



EU AND UKRAINE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

The "Copenhagen Accord" negotiated by 29 Heads of State in December contains a number of positive points, however the Accord falls short of the EU's ambition for Copenhagen as it is not the robust, legally-binding agreement that was expected. The EU's primary objective remains to reach such an agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.



According to the World Development Report 2010, released in advance of the UN conference on Climate change in Copenhagen, Ukraine is located in a region that suffers severely from climate change. The report forecasts that Eastern Europe and Central Asia will be hit by more frequent drought and floods. The report stresses that in Eastern Europe and Central Asia average temperatures have already increased in the last century by 1 degree in the south and by 2.9 degrees in the north. By mid-century, Ukraine, Poland and Hungary will have as many hot days as Sicily. The EU-funded "Support to Kyoto Protocol Implementation" project (SKPI) project supports the fight against climate change through the extension of the flexible mechanisms of the UNFCCC/Kyoto Protocol as well as the development of appropriate mitigation and adaptation strategies.

The €5 million project helps Ukraine and other former Soviet countries to combat climate change both by extending the use of mechanisms, such as the Clean Development Mechanism and Joint Implementation that are attached to the Kyoto Protocol, and by supporting the formulation of appropriate mitigation and adaptation strategies at each country level.

EU AND UKRAINE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

On 28 April the EU Delegation to Ukraine with the support of the "ENPI Info Centre" project organised the presentation "EU climate and energy policy: challenges beyond Copenhagen" in Odesa. University students and teachers, environmental researchers and scientists discussed the climate and energy policies of the European Union, including the EU's position at the Climate Change Conference in December 2010 in Copenhagen.



Head of Operations Section III of the EU Delegation, Hans Rhein and the Key Expert of EU-funded project "Support to Kyoto Protocol Implementation" Alexei Kokorin explained why the EU's primary objective remains to reach a robust, legally-binding agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. "The Copenhagen Accord consists of a range of positive moments, for example, recognizing of the priority task to prevent global temperature increase by 2°C, which is a crucial stage," said Hans Rhein.

More information at: <http://www.enpi-info.eu/>
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EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EU COAL SECTOR POLICY SUPPORT PROGRAMME FACILITATES DIALOGUE ON THE USE OF MINE WATER

On April 27 the EU-funded project "Coal Sector Policy Support Programme" held a round table on Mine Dewatering in Anthracite, Luhansk region. The thirty participants of the round table included representatives of Ministry of Coal Industry, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Luhansk Regional State Administration, Anthracite Municipality, the Sanitary-Epidemiological Agency and international financing agencies.



The purpose of the round table was to facilitate a dialogue between interested parties on the possible use of water from a closed mine in Anthracite town. In addition guest experts from Poland shared their experience in managing similar challenges in the Slansk region (Poland). The Mayor of Anthracite presented a project for dewatering of the mine in Anthracite, which was designed several years ago and is still not implemented. The dialogue at the round table contributed to better understanding of ways to get over the hurdles with construction of dewatering complex, and helped to take the process further towards completion. Technical presentations made during the roundtable, enabled policy discussions to lead to action.

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EU-FUNDED MIGRATION PROJECT COMPLETES TWO YEARS OF ACTIVITIES

On 26-27 April the EU-funded project "Capacity Building and Technical Support to Ukrainian authorities to Effectively Respond to Irregular Transit-Migration (ERIT)" held its final conference and official handover ceremony of equipment in Odesa.

The project under the ERIT programme provided the Odesa detachment of State Border Guard Service of Ukraine with a new temporary holding facility for illegal migrants. The establishment of the new centre has been financed by the European Union and six EU Member States under the project with a value of €60,000.

The new centre is one of five centres established under the project on the Eastern and Southern borders of Ukraine. The total amount of €260,000 provides basic European standards for up to 14 illegal migrants apprehended at the border and kept for initial screening for up to 10 days. In addition to the technical support, the project provided a full-scale training programme for the staff of all centres on both management and working levels.

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EU-OSCE PROJECT-DRAFTED ELECTION CODE PRESENTED IN PARLIAMENT

On 28 April the Draft Election Code was presented in the Ukrainian Parliament by the Parliamentary Committee on State Building and Local Self-government. The document was developed with the support of the EU-funded and OSCE-implemented project "Assistance in Further Strengthening of Election Processes in Ukraine". EU funding for this project is €3.5 million out of the total project budget of €4.7 million.

The presentation of the Draft Election Code, developed by a special expert working group established in 2008, brought together key stakeholders and experts, including representatives of the parliamentary factions and domestic and international organisations.

The experts supported the drafting process and facilitated communication between relevant actors, including parliamentarians, Central Election Commission members, and experts and representatives of Ukrainian non-governmental organisations. The participants discussed the draft and provided recommendations for the improvement of election processes in Ukraine. The development of the unified Election Code represents a major milestone of the EU-funded project and electoral reform in Ukraine.

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TAIEX PROJECT TEACHES HOW TO HANDLE FOOD CRISIS

On 28-29 April the EU "Technical Assistance Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX)" held a regional workshop on handling food crises/emergencies. The workshop was organised by the Technical Assistance Information Exchange Instrument in co-operation with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and Directorate General for Health and Consumers of the European Commission.

The workshop dealt with handling a food crisis and with the respective roles of the risk assessor, the risk communicator and the risk manager in the EU. The workshop dealt in particular with the tasks of the Directorate General for Health and Consumers, the EFSA and EU Member States in the event of a food crisis. Furthermore, participants of the workshop familiarised themselves with the functioning of the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF). As a part of the workshop, a case study about handling dioxin in pork case in Ireland was presented by Raymond Ellard, Chief Executive of Food Safety Authority, Ireland. According to the project experts, Ukraine, as a beneficiary country will soon have an opportunity to report on its existing crises handling systems. The Head of EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira welcomed the regional workshop participants and emphasized the importance of the food crisis handling systems for Ukraine.

**More information at <http://taix.ec.europa.eu/> or <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix>
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EU SUPPORTS GAS TRANSIT SAFETY AND SECURITY IN UKRAINE

On 28 April the EU-funded project "Safety and Security of main gas transit infrastructure" held its closing conference. The objective of this event was to summarise the outputs of the project regarding improvement of the security of gas supply for the beneficiary countries, as well as for the EU through the implementation of automated security, safety, and maintenance systems for gas transit and internal network lines.



The project lasted for 24 months and has been implemented in a number of EU neighbourhood countries, including Ukraine with overall budget of € 1 million. The project supported the improvement of internal gas supply security of beneficiaries as well as improved EU security and safety of supply through the implementation of automated security, safety and maintenance systems for gas transit and internal network lines, and the need to increase industry and government involvement in security of infrastructures, including generic technologies. Among results achieved by the project in Ukraine are establishing of Management Systems and Pilot Excellence System for gas transit facilities, implementing the European practice for estimation of gas losses, collection and processing of the incidents data, as well as training on safety and security systems for gas industry personnel.

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

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BORDER GUARDS STUDY THE INNOVATIVE TRAINING METHOD UNDER HUREMAS 2

On 12-16 April EU-US-funded and IOM-implemented project "Improving Integrated Border Management: Follow-up to Reinforcing the State Border Guard Service (SBGS) of Ukraine's Human Resources Management System (HUREMAS 2)" held a study visit for Ukrainian border guards to the Polish Border Guard's Koszalin Training Centre.



Seventeen training officials of the Ukrainian State Border Guard Service studied in Poland the innovative EU multiplication method of professional advancement of law enforcement personnel. Multiplication has acquitted itself in EU law enforcement structures as a versatile, cost-effective means of providing timely training to a wide swath of servicemen at their place of duty on various topics.

Non-instructor border guards, or "multipliers", are utilised to disseminate information and train their colleagues at the border. Multiplication training can be used to prepare service people for one-time events, such as the Euro 2012 Championship, and serves as a means to equip border guards with the knowledge to address dynamic, ever-changing border challenges.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

20 MAY, SIMFEROPOL AND SEVASTOPOL

Launch conferences of the EU-funded Joint Cooperation Initiative in Crimea. The Head of EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira, as well as Ambassadors of EU Member States in Ukraine will attend both events.

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22 MAY, KHERSON

Opening of the EU Information Centre at Kherson State University. The Head of EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira, as well as Ambassadors of EU Member States in Ukraine will attend the event.

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28 MAY, SVERDLOVSK

Visit of the Head of EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira, as well as Ambassadors of EU Member States in Ukraine to see infrastructure improved under the EU-funded projects "Sustainable Local Development in Ukraine" and "Support to Sustainable Regional Development".

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