

SWEDISH AID TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA – AN EVALUATION

The report *Nation Building in a Fractured Country: An Evaluation of Swedish Cooperation in Economic Development with Bosnia and Herzegovina 1995-2018* focuses on the theme of economic development over more than two decades of development cooperation with Bosnia and Herzegovina.

THE EVALUATORS ESTIMATE THAT, WHEN IT COMES TO THE PORTFOLIO FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT...

... About 20% has been allocated to projects with good value for money, in terms of contributing to the overarching Swedish objectives and Bosnia and Herzegovina's development challenges.

... About 30% of the support was between good and poor value, or has not been possible to assess due to contradictory results-reporting.

... About 40% of the portfolio had poor value for money, including a large share of the agriculture support.

... About 10% of the funding was still in a too early stage of implementation to judge the sustained results.

An overarching conclusion in the evaluation is that there has been a declining rate of return of the Swedish support after the first decade's reconstruction and the transformation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to a market economy.

THE EVALUATORS SUGGEST, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT:

- 1 If Sweden continues its support after the end of the current strategy period 2020, it should fully align with the EU in the accession process.
- 2 Country strategies for Bosnia and Herzegovina should improve in analytical quality.
- 3 The balance between tasks and human resources at the embassy level needs to be improved.
- 4 That the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, jointly with the Embassy in Sarajevo, embarks on a strategy focusing on political change towards a speedy EU accession.

➔ The evaluation in full length is available at www.eba.se

REPORT AUTHORS



Claes Lindahl
Consultant with 40 yrs of experience from aid evaluation.



Julie Catterson Lindahl
Author, Consultant, Researcher.



Mikael Söderbäck
Evaluator with 30 yrs of experience from Swedish development cooperation.



Tamara Ivankovic
Consultant, long background within development cooperation.