

## Sarajevo increased renewable energy penetration

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BiH has significant renewable energy potential, particularly in hydropower and wind power capacity. Hydropower provided 29 percent of the country's total electricity production in 2022 and there is room for additional growth. Recently, solar and wind power plants have emerged but remain a small percentage of the overall energy mix at about 6 percent. According to a study conducted by the German government, BiH could generate up to 2000 MW of wind energy per year, primarily in the areas of Livno, Tomislavgrad, Mostar, and Trebinje. This nascent industry still faces several regulatory and financial challenges.

After the 1992-1995 war, the once-unified power system in BiH was divided into three vertically integrated companies split along geographic/ethnic lines. The three government-owned electric power generation and distribution companies are: Elektroprivreda BiH (EPBiH), Elektroprivreda Republike Srpske (ERS), and Elektroprivreda Hrvatske Zajednice Herceg Bosna (EPHZHB). The companies were created along ethnic/geographic lines rather than for technical reasons, and there are significant generation disparities between them:

BiH"s electrical grid has suffered from decades of neglected maintenance and a lack of investment. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has provided a corporate loan of up to EUR 20.1 million to Elektroprenos BiH (Transco) for the modernization and upgrading of its telecommunication system. The project should lead to improvements in cross-border trade through better management of the transmission network. The project will facilitate the purchase and installation of a new telecommunication system for the entire transmission network in BiH; the delivery and installation of backup power supplies for substations; reconstruction of data centers; and provide advisory services for the Project Implementation Unit. The tendering process is ongoing.

In November 2019, the Federation energy ministry launched its first competitive round for bidding on oil and gas exploration and exploitation licenses at four blocks in the Dinaric and Panonian basin regions. According to estimates of the geology institute of the Federation, the territory of the Dinaric Alps could potentially contain deposits of about one billion barrels of oil. However, there has been little investor interest in pursuing these licenses.

Elektroprenos BiH (Transco)



Elektroprivreda BiH (EPBiH)

Elektroprivreda Republike Srpske (ERS)

Elektroprivreda Hrvatske Zajednice Herceg Bosna (EPHZHB)

BiH State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC)

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