

Conference "SME Serbia 2030: Cooperation – a big step forward for "small" businesses"

November 25, 2021 10.00-13.30 Impact Hub, Makedonska 21, Belgrade (20 seats at the premises, broader audience online)

The aim of the Conference is to initiate discussions about the economic actors' potential to contribute to economic development and creation of the society we want to be in 2030. A particular focus will be on the self-initiated networking within the SME sector, through the mechanisms such as supplier initiatives, clusters and technological parks, and on the question of how these mechanisms can be supported by development institutions.

The Conference is one of the key milestones of a broader dialogue on SMEs, which aims to expose the potentials of the Serbian SMEs to contribute to Serbia's sustainable development in the context of the 2030 Agenda implementation. A special focus of this dialogue is on the goals to which a succesfull SME sector can contribute - employment and salaries' increase, improvement of the quality of work, reducing inequalities among the citizens and among the regions, and the green transformation. The success of the 2030 Agenda demands action from all sustainable development actors – including the government, private sector, civil society and the citizens, as all of them need to take responsibility and cooperate along the way.

The Conference is organized within the "SDG For All" Platform, supported by the Governments of Switzerland and Germany and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH through the Public Finance Reform – 2030 Agenda project.





10.00-10.30 Registration

10.30-10.40 Greetings and Introduction

- Nemanja Šormaz, Director, CEVES
- Milena Altmeyer, Project Director, GIZ

10.40-11.55 Panel I – Horizontal cooperation: it is easier to be successful in good company

The panel is dedicated to successful cooperation models, from associations/clusters to incubators/technology parks. What is their experience? What are their needs? What is necessary to scale them up?

Moderator: Slavko Lukić, Director, RDA Zlatibor Panelists:

- Mirko Pešić, Director, Science Technology Park Čačak
- Slađana Milojević, Director, Fashion Apparel Cluster FACTS
- Igor Mitrović, Director, Real Estate, MIND
- Zoran Pekeš, Manager, Vojvodina Metal Cluster
- Vladan Čvrkić, Owner, Bin metal

11.55-12.05 Break

12.05-13.20 Panel II – Vertical cooperation: SME champions as the engine of growth

The panel focuses on possible modalities of cooperation between domestic "champions", successful in global markets but generally SMEs by international standards -- and other SMEs. What can be done to to spread success throughout the economy?

Modertor: Kori Udovički, President, CEVES Panelists:

- Radoš Gazdić, Director, Serbian Development Agency
- Aleksandar Pavlović, Project Director, USAID Competitive Economy Project
- Božo Janković, Owner, Enterijer Janković
- Slobodan Janković, Director of Business Development, Inmold

13.20-13.30 Conclusion: Initiatives to move forward

Nemanja Šormaz, Director, CEVES

13.30–14:30 Informal networking and cocktail lunch

