CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Application Support Horizon 2020 – SME Instrument

The “Support to SME development in Armenia” (SMEDA) supports up to four Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in their application process to attract funding and support from SME Instrument (Phase 1). Cut-off date for application is November 08, 2017. SME Instrument is a dedicated instrument funded by Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

SMEDA is co-funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ Private Sector Development in South Caucasus Programme. SMEDA is part of the EU4Business and EU4Innovation initiatives of the European Union.

What is the funding scheme?

SME Instrument offer phased support. SMEDA is supporting the application for Phase 1:

- **Funding is available for:** Exploring and assessing the technical feasibility and commercial potential of a breakthrough innovation that a company wants to exploit and commercialize.
- **Amount of funding:** Lump sum of €50,000 (per project, not per participating business).
- **Duration:** Typically around 6 months
- **Outcome:** The outcome of a phase 1 project is a feasibility study (technical and commercial), including a business plan.


What kind of support is provided?

Feasibility assessment of the company profile in terms of Horizon 2020 target group and dedicated guidance of up to four companies in their application process. The supporting consultancy is Civitta International who are highly experienced and already have successfully attracted funding from Horizon 2020 SME-instrument Phase 1 and 2 for as much as 15 companies.

Up to four Armenian companies will be supported in the development of an competitive proposal to submit by the deadline 08.11.2017 with the following activities:

- October 10 – 11: **Scouting & Feasibility Talks** - Presentation and feasibility assessment for SME Instrument
- October 13 – 15: Individual project development workshops for selected applying companies
- October 15 – November 07: Online application support
- November 1 – 5: Individual application workshop

Please learn more about our support at our **Info Day on October 09, 15:30 – 17:30** at SMEDA GIZ Office, 12 Proshyan Street - **Registration**: [http://bit.ly/2yZiXJL](http://bit.ly/2yZiXJL)
What SMEs are the target group for SME Instrument?

The dedicated SME instrument's supports close-to-market activities, with the aim to give a strong boost to breakthrough innovation. Highly innovative SMEs with a clear commercial ambition and a potential for high growth and internationalisation are the prime target.

Most suitable companies for SME Instrument fulfill or are related to the following points:
- Technology based companies
- (Close to) Investment worthy and investment ready functioning, working prototype Technology Readiness Level 6-7, not necessarily higher
- Existing customers and potential market in Europe
- Chance of winning SME-instrument increases if the company has developed their own hardware; pure digital companies are at a disadvantage however not excluded
- Experienced team
- Fit in one of the SME Instrument topics is of advantage: nanotechnology; biotechnology; R&D; Health & Well-being; sustainable and competitive agriculture forestry, agri-food; efficient energy systems; transport and smart cities; climate, environment and resource efficiency; business models for inclusive, innovative and reflective societies

All the information provided during the application process will be treated confidential.

In case of any questions, please feel free to contact us by sending an e-mail to info@smeda.am mariam.haydeyan@giz.de or calling to +37410 269986.