

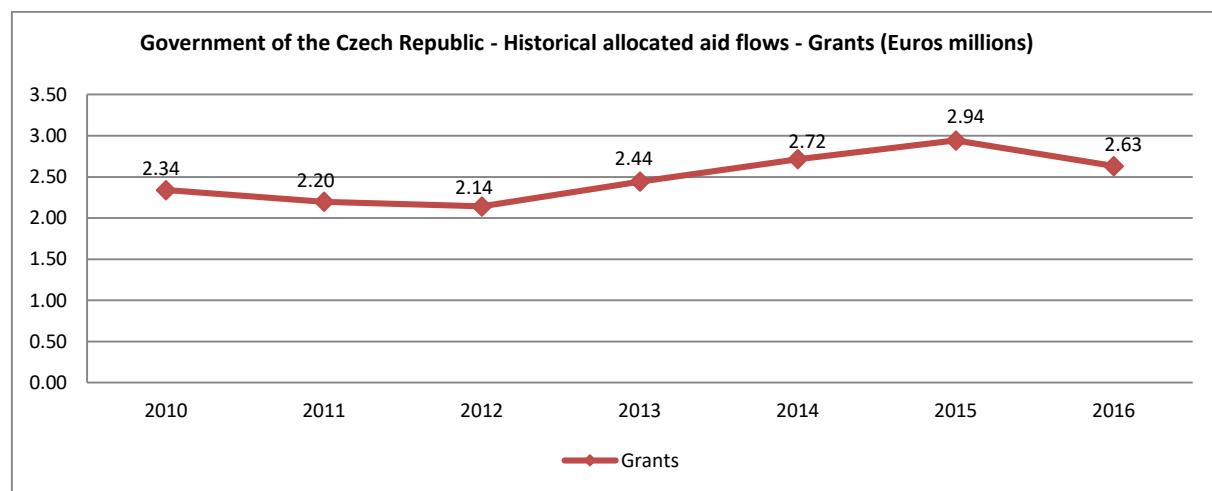
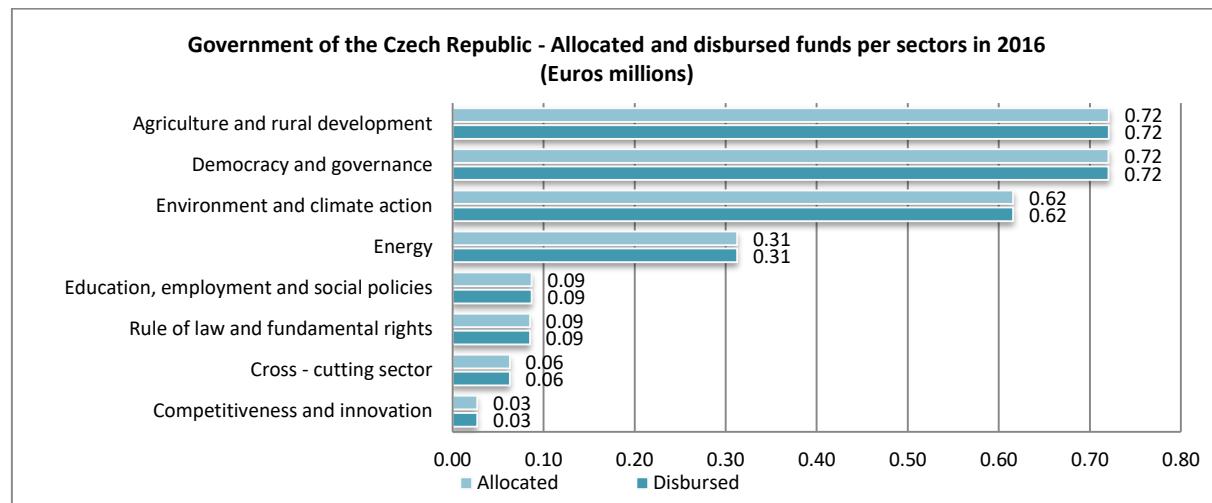
Czech Republic

Policy approach

Bosnia and Herzegovina has been among the long-term priorities of the Czech Republic and as such, has been included within the Development Cooperation Strategy of the Czech Republic 2010-2017 among programme priority countries for development cooperation. Current Development Cooperation Programme of the Czech Republic with Bosnia and Herzegovina, launched in 2011, defines the following priority sectors: water supply and sanitation; general environmental protection; energy generation and supply; government and civil society; health; agriculture, forestry and fishing. The cooperation should primarily take advantage of the Czech Republic's experience with the process of post-communist socio-economic transition and European integration, thus bringing additional value added.

Key activities in 2016

The Government of the Czech Republic **€ 2.63 million and disbursed € 2.63 million in 2016 in the form of grant** to the following sectors: Agriculture and rural development, Democracy and governance, Environment and climate action, Energy, Education, employment and social policies, Rule of law and fundamental rights, Cross - cutting sector and Competitiveness and innovation.



Medium and long-term approach

The new Bilateral Development Cooperation Programme of the Czech Republic 2018-2023 builds on the Czech Republic's existing development cooperation and partnership with Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and responds to the country's needs and development priorities. It addresses the objectives of the Development Cooperation Strategy of the Czech Republic 2018-2030 while respecting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the principles of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation. The programme reflects past experience, including project and sector evaluations carried out during the previous cooperation programme. It takes into account the conclusions and recommendations for Czech development cooperation stemming from the 2016 OECD Peer Review.

Long-term Czech development cooperation will focus on the following three priority areas in which it will pursue the relevant SDGs:

I. Economic growth

Increasing the share of renewable energy generation in areas with optimum conditions

The aim is to support renewable energy generation and energy self-sufficiency. This will involve promotion of sustainable and affordable energy sources (building of biomass heating systems, installation of solar collectors for water heating, photovoltaic panels, geothermal energy systems), supporting development of strategic framework for sustainable use of renewable energy sources.

II. Sustainable management of natural resources

Improving the protection, use and development of water sources, water quality and access to quality drinking water, eliminating pollution and improving wastewater management including systematic measures.

The aim is to assist in bringing wastewater treatment systems into line with EU standards. This will involve the building of technical infrastructure and, most importantly, transfer of know-how to end recipients, taking into account principles of affordability, full costs recovery and operational efficiency.

III. Good democratic governance

Building efficient, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels of public administration

Strong and transparent institutions have a key role to play in the process of transition to democratic and pluralist society. The added value of Czech development assistance in BiH lies mainly in the Czech Republic's own experience of transition and integration into Euro-Atlantic structures. The Czech Republic will support BiH's public administration, promote good governance and assist in alignment with EU standards and legislation (in relevant chapters of the *acquis* relevant to the programme, including Chapter 12: Food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy). Assistance to BiH as to the EU integration process will be emphasized in the programme. The transfer of transition experience will also contribute to social and economic development and equal opportunities for all. Regarding to this cooperation the Czech Republic will support capacity building in extension services and technical assistance by development of supporting systems for agriculture.

Czech development cooperation with Bosnia and Herzegovina takes place in the following forms:

Major development cooperation projects managed by the Czech Development Agency - These are usually 2-3 year-long projects, whose implementing bodies are selected by the Czech Development Agency. The cooperation should primarily take advantage of the Czech Republic's experience with the process of post-communist socio-economic transition and European Integration, thus bringing additional value added.

Small local projects, which allow small and targeted development activities - Unlike the major projects, small local projects are implemented by local organizations selected by the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Sarajevo and their implementation must take place within the year for which they were approved.

Transition programme, aimed at support to democracy and human rights, using the Czech Republic's recent experience with social transition and democratization of the country. Applicants for this Program must be Czech organisations, which, in the course of the implementation of the project, have to cooperate with their B-H counterparts.

Scholarship programme, offers several scholarship programs for B-H students who intend to study at Czech public universities (in Czech or English languages). Programmes in Czech language cover the majority of fields of study and all three stages of university studies.

Furthermore, **Programme Temporary Expert Assignment; Programme Engaging the Private Sector Development Cooperation; Programme Feasibility Study; Programme Development Partnership for the Private Sector; Program Placement of Czech Teachers for Development; Program on Security Cooperation of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic and the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Hercegovina, Program Aid For Trade of Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade.**

Donor coordination efforts

Apart from the DCF chaired by the BiH Ministry of Finance and Treasury, the Czech Republic takes part in the sectoral donor coordination meetings in the field of agriculture, organized by the BiH Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, energy organized by UNDP, consular meetings etc. Furthermore, it participates in meetings organized by the Delegation of the EU in Sarajevo which are primarily related to IPA projects.

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