

#### Support from government to business...



Efforts to
Improve Business
Environment

- Decree No. 7 "On the Development of Entrepreneurship" is aimed at liberalizing of entrepreneurship (Nov 2017) includes among other:
- No new taxes introduction until 2020; no increase for effective tax rates; a simplified system of taxation
- Notification, instead of permission, for a new business start-up
- Optimization of administrative procedures for business registration
- Development of electronic government services
- Board of businessmen was created to enhance dialogue between government and business



Decree No. 8 "On the development of the digital economy"

creates unprecedented conditions for the residents of the High-Tech Park and gives serious competitive advantages to the country in the creation of the digital economy



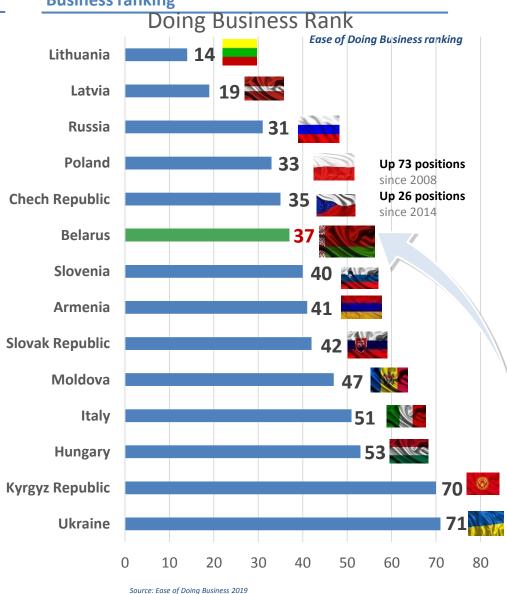
Visa-free regime

✓ Introduction of visa-free regime for 74 countries:

2017: 5 days 2018: **30 days** 

✓ other support

# ... led to notable improvement in Ease of Doing Business ranking



#### INVESTMENT SUPPORT



# Republic of Belarus is a member of MIGA since 2012

#### **60** agreements

on assistance in the mutual protection of investment

#### **67** agreements

on avoidance of double taxation

## Legal framework for investments support

- Law No. 53-3 "On Investments" of 12 July 2013
- Law No. 345-3 "On Public Private Partnerships" of 30 December 2015

#### **Preferential regimes:**

- Free economic zones (Law No. 213-3 "On Free economic zones", Tax Code (articles 382, 383))
- **High-Tech Park** (Presidential Decree No. 8)
- "Great Stone" Industrial Park (Presidential Edict No.166)
- Medium and small-sized cities and rural areas (Presidential Decree No. 6)
- Investment Agreement (Presidential Decree No. 10)

### **National Agency for Investment and Privatization**

"One stop shop" providing information, consulting, organizational and other assistance for investors in terms of searching for potential partners, organization of fact finding trips and introduction to the relevant governmental entities and bodies

# **PREFERENTIAL REGIMES**



	Investor and	Funa Fannamia	CDA Tarres in Descri	ural Tark	In almatural result
	Investment agreements	Free Economic Zones	SM Towns in Rural Areas	High-Tech Park	Industrial park Great Stone
Corporate Profit Tax	No (in case of free transfer of property to the investor)	No (in case of export and sales of goods to other FEZ residents)	<b>No</b> (for 7Y from the date of the registration)	No	<b>No</b> (for 10Y and 50% standard rate further on)
VAT	Returned from the budget (for the goods, work, services, property rights when implementing the investment project )	20%	20%	No	<b>Returned</b> from the budget
Property Tax	1%	No	<b>No</b> (for 7Y)	No	No
Land Tax	No (for the period of design and construction until December 31 of the year following the year of completion)	No	Yes	<b>No</b> (for construction period, max 3Y)	No
VAT & Custom Import Duties	<b>No</b> (for the technological equipment imported)	No (for the technological equipment imported; if exported outside the Eurasian Economic Union)	<b>No</b> (for capital investment, for certain goods)	<b>No</b> (for IT activities)	No (for the goods imported to start a project, if exported outside the Eurasian Economic Union)

## IT Sector is Steadily Growing and has a Prominent Role in the Economy





In BlockShow Rating of Crypto-friendly European Countries



0 taxes for cryptocurrencies till 2023HTP as a special economic zoneSmart contracts as legal documents

#### IT sector highlights

37 000

software engineers employed in the IT sector of the HTP

> USD 1.0 bn

HTP software and IT-services export in 2017

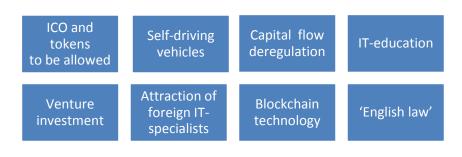
25x

increase export volume between 2006 and 2017

Top 9

in Primary Locations for Outsourcing & Service Delivery centres in EMEA<sup>1</sup>

#### **Decree on Development of Digital Economy**



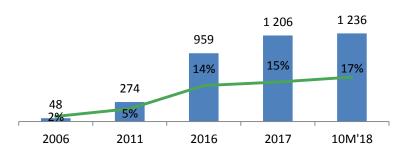
#### **Belarus Hi-Tech Park**



- □ Providing services globally to 60+ of Fortune's 200 largest companies
- HTP residents with foreign or joint ownership amount to 48% of the total 454 resident companies
- 92% of the software products of HTP are exported
- Preferential treatment for resident companies:
- favourable tax regime until 2020 (incl. exception from income tax and VAT)
- lower personal income tax
- exterritorial principle of registration
- access to qualified workforce

#### **IT Services Growth**

Export of IT services, USD mn
Share of IT services, % of total export of services



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>According to the global IT research and consultancy company Gartner

# Great Stone Industrial Park – new ecofriendly smart city





112 km<sup>2</sup> total area

#### 42 residents

in such spheres as electronics and telecommunications; pharmaceuticals; fine chemistry; biotechnologies; machine engineering; innovative materials; comprehensive logistic services; electronic commerce; BIG DATA

#### > USD 1.0 bn

planned volume of investments

#### **Concept and objectives**

- Place for industries of the future
- International business cooperation platform
- Innovations and new technologies exchange platform

#### Ecofriendly smart city

#### The most convenient conditions for doing business in the Eurasian region

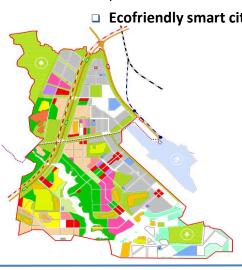
- Ready to use production areas and land plots (rent/purchase)
- Tax privileges and benefits
- Grandfather's clause on non-deterioration of business environment for 10 years
- Comprehensive service for investors
- Special customs regime
- Advantageous geographical location
- Simplified process of designing and construction
- Developing comfortable living conditions

# **Nearest Baltic sea ports** 500 km (Klaipeda and Riga) Minsk 1,9 mln people Sokol 7.0 thousand Industrial park

Planned highway Minsk-Industrial park



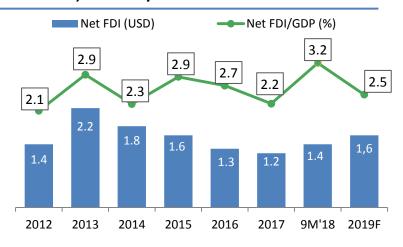
- Development of residential area and social infrastructure
- Transport infrastructure
- Construction of motorway and express tramway Minsk – Great Stone – National Airport Minsk
- □ Construction of 330 kV power station



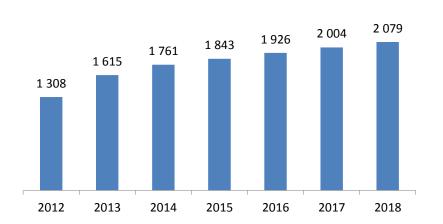
# The Government has Prioritized Attracting FDI



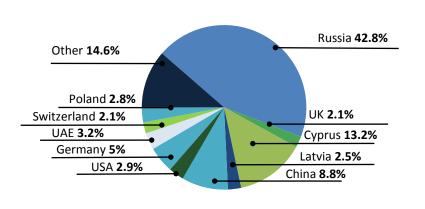
#### FDI Inflows, USD bln/%



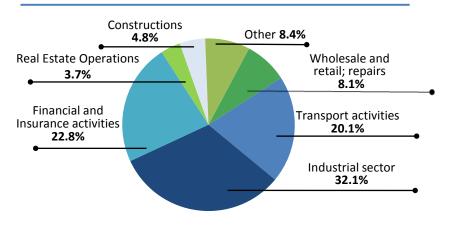
# Dynamics of investment contracts with the Republic of Belarus, cumulatively



#### FDI Inflows by Country, 9M 2018<sup>1</sup>



#### FDI Inflows by Sector, 9M 2018<sup>2</sup>



Sources: National Statistical Committee, National Bank, IMF for countries other than Belarus

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding the banking sector, sale of property and payments to budget.

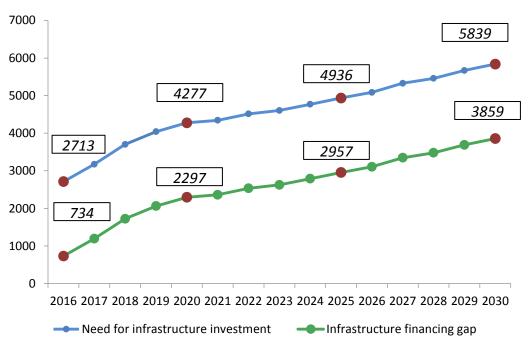
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Excluding sale of property and payments to budget.



## Infrastructure development

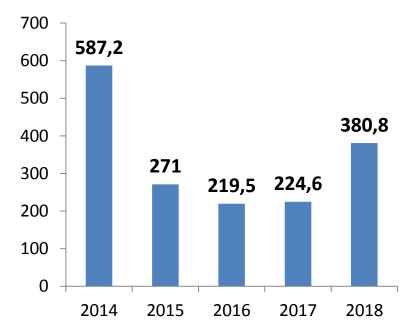


# **Infrastructure need for 2017-2030,** million USD



# National budget to the infrastructure development under the State Investment Program,

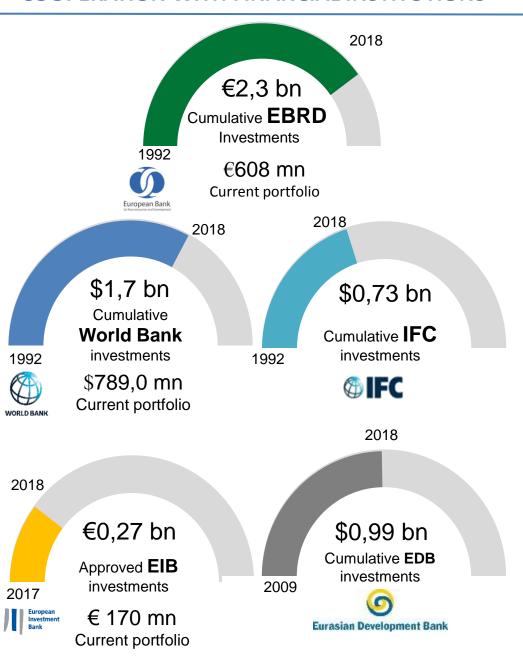
million USD



Source: National statistics committee

#### **COOPERATION WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**





#### EBRD annual investments, mln EUR



The Republic of Belarus cooperates with some other IFIs, financial institutions and development funds:

- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (since 2018)
- China Development Bank
- The Export-Import Bank of China
- Development funds: Silk Road Fund, Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and others

## **Development of PPP institutional framework**



Creation of
Interministerial
Infrastructure
Coordination Board
May
2014

Development and enactment of PPP Law

Pilot PPP projects preparation

Presidential Edict on reconstruction of M-10 road

December **2015** 

2016 – 2018 26 November **2018** 













April **2014** 

Creation of National PPP unit

October **2015** 

Development
National
Infrastructure Strategy
(annual update)

July **2016** 

Development and enactment of secondary legislation in PPP field (The Resolution of the Council of Ministers No 532 and the Decree of the Ministry of economy No 49) July **2018** 

Amendment in PPP Law

+

January 2019 – amendment in secondary legislation in PPP field

#### PROSPECTIVE PPP DIRECTIONS



Transport infrastructure



Social infrastructure (hospitals, schools, kindergartens, etc)



Housing and utilities infrastructure, incl. solid waste recycling



IT technologies