

БОСНА И ХЕРЦЕГОВИНА
МИНИСТАРСТВО СПОЉНЕ ТРГОВИНЕ
И ЕКОНОМСКИХ ОДНОСА



BOSNA I HERCEGOVINA ENGLISH only
MINISTARSTVO VANJSKE TRGOVINE I
EKONOMSKIH ODNOSA

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It is my great pleasure to have the opportunity to participate at this event addressing important issues such as energy and environment.

Energy sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of the main pillars for the further economic development of the country. After the reconstruction of infrastructure, damaged during the 1992-95 conflict, internal energy market in Bosnia and Herzegovina have entered phase of liberalisation and integration into European single energy market. Key principle of the sectorial reform is implementation of European legislation and practice.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has ratified number of international conventions, treaties and agreements, whose goals are to implement new policies and practices in the fields of energy market liberalisation, renewable energy, energy efficiency, security of energy supply, environmental protection, climate change and sustainable development. Implementation of such policies requires time, resources and good governance. In this, we are also giving our contribution to the global processes as well.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of the nine Contracting Parties of the Energy Community. In October 2012 Ministers of the Energy Community have adopted Decision by which all Contracting Parties are obliged to bring into force laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with EU Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources. Targets have been identified for all nine contracting parties. In the case of Bosnia Herzegovina, share of energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy has to be increased from existing 34% to challenging 40% by 2020.

With new legal and institutional framework and supporting mechanisms we are trying to create investment climate for new investments in renewable energy production, particularly in hydropower. Hydropower generation contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, utilization of indigenous energy source, reduction of import dependence, security of supply, local and regional socio-economic development. However, hydropower generation can have substantial negative impacts on the aquatic ecology, natural scenery and ecosystems. Thus, hydropower development needs to respect the principles of sustainability, taking into account environmental, social and economic factors in an equally balanced way.

Implementation of new innovative and challenging policies in energy and environmental sectors would be more effective if they are priority not only at the national but also at the regional level. Thus, we believe that various formats of regional cooperation should be established.

Lessons learned in this respect do exist. In our opinion activities under the Energy Community or the International Commission for Protection of Danube River are good examples.

The OSCE, as an organization that fosters cooperation and dialogue, can and should have a role in facilitating regional cooperation. In the southeast European region, this can be achieved with the assistance of the OSCE field missions.