





EBRD Green Economy Financing Facility in Serbia Leasing (GEFF Serbia)

Climate Change, Gender and Access to EBRD GEFF Financing









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Did you know that in Serbia:

- The mean annual temperature was 1.5° C degrees higher in most of the territory of Serbia than during the 1961-1990 period. This is three times higher than the mean global temperature rise trend
- Severe weather events are increasing, including extreme heatwaves and periods of intensive rainfall and flooding, such as the devastating floods of 2014
- River flows have decreased about -30% as compared with a century ago, and groundwater resources are also declining



Climate change in Serbia





Climate change can affect companies' financial, economic, environmental and social performance

- Risks can occur due to climate change such as increased temperature, extreme weather events, disrupted ecosystems, flooding of land, etc.
- Many businesses in Serbia are already directly affected by climate change, for example businesses operating in the agriculture, leisure and tourism sectors
- According to a recent EBRD-GCF survey, a growing number of companies in Serbia would like to make investments in their operations to reduce their environmental footprint to mitigate climate change, and/or to adapt to climate change, but lack the financing to do it

During the 2000-2015 period alone, the total costs of damage caused by climate change in Serbia amounted to more than 5 billion EUR!

EBRD GEFF - intersection of gender & climate finance





EBRD aims to reduce gender gaps and promote women's financial inclusion, including access to climate finance, thereby contributing to the creation of sustainable markets for a green economy



Gender & financial inclusion in Serbia





Did you know that <u>in Serbia</u>, women owned and/ or managed businesses:

- Make up only small portion of all businesses in Serbia firms with majority female participation in ownership make up 28.5% of Serbian businesses while firms with female top managers make up just 18.2% of Serbian businesses
- Are concentrated in the service sector (almost 2/3 are in trade, personal services and hospitality sectors) and oriented to local markets (85%), making them more vulnerable to climate impacts and other market changes
- On average, are smaller than businesses owned by men (99% are micro businesses) and have a lower survival rate than businesses owned by men (39% vs. 53%)

^{*} Source: World Bank, Enterprise Surveys (data for 2019)

^{**} Babovic, M. Baseline Study on Women's Entrepreneurship, UN Women, 2012

Gender aspects in climate change





Women are in less favourable position compared to men when it comes to:

- Access to assets such as land, business facilities, technology, financial markets
- Opportunities to contribute to the economy and be employed particularly in sectors closely related to climate change, such as energy, construction, transport, waste management
- Opportunities to influence laws and policies, due to the lower political participation an influence

Therefore, they are in different position regarding:

- Climate change mitigation: efforts to reduce and/or prevent the emission of greenhouse gases
- Climate change adaptation: finding the best ways to cope with changes that already have happened

Women surveyed in Serbia also estimate their knowledge about climate change to be lower than that of men

GEFF Serbia Leasing – overview





The EBRD's Green Economy Financing Facility in Serbia (GEFF Serbia Leasing) is a credit line of up to €40 million for financing green economy in transition (GET) investments of businesses through participating Leasing Companies

GEFF Serbia Leasing supports businesses in Serbia lease higher-performance equipment and technologies that promote GET and reduce greenhouse gas emission and/or enhance climate resilience

GEFF Serbia Leasing is developed in cooperation with its donors: the Green Climate Fund and the Government of Luxembourg, and works through Partner Financial Institution, UniCredit Leasing. Support is provided by a Facility Consultant Team







Why consider GEFF Serbia Leasing?





- High-performing technologies can help businesses reduce energy, water and resource consumption and bring down costs
- Through green investments, businesses can become more competitive and increase profitability
- Leasing can be a good alternative to bank loans for businesses to introduce green technologies

Example: a Serbian agricultural cooperative financed four new Basak tractors through GEFF Serbia Leasing. This investment reduces energy (diesel fuel) by 256 MWh, thus saving the cooperative $\leq 20,400$ annually, and reduces CO_2 by 62 tonnes per year.



GEFF Serbia Leasing – eligible types of entities & sectors





Eligible entities:

- Private companies, sole proprietor or other legal commercial entity
- Equipment producers/vendors (financing either (1) Expansion of sales of eligible technologies; and (2) Production of eligible technologies)

Eligible sectors:

- Examples: manufacturing, agricultural, transport, trade, energy production or other sectors
- Service providers providing maintenance, operation, installation, construction, refurbishment or similar



Agriculture



Manufacturing



Production



Commerce

GEFF Serbia Leasing - eligible types of equipment





Eligible equipment categories (must meet Facility High Performance Criteria)

- Transport (Commercial vehicles): tractors, harvesters, forklifts, loaders, excavators, backhoe loaders, electric & hybrid commercial use vehicles, etc.
- Process Technologies: injection moulding machines, extruder machines
- Motors & Pumps: Compressed air, Electric Motors, Circulators, Water pumps
- Heat Pumps: Commonly used in buildings, food processing, auto manufacturing, pharmaceutical and dairy sectors
- Cooling Equipment: Commonly used in buildings, pharmaceuticals, food & beverage production, plastic production, agriculture
- Power & Cogeneration: solar PV, motors, batteries, commonly used in buildings, food & beverage production
- Boilers: only solar thermal collectors
- Lighting: LED street lighting, e.g., for outdoor lighting at supermarkets, parking lots, industrial zones, etc.
- Cleaning and Washing: semi-professional and professional washers, used in hotels, hospitals, service laundries
- **Irrigation:** in greenhouses, drip irrigation lines, etc.
- Land Preparation & Seeding: Subsoilers, mulchers, no-tillage seeders, roller crimpers
- Water Reuse and Recovery: Rain water harvesting tanks

Women are encouraged to apply to GEFF Serbia Leasing





Through GEFF Serbia Leasing, women can:

- them more energy efficient, cost effective, innovative and therefore more competitive, with higher likelihood of success
- Contribute to the climate change mitigation by changing ways how they perform business, transiting to climate friendly technologies and green businesses



 Increase capacities for adaptation to climate change of their businesses, and also provide better a foundation for their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of their families and communities

To date, GEFF Serbia leasing has helped more than 25 women owned and managed businesses in Serbia invest over EUR 3.7 million in greening their businesses!

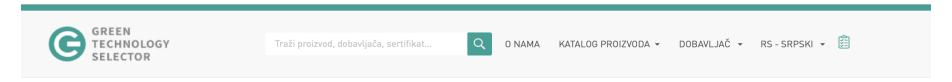
Recommendations





In tandem with support from EBRD GEFF, both male and female owned and led businesses can help improve their competitiveness and reduce their environmental footprint by:

- Keeping abreast of and planning for new legal and regulatory changes that may impact your company's bottom line and overall competitiveness, for example, the proposed EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (companies that export to EU are most likely to be affected)
- Educating yourself about and preparing for forecasted price increases of raw materials, for example, energy, the price of which is expected to significantly increase in Serbia during the coming period
- Considering the impact of climate change on your production process and anticipate upcoming changes in technologies, markets and regulations. Engage an expert if possible



Recommendations





- Going beyond regulatory requirements to consider the implementation of an environmental management system (EMS), whether it is formal international EMS as ISO 14001 or a voluntary instrument of just a set of informal environmental practices
- Educating your employees about climate change and embracing a green corporate culture
- Exploring the EBRD's Green Technology Selector, an on-line tool of high-performing equipment available on the Serbian market
- Thinking about climate change as an opportunity, not only to reach cost savings from energy and resource efficiency measures, but also as an opportunity to attract new customers through expanding your eco-friendly businesses
- Getting informed about different state, IFIs and donor programmes and initiatives that
 might help you to reduce costs of the transition toward green business and can provide
 you with access to external knowledge and best practices.

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We are here to help!