

<b>Total Budget:</b>	<b>USD 6,000,000</b>		
<b>Budget by Agency:</b>	UNDP: 3,366,209 IOM: 688,474 UNFPA: 438,710	UNICEF: 1,506,327	
<b>Participating Gov. Entities:</b>	Ministries of education, NGOs/CSOs, experts, media, Employment centers, parents, youth, BIH Statistics, Statistical agencies, YERC's, YERC's/private employment services		
<b>Start Date:</b>	19 January 2010		
<b>End Date:</b>	19 January 2013		
<b>Extension</b>	Not yet requested		
<b>Disbursements:</b>	First Disbursement:	19 January 2010	USD 2,504,488
	Second Disbursement:	13 April 2011	USD 1,970,883
	Third Disbursement:		
<b>In Brief:</b>	<p>The employment situation for young people in Bosnia Herzegovina is challenging. The country is still marked by the residual tensions of war and the transition economy is below potential. Although employment prospects are becoming more favourable, the large number of unemployed youth is both a challenge and an unutilised resource for development. The consequences of not addressing the issue include youth apathy or alternatively potential social unrest. The Youth Employability and Retention Programme aims to address high youth unemployment: the project will work closely with Government, the private sector and civil society to improve the employability of BiH youth while providing new entry points to the labour market. Internal and external migration support will be developed to optimise the potential of migration as an individual employment-seeking strategy which can alleviate local labour market pressures. Attention to gender and minority issues is integral to the project.</p>		

<b>Outcomes:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased capacities of the education system and local communities to improve youth employability</li> <li>Enhanced capacities of the Public Employment Services and Civil Society to develop and deliver an integrated package of youth employability measures</li> <li>Positive impact of youth migration maximized, and negative impact of irregular migrations minimized</li> </ul>	

<b>Regions of Intervention:</b>	• National	
<b>MDGs</b>	MDG1 T1.A, MDG2 T2.A, MDG3 T3.A	
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Direct</b>	<b>Indirect</b>
• No. Institutions	222	152
• No. Women	7160	15,648
• No. Men	6660	10,000
• No. ethnic groups	0	0

Project coordinator: Erol Mujanovic  
 RCO Focal Point: Aris Seferovic  
 Web page:

**Status**  
 JP had a long inception phase which resulted in some initial delays. The JP is now progressing well towards outcomes and outputs.

**Estimated financial execution status as of the June 30, 2011 biannual report:**

**Main Achievements:**

In order to ensure easier intervention in education system, implementation is organized through Agency for Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Education that is body of the BiH Council of Ministers. All planned activities related to key competencies and life skills are going well. The interest for activities in rural areas is bigger than expected. Excellent results among beneficiaries were made through financing of 50 projects in high school through which almost 1000 pupils demonstrated and developed their entrepreneurial skills.

Planned project activities are being successfully implemented with support relevant stakeholders. 11 centers for information, counseling and training (CISO) opened and the opening of 5 remaining CISOs will be in september. The impact on reducing youth unemployment will be the strongest in 2011 and the infrastructure efficiently used. Public calls for employment of young people have been published and it will allow more than 500 unemployed youth to get the first work experience, another of strategic areas and gaps on the local labor market. Strengthening of CISO employees capacities is ongoing without delay as well as strengthening of capacities of CISO beneficiaries (IT and language trainings, counseling, etc.). Private agencies and CSOs related to employment and education have been successfully involved.

Activities related to temporary and circular labour migration (TCLM) have resulted in the initiation of a four TCLM programs (for nurses in Germany, for tourism sector in the USA, health care workers and blacksmiths in Italy and agriculture and agrotourism in Slovenia). In order to assess the interest of young people in Diaspora to return to the BiH labour market and the obstacles therein, a survey was published on-line and its results will be the basis for creating a practical written "guide to return" to the BiH labour market and to make recommendations to decision-makers at all levels in BiH. Activities related to migrations statistics and strategy, held in 2 working groups, are going well and local partners benefited from the study to Vienna, to meet their Austrian counterparts.

Does the JP incorporate gender considerations in the **activities/outputs/outcomes**?

**Observations**

**Paris Declaration**

**Leadership of national and local governmental institutions:**

Ownership of government counterparts has increased at local and central levels, with stronger involvement in implementation of activities. 5 Municipalities agreed to financially support the first work experience scheme that the JP is implementing so they provided the same amount of money that JP is providing for unemployed youth.

In addition, government counterparts are involved through the PMC, and related meetings.

Many of the JP components have established working groups within which relevant government and non-governmental entities (civil society and the private sector) fully participate in developing and implementing program actions including the development of policy, strategies, and procedures.

As JP implementation continues, monitoring of results will also be part of the working groups' mandate.

**Involvement of CSOs and citizens:**

The national UN Volunteer Youth Counselor-Advisors, working within the CISO Centres, are actively engaged in a range of community outreach activities with young people, schools and local NGOs promoting the services of the CISO centres, and role and value of volunteering in enhancing

	<p>employment horizons.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Alignment and Harmonization:</b>  Coordination with Government and within Governments is complex as the JP covers the entire country, all cantons as well as all major cities. Due to the complex political and administrative local set up there is a multitude of decision makers to involve, for all relevant areas (education, labor, migrations etc.) Multiplicity of governments at local level is time consuming since we have 10 local level interlocutors/decision makers to meet with and to take into account.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Innovative elements in mutual accountability:</b></p>
<p><b>Delivering as One</b></p>	<p><b>Innovative elements in harmonization of procedures and managerial practices:</b></p> <p><b>Every month at least one common trip, field visit and project presentation is realised commonly. Ex: Virtual Diaspora exhibit organized in coordination between IOM and UNV; Documentation and dissemination of MDG-F YERP / CISO – volunteer – employment stories by UNV; One VET activity that will result in employment of 20 welders will be realised by 3 participating UN agencies.</b></p> <p><b>Joint procurement, joint office, Joint work in Tor preparation and in all other stages for the study VOICE OF YOUTH.</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Role of the RCO and synergies with other MDG-F JPs:</b></p> <p>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Inter-agency coordination:</b></p> <p>The 3 components of the JP (education, employability, migration) are very interrelated, providing a good platform for collaboration among partners in order to achieve results.</p> <p>In terms of coordination and decision taking mechanisms three main aspects are to be underlined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Needs based interagency working group meeting where representatives of different participating agencies meet to discuss and to be informed about the project.</li> <li>-Weekly staff meeting where all YERP staff is together in order to present activities and to share information with colleagues from other agencies.</li> <li>-Needs based individual meetings, on average on a monthly basis, where the NPMC meets with heads of participating UN agencies and shares information while taking into account their point of view.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sustainability</b> (concrete actions and strategic partnerships)</p>	<p><b>Sustainability Plan in place?</b></p> <p>MoUs with relevant public employment services are signed to help CISO centers sustainability as integral part of the PES network.</p> <p>Meetings were held with most important local authorities to get their support for YERP activities in different municipalities (including financial support).</p> <p>Furthermore, in 2012 when governments will be in place, we will undertake steps in order to integrate YERP activities into the legal framework and State and/or Entity level framework to make sure that the budget and sustainability will be ensured once YERP is over.</p>
<p><b>Innovation and Scale-up</b></p>	
<p><b>External Factors and mitigation</b></p>	<p>9 months after the election process there is still no state level government in place and it has an impact partly in the implementation and partly on the sustainability related activities.</p> <p>Due to the economic crisis, The interest of countries to receive migrants even on a temporary basis continues to be limited by economic realities and also by negative public opinion regarding</p>

	immigrants.	
<b>Communication and Advocacy</b>	<p><b>C&amp;A plan in place?</b>  Following are the main Communications objectives of the MDG-F Youth Employability and Retention Programme:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Raise awareness about and support to the programme's goals and achievements in reaching the targeted MDGs</li> <li>2. Raise awareness about the youth employment issues and its potential for local and overall economic development</li> <li>3. Contribute to development/strengthening of partnerships/networks in the field of youth employment by promoting such partnerships/networks</li> <li>4. Provide accurate information to the media providers to increase their understanding of key youth employment issues (with full respect to gender sensitivity)</li> <li>5. Keep the UN agencies, the donor (Spanish Government), all levels of the Government counterparts and other programme partners well informed about progress and programme status; advocate for their support and active involvement</li> <li>6. Increase the engagement of citizens and local communities in media message delivery, to stimulate easier entry of youth to the labor market and prevent the brain drain</li> <li>7. Produce and distribute awareness materials (brochures, newsletters, human interest stories, TV and radio spots, leaflets, web promotion materials, etc.) to the targeted audience(s) using appropriate communication channels</li> <li>8. Motivate stakeholders and interest groups to advocate for expansion of activities related to improvement of youth employability and prevention of the brain drain in other municipalities countrywide.</li> </ol> <p>Primary target audience: Young persons who are to enter the labor market + Decision makers and key stakeholders at different administrative levels that correspond to the objectives of the programme implementation +  General audience within the selected municipalities where the CISO centers are.</p> <p>Documentation and dissemination of MDG-F YERP / CISO – volunteer – employment stories by UNV through UNV.ba website and with local partners.</p> <p>In order to highlight the importance of the BiH Diaspora, the JP organized a traveling exhibit. Concurrent with the physical exhibit, IOM and UNV organized a virtual exhibit through an interactive web site. The exhibit also has a “desk” where information on the survey and the YERP project will be displayed. Leaflets are also being distributed at the information desk at the physical exhibit.</p>	
<b>M&amp;E</b>		
<b>Missions from MDG-F Secretariat:</b>	<b>Date:</b> February 2010	<b>Members:</b> Paula Pelaez
<b>Mid Term Evaluation:</b>	<b>Evaluator:</b> Dietmar Aigner  <b>Period:</b>	