REZ AGENCY PROFILE



Regional Development Agency for Central BiH Region

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Regional Development Agency for Central BiH (REZ Agency or **REZ RDA)** is a non-governmental and non-profit agency, established in 2004 with the aim to contribute to the growth and harmonized development of regional economy. The platform for establishment of the Agency was the partnership among governmental, private and non-governmental institutions created in 2004, which covers sixteen municipalities of the Central BiH region. The REZ Agency Assembly has 34 members who are the founders and owners of the company with equal shares. The Assembly composition by structure is: 15 municipalities, 2 Cantons, 15 Business associations, 1 international NGO and 1 Micro credit institution.

The immediate task of REZ RDA was strategic planning process for the region, which was very early phase of the planning processes in BiH in general. The process introduced participatory approach and REZ Agency cooperated with all economic development stakeholders within the Region. The programs, projects and commercial contracts are the main source of the operation.

Activities of the REZ Agency are related to the following development sectors:

- SMEs Development
- Human Resources Development
- Development of Infrastructure
- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Tourism Development
- Energy

The tailor made services, synergy, best practices and cooperation with institutions and experts in different fields are the main principles of work related to:

- Strategic planning
- Strengthening capacity of local stakeholders
- Strengthen competitiveness of the region
- Human resources and employment
- Interregional cooperation

Operational Structure: The REZ Agency is established by private law for the purposes of specific needs of general interest and operates as public equivalent body according Art.2(1) of Directive 2014/24 EU on public procurement. Currently, the agency has 8 full-time employees and 1 external consultant. Also, the REZ Agency relies on various consultancy pools for specific expertise and had cooperation with more than 40 domestic and international experts in various fields.

Recent important projects implemented by the REZ Agency

Project title	Origin of funding	Sector	Year(s
Adriatic Cluster Club	EU IPA Adriatic Programme	SMEs of Adriatic Cluster	2011-2013
Past for the Future	EU	Sustainable Tourism	2011-2013
Environmental Technologies and Renewable Energy in the Balkan Area	Italian Ministry of Economic Development	Renewable energy	2012-2013
Support to Export and Trade - SET Programme	The Royal Netherlands Embassy	SMEs Support & Development	2009-2011
Raise up standards	Norwegian Embassy	SMEs Support & Development	
FIRMA Project	USAID and Sida Sweden	SMEs Support & Development	2010-2014

Note: Since the year of establishment, the REZ Agency has implemented more than 50 projects for development sectors. More details on the projects goals, implemented activities and results is available on <u>www.rez.ba</u>