

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF THE CITY OF BIJELJINA 2024–2030

Bijeljina, May 2024

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1. Introduction

The Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina 2024–2030 (hereinafter: Development Strategy) represents a key strategic and planning document intended to guide the city's development over the next seven-year period. The document has been prepared in accordance with the methodology and approach defined by the new normative framework for the drafting of strategic and implementation documents in Republika Srpska. Among other things, the methodological approach prescribes the sequence of fundamental steps in the process of drafting the Development Strategy, along with the mandatory structure that must be followed in every strategic document in Republika Srpska.

The process of strategic planning was formally launched by a decision initiating the development of the strategic platform, which represents the first phase in the preparation of the new Strategy. In line with the prescribed timeline, a preliminary draft of the strategic platform was prepared between July and September 2023 by the Working Group for drafting the strategic document, established by the Mayor, with the support of external consultants. The basis for the strategic platform included relevant planning documents guiding the future development of the City of Bijeljina, primarily the Spatial Plan of the City of Bijeljina for the period 2019–2038, data from the competent departments of the City Administration, as well as relevant information from various statistical sources. Particular attention was given to the findings of the Evaluation Report on the previous Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina (2014–2023), as well as to the progress made in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals during the preceding period.

Based on these foundations and the collected and updated data, a Draft Strategic Platform was established, followed by a public consultation process involving socio-economic partners, councillors, representatives of the civil sector, the business community, and responsible officials from the local administration. In order to review the initial findings of the situational analysis, identify strategic focus areas, and define the vision and strategic objectives with corresponding indicators, special thematic focus groups and working-consultation meetings were held, including consultations via online platforms.

Following the development of the strategic platform, the next steps in the preparation of the strategic document were undertaken. Based on the defined strategic objectives, priorities, measures, and key strategic projects were identified. The final phase of drafting the strategic document included the preparation of an indicative financial plan for implementing the proposed measures and projects, as well as an overview of the main activities and responsible parties for the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the strategic document. It is important to note that, throughout the process of defining strategic objectives, priorities, and measures, special care was taken to ensure alignment with higher-level strategic and planning documents, particularly with the European integration process and the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as defined in the Framework for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030) for Bosnia and Herzegovina, along with other relevant strategic and planning documents.

Technical support for the development of the Strategic Document was provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the programme “Framework for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals as a Foundation for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in Bosnia and Herzegovina” (SDG2BiH), funded by the Government of Sweden and implemented by UNDP in partnership with UNICEF and UN Women in Bosnia and Herzegovina, under the coordination of the UN Resident Coordinator Office. The views expressed in this Development Strategy do not necessarily reflect the views of UNDP in BiH or the Government of Sweden.

The Mayor of the City of Bijeljina has established the DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF THE CITY OF BIJELJINA 2024–2030 and is forwarding it to the City Assembly of Bijeljina for review and adoption.

PREPARED BY
Section for Local Economic Development
and European Integration

Ankica Todorović
Head of Section

MAYOR

Ljubiša Petrović

1.1 Review of the implementation of the previous Strategy and progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

Review of the implementation of the previous Strategy

As stated in the introductory section, a key input for the preparation of this Strategy consists of the experiences gained and lessons learnt during the implementation of the previous strategic document. Accordingly, when drafting the Strategy, the key results and findings from the Evaluation Report of the Local Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina for the period 2014–2023 (hereinafter referred to as the Evaluation Report) were taken into account. These findings pertain to the implementation of the previous strategic document, which covered a ten-year period and was carried out in two phases: from 2014 to 2018 (first phase) and after 2018, when the previous local development strategy was revised and further aligned (second phase).

The main findings of the Evaluation Report show that, relative to the defined indicators and planned results, two out of three strategic objectives were fully achieved, while one strategic objective was only partially achieved. Specifically, the strategic objectives related to economic and social development were achieved, taking into account the attained values of the defined indicators, as well as the implemented projects and measures. Meanwhile, the third strategic objective – *“establishing an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources and improved energy efficiency”* – was only partially achieved.

In addition to the progress made in achieving the previously defined strategic objectives, assessing the level of implementation of individual projects and the financial plan was of particular importance in preparing the new Strategy. The feasibility/progress of implementing the financial plan of the previous strategic document, including spending dynamics and actual expenditures, was evaluated by comparing the number of planned and implemented projects, as well as planned and spent funds for the implementation of strategic interventions during the evaluated period, 2014–2022. This entire period was analysed in two phases: the first five-year phase before the revision of the previous local development strategy (2014–2018) and the second phase after the revision (2019–2022).

In the first phase, based on the ratio of planned to implemented funds for projects and measures from the previous local development strategy, that is, from sectoral plans and implementation plans during the 2014–2018 period, a total of BAM 363.9 million was planned for the implementation of all projects, out of which 41.92% was spent, or BAM 152.6 million.

In the second phase, under the revised version of the local development strategy for the period 2018–2023, the planned funds for implementation of the projects amounted to BAM 146.1 million. Out of the total planned funds, BAM 91.9 million was spent, which accounts for 50.79%.

When considering the efficiency of financial implementation, it can be concluded that resource planning, especially from external sources, was unrealistic. In addition, the budgetary capacity was not realistically assessed in most years of the observed period, which is why financial projections for the upcoming planning period must be based on more

realistic foundations, taking into account the actual possibilities for financing from budgetary resources, trends from the previous period, the level of prepared project applications, and the capacities to attract external funding for strategic interventions.

Moreover, the Evaluation Report provides useful guidance for planning future strategic interventions, based on identified development needs and current trends.

In this regard, in relation to economic development, it is necessary to include segments and priorities related to **digitalisation and the green economy**, which can serve as a basis for strengthening the competitiveness of Bijeljina's economy and for aligning with current trends at the EU level. In agriculture, strategic interventions should support the **digitalisation of agricultural production and the application of circular economy principles**. In addition, the **development of entrepreneurial infrastructure** is a relevant need in the upcoming planning period, to support, among other things, the further development of Bijeljina's industry. Similarly, in the field of tourism, interventions are needed to **develop new tourism products, promote tourism, strengthen the competitiveness of businesses in the tourism sector**, and so on, in order to encourage tourists to stay longer in Bijeljina and to increase tourist arrivals, thereby generating greater revenue.

In the field of social development, based on the Evaluation Report, support should continue for the development of education, especially the **modernisation of curricula** in cooperation with higher levels of government. Support should also be planned for **cultural and sports activities, as well as leisure programmes** for the citizens of Bijeljina, along with **strengthening the capacities of organisations and institutions** in these areas.

Given that a significant number of interventions in the healthcare sector were not implemented in the previous period, future **interventions in healthcare sector** should be planned more appropriately, relying more on **actions that can be implemented by the local level of government**. Activities related to social protection, **support for youth, and other vulnerable groups, including women survivors of violence, persons with disabilities**, and others, should be included within the priorities and/or measures for social development. Further **strengthening of capacities for the provision and improvement of public services** should be maintained in the upcoming planning period, to improve the quality of life in this local community.

In relation to the environmental protection, it is necessary to retain strategic interventions in public infrastructure in the upcoming period, taking into account energy efficiency principles wherever possible and feasible. In addition, the focus should remain on **flood protection and other natural disasters**, while additional activities related to **public safety** (e.g. road safety, juvenile delinquency, etc.) should also be included in the upcoming planning period, in line with the competences of the City Administration.

Given the current situation and the high levels of air pollution, particularly in winter, **strategic interventions in energy efficiency and renewable energy** should be specifically defined and intensified, following modern principles of greening and environmental sustainability.

Achieved progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

The City of Bijeljina recognised the importance of the 2030 Agenda in the process of

achieving sustainable development as early as 2017 and, through a bottom-up approach, has for six years actively promoted and localised the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), placing emphasis on the key principle of the 2030 Agenda that “No one shall be left behind”. In this context, it is important to highlight that Bijeljina, as the first local self-government unit (LSGU) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, introduced a systematic approach to aligning the City Development Strategy in 2018, through the process of its revision, as well as aligning relevant strategic documents with the SDGs¹. A system for monitoring implementation was also established through matrices of localised global indicators aligned with the Framework for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The City of Bijeljina has demonstrated its strategic commitment to the localisation of the SDGs, in partnership with all sectors and excluding no one, through numerous activities and interventions in the previous period. Among other things, from 2017 to the present, over 400 representatives of the mentioned sectors have been trained on the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals, with a focus on concrete practical examples and proposals for their inclusion in the SDG localisation process. One concrete example of good practice is the creation and establishment of the Innovation Centre for Sustainable Development (InCOR), which was created based on the results of research conducted among young people and the private sector. InCOR provides direct support to the economy by strengthening its digital capacities and competitiveness on the market, support to young people through the provision of working and creative space, additional skills, and networking, all with the aim of reducing unemployment and the emigration of youth. InCOR was established from the City Budget and all the services it provides are free of charge.

As previously stated, the City of Bijeljina was the first LSGU in Bosnia and Herzegovina to align its City Development Strategy with the Sustainable Development Goals in 2018, during the revision process. Considering that at that time there was no example of an LSGU in the country or the region that had aligned its Development Strategy with the SDGs, the **City of Bijeljina**, firmly committed to sustainable development, **localised a total of 14 global indicators contained within 8 SDGs**, which were defined based on the needs of citizens, a situation analysis, and the strategic development directions of the City of Bijeljina. It is worth noting that out of the total 14 localised SDG indicators in the previous Development Strategy, **9 match the indicators defined in the SDG Implementation Framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina**. In the meantime, the **Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan has also been adopted, thus ensuring alignment with 11 SDGs and 24 indicators across both strategic documents**.

The City of Bijeljina will continue its strategic commitment to the localisation of the SDGs in the coming period, with a focus on economic, social and environmental development, and on creating equal opportunities for all (LNOB principle – Leave No One Behind).

¹As the City of Bijeljina has made the greatest progress in the process of localisation among cities and municipalities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it was recognised as the best example in Bosnia and Herzegovina’s first Voluntary National Review (VNR) on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, which was presented to the United Nations General Assembly in New York on 16 July 2019.

2. Strategic platform

2.1. Situational analysis

a) Key historical facts

The name of the Bijeljina settlement can be reliably traced back more than five and a half centuries, first appearing in historical records in 1446 (Dubrovnik Archive, *Lamenta de foris*, vol. 20, p. 71). As is well known, the longest historical period in this area was under Ottoman rule (1521–1878), with interruptions during 1688–1690 and 1716–1739. From the beginning of Ottoman administration, Bijeljina held the status of a nahija (administrative unit), and officially gained the status of a kasaba (small town) in 1585, serving also as the seat of a kadiluk (judicial district). These statuses were maintained during the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, when Bijeljina, during the occupation, acquired the status of a kotar town (district seat). Immediately following the beginning of Austro-Hungarian occupation, Bijeljina was granted municipal status, and its first Municipal Statute was approved as early as March 1879. At that time, Bijeljina had 1,602 residential buildings and a population of 6,090, ranking fifth in size in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, Bijeljina had the status of a district centre, comprising eight smaller municipalities. This status was lost in 1955 with the introduction of a new communal system. During the events of the late 20th century, Bijeljina proved to be a municipality of exceptional importance, with its centre – the City of Bijeljina – receiving a significant number of newly settled inhabitants and becoming the geographical centre of Republika Srpska.

b) Geographical, spatial, natural, and climatic characteristics

The City of Bijeljina is located in the north-eastern part of Republika Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina, encompassing the flat geographical area of Semberija and the gentle foothills of Majevica. The territory of the City covers 734 square kilometres of predominantly flat and slightly undulating plains of Semberija, with an average altitude of around 90 metres above sea level. Semberija makes this region the most fertile area in Republika Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The climate is moderately continental, with an average annual temperature of around 12°C and 90 to 100 days of precipitation per year. In addition to the Drina and Sava rivers, other significant water resources include the small rivers Janja, Gnjica, and Lukavac.

Semberija lies atop a vast underground lake of thermal water, which is used for spa treatments. In addition to its use for health purposes, there is considerable potential for the thermal water to be used for heating residential, industrial, and agricultural enclosed spaces. In the south-western part of the city area, there are substantial reserves of high-quality clay used for the production of brickwork materials.

In terms of land area, the City of Bijeljina ranks as the tenth largest local community among the 64 municipalities and cities in Republika Srpska, and eighteenth in Bosnia and Herzegovina out of a total of 143 local self-government units. By population, Bijeljina is the second largest city in Republika Srpska and sixth in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Its distinct geographical position, along with its economic and human potential, has contributed to

Bijeljina becoming a regional centre on which the municipalities of the Majevisa and Birač regions rely. Bijeljina is home to several institutions of Republika Srpska, as well as a number of organisational units of various state administration bodies and the seats of district judicial authorities. It is also a university centre, with around four thousand students studying at several universities.

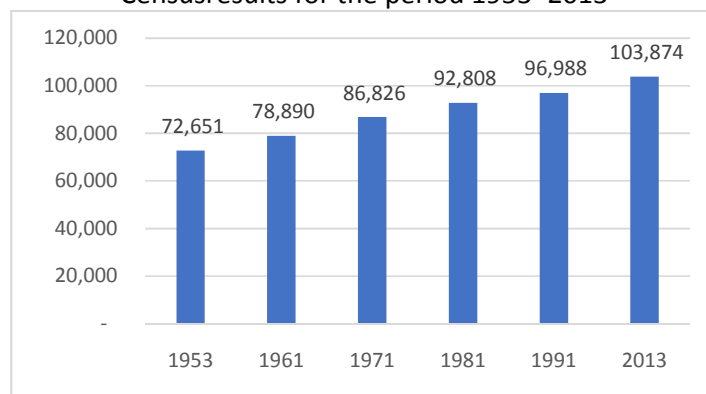
Modern asphalt roads stretching 144 kilometres ensure good connectivity with all parts of Republika Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as with Serbia, which is only 12 km away, and the Republic of Croatia, which is 45 km away. Bijeljina is connected to Serbia by the Bijeljina–Šid railway line², which links to the Belgrade–Zagreb railway corridor.

Bijeljina lies at a crossroads between major regional centres – it is approximately 130 km from Belgrade, 120 km from Novi Sad, 230 km from Banja Luka, 70 km from Tuzla, and 200 km from Sarajevo. The City of Bijeljina has two road border crossings with Serbia – one on the River Drina and one on the River Sava – as well as one ferry crossing on each of these rivers. The Pan-European Corridor 10, i.e. the E-70 Belgrade–Zagreb motorway, is around fifty kilometres from Bijeljina. The River Sava is navigable along its entire course bordering the northern part of the City's territory, with the nearest river ports being Brčko (40 km) and Sremska Mitrovica (67 km) from Bijeljina.

c) Demographic characteristics and trends

According to the most recent official population census conducted in 2013, the area of Bijeljina recorded a total of 103,874 inhabitants (of whom 53,114 were women and 50,760 men), which represents an increase of approximately 10% compared to the previous census in 1991, when 96,925 inhabitants were recorded. In this context, it is worth noting that Bijeljina is one of the few local communities in Republika Srpska that has experienced a continuous increase in total population over the past several decades, including during the war and post-war periods. The trends in the total population of Bijeljina for the period from 1953 to 2013 are shown in the following graph.

Chart 1: Total population of Bijeljina according to Census results for the period 1953–2013

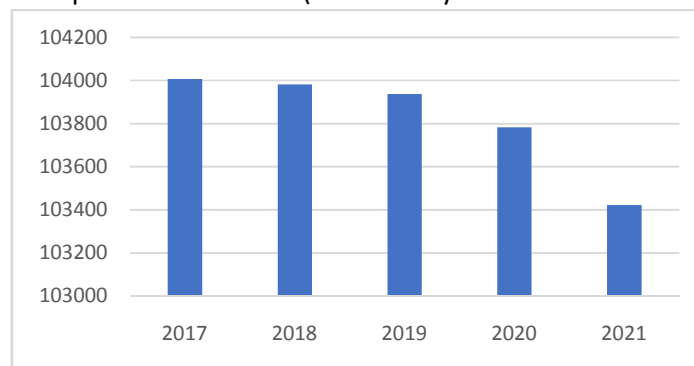


Source: Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics

²The Bijeljina–Šid railway line has not been operational since 2005.

Nevertheless, the positive trend in demographic movements came to a halt after the 2013 census, and the total population has been declining over the past several years.

Chart 2: Total population in the area of the City of Bijeljina for the period 2017–2021 (estimate by the Statistics Institute)



Source: Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics

This is supported by data on natural population increase, which has been negative in recent years, meaning the number of deaths has consistently exceeded the number of births.

Table 1: Number of live births and deaths in the Bijeljina area for the period 2020 – 2022

Year	Number of births			Number of deaths			Natural increase/decrease
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
2020.	637	542	1,179	721	638	1,359	-180
2021.	675	648	1,323	767	703	1,470	-147
2022.	638	582	1,220	650	604	1,254	-34

Source: Registrar's Office of the City Administration

Precisely in order to halt these negative demographic trends, the City of Bijeljina allocated BAM 25,000 from the City Budget over the past two years to support family expansion and provide assistance with infertility treatment, with the note that the same amount of funding is planned for these purposes in the coming years.

Changes in demographic trends in the previous period have undoubtedly left a mark on the age structure of the population. With an average age of 42.71 years, Bijeljina is still slightly below the average for Republika Srpska (43.54 years), but the share of certain age groups has significantly shifted compared to previous periods. Based on the data shown in the following table, it can be observed that the largest portion of the population consists of citizens of working age (16 to 65 years), accounting for around 66% of the total population. Compared to the 1991 census, the share of people over the age of 65 has increased, while the proportion of children and youth has significantly decreased. According to the 2013

census, the share of those over 65 years of age was around 20%, whereas the share of those under 15 was only 14%.

Table 2: Age structure of the population of the City of Bijeljina and Republika Srpska according to the results of the 2013 census

Territory	Total	Age group						Average age	Ageing index
		0-14		15-64		65+			
		number	%	number	%	number	%		
Republika Srpska	1,128,309	150,053	13.30	739,139	65.51	239,117	21.19	43.54	158.75
City of Bijeljina	103,423	14,471	13.99	68,247	65.99	20,705	20.02	42.71	143.39

Source: Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics

In addition to data on natural population increase, it is also necessary to consider migration data in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of demographic trends. In this regard, the following table presents data on internal migration. The table shows a positive migration balance, which means that more people move into Bijeljina than leave it for other local self-government units in Republika Srpska, the Federation of BiH, or the Brčko District. Positive trends in terms of internal migration are to be expected, considering the fact that Bijeljina is a regional centre and the second largest city in the Republika Srpska, which attracts a significant number of residents from neighbouring municipalities in Semberija and the broader region.

Table 3: Overview of internal migration for the City of Bijeljina for the period 2017–2021

City / year		Number of in-migrants to Bijeljina				Number of out-migrants from Bijeljina				Migration balance
		Total	from FBiH	from BD	from other LSGUs in RS	Total	to FBiH	To BD	to other LSGUs in RS	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
City of Bijeljina	2017	829	203	71	555	341	100	48	193	488
	2018	753	173	67	513	382	94	65	223	371
	2019	727	182	72	473	361	98	55	208	366
	2020	636	139	98	399	356	72	51	233	280
	2021	729	170	72	487	357	94	40	223	372

Source: Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics

When assessing migration trends, it is important to note that the overview of internal migration does not include data on external migration, such as the number of people who have emigrated abroad or those who have immigrated from other countries. Although there

are no official data available specifically for the City of Bijeljina, estimates based on aggregated data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska suggest that the trend of external migration is extremely unfavourable. For many years now, the number of people leaving Bijeljina for abroad (particularly young people) has significantly exceeded the number of those arriving from abroad.

When considering the spatial distribution of the population, around 60% of the total population lives in rural areas, while 40% resides in the urban core. What can be observed is that the spatial distribution of the population is unbalanced, with increased concentration in certain zones of the urban area. Based on the number of residents by settlement, according to the 2013 census, the highest population concentration is in Bijeljina as the urban centre, as well as in settlements in its immediate vicinity. Additionally, the northern and southern parts of the urban area are more densely populated compared to the western part. It is also clearly noticeable that the majority of settlements have experienced a decline in population, while there has been a marked increase in the number of residents in Bijeljina and the surrounding settlements, particularly those populated by displaced persons and returnees.

Conclusion

The key challenges for the future demographic development of Bijeljina can be identified as follows:

- Negative natural population increase caused by a low birth rate;
- An unfavourable age structure;
- Depopulation of settlements in the western part of the urban area due to unbalanced infrastructural development of the city and issues in those areas related to water supply, the electricity network, public transport, and other aspects of municipal infrastructure development.

Accordingly, in the coming period, it is necessary to reduce the negative trends in population change and to establish a pro-natalist demographic policy that will enable an increase in the level of natural population renewal and a slowdown of depopulation. The aim is to limit depopulation to the level of natural change so that, in line with the projections of the Spatial Plan of the City of Bijeljina, the total population increases to 108,000 by the year 2033.

d) Labour market situation and trends

Employed persons

In terms of employment, according to data from the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics for the year 2022, a total of 24,674 persons were employed in the territory of the City of Bijeljina. When this figure is compared to the data from 2018, obtained from the same institution, when 22,005 employed persons were recorded, it is evident that the number of employed persons increased by 2,669, or 12.13%.

Table 4: Total number of employed persons in the territory of Bijeljina for the period 2018–2022

	Men	Women	Total
2018	12,142	9,863	22,005
2019	12,548	10,248	22,796
2020	12,629	11,212	23,841
2021	12,892	10,978	23,870
2022	13,019	11,655	24,674

Source: Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics

The increase in the number of employed persons was recorded throughout the entire observed period, even in the years (2020 and 2021) when the local labour market was affected by the negative consequences of the coronavirus crisis. What is particularly encouraging is the more pronounced trend of female employment and their more active participation in the labour market compared to previous periods. Namely, over the five-year period, twice as many women (1,792) were employed than men (877), which certainly contributes to establishing a more balanced gender structure among the employed.

Unemployed persons

When examining the data on unemployed persons, in 2022, a total of 6,258 unemployed persons were registered at the Republika Srpska Employment Service – Bijeljina regional office. Comparing the trends in registered unemployment since 2018, a significant decrease in the number of registered individuals can be observed.

Table 5: Total number of unemployed persons in the territory of Bijeljina for the period 2018–2022

Year	Men	Women	Total
2018(active + passive)	8,925	10,872	19,797
active	4,590	5,725	10,315
2019 (active + passive)	7,963	9,973	17,936
active	4,237	5,394	9,631
2020	4,002	5,265	9,267
2021	2,870	4,047	6,917
2022	2,543	3,715	6,258

Source: RS Employment Service, Bijeljina regional office, Bijeljina Employment Service

For comparison, when the number of unemployed persons in 2022 is observed in relation to the number of active jobseekers in 2018, it is 4,057 persons fewer. A decrease in the number of unemployed women compared to 2018 is also evident. Namely, in that year, there were 5,725 women registered as unemployed, whereas in 2022, that number was 3,715, which corresponds with the previously stated data on significant employment of women during the five-year period. However, what does not correspond are the data on the total number of employed persons with those on the decrease in unemployment. Namely, as previously mentioned, the number of unemployed persons decreased by more than 4,000 during the observed period, while the total number of employed persons increased by 2,669. This suggests that over the past five years, a significant number of unemployed persons from the area of Bijeljina were removed from the unemployment register due to gaining employment in other labour markets, including emigration abroad. This supports the previously presented assumption concerning labour migration and the pronounced trend of the workforce leaving the local labour market.

In addition, one of the reasons for the decrease in the number of unemployed persons on the records of the Employment Service is the entry into force of the Law on Amendments to the Law on Employment Mediation (as of 1 January 2020), when a large number of persons who were not actively seeking employment but were registered in order to exercise other rights (such as rights related to health insurance, child allowance, etc.) were removed from the register.

Moreover, although the number of unemployed persons consistently decreased throughout the five-year period, the total number of unemployed persons remains relatively high. From the perspective of the age structure of the unemployed, most persons registered with the Employment Service are in the age group of 50 to 65. Also notable is the number of young people under the age of 35 (more than 1,750 persons), which may simultaneously represent significant development potential and a basis for further dynamism in the local labour market.

Table6:Age structure of the unemployed

Age structure	Year				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
15-17	0	0	0	0	1
18-23	80	226	359	351	351
24-29	1,036	932	980	768	743
30-34	1,169	1,074	1,038	771	664
35-39	1,223	1,101	1,077	768	734
40-44	1,130	1,055	977	701	634
45-49	1,159	1,081	1,005	711	663
50-54	1,264	1,127	1,073	794	735
55-59	1,387	1,349	1,271	985	885
60+	1,885	1,686	1,487	1,068	848
Total	10,315	9,631	9,267	6,917	6,258

Source: RS Employment Service, Bijeljina regional office, Bijeljina Employment Service

When examining the educational structure of the unemployed, the largest share among jobseekers is made up of individuals with secondary education (2,018 persons) and those with low levels of qualification – skilled workers (1,802 persons). Nevertheless, a relatively high proportion of individuals with higher education is also noticeable, amounting to 978 persons, with women making up the majority. Of the total number of unemployed individuals with higher education, as many as 750 are women, or 76%.

Although the largest decline in unemployment during the observed period occurred in the category of unemployed women with secondary education, there are still more than 1,438 women from that category registered with the Employment Service. Meanwhile, the highest number of unemployed men belongs to the category of skilled workers – 1,076 men. Detailed data on the educational structure of the unemployed are presented in the following table.

Table 7: Number of unemployed by educational level

Educational structure	2018			2019			2020			2021			2022		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
NK – Unskilled	934	1,016	1,950	879	952	1,831	773	799	1,572	489	501	990	449	492	941
PK/NSS - Semi-skilled – Lower secondary education	179	292	471	164	269	433	161	256	417	117	195	312	112	168	280
KV–Skilled	1,944	1,304	3,248	1,842	1,198	3,040	1,707	1,134	2,841	1,212	849	2,061	1,076	726	1,802
VKV–Highlyskilled	98	13	111	78	10	88	67	10	77	52	7	59	41	3	44
SSS – Secondary education	953	1,976	2,929	848	1,867	2,715	883	1,901	2,784	959	1,497	2,156	580	1,438	2,018
VŠS – Higher vocational education (2-year post-secondary)	60	95	155	51	85	136	48	87	135	39	73	112	38	73	111
VSS – University degree	387	939	1,326	349	941	1,290	331	999	1,330	282	852	1,134	228	750	978
Master's degree holders	33	88	121	25	70	95	30	79	109	18	73	91	18	64	82
PhD holders / Doctors of Science	2	2	4	1	2	3	2	0	2	2	0	2	1	1	2

Total	4,590	5,725	10,315	4,237	5,394	9,631	4,002	5,265	9,267	2,870	4,047	6,917	2,543	3,715	6,258
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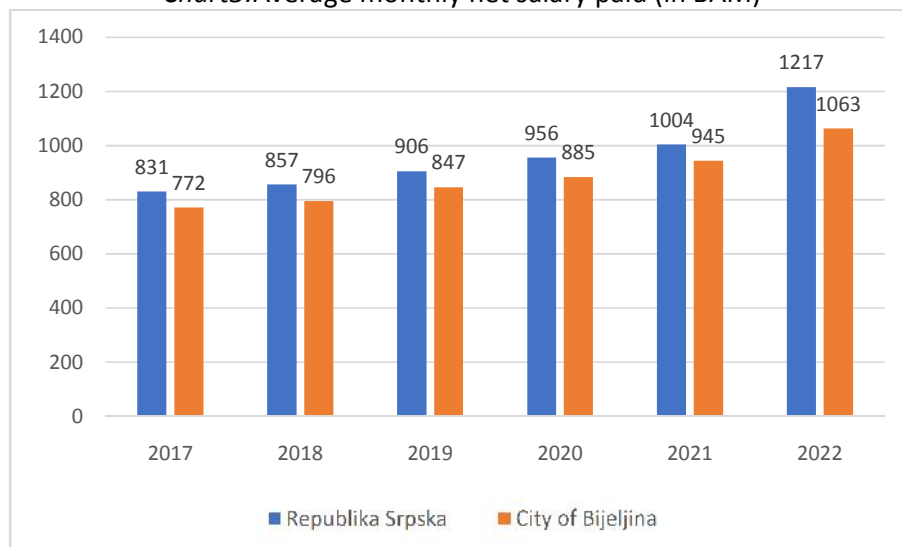
Source: RS Employment Service, Bijeljina regional office, Bijeljina Employment Service

Salaries

Another important characteristic of the local labour market is the trend in average salaries during the observed five-year period. It can be stated that this parameter also reflects positive developments, especially considering the fact that the average net salary paid in the Bijeljina area increased by 37% in the period from 2017 to 2022.

However, the average monthly net salary paid in Bijeljina remains below the average for Republika Srpska, and in 2022 it was below 90% of the average net salary paid in Republika Srpska. Data on average net salaries should be viewed in the context of the overall economic structure of the Bijeljina area and the fact that every fourth worker is employed in the wholesale and retail trade sector, while nearly every fifth is employed in the manufacturing industry.

Chart3: Average monthly net salary paid (in BAM)



Source: Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics

Conclusion

The local labour market in the Bijeljina area over the past five years has been marked by notable dynamism and positive trends across all key indicators. The total number of unemployed persons has decreased, while employment and average net salaries have increased.

Nevertheless, the records of the Employment Service still show a relatively high number of job seekers, with a prominent share of women with secondary education and men with low qualifications.

The local labour market continues to feature a relatively high number of unemployed young people under the age of 35, as well as a significant pool of highly educated labour force, which could represent an important development potential for the upcoming seven-year period.

e) Overview of the economy and economic trends

Business entities and scope of economic activities

In 2022, a total of 1,188 business entities (companies) were operating in the territory of the City of Bijeljina and submitted their financial statements to the Agency for Intermediary, IT and Financial Services – Bijeljina Office.

In terms of business activities, the largest share of active companies is in the trade sector (35.10%) and the manufacturing sector (14.56%). These are followed by companies engaged in professional, scientific and technical activities (10.35%), construction (8.42%), and transport and storage (6.31%), with other sectors accounting for smaller shares.

Table8: Type of activity and number of legal entities

Type of activity	Number of legal entities				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	37	38	36	40	41
Mining and quarrying	3	3	5	9	10
Manufacturing	161	160	157	158	173
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	6	6	6	6	9
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	13	13	13	12	12
Construction	82	82	80	84	100
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	438	416	417	408	417
Transport and storage	64	63	63	68	75
Accommodation and food service activities; hospitality	15	15	16	14	13
Information and communication	31	34	36	46	55
Financial and insurance activities	4	5	5	4	4
Real estate activities	7	7	10	12	15
Professional, scientific and technical activities	90	98	102	107	123
Administrative and support service activities	14	17	21	23	23
Education	16	16	19	16	19
Healthcare and social work activities	65	62	68	70	75
Arts, entertainment and recreation	9	9	7	7	10
Other service activities	7	8	8	10	14
Total	1,062	1,052	1,069	1,094	1,188

Source: Agency for Intermediary, IT and Financial Services

By size, in 2022 the largest share of active enterprises belonged to the group of micro-enterprises – 581 enterprises or 48.9%, followed by small enterprises – 410 enterprises or 34.52%. In the category of medium-sized enterprises, there were 136 operating businesses, accounting for 11.44%, while 61 enterprises, or 5.14%, fell into the group of large enterprises.

Table 9: Types of enterprises by size (number of employees)

Type of Enterprise	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Micro (up to 9 employees)	479	448	459	494	581
Small (10–49 employees)	422	439	445	414	410
Medium (50–250 employees)	116	119	113	131	136
Large (more than 250 employees)	45	46	52	55	61
Total	1,062	1,052	1,069	1,094	1,188

Source: Agency for Intermediary, IT and Financial Services

The dynamics of economic activity in the area of Bijeljina are also illustrated by data on the number of newly registered and closed enterprises. According to this data, as shown in the following table, the number of newly registered enterprises has consistently exceeded the number of deregistered/closed enterprises since 2020, which indicates positive trends in the business environment.

Table 10: Number of newly registered and closed/deregistered enterprises

Year	Newly registered	Closed	Difference
2018	240	256	-16
2019	222	247	-25
2020	257	221	36
2021	413	232	181
2022	396	245	151

Source: Agency for Intermediary, IT and Financial Services

Further evidence of increased economic activity is provided by data on foreign trade. In 2022, business entities in the City of Bijeljina achieved an export value of BAM 291.2 million, representing an increase of 23.49% compared to the previous year. During the same period, the value of imports amounted to BAM 808.9 million, which also represents an increase of 15.83%.

Table 11: Total exports/imports from the City of Bijeljina (in BAM millions)

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Export	126.5	147.9	162.7	222.8	291.2
Import	542.1	604.3	597.9	680.9	808.9

Source: Regional Office of the Chamber of Commerce of Republika Srpska

The highest export value in 2022 was recorded in the manufacturing industry, amounting to BAM 261.4 million (compared to BAM 196.7 million in the previous year), as well as on the import side with BAM 716.2 million (compared to BAM 613.2 million in the previous year). This was followed by agricultural production, with exports totalling BAM 20.4 million (compared to BAM 181.8 million in the previous year) and imports amounting to BAM 91.5 million (compared to BAM 66.7 million in the previous year).

The largest export partners were Germany (BAM 103.2 million), Slovenia (BAM 28.3 million), Croatia (BAM 27.4 million), Serbia (BAM 21.3 million), Poland (BAM 18.9 million), and other

countries with smaller individual shares. Companies from the Bijeljina area imported the most from Serbia (BAM 154.3 million), Germany (BAM 108.9 million), China (BAM 89.9 million), Italy (BAM 46.8 million), Turkey (BAM 44.8 million), and other countries.

Entrepreneurship

According to the register of the Department of Economy, the number of active sole proprietors in the City of Bijeljina in 2022 totalled 2,183 (of which 808 were women entrepreneurs). The structure of registered entrepreneurs by sector at the end of 2022 was as follows:

- Crafts: 719 (32.94%)
- Trade: 610 (27.95%)
- Services and agencies: 404 (18.50%)
- Hospitality: 283 (12.96%)
- Public transport of passengers and goods: 167 (7.65%)

For the fifth consecutive year, Bijeljina has recorded a steady increase in the number of entrepreneurs – from 1,831 at the end of 2018, 1,854 at the end of 2019, 1,866 at the end of 2020, 2,069 at the end of 2021, to **2,183** at the end of the reporting year.

Table 12: Number of registered sole proprietors in the period 2018–2022

	2018			2019			2020			2021			2022		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Total	1,104	727	1,831	1,131	723	1,854	1,165	701	1,866	1,290	779	2,069	1,375	808	2,183

Source: Administration of the City of Bijeljina – Department of Economy

In the previous table, it can be observed that the number of registered entrepreneurs has increased by almost 20% compared to 2018, with the participation of men as registered entrepreneurs still being higher than that of women.

Business zones

In the city of Bijeljina, the business infrastructure is defined through the existence of three business zones, all equipped with complete necessary infrastructure and existing facilities. In 2022, a total of 34 business entities operated within these zones. Below are the key details about each of these business zones, including their designated purposes.

Industrial-business zone 1 (Purpose: residential area; commercial-service zone; and industrial-business production zone – 18 business entities)

Location: Northwestern urban area of the City of Bijeljina; Area: 83 ha; Type: greenfield.

Industrial-business zone 2 (Purpose: commercial-service zone; and industrial-business production zone – nine business entities)

Location: Northwestern urban area of the City of Bijeljina; Area: 39.5 ha; Number of plots: 38 (2.8 ha available for investment); Type: greenfield.

Industrial-business zone 3 (Purpose: light industry and small enterprises – seven business entities)

Location: Northwestern urban area of the City of Bijeljina; Area:22 ha;Number of plots: 22 (0.4 haavailable for investment); Type: greenfield.

Agriculture

According to data from APIF (Agency for Intermediary, IT and Financial Services), the number of registered agricultural holdings in the city of Bijeljina as of 2023 was 5,689. These holdings are registered based on the Law on Agriculture and the Regulation on Registration in the Register of Agricultural Holdings (registration is voluntary). Out of the total, 83 are legal entities, while 5,606 are family farms (5,107 non-commercial and 499 commercial). Among these, 2,683 farms are active and eligible for incentive funding. It is important to note that a portion of agricultural producers is not registered for various reasons, including landholding size and obligations related to health and pension insurance contributions.

When it comes to conditions for engaging in agriculture, Semberija – including the city area – has a continental climate with fairly harsh winters and uncomfortably hot summers. Frost typically begins in late October and ends by mid-April, making the region suitable for growing all types of crops. Early sowing and vegetation growth usually begin in mid-March. The total heat accumulation between March and October exceeds 3,400°C, which is sufficient for the development of all major crops, including tobacco – a plant that is particularly sensitive to temperature sums.

In addition to the favorable climate, the most important resource for successful agricultural production is the quality of the soil. A breakdown of land area by category and ownership (in hectares) is presented in the following table.

Table 13: Categorization of agricultural land by size and ownership – data from 2021

Land Category	Private (ha)	Public (ha)	Total (ha)
Arable land and gardens	46,503	3,534	50,037
Orchards	2,752	0	2,752
Vineyards	6	0	6
Meadows	379	0	379
Total arable land			
Pastures	752	0	752
Fishponds			0
Total agricultural land	50,392	3,534	53,926
Forest land	9,439	385	9,824
Barren land			
Total	59,831	3,919	63,750

Source: Department of Agriculture

Based on the current situation in the field and the data presented in the previous table, 59,831 hectares or 94% of agricultural land and forests are privately owned, while 3,919 hectares or 6% are publicly owned.

Favorable conditions for engaging in agriculture have also been supported by various measures, including land consolidation (comassation) and hydro-melioration works in parts of the City of Bijeljina. A total of 31,724 hectares of the most fertile land have been consolidated, with hydro-melioration interventions carried out on 19,000 hectares. By regulating the water regime on this area, timely sowing has been made possible, along with

the introduction of crop rotation favoring industrial crops and vegetables that require intensive production. With the current crop structure, it is possible to harvest two crops annually on about 10,000 hectares. Additionally, the activation of 24 anti-hail stations across the city territory has created conditions for crop protection from hail, significantly reducing damage from this increasingly frequent natural hazard in the region. It is important to note that there is currently no need for building additional anti-hail stations, as the existing capacity adequately covers the entire Bijeljina area.

Regarding the average farm size, due to the lack of a recent population and property census, reliable data on the size of agricultural holdings or the number of agricultural households is unavailable. Estimates based on past records (such as the 1991 Census) suggest that the average agricultural holding is fragmented into 4–5 plots, totaling around 3.3 hectares per household. This fragmentation is one of the main reasons for unprofitable agricultural production.

In terms of production, the most represented agricultural crops in the Bijeljina area are cereals with 80% (corn, wheat, and barley); vegetables with 8% (cabbage, watermelon, cucumber, pepper, tomato, etc.); and industrial and forage crops with 12% (sugar beet, tobacco, alfalfa, and others). Additionally, animal products such as milk and meat are also important.

Diverse crop production takes place across 49,240 hectares of arable land, ranging from high-intensity crops like certain vegetables and industrial plants. Excellent results have been achieved in cereal production, with record yields being reported both before the war (Brodac, 1988) and more recently (Amajlije, 2005).

Table 14: Overview of winter and spring crops – area (2021)

No.	Type of crop	Total (ha)	Type of crop	Total (ha)
1.	Wheat	15,000	Corn	24,300
2.	Barley	2,200	Soybean	900
3.	Triticale	180	Sunflower	330
4.	Oilseed rape	700	Tobacco	120
5.	Vegetables	35	Vegetables	4,400
6.	Forage crops	60	Forage crops	1,015
		18,175		31,065

Source: Department of Agriculture

In fruit growing, the most prevalent production is that of plums, apples, and pears, with an increasing trend in the planting of grapevines in recent times, as shown in the following table.

Table 15: Overview of fruit plantations – 2021

No.	Type of Fruit	Total (number of fruit-bearing trees)
1.	Apples	59,200
2.	Pears	36,480
3.	Quinces	2,417
4.	Plums	234,899
5.	Peaches	4,431

6.	Walnuts	8,545
7.	Walnuts	1,290
8.	Grape varieties for premium and quality wines (number of fruit-bearing vines)	12,000

Source: Department of Agriculture

In the field of vegetable production, the most commonly grown crops include potatoes, peppers, tomatoes, beans, cabbage and kale, cucumbers, peas, and watermelons.

Table 16: Overview of areas under vegetable crops in 2021

No.	Type of crop	Area in 2018 (ha)	Area in 2019 (ha)	Area in 2021 (ha)
1	Potatoes (ware potatoes)	1,200	1,150	1,200
2	Peppers	500	480	450
3	Tomatoes	390	370	380
4	Beans	370	350	340
5	Cabbage and kale	250	270	320
6	Cucumbers	250	250	300
7	Peas	280	270	260
8	Watermelons	250	240	260

Source: Department of Agriculture

In the previous period, significant capacities for greenhouse production have been established. It is estimated that approximately 300 hectares of vegetables are currently grown in greenhouses, primarily peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, and lettuce. It should be noted that at least two crops are grown in the same greenhouses during the year.

Table 17: Overview of greenhouse production areas

No.	Type of crop	Area in 2018 (ha)	Area in 2019 (ha)	Area in 2021 (ha)
1	Peppers	80	80	80
2	Tomatoes	60	70	70
3	Pickling cucumbers	60	70	70
4	Lettuce	5	5	5
5	Spinach	5	5	5
6	Swiss chard	1.5	1	1
7	Zucchini	2	2	2
8	Onions	7	8	8
9	Garlic	/	/	/
10	Strawberries	7	10	10
11	Flowers and ornamental plants	7	1	1
12	Eggplant	1	6	6
13	Champignon mushrooms	6	3	3
14	Berry fruit seedlings	0.2	0.3	0.3
15	Parsley	0.3	0.2	0.2

16	Celery	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total		235.2	261.7	261.7

Source: Department of Agriculture

For the development of agriculture in the Bijeljina area, the established industrial and processing capacities are of particular importance, in the following sectors:

- milling and processing industry (eleven companies),
- fruit and vegetable processing (five companies),
- meat industry (three companies),
- animal feed production (five companies).

Livestock farming

Livestock farming is also traditionally present in the area of Bijeljina and represents an important agricultural activity. Data on the livestock population indicate that poultry farming, cattle breeding, and pig farming are the dominant types of livestock production.

Table18: Livestock population

No.	Livestock species	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1.	Cattle	14,380	17,060	16,000	13,270	14,070
2.	Pigs	54,580	65,200	62,900	52,950	50,000
3.	Sheep	2,430	2,610	2,680	2,550	2,960
4.	Goats	335	410	440	430	535
5.	Poultry	229,800	184,200	214,350	223,200	254,900
6.	Horses	170	145	130	90	110

Source: Department of Agriculture

Regarding the current state of the livestock population, it is necessary to highlight the outbreak of African swine fever, which emerged in the Semberija area in mid-June 2023. The first culling was carried out as early as 23 June. As of 1 October 2023, a total of 39,825 pigs had been culled on 799 farms.

Although financial resources totalling BAM 14,373,146.55 were earmarked to support the farms affected by the culling, this situation is expected to pose a long-term challenge for pig farming and meat production in the Semberija region.

Tourism

In recent years, tourism has emerged as a sector with significant potential for the future development of Bijeljina. This is evidenced by the continuous growth in accommodation capacities across the city over the past five years, driven by an increase in both tourist arrivals and overnight stays. Data on accommodation capacities in the City of Bijeljina, presented in the table below, show a 27.76% increase compared to 2018.

Table19: Total number of beds in the City of Bijeljina

Total number of beds	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	789	843	880	896	1008

Source: Tourist Organisation of the City of Bijeljina

At the same time, the number of tourist arrivals and overnight stays increased by 35% compared to 2018. It is worth noting that there were significant fluctuations during 2020 and 2021 due to travel restrictions during the COVID-19 crisis and global disruptions in the tourism market. However, the 2022 data indicate a recovery in the tourism sector and a return to the positive trends of previous years.

Table 20: Number of tourist arrivals and overnight stays

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Tourist arrivals	31,730	37,951	21,371	33,087	43,021
Tourist overnight stays	61,864	73,478	44,518	55,757	84,096

Source: Tourist Organisation of the City of Bijeljina

Among the most notable tourist events is the Tourism and Gastro Culture Fair, an event of great pride for local residents. It attracts numerous exhibitors from across the region, domestic tour operators, and a strong interest in visiting Bijeljina, serving as an excellent opportunity to promote the city's tourism offer at other destinations as well.

Other events that have left a significant impression on visitors include the "Regio" Wine Fair, "Golden Cauldron", Sava Regatta, Art Colony, and Saint Panteleimon Days. Notably, the Winter Promenade, which has only been held for two years, has already received a very positive response from both local visitors and guests from the diaspora and neighbouring countries. All of these events have contributed to the steady increase in visitor numbers to Semberija year after year.

In terms of tourist offerings, spa tourism must be highlighted, as thermal waters are an exceptional natural resource in this area. These waters are located at a depth of 1,500 metres with a temperature of 90°C. The water temperature at the natural outflow in Banja Dvorovi is 75°C, with a capacity of 7.5 liters per second. It is classified as hyperthermal water and is beneficial in the treatment of various skin diseases, certain types of eczema, and post-rheumatic conditions. The extraction yield from a purpose-drilled well is 50 litres per second.

Previous research has shown the great potential of these waters for bathing, therapeutic use, and geothermal energy. This exceptionally pure geothermal water provides outstanding opportunities for tourism development. A key advantage of the Dvorovi Spa is that it uses this healing thermal water for heating all its facilities during the winter, and for warming outdoor pools during the summer tourist season. In addition to healthcare services, the spa features the best sports and recreational complex in the region, which includes five outdoor pools and sports courts for basketball, handball, five-a-side football, volleyball, and tennis.

The following table presents the revenue from the residence tax over the past five years. The figures confirm that the previous year was a record one in terms of the number of tourists, which was reflected in the revenue generated by the Tourist Organisation of the City of Bijeljina. All revenue from the residence tax is reinvested into the organisation of the aforementioned events and other tourism promotion activities (e.g. arrangement of the pedestrian path to the Skakavac waterfall, two city "Selfie" signs, improved tourist signage,

promotional tourism videos for Bijeljina, and the “Umbrella Street” project, which has become a new city attraction).

Table 21: Revenue from residence tax (in BAM)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Revenue from residence tax	99,164.51	113,562.20	75,042.64	86,331.25	125,111.41

Source: Tourist Organisation of the City of Bijeljina

It should also be emphasised that, beyond the official statistics on tourist arrivals and overnight stays, the actual number of tourists visiting Semberija is significantly higher. Official figures do not account for day-visitors or those staying with family and friends. It is therefore estimated that approximately one million tourists visit Bijeljina each year.

Diaspora

In the context of Bijeljina’s economic and social development, it is important to highlight the significant potential for cooperation with the diaspora. Although it is difficult to determine the exact number of Bijeljina residents living abroad, it is estimated to exceed 10,000. As there is currently no data on which countries have the largest populations of people from Bijeljina, it will be necessary in the coming period to intensify activities aimed at mapping the diaspora and developing specific models of cooperation, in order to realise the full potential of these partnerships to the mutual benefit of all stakeholders.

Conclusion

Bijeljina has demonstrated notable dynamism in economic activity in recent years. The number of newly registered business entities has been on the rise and consistently exceeds the number of those that have been deregistered or closed. Foreign trade volume has also been increasing steadily. By sector, the majority of active businesses operate in trade and manufacturing.

The model of developing business infrastructure through the establishment of business zones has proven successful, considering both the number of business entities operating in the three developed business zones and the number of people employed therein.

Due to favourable conditions, a well-established tradition, and previously developed capacities, agriculture remains a strategically important sector for the future development of Bijeljina. Data from recent years indicate continuous growth in agricultural production, both in crop farming and livestock breeding. However, to maintain the competitiveness of the agricultural sector, it is essential to modernise continually and apply the most advanced agro-technological solutions.

Tourism has shown strong growth potential in recent years, highlighting the need for continued promotion of the city and expansion of its tourist offer.

f) Overview of the state of social development

Education

Pre-school education

The total number of children enrolled in pre-school education in the City of Bijeljina during the 2021/2022 school year was 1,556, which represents an increase of 48.9% compared to the 2017/2018 school year.

The number of pre-school institutions operating in the City of Bijeljina is as follows:

- Kindergartens: 3 (999 children enrolled)
- Child clubs: 16 (561 children enrolled)

In addition, the number of child clubs increased from 13 in 2017 to 16 in 2022. Although there has been an increase in both the number of pre-school institutions and the number of children attending them, there is still a need to expand pre-school capacities in the City of Bijeljina.

It is also important to note that 20 children with developmental difficulties were enrolled in pre-school institutions in 2023.

Primary education

The primary school network in the City of Bijeljina consists of 12 central schools and 35 satellite schools. The number of pupils attending primary schools in the City of Bijeljina has seen a steady decline over the past five years. In the 2017/2018 school year, the number of pupils was 8,723, while in the 2021/2022 school year, it stood at 8,176 – a decrease of 6.3%.

Table 22: Number of pupils attending primary schools in the City of Bijeljina

	2017/2018			2018/2019			2019/2020			2020/2021			2021/2022		
	M	F	Σ	M	F	Σ	M	F	Σ	M	F	Σ	M	F	Σ
Primary education	4,409	4,314	8,723	4,335	4,243	8,578	4,305	4,152	8,457	4,316	3,969	8,285	4,260	3,916	8,176
Rural schools	1,627	1,593	3,220	1,568	1,523	3,091	1,530	1,472	3,002	1,472	1,364	2,836	1,435	1,303	2,738
Urban schools	2,782	2,721	5,503	2,767	2,720	5,487	2,775	2,680	5,455	2,844	2,605	5,449	2,825	2,613	5,438
Special education classes	19	11	30	17	11	28	24	16	40	11	10	21	9	6	15

Source: Reports on the work of primary schools in the City of Bijeljina

When it comes to the working conditions in primary schools, during 2022, an assessment of the condition of school buildings was carried out by the City Administration. Although there is continuous work on the maintenance and improvement of school facilities, the overall condition is still not satisfactory. Based on the analysis following the assessment, it was concluded that the following works are necessary:

- Roof reconstruction in 16 schools;
- Floor reconstruction in 11 schools;
- Replacement of interior woodwork in 21 schools;
- Replacement of exterior woodwork in 13 schools;
- Thermal insulation of external walls in 22 schools;
- Reconstruction and construction of sanitary facilities in four schools;
- Construction of a sports hall in one school;
- Interior painting works in five schools;
- Renovation of sports halls in five schools;
- Electrical installations in one school;
- Installation of heating boilers in six schools;
- Ensuring physical accessibility for persons with disabilities.

According to the conclusions from the school facility condition assessment, nine schools do not require any additional renovation work.

Table 23: Equipment and facilities of primary education buildings in the City of Bijeljina

Educational institution	Students per classroom	Number of indoor toilets	Drinking water (YES/NO)	Sports hall in facility (YES/NO)	Library (YES/NO)	Number of available computers	Physical accessibility for children with special needs (YES/NO)
PS "Sveti Sava" Bijeljina	29.8	6	YES	1+1	YES	22	YES
PS "Vuk Karadžić"	34.2	10	YES	1	YES	25	YES
PS "Jovan Dučić"	33	5	YES	1+1	YES	Not stated	YES
PS "Knez Ivo od Semberije"	40.6	7	YES	1+1	YES	20	YES
PS "Stefan Nemanja" G. Dragaljevac	7.4	3	YES	1	YES	29	YES
PS "Dositej Obradović" Suvo Polje	8.5	3	YES	0	YES	4	YES
PS "Sveti Sava" Crnjelovo	11.3	5	YES	1	YES	16	YES
PS "Petar Kočić" Brodac	16.9	3	YES	1	YES	15	YES

PS "Petar P. Njegoš" V. Obarska	17.6	4	YES	0	YES	4	YES
PS "ĆiriloiMetodije" Glavičice	13.4	2	YES	1	YES	10	YES
PS "Meša Selimović" Janja	20.1	8	YES	1	YES	Not stated	YES
PS "Dvorovi" Dvorovi	26.5	3	YES	1	YES	Not stated	YES

Source: Reports on the work of primary schools in the City of Bijeljina

Within the domain of primary education, it is important to note the increasing number of children with developmental difficulties over the years. Both human and material capacities of schools are insufficient to adequately meet this challenge. For the 2023/24 school year, 119 children with developmental difficulties were enrolled in 12 primary schools in Bijeljina. The situation is particularly complex in schools with special education classes, which exist in two schools: PS "Vuk Karadžić" (31 students / 4 classes in 2023/24) and PS "Meša Selimović" in Janja (6 students / 1 class in 2023/24).

Secondary education

The network of secondary schools in the City of Bijeljina consists of six schools – five vocational schools and one general education high school. Five schools are located in the urban area, and one in the settlement of Janja.

The number of students in secondary schools follows the same declining trend seen in primary education. For example, in the 2017/18 school year, there were 3,905 students enrolled in secondary schools in Bijeljina. By the 2021/22 school year, this number had dropped to 3,503 – a decrease of 10.3%. This negative trend is even more pronounced than in primary education. One contributing factor is that some students enroll in secondary schools in other cities or abroad due to external migration. Data on the number of students enrolled in secondary schools for the period 2017–2022 are presented in the following table.

Table 24: Number of students in secondary schools in the City of Bijeljina

Institution and education type (list all individual study profiles for which education is provided)	Classrooms in use	Number of students									
		2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
High School "Filip Višnjić" (General and Socio-linguistic Programme)	19	303	366	303	333	309	300	222	299	188	266
Economic School (Legal-business, Economic, Banking, Trade, Business-IT Technician)	18	185	434	182	416	180	387	196	369	199	359

Agricultural and Medical School (Agrotechnician, Veterinary Technician, Food Technician, Fruit Grower-Vintner, Baker, Agro-producer, Hairdresser, Food Producer, Medical and Pharmaceutical Technician)	18	317	731	325	722	299	714	313	705	327	630
Technical School "Mihajlo Pupin" (Computer Science and Programming Technician, Information Technology Technician, Electrician – Electrical Installer, Road Traffic Technician, Logistics and Freight Forwarding Technician, Mechanical Technician for Computer-Aided Design, Motor Vehicle Driver, Metalworker-Welder, Metalworker-Welder–Metal Cutting Operator, Joiner, Electrical Power Engineering Technician, Electrician, Electronics Mechanic, Welder)	32	796	191	831	174	852	245	777	227	790	229
Средња стручна школа Јања (Civil Engineering Technician, Architectural Technician, Stonemason-Ceramicist, Trade Technician, Economics Technician, Banking Technician, Retailer / Shop Assistant, Tourism Technician, Culinary Technician, Hospitality Technician, Cook and Waiter)	13	182	144	186	137	190	126	174	119	174	91
Music School "S. S. Mokranjac"	19	24	37	21	42	24	36	23	35	24	35
TOTAL	119	1,807	2,098	1,846	2,030	1,838	2,009	1,704	1,952	1,696	1,807

Source: Reports on the work of secondary schools in the City of Bijeljina

Higher education

There are seven universities/faculties in Bijeljina offering 26 different study programmes:

- Faculty of Education, Bijeljina with three study programmes: Primary School Teacher, Bachelor of Preschool Education and Teacher of Technical Education and Informatics;
- Faculty of Business Economics, Bijeljina with four departments: General Foundations; Foreign Trade, Taxes and Customs; Finance, Banking and Insurance; and Business Informatics;
- Faculty of Law Pale, Bijeljina Department;
- Faculty of Agriculture, East Sarajevo, Bijeljina Department, with three programmes: General Programme, Plant Production, and Animal Husbandry;
- Synergy University, Bijeljina, with six faculties: Faculty of Business Economics, Faculty of Computer Science and Informatics, Faculty of Information Technologies, Faculty of Law, English Studies (Anglistics), and Contemporary Psychology;

- Slobomir P University, Bijeljina, with six faculties: Faculty of Information Technology, Economics and Management, Tax Academy, Law, Faculty of Philology, and Academy of Arts;
- University of Bijeljina, which includes four faculties: Faculty of Pharmacy, Faculty of Psychology, Faculty of Health Studies, and Faculty of Agriculture.

According to the data from the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics, a total of 2,144 students were enrolled in higher education institutions in Bijeljina during the 2020/2021 academic year, compared to 2,848 students in the 2017/2018 academic year. Like in other local communities across Bosnia and Herzegovina, a decline in the number of students is evident, primarily caused by the ongoing emigration of the population.

One major issue is the lack of student accommodation. In the coming period, activities aimed at building a student dormitory will be intensified. A conceptual design has already been completed, and the development of technical project documentation, urban planning, and location permits is currently in progress.

Student scholarships

Despite the overall decline in the number of students in both primary and secondary education, the amount of scholarships awarded to students, and even to primary and secondary school pupils, has increased over time. For example, in 2018, the annual scholarship per primary school student was BAM 800. By 2022, that amount increased to BAM 1,250 per student. The same trend is seen in secondary education. In 2018, secondary school students received BAM 825 annually. In 2022, this increased to BAM 1,145 per student.

Based on the 2022 Scholarship Decision, the following categories were eligible for scholarships:

- Regular university students (18 continuing + 66 new): total 84
- Valedictorians from primary and secondary schools (46 + 23): total 69
- Pupils with developmental difficulties in primary and secondary schools: total 40

In 2022, there was a 10% increase in the scholarship amounts compared to 2021, resulting in the following monthly amounts:

- Basic student scholarship: BAM 240 (can be increased up to 30% based on GPA)
- Valedictorian scholarship for primary schools: BAM 125
- Scholarships for children with developmental difficulties in primary and secondary schools in Bijeljina: BAM 150 monthly
- Scholarships for children with developmental difficulties attending specialised institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina or abroad: BAM 200 monthly

In addition to this, in 2022, the City of Bijeljina also awarded 42 students who were either valedictorians or winners of top three places in entity, state, or international competitions. Each received a one-time award of BAM 200. Furthermore, 23 teachers and professors who prepared these students were also rewarded with BAM 200 each.

In 2022, the City of Bijeljina also financed final academic research projects by awarding:

- three Master's theses with a one-off amount of BAM 1,500 each

- two doctoral dissertations with a one-off amount of BAM 2,000 each

The scholarship budget allocated by the City of Bijeljina in 2022 was BAM 320,000, which is BAM 100,000 more than in 2018. For 2023, the planned budget is BAM 370,000. This demonstrates a clear upward trend in the allocation of public funds for supporting students and pupils in Bijeljina.

Healthcare

When it comes to the health status of the population in the City of Bijeljina, the leading diseases are cardiovascular diseases, followed by tumours, and then diseases of the digestive system. It is important to highlight that in recent years there has been a declining trend in the number of people affected by these illnesses. It is also noteworthy that there was a sudden increase in the number of patients with infectious and parasitic diseases in 2020 and 2021, which was caused by the outbreak of the global COVID-19 pandemic, officially declared over in 2023. As a result, data for the current period and for 2022 are still unavailable.

Table 25: Number of treated patients by disease type

Type of disease	Number of treated patients			
	2018	2019	2020	2021
Circulatory system diseases	2,395	2,300	1,729	2,052
Tumours	1,592	1,600	1,227	1,315
Respiratory system diseases	903	880	608	687
Digestive system diseases	1,504	1,406	1,055	1,266
Other (state): infectious and parasitic diseases	294	296	937	1,684
Total	6,688	6,482	5,556	7,004

Source: Report on the work of the Bijeljina Health Centre

The main institutions responsible for organising and delivering healthcare services in the City of Bijeljina are the Health Centre, the General Hospital "Sveti Vračevi", and the Health Insurance Fund of Republika Srpska – Bijeljina Office. In addition to these, a significant role in ensuring access to healthcare is played by private medical practices, private pharmacies, the International Dialysis Centre, the Social Welfare Centre, the City Organisation of the Red Cross, as well as certain organisational units within the City Administration of the City of Bijeljina.

Health Centre

The Bijeljina Health Centre, founded by the City of Bijeljina, is the largest provider of primary healthcare services for the population within the City of Bijeljina. It also provides healthcare services for the municipalities of Pelagićevo and Donji Žabar. The primary level of healthcare is the basic and first level at which citizens access healthcare or are included in the process of obtaining healthcare through:

- Family medicine teams;
- Paediatric teams; and
- Gynaecology teams.

The operations of the Bijeljina Health Centre are organised through the following services/centres/clinics, as its primary organisational units³:

- Family medicine service,
- Specialist consultation clinic for paediatrics,
- Specialist consultation clinic for gynaecology,
- Emergency Medical Service,
- Preventive, children's and general dentistry service,
- Radiological and ultrasound diagnostics service,
- Laboratory diagnostics service,
- Hygiene and epidemiology service,
- Community physical rehabilitation centre,
- Mental health protection centre,
- Closed-type pharmacy.

In 2022, the Bijeljina Health Centre provided primary healthcare services for a total of 86,528 insured individuals (a decrease of 2.54% compared to 2018), verified by the RS Health Insurance Fund. It organised the work of 55 family medicine teams across 25 satellite clinics. In addition to the aforementioned number of insured individuals, the Bijeljina Health Centre also provides services to a large number of uninsured persons from the areas it covers. Furthermore, the Centre provides emergency care continuously, 24 hours a day.

Funding for primary healthcare services for insured individuals is secured through annual contracts concluded with the RS Health Insurance Fund. In addition, funding for healthcare services not financed by the RS Health Insurance Fund, but deemed to be of public interest, is secured from the City of Bijeljina's budget, with provisions for the City of Bijeljina and the Bijeljina Health Centre to conclude an annual financing agreement.

The number of healthcare workers employed at the Health Centre has increased by 9% over the past five years.

Table 26: Number of healthcare workers at the Health Centre

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Medical doctor	32	33	31	29	29
Specialist in family medicine	24	25	30	34	31
Specialist in gynaecology and obstetrics	2	1	1	1	2
Specialist in Paediatrics	4	4	3	3	3
Specialist in Emergency Medicine	3	3	3	3	5
Specialist in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	3	3	3	3	2
Specialist in Psychiatry	3	3	3	3	3
Specialist in Radiology	2	2	2	2	2
Specialist in Epidemiology	2	2	2	1	1

³There is a statutory obligation to establish a Centre for Health Promotion and Prevention of Diseases, Injuries and Conditions as a basic organisational unit, which is planned to be completed by the end of 2023.

Specialists in other fields of medicine	14	13	12	12	9
Doctor of dentistry	9	9	8	8	9
Specialist in dentistry	8	8	9	9	9
Senior nurse - technician	21	22	23	32	34
Medical technicians	185	184	202	204	201
Total healthcare workers	312	312	332	344	340

Source: Bijeljina Health Centre Activity Report

General Hospital “Sveti Vračevi” Bijeljina

The General Hospital “Sveti Vračevi” Bijeljina is a healthcare institution providing secondary, and to a certain extent tertiary, healthcare services to the residents of the City of Bijeljina and the municipalities of Ugljevik, Lopare, Pelagićevo, and Donji Žabar, as well as to other healthcare users who wish to obtain services at this institution (based on the right to freely choose a hospital). The number of insured persons for whom the hospital provides healthcare exceeds 160,000. Healthcare services are provided in the form of inpatient treatment across eight departments:

- Department of Internal Medicine,
- Department of Surgery,
- Department of Gynaecology and Obstetrics,
- Department of Ophtalmology,
- Department of Pulmonology,
- Department of Paediatrics,
- Department of Otorhinolaryngology (ENT), and
- Department of Neurology.

The hospital also provides certain tertiary healthcare services, such as maxillofacial surgery, cardiology, nephrology, paediatric surgery, gastroenterology, neurosurgery, vascular surgery, endocrinology, and oncology, including a day hospital for chemotherapy.

The hospital has qualified staff capable of delivering high-quality healthcare services at both secondary and tertiary levels.

In addition to the aforementioned healthcare institutions involved in the provision and insurance of healthcare, healthcare services are also provided by the Department of Veterans’ and Disability Protection, whose report outlines the scope of rights and services available to this population. Furthermore, the report addressing the issue of uninsured persons is considered by the City Assembly as a separate item.

Private medical practice is performed by around 50 private clinics, included in the healthcare institutions network plan across various fields (general medicine, internal medicine, surgery and orthopaedics, paediatrics, dentistry, emergency medical care, diagnostics, and others). Some of these private healthcare clinics are incorporated into the family medicine and consultative-specialist healthcare system through the Health Insurance

Fund. Services provided by private healthcare clinics outside this system are fully payable by patients, significantly affecting the already low living standard of the population in this area.

Challenges in the healthcare sector

The Health Centre is facing challenges in 2023 concerning the number of employed doctors of medicine compared to the number prescribed by the Job Classification Act. As a result, the number of family medicine teams was reduced from 55 to 53 in 2023. A similar situation occurred regarding the inability to fill doctor positions within the Emergency Medical Services. The cause of these issues, and an indicator that they may persist in the coming years, lies in the relatively low interest among doctors in pursuing specialisations (particularly in family medicine), as well as the limited range of specialisations that the Health Centre can offer:

- specialisation in family medicine,
- specialisation in emergency medicine,
- specialisation in paediatrics,
- specialisation in gynaecology and obstetrics,
- specialisation in radiology,
- specialisation in physical medicine and rehabilitation,
- specialisation in psychiatry,
- specialisation in hygiene and epidemiology (unlike the General Hospital "Sveti Vračevi" Bijeljina, where many more specialisation options are available, leading to the outflow of doctors to that institution).

As for access to primary healthcare, the Health Centre Bijeljina has an extensive network of family medicine clinics in both urban and rural areas, ensuring complete access to healthcare services. It provides all primary healthcare services in accordance with the Law on Healthcare of Republika Srpska.

The Health Centre Bijeljina is adequately equipped with the necessary medical equipment for delivering primary healthcare, although some clinics require spatial adaptations, upgrades, or complete reconstruction to meet legal conditions for normal operation.

Considering the provisions of the Law on Healthcare, the method of financing primary healthcare by the City of Bijeljina is not precisely defined, which is necessary to ensure the provision of high-quality and safe healthcare services to the city's population.

City Organisation of the Red Cross

The City Organisation of the Red Cross (CORC) Bijeljina had seven employees in 2023, with plans to employ three more staff members (a social worker, a special education teacher, and a psychologist) by the end of the year as part of a project for the deinstitutionalisation of persons with disabilities. Additionally, the CORC Bijeljina is launching the HOME CARE project at the end of the year, under which six caregivers will be employed.

Current services provided by the City Organisation of the Red Cross include:

- Free transport of 24 children with developmental difficulties, in cooperation with the Social Welfare Centre;

- Transport of persons with disabilities using a specially adapted electric vehicle provided by the City Administration to the CORC Bijeljina;
- Medical escort for pupils during one-day trips organised by primary and secondary schools;
- Engagement of volunteers to assist blind, visually impaired, and disabled persons in administrative tasks;
- Participation in the operation of the soup kitchen in cooperation with the City Administration and the Social Welfare Centre, providing 287 meals daily;
- First aid training for drivers and workplace first aid training for employees of public institutions and the private sector;
- Education of primary and secondary school students on mental and reproductive health (approximately 600 students per year);
- Mine risk awareness education as part of the programme of the Red Cross of Republika Srpska (approximately 400 students per year)
- Education about the mission and work of the Red Cross.

The Bijeljina Red Cross faces challenges due to insufficient financial resources for its functioning. The premises used by the Red Cross do not meet the basic conditions for work. The material and technical resources owned by the Red Cross are minimal and need to be significantly improved in the coming period.

Social welfare

The institutional organisation of social welfare is linked to the Social Welfare Centre, established by the City Assembly. In 2022, budget allocations from the City for the purpose of social welfare costs for the residents of the City of Bijeljina, disbursed through the Social Welfare Centre, amounted to BAM 6,709,221.8, representing an increase of 62.1% compared to 2018.

On the other hand, the overall average annual costs of social welfare for the residents of the City of Bijeljina during 2022 amounted to BAM 597,663.01, which is significantly higher compared to previous years, as shown in the table below:

Table27: Average annual costs of social welfare for residents of the City of Bijeljina during 2022

Type of assistance	Amount of assistance in BAM/month (average)				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Permanent cash assistance	47,693	48,695	52,601	56,895	59,088
Cash allowance for assistance and care by another person	195,375	210,241	231,274	251,521	284,896
Other material assistance	47,477	78,529	115,233	124,620	146,845
Training for independent living and work	1,585	1,935	1,093	1,666	2,578
Placement in another family	5,375	7,512	11,666	11,537	9,119
Placement in social welfare institutions	33,746	41,447	45,488	49,366	47,018
One-off cash assistance	12,490	6,881	13,985	8,064	12,494
Health insurance	16,915	16,170	36,071	41,847	34,641

Social work and other professional services	0	0	0	0	0
Home care and assistance	3,239	2,771	3,666	2,515	979
Child allowance	0	0	0	0	0
Salary compensation for an employed parent	0	0	0	0	0
Salary compensation for an unemployed parent	0	0	0	0	0
Total funds	363,898	414,183	511,082	548,036	597,663

Source: Activity Report the Public Institution Social Welfare Centre Bijeljina

It is also important to highlight that the number of social welfare beneficiaries increased significantly over the past five-year period, reaching 6,221 in 2022, which is 16.17% more compared to 2018. A considerable rise in the number of beneficiaries was recorded in the categories of other material assistance, health insurance, and cash allowance for assistance and care by another person, while the number of beneficiaries of one-off cash assistance fell sharply, by 45%.

The cause of these trends lies in the decision of the Constitutional Court of Republika Srpska, adopted at its session held on 28 February 2018, which declared unconstitutional a provision of the Health Insurance Fund Rulebook relating to the realisation of health insurance rights for persons over the age of 65 (Official Gazette of Republika Srpska, 22/18). As a result of this decision, the number of persons entitled to health insurance through the Social Welfare Centre increased, reducing the need for the payment of one-off cash assistance.

Social Welfare Centre (vulnerable groups)

In accordance with the Law on Social Welfare (Official Gazette of Republika Srpska, 37/12 and 90/16), health insurance through the Social Welfare Centre is provided to recipients of financial assistance, recipients of the cash allowance for assistance and care by another person, and individuals placed in social welfare institutions and foster families, provided that they are unable to exercise health insurance rights on any other basis.

Pursuant to this Law, Republika Srpska is obliged to cover 50% of the required amount of health insurance costs for recipients of financial assistance and the cash allowance for assistance and care by another person, while the Social Welfare Centre fully covers the health insurance costs for all other beneficiaries.

Persons who use health insurance through the Social Welfare Centre are predominantly elderly and infirm individuals, who often have chronic health problems and for whom one-off cash assistance had previously been the only source of income. For the purposes of treatment and the purchase of medicines, they would apply to the Centre requesting one-off cash assistance. Since 2018, residents over the age of 65 have been entitled to health insurance through the Social Welfare Centre, creating conditions for a reduction in one-off cash assistance payments to these categories of the population.

In 2018, health insurance through the Centre was used by 281 individuals, and by 2022, the number had risen to 590 users. An average of BAM 415,697 was spent annually for this purpose.

Table28: Number of persons insured through the Social Welfare Centre

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total number of insured persons	250	243	632	573	590
Number of children	13	11	46	46	37

Source: Social Welfare Centre Bijeljina

In terms of providing social welfare services for children, the assessment of needs and the referral of children and young people with developmental difficulties are carried out based on the Rulebook on the Assessment of Needs and Referral of Children and Youth with Developmental Disabilities (Official Gazette of Republika Srpska, 37/12 and 90/16). The assessment is performed by an expert commission appointed by the local self-government unit, while the Social Welfare Centre keeps records of persons with developmental difficulties.

Table29: Number of children with developmental difficulties by category

Category of developmental difficulty	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children with visual impairments	4	5	5	9	10
Children with hearing impairments	4	8	9	3	5
Children with speech, language, and voice impairments	3	9	6	9	11
Children with physical impairments and chronic illnesses	29	37	49	56	70
Children with mental disorders and illnesses	4	11	7	13	12
Children with intellectual disabilities	26	33	27	29	32
Children with multiple disabilities	12	28	16	28	27
Children with permanent impairments	9	0	3	2	0
Children without impairments according to the Rulebook	7	19	1	18	0
TOTAL	98	150	123	167	167

Source: Social Welfare Centre Bijeljina

The rights that children with developmental difficulties may exercise within the social welfare and child protection system include:

- The right to a cash allowance for assistance and care by another person;
- The right to placement in an institution;
- The right to support in equalising opportunities for children and young people with developmental difficulties;
- The right to one-off cash assistance;
- The right to placement within their own family;
- The right to an increased child allowance; and
- The right to personal disability benefit.

Table 30:⁴Number of beneficiaries who exercised the right to personal disability benefit

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total number of beneficiaries	/	365	627	661	673
Number of children	/	97	108	114	116

Source: Social Welfare Centre Bijeljina

Day Centre for children with developmental difficulties

The Day Centre for children with developmental difficulties was opened in November 2020, and services became available to users in February 2021. The right to day care covers various types of organised daily services and care outside of the child's own family, providing meals, care, health care, education, psychosocial rehabilitation, occupational activities, and other services.

Table31: Number of children with developmental difficulties

Year	2021	2022
Number of children	10	25

Source: Social Welfare Centre Bijeljina

The Day Centre employs the following professional staff: three speech therapists, a psychologist, a nurse, a special education teacher, and a cleaner. Within the framework of day care services, individual and group speech therapy treatments are provided, as well as psychological counselling sessions with users and their parents, and psychological workshops for both groups. Additionally, occupational, creative, and educational workshops are organised, along with educational activities aimed at acquiring everyday life skills and fostering socialisation.

It is also important to note that in 2022 a children's playground was opened within the premises of the Social Welfare Centre Bijeljina. Furthermore, a Day Centre staff member attended training on working in a sensory room, with the aim of creating the conditions necessary for providing sensory room services.

⁴Through the amendments to the Law on Social Welfare, the right to a personal disability allowance was introduced. This allowance has been disbursed since June 2018, based on the Decision on the Allocation of Funds for the Improvement of the Position of Persons with Disabilities through the Personal Disability Allowance (Official Gazette of Republika Srpska, 53/18, 6/19, and 9/19).

Number of pensioners, average pension amount, and type of pension

The total number of pension beneficiaries in the City of Bijeljina in 2022 amounted to 16,385, marking a growth trend with an increase of 7.5% compared to 2018. Out of the total number, in 2022, 9,905 were beneficiaries of old-age pensions (1,302 more compared to 2018), including 3,478 women and 6,427 men. The number of disability pension beneficiaries was 1,675 (108 fewer than in 2018), including 1,221 men and 454 women, while 4,805 were beneficiaries of survivors' pensions (47 fewer than in 2018).

The average pension in 2022 amounted to BAM 438.79 (27.3% higher compared to 2018).

Table 32: Types and average pension amounts

Type of average pension (in BAM)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Old-age pension	402.61	416.83	428.52	447.64	511.47
Disability pension	330.73	341.39	351.68	369.57	421.28
Survivors' pension	300.73	312.09	321.47	337.39	383.62
Overall average	344.69	356.77	367.22	384.87	438.79

Source: Pension and Disability Insurance Fund

Culture and sport

There are six cultural institutions operating in the City of Bijeljina: the National Library "Filip Višnjić", the Museum "Semberija", "Sokolski dom", the Serbian Cultural and Artistic Society "Semberija" (a public institution), the City Theatre "Semberija", and the Cultural Centre "Semberija", which also includes the Art Gallery "Milenko Atanacković" and a cinema. These cultural institutions employed a total of 85 people in 2022, which is an increase of 16.4% compared to 2018. The qualification structure of employees largely meets the needs of these institutions. In addition to the institutions mentioned, it is also important to highlight the Choir "Srbadija", which plays a significant role in raising awareness of the importance of culture in the city. The Choir "Srbadija" regularly participates in international competitions and events, where it almost consistently achieves notable success. It is worth noting that the choir has ranked among the top choirs on the world choir rankings for years, something unmatched elsewhere in the region.

Table 33: Total City Budget allocations for culture by year⁵

Year	Amount in BAM
2018	58,800
2019	68,000
2020	45,200
2021	53,700
2022	105,460

Source: Department of Social Affairs

⁵Funds allocated through projects are not included

The most important cultural events are: the May Music Festivities, Višnjić Days, Comedy Days, and Janja Summer Evenings.

Culture is a kind of mirror of the city and its inhabitants, and the quality of life and high living standards are measured not only in financial terms but also by the quality of educational and cultural-artistic institutions. Many cities around the world have become globally recognised precisely due to their rich cultural offerings, with a large number of cultural institutions and events. For this reason, in the coming period, the possibility of constructing a multi-purpose cultural facility, integrating a city cinema and a city theatre, should be considered. This would improve conditions for the development of cultural and artistic creativity, make cultural content more accessible to residents, and stimulate innovation and creativity.

Although there has been noticeable progress in the cultural life of the city itself, the situation is not the same in rural areas. In order to raise awareness of the importance of culture in the villages of Bijeljina, it is necessary to renovate the cultural centres in villages where needed, while it is equally important to organise cultural and artistic events in rural areas.

Sport

In the field of sport, 112 sports clubs were registered in 2022 in the register of sports clubs maintained for the area of the City of Bijeljina. These clubs are directly or indirectly funded from the City of Bijeljina budget. Sports activities are carried out on sports grounds, in sports halls and school gyms, with over 130 such facilities available. Although Bijeljina can be said to have a significant number of sports grounds and facilities, the condition of most is not satisfactory and requires reconstruction and renovation. In addition to upgrading the existing infrastructure, there is also a noticeable lack of certain types of sports facilities and grounds, including a new sports hall in the city, sports stadiums throughout the city area for various sports, sports and recreational trails (cycling, fitness, athletics, etc.), small sports courts, and supporting facilities (changing rooms and others). On the other hand, Bijeljina has around 10,000 registered athletes and recreational athletes across all categories. This situation demonstrates that the City of Bijeljina has great potential for the development of sport and youth engagement, which needs to be supported by quality sports infrastructure and the promotion of youth participation in sports.

However, when it comes to improving sports infrastructure in the city, the priority should be the construction of a multifunctional sports hall. This has been the consensus among sports representatives from Bijeljina in the past period, who share the opinion that building a multifunctional sports hall would significantly facilitate the work of a large number of sports clubs. The construction of such a facility would also enable the organisation of numerous sports and recreational events, thus greatly enhancing the city's sporting life. Additionally, promoting sports events would considerably raise awareness of the importance of sport for a better quality of life.

Table 34: Total budget allocations for sport by year

Year	Amount in BAM
2018	1,347,994
2019	1,079,801
2020	1,046,134
2021	1,408,123
2022	1,969,466

Source: Department of Social Affairs

Local administration and civil society

Overview of local government administrative services

The City Administration of the City of Bijeljina is organised on a functional basis, grouping social areas and tasks into main organisational units (departments and independent sections), which are further divided into internal organisational units. A total of 464 employees work in the local government authority. The following table shows the gender and educational structure of the employees of the City Administration.

Table 35: Structure of employees in the City Administration

Men	226
University degree (VSS)	109
Higher vocational education (VŠS)	5
Secondary vocational school (VKV)	10
Secondary school diploma (SSS)	89
Skilled worker (KV)	13
Women	238
University degree (VSS)	139
Higher vocational education (VŠS)	10
Secondary vocational school (VKV)	1
Secondary school diploma (SSS)	66
Skilled worker (KV)	15
Lower secondary education (NSS)	2
Unskilled worker (NK)	5

Source: Section for Human Resources Management

The results of the citizen satisfaction survey regarding communication and services provided by the City Administration show progress, as can be seen from the results of the surveys conducted in 2017 and 2022 (Table 36).

Table 36: Survey on citizen satisfaction with communication and services of the City Administration

No.	Question	2017			2022		
		Yes	Mostly	No	Yes	Mostly	No
1.	Are you satisfied with the services of the City	126 (89.36%)	10 (7.09%)	5 (3.55%)	97 (97%)	2 (2%)	1 (1%)

	Administration?						
2.	Is the City Administration staff courteous?	128 (87.67%)	14 (9.59%)	4 (2.74%)	99 (99%)	1 (1%)	0
3.	Do you receive prompt and efficient services without unnecessary waiting?	111 (77.63%)	22 (15.38%)	10 (6.99%)	97 (97%)	2 (2%)	1 (1%)
4.	Do the management and employees of the City perform their duties responsibly?	95 (70.90%)	34 (25.37%)	5 (3.73%)	91 (91%)	7 (7%)	1 (1%)
5.	In your opinion, does the City Administration employ qualified staff?	85 (62.04%)	43 (31.39%)	9 (6.57%)	94 (94%)	3 (3%)	3 (3%)
6.	Are you satisfied with the work of the City Assembly and their community development planning?	79 (57.66%)	39 (28.47%)	19 (13.87%)	90 (90%)	6 (6%)	2 (2%)
7.	Do citizens participate in the decision-making process? Are citizens' proposals considered?	74 (54.02%)	34 (24.82%)	29 (21.16%)	92 (92%)	7 (7%)	1 (1%)
8.	Is communication between local authorities and citizens good?	89 (64.96%)	24 (17.52%)	24 (17.52%)	90 (90%)	8 (8%)	2 (2%)
9.	Have you participated in public meetings, discussions, and forums?	82 (61.65%)	-	51 (38.35%)	84 (84%)	-	16 (16%)
10.	In your opinion, is the City Administration well and efficiently organised?	82 (61.20%)	26 (19.40%)	26 (19.40%)	83 (83%)	5 (5%)	12 (12%)

Source: City of Bijeljina Quality Committee

Thus, based on the results of the citizen satisfaction survey, it can be concluded that the constant efforts of the City Administration to facilitate the use of its services are clearly visible. Likewise, considering the responses to the survey questions, and with the aim of further improving the work of the City Administration and the City Assembly, it is necessary in the coming period to:

- Further develop mechanisms for improving communication between local authorities and citizens and introduce new forms of communication, especially during the process of adopting local regulations, taking into account positive trends;
- Regularly use available methods of citizen participation in decision-making processes within City bodies, especially representatives of local communities, non-governmental organisations, and others;
- Further enhance the training system and professional development of employees, including the acquisition of non-confrontational communication skills when dealing with service users;

- Pay particular attention to the efficiency of service provision and decision-making processes, aiming to improve or shorten resolution deadlines wherever possible.

It is important to point out the condition of the buildings where administrative and other activities of the City Administration are carried out on a daily basis. These buildings are quite old and worn, and it is necessary to conduct thorough assessments to determine their structural integrity, after which activities related to their external and internal renovation should be undertaken. A detailed review of administrative facilities must be conducted to determine their structural systems, which would help extend the lifespan of these buildings and simultaneously improve the working conditions within the City Administration.

Digitalisation

One of the key aspects of the future work of the City Administration is its digital transformation, i.e. the introduction of a broad range of digital services aimed at improving and simplifying the work of the local administration itself, and enhancing the services provided to users, namely citizens and the business sector. In this regard, the City Administration of Bijeljina has initiated the process of digital transformation, beginning with an assessment of digital readiness. For this purpose, a Digital Readiness Assessment Questionnaire developed with the support of UNDP was used⁶, with the aim of developing a digital transformation roadmap for the City Administration, which will further define specific projects and interventions and position them within relevant strategic and financial documents.

Table 37: Results of the initial analysis based on the Digital Readiness Assessment Questionnaire for the City Administration of Bijeljina

Area	Index	Total 'Yes' responses	Total 'No' responses
Management	1.10	9	4
User-centred design	1.56	8	3
Public administration reform	2.00	7	1
Organisational culture and employee skills	1.57	6	4
Technological infrastructure	1.46	13	6
Data infrastructure, strategy, and governance	2.50	7	5
Cybersecurity, privacy, and resilience	1.00	9	6
Legal basis	1.40	5	2
Digital and innovation ecosystem	2.38	9	1

Rating scale: 3 = Highly developed and aware, 2 = Moderately developed and aware, 1 = Less developed but aware, 0 = Underdeveloped and unaware or information unavailable

Based on the initial situation analysis and responses to the Digital Readiness Assessment Questionnaire, it can be observed that there are a number of thematic areas, or pillars of digital transformation, that require intensive work in the coming period. Primarily, this

⁶Support for this task was provided through the Digital Transformation in the Public Sector Project (2020–2024) supported by UNDP, the British Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Project for Improving Performance of Local Services (PIPLS) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, supported by the Government of Sweden

refers to the need to build capacity in the areas of cybersecurity, privacy, and resilience, as well as in the development of technological infrastructure and related regulations.

Regarding digital services for users, the official website of the City of Bijeljina (www.gradbijeljina.org) recorded 36,000 visits over the past 12 months and a total of 10,142 users across all channels (website, Facebook, Viber, and the MIA Chatbot application). It is also important to note that the MIA Chatbot has enabled services such as obtaining extracts from civil registers (Register of Births, Register of Marriages, and Register of Deaths), and submitting requests for certificates of citizenship. A digital signature is currently not in use, and its introduction would be of significant importance for expanding digital/electronic services. In the upcoming period, it is planned to integrate services into the MIA Chatbot related to issuing building permits, collecting municipal fees, subsidising student transport tickets, and submitting complaints and appeals.

Civil sector

The City of Bijeljina boasts a well-developed network of active non-governmental organisations (NGOs) with a high rate of project implementation. There are several hundred registered NGOs in the city, 90 of which are listed in the register maintained by the City Department of Social Affairs. This register is voluntary and mostly includes NGOs that have applied for financial support from the City Budget. Of these 90 NGOs, 40 are active and collectively gather 18,947 members, as follows:

- Culture: 15 organisations (1,577 members)
- Environment: 1 organisation (125 members)
- Youth: 4 organisations (286 members)
- Associations of persons with disabilities/developmental difficulties: 17 organisations (2,511 members)
- Associations of war veterans with disabilities: 1,750 members
- National minorities: 2 organisations (172 members)
- Pensioners: 1 organisation (11,259 members)
- Sports: 11 organisations (1,171 members)
- Humanitarian and social associations: 1 organisation (45 members)
- Gender equality/domestic violence: 1 organisation (50 members)
- Other: 1 organisation

When it comes to co-financing the listed associations and other NGOs, the Department of Social Affairs allocates funds through public calls based on the Decision on Criteria and Procedure for Granting and Terminating the Status of Associations of Public Interest for Bijeljina. A portion of the funds is also allocated upon direct request. The amount of approved funding varied from 2018 to 2022, averaging BAM 103,000 annually, depending on the planned budget, the quality of project proposals, the association's work programme for a given year, and in accordance with the criteria defined by the internal regulations of the Department of Social Affairs – City Administration of the City of Bijeljina.

The cooperation between the City Administration and the civil sector is at a satisfactory level. For many years, associations have most frequently contacted the City Administration during the public call period for the allocation of funds to civil society organisations in the City of Bijeljina.

The City Administration and citizen associations also actively collaborate in organising events of significance to the city. A number of associations regularly respond to invitations to participate in such events, and the City Administration provides financial support within the budget's capacity for the implementation of these events.

As for the capacity of associations to implement more complex projects, very few are capable of carrying out such activities. Those that have the capacity and desire for active engagement do implement such projects, while most are content with participating in public calls issued by the City Administration and generally lack experience in implementing projects funded by European sources. This is mainly due to a lack of trained personnel for project writing and applications, and perhaps more significantly, the associations' lack of interest in working with external funding sources due to the complexity of the application procedures and the accompanying financial reporting requirements.

Citizen security

Number of criminal offences and crime structure

In 2022, a total of 849 criminal offences were recorded in the City of Bijeljina, representing an 18.76% decrease compared to 2018. During this period, the overall clearance rate of crimes increased from 74.6% in 2018 to a notable 86.2% in 2022. The number of offences committed by juvenile offenders also declined, as shown in the following table.

Table38: Number of criminal offences and crime structure

Year	Total number of criminal offences	Total number of reported perpetrators	Number of offences committed by known perpetrators	Number of offences committed by unknown perpetrators	Overall clearance rate (%)	Number of juvenile perpetrator
2018	1,045	846	498	547	74.6	34
2019	990	763	430	560	76.3	51
2020	892	781	/	/	/	35
2021	835	792	463	372	85.9	18
2022	849	766	485	364	86.2	28

Source: Bijeljina Police Administration

To support the detection of criminal offences and the conduct of investigations, cooperation has continued in recent years with law enforcement institutions, police services in neighbouring areas, and international organisations.

Structure of registered crime

In the analysed period, 698 general criminal offences were recorded, with the breakdown shown in the following table.

Table39: Structure of general criminal offences

	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Criminal offences against life and bodily integrity	52	7.25	76	10.66	60	15.2	80	15.53	77	13.97
Organised and economic crimes	81	11.3	60	8.42	43	10.87	61	11.84	75	13.61
Property crimes	536	74.75	544	76.3	286	72.41	339	65.83	337	61.16
Drug offences (facilitation of narcotics use)	23	3.21	23	3.22	6	1.52	17	3.3	48	8.72
Human trafficking – prostitution (smuggling of persons)	5	0.7	0	0	/	/	2	0.39	1	0.18
Other criminal offences	20	2.79	10	1.4	/	/	16	3.11	13	2.36
Total/Percentage	717	100	713	100	395	100	515	100	551	100
Juvenile delinquency	34		51		35		18		28	

Source: Bijeljina Police Administration

As in previous years, the highest number of criminal offences recorded during the reporting period were property-related crimes. Between 2018 and 2021, the share of property crimes in the total number of general criminal offences decreased from 74.5% to 65.83%. On the other hand, there was a significant increase in the share of offences against life and bodily integrity, which rose from 7.25% to 15.53% of total general criminal offences during the same period.

In the field of organised and economic crime, 61 offences were detected in 2022, which is 20 fewer than in 2018. However, the share of these offences in the total number of criminal offences remained approximately the same, standing at 11.84% in 2022.

Among economic crimes, the most common offences were: negligent performance of duties, business fraud, and abuse of official position. In addition to the offences detected under the Criminal Code of Republika Srpska, four offences of economic crime were recorded under the Criminal Code of Bosnia and Herzegovina, specifically counterfeiting of money.

Disaster protection from natural and other hazards

Citizen protection activities from disasters caused by natural or social factors in the territory of the City of Bijeljina are carried out by the Section for Civil Protection, i.e. the Civil

Protection of the City of Bijeljina. The City of Bijeljina's budgetary allocations for the Civil Protection are insufficient to meet the needs of this unit. Civil Protection has adequate human resources and, in emergencies, can quickly mobilise additional personnel. The main challenges it faces include a lack of technical equipment and the need for diving equipment with an underwater camera, power generators, training and presentation equipment, and additional gear for off-road vehicles.

However, Bijeljina has participated in the joint UN and Swiss Government programme "Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina – DRR", through which the local disaster risk reduction platform in Bijeljina was established. This platform serves as a catalyst for disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities at the local level through a coordinated and participatory process in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The DRR platform was developed to provide space in Bijeljina for identifying and launching DRR activities, promoting awareness of risk drivers in the community, supporting resilience-building initiatives, and integrating disaster risk reduction into local strategic and financial frameworks in a coordinated manner.

This project provided significant technical and material resources such as a drone, personal water rescue equipment for rescuers, four dehumidifiers, a floating pump, and IT equipment. In addition, an off-road vehicle and a boat with a trailer were procured. It is worth noting that fire protection training was also delivered to ten members of the Bijeljina Fire Unit reserve force. Around BAM 95,000 was allocated for the procurement of this equipment and the training programme. Moreover, as the boat ramp on the Sava River in Rača was inadequate and undersized, the project also included its renovation and reconstruction (BAM 60,000) for use by Civil Protection, rescue teams, and other users.

Flood protection

The territory of the City of Bijeljina is frequently exposed to flood risk due to its dense hydrographic network, consisting mostly of unregulated watercourses. The total length of watercourses in the city's territory is 133 kilometres, of which 39 kilometres (29.32%) are categorised as flood-prone. Along the Sava River, a 26.68-kilometre-long embankment has been built, and another 8.23-kilometre embankment has been constructed along the Drina River, totalling approximately 35 kilometres of regulated riverbank providing flood protection. In 2022, a total of BAM 8,322,674.73 was invested in the rehabilitation and regulation of watercourses in the city's territory, of which BAM 384,838.92 was funded by the City of Bijeljina.

The remaining unregulated watercourses continue to pose a regular flood threat, especially during periods of heavy rainfall or snowmelt in the winter. As a significant portion of the watercourses remains unregulated and the number of flood defence structures is still low, approximately 50,000 residents are potentially at risk of flooding.

Fire protection

With regard to fire protection, the professional fire brigade has adequate human resources but faces issues with equipment and inadequate facilities located in the city centre, which lacks a designated emergency exit route. The fire station is situated in a part of the city where traffic is frequently congested, hindering prompt response. For this reason, the construction of a new, technically equipped fire station on the outskirts of the city has begun. This will improve conditions for more efficient execution of duties aimed at protecting lives and property in Bijeljina. Once completed, the new fire station complex will consist of four buildings: the main building, which will include garages on the ground floor and office space on the upper floor; a vehicle washing and maintenance facility; a Civil Protection storage facility; and a fire tower.

Landslide Protection

As the Bijeljina area is predominantly flatland, landslides are rare. However, landslides do occur in the gently hilly southern and south-western parts of the city territory.

Mine Protection

The territory of the City of Bijeljina is one of the few in Bosnia and Herzegovina not contaminated by unexploded ordnance (UXO) left over from the armed conflicts of the 1990s.

Conclusion

What is particularly concerning in the context of the general social development of Bijeljina is the decline in the number of pupils enrolled in primary and secondary schools, which is a consequence of negative demographic trends. In the field of primary education, the decline is especially pronounced in rural schools, which is why it is necessary to focus on the balanced development of all parts of the City in the coming period. Moreover, the drop in the number of students enrolled in secondary schools is more significant than in primary schools, which may also indicate the emigration of entire families from this area.

Although significant funds are allocated annually from the City Budget for scholarships for pupils and students, this practice should continue in the future. Furthermore, Bijeljina's potential as a university city (through the construction of a student dormitory and respectable scientific and educational institutions) should be harnessed to attract young people from the surrounding areas.

In relation to the healthcare, the past year saw a reduction in the number of family medicine teams from 55 to 53, and a similar situation occurred with the inability to fill medical doctor posts in the Emergency Medical Service. Although this is a slight decrease, it could signal an unfavourable trend in the coming years, which is why efforts must be made to recruit and attract young professionals and doctors interested in further training and specialisation in family medicine. Likewise, it is necessary to precisely define the normative framework for financing the primary level of healthcare by the City of Bijeljina in order to provide the highest possible quality and safety of healthcare services to the residents of the City of Bijeljina.

As for the social protection, the number of social welfare beneficiaries has significantly increased in the past five-year period, by 16.17% compared to 2018. The highest increases were registered in the categories of other types of material assistance, healthcare, and cash benefits for care and assistance. Consequently, total budget allocations for social protection have also increased. However, given the limitations of the overall social welfare budget, support measures for social protection beneficiaries should be better targeted in the future, in accordance with the new Social Protection Strategy of Republika Srpska.

In the field of culture and sports, there are evident deficiencies in infrastructure capacities, primarily the lack of appropriate facilities for various programme activities. In the field of culture, it would therefore be advisable to consider constructing a multifunctional cultural centre in the coming period, which would integrate the city cinema and the city theatre. This would improve conditions for the development of cultural and artistic creativity, make cultural content more accessible to residents, and also encourage innovation and creativity. In terms of investments in sports, there is a need to construct a multifunctional sports hall, which would greatly facilitate the work of numerous sports clubs and enable the organisation of various sports and recreational events.

The results of the citizen satisfaction survey regarding communication and services provided by the City Administration show progress in the past five-year period, but the focus in the coming period should be on improving communication quality with citizens and enhancing efficiency in operations, to which the ongoing digital transformation of the City Administration will certainly contribute.

As for citizen safety and protection against natural disasters, the greatest risk remains flooding, due to the extensive hydrographic network and predominantly unregulated watercourses. Therefore, it is necessary to implement interventions on the remaining unregulated watercourses, which pose a potential flood risk for about 50,000 residents.

A significant number of civil society organisations operate in Bijeljina, and it can be said that there is a relatively well-developed network of active NGOs with a high percentage of project implementation. However, in the coming period, efforts should be made to further build the capacity of the civil sector and strengthen partnerships with the local administration in order to implement a greater number of joint development projects.

Overview of the spatial planning documentation

The coverage of the territory of the City of Bijeljina with spatial planning documentation is at a satisfactory level. Strategic spatial planning documents, the Spatial Plan of the City of Bijeljina and the Urban Development Plan of the City of Bijeljina, were adopted in 2019 and 2020 respectively, for the periods up to 2038 and 2036. Given that most implementation-level spatial planning documents were adopted prior to the adoption of these strategic documents and that their planning periods have expired, it is necessary to analyse them and, based on the findings, to adopt new implementation documents where alignment with the strategic spatial plans is required. The Department of Spatial Planning has prepared the following spatial planning documents and decisions, which have been adopted and remain valid for the forthcoming period:

- Spatial Plan of the City of Bijeljina
- Urban Development Plan of the City of Bijeljina
- Urban Development Plan “Janja” in Bijeljina
- Amendments to the Urban Development Plan “Dvorovi” in Bijeljina
- Regulatory Plan “City Centre” Bijeljina
- Regulatory Plan “Pučilska Polja” in Bijeljina
- Regulatory Plan “Dašnica” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to part of the Regulatory Plan “Local Community Dašnica” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to the Regulatory Plan “Dašnica” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to the Regulatory Plan “Dašnica 1” in Bijeljina
- Regulatory Plan “Health Centre and Hospital” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to part of the Regulatory Plan “Health Centre and Hospital” in Bijeljina
- Regulatory Plan “Ledinci 1” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to the Regulatory Plan “Knez Ivo od Semberije” in Bijeljina
- Regulatory Plan “Galac” in Bijeljina
- Regulatory Plan “Gvozdevići” in Bijeljina
- Amendments to the Regulatory Plan “Industrial Zone 1” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to the Regulatory Plan “Industrial Zone 2” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to the Regulatory Plan “Industrial Zone 3” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to the Regulatory Plan “Industrial Zone 4” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to part of the Regulatory Plan “Local Community Dašnica” in Bijeljina
- Amendments to the Regulatory Plan “Krušik-Intergaj” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to the Regulatory Plan “Krušik-Intergaj” in Bijeljina
- Regulatory Plan “Petar Kočić” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to part of the Regulatory Plan “Kaltinovača” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to the Regulatory Plan of the urban area of the city on the Drina River “Slobomir” in Bijeljina
- Regulatory Plan “Agro-Trade Centre” in Bijeljina

- Urban Development Project “Sports and Recreation Centre – Football Fields with Supporting Facilities” at the “Veljko Lukić” Local Community site
- Urban Development Project “Location 1” – Residential-Business Block within the Regulatory Plan “Galac” in Bijeljina
- Land Subdivision Plan “Hase-Brijesnica” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to the Land Subdivision Plan “Hase-Brijesnica” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to part of the Land Subdivision Plan “Hase-Brijesnica” in Bijeljina
- Amendments to the Land Subdivision Plan “Hase-Brijesnica” in Bijeljina
- Amendment to part of the Land Subdivision Plan “Hase-Brijesnica” in Bijeljina
- Land Subdivision Plan “Sports and Recreation Complex – Hippodrome” at the Hase-Brijesnica site
- Land Subdivision Plan “Velika Obarska”
- Land Subdivision Plan “New City Cemetery”
- Decision on Spatial Development and Construction Land

Overview of utility infrastructure and services

Water supply

The City of Bijeljina is supplied with drinking water from the Grmić spring, located in the southeastern part of the city, in the very urban core, on the left bank of the Drina River. The spring has been in operation since 1961 and covers an area of 680,530 m². It includes nine independent wells and eight interconnected wells. There is no reservoir at the spring itself; instead, water is pumped directly into five pipelines. The capacity of each well varies from 30 to 75 l/s, and the current total installed capacity of the Grmić spring is 575 l/s. Since the estimated capacity of the spring is around 2,000 l/s, one of the key priorities must be preserving the water quality at the spring, especially today, when clean and healthy water for human consumption is becoming increasingly scarce. As already mentioned, there are five outlet pipelines at the Grmić spring, each equipped with a flow meter. Annually, between 6,000,000 and 7,500,000 m³ of water is extracted (based on data from the past four years). Of that amount, between 48% and 52% is invoiced to consumers. The northeast region of Bosnia and Herzegovina lacks sufficient springs suitable for human consumption, which further underscores the importance of protecting the Grmić spring from pollution, as it has the potential to serve the water supply needs of the broader northeastern Bosnia region.

The following settlements are connected to Bijeljina’s public water supply system: the City of Bijeljina, Janja, Novo Naselje Janja, Glogovac, Kojčinovac, Gornji Kojčinovac, Ljeskovac, Patkovača, Pučile, Golo Brdo, Amajlije, Popovi, Dijelovi, Dvorovi, Triješnica, Dazdarevo, Gojsovac, part of the Hase settlement, Obrijež, Batković, Gornje and Donje Crnjelovo, Gornji and Donji Brodac, Ostojićevo, Velino Selo, Velika Obarska, Brijesnica, and part of the Modran settlement. The population of other settlements in the Bijeljina area currently obtains water from their own sources, mostly shallow, individually dug or drilled wells. Separate water supply systems exist in the settlements of Čađavica Gornja, Dragaljevac Gornji, and Slobomir, which do not fall under the jurisdiction of the JSCVodovodikanalizacija (water supply and sewerage).

Comparing data from 2022 and 2021 regarding connections to the water supply network shows a net increase of 799 consumers. Based on data from JSCVodovodikanalizacija (water supply and sewerage), 3,773,310 m³ of water was delivered in 2022, which is 18,007 m³ or 0.48% more than in 2021. Considering the average monthly water consumption per person (about 4 m³) and the average household size, it is evident that the increase in water connections (e.g. 799 more connections) does not correspond with the quantity of water delivered. The likely explanation lies in population outflow and the intensive construction of multi-family residential and business buildings. Supporting this assumption, particularly the notion of population decline, are the figures in the following table.

Table 40: Number of consumers connected to the water supply network

Year	Number of consumers		
	Total number of consumers	Consumption: 0 m ³	Consumption: 1–5 m ³
2022	35,876	6,426	10,338
2021	35,077	6,632	9,906

Source: JSC Vodovodikanalizacija (water supply and sewerage)

Between 2021 and 2022, water losses in the system increased, despite the company implementing all planned measures. The most common causes of losses in the Bijeljina water supply system include:

- Leaks in transmission and distribution pipelines;
- Leaks in service pipelines up to metering/individual water meters;
- Inaccurate readings due to faulty water meters (either in metering zones or with end consumers);
- System management errors, accounting errors, and errors during meter reading and billing;
- Unauthorised water consumption due to theft and illegal connections;
- Oversized water meters that do not register all consumption;
- Age of the water supply network, which urgently requires reconstruction, as in many cases it is economically and functionally unjustifiable to invest in repairs. A significant portion of the network was constructed 30–50 years ago.

Sewerage system

The construction of the Bijeljina sewerage system was carried out in three main phases:

1. Phase 1 included the construction of the main sewer collector in the urban area. The first stage of Phase 1 was completed between 2005 and 2007. The second stage extended the main collector from the City Park to the edge of the urban zone. The third stage envisioned construction up to the Janja settlement, including pumping stations, but this has not yet been implemented.
2. Phase 2 involved the construction of main secondary, secondary, and service sewer collectors, with the goal of connecting up to 60% of the urban centre (around 30,000 consumers). This phase was divided into three stages and was implemented from 2008 to 2012. By the end of Phase 2, around 25,000-30,000 residents and part of the existing industry were connected to the system, representing a total load of 40,000 PE (population equivalents), thereby creating conditions for the construction of the central city wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).

3. Phase 3 was also divided into two stages. It involved extending the main collector from the “Dašnica” pumping station to the future “Šećerana” WWTP location, and construction of the first phase of the WWTP “Šećerana” with a capacity of 40,000-60,000 PE (one third of the planned full capacity). The first stage of this phase (main collector construction, 6.7 km in length, from “Dašnica” pumping station to the future “Šećerana” WWTP) was carried out between 2012 and 2013. The second stage (first phase of the “Šećerana” WWTP) was implemented between 2013 and 2015 and commissioned at the beginning of 2016.

After the first phase of the “Šećerana” WWTP was completed, conditions were created for further expansion of the sewerage system to achieve full urban coverage. Part of this expansion was carried out through the ORIO programme during 2018 and 2019, adding 28 km of new sewer collectors.

In parallel, the sewer network was extended in the new “Knez Ivo od Semberije” settlement, where approximately 5 km of new collectors were built. The total constructed sewer collector network comprises around 90 km with diameters ranging from 200 mm to 1,000 mm, including household service lines.

Transport infrastructure (including urban mobility)

The road network in the City of Bijeljina, managed by the Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection, consists of 258.88 km of local roads (207.45 km asphalted, 51.43 km unpaved), city streets, and about 1,500 km of unclassified roads. Besides city streets, the most important roads are the local ones, 55 in total, of which approximately 217 km are asphalted and 51.43 km are macadam. This ensures that each village or local community has an asphalt road leading to the village centre.

In recent years, many unclassified roads have been asphalted, linking nearly all larger hamlets with asphalted roads. The city road network comprises 221 streets with a total length of around 175 km, of which 170 are asphalted and feature accompanying infrastructure such as stormwater drainage, pavements, vertical and horizontal signage, traffic signals, and street lighting.

The road network also includes about 90 km of main and regional roads managed by the Public Company Putevi RS (RS Roads). Bijeljina is served by bypass roads in three phases (1, 2, 3), built to main road standards, linking the Belgrade route with the Banja Luka route, the Ugljevik-Tuzla route, and the Bijeljina-Zvornik route.

Bijeljina is connected to the railway network via a single-track line to Šid, although the line has not been operational for several years. Geographically, Bijeljina borders two navigable waterways, the Sava and Drina rivers, but the navigability of the Sava remains entirely untapped from Bijeljina's perspective.

Public transport

Due to a favourable business climate, a constant increase in foreign investments, and population growth in the City of Bijeljina, the city has developed significantly in construction, economic, and business terms, which has led to a notable increase in daily

commuting. This has created a need to organise and implement public transport within the city. Currently, only suburban transport is operational. This suburban service runs along 16 routes connecting surrounding villages with the city centre. In addition, dedicated school bus routes have been introduced wherever necessary.

Organised taxi transport, which also constitutes a form of public passenger transport, should not be overlooked in the city area. There are 105 taxi drivers engaged in taxi transport, organised into two taxi associations and one business entity specialising in taxi services.

Parking service

The parking control and payment system has been operational since 2017, and the management of public parking areas was assumed by the Directorate for Construction and Development of the City, specifically the Public Parking Management Unit operating within this public enterprise. The rationale for introducing parking charges and control in the city centre, where most public institutions, services, banks, and similar facilities are located, was to provide a greater number of citizens with the opportunity to park and use these services, including residents, and to prevent the unnecessary long-term occupation of parking spaces.

The goal of the Public Parking Management Unit is to modernise and improve the culture of parking in the city. This includes the organisation and regulation of parking spaces, their proper marking with vertical and horizontal signage, so that citizens can use this service option in the best and most efficient way.

The total number of parking spaces subject to parking control and payment is 855, all of which are arranged and properly marked. The city is divided into two zones (a red zone with 480 spaces and a blue zone with 375 spaces). Both zones operate under a regime without time limitations, with parking fees applicable from 7:00 to 21:00 on weekdays and from 7:00 to 15:00 on Saturdays. There are 645 on-street parking spaces and 210 off-street (closed) parking spaces.

It is important to note that the construction of a public garage in the city centre is planned for the coming period, and the land expropriation process, representing the first phase of the project, is currently underway. According to the Regulatory Plan “City Centre”, the location designated for the construction of the public parking garage is in the southern part of the central urban zone, in the very core of Bijeljina, between Sava Kovačević Street and 27.mart Street. The surrounding area features residential buildings (both multi-family and single-family), mixed-use residential-commercial and commercial properties, the city market, city park, and numerous other business and commercial facilities that attract users to this part of the city. The planned garage will cover several plots, some of which are currently used as private parking areas, while others contain a row of 23 prefabricated private garages.

Given the complexity of the process, it is expected that resolving property and legal matters at the planned garage site will require a longer period to complete.

The conceptual design provides the following specifications for the parking garage:

- The facility is planned in a rectangular shape, with maximum dimensions of 51 by 32 metres;
- The ground floor will include, in addition to regular parking spaces, a designated number of spaces for vehicles of persons with disabilities;
- The ground floor will have 59 parking spaces, and each upper level will contain 65 spaces;
- The total number of parking spaces will be 319.

Cycling paths

The total length of constructed cycling paths in 2022 amounted to 8.62 kilometres, and the goal is to build at least 12 kilometres of cycling paths by 2025. The initial objective was also to install at least 28 bicycle parking stands in the city by 2025. However, this target has already been exceeded, with a total of 46 parking stands installed, providing 230 bicycle parking spaces.

In the upcoming period, efforts will be intensified to construct pedestrian-cycling paths, the most significant of which is the planned route along the Bijeljina-Bogatić main road (Republic of Serbia). Due to its considerable length of **7,360 metres**, the planned pedestrian-cycling path route alongside the main road has been divided into three phases.

In addition to the above, the construction of the following pedestrian-cycling paths is planned in the upcoming period:

- o Construction of a pavement, bicycle path and bus stop in NeznanihJunaka Street in Bijeljina (420 metres in length);
- o Construction of a pedestrian-cycling path in the local communities of Dvorovi, Trnjaci and Balatun (2,220 metres in length);
- o Construction of a pedestrian-cycling path in the Hase local community (length: 855 metres);
- o Construction of a pedestrian-cycling path in the Pučile local community (length: 367 metres);
- o Construction of a pedestrian-cycling path in the Patkovača local community (length: 1,309 metres);
- o Pedestrian-cycling path in Stefan Dečanski Street in Bijeljina (length: 2,000 metres);
- o Pedestrian-cycling path along part of Račanska Street, Beogradska Street and ŽivojinaMišića Street; and
- o Pedestrian and cycling path in Sremska Street.

Sustainable urban mobility

The Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP), adopted by the Bijeljina City Assembly on 10 September 2020 for the period 2020–2025, provides a strategic framework for enabling mobility for all citizens, particularly in the area of non-motorised traffic and movement (cycling and walking), establishing an efficient and low-emission public urban transport system, and introducing innovative measures to reduce the use of private cars in urban transport, which will contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, noise, and congestion.

The Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan contains a long-term vision of urban mobility from which clear general goals are derived, followed by strategic pillars and measures intended to support the achievement of the agreed vision. Among other things, the proposed interventions include the following:

- Improving road traffic safety and transport infrastructure
- Enabling accessible mobility for residents in accordance with their abilities and limitations
- Establishing a low-emission public transport system in the urban area
- Establishing multimodal hubs
- Improving bicycle traffic
- Improving pedestrian traffic
- Improving air quality
- Enabling e-mobility in the territory of the City
- Establishing a bike-sharing system
- Developing urban logistics and reorganising freight traffic

Electric power network

The following table presents the condition of the network in 2018, along with an overview of the constructed and reconstructed network by year for the period from 2019 to 2022.

Table41:Condition of the network at the end of 2018

		Unit	2018
LV network	underground	km	68.098
	SKS	km	677.527
	AlFe conductor	km	612.084
10 kV network	SN SKS	km	6.523
	underground	km	162.514
	overhead	km	389.931
35 kV network	/	/	/
	underground	km	10.025
	overhead	km	36.949
Connections	number	pcs	48679
	connection line length	km	851.693
Substations 35/10	/	pcs	6
Substations 10/0.4	/	pcs	801

Source: Public Power Distribution Company "Elektro-Bijeljina"

Table42:Construction and reconstruction for the period 2019–2022

		2019	2020	2021	2022
LV network	constructed	/	/	0.985	/
	reconstructed	1.16	30.497	32.856	32.052
10 kV network	constructed	0.59	0.715	1.2	0.7
	reconstructed	/	2.03	/	5
35 kV network	constructed	/	/	/	/
	reconstructed	/	/	/	/
Substations 35/10	energized	6	6	6	6

Substations 10/0.4	energized	814	815	811	816
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Source: Public Power Distribution Company "Elektro-Bijeljina"

Table43: Constructed and reconstructed connections for the period 2019–2022

Connections	Constructed	Unit	2019	2020	2021	2022
		m	14,644	20,335	15,320	16,617
		pcs	490	392	275	345
	Reconstructed	m	7,821	50,783	13,221	14,350

Source: Public Power Distribution Company "Elektro-Bijeljina"

The following table presents the number of outages in the medium-voltage network in electricity supply caused by faults, weather conditions, or third-party interference.

Table44: Number of outages in the medium-voltage network

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of outages	605	718	464	264	403

Source: Public Power Distribution Company "Elektro-Bijeljina"

Public lighting

City streets in the City of Bijeljina are illuminated with approximately 4,746 streetlights, covering around 90% of the urban area. In suburban and rural settlements, around 13,445 streetlights have been installed (coverage based on population density – estimated at around 90%), which provides very solid public lighting coverage across the entire city area.

Post, telegraph, telephone and telecommunication services

The telecommunications market has been liberalised, so there are currently two fixed-line operators and five mobile operators operating in the City of Bijeljina. The entire territory of the City of Bijeljina is covered by telecommunications, internet, and radio and television (RTV) signals.

Table45: PTT and internet coverage

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of telephone fixed-line connections	19,543	19,252	19,167	18,131	17,848
Number of mobile network users	92,297	92,141	88,925	92,776	93,645
Percentage of city covered by mobile signal	98.21%	98.48%	98.55%	98.60%	98.70%
Number of internet users	10,413	11,203	12,638	13,748	15,050
Number of local communities with telephone network	70	70	70	70	70
Number of local communities with internet access	70	70	70	70	70

Source: Mtel Company

h) State of the environment

Wastewater

In previous years, the City of Bijeljina was one of the few cities in the region without a sewerage system. Instead, faecal wastewater was collected in individual or shared septic tanks, of which there were an estimated 20,000. Where possible (though rarely), septic tanks are emptied into the stormwater drainage system and discharged into the Dašnica Canal, but more often, wastewater is released through soak pits into the groundwater. This practice can have a highly detrimental effect on the quality of groundwater.

The ultimate goal is the construction of a new sewerage network and the replacement of the old water supply network in the City of Bijeljina. This would ensure compliance with European Union regulations on urban wastewater and prevent potential pollution of groundwater, which is used as a source of drinking water. In addition, the construction of a sewerage system in Bijeljina, together with the necessary wastewater treatment plant, would reduce the pollution of watercourses in the Black Sea Basin.

As stated in earlier chapters, Bijeljina's wastewater is collected through the sewerage system and transported via the main collector to the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Velika Obarska. Construction of the plant began in 2013, with a total value of EUR 7,031,644 (excluding VAT), which includes an access road 1,450 metres in length. The plant began trial operations in November 2015. After three months of trial operation, the necessary testing and adjustments of the installed equipment and measuring systems at the WWTP were completed. The plant is being constructed in three phases. The first phase is planned to meet Bijeljina's wastewater treatment needs until 2025. The second phase will double the capacity (80,000 PE), and the third phase will quadruple it (160,000 PE), with implementation scheduled for a later period. The wastewater treatment at the WWTP is based on SBR technology. The age of the sludge generated in the secondary treatment will be sufficient for complete stabilisation, meaning no additional sludge stabilisation will be required.

Air quality and protection

Air quality monitoring was conducted at the locations marked as "Centar" (City Centre) and "Toplana" (District Heating Plant) in Bijeljina. The measurements were carried out using a 24-hour sampling method.

Table 46: Overview of measured pollutants at the "Centar" location

"Centar"	Measured pollutants									
	SO ₂ µg/m ³	CO mg/m ³	NO ₂ µg/m ³	NO µg/m ³	NO _x µg/m ³	O ₃ µg/m ³	PM _{2,5} µg/m ³	PM ₁₀ µg/m ³	Чађ µg/m ³	CO ₂ mg/m ³
Average annual value 2018	23.12	0.82	25.97	39.98	65.94	43.89	17.28	26.31	31.03	/
Average annual value 2019	18.44	0.73	27.70	39.87	67.58	66.86	11.11	12.96	12.96	/

Average annual value 2020	20.77	0.82	26.78	34.43	61.21	67.56	15.02	17.46	29.44	/
Average annual value 2021.	19.96	0.82	27.80	37.50	65.30	67.38	12.98	18.66	29.40	558.15
Average annual value 2022.	17.54	0.73	27.64	39.78	67.42	70.76	12.39	20.18	27.46	552.55

Source: Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection

Table47: Overview of measured pollutants at the “Toplana”

“Toplana”	Мјерене загађујуће материје									
	SO ₂ µg/m ³	CO mg/m ³	NO ₂ µg/m ³	NO µg/m ³	NO _x µg/m ³	O ₃ µg/m ³	PM2,5 µg/m ³	PM10 µg/m ³	Чађ µg/m ³	CO ₂ mg/m ³
Average annual value 2018	33.80	0.66	68.50	18.37	86.84	43.56	27.44	39.86	49.98	/
Average annual value 2019	23.98	0.502	69.98	19.01	88.88	52.46	27.31	38.23	52.92	/
Average annual value 2020	30.41	0.69	62.24	19.18	81.42	50.46	25.49	36.58	52.39	/
Average annual value 2021	14.52	0.45	19.86	3.94	23.80	38.10	38.67	59.00	73.54	/
Average annual value 2022	11.87	0.42	19.55	3.76	23.31	52.00	22.40	32.22	46.84	560.53

Source: Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection

The analysis of measured concentrations of air pollutants shows that air quality largely depends on heating from local heating sources and traffic.

In the urban area, in addition to the operation of the District Heating Plant, other heating sources have also been recorded in both commercial and residential buildings not connected to the District Heating Plant, i.e. the district heating system. The development of the district heating system, incentives for legal entities and individuals to switch to the District Heating Plant or to other energy sources/renewable energy sources instead of coal, which is currently the most commonly used fuel, and especially the introduction of an alternative energy source for the operation of the District Heating Plant (instead of coal, which is currently being used), would significantly improve air quality during the winter months in the urban area of Bijeljina.

A comparison of the concentrations of measured air pollutants in 2022 with concentrations from previous years shows that the annual concentration of measured pollutants at the “Centar” location is similar to the previous year, while at the “Toplana” location it is slightly

lower, especially in terms of particulate matter. However, the analysis of concentrations does not include the months of January and February 2022, when high concentrations of particulate pollutants (PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, soot, TSS) are expected due to the heating season. Therefore, it is not possible to fully assess the air quality for the year 2022.

Municipal waste management system

Two companies provide waste collection and disposal services in the territory of Bijeljina: JSC “Komunalac” Bijeljina and LLC “Dule-Trgotrans” from Dvorovi.

Table 48: Overview of the number of users and the amount of waste collected

Number of households and legal entities covered by waste collection service	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Households	33,091	33,618	34,414	34,800	35,669
Legal entities	2,341	2,273	2,226	2,024	2,020
Total	35,432	35,891	36,640	36,824	37,689
Amount of waste collected during the year (in tonnes)	27,592.62	29,826.5	29,152.29	30,009.59	29,718.68

Source: JSC “Komunalac” Bijeljina and LLC “Dule-Trgotrans”

A total of 32 illegal dumpsites have been registered in the territory of the City of Bijeljina, with the following waste composition:

- 50% construction rubble,
- 30% municipal waste (industrial, household),
- 20% bio-waste.

Illegal dumpsites in the City of Bijeljina are cleaned each year using the following methods:

- Mechanical loading into trucks and transport to the landfill,
- Pushing waste with an excavator to the landfill,
- Manual collection of solid municipal waste and disposal at the regional sanitary landfill.

The plan for the coming period is to develop the Local Waste Management Plan of the City of Bijeljina, which will be harmonised with the Waste Management Strategy of Republika Srpska and the Waste Management Plan of Republika Srpska.

In addition to the obligations, plans, and programmes referred to in Articles 21, 26, 27, and 39 of the the Law on Waste Management Republika Srpska, the Local Waste Management Plan of the City of Bijeljina should also focus on the following:

1. Separate waste collection at the point of generation, construction of green islands for separate packaging waste collection in the urban area, identification of locations, and construction of recycling yards;
2. Management of special waste categories (including medical waste management);
3. Management of animal waste;
4. Future status of the Regional Landfill – to consider whether to extend the operational life of the existing landfill (provided that the system is improved to neutralise the odours that frequently spread through the city) or to construct a new landfill;
5. Remediation and recultivation of sites after illegal dumpsites are cleaned.

Raising public awareness about waste prevention must be continuously strengthened.

Energy efficiency and CO₂ emissions reduction

The Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP), adopted by the Assembly of the City of Bijeljina on 12 October 2020 for the period 2020–2030, is a key document outlining how the signatory of the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy will fulfil its 2030 commitments. Considering the major climate and energy challenges faced by the city of Bijeljina, the SECAP brings together, for the first time, the areas of climate change mitigation and adaptation and sets a long-term vision of a sustainable future for the city. By 2030, Bijeljina aims to be a community with an integrated approach to the efficient use of natural resources, energy efficiency, and renewable energy sources – a community not threatened by flooding and capable of adapting to other consequences of climate change.

Between 2019 and 2021, energy audits and energy certification were carried out for 28 public buildings. Of these, thermal insulation and energy efficiency improvements were implemented in 18 primary and secondary schools in Bijeljina. In addition, under the Green Economic Development (GED) project in 2020, an energy audit of public lighting in Bijeljina was conducted (covering 1,465 lighting fixtures).

The objectives set out in the SECAP, paving the way to achieving the city's vision, include reducing CO₂ emissions by at least 40% by 2030 compared to the baseline inventory for 2004, and reducing the material damage and human losses in climate-affected areas of the city by 90% by 2030 compared to 2021 levels.

Based on calculation results, energy efficiency measures were defined for the following sectors: buildings, transport, public lighting, and water supply, including relevant subsectors, as well as adaptation measures to climate change in the territory of the City of Bijeljina. Implementing these measures is expected to reduce CO₂ emissions in the city by more than 40% compared to 2004. One indicator relevant to reaching the CO₂ reduction targets is coal consumption data for the period 2017–2023.

Table 45. Coal consumption by heating seasons

Heating season	Coal consumption in tonnes (t)
2017/2018	4,587.00
2018/2019	4,202.00
2019/2020	4,337.00
2020/2021	4,811.00
2021/2022	4,563.00
2022/2023	4,097.70

Source: PE "Gradskatoplana" Bijeljina (District heating plant)

Table 46: Total number of users by year

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Households	950	969	950	945	940	/
Legal entities	64	60	57	57	55	/
Total	1,014	1,029	1,007	1,002	995	995

Source: PE "Gradskatoplana" Bijeljina (District heating plant)

Based on the data in Table 46, which show a declining number of district heating users, the goal for the upcoming period is to increase connections to the District heating plant, thereby reducing the number of individual boiler rooms and the total coal consumption. Moreover, switching the fuel used in the heating plant would significantly reduce CO₂ emissions in the urban zone.

The City of Bijeljina has significant geothermal potential, and the use of deep geothermal waters could provide a permanent solution for city-wide district heating. The plan is to conduct research and testing of geothermal energy sources in already existing boreholes in Bijeljina.

In the coming period, the development of a feasibility study for district heating using geothermal sources is planned, which will serve as the basis for a development plan for the city's heating system.

To support reduced energy consumption for heating, improve indoor living comfort, and lower emissions of particulate matter and greenhouse gases, the City of Bijeljina in 2023 launched public calls for co-financing energy efficiency improvement measures in the residential sector – for both multi-unit buildings and houses.

A total of BAM 180,000 was allocated from the City Budget for the implementation of these calls – BAM 110,000 for buildings and BAM 70,000 for houses. The public calls allowed co-financing of energy efficiency improvements in residential buildings and incentives for replacing heating systems, including the installation of water-to-water heat pumps for heating and cooling, covering up to 30% of investment costs. The plan is to continue this activity in the coming period, which will significantly contribute to improving air quality in the city.

Conclusion

The state of spatial planning documentation, infrastructure, and utility services in the City of Bijeljina has improved in the previous period. The coverage of the city's territory with spatial planning documentation is at a satisfactory level.

As for utility services, the water supply is stable and of good quality, although between 2021 and 2022, water losses in the network increased. Therefore, investments are needed in the upcoming period to renew the outdated water supply network and to protect the Grmič water source.

The sewer system needs further expansion to enable connection for all users in the urban area and the adjacent suburban settlements.

The road network across the entire territory of the City of Bijeljina is in good condition, and significant investments have been made in the previous period to ensure that every village, i.e. every local community, has an asphalt road leading to its centre. For the future

development of the City of Bijeljina, the construction of a motorway and connection to the Serbian border, as well as to Brčko District and further towards Doboj, is of key importance. From the perspective of traffic connectivity, it is important to note that the navigability of the River Sava is completely underutilised from Bijeljina's standpoint, as is the potential integration into the national and regional railway network.

In terms of urban mobility, it is particularly important to establish and expand the public transport system across the city's entire territory, as well as to continue building and extending cycling paths, which should be further promoted as one of the key modes of sustainable transport in the coming period.

As for other utility services – electricity supply, postal and telecommunications traffic, and internet coverage – the availability and quality of these services are generally at a good level. However, it should be noted that there are still areas in the city where the electricity supply is unstable, and where the quality needs to be improved in the next planning period.

Environmental protection is also highly important for the sustainability of future development. In this regard, it is crucial to develop the Local Waste Management Plan of the City of Bijeljina, with a special focus on separate waste collection, management of special waste categories, animal waste management, resolving the status of the existing landfill, and remediating illegal dumpsites.

Likewise, when it comes to reducing CO₂ emissions, certain energy efficiency measures and coordinated actions in the sectors of building, transport, public lighting, and water supply, along with their relevant subsectors, are required, as well as climate change adaptation measures in the territory of the City of Bijeljina. In this regard, special attention should be given to Bijeljina's exceptional geothermal potential, which offers the possibility of using deep geothermal waters for district heating and transitioning from non-renewable (coal) to renewable energy sources.

i) Status and trends of public revenues and expenditures, including the projection of financial resources required for Strategy implementation

The total budget revenues of the City amounted to slightly more than BAM 63 million in 2022, which is nearly BAM 17 million more compared to 2018. A trend of revenue growth is expected in the next three-year period, and it is projected that total revenues will exceed BAM 80 million by 2026. The revenue structure continues to be predominantly composed of tax revenues, particularly revenues from indirect taxes.

With regard to expenditures, the budget categories of particular importance for projecting the financial resources required for the implementation of the Strategy are those related to grants, subsidies, allowances, and transfers. According to the data presented in the following table on the budget execution of the City of Bijeljina, more than BAM 21 million was allocated to these four budget items in 2022.

Table 47: Overview of the City Budget execution by year

ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET EXECUTION2018	BUDGET EXECUTION2019	BUDGET EXECUTION2020	BUDGET EXECUTION2021	BUDGET EXECUTION2022
	A. BUDGET REVENUES(I+II+III+IV)	46,729,749	46,438,182	48,908,618	57,334,565	63,397,286
	<i>I TAX REVENUES(1+2+3+4+5+6)</i>	<i>31,470,871</i>	<i>33,412,903</i>	<i>32,059,785</i>	<i>38,863,540</i>	<i>45,077,494</i>
711 000	1. Revenues from income and profit tax	341	0.00	0.00	298	0.00
713 000	2. Taxes on personal income and income from self-employment	4,035,930	3,193,458	3,243,908	3,218,601	4,359,805
714 000	3. Property taxes	2,841,768	2,958,193	2,771,050	3,648,865	3,559,323
715 000	4. Taxes on the sale of goods and services	131,870	52,315	14,664	8,092	2,075
717 000	5. Indirect taxes collected through the Indirect Taxation Authority (ITA)	24,433,500	27,119,393	25,897,143	31,729,443	36,774,790
719 000	6. Other tax revenues	27,462	89,544	133,020	258,241	381,501
	<i>II NON-TAX REVENUES (1+2+3+4)</i>	<i>13,404,915</i>	<i>10,879,598</i>	<i>13,994,237</i>	<i>14,412,778</i>	<i>14,360,691</i>
721 000	1. Revenues from financial and non- financial assets	2,101,723	1,315,824	2,356,833	2,244,111	3,162,723
722 000	2. Fees, charges, and revenues from public service provision	11,159,531	9,436,890	11,441,608	11,518,522	10,580,333
723 000	3. Fines	18,660	9,265	16,735	17,695	31,980
729 000	4. Other non-tax revenues	125,001	117,619	179,061	632,450	585,655
	<i>III GRANTS</i>	<i>44,000</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>4,599</i>	<i>204,810</i>	<i>305,264</i>
	<i>IV TRANSFERS (1+2)</i>	<i>1,809,963</i>	<i>2,145,681</i>	<i>2,849,997</i>	<i>3,853,437</i>	<i>3,653,837</i>
787 000	1. Transfers between different levels of	1,792,429	2,131,274	2,796,444	3,845,408	3,646,740

	government					
788 000	2. Transfers within the same level of government	17,534	14,407	53,553	8,029	7,097
	B. BUDGET EXPENDITURES (I+II)	35,125,655	37,085,267	39,706,417	43,360,139	53,695,194
	<i>I CURRENT EXPENDITURES (1+2+3+4+5+6+7)</i>	<i>33,354,969</i>	<i>35,531,973</i>	<i>37,735,643</i>	<i>40,821,256</i>	<i>49,967,105</i>
411 000	1. Expenditures for employee salaries	14,115,067	14,822,856	15,830,349	17,078,073	18,862,688
412 000	2. Expenditures for use of goods and services	8,571,668	8,719,545	9,046,922	8,589,120	9,771,669
413 000	3. Financing expenditures	1,353,441	1,294,045	1,083,960	1,116,742	1,135,449
414 000	4. Subsidies	100,000	210,300	283,000	671,638	901,982
415 000	5. Grants	3,783,563	4,277,212	5,253,125	5,434,256	9,186,337
416 000	6. Social protection transfers	4,815,237	5,663,717	6,029,760	6,942,802	8,621,752
419 000	7. Expenditures based on court rulings	615,993	544,298	208,527	988,625	1,487,228
	<i>II TRANSFERS BETWEEN AND WITHIN GOVERNMENT LEVELS (1+2)</i>	<i>1,770,686</i>	<i>1,553,294</i>	<i>1,970,774</i>	<i>2,538,883</i>	<i>3,728,089</i>
487 000	1. Transfers between different levels of government	275,437.00	262,294.00	224,007.00	523,404.00	469,089
488 000	2. Transfers within the same level of government	1,495,249	1,291,000	1,746,767	2,015,479	3,259,000
	C. GROSS BUDGET SURPLUS/DEFICIT (A-B)	11,604,094	9,352,915	9,202,201	13,974,426	9,702,092
	D. NET EXPENDITURES FOR NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS (I-II)	-9,535,044	-10,906,375	-14,300,321	-5,690,347	-7,811,979
	<i>I RECEIPTS FOR NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS (1+2+3)</i>	<i>855,814</i>	<i>1,423,346</i>	<i>709,845</i>	<i>621,159</i>	<i>798,565</i>
811 000	1. Receipts for produced fixed assets	219,867	22,916	9,963	2,904	11,000
813 000	2. Receipts for non-produced fixed assets	407,059	1,199,817	526,834	437,749	567,560
816 000	3. Receipts from inventory of materials, products, goods	228,888	200,613	173,048	180,506	220,005
	<i>II EXPENDITURES FOR NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS (1+2+3)</i>	<i>10,390,858</i>	<i>12,329,721</i>	<i>15,010,166</i>	<i>6,311,506</i>	<i>8,610,544</i>
511 000	1. Expenditures for produced fixed assets (capital expenditures – procurement of fixed assets)	10,192,700	12,107,763	14,793,012	6,089,681	8,376,605

513 000	2. Expenditures for non-produced fixed assets	29,440	29,440	25,860	26,910	26,202
516 000	3. Expenditures for inventory of materials, goods, and small inventory	168,718	192,518	191,294	194,915	207,737
	E. BUDGET SURPLUS/DEFICIT (C+D)	2,069,050	-1,553,460	-5,098,120	8,284,079	1,890,113
	F. NET FINANCING (F+G+H)	-2,607,096	1,610,113	5,470,663	-2,680,988	-4,063,783
	G. NET BORROWING (I-II)	-1,039,580	3,436,060	5,166,240	7,197	-4,672,874
	<i>I RECEIPTS FROM BORROWING</i>	<i>5,000,000</i>	<i>8,500,000</i>	<i>8,000,000</i>	<i>3,500,000</i>	<i>0.00</i>
	<i>II DEBT REPAYMENT EXPENDITURES</i>	<i>6,039,580</i>	<i>5,063,940</i>	<i>2,833,760</i>	<i>3,492,803</i>	<i>4,672,874</i>
	H. OTHER NET RECEIPTS (I-II)	-1,567,516	-1,825,947	304,423	-2,688,185	-1,994,868
	<i>I OTHER RECEIPTS (1+2)</i>	<i>2,302,065</i>	<i>983,774</i>	<i>711,110</i>	<i>841,458</i>	<i>435,683</i>
931 000	1. Receipts from VAT	2,132,561	840,963	522,023	103,132	107,292
938 000	2. Other receipts from transactions with other government levels	169,504	142,811	189,087	738,326	328,391
	<i>II OTHER EXPENDITURES (1+2+3)</i>	<i>3,869,581</i>	<i>2,809,721</i>	<i>406,687</i>	<i>3,529,643</i>	<i>2,430,551</i>
631 100	1. VAT-related expenditures	1,495,121	1,380,168	138,978	141,870	124,541
631 900	2. Other expenditures for issued guarantees, previous period losses...	2,151,174	1,173,376	0.00	2,980,859	1,975,252
638 000	3. Other expenditures from transactions with other government levels	223,286	256,177	267,709	406,914	330,758
	I. ALLOCATION OF SURPLUS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,603,959
	J. FINANCING GAP SURPLUS/DEFICIT (E+F)	-538,046	56,653	372,543	5,603,091	-2,173,670

2.2. SWOT analysis

An overview of the internal and external factors affecting the development of the City and the implementation of the Development Strategy is presented through a SWOT analysis, i.e., an analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

Table 48: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats analysis

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
+ Favorable relief, the flat geographical area of Semberija as the most fertile region in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the gentle hills of Majevisa + Rich water resources, proximity to the Sava and Drina rivers, and the fact that Semberija lies on a significant geothermal water potential + Good geostrategic position and regional connectivity + Increased trend of economic activities, growth in the number of business entities, entrepreneurs, and foreign trade exchange + Positive trends in the labour market, increased employment, reduced unemployment, and salary growth + Existence of export-oriented companies and companies that are regional leaders in certain sectors + Tradition in entrepreneurship + Developed tourist facilities and offerings of religious tourism + Significant participation of educated and skilled labour in the labour market + Local government's commitment to creating a supportive business environment (BFC, established and occupied business zones) and implementing sustainable development concepts (local leaders in Bosnia and Herzegovina) + Bijeljina as a university center + Over 400 kilometers of irrigation network	- Negative natural population growth caused by a low birth rate - Unfavorable age structure of the population, especially in rural areas - Pronounced trend of depopulation in the western part of the city's urban area - Relatively high unemployment rate, especially among older people with low qualifications - Average net salary lower than the entity average - Mismatch between the workforce and labour market needs - High foreign trade deficit as a result of the still weak competitiveness of the local economy - Fragmentation of agricultural holdings - Depleted livestock due to the African swine fever outbreak - Vulnerability to floods and droughts - Declining number of enrolled students in secondary and primary schools (especially in rural primary schools) - Still insufficient capacities in preschool institutions and a lack of kindergartens in rural areas - Declining number of doctors interested in further education and specializing in family medicine - Pronounced social inequality and a social protection system based on cash transfers

built and a hail protection system in place + Established support mechanisms for inclusion in education (budgetary item for inclusion in education) + Accessibility to primary and secondary healthcare across all urban areas with a high level of material and technical equipment + Developed transport infrastructure – existence of roads and bypasses in the city, asphalted roads to the center of every settlement/village + Wide coverage of urban areas with spatial planning documentation + Successfully completed three phases of the construction of the sewerage system and wastewater treatment plant + Built heat supply network with expansion capabilities + Generally good coverage of the electrical power grid, postal and telecommunications services, and internet signal across the territory of the City of Bijeljina	- Underdeveloped tourism infrastructure - Insufficient sports infrastructure (lack of an indoor city pool, multifunctional sports hall) - Lack of a modern multifunctional hall for organising and performing cultural and artistic contents - Insufficiently organised programs for the elderly - Traffic congestion in the urban area (lack of city public transport, parking spaces, cycling paths, etc.) - No student dormitory - Low level of financial allocations for non-governmental organisations - Architectural barriers and limited accessibility to services for persons with disabilities - Insufficient capacities for supplying thermal energy in required quantities - Underdeveloped public awareness of environmental protection - Relatively high water supply network losses - Degraded agricultural land quality along river courses after floods - Air pollution, especially during the winter period - Underdeveloped flood protection system and other natural disaster measures - Lack of an integrated approach to waste management – recycling systems for municipal waste are not in place - Numerous illegal dumpsites and unresolved issues concerning animal and hazardous waste management in Bijeljina - No registry of the diaspora
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OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
↑ Availability of programmes supporting sustainable local economic development and access to international development funds, including financial instruments for supporting sustainable development ↑ Announcements of accelerated European integration processes ↑ Time alignment of the upcoming implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy of Republika Srpska with the Development Strategy of Bijeljina (covering the same planning period) ↑ Ongoing investments in the development of local business capacities and infrastructure ↑ Construction of the Brčko District – Bijeljina motorway to the border with Serbia and further to Kuzmin ↑ Focus on tourism development in Republika Srpska and announced support measures ↑ Construction of the Drina embankment and development of the canal network ↑ Trend of innovative agricultural production, construction of processing capacities and capacities for agricultural producer cooperation (cooperatives), with knowledge and technology transfer through cooperation with the diaspora ↑ Investor interest in investing in renewable energy sources, including geothermal sources ↑ Increasing labour force mobility and the possibility of remote work ↑ Trend of digitalisation of public services ↑ Navigability of the Sava River and the potential to enhance the capacity of the river port in Brčko	↓ General political instability in BiH and globally ↓ Adverse effects of climate change – increasingly frequent extremes ↓ Unresolved border zone issue with Serbia ↓ Insufficiently stimulating financial and legal framework at BiH and RS level for investments ↓ High fiscal and parafiscal burden on the economy ↓ Presence of the informal (grey) economy, particularly in terms of labour exploitation ↓ Further liberalisation of the labour market in developed EU countries, especially Germany, Austria, and Switzerland ↓ Slow adoption of legislation and its adjustment to real needs ↓ Misalignment of the education system with labour market demands ↓ Unfavourable migration trends – emigration, particularly of young people and families of highly educated individuals with young children, whose temporary departure may become permanent ↓ Lack of trust among the diaspora towards the local and national economic and social environment

2.3. Strategic focus areas

The situational and SWOT analyses have pointed to the potential and competitive advantages of Bijeljina that correspond to external opportunities and can be utilised to eliminate weaknesses and reduce threats to local growth and development. In this way, the following strategic focus areas have been identified for the next seven-year period.

Strategic focus area 1: Improving the demographic structure and enhancing the quality of life

Although Bijeljina is one of the few local communities in Republika Srpska that has seen a consistent increase in the total population over the past few decades, this positive demographic trend halted after the 2013 census, and the total number of inhabitants has been declining in recent years. This decline is particularly marked by the outflow of younger population groups and depopulation of settlements in the western part of the city area.

Accordingly, it is necessary in the coming period to halt the negative demographic trends and to establish a pro-natalist demographic policy that will enable an increase in the level of natural population renewal and a slowing of depopulation, reducing it to the effect of natural population growth. This would allow, in line with projections from the Spatial Plan of the City of Bijeljina, for the total population to increase to 108,000 by 2033.

Achieving this goal also requires a comprehensive approach to ensuring balanced social and infrastructure development of the city and addressing existing issues related to water supply, the electricity grid, public (urban) transport, and other areas of utility infrastructure.

Halting negative migration trends and supporting demographic renewal also entails a coordinated approach to improving several key aspects of social development. Primarily, this refers to raising the quality of education and positioning Bijeljina not only as a university city but also as a regional centre of knowledge and excellence across various fields. Additionally, enhancing the quality of health and social services and creating new opportunities in the areas of sport and culture are essential prerequisites for the future social development of the city and for achieving the vision of Bijeljina as a place with a high quality of life and equal opportunities for all.

Strategic focus area 2: Transitioning towards a knowledge-based economy and the application of advanced technologies, and ensuring balanced economic development of urban and non-urban areas of the City of Bijeljina

The future economic development of Bijeljina, in addition to its existing capacities, traditions, labour force, market, and infrastructure, should be based on knowledge, which implies optimal use of all value-creating resources. In this context, agriculture undoubtedly represents the most promising economic sector, considering the area's natural potential, the extensive availability of high-quality land, and favourable climatic conditions.

Future interventions should focus on connecting agricultural producers with each other and with processors to complete the production cycle – production, processing, and marketing (sale) – as well as on educating agricultural producers, especially young people who are willing to remain in rural areas. Bijeljina certainly has the conditions for organic food production, and conditions must also be created for modernised, market-oriented agricultural production and branding of agricultural products characteristic of the area.

Stimulating agricultural development requires continued activities on land consolidation and the rational use and protection of all agricultural resources. It is particularly important that, in the coming period, sustainable use of agricultural land is prioritised, as it represents a natural wealth and a national interest.

In addition to developing agriculture, future economic activities should also focus on measures that improve the investment climate and support a competitiveness policy. In this regard, there is significant potential for encouraging the development of entrepreneurship and small and medium-sized enterprises, both in urban and rural areas of the city, particularly by establishing stronger links between agriculture and processing capacities. Moreover, new needs and opportunities for development will arise with the further development of transport infrastructure (primarily the construction of the Bijeljina–Banja Luka motorway), which should lead to the development of the transport industry. Thanks to its geographical position and good transport connectivity with the rest of the country and the EU, the City of Bijeljina has excellent preconditions to become a transport and logistics hub. This creates numerous opportunities for the establishment of transport and logistics facilities and for attracting investment into transport, warehousing, distribution, logistics, and related activities such as tourism and hospitality.

The natural and man-made potentials also support a more intensive development of the service sector, especially tourism. In this respect, the existence of diverse tourism potential first requires appropriate accommodation infrastructure that meets all tourist needs both quantitatively and qualitatively, ease of access to all tourist destinations, and the planning of their interconnection.

Finally, promoting entrepreneurship and the establishment of small and medium-sized enterprises across various production and service sectors is an important instrument of local economic policy that can contribute to balanced development, the retention of the rural population, and the provision of jobs and infrastructure close to where people live.

Strategic focus area 3: Environmental protection, sustainable waste management, and CO₂ emission reduction

Environmental protection is of exceptional importance for shaping the future development of the City of Bijeljina and ensuring its sustainability. In this regard, it is crucial to develop a Local Waste Management Plan for the City of Bijeljina, with a particular focus on separate waste collection, the management of special waste categories, animal waste management, resolving the status of the existing landfill, and the rehabilitation of illegal dumpsites.

From the perspective of environmental protection and sustainable development, it is especially important to continue activities related to the expansion of the sewage network.

Equally, with respect to CO₂ emission reduction, specific energy efficiency measures are necessary, along with coordinated actions across the construction, transport, public lighting, and water supply sectors, including relevant subsectors. Measures must also be taken to adapt to climate change in the area of the City of Bijeljina. In this context, particular focus should be placed on the city's exceptional geothermal potential, which offers the

opportunity to use deep geothermal water capacities for district heating and a transition from non-renewable (coal) to renewable energy sources.

2.4. Vision and Strategic Development Goals of Bijeljina

a) Development vision

The vision and strategic objectives define the intended competitive position that the City of Bijeljina aims to achieve. In this regard, it is worth reminding that the development vision of the City of Bijeljina was defined in the previous planning cycle and formulated so as to highlight its role as a university, cultural, healthcare, and sports centre and a regional leader in economic development. Furthermore, the vision emphasised the importance of building Bijeljina as a modern city that pursues an integrated approach to the sustainable development of the economy, agriculture, and environmental protection, and fosters a tolerant community of successful and educated individuals, where people enjoy a high quality of life and equal opportunities for all are created.

These development parameters of the City of Bijeljina remain relevant, which means there is no need to define an entirely new development vision for the upcoming seven-year period. However, the current context requires that two additional development characteristics of Bijeljina, as a dynamic and forward-looking city, be further emphasised in the vision. It is dynamic in terms of positive and accelerating economic and social trends, and forward-looking in terms of the opportunities it offers and its commitment to the principles of sustainable development as a long-term perspective for both current and future generations.

In line with the above, the vision statement for the development of Bijeljina for the upcoming seven-year period is as follows:

Bijeljina, a dynamic and forward-looking city at the crossroads of the Pannonian Plain, recognised as a university, cultural, healthcare and sports centre and a regional leader in economic development, which, through a modern and integrated approach to the sustainable development of the economy and environmental protection, fosters a tolerant community of successful and educated individuals, where people enjoy a high quality of life and equal opportunities for all are created.

Short vision statement:

BIJELJINA – the city of the FUTURE

b) Strategic development goals

Strategic Objective 1: Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of Bijeljina's residents

Strategic Objective2: Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expert knowledge and new technologies

Strategic Objective3: Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy source

Indicators of strategic objectives

The indicators recommended for measuring the achievement of the stated strategic objectives, along with the baseline and target values for the year 2030, are presented in the following table.

Table49:Indicators of strategic objectives

Strategic Objectives	Impact Indicators	Baseline value (2022)	Target value (2030)
1. Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina	Share of young people (under 30 years of age) in the total population	30,5% (2021)	> 33%
	Level of citizen satisfaction with overall quality of life in the City of Bijeljina	Utility services: satisfied (73.5%)	Utility services: satisfied (>78%)
		Administrative services: satisfied (83.5%)	Administrative services: satisfied (>90%)
2. Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expert knowledge and new technologies	Health services: satisfied (50.2%)	Health services: satisfied (>60%)	
	Total revenue per employee	BAM 109,506 (2021)	>BAM 120,000
	Investments in new fixed assets	BAM 114 million	>BAM 150 million
3. Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection with more responsible use of natural resources and	Share of average net salary in Bijeljina compared to the average net salary of all employees in Republika Srpska	87.3%	>100%
	Share of waste that is regularly collected and properly disposed of relative to total generated waste in the city area	78.85%	>85%

renewable energy sources	Share of wastewater treated before being discharged into watercourses	35%	>50%
	Share of renewable energy sources in total energy consumption	0.035% (2020)	> 1%

3. PRIORITIES AND MEASURES

The priorities in the implementation of the Strategy represent the key areas and directions of action for achieving the vision and strategic objectives, and as such, they have the greatest impact on development, that is, on the achievement of strategic indicators. Below is an overview of the defined priorities, grouped according to the relevant strategic objectives.

Table 50: Priorities of development, grouped according to strategic objectives

Strategic Objective1: Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina	Priority 1.1. Halt negative trends in terms of natural population growth and youth emigration
	Priority 1.2. Ensure balanced infrastructural development of the city
	Priority 1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education, social welfare and healthcare services
	Priority 1.4. Improve the accessibility and quality of cultural and sports content
	Priority 1.5. Strengthen the capacities of local government and the civil sector
Strategic Objective2: Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies	Priority 2.1. Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy
	Priority 2.2. Increase the competitiveness of agriculture, the manufacturing industry, and tourism
	Priority 2.3. Encourage the development of SMEs and entrepreneurship
Strategic Objective3: Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources	Priority 3.1. Improve the waste management system
	Priority 3.2. Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil
	Priority 3.3. Increase protection against natural disasters
	Priority 3.4. Ensure the city's energy-sustainable development

3.1. OVERVIEW OF PRIORITIES AND CORRESPONDING MEASURES WITH INDICATORS

The priorities for Strategic Objective 1, including corresponding measures, are presented in Table 51. Within each priority, (final) outcome indicators have been defined with baseline (starting) and target values.

Table 51: Priorities for Strategic Objective 1 with corresponding measures

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 1.1. Halt negative trends in terms of natural population growth and youth emigration	Total number of births compared to the number of deaths	-239	>0
	Number of enrolled students in the area of Bijeljina	2,503	>2,500
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 1.1.1. Pro-natal policy measures			
Measure 1.1.2. Youth support measures			

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 1.2. Ensure balanced infrastructural development of the city	Number of local communities with expressed requests for addressing infrastructure needs (water supply, sewerage, roads)	35/70	70/70
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 1.2.1. Support for the construction and reconstruction of road infrastructure in the city area			
Measure 1.2.2. Continued construction of the sewerage system and expansion of the water supply network			

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education, social welfare and healthcare services	Number of educational institutions, primary (central and satellite schools) and secondary schools, with improved working conditions	3/53	25/53
	Number of renovated and newly built healthcare institutions (clinics)	6	26
	Number of new and improved services in the	/	5

	domain of social welfare		
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 1.3.1. Improving working conditions in the field of education			
Measure 1.3.2. Supporting the practical implementation of inclusion in the education system			
Measure 1.3.3. Expanding and upgrading facilities in social and healthcare protection			
Measure 1.3.4. Development of existing and establishment of new services in the social and healthcare protection system			

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 1.4. Improve the accessibility and quality of cultural and sports content	Average annual allocations from the City Budget for culture and cultural facilities – in BAM	600,000	>350,000
	Average annual allocations from the City Budget for sports and sports infrastructure – in BAM	2,800,000	>2,500,000
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 1.4.1. Establishment of new and development of existing programme content in the field of culture			
Measure 1.4.2. Construction and adaptation of facilities in the field of culture			
Measure 1.4.3. Construction and reconstruction of sports infrastructure in urban and rural areas			

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 1.5. Strengthen the capacities of local government and the civil sector	Number of users of all digital services of the City Administration (website, Facebook, Viber, MIA Chatbot application)	10,142	>20,000
	Annual allocations from the City Budget for co-financing civil sector projects – in BAM	103,000	>150,000
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 1.5.1. Improving the quality and accessibility of public administration information and digital services			
Measure 1.5.2. Supporting the engagement of the civil sector			

The priorities for Strategic Objective 2, including corresponding measures, are presented in Table 52. Within each priority, (final) outcome indicators have been defined with baseline (starting) and target values.

Table 52: Priorities for Strategic Objective 2 with corresponding measures

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 2.1. Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy	Number of registered business entities	1,100	1,300
	Number of jobs	24,900	25,500
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 2.1.1. Improvement of the business environment			
Measure 2.1.2. Support for innovative economic development			

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 2.2. Increase the competitiveness of agriculture, the manufacturing industry, and tourism	Number of registered commercial agricultural holdings	660	>660
	Export value achieved in the manufacturing industry – in million BAM	297.5	>330
	Recorded revenue from tourist tax – annual average in BAM	137,038	160,000
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 2.2.1. Support to agricultural development			
Measure 2.2.2. Consolidation of tourism offerings and development of local and regional brands			

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 2.3. Encourage the development of SMEs and entrepreneurship	Total number of registered entrepreneurs	2,264	>2,500
	Total number of registered small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)	595	>630
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 2.3.1. Support for entrepreneurship development			
Measure 2.3.2. Support for women's and youth entrepreneurship			

The priorities for Strategic Objective 3, including corresponding measures, are presented in Table 53. Within each priority, (final) outcome indicators have been defined with baseline (starting) and target values.

Table 53. Priorities for Strategic Objective 3 with corresponding measures

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 3.1. Improve the waste management system	Total quantity of waste collected annually - in tonnes	29,900	32,000
	Number of illegal dumpsites in the city area	32	8
	Local Waste Management Plan	0	1
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 3.1.1. Improvement of municipal waste management system			
Measure 3.1.2. Addressing non-municipal waste disposal issues			

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 3.2. Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil	Coal consumption in the District Heating Plant during heating season - in tonnes	4,000	<3,500
	Number of connections to the District Heating Network	995	1,015
	CO ₂ concentration in air	556.56 mg/m ³	<200 mg/m ³
	Annual number of days exceeding PM ₁₀ particulate limits	48	35
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 3.2.1. Improvement of air and soil quality			
Measure 3.2.2. Enhancement of sustainable urban mobility			

	Indicator	Baseline value (2023)	Target value (2030)
Priority 3.3. Increase protection against natural disasters	Reduction of material damages and human casualties in city areas affected by natural disasters and climate change impacts, relative to 2021 baseline levels	2,958,482 BAM	75%
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 3.3.1. Enhancement of institutional preparedness for natural and other disaster challenges			
Measure 3.3.2. Strengthening emergency response service capacities			

	Indicator	Baseline value	Target value
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		(2023)	(2030)
Priority 3.4. Ensure the city's energy-sustainable development	Reduction of CO ₂ emissions relative to 2004 levels (SECAP)	257,024.97 t (2020)	40%
	Percentage of public buildings implementing energy efficiency and sustainability measures through City subsidies	10%	>75%
Corresponding measures for the implementation of the priority			
Measure 3.4.1. Enhancement of energy efficiency			
Measure 3.4.2. Support for renewable energy source utilisation			

4. KEY STRATEGIC PROJECTS

During the process of drafting the strategic document, key strategic projects were identified. These represent interventions of particular importance for the future development of Bijeljina due to their multiple effects, the expected results that encompass a broader category of beneficiaries, or because they serve as a foundation for launching other projects, thereby having a catalytic role in future local development.

The key strategic projects are:

- Construction of a cycling path network
- Construction of a new green oasis – an inclusive park in the city
- Establishment of a public transport system
- Construction of public parking garages
- Construction of a multifunctional sports hall (City Stadium)

Each of the aforementioned key strategic projects is described in more detail in the sections that follow.

PROJECT TITLE: Construction of a cycling path network

PROJECT PURPOSE

With the aim of reducing environmental pollution and improving the quality of life in urban areas, the bicycle is increasingly becoming a desirable means of transport. The benefits of cycling lie in its environmental friendliness, fast and affordable transport to the desired destination, and contribution to healthy physical activity.

In order for cycling to become a daily activity in the city, it is necessary to provide safe and unobstructed movement for cyclists through the development of appropriate infrastructure. High-quality infrastructure will also contribute to improved safety for all traffic participants, including both motor vehicle drivers and cyclists.

The construction of pedestrian-cycling paths will create conditions for active modes of transport, primarily walking and cycling. This will significantly contribute to improved air quality in both rural and urban areas of the city.

In line with the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) of the City of Bijeljina for the period 2020–2025, the establishment of a cycling path network is planned.

In the upcoming period, the focus will be on establishing pedestrian-cycling paths in urban and rural areas of the city, along the road corridors of main roads, specifically:

- o Dvorovi–Trnjaci–Balatun: 2,220 m
- o Patkovača: 1,310 m
- o Pučile: 370 m
- o Hase: 860 m
- o NeznanihJunaka Street: 420 m
- o StefanaDečanskog Street: 1,800 m

o Sremska Street: 700 m

In addition to the above sections, if conditions allow, pedestrian-cycling paths may also be built in other parts of the city.

EXPECTED EFFECTS

According to official statistics, the number of traffic accidents in general, including those involving pedestrians and cyclists, has increased in recent years. In 2023, nearly 10% of all traffic accidents involved pedestrians and cyclists. Considering that the city currently has only 12 km of designated and constructed pedestrian-cycling paths, it is necessary to establish as many “safe zones” as possible for pedestrians, and especially for cyclists, in order to increase their safety in traffic.

The city, along with all its residents, will gain multiple benefits from the implementation of this measure, including:

- o The main advantage of cycling paths is the improvement of overall safety for cyclists travelling through city streets. The introduction of cycling paths reduces the number of serious accidents among all traffic participants.
- o Cycling paths are an excellent way to reduce disruptions for pedestrians. In the absence of such paths, cyclists do not feel safe and often use pedestrian walkways. This creates a major problem, mainly because pedestrian paths are intended solely for pedestrians, and the presence of vehicles makes them dangerous for both cyclists and pedestrians.
- o The construction of cycling paths will lead to an increased number of bicycles on the road, which in turn will reduce the number of motor vehicles. This will contribute to reduced air pollution in the city and improved quality of life.

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

Estimated total project value: **BAM 5,000,000**

Sources of financing: The project will be entirely financed from external sources, i.e. through loans or donations from entity-level government institutions.

PROJECT TITLE: Construction of a new green oasis – an inclusive park in the city

PROJECT PURPOSE

The objective is to create preconditions for sustainable ecological development.

In 2021, the City Administration of the City of Bijeljina launched a long-term urban greening campaign as part of the strategic concept Green Bijeljina. This initiative aims to contribute to reducing air pollution and CO₂ emissions. Under the **Green Bijeljina** concept, annual greening of urban areas and the planting of tree rows are planned to raise public awareness and create a more pleasant living environment for all citizens. The greening of urban areas will be carried out in cooperation with various partners from both the public and private sectors, with the ultimate goal of building an environmentally conscious community and improving air quality and quality of life.

As part of these activities, the construction of a green oasis – an inclusive park – is planned in the Knez Ivo of Semberija neighbourhood. The park will cover an area of 14,000 m² and will be adapted for children with developmental difficulties and persons with disabilities. This inclusive park will be one of the largest green spaces in the urban area of the city, in addition to the only existing large park located in the city centre.

EXPECTED EFFECTS

The construction of the new green oasis – inclusive park – will significantly increase the city's parkland area, positively contributing to the ecological development of Bijeljina and helping reduce pollution, which the city has been struggling with for the past 20 years. Continuous long-term greening efforts will mitigate negative impacts on air, water, and soil quality, making the city a more environmentally friendly place to live for all its residents.

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

Estimated total value of the project: **BAM 720,000** (Phase 1)

Total planned budget for park construction: BAM 1,500,000

PROJECT TITLE: Establishment of a public transport system

PROJECT PURPOSE

The objective is to establish an organised, safe and accessible system of public transport (urban and suburban) in the territory of the City of Bijeljina, in order to reduce the need for the use of private vehicles and to improve mobility for all categories of citizens. The establishment of a public transport system will result in: an increase in the number of passengers, reduced transport costs, improved traffic safety, and reduced negative impact on the environment.

EXPECTED EFFECTS

The implementation of this measure will encourage the use of the urban and suburban public transport system, which will directly lead to an increase in the number of public transport users, lower travel costs, reduced traffic congestion, and other related benefits.

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

Estimated total value of the project: **BAM 2,000,000** for the first year of system operation (subsidies from the City of Bijeljina for a one-year period), and a total of **BAM 8,000,000** for the planned cycle (subsidies from the City of Bijeljina for a five-year period of system operation, with an expected increase in the number of passengers and tickets sold).

PROJECT TITLE: Construction of public parking garages

PROJECT PURPOSE

The construction of parking garages financed by the City or through public-private partnerships, with the aim of increasing the current parking capacity, reducing traffic congestion, and improving air quality in the city centre.

The plan includes the construction of two parking garages at the following locations:

1. SergejaJesenjina Street – 50 parking spaces
2. KraljaPetra I KarađorđevićaSquare – 450 parking spaces

EXPECTED EFFECTS

The implementation of this activity will increase the existing parking capacity and generate higher revenue. A long-standing issue related to the lack of sufficient parking spaces in the city will be resolved, and air pollution in the city centre will be reduced, as the necessary conditions will be created for the city centre to be freed from car traffic and transformed into a pedestrian zone.

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

Estimated total value of the project: **BAM 10,000,000**, to be financed from external sources (public-private partnerships).

PROJECT TITLE: Construction of a multifunctional sports hall (City Stadium)

PROJECT PURPOSE

The construction of a multipurpose sports hall within the City Stadium complex, along with the planning and construction of other sports facilities in the territory of the City of Bijeljina, will create the spatial and technical prerequisites for improving the City's sports and recreational offer. This will lead to an increase in the number of users engaged in sports and recreational activities and provide conditions for hosting Premier League and European competitions in Bijeljina.

EXPECTED EFFECTS

Improved sports and recreational offer in the city; establishment of adequate facilities for use by sports clubs currently lacking appropriate training space; enabling the organisation of European sports competitions, etc.

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

Estimated total value of the project: **BAM6,128,217.23**

Source of funding: City Budget for the period 2025–2029

5. ESTIMATED FINANCIAL PLAN

INDICATIVE FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE STRATEGIC DOCUMENT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD (2024–2030)					
Number and title	Fin. struct.(%)	Total (BAM)	City Budget (BAM)	Other sources	
				(BAM)	Name of potential source
Strategic Objective1: Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina	66.11%	109,301,034	86,238,892	23,062,142	
1.1. Halt negative trends in terms of natural population growth and youth emigration	16.96%	28,043,278	28,043,278	0	
1.1.1. Pro-natal policy measures	16.36%	27,043,278	27,043,278	0	
1.1.2. Youth support measures	0.60%	1,000,000	1,000,000	0	
1.2.Ensure balanced infrastructural development of the city	14.81%	24,489,665	8,489,665	16,000,000	
1.2.1. Support for the construction and reconstruction of road infrastructure in the city area	9.68%	16,000,000	0	16,000,000	Loan funds
1.2.2. Continued construction of the sewerage system and expansion of the water supply network	5.13%	8,489,665	8,489,665	0	
1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education, social welfare and healthcare services	24.05%	39,767,874	33,945,732	5,822,142	
1.3.1. Improving working conditions in the field of education	20.53%	33,939,400	30,439,400	3,500,000	Various external sources
1.3.2. Supporting the practical implementation of inclusion in the education system	1.29%	2,135,474	646,332	1,489,142	Transfers from higher levels of government, donations, international organisations (Swedish Government)
1.3.3. Expanding and upgrading facilities in social and healthcare protection	0.87%	1,440,000	1,240,000	200,000	Donations (Caritas)
1.3.4. Development of existing and establishment of new	1.36%	2,253,000	1,620,000	633,000	Donations from various external sources

INDICATIVE FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE STRATEGIC DOCUMENT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD (2024–2030)					
services in the social and healthcare protection system					
1.4. Improve the accessibility and quality of cultural and sports content	8.48%	14,020,217	13,570,217	450,000	
1.4.1. Establishment of new and development of existing programme content in the field of culture	1.75%	2,890,000	2,870,000	20,000	Donations
1.4.2. Construction and adaptation of facilities in the field of culture	1.57%	2,600,000	2,170,000	430,000	Project grants and other donor funds
1.4.3. Construction and reconstruction of sports infrastructure in urban and rural areas	5.16%	8,530,217	8,530,217	0	
1.5. Strengthen the capacities of local government and the civil sector	1.80%	2,980,000	2,190,000	790,000	
1.5.1. Improving the quality and accessibility of public administration information and digital services	0.96%	1,580,000	790,000	790,000	External sources
1.5.2. Supporting the engagement of the civil sector	0.85%	1,400,000	1,400,000	0	
Strategic Objective 2: Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies	10.23%	16,918,368	16,718,278	200,090	
2.1. Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy	0.62%	1,028,368	828,278	200,090	
2.1.1. Improvement of the business environment	0.27%	448,368	388,278	60,090	Donations
2.1.2. Support for innovative economic development	0.35%	580,000	440,000	140,000	Donations – project funds (IMPAKT Foundation)
2.2. Increase the competitiveness of agriculture, the manufacturing industry, and tourism	7.13%	11,790,000	11,790,000	0	

INDICATIVE FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE STRATEGIC DOCUMENT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD (2024–2030)					
2.2.1. Support to agricultural development	6.93%	11,450,000	11,450,000	0	
2.2.2. Consolidation of tourism offerings and development of local and regional brands	0.21%	340,000	340,000	0	
2.3. Encourage the development of SMEs and entrepreneurship	2.48%	4,100,000	4,100,000	0	
2.3.1. Support for entrepreneurship development	1.84%	3,050,000	3,050,000	0	
2.3.2. Support for women's and youth entrepreneurship	0.64%	1,050,000	1,050,000	0	
Strategic Objective 3: Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources	23.66%	39,116,608	26,821,000	12,295,608	
3.1. Improve the waste management system	1.15%	1,900,000	1,780,000	120,000	
3.1.1. Improvement of municipal waste management system	0.64%	1,050,000	930,000	120,000	External sources
3.1.2. Addressing non-municipal waste disposal issues	0.51%	850,000	850,000	0	
3.2. Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil	15.93%	26,344,000	16,109,000	10,235,000	
3.2.1. Improvement of air and soil quality	0.76%	1,260,000	1,060,000	200,000	External sources
3.2.2. Enhancement of sustainable urban mobility	15.17%	25,084,000	15,049,000	10,035,000	Transfers from higher levels of government, project grants and donations

INDICATIVE FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE STRATEGIC DOCUMENT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD (2024–2030)					
3.3. Increase protection against natural disasters	5.48%	9,062,608	7,122,000	1,940,608	
3.3.1. Enhancement of institutional preparedness for natural and other disaster challenges	1.25%	2,063,608	123,000	1,940,608	Transfers from higher levels of government, project grants and donations
3.3.2. Strengthening emergency response service capacities	4.23%	6,999,000	6,999,000	0	
3.4. Ensure the city's energy-sustainable development	1.09%	1,810,000	1,810,000	0	
3.4.1. Enhancement of energy efficiency	0.22%	360,000	360,000	0	
3.4.2. Support for renewable energy source utilisation	0.88%	1,450,000	1,450,000	0	
TOTAL		165,336,010	129,778,170	35,557,840	

OVERVIEW BY SOURCES (amounts in BAM and percentages)				
Budget funds of the City of Bijeljina	RS Government (transfers / donations)	EU and other donors' funds	Loan funds	Other sources
127,968,170	0	16,057,840	6,000,000	15,310,000
77.40%	0.00%	9.71%	3.63%	9.26%

Chart4:Structure of financing by strategic objectives (in %)

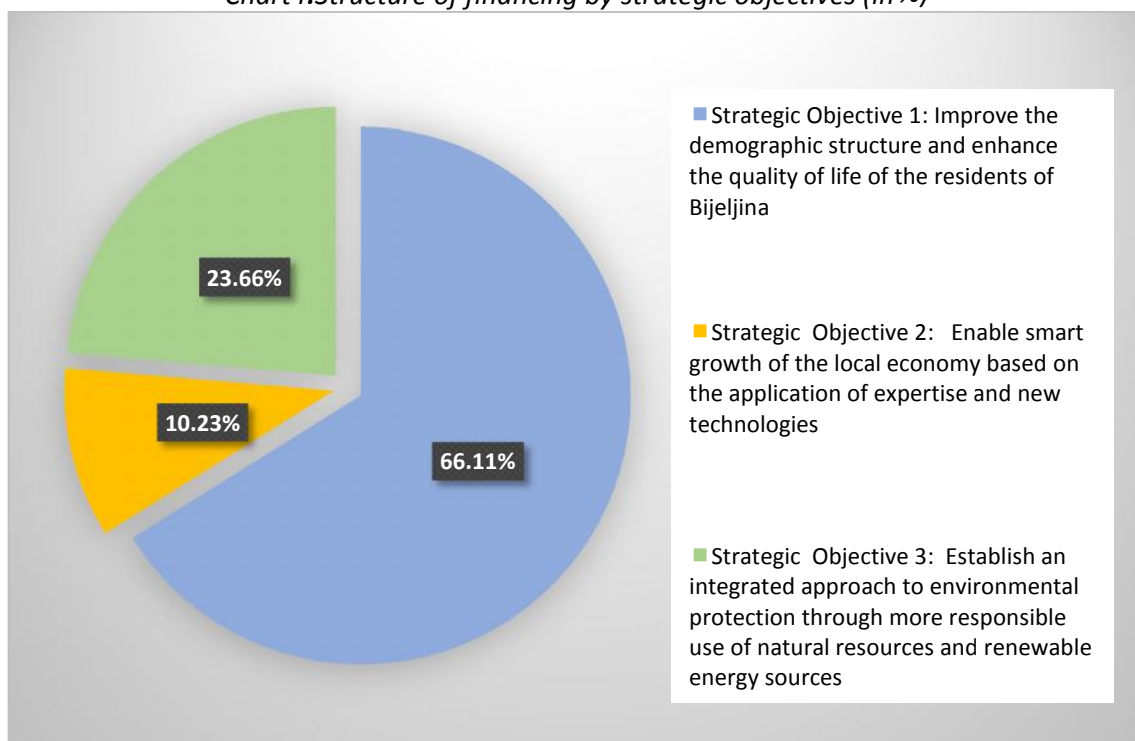
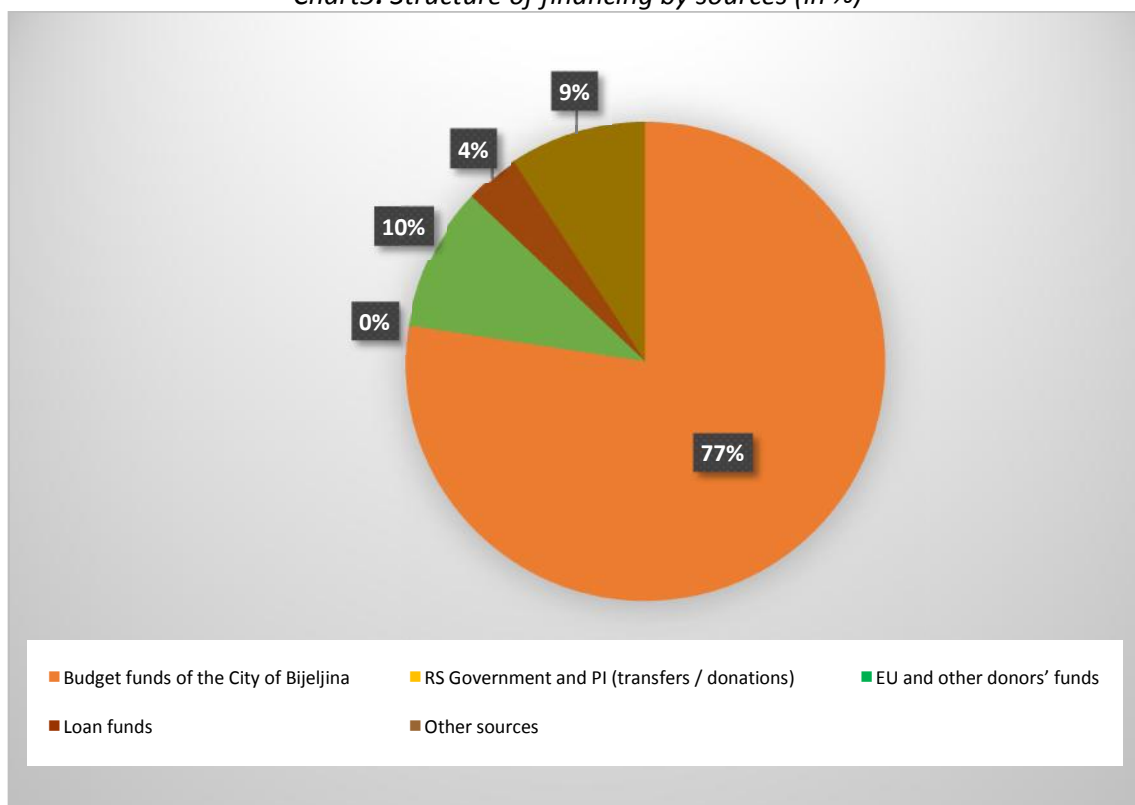


Chart5: Structure of financing by sources (in %)



6. ALIGNMENT OF STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS

This chapter presents the alignment of strategic objectives, priorities, and measures from the Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina with other strategic and planning documents. The presentation has been prepared in such a way that those strategic documents whose development interventions have been recognised as relevant to the Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina are specifically identified, and have been adopted or further elaborated through specific objectives, priorities, or measures.

It should also be emphasised that, during the drafting of this strategic document, and in accordance with the Law on Strategic Planning and Development Management of Republika Srpska and the Decree on Strategic Documents, special attention was paid to the coherence of this strategic document with the spatial planning documentation of the City of Bijeljina. Specifically, when defining the measures and key strategic projects based on the utilisation of the spatial potential of the City of Bijeljina (e.g. measures related to activating investment potential and the construction of an industrial zone, measures aimed at the development of agriculture and tourism, improvement of the waste management system, etc.), the key guidelines set out in the Spatial Plan of the City of Bijeljina for the period 2019–2038 were taken into account.

In addition, when defining the measures under each of the three strategic objectives, the solutions and proposed development interventions from relevant (sectoral) strategies and other planning documents that specifically define the future development of the City were also considered. These include in particular:

- The Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) of the City of Bijeljina for the period up to 2030;
- The Social Housing Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina (2021–2030);
- The Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) of the City of Bijeljina;
- The Gender Action Plan of the City of Bijeljina (2021–2025).

Furthermore, the priorities (and measures) defined within the framework of the Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina are also based on higher-level strategic and planning documents, which are presented in the following table.

Table 55: External alignment of strategic documents

No.	Title of the strategic / planning Document	Link to the Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina 2024–2030
1	Employment Strategy of Republika Srpska 2021–2027 (Strategic Objective 1: Increase employment of a more productive workforce through aligning labour market supply and demand – Priority 1.1. Systematic support for creating higher added value in the economy; Strategic Objective 2: Increase internal mobility and availability of the	Strategic Objective 2: Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies Priority 2.1. Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy Priority 2.3. Encourage the

	workforce – Priority 2.1. Improving labour mobility within RS; and Strategic Objective 4: Improve social inclusion and ensure equal opportunities – Priority 4.1. Enhance social inclusion and active employment measures for vulnerable groups).	development of SMEs and entrepreneurship Strategic Objective 1: Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina Priority1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education, social welfare and healthcare services
2	Small and Medium Enterprises Development Strategy of Republika Srpska 2021–2027 (Strategic Objective 3: Increase the share of knowledge- and innovation-based products, services, and sectors in the SME structure – Priority 3.2: Innovation and digitalisation of business)	Strategic Objective 2: Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies Priority2.1. Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy Priority2.3. Encourage the development of SMEs and entrepreneurship
3	Industry Development Strategy of Republika Srpska 2021–2027 (Strategic Objective1: Increase higher-stage manufacturing production – Priority 1.2. Industry development and digitalisation; Strategic Objective4: Increase investment in industry – Priority 4.2. Attracting investment in industry)	Strategic Objective 2: Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies Priority 2.1. Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy Priority2.2. Increase the competitiveness of agriculture, the manufacturing industry, and tourism
4	Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy of Republika Srpska 2021–2027 (Strategic Objective1: Increase volume and productivity of agricultural production; Strategic Objective2: Increase competitiveness and develop value chains in the agri-food sector; Strategic Objective3: Nature protection and sustainable use of natural resources)	Strategic Objective 2: Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies Priority 2.2. Increase the competitiveness of agriculture, the manufacturing industry, and tourism Strategic Objective 3: Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources Priority3.2. Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil

5	Tourism Development Strategy of Republika Srpska 2021–2027 (all four strategic objectives are relevant to defining projects and activities within Measure 2.2.2. “Consolidation of tourism offers and development of local and regional brands at the regional level” in the Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina)	Strategic Objective 2: Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies Priority 2.2. Increase the competitiveness of agriculture, the manufacturing industry, and tourism
6	Strategy for Improving the Social Situation of Persons with Disabilities in Republika Srpska 2017–2026 (Objective 7.2.1. Increase economic independence of persons with disabilities through support for employment and self-employment; Objective 7.2.2. Develop social entrepreneurship)	Strategic Objective 1: Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina Priority 1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education, social welfare and healthcare services
7	Local Self-Government Development Strategy in Republika Srpska 2023–2029 (Strategic Objective 4: “Improved quality and availability of services within the competence of local self-government units” – Priority 4.1. “Improving the quality and accessibility of administrative services”)	Strategic Objective 1: Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina Priority 1.5. Strengthen the capacities of local government and the civil sector
8	Environmental Protection Strategy of Republika Srpska (Strategic Objective 2: Sustainable use of natural resources – Operational Objective 2.1: Establishing the basis for harmonised and spatially balanced socio-economic development)	Strategic Objective 1: Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina Priority 1.2. Ensure balanced infrastructural development of the city Strategic Objective 3: Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources Priority 3.2. Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil
9	Integrated Water Management Strategy of Republika Srpska 2015–2024 (Strategic Objective 2: Increase utilisation and regulation of available resources within environmentally,	Strategic Objective 3: Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources

	socially, and economically acceptable limits; Strategic Objective 5: Protection against harmful effects of water)	Priority 3.2. Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil Priority3.3. Increase protection against natural disasters
10	Waste Management Strategy 2017-2026 ,draft (Objective 4: Improve municipal waste collection system; Objective 5: Establish a system for separate collection and treatment of special waste types; Objective 8: Remediation and closure of municipal and illegal dumpsites; Objective 9: Establish a system of joint landfills for management of residual municipal and non-hazardous industrial waste)	Strategic Objective 3: Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources Priority3.1. Improve the waste management system
11	Social Protection Strategy of Republika Srpska 2023–2029 (Strategic Objective1: Enable development of new and improvement of existing services, with better targeting of user needs in the social protection system – Priority 1.2. Development of new and improvement of quality of existing rights and services)	Strategic Objective 1: Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina Priority 1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education, social welfare and healthcare services

Alignment of the strategic document with the Framework for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in BiH

In accordance with the Law on Strategic Planning and Development Management of Republika Srpska and the Decree on Strategic Documents, in addition to the aforementioned relevant strategic and planning documents, the key links have been identified between the strategic objectives and priorities of the Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina and the Framework for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in BiH.

It is important to emphasise once again that as early as 2017, the City of Bijeljina recognised the importance of the 2030 Agenda in the process of achieving sustainable development. Through a bottom-up approach, it has been actively promoting and localising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for more than seven years, with particular emphasis on the key principle of the 2030 Agenda - "Leave no one behind". In this regard, it is important to note that Bijeljina, as the first local self-government unit (LSGU) in BiH, introduced a systematic approach to aligning its previous strategic document with the SDGs. During that process, a total of 14 global indicators contained within eight Sustainable Development Goals were localised, based on the needs of citizens, situation analysis, and the strategic development directions of the City of Bijeljina. It should be noted that nine of the 14 localised SDG indicators from the previous Development Strategy match the indicators defined in the

Framework for the Implementation of the SDGs in BiH. In the meantime, the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan was also adopted, which, in combination with the two strategic documents, ensures alignment with 11 Sustainable Development Goals and 24 SDG indicators.

In the context of aligning the new Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina with the Framework for the Implementation of the SDGs in BiH, strategic objectives have been identified, along with specific priorities and measures through which the City of Bijeljina will contribute to the broader development directions set out in the Framework for the SDGs in BiH. Within this context, the strategic objectives with their associated priorities and measures are categorised according to the three main sustainable development pathways in BiH, namely: 1) Good governance and public sector management, 2) Smart growth, and 3) Social inclusion – a society of equal opportunities:

- 1) ***“Good governance and public sector management”***, as a defined SDG development pathway, is most strongly reflected in the Strategic Objective 1 of this document, with particular emphasis on Accelerator 1.2 “Efficient, open, inclusive, and accountable public sector”, which is especially highlighted within Strategic Objective 1 and Priority 1.5 “Strengthen the capacities of local government and the civil sector”.
- 2) ***“Smart growth”***, as a defined development pathway from the SDG Framework, is also reflected across multiple strategic objectives. For example, Accelerator 2.1 of this pathway, “Strengthening an enabling environment for entrepreneurship and innovation for the production of high value-added goods for export”, and Accelerator 2.2 “Increasing investment in infrastructure” are linked to Strategic Objective 2 and Priority 2.1 “Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy”. Furthermore, Accelerator 2.5 from the SDG Framework, which refers to “Smart management of natural resources and the environment”, is reflected in the Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina within Strategic Objective 3 through Priority 3.2 “Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil” and Priority 3.4 “Ensure the city’s energy-sustainable development”.
- 3) Regarding the third development pathway from the SDG Framework – ***“Social inclusion – a society of equal opportunities”*** – the first four accelerators of this development pathway are directly included in the priorities and measures of the City of Bijeljina’s strategic document, especially within Strategic Objective 1 and Priority 1.3 “Improve the accessibility and quality of education, social welfare and healthcare services”.

7. FRAMEWORK FOR IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, REPORTING AND EVALUATION OF THE STRATEGIC DOCUMENT

The purpose of establishing the Framework for implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation is to ensure the tracking and measurement of progress in the implementation of the strategic document and related implementing documents, through systematic and continuous data and indicator collection, analysis, and use, in order to take appropriate measures, make necessary adjustments, and report on the achieved results. From the perspective of establishing an adequate framework for implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina, the following actors play key roles:

- **The Mayor** – establishes mechanisms and defines the responsibilities of sections, services and departments with regard to the implementation of parts of the Development Strategy within their respective areas of competence, and ensures their coordination;
- **The Bijeljina City Assembly** – adopts the Development Strategy and considers the Report on the Implementation of the Development Strategy as the fundamental document for drafting and adopting other planning documents of the City;
- **The City Administration of the City of Bijeljina** – through its organisational units (departments, services and sections) participates in the drafting and implementation of the strategic document, i.e. in the development and operationalisation of implementation plans for the Development Strategy and other planning documents of the City.
- Within the City Administration, the **Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration** has a special role, given that its scope of responsibilities includes the following tasks:
 - acting as the unit responsible for managing development in the City of Bijeljina, including all segments of sustainable development (economic development, social development and environmental protection);
 - organising and conducting the strategic planning process by establishing and strengthening planning structures, including mobilising all relevant structures within the City Administration, as well as all key stakeholders;
 - preparing/updating the three-year implementation plans of the Development Strategy;
 - monitoring the implementation of the City Development Strategy and other strategic plans and programmes, particularly in terms of coordinating activities, collecting, tracking and analysing data across all segments of development, life and work in the City.

In addition, the Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration is to ensure constant communication with the Head of the Mayor's Office and the Mayor to secure all necessary resources and make the necessary decisions for the effective implementation of the Strategy, as well as to ensure active coordination with all departments and other institutions and organisations involved in the implementation of

programmes, projects and measures from the Development Strategy. The Section is also responsible for processes related to the drafting and implementation of the Implementation Plan and the corresponding financial framework aligned with the City of Bijeljina budget, and for detailing projects from the annual Implementation Plan.

As previously mentioned, the responsibilities of the Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration also include operational coordination regarding the inclusion of strategic projects and measures in the preparation of Annual Work Plans of departments, based on the Implementation Plan (1+2), as well as reporting on the basis of the established Implementation Plan and drafting an integrated annual report.

In accordance with the above-mentioned roles in the process of implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina, the following section provides an overview of the main activities and responsibilities in the process of implementation of the strategic document.

OVERVIEW OF KEY ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE PROCESS OF STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Key roles and responsibilities for implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting		
Activities ^(*)	Responsibility (Who?)	Deadline (tentative)
Defining priorities for the upcoming year based on strategic and programme documents and drafting/updating the Action Plan for Strategy implementation (1+2)	Process initiator and owner: Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration Lead implementers and participants: Heads of relevant departments and services of the City Administration (CA) and CA officers	Q1 of the current year (in accordance with the deadlines set by the Law on Budget and the Regulation on Implementation Documents)
Preparation of work plans for departments and services for the upcoming year, including projects from the Development Strategy and regular duties	Process initiator and owner: Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration Lead implementers and participants: Heads of relevant departments and services of the CA and CA officers	1-30 September of the current year
Preparation of the consolidated Medium-Term and Annual Work Plan of the City Administration (for the upcoming year)	Process initiator and owner: Mayor Lead implementers and participants: Mayor's Office, Collegium of Department Heads	1 October – 31 December of the current year
Inclusion of strategic projects and measures in the draft budget for the upcoming year	Process initiator and owner: Head of the Department of Finance Lead implementers and participants: Collegium of Department Heads	1–31 October (first draft) 1–30 November (second draft) 1–15 December (third

		draft) of the current year
Harmonising department and service work plans and the Annual Work Plan of the City Administration with the adopted Budget for the upcoming year	Process initiator and owner: Head of the Department of Finance Lead implementers and participants: Heads of departments and services of the CA, Collegium of Department Heads	5 January – 15 February of the upcoming year
Adoption of the consolidated Annual Work Plan of the City Administration for the upcoming year by the City Assembly	Process initiator and owner: Mayor Lead implementers and participants: City Assembly	31 March of the upcoming year
Preparation of a monitoring calendar for the implementation of the Annual Work Plan of the City Administration	Process initiator and owner: Mayor's Office Lead implementers and participants: Heads of departments and services of the CA and CA officers	31 March of the upcoming year
Development of projects	Process initiator and owner: Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration Lead implementers and participants: Officers in relevant departments and services of the CA	Ongoing
Monitoring external funding sources	Process initiator and owner: Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration Lead implementers and participants: Department of Finance and officers within other relevant departments and services	Ongoing
Monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan for Strategy implementation	Process initiator and owner: Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration Lead implementers and participants: Officers in relevant departments and services of the CA	Ongoing
Monitoring implementation and preparing reports on the execution of medium-term and annual work plans of	Process initiator and owner: Heads of departments and services of the CA Lead implementers and	Annually: by 30 April (for the previous year)

departments and services	participants: Collegium of Department Heads, heads and officers of departments and services of the CA	
Drafting the Annual Report on the implementation of the Development Strategy	Process initiator and owner: Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration Lead implementers and participants: Heads and officers of departments and services of the CA	By the end of the current year, for the preceding year
Preparation, consideration and evaluation of the report on the implementation of the Annual Work Plan of the City Administration	Process initiator and owner: Mayor Lead implementers and participants: Collegium of Department Heads, heads of departments and services	By 15 April of the current year, for the preceding year
Adoption and publication of the Annual Report on the Implementation of the Annual Work Plan of the City Administration	Process initiator and owner: Mayor Lead implementers and participants: City Assembly	No later than 30 April of the upcoming year, for the year covered by the report
Other important activities: ▪ Regularly updating the website with information related to development activities ▪ Maintaining regular contact with higher levels of government ▪ Establishing and improving inter-municipal cooperation	Process initiator and owner: Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration Lead implementers and participants: Heads and officers of departments and services in accordance with their responsibilities and competences	Ongoing

8. ANNEXES

8.1. Summary overview of the Development Strategy

No. / Code	TITLE	INDICATORS AND FINANCIAL SOURCES		
1. Strategic objective	Strategic Objective 1: Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of Bijeljina's residents	Strategic objective indicators	Baseline indicator values(2022)	Target indicator values(2030)
		Share of young people (up to 30 years of age) in the total population	30.5% (2021)	> 33%
		Level of residents' satisfaction with overall quality of life in the City of Bijeljina	Utility services: satisfied (73.5%) Administrative services: satisfied (83.5%) Healthcare services: satisfied (50.2%)	Utility services: satisfied (>78%) Administrative services: satisfied (>90%) Healthcare services: satisfied (>60%)
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		86,238,892	23,062,142	109,301,034
1.1. Priority	1.1. Halt negative trends in terms of natural population growth and youth emigration	Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Total number of births in relation to the number of deaths	-239	>0
		Number of enrolled students in the area of Bijeljina	2,503	>2,500
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		28,043,278	0	28,043,278
1.1.1. Measure	1.1.1. Pro-natal policy measures	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of approved applications for co-financing of in vitro fertilisation	35	200

		Number of approved applications for subsidies for newborn children	634	3500
		Textbooks delivered to pupils attending primary schools in the territory of the City of Bijeljina	3951	22800
		Number of approved applications for transport of primary and secondary school pupils	954	2700
		Number of parents receiving subsidies for children attending private kindergartens	1103	1500
		Number of approved applications for the purchase of school supplies for primary school pupils	6489	36000
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		27,043,278	0	27,043,278
1.1.2. Measure	1.1.2. Youth support measures	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of beneficiaries of the established Youth Centre	0	100
		Number of approved applications for the purchase/construction of rural houses bought by young people with co-financing from the City	11	70
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		1,000,000	0	1,000,000
1.2. Priority	1.2. Ensure balanced infrastructural development of the city		0	15
		Number of local communities that have submitted requests for addressing infrastructure needs (water supply, sewerage, roads)	35/70	70/70
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		8,489,665	16,000,000	24,489,665

1.2.1. Measure	1.2.1. Support for the construction and reconstruction of road infrastructure in the city area	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Length of reconstructed streets (in metres)	440	5,490
		Length of constructed cycling paths (in metres)	440	5,000
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		0	16,000,000	16,000,000
1.2.2. Measure	1.2.2. Continued construction of the sewerage system and expansion of the water supply network	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Length of constructed foul water sewer network in D. Tucovića Street, Račanska Street, Živojina Mišića Street and part of Beogradska Street (in metres)	0	7,629.70
		Length of constructed stormwater sewer network in D. Tucovića Street, Račanska Street, Živojina Mišića Street and part of Beogradska Street (in metres)	0	5,329.90
		Length of constructed water supply network (in kilometres)	0	21
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		8,489,665	0	8,489,665
1.3. Priority	1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education, social welfare and healthcare services	Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of educational institutions – primary (central and satellite) and secondary schools – with improved working conditions	3/53	25/53
		Number of renovated and newly constructed healthcare facilities (clinics)	6	26
		Number of new and improved social welfare services	/	5
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)

		33,945,732	5,822,142	39,767,874
1.3.1. Measure	1.3.1. Improving working conditions in the field of education	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of reconstructed educational facilities	2	25
		Number of newly constructed educational facilities	0	1
		Number of Student Centre beneficiaries	0	300
		Number of digitised books	304	1000
		Number of users/members of the digital library	0	>1000
		Number of constructed school sports halls	13	16
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		30,439,400	3,500,000	33,939,400
1.3.2. Measure	1.3.2. Supporting the practical implementation of inclusion in the education system	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of pupils with developmental disabilities continuing education after completing primary school	48% (12/25)	85%
		Established Early Intervention Centre	0	1
		Established full-day care for children with disabilities	0	1
		Number of teachers / primary schools with improved inclusive teaching practices	0	96 / 12
		Number of vocational programmes introduced in secondary schools for children with developmental disabilities	3	6
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		646,332	1,489,142	2,135,474

1.3.3. Measure	1.3.3. Expanding and upgrading facilities in social and healthcare protection	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of renovated healthcare clinics	6	15
		Number of newly built healthcare clinics	0	11
		Number of beneficiaries of the shelter for at-risk children	0	20
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		1,240,000	200,000	1,440,000
1.3.4. Measure	1.3.4. Development of existing and establishment of new services in the social and healthcare protection system	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of Roma families with unresolved housing status	22	12
		Number of housing units built for socially vulnerable groups	30	40
		Number of beneficiaries of supported community housing services/rights	0	9
		Number of beneficiaries receiving support after the age of 30	0	50
		Number of licensed personal assistance service providers	0	1
		Number of personal assistance service beneficiaries	0	10
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		1,620,000	633,000	2,253,000

1.4. Priority	1.4. Improve the accessibility and quality of cultural and sports content	Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Average annual budget allocations by the City for culture and cultural facilities – in BAM	600,000	>350,000
		Average annual budget allocations by the City for sports and sports infrastructure – in BAM	2,800,000	>2,500,000
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		13,570,217	450,000	14,020,217
1.4.1. Measure	1.4.1. Establishment of new and development of existing programme content in the field of culture	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of cultural events held in the City of Bijeljina	14	20
		Number of visits as part of the tourist offer through the integration of the Semberija Ethno Household and religious tourism	400	5000
		Established open-air Ethno Museum	0	1
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		2,870,000	20,000	2,890,000
1.4.2. Measure	1.4.2. Construction and adaptation of facilities in the field of culture	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of visitors to cultural programs	5,938	12,000
		Number of cultural events organised at the Museum of Semberija	30	120
		Number of permanent exhibitions at the Museum	1	2
		Constructed Filip Višnjić Memorial House	0	1
		Number of reconstructed/newly built cultural centre buildings	25	46

		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		2,170,000	430,000	2,600,000
1.4.3. Measure	1.4.3. Construction and reconstruction of sports infrastructure in urban and rural areas	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of newly built multifunctional sports halls	0	1
		Number of newly built sports fields	0	7
		Number of athletics stadiums in the city	0	1
		Number of swimming pools constructed in the city	0	1
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		8,530,217	0	8,530,217
1.5. Priority	1.5. Strengthen the capacities of local government and the civil sector	Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of users of all digital services of the City Administration (website, Facebook, Viber, MIA chatbot application)	10,142	>20,000
		Annual budget allocations by the City for co-financing civil sector projects – in BAM	103,000	>150,000
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		2,190,000	790,000	2,980,000
1.5.1. Measure	1.5.1. Improving the quality and accessibility of public administration information and digital services	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of City Administration services provided electronically via the MIA application	2	50
		Number of users of City Administration e-services via the MIA application	1300	10000
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)

		790,000	790,000	1,580,000
1.5.2. Measure	1.5.2. Supporting the engagement of the civil sector	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of registered CSOs in the registry	88	120
		Number of supported CSO projects	59	400
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		1,400,000	0	1,400,000
2. Strategic objective	Strategic objective 2: Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies	Strategic objective indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Value of total income generated – per employee	BAM 109,506	> BAM 120,000
		Investments in new fixed assets achieved	BAM 114 million	> BAM 150 million
		Share of the average net salary of employees in Bijeljina in relation to the average net salary of all employees in Republika Srpska	87.3%	> 100%
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		16,718,278	200,090	16,918,368
2.1. Priority	2.1. Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy	Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of registered business entities	1,266	1,300
		Number of jobs	24,900	25,500
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		828,278	200,090	1,028,368
2.1.1. Measure	2.1.1. Improvement of the business environment	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of companies providing practical training for secondary school IT students	0	5
		Feasibility study completed for the establishment of Industrial Zone 4	0	1
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)

		0	0	0
2.1.2. Measure	2.1.2. Support for innovative economic development	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of individuals who completed IMPAKT training	100	250
		Number of individuals employed through the IMPAKT incubator of business ideas	40	90
		Supported and implemented private sector initiatives	0	3
		Established contacts with the diaspora	0	5
		Number of training sessions held at InCOR	6	20
		Number of individuals who completed training at InCOR	102	310
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		440,000	140,000	580,000
2.2. Priority	2.2. Increase the competitiveness of agriculture, the manufacturing industry, and tourism	Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of registered commercial agricultural holdings	660	>660
		Export value achieved in the manufacturing industry – in million BAM	297.5	>330
		Recorded revenue from the tourist (residence) tax – annual average in BAM	137,038	160,000
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		11,790,000	0	11,790,000

2.2.1. Measure	2.2.1. Support to agricultural development	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of incentive beneficiaries for the purchase of "drip by drip" irrigation systems	50	300
		Quantity of purchased wheat (in tonnes)	20,000	140,000
		Quantity of purchased vegetables (in tonnes)	3,500	24,500
		Quantity of purchased fruit (in tonnes)	100	700
		Newly established greenhouse areas (m ²)	3,000	21,000
		Number of fattened head of cattle	1,800	10,000
		Number of fattened pigs	3,000	17,500
		Number of heifers from own breeding	500	3,500
		Number of gilts from own breeding	500	3,500
		Number of breeding sheep from own breeding	500	3,500
		Number of breeding goats from own breeding	50	350
		Number of bee colonies	12,000	70,000
		Area under flower cultivation (m ²)	2,000	7,000
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		11,450,000	0	11,450,000
2.2.2. Measure	2.2.2. Consolidation of tourism offerings and development of local and regional brands	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Average annual number of registered tourist visits	45000	52000
		Number of supported local producers within the Semberija House	0	20
		Average annual number of overnight stays	88,738	100,000
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		340,000	0	340,000

2.3. Priority	2.3. Encourage the development of SMEs and entrepreneurship	Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Total number of registered entrepreneurs	2,264	>2,500
		Total number of registered small and medium-sized enterprises	595	>630
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		4,100,000	0	4,100,000
2.3.1. Measure	2.3.1. Support for entrepreneurship development	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of supported business entities engaged in manufacturing and processing activities	6	30
		Total number of implemented employment and self-employment programmes	3	21
		Number of persons employed through employment programmes	0	100
		Number of persons employed through self-employment programmes	67	200
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		3,050,000	0	3,050,000
2.3.2. Measure	2.3.2. Support for women's and youth entrepreneurship	Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
		Number of registered women entrepreneurs	816	850
		Number of registered young entrepreneurs	63	160
		Number of entrepreneurs and persons employed by entrepreneurs	3,508	3,710
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)

		1,050,000	0	1,050,000
		Strategic objective indicators	Baseline indicator values (2020)*	Target indicator values (2029)**
3. Strategic objective	Strategic objective 3: Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources	Share of waste regularly collected and adequately disposed of in relation to total waste generated in the city area	78.85%	> 85%
		Percentage of wastewater treated before discharge into watercourses	35%	> 50%
		Share of renewable energy sources in total energy consumption	0.035% (2020)	> 1%
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		26,821,000	12,295,608	39,116,608
		Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
3.1. Priority	3.1. Improve the waste management system	Total amount of waste collected during the year (tonnes)	29,900	32,000
		Number of illegal dumpsites in the city area	32	8
		Local Waste Management Plan	0	1
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		1,780,000	120,000	1,900,000
		Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
1.1. Measure	3.1.1. Improvement of municipal waste management system	Developed feasibility study and project-technical documentation for a sustainable landfill solution	0	1

		Number of established recycling points (green islands)	0	12
		Annual amount of collected packaging waste (in tonnes)	214	250
		Annual amount of collected municipal waste (in tonnes)	25,834	26,000
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		930,000	120,000	1,050,000
		Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
3.1.2. Measure	3.1.2. Addressing non-municipal waste disposal issues	Amount of collected sterilised sharp objects (in tonnes)	0	2
		Amount of collected sterilised infectious waste (in tonnes)	0	20
		Established system for disposal of animal waste	0	1
		Number of new containers for animal waste collection	0	10
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		850,000	0	850,000
		Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
3.2. Priority	3.2. Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil	Coal consumption at the District Heating Plant during the heating season (tonnes)	4,000	<3,500
		Number of connections to the District Heating Plant	995	1,015

		Share of CO ₂ in the air	556.56 mg/m ³	< 200 mg/m ³
		Number of days per year with exceeded PM10 particle limit values	48	35
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		16,109,000	10,235,000	26,344,000
		Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
3.2.1. Measure	3.2.1. Improvement of air and soil quality	Increase in the number of seedlings in the urban and park areas of the city	4,087	9,000
		Increase in the number of external partners involved in the city greening process	8	33
		Number of seedlings donated by external partners	250	750
		Number of tree lines	57	72
		Completed biological research on species in the Drinica marsh system	0	1
		Protection Study for the Drinica marsh system	0	1
		Sections of the Drinica watercourse designated as lower category protected areas	0	1
		Revitalised old Drina riverbed, Drinica and the surrounding system of marshes and lakes, in the section from Amajlije to Međaši	0	1

		Number of parks in the city	1	2
		Square metres of park areas in the urban part of the city	41,122	55,122
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		1,060,000	200,000	1,260,000
		Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
3.2.2. Measure	3.2.2. Enhancement of sustainable urban mobility	Annual number of passengers transported via the public transport system	500,000	1,000,000
		Number of established urban public transport routes	0	3
		Number of constructed parking garages	0	2
		Number of parking spaces in public garages	0	500
		Length of constructed pedestrian and cycling paths (in metres)	8620	16,300
		Number of pedestrian zones in the city closed to motor vehicle traffic	3	6
		Number of participants in EMW activities	3,300	10,300
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		15,049,000	10,035,000	25,084,000
		Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values

3.3. Priority	3.3. Increase protection against natural disasters	Reduction in the amount of material damage and human losses in areas of the city affected by natural disasters and climate change, compared to the situation in 2021	BAM 2,958,482	75%
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		7,122,000	1,940,608	9,062,608
		Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
3.3.1. Measure	3.3.1. Enhancement of institutional preparedness for natural and other disaster challenges	Length of the Drina River embankment (in metres)	0	2,816.80
		Introduction of more precise, reliable and environmentally friendly next-generation rockets	0	12
		Increase in the area covered by irrigation systems (in hectares)	2,478.70	10,492
		Number of trained staff providing integrated services in the field of SRH (sexual and reproductive health)	3	6
		Number of trained staff outside the healthcare system providing services in the field of GBV (gender-based violence)	7	14
		Number of public awareness sessions on natural hazards and disasters	10	30
		Number of individuals trained to operate the Disaster Risk Analysis System – DRAS	3	10
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)

		123,000	1,940,608	2,063,608
		Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Циљневриједностииндикатора
3.3.2. Measure	3.3.2. Strengthening emergency response service capacities	Number of trained members of protection and rescue services	85	130
		Number of protection and rescue equipment kits	2	28
		Constructed and operational new fire station	0	1
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		6,999,000	0	6,999,000
		Priority indicators	Baseline indicator values	Target indicator values
3.4. Priority	3.4. Ensure the city's energy-sustainable development	Reduction in CO ₂ emissions compared to 2004 levels (SECAP)	257,024.97 t (2020)	40%
		Percentage of public buildings where the concept of energy efficiency and sustainability has been implemented through City subsidies	10%	> 75%
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		1,810,000	0	1,810,000
		Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Циљневриједностииндикатора
3.4.1. Measure	3.4.1. Enhancement of energy efficiency	Feasibility study completed – conversion of the District Heating Plant to environmentally friendly energy sources	0	1
		New facilities connected to the district heating system	0	20
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)

		360,000	0	360,000
		Measure indicators	Baseline indicator values	Циљневриједностииндикатора
3.4.2. Measure	3.4.2. Support for renewable energy source utilisation	Number of multi-residential buildings that received subsidies for energy efficiency measures	3	24
		Number of residential buildings that received subsidies for energy efficiency measures	19	152
		Completed feasibility study for utilising geothermal sources for the purpose of urban heating	0	1
		Budget (BAM)	Other sources (BAM)	Total (BAM)
		1,450,000	0	1,450,000

8.2. Detailed overview of measures

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.1. Halt negative trends in terms of natural population growth and youth emigration		
Title of the measure	1.1.1. Pro-natal policy measures		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	The planned set of activities, based on the strategic document addressing pro-natal population policy of the City of Bijeljina, is defined through the provision of one-off financial assistance to married and unmarried couples for in vitro fertilisation, for newborn children, as well as support to primary and secondary school pupils and children attending private kindergartens. Given the evident annual decline in the number of children in Bijeljina, as in other local communities across Bosnia and Herzegovina, the City of Bijeljina has introduced a series of measures and activities aimed at facilitating conditions for children and their parents. Areas of activity: 1.1.1.1 Co-financing of in vitro fertilisation 1.1.1.2 Subsidies for newborn children 1.1.1.3 Free textbooks for primary school pupils 1.1.1.4 Subsidies for transport of primary and secondary school pupils 1.1.1.5 Subsidies for children attending private kindergartens 1.1.1.6 Subsidies for the purchase of school supplies for primary school pupils		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of approved applications for co-financing of in vitro fertilisation	35	200
	Number of approved applications for subsidies for newborn children	634	3,500
	Textbooks delivered to pupils attending primary schools in the territory of the City of Bijeljina	3,951	22,800
	Number of approved applications for transport of primary and secondary school pupils	954	2,700
	Number of parents receiving subsidies for children attending private kindergartens	1,103	1,500
	Number of approved applications for the purchase of school supplies for primary school pupils	6,489	36,000

Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The planned set of activities includes key measures that will ensure a systematic approach to improving the pro-natalist policy in Bijeljina. These activities aim to curb the negative trends related to natural population growth and the emigration of young people from the city.	
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.1.1.1. – 350,000 BAM 2024 – 50,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 300,000 BAM 1.1.1.2. – 2,800,000 BAM 2024 – 400,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 2,400,000 BAM 1.1.1.3. – 5,877,868 BAM 2024 – 877,868 BAM 2025-2030 – 5,000,000 BAM 1.1.1.4. – 7,000,000 BAM 2024 – 1,000,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 6,000,000 BAM 1.1.1.5. – 8,200,000 BAM 2024 – 1,200,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 7,000,000 BAM 1.1.1.6. – 2,815,410 BAM 2024 – 415,410 BAM 2025-2030 – 2,400,000 BAM TOTAL: 27,043,278 BAM	External sources: 1.1.1.1. – 0 BAM 1.1.1.2. – 0 BAM 1.1.1.3. – 0 BAM 1.1.1.4. – 0 BAM 1.1.1.5. – 0 BAM 1.1.1.6. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	27,043,278 BAM	
Implementation period	2024-2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City Administration	
Implementers	1.1.1.1.City of Bijeljina and the Commission appointed by the Mayor’s Decision 1.1.1.2.City of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs 1.1.1.3.City of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs 1.1.1.4.City of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs 1.1.1.5.City of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs, in cooperation with private preschool institutions 1.1.1.6.City of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs	
Target groups	1.1.1.1. Couples facing infertility who are unable to become parents naturally	

	1.1.1.2.Parents/guardians and newborn children 1.1.1.3.Pupils attending primary schools in the City of Bijeljina from Grades 5 to 9, and their parents/guardians 1.1.1.4.Primary and secondary school pupils, as well as their parents 1.1.1.5.Children attending private kindergartens, and their parents/guardians 1.1.1.6.Children attending primary schools in the city, and their parents/guardians
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Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.1. Halt negative trends in terms of natural population growth and youth emigration		
Title of the measure	1.1.2. Youth support measures		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	The implementation of this measure will significantly improve the living conditions and social activity of young people in the city. 1.1.2.1.The establishment of a Youth Centre in the city will represent one of the mechanisms for implementing youth policy. The importance of youth work as a profession is particularly reflected in the fact that Bosnia and Herzegovina, even more than twenty years after the war events, is undergoing a transitional process which, among other things, results in high youth unemployment, the emigration of young people from Bijeljina and the whole of BiH, radicalisation of youth along religious and ethno-national lines, and other phenomena detrimental to the lives of young people. Due to these phenomena, it is essential to strengthen the youth sector so that, by involving young people in its activities, it contributes to them becoming citizens who embody universal values such as multiculturalism, empathy, peace, social progress, equality, and other values present in all cultures. 1.1.2.2.The allocation of non-refundable funds for co-financing the purchase of a rural house with a yard within the territory of Bijeljina will contribute to reducing migration trends that lead to depopulation in rural areas. This activity will motivate the rural population to remain in their communities while encouraging young people to return to rural areas by resolving their housing needs. In this way, the population of villages will increase, the average age of rural residents will decrease, the birth rate will rise, and the overall demographic structure will improve. Furthermore, this measure will stimulate economic activities in rural areas. For the purposes of the <i>Programme for the Allocation of Non-Refundable Funds for Co-Financing the Purchase of a Rural House with a Yard within the Territory of the City of Bijeljina for 2023</i>, a rural house with a yard shall be defined as a house with an economic courtyard, located on the same cadastral parcel as the rural house, or on adjacent parcels thereto. Areas of activity: 1.1.2.1.Establishment of a Youth Centre 1.1.2.2.Support for young people in purchasing rural houses		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of beneficiaries of the established Youth Centre Number of approved applications for the purchase/construction of rural houses bought by young people with co-financing from the City	0 11	100 70

Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The establishment of the Youth Centre in Bijeljina aims to empower young people and those working with youth, as well as youth organisations operating within the territory of the City of Bijeljina. Through the Youth Centre, youth organisations will be connected and made more accessible to young people. By supporting young people through the awarding of non-refundable grants for co-financing the purchase of rural houses in the city, the following outcomes are expected: - A higher percentage of self-employment, - Encouragement for young people to stay in rural areas, - Resolution of housing issues, - Increase in the rural population, and - Reduction of the average age of the rural population The planned set of activities includes key measures that will ensure a systemic approach to improving the quality of life of young people in the city. These activities aim to halt the negative trends concerning natural population growth and the emigration of young people abroad.	
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.1.2.1. – 100,000 BAM 1.1.2.2. – 900,000 BAM 2024 – 150,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 750,000 BAM TOTAL: 1,000,000 BAM	External sources: 1.1.2.1. – 0 BAM 1.1.2.2. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	1,000,000 BAM	
Implementation period	1.1.2.1. 2025-2026 1.1.2.2. 2024-2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City Administration	
Implementers	1.1.2.1. City of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs 1.1.2.2. City of Bijeljina – Department of Agriculture	
Target groups	1.1.2.1. Young people, youth organisations, and persons working with youth 1.1.2.2. Married/unmarried partners, single parents, and young farmers who meet all prescribed conditions for participation in the public call	

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.2. Ensure balanced infrastructural development of the city		
Title of the measure	1.2.1. Support for the construction and reconstruction of road infrastructure in the city area		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	The planned set of activities is defined through the reconstruction of streets in the city, which will include the construction of carriageways, green areas, pavements, cyclingpaths, parking spaces, public lighting, traffic signage, stormwater drainage, and water supply networks. Given the evident increase in the number of cars on the roads in Bijeljina, efforts are continuously being made to improve road infrastructure in order to create alternative routes and simultaneously reduce traffic congestion in the city. The construction of the Rača–Bijeljina motorway section will provide a high-quality connection between Semberija and the Republic of Serbia, and as part of a wider motorway network, it will also improve connectivity with the motorway network within Bosnia and Herzegovina. Areas of activity: 1.2.1.1. Reconstruction of Račanska Street, Dimitrija Tucovića Street, and parts of Beogradska and Živojina Mišića Streets 1.2.1.2. Continuation of reconstruction of Stefana Dečanskog Street		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Length of reconstructed streets (in metres) Length of constructed cyclingpaths (in metres)	440 440	5,490 5,000
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of the aforementioned activities will improve road infrastructure and simultaneously enable safer movement for vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists. All of the above clearly indicates that the overall level of service for all modes of transport will be significantly improved. In addition, the construction of the water supply network and stormwater drainage system will ensure a higher quality and more reliable water supply, while also improving health conditions for residents in that part of the city. The construction of the Rača–Bijeljina motorway section will further relieve the city and surrounding settlements of transit traffic, speed up border crossing procedures, and provide new opportunities for economic and entrepreneurial development.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget:	External sources: 1.2.1.1. – 10,000,000 BAM	

	1.2.1.1. –0 BAM 1.2.1.2. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM	(loan funds) 1.2.1.2. – 6,000,000 BAM (loan funds) TOTAL: 16,000,000 BAM
Total budget for the measure	16,000,000 BAM	
Implementation period	1.2.1.1. 2025-2028 1.2.1.2. 2025-2028 1.2.1.3. 2024-2025	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	1.2.1.1. City of Bijeljina 1.2.1.2. City of Bijeljina 1.2.1.3. Government of Republika Srpska and Government of the Republic of Serbia	
Implementers	1.2.1.1. City of Bijeljina – Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection, and companies with which the City will conclude contracts for the implementation of the specified infrastructure works 1.2.1.2. City of Bijeljina – Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection, and companies with which the City will conclude contracts for the implementation of the specified infrastructure works	
Target groups	1.2.1.1. Residents of the mentioned streets, as well as all citizens using those streets as passengers, pedestrians, or cyclists 1.2.1.2. Residents of the mentioned streets, as well as all citizens using those streets as passengers, pedestrians, or cyclists 1.2.1.3. Residents of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as all other international travellers who will use the Bijeljina–Rača motorway	

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.2. Ensure balanced infrastructural development of the city		
Title of the measure	1.2.2. Continued construction of the sewerage system and expansion of the water supply network		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	This measure foresees the continuation of planning and construction of a sewerage system for the collection and treatment of wastewater in the urban area of Bijeljina, specifically in Dimitrija Tucovića Street, Živojina Mišića Street, Račanska Street, and part of Beogradska Street. In addition, water supply networks are being constructed in local communities where such infrastructure has not yet been developed. In accordance with current legal regulations, the participation rate is set at 20% for local community members/citizens and 80% for the local government. Thanks to the established water supply systems, the quality of life in local communities where the infrastructure has been constructed has improved significantly. Participation in the co-financing procedure for the construction of water supply networks requires the resolution of property-legal relations on the land through which the infrastructure is planned. This land must be transferred to public ownership (ownership of the local self-government unit), which is a prerequisite for the approval of funds. Areas of activity: 1.2.2.1. Construction of the sewerage network in Dimitrija Tucovića, Račanska, Živojina Mišića, and part of Beogradska Street 1.2.2.2. Co-financing the construction of water supply networks in the city area		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Length of constructed wastewater sewer network in Dimitrija Tucovića, Račanska, Živojina Mišića, and part of Beogradska Street (in metres)	0	7,629.7
	Length of constructed stormwater sewer network in Dimitrija Tucovića, Račanska, Živojina Mišića, and part of Beogradska Street (in metres)	0	5,329.9
	Length of constructed water supply network (in kilometres)	0	21
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	This measure improves the quality of life for residents by providing better hygienic conditions, decommissioning existing septic tanks, thus protecting the quality of groundwater, which is the main source of drinking water in the Semberija area. It also increases the number of residents connected to the sewerage system. In addition, the construction of the water supply network will ensure a higher quality and more reliable water supply, while also improving health conditions for residents in local communities.		

Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.2.2.1. – 7,439,665.96 BAM (loan funds) 1.2.2.2. – 1,050,000.00 BAM TOTAL: 8,489,665.00 BAM	External sources: 1.2.2.1. – 0 BAM 1.2.2.2. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	8,489,665.00 BAM	
Implementation period	1.2.2.1. 2025–2030 1.2.2.2. 2024–2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City Administration	
Implementers	City of Bijeljina – Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection	
Target groups	1.2.2.1. Residents of the City of Bijeljina, with a particular focus on those living in Račanska Street, Dimitrija Tucovića Street, and Beogradska Street including adjacent streets 1.2.2.2. Participation of residents from local communities where the water supply network has not yet been constructed	

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education and social welfare services		
Title of the measure	1.3.1. Improving working conditions in the field of education		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	The implementation of the activities within this measure will improve working conditions in education. 1.3.1.1.The reconstruction and construction of preschool, primary and secondary school facilities will significantly improve the conditions for children's education throughout the territory of Bijeljina. 1.3.1.2.The construction of the Student Centre will not only address the need for accommodation for its users, but will also include a range of additional facilities aimed at enhancing the development of education. A modern facility has been designed with over 300 accommodation units intended for students and professors, as well as for guests participating in various events that will be held in the city in the coming period. 1.3.1.3.The establishment of a digital library aims to create a centralised digital platform that will provide access to digital copies of books, journals, research papers, and other educational materials from all libraries within the City of Bijeljina. 1.3.1.4.The construction of school sports halls will improve the conditions for physical education and for sports and recreational activities in schools. Areas of activity: 1.3.1.1.Reconstruction and construction of preschool, primary and secondary school facilities 1.3.1.2.Construction of the Student Centre 1.3.1.3.Establishment of a digital library 1.3.1.4.Construction of school sports halls		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of reconstructed educational facilities	2	25
	Number of newly constructed educational facilities	0	1
	Number of Student Centre beneficiaries	0	300
	Number of digitised books	304	1,000
	Number of users/members of the digital library	0	>1,000
	Number of constructed school sports		

	halls	13	16
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The planned set of activities includes key actions that will ensure a systemic approach to improving working conditions in education.In addition, investment in the construction of school sports halls will provide conditions for sports and recreational activities for all citizens.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.3.1.1 – 7,200,000 BAM 2024– 1,200,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 6,000,000 BAM	External sources: 1.3.1.1 – 0 BAM	
	1.3.1.2 – 20,448,000 BAM 2024 – 50,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 20,398,000 BAM (City of Bijeljina and external sources which are currently unknown)	1.3.1.2 – 0 BAM	
	1.3.1.3 – 241,400 BAM	1.3.1.3 – 0 BAM	
	1.3.1.4 – 2,550,000 BAM 2024– 50,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 2,500,000 BAM	1.3.1.4 – 3,500,000 BAM	
	TOTAL: 30,439,400 BAM	TOTAL: 3,500,000 BAM	
	Total budget for the measure	33,939,400 BAM	
Implementation period	1.3.1.1. 2024-2030 1.3.1.2. 2024-2029 1.3.1.3. 2024-2029 1.3.1.4. 2024-2030		
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina		
Implementers	1.3.1.1. City of Bijeljina - Department of Social Affairs 1.3.1.2. City of Bijeljina - Department of Social Affairs 1.3.1.3. City of Bijeljina - Department of Social Affairs, Public Institution Public Library “Filip Višnjić” 1.3.1.4. City of Bijeljina - Department of Social Affairs		
Target groups	1.3.1.1. Children, teaching staff, and parents 1.3.1.2. Students, pupils, teaching staff, and other users of the Student Centre 1.3.1.3. All citizens 1.3.1.4. Children, teaching staff, and other citizens		

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education and social welfare services		
Title of the measure	1.3.2. Supporting the practical implementation of inclusion in the education system		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	The planned set of activities was defined through consultations with parents of children with disabilities, relevant civil society organisations, special education teachers, psychologists, and pedagogues from 12 primary and 5 secondary schools. The number of children with disabilities in the City of Bijeljina has been increasing year by year, while the current capacities of relevant institutions/schools are insufficient to meet actual needs. Teaching staff are not adequately trained to deliver quality inclusive education, and there is a lack of appropriate vocational education options for children completing primary school. Additionally, there is no facility in the City of Bijeljina offering full-day care for children and young persons with disabilities, which poses a significant challenge for both children and their parents, many of whom are forced to move to cities that offer such services (e.g. Novi Sad, Srebrenik, Derventa, etc.). Areas of activity: 1.3.2.1.Improvement of secondary education for children with disabilities 1.3.2.2.Establishment of full-day care for children with disabilities, children at risk, and children on the margins of society 1.3.2.3.Establishment of a centre for early intervention for children with disabilities – Centre for Early Growth and Development of Preschool and Primary School Children 1.3.2.4.“My First Opportunity” Project – systemic support for improving inclusive education and construction of an inclusive playground		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of pupils with developmental disabilities continuing education after completing primary school (baseline: number of enrolled pupils in the 2023/24 school year)	48% 12/25	85%
	Established Early Intervention Centre	0	1
	Established full-day care for children with disabilities	0	1
	Number of teachers / primary schools with improved inclusive teaching practices	0/0	96/12
	Number of vocational programmes introduced in secondary schools for children with developmental disabilities	3	6

Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The planned set of activities includes key actions that will ensure a systematic and integrated approach to addressing the status of children with developmental disabilities in the City of Bijeljina. It has been defined through consultations with parents of children with disabilities, relevant civil society organisations, special education teachers, psychologists, and pedagogues from 12 primary and 5 secondary schools. The implementation of the planned activities will enable appropriate action from the earliest stage, so that relevant support can be provided to each child from the beginning of their schooling. Primary schools will have more complete information about a child's health at enrolment into Year 1, including any potential developmental difficulties, and will be able to adequately prepare the teaching process—through individualised education programmes—and provide appropriate support to each child according to their specific needs.	
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.3.2.1 – 80,000 BAM 1.3.2.2 – 500,000 BAM 1.3.2.3 – 30,000 BAM 1.3.2.4 – 36,332 BAM TOTAL: 646,332 BAM	External sources: 1.3.2.1 – 300,000 BAM (City and Ministry of Social Welfare), 600,000 BAM (donors) 1.3.2.2 – 500,000 BAM (donors) 1.3.2.3 – 30,000 (Ministry of Social Welfare) 1.3.2.4 – 59,142 BAM (Government of Sweden) TOTAL: 1,489,142 BAM
Total budget for the measure	2,135,474 BAM	
Implementation period	2024-2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City Administration	
Implementers	1.3.2.1.City Administration, secondary schools from the Bijeljina territory, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Social Welfare Centre 1.3.2.2.City Administration, Citizens' Association “Bijeljina Sunflower Children”, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Social Welfare Centre 1.3.2.3.City Administration, Social Welfare Centre, Bijeljina Health Centre, preschool institutions and primary schools in the city area, Ministry of Education and Culture (preschool and primary education) 1.3.2.4.City Administration, Social Welfare Centre, primary schools from the Bijeljina territory	
Target groups	1.3.2.1.Pupils with developmental disabilities who have completed primary school according to the curricula for: pupils with pervasive developmental disorders; pupils with moderate and severe intellectual disabilities; pupils with mild intellectual disabilities; and pupils with hearing impairments 1.3.2.2.Children and young people with developmental disabilities, children at risk, and children on the margins of society 1.3.2.3.Preschool-aged children, and primary school children from the City of Bijeljina 1.3.2.4.Primary school children from the City of Bijeljina, primary school teaching staff delivering inclusive education, and specialised support staff in primary schools	

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education and social welfare services		
Title of the measure	1.3.3. Improvement of spatial capacities in social welfare and health care		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	Within the implementation of this measure, the reconstruction of dilapidated health clinics in rural areas: Banjica, Čengić, Glavičice, and Modran, is planned, as well as the construction of a clinic in Dvorovi and a shelter facility for children at risk, with accompanying social and health care services. Areas of activity: 1.3.3.1. Reconstruction and construction of clinics in the city territory (local communities Dvorovi, Čengić, Banjica, Modran, Glavičice) 1.3.3.2. Construction of a shelter for children at risk		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of renovated healthcare clinics	6	15
	Number of newly built healthcare clinics	0	1
	Number of beneficiaries of the shelter for at-risk children	0	20
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The measure will improve primary and health care services for citizens, create better working conditions for healthcare workers, and modernise the facilities. The construction of the shelter for children at risk will enhance the care and accommodation services for children aged 3 to 18 from the defined target group. The shelter will provide diagnostic and observation treatments as well as necessary protective measures. Accommodation will be organised on a 24-hour care basis. The following measures will be applied: - Health and hygiene - Educational and upbringing - Psychosocial - Meeting basic living needs		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.3.3.1. 700,000 BAM 2024: 100,000.00 BAM 2025-2030: 600,000.00 BAM 1.3.3.2. 540,000 BAM 2024: 150,000 BAM 2025: 390,000 BAM TOTAL: 1,240,000 BAM	External sources: 1.3.3.1. 0 BAM 1.3.3.2. 200,000 BAM 2024: 200,000 BAM (CARITAS) TOTAL: 200,000 BAM	
TOTAL BUDGET FOR THE MEASURE	1,440,000 BAM		
Implementation period	1.3.3.1. 2024-2030 1.3.3.2. 2024-2025		

Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City Administration
Implementers	1.3.3.1. City Administration, Department of Social Affairs 1.3.3.2. City Administration, Department of Social Affairs
Target groups	1.3.3.1. Patients, healthcare workers 1.3.3.2. Children at risk

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.3. Improve the accessibility and quality of education and social welfare services		
Title of the measure	1.3.4. Development of existing and establishment of new services in the social and healthcare protection system		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	1.3.4.1.Construction of 3 housing units for Roma families currently living in illegally constructed and/or inadequate housing units and/or for families with homeless status (tenants). 1.3.4.2.Community-based supported housing for adults with mental disabilities, enabling independent living in residential units with the support of assistants. 1.3.4.3.Introduction of the right to parental/carers support after the beneficiary turns 30. This applies to parents of individuals with developmental difficulties who are entirely dependent on the assistance of another person to meet basic life needs. 1.3.4.4.Establishment of the personal assistance service for adults with disabilities who are legally recognised as competent and capable of making independent decisions. This service is a key prerequisite for independent living. Areas of activity: 1.3.4.1.Improvement of the social housing system 1.3.4.2.Deinstitutionalisation of persons with mental disabilities 1.3.4.3.Extension of rights for parents/carers of children with disabilities after they turn 30 1.3.4.4.Establishment of the personal assistance service		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of Roma families with unresolved housing status	22	12
	Number of housing units built for socially vulnerable groups	30	40
	Number of beneficiaries of supported community housing services/rights	0	9
	Number of beneficiaries receiving support after the age of 30	0	50
	Number of licensed personal assistance service providers	0	1
	Number of personal assistance service beneficiaries	0	10

Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	1.3.4.1. Improved living conditions for the Roma population in Bijeljina. Resolving housing issues for three Roma families will create crucial preconditions for their education and employment. 1.3.4.2. - Deinstitutionalisation and prevention of institutional placement - Beneficiaries remain in their local communities - A more humane approach to supporting persons with mental disabilities - Strengthening local organisations as service providers - Creation of new jobs (direct service providers) 1.3.4.3. Material support to families, aimed at meeting the needs of individuals with the most severe developmental difficulties 1.3.4.4. Enabling full and effective exercise of rights and freedoms for persons with disabilities who face multiple forms of discrimination, on an equal basis with others.	
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.3.4.1. 700,000 BAM 2024– 100,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 600,000 BAM 1.3.4.2. 700,000 BAM City 2024 – 70,000 BAM SWC 2024 – 30,000 BAM City2025-2030 – 420,000 BAM SWC2025-2030 – 180,000 BAM 1.3.4.3. 80,000 BAM SWC2024 – 80,000 BAM 1.3.4.4. 140,000 BAM SWC2024 – 20,000 BAM SWC2025-2030 – 120,000 BAM TOTAL: 1,620,000 BAM	External sources: 1.3.4.1. 633,000 BAM 2024 – 133,000 BAM (donation) 2025-2027 – 500,000 BAM (donation) 1.3.4.2. 0 BAM 1.3.4.3. 0 BAM 1.3.4.4. 0 BAM TOTAL: 633,000 BAM
TOTAL BUDGET FOR THE MEASURE	2,253,000 BAM	
Implementation period	2024–2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City Administration	
Implementers	1.3.4.1 - City Administration, Department of Social Affairs 1.3.4.2 - City Administration, Department of Social Affairs, Public Institution Social Welfare Centre, the City Organisation of the Red Cross Bijeljina 1.3.4.3. Public Institution Social Welfare Centre 1.3.4.4. Department of Social Affairs of the City Administration through the Social Welfare Centre Bijeljina and an association representing persons with disabilities	
Target groups	1.3.4.1. Roma population living in inadequate housing 1.3.4.2. Adults with mental disabilities 1.3.4.3. Persons over 30 years of age with permanent disabilities and their parents/carers 1.3.4.4. Persons with severe mobility impairments in the City of Bijeljina	

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.4. Improve the accessibility and quality of cultural and sports content		
Title of the measure	1.4.1. Establishment of new and development of existing programme content in the field of culture		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	The implementation of this measure will ensure continuous efforts to raise public awareness of the importance of culture in the city. 1.4.1.1.In the upcoming period, various cultural events will be organised by the City and cultural institutions, including: Comedy Days, Children's Theatre Festival "Hairy Fairy Tale", numerous theatre plays, Višnjić Days, Saint Panteleimon Days, May Music Festivities, Winter Promenade, Bijeljina Ball "Dučić's and Maga's Hours", Through Semberija with Knowledge, Song and Dance, Janja Summer Evenings, Children's Music Festival "Children Sing for Semberija", Museum Night, Barodrom, Children's Culture Days, and the Puppet Theatre Festival "LUTVID FEST". 1.4.1.2.Activities at the SemberijaEthno Household are aimed at preserving the traditional rural architectural heritage of the Semberija region. With the involvement of experts in construction, museology, law, and economics, as well as project stakeholders, the following have been prepared: a conceptual design for the development of the household, a technical report, an economic and financial feasibility study, and reconstruction and protection of selected buildings in line with the planned layout of the household. Areas of activity: 1.4.1.1. Cultural events organised by the City and cultural institutions 1.4.1.2. Expansion of ethno content in the city (Semberija Ethno Household)		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of cultural events held in the City of Bijeljina	14	20
	Number of visits as part of the tourist offer through the integration of the SemberijaEthno Household and religious tourism	400	5,000
	Established open-air Ethno Museum	0	1
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The establishment of new and the development of existing cultural programmes will significantly enhance citizens' awareness of the importance of culture. The implementation of this measure will contribute to enriching the city's tourist offer, which will also have a positive impact on the economic development of Bijeljina.		

Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.4.1.1. – 2,800,000 BAM 2024 – 400,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 2,400,000 BAM 1.4.1.2. – 70,000 BAM 2024 – 10,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 60,000 BAM TOTAL: 2,870,000 BAM	External sources: 1.4.1.1. – 0 BAM 1.4.1.2. – 20,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 20,000 BAM TOTAL: 20,000 BAM
Total budget for the measure	2,890,000 BAM	
Implementation period	2024 - 2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina	
Implementers	1.4.1.1. –City of Bijeljina - Department of Social Affairs and cultural institutions from the territory of Bijeljina 1.4.1.2.– City of Bijeljina, Circle of Serbian Sisters “St Angelina of Serbia”, Serbian Orthodox Church and the Public Institution “Museum of Semberija”	
Target groups	1.4.1.1. –All citizens, tourists 1.4.1.2.– Interested individuals and groups, tourists, organisers and participants of activities, researchers, media, and other citizens	

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina
Priority	1.4. Improve the accessibility and quality of cultural and sports content
Title of the measure	1.4.2. Construction and adaptation of facilities in the field of culture
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	The implementation of this measure will ensure continuous efforts to raise public awareness of the importance of culture in the city. 1.4.2.1.The construction of an amphitheatre would significantly contribute to enhancing the cultural and tourism offer in the city, strengthening the capacities of the cultural sector, and improving the social life of the city. The mentioned amphitheatre is envisioned as a public space primarily intended for visitors to the museum, which this cultural institution would use for open-air programme activities: theatre and music performances, workshops, panels, lectures, video and film screenings, as well as for other uses outside of museum working hours by external users. 1.4.2.2.The construction of a new permanent exhibition of the Museum will include the participation of local museum experts in each relevant field (archaeology, history, ethnology), with potential consultancy support from recognised individuals from related institutions and fields; the preservation of selected exhibits – conservation and restoration; collaboration with architect-designers to visualise the core concept; procurement or production of appropriate display furniture; as well as operational teams of contractors of various profiles (depending on the final layout of the exhibition). 1.4.2.3.The reconstruction of the house of Magdalena Nikolić Živanović, the first poetess from Bijeljina and once residence of Jovan Dučić, will include landscaping of the area where the ruins of Magda's house are located, in the form of a memorial park with the reconstruction of one wall – an imitation of the original façade of the former building. 1.4.2.4.The Cyrillic Park, in addition to the usual park furniture, would feature unique benches shaped like open books with illustrations of famous Serbs and their quotes about language and script, information boards about the history of the Cyrillic alphabet, and an illustrated alphabet designed for introducing children to the Serbian script. The Cyrillic Park would also include a playground adapted for young children, with letters of the alphabet inscribed. Such a destination would greatly enrich the cultural and tourism offer of the City of Bijeljina. 1.4.2.5. Given that the city traditionally organises the event “Višnjić Days”, during which wreaths are laid at the memorial plaque to Filip Višnjić on the site of the former cottage where he lived for 20 years, it is necessary to construct a replica of that house and landscape the surrounding area. The appearance of the house and its yard will closely resemble the original design based on testimonies and evidence. The interior may be arranged as a memorial-gallery space. 1.4.2.6.By implementing activities related to the construction and reconstruction of cultural centres in the local communities of Batković, Trnjaci, Balatun, Velika Obarska, Suvo Polje, Zagoni and potentially other local communities, the quality of social life in the villages will improve, and the number of users of cultural content in the territory of the City of Bijeljina will increase.

	Areas of activity: 1.4.2.1. Construction of an open-air amphitheatre 1.4.2.2. Construction of a new permanent Museum exhibition 1.4.2.3. Construction of the Magdalena Živanović Memorial Park 1.4.2.4. Construction of the Cyrillic Park 1.4.2.5. Construction of the Filip Višnjić Memorial House in Međaši 1.4.2.6. Construction and reconstruction of cultural centres in local communities		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of visitors to cultural programs	5,938	12,000
	Number of cultural events organised at the Museum of Semberija	30	120
	Number of permanent exhibitions at the Museum	1	2
	Constructed Filip Višnjić Memorial House	0	1
	Number of reconstructed/newly built cultural centre buildings	25	46
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will contribute to improving the scope and diversity of the city’s cultural and tourism offer, broadening access to and participation in culture, strengthening the capacity of the cultural sector, and developing the audience.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.4.2.1. 200,000 BAM	External sources: 1.4.2.1. 50,000 BAM	
	1.4.2.2. 220,000 BAM	1.4.2.2. 380,000 BAM (project grants and other donor funds)	
	1.4.2.3. 60,000 BAM	1.4.2.3. 0 BAM	
	1.4.2.4. 230,000 BAM	1.4.2.4. 0 BAM	
	1.4.2.5. 110,000 BAM 2024 – 10,000 BAM 2025-2027 – 100,000 BAM	1.4.2.5. 0 BAM	
	1.4.2.6. 1,350,000 BAM 2024 – 550,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 800,000 BAM	1.4.2.6. 0 BAM	
	TOTAL: 2,170,000 BAM	TOTAL: 430,000 BAM	
Total budget for the	2,600,000 BAM		

measure	
Implementation period	1.4.2.1. 2024 - 2030 1.4.2.2. 2024 - 2030 1.4.2.3. 2025 - 2029 1.4.2.4. 2025 - 2027 1.4.2.5. 2024 - 2027 1.4.2.6. 2024 - 2030
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina
Implementers	1.4.2.1.City of Bijeljina and Public Institution “Museum of Semberija” 1.4.2.2.City of Bijeljina and Public Institution “Museum of Semberija” 1.4.2.3.City of Bijeljina and cultural associations 1.4.2.4.City of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs 1.4.2.5.City of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs 1.4.2.6.City of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs and Section for Local Communities Affairs
Target groups	1.4.2.1.Museum visitors, artists and creative workers, tourists, cultural organizations and artistic groups, media 1.4.2.2.Citizens of Bijeljina and surrounding areas, formal and informal citizen associations and individuals as carriers of local cultural activities, researchers, media, tourists 1.4.2.3.Residents of Bijeljina, tourists, cultural citizen associations, cultural institutions 1.4.2.4.Citizens of Bijeljina and surrounding areas, cultural institutions, formal and informal citizen associations and individuals as carriers of local cultural activities, researchers, media, tourists 1.4.2.5.Citizens of Bijeljina and surrounding areas, cultural institutions, formal and informal citizen associations and individuals as carriers of local cultural activities, researchers, media, tourists 1.4.2.6.Residents of local communities, other citizens

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.4. Improve the accessibility and quality of cultural and sports content		
Title of the measure	1.4.3. Construction and reconstruction of sports infrastructure in urban and rural areas		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	By implementing the activities under this measure, the promotion and development of sports will be supported both in urban and rural parts of the city. These activities will contribute to an increase in the number of sports events in the city and will facilitate the operation of sports clubs by providing additional space for their daily training sessions. Furthermore, investments in sports fields and children's playgrounds will encourage children, young people, and other citizens to engage more in sports activities, which will significantly improve their psycho-physical and motor skills. Areas of activity: 1.4.3.1. Construction of a multifunctional sports hall (City Stadium) 1.4.3.2. Construction and reconstruction of sports fields and children's playgrounds 1.4.3.3. Construction of an athletics stadium 1.4.3.4. Construction of a city indoor swimming pool		
Key strategic projects	Construction of a multifunctional sports hall (City Stadium)		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of newly built multifunctional sports halls	0	1
	Number of newly built sports fields	0	7
	Number of athletic stadiums in the city	0	1
	Number of constructed swimming pools in the city	0	1
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will create the preconditions for improving the city's sports and cultural offer in Bijeljina, while also increasing the number of users of sports and recreational activities.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.4.3.1. – 7,010,217.23 BAM 2024 – 882,000 BAM 2025-2029 – 6,128,217.23 BAM 1.4.3.2. – 1,450,000 BAM 2024 – 450,000 BAM 2025-2029 – 1,000,000 BAM	External sources: 1.4.3.1. - 0 BAM 1.4.3.2. - 0 BAM	

	1.4.3.3. – 50,000 BAM (Phase 1) 1.4.3.4. – 20,000 BAM (Phase 1) TOTAL: 8,530,217.23 BAM	1.4.3.3. - 0 BAM 1.4.3.4. - 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	8,530,217.23 BAM	
Implementation period	1.4.3.1. 2024 - 2029 1.4.3.2. 2024 - 2029 1.4.3.3. 2024 - 2030 1.4.3.4. 2024 - 2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina	
Implementers	City Administration of theCity of Bijeljina – Department of Social Affairs	
Target groups	1.4.3.1. Residents of Bijeljina, sports professionals, athletes, recreational users, tourists 1.4.3.2. Children and other citizens 1.4.3.3. Residents of Bijeljina, sports professionals, athletes, recreational users 1.4.3.4. Residents of Bijeljina, sports professionals, athletes, recreational users, tourists	

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.5. Strengthen the capacities of local government and the civil sector		
Title of the measure	1.5.1. Improving the quality and accessibility of public administration information and digital services		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	Digital by default – ensure that citizens and business entities have the possibility of digital interaction with public administration, if they choose to do so, in accordance with the “User-centric principles for the design and provision of digital public services.” The service must be available in a simpler and faster way, to all under equal conditions, with universally designed websites and ensured credibility. Citizens and business entities should be encouraged to use digital services by providing information about available digital public services and ensuring better access through websites and mobile applications, highlighting the benefits of using such services for users, employing personalised and proactive services, and enabling electronic access to legal protection and complaint mechanisms. The digital transformation of public administration is gaining increasing importance and is tied to more efficient service delivery to citizens and legal entities. Efficient service delivery to citizens entails the introduction of electronic services, which also include electronic signing. It is necessary to first enable citizens and legal entities to electronically submit their requests for certain services, and for such electronic requests to be forwarded electronically for further processing up to the issuance of a decision. An additional advantage is the use of electronic signatures for requests and other documents, including the decisions themselves. For the implementation of this measure, it is necessary to enable new e-government services that will allow citizens to submit their requests electronically and receive decisions electronically, using a digital signature. Furthermore, through the activities implemented as part of this measure, a consolidated list of all active citizens' associations in the territory of the City of Bijeljina will be created in the form of a unified register, including sports associations. Through the digitalisation of the City Administration, online data entry for new CSOs will be enabled, and a platform will be established for their networking, partnership development, and project implementation with the support of the City Administration. Areas of activity: 1.5.1.1. Development of digital infrastructure 1.5.1.2. Strengthening digital capacities and human digital infrastructure		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of City Administration services provided electronically via the MIA application	2	50
	Number of users of City Administration e-services via the MIA application	1,300	10,000

Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will contribute to creating the technical prerequisites for more efficient service delivery and communication between the local self-government and citizens and legal entities. Citizens and legal entities will gain greater confidence in the transparency of the work of the local administration. It will also ensure access to information for citizens and civil society organisations (CSOs) wishing to learn more about the associations operating in the territory of the City of Bijeljina. The strengthening of CSOs will be supported through a platform for networking, partnership-building, and providing support for the implementation of projects of importance for the development of the City.	
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 1.5.1.1. – 350,000 BAM 1.5.1.2. – 440,000 BAM TOTAL: 790,000 BAM	External sources: 1.5.1.1. – 350,000 BAM 1.5.1.2. – 440,000 BAM TOTAL: 790,000 BAM
Total budget for the measure	1,580,000 BAM	
Implementation period	1.5.1.1. – 2025 - 2030 1.5.1.2. – 2025 - 2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina	
Implementers	1.5.1.1. –Government of Republika Srpska, City of Bijeljina (Department of General Administration and Section for Information Technology), Agency for Information and Communication Technologies of Republika Srpska, international donors 1.5.1.2. –Government of Republika Srpska, City of Bijeljina (Section for Information Technology and Department of General Administration), Agency for Information and Communication Technologies of Republika Srpska, international donors	
Target groups	1.5.1.1. –Employees of the local self-government, public enterprises, citizens, and legal entities 1.5.1.2. –Employees of the local self-government, public enterprises, citizens, and legal entities	

Link to strategic objective	Improve the demographic structure and enhance the quality of life of the residents of Bijeljina		
Priority	1.5.Strengthen the capacities of local government and the civil sector		
Title of the measure	1.5.2. Supporting the engagement of the civil sector		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	Consolidate a list of all active citizens’ associations in the territory of the City of Bijeljina into a unified register, including sports associations. Through the digitalisation process of the City Administration, enable online entry of data on new CSOs and establish a platform for their networking and for building partnerships to ensure higher-quality implementation of projects significant for the city's development. Enable more intensive engagement of CSOs by providing support for the implementation of socially beneficial projects. Areas of activity: 1.5.2.1 Networking of CSOs through the improvement of the unified register of citizens’ associations and partnership projects 1.5.2.2. Support for the implementation of CSO project activities		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of registered CSOs in the registry	88	120
	Number of supported CSO projects	59	400
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will contribute to establishing simpler and faster access to information for citizens and CSOs wishing to learn about associations active in the territory of the City of Bijeljina. Strengthening CSOs through a networking platform and providing opportunities for interconnection and partnerships will contribute to more efficient and higher-quality implementation of projects important for the city’s development. There is a significant number of CSOs in the territory of the City of Bijeljina that can greatly contribute to development through the implementation of relevant projects. Therefore, it is necessary to allocate funds annually for public calls for CSO projects, in order to work in partnership on strengthening CSO capacities and the city’s development.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget 2024: 200,000 BAM City Budget2025-2030: 1,200,000 BAM		
Total budget for the measure	1,400,000 BAM		
Implementation period	1.5.2.1. – 2025 - 2026 1.5.2.2. – 2025 - 2030		
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina		
Implementers	1.5.2.1. – City of Bijeljina - Department of Social Affairs, Section for Information Technology		
	1.5.2.2. – City of Bijeljina - Department of Social Affairs		
Target groups	Civil society organisations, other citizens		

Link to strategic objective	Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies
Priority	Priority 2.1. Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy
Title of the measure	2.1.1. Improvement of the business environment
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	Through continuous attraction of foreign and domestic investors, the establishment of new industrial zones, as well as harmonisation of the education system with the needs of the economy, the business environment in the city will be improved. 2.1.1.1. By actively attracting investors and businesses from the country and abroad, whose arrival would foster economic development in the city, a greater number of jobs will be created, the emigration of skilled workers abroad will be reduced, and the living standard of the population will increase. It is necessary to identify which economic sectors are of interest to potential investors, compare them with global trends, and align these with the available potential that Bijeljina can offer to investors in line with the city's economic development goals, as well as those of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a whole. It is also important to utilise Bijeljina's favourable geographic position and proximity to the borders with Serbia and Croatia, which can represent a key development factor for the city and highlight its potential for foreign trade cooperation. 2.1.1.2. In recent years, Bijeljina has demonstrated strong economic activity. Since 2020, the number of newly registered business entities has consistently exceeded the number of de-registered or closed enterprises, and total foreign trade volume has increased. By sector, trade companies and businesses in the manufacturing industry account for the highest share of active enterprises. The development model of business infrastructure through the establishment of business zones has proven successful, considering the number of business entities operating in the three established zones and the number of employees in those companies. 2.1.1.3. Promoting and improving education in line with the needs of the economy involves efforts to reduce the gap between the secondary education system and labour market demands. Education is currently adapting very slowly to short-term and especially long-term labour market needs, and this is mostly achieved through temporary educational programmes and necessary additional training and retraining. For this reason, future efforts will focus on improving and modernising the teaching process and the overall quality of education. Areas of activity: 2.1.1.1. Attraction of foreign and domestic investors 2.1.1.2. Establishment of Industrial Zone 4 2.1.1.3. Promotion and improvement of education in line with the needs of the economy – project SDG2 BiH ("A Chance for an IT Start")
Key strategic projects	-

	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Number of registered business entities	1,100	1,300
	Number of jobs	24,900	25,500
	Number of companies providing practical training for secondary school IT students	0	5
	Feasibility study completed for the establishment of Industrial Zone 4	0	1
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	2.1.1.1.The implementation of this activity will contribute to the creation of new jobs and to improving the standard of living for the citizens of Bijeljina through higher salaries for workers employed in the business sector, making the city one of the more competitive cities in Republika Srpska compared to other local government units. 2.1.1.2.Given that the three existing industrial zones are already full, the construction of the new Business and Industrial Zone 4 will create a more favourable business climate for attracting new investors and entrepreneurs, while also building trust and enhancing public-private partnerships. To fully achieve the desired development effect of establishing the new industrial zone, it is necessary to prepare a feasibility study. 2.1.1.3.The implementation of this activity will provide additional momentum for the development of secondary education in the city by improving spatial and material conditions for secondary school students and strengthening the teaching capacities of educators. This will enable students to stand shoulder to shoulder with their peers in this field across Europe.Students will acquire additional knowledge and skills aligned with occupational standards and labour market needs through a modified curriculum and practical training placements with employers.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 2.1.1.1. – 300,000 BAM 2.1.1.2. – 60,000 BAM (Feasibility study development) 2.1.1.3. – 28,278 BAM TOTAL: 388,278 BAM	External sources: 2.1.1.1. – 0 BAM 2.1.1.2. – 0 BAM 2.1.1.3. – 60,090 BAM(Government of Sweden through UNDP in Bosnia and Herzegovina) TOTAL: 60,090 BAM	
Total budget for the measure	448,368 BAM		
Implementation period	2.1.1.1. - 2024 - 2030 2.1.1.2. - 2025 - 2026 2.1.1.3. - 2024 - 2025		

Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina
Implementers	2.1.1.1. City of Bijeljina 2.1.1.2. City of Bijeljina - Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection and Department of Spatial Planning 2.1.1.3. City of Bijeljina
Target groups	2.1.1.1. City of Bijeljina, Chamber of Commerce of Republika Srpska, Development Agency of the City of Bijeljina 2.1.1.2. Potential investors – domestic and foreign business entities 2.1.1.3. City of Bijeljina, secondary schools and private companies from the territory of the city

Link to strategic objective	Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies		
Priority	Priority 2.1. Activate investment potential and support investments in innovation and the knowledge economy		
Title of the measure	2.1.2. Support for innovative economic development		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	By applying expert knowledge and new technologies, and supporting investment in innovation and the knowledge economy, the implementation of this measure will significantly activate the investment potential in the city and simultaneously raise the economy of Bijeljina to a higher level. 2.1.2.1.The objective of this activity is to create new jobs, promote self-employment, and increase the overall number of employed persons. The measure includes the following activities: - o Entrepreneurial training focused on developing business plans and business models, as well as strengthening entrepreneurial skills, with continuous professional and mentoring support provided by trainers throughout the process and during the final preparation of the business plan and model. - o Preparation of business idea and presentations before a professional committee for the evaluation of business plans and models. - o Awarding of non-refundable financial support to the best positively evaluated business ideas within the territory of the City of Bijeljina, in line with available financial resources for supporting entrepreneurs. - o Provision of professional and mentoring support for further business growth and development according to the assessed needs. 2.1.2.2.This activity aims to strengthen the SME and entrepreneurship sector through a partnership with the City, joint initiatives and actions, as well as improving cooperation with the diaspora. To achieve these goals, active cooperation is planned with representatives of sectoral business associations and the Chamber of Commerce, which would, among other things, support private sector initiatives. It is also necessary to improve communication with the diaspora, the representative offices of Republika Srpska abroad, and economic diplomacy. 2.1.2.3.To successfully fulfil its role, InCOR is open to partnerships with various institutions and organisations from the economic and social sectors. Particular emphasis is placed on cooperation with IT companies, faculties and other educational institutions, civil society organisations, relevant ministries, potential donors, domestic and foreign development agencies, and other entities whose cooperation can contribute to the improved functioning of InCOR. Areas of activity: 2.1.2.1.IMPAKT Incubator of business ideas 2.1.2.2.Communication, cooperation and support for SMEs and entrepreneurship; establishing business cooperation with the diaspora 2.1.2.3.Support for the economy on the path to digital transformation – InCOR		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of individuals who completed the IMPAKT training	100	250

	Number of individuals employed through the IMPAKT incubator of business ideas	40	90
	Supported and implemented private sector initiatives	0	3
	Established contacts with the diaspora	0	5
	Number of training sessions held at InCOR	6	20
	Number of individuals who completed training at InCOR	102	310
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will encourage the development of entrepreneurship in the City of Bijeljina, the creation of new jobs, improvement of the business environment, and increased productivity among entrepreneurs. This will contribute to the creation of a more favourable business climate, build trust, and enhance the partnership between the public and private sectors. Through the activities to be implemented at InCOR, a contribution will be made to the competitiveness, entrepreneurial environment, and sustainable economic development of Bijeljina by promoting the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and creating new jobs. City of Bijeljina for the period 2024–2030: BAM 490,000.00 City of Bijeljina: BAM 350,000.00 IMPAKT Foundation: BAM 140,000.00		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 2.1.2.1. – 350,000 BAM 2024– 50,000 BAM 2025-2030– 300,000 BAM 2.1.2.2. – 20,000 BAM 2.1.2.3. – 70,000 BAM 2024– 10,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 60,000 BAM TOTAL: 440,000 BAM	External sources: 2.1.2.1. – 140,000 BAM 2024 – 20,000 BAM (IMPAKT Foundation) 2025-2030 – 120,000 BAM (IMPAKT F.) 2.1.2.2. – 0 BAM 2.1.2.3. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 140,000 BAM	
Total budget for the measure	580,000 BAM		
Implementation period	2.1.2.1. - 2024 - 2030 2.1.2.2. - 2025 - 2030 2.1.2.3. - 2024 - 2030		
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina		

Implementers	2.1.2.1. City of Bijeljina, IMPAKT Foundation Sarajevo, Faculty of Business Economics (FBE), Employment Service 2.1.2.2. City of Bijeljina, egional Chamber of Commerce 2.1.2.3. City of Bijeljina - Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration
Target groups	2.1.2.1. Employed persons, unemployed persons, existing business owners, civil society organisations, social enterprises 2.1.2.2. Private sector, business associations and entrepreneurs, diaspora, other citizens 2.1.2.3. Employed persons, unemployed persons, existing business owners, civil society organisations, other citizens

Link to strategic objective	Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies		
Priority	2.2. Increase the competitiveness of agriculture, the manufacturing industry, and tourism		
Title of the measure	2.2.1. Support to agricultural development		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	Semberija, and thus the area of the City of Bijeljina, has a continental climate with fairly harsh winters and warm summers. Since frosts begin at the end of October and last until mid-April at the latest, this area is suitable for cultivating agricultural crops typical of the region, given that spring sowing and the start of vegetation begin in mid-March. The total heat sum in the period from March to October exceeds 3,400 degrees Celsius, which is sufficient for the development of all major crops. In addition to favourable climate conditions, the most important resource for successful agricultural production is quality soil. For these reasons, significant funds are allocated from the city budget for the development of agriculture throughout Semberija, with priority given primarily to the procurement of irrigation systems, support to the production and purchase of cereals, vegetables and fruit, as well as support to livestock farming. Areas of activity: 2.2.1.1. Support to the procurement of irrigation systems 2.2.1.2. Support to the organised purchase of wheat, vegetables and fruit 2.2.1.3. Support to greenhouse production 2.2.1.4. Support to livestock farming 2.2.1.5. Support to the establishment of new orchards and flower plantations		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of incentive beneficiaries for the purchase of "drip by drip" irrigation systems	50	300
	Quantity of purchased wheat (in tonnes)	20,000	140,000
	Quantity of purchased vegetables (in tonnes)	3,500	24,500
	Quantity of purchased fruit (in tonnes)	100	700
	Newly established greenhouse areas (m ²)	3,000	21,000
	Number of fattened head of cattle	1,800	10,000
	Number of fattened pigs	3,000	17,500
	Number of heifers from own breeding	500	3,500

	Number of gilts from own breeding	500	3,500
	Number of breeding sheep from own breeding	500	3.500
	Number of breeding goats from own breeding	50	350
	Number of bee colonies	12,000	70,000
	Area under flower cultivation (m²)	2,000	7,000
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	It is evident that the number of farmers in rural areas is steadily decreasing, as younger generations tend to orient their lives and careers towards urban areas. This is partly due to the difficult conditions faced by farmers and the lack of understanding on the part of institutions, whose priority should be the survival of agriculture in rural communities.In order to change this, increasing amounts of funding are allocated each year from the city budget to support incentives in the field of agriculture.		
	The implementation of this measure will significantly contribute to raising the level of agricultural development in Semberija, while at the same time giving local agricultural producers the opportunity to expand their production through various forms of incentives.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 2.2.1.1. – 350,000 BAM 2024 – 50,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 300,000 BAM	External sources: 2.2.1.1. – 0 BAM	
	2.2.1.2. – 5,600,000 BAM For wheat: 2024 - 600,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 3,600,000 BAM For fruit and vegetables: 2024 – 200,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 1,200,000 BAM	2.2.1.2. – 0 BAM	
	2.2.1.3. – 350,000 BAM 2024 – 50,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 300,000 BAM	2.2.1.3. – 0 BAM	
	2.2.1.4. – 4,900,000 BAM 2024 – 700,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 4,200,000 BAM	2.2.1.4. – 0 BAM	
	2.2.1.5. – 50,000 BAM 2024 – 10,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 40,000 BAM	2.2.1.5. – 0 BAM	
	TOTAL: 11,450,000 BAM	TOTAL: 0 BAM	
	Total budget for the measure	11,450,000 BAM	
Implementation	2024-2030		

period	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina
Implementers	2.2.1.1. –City of Bijeljina, Agrarian Fund of the City of Bijeljina 2.2.1.2. – City of Bijeljina, Agrarian Fund of the City of Bijeljina 2.2.1.3.–City of Bijeljina, Agrarian Fund of the City of Bijeljina 2.2.1.4.– City of Bijeljina, Agrarian Fund of the City of Bijeljina 2.2.1.5. – City of Bijeljina, Agrarian Fund of the City of Bijeljina
Target groups	2.2.1.1. –Farmers from the territory of the City of Bijeljina, registered farmers under the age of 40, and other registered farmers 2.2.1.2. – Farmers from the territory of the City of Bijeljina, registered farmers under the age of 40, and other registered farmers 2.2.1.3.–Farmers from the territory of the City of Bijeljina, registered farmers under the age of 40, and other registered farmers 2.2.1.4.– Farmers from the territory of the City of Bijeljina, registered beekeepers 2.2.1.5. – Farmers from the territory of the City of Bijeljina, registered farmers, registered flower growers

Link to strategic objective	Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies		
Priority	2.2. Increase the competitiveness of agriculture, the manufacturing industry, and tourism		
Title of the measure	2.2.2. Consolidation of tourism offerings and development of local and regional brands		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	It is evident that the number of tourists visiting Bijeljina is increasing year by year. However, the city's tourism potential remains largely untapped. For this reason, a series of activities will be implemented under this measure to attract an even greater number of visitors. In the coming period, efforts will be made to provide additional space for the promotion of tourism offers that have so far been overlooked. This will include the creation of suitable conditions for the presentation and sale of authentic products from the Semberija region through the establishment of the Semberija House. In addition, the expanded tourism offer will support multi-day tourist stays in the city, giving visitors the opportunity to explore the city's cultural and historical heritage, religious tourism, and natural assets. Areas of activity: 2.2.2.1. -Establishment of the Semberija House 2.2.2.2. -Improvement of the city's tourism offer		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Average annual number of registered tourist visits	45,000	52,000
	Number of supported local producers within the Semberija House	0	20
	Average annual number of overnight stays	88,738	100,000
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will contribute to improving the tourist offer of the City of Bijeljina and enhancing the management of the city's tourism potential. By implementing measures to improve the tourist offer, conditions will be created for a more pleasant tourist environment and opportunities to expand the sale of accommodation capacities, authentic handicrafts and other products, as well as for the creation of new jobs. Tourism and the influx of tourists have both direct and indirect effects on numerous other economic activities, which could bring multiple benefits to the local population and the economy.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 2.2.2.1. – 200,000 BAM 2024 – 80,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 120,000 BAM	External sources: 2.2.2.1. – 0 BAM	

	2.2.2.2. – 140,000 BAM 2024 – 20,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 120,000 BAM TOTAL: 340,000 BAM	2.2.2.2. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	340,000 BAM	
Implementation period	2024 - 2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina	
Implementers	2.2.2.1. – City of Bijeljina, Tourist Organisation of the City of Bijeljina 2.2.2.2. – City of Bijeljina, Tourist Organisation of the City of Bijeljina	
Target groups	2.2.2.1. – Tourists, producers of local authentic products, other citizens 2.2.2.2. – Tourists, other citizens	

Link to strategic objective	Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies		
Priority	2.3. Encourage the development of SMEs and entrepreneurship		
Title of the measure	2.3.1. Support for entrepreneurship development in the city		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	The implementation of this measure will encourage local economic development with the aim of maintaining and increasing the business competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises. In addition, support will be provided to entrepreneurs to ensure the survival and improvement of their operations. Activities planned under this measure include: - o support for employment and self-employment with a focus on the improvement and development of entrepreneurship, - o support for the development of social entrepreneurship, - o support with an emphasis on improving and developing increased employment, and - o procurement of basic equipment related to the introduction of new or improvement of existing technology, as well as investments in intangible assets: ISO standards, HACCP, CE marking, and business software. Areas of activity: 2.3.1.1. Development of existing SMEs 2.3.1.2. Support for employment and self-employment		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of supported business entities engaged in manufacturing and processing activities	6	30
	Total number of implemented employment and self-employment programmes	3	21
	Number of persons employed through employment programmes	0	100
	Number of persons employed through self-employment programmes	67	200
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of activities under this measure will encourage the development of competitiveness in the city, which is essential in responding to market and business environment challenges. It will also lead to the introduction of new technologies and software solutions. In addition, employment and self-employment programmes will result in the creation of new jobs, improvement of the business environment, and an increase in the volume of economic activity and entrepreneurship. All of the above are prerequisites for improving the living standard of the citizens of Bijeljina.		

Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 2.3.1.1. – 1,050,000 BAM 2024 – 150,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 900,000 BAM	External sources: 2.3.1.1. – 0 BAM
	2.3.1.2. – 2,000,000 BAM	2.3.1.2. – 0 BAM
	TOTAL: 3,050,000 BAM	TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	3,050,000 BAM	
Implementation period	2024 - 2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina	
Implementers	2.3.1.1. –City of Bijeljina, Development Agency of the City of Bijeljina 2.3.1.2. – City of Bijeljina, Development Agency of the City of Bijeljina	
Target groups	2.3.1.1. –Business entities in the field of manufacturing and processing activities operating for at least two years 2.3.1.2. – Small and medium-sized enterprises, entrepreneurs, unemployed individuals	

Link to strategic objective	Enable smart growth of the local economy based on the application of expertise and new technologies		
Priority	2.3. Encourage the development of SMEs and entrepreneurship		
Title of the measure	2.3.2. Support for women's and youth entrepreneurship		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	Implementation of this measure will lay the foundation for the economic development of the city and a better quality of life for its citizens, with the primary objective being to support women entrepreneurs and young people in maintaining or improving their business operations. Local economic development will be stimulated through support for the establishment of new business entities, an increase in the number of registered businesses, and a rise in employment. This will also encourage competitiveness among entrepreneurs in the city. Additionally, to encourage women to engage in entrepreneurship, the City has traditionally organised the Women's Entrepreneurship Fair, which features exclusively women who have started their own businesses. The measure includes the implementation of the following activities and projects: - o Support for the establishment of new business entities in manufacturing, processing, and service activities - o Support with a focus on improving and increasing employment – hiring adequate labour necessary for enhancing entrepreneurial competitiveness - o Procurement of basic assets for the introduction of new or improvement of existing technologies, as well as investment in intangible assets - o Entrepreneurial training Areas of activity: 2.3.2.1.Support for women's entrepreneurship 2.3.2.2.Support for young entrepreneurs – establishment of new SMEs and entrepreneurs		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of registered women entrepreneurs	816	850
	Number of registered young entrepreneurs	63	160
	Number of entrepreneurs and persons employed by entrepreneurs	3,508	3,710
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will encourage the development of women's entrepreneurship and youth entrepreneurship in the City of Bijeljina. As a result of continuous investment in entrepreneurship through the provision of incentives, there will be increased visibility of women and young people in the market, higher employment rates, as well as greater involvement of women and youth in business processes.		

Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 2.3.2.1. – 350,000 BAM 2024 – 50,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 300,000 BAM 2.3.2.2. – 700,000 BAM 2024 – 100,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 600,000 BAM TOTAL: 1,050,000 BAM	External sources: 2.3.2.1. – 0 BAM 2.3.2.2. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	1,050,000 BAM	
Implementation period	2024 - 2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina	
Implementers	2.3.2.1. –City of Bijeljina, Development Agency of the City of Bijeljina 2.3.2.2. –City of Bijeljina, Development Agency of the City of Bijeljina	
Target groups	2.3.2.1. –Business entities whose founder and legal representative is a woman and which, according to the activity classification, operate in the fields of production, processing, hospitality, and services 2.3.2.2. –Young people up to the age of 35 with an entrepreneurial spirit aiming to start their own business	

Link to strategic objective	Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources		
Priority	3.1. Improve the waste management system		
Title of the measure	3.1.1. Improvement of municipal waste management system		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	Improving the municipal waste management system will also significantly enhance both soil and air quality in the city. 3.1.1.1. Considering that the current regional landfill is operational but has limited capacity, is unsustainable, and uses technology that requires upgrading, it is necessary to define a future sustainable model for landfill operation that complies with European/environmental standards. 3.1.1.2. Introducing a waste separation process involves the following activities: - o Adoption of a Local Waste Management Plan - o Introduction of primary sorting of packaging and other waste at the source - o Adaptation and equipping of service providers to perform all activities related to primary municipal waste sorting, - o Establishment of “green islands” with special containers for separate collection of various types of packaging waste - o Designation and equipping of public locations with automated machines, so-called “recyclomats”, for purchasing and simultaneously sorting specific types of packaging waste - o Introduction of secondary sorting through the establishment of recycling yards and designated areas for storing sorted waste - o Public awareness and education campaigns to raise consciousness and responsibility for the environmental state of the community 3.1.1.3. The permanent remediation of illegal dumpsites includes the development of an illegal dumpsite cadastre containing: - o Identification of cadastral parcel, ownership, area, waste structure, waste volume, description and designation of access road - o Securing and protecting cleaned parcels by assigning them a specific purpose, restricting physical access, changing legal ownership status, installing permanent active video surveillance, and cooperating with citizen associations, local communities, and other relevant institutions A remediation project will be developed for each individual illegal dumpsite or group of dumpsites. Areas of activity: 3.1.1.1. Establishment of a sustainable landfill 3.1.1.2. Introduction of waste separation (sorting) procedures 3.1.1.3. Permanent remediation of illegal dumpsites		
Key strategic projects	YES		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Developed feasibility study and project-technical documentation for a sustainable landfill solution Number of established recycling points (green islands)	0 0	1 12

	Annual quantity of collected packaging waste (tonnes)	214	250
	Annual quantity of collected municipal waste (tonnes)	25,834	26,000
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will significantly contribute to improving environmental protection, in terms of addressing the issues of waste disposal, sorting, and processing in line with modern ecological standards.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 3.1.1.1. – 250,000 BAM 2025 – 50,000 BAM feasibility study development 2026-2027– 200,000 BAM project-technical documentation development 3.1.1.2. – 500,000 BAM 3.1.1.3. – 180,000 BAM TOTAL: 930,000 BAM	External sources: 3.1.1.1. – 0 BAM 3.1.1.2. – 0 BAM 3.1.1.3. – 120,000 BAM TOTAL: 120,000 BAM	
Total budget for the measure	1,050,000 BAM		
Implementation period	3.1.1.1. 2025 - 2027 3.1.1.2. 2025-2030 3.1.1.3. 2025-2030		
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina		
Implementers	3.1.1.1.City of Bijeljina - Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection and the Mayor’s Office 3.1.1.2. City of Bijeljina - Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental ProtectionandDepartment of Communal Police, collection and disposal of municipal waste service providers 3.1.1.3. City of Bijeljina - Department of Communal Police		
Target groups	3.1.1.1.Economy, individual and collective residential-commercial buildings 3.1.1.2.All citizens and entities involved in the measures 3.1.1.3. All citizens		

Link to strategic objective	Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources		
Priority	3.1. Improve the waste management system		
Title of the measure	3.1.2. Addressing non-municipal waste disposal issues		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	A significant problem in the city is clearly the presence of non-municipal waste (infectious and animal waste), for which an adequate disposal system has not been established. The implementation of this measure would resolve the issue of managing this type of waste. Currently, most of this waste ends up at illegal dumpsites, in fields, groves, woodlands, canals, shrubbery, watercourses, and similar locations, posing an environmental and public health hazard, as such waste is one of the major sources of infection. There are several ways to dispose of these types of waste. With regard to animal waste, the regulations currently in force in Republika Srpska allow for the establishment of burial pits and livestock cemeteries. The formation of such burial pits and cemeteries would solve the problem of animal waste disposal throughout the entire area of the City of Bijeljina. Since the largest quantities of animal waste are produced in rural areas, waste containers would be placed for temporary disposal, after which the responsible company would transport the waste to the designated burial pit. To properly manage infectious waste, it is necessary to construct a facility for the treatment/sterilisation of such waste and sharp objects, with appropriate capacity to serve all healthcare institutions in the Bijeljina region. In addition, it is necessary to strengthen the capacities and raise awareness among competent inspection bodies and healthcare personnel. The following activities are planned to address the problem of infectious waste management: - o Provide premises for housing the sterilisation unit and a transport vehicle with an ADR certificate; - o Procure a steriliser with sufficient capacity to treat sharp objects and infectious waste; - o Obtain a permit from the competent Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology; - o Train the relevant inspectors, healthcare personnel, and workers who will operate the facility. Areas of activity: 3.1.2.1. Disposal of infectious waste 3.1.2.2. Disposal of animal waste		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Quantity of collected sterilised sharp objects (in tonnes)	0	2
	Quantity of collected sterilised infectious waste (in tonnes)	0	20
	Established system for disposal of animal waste	0	1
	Number of new containers for animal waste collection	0	10

Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will resolve the issue of inadequate disposal of animal and infectious waste, which currently ends up in illegal dumps, fields, and watercourses, posing ecological and sanitary-health hazards.	
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 3.1.2.1. – 250,000 BAM 2025 – 150,000 BAM 2026-2030 – 100,000 BAM 3.1.2.2. – 600,000 BAM TOTAL: 850,000 BAM	External sources: 3.1.2.1. – 0 BAM 3.1.2.2. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	850,000 BAM	
Implementation period	2025 - 2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina	
Implementers	3.1.2.1. –City of Bijeljina, healthcare institutions within the territory of Bijeljina, JSC Komunalac (Utility Company) or another company contracted by the City of Bijeljina, Communal Police 3.1.2.2. – City of Bijeljina, JSC Komunalac (Utility Company) or another company contracted by the City of Bijeljina, Communal Police, Department of Inspections	
Target groups	3.1.2.1. –All healthcare institutions within the territory of Bijeljina, all citizens 3.1.2.2. – Producers of animal waste, all citizens	

Link to strategic objective	Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources		
Priority	3.2. Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil		
Title of the measure	3.2.1. Improvement of air and soil quality		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	The Green Bijeljina measure aims to create the preconditions for sustainable environmental development. In line with the strategic commitment for Bijeljina to become a CITY OF THE FUTURE by 2030, in 2021 the City Administration of the City of Bijeljina launched a long-term campaign to green the city and urban areas under the slogan "Let's Green Bijeljina Together", within the strategic concept "green Bijeljina". As part of the Green Bijeljina concept, urban greening and the planting of tree lines are planned every year to raise public awareness and create a more pleasant living environment for all citizens. Greening of urban areas will be carried out in cooperation with various partners from the public and private sectors, with the ultimate goal of raising environmental awareness among the public and instilling an ecological mindset among the youngest citizens. The measure to establish protected areas is defined with the aim of reducing the negative anthropogenic impacts on the quality of water, air, and soil, primarily through the establishment of new protected areas within the territory of the City of Bijeljina. As part of this measure, one of the main areas of activity is the continuation of revitalisation works on the old Drina riverbed "Drinica-bare Starače" as part of the process of designating this marshland as a protected area, and of declaring the "Jezera" Eco Visitor Centre a visitor centre for the protected area. The following activities are planned: - o Complete the biological research on species carried out in the Drinica marsh system since 2019, including a census of resident and wetland birds. - o Establish the Visitor Centre as an educational, research and tourism hub with a focus on birdwatching. - o Prepare a Protection Study for the "Drinica" marsh system. - o Exercise the right of the local self-government unit to designate a protected area under a lower category of protection. Revitalise the entire Drinica watercourse from Amajlije to its confluence with the Drina near Balatun; to date, approximately 2 kilometres of the Drinica stream have been revitalised near the Eco Visitor Centre. A new green oasis – an inclusive park – is to be built in the Knez Ivo od Semberije neighbourhood, designed for children with developmental disabilities. The park will include equipment and facilities adapted for children with disabilities as well as for other children. The inclusive park will become one of the largest green areas in the urban part of the city. Areas of activity: 3.2.1.1. Construction of new tree lines and green oases within the strategic concept "Green Bijeljina" 3.2.1.2. Establishment of protected areas 3.2.1.3. Construction of a new green oasis – an inclusive park in the city		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Increase in the number of seedlings in the urban and park areas of the city Increase in the number of external partners involved in the city greening	4,087 8	9,000 33

	process		
	Number of seedlings donated by external partners	250	750
	Number of tree lines	57	72
	Completed biological research on species in the Drinica marsh system	0	1
	Protection Study for the Drinica marsh system	0	1
	Sections of the Drinica watercourse designated as a lower-category protected area	0	1
	Revitalised old Drina riverbed, Drinica and the surrounding system of marshes and lakes, in the section from Amajlije to Međaši	0	1
	Number of parks in the city	1	2
	Square metres of park areas in the urban part of the city	41,122	55,122
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of these measures will contribute to the improvement of the environmental development of the City of Bijeljina and the reduction of pollution levels that the city has been struggling with for the past 20 years. Through continuous long-term greening, the negative impacts on the quality of air, water and soil will be reduced, making the city a more environmentally friendly place to live for all its residents. The establishment of protected areas will contribute to the preservation of the quality of water, soil and air, enhance the biodiversity of the area through the adoption of a protection decision, revitalise parts of the Drina riverbanks and the Drinica, which were damaged by negative human impacts, and will also have a positive effect on the development of eco-tourism as a developmental outcome of this measure.		
	Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 3.2.1.1. – 240,000 BAM 3.2.1.2. – 100,000 BAM 3.2.1.3. – 720,000 BAM (Phase 1) TOTAL: 1,060,000 BAM	External sources: 3.2.1.1. – 0 BAM 3.2.1.2. – 200,000 BAM 3.2.1.3. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 200,000 BAM
Total budget for the measure		1,260,000 BAM	
Implementation period		2024 - 2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure		City of Bijeljina	

Implementers	3.2.1.1. –City of Bijeljina, Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration, Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection 3.2.1.2. – City of Bijeljina, Environmental Association “Eko-Put”,Communal Police, Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection 3.2.1.3. –City of Bijeljina, Department of Social Affairs, Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection
Target groups	3.2.1.1. Citizens, public institutions, citizens' associations, business entities 3.2.1.2. Local population; informed and educated about the benefits that a protected area provides for the development of rural tourism and organic food production. CSOs at the local and regional level (youth, students, researchers, environmentalists, etc.) 3.2.1.3. Children, all citizens

Link to strategic objective	Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources		
Priority	3.2. Reduce factors that negatively impact the quality of air, water and soil		
Title of the measure	3.2.2. Enhancement of sustainable urban mobility		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	This measure aims to reduce factors negatively affecting air quality through the improvement of sustainable urban mobility. 3.2.2.1.By establishing an organised, safe, and accessible public transport system (urban and suburban) within the city territory, the need for using private cars will be reduced, while simultaneously improving accessibility and meeting the mobility needs of all categories of citizens. The establishment of a public transport system will primarily result in the following: an increase in the number of transported passengers, improved traffic safety, and reduced negative environmental impact. 3.2.2.2.The construction of public parking garages will provide approximately 500 new parking spaces in the city, which will significantly ease road congestion in the city centre. The implementation of this activity will create opportunities for active modes of transport such as cycling, rollerblading, and walking. 3.2.2.3.The construction of pedestrian and cycling paths will create conditions for practising active modes of movement, primarily walking and cycling. This will significantly contribute to improving air quality in both rural and urban parts of the city. 3.2.2.4.Organising European Mobility Week encourages cities to introduce and promote active forms of movement and alternative means of transport. The activities implemented include a series of programmes and projects that create the preconditions for sustainable economic, social, and environmental development. As part of this event, the following projects and activities are planned: - o increasing the number of citizens using alternative means of transport that contribute to reducing air pollution, - o raising citizens' awareness of the benefits of active movement through activities carried out within the EMW, - o reducing traffic in the city centre. Areas of activity: 3.2.2.1.Establishment of public transport 3.2.2.2.Construction of public parking garages 3.2.2.3.Construction of cycling and pedestrian paths 3.2.2.4.European Mobility Week		
Key strategic projects	Construction of a cycling path network		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Annual number of passengers transported via the public transport system Number of established urban public	500,000	1,000,000

	transport routes	0	3
	Number of constructed parking garages and parking spaces in public garages	0/0	2/500
	Length of constructed pedestrian and cycling paths (in metres)	8,620	16,300
	Number of pedestrian zones in the city closed to motor vehicle traffic	3	6
	Number of participants in EMW activities	3,300	10,300
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of the activities within this measure will significantly contribute to reducing factors that negatively affect air quality.		
	The measure will encourage the use of the urban and suburban public transport system. At the same time, through the construction of public garages, removal of parking spaces in the city centre, and the development of pedestrian and cycling paths, a greater number of citizens will opt for active modes of movement, such as walking and cycling.		
	By implementing this measure, mobility among citizens will be promoted, particularly in the area of non-motorised traffic and movement, which will greatly contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, noise, and congestion.		
	Through frequent promotional activities related to the benefits of active modes of transport, air quality will improve, making Bijeljina a more liveable city.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 3.2.2.1. – 10,000,000 BAM 2024 – 2,000,000 BAM 2025-2030 –8,000,000 BAM	External sources: 3.2.2.1. – 0 BAM	
	3.2.2.2. – 0 BAM	3.2.2.2. – 10,000,000 BAM	
	3.2.2.3. – 5,000,000 BAM (loan funding in the absence of donations from entity level institutions)	3.2.2.3. – 0 BAM	
	3.2.2.4. – 49,000 BAM 2024 – 7,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 42,000 BAM	3.2.2.4. – 35,000 BAM 2024– 5,000 BAM 2025-2030– 30,000 BAM	
	TOTAL: 15,049,000 BAM	TOTAL: 10,035,000 BAM	
Total budget for the measure	25,084,000 BAM		
Implementation period	3.2.2.1. 2025-2030		
	3.2.2.2. 2025-2030		
	3.2.2.3. 2025-2030		
	3.2.2.4. 2024-2030		

Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina
Implementers	3.2.2.1. – City Administration - Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection, the company with which the City will sign a contract for the establishment of urban and suburban public transport lines 3.2.2.2. – City Administration - Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection, companies with which the City will sign contracts for the construction of public parking garages 3.2.2.3. – City Administration - Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection, the company with which the City will sign a contract for the construction of pedestrian and cycling paths 3.2.2.4. – City Administration - Section for Local Economic Development and European Integration
Target groups	3.2.2.1. – all categories of citizens (primary school pupils, secondary school pupils, students, employed persons, unemployed persons, pensioners, persons with disabilities, etc.), tourists 3.2.2.2. – all citizens who enter the urban area by passenger car 3.2.2.3. – all residents whose daily movement can be carried out by bicycle or on foot 3.2.2.4. – citizens, citizens' associations, public institutions, businesses, etc.

Link to strategic objective	Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources
Priority	3.3. Increase protection against natural disasters
Title of the measure	3.3.1.Enhancement of institutional preparedness for natural and other disaster challenges
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	Construction of the Drina embankment (stretch from the sluice in Janja upstream to the confluence of the Janja River with the Drina) will make a significant contribution to establishing a sustainable flood protection system in the territory of Bijeljina. Modernisation of the hail protection system and equipment will increase service efficiency, protecting not only agricultural production but also other material assets. This activity will significantly contribute to the protection of crops from storm damage, damage to power supply lines and structures, traffic disruptions, damage to vehicles, and personal injuries. In addition, introducing irrigation systems will help maintain soil moisture in various topographical conditions, while also greatly improving agricultural production and providing protection against droughts. Strengthening the preparedness of the local health care, social welfare, and education systems to respond to natural and other disasters will preserve and improve public health and ensure the continuous provision of health services in all circumstances, including emergencies, with particular emphasis on vulnerable populations (pregnant women, new mothers, children, and others). Harmonising spatial planning documents with the findings of the City of Bijeljina Vulnerability Assessment will enable the local self-government unit to conduct faster digital analyses and spatial risk assessments by combining scientific data on hazards with land use and vulnerability data. High-quality assessment of institutional disaster protection needs represents a form of preparation and engagement of key protection and rescue actors in responding to various types of disasters. This includes activities such as establishing international obligations and cooperation in disaster protection and rescue, defining the responsibilities of institutions in protection and rescue of people and material assets from natural and other disasters, as well as adopting and harmonising disaster protection and rescue plans and programmes. The local Disaster Risk Reduction Platform serves as a driver for implementing a shared vision of disaster risk reduction, local risk assessment processes, and the development and implementation of local disaster risk reduction strategies and action plans. Ensuring the platform's sustainability will enable regular updates and use of the Disaster Risk Analysis System (DRAS) and the collection of historical data on damages and losses, while also ensuring the continuous operation of the DesInventar Sendai operator. Areas of activity: 3.3.1.1.Construction of the Drina embankment 3.3.1.2.Hail protection equipment and irrigation systems 3.3.1.3.Strengthening the preparedness of local health care, social welfare, and education systems for natural and other disasters 3.3.1.4.Spatial planning documents harmonised with the findings of the City of Bijeljina Vulnerability Assessment 3.3.1.5.Assessments of institutional disaster protection needs 3.3.1.6.Ensuring the sustainability of the multisectoral local Disaster Risk

	Reduction Platform		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Length of the DrinaRiver embankment (in metres)	0	2,816.80
	Introduction of more precise, reliable, and environmentally friendly next-generation rockets	0	12
	Increase in the area covered by irrigation systems (in hectares)	2,478.7	10,492
	Number of trained staff providing integrated services in the field of SRH (sexual and reproductive health)	3	6
	Number of trained staff outside the healthcare system providing services in the field of GBV (gender-based violence)	7	14
	Number of public awareness sessions on natural hazards and disasters	10	30
	Number of individuals trained to operate the Disaster Risk Analysis System – DRAS	3	10
	Number of individuals trained to operate the Disaster Risk Analysis System – DRAS	0	1
	The Social Welfare Centre has developed and adopted a risk assessment and a protection and rescue plan	1	5
	Number of school facilities implementing the model of disaster-resilient schools		
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will significantly enhance protection against natural disasters, with a particular focus on improving institutional preparedness for natural and other types of catastrophes.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 3.3.1.1. – 0 BAM 3.3.1.2. – 87,000 BAM Hail protection equipment: 2024-2026– 15,000 BAM Irrigation system:	External sources: 3.3.1.1. – 1,940,607.77 BAM 3.3.1.2. – 0 BAM	

	2024-2026 – 72,000 BAM 3.3.1.3. – 10,000 BAM 3.3.1.4. – 10,000 BAM 3.3.1.5. – 10,000 BAM 3.3.1.6. – 6,000 BAM TOTAL: 123,000 BAM	3.3.1.3. – 0 BAM 3.3.1.4. – 0 BAM 3.3.1.5. – 0 BAM 3.3.1.6. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 1,940,607.77 BAM
Total budget for the measure	2,063,607.77 BAM	
Implementation period	City Budget for the period 2024-2026: Total: 87,000 BAM - Hail protection equipment: 15,000 BAM - Irrigation system: 72,000 BAM 3.3.1.1.– 2024-2025 3.3.1.2.– 2024-2026 3.3.1.3. – 2024-2026 3.3.1.4.– 2024-2026 3.3.1.5. – 2024-2026 3.3.1.6.– 2024-2026	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina	
Implementers	3.3.1.1.–Public Institution“Vode RS” (Waters of Republika Srpska) 3.3.1.2.–City of Bijeljina, PE“Anti-hail Protection of Republic of Srpska”, Institute for Water Management 3.3.1.3. – City of Bijeljina, Bijeljina Health Centre, Social Welfare Centre 3.3.1.4. –City of Bijeljina, Department of War Veterans, Disabled Persons and Civil Protection 3.3.1.5. – City of Bijeljina, Department of War Veterans, Disabled Persons and Civil Protection 3.3.1.6. – City of Bijeljina, Department of War Veterans, Disabled Persons and Civil Protection	

Target groups	3.3.1.1.–All citizens 3.3.1.2.–Agricultural producers, other citizens 3.3.1.3. – Healthcare workers, workers from related fields outside the healthcare system, children, vulnerable groups, other citizens 3.3.1.4.–Members of civil protection units, representatives of NGOs, other citizens 3.3.1.5. –Students and staff in schools within the city territory, employees in public institutions, other citizens 3.3.1.6.–Members of the local DRR (Disaster Risk Reduction) platform, other citizens
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Link to strategic objective	Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources		
Priority	3.3. Increase protection against natural disasters		
Title of the measure	3.3.2.Strengthening emergency response service capacities		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	By strengthening the resource capacities of the civil protection and rescue structure, the aim is to improve resilience and preventive action in response to natural and other disasters, as well as to enhance the ability to protect and rescue people and material assets in areas affected by natural hazards and other emergencies. This measure has been defined with the goal of training and equipping all civil protection structures for timely and effective implementation of protection and rescue measures and tasks within the city territory, with a focus on the training of specialised civil protection units. In addition to continuous training and practical exercises for rescuers, the plan is to improve the material and technical capacities by procuring and equipping civil protection structures with appropriate material and technical resources and equipment for the implementation of appropriate measures in protection and rescue operations. This measure includes the strengthening of civil protection structures, thus increasing the readiness of civil protection units to adequately and promptly respond to the occurrence of natural and other hazards, thereby reducing their negative impact on lives and property, as well as reducing representative risks, creating a more favourable environment. It is important to note that the city area is potentially threatened by fires throughout the year, with fires being more frequent during the summer on arable land due to high temperatures and careless land treatment by individuals, while in the winter, fires more often occur in indoor spaces (residential buildings, business and industrial facilities). In order to improve the level of fire protection and rescue from other natural hazards in the area of Bijeljina, activities are being undertaken to relocate and build a new fire station, which will be situated in a suitable location and equipped with all the necessary operational equipment. Areas of activity: 3.3.2.1.Strengthening human capacities in civil protection and rescue 3.3.2.2.Improving the material and technical equipment of the civil protection and rescue service 3.3.2.3. Construction of a fire station		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of trained members of protection and rescue services	85	130
	Number of protection and rescue equipment kits	2	28
	Constructed and operational new fire		

	station	0	1
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	The implementation of this measure will significantly strengthen the capacities of rescue services in all segments.		
	The activities carried out will contribute to better training of protection and rescue forces and improve preventive action against natural disasters and other emergencies, enabling faster and more efficient rescue interventions in affected areas.		
	By conducting specialised training for the use and application of modern equipment, the level of resilience to natural disasters and other emergencies will be increased, as well as the effectiveness of the response.		
	The improvement of the equipment of civil protection and rescue services is defined with the aim of strengthening the capacities of civil protection structures, thus enabling more effective preventive action and response to the occurrence of representative risks caused by natural and other hazards.		
	Finally, the construction of a fire station will raise the level of protection and assistance available to the city’s population in the event of fires, floods, or other natural disasters.		
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget:	External sources:	
	3.3.2.1. – 34,000 BAM	3.3.2.1. – 0 BAM	
	3.3.2.2. – 265,000 BAM	3.3.2.2. – 0 BAM	
	3.3.2.3. – 6,700,000 BAM 2024– 700,000 BAM 2025-2030 – 6,000,000 BAM	3.3.2.3. – 0 BAM	
	TOTAL: 6,999,000 BAM	TOTAL: 0 BAM	
Total budget for the measure	6,999,000 BAM		
Implementation period	3.3.2.1. 2024 - 2026		
	3.3.2.2. 2024 - 2026		
	3.3.2.3. 2024 - 2030		
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina		

Implementers	3.3.2.1.–City of Bijeljina, Department of War Veterans, Disabled Persons and Civil Protection 3.3.2.2.–City of Bijeljina, Department of War Veterans, Disabled Persons and Civil Protection 3.3.2.3. –City of Bijeljina, Territorial Fire and Rescue Unit
Target groups	3.3.2.1.–Members of the specialised city civil protection units, Local Community Council, other citizens 3.3.2.2.–Members of the specialised city civil protection units, other citizens 3.3.2.3. –Members of theTerritorial Fire and Rescue Unit, other citizens

Link to strategic objective	Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources		
Priority	3.4. Ensure the city's energy-sustainable development		
Title of the measure	3.4.1. Enhancement of energy efficiency		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	3.4.1.1. By developing the district heating system, i.e. constructing a heating pipeline to connect public and private buildings to the district heating system, energy efficiency in the city will be improved. It is planned that the buildings of the Basic Court and the Music School "Stevan Mokranjac" will be connected to this heating system. A review of the measured concentrations of air pollutants shows that air quality largely depends on heating from local combustion sources and traffic. In the urban area, in addition to the operation of the District Heating Plant, other combustion sources have been recorded in business facilities as well as residential buildings that are not connected to the District Heating Plant, i.e. the district heating system. The development of the district heating system and encouraging legal entities and individuals to switch to the District Heating Plant would significantly improve air quality during the winter months in the urban area of Bijeljina. 3.4.1.2. A review of the measured concentrations of air pollutants shows that air quality largely depends on heating from local combustion sources and traffic. In the vicinity of the "Heating Plant" site, in addition to the operation of the District Heating Plant, other combustion sources have been recorded in companies as well as in residential buildings not connected to the District Heating Plant, i.e. the district heating system. By introducing a different type of energy source in the operation of the District Heating Plant (as opposed to the coal currently used), and by developing the district heating system, as well as encouraging individuals to switch to alternative energy sources instead of coal (which is the most commonly used), the air quality during the winter months in the urban area of Bijeljina would be significantly improved. Areas of activity: 3.4.1.1. Construction of a heating pipeline for connecting public buildings to the district heating system 3.4.1.2. Conversion of the District Heating Plant to environmentally friendly energy sources		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Feasibility study completed – conversion of the District Heating Plant to environmentally friendly energy sources	0	1
	New facilities connected to the district heating system	0	20
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the	3.4.1.1. The construction of a pipeline for connecting public buildings to the district heating system contributes to reducing harmful air emissions in		

achievement of the priority	the central area of the City of Bijeljina. 3.4.1.2.By introducing a new energy source in the operation of the District Heating Plant and encouraging legal entities and individuals to switch to alternative energy sources instead of coal, which is currently the most widely used, the air quality in the urban zone of Bijeljina during the winter months would be further improved. The development of a feasibility study for the utilisation of geothermal sources for the purpose of district heating is a prerequisite for a high-quality and sustainable transition to renewable energy sources.	
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 3.4.1.1.– 300,000 BAM 3.4.1.2.– 60,000BAM TOTAL: 360,000 BAM	Екстерна средства: 3.4.1.1.– 0 BAM 3.4.1.2.– 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	360,000 BAM	
Implementation period	3.4.1.1. 2024 - 2026 3.4.1.2. 2025 - 2027	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	City of Bijeljina	
Implementers	City of Bijeljina - Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection	
Target groups	3.4.1.1. – Public Enterprise “Gradskatoplana” (District Heating Plant), officials and clients of the Basic Court, teaching staff, other employees and students at the Public Institution Music School “Stevan Mokranjac,” and other citizens 3.4.1.2. – Owners of residential buildings, registered condominium associations, and other citizens	

Link to strategic objective	Establish an integrated approach to environmental protection through more responsible use of natural resources and renewable energy sources		
Priority	3.4. Ensure the city's energy-sustainable development		
Title of the measure	3.4.2. Support for renewable energy source utilisation		
Description of the measure with indicative areas of activity*	3.4.2.1.By subsidising the replacement of the current energy source with a new one from renewable sources through a public call for residential buildings and condominium associations, it becomes possible to replace existing forms of heating and transition to a more economical and environmentally friendly form of heating. 3.4.2.2.The potential introduction of district heating in Bijeljina using geothermal sources could be made possible through the use of existing boreholes located near the city or by drilling new ones. It is necessary for the City of Bijeljina to conduct appropriate analyses and tests, and to develop a Study on the Use of Geothermal Sources in the Territory of the City of Bijeljina as the first step that will define the activity roadmap to be implemented following the completion of the said study. Areas of activity: 3.4.2.1.Support to multi-residential buildings and households in replacing heating systems with environmentally and energy-efficient systems 3.4.2.2. Utilisation of geothermal sources for the purpose of district heating in the city		
Key strategic projects	-		
Indicators for monitoring the results of the measure	Indicators	Baseline values**	Target values***
	Number of multi-residential buildings that received subsidies for energy efficiency measures	3	24
	Number of residential buildings that received subsidies for energy efficiency measures	19	152
	Completed feasibility study for utilising geothermal sources for the purpose of urban heating	0	1
Development impact and contribution of the measure to the achievement of the priority	3.4.2.1.Supporting multi-residential buildings and households will contribute to reducing air pollution and generating savings for the owners of residential buildings and flats who participate in this co-financing model. 3.4.2.2.The implementation of this activity would initiate the use of geothermal sources as an energy source for district heating in the city and as a new energy source, thereby improving energy efficiency, reducing pollution, and contributing to environmental protection by reducing the use of fossil fuels. This activity would be implemented through a public-private partnership or concession, given the value of investment in the equipment and construction of		

	the facilities required for the implementation of this measure.	
Indicative financial structure with sources of funding	City Budget: 3.4.2.1. – 1,190,000 BAM 3.4.2.2. – 260,000 BAM 2024 – 60,000 BAM Feasibility study development 2025-2027 – 200,000 BAM project-technical documentation development TOTAL: 1,450,000 BAM	City Budget: 3.4.2.1. – 0 BAM 3.4.2.2. – 0 BAM TOTAL: 0 BAM
Total budget for the measure	1,450,000 BAM	
Implementation period	2024 - 2030	
Institution responsible for coordinating the implementation of the measure	3.4.2.1. City of Bijeljina 3.4.2.2. City of Bijeljina and private partners	
Implementers	3.4.2.1. –City of Bijeljina - Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protection 3.4.2.2. – City of Bijeljina - Department of Residential Affairs, Utilities and Environmental Protectionand the Mayor's Office	
Target groups	3.4.2.1. –Owners of residential buildings, registered condominium owners' associations, and other citizens 3.4.2.2. – Businesses, individual and collective residential-commercial buildings, and other citizens	