



EU Recommendations

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. BiH should aim at further compliance of its trade statistics for agricultural, processed agricultural products, and fish and fishery products with the EU statistical regime in order to prevent continuous discrepancies between BiH and EU figures on certain commodities.
2. BiH should overcome the long-standing stalemate on the agricultural census whose absence severely hinders agricultural statistics and the design of an agricultural and rural development policy.
3. BiH needs to step up its efforts to improve administrative capacities and resources aiming at better preparedness and gradual approximation to the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), in particular as regards the setting up of the paying agency and the Integrated and Administration Control System (IACS).
4. BiH has to advance in establishing and improving various agricultural information systems, ensuring their country-wide harmonisation.
5. BiH has to ensure a coordinated and coherent “owner-driven” implementation of the Strategic Plan for Rural Development of BiH 2018-2021, through a well-targeted use of the expected funds in line with the main principles of CAP, as well as effective and regular monitoring at all governments' levels. State level authorities have a particular coordination role and responsibility to work towards a harmonised approach.
6. BiH needs to speed-up the preparatory works for post 2021 strategy with the support of the EU4Agri project.
7. BiH also needs to make progress in harmonising support measures across the country and gradually align them with the *acquis*.
8. State level legislation on organic production has yet to be EU compliant and adopted. The entity laws have to be harmonised with the state level.
9. EU welcomed the progress in the registration of the first four applications for protected geographical indications (GIs) and designations of origin (DOs) in BiH.
10. BiH needs to continue bringing the state level Law on food in line with the latest developments of the *acquis* and to continue making progress in the area of wine and spirits.

FISHERIES

11. BiH should continue with the preparatory work on a countrywide fisheries and aquaculture strategy, which is of crucial importance to ensure alignment with the Common Fishery Policy (CFP) and further assistance.
12. BiH has to strengthen its administrative capacities and address various outstanding issues, such as establishing and managing a fleet register, proceed with a countrywide harmonised collection of data and statistics on catches and landings per type of fishery and establish relevant statistics.

FOOD SAFETY, VETRINARY AND PHYTOSANITARY POLICIES

13. BiH has to build up and maintain a reliable and sustainable system of animal registration and vaccination wherever relevant as a measure to improve the control of animal diseases.
14. BiH should intensify the monitoring and surveillance in animal disease control. In particular, BiH needs to maintain the vaccination campaigns against rabies and intensify the disease control measures in the long-run.
15. BiH should continue its efforts to align with the EU *acquis* in the field of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary issues through adopting the legislation at state level without delay, and should continue aligning its legislation in these areas with the latest developments of the *acquis*.
16. BiH has to strengthen and upgrade its institutional and administrative capacities, including inspections services and laboratories.
