

Press release

Russia Invites Turkey's Businessmen to Take Part in the 3rd Forum on Small Business of the SCO and BRICS Regions

The 3rd Forum on Small Business of the SCO and BRICS Regions will take place on 28-29 September in the City of Ufa (Russia, Rep. of Bashkortostan). The Meeting will feature eight discussion sessions and host consultation platforms of a number of small business supporting organizations, as well as the international track Business Without Borders, an exhibition and a contact exchange. Over 1300 participants from over 20 countries will attend the event. Among speakers are leading experts of China, India, Kazakhstan, Russia, South Africa and Uzbekistan. The Forum will prove an efficient platform for strengthening and widening ties with entrepreneurs from Russia and other countries.

The Third Forum on Small Business of the SCO and BRICS Regions takes place in Ufa (Russia, Republic of Bashkortostan) on September 28-29, 2017. Over 1,300 delegates are expected to come from over 20 Russian regions and from abroad, including India, China, Brazil, South Africa, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan.

The forum is organized by the regional Government of the Republic of Bashkortostan, State Committee of the Republic of Bashkortostan for Entrepreneurship and Tourism, and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Bashkortostan. The forum is supported by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation and the SCO Business Council.

The highlight of the forum is the plenary session *Peculiarities, Role, and Place of Small Business in the SCO and BRICS Regional Economies. Achievements and Challenges* attended by the Head of the Republic of Bashkortostan, heads of relevant federal and regional ministries, representatives of the expert community and international delegations.

The list of the invited speakers includes the First Deputy Chairperson of the Russian Government Igor Shuvalov, Official Secretary – Deputy Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation Oleg Fomichev, Head of the Republic of Bashkortostan Rustem Khamitov, Vice-President of the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Elena Dybova, Director General of the SME Corporation Aleksandr Braverman, Director General of the Russian Export Center Petr Fradkov, Director General of the Agency for Strategic Initiatives Svetlana Chupsheva, Vice-President of Business Russia Nonna Kagramanyan, Executive Secretary of the SCO Business Council Sergey Kanavsky, President of the all-Russian NGO for small and medium-sized business OPORA RUSSIA Aleksander Kalinin, as well as the representatives of China and Kyrgyzstan. The session will be moderated by Farkhad Samedov, Deputy Prime-Minister of the Government of the Republic of Bashkortostan.

During the plenary session, the participants will discuss the regional peculiarities of small business development and the most promising market niches for entrepreneurs. The delegates will estimate the role of small business in various economies and analyze incentives for small business in Russian and the SCO and BRICS countries.

The forum will feature sessions on barrier-free cooperation in the SCO and BRICS; financial, legal, and infrastructural support to small business; support to export-oriented business. The participants will touch upon the issues of franchising, youth entrepreneurship, new digital technologies, etc. Special attention will be paid to the best practices of Russian and international small businesses. During the practical session, the participants will discuss the main mistakes of entrepreneurs, investment attraction mechanisms, and solutions to business obstructions.

Additional information support will be provided at the consultation platforms with representatives of the small business supporting organizations: Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, Corporation on Small Business Development, Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Russian Export Center, Agency for Strategic Initiatives, Business Russia, etc.

Apart from that, both days of the forum the participants will be offered to visit *Business Without Borders*, an international track of presentations of delegations and individuals. This initiative will help small businesses find interested partners, build relationships with decision makers, negotiate, and conclude promising contracts.

Official website: <http://sco-brics.ru/>.

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