

Newsletter 4 June 2007

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Contact: Thomas Dannequin
thomas.dannequin@oecd.org

Launch of the South East Europe Investment Committee

The South East Europe (SEE) Investment Committee was launched by SEE countries during the Investment Compact's 17th Project Team Meeting (Paris, 02 April). Member countries agreed that the first regional Working Groups would focus on the development of 'How to' guidelines in the following 4 areas: Investment Promotion (SME linkages), Regulatory Reform (Regulatory Impact Analysis), Human Capital (Skills gaps), and Anti-Corruption (Public procurement systems).

[Project Team Meeting documents](#)

New Investment Compact Office in Croatia

With the financial support of the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the Investment Compact will open a new regional office in Zagreb on 04 July to support its activities in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The work of the office will be undertaken in close co-operation with the regional offices in Bulgaria, Moldova and Romania.

Defining and Strengthening Sector Specific Sources of Competitiveness in the Western Balkan Countries (with the World Bank and the EC)

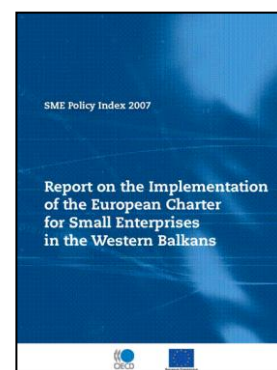
The Investment Compact, in collaboration with the World Bank 'Invest in the Western Balkans' programme (IIWB) and with the financial support of the EC's CARDS programme, is launching a new project entitled 'Defining and Strengthening Sector Specific Sources of Competitiveness in the Western Balkan Countries'. The project aims to foster economic growth in the region by:

- developing a sectorial analysis to complement the IIWB investment promotion agenda, which has been endorsed by the Western Balkan countries and is being implemented with the countries' investment promotion agencies;
- providing detailed and accurate data and information for each sector;
- removing sector specific barriers in the targeted sectors.

SME Policy Index (with the EC)

The 'SME Policy Index 2007 – Report on the Implementation of the European Charter for Small Enterprises in the Western Balkans', prepared with the EC, was published in March and officially launched at an event in Dubrovnik, Croatia, on 26-27 March.

[Full report](#)



Investment Reform Index

Since the last newsletter, special events to present the 'Investment Reform Index 2006' report have been organised at the Italian Institute for Foreign Trade (ICE) (Rome, 07 February), in Croatia (Zagreb, 01 March) and in Montenegro (Podgorica, 04 April).

[Full report](#)

Strengthening Development and Implementation of Investment and Trade Policies in SEE (with the EC)

The project is currently being finalised through the release of 3 publications: 'The Impact of FDI on the Croatian Economy' ([full report](#)), 'The Role of FDI on the Restructuring of the Metal-Processing Industry in Bosnia and Herzegovina' ([full report](#)), and 'How South East European Countries' Statistics Measure FDI' (forthcoming). Hard copies of all three publications will be available upon request at the end of June.

Moldova FDI Strategy (with the Swiss Confederations' State Secretariat for Economic Affairs)

The second phase (Implementation) of the project focuses on one of the potential sectors of growth identified during the first phase: Remote Technical Business Services. The following four activities will be conducted: creation of a FDI database; skills gap analysis; SME linkages programme; investors' missions.