



EU-UKRAINE CO-OPERATION IN CULTURE

As part of the Cross Border Co-operation Programme, the EU has been supporting two cultural projects between Chernivtsi oblast and Suceava region in Romania. The "Bukovina: Joint Cultural Heritage" project which held its final conference last month (see below) has a budget of €261,000 and has helped develop intercultural exchanges between the two regions. A second project "Creation of integrative tourist product for development of cultural tourism of Bucovina" (€631,000) is aimed at helping to develop cultural tourism in the region with an emphasis on the development and promotion of Khotyn Castle.

The EU is currently planning to develop its cultural co-operation with Ukraine and the countries of the Eastern Partnership. Later this year the EU will formally launch the Eastern Partnership Culture Programme.

The objectives of this €12 million programme are to strengthen regional links and dialogue on culture within the region of the Eastern Partnership, and with the EU, to support policy reform and modernisation of the cultural sectors in the Eastern Partnership region and to support awareness raising and cultural initiatives having a regional impact on sustainable economic and social development, democratisation, and enhanced inter-cultural dialogue. Component 1 will be launched in coming weeks and will include €3 million worth of technical assistance. Component 2, a €9 million call for grant proposals, should be launched before the end of the year.

Additionally, since Ukraine ratified the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression earlier this year, it has been eligible to participate in the Culture Programme Special Action for Third Countries. A call for proposals is ongoing for this programme at: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/funding/2010/call_strand_13_2010_en.php



EU PROJECT ON BUKOVINA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE SUMMARISES RESULTS

On 23 March the EU-funded project "Bukovina: Joint Cultural Heritage" held in Chernivtsi its closing conference. The project was implemented during 2 years by the Chernivtsi City Council in the framework of the Romania-Ukraine Cross-border Cooperation Programme. The Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira as well as officials of the Chernivtsi City Council took part in the event.

During his speech Ambassador Pinto Teixeira noticed that EU will continue to support projects aimed on creating positive climate in intercultural cross-border area and bring Ukraine closer to European values.

The project organised during its implementation the International Folk Festival "Bukovinian Meetings", the International Festival of Folk Crafts "Bukovinian Springs" and the Days of Cultural Dialogue Suceava-Chernivtsi.

Also the project organised intercultural exchanges, published books and produced a film about Bukovina, which was broadcasted on local TV, presented an international tourist route. Due to the project, new interesting traditions started in the region aimed at preserving the authentic culture and attraction of many tourists.

During his visit to Chernivtsi, Ambassador Pinto Teixeira also visited Khotyn city, where is implementing project aimed at enhancing tourist attractiveness of Khotyn fortress.

More information at: <http://brctsuceava.ro/>

Contact person: Tetiana Tatarchuk, e-mail: publ_rel@rada.cv.ua





EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EU ORGANISES A WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS AGREEMENTS WITH UKRAINE

On 25-26 March the European Economic and Social Committee of the European Commission in cooperation with the National Tripartite Social and Economic Council of Ukraine held in Kyiv a workshop, entitled "EU-Ukraine relations: the role of the civil society. Industrial change and economic crisis in Ukraine". The workshop was opened by the Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira.

The main objective of the workshop was to assess progress made in the ongoing EU-Ukraine negotiations and the civil society role in EU-Ukraine relations. In addition to this, the social consequences of economic crisis, developments in the area of social dialogue as well as the impact of economic crisis on the main industrial sectors were also discussed. Some 150 workshop participants welcomed good progress in the negotiations on the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and the provisions creating the basis for greater role and involvement of civil society.



More information at: http://www.eesc.europa.eu/index_en.asp

Contact person: Stanislav Topolnytsky, e-mail: stanislav.topolnytsky@ec.europa.eu

EU PROJECT OPENS A CENTRE FOR TEMPORARY HOLDING OF ILLEGAL MIGRANTS

On 7 April the EU-funded project "Capacity Building and Technical Support to Ukrainian Authorities to Effectively Respond to Irregular Transit-Migration" held in Kharkiv the opening ceremony of a new facility for temporary holding of apprehended illegal migrants. Two similar centres have already been opened in Sumy region in February while more two ones will be delivered in Odessa and Lugansk in coming months. Total costs of the five centres in amount of €260,000 were fully covered by the European Union.

All the centres are constructed from mobile modules which is a cost effective and flexible solution. In the long term the centres can be moved to other location if the migratory routes change in the future.

The mobile modules ensure all necessary standards for temporary stay of migrants. They fully conform to EU standards as well as to all relevant Ukrainian legislation. They offer separate rooms for men and women, a medical room and a room for interviewing the migrants. At the same time the centres offer proper working conditions for the State Border Guard Service to deal with initial identification of migrants.

Delivery of the centres was combined with full set of trainings and seminars on issues related to apprehension and detention of illegal migrants, including specific treatment of vulnerable migrants.

Contact person: Zdenek Belonoznik, e-mail: zdenek.belonoznik@icmpd-ua.org





EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

16 APRIL, LVIV

Launch of the EU-funded project MODEL-CIUDAD on energy consumption management in Lviv, Lutsk and Kamyanets-Podilskiy. Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira will attend the event.

More information at: <http://www.energie-cites.eu/>

Contact person: Elena Sergeeva, e-mail: sergeeva@keycommunications.ua, tel. (050) 332 43 30

16 APRIL, LVIV

Launch of the Road Safety Component of the EU-funded project "Support to the Integration of Ukraine in the Trans-European Transport Network TEN-T". Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira will attend the event.

More information at: <http://ten-t.org.ua/>

Contact person: Elena Sergeeva, e-mail: sergeeva@keycommunications.ua, tel. (050) 332 43 30

16 APRIL, LVIV

Handover of laboratory equipment to the State Research Centre in the framework of the EU-funded project "Implementation of Ukraine's Commitments under WTO and ENP Frameworks in the Rural Sector". Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira will attend the event.

More information at: <http://www.swap-rural.org.ua/>

Contact person: Elena Sergeeva, e-mail: sergeeva@keycommunications.ua, tel. (050) 332 43 30

14-15 APRIL, HOTEL RUS, KYIV

International Conference on "Integrated Border Management Achievements and Way Ahead" held by the EU-funded Border Assistance Mission EUBAM.

More information at: <http://www.eubam.org/>

Contact person: Matthew Taylor, e-mail: matthew.taylor@eubam.org, tel. (048) 236 52 74

20-22 APRIL, HOTEL RUS, KYIV

Courts and Society Summit: Working Together to Promote Public Trust and Confidence held by the project "Combating Corruption and Strengthening Rule of Law in Ukraine". Participation by Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira

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

Contact person: Yevgeniya Denisyeva, e-mail: edenisyeva@ukrainerol.org.ua, tel. (067) 266 19 00