

PRESS RELEASE

October 30th, 2015

RESULTS OF THE 3rd QUARTER OF SURVEY ON BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT INDEX

Project "Improving Business Environment in Albania"

FIAA informs its partners and the wider audience that has just completed the results of the 3rd Quarter of the Survey on Business Environment Index. This Index is quarterly monitored in the frame of project "Improvement of the Business Environment in Albania", a collaboration between FIAA and the Business Alliance of Slovakia (PAS). The project is funded by Official Assistance of the Slovak Republic.

The Index's purpose is to monitor the changes in the Business Environment of Albania through the implementation of the quarterly Surveys and to identify key trends and barriers that business is facing.

Business Environment Index is a unique tool to regularly monitor changes in business environment in Albania. It consists of three sections focused on:

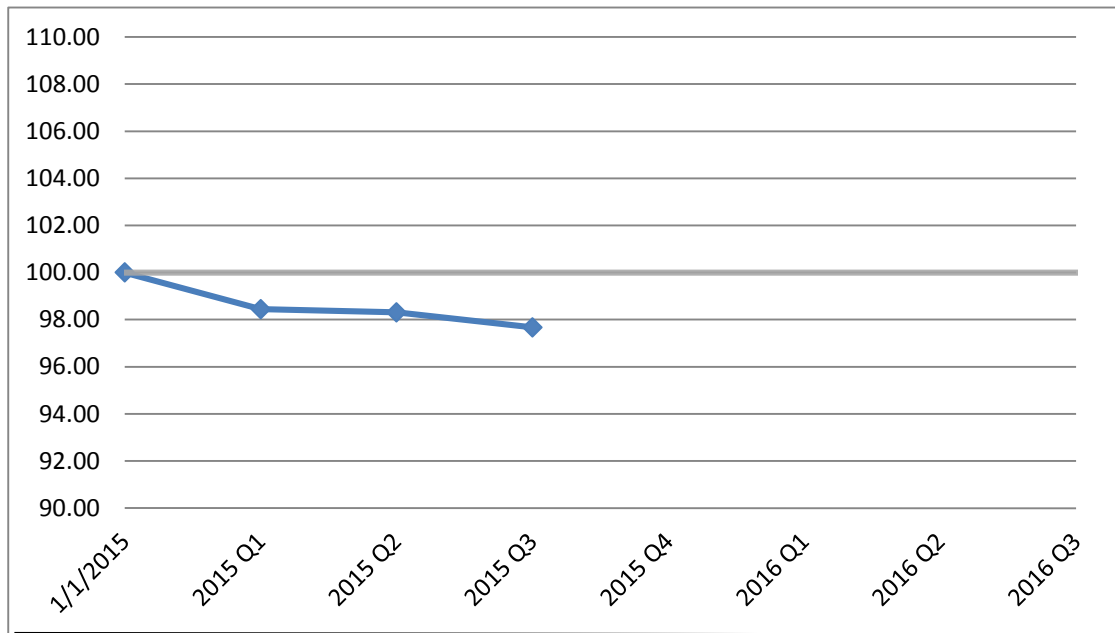
- The influence of main components of the legislative and regulatory framework on business
- The influence of other significant external macroeconomic factors on business
- The influence of our company on quality of business environment

All the three sections contain 33 parameters. About 35 companies answered to each question of the Survey by expressing their opinion over the **third quarter of 2015**. Based on the opinion of respondents the trend of the answers compared with the First and Second Quarters of BEI, has continued to be with further negative perceptions, in particular for the following elements:

- A1. Functionality of political system in the country -3.60%
- A2. Commercial law / Business legislation -2.50%
- A9. Acceptance of subject equality before the law -3.60%
- A10. Law enforcement, judicial effectiveness -4.30%
- B2. Presence of bureaucracy -4.30%
- B3. Corruption in public institutions -4.30%
- B4. Presence of unfair competition, crime, lawlessness -4.30%

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The below chart is the perception of the respondents on business environment index analysis (with negative values) during the Q1 –Q2 and Q3 of 2015.



The Business Environment Index during the 9 months of 2015.

According to the answers of the respondents, the negative trend of the Index perceptions is closely related with the recent reforms that the Government has taken in Albania, during September 2015 in particular with the fight against informality which applies severe actions that penalize and harm business with extreme measures. Other important elements which effect the answers of the business is the level of corruption in administration and the law enforcements, elements which are also identified in different survey of national and international organizations in Albania.