

STRUCTURAL REFORM



IN

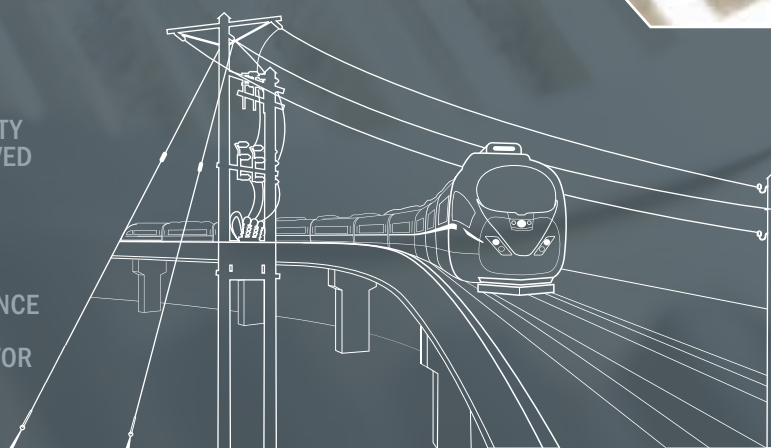
11

COUNTRIES
MATERNAL MORTALITY
RATES HAVE IMPROVED

3

THE NEGATIVE BALANCE
OF SECTOR-LEVEL
TRANSITION INDICATOR
UPGRADES VERSUS
DOWNGRADES

AT A GLANCE

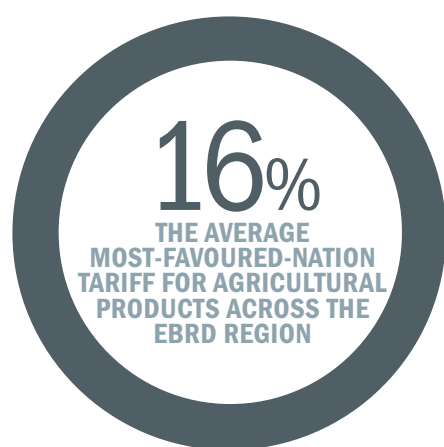


APPROXIMATELY

170 km

THE LENGTH OF
ESTLINK 2, THE NEW
INTERCONNECTION
BETWEEN THE BALTIC
AND NORDIC ELECTRICITY
MARKETS

The political and economic environment in many countries remains difficult for governments that are seeking to implement structural reforms. At the sector level, downgrades outnumber upgrades for the first time as some countries move away from commercial principles. The financial sector is still under pressure, but positive trends suggest that these difficulties can be overcome. However, fostering growth that is based on greater economic inclusion remains a challenge.



Introduction

Amid new and continuing political and economic challenges, the readiness of countries to implement reforms seems to have waned. The *Transition Report 2013* noted that the difficult environment was limiting the ability of governments – and, in certain cases, their willingness – to implement much-needed structural reforms and return their countries to a path of sustainable growth. As noted in 2013, it appears that, despite the difficult circumstances, there has been no wholesale reversal of previous reforms. However, there has been an increase in the number of downgrades relating to either the reversal of reforms or a lack of much-needed action to lift countries out of the crisis. As a result, there have been more downgrades than upgrades this year.

The EBRD continues to measure the progress of reforms in two ways. The first is a review of country-level reforms in areas such as privatisation, competition policy and trade. This review has been conducted since 1994 and has been extended to cover all years since 1989. While by no means comprehensive, it can be a useful tool to illustrate the progress that countries have made in allowing the private sector to develop and thrive as an important pillar of a functioning market economy. The second is a more disaggregated assessment at sector level which captures the distance relative to an industrialised market economy in terms of market structure and market-supporting institutions.

At sector level, the number of downgrades has continued to increase, surpassing the number of upgrades for the first time since the assessment began in 2010. Similar to last year, downgrades are driven mainly by EU countries (albeit there have also been a number of downgrades in Central Asia). The country-level indicators continue the trend witnessed in previous years of fewer changes being observed. Indeed, there have been only two upgrades and one downgrade this year.

With Cyprus becoming an EBRD recipient country in May 2014, sector and country-level assessments have been conducted for the country for the first time.

Sector-level transition indicators

Table S.1 shows the transition scores for 16 sectors in all of the countries where the EBRD works. The methodology is broadly unchanged from previous years (see Chapter 1 of the *Transition Report 2010* for a detailed explanation), but some adjustments have been made in the capital markets sector.¹

Tables S.2 and S.3 show the component ratings for market structure and market-supporting institutions and policies respectively, which together make up the overall sector-level assessment. There have been nine upgrades and 12 downgrades² – indicated by upward and downward arrows respectively – the reasons for which are outlined in the following sections (see also the “Countries” section of the online *Transition Report*, at tr.ebrd.com). Changes to inclusion assessments, which have also undergone some methodological adjustments, are presented in Tables S.4 to S.6 (see pages 120-122), as well as being explained in detail on page 119. ◉

¹ Please refer to the methodological notes in the online version of this *Transition Report* (tr.ebrd.com) for details of such changes.

² This refers only to changes in numerical scores and does not include changes to sector-level transition gaps.

TABLE S.1. Sector-level transition indicators 2014: overall scores

	Corporate sectors			Energy		Infrastructure			Financial sectors							
	Agrubusiness	General industry	Real estate	ICT	Natural resources	Sustainable energy	Electric power	Water and wastewater	Urban transport	Roads	Railways	Banking	Insurance and other financial services	MSME finance	Private equity	Capital markets
Central Europe and the Baltic states																
Croatia	3	3+	4	4	4-	3-	3	3+	3+	3+	3-	3+	3+	3-	2-↓	3+
Estonia	3+	4+	4	4	4	3-	4+↑	4	3+	3	4	4-	3+	3+	3-↓	3
Hungary	4	4-	4-↓	4-	4-	3	3↓	3-↓	3+	4-	3+	3↓	3	3	3	3+
Latvia	3	4-	4-	3+	4-	3+	3+	3+	4-	3	4-	3+	3+	3	2-↓	3+
Lithuania	3+	4	4-	4-	4-	3+	3+	3+	4-	3	3	3+	3+	3	2+	3
Poland	3+	4	4	4	3	3	3+	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	3+	3	3+	4-↓
Slovak Republic	3+	4	4	4-	4-	3	4	3+	3+↑	3+↑	3+	4-	3+	4-	2+	3
Slovenia	4-	3+	4	3+	3+	3+	3	3+	3+	3	3	3	3+	3-	3-	3+
South-eastern Europe																
Albania	3-	2+	3-	3+	3-	3+	2+	2+	3-	3-	2	3-	2	3+↑	1	2-
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3-	2-	2-	2+	2	2	2+	2	2+	3	3+	3-	2+	2+	2-	2
Bulgaria	3	3+	4-	4-	3+	3-	3	3	3+	3-	3+	3	3+	3	3-	3-
Cyprus	3-	4+	3	4-	3-	3-	3	3+	3+	3	Not applicable	3-	Not available	Not available	Not available	3+
FYR Macedonia	3-	3	4-	4-	2+	2+	3	2+	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3	1	2-
Kosovo	2+	2-	2-	2+	2	2-	2+	2+	2+	2+	3-	2+	2	3+↑	1	1
Montenegro	2+	2+	2+	3+	3+	2	2+	2	3	2+	2+	3-	2+	3↑	1	2
Romania	3	3+	3+	3+	4-	3+	3+	4-	3+	3	3+	3	3+	3	3-	3-
Serbia	3-	3-	3	3	2	2+	2+	2+	3-	3-	3	3-	3	3	2↑	2
Turkey	3-	3	3+	3+	3+	3	3+	3-	3	3-	3-	3+	3	3↑	3-	4
Eastern Europe and the Caucasus																
Armenia	3-	3	3	3	2+	3-	3+	3-	2+	3-	2+	2+	2	2+	1	2
Azerbaijan	2+	2	2-	2-	2+	2+	2+	2-	2	2+	2	2	2	2	1	2-
Belarus	2+	2	2	2	1	2	1	2-	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	2-
Georgia	3-	3-	3-	3-	2-	3-	3+	2	2+	2+	3	3-	2	3-	1	2-
Moldova	3-	2-	3	3	3	2+	3	2	3↑	3↑	2	2+	2+	2	2	2
Ukraine	3-	2+	3-	3-	2-	2+	3	2+	3-	3-	2+	3-	2+	2+	2	2↓
Russia	3-	3-	3	3+	2	2	3+	3	3	3-	4-	3-	3-	2	2+	4-
Central Asia																
Kazakhstan	3-	2	3	3	2-	2-	3	2+	2+	3-	3	2-↓	2+	2	2-	2↓
Kyrgyz Republic	2+	2	3	3	2-	2	2+	2	2	2-	1	2	2-	2-	1	2-
Mongolia	3-	2+	2	3	2	2	2+	2	2	2-	3-	2+	2	2+	2-	2-↓
Tajikistan	2	2-	2-	2+	1	2+	2	2	2	2-	1	2	2-	2-	1	1
Turkmenistan	1	1	1	2-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2-	1	1	1
Uzbekistan	2	1	2	2	1	2-	2+	2-	2	1	3-	1	2	1	1	1
Southern and eastern Mediterranean																
Egypt	2	2	2+	3	1	2+	2+	1	2	2+	2-	2+	2+	2-	2	2+
Jordan	2	2+	3-	3+	2+	2+	3	2-	2+	3-	2	3	2+	2+	2	2
Morocco	2+	3-	3-	3+	2-	3	2	2+	3	3-	2	3	3-	2+	2+	3
Tunisia	3-	3+	3-	3	2	3-	2	2	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2	2-	2+

Source: EBRD.

Note: The transition indicators range from 1 to 4+, with 1 representing little or no change relative to a rigid centrally planned economy and 4+ representing the standards of an industrialised market economy. For a detailed breakdown of each of the areas of reform, see the methodological notes in the online version of this Transition Report (tr.ebrd.com). Upgrades and downgrades are marked by upward and downward arrows respectively. A colour code is used for ease of recognition: green indicates a sector that is at a fairly advanced stage of transition, scoring 3+ or higher. Conversely, dark red denotes sectors where transition has barely advanced and the score is 2 or lower.

There were nine one-notch upgrades this year: electric power (Estonia), urban transport (Moldova), roads (Moldova and the Slovak Republic), MSME finance (Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro and Turkey) and private equity (Serbia). There were 12 downgrades: ICT (Hungary), electric power (Hungary), water and wastewater (Hungary), banking (Hungary and Kazakhstan), private equity (Croatia, Estonia and Latvia) and capital markets (Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Poland and Ukraine). A methodological adjustment in the capital market sector has also led to a number of changes (affecting Bulgaria, Croatia, Jordan, Latvia, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Romania, Serbia and Slovenia), which are not marked as upgrades or downgrades as they do not represent improvements in or the reversal of capital market reforms. Scores for sustainable energy are currently undergoing revision. Please note that not all scores for Cyprus were available at the time of printing, but will be added to the online version of this Transition Report.

Energy

The last few years have been difficult for energy markets in the EBRD region. While some countries have announced reforms, progress with implementation has been slow. In some cases, reforms have even been reversed, leading to six downgrades in the electric power sector in the past two years. With only one downgrade and one upgrade, 2014 may mark a turning point for this sector. However, it is too early to say with certainty, particularly given the increase in energy-related challenges in the region, not least because of the crisis in Ukraine.

Hungary has been downgraded for the third year in a row, this time from 3+ to 3, owing to a further deterioration in market-supporting institutions. Government interference in this sector has continued, especially with regard to tariff setting, reversing earlier tariff liberalisation efforts. The government has announced further price reductions and is continuing unequal treatment among users, with businesses having to pay higher electricity prices than households and public institutions. In addition, the presence of private utilities in the market is actively being reduced as a result of acquisitions by the state-owned incumbent.

In contrast, progress has been made in Estonia, leading to an upgrade from 4 to 4+. This upgrade is mainly driven by the full opening-up of Estonia's electricity market in 2013, in line with the country's EU accession agreement. All customers can now choose their electricity supplier. This was the only major challenge remaining in the area of market structure, meaning that the country has now reached the maximum score in terms of aligning its structures and institutions with those of an energy sector within a well-functioning market economy. This achievement is underpinned by the positive outlook for cross-border trade, especially with the undersea power cable EstLink 2 beginning to operate in 2014. The cable will enhance interconnection and help to increase the flow of electricity between the Baltic states and the Nordic countries.

Infrastructure

There have been a number of positive developments in the area of infrastructure, leading to three upgrades in the Slovak Republic and Moldova. However, Hungary's increasingly state-oriented and non-commercial approach to economic policy has had a negative effect on the water and wastewater sector, leading to a downgrade. In addition, Bulgaria has been downgraded in regard to urban transport, mainly owing to a number of municipalities returning to providing bus services without private sector involvement.

The downgrade for Hungary in the water and wastewater sector, from 4 to 3+, is related to changes in market-supporting institutions. Legal changes have been adopted which turn for-profit operators into not-for-profit entities, and the country's newly established water regulator is limiting commercial pricing. In addition, private sector participation has fallen from its previously high level. Thus, this sector is moving further away from commercially based mechanisms, effectively jeopardising its long-term financial sustainability.

However, there have been upgrades in the road sector. The score for the Slovak Republic, for example, has increased from 3 to 3+. The public-private partnership (PPP) relating to the R1 motorway has been refinanced via the issuance of bonds – a landmark transaction indicating that this sector is approaching maturity. While this is the only road-related PPP project in the Slovak Republic, its completion and capital refinancing have demonstrated the viability of the PPP mechanism in the country. Moldova has also been upgraded (from 3- to 3), reflecting reforms relating to the funding of road maintenance. These reforms include moves towards formula-based allocation, as well as a substantial increase in allocated funds – resulting in a total of some MDL 1.2 billion (approximately €65 million) for 2014. In addition, more than 30 state-owned maintenance companies have been merged to form 11 larger entities, resulting in much-needed consolidation in the sector.

Similarly, Moldova has seen another important development in the urban transport sector. Public service contracts (PSCs) have been introduced in major cities such as Chisinau and Balti. Early evidence of more regular payments under these contracts reinforces the positive demonstration effect that these may have on other cities. In contrast, while the PSC framework in Bulgaria has also been improved, the city of Sofia's failure to honour contractual obligations in recent years has dampened their demonstration effect. In addition, the return to municipal management of urban bus services in several Bulgarian cities in order to obtain larger EU grants has led to Bulgaria's market structure gap widening from small to medium.

Financial sectors

While last year's observation that financial sector reforms had proven resilient still holds true, there are some notable exceptions, with three downgrades in the banking sector this year compared with none last year. The difficult economic and socio-political environment has also revealed a number of structural challenges in the micro, small and medium-sized enterprise (MSME), private equity and capital market sectors. However, some improvements have also been observed – particularly in the MSME sector, where improved access to finance for SMEs has triggered a number of upgrades.

In the banking sector, Hungary has been downgraded from 3+ to 3 owing to a number of tax measures that led to cost-cutting and rapid deleveraging among banks. Restitution of certain loan charges made on foreign-currency-denominated retail loans, and uncertainty over the announced future conversion of such loans into domestic currency, have further eroded banks' appetite for lending. The government has announced targets to reduce the role of foreign banks within the sector and to expand the role of state-owned institutions. Non-performing loans (NPLs) stand at about 18 per cent in both corporate and retail loans. While this represents a small reduction, incentives for banks to clean up portfolios remain weak, and there is a need to develop more effective out-of-court restructuring mechanisms. The downgrading of Kazakhstan can be explained by the failure to reduce the high level of NPLs (about 30 per cent), despite the

TABLE S.2. Sector-level transition indicators 2014: market structure

	Corporate sectors			Energy			Infrastructure			Financial sectors						
	Agrifusiness	General industry	Real estate	ICT	Natural resources	Sustainable energy	Electric power	Water and wastewater	Urban transport	Roads	Railways	Banking	Insurance and other financial services	MSME finance	Private equity	Capital markets
Central Europe and the Baltic states																
Croatia	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Estonia	Small	Negligible	Negligible	Small	Small	Medium	Negligible	Negligible	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium
Hungary	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Latvia	Small	Negligible	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Lithuania	Small	Negligible	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Poland	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small
Slovak Republic	Small	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Slovenia	Small	Small	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
South-eastern Europe																
Albania	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Small	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large
Bulgaria	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium
Cyprus	Medium	Negligible	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Not applicable	Medium	Small	Not available	Not available	Medium
FYR Macedonia	Medium	Medium	Large	Small	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large
Kosovo	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large
Montenegro	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Large	Large	Large	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large
Romania	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Serbia	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large
Turkey	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Negligible
Eastern Europe and the Caucasus																
Armenia	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large
Azerbaijan	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Belarus	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Georgia	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large
Moldova	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Ukraine	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large
Russia	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Small
Central Asia																
Kazakhstan	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large
Kyrgyz Republic	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Mongolia	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large
Tajikistan	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Turkmenistan	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Uzbekistan	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Southern and eastern Mediterranean																
Egypt	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium
Jordan	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large
Morocco	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
Tunisia	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium

Source: EBRD.

Note: "Large" indicates a major transition gap. "Negligible" indicates standards and performance that are typical of advanced industrialised economies. A historical revision taking into account the availability of new data has been conducted for Jordan's capital market sector. Please also note the correction for Hungary's railway sector which was previously misreported. In addition, not all gaps for Cyprus were available at the time of printing, but will be added to the online version of this *Transition Report*.

TABLE S.3. Sector-level transition indicators 2014: market-supporting institutions

	Corporate sectors			Energy			Infrastructure			Financial sectors						
	Agribusiness	General industry	Real estate	ICT	Natural resources	Sustainable energy	Electric power	Water and wastewater	Urban transport	Roads	Railways	Banking	Insurance and other financial services	MSME finance	Private equity	Capital markets
Central Europe and the Baltic states																
Croatia	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Small
Estonia	Medium	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Medium	Negligible	Small	Medium	Medium	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Small
Hungary	Small	Small	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Large	Medium	Small	Negligible	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small
Latvia	Medium	Small	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Small	Small	Medium	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Small
Lithuania	Medium	Small	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Small
Poland	Small	Small	Small	Negligible	Medium	Small	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small
Slovak Republic	Small	Negligible	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Negligible	Small	Small
Slovenia	Medium	Small	Negligible	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Small
South-eastern Europe																
Albania	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large
Bulgaria	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Small	Small
Cyprus	Medium	Negligible	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Not applicable	Medium	Not available	Medium	Not available	Small
FYR Macedonia	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large
Kosovo	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large
Montenegro	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium
Romania	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small	Small
Serbia	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Small	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Turkey	Small	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Small
Eastern Europe and the Caucasus																
Armenia	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Medium
Azerbaijan	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large
Belarus	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Georgia	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large
Moldova	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large
Ukraine	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Small	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium
Russia	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium
Central Asia																
Kazakhstan	Medium	Large	Small	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium
Kyrgyz Republic	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Mongolia	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Medium
Tajikistan	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Turkmenistan	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Uzbekistan	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large	Large
Southern and eastern Mediterranean																
Egypt	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium
Jordan	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large
Morocco	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium
Tunisia	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Large	Medium

Source: EBRD.

Note: "Large" indicates a major transition gap. "Negligible" indicates standards and performance that are typical of advanced industrialised economies. A historical revision taking into account the availability of new data has been conducted for Jordan's capital market sector. Please also note the correction for Poland's capital markets sector which was previously misreported. In addition, not all gaps for Cyprus were available at the time of printing, but will be added to the online version of this *Transition Report*.

Central Bank directing its efforts towards solving the problem. In addition, there has been a decline in the percentage of total banking assets that are foreign-owned, driven partly by sales of bank subsidiaries to local competitors. In contrast, Romania's gap for market-supporting institutions has narrowed from medium to small, as banking regulation has been improved (including compulsory stress testing for foreign currency lending).

In the area of MSME lending, the market structure gap has widened from medium to large in Ukraine. This is driven by the fact that there is currently scant MSME lending available, owing to the poor situation of many banks, which are suffering from very high NPL ratios. As a result, the current priority is to clean up banks' balance sheets. This is having a disproportionate effect on MSMEs, not least because they represent the segment with the highest level of NPLs. On the other hand, Turkey has seen its market structure gap narrow from medium to small. This reflects positive developments in terms of increased lending to SMEs, more favourable interest rates and greater availability of alternative financing options in the market. Three other upgrades in Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro have been driven by better access to finance for SMEs, in addition to improvements in the skills of loan officers and lending departments dealing with credit applications by SMEs.

Changes in the private equity sector have been driven mainly by the presence of fund managers in the market, or a lack thereof, particularly in central and eastern Europe. However, they also reflect the availability of private equity more generally. Downgrades in Croatia (from 3- to 2+), Estonia (market structure gap from small to medium) and Latvia (from 3- to 2+) can be explained by unfavourable changes in the number of fund managers – and the types of fund manager – that are investing in these countries. However, there have also been upgrades in both the Slovak Republic and Serbia, where market structure gaps have narrowed from large to medium, as the amount of private equity capital invested has more than doubled in both countries. In addition, in the Slovak Republic the permitted scope of investment for funds has been widened to include assets designated as being distressed or in need of restructuring.

In the capital market sector, a number of changes have been driven by a methodological adjustment that has led to the recalibration of overall scores in order to reflect differences between countries more accurately. The downgrades in Kazakhstan and Poland are linked to pension reforms, which have marginalised the role of private pension funds and had a significant negative effect on the institutional investor base in both countries. In addition, the endemic problems in Kazakhstan's banking sector – see above – have brought a halt to the capital market development observed prior to the financial crisis. In Ukraine, the market structure gap has widened owing to a deterioration of liquidity indicators – in particular, government and corporate bond market indices. In Tunisia, by contrast, a comprehensive development plan for capital markets has been put in place, supporting further progress and leading to a narrowing of the market institutions gap from large to medium.

Corporate sectors

Progress in the corporate sector continues to be mixed, with both positive and negative developments in the transition region. This year there have been two downgrades and one upgrade.

In general industry, the market institutions gap in Bulgaria has widened from small to medium, reflecting the ongoing deterioration in the business environment. Although foreign firms – manufacturers of automotive parts, for example – continue to show interest in Bulgaria, the weak economic growth in recent years, combined with political turbulence, has led to low levels of both foreign direct investment and domestic investment. The political interference seen in the electric power sector (which was downgraded last year), combined with low feed-in tariffs, is having a significant effect on the corporate sector by discouraging investments in resource efficiency.

Hungary has also suffered a downgrade in the ICT sector, with the market institutions gap widening from negligible – the highest rating – to small. A new special tax on advertising and media services was introduced recently. Even though the special tax on telecommunications operators introduced in 2010 as a temporary measure was phased out as of 2013, it was replaced by a new tax on telecommunications services (telephone calls and text messages). The uncertainties related to frequent changes in sector-specific taxation may affect operators' willingness to invest in network infrastructure and may make the sector less attractive for new investors.

The sole upgrade is observed in the real estate sector, with Montenegro's market institutions gap narrowing from large to medium. This is due mainly to progress in reducing bureaucratic obstacles to obtain building permits. Processes have been significantly streamlined, including the introduction of a one-stop shop, as well as strict time limits for the provision of approval.

Although they have not led to any rating changes this year, significant developments have also been observed in the agribusiness sector across the EBRD region. Examples include plans to move away from highly subsidised food schemes in Egypt, which will, however, be challenging to implement. In addition, efforts to reform land markets have begun in Croatia and Turkey, which may help to prevent the further fragmentation of farm land and facilitate productivity gains. In Russia, a number of ad hoc trade barriers have been introduced. In addition, temporary import bans have been put in place in response to sanctions imposed by the United States and the EU. The potential structural effects of these measures have yet to be assessed.

Cyprus

Cyprus became an EBRD recipient country in May 2014, so this is the first time that it has been included in this annual assessment of structural reform progress. Despite being an EU member state and relatively advanced in certain sectors, the country faces major challenges in a few very specific areas – particularly in the financial and infrastructure sectors. In these two sectors, its scores range from 3- to 3+. The key challenges in the financial sector span most of the banking industry, with a very high NPL ratio of around 50 per cent, low levels of funding and a need

to push through further restructuring. These problems are restricting companies' access to finance, particularly in the case of SMEs, while alternative financial products are not readily available in the market. In the infrastructure sector, wider private-sector participation – for example via PPPs and the introduction of performance-based contracts – remain a challenge. In the corporate sector, market structures and institutions appear to be more robust, particularly in the general industry and the ICT sectors, which have scores of at least 4-. However, specific challenges relating to privatisation and corporate restructuring remain.

Inclusion

Given the importance of economic inclusion for the development of sustainable economic systems, the EBRD assesses the level of inclusion across a range of market sectors in the countries where it works. This assessment was carried out for the first time last year, and Chapter 5 of the *Transition Report 2013* provides a detailed explanation of the rationale behind it, as well as the methodology used. Of the three existing measures of inclusion, only the gender gaps and youth gaps have been updated this year. The regional gaps will be updated once the results of the next *Life in Transition Survey* – which is scheduled for 2015 – are available.

Most of the changes in the assessment of gender gaps relate to health services and education. In the area of health services, they result from slight improvements in maternal mortality, particularly in the majority of southern and eastern Mediterranean (SEMED) countries (namely Egypt, Jordan and Morocco), as well as in Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russia, Serbia, Turkmenistan and Ukraine. However, Lithuania has been downgraded from small to medium owing to a slight increase in maternal mortality. Meanwhile, three countries (Azerbaijan, Belarus and Uzbekistan) have made some progress in education by closing the gender gap in terms of enrolment in and completion of secondary and tertiary education, leading to upgrades. At the same time, completion rates for primary education have decreased among the female population of Bulgaria, Jordan and Romania, leading to downgrades. In the areas of labour practices, access to finance, and employment and firm ownership, gender gaps remain medium to large overall (particularly in the SEMED countries, where gaps are large across all three dimensions).

As regards youth gaps, most upgrades and downgrades are concentrated in the fields of education, financial inclusion and labour market structure. There have been a few upgrades in terms of the quality and quantity of education, driven by better PISA scores (Albania and Montenegro) or increases in the number of years of schooling (Bulgaria, Jordan, Latvia and Romania). Changes to the flexibility of hiring, firing and wage determination in the labour market have led to three downgrades (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia and Romania) and two upgrades (Estonia and Hungary). In terms of financial inclusion, changes generally reflect improvements in the area of access to

financial services, resulting in just one downgrade (Georgia) and four upgrades (Jordan, Latvia, FYR Macedonia and the Kyrgyz Republic). Opportunities for young people have not changed much in the past year, so gaps remain large in a number of countries, particularly in the SEMED region, as well as south-eastern Europe.

Country-level transition indicators

Alongside the sector-level transition scores discussed above, the traditional country-level transition indicators – which cover cross-cutting issues such as privatisation, liberalisation and governance – have been retained (see Table S.7). However, only a few developments in the past year have warranted changes to those scores, either up or down. There have been just three changes: a downgrade for Russia in the area of trade and foreign exchange, and upgrades for Croatia and Montenegro in the area of competition policy.

Russia's downgrade comes against the backdrop of Western sanctions resulting from the crisis in Ukraine and the countermeasures adopted by Russia in response. The Russian authorities have introduced a one-year import ban with effect from August 2014 targeting EU food products. Separate measures include a ban on imports of Ukrainian food products, including dairy and confectionery. In addition, a number of temporary measures have been adopted over the past year that affect agricultural and manufacturing imports. As a result, Russia's score has been reduced from 4 to 4-.

Meanwhile, Croatia has been upgraded from 3 to 3+ in the area of competition in light of the country's accession to the EU and the important amendments to the country's Competition Act that entered into force in mid-2013. These amendments include the provision of greater clarity regarding the separation of powers and responsibilities between the competition authority and the courts. Croatia has also strengthened the procedures governing raids conducted by the competition authority, which may be associated with firmer and more frequent enforcement of antitrust rules. In Montenegro, the establishment of a fully independent competition authority has led to an upgrade of the competition policy indicator from 2 to 2+. This upgrade is underpinned by signs of increasing prosecution of cartels, despite deficiencies in terms of resources and the resulting enforcement levels.

TABLE S.4. Inclusion gaps for gender

	Legal regulations	Health services	Education	Labour policy	Labour practices	Employment and firm ownership	Access to finance
Central Europe and the Baltic states							
Croatia	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Medium	Large	Small	Small
Estonia	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Small	Large	Medium	Medium
Hungary	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Negligible	Medium	Medium	Medium
Latvia	Small	Medium	Negligible	Small	Large	Medium	Small
Lithuania	Negligible	Medium	Negligible	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Poland	Small	Small	Negligible	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Slovak Republic	Small	Small	Negligible	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Slovenia	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Small	Medium	Medium	Small
South-eastern Europe							
Albania	Negligible	Medium	Small	Small	Large	Large	Large
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Negligible	Medium	Negligible	Medium	Large	Large	Medium
Bulgaria	Negligible	Small	Small	Small	Large	Medium	Medium
Cyprus	Not available	Medium	Negligible	Not available	Not available	Small	Large
FYR Macedonia	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Large	Medium	Medium
Kosovo	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Large
Montenegro	Small	Medium	Negligible	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium
Romania	Negligible	Medium	Small	Small	Large	Medium	Medium
Serbia	Small	Small	Negligible	Medium	Large	Large	Small
Turkey	Small	Small	Medium	Small	Large	Large	Large
Eastern Europe and the Caucasus							
Armenia	Medium	Medium	Negligible	Small	Large	Large	Medium
Azerbaijan	Negligible	Medium	Negligible	Medium	Large	Medium	Large
Belarus	Small	Small	Negligible	Medium	Large	Small	Medium
Georgia	Small	Medium	Negligible	Small	Large	Medium	Small
Moldova	Small	Small	Negligible	Small	Large	Small	Medium
Ukraine	Small	Small	Negligible	Small	Large	Medium	Medium
Russia	Small	Small	Negligible	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium
Central Asia							
Kazakhstan	Small	Medium	Negligible	Medium	Large	Large	Medium
Kyrgyz Republic	Medium	Large	Negligible	Medium	Large	Medium	Small
Mongolia	Small	Medium	Negligible	Medium	Large	Medium	Small
Tajikistan	Medium	Large	Medium	Small	Large	Medium	Large
Turkmenistan	Large	Medium	Small	Medium	Large	Large	Not available
Uzbekistan	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Large	Large	Large
Southern and eastern Mediterranean							
Egypt	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large
Jordan	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Large	Large	Large
Morocco	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Large	Large	Large
Tunisia	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Large	Large	Large
Comparator countries							
France	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium
Germany	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Negligible	Medium	Small	Medium
Italy	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Small	Medium	Large	Large
Sweden	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Negligible	Medium	Small	Medium
United Kingdom	Negligible	Small	Negligible	Small	Medium	Medium	Medium

Source: EBRD.

Note: Methodological changes have been made in the following areas: employment and firm ownership, access to finance and labour practices. These are driven mainly by amendments to the BEEPS questionnaire. Please refer to the methodological notes in the online version of this *Transition Report* (tr.ebrd.com) for further details.

TABLE S.5. Inclusion gaps for youth

	Labour market structure	Opportunities for youth	Quantity of education	Quality of education	Financial inclusion
Central Europe and the Baltic states					
Croatia	Medium	Large	Small	Medium	Medium
Estonia	Small	Medium	Negligible	Medium	Small
Hungary	Medium	Medium	Negligible	Small	Medium
Latvia	Small	Medium	Negligible	Medium	Small
Lithuania	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Large
Poland	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium	Medium
Slovak Republic	Medium	Large	Small	Large	Medium
Slovenia	Medium	Small	Small	Small	Negligible
South-eastern Europe					
Albania	Medium	Large	Small	Medium	Negligible
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Medium	Large	Medium	Not available	Small
Bulgaria	Small	Large	Negligible	Medium	Small
Cyprus	Small	Large	Small	Medium	Medium
FYR Macedonia	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Small
Kosovo	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Montenegro	Medium	Large	Small	Medium	Medium
Romania	Small	Large	Negligible	Medium	Small
Serbia	Small	Large	Large	Medium	Large
Turkey	Medium	Large	Large	Medium	Large
Eastern Europe and the Caucasus					
Armenia	Small	Large	Small	Medium	Negligible
Azerbaijan	Medium	Large	Small	Large	Small
Belarus	Not available	Medium	Negligible	Not available	Medium
Georgia	Small	Large	Negligible	Medium	Medium
Moldova	Medium	Large	Small	Large	Negligible
Ukraine	Medium	Small	Small	Large	Negligible
Russia	Medium	Medium	Negligible	Medium	Medium
Central Asia					
Kazakhstan	Small	Medium	Small	Large	Medium
Kyrgyz Republic	Medium	Large	Medium	Large	Negligible
Mongolia	Small	Medium	Large	Not available	Small
Tajikistan	Medium	Medium	Small	Not available	Negligible
Turkmenistan	Not available	Not available	Small	Not available	Negligible
Uzbekistan	Not available	Not available	Small	Not available	Small
Southern and eastern Mediterranean					
Egypt	Medium	Large	Large	Not available	Negligible
Jordan	Small	Large	Medium	Medium	Medium
Morocco	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Medium
Tunisia	Medium	Large	Large	Large	Small
Comparator countries					
France	Medium	Medium	Negligible	Small	Medium
Germany	Medium	Negligible	Small	Small	Negligible
Italy	Medium	Large	Negligible	Medium	Large
Sweden	Medium	Medium	Small	Small	Small
United Kingdom	Small	Medium	Small	Small	Negligible

Source: EBRD.

Note: Methodological changes have been made in the following areas: opportunities for youth and financial inclusion. These are driven mainly by the availability of new data. Please refer to the methodological notes in the online version of this *Transition Report* (tr.ebrd.com) for further details.

TABLE S.6. Inclusion gaps for regions

	Institutions	Access to services	Labour markets	Education
Central Europe and the Baltic states				
Croatia	Medium	Medium	Small	Medium
Estonia	Small	Medium	Negligible	Small
Hungary	Medium	Small	Large	Small
Latvia	Small	Medium	Small	Medium
Lithuania	Medium	Large	Small	Small
Poland	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small
Slovak Republic	Medium	Small	Medium	Small
Slovenia	Small	Negligible	Small	Small
South-eastern Europe				
Albania	Medium	Medium	Large	Small
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Large	Large	Large	Small
Bulgaria	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
Cyprus	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
FYR Macedonia	Small	Medium	Large	Large
Kosovo	Medium	Large	Large	Small
Montenegro	Medium	Medium	Large	Small
Romania	Medium	Large	Medium	Medium
Serbia	Large	Medium	Large	Large
Turkey	Medium	Large	Medium	Large
Eastern Europe and the Caucasus				
Armenia	Medium	Medium	Large	Medium
Azerbaijan	Medium	Small	Large	Small
Belarus	Medium	Negligible	Small	Negligible
Georgia	Negligible	Large	Large	Medium
Moldova	Medium	Large	Large	Large
Ukraine	Medium	Medium	Medium	Small
Russia	Medium	Small	Small	Medium
Central Asia				
Kazakhstan	Small	Small	Medium	Medium
Kyrgyz Republic	Medium	Large	Medium	Small
Mongolia	Negligible	Medium	Medium	Medium
Tajikistan	Medium	Large	Large	Small
Turkmenistan	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Uzbekistan	Large	Medium	Large	Large
Southern and eastern Mediterranean				
Egypt	Not available	Not available	Not available	Large
Jordan	Not available	Not available	Not available	Small
Morocco	Not available	Not available	Not available	Large
Tunisia	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Comparator countries				
France	Negligible	Medium	Medium	Medium
Germany	Negligible	Large	Negligible	Medium
Italy	Large	Medium	Negligible	Small
Sweden	Medium	Small	Small	Small
United Kingdom	Medium	Small	Small	Large

Source: EBRD.

Note: Please note that the regional gaps have not been updated this year, as they are largely based on the results of the EBRD-World Bank *Life in Transition Survey*, the next round of which is scheduled for 2015.

TABLE S.7. Country-level transition indicators 2014

	Enterprises			Price liberalisation	Markets and trade	
	Large-scale privatisation	Small-scale privatisation	Governance and enterprise restructuring		Trade and foreign exchange system	Competition policy
Central Europe and the Baltic states						
Croatia	4-	4+	3+	4	4+	3+ ↑
Estonia	4	4+	4-	4+	4+	4-
Hungary	4	4+	4-	4	4	3+
Latvia	4-	4+	3+	4+	4+	4-
Lithuania	4	4+	3	4+	4+	4-
Poland	4-	4+	4-	4+	4+	4-
Slovak Republic	4	4+	4-	4+	4	3+
Slovenia	3	4+	3	4	4+	3-
South-eastern Europe						
Albania	4-	4	2+	4+	4+	2+
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	3	2	4	4	2+
Bulgaria	4	4	3-	4+	4+	3
Cyprus	4-	4+	3	4+	4+	4-
FYR Macedonia	3+	4	3-	4+	4+	3-
Kosovo	2-	3+	2	4	4	2+
Montenegro	3+	4-	2+	4	4+	2+ ↑
Romania	4-	4-	3-	4+	4+	3+
Serbia	3-	4-	2+	4	4	2+
Turkey	3+	4	3-	4	4+	3
Eastern Europe and the Caucasus						
Armenia	4-	4	2+	4	4+	2+
Azerbaijan	2	4-	2	4	4	2-
Belarus	2-	2+	2-	3	2+	2
Georgia	4	4	2+	4+	4+	2
Moldova	3	4	2	4	4+	2+
Ukraine	3	4	2+	4	4	2+
Russia	3	4	2+	4	4- ↓	3-
Central Asia						
Kazakhstan	3	4	2	4-	4-	2
Kyrgyz Republic	4-	4	2	4+	4+	2
Mongolia	3+	4	2	4+	4+	3-
Tajikistan	2+	4	2	4	4-	2-
Turkmenistan	1	2+	1	3	2+	1
Uzbekistan	3-	3+	2-	3-	2-	2-
Southern and eastern Mediterranean						
Egypt	3	4-	2	3+	4	2-
Jordan	3	4-	2+	4-	4+	2
Morocco	3+	4-	2+	4	4-	2
Tunisia	3	4-	2	4	4	3-

Source: EBRD.

Note: The transition indicators range from 1 to 4+, with 1 representing little or no change relative to a rigid centrally planned economy and 4+ representing the standards of an industrialised market economy. For a detailed breakdown of each of the areas of reform, see the methodological notes in the online version of this *Transition Report* (tr.ebrd.com). Upward and downward arrows indicate one-notch upgrades and downgrades relative to the previous year.