

# Quality Education through Curriculum Reform

OCTOBER 2018 - MARCH 2022

## Towards Education that Creates Changes in Bosnia and Herzegovina

On the path from traditional to contemporary curricula  
based on student learning outcomes

Based on long-standing experience and partnerships with responsible education authorities in advancing inclusive quality education, the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina (Mission) developed and led the “Quality Education through Curriculum Reform” project, funded by the governments of the Kingdom of Norway and the Italian Republic. The Project aimed to support education authorities in answering to an urgent need for change (PISA 2018, TIMSS 2019, and the struggles of online teaching amidst the COVID-19 pandemic) by improving inclusivity and quality of education through reforming curricula in line with the BiH Common Core Curriculum based on Student Learning Outcomes.

These efforts resulted in developing a **sophisticated framework and tools for a more efficient and harmonised approach to curriculum reform**, carefully tailored to the context of BiH.

**Three unique tools** for subject curriculum development have been created by experts from BiH and the region. A *comprehensive analysis* of the current curricula directed creation of a *practical guidebook* for subject curriculum development in the context of BiH. Based on these, an *online platform for curriculum* was created to serve a coherent subject curricula development and their accessibility to teachers, students, parents, and wider public.

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### UNIQUE TOOLS FOR SUBJECT CURRICULUM

#### COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS:

“Towards Education that Creates Changes: Report on Analysis of Documents that Regulate Primary and Secondary General Education in BiH - On the Path from Traditional to Contemporary Curricula based on Student Learning Outcomes”  
(BS, HR, SR)

#### PRACTICAL GUIDEBOOK:

“Towards Education that Creates Changes: Key Foundations for Subject Curriculum Development”  
(BS, HR, SR - embedded into Online Platform for Curriculum)

#### ONLINE PLATFORM FOR CURRICULUM:



Sarajevo Canton, Zenica-Doboj Canton, West Herzegovina Canton, Una-Sana Canton

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CANTONS  
SARAJEVO  
ZENICA-DOBOJ  
WEST HERZEGOVINA  
UNA-SANA

1.5

approx. MILLION BAM  
INVESTMENTS  
FROM CANTONAL  
BUDGETS

627

MEMBERS OF  
CURRICULUM  
REFORM TEAMS  
TRAINED

67

NEW DRAFT  
SUBJECT  
CURRICULA  
PUBLISHED

**Four cantons joined the Project and committed** to carry out curriculum reform processes based on these tools, prioritizing it in their plans and allocating significant human resources and approx. 1,5 million BAM of budget funds (Sarajevo, Zenica-Doboj, West Herzegovina, and Una-Sana cantons).

Capacity building activities created a pool of curriculum experts and **strengthened human resources** necessary for upholding this complex endeavour. These activities were achieved through 43 online and in-person training sessions that directly benefited 627 appointed members of the four cantonal curriculum reform teams.

Their work yielded **67 draft subject curricula** by the Project's completion, with further drafts pending finalization. For the first time in BiH, draft curricula were developed by large teams of teachers and experts, and subsequently published for public discussion through an online platform. This allowed all relevant actors and the public to participate in change and have their voices heard, thus contributing to transparency of the process.



(Una-Sana Canton Curriculum Reform Expert Team, 2022, OSCE)

The Mission will continue supporting responsible education authorities in their work towards contemporary inclusive quality education, in line with the approach elaborated in the *policy brief*. The Mission will also further disseminate the Project's results and encourage exchange of experiences among authorities and their teams – from policy development to the implementation of changes in classrooms.

**POLICY BRIEF:**

“Towards Education that Creates Changes in Bosnia and Herzegovina - On the path from traditional to contemporary curricula based on student learning outcomes” (EN, BS, HR, SR)



Fostered transparency and democratic processes in curriculum reform.



Contributed to the SDGs Framework in BiH that envisages curriculum reform at all education levels.



Encouraged gender mainstreaming in the new subject curricula.