

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNANCE, AND ENTERPRISE GROWTH (EDGE) PROJECT

EDGE is a 3 to 5 year, up to \$21 million, regional project in Europe and Eurasia (E&E) including 12 countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Ukraine.

EDGE creates inclusive, sustainable economic growth and supports intra-regional and Euro-Atlantic integration by generating synergies among USAID projects working in economic growth and brings together stakeholders across countries to work towards mutual solutions.

6 BUY-INS IN 4 COUNTRIES

Moldova Competitiveness Transition Activity (MCTA)

Ukraine State Owned-Enterprise Rapid Reform (SOERR)

Albania, North Macedonia, and Serbia Promoting Regional Integration through Networking and Cooperation (PRINC)

Ukraine Grants for Advocacy on Privatization (GAP)

Armenia Business Enabling Environment (ABEE)

Albania Support for Private Sector (SPS)

COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Funding leveraged from local NGOs, SMEs, and government institutions participating in grant activities



Grants awarded to local organizations in 6 countries





COLLABORATION WITH BILATERAL USAID PROJECTS AND OTHER **DONORS IN THE E&E REGION**



Funding leveraged from USAID projects and other donor projects when delivering joint collaborative activities



Joint activities and initiatives implemented in collaboration with bilateral USAID projects in E&E, and other donors including Swiss Development Cooperation, GiZ, IFC, and the EU covering all EDGE countries

September 2021

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2020-2021



Intermediate Result:

Improved Business Enabling Environment (BEE) and Reduced Barriers to Trade Activities reduce barriers to cross-border trade to promote regional integration and economic growth Private and public sector representatives participating at events with EDGE support on topics related to trade facilitation

109

Organizations received capacity-building to improve the business enabling environment and reduce barriers to trade

Customs officials from nine countries trained in Post Clearance Control (PCA) System-based Audit (SBA)

Intermediate Result:

Improved Competitiveness through Value Chains and Trade Promotion Activities improve the capacity of SMEs in targeted value chains (tourism, fruits and vegetables, textiles/ wood processing)

363

91

SMEs supported with certification in international standards, new management and marketing practices, digital transformation tools, e-commerce solutions, participation in international fairs, virtual exhibitions, B2B and matchmaking events

Participants in trainings, workshops, conferences, forums, webinars, virtual exhibitions, B2B and matchmaking events

Business representatives trained in strategic management, market research, digital marketing, digital transformation strategies, e-commerce frameworks, food safety standards, hospitality

Business representatives trained in using digital marketing tools and e-commerce platforms to enhance their companies' marketing and sales operations Supported North Macedonia and Albania to sign a bilateral framework agreement to establish a Joint Border Crossing Point (JBCP)



Women participants at project events

4,254

2,445

1,427



SMEs participating in trade fairs and B2B events reporting positive impact on their businesses



Participants reporting that training is useful for their work and/or that they are applying the knowledge/skills acquired from training in their work