

Dedicated to  
Celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of “Entrepreneurs’ Day”

International Entrepreneurship Forum Dushanbe - 2018  
“Development of entrepreneurship and investment, and modern  
economic processes”

## FORUM CONCEPT

Organizer: GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

Date and venue: 14 October 2018, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

In the framework of the Fourth Anniversary of "Entrepreneur's Day", under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, International Entrepreneurship Forum Dushanbe - 2018 will be held under the title "Development of entrepreneurship and investment, and modern economic processes". The forum will provide a wide range of opportunities for the dialogue between entrepreneurs and investors and the Government of Tajikistan on the issues of innovative entrepreneurship development and strengthening economic reform process in the country, as well as attraction of foreign and domestic investment.

#### Goals and objectives

- Analysis of the potential of innovative entrepreneurship in promoting export potential and the import-substitution policy of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- Exploring further opportunities to develop modern entrepreneurship and start-ups, evaluation of available foundations;
- Exploring new methods of attraction of domestic and foreign investments to the national economy;
- Proposing ways and methods of improving state policy on investment and entrepreneurship with the purpose of industrial and innovative development of the national economy;
- Providing proposals on priority directions of modern technology development to speed up and improve the quality of public services to entrepreneurs and investors, as well as population as whole;
- Elaborating ways to improve the state programs to support the development of innovative entrepreneurship in the country;
- Finding ways to modernize the tax, customs, banking and financial systems;
- Assessment and identifying the contribution and the role of innovative entrepreneurship to the improvement of the indicators of the Republic of Tajikistan in the international ratings;
- Providing ways of strengthening cooperation between domestic and foreign companies;

Opening/inauguration ceremony, plenary, sectoral meetings/panel discussions

Participation of the high level guests, heads and representatives of international financial institutions, foreign and domestic investors, diplomatic and consular representatives accredited in Tajikistan, strategic trading partners of the country is expected in the Forum.

The Forum will be inaugurated with the opening remarks by the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Opening speeches by the high-level guests and investors are also expected.

After the opening/inauguration ceremony the Forum will continue its work in five separate panels with different discussion topics.

Panel 1: Increasing the Competitiveness in Business/ entrepreneurship with the use of Modern Technology: "Start-up" as a new way of entrepreneurship development among youth;

Panel 2: The prospects of tourism development in modern conditions;

Panel 3: Finance and the role of banking system in entrepreneurship development and investment: current situation and perspectives;

Panel 4: Innovative entrepreneurship development in industry and agriculture: perspectives and cooperation opportunities;

Panel 5: Investment in innovations for infrastructure development.

Various aspects of modern entrepreneurship development, including modernization of public services, improvement of investment and business climate, development of innovative production, strengthening of international cooperation, improving the state support to entrepreneurs will be discussed in the panels.

Format of the event

The 4th International Entrepreneurship Forum Dushanbe-2018, which is dedicated to celebration of "Entrepreneurs' Day", will be held on 14 October 2018, under the auspices of the President of Republic of Tajikistan.

The President and members of the Government of Tajikistan, high-level delegates from the partner countries, experts, heads and representatives of influential international and regional companies, representatives of International Financial Institutions accredited in Tajikistan will discuss the issues related to innovative entrepreneurship.

A wide range of entrepreneurs and investors, scientists and experts from public and private sector have been invited to attend the forum.

The procedure for participating in the Forum is determined by the Organizing Committee and entrepreneurs and investors should pay a fixed participation fee.

A number of agreements and MoUs are expected to be signed and a number of B2B meetings are expected to be held during the Forum.

Forum Participants:

- Representatives of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
- High-level representatives from partner countries
- Representatives of development partners and private sector
- Heads of International and local private companies
- Heads of International Financial Institutions and banks
- Heads of Business Associations
- Entrepreneurs and Investors
- Mass Media

#### Panelists:

About 4 to 6 panelists mostly representing private sector will make presentations at the panel discussion.

The heads of governmental agencies will discuss about investment opportunities in the development of information technologies for the development of the real sector of the economy, and will answer to the questions of investors and participants of the Forum.

About 3 to 4 participants from the private sector, including representatives of national companies and small business, as well as representatives of international or regional companies will speak in the panel discussions.

About 1 to 2 Heads of public organizations will represent Associations and Business Organizations at the forum.

#### Moderators:

Moderators are selected by the Organizing Committee from among of experts from the international financial institutions and from among of highly qualified experts in the respective areas. Moderators are invited based on recommendations.

#### Panel discussions

Priority and predefined important issues for the government and investors will be discussed at the sectoral meetings/panel discussions.

The role of entrepreneurs and investors is expected to be more effective during sectoral meetings/panel discussions.

The entrepreneurs and investors would express their views on the future of the country's investment climate, positive factors influencing investment in Tajikistan, and exchange their views on the development of the private sector and the state policy.

Representatives of public sector will respond to the questions of investors and participants, as well as present information on the Government's policy and action plans and their implementation.

Moderator will focus on the most important issues and summarizes the views of the participants.

At least 15 minutes will be allocated for Questions/Answers.

Bilateral meetings between entrepreneurs and investors in the Business-to-Business (B2B) format and governmental agencies/bodies between entrepreneurs and investors in business-to-government (B2G) format will be held. The main focus of the forum will be given and more time will be allocated on meetings and direct talks between investors and entrepreneurs.

In B2B format meetings the main focus will be on establishment business relationships between companies, as well as potential investors and suppliers.

Participants will have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the possibilities of cooperation, conditions and expectations of investors.

Business-cocktail is expected to provide an informal environment for additional communication and establishing business contacts.

#### Information support

A lot of attention will be given to information support of the event during the preparatory process.

Web-site: The Forum web-site is expected to be operational 2 months prior to the forum;

Online registration. From the past experience of the forums, it is clear that direct registration of participants is preferred on the website of the Forum for both the organizers and the participants.

Tentative Program and practical information: Tentative program, panel discussions and their topics, logistics, as well as the date of the meetings will be approved no later than 1 month prior to the Forum and will be posted on the Forum's web-site.

Priority Investment Projects, in addition to the main topics of the Forum, will also be available on the web-site of the Forum for information.

Investment preferences: Information on the investment preferences for the investors will be available on the Forum web-site.

For the purpose of holding the Forum in an effective manner/way it is proposed that the design and descriptions of the investment projects will be determined and the selected projects will be put on the web-site of the forum within 1-2 months before the forum.

Contact with the participants of the Forum. Responsible staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Committee on Investments and State Property Management, relevant ministries and agencies, International Airports of Dushanbe, Khujand, Qurghonteppa, State Unitary Enterprise

"Tajik Railway", Border Guards of Tajikistan, are responsible for invitation of the participants and their participation in the Forum.

#### Expected Outcomes

A number of agreements, memorandums of understanding (MoUs) or concrete contracts on cooperation between local and foreign companies are expected to be signed during the Forum. In this regard, recommendations are made by the investors, and the prospects of cooperation and existing barriers are presented to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the private sector during the current year.

The situation of the country's investment climate, its prospects and investors' plans will be evaluated.

Official relations with multinational companies/firms will be strengthened in various sectors of the economy.

With the aim of more publicity and introducing the country's initiatives and achievements on improvement of the investment climate in Tajikistan, international trade journals will be involved.