



**PRESS RELEASE ON
THE PARTNERSHIP OF THE BSEC PERMIS IN ORGANIZING
THE SEE ECO EXHIBITIONS AND CONFERENCES 2019
(Sofia, 16-18 April 2019)**

The 15th edition of the *South-East European Conferences and Exhibitions on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Smart Cities, Waste Management and Recycling*, organized by *Via Expo Ltd.*, took place in Sofia on 16-18 April 2019, in partnership with the *Permanent International Secretariat (PERMIS)* of the *Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC)*.

The Official Opening Session of the 15th edition was chaired by Ms. Desislava NIKOLOVA, Marketing Manager of *Via Expo Ltd.* The representative of BSEC PERMIS, Ambassador Traian CHEBELEU, addressed the session, informing about the BSEC activities in the field of green energy and the potential of the Organization to contribute to the development of regional cooperation in this field.

Within the framework of the events, BSEC PERMIS and the *Energy Policy and Development Center (KEPA)* of the *National and Kapodistrian University* of Athens (coordinator of the "*BSEC Green Energy Network*"), organized the "*BSEC Green Energy Investment Forum*" with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Representatives of governmental authorities, the academic sector and of the Bulgarian business community presented national projects on the development of Green Energy, open to domestic and/or foreign investments. Representatives of the *European Bank for Reconstruction and Development* and of the *European Investment Bank Group* presented information on Green Energy financial opportunities, the available green financing instruments and green economy financing facilities. The presentations were followed by an open exchange of views and lively discussions.

Furthermore, during the parallel conferences and workshops, government representatives in charge with the development of green energy, business executives and prominent experts exchanged views on the latest updates on legislation, financing, good practices and investment opportunities.

Environmentally friendly products and technologies were exhibited, in more than 100 stands, by producers and traders from various States during the event. For the first time a BSEC stand was also present in one of the Exhibition halls, providing information material and leaflets on BSEC activities in the area of Green Energy.