



EU SUPPORT TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFORM IN UKRAINE

The promotion of good governance and respect for the rule of law are fundamental principles in the partnership between the EU and Ukraine. A professional and politically neutral civil service is needed to promote these principles.

Successful implementation of public administration reform in Ukraine, together with the reform of civil service, will determine Ukraine's capacity to meet the conditions of the various EU-Ukraine agreements in force including the EU-Ukraine Association Agenda as well as the future EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, currently being negotiated.

Last month, the European Union launched a new Twinning project which will strengthen the training system for civil servants. The project will reinforce the institutional development of the National Academy of Public Administration of Ukraine and the Main Department of the Civil Service. Two Member States (France and Poland) will take part in the Twinning project.

The Ukrainian government has also made a request to the SIGMA programme (an EU-OECD programme which provides advice on reform) last year on Public Administration Reform. SIGMA prepared an assessment of the Government's draft concept paper on Public Administration Reform in March 2009. Based on these comments, a number of changes have been introduced into the initial draft, with further adaptations under way.

Additionally, the EU is preparing a Twinning project in the area of civil service reform in cooperation with the Main Department of the Civil Service of Ukraine. The EU also runs a number of projects and programmes in the fields of anti-corruption and judicial reform.



EU LAUNCHES A NEW PROJECT ON CIVIL SERVANTS TRAINING IN UKRAINE

On 17 December the EU-funded Twinning project "Support to the development and improvement of the civil servants training system in Ukraine" held a launching press conference. The project has a total budget of more than €1 million and started in October 2009 and will last 24 months. The representatives of the EU Delegation, Polish School of Public Administration, French Ecole Nationale d'Administration, National Academy of Public Administration and Main Department of the Civil Service presented the project during the event.

The project is aimed at modernising current civil servants training system in Ukraine through defining new strategic and policy framework regarding the training of officials and civil servants; improving organisational effectiveness of the NAPA and its four Regional Institutes; and enhancing training capacity of the National Academy with a focus on the development of professional skills and attitudes of civil servants.

The project experts will develop an institutional strategy for the National Academy and Regional Institutes based on a functional review and SWOT analysis; develop communication and marketing plan for the National Academy and Regional Institutes and support its initial implementation; prepare training managers for the in-service professional training; conduct training needs assessment in 5 ministries and 4 regional administrations; design and implement four tailor-made professional courses based on the needs assessment results in 9 pilot institutions to train 180 civil servants from central and regional state administrations...



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EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EU PROJECT CONTRIBUTES TO SECONDARY HEALTH CARE REFORM

On 17 December the EU-funded project "Support to Secondary Health Care Reform in Ukraine" organised a final conference to summarise and present the results of its work. The representatives of the EU Delegation, Ministry of Health, regional health care administrations, Academy of Medical Sciences, Institute of Strategic Research, participants from the project pilot regions took part in the event.



Starting in August 2007 the project supported activities of the government and specifically of the Ministry of Health in establishment of an effective, cost-efficient and equitable health care system in Ukraine. It supported Kharkiv, Poltava and Zhytomyr pilot regional authorities in infrastructural and organisational development of health system as well as improvement of the quality of the medical services.

One of the approaches to contribute to the fulfilment of the objective was support to establishment of the inter-territorial hospital unions that enables neighbouring rayons to re-allocate specific medical services between hospitals and other medical facilities, which may be used as an option to solve acute problems of health care delivery system in Ukraine. Experience and lessons learnt by EU Member States in the organisation of hospitals and network planning was profoundly studied and adapted in the proposed recommendations for implementation in Ukraine.

According to experts, for the successful implementation of the proposed models, there is a need for both political will and consensus on the necessity of the reforms and not only at the national, but also at the level of each community.

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EU BEST PRACTICES IN THE NEW BORDER GUARD CAREER DEVELOPMENT ACT

On 29 December the President of Ukraine signed the Decree No. 1115/2009 "Instructions for the Career Development of Citizens of Ukraine in the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine (SBGS)". The document was drafted, revised and amended with the active assistance of legal experts of the two joint EU-U.S. HUREMAS projects on Human Resources Management in the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine.



The SBGS' own legal act governs recruitment and subsequent service, signals support for measured EU-compliant human resources management reform. The EU has been a proponent of the Service's intention to become a European-style law enforcement agency with border management responsibilities, in part through aligning its career development framework with EU best practices.

The document pursuant to the recommendations of EU human resources specialists, stipulates that recruitment to the SBGS is the sole province of the SBGS itself, de-linking this process from the Ministry of Defence and its military commissariats. Additionally, the document introduces a competitive system of merit-based appointments to managerial positions; acknowledge personnel work hours in line with Ukrainian civil legislation; provide the possibility of long-term study abroad for SBGS personnel.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

15 JANUARY, 23 T. SHAMRYLA STREET, KYIV

The EU-funded project "Support to Secondary Health Care Reform in Ukraine" holds the award ceremony on the results of the National Journalist Contest "Changes in you may change the world".

More information at: <http://www.eu-shc.com.ua/>

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15 JANUARY, PRESIDENT HOTEL, KYIV

The EU-funded project "Equal Opportunities and Women's Rights in Ukraine" holds the press conference "10 Unknown Facts about Domestic Violence".

More information at: <http://gender.org.ua/>

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20 JANUARY, NATIONAL DRAGOMANOV PEDAGOGICAL UNIVERSITY, KYIV

The EU-funded National Tempus Office holds the nationwide Tempus Information Day 2009.

More information at: <http://tempus.org.ua/>

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21 JANUARY, PARUS BUSINESS CENTRE, KYIV

The EU-funded project "Implementation of Twinning Operations in Ukraine (ITO)" holds the closing conference.

More information at: <http://twinning.com.ua/>

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21 JANUARY, HOTEL DRUZHBA, LUGANSK

The EU-funded "Coal Sector Policy Support Programme" organises the workshop on approximation of Ukrainian and European Union Mining Legislation.

More information at: <http://eu-coalsector.com.ua/>

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27 JANUARY, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY LVIVSKA POLYTECHNIKA, LVIV

The EU-funded National Tempus Office holds the Tempus Information Day 2009 for West Ukraine.

More information at: <http://tempus.org.ua/>

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