



EU4Business



DRAFT AGENDA

# Small Business Act for Europe (SBA) assessment 2018-19

## SBA Public-Private Working Group

**Thursday, 7 June 2018**

Tbilisi, Georgia

 @OECD Eurasia



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The SBA assessment is carried out within the context of "EU4Business: From Policies to Action", which is a multi-country project implemented by the OECD in the Eastern Partnership with financial support from the European Union within the framework of the EU4Business initiative. It is co-ordinated with the work programme of the Eastern Partnership Business Development Panel under Platform 2 on "Economic integration and convergence with EU policies".

#### ■ WHAT IS THE SBA ASSESSMENT ?

The SBA Assessment monitors the progress in the implementation of the ten principles of the Small Business Act for Europe and measures convergence towards EU practices and standards. The dedicated methodology – the SME Policy Index – was specifically developed by the OECD in a joint effort with the European Commission, the EBRD and ETF in 2006 and applied to four regions in 32 economies (Western Balkans and Turkey, Eastern Europe and South Caucasus, Middle East and Africa, Southeast Asia).

The SME Policy Index identifies strengths and weaknesses in policy design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The purpose of the SBA assessment is to improve SME policy-making in partner economies and to enhance the capacity of policy-makers and institutions to foster entrepreneurship.

It aims to support governments in setting targets for SME policy developments and strategic priorities to further improve their business environment. It also engages governments in policy dialogue and facilitates the exchange of experiences within the region and with the partner organisations.



This project is implemented with the financial support of the European Union within the [EU4Business](#) initiative. EU4Business is an EU initiative that helps SMEs in the six countries of the Eastern Partnership region to realise their full potential and boost economic growth.

#### ■ WHAT IS THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS MEETING ?

The third cycle of the SBA assessment for the Eastern Partner Countries will be launched in September 2018. The assessment will build on the established methodology and process of previous assessment rounds, but has been revised to incorporate new elements aiming at broadening the scope of the publication to allow for an evaluation of the overall business climate conditions and to more accurately reflect private sector perspectives.

This SBA Public-Private Working Group meeting will provide an opportunity for the government to present an overview of the progress achieved on implementing the recommendations provided in the last SBA assessment cycle (2015-16). It will also allow private sector representatives and key stakeholders to comment on recent developments and reform effectiveness. The OECD will present the updated methodology and framework for discussion, as well as the overall assessment process and the timeline.

#### ■ WHO WILL PARTICIPATE ?

The SBA Public-Private Working Group will bring together SME policy stakeholders. This includes government representatives from the line ministries (i.e. Ministries of Economy, Education, Labour) and government agencies (i.e. SME agency, innovation agency), as well as representatives from the private sector, academia and other international organisations.

##### Contacts

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## SMALL BUSINESS ACT ASSESSMENT 2018-19: SBA Public-Private Working Group

<b>10:00-10:10</b>	<b>OPENING</b>
	<p><b>Ms Ekaterine Mikabadze</b>, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development</p> <p><b>Mr Dominik Papenheim</b>, Attaché – Programme Officer, EU Delegation to Georgia (TBC)</p> <p><b>Mr Daniel Quadbeck</b>, Project Manager, OECD Global Relations - Eurasia</p>
<b>10:10-10:50</b>	<p><b>OECD MONITORING ASSESSMENT OF THE SME DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF GEORGIA, PROGRESS ACHIEVED SINCE 2016 AND FUTURE PRIORITIES FOR SME DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p><i>The OECD will present the implementation assessment of the SME Development Strategy of Georgia, followed by comments from the Government of Georgia on progress achieved and future priorities for SME development. Representatives from the private sector will also be invited to comment on recent developments and reform effectiveness, as well as current constraints regarding SME policy development in Georgia.</i></p>
	<p><b>Mr Francesco Alfonso</b>, Project Co-ordinator, OECD Global Relations – Eurasia</p> <p><b>Representatives from the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Enterprise Georgia and GITA (TBD)</b></p> <p><b>Representative from the private sector (TBD)</b></p>
<b>10:50-11:00</b>	<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>
<b>11:00-11:45</b>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION TO THE SBA ASSESSMENT – UPDATED METHODOLOGY, PROCESS AND TIMELINE</b></p> <p><i>The OECD will share the main updates on the methodology and framework of the third SBA assessment cycle, as well as the assessment process, envisaged timeline and next steps. This will be followed by an open discussion, where participants will be invited to comment and ask questions.</i></p>
	<p><b>Ms Meryem Torun</b>, Project Co-ordinator, OECD Global Relations – Eurasia</p> <p><b>Representatives from EBRD and ETF (TBC)</b></p>
<b>11:45-11:55</b>	<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>
<b>11:55-12:00</b>	<b>CONCLUSION</b>
	<p><b>Ms Ekaterine Mikabadze</b>, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development</p>