



IENE to Organize a Workshop on Bulgarian Green Energy in Sofia next October

Given the phenomenal development of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) in Bulgaria over the last five years and consistent efforts by government and NGO's alike to further raise public awareness on the need for energy efficiency and the introduction of RES at all levels, the Institute of Energy for South East Europe in association with the Bulgarian Photovoltaic Association, the Bulgarian Wind Energy Association and other leading Bulgarian RES and energy efficiency organizations is convening a workshop on "Green Energy in Bulgaria: Current Situation and Future Outlook". This one day intensive workshop will take place in Sofia on October 10th, 2012 at the Sheraton Hotel, and its scope is to discuss the current situation and asses future RES prospects.

The need to meet the European targets of 20-20-20, the new developments following the announcement by the Bulgarian government of significant cuts to feed-in tariffs for wind and solar PV, the lack of sufficient grid connections for large-scale renewable projects, as well as the government's long-term commitment to achieve greater energy independence are some important issues that will to be discussed during the workshop. On the other hand, a new Green industry in the building sector as well as the continuous promotion of energy efficiency policies is now fast developing in Bulgaria aspiring to meet demands for new installations both at an industrial and domestic level.

The objectives of this one day IENE workshop is to discuss the latest research and market developments in the Bulgarian renewable energy sector, address the policy making issues and propose viable solutions to reduce administrative, financial and other non-technical barriers hindering investments in renewable energy in Bulgaria. The workshop will include contributions from senior Bulgarian government officials, energy experts, company executives and representatives from solar, biomass, wind, geothermal and energy efficiency associations. The workshop topics will cover a wide range of RES sources including wind, solar, (PV and thermal) and geothermal energy, biofuels, small hydro, co-generation as well as energy efficiency.

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