

ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Dear Azerbaijan's businessman!

The Entrepreneurship Development Foundation, within the framework of the project "Building Dialogue on Economic Reform", supported by the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE, Washington), is conducting a poll to clarify the main priorities for the further improvement of the business climate in the sphere of small business. Recommendations drawn up on the basis of the results of this poll, as well as deep interviews with experts in the sphere of business and an analysis of the relevant legislation will be submitted to the country's government, parliament and public.

We request that you answer the questions in the questionnaire below (The questionnaire compiled on the basis of business climate indicators used by the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Economic Freedom Network, as well as by the Center for International Private Enterprise).

To contact the organizers of the poll and the project management, call on 490-05-66 and email bagirov.sabit@gmail.com

We thank you in advance for your participation and assistance in the survey

Questionnaire

1. How do you assess the current economic situation for your business?
 1. Quite favorable;
 2. Favorable;
 3. Neither good, nor bad;
 4. Unfavorable;
 5. Quite unfavorable;
 6. Don't know/don't want to answer
2. What are your plans regarding the recruitment of new employees in the next six months?
 1. To increase the number of employees;
 2. To maintain the number of employees at the same level;
 3. To reduce the number of employees;
 4. Don't know/don't want to answer
3. Are you planning to expand your business in the same sphere or in any other sphere?
 1. Yes, within three months;
 2. Yes, within six months;
 3. Yes, within a year;
 4. No;
 5. Don't know

4. How often are you visited by someone from government agencies

Ministry or other state body	At least once a week	At least once a month	At least once in six months	At least once a year	They have not visited me yet
1. Tax Ministry					
2. Ministry of Economic Development					
3. Ministry of Emergencies					
4. State Committee for Standards					
5. Police					
6. Ministry of National Security					
7. Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources					
8. Local Government					
9. Sanitary bodies					
10.					

5. What is the goal of officials visits, often?

1. Inspection in framework of legislation
2. Requirements of monthly, quarterly or annual informal payments (bribes)
3. Requirement to change the scope of business
4. Requirement to change the geography of business
5. Requirement to hire someone
6. Other requirements_____

6. Starting in 2011, the government has taken several steps to reduce corruption. You already feel a reduction in corruption?

1. Yes, the situation is improved significantly
2. The situation has improved, but not by much
3. Situation is not improved Dəyişiklik hələ hiss olunmur
4. Don't know/don't want to answer

7. How do you assess the conditions for competition in the sector of the economy in which you work?

1. Fair;
2. Unfair;
3. Don't know/don't want to answer

8. Have you had to apply for a license?

1. Yes.
2. No.

If not, then please proceed with question 12.

9. It was difficult to obtain the License?

1. Yes.
2. No.

If not, then please proceed with question 12.

10. What were the challenges in obtain the license? (You can choose multiple answers)

1. Red tape of officials
2. Unclear rules and procedures
3. Requires a lot of documents from various government agencies
4. Other challenges _____

11. Is it possible to obtain a license or permit without bribes?

1. Yes.
2. Yes, but it takes a lot of time and nerves
3. No

12. Have you had to register real estate?

1. Yes;
2. No.

If not, then please proceed with question 16

13. Did you find it difficult to register property?

1. Yes;
2. No.

If not, then please proceed with question 16

14. What were the challenges? (You can choose multiple answers)

1. Red tape of officials
2. Unclear rules and procedures
3. Requires a lot of documents from various government agencies
4. Other challenges _____

15. Is it possible to register property without bribes?

1. Yes;
2. Yes, but it takes a lot of time and nerves
3. No.

16. Have you had to apply to the State Fund to Support Entrepreneurship for a loan?

1. Yes;
2. No;
3. I have never heard of such a fund;

If you have not, then please proceed with question 19

17. You managed to get a loan from the fund?

1. Yes;
2. No.

18. Have there been unofficial expenses while getting a loan (*mediators, any employees of the Fund or the bank*)?

1. Yes;
2. No;
3. Don't know/don't want to answer

19. Do you think you are protected from officials' arbitrariness?

1. Yes;
2. To some extent;
3. No;
4. Don't know/don't want to answer

20. What do you think needs to be changed in the system of taxation?

1. To reduce the tax rates;
2. To reduce the number of taxes;
3. Hire new employees
4. In the current situation, everything is pointless;
5. Another proposal_____
6. Don't know/don't want to answer

21. Do you use the opportunity to pay your taxes electronically?

1. Yes;
2. Yes, and I'm very pleased
3. Not yet, but I am going to;
4. No, there is no need for that;

If not, then please proceed with question 23

22. What is the reason why you are not using the opportunity to pay your taxes electronically?

1. I find it difficult because I have no work experience in the electronic area;
2. I don't trust the electronic system and I am afraid that it will fail and I will be made to answer for that;
3. It is easier to pay taxes in the traditional way;
4. Another reason _____

23. Do you carry out foreign trade transactions?

1. Yes;
2. No;
3. Now I don't, but I've done it before;

If not, then please proceed with question 27

24. How do you assess the number and difficulty of registering documents while implementing foreign trade transactions?

1. Excessive;
2. Normal;
3. Don't know/don't want to answer

25. Where do you find it more comfortable to go through the customs procedures?

1. At Azerbaijani customs;
2. At Russian customs;
3. At Georgian customs;
4. At Turkish customs;
5. At Iranian customs;
6. It is equally bad everywhere;
7. It is equally comfortable everywhere;
8. Don't know/don't want to answer

26. What is the use of brokers' services at customs?

1. Mandatory;
2. Voluntary;
3. Don't know/don't want to answer

27. Have you had to close your company in the recent past (in the last two years)?

1. Yes;
2. No.

If not, then please proceed with question 31

28. How do you assess the number and difficulty of registering documents while closing your company?

1. Excessive;
2. Normal;
3. Don't know/don't want to answer

29. How much time (days) did you lose while closing your company?

1. _____
2. Don't know/don't want to answer

30. Did you have to pay any unofficial fees while registering the closure of your company?

1. Yes;
2. No;
3. Don't know/don't want to answer

31. Do you obtain information about government decisions on time?

1. Yes;
2. No.

32. Where do you usually learn about government decisions?

1. Newspapers
2. Television
3. Websites of government bodies
4. Friends, colleagues
5. Officials that attending the office to verify
6. Other sources _____

33. Is it possible to do business in Azerbaijan without breaking the law?

1. Yes;
2. Yes, but it's hard. It is easier to operate by paying a bribe
3. No;
4. Don't know/don't want to answer

34. Name the measures that the state needs to take in order to accelerate the development of private business in Azerbaijan (*very important – 1, important – 2, not important - 3*)

1. To protect private business from groundless checks -
2. To improve the crediting of private business -
3. To increase anti-monopoly control -
4. To reduce tax payments -
5. To facilitate customs procedures -
6. To reduce social payments -
7. Simplification of procedures for registration of property -
8. Simplification of procedures for obtaining building permits -
9. Simplification of procedures for obtaining licenses and various permits -
10. increasing of independency of courts -

35. What businessmen themselves have to do in order to improve the business climate in the country? (*very important – 1, important – 2, not important - 3*)

1. To organize themselves (establishing of associations) and lobby their interests -
2. To promote their problems in the media more actively -
3. To refuse to pay bribes to officials -
4. Improving awareness on laws -
5. increase knowledge on business management -

36. If government representatives torment you, what address you applying with complaint?

1. To the court
2. To head of appropriate state body
3. To MP
4. To president of country
5. I appeal to all of the above addresses
6. I not appeal to any address. I'm trying to reach an agreement with him

37. Did you know that Azerbaijan is preparing to become a WTO member?

1. I am well aware
2. I heard about this, but I do not know what challenges will face my business
3. I know nothing

38. Do you need a specific information, consultations, meetings with representatives of various government officials to better prepare your business for membership to the WTO
1. Yes
 2. No

39. In conclusion, assess the business climate in the country as a whole, not just with regard to your own business:
1. Good;
 2. Satisfactory;
 3. Unsatisfactory;
 4. Don't know/don't want to answer

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Information about the participant in the poll

1. City, district _____

2. Full name _____

3. Sphere of business: _____

5. How many years in business _____

6. Number of employees _____

7. Phone, E-mail _____