

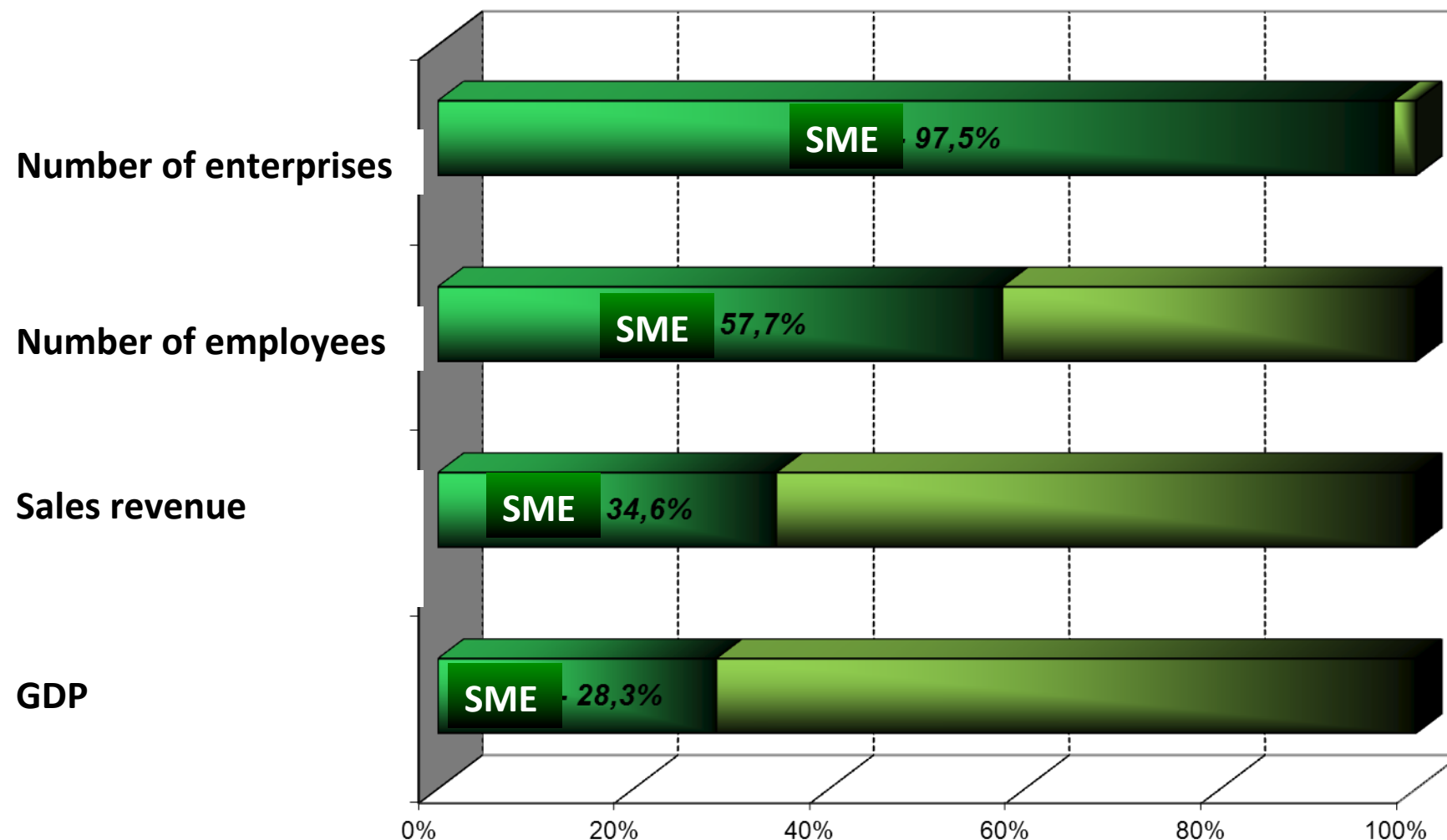


SUPPORTING SME COMPETITIVENESS IN THE EASTERN PARTNER COUNTRIES

Republic of Moldova experience on the peer review process

Vilnius, 26 November 2013

The share of SMEs in the national economy of Moldova in 2012





Strategic Documents

✓ National Development Strategy of the Republic of Moldova - **Moldova 2020**

(7 development priorities, approved in 2012)

- Aligning the **education system to labor market needs** in order to enhance labor productivity and increase employment in the economy.
- Reducing **financing costs** by increasing competition in the financial sector and developing risk management tools.
- Improving **business climate** by streamlining the regulatory framework and applying information technologies in public services for businesses and citizens



Strategic Documents

- ✓ Small and Medium Enterprise sector development Strategy for 2012-2020

„Creation of a favourable business environment, promotion of business culture in the course of SMEs support and assurance of social unity”.

- ✓ Action Plan for the period 2012-2014 approved.

The priority actions are:

- Adjustment of the normative and regulatory framework to match SMEs needs.
- Improvement of acces to financing for SMEs
- Development of human capital through promotion of competences and entrepreneurial culture.
- Increase SMEs development in regions
- Business partnership development



OECD support 2010-2013

- I. SME policy review 2010-2011
- II. SME Development Strategy 2012-2020 and Action Plan 2012-2014.
- III. Access to finance for SMEs and Support services for SMEs and start-ups were selected as priority area for additional research and peer review

Recent Moldova-OECD cooperation

SME sector

Year	Focus
2010	<p>Launch of the multi-annual Programme: „Support to SME Policies in the Republic of Moldova” focussing on the consolidation and strengthening of the institutional SME support set-up in the Republic of Moldova including the design of a mechanism to improve the country’s SME policy-making consultation, design, implementation and monitoring processes</p> <p>(value 0.6 mn Euro for the period 2010-2013)</p>

Recent Moldova-OECD cooperation

SME sector

Year	Focus
2011	<p>Within the framework of this Programme the following actions undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analysis of SME policies and their impact on the country's businesses;• Identification of SME sector growth impediments;• Organisation of 4 workshops covering: 1) SME policy-setting, 2) SME access to finance, 3) innovation, competitiveness, internationalisation of SMEs and potential support tools;• SME human resources development including the instilling of an entrepreneurial culture in the country.

Recent Moldova-OECD cooperation

SME sector

Year	Focus
2012	<p>Within the framework of this Programme the following actions undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formulation of the Moldova 2012-2020 SME Development Strategy;• Initiation of a Business Development Services (BDS) Study;• Initiation of an Access to Finance (AF) Study.

Recent Moldova-OECD cooperation

SME sector

Year	Focus
2013	<p>Within the framework of this Programme the following actions undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalisation of the Business Development Services (BDS) Study;• Finalisation of the Access to Finance (AF) Study;• Broad presentation and consultation process of the main findings and recommendations put forward in the BDS and AF studies to the Moldovan SME sector stakeholders.

Main deliverables



- An assessment of the SME sector in the Republic of Moldova performed;
- The “Fostering SME Development” report that provided a detailed assessment and benchmarking of critical policy settings and institutional conditions that shape the environment for SMEs in the Republic of Moldova was published.
- The SME sector analysis in RM integrated in the SME Policy index for the Eastern Partner Countries for 2012
- The National Strategy on Small and Medium Enterprise Sector Development Strategy for 2012-2020 and Action Plan elaborated and approved
- The “Access to Finance for SMEs in the Republic of Moldova” report was published and includes policy guidelines in support of SME development;
- The “Business Development Infrastructure and Services in the Republic of Moldova” report was published and includes policy guidelines in support of SME development.



Next steps

- Moldova intends to further use the analytical feedback of the OECD reports and the outcomes of the workshops.
- We look forward continuing our excellent cooperation with OECD and getting feedback on the efficiency and effectiveness of our country's SME policies.
- We intend to continue using this type of positive and negative feedback to improve the overall SME business environment in Moldova.



Next steps

- We look forward to our cooperation with OECD to enhance the capacity building of public authorities of Moldova responsible for SME policy development and implementation.
- OECD has agreed to support Moldova in designing and applying appropriate schemes to monitor and evaluate the actual impact of SME Strategy 2012-2020 within the Moldovan SME sector and we see this peer review activity as an integral part of launching this process.