

Society is yet to be adopted. There is no State-level legislation on electronic documents, e-government and cyber crime. Legislation remains to be aligned with the e-commerce Directive and implementing legislation on conditional access services. The State-level e-commerce law did not enter into force yet. The implementation of the State-level e-signature law of 2006 is pending. The administrative capacity in the State-level Ministry of Transport and Communications remained weak.

Some progress can be reported on **audiovisual policy** and the media. The new set of rules adopted by the CRA largely harmonized the regulation with the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD). The draft codes on audiovisual and radio programmes and on commercial audiovisual communications partially implement the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD). The remaining provisions of two Articles of the AVMSD remain to be incorporated. Entity laws on public broadcasting services are not in line with the State-level law. The CRA issued a decision on use of multiplex A (MUX A) for digital terrestrial broadcasting. The CRA began developing entry criteria for existing TV stations to the commercial MUX and documents for licensing MUX operators. A working group supervising this procedure ceased to exist.

There was no further progress towards the switch from analogue to digital terrestrial broadcasting. The digital switchover, initially planned for the end of 2011, was postponed to the end of 2014. This raises potential concerns about timely implementation of the process. No decision was taken on how to use the valuable spectrum freed up by the switchover.

Members of the expert secretariat of the forum on digital television were appointed, but the secretariat is not operational. The statute of the public broadcaster BHRT remained unchanged (*See Chapter 2.2 - Human rights and the protection of minorities*). The statutes of the public broadcasting corporation (PBS) remain to be adopted. Two new members of the supervisory board of the BHRT have not yet been appointed. The reform of the public broadcasting sector was further delayed.

Little progress was made on the information society and media. Harmonisation of the legal framework for public broadcasting remains incomplete. The lack of coordination and of adequate human resources, and in particular the continued challenges to the CRA's functional and financial independence, remain a serious concern. Legislative alignment in the fields of electronic communications, the information society and media did not advance. Overall, preparations are at an early stage.

#### 4.2.7. *Financial control*

There was some progress in the area of **public internal financial control** (PIFC). Policy papers and action plans of the State and Entities are being implemented, albeit with delays. Amendments to the Law on Internal Audit and the Law on Financing were adopted. The Central Harmonisation Units' (CHUs) coordination board, providing a single platform for coordination of legislation and methodology, ceased to perform its role. Consequently, legislation took different directions. The Federation is in overall terms lagging behind the State and Republika Srpska. Internal audit units are not fully operational, although the capacity of internal auditors throughout the country increased somewhat.

There was little progress on **external audit**. The functional capacity of the four supreme audit institutions (SAIs) improved with performance audits conducted by all levels. Yet, their financial independence remains in danger. No efforts were made to secure the independence of the State-level SAI from the executive or to embed it in the Constitution.

With regard to the **protection of the EU's financial interests** and **protection of the euro against counterfeiting**, Bosnia and Herzegovina is at an early stage of preparation.

There was little progress in the area of financial control. Substantial efforts are required to adopt and implement PIFC legislation, resume coordination between CHUs and build capacity on FMC and internal audit. The independence of the SAIs remains to be addressed. Overall, preparations are at an early stage.

#### 4.2.8. *Statistics*

Some progress can be reported in the area of statistics. Amendments to the Law on Statistics taking into account some recommendations of the adapted global assessment of 2011 were not adopted.

Little progress was made on **statistical infrastructure**. The cooperation between the Agency of Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHAS) and the Entity institutes for statistics slightly improved. Their cooperation and the coordination of activities remain to be considerably enhanced. There was continuous incorrect implementation of the State-level Law on Statistics and of the agreement on cooperation and coordination. The Indirect Taxation Authority does not provide the BHAS with the data required from administrative sources, leading to low-quality business, macroeconomic and external trade statistics. The Law on Indirect Taxation remains to be amended to allow the BHAS to use all available administrative data for statistical purposes.

There was little progress regarding **classifications and registers**. The Statistical Business Register is operational but incomplete due to lack of the administrative data required for it to function fully. An inter-agency working group was established to draft a classification of territorial units for statistics in the country. The discussion is continuing, also in the light of the country's obligation, under the Interim Agreement, to submit per capita GDP figures to the EU at NUTS 2 level by 1 July 2013.

Progress was made on **sectoral statistics**. The Law on the Census of Households and Housing in Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2013 was adopted. The census fieldwork is scheduled from 1 to 15 April 2013. The Central Census Bureau came into operation. Numerous planning, communication and coordination activities for the census remain to be carried out. The budget for the census in 2013 was adopted. The agriculture census is planned after the population census. In general, agricultural statistics require substantial upgrading.

Little progress can be reported on macroeconomic statistics. The annual GDP estimates for 2011 were published. Quarterly national accounts cannot be developed until the relevant short-term indicators are produced and the requisite cooperation between all involved is in place. Fieldwork for the household budget survey was completed and results are expected to be available at the end of October 2012. The labour force survey was implemented in 2012 and preliminary data were published.

There was some progress in the field of statistics. Sectoral statistics such as national accounts, business and agricultural statistics remain to be improved. The population and household census is expected to be conducted during 2013. Cooperation between the BHAS and the Entity statistical institutes and also between the BHAS and the relevant State-level agencies slightly improved. The communication between the Entities, the coordination and the decision-making process in the national statistical system, need to be improved considerably. A great deal remains to be done to develop fully reliable statistics at the various levels of government. Overall, preparations are moderately advanced.