



EU4Business

EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORT FOR AZERBAIJANI SMEs

A SUMMARY OF CURRENT PROGRAMMES FINANCED/ CO-FINANCED BY THE EU THROUGH ITS EU4BUSINESS INITIATIVE IN AZERBAIJAN



Over the past 10 years, EU support has unlocked over

€226 million

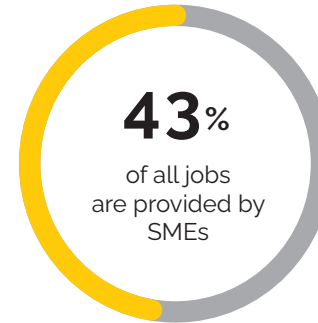
12,800 SMEs supported



The Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) sector is the growth driver of Azerbaijani economy.



244,883 SMEs in Azerbaijan



Sermar LLC, the seller of ceramic tiles and accessories, benefitted from EU and EBRD support with the crisis management plan and advice on organizing right sales tactics

17 SME-focused programmes

are financed by EU through its EU4Business initiative providing financial support (loans, grants and guarantee schemes), business advice (training, coaching, and international partner-matching schemes) and building capacity of policy makers and regulators, or a combination of these.

This leaflet is designed to help readers navigate

the large number of EU projects by providing links to key websites where more detailed information is available and users can see, at a glance, which programme might be suitable to their business circumstances and where to find out more about it.



WWW.EU4BUSINESS.EU

Current initiatives to support SMEs in Azerbaijan financed/co-financed by the European Union

Programme name	When does the program end?	What type of support is available	Who can apply?	How much can I apply for? (Euros)	What is covered by the programme?	Where can I find more information?
Support to Transformation and Achievement of Excellence in Pomegranate Value Chain (STEP)	31.12.2023	Product quality and safety seminars, capacity building, promotion campaign, pilot projects in agritourism	Product quality and safety seminars, capacity building, promotion campaign, pilot projects in agritourism	Technical assistance	Agricultural extension services, capacity building for farmers	No website available yet
"From Kitchen to Business" Food Promotion and Women Empowerment Action	31.12.2022					-
Azerbaijan Hazelnut and Pomegranate Initiative (AHPI)	30.06.2022					-
Promoting local food production and agri-business owners through advisory services, the creation of new value chain models and agritourism development	01.12.2021					
Improved Support for Entrepreneurial Development in Rural Areas	31.10.2021	Capacity development, business development services, improvement of rural livelihood	Capacity development, business development services, improvement of rural livelihood	Technical assistance	Trainings for women entrepreneurs	https://ekvita.com/en/projects/10
Improved Promotion and Marketing of Traditional Food Products	31.10.2021	Capacity building of authorities and farmer organizations, improvement of consumer awareness about domestic food	Capacity building of authorities and farmer organizations, improvement of consumer awareness about domestic food	Technical assistance	Capacity building, investment promotion, job creation	No website available yet
Promoting Community-based Agritourism as a Rural Regeneration Strategy	10.05.2021	Access to markets, support to public – private partnerships in agritourism, establishment and promotion of agritourism demo farms, agritourism internship programme	Access to markets, support to public – private partnerships in agritourism, establishment and promotion of agritourism demo farms, agritourism internship programme	Variable	Training and advisory services, funding of 24 agritourism projects and internships	https://eu4business.eu/programme/promoting-community-based-agritourism-rural-regeneration-strategy
Accelerating Development of Sustainable Micro-entrepreneurship in Rural Regions of Azerbaijan (ADSMIRRA)	28.02.2021	Capacity building, seed capital for start-ups in Ganja – Gazakh, Shaki – Zagatala, Guba – Khachmaz economic regions and Barda district	Capacity building, seed capital for start-ups in Ganja – Gazakh, Shaki – Zagatala, Guba – Khachmaz economic regions and Barda district	2,000	Trainings on starting and improving your business, financial literacy, business planning, cooperatives, mentorship, access to finance, access to market, seed capital	https://amfa.az/en-grids-142.html
Socio-Economic Empowerment and Development of Small-scale Vulnerable Rural Families in Dashkasan, Goranboy and Samukh rayons of non-Absheron Regions of Azerbaijan (SEEDS project)	31.12.2020	Support to rural families in economic regeneration and job creation	Support to rural families in economic regeneration and job creation	Variable	Technical trainings, purchase of some equipment for rural business	https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/seeds_pif_-_eng.pdf

Programme name	When does the program end?	What type of support is available	Who can apply?	How much can I apply for? (Euros)	What is covered by the programme?	Where can I find more information?
Support to the Development of Small Family Businesses in the Sheki-Zagatala Economic Zone through ABAD regional centre in Balakan	14.11.2020	Support to family businesses to produce value added products	Support to family businesses to produce value added products	Variable	Trainings, purchase of equipment, creation of family brand	https://www.az.undp.org/content/azerbaijan/en/home/projects/UNDP-AZE-ABAD.html
Agricultural Initiatives for Market-driven Income Generation in the Telishli Ecomigrant Community	13.11.2020	Support to rural families in economic regeneration and job creation, rehabilitation of irrigation system	Support to rural families in economic regeneration and job creation, rehabilitation of irrigation system	Variable	Business trainings, startup businesses in Telishli	https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/ruzgar_telishli_pif_rev.pdf
EU4Business – The EU Local Currency Partnership Initiative: the European Fund for Southeast Europe (EFSE)	20.06.2039	Supporting MSMEs and low-income households via financial institutions	Supporting MSMEs and low-income households via financial institutions	Technical assistance	Access to medium-term credits	https://www.efse.lu/ https://www.euneighbours.eu/en/east/stay-informed/projects/eu4business-eu-local-currency-partnership-initiative-european-fund
EU4Business – Eastern Partnership: Ready to Trade (regional)	31.08.2020	Integration of SMEs to global value chains, assisting SMEs in producing value-added goods	Integration of SMEs to global value chains, assisting SMEs in producing value-added goods	Technical assistance	Access of SMEs to global markets	https://www.euneighbours.eu/en/east/stay-informed/projects/eu4business-eastern-partnership-ready-trade
Eastern Partnership Trade Helpdesk	2024	Support to SMEs to make better informed trade decisions, market development, export guide for selected products	Support to SMEs to make better informed trade decisions, market development, export guide for selected products	Technical assistance	Capacity building, online portal	https://www.euneighbours.eu/en/east/stay-informed/projects/eu4business-eastern-partnership-trade-helpdesk
SME Finance Facility – Phase I (regional)	22.12.2020	Support to SME lending, strengthening SME credit markets, technical assistance	Support to SME lending, strengthening SME credit markets, technical assistance	Bank loans	Loans to financial institutions, capacity building	https://az.eudigitool.eu/project/create?id=334&env_view=1
EU4Business – EBRD Women in Business Programme in the Eastern Partnership	29.12.2022	Access to finance and know-how for women-led SMEs	Access to finance and know-how for women-led SMEs	Technical assistance	Trainings, mentoring, access to finance, advisory services	http://ebrdwomeninbusiness.com/?s=home&country=AZ&language=az
EU4Business: Connecting Companies (regional)	31.12.2022	Promoting trade between the EU member states and six partnership countries in organic food, wine, textile, tourism and creative industries	Promoting trade between the EU member states and six partnership countries in organic food, wine, textile, tourism and creative industries	59 sub-grant schemes up to 60,000	Technical assistance in export development	http://connectingcompanies.eu/