

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH



### AHMET AKDAG, VICE PRESIDENT OF KOSGEB SME'S ARE THE DRIVING FORCE OF OUR COUNTRY

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## Ahmet Akdag, Vice President of KOSGEB

# SMES ARE THE DRIVING FORCE OF OUR COUNTRY

*Ahmet Akdag, the Vice President of KOSGEB (Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization) answered our questions for this issue in which we addressed the financial needs of SMEs.*

Mr. Akdag made assessments regarding SME's activities about commercialism, production models, employment, exporting, financial needs, contributions to economy and general positions. Accordingly, he said that SMEs constitute the 99,83% of all the companies in our country. In other words only 6.052 of 3.6 million companies in our country are large scale companies, the rest are all SME's.

The SME's are vital for our country's economy and they are the driving force of the development. They provide 72% of the employment in the country. Solely this data is enough to reveal the importance of the SMEs. Decreasing the unemployment rate and finding permanent solutions to this problem depend on the success of the SMEs in the country. The share of SMEs in the county's export rate is 55,1%. Almost half of the large companies export while this rate is only 1.7 % in terms of SMEs. It is necessary to increase the number of the exporting SMEs in order to increase the export rate of our country and achieve the Turkey's 2023 objectives. The 61.7 % of financial turnover of our country comes from the SMEs. The share of SMEs in investments is 58,3 %.



## VENTURE CAPITAL FINANCING MODEL

In this issue that we cover the financing needs of SMEs, Mrs. Elif Boz Ulutas, Planning Expert at BEBKA, made an assessment on venture capital financing model. In her assessment she addressed how the model works and the situation in our country and the world in terms of the application of the model.

### **The conclusion part of this assessment is as in the following:**

The global entrepreneurship index 2018, covers the necessary actions to take to develop the entrepreneurship ecosystem

based on 14 subcomponents. As one of these subcomponents risk capital was also discussed at the report, it was analysed that whether the amount of capital transferred from the individual and institutional investors to the entrepreneurs is sufficient. The experts that contributed to the report with their comments answered this question from viewpoints of entrepreneur, big company owner and politician. Some of the answers in the report include "if I was an entrepreneur I would support other entrepreneurs with core capital", "if I was the owner of a big company I would support the

entrepreneurs through corporate assistance and corporate social responsibility", "if I was politician I would try to eliminate the barriers to funding of private equity and venture funding.

The abovementioned results show that the barriers to investors who invest in venture fund should be eliminated as well as the entrepreneurs' access to the needed funds should be facilitated. In summary, it is vital to improve Venture Capital financing Model in order to increase the depth and variety of mutual fund market and capital market.

# A STATISTICAL ASSESSMENT ON THE VENTURES IN TURKEY

*Cemalettin Yıldız, an expert at Bursa Regional Directorate of Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK), made an evaluation of a research about IT usage in recently established ventures and their innovation statistics.*

Although most of the owner of ventures in our country are young and primary school graduates, the usage of the computer and internet is quite common. According to the research results the access rate to the internet of the ventures with 10 and more employees became 95,9% in 2017. This rate was 93,7% in 2016. The computer usage rate was measured as 97,2% for the ventures with 10 and more employees while it was 95,9% in 2016. The 72,9% of the ventures had a website in 2017 while this rate was 66% in the previous year. The highest rate of the website ownership for ventures was 87% and that were of the ventures which have 250 and more employees. This rate was followed by the rate of 82,1% of the ventures with 50-249 employees and the rate of 70,5% of the ventures with 10-49 employees.

It seems that the social media has started to become a nonignorable trend among ventures. According to search results the 45,7% of the ventures with 10 and more employees used social media applications in 2017. This rate was 38,1% in 2016. The high difference in rates between these years shows that the ventures quickly focused their attention on social media activities. The internet usage rate of the ventures for their interaction with state institutions and organizations in 2016 was 86,2%. The 91,3% of these ventures used the internet to get information from the websites of the state institutions and organizations, the 78,1% of them used the internet for downloading the required forms, 53,5% of them filed VAT return through internet while the reason of 55,8% of these ventures was submitting social security institution returns.



# ESKISEHIR AND BILECIK STANDS RECEIVED GREAT ATTENTION AT TRAVEL TURKEY FAIR

*Eskisehir and Bilecik stands received great attention at 11th Travel Turkey Fair that was held between 7 and 10 December 2017 in Izmir. The stands were cooperatively prepared under the coordination of Eskisehir and Bilecik governorships by BEBKA and the tourism stakeholders in the region.*



The tourism values of many cities were promoted at the Fair which lasted for 4 days. The stands that were specially designed and prepared to present historic, natural and cultural beauties and local products were stormed by visitors. Tahir Buyukakin, The Governor of Bilecik, Ozdemir Cakacak, the Governor of Eskisehir, Ilhami Aktas, The Governor of Nevsehir and Ersin Yazici, The Governor of Balikesir visited the stands at the Fair and got information about tourism potentials of the cities and the works that were carried out to increase these potentials.

# THE HEART OF CARTOON FILM AND ANIMATION SECTOR BEATS IN ESKISEHIR



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Ismail Gerim, the General Secretary of BEBKA, made a speech at the opening ceremony of the festival and said that we strongly believe that animation sector has the potential to incorporate the social, cultural and historical values, creative human capital and the success-oriented approach in Eskişehir. "In this regard, we think that working on this field is a must in terms of economic and social aspects," he added.

Governor Ozdemir Cakacak said that Eskişehir is in the leading position in rail systems and aviation. He stated

that the animation sector will be added to these sectors and Eskişehir will also become a base in that field. After the opening speeches the protocol members visited exhibitors' stands and tried virtual reality applications. At the first day of the festival two panels which covered the discussions about the latest trends and developments about virtual reality were held. Portfolio assessments were also made during the event. The festival finished after the award ceremony of Anatolia Animation Contest.

# AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR CAME TOGETHER IN BURSA BY 'AUTOMOTIVE MEETINGS'

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Science and Technology and Bursa Organised Industry Zone, Automotive Meetings Bursa 2017 took place on 14-16th November 2017 in Merinos Atatürk Congress Culture Centre. Automotive Meetings Bursa is the only auto supply chain event in Turkey for automotive and aftermarket industry. The event targets to gather engineering, procurement, supply chain, fabrication,

with suppliers and service providers of the sector by pre-arranged one-to-one meetings. Around 120 domestic and 75 foreign prominent companies of the world participated to Automotive Meetings Bursa. BEBKA Bursa Investment Office took its place in the area of business-to-business meetings and carried out over 40 meetings with umbrella organisations and societies in the sector as well as

the representatives of the sector. In the meetings, the information pertaining to the sectoral activities of foreign representatives of the sector as well as on their needs and trends were obtained. The information on Bursa Investment Office's working area, missions were explained and also public supports and investment opportunities for foreign investors in Bursa were promoted during the meetings.

# THE PRIZES OF 3RD ANATOLIA ANIMATION CONTEST MET THEIR OWNERS

*The Prizes of Anatolia Animation Contest met their owners at the prize-giving ceremony which was held as part of Anatolia Animation and Digital Works Festival in Eskisehir.*

The jury including the leading people of animation sector chose the film named "Evcilik" made by Cenk Koksak. He was awarded with grand prize of 35.000 TL. Mr. Koksak was given his prize by Ozdemir Cakacak, Governor of Eskisehir. The second prize of 25.000 TL was given to Serdar Cotuk with the animation film named "Istasyon" by Prof. Dr. Naci Gundogan, the rector of Anatolia University. Burak Haliloglu was awarded third place with his film named "Bencil Bey". His prize of 15.000 TL was presented to him by Ismail Gerim, General Secretary of BEBKA.

Speaking after the prize ceremony, Governor Ozdemir Cakacak congratulated all the participants who applied to the contest in his speech. He pointed out that the festival was growing year by year. He said that "I congratulate all the participants who attended our contest as well as the producers, directors, artists and the staff who worked for and contributed to the festival. We consider all applicants as successful."



# THE COOPERATION OF BEBKA AND KOSGEB BURSA FOR ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK

A signing ceremony between Bursa Eskisehir Bilecik Development Agency (BEBKA) and Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization (KOSGEB) Bursa was organized regarding the cooperation protocol for Enterprise Europe Network. İsmail Gerim, the General Secretary, signed the protocol in the name of BEBKA while Erkan Güngör, the general manager, signed it in the name of KOSGEB Bursa. Through this protocol, the SMEs in Bursa, Eskisehir and

Bilecik where BEBKA is responsible for will be able to access easily to the research projects and collaboration offers in trading or technology sent from many other countries around the world. As part of the cooperation protocol signed between KOSGEB Bursa and BEBKA the two organizations will join their forces to provide more quality and multidimensional services to the SMEs in the region. Thanks to this cooperation they will be able to access to the

business offers in trade or technology and the research projects from many countries around the world. Additionally, BEBKA and KOSGEB Bursa will work closely to promote the applications from our region to the calls for EU projects. Communication points will be established in investment support Offices of BEBKA in Bursa, Eskisehir and Bilecik so that the SMEs will reach local services in the abovementioned subjects.