

**TACKLING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19):**  
CONTRIBUTING TO A GLOBAL EFFORT

## OECD Eurasia Webinars

### Supporting Recovery and Enhancing Resilience

A decorative graphic consisting of two overlapping chevrons pointing to the right. The top chevron is dark red and the bottom one is light blue.

# Promoting exports and supply-chain linkages in the food industry

Snapshot of Moldova

Virtual Peer Review  
Wednesday, 17 June 2020

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- A decorative graphic consisting of several concentric, slightly irregular circles in shades of blue and green, creating a ripple effect.
- 10:00 – 11:45 GMT+2: France, Belgium
  - 11:00 – 12:45 GMT+3: Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine
  - 12:00 – 13:45 GMT+4: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia
  - 12:30 – 14:15 GMT+4:30: Afghanistan
  - 13:00 – 14:45 GMT+5: Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
  - 14:00 – 15:45 GMT+6: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan
  - 16:00 – 17:45 GMT+8: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

## Abstract

The food processing sector plays a vital role in many Eurasia economies. Better integration of food producers into global value chains through export or supply chain linkages with food retailers would allow local food producers to scale-up, strengthen their productivity and ultimately enhance the sector's contribution to economic growth.

This webinar is part of a series organised by the [OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme](#) between 27 May and 25 June. The discussion will be based on a draft OECD Peer Review Note that assesses the state of the integration of food producers in the **Republic of Moldova** into global value chains through supply chain linkages between food producers and large food retailers operating in Moldova, and their direct access to foreign markets. The potential here is enormous: food processing in Moldova accounts for 37% of total manufacturing production and 26% of employment in manufacturing. The note outlines policy recommendations in three strategic areas: (a) preparing local food processors for integration into global value chains, (b) facilitating supply-chain linkages between local food processors and supermarkets, and (c) improving SME access to foreign markets.

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## The OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Roundtable



Established in 2013, the [OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Roundtable](#) is a platform for OECD members and Eurasia partner countries to carry out peer reviews of competitiveness reforms.

The Chair of the Roundtable is H.E. Professor Aleksander Surdej, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland to the OECD.

OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme countries: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan

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## Participants

Ministers, deputy ministers and senior policymakers from Eastern Europe, South Caucasus, Central Asia and OECD member countries responsible for the design and implementation of SME policies, private sector representatives, and representatives of the European Union, the OECD and other international organisations.

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## Technical Details

### Registration and Access:

- Advance registration is required for the virtual session. A personalised confirmation link will be sent following registration by email. Please check both your inbox and spam folder.
- Please join the session 15 minutes prior to the start, using the personalised confirmation link provided following your registration.

**Working Languages:** English and Russian

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## OECD webinar contacts

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## EU4Business Initiative



EU4Business

The EU4Business Initiative covers all EU support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the region of the Eastern Partnership which brings together the EU, its member states and six partner countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

[www.eu4business.eu](http://www.eu4business.eu)

# Draft Agenda

Please note that below timing is based on GMT+2 time zone, Paris time.

09.45 - 10.00

## Access to session

Participants are advised to join the meeting 15 minutes prior the start time to familiarise themselves with the video conference tool, Zoom, and the interpretation function of the video conference. Thank you for consulting the e-logistics note prior to joining the meeting.

10.00 - 10.25

## Opening

### Chair:

- H.E. Professor **Aleksander Surdej**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland to the OECD and Chair of OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Roundtable

### Opening remarks:

- H.E. Mr **Sergiu Railean**, Minister of Economy and Infrastructure of the Republic of Moldova
- Mr **Mathieu Bousquet**, Head of Unit NEAR C1, Neighbourhood East, European Commission

10.25 - 11.10

## Panel Discussion

The OECD Eurasia webinar will focus on government measures implemented to help SMEs in the food-processing sector to build supply-chain linkages with supermarket chains and access international markets.

### I. Policy priorities for Moldova:

- Overview presentation by the OECD secretariat
- Key actions and insights from Ms **Lilia Palii**, State Secretary, Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure of the Republic of Moldova (tbc)
- Ms **Iulia Costin**, General Director, ODIMM, Republic of Moldova

### II. Lead reviewer observations:

- Mr **Ján Oravec**, State Secretary, Ministry of Economy, Slovak Republic

### III. Perspectives from the private sector:

- Mr **Serghei Martinov**, CEO, METRO Cash & Carry Moldova
- Representative of **PwC Georgia**

### IV. Experience from other countries:

- Insights from a representative of the government of **Kazakhstan** (tbc)
- Ms **Noreen Lanigan**, Regional Manager Europe & North America, Bord Bia, Ireland

11.10 - 11.15

## Poll

All participants will be invited to take part in an informal poll to reflect on the challenges of better integration of food processors in Eurasia countries into global value chains.

11.15 - 11.40

## Open Discussion

The **Chair** will open the floor to all participants for discussion focusing on:

- Barriers inhibiting co-operation between food producers and retailers;
- Ways to increase competitiveness of Eurasia food producers and their export readiness;
- Ways forward to support food producers in the context of the Covid-19 crisis.

11.40 - 11.45

## Closing Remarks and Next Steps

- Ms **Lilia Palii**, State Secretary, Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure of the Republic of Moldova (tbc)
- H.E. Professor **Aleksander Surdej**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland to the OECD and Chair of OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Roundtable

The OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme (ECP) takes this opportunity to thank its donors for their ongoing contributions to the work of the Programme. Their support for the work of the Programme reflect their commitment to continued policy dialogue and co-operation across the region and beyond.

Donors: Czech Republic, Flanders, Kazakhstan, Slovak Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and the European Union

For further information on the OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme or OECD Global Relations, please contact:

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