



ReSPA

Regional School
of Public Administration

BUILDING TOGETHER
GOVERNANCE FOR THE FUTURE

Respa Regional Academy on evidence-based policymaking process

The third module
"Policy and Budget"

Provisional Programme and Agenda

ReSPA activities
are funded by the
European Union



Background

ReSPA organized the first (pilot) module of the Regional Academy on the evidence-based policymaking process in Novi Sad (Serbia) on 18-21 October 2022. This module, "Introduction to Policymaking," connected theory and practices and presented the principal elements and segments of different phases of the policy cycle, starting from Agenda setting to Formulation, Decision making, Implementation to Monitoring, Evaluation & policy learning. Following this, on June 5 - 8, 2023, in Bar (Montenegro), ReSPA organized the second module of the Regional Academy, focusing on monitoring and evaluating public policies. Both modules were organized in close cooperation with the representatives of national academic and governmental institutions. Generally, the first module was devoted to introducing the policy cycle and policymaking process, while the second was dedicated to monitoring and evaluating public policies.

The Regional Academy on the evidence-based policymaking process is a newly established and robust mechanism for enhancing policymaking in Western Balkan public administrations and making them more efficient and effective. The Academy is focused on improving cooperation with national governmental authorities and academic communities, more substantial involvement of national host institutions, longer and more comprehensive plan and learning programs, and providing opportunities for highly participatory involvement of attendees from national institutions.

The overarching goal of the Academy is to strengthen further the capacity of civil servants in the area of evidence-based policymaking and to deepen civil servants' knowledge about methods and tools that can make complex policy planning work more efficient. In addition, harmonizing approaches in policy planning throughout the Western Balkan region will ultimately help a better understanding of the common problems, a better definition of solutions, and intense preparation of ReSPA Members for full EU integration.

The Academy will improve participants' knowledge and professional skills related to the evidence-based policymaking process and allow them to network with colleagues from the region.

Following the successful realization of the first two modules, ReSPA is organizing the third one, focusing on costing and budgeting. The third module of the Regional Academy on evidence-based policymaking will be held in Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina) from 2 - 5 April 2024.

The concrete objectives of the third module, "Policy and Budget" of ReSPA Regional Academy on the evidence-based policymaking process are:

- To enhance understanding of interactions between policy and budget planning processes;
- To explain the importance of financial planning for the quality of the policy implementation;
- To recognize, describe, and, to a certain extent, apply tools for costing and budgeting of policy documents;
- To provide practical examples from policy development and coordination and budgeting practices in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- To familiarise the participants with different approaches in budgeting process, including the framework for introducing gender budgeting;
- To build connections among participants for future regional cooperation.

This module of the Academy will again bring together representatives of governmental institutions, mid to senior-level professionals with experience in policymaking, budgetary matters, actively participating in policy planning from central and subnational government coordination institutions and line ministries.

Provisional Agenda

DAY I, 2 April 2024 (Tuesday)

09:00 – 09:20	Introduction to the goals of the Academy and the third module <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maja Handjiska Trendafilova, Director of ReSPA• Nedžad Salman, Member of the ReSPA Governing Board• Delegation of EU in Sarajevo, TBC
09:20 – 09:45	Presentation of participants and lecturers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brief Tour de Table moderated by Dragan Djuric, Programme Manager, ReSPA
09:45 – 10:30	Introduction and overview of the Program of the third module of the Academy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ReSPA expert
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	How budgeting ultimately enhances the ability of public administration to achieve policy goals within available financial resources <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ReSPA expert
11:45 – 12:15	Public policy cycle in Bosnia and Herzegovina <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Directorate for Economic Planning, Council of Ministers, BIH
12:15 – 12:45	Public policy cycle in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Cantonal level <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ministry of Justice and Administration of Canton Sarajevo
12:45 – 13:00	Q&A session
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Networking lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:15	Budget transparency in BiH and Western Balkans: the roles of governments and civil society <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ReSPA expert
15:15 – 16:00	Open discussion

DAY II, 3 April 2024 (Wednesday)

09:00 – 09:15	The main takeaways of the second day <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tour de table and discussion
09:15 – 09:45	Legal drafting and RIA: regulatory framework and practical implications <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FBiH Government Office for Legislation and Alignment with the EU acquis
09:45 – 10:30	FIA: Fiscal impact assessment, experiences, lessons and challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ReSPA expert
10:30– 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:45	Budgetary Impacts of EU Integration Process in Western Balkans <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ReSPA expert
12:45 – 13:00	Q&A session
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Networking lunch</i>
14:30 – 16:00	Costing of the European Integration process <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ReSPA expert
17:00	<i>Sightseeing and dinner, TBC</i>

DAY III, 4 April 2024 (Thursday)

09:00 – 09:15	The main takeaways of the first day and expected results from the second day <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tour de table and discussion
09:15 – 09:45	Indicative financial plans in sectoral strategic planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ministry of Trade and Tourism of Republika Srpska
09:45 – 10:30	ReSPA Methodological Guide for Costing of Government Strategies - introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ReSPA expert
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 13:00	Practical exercises in groups: Costing of an action plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitated by ReSPA experts
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 16:00	Results of practical exercises: group presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitated by ReSPA experts

DAY IV, 5 April 2024 (Friday)

09:00 – 09:15	The main takeaways of the third day <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tour de table and discussion
09:15 – 10:00	Open Budget Survey – the Western Balkans case <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Representative of International Budget Partnership (IBP)
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:30 – 12:00	Presentation of an advanced practice from EU Member <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slovenia• Netherlands
12:00 – 13:00	Wrap-up Session / Questions and Answers / Discussion of open questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ReSPA expert• Dragan Djuric, Programme Manager, ReSPA
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
	<i>End of the third module of the Regional Academy</i>