More financing and development opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises



Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) will have more financing and development opportunities, while the rules applicable to them will be aligned with those of the European Union. The Government has approved the draft law updating the framework for the operation and support of SMEs.

One of the main amendments concerns the criteria used to classify a company as an SME. The annual turnover threshold will increase from €25 million to €50 million, while the total assets threshold will rise from €21.5 million to €43 million. As a result, more growing companies will be eligible for classification as SMEs under criteria aligned with those applied in the European Union. Depending on the conditions of each programme, this will enable them to access financing and support opportunities intended for SMEs, including at the European level.

European rules will also be applied to determine SME status in the case of autonomous, partner and linked enterprises. When determining a company's size, ownership and control relationships with other enterprises will be taken into account, where applicable, so that SME status more accurately reflects the business's actual economic size.

The draft law also introduces the category of small mid-cap enterprises covering companies that have exceeded the size of an SME but are still at a growth stage. This category will enable the future development of dedicated support programmes and instruments for these companies, in line with the approach adopted at the European Union level.

The new provisions also expand financing opportunities for companies. Export loans may be guaranteed and insured, while bonds issued by SMEs may benefit from guarantees. These instruments will facilitate companies' access to financing and capital market.

