

**EU for SME Development Project****Duration:** 24.06.2024 - 23.06.2026**Countries:**  
North Macedonia**EU contribution:** € 868 790**Total budget:** € 868 790**Implementer:**  
Ministry of Economy and Labour**ЕУ за развој**  
**МЕСР****Social media:**

[facebook.com/profile.php?id=61564753866420](https://facebook.com/profile.php?id=61564753866420),  
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**Project description:**

The main focus of the 'EU for SME Development Project' is to develop a new national SME Strategy 2025-2030, to set up an effective monitoring and evaluation (M&E) mechanism for the implementation of the SME Strategy, and to provide capacity building to public administration, SMEs, business associations, NGOs and other institutions and bodies for better utilisation of EU funds.

The main beneficiary is the Ministry of Economy and Labour of the Republic of North Macedonia (MoE).

Equal opportunities and cross-cutting issues will be a priority for this project from its initial recruitment of staff and experts, taking into account gender issues. It will be used as a platform to raise awareness about and promote the inclusion of relevant cross-cutting issues relating to gender, youth, minorities and persons with disabilities. The dimension of minority inclusion, equal opportunity and gender equality, in particular, will be integrated into all levels of the project and will be a joint responsibility of the Contractor and the main beneficiary. This will contribute to establishing a suitable foundation for mainstreaming cross-cutting issues, especially gender equality, in the future.

**Expected results:**

- SME strategy 2025-2030 and Action Plan for implementation of the SME strategy 2025-2030.
- Set of implementing measures for the SME strategy 2025-2026.
- Functional M&E system for the SME Strategy 2025-2030.
- Public and private stakeholders acquired skills to access EU programmes for SMEs.