

# Budapest, Hungary

## Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Danube Chambers of Commerce Association

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### ABOUT US

The 166 year old Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) is a determining public body with regards the economic and social life of Budapest with the biggest membership among the Economic Chambers. BCCI has more than 4,000 members representing trade, industrial, business service providing and handicraft private entrepreneurs and business organizations in Budapest.

The headquarters and main activities of our members are based in Budapest accepting the voluntary membership status and are playing an important and active role in the business life of Budapest.

BCCI with activity based on municipality principles aims to help the development and organization of the Hungarian economy, protects the safety of business transactions and the respect of fair play market behaviour and represents the general and joint interests of the business organizations.

BCCI with up-to-date operations is involved in the development of legislation affecting the Hungarian economy, plays an important role in the implementation of long-term economic development programs and the development of the Budapest area as well as handling every issue regarding the general interests of all business actors with priority. BCCI aims to represent the rights and interests of business organizations and also initiates amendments of legal regulations and laws if required.

BCCI plays an important role in the central economic region in helping corporations accessing new markets and also upgrading the market environment to the EU level. The Chamber aims to help our member organizations and in general the representatives of the business sector in Hungary with the development of the business environment, economical studies and forecasts, management of the tasks and duties of vocational trainings and education, establishment of reliable business partnerships and consulting services of taxation, legal and other business management issues.

Budapest is the centre of economic life in Hungary most of the businesses are concentrated in the capital. There are corporations having production in the countryside but setting up their headquarters in Budapest and as a result BCCI plays a significant role in the Hungarian Chamber System. BCCI helps the small and medium size companies (SMEs) with the establishment of local market cooperation thus having a positive impact on local economic development, and furthermore helps the SMEs with its international relations for their foreign market development.

The principle of the democratic method of BCCI, the maintenance and strengthening of the represented collective rights, the preservation of the autonomy of BCCI requires that those who Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry represents have their right to participate in the preparation of decisions and at the same time have obligations regarding carrying out the tasks and duties of their umbrella organization. The members can exercise their rights and obligations basically at the Departments, Sections and professional work units.

The primary task and duty of the Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry as a self governed public body is the development of economy and the general representation of economic interest. BCCI therefore considers important to participate with a broad range of opinions in the economy legislation, thus cooperating with the strengthening of local economy development as well as the formulation of the city's districts and industrial and trade policy. Lobbying activities is twofold: to act in the interests of its members during the public administration cooperation and carries out reconciliation of interests among its members. The emphasis is on the mutual dialogue.

Effective governance without the cooperation with civil organizations is not feasible therefore Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry prepares analysis, develops proposals, shares information with the Government and local municipalities. Helping the development of local economy and representing the general interests of the SMEs BCCI emphasizes the importance of the ongoing communication with the Municipality of Budapest and the District Municipalities as well. The cooperation between BCCI and the Municipalities are concerned on the participation in the decision making and the development and supplying of public services.

In 2012 the compulsory registration of corporations was introduced which greatly contributed to the efficient performance of the tasks and duties of the Chamber. Through the registration an up-to-date corporate database will be introduced that will help the analysis of economic processes this way providing help to achieve the targeted economic development.

The development of international business relations has a major emphasis in the short- and long-term strategy of the Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Helping the members in entering new foreign markets and their international appearance is a core program of BCCI therefore it participates and organizes international exhibitions, fairs, publishes profession specific presentation materials.

In order to develop the international relations Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry established the Danube Chambers of Commerce Association (DCCA) in summer 2010, which indirectly through a number of foreign businesses is active in the participation in the European Union Danube Region Strategy. The Association's philosophy is to provide a single platform to create business opportunities along the horizontal principles, promoting the economic and business cooperation, thereby strengthening the economic cohesion between Danube Region entrepreneurs operating in various countries.

### AREAS OF ACTIVITY

#### SERVICES

- Education
- Technology transfer
- Other Services

#### INDUSTRY

- Biotechnology
- Other

**Project partners to seek**

As a project coordinator my major aim is to be in contact with successful actors of the different field as much as it is possible.

**SOLUTION OR EXPERTISE SOUGHT**

Know-how exchange

**TYPE OF PARTNER SOUGHT**

VET, international relations, policy level