



## Private Sector Development Impact Stories

### Business Environment Reform



# DCED

The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

*The [DCED's Impact Stories](#) webpage offers a collection of short stories about private sector development programmes that have created jobs and income for the poor at scale – according to self-reported results. These stories underline the great potential of the private sector to generate economic opportunities and improve the living conditions of the poor.*

#### **Impact story: Reforming Business Inspections in Uzbekistan**

Business inspection systems represent a critical element of the business enabling environment. In Uzbekistan, the business inspection system used to hamper business activity through an excessive number of controls, regardless of the firm's risk to the environment or society, taking up nearly 14 days a year; intransparent inspection processes; a high level of fines and discretionary rights of inspectors to impose them and shut down businesses.

***What has been done?*** In 2003, IFC's Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Policy Project, with funding from SECO, started to champion reforms to reduce the number of inspections faced by firms, and to educate firms about how to manage inspections.

***What has been achieved?*** Between 2003 and 2005, businesses in Uzbekistan were able to save an estimated \$21 million (net additional income), mainly from avoiding shut-downs for minor infractions. [Source and more information: IFC, 2005](#)

[Click here](#) for more impact stories of Business Environment Reform programmes.