

Turkmenistan's 2017 Free Economic Zone Law: Legislated, Still Not Operating Eight Years Later

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Turkmenistan

Quality score: 24/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Turkmenistan passed a Free Economic Zone law in 2017, but the U.S. State Department's 2025 Investment Climate Statement finds none operating, and a Nov-2025 OECD review says the country still lacks a dedicated investment promotion agency for non-hydrocarbon FDI.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability	0/3
Sustainability / continuity	1/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	0/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[Government of Turkmenistan / assessed by OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[2025 Investment Climate Statements: Turkmenistan - U.S. Department of State](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[Building a Competitive Investment Landscape in Turkmenistan - OECD \(November 2025\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

[Turkmenistan Foreign Direct Investment - Historical Data \(World Bank series\) - Macrotrends](#) — accessed 2026-09-26

Cite this — Evidoria. *Turkmenistan's 2017 Free Economic Zone Law: Legislated, Still Not Operating Eight Years Later*. Persistent ID: 0a4b6fb3-8a2c-4987-a681-726dedf55346.