

## Task Force on South East Europe 2020 Strategy

### Introduction

On the occasion of the conference on “A 2020 Vision for South East Europe” held in Paris on 24 November 2011, Ministers of SEE economies adopted the SEE 2020 Vision and tasked the South East Europe Investment Committee with developing the SEE 2020 Strategy.

In line with the conclusions and agreement on the development of the SEE 2020 Strategy, reached at the 10th South East European Investment Committee (SEEIC) held in Sarajevo on 24-25 April 2012, the SEEIC established a Task Force dedicated to formulating the SEE 2020 Strategy consistent with the strategic needs of the region in the areas of integrated, smart, inclusive, and sustainable growth within a good governance framework.

### Mandate

The work of the Task Force will be focused on establishing regional headline targets for the SEE 2020 Strategy, determining policy objectives, putting forward indicators to measure the attainment of aforementioned targets and developing measures to help achieve strategic objectives in the areas of:

- **Integrated growth** - through deeper regional trade and investment linkages and policies that are non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable and enhance the flow of goods, investment, services and persons within the region.
- **Smart growth** - through a commitment to innovate and compete on value-added rather than labor costs in the long run.
- **Sustainable growth** - through raising the level of private sector competitiveness, entrepreneurship and a commitment to greener and more energy-efficient development.
- **Inclusive growth** - through skills development, employment creation and labor market participation by all, including vulnerable groups and minorities.
- **Governance for growth** - through improving the capacity of public administrations to strengthen the rule of law and reduce corruption so as to create a business-friendly environment.

Derived targets are to be backed by measures to support their implementation, and transposed into national development strategies, whose attainment will be measured through an on-going monitoring mechanism. Targets set would be quantifiable wherever possible, controllable, measurable, backed by policy-objectives, and time-bound by the 2020 limit.

The Task Force will take due account of relevant national and regional studies and will build on national development and accession strategies with the emphasis on competitiveness, innovation, employment, inclusion, energy, environment and infrastructure.



Following the development of the SEE 2020 Strategy, the Task Force will agree on a monitoring instrument to be deployed to measure progress of attainment of targets set, as well as follow-up activities to meet strategic objectives.

### **Organization and Structure**

The Task Force for SEE 2020 will consist of the following members:

- Two representatives from each SEEIC member appointed by the respective Economic Team Leaders;
- One representative from the RCC Secretariat.

In addition to national experts, the Task Force meetings would be attended by the representatives of donors, international organizations, IFIs and other interested parties in an effort to bring synergies with the work done by different stakeholders.

The Task Force shall be chaired by the co-chairs of the SEEIC. General outlines of the Rules of Procedure of the South East European Committee will apply to the Task Force for SEE 2020 Strategy.

### **Timeline and Deliverables**

The Task Force is set up with the expectation of providing the following deliverables in the outlined timeline:

- Agreement on the main regional headline targets with an indication of their quantification within each of the priority areas (July 2012);
- Provision of proposals of corresponding national targets within each of the priority areas (July-August 2012);
- Submission of proposed regional headline targets and disaggregated national targets to the SEEIC for approval (October 2012);
- Finalized proposal of regional headline targets and disaggregated national targets submitted for endorsement by the Ministerial meeting on investment (November 2012);
- Development of indicators, measures and action plan of the SEE 2020 Strategy (October 2013);
- Agreement on the outline of the monitoring instrument (October 2013).

