

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Financial and Investment Support for SMEs”

Sofia International Money Expo - SIM Expo 2025

SOFIA - REGIONAL FINANCIAL HUB

14 October, 2025, Bohemia Hall, 6th floor, TZUM, Sofia

PROGRAM

09:00–9:30	Registration and coffee
9:30–10:00	Official Opening <i>Moderator: Mr. Vladimir Tomov, Chairman of the Investment Council to the BCCI</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ European Commissionaire/Representation of the European Commission ✚ Minister of Innovation and Growth ✚ Minister of Economy and Industry ✚ Mr. Vasil Tersiev – Mayor of Sofia Municipality ✚ Representative of European Investment Bank /EIB/ ✚ Dr. Boyko Takov – Executive Director of the Bulgarian Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion Agency /BSMEPA/ ✚ Mr. Tsvetan Simeonov, Chairman of the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry /BCCI/
10:00–11:00	Financial instruments in support of SMEs <i>Moderator: Mrs. Lilyana Pavlova, Vice President, European Investment Bank (2019-2023)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Mr. Teodor Radonov, representative office of European Investment Bank in Bulgaria ✚ Mrs. Manuela Naessl, Head of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in Bulgaria ✚ Mrs. Svetoslava Georgieva - Chairperson на European Innovation Council Fund, member of the Investment Committee of InvestEU ✚ Mr. Alexander Georgiev, Executive Director, Fund of Funds ✚ Mr. Tsanko Arabadzhiev, Executive Director Bulgarian Development Bank ✚ Mrs. Larisa Manastirli, Director Financial Institutions, BSTDB
11:00–11:15	Coffee break

11:15-11:30	<p>Big Funds for the small and medium-sized businesses – European SME financing programs</p> <p>✚ Mrs. Iliyana Ilieva, Director European Funds for Competitiveness, Ministry of Innovation and Growth</p>
11:30-12:30	<p>Equity Investment to support business growth</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Martin Gikov, Chairman of the Board of JEREMIE Bulgaria</i></p> <p>✚ Mr. Hristo Stoyanov, Regional Manager, EIF for Bulgaria</p> <p>✚ Mr. Max Gurvits, Board member, Bulgarian Equity Venture Capital Association</p> <p>✚ Mr. Stoyan Nedin, Managing Partner, Vitosha Ventures</p> <p>✚ Mrs. Natalia Petrova, Managing Partner, Bayena Ventures</p> <p>✚ Mr. Pavel Velkov, Managing partner, Morningside Hill</p> <p>✚ Representative of the Bulgarian Stock Exchange</p> <p>✚ Representative of Regional Fund</p>
12:30–13:30	Lunch break
13:30–14:30	<p>Foreign direct investments – benefits for the business and stimulus for the economy</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mrs. Gabriela Dimitrova, Director “International Cooperation and International Organizations” in BCCI</i></p> <p>✚ Mrs. Mila Nenova, Executive Director, Invest Bulgaria Agency</p> <p>✚ Dr. Maria Hristova, Senior Executive Director, Invest Sofia Agency</p> <p>✚ Mr. Ahmed Nasr, CEO BDS Holding, Antika World</p> <p>✚ Mr. Efstathios Sideris, President of the Foreign Investors Council Greece</p> <p>✚ Mr. Milen Hristov, Manager, Electrohold EPC, member of the board of Electrohold Sales and Electrohold Trade</p>
14:30-15:30	<p>Green and Social Investments</p> <p><i>Moderator: Dr. Dochka Vasileva, Head of “Project information and financing” Division at the Fund of Funds</i></p> <p>✚ Dr. Kiril Velitchkov, Director “European Projects and Financial Instruments” of UBB and UBB Interlease</p> <p>✚ Mrs. Kalina Angelova, Manager EU funds, Unicredit Bulbank</p> <p>✚ Mrs. Diana Aladzhova, Managing partner Silverline Capital</p> <p>✚ Representative of SIS Credit</p> <p>✚ Mrs. Monika Stanisheva, Green Transition Forum</p>
15:30-16:30	<p>Support of SME exports - financial, insurance and guarantee instruments</p> <p><i>Moderator: Diana Miteva, Advisor, DBank</i></p> <p>✚ Mr. Galabin Galabov, Executive Director, Bulgarian Export Insurance Agency</p> <p>✚ Mr. Rafi Shirinyan, Regional Credit and CEO Bulgaria, Tradewind</p> <p>✚ Mr. Svetoslav Georgiev, Commercial Director, Ebury Bulgaria.</p>

Working languages: Bulgarian and English with simultaneous translation