

PRESS RELEASE

Entrepreneurs, small and micro businesses greatly interested in loans with subsidized interest rate

Banca Intesa approved majority of subsidized loans to small business

Belgrade, October 8 2014 – Banca Intesa is the most active commercial banks by the number of loans approved to entrepreneurs, small and micro businesses pursuant to the Serbian Government's 2014 Decree on conditions for subsidizing interest rates on loans for liquidity and permanent working capital. In just four months, which is how long the Decree has been in effect, Banca Intesa approved nearly 4,000 loans to this client category, i.e. every third loan on the market. The total that the Bank has approved amounts to €38.2 million.

Apart from considerable interest in loans with subsidized interest rate, since the beginning of 2014 the Bank has recorded a major increase in demand for other SME loan products. The fact that the Bank approved 87.5% loans more in the first 8 months 2014 compared to the same period last year supports this claim.

The growth recorded is the result of Banca Intesa's efforts to continually upgrades its selection for entrepreneurs, small and micro companies, both through product and services development, and through the accelerated loan application review procedure; when loans for liquidity are concerned, including subsidized loans, the procedure takes 48 hours.

Banca Intesa is offering SME clients a set of specialized financial products and services within Intesa Biz line, which comprises a selection of loan types, business cards, electronic banking. Also, the clients have substantially affordable funds from credit lines, secured in cooperation with international financial institutions, at their disposal. Owing to the comprehensive financial solutions range, each third company in Serbia has chosen Banca Intesa.

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Banca Intesa ad Beograd, member of **INTESA  SANPAOLO**, is the leader in domestic market, reliable partner to 1.73 million clients, natural and legal entities. With net balance sheet amount of over 4 billion euros, total deposits of 2.4 billion euros and total placements of 2.3 billion euros, Banca Intesa Belgrade is leading the list of the biggest banks in Serbia. Owing to a developed business network of 191 branches across Serbia, the most developed network of ATMs and POS terminals and professional team of over 3,000 employees, the bank is achieving considerable growth in all business areas. Banca Intesa is developing its business activities in four directions: retail and small business operations, corporate banking, local self-government and investment banking.