



CZECH REPUBLIC DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



CZECH DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION IN
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



Czech Development Agency



CZECH REPUBLIC
HUMANITARIAN AID

TRANSITION
Transition Promotion Program

Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of the Czech Republic's most important development cooperation partners. Over the past 20 years, the nature of cooperation has evolved from humanitarian assistance from the Czech Republic through post-war reconstruction to the current scheme to support the stability and successful integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina into the European Union. **The sharing of Czech experience with democratic changes and accession to the EU in 2004, combined with the profound historical, cultural and linguistic similarity of both countries, creates added value for all the Czech projects.**

The CZ and BiH development cooperation program for the 2018-2023 period is an appropriate combination of the defined development needs of BiH and the areas where CZ can offer added value, technical expertise and specific experience.

Thematic priorities and SDGs: Sustainable development goals



Economic growth with emphasis on energy from renewable sources - biomass heating, solar collectors for hot water heating, geothermal energy



Sustainable management of natural resources - protection, use and development of water sources, drinking water availability and quality, renewal of water sources, elimination of pollution, wastewater treatment



Proper democratic governance of public affairs – efficient, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels of public administration

Who implements Czech projects in BiH

- **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** of the Czech Republic is the main coordinator of foreign development cooperation; it coordinates the implementation of the cooperation program and manages humanitarian aid projects, small-scale local projects and transformation cooperation projects
- **Czech Development Agency** is an state organisation under the authority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, and is responsible for identifying, formulating and managing the most extensive bilateral projects in the priority sectors
- **Czech Embassy in Sarajevo** coordinates all of the bilateral and multilateral activities of the Czech Republic in BiH, engages in the coordination of donors and manages small local projects and the government scholarship program
- **Other Czech ministries implementing projects within their programs:**
 - Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic – demining of water surfaces and watercourses, cooperation in the field of asylum and migration policy
 - Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic - Aid for Trade
 - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic - government scholarships
- **Czech Trust Fund under the UNDP**, based in Istanbul, manages projects focused on sharing Czech experience and know-how and supporting innovative solutions

Czech projects in BiH are based on the requirement for

- long-term sustainability
- respect for human rights, the environment and democracy
- responsible partnership between the public, private, civic and academic sectors



1. Bilateral projects of the Czech Development Agency in priority sectors



Czech Development Agency

The Czech Development Agency, based in Prague, manages the Czech Republic's bilateral projects in the priority sectors.

On the website at www.czechaid.cz, it regularly announces tenders in the form of subsidies or public contracts for the contractors of goods, services and work for each project, lasting 1 to 3 years.

Who can apply for a project:

state authorities on a central, regional or local level, local government bodies, local non-governmental organisations and institutions, research and other institutions in BiH

How to apply for a project:

the identifying topics are collected on an ongoing basis by the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo and/or the BiH Ministry of Finance database

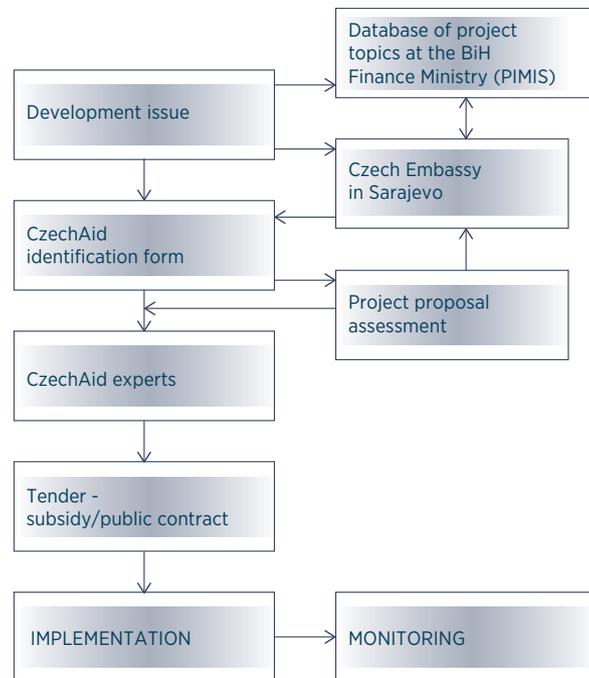
Who can implement projects:

Projects are implemented by means of

- public procurement (international tender)
- grants (non-governmental non-profit entity registered in CZ)
- budgetary measures (state entities registered in CZ)

Calls are published regularly on the Czech Development Agency's website.

Bilateral development project scheme:





Renewable energy sources - Solar panels for the hospital in Mostar

In 2017, a Czech company installed more than one hundred solar collectors on the roof of the Dr. Safet Mujić Hospital in Mostar, which serve to heat utility water. The more than 30% saved on heating can thus be directed towards other needs. The functionality and sustainability of the project is ensured by training the local staff and continuous online control by the implementer from CZ.



Water and sanitation - Reconstruction of the wastewater treatment plant in Gradačac

In 2015-2018, the Czech Republic modernised, expanded and improved the reliability of the wastewater treatment system in Gradačac, thus helping to substantially reduce the surface water pollution of the Gradašnice River with industrial and communal wastewater. The quality of life of citizens in this region was improved, along with the further development of industry in the region in accordance with the environmental protection objectives. At the same time, an educational campaign was carried out at schools in the region, emphasising the need to protect clean water sources.



Good governance of public affairs - Project to increase exports of agricultural products to the EU and food safety

The main objective of the activities carried out by Czech experts focused on improving the capacities of state veterinary laboratories and veterinary inspection services was to increase the potential for exporting agricultural projects of animal origin to the European Union. The National Residue Monitoring Plan was implemented in cooperation with USAID and SIDA within the FARMA I project. A project focussed on improving food safety in 2017 - 2020 follows up on this successful cooperation.



2. Other instruments managed by the Czech Development Agency

Development partnership program for the private sector (B2B)

- creates jobs and opens up new markets to companies
- gets Czech business involved in development cooperation while supporting the development of the private sector in BiH by establishing businesses and entrepreneurial partnerships

Who can apply for a project:

business entity based in CZ

How to apply for a project:

grant tender is announced twice a year on the CzechAid website

Project types:

- a) feasibility study (including the preparation of a tender for international financial institutions)
- b) business plan (preparing Czech companies to enter the BiH market)
- c) implementation of B2B projects based on the business plan

Teacher postings - cooperation between BiH and CZ universities

- supports the improvement of standards and expertise of university education in BiH by involving teachers from Czech universities
- 1- to 2-year project may be focused e.g. on introducing a new study program, improving the qualifications of academic staff, teaching a subject on a specific topic, summer school, acquiring international accreditation or research cooperation

Who can apply for a project:

project proposals are submitted by a Czech university (based on prior agreement with the partner university in BiH)

How to apply for a project:

grant tender is announced once per year on the CzechAid website

Expert postings

- experts from Czech institutions within public administration, the non-governmental and private sectors or professional chambers and guilds share Czech experience e.g. in the area of ecology, education, public administration, etc.
- experts spend maximum of 25 calendar days in BiH

Who can apply for a project:

state authorities at the central, regional or local level, local government bodies, local non-governmental organisations and institutes, research and other institutions in BiH

How to apply for a project:

project proposals are submitted on an ongoing basis by institutions from BiH to the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo (via telephone and/or e-mail)

3. Small-scale local projects

- grants for smaller development activities worth max CZK 500,000 (approx. BAM 37,500 / EUR 20,000), especially in the priority development sectors (sustainable energy sources, water and sanitation, environment, proper governance of public affairs)
- project implementation: approx. 6 months (March - October)

Who can apply for a project:

entities registered in BiH - local non-governmental non-profit organisations

academic institutions

public administration institutions, particularly on a local level
education and healthcare facilities, civic associations and unions, etc.

How to apply for a project:

once a year, the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo publishes a call to submit project proposals for small-scale local projects on its website. Projects are selected in the second half of the year, for implementation in the following year from March to October.

4. Humanitarian aid



- is an integral part of the foreign development cooperation of the Czech Republic
- is provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic (in cooperation with other bodies) in immediate response to natural disasters or those caused by man (including conflicts) through financial, material or expert aid (floods in BiH in 2014)
- also includes subsequent aid in restoring basic living conditions and preventing and reducing the risk of catastrophes and improving resilience against them

The Czech Republic in cooperation with the UNDP in BiH implements projects to mitigate disasters, aimed primarily at supporting local capacities and building integrated solutions, improving readiness, risk management and resilience.



5. Transformation cooperation managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

TRANSITION

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- supports civic society in the democratisation process and uses the specific experience of the Czech Republic with the process of social transformation and building of democracy
- projects are implemented over 1 to 3 years by a Czech non-governmental non-profit organisation in cooperation with a non-governmental non-profit entity from BiH

Who can apply for a project:

non-governmental non-profit organisations and other authorised bodies, whose aim is to develop and stabilise political systems based on democratic principles and respect for human rights

How to apply for a project:

call for the submission of project proposals is published yearly on the website www.mzv.cz/lidskaprava; project proposals are sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic using the respective form,

“Jiří Dienstbier Journalism Fellowships” scholarship

- every year, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty grants a scholarship to aspiring young journalists from the western Balkan countries, including Bosnia and Herzegovina
- term of the scholarship is usually November – June; part of the internship takes place in Prague

How to apply for the scholarship: call to submit scholarship applications is published on the website of the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic; applications are sent electronically to: jiridienstbierfellowship@rferl.org

Local transformation projects and support of independent media

- grant (of max. CZK 500,000/ EUR 20,000) for a project focused on the priorities of the transformation cooperation program or support of independent media, which observe the basic principles of editorial independence
- implementation period: March - October

How to apply for a project:

call to submit project proposals is published on the website of the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo; project proposals are sent to the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo using the respective form

6. Government scholarships and other study options at Czech universities

The Czech Republic offers foreign students a whole range of options for quality university education in English or Czech in master's or PhD degree programs. Diplomas awarded at Czech universities are internationally recognised pursuant to the Bologna standards. Aside from government development scholarships, scholarships provided directly by the universities may also be obtained.



Government development scholarship program

- every year, the Czech government grants government scholarships to more than 100 students from around the world, covering all of their costs related to study, accommodation, living expenses and medical care
- applicants are not EU citizens and do not have permanent residence in the Czech Republic

Study programs:

- follow-up master degree (2 years) and PhD degree (3 years) in English and Czech (1 preparatory year for Czech language)

Who can apply for a scholarship: students with good study results who are in their last year of secondary school or who have already received a secondary school diploma; graduates of bachelor's or master's study programs

How to apply for a scholarship: call to submit online applications for a government scholarship and all additional information is published in summer every year on the website of the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo; online application and test must be completed by 30th of September

Other study options at Czech universities

- students from BiH may study for **free** in the **Czech language** at any university in the Czech Republic upon meeting the given requirements of each institution.
- Czech language lessons in BiH are conducted at the universities in Sarajevo and Banja Luka.
- for studies in the **English** language, some universities provide foreign students with their own scholarships for master's and PhD programs, which partly cover the costs of accommodation and meals
- European student mobility programs (Erasmus Mundus) may also be used

More information about the options for studying in the Czech Republic is available at www.studyin.cz or from the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo.

7. Development programs of other Czech ministries

Aid for Trade program managed by the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic

- supports trade development in BiH by transposing Czech experience in the areas of: trade facilitation and liberalisation, building business capacities and activities, involvement in the international trading system, assisting the state administration in creating business policies and the trade regulatory framework, development of small and medium-sized enterprises
- projects lasting approx. 6 months (March - November) for max. CZK 1 million (BAM 80,000/ EUR 40,000)

Who can apply for a project: public institutions in the trade sector in BiH (e.g. ministry of economy, chambers of commerce, business clusters, etc.)

How to apply for a project: Czech Embassy in Sarajevo accepts project applications on an ongoing basis; proposals submitted using the respective identification form in English will then be assessed by the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic for implementation in the following year

Project formats: training, workshops, round tables, feasibility studies, analyses aimed at sharing Czech know-how, specialised information and experience; the projects may include the delivery of small technical equipment

Security cooperation program managed by the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic

- supports the strengthening of security capacities in BiH with the aim of facilitating mutual cooperation and preventing potential security threats or extraordinary incidents
- special unit of divers - pyrotechnicians of the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic in cooperation with the Ministry of Security of BiH and civil defence units (FUCZ and RUCZ) remove unexploded ammunition from water courses and provide specialised training for local units in this field

Who can apply for a project: state bodies of BiH responsible for mine clearance

How to apply for a project: written applications can be sent to the address of the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic through the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo

Project formats: identification and removal of unexploded ammunition underwater and training of special units of FUCZ and RUCZ divers/pyrotechnicians



8. Involvement of the Czech Republic in multilateral development cooperation

Cooperation of CZ within the UN and EU

Since 2004, the Czech Republic has been a member of the European Union, and thus mandatorily contributes to EU development activities in third countries. This means that all the development activities implemented in Bosnia and Herzegovina from **EU funds** are to a considerable extent also financed by the Czech Republic.

Projects of the Czech Republic Trust Fund under the UNDP, which the Czech Republic implements in cooperation with the UNDP, contribute to achieving the SDGs (sustainable development goals) by sharing the Czech Republic's experience from its period of transition to a democracy, market economy and the accession of the Czech Republic to the European Union. The Challenge Fund supports Czech innovative solutions to development problems by involving the private, academic or government sector or individuals.

Support of CZ in the field of demining

On a regular yearly basis, the Czech Republic financially supports activities aimed at **mine clearance** in Bosnia and Herzegovina, implemented through the international non-government organisation ITF Enhancing Human Security (International Trust Fund).

Up until 2018, the Czech Republic has contributed **USD 1.43 million** to the International Trust Fund for mine clearance activities in southeast Europe. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic has been financing ITF activities since 2002, thus contributing to Bosnia and Herzegovina's commitment to clear the country of mines by 2025.





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