

Serbia – Reform Dialogue

PARTNERING FOR BUSINESS GROWTH

PPD Master Class

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8th PPD Workshop,
Copenhagen, Denmark

PPD in Serbia

National Level PPD

- National councils have failed but new SME Council being formed
- Innovative business association advocacy well-received
- Some best practices in single issue PPD

Local Level PPD

- Economic Councils function in 30 of 167 municipalities – advise on local economic development – but can be politicized
- Informal dialogue is common

Sector Level PPD

- Clusters and cluster associations set up with donor and Government of Serbia assistance, but most have little or no PPD
- Information advocacy and dialogue in most sectors

Best Practices

- Law requires PPD on new legislation
- PPD on several pieces of major legislation in all stages of legislative development
- Business associations engage in evidence-based advocacy; monitor reforms



Serbia's Sustainability Challenges

National-level PPD

1. Should we should put forth a lot of effort to again try to start a national level PPD council?
2. How to make such a council sustainable, i.e. important and useful?
3. Is there an alternative to a national PPD council that would make PPD on policy priorities sustainable?
3. How to institutionalize the best practices we have had on certain issues and legislation?

Serbia's Sustainability Challenges

Local and Sector Level PPD

1. How to get more municipalities to develop economic councils?
2. How to stimulate more sector, cluster, value-chain focused PPD?
3. How to connect local and sector level PPD to national level PPD?
4. How to increase SME participation and representativeness in PPD?

Sustainability Action Plan

- Better Center of Government national policy priority setting, including business input
- New SME Council to have clear mandate, government commitment, support structure, monitoring, better representativeness
- Ministries to have dedicated PPD unit or staff, and consider increase in role of Ministry of Economy and/or Prime Minister's office in ensuring PPD
- Impact on private sector and Public Consultation results should be incorporated in Law Justification

Sustainability Action Plan

- RIA to include business opinion on legislation and require ex post RIA to have PPD
- Legislative drafting working groups to include business associations
- Business-friendly certification for municipalities requires economic council; publicize municipalities lacking councils
- Sector or cluster business associations engage in more PPD and national associations link efforts with sector, cluster, value chain PPD