Investment Climate and Access to Markets
January 2016 - January 2019

The World Bank Group will engage with the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the Federation BiH Government, and the Republika Srpska Government to provide technical assistance to improve business environment, enable access to markets, and increase competitiveness with special focus on agri-business value chains by:

- **Improving Business Regulations and Quality Infrastructure**
- **Strengthening Investment Policy and Facilitation**
- **Facilitating Access to Market**

Improving competitiveness and sustainable development of selected value chains in the agribusiness sector coupled with supporting BiH during the EU integration process is the main strategic objective in BiH. The BiH-wide “Reform Agenda” identifies attraction of investment a focus of future growth and prosperity, while improving competitiveness is a pre-requisite in attracting investment and boosting the private sector growth. Removing barriers to investment, trading and export and strengthening the national quality control are the pillars of the Business Climate and Competitiveness section of the Reform Agenda.

**Expected Results:**
- Increased private sector competitiveness by reducing the compliance costs of business operations by $5 million (in aggregate) by 2019;
- Achieved $2 million in private sector savings from access to market reforms by 2019, and
- Facilitated $10 million investments/reinvestments in the target value chains by 2020.
Business regulation, quality and standards

- Develop quality infrastructure strategy in BiH
- Improve regulation on organic production and geographic origin
- Enhance capacities of private sector to apply for organic and geographic origin certification
- Align regulation to EU regulation on Sustainable Use of Pesticides
- Cut para-fiscal fees and red tape - improve regulations on tourism, trade, crafts, entrepreneurship & internal trade

Investment policy and support

- Develop framework for investment promotion in BiH
- Help improve investment attraction services at national and entity levels
- Remove barriers to foreign investment entry
- Support targeted investor outreach in fruits and vegetable value chain
- Conduct targeted aftercare & investor servicing to help increase investments and re-investment
- Analyze feasibility of instituting legally binding investor grievance mechanism in BiH at different levels

Accessing markets

- Assist at least one laboratory to become ready to meet EU standards for fruits and vegetable testing
- Strengthen inspection control of pesticides
- Improve control of milk input to ensure quality of raw milk
- New Law on Foreign Trade Policy
- Reduce administrative burden to exporters
- Harmonize pricing of border controls and border procedures
- Enable data exchange between border agencies

The Project is implemented by WBG in partnership with the British Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the Federation BiH Government, and the Republika Srpska Government

For more information, please contact:

Mr. Tarik Šahović
Project Manager
Zmaja od Bosne bb (RBBH – Building B/III)
71000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
e-Mail: tsahovic@ifc.org