



# BULGARIA ECONOMIC FORUM

## Bulgaria Economic Forum

### Let's Talk about Bulgarian Economy Growth and Revenue Generators

14-15 November 2013, Sheraton Sofia Hotel Balkan

14 November 2013 (Thursday)

Hall 1

09:00 - 09:45 Registration

09:45 - 10:00 Official Opening

H.E. Mr. Plamen Oresharski, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria

#### 10:00 - 11:30 Let's Talk about Bulgarian Economy Growth and Revenue Generators

*A brief overview on the key factors that could help the Bulgarian economy to emerge from the stage of stagnation will be made in this session and more particularly: foreign direct investments, EU Funds, foreign economic relations, tourism, infrastructure development, telecommunication, agriculture.*

Format: Round table with Q&A

Working language: Bulgarian/English

#### Speakers:

H.E. Mrs. Daniela Bobeva, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Development of the Republic of Bulgaria

H.E. Mr. Dragomir Stoynev, Minister of Economy and Energy of the Republic of Bulgaria

Mr. Ognian Zlatev, Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Bulgaria

Mr. Florin Lupescu, Principal Adviser, DG CONNECT, European Commission and DAE Ambassador for Bulgaria

Mr. Anthony Whelan, Director Electronic Communications Networks and Services, DG CONNECT, European Commission

Moderator: Mr. George Tabakov, Chairman, Bulgaria Economic Forum

11:30 - 11:45 Coffee-break

#### 11:45 - 12:45 Investment Promotion: Overcoming Legal, Non-legal and Administrative Barriers Facing the Business

*Lead investors as well as directors of invest promotion agencies from the region will take part in this session. The Round table is hosted by InvestBulgaria Agency.*

Format: Round table with Q&A

Working language: Bulgarian/English

#### Speakers

Mr. Svetoslav Mladenov, Executive Director, InvestBulgaria Agency

Mr. Aristomenis Syngros, Chairman, Invest in Greece Agency

Mr. Marian Piecha, Investment and Business Development Agency (CzechInvest) (tbc)

Ms Monika Mészáros, Hungarian Investment and Trade Agency (HITA) (tbc)

Mr. Visar Fida, Executive Director, Agency for Foreign Investments and Export Promotion, FYROM (tbc)

Mr. Dan-Coman Sova, Minister Delegate for Infrastructure Projects and Foreign Investments, Department for Infrastructure Projects and Foreign Investments, Romania

Mr. Bozidar Laganin, Director, Serbia Investment and Export Promotion Agency (SIEPA)

Mr. İlker Aycı, President, Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry Investment Support and Promotion Agency (tbc)

Mr. Darko Liović, Chairman of the Board, Croatian Agency for SMEs and Investments (tbc)

Mr. Milos Jovanovic, Director, Montenegrin Investment Promotion Agency (MIPA)

Ms. Stefka Slavova, Alternate Director for Poland, Bulgaria and Albania. Board of Directors, EBRD

Mr. Branko Azeski, President of the MB, Economic Chamber of FYROM

Mr. Valentin Militaru, Head of Industry Department, Bucharest Chamber of Commerce and Industry (tbc)

Ms Dorina Ciomag, Executive Director, FIC Romania (tbc)



# BULGARIA ECONOMIC FORUM

**Moderator:** Mr. Aleksandar Medjedovic, Chairman of the Business Council Serbia-Turkey, Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey

12:45 - 14:00 Business lunch **Major Environmental Infrastructure Projects**

**Key-note speaker:** Mrs. Iskra Mihaylova, Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria  
(by invitations only)

Working language: Bulgarian/English

**14:00 - 15:00 Business Aspects of Introducing Digital Television and e-government**

*Two of the hottest topics in the field of IT will be discussed here: transformation between analog and digital TV and introducing of e-government. The experience of the other countries from the Region will be presented. Bulgarian operators will be also encouraged to share their practices and opinion. High level representatives from the European Commission, Bulgarian official institutions as well as business representatives from Bulgaria and the region are invited to take part in this Round table.*

Format: Round Table with Q&A

Working language: Bulgarian/English

Speakers:

H.E. Mr. Georgi Todorov, Deputy Minister of Transport, Information Technology and Communications of the Republic of Bulgaria (tbc)

**Mr. Florian Lupescu, Principal Adviser, DG CONNECT, European Commission and DAE Ambassador for Bulgaria**

**Mr. Veselin Bozhkov, Chairman, Communications Regulation Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria**

**Mrs. Gergana Passy, Digital Champion of Bulgaria** -*Education in the digital world. Why is the change so important?*

Mr. George Brashnarov, Chairman, Bulgarian Association of Software Companies (tbc)

Moderator: Gergana Passy, Digital Champion of Bulgaria

15:00 - 15:15 Coffee-break

**15:15 - 17:15 EU Funds: Priority Areas to be Funded during the New Programme Period 2014-2020**

*Short presentations of the priority areas for the new programme period of the three Operational Programmes focused directly on fostering the business will be delivered. The OP are: Human resource development 2014-2020, Innovations and competitiveness and rural development programme. Each presentation will be followed by Q&A session.* Working language: Bulgarian/English

H.E. Mrs. Zinaida Zlatanova, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice of the Republic of Bulgaria

Mr. Renaldo Mandments, Head of Unit E.3, Bulgaria, DG REGIO, European Commission

**15:15 - 15:45 OP Human Resource Development 2014-2020**

Format: Presentation with Q&A

Mrs. Natalia Efremova, General Director, GD European Funds, International Programmes and Projects, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of the Republic of Bulgaria

**15:45 - 16:15 OP Innovations and Competitiveness 2014-2020**

Format: Presentation with Q&A

Mrs. Eli Milusheva, General Director, GD European Funds for Competitiveness, Ministry of Economy and Energy of the Republic of Bulgaria

**16:15 - 16:45 Rural Development Programme 2014-2020**

Format: Presentation with Q&A



# BULGARIA ECONOMIC FORUM

Mrs. Svetlana Alexandrova, Acting Director, Rural Development Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Bulgaria

**16:45 - 17:15 OP Development of Fish-breeding Sector 2014-2020**

Format: Presentation with Q&A

Mr. Latchezar Zolev, Head of Programming and Monitoring Department, European Fund for Fish-breeding Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Bulgaria

**Hall 2**

## BULGARIAN-SERBIAN BUSINESS FORUM

**10:00 - 11:00 Registration**

**11:00 - 12:30 Opening Session: Fostering Economic Relations between Bulgaria and Serbia**

Format: Presentations with Q&A

Working language: Bulgarian/Serbian

Speakers:

**H.E. Mr. Krasin Dimitrov, Deputy Minister of Economy and Energy of the Republic of Bulgaria**

**Ms Jasmina Radonjić, Department for European Integration and International Cooperation, Ministry of transport of the Republic of Serbia**

Representative, Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications of the Republic of Bulgaria (tbc)

H.E. Mr. Vladimir Curgus, Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia (tbc)

**Mr. Miodrag Kostić, Deputy Director, Koridori Srbije**

**Mrs. Marina Hristeva, Co-chair, Bulgarian-Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

**Mr. Dragan Kostic, President, Regional Chamber of Commerce Nish**

Moderator: Mrs. Marina Hristeva, Co-chair, Bulgarian-Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

**12:45 - 13:45 Lunch**

**14:30 - 15:30 Latest Developments and opportunities in Trade and Investments between Bulgaria and Serbia**

Format: Presentations with Q&A

Working language: Bulgarian/Serbian

Speakers:

**H.E. Mr. Krasin Dimitrov, Deputy Minister of Economy and Energy of the Republic of Bulgaria**

Representative, InvestBulgaria Agency (tbc)

**Representative, Serbia Investment and Export Promotion Agency (SIEPA)**

**Mr. Tsvetan Simeonov, Chairman, Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

**Mr. Aleksandar Medjedovic, Chairman of the Business Council Serbia-Turkey, Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey**

**Ms Borjana Mincheva, Head of International Collaboration Department, Bulgarian SME Promotion Agency**

**Mr. Zoran Petrovic, Free Zone Pirot**



# BULGARIA ECONOMIC FORUM

Mr. Djordje Momirovic, CEO, Mona Ltd (tbc)

**Mr. Miomir Nikolić, CEO, Farmalogist Ltd**

Moderator: **Mr. Aleksandar Simonovic, Co-chairman, Bulgarian-Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

15:30 - 15:45 Coffee-break

## **15:45 - 16:45 Opportunities for Common Tourist Destinations Development in the Cross-border Region**

Format: Round table with Q&A

Working language: Bulgarian/Serbian

### Speakers:

H.E. Mr. Branimir Botev, Deputy Minister of Economy and Energy of the Republic of Bulgaria (tbc)

**Mr. Aleksandar Milicevic, First Counsellor, Embassy of the Republic of Serbia**

Mrs. Zeljka Pudar, National Tourism Organization of Serbia (tbc)

**Mr. Dejan Tosic, President, Regional Chamber of Economy Zajecar**

**Mrs. Svetlana Atanasova, President, Bulgarian Association of Travel Agents**

Moderator: **Mr. Aleksandar Milicevic, First Counsellor, Embassy of the Republic of Serbia**

## **17:00 - 18:00 B2B Meetings and Networking Opportunities between Bulgarian and Serbian Companies**

Working language: Bulgarian/Serbian

## **AGRO-START CONFERENCE**

### **Hall 3**

**11:00 - 11:45 Registration**

## **11:45 - 12:45 Opening Session: Agriculture: Encouraging the Development of SMEs in the Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sectors**

*An overview of the key issues in regard with the development of the animal breeding and horticulture sector will be made. The session will provide opportunity for discussion of trends and needs in the sectors.*

Format: Round table with Q&A

Working language: English

### Speakers:

H.E. Edmond Panariti, Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Consumer Protection of Republic of Albania (tbc)

H.E. Prof. Dimitar Grekov, Minister of Agriculture and Food of Republic of Bulgaria (tbc)

H.E. Ljupcho Dimovski, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy of FYROM

H.E. Athanasios Tsaftaris, Minister of Rural Development and Food of Greece (tbc)

H.E. Daniel Constantin, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Romania (tbc)

H.E. Dejan Židan, Minister of Agriculture and Environment of Republic of Slovenia (tbc)

H.E. Nunzia De Girolamo, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forestry of Republic of Italy (tbc)

**Mr. Vassil Grudev, Executive Director, State Fund Agriculture, Bulgaria**

Mr. Evgeniy Ivanov, Executive Director, Bulgarian Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion Agency (tbc)

**Mr. Panagiotis Chatzinikolaou, Head Coordination and Assessment RTDI Unit, Directorate Policy Planning, General Secretariat for Research and Technology of the Ministry of Education & Religious Affairs, Greece**

Mr. Evangelos Kalousis, President, Association of Greek Food Industries (tbc)



# BULGARIA ECONOMIC FORUM

Mr. Tzanetos Karamichas, President, Pan-Hellenic Confederation of Unions of Agricultural Co-operatives, Greece (tbc)

Dr. Vittorino Facciolla, Councillor, Molise Region - Dep. of Agriculture, Italy (tbc)

Mr. Emilio Orlando, President, Regional Agency for the Development and Innovation of Agriculture in Molise, Italy (tbc)

**Dr. Fabrizio Nardoni, Assessor for Agriculture of the Apulia Region, Italy**

Mr. Benedikt Jeranko, General Director, Agency of Republic Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development (tbc)

Mr. Cvetko Zupančič, President, Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia (tbc)

**Mioara Chifu, Project Manager, Project "Agro-Start", AGROSTAR, Romania**

Moderator: Mrs. Christina Zlatanova, Administrative Director, Bulgaria Economic Forum

12:45 - 14:00 Lunch break

## 14:00 - 14:20 Transnational Cooperation and Networking in the Animal Breeding and the Horticulture Sectors

*The session will focus on the issue of the transnational networking of SME's and business support services in the animal breeding and horticulture sector and will also provide information for mechanisms of cooperation and support in the sectors.*

Format: Presentations with Q&A

Working language: English

## 14:00 - 14:10 Presentation of the International Database with Products and Services Suppliers for SMEs in the Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sectors

Speaker: Mrs. Christina Zlatanova, Administrative Director, Bulgaria Economic Forum

## 14:10 - 14:20 Establishment of Centres of Excellence in the Agriculture Sector under the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Speaker: Mrs. Katya Goranova, Executive Director of BSC SME-Ruse and Member of the Steering Groups of Priority Area 8 and Priority Area 9 of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, Bulgaria

## 14:20 - 15:00 Presentation of Business Practices and Cases in the Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sectors. Trends and Needs in the Provision of Business Support Services for SMEs in the Sectors. (Part I)

*The session will present best practices in the animal breeding and horticulture sector and will elaborate on the trends and needs in the provision of business support services for SMEs in these sectors.*

Format: Presentations with Q&A

Working language: English

Speakers:

Mr. G. Shore, Mikroen Research Center, Albania (tbc)

**Mr. Evtim Stefanov, Executive Director, Regional Development Agency and Business Centre – Vidin, Bulgaria**

**Mr. Svetozar Kavardjiev, Manager, Agroproject SM, Bulgaria**

**Eng. Majda Ortan, Owner, CORA Agrohomedopatie, Slovenia**

Mr. G. Tsakanikas, Vet Consultant, Q & D, Greece (tbc)

Mr. Konstantinos Bliatsios, President&CEO, GeorgikiAnaptixi S.A., Greece (tbc)

Mr. Konstantinos Xafakis, Director, Foodgrade, Greece (tbc)

**Mr. Carmine Calvanese, Telematica Italia, Italy**

Moderator: Mr. Adolfo Colagiovanni, University of Molise, Italy

15:00 - 15:15 Coffee-break



# BULGARIA ECONOMIC FORUM

**15:15 - 16:15 Presentation of Business Practices and Cases in the Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sectors. Trends and Needs in the Provision of Business Support Services for SMEs in the Sectors. (Part II)**

Format: Presentations with Q&A

Working language: English

Speakers:

**Prof. Mariyana Ivanova, Vice-Rector, University of Agribusiness and Rural Development, Bulgaria**

**Ms. Ana Ambarkova, Macedonia Innovation Center, FYROM**

**Representative of Federation of Farmers in the Republic of Macedonia, FYROM**

**Mr. George Gkekas, Managing Director, Fooditerranean project, Greece**

**Dr. Francesco Di Lucia, Agronomist, Sanchem Holding, Italy**

**Dr. Gorgias Garofalakis, Senior Researcher, Knowledge 2 Innovation FP7 project - ETAT / Hellenic Food Authority, Greece (tbc)**

**Mr. George Dimokas, Director, Agriculture Farm Consulting – George Ch. Dimokas, Greece (tbc)**

Moderator: **Mr. Adolfo Colagiovanni, University of Molise, Italy**

**19:30 BEF Casual Party with Music and Networking Opportunities**

*(by invitations only)*

**15 November 2013 (Friday)**

**Hall 1**

**BULGARIA ECONOMIC FORUM**

**Sheraton Sofia Hotel Balkan**

**09:30 - 10:00 Registration**

**10:00 - 11:30 Major Infrastructure Projects: Priority Areas to be Funded during the New Programme period 2014-2020**

Format: Round table with Q&A

Working language: Bulgarian

**H.E. Mrs. Desislava Terzieva, Minister of Regional Development of the Republic of Bulgaria (tbc)**

**H.E. Mr. Danail Papazov, Minister of Transport, Information Technology and Communications of the Republic of Bulgaria (tbc)**

**Eng. Stefan Chaykov, Chairman of the MB, Road Infrastructure Agency (tbc)**

**Mr. Assen Antov, Chairman of the MB, National Company Strategic Infrastructure Projects (tbc)**

**Mr. Stilyan Krotnev, Director, Strategic Development and Investment Projects Directorate, National Railway Infrastructure Company**

**Mr. Angel Zaubrtov, Deputy Director General, Bulgarian Ports Infrastructure Company**

**10:20 - 10:50 OP Regional Development 2014-2020**

Format: Presentation with Q&A



# BULGARIA ECONOMIC FORUM

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**Mrs. Snezhina Petrova, Acting Director, DG Programming of the Regional Development, Ministry of Regional Development of the Republic of Bulgaria**

**11:00 - 11:30 OP Environment 2014-2020**

Format: Presentation with Q&A

**Mrs. Malina Kroumova, Director, Cohesion Policy for Environment Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria**