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



# ISSUE DIALOGUE FOR DEVELOPMENT

#### **MAIN TOPICS:**

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- > Study of best practices in improving the legislation on the operation of technology parks
- Presentation of new projects/Startup
- Expanding cooperation with the development partners
- ➤ Issues of strengthening investment opportunities in Tajikistan

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## STUDY OF BEST PRACTICES IN IMPROVING THE LEGISLATION ON THE OPERATION OF TECHNOLOGY PARKS

In accordance with the protocol instructions of the XXI Session of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate, the draft Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Technology Parks" is being drafted. The new edition of the Law will cover issues related to establishment of IT Parks based on best international practices, and issues related commercialization of innovative activity, among other important issues pertaining to innovation development in the country.

Improving the regulatory framework will facilitate digital infrastructure development, strengthening digital skills, increasing demand for new technologies by enterprises, accelerating investment in digitalization, strengthening the private sector, development of information and communication technologies, and use of digital technologies.

In cooperation with UNDP, a webinar was held on April 28, 2021 for the implementation of the protocol instruction on April 28, 2021 to discuss "International regulatory practice in the field of organization and development of industrial, innovative and technological infrastructure."

Representatives of relevant ministries and agencies, development partners and industry experts of the Russian Federation attended the webinar.

During the webinar, speeches and presentations were made on the importance of technology parks, the establishment and development of information technology parks, international best practices and other issues in this area.

At the end of the event, there was an exchange of views and a question and answer session between the participants.

### PRESENTATION OF NEW PROJECTS/STARTUP

In the framework of cooperation with development partners and in order to develop women's entrepreneurship, presentation of the Program to Support Women's Entrepreneurship Ideas was organized and held online on April 29, 2021 by the PEAK project in Tajikistan.

During the 18 weeks, Program participants from all regions of the country participated in trainings to complete and improve their business plans, start their own businesses, learn how to manage financial reporting, as well as legal and tax aspects of business management.

An important role in the Program was given to the development and improvement of skills to pitching, so that participants were able to successfully present their business plans to stakeholders.

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During the event, active participants of the Program were awarded letters of commendation.

#### **EXPANDING COOPERATION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

The Head of the Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan met with the Head of the Permanent Representation of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in Tajikistan and the Head of the International Finance Corporation in Tajikistan.

The Head of the Secretariat of the Consultative Council provided detailed information on the reforms implemented in the framework of the Council's activities and achievements in the meeting. Then the parties exchanged views on the implementation of future plans and reforms aimed at improving the business and investment climate and attracting foreign investment.

In addition, the parties discussed supporting domestic companies to obtain favorable loans from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Finance Corporation, and agreed to take joint measures in this direction.

In particular, the parties agreed to hold a round table to present financial products of the respective institutions at the end of May 2021.

At the end of the meeting, the parties expressed their readiness to establish fruitful bilateral cooperation for the development of business and investment climate in the country.

### ISSUES OF STRENGTHENING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN TAJIKISTAN

The management of the Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan met with representatives of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to discuss issues of strengthening and developing investment opportunities in the Republic of Tajikistan.

Ms. Talisa Hussain, Policy Analyst for Central Asia and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, spoke about investment opportunities and the impact of COVID-19 on investment development.

The Head of the Secretariat of the Consultative Council provided detailed information on the measures taken by the Government of the country to prevent the impact of COVID-19 on the socio-economic sectors of the Republic of Tajikistan.

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The parties, in addition, discussed the activities of the Consultative Council, cooperation with other government agencies, the private sector and development partners, priority investment sectors, challenges and obstacles to attracting foreign investment.

At the end of the meeting, the parties agreed to continue cooperation in this area, use novel strategies of attracting investment in a highly competitive environment and strengthen the promotion of investment opportunities in the Republic of Tajikistan.

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