Municipality of Žepče is situated on one of the crucial transportation routes in central Bosnia that connects Eastern Europe and the Adriatic. Žepče as part of development initiative BEAR (Business Excellence Area) has been selected by fDi Magazine (Financial Times Group) among top 10 investment destinations in Europe, by the cost-effectiveness for investors. Žepče’s potentials are recognized in metal, wood, textile and agriculture sectors, while domestic and foreign companies operating in Žepče export over 80% of their production to European market. Dynamic, well-trained labor force is educated according to companies’ needs and business environment demand. Municipality offers efficient procedures and simple access to land plots in Polja Industrial Zone equipped with basic infrastructure. Investors are entitled to 24-hours support of Centre for Investors available within Development Agency Žepče and municipal Centre for building permits. The Mayor and his team are dedicated to facilitation of investments and creation of modern business environment, which is confirmed by Business-Friendly Certificate South East Europe.
invest in Žepče

HUMAN RESOURCES
Total work force: 17,796, unemployment rate: 44,35 %
Average gross salary: € 426 per month
Education: 15% college or university degree, 60% high school, 25% elementary and lower
Relevant schools and faculties (100 km radius): Universities in Zenica and Doboj, 2 secondary and 6 primary schools in Žepče

LOCAL ECONOMY
Number of businesses: 220 companies and 353 enterpreneurs
Size of businesses: 89% small, 10,5% middle-sized, 0,5% large
Dominant industries: Trade, metal processing industry, transport, wood industry, textile industry, and agriculture
The largest domestic companies: Prograd, Budo-Export, Nansi (wood and construction industry); Slisko (metal processing)
The most significant foreign investors: CarTrim gmbh (textile industry, Germany)

TRAFFIC CONNECTIONS
Highways: Direct access to E73 (Corridor Vc)
Main roads: Primary road M-17, Regional road R-465 and R-474
Railroad lines: Direct access to railroad Budapest–Bosanski Šamac–Sarajevo–Ploče (port)
Ports: Slavonski Brod (Croatia) – distance 120 km, Vukovar (Croatia) – distance 210 km, Split (Croatia) – distance 268 km
Airports: International airport Zagreb – distance 97 km, international airport „Nikola Tesla“ Belgrade – distance 296 km

INDUSTRIAL ZONE POLJA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land area and purpose</th>
<th>10,7 ha – construction land for industrial use, one existing object (10,500 m²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ownership structure</td>
<td>6 ha (4 plots) – 100% municipality owned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>Road, high voltage electricity, water, sanitation, waste collection, telecommunications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>1 km from M17 primary road, 0,5 km the R-465 regional road and 0,1 km from the railway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price and type of acquisition</td>
<td>Auction, starting price 3-4 €/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local incentives</td>
<td>Subsidizing initial cost 30% - 75% depending on new jobs created</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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