

## PRESS RELEASE

### **OECD recommends ways for Ukraine to provide a more open and transparent climate for international investment with focus on the energy and agriculture sectors.**

*Kyiv, Ukraine, 15 December 2015*

Five OECD reports released today provide action plans for the implementation of policy recommendations to support the development of agribusiness SMEs and energy-related activities in Ukraine in line with OECD standards. The reports also provide specific actions to encourage more and better quality investment.

The OECD has developed tailored-made instruments for Ukrainian policy makers to reinforce institutional capacity and improve the country's business climate in the energy and agricultural sectors. Reports include:

- **Building a sustainable framework for energy service companies (ESCOs)**, supporting the transition to an energy-efficient Ukraine while increasing private sector participation in energy-related activities;
- **Fostering investment in biomass sector**, streamlining the procedures and regulations to unlock large potential investment in renewable energy activities while contributing to energy diversification;
- **Better addressing skills gaps in Ukraine** through enhanced public-private collaboration via sectoral skills councils and regular skill gaps analysis to better reform the education system;
- **Enhancing financial literacy among agribusiness SMEs** to increase their capacities to access finance and build a stronger private sector;
- **Agricultural Investment Policy Review**, which identifies and addresses policy barriers for an enhanced investment climate in the agricultural sector.

These recommendations and plans for further reform were presented during an international conference, held today in Kyiv, gathering 100 Ukrainian policymakers, private sector and civil society, representatives of OECD member countries, and international organisations, to discuss challenges for reform implementation and identify further steps to strengthen competitiveness in the country.

The reports released today are the outcome of the project Sector Competitiveness Strategy for Ukraine – Phase III carried out by the OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme, co-financed by the European Union and Government of Sweden. As part of this same project, a broader **Investment Policy Review of Ukraine** is under preparation and will be released in early 2016.

For more information: [www.oecd.org/globalrelations/ukraine-and-the-oecd.htm](http://www.oecd.org/globalrelations/ukraine-and-the-oecd.htm)

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