# Governance Agenda in Western Balkans

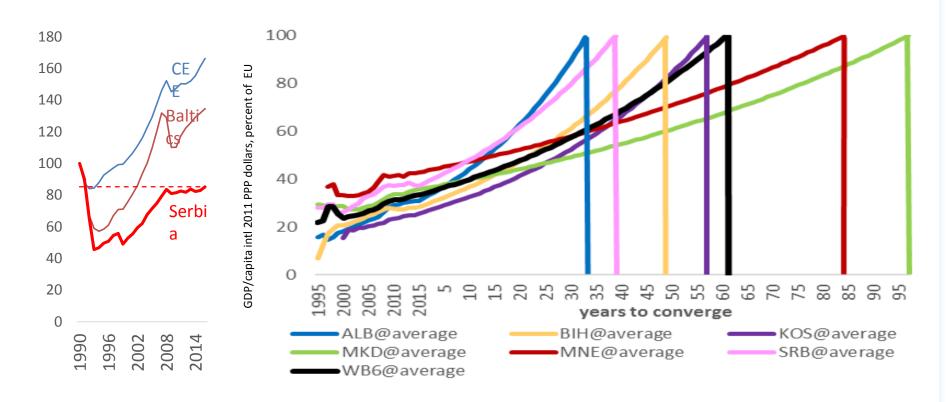
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# **Growth is Low in the Region to Close the Income Gap**

It will take 60 years for an average WeB citizen to reach standards of living in the EU at the current growth rates





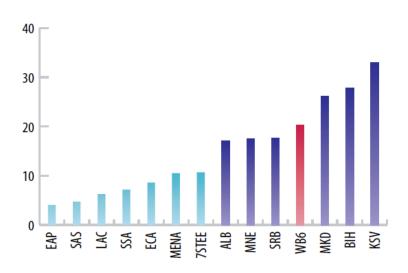
### Creating Good Jobs is a key challenge for our countries

### Only half of the working age population participate in the labor force, while a fifth of job-seekers cannot find work

Labor force participation rates (national estimates), 2015



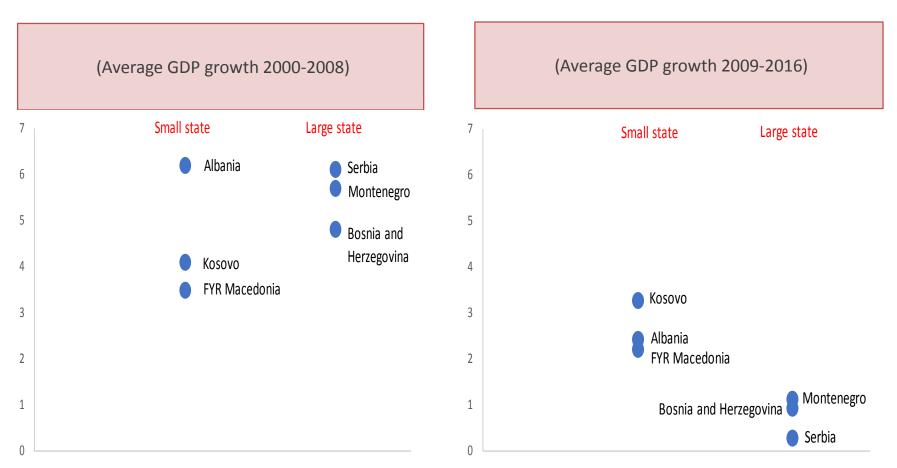
Unemployment rates (national estimates), 2015



Source: World Development Indicators, Labor Force Surveys and World Bank staff calculations. Note: Definition of labor force and unemployment may differ by country.



## Growth slowdown after the crisis, especially in countries with large public sectors



Source: World Development Indicators, National Statistics Agencies, staff calculations.

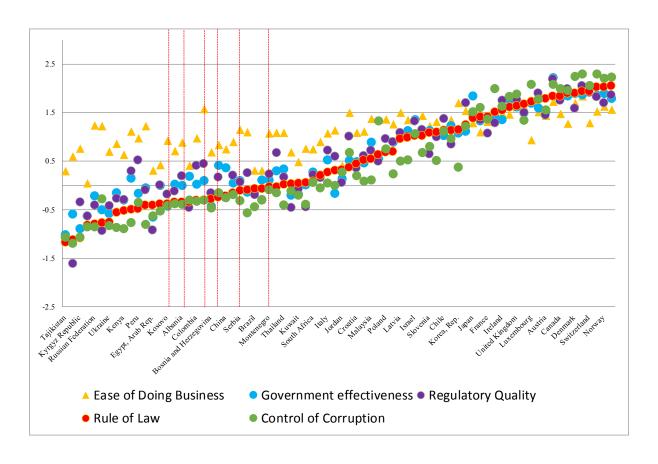


### **FASTER CONVERGENCE REQUIRES A REBALANCING OF THE ECONOMY**





# Governance and quality of institutions is important for growth and competitiveness



Source: World Governance Indicators, World Development Indicators, Doing Business



### **Governance Challenges for the region**

- Lack of strategic resource allocation
- Not enough fiscal space
- Incomplete PFM agenda: fiscal risk monitoring, arrears, tax collection
- SOEs productivity issues

Growth slowdown

Missing private sector

- Lack of adequate public infrastructure, and its regional disparities
- Public Procurement
- Regulatory quality challenges
- Corporate Governance and accounting issues
- Low performing justice sector
- SOEs disturbing level playing field

- Lack sector strategies
- •Low quality of service provision in education and health
- •Not meritocratic civil service
- Dominance of public sector employment

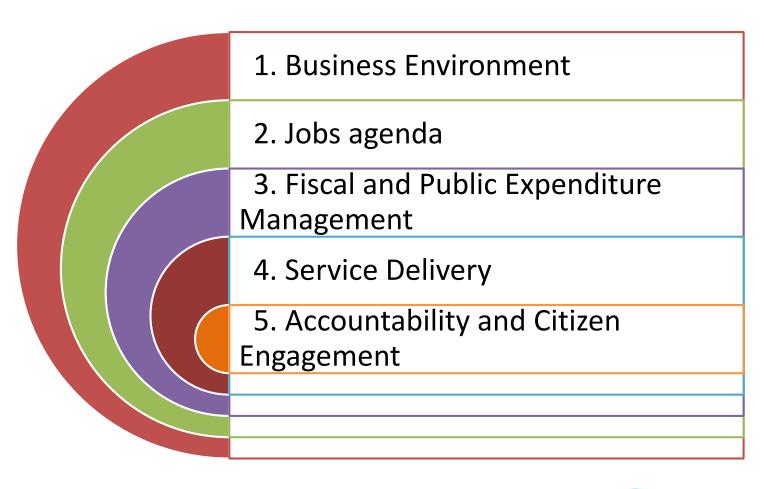
Inadequate Human Capital

Inefficient public sector

- Institutional capacity constraints
  - Poor quality of public services,
    - Implementation gaps
    - Rampant corruption
    - Lack of accountability
    - Challenges at local level



### Our program supports growth and jobs agenda under five thematic areas





### **Our Governance Program**

#### Business Environment

- 1. Revenue Administration Reform Lending
- 2. Commercial Justice TA
- 3. Informing justice Policy Dialogue in WeB
- 4. SOE's restructuring (pipeline)
- 5. STAREP REPARIS (Accounting Education, Financial Regulators, Accounting and Auditing Standards, and Access to Finance)

#### Jobs Agenda

- 1. Growth and Jobs ASA
- 2. Bosnia Public Sector Employment and Labor Markets
- 1. Rightsizing and Restructuring TA

### Fiscal and PFM

- 1. Capacity Building for MTFP ASA
- 2. Support To Public Sector Management Reform
- 3. Public Accounting Reform
- 2. Supporting Implementation of PIM Reforms
- 3. Project Evaluation and Implementation Support
- 4. Tax Administration TA
- 5. PEFA Asessement
- 2. PEMPAL
- 3. PULSAR
- 4. Internal Audit Training of Trainers program

#### Service Delivery

- 1. Horizontal Function Reviews
- 2. Functional Review in Education
- 3. Health Functional Review
- 2. Modernization and Optimization of Public Administration P4R
- . Enabling digital Governance in Serbia (pipeline)
- 4. Citizen Service Centers

# Accountability and Citizen Engagement

- 1. Citizen Centered Public Services Lending
- Strengthening national Audit Office Capacity in Procurement Audit
- 2. Strengthening legislative Scrutiny in WeB

