

TWINNING CONTRACT

2023/447-234



EU for Further Development of Statistics System in BiH



MISSION REPORT

Activity 2C: Roadmap for Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA)

Component 2 - Tourism Statistics

Mission carried out by:

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Version: Final

EU FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS SYSTEM IN BIH



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List of Abbreviations

BC	Beneficiary Country (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
BHAS	Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina
BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
CBBH	Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina
EU	European Union
EUD	European Union Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina
FIS	Institute for Statistics of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
LA	Language Assistant
MS	EU Member State
RSIS	Institute for Statistics of Republika Srpska
RTA	Resident Twinning Advisor
RTAA	Resident Twinning Advisor Assistant
ToR	Terms of Reference

Executive Summary

During the meeting, the methodological requirements for compiling the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) were discussed with the expert from the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (SURS). The focus was on individual TSA tables, main categories and products, their definitions, and the data used in Slovenia. The discussion also covered the dissemination of TSA results and the statistical surveys needed as input, along with the availability and status of data in BiH.

The experts from the Italian National Statistical Institute (ISTAT) presented Italy's experience with TSA implementation, detailing the establishment of a TSA Working Group, data sources and methods used, release schedules since 2010, voluntary data submission to Eurostat, and challenges faced. It was noted that Slovenia followed a similar path, starting with a feasibility study and experimental tables. In the final part of the meeting, roles of national accounts and tourism statistics were clarified, with national accounts acting as coordinator. The need for reliable accommodation statistics, based on a complete register, was stressed. It was agreed to postpone drafting the TSA roadmap to the next mission to ensure all relevant institutions representatives in BiH are present.

1. General comments

This mission report was prepared within the EU Twinning Project "Further Development of the Statistics System in Bosnia and Herzegovina". It was the 3rd mission to be devoted to the Tourism Statistics Component of the Project.

The purposes of the mission were:

- Sharing SURS/ ISTAT experience on stages of TSA implementation
- Roadmap /masterplan draft for TSA, including:
 - Specifying most important stakeholders
 - Preparation of draft activity plan for TSA compilation
 - Tentative timeframe for TSA development
 - List of recommendations
 - Methodological background for TSA
- Preparation of ToR for next activity

The consultants would like to express their thanks to all officials and individuals from Bosnia and Herzegovina met for the kind support and valuable information which highly facilitated the work of the consultants.

This views and observations stated in this report are those of the consultants and the RTA and do not necessarily correspond to the views of EU, BHAS, FIS, RSIS, CBBH, Statistics Denmark, Statistics Finland, Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia or The Italian National Institute of Statistics.

2. Assessment and results

The expert of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (SURS) discussed together with the BiH statisticians the methodological requirements for the compilation of TSA and the necessary data sources. The discussion was focused on each TSA table, main categories and products included in the tables, their definitions and requirements, data used in Slovenia for their compilation. Then the discussion covered the results and data dissemination of TSA figures. Statistical surveys needed as

input for TSA were analysed more in depth, together with other auxiliary data sources, reflecting on their availability and data situation in BiH.

The two experts of the Italian National Statistical Institute (ISTAT) in charge of the supply-side and demand-side tourism statistics explained the stages of TSA implementation in Italy describing the ISTAT experience. In particular, the presentation focused on the constitution of the Working Group on TSA in Italy, sources and methods used, timing of release of the tables from 2010 up to date, voluntary transmissions to Eurostat, and key obstacles and lessons learned in the early stages of TSA development in Italy. Finally, the use of administrative sources, including data collected for non-statistical purposes (e.g. taxes, security), for TSA needs was mentioned.

It was stressed by the Slovenian expert that the process of the implementation of TSA was similar in Slovenia, starting with the production of the feasibility study and first experimental tables, supported by the EU grants in the early 2000, as Italy did, followed by introduction of regular production of TSA.

In the last part of the meeting the following topics were discussed and clarified:

- The role of national accounts (NA) and the role of basic tourism statistics in the compilation, explaining the NA acting as coordinator and compiler, whereas basic tourism statistics contribute as data providers.
- The importance of robust statistics of accommodation, preferably based on a complete register on accommodation establishments, overcoming the current issues of misclassification as reported by the BiH statisticians.

It was agreed to postpone the drafting of roadmap / masterplan for TSA to the next mission because it is necessary that the representatives of all the beneficiary institutions involved in the project are present.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

It is advisable that a roadmap for TSA for BiH could be developed following similar steps as already undertaken in Italy and Slovenia. It should include the timings, actors and activities. It should include all the necessary actions to enforce the existing basic statistics that will contribute to the TSA tables and eventually to propose new sources for the missing information. It is recommended that both, BiH national accounts and tourism statisticians are involved in the drafting of the roadmap.

4. What to do before the next mission

Action	Deadline	Responsible person
Prepare a list of tourism and other statistical surveys useful for TSA according to what was suggested during the previous missions including periodicity and characteristics (in English)	Next mission	Statistical institutions in BiH
Have ready comprehensive information on eventual	Next mission	Statistical institutions in BiH (in cooperation with BOP compilers)

surveys/source data for BOP compilation of travel item		
Reflection on recommendations, determination on provisional timings, priorities	Next mission	Tourism (service) statistics unit BiH, National accounts unit BiH (Statistical institutions in BiH)

Annex 1. Terms of Reference for the current mission

Terms of Reference

EU Twinning Project BA 19 IPA ST 01 23

Component 2 - Tourism Statistics: Tourism Satellite Accounts

**Timing: Tuesday 13 (starting at 10 a.m.) – Thursday 15 (ending at noon)
May**

**Venue:
Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics – Vladike Platona bb, Banja Luka
Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Activity 2C: Roadmap for Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA)

1. Mandatory result

The TSA is an extension, or satellite, of the System of National Accounts (SNA). As a result, TSA compiles information on both the supply side and the demand side of tourism. This means that it highlights economic activity in tourism-related industries and portrays tourism in the context of the overall economy and alongside other sectors. Putting tourism in an economic context is a key reason for compiling TSA.

As TSA is currently not being produced in BiH, the result of the project is to produce a report on available data sources and a road map for the way forward producing TSA in BiH

2. Purpose of the activity

- Sharing SURS/ ISTAT experience on stages of TSA implementation
- Roadmap /masterplan draft for TSA, including:
 - Specifying most important stakeholders
 - Preparation of draft activity plan for TSA compilation
 - Tentative timeframe for TSA development
 - List of recommendations
 - Methodological background for TSA

- Preparation of ToR for next activity

3. Expected output of the activity:

- Roadmap drafting started
- Mission report
- ToR (including time (frame)) for next activity

Annex 2. (input for the) Terms of Reference for the next mission

Activity 2D	Roadmap for Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA) - continued
Budget section	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component X
Subject	Preparing a draft roadmap
Methods	Onsite, STE mission in BiH
Resources	MS: Janja Kalin (SI), Mascia Di Torrice (IT), Maria Teresa Santoro (IT) RTA, RTAA and LA BC: Relevant staff expected to be involved in component
Duration	3 STEs x XX (TBD) working days for MS staff
Output	- Draft roadmap prepared - Mission report
Time schedule	Autumn 2025 (or beginning of 2026, if possible)

Annex 3. Persons met

BHAS:

Azra Bander Demirović, Senior Advisor

FIS:

RSIS:

Jelena Glamočika, Head of Department for Services Statistics

Jelena Kljajić, Senior Statistician

Miroslav Ilić, Tourism Statistics

RTA Team:

Niels Madsen, RTA

Senka Ahmetovic-Palic, RTA Language Assistant

Annex 4. Presentations

SURS: TSA-twinn_BiH_SI_Ver_2025_05.pdf

ISTAT: Stages of TSA implementation in Italy: ISTAT experience.pdf

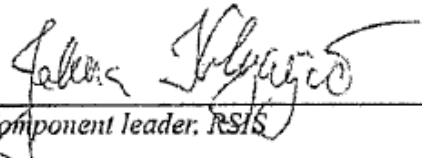
Signatures

For the approval of the contents of this report, representatives from BHAS, FIS and RSIS as well as MS experts and the RTA sign here:

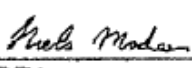


Component leader, BHAS

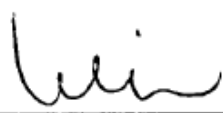
Component leader, FIS



Component leader, RSIS



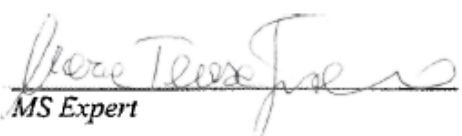
RTA



MS Expert



MS Expert



MS Expert