



**Workshop on Enhancing the Participation of Women Entrepreneurs
and Traders in Government Procurement**

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

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**Women empowerment in Government
Procurement in Moldova**

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Government Procurement Agreement



14 June 2016 – Republic of Moldova ratifies the revised WTO Government Procurement Agreement

- Trade liberalization securing access to PP market of Moldova and to the PP market of the other Members
- Increased competition ensuring the quality of goods, services and works purchased
- An effective system of public procurement built and maintained
- Good governance in national institutions promoted
- Public resources managed effectively
- The degree of transparency increased
- A robust system in place preventing corruption
- “Locking in” reform
- A foundation for:
 - ✓ improving the standard of living;
 - ✓ protecting the environment;
 - ✓ promoting the concept of sustainable development.



Association Agreement and DCFTA with EU



According to art.32 of the AA with EU, we have committed to ensure equal opportunities, aiming at enhancing **gender equality and ensuring equal opportunities** between women and men, as well as combating discrimination on all grounds.



National Policy framework containing provisions related to women's entrepreneurship



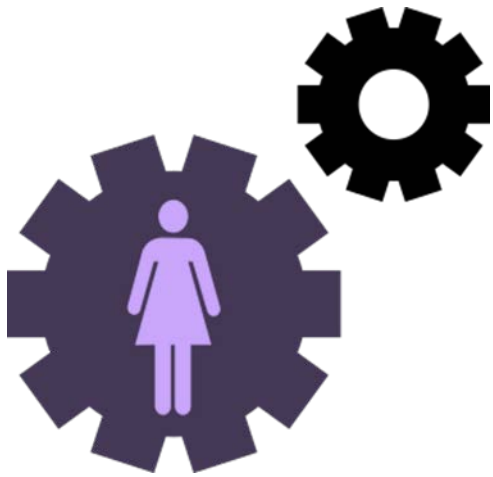
- **Law no.5** from 09.02.2006 ensuring **equal opportunities** for women and men;
- National Development Strategy „**Moldova 2020**”;
- **Small and medium-sized enterprises Sector Development Strategy 2012-2020** approved by Government Decision no.685 from 13.09.2012 and the action plan for 2015-2017;
- **Government Commission** for Equality between Men and Women established according to Government Decision no.350 from 07.04.2006;
- **National Implementation Plan of Association Agreement** (approved by Government Decision no. 808 from 07 October 2014);
- **Action Programme of the Government** of the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2018;
- **Strategic Development Program** of the Ministry of Economy for the years 2015-2017;
- **Small Business Act for Europe**;
- **National Strategy on Agriculture and Rural Development** for the period 2014-2020.



I. Pilot-Program „Women in Business”

Purpose of the Program: to provide financial and non-financial support by providing grants and services relevant to business managed by women.

Program will be focused on women in business in growth potential through expansion of the market, export and innovation.

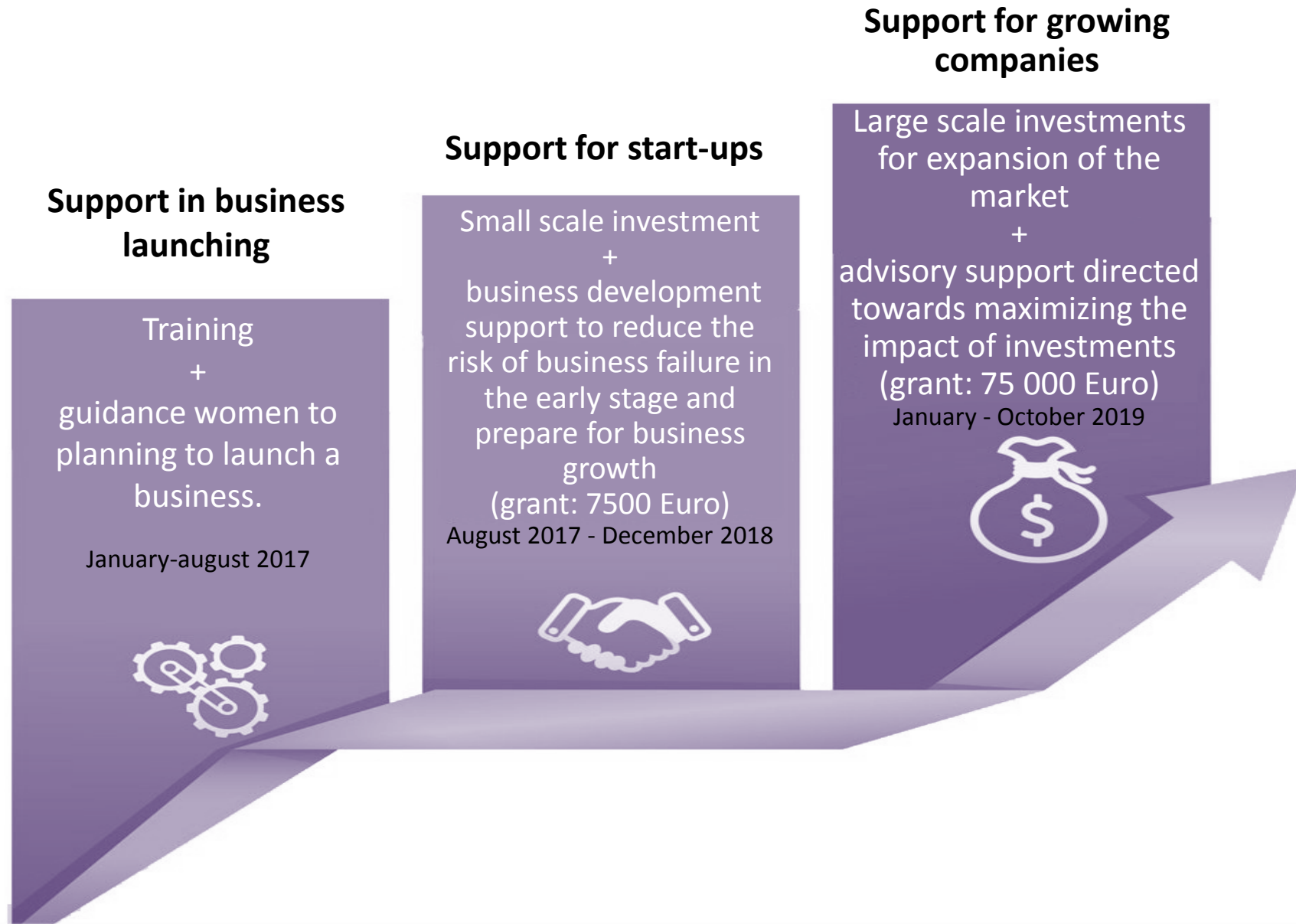


Innovation of Program

- **Integrated assistance** model
- **Support in pre-investment** planning and investment readiness
- Necessary **capital investment** support and equipment
- Support provided oversight at **all stages of business development**
- **Correlation of national support structures**



I. Pilot-Program „Women in Business”





II. Project “Business Women academy”



Launched:

February 2017

Overall objective:

Promote rural women’s social and economic empowerment by reducing gender inequalities in rural areas and increasing women’s access to resources, assets, services, innovation technologies and economic opportunities

Main activities:

- Analysis of current situation of women entrepreneurs from Moldova, including Transnistria;
- Development and training modules delivering for women (business support providers);
- Providing mentoring support for women entrepreneurs, support in creating and establishing linkages with other enterprises through European business networks;
- Facilitation of access to finance for women by offering small grants



III. National Platform of Women from Moldova



Main Objective:

To increase awareness among women from the Republic of Moldova about the entrepreneurial opportunities to acquire and develop skills and take responsibility for positive changes both in their own life and in the community.

Ongoing Activities:

- Professional Development **Trainings**;
- **Master-classes** on different subjects;
- **Mediatisation** of success stories of women entrepreneurs;
- **Networking** sessions for women entrepreneurs;
- **Promotion** of enterprises managed by women.



Women in public procurement



General rule:

Article 15. Participation of the economic operator in public procurement procedures
(1) Any economic operator, resident or non-resident, a natural or legal person of public or private law or a group of such persons, has the right to participate, under the present law, in the procedure for the award of the public procurement contract.

There are no specific rules or preference for women

But, in any case it doesn't limit the access of women entrepreneurs to public procurement procedures



Achievements in public procurement reform



- **New law on Public Procurement** No 131 dated 03-07-2015 entered in force on 01 May 2016. Law is transposing EU directive 2004/18/CE, 89/665/CCE, and partially 2014/24/UE
- **The Strategy for the Development of the Public Procurement System** for the years 2016-2020 and the Action Plan for its Implementation, approved by the Government Decision No.1332 of December 14, 2016
- **The body responsible for reviewing the decisions taken by the contracting authorities** during the award of contracts works was created by Parliament's through Decision No. 271 of December 15, 2016 „On the establishment, organization and functioning of the **National Complaints Settlement Agency**”
- **The restructuring of the Public Procurement Agency** - Regulation on the Organization and Functioning of the Public Procurement Agency and its staff limit, approved by Government Decision no. 134 of March 9, 2017



Further reform of the legal framework



- Adjusting the PPL to be in line with Directive 2014/24/EU – the amendments for full transposition was approved by Government - 20 June 2018
- Adjusting the PPL to be in line with Directive 2014/25/EU - the MoF has developed a separate chapter on utilities to be included in PPL
- Ensuring the legal framework for the implementation of eProcurement – the draft of the new Concept of eProcurement system it is in the process of anti corruption review



Main amendments for PPL



- reviewing the attributions of the Public Procurement Agency;
- regulating the mechanism of certified specialists in public procurement;
- revise exceptions and repeal those not covered by the European Directive;
- including the contracting authority's right to hold market consultations, to outsource procurement services or to call on central purchasing authorities;
- introducing the concept of the Single European Procurement Document - a self-declaration statement and will replace the submission of economic operators' qualification documents;
- introducing new concepts for award criteria, namely:
 - 1.the lowest price;
 - 2.the lowest cost;
 - 3.the best quality-price ratio;
 - 4.the best quality-cost ratio.
- reviewing the rules applicable to communication by using the electronic purchasing system;
- modifying and completing the rules for avoiding conflicts of interest.



The major objectives to be achieved by implementing the reform



- ❖ Legal framework harmonised with the provisions of the EU Directives;
- ❖ Efficient, professional and highly-educated procurement officers by introducing a national certification system;
- ❖ Creation of Centralized Procurement Body (CPB) for purchase of common goods, services and works;
- ❖ Reduction of waste, fraud and corruption during the entire public procurement cycle;
- ❖ Increased transparency and efficiency of the public procurement process by development of e-procurement;
- ❖ Establish practices and policies that integrate life-cycle cost analysis and best-value determination in a reasonable way



**“A good compromise is one
where everybody makes a contribution.”
(Angela Merkel)**

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