



## BALANCING CAREER AND FAMILY IN BUSINESS

**KYIV, Oct. 7.** "Communicating Women's and Children's Rights in Ukraine", an EU-funded project, held a workshop for entrepreneurs and their children on "How to keep a balance between career and family." EU and Ukrainian HR specialists drew the attention of entrepreneurs to the need to establish comfortable conditions for employees and presented best practices and tools for combining a career and family.

The workshop was organized as part of the "Equal Opportunities: Best Employer 2011" competition, held annually by Ukraine's Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Social Policy and the EU Delegation to Ukraine.

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## EU ENERGY RESEARCH PROJECTS DRAW UKRAINIAN SCIENTISTS

**IVANO-FRANKIVSK, Oct. 6-7.** The EU-funded Joint Support Office for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (JSO-ERA) held a workshop and brokerage event to increase the participation of Ukraine's scientific community in the EU's 7th Framework Programme on Research and Technology Development (FP7), specifically in the field of Energy.

The two-day Energy event, which took place at Stefanyk Prykarpattia National University, helped Ukrainian organisations establish contacts with EU partners. The workshop presented innovations in the FP7 Work Programme 2012 in Energy, and how they can benefit to Ukraine's research community. JSO-ERA project experts provided participants with information about the basic rules of consortium-building, including intellectual property rights, administration, legal and financial aspects.

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## SLAUGHTERING BEEF IN UKRAINE

**KYIV, Oct. 5.** A round table on Development of Slaughterhouses based on EU Standards brought together around 30 participants from Farmers' Organisations the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food, Veterinary Services.

Current animal slaughter EU legislation and practices were presented and participants discussed slaughterhouse options and designs for Ukraine, particularly for servicing remote areas with small cattle numbers.

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## EU SUPPORTS UKRAINE TO TRAIN CIVIL SERVANTS

**Kyiv, 4 Oct.** The EU-funded Twinning Project "Support to the Development of the Civil Service Training System in Ukraine" held its closing conference at the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA). The European Union has provided € 1.1 million to reinforce the Ukrainian civil service training system and to improve the overall performance of the public sector in Ukraine.

From October 2009 to September 2011, Ukrainian, French and Polish experts drafted a concept of an improved strategy for the civil servants' training and a series of recommendations for the institutional development of the NAPA in accordance with its missions. These policy proposals have been taken into account in the course of the preparation of the presidential decree on the reform of the National Academy of Public Administration, which is to be adopted soon.

The project partners have developed 4 pilot training courses that are based on the innovative teaching tools such as needs assessment, case studies and role games. 27 training managers, 36 trainers and over 200 civil servants from central and regional administrations have been trained. The French School of Public Administration (ENA), Polish National School of Public Administration (KSAP), the National Academy of Public Administration and the National Agency on Civil Service improved the civil service performance, through a new training strategy for civil servants and enhanced management and training capacity of the NAPA and its four Regional Institutes of Public Administration.

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## "SELLING" COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

**Gurzuf, Crimea, 3-4 Oct.** Persuasion and Selling Skills were the focus of a two-day management workshop for around 30 participants, including Village Council Heads and members of the Crimean State Agricultural Education and Advisory Centre.

Knowledge of these particular skills will enable them to better present and 'sell' community development proposals to national authorities, donors, and other sources of support.

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## EU DRAWS UKRAINIAN MATERIALS SCIENTISTS TO FP7 RESEARCH

**Partenit, CRIMEA, Oct. 3-4.** The EU-funded Joint Support Office for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (JSO-ERA) held an event aimed at increasing the capacity of Ukrainian scientists to participate in the EU 7th Framework Programme on Research and Technology Development (FP7). The two-day workshop "EU 7th Framework Programme on research and technology development – Work Programmes 2012 for NMP and PEOPLE" was held as part of the International Functional Materials Conference organized by Vernadskiy Taurida National University in Crimea.

EU specialists presented the 2012 Call for Proposals in nanosciences, nanotechnologies and Materials and New Production Technologies (NMP), and opportunities for Ukrainian research organisations and individual researchers under the PEOPLE programme.

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## EU AMBASSADORS LAUD SOUTHERN BORDER REGION OF UKRAINE

**BUDZHAK, ODESA OBLAST, Oct. 1–2.** The Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador Pinto Teixeira, together with UK Ambassador Leigh Turner and Greek Ambassador Georgios Georgountzos, visited one of the most remote regions of Ukraine, the southern Bessarabia region of Odesa Oblast known as Budzhak. Other EU member states, including Bulgaria and Poland, were also represented during the visit.

“With their wine, cultural, historical and ecological potential, Ukraine’s most south-western oblasts by the Black Sea are a beautiful neighbouring region for the European Union, simply waiting to be developed as a tourist destination,” said Ambassador Pinto Teixeira. The Ambassadors visited a few locations implementing actions supported financially by the EU-funded and UNDP-implemented “Community Based Approach to Local Development, Phase II” (CBA-II) project.



At a meeting with teachers, students and community organizers in Banivka, a village of 360 households, the EU Ambassador remarked: “If Ukraine were run like Community Based Approach (CBA) micro-projects and their local organisations, the country would be well placed to integrate the EU. These EU-UNDP projects, which have improved the conditions in over 1,000 Ukrainian villages, are a perfect example of strong community initiative, ownership, effective management and financial accountability.”

In addition to EU-funded projects, the EU visitors were introduced to the region’s considerable development potential in the wine industry. Rarely known to foreigners, the southern Bessarabian region, which is located in the “grape belt”—46/47° latitude—like Bordeaux and Burgundy, is home to Ukraine’s domestic wines under the Shabo, Guliev and Kolonist labels.

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## CRIMEA DISTRICT BEGINS STRATEGIC PLANNING WITH EU-UNDP SUPPORT

**Chernomorskoe, Crimea, 29 September:** The Regional Development Agency and the EU-UNDP project to Support to Regional Development Agency (SRDAP) took part in the first meeting of the Chernomorsky district Strategic planning committee, which brings together representatives of district and local authorities, public institutions, private businesses and nongovernmental organisations. The Strategy – as a guideline to the long-term development efforts and the basis for joint activities for the benefit of the whole community – was widely supported by the participants.



The Strategy will be prepared by Committee members, and with the Regional Development Agency of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Mustafa Sait-Ametov, director of RDA Research and strategic planning department, informed the participants of the role of the Agency. Olena Kozlyuk, SRDAP expert, presented the main approaches to elaborate territorial development strategies and experience in other Ukraine regions. The Committee members emphasised the needed special attention to involve small businesses, as well as the focus on rural and green tourism development in areas far from the seacoast.

The Agency and SRDAP suggested an Action Plan to facilitate the elaboration of the Chernomorsky district strategy 2011-2020. In the nearest future, the Agency and the District State Administration plan to sign a joint Protocol of intentions.

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EU/UNDP Support to the Regional Development Agency Project in Crimea**



## "ONLY STRONG CIVIL SOCIETY CAN MONITOR REFORMS"

**KYIV, Sept. 26–27. Civil society in Ukraine needs a favourable legal framework in order to monitor and contribute to domestic reforms, say participants of a seminar organized jointly by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the Ukrainian National Tripartite Social and Economic Council (NTSEC).**

The 80 participants included representatives from both of those bodies, along with Ukrainian ministers, the head of the EU Delegation to the Ukraine, ambassadors from several Member States and NGOs.

Participants agreed that the institutional capacity of employer and trade union organisations needs to be strengthened, taking advantage of the newly-launched Civil Society Facility and other related EU programs. They also concluded that the deeper the influence of civil society over political reforms, the better these reforms will preserve basic freedoms and economic and social stability. Another important step on the road to reform, seminar participants noted, is the swift implementation of new legislation to foster social dialogue, so that International Labour Organization core standards and especially the right of association are enshrined.

The seminar leaders also looked at farming and suggested to negotiators on both sides that agriculture needs to be specifically dealt with in cooperation agreements. In the process, they stated, the importance of competitiveness should be recognized, without neglecting rural development and preservation of the environment. The main objective, they concluded, was to ensure safe, healthy food at affordable prices while guaranteeing a decent standard of living for farmers through job creation and improved viability of farming.

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## EUBAM AND SECI CENTRE TEAM UP FOR BRUT PROJECT

**ODESA, Sept. 26. The Southeast European Law Enforcement (SECI) Centre in partnership with the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) launched the BRUT Project covering multiple levels of law enforcement activities, such as countering drug trafficking, preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), and developing integrated border management in Odesa on September 26. BRUT further aims to strengthen the customs capabilities in major seaports on the Black Sea and to upgrade risk-management systems.**

"The BRUT project is further proof of the strong emphasis EUBAM places on international cooperation," said EUBAM head Udo Burkholder during the opening ceremony. "Coordination of our efforts is vital in tackling all manner of illicit activities. We are delighted to be teaming up with the SECI Centre once again for this initiative."

"BRUT's scope primarily focuses on laying the cornerstone for a solid bridge of long-term law enforcement cooperation across the Black Sea region, connecting countries and international law enforcement organisations from Europe and Asia," added SECI Centre Deputy Director Petros Petroff.

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## CROSS-BORDER REFUGEE PROTECTION DISCUSSED IN L'VIV

**L'VIV, Sept. 20–22.** The EU-funded and UNHCR-implemented Regional Protection Programme held a regional cross-border conference on "Refugee Protection and Border Cooperation", following up the Budapest Conference in November 2010, which included missions to border and detention facilities in Ukraine and Poland.

Some 54 representatives from border, asylum/migration authorities, NGOs and UNHCR from Belarus, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine, as well as representatives of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), EUBAM and the Consulate of the Russian Federation participated.

The Conference expanded cross-border cooperation on refugee protection between neighbouring EU Member States and Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, to enhance protection monitoring, to follow up on the return and readmission of asylum-seekers under readmission or return treaties, and to continue sharing good practices and familiarization visits on migration management and asylum.

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## EUBAM WRAPS UP PHASE II OF AKKERMAN BORDER CONTROL OPERATION

**UKRAINE-MOLDOVA BORDER, Sept. 12–25.** The European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) wrapped up the second operational phase of the Akkerman Joint Border Control Operation, an annual initiative that promotes cross-border co-operation between Ukrainian, Moldovan and international law enforcement agencies in the detection of smuggled items and other illicit cross-border activity.

This year's operation had two phases—the first was May 10-21—, when officers were guided by the European Criminal Intelligence Model concept. This intelligence-led targeted approach enabled Moldovan and Ukrainian agencies to identify several illegal migration channels and contraband cases, as well as related modus operandi.

The participation of international agencies such as EUROPOL, FRONTEX, Interpol, RILO and OLAF, as well as experts from German, Italian and Polish law enforcement agencies, in the Akkerman project was a major benefit from the point of view of intelligence-gathering and analysis, by indirectly providing the partner services with access to appropriate information from EU agencies.

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## EUBAM PARTNERS SHORE UP CONFLICT MANAGEMENT COMPETENCE

ODESA Sept. 12-16. The European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) and the German Federal Police conducted a conflict management workshop in Odesa for partners on both sides of the Moldova-Ukraine border. The first such workshop was held in Chisinau on September 6-9. Some 60 officers from the Moldovan and Ukrainian border guard and customs services and the internal affairs ministries were trained on improving social and cultural competence. This conflict-management training initiative began three years ago and has incorporated study visits to Frankfurt Airport.

EUBAM considers conflict-management training an essential and timely part of the support it is providing to its partners as part of preparations for EURO 2012, which is drawing ever nearer.

The workshop on Raising Social and Cultural Competence taught participants to examine crucial cultural and behavioural aspects of their work on the border and at border crossing points and to consider how to avoid, avert, manage and resolve conflict situations.

Role play, discussions, ad hoc filming and analysis were among the interactive teaching techniques employed by the trainers in both Chisinau and Odesa. At the end of the workshop, participants discussed the prospect of incorporating similar conflict-management training into their own services.

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## EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 19-20 OCTOBER, KYIV

Inno Policy Conference & Launch of the European Enterprise Network in Ukraine

**For more information:** Michal Gorzynski, *tel.:* (044) 390 80 10 ext 351

### 19 – 20 OCTOBER, CHERKASSY

Seminar on Effective Management of Community Property

**For more information:** Olena Bychyk, *tel.:* (044) 355 0178, 066 120 2271

### 19 – 20 OCTOBER, KYIV

Communications Training for EU-funded projects

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### 25 – 26 OCTOBER, KYIV, PUSHCHA-VODYTSYA

Leader Approach Training for Extension Service Association (DORADA) (training of trainers)

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### 25-26 OCTOBER, KYIV

Gender Mechanisms in EU countries (Council of Europe Conference, Ukrainian Chairmanship of Committee of Ministers)

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## 26 OCTOBER, SVERDLOVSK

Ribbon-cutting ceremony for hand-over of completed works of Sustainable Regional Development Project

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## 26-27 OCTOBER, KYIV, PRESIDENT HOTEL

Digital broadcasting in Europe: legal, regulatory and technical aspects (Council of Europe Conference, Ukrainian Chairmanship of Committee of Ministers, within framework of EU-Council of Europe project "Promotion of European standards in the Ukrainian Media Environment")

For more information: Olga Sedova, *+38(067)799 8727, olga.sedova@coe.int*

## 26-27 OCTOBER, BAKKARA ART HOTEL

"Standards of Protection of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers in Ukraine" Conference

For more information: Krista Zongolowicz, Country Director, Danish Refugee Council, *mob. +380-67-181-7062*

## 31 OCT – 1 NOV, YALTA, CRIMEA

Cash flow management in agri-business and other organisations

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