WeBER Indicator Summary

AREA: POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

- Author: Foreign Policy Initiative BH - FPI BH
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<th>PAR Area</th>
<th>POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SIGMA Principle</td>
<td>10. The policy-making and legal-drafting process is evidence-based, and impact assessment is consistently used across ministries</td>
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**WeBER Indicator**

**PDC_P10_I1: Use of evidence created by think tanks, independent institutes and other CSOs in policy development**

**Indicator approach**

This indicator focuses on the extent to which government institutions invite CSOs to prepare evidence-based policy documents and the extent to which evidence produced by them (the data collected and research) is consulted and used in policy development process. Measurement of elements of this indicator combines expert analysis of relevant government documents and an online perception survey of CSOs.

The indicator covers a wide range of CSOs working at policy level, such as think tanks, independent institutes, as well as locally-based organisations which declare themselves as working on the policy level. In addition, to complement survey results with narrative, qualitative inputs, focus groups with CSOs with relevant expertise are conducted based on same questions, on a sample of 3 policy areas in each country where a substantial number of CSOs actively work and perform research and analyses. However, only survey results are used for point allocation for those elements.

**Summary of the findings**

Evidence-based findings produced by CSOs are occasionally referenced in strategic and policy documents of the three policy areas in which the largest number of CSOs identified in BiH is actively working: anti-corruption, antidiscrimination and environment policy. 3 out of 9 of examined strategies contain reference to CSO findings. However, only one referencing to CSOs evidence-based products was found in policy papers, ex-ante and ex post analyses and assessments (Explanatory Memorandum - BiH Law on Public Procurement).

29.9% of surveyed CSOs in BiH confirm that the government institutions invite them to prepare or submit policy papers, studies or impact assessments, when addressing policy problems or developing policy proposals. More than 50% of CSOs agree that representatives of relevant government institutions participate in the events organized by CSOs to promote policy products (52%). But, on the other hand, only 29.9% of CSOs are either often or always being invited by the relevant ministries to participate in working groups/task forces for drafting policy or legislative proposals. Slightly more than 20% of surveyed CSOs confirm that relevant ministries provide feedback on the reasons for acceptance/rejection of evidence-based inputs coming from the organization during the working group work. Lastly, only 23.9% think that relevant ministries consider their policy proposals.

**Specific observations**

Expert analysis took into account 3 policy areas where a substantial number of CSOs in Serbia actively work and perform research and analyses: anti-corruption, antidiscrimination and environment policy. The assessment of distribution/number of CSOs working in these policy areas was done combining the following sources: the database of environmental NGOs in BiH - “Aarhus Center in BiH”, database of NGO, database of BiH MoJ; E-register of associations and foundations in BiH.

For Bosnia and Herzegovina, a total of 122 CSOs were surveyed. The base for question in this indicator was n=67 respondents. Only CSOs that confirmed that they produce proposals, recommendations or other inputs for the decision-making processes at the central/national level were asked this question.

**Indicator score**

3 (out of 24 points)

**Final indicator value**

0 (scale 0-5)\(^1\)

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\(^1\)Conversion of points: 0-5 points = 0; 6-8 points = 1; 9-12 points = 2; 13-16 points = 3; 17-19 points = 4; 20-24 points = 5.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Measurement period</th>
<th>April - June 2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Survey of CSOs</td>
<td>April 23rd – June 4th, 2018</td>
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