

SME-related policy measures adopted, implemented or announced in 2021

Bulgaria

Title of the measure (national language)	Title of the measure (English translation)	Implementing body	Adopted / implemented / announced as part of the 'National Recovery and Resilience Plan' (Yes / No)	Status (Adopted or implemented or announced)	Date of adoption/ implementa tion or announcem ent (DD/MM/YYYY)	General description (objectives / key features / budget - if applicable, and weblink to online source)
ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY						
ИНОВАЦИИ ЗА ЗЕЛЕНА ИНДУСТРИЯ	Innovations for Green industry	Program "Business Development, Innovation and SMEs, Bulgaria", component "Innovation for Green Industry" Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014- 2021.	No	Implemented	24/06/2021	The aim is to finance the development and application of innovative green products, services, technologies. The total amount available for the financing of projects from this call is €1.7 million. https://www.innovasjon Norge.no/en/start-page/eea-norway-grants/Programmes/business-development/Bulgaria/2nd-call-for-proposals--green-industry-innovation-small-grant-scheme2/
Подкрепа за стартиращи предприятия -	Support for start-ups	Program "Business	No	Implemented	18/11/2021	This will support the development, implementation

Приоритетни области: „Иновации за зелена индустрия“ и „Технологии на благосъстоянието“	Focus Areas: Green Industry Innovation and Welfare Technology	Development, Innovation and SMEs, Bulgaria", component "Innovation for Green Industry" Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021.				and investment in innovative environmentally friendly technologies, green products, services and implementation of "greener production processes". The total budget was €2 million. https://www.innovasjon Norge.no/globalassets/12bg-innovation---start-up-draft-call-text_final_vy_qv.pdf
Популяризиране на секторните добри практики за управление по околна среда, разработени от Съвместния изследователски център	Promotion of sectoral good environmental management practices	Ministry of Environment and Water; Competitiveness and innovation program in enterprises 2021-2027	No	Announced		This helps SMEs complete the registration process under the EU Environmental Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), as well as certification to ISO 14001 (Environmental Management), ISO 5001 (Energy Management) and ISO 9001 standards of quality). National strategy for SMEs. https://www.mi.government.bg/en/themes/national-strategy-for-small-and-medium-sized-enterprises-2014-2020-small-business-act-11-285.html
SOCIAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY						
Развитие на регионален административен капацитет за модернизирание на предприятията в социалната и солидарната икономика и въвеждане на индивидуализирани решения	Development of regional administrative capacity for modernizing the enterprises in the social and solidarity economy	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy	Yes	Announced		The measure expands support for the social and solidarity economy by reforming policy and applying an individualized approach to the needs of every single entity of the social and solidarity economy. It creates focus points with territorial coverage in the six NUTS II regions of the country. The overall planned resource is BGN 23.1 million /€11.810 million/; National Recovery and Resilience Plan.

Дванадесета конкурсна сесия на Национален иновационен Фонд	Twelfth competition session of the National Innovation Fund	BSMEPA	No	Implemented	10/09/2021	<p>A BGN 5 million /€2.566 million measure will encourage the realization of research and development projects initiated and implemented in enterprises. This will help develop new or improved products, processes or services aimed at enhancing economic efficiency, increase innovation potential and technology level of enterprises, increase private investment for them and increase the dynamics of innovation processes. National Innovation Plan.</p> <p>https://www.sme.government.bg/uploads/2021/08/%D0%9E%D0%B1%D1%8F%D0%B2%D0%B0-%D0%B7%D0%B0-%D0%94%D0%B2%D0%B0%D0%BD%D0%B0%D0%B4%D0%B5%D1%81%D0%B5%D1%82%D0%B0-%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%BA%D1%83%D1%80%D1%81%D0%BD%D0%B0-%D1%81%D0%B5%D1%81%D0%B8%D1%8F-%D0%BD%D0%B0-%D0%9D%D0%B0%D1%86%D0%B8%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%B0%D0%BB%D0%BD%D0%B8%D1%8F-%D0%B8%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%B0%D1%86%D0%B8%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%B5%D0%BD-%D0%A4%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%B4.pdf</p>
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Програма за ускоряване на икономическото възстановяване и трансформация чрез наука и иновации	Programme to accelerate economic recovery and transformation through science and innovation	State Agency for Research and Innovation	Yes	Announced		€862,300 has been allocated for strengthening research and innovation potential, accelerating the internationalization of the national innovation ecosystem and creating a network of research universities in Bulgaria. National Recovery and Resilience Plan, page 41. www.nextgeneration.bg
SKILLS						
Модернизиране на образователните институции за по-привлекателна и качествена среда за учене и иновации	Modernization of educational institutions for a more attractive and quality environment for learning and innovation	Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Youth and Sports and municipalities	Yes	Announced		€29,138 million has been allocated to improve employability by strengthening skills (especially digital). This will increase the quality and relevance of the labour market as well as improve the inclusivity of education and training, in particular for Roma and other vulnerable groups. National Recovery and Resilience Plan, page 25. www.nextgeneration.bg
ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN						
Актуализиране на Бизнес наръчника за МСП	Update the Business Guide for SMEs	Ministry of Economy	No	Implemented	2021	Up-to-date information on the administrative procedures for starting and developing a business for SMEs. https://www.mi.government.bg/bg/pages/msp-info-220.html
Закон за изменение и допълнение на административнопроцесуалния кодекс	Law amending the administrative code of administration		No	Adopted	10/02/2021	This will reduce the administrative burden for citizens and businesses through the use of electronic document formats. https://www.ciela.net/svobodna-zona-darjaven-vestnik/document/2137209965/issue/6348/zakon-za-izmenenie-i-dopalnenie-na-administrativnoprotsesualniya-kodeks-(dv-br-30-ot-2006-g)

Наименование на проекта. Дигитализиране на информационни масиви в администрацията, съдържащи регистри данни и е-удостоверяване от регистри	Digitalizing of the information files in the administration obtaining registry data and e-authentication from registers.	State Agency for Electronic Government (DAEU) with partners the Registry Agency, the Agency for Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre and the National Association of Municipalities in Bulgaria	Yes	Announced		The realization of this project is of key importance for the ongoing registry reform. The total planned budget is BGN 127.5 million. National Recovery and Resilience Plan. www.nextgeneration.bg
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REGULATORY OBSTACLES

Подобряване на ефективността на несъстоятелността и стабилизираща рамка	Improving the effectiveness of the insolvency and stabilization framework	Bulgarian Courts and the Registry Agency	Yes	Announced	2021-2022	A reform of the insolvency legal framework through the establishment of a specialized unit in the Ministry of Justice and an update of the information system on insolvency proceedings. A programme for continuing education of trustees and trustees in insolvency has also been launched in addition to an upgrade of the Commercial Register which is linked to the European Insolvency Register. National Recovery and Resilience Plan. www.nextgeneration.bg
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ACCESS TO FINANCE (including guarantee schemes, public funding programmes, support for alternative financing and equity financing, favourable legal, tax and regulatory frameworks for investments, fiscal incentives)

BG16RFOP002-2.089 „Подкрепа за малки предприятия с оборот над 500 000 лв. за преодоляване на икономическите последици от пандемията COVID-19“	BG16RFOP002-2.089 "Support for small enterprises with a turnover of over BGN 500,000 to overcome the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic"	Ministry of Economy, OP Innovations and competitiveness 2014-2020	No	Implemented	15/03/2021	The support under this procedure focuses on small enterprises with a turnover of at least BGN 500,000 to overcome the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and stability of jobs. The total amount of the grant under the procedure is BGN
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						78,233,200, as (BGN 66,498,220 from the European Regional Development Fund and BGN 11,734,980 national co-financing). https://opic.bg/procedure/bg16rfop002-2089-podkrepa-za-malki-predpriyatiya-s-oborot-nad-500-000-lv-za-preodolyavane-na-ikonomicheskite-posledstviya-ot-pandemiyata-covid-19
Предоставяне на безвъзмездни средства на лица, извършващи туроператорска и туристическа агентска дейност, за компенсиране на загуби в резултат на епидемичния взрив от COVID-19	Grants to tour operators and travel agencies activities to compensate for losses resulting as a result of COVID 19	Ministry of tourism	No	Implementation	03/2020	A one-time grant in the amount of 4 percent of turnover without VAT in 2019 can be disclosed in financial statements under the Accounting Act. This assistance is for compensation of losses of the tour operators and travel agents for the period from 01.03.2020 to 31.12.2020. Total estimated budget of BGN 51 million. https://coronavirus.bg/bg/merki/ikonomicheski
BG16RFOP002-2.094 "Подкрепа чрез оборотен капитал за МСП, засегнати от временните противоепидемични мерки, чрез прилагане на схема за подпомагане от Национална агенция за приходите (НАП)"	BG16RFOP002-2.094 "Support through working capital for SMEs affected by temporary anti-epidemic measures, through the implementation of a support scheme by the National Revenue Agency (NRA)"	National Revenue Agency	No	Implemented	01/2021	BGN 156 000 000 has been allocated for providing a fast and effective mechanism for support of the Bulgarian micro, small and medium enterprises, affected by the temporary anti-pandemic measures. This is carried out through the National Revenue Agency. https://opic.bg/procedure/bg16rfop002-2094-podkrepa-chrez-oboroten-kapital-za-msp-zasegnati-ot-vremennite-protivoepidemichni-merki-chrez-prilagane-na-skHEMA-za-

						podpomagane-ot-natsionalna-agentsiya-za-prihodite-nap
ПРОГРАМА НА БЪЛГАРСКАТА БАНКА ЗА РАЗВИТИЕ ЗА ПОРТФЕЙЛНИ ГАРАНЦИИ В ПОДКРЕПА НА БИЗНЕСА	Programme For Portfolio Guarantees in Business Support	Bulgarian Development Bank	No	Implemented	15/08/2021	<p>The aim of the program is for the BDB to provide guarantees for commercial banks, which in turn can provide loan facilities to micro, small, medium and small "mid-caps" companies affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 to provide liquidity for their business activities.</p> <p>https://bbr.bg/bg/produkti-i-uslugi/produkti/finansova-podkrepa/programa-vzstanovyavane/</p>
ПРОГРАМА ЗА ВЪЗСТАНОВЯВАНЕ (ФОНД НА ФОНДОВЕТЕ)	Recovery Programme (Fund Of Funds)	Fund Of Funds	No	Implemented		<p>These funds were redirected from the financial instruments "Small Business Financing" and "Portfolio Guarantees with a Loss Ceiling for Energy Efficiency and Innovation". The funds are from the Operational Program "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020, with funding as part of the European Union response to the pandemic of COVID-19 under "REACT-EU" under priority axis 6 "Recovery of SMEs". The total amount of the financial resource as of 07.10.2021: BGN 254.07 million.</p> <p>https://www.fmfib.bg/bg/fi/20-dalgovi-instrumenti/15-garantsii-po-opik</p>
Финансов инструмент „Финансиране в селските райони“	Financial instrument "Financing in rural areas"	First Investment Bank	No	Implemented	26/11/2021	<p>The funds under this instrument are provided by the Rural Development Program 2014-2020 (RDP), through the European Agricultural Fund for</p>

						<p>Rural Development and amount to BGN 38 million. The instrument is aimed at farmers and small and medium-sized enterprises developing business in rural areas, who will have the opportunity to benefit from funding under the instrument until 31 December 2023.</p> <p>https://www.fmfib.bg/bg/news/182-fondat-na-fondovete-podpisa-dogovor-s-fibank-za-otpuskane-na-kredit-v-selskite-rayoni</p>
LATE PAYMENTS						
ACCESS TO MARKETS						
BG16RFOP002-2.052-0001 - Подкрепа на интернационализацията на българските предприятия чрез провеждане на търговски мисии, бизнес форуми, конференции, контактни борси и двустранни срещи	BG16RFOP002-2.052-0001 - Support for the internationalization of Bulgarian enterprises through trade missions, business forums, conferences, contact exchanges and bilateral meetings	Bulgarian SMEPA	No	Implemented	2021	<p>This facilitates the access of Bulgarian SMEs to foreign markets and provides beneficial and sustainable positioning on the international markets. BNG 2,100,000 /€1,073 million.</p> <p>https://www.sme.government.bg/?page_id=46776</p>
BG16RFOP002-2.052-0002-C01 - Участие на МСП на международни панаири, изложби и конференции в страната и чужбина	BG16RFOP002-2.052-0002-C01 - Participation of SMEs in international fairs, exhibitions and conferences in the country and abroad	Bulgarian SMEPA	No	Implemented	2021	<p>BGN 4,142,000 /€2,117 million/ for supporting the internationalization of Bulgarian enterprises. This provides services to support their sustainable development, successful integration into the European and global economy and expand their presence in priority markets.</p> <p>https://www.sme.government.bg/?page_id=46656</p>
START-UP ENVIRONMENT						

Програмата за икономическа трансформация	The Programme for Economic Transformation	Ministry of Economy, Directorate General for European Competitiveness Funds	Yes	Announced		BGN 2,540,000,000 /€1,298 million/ of investment measures seek to stimulate long-term sustainability and allow Bulgaria to catch up regarding the green and digital transition and to restructure its economy towards the development of innovations, their commercialization, creating high added value without increasing resources pressure. National Recovery and Resilience Plan, page 49. www.nextgeneration.bg
Проект на Наредба за условията и реда за издаване, удължаване и отнемане на удостоверение за високотехнологичен и/или иновативен проект, наречен "Стартър виза"	Draft Ordinance on the terms and conditions for issuing, extending and revoking a certificate for a high-tech and / or innovative project called "Start-up Visa"	Ministry of Economy	No	Announced	06/08/2021	The main goal of the Start-up visa is to attract third-country nationals and investments in companies to register in Bulgaria and develop products and services with high added value by providing the opportunity to obtain a long-term residence permit in Bulgaria. The incentive measure is aimed at start-up companies with an innovative product and/or service. https://www.mi.government.bg/bg/discussion-news/proekt-na-naredba-za-usloviyata-i-reda-za-izdavane-udaljavane-i-otneman-na-udostoverenie-za-visokot-4103-m268-a0-1.html
SCALE-UP ENVIRONMENT						
NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS						
Програма за публична подкрепа за развитие на индустриални зони, паркове и сходни територии и привличане	Program for public support for development of industrial zones, parks and similar territories and attraction of	Ministry of Economy (including working group / experts in the Ministry of	Yes	Announced	Negotiation - until 2023, Execution - until 2026, Payment -	BGN 416.5 million, as well as additional loans and investment capital at various stages of the project implementation, will help build a mechanism for attracting industrial investments and wider

на инвестиции (AttractInvestBG)	investments (AttractInvestBG)	Economy, if necessary)			until 2028, if necessary.	development of industrial ecosystems. National Recovery and Resilience Plan, page 118. www.nextgeneration.bg/14
ЗАКОН за индустриалните паркове	Law for industrial parks	Ministry of Economy	No	Implemented	25/02/2021	The implementation of a specific policy that meets the latest trends in industry will create a regulatory framework to ensure the construction of industrial parks that meet the expectations of business to create a favourable and competitive environment for investment in Bulgaria. https://www.strategy.bg/PublicConsultations/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=5019