



## EU-UKRAINE COOPERATION NEWS

### EUROPEAN COMMISSION LAUNCHES CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR NON-STATE ACTORS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

On 25 July the European Commission published a Call for Proposals within the thematic programme "Non State Actors and Local Authorities in Development (NSA-LA), Ukraine" with a budget of €950,000. The Non-State Actors can apply for grants between €75,000-200,000, and the Local Authorities can apply for grants between €50,000-150,000.

This Call for Proposals will support actions presented by Non-State Actors and Local Authorities which aim to promote accountability, integrity and transparency of the public sector on all levels and in all spheres of public life. The programme will assist initiatives in the fields of, e.g. public procurement monitoring, open budget initiatives, state revenue monitoring, and support to the implementation of the law on access to information, public service delivery, educational initiatives etc. Co-operations between local authorities and non-governmental organisations are encouraged in order to promote a policy dialogue. Advocacy work, awareness raising activities and accompanying analytical and lobbying work are also encouraged.

The deadline for submission of concept notes to the postal address of the EU Delegation in Kyiv is 30 September 2011.

Full information about the Call for Proposals, including the Guidelines for Applicants and the Application Form, is available at: [http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/funding\\_opportunities/grants/](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/funding_opportunities/grants/)



### EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCES COMPETITIVE SELECTION OF UKRAINIAN DISTRICTS FOR COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

On 22 June the EU-funded and UNDP-implemented project "Community Based Approach to Local Development, Phase II" (CBA-II) held the official launching in Simferopol. Series of official launchings of the project took place in all regions of Ukraine. During one month the project organised 15 regional seminars in all regions and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in order to present modality of CBA-II and sign partnership agreements between the project, regional state administrations and regional councils.

During the seminars, the project experts presented the strategy and action plan for project implementation at regional level, and announced the beginning of competitive selection of districts for participation in the project. The project will establish partnerships with 200 districts and 900 local councils. The districts can apply for grants of \$10,000 for restoration of communal infrastructure or \$20,000 for energy saving projects.

The CBA-II project has the budget of €17 million. It aims to promote sustainable socio-economic development at a local level by supporting and co-funding community initiatives in all the regions of Ukraine. The project supports priority community initiatives in the healthcare (network of health posts), energy conservation (energy saving technologies, renewable energy sources), environment (waste management, water supply), municipal water supply, and development of small businesses (development of agricultural/service cooperatives).

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## EU CALLS ON UKRAINIAN SCIENTISTS TO PARTICIPATE IN EUROPEAN RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

On 20–21 July the EU-funded Joint Support Office for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area held in Uzhgorod a workshop on "Innovation Research and Development in Food and Health Sectors". The event gathered researchers from Ukraine, the UK, Ireland, Hungary, Slovak Republic, Czech Republic and Poland to discuss the technical aspects of proposed scientific ideas for participation in the EU 7th Framework Programme on Research and Technology Development (FP7).

The workshop aimed at establishing personal contacts for building European Research Consortia for participation in FP7 new Calls for Proposals under Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology (FAB) and Health priorities. Invited European speakers provided the participants insights into Science & Technology cooperation between the EU and Ukrainian research organisations in the sphere of Health and FAB from the point of view of small and medium enterprises.

During the workshop, the project experts organised a matchmaking activity to create International Consortia for 7 specific calls under FAB priority and for 10 calls under Health priority.

FP7 runs from 2007 to 2013 with a total budget of around €50 billion. The programme is intended for research scientists, institutes & SMEs working together in international consortia. Ukraine heading towards FP7 association has tremendous opportunities in research, technology and innovation.

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## EU BANKS WORK TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL BANK OF UKRAINE

On 19 July the EU-funded Twinning Project "Strengthening NBU potential through the approximation to EU standards of central banking" held the final conference to summarise project achievements and results. The project with a budget of €1.10 million has brought knowledge and experience of the Deutsche Bundesbank and the National Bank of Poland to the National Bank of Ukraine on essential aspects of central banking. Both EU banks shared expertise on operational planning system, communication and international cooperation, monetary and foreign exchange policy, management of reserves, payment systems and monetary and credit statistics.

Over 18 months, experts from all three banks did extensive work in all these sectors. Practical results include the draft of the payment system oversight law, a new approach to the monetary policy implementation, a methodology of the operational cost calculation of the NBU, the introduction of the modern system of the foreign exchange management.

The First Deputy Governor of the NBU Yuri Kolobov stressed that the EU project covered almost all major activity areas of NBU and improved the system of operational planning, strengthened the communication policy of NBU, international cooperation, developed proposals for implementation of new mechanisms and best practices in monetary policy, improved exchange rate policy and capital flows, developed monetary statistics and strengthened the payment systems, in particular by legal approximation to the standards of EU banking.

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## EU SETS UP EUROPEAN INFORMATION SUPPORT CENTRE IN VERKHOVNA RADA

On 14 July the Ukrainian-European Policy and Legal Advice Centre (UEPLAC) organised the launching of the European Information Support Centre at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. The centre will offer an up-to-date information on the European Union's developments by securing permanent access to reliable web sources, as well as by offering professional and user-friendly support in legal research.

UEPLAC experts contributed to the centre's launching and functioning by elaborating the statutory document; providing subscription to EU law-related databases; holding of promotion events; organising a study visit to an EU Member State Info Centre; and co-organising of trainings on the search methodology.

Reliable access to information on all EU-related matters has become increasingly important for the Ukrainian law-makers and civil servants. Members of the Parliament of Ukraine, parliamentary staff and Ukrainian civil servants will benefit from access to professional legal databases, in particular a large number of journals on EU law. The users will also avail of expert support on web search methodologies and relevant information management, and receive assistance in EU law research.

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## EU EXPERTS WILL ASSIST UKRAINIAN PUBLIC AUTHORITIES IN IMPLEMENTING THE LAW ON ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION

On 13 July the EU-Council of Europe project "Promotion of European Standards in the Ukrainian Media Environment" and the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting held a round table for about 80 representatives of public authorities on the access to public information in government institutions.

The round table presented practical guidelines for government bodies that have to implement the newly adopted law on "Access to Information". Civil servants will be better equipped to secure the access to public information in government institutions. The guidelines were prepared by media lawyers within the project, in consultation with the State TV and Radio Committee. They include detailed and practical interpretations, as well as related templates and by-laws which can be readily used to implement the law – also on the regional and local level.

"Our goal is to ensure quick and adequate reaction of the public authorities to requests for information by the citizens", stated the chair of State TV and Radio Committee Oleksandr Kurdinovich.

In 2011–2012 the project will focus on establishing a genuine public-service broadcaster, improving the effectiveness, independence and transparency of the media regulator and implementing the newly-adopted law on access to information.

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## EU PROJECT HOLDS A GENDER MOVIE CAMP FOR YOUTH

On 12–16 July the EU-funded and UNDP-implemented project “Equal Opportunities and Women’s Rights in Ukraine” organised a summer gender camp for almost 100 young people from all over Ukraine aged 18–35. During their stay in the camp, participants were trained on gender sensitivity, domestic violence, as well as operator skills, directing, producing and promoting ideas in social media. The camp was organised within the short films contest “Gene of Equality.”

During the first day participants discussed gender stereotypes that exist in Ukrainian society and analysed whether they have harmful effects on personality development. During the second day they were trained on implementing creative ideas, directing, camera operating and using social media to achieve social change. And during the third day the participants filmed video pieces on cameras.



The Head of Operations Section II of the EU Delegation José Roman Leon Lora supported the idea of this competition. “Gender equality and the promotion of Human Rights are basic elements for the EU and for all its policies”, he said and pointed to the fact that youth is the necessary driving force of any society and, as such, it needs to be confronted from the beginning with the necessity of guaranteeing the equality of rights in all spheres of life. “I am positively impressed by the work done by the young people, who certainly prove that stereotypes and attitudes can change much more quickly than expected also in Ukraine”, he added.

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## EUBAM TRAINS UKRAINIAN AND MOLDOVAN BORDER GUARDS AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS ON COUNTERFEIT MONEY AND MONEY LAUNDERING

On 12–14 July the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) held a three-day training session for Ukrainian and Moldovan border guards, customs officers and security service officers, as well as officials of Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs. The participants were trained in counterfeit money, credit-card fraud and money laundering. It was the first time training of this kind has been conducted by the Mission.

Among the 16 participants were two teachers from the Ukrainian National Academy of Internal Affairs. EUBAM has recently begun cooperation with the Academy on several initiatives, and this was the first time its representatives have partaken in an EUBAM training event.



Experts from the Romanian Directorate for Combating Organised Crime came to Odessa to deliver the training, which aimed to share best practice and knowledge in relevant subjects such as identifying and combating money laundering, tax havens and their role in money laundering, cyber-crime and credit-card fraud, and how to identify counterfeit money.

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## EU SUPPORTS UKRAINIAN RESEARCHERS TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN SCIENCE AND MARKET

On 12 July the EU-funded project "Support to knowledge based and innovative enterprises and technology transfer to business in Ukraine" held a road show to promote Ukrainian innovative technologies and products developed in two important sectors of applied Science & Technology - laser-photonics and bio-medical technologies. It is a pilot initiative aimed to promote all other aspects of high technologies development within the Kyiv region.

The road show gathered representatives of public and private sector, civil society and potential institutional and private investors to get information on the innovative and effective use of new technologies and products in the everyday life; encourage greater regional collaboration for the development and further dissemination of the presented technologies within the country; attract funds for further development and improvement plus commercialisation of the presented technologies; promote the work, role and programmes of important Research & Development institutes as well as of university centres from Kyiv region.

The project with a budget of almost €2.5 million fosters the innovative activity of Ukrainian firms by bridging the gap between research and production and by stimulating technology transfers within the national economy and with the global economy.

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