

Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Security State Investigation and Protection Agency











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In its ten-year existence, the State Investigation and Protection Agency has developed into a leading police agency in the country and become a key security factor in the region and beyond. Notwithstanding that the laws pertaining to the operations of SIPA, organisational structure, directors and personnel were changing in the past ten years, SIPA has been successfully and professionally enforcing the law and protecting the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina. All credits for the successful operation of SIPA in this relatively short period go to its personnel, who under very difficult circumstances of establishing the Agency, have managed to build trust and authority with the public, colleagues from other police agencies in the country and the region.

Particular responsibility and burden lie with all the levels of the SIPA Management. The Management of SIPA has to be proactive, creative, innovative, willing to take risks and responsibility, and in order to lead the staff, it has to know their needs, strengths and weaknesses, be able to build a team and work as a team, as well as be aware that they are replaceable, not "God-given", that the whole supersedes the individual. In addition, the internal procedures improving efficiency and unity have to be strictly adhered to. This is the only way SIPA can respond to all security challenges, and it has been doing so very successfully.

Security challenges and issues in B&H are the same or similar to those in other countries, the region and beyond. In the domain of security, where organised crime is manifested in various forms such as the illicit drug manufacturing and trafficking, human trafficking, arms trafficking, financial crimes, money counterfeiting and laundering, abuse of office, high-tech crimes, etc., there has been progress, but it is necessary to intensify investigations, which SIPA has already been doing in order to bring all individuals and groups involved in organised crime to justice. SIPA has the capacity, both human and material, to strategically and operationally respond to security challenges. Despite all this, we have to plan strategic strengthening of criminal-intelligence and investigative capacities, adjust organisational structure, further enhance cooperation with the citizens, Prosecutor's Offices and police agencies in the country and the region.

Cooperation with the police structures in B&H, the region and beyond promotes principles of democratic and efficient police work, thus reducing the threat of undermining security and increasing the sense of security with all the citizens. The issue of security in any country in the region cannot be observed outside the context of regional and European security. We will continue promoting regional cooperation by having meetings with police officials, seminars, operational meetings and joint operations, exchange of intelligence in compliance with the Law on Mutual Legal Assistance and instruments provided for by the Police Cooperation Convention for Southeast Europe. We will also focus on bilateral cooperation through periodic meetings with law enforcement authorities at the strategic and operational level for the harmonisation of best practices, exchange of experience and prevention of criminal activities.

This approach contributes to safer countries and open borders in the region. In addition, intensifying regional cooperation will help the countries in the region to prepare and harmonise their police structures for the EU accession. Moreover, the exchange of best practices with police authorities in the region contributes and will continue contributing to further reinforcement and development of SIPA.

SIPA is facing a new phase in its development. The aim of this process is to round up the results and further

penetrate into the organised crime hubs, wherever they are, with support of local and international police structures, which will deepen the trust and respect of the citizens.

In addition to reactive investigations, we will strive to undertake intelligence-based proactive investigations. and in partnership with other government agencies and civil sector we will develop preventive actions and assistance and protection mechanisms for victims of crimes within our competence. The development of human, material, technical and technological resources will provide conditions for the improved operation of the criminal intelligence system ensuring intersection of criminal intelligence of all lines of work in one place. This approach will validate analytical work through preparation of operational and strategic analyses that will enable timely and targeted use of human and technical resources, reduce professional fatigue and costs, and establish and deepen partnership and cooperation with law enforcement agencies in the region and Europe.

However, we also have numerous problems. We solve them "on the fly", but unfortunately, there are security issues we cannot solve alone as they are outside the scope of SIPA. It is therefore essential that all state level authorities and institutions including the community are co-responsible for the security and individual engagement in their fields to eliminate the causes undermining the security, since the police cannot defend the society alone, it has to contribute as a whole. SIPA will add to this fight within its competence and capacities.

We will continue to fight uncompromisingly all types of organised crime within the competence of SIPA. Perpetrators of criminal offences will not remain outside the law since it is our duty and obligation to the citizens who have confidence in us and who have been providing us with selfless support.





Introduction Introduction

The developmental course of the State Investigation and Protection began in 2002 as a result of activities taken by B&H for the implementation of the Road Map and EU Integration Strategy of B&H, as well as the need for the establishment of a state-level authority that would be responsible for collecting and processing of data required for the implementation of international and B&H. Criminal Codes, including for the protection of very important persons, diplomatic and consular missions and buildings of B&H institutions.



The Information and Protection Agency was established in July 2002 when the Law on Information and Protection Agency entered into force. The Agency had limited police powers in terms of its competence, since its role was limited to the protection of high officials and important persons, government buildings and diplomatic and consular missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including the collection and processing of data relevant for the implementation of international and criminal laws in B&-H.

In October 2002, when the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina appointed Director and Deputy Director of the Agency, the Agency had the management consisted of Sredoje Nović, Director and Emir Bijedić and Dragan Lukač, Assistant Directors. The leaders of the Agency were faced with difficult tasks. Without accommodation, personnel and implementing regulations they needed to build up the agency for the After the establishment of the Court and Prosecutor's professional and efficient performance of duties and

responsibilities. The first official meeting of the Agency Management was held at unofficial premises, which illustrates the developmental course of the Agency.

The Agency needed to become operational and therefore it was necessary to provide facilities, develop and adopt relevant regulations, and recruit the staff. In December 2002, the first Ordinance on Internal Organisation and Job Classification was developed, as well as other regulations necessary for the operation of the Agency, which provided legal prerequisites for the recruitment of the staff. By the end of 2003, the Agency had 86 employees. However, the issues of accommodation, lack of human, material and technical resources still remained, and these were the main reasons why the Agency did not become operational in

Office of B&H, the need was imposed to establish a state

-level law enforcement agency to act as a service, police and operational tool of the judiciary. The then Agency and its internal organisational structure, powers and capacities could not meet the need.

Following the adoption of the new set of laws in June 2004, when the Law on State Investigation and Protection Agency was adopted, the State Information. and Protection Agency was transformed to the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA), with full police powers. This moment marks the beginning of the development and reinforcement of SIPA operational capacity.

Under a differnt name and substantially expanded powers, a new period in the development of SIPA began. New tasks were set before the SIPA-Management. It was necessary to intensify the development and improvement of the SIPA operational capabilities, which would impose itself, by its work and results, as an unavoidable security factor in the overall security system in B&-H.

This was also the period when the headquarters of SIPA moved from inadequate premises scattered in several locations to the "Zrak" building whereby the preconditions for further growth and development were created.

The increase of staffing, material and technical reinforcement and improved working conditions resulted in making all 15 main organisational units operational in 2006.

The development of SIPA in terms of operations and personnel, including its responsibility to the domestic and international authorities, imposed the need to resolve its permanent location. Thus, the construction of the SIPA building began. At the time, SIPA was located in nine rented buildings, and paid over a million BAM annual rent for five of them.

Finally, SIPA moved to a new building in Istočno Sarajevo in 2010. Today, SIPA has modern and functional premises fitting its needs and providing optimal conditions for its operation.

In accordance with the changes in the police structures in B&H), the adoption of the Law on Amendments to the Law on the State Investigation and Protection Agency. tasks and duties pertaining to the protection of VIPs and buildings within SIPA competence, were transferred under the competence of the Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies in B&H.

Today, SIPA's tasks and duties are performed by its main fourteen organisational units.



This year, when SIPA celebrates the 10th Anniversary, it is headed by Goran Zubac, and it is continuing the upward trend of results in all areas of work falling under its scope.

Now, SIPA is a respectable security factor in B&H and the region, making it even more committed to develop in line with security challenges imposed.



Mission & Vision Statements

Adequate and Efficient Response to Crime Criminal Investigation Department



MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to prevent organised crime, corruption, serious financial crime and terrorism, detect and investigate war crimes and protect witnesses.

We will provide protection to all B6-H citizens and enhance their sense of security and trust in the security system.

We will cooperate with the public and other law enforcement agencies.

We will retain the leading position and remain a distinctive cooperation partner in international investigations of organised crime.



VISION STATEMENT

As the leading law enforcement agency in 86-H, the State Investigation and Protection Agency, in cooperation with other agencies, will provide the higest quality services in securing safety of citizens and property.



Organised crime, terrorism, human trafficking, financial crime, illicit arms trafficking, illicit narcotics trafficking and other crimes under the jurisdiction of the B&H Court and Prosecutor's Office are investigated by the officials of the Criminal Investigation Department. Together with SIPA, this Department is a major pillar of the protection of the citizens and country.

Since the establishment, the cooperation with domestic and international law enforcement authorities, has contributed to a number successful criminal investigations resulting in the detection of some of the largest organised criminal groups and individuals in B&H, the neighbouring countries and EU.

Anti-Terrorism Section seeks to contribute to the successful fight against terrorism as one of the greatest challenges of security and scourges of the modern world. As a part of the anti-terrorist coalition, in accordance with the programming goals of the Agency and adopted state-level strategic documents, the Section has the capacity to carry out the most complex terrorism-related investigations. One such investigation was of a terrorist act against the U.S. Embassy in Sarajevo in October 2011, upon which our Agency received the Certificate of Appreciation from the B&H Prosecutor's Office.

Investigations of illicit trafficking of weapons, military equipment and explosives are aimed at detecting and preventing illicit trafficking of arms and its use terrorist-acts and other criminal offences. In the operations by the investigators, large quantities of explosives, weapons and other military equipment were found and seized. The most recent successful operation was carried out in July 2012 in Zavidovići resulting in discovery and seizure of over 20 kg of military explosives, about 100 anti-personnel mines, dozens of hand grenades and launchers as well as other weapons and ammunition.

Financial crime and corruption is a "festering wound" of any transitional society, including ours. Proportional to the increase of financial crime and corruption rates in B&H, SIPA seeks and manages to respond adequately to these challenges, confirmed by the number of reports filed to the Prosecutor's Office on grounds for suspicion



of the perpetration of a financial criminal offence. In 2010, 13 reports were filed against 33 individuals, there were 13 reports against 49 individuals in 2011, while in only six months of 2012, 11 reports against 28 individuals were filed to the B&H Prosecutor's Office.

Organised crime is manifested in different forms, meaning that there is no offence from the group of the most serious criminal offences, which is not the result of organised criminal activities. The investigators of this Section have conducted, independently or in cooperation with other domestic and international law enforcement agencies, a number of operations and made remarkable results:



Adequate and Efficient Response to Crime Criminal Investigation Department

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 2006/2007 – a printing shop including counterfeiting equipment and over 400.000 counterfeit Euro banknotes, were seized in the B&H territory within the international investigation conducted in cooperation with Europol, Austrian, Slovenian and Croatian Police as well as the entity Ministries of Interior.

- 2009 – Over 100,000 counterfeit Euro banknotes were seized as the result of the disruption of smuggling channels from Serbia and Bulgaria to B&H in cooperation with our Regional Office in Mostar and thanks to an excellent cooperation with the Serbian Ministry of Interior.





- 2010 – a cocaine smuggling chain from Latin America (Paraguay) to B&H was disrupted resulting in the seizure of I kg of pure cocaine, which was the largest seizure of this narcotic in B&H, while three individuals were apprehended. During this operation, we established excellent cooperation with the Customs Service of Germany.



-2010/2011 – an investigation into an organised criminal group of ZT from Sarajevo included 23 individuals due to grounded suspicion of having committed several serious crimes in conjunction with criminal offences of illicit trafficking in weapons, military equipment and dual-use products, illicit drug trafficking, money laundering, robbery, murder, attempted murder, causing general danger, and aggravated theft. This case has been identified as the largest and highly organised activity the Agency has taken.

 In April 2012, 100 kg of commercial explosives and 275 pieces of electric detonator caps were seized. Three individuals were deprived of liberty and handed over to the Prosecutor's Office for further processing.



We are witnessing today that trafficking in human beings is manifested through prostitution and international recruitment for prostitution and sexual exploitation, keeping people in slavery, labour exploitation, torture and other forms of inhuman treatment, and in particular pornography and paedophilia. Our investigators participated in several regional projects, which made the preconditions for successful cooperation and information exchange between the countries in the region and beyond. One such project is "Enhancing Operational Capacity to Investigate and Disrupt Human Trafficking Activities in the Western Balkans" implemented by the UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime), aimed at developing human capacities for efficient identification and disruption of organised criminal groups, implementing investigations and reinforcing law enforcement authorities in the Western Balkans.

According to the information available to SIPA, B&H is also a transit and destination area for drug trafficking. The investigators of the Section for Prevention and Detection of Drug-Related Crimes have focused on the collection of operational information and investigations into individuals and criminal groups, belonging to an international drug-smuggling ring. These are the highlights of some drug seizures:



2008 – operation aimed at the disruption of a heroinsmuggling chain between Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina resulted in the seizure of 6 kg of high quality heroin and deprivation of liberty of two B&H citizens and one citizen of Montenegro

2010 and 2012 – seizure of over 22 kg of marijuana "skunk", 20 individuals reported to the Prosecutor's Office for the perpetration of a drug-related criminal offence: the 2012 operation was conducted in cooperation with the Montenegrin Police;

2012 - as a result of the successful cooperation with the law enforcement agencies of Spain, 2 kg of psychotropic substance pyrovalerone with the estimated street value of around BAM 200.000 were seized.



The police officials of the Criminal Investigation Department have demonstrated a high level of professionalism, initiative, firmness, courage and efficiency in all investigations conducted. The Criminal Police of SIPA is the most attractive and most responsible choice for a police career and nightmare of all criminals.





Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing

Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing



If you have ever doubted the fact that money can be "laundered", we will tell you it can. "Money laundering" in global cash flows implies the concealment of a true source of money, property or rights obtained by illegally acquired funds. Hence, the essence of money laundering is that illegally earned money appears as lawful earnings.

According to estimations of the International Monetary Fund, illegally acquired money injected into legal cash flows, or simply "laundered money", makes up 2-5 percent of world gross product.

SIPA is the only institution in B&H having an organisational unit solely responsible for the prevention and investigation of money laundering and financing of terrorist activities. The Financial Intelligence Department of SIPA is responsible for this type of crime.

The Financial Intelligence Department was established in 2004 and became a member of the Egmont Group in 2005 (an informal group of Financial Intelligence Units, which currently gathers more than 130 Financial Intelligence Units around the world, whose primary goal is the improvement of international cooperation). Since the aspect of international cooperation is essential, membership in the Egmont Group enables the Department to exchange data necessary for investigations and performance of duties and tasks within its competence with other member countries.

Since it became operational, the Department has blocked 181 cash transactions totalling BAM 26.088,852.51, suspected to originate from the crime. More than a hundred reports submitted by the Financial Intelligence Department against 269 physical and 8 legal entities, due to grounds for suspicion of having committed the criminal offence of money laundering, included the amount totalling BAM 296.096.575.09.

In a single operation resulting from international cooperation on the prevention of money laundering, the police officials of the Financial Intelligence Department discovered and seized the cash in foreign currency equivalent to BAM 1.3 million and 2.8 kg of gold jewellery, suspected to originate from the perpetration of criminal offences.

Financing of terrorism is a global problem and an international phenomenon. The Financial Intelligence Department is responsible for the prevention and investigation of these types of crimes, both in the framework of investigations conducted in connection with terrorism, and prevention through collection and exchange of financial intelligence pertaining to potential financing of terrorist activities. The Department collects data with reference to individuals and organisations, which are subjects to international restrictive measures on the basis of their association with terrorist activities and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.









Investigation and Prosecution of War Crimes - Prerequisites for Peace and Coexistence in B&H

Witness Protection as Key Instrument in Establishing the Rule of Law



One of the main prerequisites for the peace and coexistence of peoples in Bosnia and Herzegovina and its European and global integration, is identification, detection and transfer to relevant judicial authorities of all individuals involved in the violation of international conventions, declarations, agreements and laws governing the area of war crimes.

The Centre for Investigation of War Crimes Punishable under International War and Humanitarian Laws is one of the main organisational units of the State Investigation and Protection Agency. This Centre, under the supervision of the B&H Prosecutor's Office, is tasked with the collection and analysis of intelligence and investigation and documentation of crimes against humanity and values protected by the international law committed in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period 1992-1995.

In recent years, the investigators working on war crimes have received nearly 3.000 orders of the Prosecutor's Office, of which about 2.000 have been executed.





More than 1.500 investigations into a number of individuals suspected of having committed war crimes were finalised. Moreover, in many cases, we provided support and acted by orders of the entity Prosecutor's Offices.

The operations, which resulted in the apprehension of 160 individuals suspected of having committee offences punishable under international war and humanitarian law, were successfully carried out. In addition, around 16.000 interviews with citizens were conducted and around 10.000 witness statements were taken.

The investigators specially trained to conduct extensive investigations of war crimes have contributed to the successful work of the Centre, which will continue intensive investigations to bring all perpetrators of war crimes to justice.

The Witness Protection Department of the State Investigation and Protection Agency is the only department in Bosnia and Herzegovina specialised for the protection of and support to protected witnesses. Since 2004, when it became operational, the Witness Protection Department have provided a protection to around 700 witnesses giving testimonies before the B&H Court and Entity Courts and upon requests of the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia and neighbouring judiciaries.

Lives of the witnesses, who followed the instructions and directions of this Department, and lives of their families have never been jeopardised.



All members of the Department have passed rigorous security screenings and undergone specialist trainings for a professional performance of their job. All protected witnesses, including witnesses subject to the activities of the Department, have been safe without the risk of information leaks. All witnesses have been provided with the highest level of protection as a prerequisite for giving testimonies before the judicial authorities without any fear for their lives or the lives of their families.





The vision of this Department is to affirm itself as an important and reliable factor for the witness support and protection in fighting organised crime and other types of serious criminal offences. By the improvement of the witness protection programme, the State Investigation and Protection Agency will continue developing this Department as one of the key instruments of the judiciary and security sector in the prosecution of organised crimes, war crimes and other types of crimes.



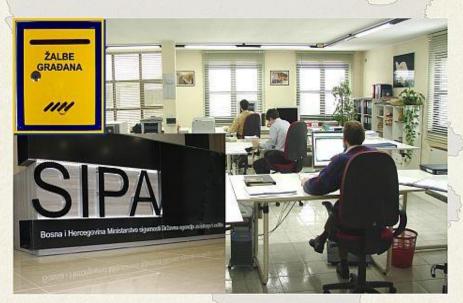


Internal Control in Police - Imperative of Rule of Law

Elite Unit for High-Risk Tasks

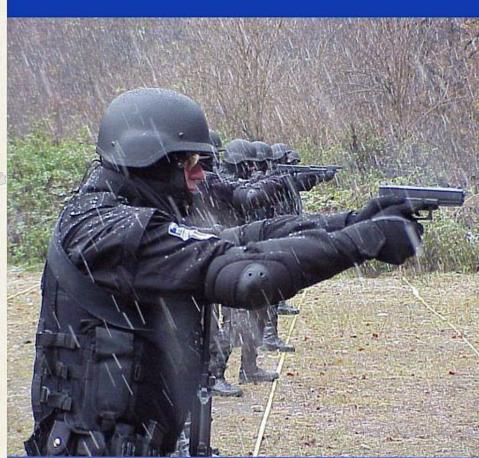


Every police system should be powerful, strong and effective in the prevention and investigation of crimes, taking care of not becoming oppressive and threatening to personal freedoms and staying within legislative framework. The necessity of internal control in the police is becoming an imperative of the rule of law, and therefore the State Investigation and Protection Agency has the Internal Control Department, which conducts investigations into misconduct and work of police officials and other employees of the Agency, carries out investigative procedures on the use of force and lethal force, excess of authority and corruption in police as well as basic security checks.



Our citizens are the initiators of internal investigations. In addition to internal investigations, the Department also and as such, can file a complaint on the work of police officials at any moment. Previous experience in the work with the citizens shows their confidence in the investigators of the Department, which is best illustrated by their feedback on the work of police officials of our and other security agencies. Regardless of the content of the requests received, we take all necessary measures and actions to verify the allegations, and in all cases the B&H Parliamentary Assembly Citizens Appeal Board confirmed and agreed on the activities taken and decisions made by the investigators of our Department.

conducts basic security checks. Anyone who intends to establish a labour relationship in the civil service or take office as an elected official has to undergo basic security checks. The Department has completed the checks for 8.012 individuals so far.







They are courageous, highly trained, equipped and professional. They are the Special Support Unit of SIPA.

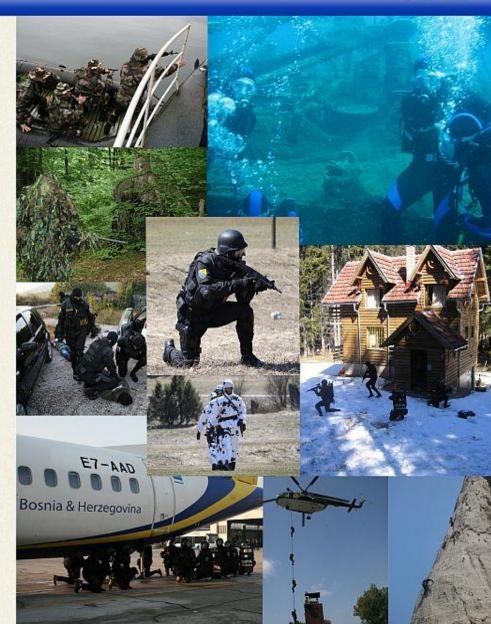
The SIPA Special Support Unit is a modern, highly professional and highly trained unit, specialised for high-risk tasks. Although relatively young - it became operational in 2005 - the Unit has acquired a high level of competence, and it was trained after the model of global special units.



Dedicated work, sacrifices and specialist trainings enabled this Unit to carry out 1.170 operations and 616 apprehensions without excessive force of individuals suspected of having committed most serious crimes.

The development of the Unit has been supported by criminal groups or individuals. training programmes implemented under the auspices of foreign instructors, enabling the Unit to become a part of the anti-terrorist programme.

Today, the Unit is undoubtedly an equal counterpart of international anti-terrorism forces, while its primary purpose is fighting all types of organised crime, terrorism, resolving hostage situations in airplanes, trains, vessels, buses and barricaded buildings, high-risk arrests of





Operations Support for Greater Achievements in Fighting Crime

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Today, in times of electronic expansion, it is almost impossible to imagine investigations without proper operations support. SIPA includes the Operations Support Service providing necessary assistance in conducting investigations in terms of special investigative measures, IT support and anti-sabotage checks.



The Operations Support Service takes measures of operational and technical field surveillance and conducts analysis of digital evidence in criminal proceedings for SIPA and other police authorities in B&H. These measures and activities are performed by the Section for Operational and Technical Surveillance exclusively upon orders by the B&H Court and Prosecutor's Office. The Service has considerably contributed to detection and apprehension of perpetrators and become an unavoidable and respectable factor in investigations, both in the application of special investigative actions and analysis of digital evidence.

Good cooperation with all police agencies in B&H as well as German, Swedish, Austrian, Serbian, Croatian, Montenegrin, Slovenian and Macedonian police agencies has been established. In addition to a number of successfully finalised operations with the neighbouring countries, there were also several cross border surveillance trainings. Good results have also been made in terms of a quantity of analysed digital evidence and contributions in criminal procedures before the B&H





In contemporary times of massive utilisation of electronic communications, security-threatening events may occasionally occur. Therefore, in 2008, the Centre for Lawful Interception of Communications was formed within the Operations Support Service as the result of the need to perform lawful interception and retention of information in electronic communications.

The main activities of the Centre include 24/7 performance of operational measures and activities aimed at timely collection of information on perpetrators of criminal offences and intelligence about criminal activities of individuals or organised groups.

In addition to work and tasks performed for SIPA, the Centre also provides technical support to other police agencies in B&H in special investigative measures of surveillance and technical recordings of telecommunications.

Since it became operational, the Centre of Lawful Interception of Communications has worked on approximately 200 cases, within which it developed ca. 17.000 transcripts. The scope of tasks and duties of the Centre is illustrated by the fact that the Centre has used 2.4 TB of memory space for lawful interception of communications.



The Operations Support Service is also responsible for the implementation of anti-sabotage protection and 943 antisabotage checks have been performed so far. In addition, this organisational unit records daily security-related events and maintains a very complex IT and communications system of the Agency.





Human Resources and Material and Financial Support

Regional Offices



Administration and Internal Support Service

In the past ten years, the personnel policy was being implemented in line with the plan and needs for optimal operation of SIPA, SIPA became operational with three members of staff, and the number has been increasing from year to year. Although initially the Agency had a small number of employees, they have succeeded in establishing the Agency with their knowledge, skills and maximum dedication, despite limited material and technical resources. Staffing was done mainly by public job announcements to which more than 12.000 candidates applied in the past ten years. During job selection procedures, only candidates who met job requirements for a police authority, and who stood out with their educational, moral and human qualities, were selected. Even though they were all from diverse backgrounds, those who were hired adapted quickly, and contributed to successful results of SIPA by their committed work. Currently, the staffing of SIPA is over 70%. During the employment procedure, attention was paid to increase the representation of women in SIPA. Today, the percentage of women in SIPA is 23%, while the percentage of female police officials is 11%.

Staffing activities will be continued until the optimal number is reached, particularly in the segment of strengthening investigative capacities.



Service for Material and Financial Matters

The material and technical equipping of SIPA is an important segment of efficient performance of tasks and duties.

In addition, the procurement of adequate specialised equipment is one of the prerequisites for efficient investigations and fieldwork. Therefore, a number of open procedures, direct agreements, negotiation procedures and other procurement procedures prescribed by law have been implemented.

In May 2008, the construction of the building for SIPA's headquarters was initiated and completed two years later. Since May 2010, the main offices of SIPA have been located in the new building, which provides optimal conditions for the operation and functioning.

SIPA has received a number of various donations. IT equipment, furniture, motor vehicles, communication means, police and other equipment, as well as assistance in the implementation of specialised trainings, are some of the donations provided by foreign and local donors, which contributed substantially to progress and results of the Agency.

In the past ten years, available budgetary funds varied in line with the needs of SIPA. The funds were used for their designated purpose and owing to rational distribution, they were sufficient for the optimal functioning of the Agency.









In order to perform all tasks and duties efficiently in the entire territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the State Investigation and Protection Agency established four regional offices: Banja Luka, Mostar, Sárajevo and Tuzla. In the early years after the establishment of the regional offices, activities on staffing and provision of material and technical resources were carried out. Simultaneously, trainings of personnel in relevant fields were held and measures were taken to reinforce operational capacities and professionalism. Today, the regional offices of SIPA have the capacity to respond to all security challenges.

Banja Luka Regional Office

The Banja Luka Regional Office was established in 2003 as one of four regional offices of the former Information and Protection Agency of B&H. This Regional Office performs tasks and duties within its operational competence covering the territories of the Banja Luka Public Security Centre and Doboj Public Security Centre in the Republic of Srpska, as well as the territory of the Una-Sana Canton Ministry of Interior in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This Regional Office has carried out important operations in combating organised crime, corruption and terrorism, of which "Kastel". "Kran" and "Foks" operations are particularly significant. During these operations, a considerable quantity of narcotics was seized (modified cannabis sativa — marijuana with production equipment), as well as large quantities of arms, military equipment and explosives.



Mostar Regional Office

The Mostar Regional Office became operational on I October 2003. It performs tasks and duties within the responsibility zone covering the territory of the Trebinje Public Security Centre in the Republic of Srpska and Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, Western Herzegovina Canton and Livno Canton Ministries of Interior in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



As the result of detecting criminal offences of organised crime, illicit trafficking in narcotics, trafficking in human beings, illicit trafficking in arms and military equipment, financial crime and war crimes, the Office has carried out a number of operations, and the most notable are the operations code-named "Prenj", "Istok" and "Trebišnjica", whereby 140 kg of skunk was seized. The "Prenj" Operation was carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia, when an organised criminal group was dismantled. In the operations code-named "Gabela" and "Oštrelj", considerable quantity of arms and ammunition was found and seized.

Sarajevo Regional Office

The Sarajevo Regional Office was established in early November 2004. It performs tasks and duties in the responsibility zone covering the territories of the Istočno Sarajevo Public Security Centre in the Republic of Srpska and Sarajevo Canton, Zenica-Doboj Canton, Central Bosnia Canton and Bosnian Podrinje Canton Ministries of Interior in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Sarajevo Regional Office has contributed substantially to the suppression of organised crime, financial crime, corruption, terrorism, trafficking in human beings and war crimes. Numerous operations have been successfully carried out, whereby 14 kg of "skunk", 3 kg of "ecstasy", 3.2 kg of heroin and 21.5 kg of "skunk", in the street value of ca. BAM 2 million, were seized.



In the framework of suppressing violation of copyrights, a number of operations were carried out, and 596,000 pirated CD/DVDs, 1.690 copied books by various authors, 2.072 counterfeit cartridges and 31 hard disks were seized.

Tuzla Regional Office

The Tuzla Regional Office was established on 1 March 2006 and it is the youngest regional office of SIPA. Its operational competence covers the territory of the Bijeljina Public Security Centre in the Republic of Srpska, Brčko District B&H and Tuzla Canton and Posavina Canton Ministries of Interior in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

With the maximum deployment of available human, material and technical resources, the Tuzla Regional Office has achieved significant results, which largely contribute to the overall achievements of SIPA.

Thirty nine operating machines valued at ca. EUR 3.000.000, were seized in the operation code-named "Radne mašine". Within the anti-narcotic activities, in one of the operations, this organisational unit seized 1.55.6 kg of "skunk", valued at BAM 350.000 in the B&H illegal narcotics market and over EUR 600.000 in the Western European market. The police officials of this Office have also worked on several extremely complex investigations ("Aura", "Panama biznis", etc.) into the VAT system abuse and frauds, which revealed multimillion BAM damage to the budget of B&H.



International and Inter-Agency Cooperation



Given that official international cooperation is originally within the competence of state-level authorities and that the State Investigation and Protection Agency is the leading police agency in Bosnia and Herzegovina, official police cooperation, both international and inter-agency, is one of the most important aspects of SIPA's work. Activities within the competence of SIPA include prevention, detection and investigation of the most serious types of criminal offences, requiring the establishment of unified mechanisms, which in addition to information exchange must include operational and strategic aspects of bilateral, regional and multilateral official cooperation.

carried out through bilateral agreements and in the European Union, SECI Centre, Interpol, Europol, NATO, UN, Council of Europe, DCAF and Egmont Group.

A strong commitment of SIPA is also the development of regional police cooperation to meet and adopt European standards, which will create prerequisites for the integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina into the European and Euro-Atlantic structures. In this respect, a continuous priority in SIPA's work is the improvement of cooperation with neighbouring law enforcement agencies based on joint interests and principles of equality, mutual respect and recognition of the sovereignty and territorial integrity. In this context, it is important to mention the Regional Cooperation Council - RCC based in Sarajevo, a regional organisation established in the process of transfer of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe into the ownership of the countries in the region.

However, in order for SIPA, and the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to meet the mentioned objectives, interaction, coordination and cooperation between all the law enforcement agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina are necessary, particularly bearing in mind, the fragmented security system of the country.



The bilateral and multilateral cooperation of SIPA is It is important to note that none of these objectives is possible without internal security and stability of the framework of multilateral structures, such as the country, safety of the citizens and their property, as well as improvement of their confidence in the security system, which is a duty, obligation and priority of SIPA.

> An excellent indicator of high-level inter-agency and international police cooperation, established as the result of dedicated work, as well as cooperative, professional and partnership relationship between SIPA and other law enforcement agencies in the country and beyond, is. the establishment of the Joint Terrorism Task Force. This Task Force is based in SIPA's building and it is composed of representatives from nine law enforcement authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including SIPA.

> In addition, the Project of Sava River Mine Cleaning, initiated as the result of bilateral cooperation between SIPA and the Czech Republic Police, is one of the most important projects of SIPA in the domain of international and inter-agency cooperation. The exceptional importance of the Project is supported by the fact that this is the first B&H multi-agency project and the first international project of the kind implemented in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Fifteen agencies from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic and Republic of Croatia participated in its implementation. During the ten-day demining activities, the Czech divers took out 149 mortar shells and rifle grenades left over from the war in the Sava River.







The Public - Our Partner in Fighting Crime

Members of SIPA in Peacekeeping Missions





Have you ever wanted to report a criminal offence, but in fear for your personal safety, you did not do it?

Crime-Stoppers hotline.

The sole purpose of the Crime-Stoppers hotline is reporting useful information and intelligence by the public about planned or committed criminal offences.

The Crime-Stoppers Project was initiated by the European Union Police Mission (EUPM) and it was financed by the British Embassy in Sarajevo. The project was transferred to the competence of SIPA on 30 March



Since the transfer of the Crime-Stoppers Project, the police officials of SIPA have received ca. 9.900 information to the anonymous hotline, which they SIPA provides you an anonymous and free of charge forwarded to relevant police authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the result of which was the submission of 336 reports on committed criminal offences and 84 violation reports to competent Prosecutor's Offices.

> One of numerous examples of successful cooperation with the public is a 2009 case of trafficking in human beings reported to the Crime-Stoppers, which led to the arrest of two individuals and their prosecution.

> This type of cooperation has contributed to raising public awareness on the necessity of joint actions against all types of crime for a higher level of public security in B&H.



The participation of a country in the UN Peacekeeping Missions meets international obligations stemming from signature and ratification of international legal instruments and it sends a message about political maturity and stability of a country and its institutions. The participation in Peacekeeping Missions is an opportunity to exchange experiences with police officials from all over the world and perfect the language, acquire new knowledge and pass it on, which will eventually facilitate the integration of the police into international police cooperation and compliance with global standards.

SIPA has also recognised the importance of participation of its members in peacekeeping missions. Currently, ten members of SIPA, including two women, are deployed in the UN Peacekeeping Missions in South Sudan, Cyprus and Liberia. Previously, five other police officials had participated in peacekeeping missions.



Police officials of SIPA who ended their service in peacekeeping missions and those who are still in some of them, have demonstrated exceptional professionalism and expertise. Ognien Crnogorac, police official of SIPA currently in the peacekeeping mission in Liberia, owing to very successful and notable results in the past two years, has been promoted from the Team Leader into the Commander of the Region 2, one of the five regions in this African country.



The participation of SIPA members in peacekeeping missions will be continued. In April 2012, a two-week pre-mission training was held in the Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC) in Butmir for police officials from B&H, some of whom will be sent to UN peace support operations. The pre-mission training was successfully finalised by ten police officials of SIPA. while Senka Soikić, SIPA police official, was the most successful attendee of the training.





Cadets

Training is not Expense, It is Investment



A key to success of every institution is high quality personnel with appropriate professional and moral qualities, as well as their continuous professional training and advancement. Renewal of police personnel is one of the priorities of SIPA human resource policy, implemented by the employment of highly educated young people-cadets in the rank of a Junior Inspector, who after an appropriate training are qualified to meet the needs and requirements of their jobs. SIPA has accepted and trained three generations of cadets, i.e. 62 employees in the rank of Junior Inspectors, who have already contributed to SIPA work.







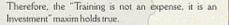




Upon the selection process and strict testing of over a thousand candidates. 44 four-class cadets were selected and after they passed the training they became police officials of SIPA.

Not so long ago, it was a matter of choice whether trainings would be implemented or not. Today, in times of rapid changes, training is a requirement, right and duty of every employee of B&H authorities, including our Agency.

Without a well-organised training in public administration authorities and funds for planning and organisation of systematic trainings, a much higher price could be paid due to the incompetence to respond to the challenges of general reforms, higher crime rate, its new trends and phenomena.





The State Investigation and Protection Agency has recognised the need for training the personnel, and placed high importance to this area.

In the framework of its capacities, SIPA has organised and implemented a number of trainings, mainly physical trainings, firearms shooting and other. SIPA has also recognised the importance of professional training of its own trainers. Today, SIPA has certified trainers, who successfully transfer their knowledge to their colleagues. SIPA is also well aware of the fact that a lot more needs to be invested into this area because continuous trainings, are one of the key factors in the achievement of good work results.





SIPA's primary strategic partner in the organisation and implementation of trainings, particularly specialised trainings, has been the U.S. Government Department of Justice in the framework of the International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (USDOJ/ICITAP).

In addition, important partners in the organisation of trainings so far were Embassies of different countries to B&H and foreign governments, as well as numerous international authorities, local government organisations and associations, non-government organisations, Ministries of Interior of the neighbouring countries and many others who have contributed to the implementation of training the personnel of the Agency.





The structure of SIPA personnel includes 23% of women. The women in SIPA are police officials, civil servants and administrative staff.

The women in SIPA are not merely numbers. They perform all duties, from the most simple to the most complex, bringing in enthusiasm, effort and energy, as well as warmth as needed.

In December 2003, SIPA hired the first female police official to a position previously held mainly by male officials.

Due to the job seriousness and complexity, as well as the stereotype that police work is "man's job", the following questions were asked in the job interview:

- Does your husband know you will be working nights?
- Are you aware that, as a woman, you have to take account of conduct and be responsible for the work of 25 male police officials?
- Do you know you have to carry arms and be a police official 24/7?

The reply of the applicant to these questions was "Yes".

The female police officials in SIPA in the past ten years proved capable for the most complex police work, to investigate the most complex criminal offences shoulder to shoulder with male colleagues, to protect and approach a victim better than any male colleague, carry arms and at times achieve even better results in a shooting range than their male counterparts.

The women in SIPA, as police officials and civil servants, were involved in the development of the B&H Gender Action Plan (GAP) and Action Plan for the Implementation of the UNSCR 1325 – Resolution "Women, Peace and Security", a historic document requiring inclusion of women at all levels of decision making.



In October 2011, the Association of Female Police Officials in B&H Police Authorities was registered, including SIPA police officials as well. In the framework of this Association, female police officials of SIPA will advocate improvement of the position of female police officials, development of strategic approach to the admission of women to the service, particularly female police officials, their education and improvement of the system of promotion in the service and resource management for the increase of women in managerial positions.



For the past 80 years, the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Austria has traditionally organised Police Balls attended by cadets of Police Schools/Academies of the Republic of Austria, as well as cadets from Police Schools/Academies from other countries.



Six members of the State Investigation and Protection Agency attended the traditional Police Ball on 20 January 2012 in Vienna.

A seven-day programme for ten dancing couples from different B&H police authorities, in addition to practicing the waltz and special choreography, also included visits to various police authorities and cultural sights of Vienna.



This event proves that police profession, to which police officials are dedicated, does not constrain them from demonstrating their skills in other, more beautiful walks of life.



Our Work in the Community - Integration of Police in Society

Our Work in the Community - Integration of Police in Society



The work of police structures in the community is a contemporary method for the integration of the police in introduced the organisation and work of SIPA. society and a partnership between the police and the Moreover, on the occasion of the EU Anti-Trafficking public, who cooperate in detecting and solving security. Day, SIPA took part in the implementation of the issues in the community. This method of work strengthens the feeling of security and contributes to the lt campaign, with the aim of raising public awareness on trust between the public and police.

Security is a complex phenomenon, not possible without an active participation of all members of a society. SIPA has recognised this. In 2010 and 2011, several hundreds of prominent business people, health and education practitioners, police officials, politicians, members of government and non-government organisations across B&H, were invited to participate in the activities of SIPA's Citizens Forum. The forums were organised as discussions with the Management of SIPA, and they are a part of SIPA's activities carried out in recent years for the improvement of the public confidence in the work of SIPA and joint efforts to resolve security issues.



SIPA took part in a number of promotional campaigns titled "Stronger, Faster, Better", "Corruption Takes Everything from You", "Dare!", "Choose Life, not Drugs", which are only some of campaigns implemented jointly with other B&H law enforcement agencies, and sponsored by the European Union Police Mission (EUPM), for raising public awareness on particular issues in the society. In the framework of these campaigns, visits to elementary and secondary schools were organised, as

well as visits by students to SIPA, where they were "Trafficking in Human Beings is our Reality - Let's Stop this issue.



Since the internet has been increasingly misused for the perpetration of various criminal offences, SIPA has organised lectures for students of several elementary schools on the proper use of the Facebook social network and dangers of the internet, as well as violence against children using IT technologies, with a particular emphasis on child pornography. In addition, within the cooperation between SIPA and university students, the students of the Faculty of Law, University in Tuzla, traditionally pay an annual visit to the Tuzla Regional Office, where appropriate lectures are organised.

Every year, a get-together of children and members of the Special Support Unit is organised at the e Kid's Festival, including adequate programme and introduction of the Unit through play.



SIPA has also participated in the "Open Days of Security event organised by the NATO Headquarters with the aim of demonstrating skills and capacities of local and international security authorities.

The work of police in the community does not imply only fighting crime, but also the improvement of the quality of life and provision of assistance to the public, SIPA has proved this. In addition to being trained for high-risk tasks, the Special Support Unit have also shown their ability and readiness to assist the citizens in need. Breaking through heavy snow storm, the members of this Unit helped the public in danger, by delivering medical supplies and food. They were also hired several times for snow removal from endangered buildings. The Unit members have been voluntarily collecting money for gifts to the "Miedenica" Institute for Upbringing and Special Education, Sarajevo, "Vratite nam osmjeh" Association of Youth and Parents Istočno Sarajevo, "Drin" Institute for Mentally Disabled, Foinica, etc.



The employees of the Agency have shown humanity by donating blood for contemporary treatment methods, particularly in the field of Haematology, Oncology, Cardio Surgery and Orthopaedics, requiring substantial quantities of blood for therapies.







"Lutka" and "Bos" - Attacking Organised Crime in B&H

"Lutka" and "Bos" - Attacking Organised Crime in B&H



Two latest operations of SIPA, code-named "Lutka" and "Bos" were carried out in September 2012 and they struck a heavy blow to organised criminal groups in B&H. Following complex investigations, criminal organisations involved in organised crime were dismantled.

The "Lutka" Operation has to this date been the most complex and largest police operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which 25 individuals were arrested, and the report on the committed criminal offence included 43 suspects. During police measures and actions carried out in cooperation with the entity police agencies and other law enforcement authorities, as well as Ministry of Interior of Serbia, SIPA collected serious information and evidence that this criminal organisation committed a number of criminal offences, including trafficking in narcotics, money laundering, committed murders and insidious murder planning, and particularly murder planning of police officials who were investigating the criminal offences committed by this criminal organisation, aggravated robberies, usury, abuse of official position, etc.

The purpose of the committed criminal offences was to acquire large material gain and provoke fear in citizens, which would create instability of the country and its citizens and result in immeasurable consequences to the country and its structure. The development of this

situation was one of the objectives of this organisation to reinforce its positions for further activities.

The criminal offences committed by this organised criminal group are very complex and fall within the category of serious criminal offences. That is the reason why the police investigation has been long and it will be continued.

The operation code-named "Bos" is the result of a yearslong investigation by the police officials of SIPA into members of an organised criminal group who were committing criminal offences of tax evasion, customs fraud and money laundering, thus inflicting multi-million damage to the B&H budget.

In the framework of this operation carried out in cooperation with the Entity Ministries of Interior, seven members of the criminal group were arrested and considerable quantity of money was found and seized, as well as financial documentation and other evidence, which will be used in the criminal procedure.

The "Lutka" and "Bos" operations are the result of a thorough, persistent and professional work. They prove readiness and determination of the State Investigation and Protection Agency to fight all types of organised crime.





Media about Us

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za zločine u kasarni "Viktor Bubanj"



State Investigation and Protection Agency

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Disclaimer

This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the State Investigation and Protection Agency and the consortium led by the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Austria and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

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The global objective of this Project is to contribute to bring Bosnia and Herzegovina's law enforcement institutions up to the level required for EU accession. In this way, the Project will assist BiH in achieving its obligations under the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) as the Project components are directly and indirectly addressing several articles under Title VII (Justice, Freedom and Security) of the SAA.

State Investigation and Protection Agency is one of the direct beneficiaries of the Project and, at the same, host to the two Project components, namely Component II dealing with fight against organized crime and Component V whose activities are focused on supporting the State Investigation and Protection Agency in the fields of lawful interception, human resources management, strengthening of the capacities and handling of informants. State Investigation and Protection Agency officials, each in his/her domain of expertise, are with no restrictions involved in the activities of other Project components in cases when the activities' topics are related to tasks and responsibilities of the State Investigation and Protection Agency and coordination of its actions with other law enforcement agencies in BiH.

"10th Anniversary of State Investigation and Protection Agency"

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Istočno Sarajevo, Nikole Tesle 59

Telephone: 057/326-100 Fax: 057/326-105

E-Mail: sipa@sipa.gov.ba Web: www.sipa.gov.ba

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