

People's desire to develop greatly impacts the economic growth of any country. Little development will be seen if the people of an underdeveloped state have accepted poverty as their fate. According to Richard T. Gill: «The point is that economic development is not a mechanical process; it is not a simple adding- up of assorted factors. Ultimately, it is a human enterprise. And like all human enterprises, its outcome will depend finally on the skill, quality and attitudes of the men who undertake».

УДК 334

THE ROLE OF SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESS IN THE MODERN ECONOMY

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The small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) play an essential role in the economy of a country. They represent a source of entrepreneurship abilities, innovation and creation of new jobs. Their capacity to apply, adapt and disseminate new technology is unique. Peter Drucker said that small enterprises represent the main catalyst of economic development.

The role played by SMEs and micro firms is very important, not only because they are defined as the engine of economic growth, but mainly because they are the largest percentage of firms in the economic activity.

The SMEs have beneficial effects for the economic system through the roles they fulfill. Among these, there are: small and medium-sized enterprises are important jobs creators, contributing to the social stability of the area in which they activate; the SMEs sector is the main source of forming the middle class with a decisive role in maintaining the social-political stability in a country; they increase the competitive state of the market, being sources of competitiveness, making a better satisfaction of consumers needs.

The importance of small and medium-sized enterprises derive from certain features making them being more than a thumbnail of big enterprises, such as:

- offering new jobs and being a propitious climate for employees perfecting which achieve the experience needed for transferring in large enterprises where the motivation is bigger;
- the favouring of innovation and flexibility. Many new products and technological processes were made in small and medium-sized enterprises because the big enterprises tend to focus their efforts on improving old products, despite having strong research departments, which they want to produce in larger quantities obtaining general advantages of the dimensional economy. Big enterprises don't have the same flexibility as small and medium-sized enterprises. SMEs, in order to gain success, must focus their efforts on creating new products and services, thus being capable to adapt their production faster to the changing market requirements;
- stimulation of the competition- SMEs have an active role in creating a new healthier

and more competitive economy. These encourage competition as for the prices, products design and efficiency. Without SMEs, big enterprises would hold the monopoly on most areas of activity;

- helping the big enterprises in certain activities which could be better supplied by SMEs. Thereby, if these enterprises would be immediately dissolved, big enterprises are forced to unfold more activities that are not efficient for them. Activities that could be more efficiently developed in SMEs are supplying with raw materials and parts (these companies function like subcontractors for big companies), respectively distributing the products made by big enterprises;

- producing goods and services efficiently. The fact that SMEs continues to survive in a competitive economical environment is proof of their efficient activity. If they wouldn't be efficient and wouldn't have a useful contribution in economy then they would have been swallowed by their strong competitors. A study made in USA showed that SMEs have a profit four times higher for one dollar invested than big companies [1].

REFERENCES

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УДК 338.24

РОЛЬ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОЙ БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ В СОВРЕМЕННЫХ УСЛОВИЯХ

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В современных условиях нестабильности мировой экономики одной из важнейших задач науки и практики становится разработка и реализация системы обеспечения экономической безопасности организации. Субъекты хозяйствования вынуждены адаптироваться к условиям политической и социально-экономической нестабильности, вести поиск адекватных решений сложнейших проблем и путей снижения угроз своему функционированию.

Любая организация, действующая в условиях жесткой рыночной конкуренции и высоком уровне выраженности общественно-политических, валютных, инвестиционных, технологических и иных рисков, вынужден заботиться о формировании надежной системы экономической безопасности. Организации вынуждены постоянно приспосабливаться к несовершенной законодательной базе и ее изменениям, нехватке работников с нужной квалификацией, изношенности производственного оборудования, нехватке собственных оборотных средств, непродуманной политике государства, недобросовестной конкуренции, постоянно развивающимся угрозам.

Экономическая безопасность – состояние защищенности субъекта предпринимательской деятельности, его капитала и иных корпоративных ресурсов на различных