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THE NEWLY APPOINTED AMBASSADOR OF BIH TO FRANCE VISITED FIPA







...AND MORE ACTIVITIES...





THE NEWLY APPOINTED AMBASSADOR OF BIH TO FRANCE VISITED FIPA

In preparation for the diplomatic mission, the newly appointed Ambassador of BiH to France Kemal Muftić visited the Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of BiH (FIPA) in order to have information about current economic and investment cooperation between the two countries.

The FIPA Director Gordan Milinić informed the Ambassador Muftić about the Agency's work on attracting foreign investments and opportunities for investing in BiH.

It was pointed out that the current level of investments from France is not at a satisfactory level, including trade exchange, and that economic diplomacy should give its contribution in order to improve the situation in these areas.

According to the Central Bank of BiH, foreign investments from France, as of December 2016, amounted to 21.4 million BAM or 11 million EUR, representing a share of 0.2% in the overall state of DFI. During 2017, there were no registered investments from this country.

The Ambassador is expected to establish cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce of France, business professional associations and other relevant institutions in order to try to animate the French business community to invest in BiH.





BULGARIAN INVESTMENTS IN SOLAR ENERGY

The Director of the Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of BiH (FIPA) Erdinch Ramadan, representative of Lada Nar Ltd from Bulgaria, and the Ambassador of BiH to Bulgaria HE Radomir Bogdanović to discuss investment opportunities in the BH energy sector, with focus on solar energy.

Mr Ramadan in Bulgaria owns several smaller solar power plants, and he is interested in expanding his business in this area.

Representatives of the FIPA informed the Bulgarian investor about the possibilities for investing in the energy sector, currently available projects, and the comparative advantages that BiH has compared to neighbouring countries, when it comes to this sector.

Tomorrow is planned a visit to the owners of solar power plants in BiH for talks and the possibility for establishing cooperation.





Kuwaiti investor interested in investing in road infrastructure projects in BiH

The Director of the Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of BiH (FIPA) Gordan Milinić received Kuwaiti investor Abdulrahman Alhumoud to discuss the possibility for investing in road infrastructure projects in BiH (construction of roads, airports, ports), whose value exceeds 15 million BAM.

In addition to road infrastructure projects, the Kuwaiti investor expressed interest in projects in the field of the food production and tourism in BiH.

The Representatives of FIPA presented to the investor the currently available projects from the mentioned sectors, and emphasized that they will provide additional information after the investor analyses the submitted projects. FIPA is available to foreign investors for any type of assistance it can provide within its jurisdiction.





Visit to foreign companies in Visoko

On Tuesday, March 20, 2018, within the post-investment support to foreign investors two meetings were held with the representatives of companies Geoviva Ltd Visoko and Paradajz Ltd Visoko located in the Municipality of Visoko.

In addition to the representatives of the Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of BiH of BiH (FIPA), as members of the Collaborative Network, the meeting was attended by Suada Koljenović and Dženita Begić on behalf of the Municipality of Visoko.

Firma Geoviva d.o.o. is owned by a German investor and has been registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina since 2013. It currently has 14 employees, and in the following period they plan to expand the existing tourist capacities, and to increase the number of employees. The business environment in BiH is assessed as good, and the services and support they received from institutions at various levels of government, are in line with their expectations.

Another visited company Paradajz Ltd is owned by the Arabian investor Alkasim Bedde, who has been staying and successfully operating in the territory of the Municipality of Visoko for five years. He opened the same company in Austria, and the main headquarters is in Dubai. The production of agricultural products, trade and storage is the core business of the company, and it currently employs 7 workers. They are satisfied with the business environment in BiH, and the reinvestment and expansion of existing capacities is their plan for the next three years.

The tourism sector is one of the growing sectors in BiH, which is confirmed by the diversified offer of tourist capacities and the natural beauty of our country, and investments in the mentioned sector bring positive business results.





The Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FIPA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Foreign Investment Agency of Austria (ABA) with the aim to improve economic cooperation between the two countries.

Within the framework of mutual assistance and support, the Agency will promote activities related to international economic and trade cooperation, and will exchange their experiences in promoting and attracting investments.

They shall exchange available information, promotional materials and other documents relating to the fulfilment of the objectives of this Memorandum.

They will inform each other about organizing investment conferences and business events in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Austria.

Establishing cooperation with similar agencies and signing a Memorandum of Cooperation contributes to promoting the possibilities of the BiH economy in foreign business circles, drawing attention to the BH potentials, and affirmation of the possibilities for investing BiH.





The Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FIPA) and the Association Bit Alijansa for Information Technologies signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the aim to promote the information technology sector of Bosnia and Herzegovina, its possibilities for attracting foreign investors and importance for economic growth of the country.

Bearing in mind the strong growth that the IT sector has recorded recent years in BiH, FIPA and Bit Alijansa will contribute to further improve the economic opportunities of this sector, and to improve the legal framework for its development and attraction of new foreign investors. They will also work on joint promotion of this sector both in BiH and abroad, and will encourage and coordinate research and development of technical and technological achievements.

This domain of economy is growing day by day and has all the preconditions to become the driving force of economic development, and reducing unemployment. It is also a sector that can assist countries in transition effectively in technological progress but also participate in industrial development of the country.

Bit Alijansa is the umbrella association of 29 IT companies operating in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The member companies currently employ more than 2000 employees and the goal of the activities that Bit Alijansa implements, is to reduce the deficit of qualified staff and to educate experts in the IT sector. By continuously promoting the IT sector and the potentials created within it, the Bit Alijansa encourages young people to choose software engineering as their career choice.





EGYPTIANS ARE INTERESTED IN INVESTING IN WOOD AND ENERGY SECTORS

The FIPA Director of the Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of BiH (FIPA) Gordan Milinić talked with the Ambassador of Egypt to BiH, H.E. Hala Bishlawy on the possibilities for improving the economic cooperation between the two countries and increasing Egyptian investments in BiH.

The Ambassador Bishlawy pointed out that there was interest of the Egyptian investors in investing in the wood and energy sector in BiH, and the production of medical materials. Egypt's businessmen are interested in coming to BiH to get information on investment opportunities, and it is therefore agreed to work together to organize a BiH-Egypt Economic Forum during 2018.

It was agreed to inform the Chamber of Commerce and the Association of Employers of Egypt about Bosnia and Herzegovina and possibilities for establishing closer cooperation between the two countries.

The Egyptian Embassy in BiH will allow that Egyptian journalists who visits the Embassy and BiH, to pays visit to FIPA in order to agree on the publication of BiH promotional texts in Egyptian media.

According to data from the Central Bank of BiH, the level of investment from Egypt to BiH amounts to 14 million BAM.

FIPA BUSINESS NEWS >



THE FIRST WIND FARM IN BIH HAS BEEN PUT INTO OPERATION



BIH WON THE THIRD PLACE AS REGION OF THE FUTURE FOR THE FOREIGN INVESTMENTS









The first wind farm in BiH, WF Mesihovina, was put into operation on 14 March, 2018. The investment value is about 82 million EUR.

The project was initiated by Elektroprivreda HZHB in 2004, within which measurements of wind strength were carried out on ten locations, out of which three were selected as perspective, and the priority was given to the locality of Mesihovina, in the Municipality of Tomislavgrad.

"WF Mesihovina is located in the central part of the Municipality of Tomislavgrad, it has 22 wind turbines with a total installed capacity of 50.6 MW and an annual production of about 165.17 GWh. With an average household consumption of 6000 kilowatt hours a year, WF Mesihovina can supply electricity to about 27.500 households ".

The ceremony was attended by numerous officials, including the BiH Presidency Chairman Dragan Čović, the Federation of BiH Prime Minister Fadil Novalić and many others.





BIH WON THE THIRD PLACE AS REGION OF THE FUTURE FOR THE FOREIGN INVEST-MENTS

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Magazine ranked Bosnia and Herzegovina at the 3rd place as the region of the future for attracting foreign investments by operating expenses for 2018, based on the cooperation and information provided by Foreign Investment Promotion Agency of BiH (FIPA) about economic and investment potentials of our country.

As the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the FIPA Director Gordan Milinić received today in Cannes the prize of the mentioned Magazine that ranked Bosnia and Herzegovina at the 3rd position in the category of medium-sized European regions for foreign investments. Also, as a representative of BiH, he was granted the recognition for the West Herzegovina Canton and Bijeljina and Zvornik.

This significant acknowledgment is another proof that Bosnia and Herzegovina is a profitable location for foreign investments, and with solving the major shortcomings, which cannot be compensated by promotional activities, it could realize a larger inflow of foreign direct investments.

In competition with 481 locations, among the top 10 investment destinations in a 7 different categories in terms of price competitiveness, FDI strategy and economic potential, were Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Republika Srpska as one of BiH's entities, the West Herzegovina Canton, and Bijeljina, Prijedor and Zvornik. For making decision on the designation of the best European cities and regions, the expert evaluation team has taken into account criteria such as economic potentials, investment profitability, human resources, quality of life, business environment, and the existence of a strategy for attracting investments. Positioning on the prestigious top list of European cities and regions of the future is a direct recommendation to potential investors about the regions to invest in.





THE FIRST INTERACTIVE PORTAL FOR THE DIASPORA FROM BIH WAS PROMOTED

The first interactive portal for diaspora from Bosnia and Herzegovina, owned by the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH, was launched in Sarajevo. It was established for the purpose of implementing the Policy on Cooperation with Emigration, ie improving communication and information exchange between the BiH diaspora and BiH.

The portal dijaspora.mhrr.gov.ba was created within the project "Diaspora for Development", which is a project of the Government of Switzerland and the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH in partnership with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in BiH.

Semiha Borovac, Minister of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH, Andrea Rauber Saxer, Swiss Ambassador to BiH, and Nirvana Pištoljević, President of the Bosnian Academy of American Studies of Arts and Sciences (BHAAAS) spoke on the promotion of the interactive web portal for the diaspora from BiH.

The primary goal of this portal is to establish the two-way communication between the state of BiH and its diaspora. This portal is an expression of the will and the idea of emigration to create such a portal that would be a common point of communication.

In addition to news, the portal will provide the BiH diaspora with documents, project information and the possibility to express their ideas, their projects and thus to participate in the creation of public policy in BiH and in policies that are important for emigration, and in such a way, to influence the economic development of BiH

The Bosnian Diaspora is a source of information, skills and values that can be of benefit to their homeland, and many of them already show interest in helping BiH.

Being the crossroads of many civilizations, Bosnia and Herzegovina is rich with archaeological remains, from the Neolithic, Roman, Illyrian and Medieval Periods.

The most specific and well known are the hand-carved tombstones (stećak) that date back over 700 years to the Middle Ages. These unique monuments of ancient native artistic tradition, which are scattered all around Bosnia and Herzegovina, have become almost a national symbol. In addition, there are numerous remains of medieval towns and castles from same period.



Mostar Old Bridge, in the Old Town in the Very Centre of Mostar, was built in 1566, by the Ottoman architect, Mimar Hajrudin, who erected this stone bridge in what was then just a small Turkish outpost in southern Bosnia and Herzegovina.

THE BRIDGE SPANS THE EMERALD GREEN WATERS OF THE NERETVA RIVER AND CAME TO BE KNOWN AS "STARI MOST", OR OLD BRIDGE. THE OUTPOST GREW INTO A CITY AND WAS EVENTUALLY NAMED AFTER THE BRIDGE - MOSTAR, OR "KEEPER OF THE BRIDGE." TODAY, THIS BRIDGE IS INCLUDED IN THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST. (READ MORE ON: WWW.UNESCO.ORG)



Počitelj is a unique settlement, listed as a potential unesco heritage site. The Hadi-Alija Mosque has been reconstructed as well as the Šišman-Ibrahimpašina medresa and the Gavran Kapetanovi house, all of which are open to visitors.

THE MOST STRIKING OBJECT IN POČITELJ IS THE SAHAT-KULA, A SILO-SHAPED FORT THAT TOWERS FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL ABOVE THE TOWN. IT HOUSED WATCHMEN AND MILITARY TO GUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE INVASION FROM THE NERETVA VALLEY. BESIDES ITS STUNNING ORIENTAL ARCHITECTURE AND OTTOMAN FEEL, POITELJ HOSTS THE LONGEST OPERATING ART COLONY IN SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE.



National Park Hutovo Blato, an oasis of Peace, is situated in Southern Herzegovina and is a protected zone and important bird reserve.

THIS UNIQUE SUB-MEDITERRANEAN SWAMP OF SUPERB BEAUTY AND IMPORTANCE ACCOMMODATES BIRDWATCHERS, NATURE LOVERS AND FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN ALIKE.

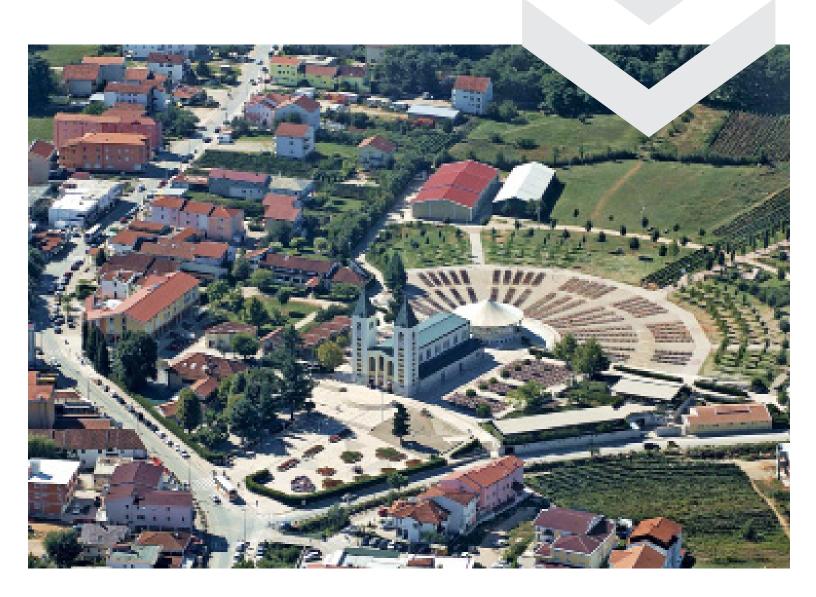
(READ MORE ON: WWW.BHTOURISM.BA)



Međugorje is located in the mountains near Mostar.

THE SMALL TOWN IS INCREDIBLY POPULAR WITH CATHOLIC PILGRIMS - MILLIONS OF PILGRIMS HAVE VISITED THE SITE SINCE 1981, WHEN A SMALL GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE BEGAN REPORTING SEEING VISIONS OF THE VIRGIN MARY ON A NEARBY HILLSIDE.

(READ MORE ON: WWW.MEDJUGORJE.HR)



Perućica in Sutjeska National Park, is one of only two remaining mediaeval forests in Europe.

It is often described as an ancient outdoor museum with a magical forest of beautiful 50-meter high spruce and beech, 200 to 300 year old, trees. The forest is a true gem in terms of wildlife and the large number of endemic plants.

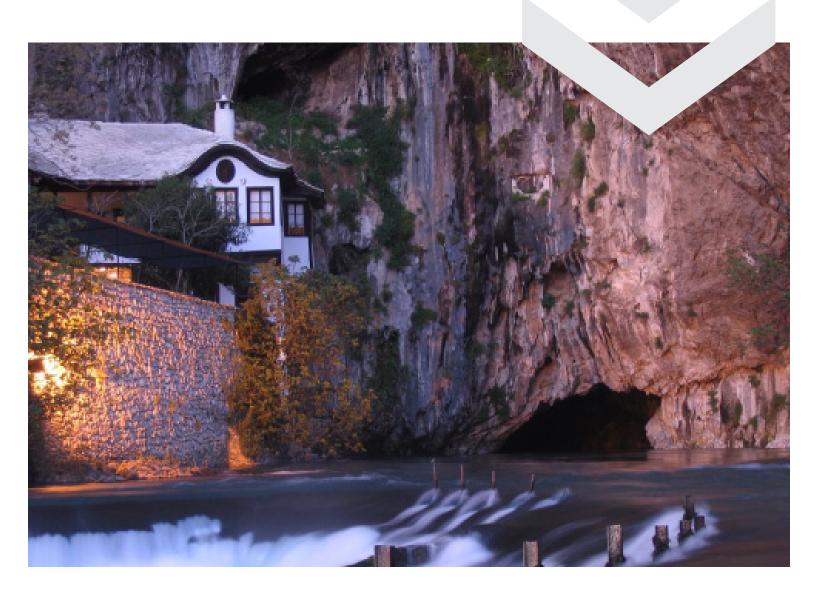
(READ MORE ON: WWW.GREENVISIONS.BA)



Blagaj Buna is one of the finest examples of an underground karst river. It flows out of a 200 m cliff wall to become the Buna River.

Unsurprisingly, the Ottoman sultan was impressed, and ordered a tekija to be built right next to it. This 16th century house/monastery was built for the Dervish cults and is still one of the most mystical places in all of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

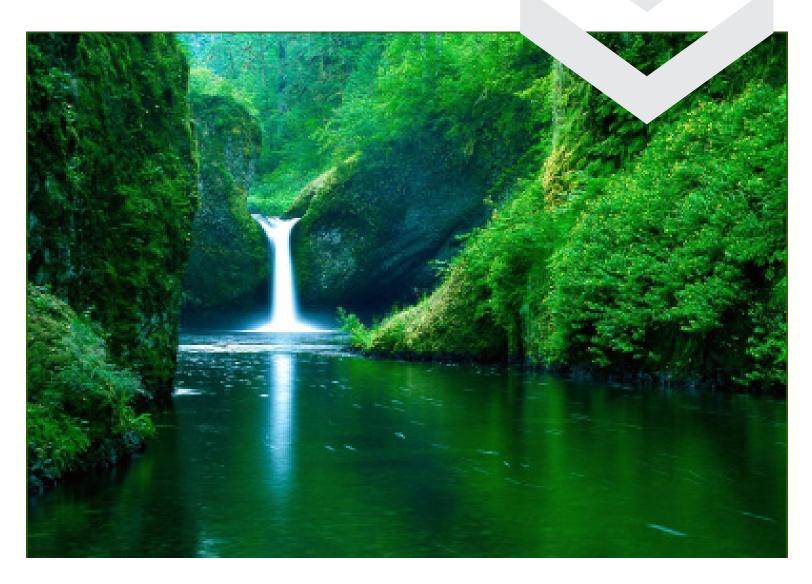
(READ MORE ON: WWW.BHTOURISM.BA)



Rakitnica River Canyon is one of the deepest and most profound gorges in Europe. It is a natural wonderland. The entire length of the canyon is lined with endemic types of flora and fauna. Bears, wolves, wild boar, pine martins, and wild goats all take refuge in this difficult to access canyon.

As many as 32 endemic plants, flowers, and trees can be found in this tiny region of the Dinaric Alps. The crystal clear water, fed by the high mountains above, is potable width=100% for the whole length of the canyon region.

(READ MORE ON: WWW.BHTOURISM.BA)



V JETRENICA CAVES, NEAR THE SMALL TOWN OF RAVNO AND THE MEDIEVAL ORTHODOX MONASTERY OF ZAVALA IS THE LARGEST CAVE SYSTEM DISCOVERED IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA. THIS EXTENSIVE CAVE SYSTEM HAS OVER 6 KILOMETRES OF CHANNELS, AND THE STUNNING MAIN CHANNEL STRETCHES OVER 2.5 KILOMETRES.

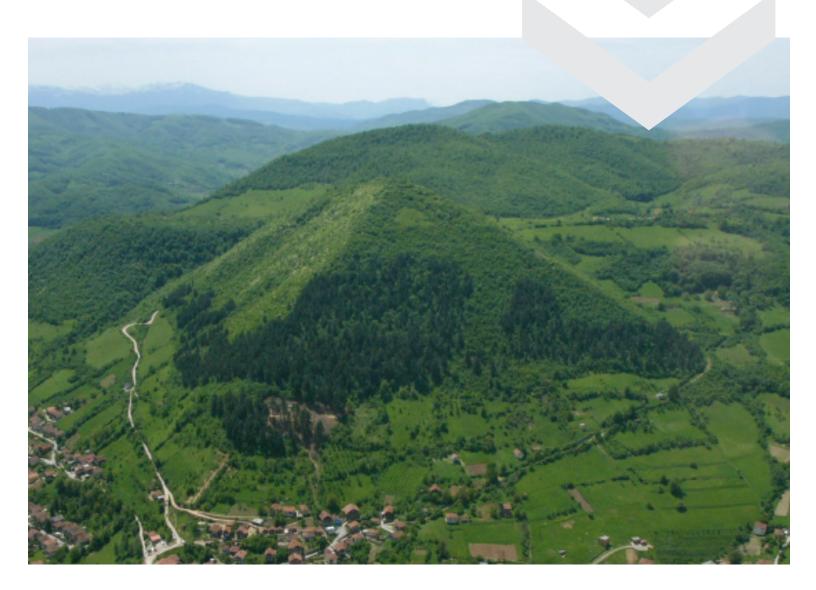
Amongst the many archeological discoveries are the ancient cave drawings of bears and leopards that are estimated to be over 10,000 years old. The many small lakes in the caves are home to endemic types of shellfish only found in deep underground aquifer systems. (Read more on: www. bhtourism.ba)



Archaeological excavations began recently near Sarajevo in the Visoko Valley at what some believe to be a newly discovered pyramid complex, the first such monumental ancient structures found in Europe.

In 2005, Semir Osmanagić put forward his theory that a 100-meter geometrically-shaped hill with evenly shaped sides and corners that point north, south, east and west is an ancient man-made structure.

(READ MORE ON: WWW.PIRAMIDASUNCA.BA)





ABOUT US:

FIPA MISSION:

FOREIGN INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY (FIPA) OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (BIH) IS A STATE AGENCY ESTABLISHED WITH THE MISSION TO:

- -ATTRACT AND MAXIMIZE THE FLOW OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT INTO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, AND ENCOURAGE EXISTING FOREIGN INVESTORS TO FURTHER EXPAND AND DEVELOP THEIR BUSINESSES IN BIH.
- -FACILITATE THE INTERACTION BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS, AND HAVE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN POLICY AD-VOCACY IN ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE TO CONTINUALLY IMPROVING ENVIRONMENT FOR BUSINESS INVESTMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- -Promote a positive image of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a country that is attractive to foreign investors.

FIPA SERVICES

CLUDING:

The Agency offers practical assistance in dealing with government institutions, by working directly with investors and, more structurally, by assisting the government in improving the legal framework for foreign investments. FIPA also assist investors to develop contacts with the public and private sector.

THE FACT-SHEETS WITH INVESTMENT-RELATED INDICATORS, MATCHMAKING AND SECTOR STUDIES, ELABORATED BY FIPA'S EXPERTS AND INDEPENDENT CONSULTANTS, ENSURE THAT INVESTORS ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT BIH PRESENTS. MOREOVER, FIPA WORKS ALONGSIDE THE EMBASSIES AND DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA THAT CAN ALSO HELP YOU EXPLORE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR COUNTRY. FIPA PROVIDES DATA, INFORMATION, ANALYSIS AND ADVICE ON THE BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT, IN-

- -THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT
- -INVESTMENT INCENTIVES
- -ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS TRENDS

FIPA IDENTIFIES AND PRESENTS AVAILABLE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- -INVESTMENT PROJECTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT-PHASE OR READY FOR IMPLEMENTATION
- -COMPANIES IN THE PROCESS OF PRIVATISATION
- -LOCAL COMPANIES SEEKING FOREIGN PARTNERS

FIPA ASSISTS BOTH POTENTIAL INVESTORS AND THOSE THAT HAVE ALREADY INVESTED IN THE COUNTRY THROUGH:

- -EFFECTIVE NETWORKING WITH BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR
- -LINKING WITH GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS TO FACILITATE INVESTMENT AND BUSI-NESS DEVELOPMENT
- -COOPERATION WITH LOCAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE THE IN-VESTMENT ENVIRONMENT

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT FIPA'S SERVICES, WHICH ARE ALL FREE OF CHARGE, CONTACT US DIRECTLY.

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