



## ISSUE DIALOGUE FOR DEVELOPMENT

### MAIN TOPICS:

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- Increasing the Financial Access to Entrepreneurs
- General Meeting of the Development Coordination Council
- Improving the Legal Environment for Business and Investment in Tajikistan

## INCREASING THE FINANCIAL ACCESS TO ENTREPRENEURS



On 27 May 2021, the Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate jointly with American Chamber of Commerce in Tajikistan (AmCham) organized and held the presentation of financial products of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to entrepreneurs that took place at Serena Hotel.

The purpose of the event is to consider ways to expand the local entrepreneurs' access to favorable financial resources and professional consultations at the international level, as well as the preparation of investment projects and study the best international experience in this direction.

The event was attended by a wide range of representatives of the domestic private sector, as well as representatives of government agencies, development partners and foreign investors.

During their opening remarks the Head of Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Mr Numon Abdugafforzoda, Deputy Mayor of Dushanbe city, Mr Dilshod Odinzoda, Chairman of the AmCham BOD, Mr Thomas Hallam, and IFC Country Officer in Tajikistan,



Mr Farrukh Sultonov spoke regarding the role and development of the country's private sector, reforms implemented to improve the investment



environment under the leadership and direct support of the Founder of Peace and National Unity - Leader of the Nation, President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

According to the Agenda of the event, IFC Country Officer in Tajikistan, Mr Farrukh Sultonov submitted a comprehensive presentation regarding the activities and services for domestic entrepreneurs and the development of their business activities. It been highlighted that the main goal of the IFC in Tajikistan is to grow the private

sector potential and on this basis to improve the population welfare. Many projects in various fields have been successfully implemented and supported by IFC.

The other part of the event was dedicated to the presentation of EBRD financial products. Mr Alisher Marufi – EBRD Banker in Tajikistan, and Sitara Bobojonova – EBRD Program Director spoke on the provision of loans and consulting services in agriculture, finance, energy, transport and logistics, and women's entrepreneurship sectors. Also, several videos were shown as clear evidence of the success of working with customers of the bank, doing business, and providing professional consultants.





An exchange of views took place between the participants on the considered issues during the event.

The Head of Secretariat of the Consultative Council provided a concluding remark and assured participants to strengthen cooperation in this direction.

### **THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION COUNCIL**

On 24 May 2021, a meeting of the Development Coordination Council (DCC) was held online. The government officials, DCC members were attended the meeting.

As per of Agenda, the meeting was opened by the DCC Chair, World Bank Country Director in Tajikistan, Mr Jan-Peter Olters. He spoke about the role of development partners on business growth and attracting foreign investment.

Following the Agenda of the meeting, the Head of Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan introduced a presentation regarding the activity of the Council and the reforms implemented in its framework. The presentation covered information on key achievements during the 2020-2021 period, including reforms in taxation, customs, agriculture and agribusiness, modernization of services for entrepreneurs and investors, handicrafts sectors, as well as improving the country's position in international ratings and a few words has been said about the priorities in 2021.

In particular, it was noted that the Decree of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan "On prevention of the impact of the infectious disease COVID-19 on the socio-economic sectors of the Republic of Tajikistan" and the Government's relevant papers aimed to support the business during this period has been signed and adopted.

At the same time, according to the amendments and additions of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On State Duty" and the Law "On State Registration of Legal Entities and Individual Entrepreneurs» the state duty for state registration of business entity and fee for registration statement from the state register has been abolished by Government Decree dated 02 January 2020. The cost of state registration of business entities is reduced to zero. This reform is aimed at further simplification of registration procedures, reducing the number of procedures from 3 to 2, the time of procedures from 5 to 3 days,

and the number of required documents from 7 to 6. Additionally, since 1 January 2020, individual entrepreneurs engaged their activities at home register free of charge with tax authorities, are granted a patent and exempted from paying taxes. The “Single Window” of export, import, and transit operations has been officially launched, as well as the Single Window for obtaining a construction permit ([www.memori.tj](http://www.memori.tj)), providing technical conditions for connection to the electricity grid ([www.dges.tj](http://www.dges.tj)), and registration of real estate ([www.memori.tj](http://www.memori.tj)). [baqaydgiri.tj](http://www.baqaydgiri.tj)) and other modern tools by involving information technology have reduced the cost of business.

At the end of the event, an exchange of views and a Q&A session took place between the participants of the meeting.

## **IMPROVING THE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT FOR BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT IN TAJIKISTAN**

On 12 May 2021, a webinar of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) was held to strengthen the legal environment for investment activities in the Republic of Tajikistan. The event was actively attended by representatives of government agencies, the private sector, development partners, representatives of the European Union, and OECD.

The purpose of this webinar is to help the government of Tajikistan identify ways to improve the legal and policy framework for investment, and to identify new practices to support current and potential investors, especially in the COVID-19 context.

The First Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Investment and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan, Mr Khurshed Mirzo provided opening remarks and highlighted the achievements on investment climate improvement.

Representatives of the OECD presented reports and presentations on the legal environment for investors in Tajikistan, the Tajikistan investment promotion, the experience of developed countries regarding this topic.

In addition, the speakers submitted very detailed information on improving frameworks conditions for investment in emerging economies by sharing the experience of Morocco, Tunisia, and Georgia, a number of investment-related challenges, including a lack of clarity, consistency, and transparency of

investment rules, challenges to level the playing field, and the need for better linkages between FDI and broader investment goals were shared.

**Secretariat of the Consultative  
Council on Improvement of Investment  
Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan**