



## GENDER EQUALITY IN THE WORKPLACE

The EU recently launched a National Competition entitled: "Equal Opportunities: Best employer 2010" (see below). The main message of the industry award is: "Success does not have a gender".

Despite the efforts already made by the national authorities, there is still a lot of work to do in order to implement gender equality in Ukraine in a sustainable way. Ukraine is not an exception. No matter how old, experienced, or well-educated, women are still routinely paid less than men – all over the world. According to EU statistics, in Member States such as Slovenia and Belgium the pay gap is less than 10%, however this rises to more than 25% in countries such as Estonia and Austria. In Ukraine the gender pay gap is also around 25%.

Gender equality matters first and foremost because it is profitable for business and beneficial for the economy. It also ensures well-being in the family and more broadly in the society. It also drives mutual respect and extends the protection of human rights. Additionally, discrimination against women provokes increases in poverty, propagates negative stereotypes and generates violence.

The EU-funded project "Gender Equality in the World of Work" is implemented in Ukraine by the International Labour Office. The Project aims to build the capacity of Ukrainian authorities and social partners for ensuring compliance with national and international commitments as to gender equality in the world of work, for progressively eliminating gender biases in employment policies and sexual harassment at the workplace, and for creating a supportive environment for women's economic empowerment and women's entrepreneurship.

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



## EU-FUNDED PROJECT LAUNCHES COMPETITION TO FIND BEST PRACTICE AMONG UKRAINIAN COMPANIES

On 24 September the EU-funded project "Women and children rights in Ukraine – Communication component" launched the first National Competition "Best Employer 2010: Equal Opportunities" to select Ukrainian companies with the best gender equality policies and to raise awareness of gender-related issues in the work place. From 1 October until 15 November companies can apply online at the web site [www.rivnist.in.ua](http://www.rivnist.in.ua) to take part in the contest which aims to highlight how Ukrainian companies are attempting to tackle discrimination based on sex.

"Bearing in mind that most of our time is spent at work, the issue of gender equality for Ukrainian society is crucial for our economic and social development," explained Ms. Galyna Zhukovska, Director of the Department of Family and Gender Policy of the Ministry for Family, Youth and Sports at the launch event. "That is why the Government of Ukraine is working with the European Union on this important topic."

The competition is jointly organised by the EU-funded project and the Ministry of Ukraine for Family, Youth and Sports. It is conducted under the auspices and with active support of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the joint project of the EU and International Labour Organisation "Equality of Women and Men and in the World of Work" and the European Business Association. At the end of the competition, finalists will be selected in five categories with the winners announced at a gala event on held on 6 December.

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

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## EU-FUNDED PROJECT LAUNCHES NATIONAL PHOTO COMPETITION

On 17 September the EU-funded project "Women and children rights in Ukraine – Communication component" launched a nationwide photo competition devoted to the responsible parenthood with prizes for winners totalling € 5,000.

The nation-wide competition "The World of a Child's Dream", now in its fifth year, is based online and those wishing to submit their entries can do so at the web site: [www.family-album.com.ua](http://www.family-album.com.ua). Nine prizes will be awarded after selection by a professional jury and online voters under three categories – for amateurs, professionals and children up to 18 years old. The competition is open until 1 November.

"Our competition is not simply for entertainment. Our goal is to draw attention to the topic of family values and to show people that the biggest value for a family is a child, and for the child, a family", noted Mrs Natalya Lukyanova, head of the State Social Service for Family, Children and Youth at the launch. "The work of social workers is to preserve the family, to prevent children becoming social orphans, and to encourage responsible parenthood".

More information at: <http://vsirivni.com.ua/>  
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## EU-FUNDED PROGRAMME HELPS ESTABLISH GENDER STUDIES DEPARTMENTS IN UKRAINE

On 20 September the EU-funded "Equal Opportunities and Women's Rights in Ukraine Programme" held the award ceremony of the competition among Ukrainian Universities to establish specialised departments (chairs) on gender studies. Five Universities in Ukraine were the first selected by the Programme to establish such specialised departments.

Alla Serednytska, a Department Head at the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, mentioned that it is great to celebrate the establishment of departments, but now it is hard time to get to the work. Universities will experience new phase of development. Ms. Serednytska also confirmed that the Ministry pays high attention to gender equality in education and expressed hope that the experience of first 5 departments will be successful and will be worth sharing.

Five new departments received their diplomas: the National Dragomanov Teachers' Training University, Ternopil National Hnatyuk Teachers' Training University, National University "Ostrog Academy", Sumy State Teachers' Training University and the University of Education Management.

More information at: <http://gender.undp.org.ua/>  
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## EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

### EU-FUNDED PROJECT INVOLVES CRIMEAN RESEARCH COMMUNITY IN THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

On 16-17 September the EU-funded project "Joint Support Office for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (JSO-ERA)" held in Simferopol an Information Day and a Workshop for the Crimean research community to benefit from participation in the EU 7th Framework Programme on Research and Technology Development (FP7). Crimea is one of the 7 focal points in the €3.5 million JSO-ERA project as part of the EU's Joint Co-operation Initiative in Crimea. The information event was attended by high-level Crimean officials and over 100 representatives of the research institutions from South Ukraine.

In July 2010 the European Commission has announced 51 new Calls for Proposals within the FP7 under the Work Programme 2011. The JSO-ERA project experts led the participants of the event through all stages of the project preparations from generating idea until legal aspects of consortium agreement. The EU coordinators of the ongoing FP7 projects from the Netherlands and Poland provided the practical training on development of competitive financial offers focusing on legislative and financial aspects in order to encourage the research institutions to participate in announced FP7 Calls for Proposals.

During the Workshop the specific project ideas for the FP7 in the fields of environment, energy and security were presented by the Ukrainian scientists at the thematic round tables. The EU coordinators of FP7 and FP6 projects as well as the EU and Ukrainian JSO-ERA experts knowledgeable about FP7 rules, procedures and having good practice shared their experience and conducted 25 individual consultations for the Ukrainian research organisations interested in participating or intensifying their participation in FP7.

More information at: <http://www.jso-era.org.ua/>

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### LVIV HOSTS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EU ENERGY EFFICIENCY INITIATIVE

On 21-23 September Lviv hosted the International Conference on the European Commission's initiative Covenant of Mayors and its Implementation in Ukraine. The conference was organised by the Association "Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine", in partnership with Lviv City Council, "NL Agency" of the Netherlands, and German Association of European Municipalities "Climate Alliance".

On the first day the conference held a ceremony of signing the Covenant of Mayors by the mayors and their authorised representatives from the cities of Ukraine and Moldova. On the second day the conference held two parallel training seminars: on application of the recognised by the European Commission software ECORegion on compiling energy balances and emission inventories of CO<sub>2</sub>; and on drafting the Action Plan for sustainable energy development for the city of Kamyanets-Podilskyi.

The Covenant of Mayors is an ambitious initiative of the European Commission that gives the lead to Europe's pioneering cities to mitigate climate change through the implementation of intelligent local sustainable energy policies that create stable local jobs and increase citizens' quality of life and address crucial social issues. It is a commitment by signatory towns and cities to go beyond the objectives of EU energy policy in terms of reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through enhanced energy efficiency and cleaner energy production and use.

More information at: <http://www.eumayors.eu/>

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## EU-FUNDED PROGRAMME IMPROVES ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON FORESTRY MANAGEMENT

On 24 September the EU-funded programme "Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia" (ENPI-FLEG) held a workshop on "Improvement of Access to Information and Participation of Public in Forestry Management". The seminar was attended by over 30 participants representing NGOs, public authorities on forestry, local communities, educational institutions, media, International Union of Nature Conservation and the World Bank.

The workshop presented the study on the following issues: law and legal principles of access to information and public participation in forest management, effectiveness and functioning of the official websites of public authorities on forestry assessment and participation of local communities and NGOs in forest management.

The study results were the basis of the draft document "Mechanism of public participation in decision making in forest management". It foresees the creation of effective instruments of public participation in the preparation of administrative decisions that are socially relevant and resonant at both the national and regional and local levels. During the workshop, the participants discussed the draft document and approved as a whole.

**More information at:** <http://www.fleg.org.ua/>

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## CROSS-BORDER CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME HOLDS INFORMATIONAL EVENTS

On 28-30 September the EU-funded Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine Cross-Border Co-operation Programme held in Uzhgorod, Tyachiv, and Ivano-Frankivsk follow-up informational sessions under the 2nd Call for Proposals within the Programme. The events were organised for the potential applicants or partners who are in the process of preparing project applications in the frame of the second Call for proposals.

The aim of the events was to provide eligible applicants and partners with detailed information on the application package, especially focusing on how to fill in the application form and the project budget and also to give the opportunity to receive clarification on certain issues.

The National Development Agency of Hungary (acting as the Joint Managing Authority of the CBC Programme) in co-operation with the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of Slovakia, the Ministry of Regional Development and Tourism of Romania and the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine (acting as the National Authorities) open a 2nd Call for Proposals on 24 June. The deadline for receiving the applications is 26 October.

**More information at:** <http://www.huskroua-cbc.net/>

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## EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 6 OCTOBER, KYIV

TAIEX International Conference "Practical Experience in Agricultural Wholesale Trade and Logistic Centre Development across the European Union and Implications for Ukraine"

Contact person: Olesya Kravchenko-Fisun, e-mail: [kravchenko-fisun@nordspr.com.ua](mailto:kravchenko-fisun@nordspr.com.ua)

### 7 OCTOBER, KYIV

Workshop on "Sector Budget Support – a new form of EU Assistance to Ukraine"

Contact person: Maryna Shvyhar, e-mail: [maryna.shvyhar@esbs.kiev.ua](mailto:maryna.shvyhar@esbs.kiev.ua)

### 8 OCTOBER, KYIV

Conference "Effective Post-Harvest Technologies in Ukraine" (Joint EU and Danish event)

Contact person: Olesya Kravchenko-Fisun, e-mail: [kravchenko-fisun@nordspr.com.ua](mailto:kravchenko-fisun@nordspr.com.ua)

### 11 OCTOBER, ODESA

15th Advisory Board Meeting of EUBAM

Contact person: Matthew Taylor, e-mail: [matthew.taylor@eubam.org](mailto:matthew.taylor@eubam.org)

### 11 OCTOBER, IVANO-FRANKIVSK

Information Day and workshop on "Opportunities for Ukrainian energy community in the EU 7th Framework Programme on Research and Technology Development"

Contact person: Tatiana Derevyankina, e-mail: [t.derevyankina@fgl-energy.com](mailto:t.derevyankina@fgl-energy.com)

### 11 OCTOBER, KYIV

Tempus IV Visibility Workshop.

Contact person: Zhanna Talanova, e-mail: [tempus@ilid.org.ua](mailto:tempus@ilid.org.ua)

### 11 OCTOBER, KYIV

Opening of the Twinning Project "Support to the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine for the Implementation of the law in Ecological Audit"

Contact person: [anachkova@hotmail.com](mailto:anachkova@hotmail.com)

### 13 OCTOBER, KYIV

Conference "Safeguarding media pluralism in Ukraine" (EU-CoE Media Standards project)

Contact person: Olga Sedova, e-mail: [Olga.Sedova@coe.int](mailto:Olga.Sedova@coe.int)

### 14 OCTOBER, KYIV

4th Annual conference on Twinning operations devoted to the CIB programme

Contact person: Nataliya Kyrychenko, e-mail: [nataliya.kyrychenko@center.gov.ua](mailto:nataliya.kyrychenko@center.gov.ua)