



MEASURES OF THE INDUSTRIAL POLICY ON STIMULATING INVESTMENTS AND COMPETITIVENESS OF THE MACEDONIAN ECONOMY

The companies applying for the measures of the industrial policy on stimulating investments and competitiveness of the Macedonian economy will need to meet the following fundamental criteria:

- the company must have growth in its incomes in the last year compared to the average of the last three years;
- the company must keep or to have growth in the number of employees in the last year compared to the average of the last three years;

All companies in the Republic of Macedonia will be able to apply for these measures, except for the following:

- public enterprises;
- companies operating in licensed activities;
- lawyer's offices, auditory companies, accounting companies;
- enterprises - beneficiaries of agricultural subsidies;
- enterprises - beneficiaries of concessions;
- banks, insurance companies, funds



PILLAR 1

1.1. SUPPORT FOR CREATING NEW JOBS	
Objective	Financial support on creating new jobs (full-time jobs) for citizens of the Republic of Macedonia
Maximum amount per work place	270,600 MKD (4,400 EUR) annually
Source of funds	Budget of the Employment Agency of the Republic of Macedonia - sub-account for active programs and employment measures
Scope and deadline	Continuous implementation Application period: up to 30 th April 2018 (for realized employments in 2017)
Description	The employer-beneficiary who pays net average wage at least 50% higher than the minimal net wage foreseen in the Law on minimal wage in the Republic of Macedonia will receive 20% of the paid net wage for the new job in the course of the year.
Calculation and realization	The support is realized annually using direct pay-out to the beneficiary after submitting the final statement for the previous year.
Utilization period	5 years as of the date of creation of the new job.
Criteria and obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ during the utilization period the beneficiary must have a growth in the income in its activity and must not lower the average number of employees; ▪ at least 75 percent of the newly-employed¹ with the beneficiary must be persons: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. who were not employed at least 3 months before the employment; or 2. who are being employed for the first time; or 3. whose previous employment was terminated due to liquidation or bankruptcy procedure; or 4. immediately before the employment were employed with the public or state administration.
1.2 SUPPORT FOR ESTABLISHING AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE COOPERATION WITH SUPPLIES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	
Description	This measure refers to companies in the TIDZs and the industrial zones, to greenfield investors and lessees of a facility who will start a new activity. The measure includes financial support for establishment and enhancement of the business cooperation with suppliers from the

¹ Newly-employed persons are the Macedonian citizens who, before the employment, were not employed in the company-beneficiary or a related company. for six months before the employment



	<p>Republic of Macedonia. This business cooperation will be measured in accordance with the percentage share of the procurement of production inputs² from the suppliers. These inputs do not include procurements from public enterprises (electricity, fuel, gas, water, utilities, telecom services, etc.), as well as legal, accounting or consulting services. The measure refers to cooperation with production companies from the Republic of Macedonia and it does not include trade operations.</p> <p>The beneficiary will receive financial support amounting to 1% of the value of the total procurements if during one year they procure at least 15% of production inputs from suppliers registered in the Republic of Macedonia.</p>
Maximum amount per beneficiary	18,450,000 MKD (300,000 EUR) annually
Calculation and realization	The payment of the assistance is performed annually after the submission of the final statement of the company for the previous years. The fulfilment of the criteria is proved using documents for the value of the production input and the total value of the procurements.
Utilization period	7 years as of the date of commencement of the measure's usage.
Criteria and obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ during the utilization period the beneficiary must have a growth in the income of activities and must not lower the average number of employees;▪ the supplier³ must be a company registered in the Republic of Macedonia which is not capital one or related to the beneficiary in any way and it must perform previous processes and operations over the production input;▪ must maintain the activity at least 3 years counting from the last year for which assistance was paid.
<u>1.3 SUPPORT FOR ESTABLISHING TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENTS</u>	
Description	The financial support for establishing departments, centres or other forms of organization structure which will be used for sustainable research and development projects and will engage highly-qualified staff. The assistance refers to applied industrial research in the form of planned or critical research in order to gain new knowledge and skills for development of new products, production processes or services or to significantly improve the existing products, production processes and services. The measure refers to research and development projects applied in the manufacturing activities.
Maximum amount	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 50% of the total justified costs for industrial research⁴, but no more than 61,500,000 MKD (1,000,000 EUR) per beneficiary <p>These 50% include 30% of the value of the newly purchased equipment in the beneficiary's development department.</p>

² The production input includes the non-material assets such as software, patents, licenses and certificates directly related to the production input or are necessary for performing of the activity.

³ The supplier may use all other measures except for this one.

⁴ The justified investment costs and assistance for industrial research are not accumulated in the total production initial investments for the investment project of the beneficiary.



	<p>The justified costs include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ costs for instruments and equipment up to a certain degree for the period for which they are used for the research project; ▪ costs for buildings and land up to a certain degree for the period for which they are used for the needs of the research project; ▪ costs for contractual research, technical knowledge and patents purchased or licensed by external markets on market prices, as well as costs for consulting services or equivalent which are used exclusively for research objectives; ▪ additional costs incurred directly as a result of the industrial projects; and ▪ other operative costs, including the costs for materials, purchases and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity.
Calculation and realization	The payment is performed annually after the company submits the final statement for the previous year and documents proving the amount of the incurred justified investment costs for industrial research.
Utilization period	5 years as of the year when the research and development project was initiated.
Criteria and obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ during the utilization period the beneficiary must have grown in incomes of the activity and must not lower the average number of employees; ▪ the primary activity of the beneficiary must be manufacturing; ▪ to maintain the average number of jobs for which they used return of the net wages from the measure for a period of at least 3 years as of the last year for which assistance was paid.
1.4. SUPPORT FOR INVESTMENT PROJECTS OF SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC INTEREST FOR THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	
Description	Support for investment projects of significant economic interest where the beneficiary will gain 50% of the total justified costs in accordance with the Law on control of state aid and the by-laws referring to it.
Maximum amount per beneficiary	<p>The state aid can be realized in the following forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Exemption from paying (or return of paid) income tax of the wages for the employees citizens of the Republic of Macedonia; B. Exemption from paying (or return of paid) income tax⁵ C. Cash grant up to 10% of the planned amount of the investment foreseen with an agreement, but no more than 61,500,000 MKD (1,000,000 EUR); D. Cash grant per employee who has a wage of at least 18,000 MKD as it follows: 300 persons - 123,000 MKD (2,000 EUR) per position; 300 - 500 persons - 184,500 MKD (3,000 EUR) per position; 500-1000 persons - 215,250 MKD (3,500 EUR) per position, 1,000-2,000 persons - 246,000 MKD (4,000 EUR) per position.
Calculation and realization	<p>The realization of the support stipulated in measures A, B and D is performed annually after the company submits the final statement for the previous year and documents proving the fulfilment of criteria.</p> <p>The realization of the support stipulated in item C will be performed the following year after the investment was realized (maximum:</p>

⁵ The assistance stipulated in items A. and B. does not refer to beneficiaries in the TIDZs. The assistance referred to in Group C. excludes the use of the assistance referred to in Measure 1.3 - increase of capital investments and incomes.



	1 million EUR).
Utilization period	Measure A: 10 years as of the month when the employees' wage was paid out, but no later than 1 year as of the year when the contract was executed; Measure B: 10 years as of the date when the activity commenced i.e. no later than 1 year as of the year when the contract was executed; Measure C: 3 years as of the year when the contract was executed i.e. the year when the investment project commenced; Measure D: 4 years as of the year when the contract was executed i.e. the date when the investment project commenced.
Criteria and obligation	The investment project must meet one of the following criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planned amount of investment of more than 1,230,000,000 MKD (20,000,000 EUR); 2. Planned amount of investment of at least 246,000,000 MKD (4,000,000 EUR) and at least 300 new jobs; 3. Other investment projects which the Government of the Republic of Macedonia will assess, in pursuance with clearly defined criteria with a special act, following a Decision for investments of significant economic interest for the Republic of Macedonia. <p>The beneficiary will must maintain the investment and the created jobs for at least 5 years after the completion of the investment project.</p>
<u>1.5. SUPPORT FOR INCREASE OF CAPITAL INVESTMENTS AND INCOMES⁶</u>	
Description	The financial support for companies which realize initial or additional investments. 10% of the investments for purchase of new machines or equipment or for investments in the area of premises and land necessary for the activity of the beneficiary.
Maximum amount per beneficiary	10 % of the realized investment, but no more than 61,500,000 MKD (1,000,000 EUR).
Calculation and realization	The payment of the financial support is performed annually after the company submits the final statement for the previous year including documents which prove the value of the investment in the previous year and submit a list of invoices for the investments in the premise/premises, equipment and halls.
Utilization period	5 years as of the date of commencement of the activity (or executing contract) for new companies i.e. 5 years as of the commencement of the investment project for existing companies.
Criteria and obligation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The beneficiary must not decrease the average number of employees and the incomes of the operation beyond the average in the previous 3 years or for a shorter period depending in the date on which the company was established or commenced its operation. ▪ The beneficiary must maintain the investment for at least 5 years after full completion of the investment project.
<u>1.6. SUPPORT FOR ACQUISITION OF COMPANIES THAT ARE FACING DIFFICULTIES</u>	
Description	The financial support for companies which will commence investment project by purchasing assets of another company after a bankruptcy or liquidation procedure. The company may apply for the measure after the renewal of the manufacturing process.

⁶ A new machine is every machine, equipment or plant produced not earlier than 2 years as of the date of purchase which was not used before (is not depreciated) and is purchased from the beneficiary under real market conditions and price.



	A return of 10% of the value of the incurred investment costs is made for purchasing machines, objects and liabilities of companies in bankruptcy or liquidation procedure. ⁷
Maximum amount per beneficiary	10% of the realized investment, but no more than 61,500,000 MKD (1,000,000 EUR).
Calculation and realization	The assistance is one-time after the renewal of the manufacturing process. Documents are delivered proving the value of the purchased assets and prove the commencement or restarting of the activity.
Utilization period	One-time pay-out within 1 year as of the commencement of the new activity or restarting the previous activity.
Criteria and obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the beneficiary of the measure must commence or restart the activity of the company; ▪ the beneficiary must be a company which in the last 3 years before the bankruptcy or liquidation procedure commenced except through business cooperation which was not related in any manner to the company in bankruptcy or liquidation procedure; ▪ the company in bankruptcy or liquidation procedure had at least 50 employees before this procedure was initiated; ▪ the beneficiary must maintain the investment at least 5 years as of the date when the activity was commenced or restarted.

PILLAR 2

MEASURES SUPPORTING THE COMPETITIVENESS

2.1. IRREVOCABLE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE COMPANIES WHICH INCREASED THEIR COMPETITIVENESS ON NEW MARKETS	
Description	The companies which increased their competitiveness on new markets will receive financial support to cover 10% of the investment costs used to accomplish this increase. For the increase of the competitiveness in the WB6 countries the assistance shall increase by additional 10%.
Maximum amount per beneficiary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Measure A: Return of 10% of the investment costs for increase of the competitiveness on new markets; ▪ Measure B: Return of 20% of the investment costs for increase of the competitiveness on the WB6 countries' markets.
Calculation and realization	The calculation will not include the costs for wages of the employees and for purchases made from domestic public enterprises

⁷ The use of this measure excludes the assistance referred to in Measure 1.3 - increase in capital investments and incomes. The use of this measure does not exclude the assistance referred to 1.1.1.



Utilization period	Continuous implementation
Criteria and obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ for measure A: the beneficiary must have increase of the market realization on the new market in the year for which they apply, for at least 5% more compared to the average for the last 3 years; ▪ for measure B: the beneficiary must have increase of the market realization on the new market in the year for which they apply, for at least 5% more compared to the average for the last 3 years; ▪ the beneficiary must have increase of the average number of employees and the incomes from the activity and operations beyond the average for the last 3 years or for a shorter period, depending on the date on which the company was established and started its operation.
2.2. SUPPORT FOR WINNING NEW MARKETS AND INCREASE IN SALES ⁸	
Description	The companies which will win new markets and will accomplish increase in the sales on the new markets will receive financial support in the amount of 20% of the justified costs for winning new markets.
Maximum amount per beneficiary	Return of 20% of the justified costs for winning new markets up to 1,845,000 MKD (30,000 EUR) ⁹
	<p>Justified costs for winning new markets are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shared (organized) appearance on fairs abroad; ▪ Shared (organized) appearance on business missions when visiting countries; ▪ B2B meetings with companies on foreign markets; ▪ costs used for certifying the products according to the requests on the foreign markets; ▪ costs for building capacities for marketing approach on foreign markets (preparation of promotional material, catalogues, brochures, website design)
Calculation and realization	The support is realized annually using return of part of the funds to the beneficiary, after the company submits the final statement for the previous year and documents proving the incurred costs and the achieved results (contracts executed with foreign partners)
Utilization period	Continuous implementation
Criteria and obligations	The beneficiary must mark an increase of the average number of employees and the incomes of the operations beyond the average for the previous 3 years or for a shorter period, depending on the date on which the company was established or started its operation.

⁸The measure refers to Micro and small enterprises and is included in Pillar 3.

⁹ The measure does not refer to TIDZs users



PILLAR 3

3.1. SUPPORTING MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES WITH FAST GROWTH TENDENCY (“GAZELLES”)	
Description	The financial support for technological development of the companies by covering up to 30% of the direct costs in investment projects. ¹⁰ The costs do not include wages or procurement from domestic public enterprises.
Maximum annual amount per applicant	Up to 30% of the acceptable direct costs, but no more than 10,000,000 MKD (162,000 EUR) per applicant. ¹¹ The limitation is applied on all capital-related legal entities ¹² which may respond to the one call.
Calculation and realization	The support is realized through response on a public call for financing projects for technological development of Micro and small enterprises (two calls in one fiscal year) and based on the summary for the project (project application) and proposed budget. The support is realized on competitive base until the funds intended for the measure in the ongoing fiscal year are spent. The institution which implements this measure will provide professional assistance (technical assistance) for preparation of executive summary (application) and a proposal of budget for the possible applicants. When deciding on the funds awarding, the degree to which the project shall contribute to developing new or significantly improved product, service and/or working process with the applicant, shall be taken into consideration.
Utilization period	Up to 18 months as of the project approval.
Criteria and obligations	The financial support can be used by the following Micro and small enterprises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trade company established in pursuance with the Law on trade companies and registered in the Central Registry of the Republic of Macedonia; ▪ Micro, small and medium enterprise (up to 250 employees); ▪ Enterprise with minimum annual income of 3,000,000 MKD¹³ (48,780 EUR) in the previous year as of the year when it was applied for support; ▪ The debts of the company must be serviced according to the agreed payment terms. <p>The support is provided for the following type of investment activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ accepting and implementing European technical regulations regarding the safety of products;

¹⁰ Average value of investment in principal assets per company in 2016 = 1,803,000 MKD (source: DZS)

¹¹ To meet the criteria stipulated in the Law on control of the state aid and Regulation for the conditions and procedure for awarding assistance of lower significance (de minimis)

¹² In accordance with the definition in the Law on trade companies

¹³ Average income per enterprise in non-financial business economy in 2016 = 20,020,000 MKD (Source: DZS)



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ preparations for gaining quality certificates; ▪ activities for analysis, preparation, acquiring and protecting of industrial and intellectual ownership rights; ▪ preparation and implementation of activities for improvement of the energy efficiency; ▪ preparation of executive summaries for protection of the environment; ▪ preparation and establishing waste management systems; ▪ implementing information systems. <p>Acceptable costs for financing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ costs for purchasing or renting equipment, IT tools and other type of assets for Micro and small enterprises, directly related to the realization of the project for technological development; ▪ technical support (expertise) based on previously delivered profile of domestic and/or foreign experts who will be engaged on the project; ▪ costs related to the procedures before organizations, scientific-research institutes, companies, international organizations related to acquiring quality certificates, acquiring patents and other rights of intellectual property, as well as other documents related to the investment activities issued by a certified subject; ▪ costs for contractual services for research and development (ex. testing, laboratory services, etc.); ▪ other costs directly related to the realization of the project, except for wages and procurement from domestic public enterprises. <p>In the period 24 months after the completion of the project the applicant will need to annually increase the average number of employees by 20% or annual total income by 20%.¹⁴ The fulfilment of the obligations is monitored by a unit within the frames of the institution which implements the measure.</p>
3.2. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES	
Description	Financial support for technological development of the companies by covering 30% of the direct costs in investment projects (not for wages of purchases from domestic public enterprises).
Maximum annual amount per applicant	Up to 30% of the acceptable direct costs, but no more than 5,000,000 MKD (81,300 EUR) per applicant. ¹⁵ The limitation applies to all capital-related legal entities ¹⁶ (applicants) who may respond to a public call.
Calculation and realization	The support is realized through applying on a public call on financing projects for technological development for Micro and small enterprises (two calls in one fiscal year) based on executive summary of the project (project application) and proposal of a budget. The support is realized on competitive base until the funds intended for the measure in the ongoing fiscal year are spent.

¹⁴ According to the definition of gazelle made by The Financial Times Lexicon <http://lexicon.ft.com/Term?term=gazelle>

¹⁵ To meet the criteria stipulated in the law on state aid and Regulation on conditions and procedure for awarding assistance of lower significance (de minimis)

¹⁶ In accordance with the definition in the Law on trade companies.



	<p>The institution which implements this measure will provide professional assistance (technical assistance) for preparation of executive summary (application) and a proposal of budget for the possible applicants. When deciding on the funds awarding, the degree to which the project shall contribute to developing new or significantly improved product, service and/or working process with the applicant, shall be taken into consideration.</p>
<p>Utilization period</p>	<p>Up to 18 months as of the approval of the project.</p>
<p>Criteria and obligations</p>	<p>The financial support under this measure can be used by the following Micro and small enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trade company founded according to the Law on trade companies and registered in the Central Registry of the Republic of Macedonia ▪ Micro and small enterprise (up to 50 employees) ▪ Minimum 5 employees in the moment of applying ▪ Minimum annual income of 3,000,000 MKD (48,780 EUR) in the previous year as of the year when the application for support was submitted ▪ The debts of the company must be serviced according to the agreed payment conditions. <p>The support is provided for the following type of investment activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ technical support by foreign experts for preparation of mid-term and long-term strategic plans; ▪ training for mid-term planning of the business (three years business plan) ▪ preparation of development projects for business connections and establishing business cooperation (in the period of 3 to 5 years) with foreign investors and domestic companies; ▪ enhancing the organization structure for meeting the company's growth; ▪ specialized management trainings - programs for development of the capacities of the managing teams; ▪ training for recognizing talents (future leaders) and creating programs for development of talents (future leaders); ▪ training for planning and costs control; ▪ procurement and preparation of a specific software related to the improvement of the organizational structure and performance or improvement of the operational processes which will increase the productivity and/or planning processes <p>Acceptable costs for financing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ costs for procurement and/or creating equipment, software, IT tools and other type of principal ICT funds for Micro and small enterprises, directly connected to the realization of the project for technological development; ▪ technical support (expertise) based on previously delivered profile of key domestic and/or foreign experts who will be engaged; ▪ costs related to preparation and realization of trainings; ▪ other costs related to the implementation of a plan for improved organization structure of the applicant; ▪ other costs directly related to the realization of the project except for wages and procurements from domestic public enterprises. <p>The fulfilment of the obligations is monitored by a monitoring unit within the institution implementing the measure.</p>



3.3. SUPPORTING MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE INNOVATION	
Description	Financial support for development and application of innovative solutions within the companies by covering 70% of the direct costs in the investment projects (not for wages and procurement from domestic public enterprises).
Maximum annual amount per applicant	Up to 70% of the acceptable direct costs, but no more than 20,000,000 MKD (325,200 EUR) per applicant. ¹⁷ The limitation is applied to all capital-related legal entities ¹⁸ (applicants) who may respond to one call.
Calculation and realization	The support is realized through applying on a public call for financing projects for innovations for Micro and small enterprises (two calls in one fiscal year) based on an executive summary for the project (project application) and proposal of budget. The support is realized on competitive base, until the funds intended for the measure in the ongoing fiscal year are spent. The institution which implements this measure will provide professional assistance (technical assistance) for preparation of executive summary (application) and a proposal of budget for the possible applicants. When deciding on the funds awarding, the degree to which the project shall contribute to developing new or significantly improved product, service and/or working process with the applicant, shall be taken into consideration.
Utilization period	Up to 24 months as of the project was approved.
Criteria and obligations	<p>The financial support under this measure can be used by the following Micro and small enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trade company founded according to the Law on trade companies and registered in the Central Registry of the Republic of Macedonia ▪ Micro, small and medium enterprise (up to 250 employees) ▪ In majority ownership (50.1% or more) of individuals - citizens of the Republic of Macedonia ▪ Owned by an individual/s and/or micro, small or medium enterprise (majority ownership of 50.1% or more of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia) and/or institution performing highly-educational i.e. scientific-research activity (20% ownership by the applicant) ▪ The debts of the company should be serviced according to the agreed conditions for payment / they must be appropriately settled. <p>The support is provided for the following type of investment activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ elaboration of technical-technological aspects in the development and introducing new products or services; ▪ significant improvement of the existing products or services; ▪ creation of new fashion collections; ▪ preparation of industrial design or redesigning the products;

¹⁷ To meet the criteria stipulated in the Law on control of state aid and the Regulation for conditions and procedure for awarding aid of lower significance (de minimis)

¹⁸ According to the definition in the Law on trade companies.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ creating new packages; ▪ creating marketing plans (market analysis, competitors' analysis, product research, sales, etc.); ▪ improvement of the existing or introducing new manufacturing process. <p>Acceptable costs for financing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ gross wages (for people employed with the beneficiary and members of the consortium). The amounts of the gross wages of the employed persons engaged on the project must be in accordance with the practices established by the beneficiary before the commencement of the project ▪ procurement and/or renting equipment and consumables for research and development ▪ subcontracted services for research and development (ex. testing, laboratory services, etc.); ▪ engaging experts/advisors for research and development; ▪ engaging consultants for other needs directly related to the expected results of the project (expertise related to innovative management, financial management, mobilization of funds, business development, marketing, legal works, protection of intellectual property, etc.); ▪ preparation and submission of patent application, protection of trade mark and/or industrial design and other preparatory activities and activities for registration and protection of the rights of intellectual and industrial property; ▪ costs for marketing and office and business support no more than 10% of the total budget of the project. <p>In a period of 60 months after the completion of the project, the applicant has the obligation to annually return 5% of the total annual income accomplished in the innovation project, but no more than 120% of the amount of the awarded support. The fulfilment of the obligation is followed by a monitoring unit within the frames of the institution implementing the measure.</p>
3.4. SUPPORT FOR PROFESSIONAL UPGRADE AND PRACTICE FOR NEWLY-EMPLOYED YOUNG PEOPLE	
Description	Financial support for technological development of the companies by covering up to 30% of the costs for training and professional upgrade of the newly-employed young people.
Maximum annual amount per applicant	Up to 30% of the acceptable direct costs, but no more than 1,000,000 MKD (16,260 EUR) per applicant. ¹⁹ The limitation is applied to all capital-related legal entities ²⁰ (applicants) who may respond within the frames of one call.
Calculation and realization	The support is realized through applying on a public call for financing projects for innovations for Micro and small enterprises (two calls in one fiscal year) based on an executive summary for the project (project application) and proposal of budget. The support is realized on competitive base, until the funds intended for the measure in the ongoing fiscal year are spent.

¹⁹ To meet the criteria stipulated in the Law on control of state aid and the Regulation for conditions and procedure for awarding aid of lower significance (de minimis)

²⁰ According to the definition in the Law on trade companies.



	<p>When deciding on the funds awarding, the degree to which the project shall contribute to developing new or significantly improved product, service and/or working process with the applicant, shall be taken into consideration.</p> <p>The institution authorized for realization of this measure can provide professional support (technical assistance) for preparation of an executive summary (application) and proposed budget for the potential applicants.</p>
Utilization period	<p>The total support under this measure (under one or more projects) can be used for a period of up to 24 months for the same newly-employed young people.</p> <p>The same person cannot apply for use of the measure for support with different legal entity within a period of 24 months as of the previous use of the measure.</p>
Criteria and obligations	<p>The financial support under this measure can be used by the following Micro and small enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trade company founded according to the Law on trade companies and registered in the Central Registry of the Republic of Macedonia ▪ Micro, small and medium enterprise (up to 250 employees) ▪ With minimum 5 employees at the moment of application ▪ Minimum annual income of 3,000,000 MKD in the previous year as of the year when it was applied for support ▪ The support will be awarded for professional upgrade and/or practice for people up to 29 years of age, professionally engaged in the company-applicant no less than 6 months in the moment of the application ▪ The debts of the company must be serviced according to the agreed payment conditions / they must be settled appropriately. <p>The support is provided for the following type of activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ professional training and practice for newly-employed young person in the company applicant (including Fast Track Management Programme) ▪ Professional training and practice for newly-employed young person in another company and/or organization providing this type of services. <p>Acceptable costs for financing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ costs related to preparation and realization of a plan for reinforcement of professional and technical skills; ▪ travel costs, accommodation and food costs in the country and abroad, if the program for professional upgrade and/or practice is realized further than the place where the employee lives; ▪ costs for application, participation, and other fees for participation in the program for professional training and/or practice collected by the organizer (other than the applicant); ▪ costs for preparation and taking exams for certificates and other documents for successfully realized program and/or practice; ▪ other direct costs related to the organization and/or participation in a program for professional upgrade and/or practice. <p>In a period of 24 months after the completion of the project the applicant is obligated to keep the newly-employed young person for whom they use the support under this measure for their professional upgrade and practice.</p> <p>Fulfilment of the obligations is monitored by a monitoring unit within the frames of the institution implementing the measure.</p>



3.5. CREATING CONDITIONS AND PREPARATION OF LEGAL BASES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF VENTURE CAPITAL	
Description	Up to end of 2017 the Fund for Innovations and Technological Development will adopt a decision for establishment of Fund for equities and mezzanine; the Government will adopt a decision for funding investment.
Maximum annual amount per applicant	Up to 25% of the value of the applicant's own funds, but no more than 30,000,000 MKD (487,800 EUR) per applicant. The limitation is applied to all capital-related legal entities ²¹ (applicants).
Calculation and realization	The support through the Fund for equities and mezzanine will be realized through using a process of application and evaluation open during the whole year and based on executive summary (project application) and a proposal of budget. The support will be realized on competitive base, until the funds intended for the measure/Fund are spent. When deciding on the funds awarding, the degree to which the project shall contribute to developing new or significantly improved product, service and/or working process with the applicant, shall be taken into consideration. The institution authorized for realization of this measure can provide professional support (technical assistance) for preparation of an executive summary (application) and proposed budget for the potential applicants.
Utilization period	Up to 60 months as of the project approval.
Criteria and obligations	The financial support under this measure can be used by the following Micro and small enterprises: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ trade company established according to the Law on trade companies and registered in the Central Registry of the Republic of Macedonia▪ micro, small and medium enterprise (up to 250 employees). The support is provided for the following type of investment activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ preparation and realization of projects for technological development. Acceptable costs for funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ all costs acceptable for financing under the measures 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4. The fulfilment of the activities of the project is monitored by a representative of the institution implementing the measure, among the other, by participation in the management bodies of the company-applicant/beneficiary of the funds.

²¹ In accordance with the Law on trade companies