

## Conference “Energy Efficiency Investment Mechanisms” in Bulgaria



Panel “International Policy Practices for Energy Efficiency” at the conference (Photo: Bulgarian School of Politics “Dimitry Panitza”)

### Background

As a member of the EU, Bulgaria recognizes energy efficiency as a high level priority by the Government, President and business. Recently the President and the Government of Bulgaria reconfirmed their commitment to that, thus making it one of the major driving forces for the socio-economic development of Bulgaria.

Although much has been done in the area after the Bulgarian accession to the EU Bulgaria still has the lowest energy efficiency in the EU. Bulgaria has EU emission reduction commitments and energy efficiency is the best way to address them, but financial mechanisms to support respective investments are not in place.

### Project

The aim of the project was to define suitable policy and financial mechanisms that could bring sufficient investment flows into energy efficiency projects in the building sector and the industry in Bulgaria.

At the conference “Energy Efficiency Investment Mechanisms” the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) presented experiences with energy efficiency approaches in Germany and an overview over financial support programmes of the German Federal Government. Furthermore information was given about the relevance of energy efficiency measures for the energy policy concept of Germany as well as for the European and global climate protection activities.

The conference was held on 14.11.2012 at the premises of the German Embassy in Sofia. It was opened by the Bulgarian Minister of Economy, Energy and Tourism. Participants of the conference’s panels represented inter alia BMU, the Presidency of Bulgaria, the Bulgarian Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, the University of Oxford and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). One of the project’s results is a systematizing overview over funding mechanisms for energy efficiency investments in Bulgaria that was prepared by the Bulgarian School of Politics “Dimitry Panitza”.

All relevant information about the conference is uploaded in English and Bulgarian language at the website of the project:

<http://energy-conference.schoolofpolitics.org/>.

- Target country: Bulgaria
- Duration: 09 - 11/2012
- Beneficiaries: Ministry for Environment and Water, Ministry of Economy, Energy and Tourism, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, national and local political actors, private sector companies, non-governmental organisations
- Implementing organisation: Bulgarian School of Politics „Dimitry Panitza“
- Project number: 22816