management);
- Sustainable cities (SDG 11.6) and urban air pollution and its effects on human health (in relation to SDG target 3.9 on the reduction of the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water, and soil pollution and contamination);
- Natural resource management and sustainable use of natural resources, nature protection and their relation to socio-economic development interventions in relation to SDGs 12 and 15, in direct alignment with the “Planet” group’s vision statement and as well as reaching over to some of the other theme groups.

The seemingly high level of interest by all of the groups on the quality of natural resources in BiH suggests the green economy could be elevated as a broader development policy and development approach.

Summary of Peace and Partnership Theme Consultation and Analysis

With a history and legacy of conflict, the peace dimension of the discussion took as its point of departure SDG 16 with a focus on “fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence.” While the three groups were able to come to a consensus regarding a consolidated vision and targets, there were many issues discussed in the subgroups specifically. Due to the specific membership in the group (women’s association, border police, ministry of local development, local government) the discussions in one group included issues around ending sexual violence and sex-based discrimination, as well as envisioning Bosnia and Herzegovina as a successful trade partner within the region and beyond.

The partnership element of the discussion covers SDG 17 and highlights the importance of the ‘means of implementation’ (MoI) for the SDGs and therefore partnerships for sustainable development in the context of BiH, including EU accession. An additional section is included to distinguish the discussions on the two topics. Approximately 35 participants were randomly subdivided into three groups.

Outcome of discussions

Vision statement: *By 2030 BiH to be a member of the EU, representing an inclusive society of knowledge with strong and transparent institutions that promote non-discriminatory policies through SDG standards and partnerships of public sector, private sector and civil society for peace, stability and security in the region.*

The constraints and opportunities to reaching this vision are defined as:

Constraints	Opportunities
High levels of corruption in the governance institutions and society	High human capital and capacity of individuals including ethnic and religious diversity
The system of education does not match the labour market demands and still recognizes segregation among ethnic groups	EU integration process to motivate the country to undertake and implement reforms
The lack of a unifying political consensus for the country	Preservation of natural resources and healthy environment

Priority SDG targets derived from identified challenges and opportunities⁷

Taking the SDGs as starting point for the discussions naturally focused the scope of the conversation. However, achieving the vision statement requires moving beyond the SDG targets and addressing more comprehensively issues related to governance, institutional reform, reconciliation, and social cohesion within the society. Although many elements of these issues are covered by the Agenda 2030 framework, a broader approach was explored by participants for BiH that peace and partnerships need to be infused throughout BiH’s sustainable development vision and approach and not viewed as just one dimension. This indicated the need not be constrained to the SDGs and their targets in BiH when focusing on the peace and governance perspectives of development.

⁷ Many sub-teams were identifying individual SDG 17 targets, but they were not priorities due to the lack of consensus in prioritization – all of them seemed to be equality important

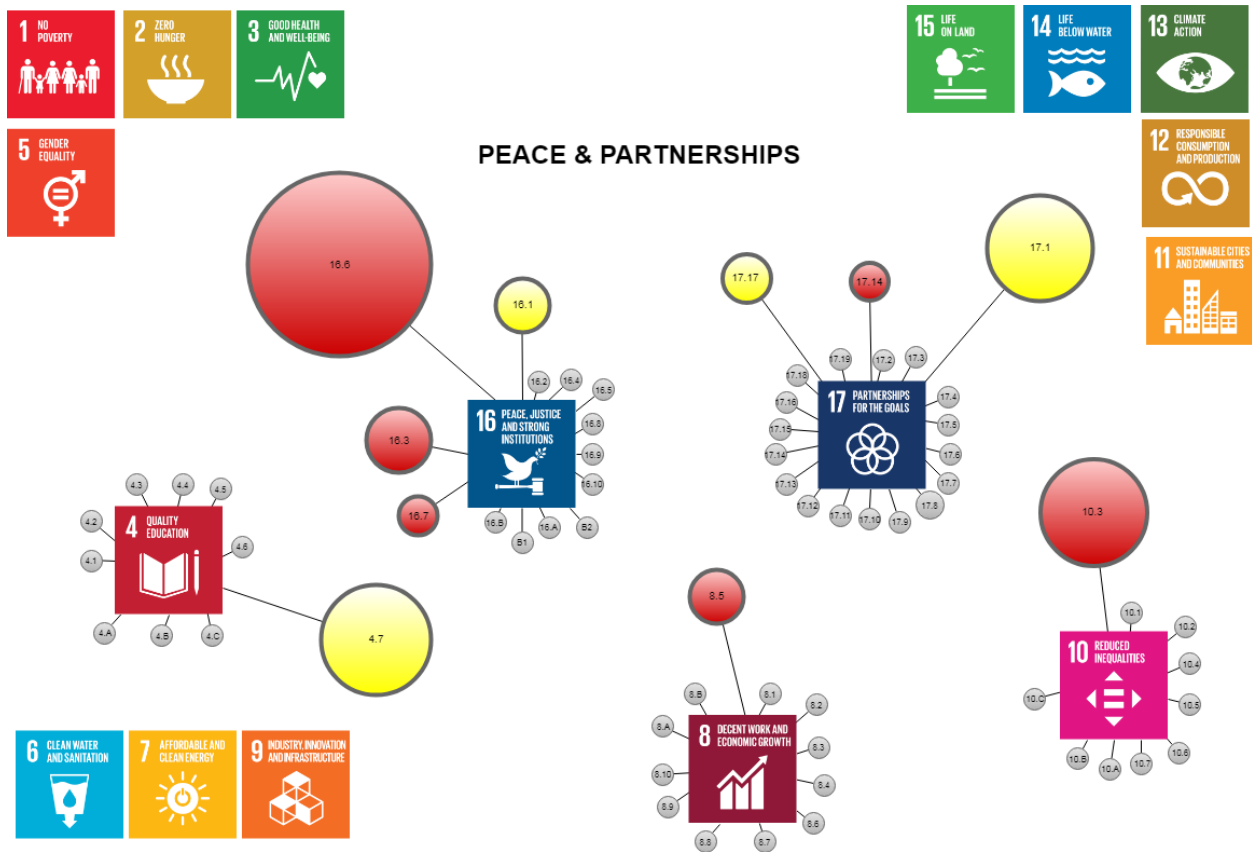


Figure 4. Prioritized goals and targets by group participants.

Legend
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larger circles have greater influence value based on complexity analysis (see section 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targets are colored by status; Green – on track to meet target; Yellow – close to meeting target; Red – off track to meet target All non-prioritized targets are colored gray and moved closer to respective goals

Another sub-group included women and youth-led CSOs as well the RS, FBiH and BiH representatives. A range of issues emerged from the discussion including greater cooperation between government and CSOs, and civic engagement; preventing violent extremism through coordination of politics and strengthening of institutions; media literacy and social networks; revision of politics, procedures and strategies; partnership and structured dialogue; reform of public institutions; inclusiveness in decision-making; strategy and policy coordination/harmonization, technological innovations; participatory democracy and economic stability.

High level of alignment with Zamisli2030 findings in the area of Peace/Partnerships

Vision, constraints, opportunities and priorities identified during SDG consultations matches perspectives of citizens collected through Zamisli2030 initiative.

Peace/Partnerships – Citizens in BiH want:

- Just, prosperous, stable, safe, multi-ethnic and tolerant society, with equality for all and openness to others and the different.
- A society that cherishes the following values: balance, moderation, responsibility, trust, peace, justice, equality, inclusiveness, gender equality, solidarity, freedom.
- A society ruled by law, free of corruption and nepotism. Equal access to justice, fair judiciary and transparency in the public sector and in employment.
- Reduction of political influence on social processes.
- A more advanced society in every sense, unencumbered by politics, nationalism and divisions.
- EU membership. Stronger regional cooperation.

In terms of identified priority targets, there is a match with the following targets: 4.7; 8.5; 10.3; 16.1; 16.3; 16.5; 16.7; and 17.1. Additional targets that were identified as important by citizens but not during consultations or complexity analysis are the following: 16.2; 17.2 and 17.4.

Policy Support on Peace

Discussions in this group moved beyond just the SDGs and participants identified connections across SDGs that would affect the implementation of the Goals 16 and 17. Particularly, they noted the connections between governance (Targets 16.1, 16.3, 16.5, 16.6, 16.7) and the need for progress on education (Target 4.7) and on jobs and growth (Target 8.5). A focus on the weaknesses of the education system was highlighted in terms of development of skills and capacities for the labor market including for working in effective governance institutions which also require capacities for dialogue and reconciliation across ethnic divides. That is, fostering greater social inclusion. An emphasis was given to dialogue and engagement across all dimensions of the society as a critical dimension of peace and partnership in BiH.

Governance is a cross-cutting and underlying catalyst for the achievement of all other SDGs. The term governance, at its simplest, refers to the whole of institutions, instruments and processes to negotiate, mediate, solve problems, generate decision-making and create new opportunities in society. Governance also encompasses broader themes such as the quality of public administration, effective institutions and institutional arrangements, stakeholder involvement and partnerships, processes for addressing social needs, and inclusion, illustrated best by the core SDG-related edict of 'leaving no one behind'. It entails overseeing investments, supporting the greening of the economy and providing an enabling environment for a range of things, including businesses.

This issue is fundamentally important in BiH as it relates to the complex arrangements that currently exist between different administrative regions as well as the need for more coordinated policy approaches needed and as highlighted in the RIA assessment. It can be seen from the status of targets is that many of them are currently off-track and need further emphasis to support achievement of SDGs.

Partnerships and Means of Implementation

Means of implementation (MOI) for all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are addressed in SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals), SDG targets on MOI under each SDG and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) on financing for development (FfD). Together, these agreements provide the normative framework, targets to guide policy directions and indicators to quantitatively assess the mobilization of resources for SDG implementation. Some important issues raised from the consultation are addressed in this section.

From the consultation and technical assessment (see section 3), we can detect a need to address specific SDG 17 targets (Target 17.1, 17.3, 17.14, 17.17) to help achieve the SDGs. The priorities that were highlighted as most relevant include

1) a better focus on policy coherence and given the complex governance arrangements this would appear to a significant bottleneck to furthering policy coherence around SDGs.

2) strengthening resource mobilization for policy implementation. This would need to be coupled with improved policy coherence to help improve effectiveness and efficiencies. Many see the path to EU accession as a means of implementation.

3) effective partnerships in the context of BiH should be seen as a means of improving the development dividend. Here a greater focus to private sector engagement needs to be considered as a means to also counteract the significant size of the public sector in BiH.

Monitoring, Reporting and the Links to EU Accession

Almost all participants in consultations noted the importance of EU accession as a driver of development and progress in BiH. This issue deserves some more attention. In principle, development strategies can (and should) be designed with policy coherence across EU accession and SDG processes in mind. But in contrast to EU Member States (which come under the Eurostat SDG reporting framework) and developing countries outside of Wider Europe (support for which comes under the revised [European Consensus on Development](#)), the EU has not yet clarified exactly how it will apply the SDGs to candidate (and pre-candidate) countries.

This does not mean, however, that Agenda 2030 and the SDGs are irrelevant for BiH and EU accession processes. There are strong conceptual linkages between the sustainable development paradigm and policy frameworks associated with EU accession. However, concrete programmatic links between the EU accession and SDG agendas for any given country depend in large part on the stages and specifics of the EU integration processes in which the country finds itself.

While there are multiple approaches that could be developed to defining these linkages perhaps focusing on fewer priorities could be fruitful to develop. This include critical chapters which relate to key SDG policy areas that have been identified in this report. These include; Chapter 19 on Employment and Social Policy, Chapter 27 on Environment and Climate Change and Chapter 23 and 24 on Justice and Rule of Law. All of these areas link closely with promoting progress on sustainable development. Further emphasis to developing policies that address common competencies for EU accession as well as country development needs will help to build institutional competencies around these policy issues. The emphasis on these policy approaches should focus on implementing country development outcomes that strive to achieve EU standards. As negotiations commence the focus on linking benchmarks and SDG targets and indicators will be crucial. Attention to better M & E frameworks around EU accession and SDGs will help to promote better policy coherence in BiH.

3. Technical Assessments

Assessing the SDG alignment with country priorities

All sectors – i.e. public, private and civil have a role in achieving Agenda 2030 and need to be involved, since the SDGs are comprehensive, covering environmental, economic and social areas, and in accordance with the principle of ‘leaving no one behind.’

As an initial step, using the RIA method provides the foundation for building an SDG roadmap or action plan, by reviewing key development plans, sectoral strategies and action plans. Apart from identifying alignment of strategic documents with the SDGs (see list below under scope), other most important tasks of the RIA process are to identify gaps in 69 selected strategic documents in BiH at all administrative levels with regard to SDGs (see Executive Summary of RIA report – Annex 2).

Summary of Rapid Integration Assessment for BiH, combined

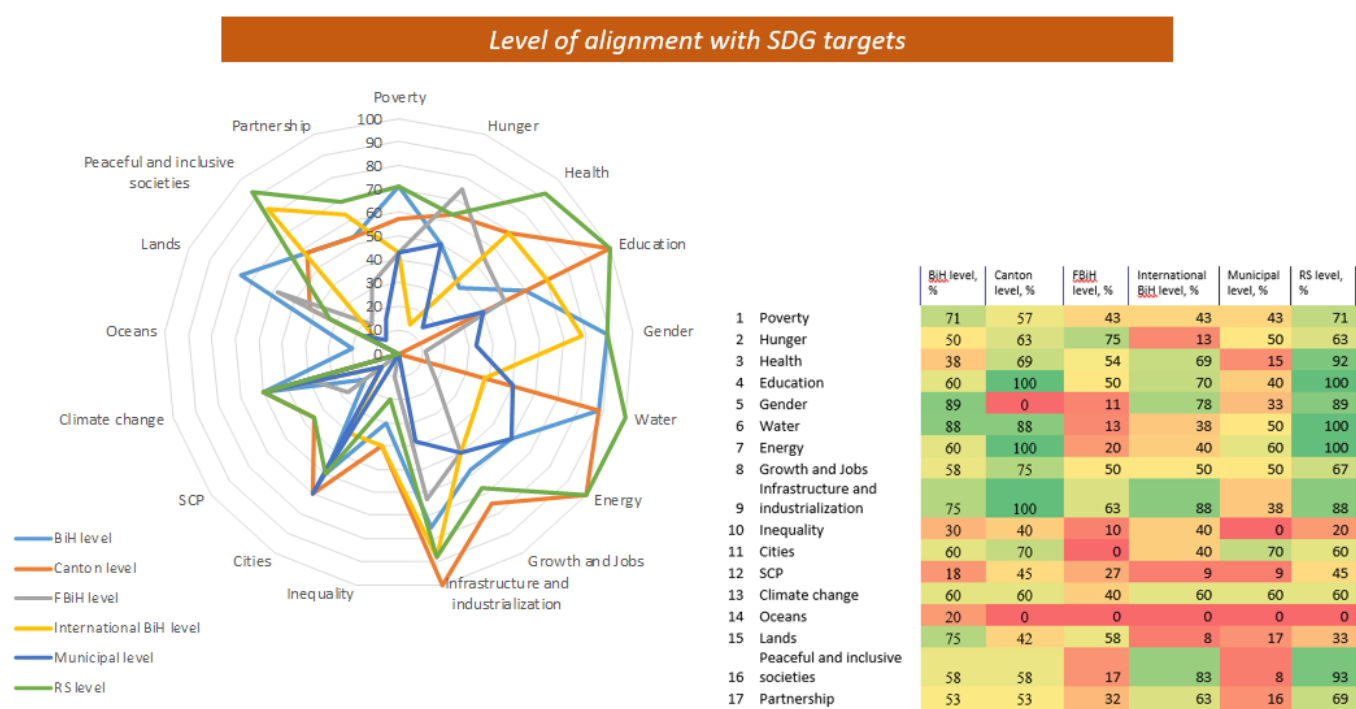


Figure 5. Consolidated results of RIA assessment in BiH

The RIA considered the SDG targets linked to the five “Ps” of the 2030 Agenda. In total, 69 strategic documents calculated a score of 93% alignment for People, compared to 51% for Planet, 87% for Prosperity, 58% for Peace and 67% for Partnership.

There are several policy gaps identified in underrepresented SDG targets:

- 1.2 National monetary and multidimensional poverty, 8.10. Financial services for all and 11.1. Housing and basic services represent the absenteeism of policy focus on economical inclusion of citizens living on or below national poverty thresholds;
- 12.3. Reduce food losses and Goal 11. Cities targeting disaster risk management, agricultural productivity and rural development in wider context;

- 5.1. Gender discrimination and 5.3. Harmful practices to reflect reforms for equal rights and response to domestic violence;
- Goal 15. Lands not adequately represented to ensure linkage between socio-economic development interventions with nature protection.

Generally, the RIA found across administrative levels that 36.4% policy documents are unfunded while 49.3% of reviewed measures had indicators (see Figure 5). In addition, monitoring of policy implementation through lack of indicators seems to be common. The SDGs demand a greater attention to monitoring of outcomes and therefore we see the need to strengthen mechanisms and M&E tools at all four administrative levels in BiH. This will facilitate practical implementation of strategic documents and periodic public reviews of progress against the SDGs. Another priority is to enhance capacities of statistical agencies to complement existing indicators with disaggregated indices and indicators to cover at BiH, entities', cantonal and local levels in support of 'measuring progress of the Agenda 2030.

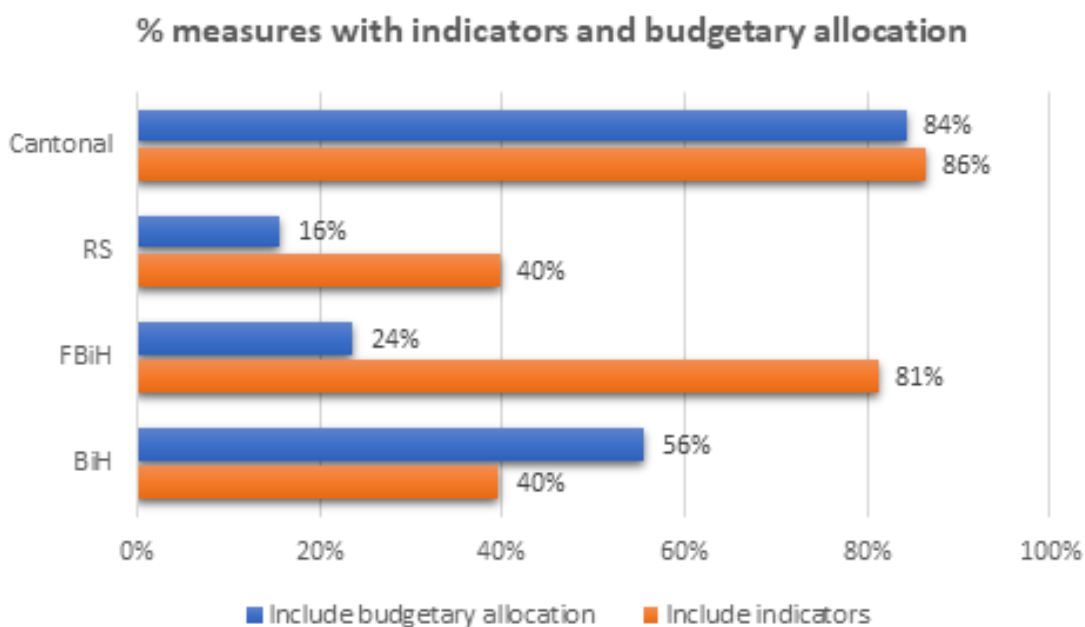


Figure 6. Status of finance and monitoring frameworks for policy documents assessed in RIA

SDG Dashboard and complexity analysis

Acceleration of sustainable development in Bosnia and Herzegovina requires identification of accelerators or specific areas where increased attention will deliver development dividends. This is undertaken in a two-stage process. First, is the development of a SDG dashboard and the SDG indicators combines "official" international indicators and country indicators from several datasets. Each indicator is classified into one of four categories, using threshold:

- **Green**—target for 2030 achieved
- **Yellow**—target 2030 yet to be achieved, but intermediate target is achieved
- **Red**—intermediate target is not achieved.
- **Gray**—no indicator available for a target, or judgement is impossible

Each bar corresponds to all indicators for each Goal, and Green, Yellow, Red and Gray segments correspond to share of indicators in each category (see Figure 7).

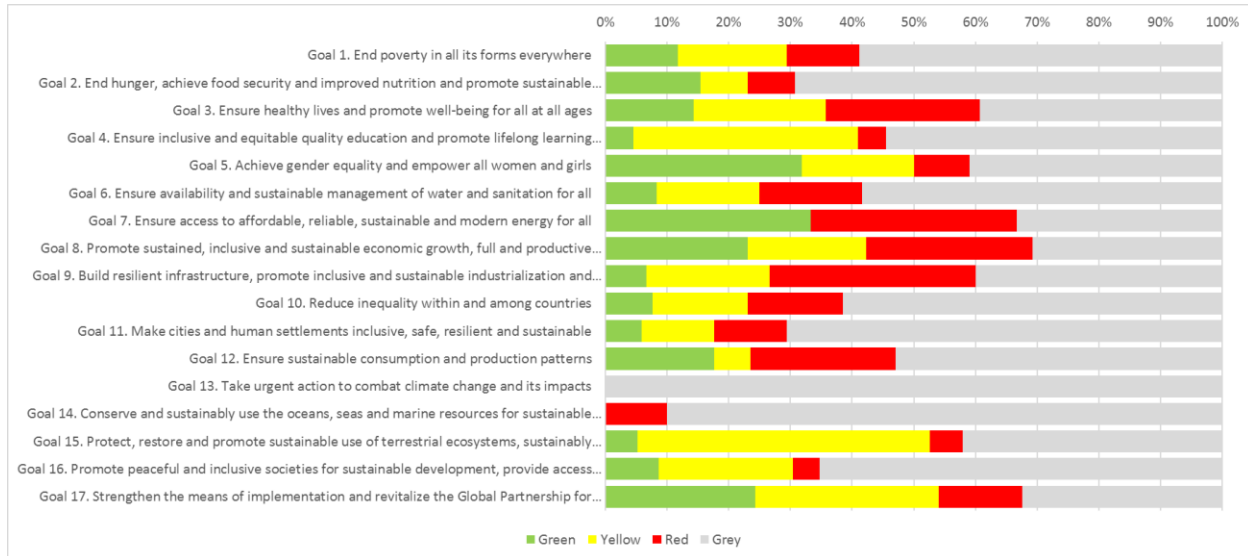


Figure 7. Preliminary SDG dashboard for BiH

The second step begins with identifying the distance from desirable levels of SDG achievement. This desirable level should be defined specifically for Bosnia and Herzegovina. While global indicators offer international yardstick for internationally agreed development agenda, the set could be insufficient for monitoring of situation in a country, as they prioritize international comparability at the expense of local adequacy and aims at covering all targets at the expense of partial (or simply available) indicator.

All targets in Global SDG agenda are falling in either of three categories: (i) formulated in absolute way providing clear absolute benchmark, i.e. “completely eradicate extreme poverty”, or “reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births”; (ii) formulated in relative way by providing desired pace of improvement comparing to baseline, i.e. “reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases”; and, in majority of cases, (iii) in aspirational way of “substantially increase”. All these target values should be contextualized to conditions of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The SDG dashboard provides a useful instrument for this purpose. The scope of the tool is to inform MAPS process in country, rather than to judge and prescribe policy approaches.

Identifying what targets are highly inter-connected⁸, and can influence a significant part of the SDG network is represented by the development of a system network (see Figure 8). Thus, addressing influential targets provides high return for investments, either in the form of removal of bottlenecks, or through accelerating positive cycles.

⁸ Accelerators (*how to develop?*) are different from country development priorities (*what to develop?*). For instance, child and maternal mortality are highly important for people, but they are not the acceleration targets. They won't speed up the whole SDG agenda, and to be achieved they require investments in other places, like reproductive health, sanitation, nutrition. On the other hand, building Effective institutions or Demining can result in multiple benefits in many SDGs.

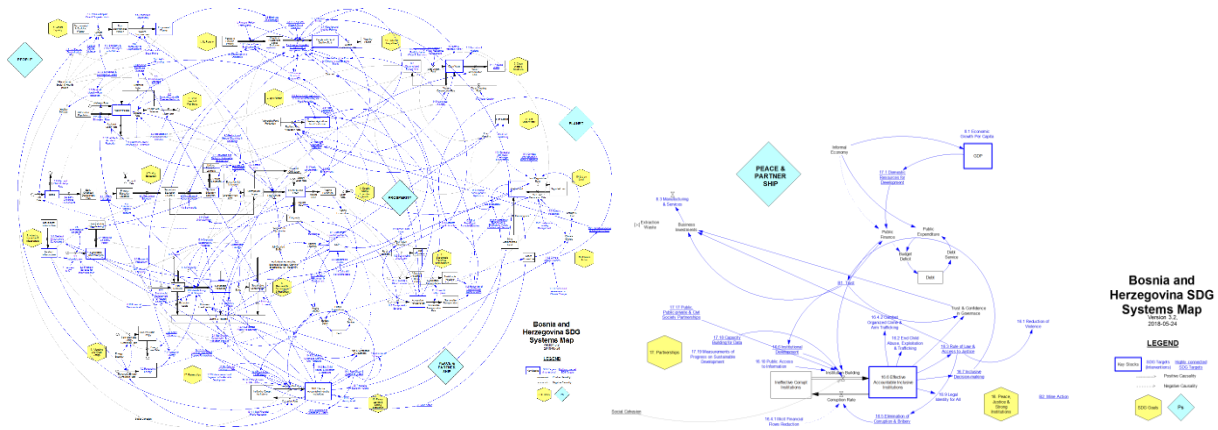


Figure 8. System Dynamic Maps of SDGs for Bosnia and Herzegovina: Full map and Peace and Prosperity submap

The top 10 influential targets in each category are listed below in Table 1 and 2. These were chosen to show the most influential targets that could be considered as important priorities for investment or addressing through policy measures. They are suggested and were used as further guidance for key policy issues in each theme area. The analysis of these targets shows:

- Green targets – are resources for development, natural accelerators, additional investments in these areas will promote greater SDG achievement. These targets require connecting the dots, for instance how companies could benefit from existing ICT infrastructures and educating people to have skills for high-tech jobs.
- Yellow targets – are currently off target but are not far from being achieved and with additional support could be key for greater SDG achievement. On the other hand, if they are allowed to slip into red zone of non-performance, they will become bottlenecks of progress.

Table 1: Top 10 Influential green and yellow SDG targets

Green Targets		Yellow targets	
7.2. Renewable energy	+349	2.3. Agricultural productivity	315
9.c. Access to ICT	+179	6.5. Integrated water resource management	287
5.1. Gender discrimination	+169	4.7. Knowledge and skills for Sustainable Development	282
2.1. Hunger	+154	17.3. Mobilize additional resources	270
8.1. Economic growth p.c.	+137	17.1. Domestic resources for development	269
11.1. Housing and basic services	+114	14.1. Marine pollution	250
3.5. Substance abuse	+105	12.8. Information and awareness on sustainable lifestyle	243
16.9. Legal identity for all	+86	9.b. Domestic R&D	224
5.2. Gender violence	+80	6.1. Safe water	217
1.4. Equal rights for resources	+66	10.4. Fiscal, wage and social protection	214

- Red targets – are those which are significantly off-track and could be considered bottlenecks to progress on SDGs. These targets require significant investments for improvement and policy measures to address situation. Removing bottlenecks will trigger positive cycles of development.

Table 2: Top 10 Influential red targets

Red targets	
16.6. Develop institutions	-719
B1. Trust	-505
B2. Mine free	-504
16.5. Corruption and bribery	-484
7.3. Energy efficiency	-408
8.3. Development-oriented policies	-387
10.3. Eliminate discrimination	-302
9.1. Resilient infrastructure	-294
2.4. Food production systems	-260
13.1. Resilience and adaptive capacity	-239

Overall complexity analysis reinforces findings of MAPS process regarding areas to potentially invest efforts:

- Developing institutions (16.6.) and addressing systemic institutional bottlenecks (corruption 16.5, better development policies 8.3)
- Green economy is another potential accelerator, which could harness existing renewables 7.2. and access to ICT 9.c, while addressing energy inefficiency 7.3 and Food production systems 2.4.
- Resilience and adaptation is another possible candidate for accelerator, combining resilient infrastructure 9.1, Food production systems 2.4., and Resilient and adaptive capacity 13.1.
- Promoting gender equality, through addressing major gender gaps and concerns through variety of targets⁹.

Influence ranking of SDG targets should be seen as a guidance, rather than prescription. Additional analyses would be required to help define the best policy areas for potential investment and financing needs.

⁹ See "Gender Equality: A Key SDG Accelerator, a case study from the Republic of Moldova" by the United Nations Europe and Central Asia Issue-Based Coalition on Gender Equality, which is based on the same methodology of SDG Complexity Analysis done for Moldova <http://eca.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/02/gender-equality-a-key-sdg-accelerator-a-case-study-from-the-republic-of-moldova>

4. Conclusions and Next Steps

Interestingly, the consultations highlight an array of policy issues where BiH needs to progress to advance sustainable development. That is, there is a breadth to the SDGs as a platform for promoting sustainable development in BiH. The consultations provided the means to identify a range of core issues that could be considered as priorities across the five Ps of the Agenda 2030 as well as common themes which are highly relevant. The consultations also serve as a useful, neutral convener function that engages across cantonal, district, entity and BiH level government and civil society. Such broad-based consultations are a good basis for identifying common areas of acceleration and bottlenecks – particularly as they relate to the developmental challenges in the country.

In BiH as with any country, this will demand greater attention to ‘coherence’ across institutions and policy areas. To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of policy approaches requires a robust coordination and careful implementation, planning and monitoring, which in case of BiH very often are not in place and need to be improved. Better coordination mechanisms need to also include parliaments (regardless of the administrative level), and through their legislative, budgetary and oversight functions, their role is critical for SDG implementation.

From the various processes to support SDGs in BiH there is a need to pay attention to the following issues:

- Establish an efficient strategic planning system¹⁰, at all four administrative levels in BiH, including coordination between strategic documents and financial, human and other resources, and between the ongoing strategies and the SDGs;
- Create institutional mechanisms and M&E tools, at all four administrative levels in BiH, which will facilitate practical implementation of strategic documents;
- Encourage the Statistical Agencies in BiH to complement existing indicators with disaggregated indices and indicators to cover cross-cutting dimensions of economic, social and environmental sustainable development at BiH, entities’, cantonal and local levels;
- Introduce the practice of holding annual conferences and forums on the progress against the SDGs’ implementation. The conference would be critical to monitoring progress concerning integrating the SDGs, as well as to sharing best practices, challenges and opportunities.
- Activate participation of civil society, private sector, other stakeholders in the discussion of draft strategic documents in relation to attainment of SDG targets;
- To finance implementation, improving coordination of public and private sector financing for the SDGs will be critical. This will require harnessing the role of private sector in achieving SDGs and unlocking potential could focus on policies and programmes that promote quality of economic opportunities for youth and gender equality;
- To meet the SDG targets, it is necessary to clearly identify the authorities/ministries responsible for coordinating this work.

¹⁰ UNDP is supporting the reform to strategic planning processes and this provides an important entry point to bring SDGs to different administrative levels in BiH

To support these efforts, the UN system and the upcoming UNDAF development process provides an opportunity to address some issues and especially identifying which areas of acceleration are considered most relevant. For example:

- The role UN agencies play in key policy areas linked to EU accession on employment and social policy, environment and justice and rule of law, provide opportunities for developing platforms towards SDG achievements and acceleration. Specific thematic areas could be considered such as; education and health where the UN has a strong normative role could help to influence key EU policy and benchmarks. Raising the emphasis on key gender issues as a cross-cutting issue in sustainable development also needs more emphasis and advocacy.
- Additional ideas for accelerating SDGs such as promoting a green economy would help overcome current policy gaps and bottlenecks in the planet theme and could help inject ideas into key sectors.
- Issues of governance and SDG 16 are acting as a bottleneck and should enable the UNCT to play a key role. Especially when it comes to UNCT programming, it could benefit from being informed by a conflict analysis.

Many of the relevant policy issues have been highlighted in this report and the UN and the development community in BiH can help to continue an emphasis to key development priorities which support SDGs. To focus on Agenda 2030 priorities and to better track progress in that regard, there is a need for international donors to better coordinate their development assistance.

With the engagement of the wider public and international partners, BiH institutions could prepare a report "Sustainable Development Goals in BiH", to show how global goals and targets are to be adapted to the BiH context and the country's specific needs. This inclusive process, with the extensive dissemination of SDG-related information, should aim to unite society to address crucial challenges. This should ensure the best performance in terms of achieving the SDG goals.

Another important task for international donors is to target reducing the divergence of macroeconomic stabilization policies and the SDGs in BiH. One way to do this is to promote institutional changes that improve the capacity of central, entities, cantonal and local authorities to enable efficient resource allocation to achieve the SDGs. However, with development of a more coherent policy and planning system going forward, affords opportunity to seek better engagement on key macro-economic stabilization policies amongst relevant stakeholders.

Annex 1 – Detailed list of priority targets by theme group

P in the Sustainable Development	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	total																																	
Goal	2.3	3.7	3.1	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.7	5.1	5.2	6.1	6.2	6.4	7.3	8.2	8.3	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.9	8.10	9.4	9.5	10.2	10.3	11.3	11.5	11.6	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.5	12.a	12.1	13.2	13.3	13.1	15.2	15.9	15.a	16.1	16.3	16.5	16.6	16.7	17.1	17.14	17.17						
People	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					x	x	x																																					
Prosperity																																																						
Planet																																																						
Peace and Partnerships																																																						

Prosperity theme

Under SDG 4 (education)

- **SDG target 4.4:** By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship
- **SDG target 4.7:** By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development

Under SDG 7 (Energy)

- **SDG target 7.3:** By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency

Under SDG 8 (growth and jobs)

- **SDG target 8.2:** Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value-added and labour-intensive sectors
- **SDG target 8.3:** Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services
- **SDG target 8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value
- **SDG target 8.6:** By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training
- **SDG target 8.8:** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

Under SDG 9 (infrastructure and industrialization)

- **SDG Target 9.1:** Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all
- **SDG target 9.4:** By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound

technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities

- **SDG target 9.5:** Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending

Under SDG 10 (inequality)

- **SDG target 10.2:** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

Under SDG 11 (cities)

- **SDG target 11.5:** By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

Under SDG 12 (sustainable consumption patterns)

- **SDG target 12.2:** By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

Under SDG 16 (peaceful and inclusive societies)

- **SDG target 16.4:** By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
- **SDG target 16.5:** Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms

People Theme

Under SDG 2 (hunger)

- **SDG target 2.3 (Agricultural productivity)** By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment

Under SDG 3 (health)

- **SDG target 3.7 (Reproductive health)** By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes
- **SDG target 3.8 (Universal health coverage)** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

Under SDG 4 (education)

- **SDG target 4.1 (Primary and secondary education)** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes
- **SDG target 4.2 (Early childhood development)** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education
- **SDG target 4.3 (VET and University)** By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
- **SDG target 4.4 (Skills for employment)** By 2030, increase by [x] per cent the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship

Under SDG 5 (gender)

- **SDG target 5.1 (Gender discrimination)** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- **SDG target 5.2 (Gender violence)** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

Under SDG 8 (growth and jobs)

- **SDG target 8.2 (Economic productivity)** Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value-added and labour-intensive sectors
- **SDG target 8.3 (Development-oriented policies)** Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services
- **SDG target 8.5 (Full employment)** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

Under SDG 10 (Inequality)

- **SDG target 10.2 (Inclusion of all)** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

Under SDG 16 (peaceful and inclusive societies)

- **SDG target 16.3 (Rule of law)**, Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- **SDG target 16.6 (Develop institutions)** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
- **SDG target 16.7 (Inclusive decision-making)** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

Planet theme

Under SDG 4 (education):

- **SDG target 4.7:** By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

Under SDG 6 (water and sanitation):

- **SDG target 6.1:** By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
- **SDG target 6.2:** By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
- **SDG target 6.6:** By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

Under SDG 11 (sustainable cities & communities):

- **SDG target 11.3:** By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries
- **SDG target 11.b:** By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels

Under SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production)

- **SDG target 12.2:** By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
- **SDG target 12.3:** By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses
- **SDG target 12.4:** By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment
- **SDG target 12.5:** By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
- **SDG target 12.a:** Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production
- **SDG target 12.b:** Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

Under SDG 13 (climate action):

- **SDG target 13.2:** Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
- **SDG target 13.3:** Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
- **SDG target 13.b:** Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

Under SDG 15 (life on land):

- **SDG target 15.2:** By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally
- **SDG target 15.9:** By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts
- **SDG target 15.a:** Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems

Under SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions)

- **SDG target 16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

Peace and Partnerships Theme

Under SDG 4 (education)

- **SDG target 4.7** by 2030 ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

Under SDG 8 (growth and jobs)

- **SDG target 8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

Under SDG 10 (inequality)

- **SDG target 10.3:** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard

Under SDG 16 (peaceful and inclusive societies)

- **SDG target 16.1:** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
- **SDG target 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.
- **SDG target 16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

- **SDG target 16.7:** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

Under SDG 17 (partnership)

- **SDG target 17.1:** Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection
- **SDG target 17.14:** Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development
- **SDG target 17.17:** Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships

Scope

This study was conducted in the period February – April 2018 and reflects key findings of Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) exercise on 69 strategic documents¹¹, programs and action plans to reflect the extent to which the current development efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) are aligned with 2030 Agenda. As BiH is still lacking unique integrated vision on 2030 Agenda, the broad alignment of strategies with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been identified with an aim to build baseline arguments and evidence for future efforts (e.g. MAPS mission) for mainstreaming 2030 Agenda into strategic development process in BiH.

Objectives, methodology and assessment frame

The objectives of the assessment related to:

- Determining level of strategic development alignment with 17 global SDGs at the level of targets (169), based on pre-defined set of SDG indicators (over 220);
- Apart from standard SDG alignment at the level of SDG targets, this assessment included identification of responsible (key) institution and other institutions/organisations responsible for implementing and achieving activities and interventions in the strategic documents.
- Screening the planning process, monitoring and evaluation protocols and linkages to financial resources;
- Identification of SDG related policy gaps and identifying targets that could be prioritized;
- Distribution of the leading responsibility in implementing SDG-aligned activities among the key administrative institutions on the BiH, FBiH and RS level (Annex 4 provides detail);
- Recommendations towards enhanced incorporation of 2030 Agenda into government policies.

Strategic documents assessed have been pre-selected by the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in BiH, in collaboration with BiH and entity-level institutional counterparts. It is worth noting that not all currently valid strategic documents are assessed, but these embraced in this report range from regional strategic platforms (Regional Cooperation Council SEE2020 Action plan) to BiH-level documents developed by international organizations (IPA II program 2014 – 2017, UNDAF 2015-2019, World Bank program for BiH), BiH level sectorial strategies, entity level (Federation BiH and Republika Srpska) sectorial and inter-sectorial strategies, cantonal level (Federation BiH) development strategies and local development strategies. **As a result, in total over 5,700 defined measures and outcomes have been assessed (1,500 on BiH level, 600 on Federation BiH level, 2,200 on Republika Srpska level, 600 on FBiH cantonal level and 200 on local level).**

Alignment with the SDGs

The alignment element of RIA is not about analysis on how 'good or bad' existing match with the SDGs is, especially in countries where SDG nationalization/localization or what we use to say for BiH "domestication" is not yet done. Relevant institutions in BiH need to assess which SDGs and their affiliated targets are priorities, which can be amended or dropped, like, for example, SDG 14 targets on "life under water".

Sustainable development overall is generally well covered within development strategies in BiH reviewed through RIA. All 17 SDGs from Agenda 2030 are reflected across strategic documents, programs and action

¹¹ The scope of 69 documents is no way claiming to represent all possible strategies at various levels in BiH. This limitation needs to be borne in mind while reading this report.

plans. There is high level of match between some SDG targets and referent strategic documents, for example, SDG 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth is mentioned in 49 out of 69 strategies, while some SDG targets are rarely matched, including SDG 5. Gender Equality that is mentioned in 16 out of 69 strategies. The assessment revealed 93% coverage of SDG Means of Implementation¹² (Mol) in the current strategic development setup in BiH. Namely, 39 Mol targets are mainstreamed into revised strategic documents out of 42.

Assessment considered SDG targets linked to the five “Ps” of the 2030 Agenda. In total, 69 strategic documents calculated a score of 93% alignment for People, compared to 51% for Planet, 87% for Prosperity, 58% for Peace and 67% for Partnerships.

There are several policy gaps identified in underrepresented SDGs and targets:

- 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions;
- 5.1. End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere;
- 5.3. Harmful practices to reflect reforms for equal rights and response to domestic violence;
- 8.10. Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all;
- Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable;
- 11.1. Housing and basic services represent the absenteeism of policy focus on economical inclusion of citizens living on or below poverty line;
- 12.3. By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses;
- Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Distribution of responsibilities among key institutional stakeholders against SDG targets resulted in following findings:

- Based on reviewed documents, BiH level of government appears not to address means of implementation in SDG 12 (12.a. Science and technology in developing countries and 12.b. Sustainable tourism), SDG 9 (9.b. Domestic R&D) and in SDGs 6 and 7 barely addresses means to regulate water management and energy sector (authority on entity level).
- Based on reviewed documents, Federation BiH development planning framework is not sufficiently aligned with the targets of SDG 7. Energy; SDG 10. Inequalities (only 10.4 is aligned) and SDG 15 Lands appears to be lacking means of implementation to ensure interventions in preserving nature; SDG 6 Water and sanitation management, although authority is transposed to local level, coordination appears lacking over water management.
- Based on reviewed documents Republika Srpska could strengthen coordination mechanism in integrated water management, climate action and ensure means of implementation to reduced inequalities and ensure responsible consumption of natural resources.

Identified bottlenecks

The (lacking) alignment with the SDGs has not been considered as bottleneck, taking into account that institutional stakeholders did not have any prior referral in BiH considering that 2030 Agenda is a recent one and most strategic documents were developed prior to SDG adoption in 2015.

¹² SDG targets which are not fully numerical but have a letter at the end (e.g. Target 1.a, or Target 14.c)

The set of strategic documents assessed widely varies and there is no unique approach to strategic planning applied on BiH, Federation BiH and Republika Srpska levels of government. It is noticed that even at the same governance level strategic documents significantly differ by their composition and design/methodology.

The indicators are very likely to be inadequately elaborated or defined on inappropriate level, being either too extensively elaborated or irrelevant.

Two critical points in policy planning largely remain (with exception of the cantonal level and partly municipal level, please see Box below): **budgeting** (there is no clear recognition of amounts and sources) and **monitoring and evaluation** of strategic activities. Monitoring of implementation of Agenda 2030 will be a particular problem in BiH. In terms of data/indicators, statistical institutions in BiH can offer quality assistance in this regard, however, there is both lack of available indicators in official statistics and shortage of resources to establish regular monitoring system of Agenda 2030 in cooperation with other relevant institutions.

Comprehensive, multi-sectorial **strategic development plans** defining adequate corresponding objectives (at all four administrative levels) are not in place in BiH that would lead to the achievement of SDGs/targets, with appropriate action plans that translate objectives in actions and results, and with envisaged monitoring mechanisms required for complex agenda such as Agenda 2030;

In most strategic documents implementation **responsibilities** are not clearly defined, and existence of implementation mechanisms in majority of them is questionable;

In strategic documents where they exist, majority of **implementation mechanisms** are not multi-sectorial, often are not participatory, and tend to be without established vertical and horizontal coordination that enables multiplying effects based on wide participation of actors at all administrative levels and from different sectors;

There is lack of vertical and horizontal coordination in many policy areas representing a significant bottleneck in effective implementation of strategies that should induce changes on the level of local communities in particular;

Participation of civil society and private sector is relatively low judging by strategic design of implementation mechanisms. This participation can be even lower in practice.

Lack of comprehensive monitoring and evaluation mechanisms is a significant bottleneck in achieving sustainable development goals. There is a need to develop necessary (M&E) tools not only to monitor and to assess the implementation process, and to evaluate impacts in order to better design future measures, but also to motivate other actors to engage and contribute to these processes. For this, transparency and accessibility of information are also needed, which often is not the case.

While the identified gaps for the strategic planning system remain, particularly at state and entity level, important steps towards harmonisation of development management have been made at the local level country-wide and the cantonal level in the Federation BiH. Over 40% of municipalities and cities in the country possess integrated development strategies designed in a participatory manner in line with the standardised methodology (MiPRO), while 35% of these have in place institutional mechanisms for coordinating strategy implementation, monitoring and reporting¹³. At the cantonal level in FBiH, all ten cantons have designed and adopted integrated development strategies prepared in a harmonised manner

¹³ Analysis conducted by the two Associations of Municipalities and Cities in BiH

and with the same timeframe (by 2020). Cantons are increasingly working on strengthening their institutional mechanisms for strategies' implementation, monitoring and reporting. Measures from the strategies are translated into actions via dynamic three-year action planning process where linkage with financial planning takes place. Progress on implementation is increasingly monitored and reported in annual development plans indicating the level of implementation of specific projects as well as the progress towards attainment of targets.

Moreover, in the Federation BiH entity efforts are being made to establish a coherent planning and development management system in this entity through the design and adoption of the Law on Development Planning and Management in 2017. The adoption of the Law is followed by preparation of by-laws that harmonise strategic planning, strategy-based mid-term and short-term planning and reporting as well as evaluation of strategic documents across government levels in this entity. Importantly, linking future strategic planning processes with the Agenda 2030 has become a legal requirement in the Federation BiH entity.

Source: Integrated Local Development Project (ILDLP), joint project of the Government of Switzerland and UNDP in BiH.

Recommendations

Concerning institutional context for implementation of Agenda 2030 in BiH, there is evident space for improvement.

In BiH there is currently only one officially recognized methodology for strategic planning and it relates to local development. It was designed under a joint project of the Government of Switzerland and UNDP in 2009 and formally recommended by both entities' governments (MiPRO). This methodology was adapted and later on applied in all 10 cantons in the FBiH entity. Moreover, in FBiH entity a legal framework on development planning and management in FBiH was adopted in 2017, which defines future strategic planning and management system in FBiH (Law on Development Planning and Management). By-laws prescribing the methodology for planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation are to be reviewed and adopted by the FBiH Government in July 2018 to enable future implementation of the Law and will replace the MiPRO methodology. Alignment with SDGs is incorporated in emerging legal framework on development planning and management.

Strategies assessed through RIA on cantonal level (FBiH: 10 documents) and local level (3 documents), developed and aligned with miPRO methodology, have decent set-up of strategic priorities, measures and programs with adequate M&E systems and financial resources allocations in place.

Agenda 2030 should be integrated into BiH, entities, cantonal and municipal development programs, paying particular attention to setup of disaggregated SDG indicators relevant for entities/cantonal/municipal context.

Institutions need to create mechanisms and M&E tools, at all four administrative levels in BiH, to facilitate practical implementation of strategic documents¹⁴ and facilitate periodic public reviews of progress against the SDGs as well to enhance capacities of statistical agencies to complement existing indicators with disaggregated indices and indicators to cover cross-cutting dimensions of economic, social and environmental sustainable development at BiH, entities', cantonal and local levels in support of 'leaving no one behind' overarching principle of Agenda 2030.

¹⁴ In FBiH, this is already in process addressed through emerging legal framework and bylaws on development planning and management

Ensuring active participation of civil society, private sector, and other stakeholders in the discussion of draft strategic documents in relation to attainment of SDG targets may improve societal reflection on development agenda.

Identification of authorities, responsible to coordinate to work on implementing SDs is necessary to meeting the SDG targets. Newly drafted SDs need to undergo screening against the SDGs at all administrative levels.

Annex 3 – Methodology for Scoring SDG Targets

Complexity analysis of SDGs relies on Network Analysis techniques, coming with numeric values of influence of each target. It documents all connections between SDG targets on 7-point scale¹⁵. On the basis of this information program calculates influence of each targets, by summarizing weights of all connections of first and second order¹⁶. Resulting score¹⁷ is combined with assessment of targets situation from SDG dashboard using indicators available and analytical reports. The resulting Top-10 targets are provided in text above.

Interaction	Name	Explanation	Example
+3	Indivisible	Inextricably linked to the achievement of another goal.	Ending all forms of discrimination against women and girls is indivisible from ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership.
+2	Reinforcing	Aids the achievement of another goal.	Providing access to electricity reinforces water-pumping and irrigation systems. Strengthening the capacity to adapt to climate-related hazards reduces losses caused by disasters.
+1	Enabling	Creates conditions that further another goal.	Providing electricity access in rural homes enables education, because it makes it possible to do homework at night with electric lighting.
0	Consistent	No significant positive or negative interactions.	Ensuring education for all does not interact significantly with infrastructure development or conservation of ocean ecosystems.
-1	Constraining	Limits options on another goal.	Improved water efficiency can constrain agricultural irrigation. Reducing climate change can constrain the options for energy access.
-2	Counteracting	Clashes with another goal.	Boosting consumption for growth can counteract waste reduction and climate mitigation.
-3	Cancelling	Makes it impossible to reach another goal.	Fully ensuring public transparency and democratic accountability cannot be combined with national-security goals. Full protection of natural reserves excludes public access for recreation.

¹⁵ As proposed by Måns Nilsson, Dave Griggs & Martin Visbeck in "Policy: Map the interactions between Sustainable Development Goals", <http://www.nature.com/news/policy-map-the-interactions-between-sustainable-development-goals-1.20075>. Other countries, like Denmark and Sri Lanka, also use this approach.

Interactions are country specific and informed by both global studies, like International Council for Science Report «Review of Targets for the Sustainable Development Goals: The Science Perspective», as well as country analysis.

¹⁶ The later with coefficient of 0.5 to reflect diminishing influence.

¹⁷ The positive feature of Network Analysis is its robustness. Small discrepancies do not significantly affect ranking of targets. One should be absolutely wrong in many connections to change ranking.

Annex 4 – MAPS team

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Multi-stakeholder consultations / workshop on Sustainable Development Goals in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Tuesday, 29 May 2018 – Wednesday, 30 May 2018

Hotel Hills (Butmirska 18, Ilidža), Sarajevo

Agenda

DAY 1 - Tuesday, 29 May 2018

08:30 – 09:00	Participants Registration
	PLENARY SESSION -CONGRESS CENTRE
09:00 – 09:30	Welcoming statements H.E. Dr. Dragan Čović, Member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina H.E. Anders Hagelberg, Ambassador of Sweden in Bosnia and Herzegovina Ms. Sezin Sinanoglu, UN Resident Coordinator in Bosnia and Herzegovina
09:30 – 10:00	Setting the Stage I - Current/upcoming trends and SDG progress in Western Balkans and Bosnia and Herzegovina Keynote speaker: Mr. Paul Ladd, Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development <i>Setting the stage – introduction to key trends and challenges that the country is facing today and may face in the future. Why business as usual/or development as usual is no longer an option for BiH.</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Setting the Stage II – SDGs and Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina Mr. George Bouma, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub <i>SDGs and how they shape sustainable development. Overall linkages to EU Accession. The role of MAPS and explanation as to how the two-day event fits into the larger MAPS support to BiH.</i> Linkages to EU accession and aligning policy approaches <i>The role of Chapter 23 and 24 in EU Accession</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break Split into 4 thematic groups (People; Planet; Prosperity; Peace and Partnerships) and subgroups – Facilitators of the thematic groups will be from MAPS team and UNCT
	GROUP WORK - Break up of groups into 5Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace/Partnerships)
11:00 – 13:00	Group Work Part 1 – Vision, opportunities and constraints in each thematic area <i>One of the key principles of Agenda 2030 is that the goals are indivisible and cannot be addressed in isolation. But priorities need to be set and this session will be about focusing on the five Ps and setting relevant priorities in each.</i>
13:00 – 13:45	Lunch break
	PLENARY SESSION -CONGRESS CENTRE
13:45 – 14:30	Presentation of the key findings of policy analysis and progress defining SDG interlinkages Ms. Elena Danilova-Cross and Mr. Mihail Peleah

	<p>Introduction on key findings from RIA and Dashboard and complexity. Explanation how these tools may be used in the future.</p> <p>Results of Zamisli 2030 and the five Ps of Sustainable Development Goals</p> <p>Ms. Envesa Hodzic-Kovac, UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina</p>
	GROUP WORK - Break up of groups into 5Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace/Partnerships)
14:30 – 15:30	<p>Group Work Part 2 – Interlinkages, connections and social development</p> <p>The session will seek views on best ways to promote human capital as well as leaving no-one behind through achieving SDGs. One of the key principles of Agenda 2030 is to eradicate poverty (leave no-one behind) and at the same time reduce inequalities.</p>
15:30 – 14:45	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:30	<p>Group Work Part 3 – Plenary by Thematic Group</p> <p>Each thematic small group will come together in the larger thematic group and present their results from Part 1 and Part 2. Each larger thematic group will come up with a combined set of responses to each key area discussed.</p>

DAY 2 - Wednesday, 30 May 2018

	PLENARY SESSION - CONGRESS CENTRE
09:00 – 10:00	<p>Global and Regional Alignment: Monitoring, Reporting and linkages to EU accession</p> <p>This session will provide insights into how the global SDG framework aligns with EU regional standards and the global data, monitoring and reporting processes for the SDGs.</p> <p>UNICEF MICS in BiH, by Geeta Narayan, UNICEF Representative in BiH Data for Prosperity and people – Maria Borsos, ILO Data for Planet – Tomas Marques, UNEP Data for People – The importance of gender disaggregated data: TBD UNW</p>
10:00 – 10:45	<p>Group work part 4: Presentations from thematic groups</p> <p>15 mins each for People and Planet 15 minutes discussion Each group facilitator will present the findings of the thematic Groups from the previous day</p>
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:45	<p>Group work part 4 (cont): Presentations from thematic groups</p> <p>15 mins each for Prosperity and Peace & Partnership 15 minutes discussion Each group facilitator will present the findings of the thematic groups from the previous day</p>
11:45 – 12:15	<p>Discussion on the next steps</p> <p>SDG Roadmap in BiH Facilitated by Mr. George Bouma</p>
12:15 – 12:30	<p>Concluding remarks</p> <p>H.E. Ambassador Milos Prica, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina Mr. Zoran Zeljko, Director of the BiH Directorate for Economic Planning Ms. Sezin Sinanoglu, UN Resident Coordinator in Bosnia and Herzegovina</p>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch