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|  | WeBER Indicator Summary  AREA: ACCOUNTABILITY  BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA |
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| **PAR Area** | **ACCOUNTABILITY** | **Country** | **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA** |
| **SIGMA Principle** | ***2. The right to access public information is enacted in legislation and consistently applied in practice*** | | |

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| **WeBER Indicator** | ***ACC\_P2\_I2: Proactive informing of the public by public authorities*** |
| **Indicator approach** | |
| *This indicator focuses on the proactivity of public authorities in informing the public, particularly through comprehensiveness, timeliness and clarity of information disseminated through official websites. Indicator consists of 18 elements (sub-indicators), assessing relevant information against two groups of criteria: 1) completeness and up-to-date, 2) accessibility and citizen-friendliness. The element related to open data in public administration, as a proactive way of informing the public, is assessed using separate criteria. Analysis was done on the sample of seven central administration institutions, consisting of three line ministries, one ministry with general planning and coordination function, one government office/agency with CoG function, one subordinate body/agency and one government office/agency in charge of delivering services.* | |
| **Summary of the findings** | |
| *Information on the scope of work on the website of the institutions is in line with the description in legal acts for all sampled institutions. This information is easily accessible on the websites, but all the institutions have copied information, which is the same as in legal texts and is not presented in a citizen friendly format. When it comes to accountability, almost all sampled institutions provide complete and updated information on who they are responsible to, with exception for three ministries.*  *Generally, information on relevant policy documents and legal acts is complete, up to date and accessible for sampled institutions. This information is not regularly followed with textual explanations, so the lack of citizen-friendliness is evident for all institutions.*  *There were fewer sample institutions publishing information on policy papers, studies and policy analyses, with only BiH Directorate for Economic Planning (DEP) regularly publishing macroeconomic analysis projections, indicators, and trends. Although every document has a summary, and these publications are easily accessible, they are not citizen friendly i.e. no introduction parts at the website explaining what documents are about – what purpose they serve, or what they regulate. In comparison with the PAR Monitor 2017/2018, publishing of annual reports in PAR Monitor 2019/2020 is regular and sample institutions make them easily accessible, although they are not written in a citizen-friendly manner. It is of note that the reports are published on eKonsultacije portal, which is easily accessible to all stakeholders.*  *During 2019, state level government was in technical mandate, and that can be the reason why there is no information on the institution’s budget (reports or financial plan for 2020). Nonetheless, Interim Financing Decision throughout the previous year, and Interim Financing Decision during the first three months of 2020 are available at the website of Ministry for Finance and Treasury. Financial reports for 2018 are available for almost all institutions in the sample.*  *Contact information is fully published, with different contact channels stated in separate website sections, easily accessible online. For most of the sampled institutions, organisational charts are generally presentable and in downloadable format and in line with acts on internal structure and job positions (only two exceptions in the sample).*  *Furthermore, sample institutions communicate thoroughly with civil society and external stakeholders via individual public consultation invitations or via eKonsultacije portal where they demonstrate citizen-friendly approaches by inviting those interested, or specific stakeholders, to participate. Information regarding the type of documents, procedures, types of consultation, location, and timing of consultations and an online application for interested stakeholders is available. In addition, details about the contact person are available and information about the specific document as well as general rules for consultations. Positive example of separate information booklet for public consultation can be found on the website of BiH Agency for identification Documents, Registers, and Data Exchange (IDDEEA). Finally, public authorities do not pursue an open data policy. Bosnia and Herzegovina has launched a National Summary Data Page (NSDP), a data portal that serves as a one-stop vehicle for publishing essential macroeconomic data in both human and machine-readable formats, which is supposed to lead to a greater data transparency.* | |
| ***Specific observations*** | |
| * *The website of MFT was hacked in the first week of monitoring so the analysis was done in the period different that for the rest of the sample (Friday, 13th of March).* * *Although there is a reason for not having the financial plan for 2020 or financial report for 2019 (interim financial decision since January 2019 and government in technical mandate during last year), and financial reports for 2018 are available for almost all institutions in the sample, based on the methodology total score is 0 for all the elements on budget documents.* * *More sample institutions in PAR Monitor 2019/2020 have published the annual reports than in PAR Monitor 2017/2018 (only two exceptions)* * *The NSDP is hosted by the Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina on its website.*   *PAR Monitor 2019/2020 sample institutions:*  *1. BiH Ministry of Civil Affairs*  *2. BiH Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees*  *3. BiH Ministry of Security*  *4. BiH Ministry of Finance and Treasury*  *5. BiH Directorate for Economic Planning*  *6. BiH Service for Foreigners' Affairs*  *7. BiH Agency for identification documents, registers and data exchange* | |

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| ***PAR Monitor*** | ***2019/2020*** | ***2017/2018*** |
| **Indicator score** | *22 (out of 56 points)* | *23 (out of 56 points)* |
| **Final indicator value** | *2 (scale 0 – 5) [[1]](#footnote-1)* | *2 (scale 0 – 5)* |
| **Measurement period** | *26 February - 04 March (MFT - Friday, 13th of March)* | *September 25th – 29th, 2017 (except for FOI requests, sent on October 16th, 2017)* |
| **Comment** | *Sampled institutions for this reporting period have more user-oriented and coherent webpages. However, the almost same score can be explained with the state level government being in technical mandate during the 2019.* | |

1. Conversion of points: 0-10 points = 0; 11-19 points = 1; 20-28 points = 2; 29-37 points =3; 38-46 points = 4; 47-56 points = 5 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)