

# SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY, BECOME OUR PARTNER

## Qualified and Available Labour Force

Public and private sectors support creation of a productive and proficient labour force. Almost 90% of the pupils continue their education after finishing elementary school.

## High Standards for Quality Life and Success

Žepče is a desirable location for families with good conditions for healthy lifestyle, while significant tourism potentials are based on:

- ➔ Clean and eco-friendly environment
- ➔ Beautiful nature
- ➔ 14 mineral water springs and numerous drinking water springs
- ➔ Agricultural arable land is fit for organic farming
- ➔ Žepče is leading BiH municipality in raspberry production
- ➔ Sports, recreation and transit tourism, hunting and fishing
- ➔ Excellent traditional cuisine, seasoned with our best apple, pear, quince and plum schnapps

## Return on Investment?

*“Recent findings have indicated that German companies doing business in BiH have an annual revenue growth between 6% and 30% (companies – members of German Economic Delegation in BiH).”*

German Economic Delegation in BiH, AHK, 2013

### Žepče Municipality

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Žepče Municipality



# INVEST IN ŽEPČE



Žepče is part of BEAR development initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina. BEAR stands for Business Excellence Area of Žepče, Teslić and Tešanj, three local communities with very dynamic private sector.



European Cities and Regions of the Future 2014/15

Žepče, Teslić and Tešanj (BEAR) are among top 10 investment destinations in Europe 2014/15 FDI Magazine (Financial Times Group)



*“Potential investors are more than welcome and have our greatest support. This is a place of hard working people. It is simply worthwhile to invest in the municipality of Žepče.”*

Mato Zovko, Mayor of Žepče

### Why is Žepče a unique place for investment in Southeast Europe?

- ➔ Maximum readiness of mayor and municipal team to provide support to investors
- ➔ Favourable position – quick and easy access to millions of people
- ➔ Favourable business costs and significant incentives for investors
- ➔ Opportunities for cooperation with potential and existing enterprises
- ➔ Competitive, professional, and motivated labour force
- ➔ High standards for quality of life and success

Žepče has a strong and export oriented SME sector and a long-standing tradition in wood, light metal and textile industries and trade. Located on Pan-European Corridor 5C, Žepče is an attractive place with all that it can offer to investors.



### We take care of your needs

*“Support and assistance to potential and active investors is provided at all stages.”*

Mrs. Branka Janko, Director of RAŽ, Development Agency Žepče

### Quick and Easy Access to Millions of People

Doing business in Žepče provides export access to markets of almost 600 million customers free of customs duties, due to trade agreements of BiH, while delivery times to main European markets can be calculated in hours/days.

Žepče is located near the vital routes connecting South-east Europe and the Adriatic coast, next to the Pan-European Corridor 5C, the railway Ploče – Sarajevo – Budapest and Zagreb – Belgrade highway (80km).

Location	Central Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ze-Do Canton, Federation of BiH, 80 km fom EU border (Croatia)
Population	31,582 (2013)
Territory	282 km2, of which 16% arable land, 62.7% is forested and 21.3% are urbanised
Climate	Moderate continental

### Favourable Business Costs, Benefits for Investors

Business costs are very competitive, amongst lowest in Europe (see the fDi Magazine award). We offer:

- ➔ Technical support to investors
- ➔ Significant incentives available from cantonal and local governments
- ➔ Minimal and transparent procedures and easy access to plots of land equipped with basic infrastructure
- ➔ Favourable tax rates in BiH – the tax on profit is only 10%
- ➔ Very competitive labour prices
- ➔ Costs of energy and utilities among the lowest in Europe

### Favourable Sectors for Investment and Business Cooperation

Business contacts in Žepče are realized quickly and easily. These are Žepče's economy' competitive advantages:

- ➔ Strong SME sector (348 individual and 302 incorporated enterprises)
- ➔ A long-standing tradition in wood, light metal and textile industries and trade
- ➔ Export-oriented economy
- ➔ Qualified and competitive labour force
- ➔ Availability of raw materials and subcontractors (open to cooperation with foreign companies)
- ➔ Trade, catering and transportation services