



EU-FUNDED PROJECT TRAINS MOLDOVAN WINEMAKERS IN ITALY

On 21 June–18 July the EU-funded project “Strengthening Moldova’s Capacity to Manage Labour and Return Migration” held a study visit for Moldovan winemakers to Italy. During four weeks 30 winemakers visited the most famous Italian wineries and private enterprises, learned lessons about Italian viticulture, winemaking and technologies. The participants from Moldova to the wine training session were mainly employees of wine making companies and a few specialists from National Institute for Wine Making.



Moldovan wine producers were trained in the field of viticulture in the most famous region of Italy, the autonomous region of Trentino-Alto Adige. The training programme was launched by the Italian Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Policies and co-ordinated by the Laimburg Professional School in co-operation with the Department of Vocational Education for Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics of Trentino-Alto Adige.

Moldovan participants attended theoretical and practical lessons, visited winemaking companies and specialised farms in Trentino-Alto Adige and in Northern Italy, and shared experience and consultation with representatives of the Department on Wine Production of the Chamber of Commerce of Bolzano.

“This was one of the largest and most important activities carried out within the project. It will definitely improve the situation on Moldovan labour market and contribute to sustainable economic growth”, said director of the project Per Lindberg.

More information at: <http://www.legal-in.eu/>

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT SHARES EXPERIENCE ON VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

On 29 June the EU-funded project “Strengthening Moldova’s Capacity to Manage Labour and Return Migration” held an international round table, entitled “Best practices of labour market and in vocational education and training. Experience of Sweden and Germany”. Representatives of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, National Employment Agency, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as well as employers and trade unions attended the event.

Three project experts from Germany and Sweden during the round table presented and shared experience on needs of the labour market and vocational education and training; co-operation with employers, importance of vocational education and forecasting; return and integration of migrants.

“Moldova makes fast steps to the integration in the European Union. And labour market services, especially those related to vocational education need to be aligned with EU standards in order to meet labour market demands,” said director of the project Per Lindberg.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ORGANISES SUPPORTED PILOT TRAININGS ON DOCUMENT SECURITY

On 29 June–2 July and 20–23 July the EU-funded project “Strengthening Capacities and Cooperation in the Identification of Forged and Falsified Travel Documents at the Moldova-Romania Border” organised two Supported Pilot trainings on document security. During both trainings around 30 representatives from the Border Guard Service, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Informational Technologies and Communication received an intensive training on the selected document security topics.

The trainings were performed by the national trainers and supported by the international experts from the Netherlands and Romania. The national trainers had been trained in the framework of the same project earlier in this year. The training concept and curricula for the Supported Pilot trainings were developed jointly in cooperation between the Moldovan institutions and international experts, taking into account the best EU practices in the field and adapting them to the needs of the Moldovan institutions.



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EU-FUNDED PROGRAMME HOLDS A NATIONAL MEETING OF FORESTRY STAFF

On 3 July the Moldovan Office of the EU-funded programme “Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia” held in Chisinau in co-operation with the Forestry Research and Management Institute and the Agency “Moldsilva” (programme local partners) a national meeting, entitled “National forestry sector – important component of social-economic and environmental challenges in Moldova”.

The Prime Minister Vlad Filat met 550 participants of forestry staff of the Agency “Moldsilva” and its 25 subdivisions (chief engineers, chief forest officers, directors of forestry units, foresters), representatives from each district and local authorities owning forests, representatives of Ministry of Environment, Academy of Sciences, NGOs, mass-media.



It was stated that FLEG issues are vitally important for the economy and environmental integrity of Moldova. Extension of forest fund of Moldova (through carbon sequestration programmes), its protection, and raising function for conservation of biodiversity and improve livelihood development for the local communities were discussed at the meeting.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT IMPROVES NEGOTIATION CAPACITIES OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

On 6–7 July the EU-funded project “Strengthening Moldova’s Capacity to Manage Labour and Return Migration” held a training session for representatives of public authorities on improving negotiation capacities. Concluding and negotiation of bilateral agreements at country as well as institutional level is one of the objectives and responsibilities of state officials.

During two-day training two experts from the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection of Romania shared experience on improving negotiation capacities with colleagues from Moldovan Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, National Employment Agency, National Office of Social Insurance, Bureau on Migration and Asylum, Border Guard Service and Ministry of Internal Affairs.



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EU-FUNDED PROJECT HOLDS A STUDY VISIT TO AUSTRIA ON DOCUMENT SECURITY

On 13–14 July the EU-funded project “Strengthening Capacities and Cooperation in the Identification of Forged and Falsified Travel Documents at the Moldova-Romania Border” held a study visit to Austria on document security.

During the visit representatives from the Moldovan Border Guard Service, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Informational Technologies and Communication as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration had an opportunity to share and gather experience on document security and information exchange with the Austrian colleagues.

Moldovan participants visited the Austrian State Printing House where the hosts presented their services including the facilities for producing passports and e-Government unit. Another part of the visit was dedicated to the International Airport Vienna-Schwechat. The overall work of the Austrian Border Police was presented and the Moldovan participants had a possibility to see also offices, technical equipment and the entire airport premises.



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EU-FUNDED PROJECT HOLDS A SEMINAR ON RISK BASED FOOD SAFETY LEGISLATION

On 14 July the EU-funded project “Support for the Implementation of Agreements between the Republic of Moldova and the EU” held in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry a seminar on risk based food safety legislation principles and implementation mechanisms. 120 head veterinarians and their deputies, representing the Sanitary Veterinary and Animal Origin Products Safety Agency in the regions, attended the event.

One of the most important changes due to occur in Moldovan agro-food legislation is the introduction of two systems: Traceability of Food and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point. One of the Moldovan authorities' main concerns was that introducing the new traceability system in Moldova would turn out to be a very expensive process and not at all easy to be implemented locally.



In this respect, expert from the Food and Veterinary Service of Latvia presented during the event the Latvian good practice in implementing the new control system. According to Latvian expert, the traceability system can be implemented with limited additional costs, additional hardware, software not being necessary as demonstrated by some establishments in Latvia.

Good hygiene practices were also discussed during the seminar and the development, dissemination and use of both national and Community Guides to Good Practice, was highly encouraged by the EU experts.

More information at: <http://www.support-md-eu.md/>

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NEW EU-FUNDED PROJECT FOR MOLDOVAN HEALTH SECTOR

On 16 July a new EU-funded and World Health Organisation-implemented project for the health sector of Moldova was presented in Chisinau during an official launch event. The Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador Dirk Schuebel explained to the audience that the €3 million project is part of the technical assistance provided within the Sector Budget Support for health and will be implemented over the next 3 years.

The technical assistance within the project will be provided in priority fields, including the development of a monitoring framework for the health system's performance, conduction of a series of specific studies to inform decision-making, revision of the legal and regulatory framework in the field of public health, capacity building for managers and public health specialists, development of national plans for tobacco and alcohol control, designing and implementing nation-wide communication campaigns to prevent smoking and alcohol abuse.



The Head of WHO Country Office Pavel Ursu mentioned at the event the importance of project's activities in harmonizing the legal framework in public health with the Community acquis and WHO's practices, and improving the quality of provided services. He also emphasised the role of envisaged health system's performance monitoring instruments in strengthening the processes of decision-making, strategic planning, and policy development in health area.

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EUBAM RECOMMENDED APPROACH PROMPTS LARGEST EVER COCAINE SEIZURE IN UKRAINE

On 19 July the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) announced about the largest ever cocaine seizure in Ukraine, 582.35 kg, which has been made possible due to an intelligence led approach promoted by the EUBAM. The drugs, with a market value of over \$60 million, were seized by the Ukrainian border services at Odesa seaport on a ship from Bolivia.

After risk analysis had indicated a high probability of drug smuggling, the Ukrainian border agencies conducted an in-depth search of the shipment and found the cocaine hidden in scrap metal.

“Risk analysis is all about profiling people and freight against major threats – based on intelligence,” said Martin Wintersberger, Head of the EUBAM Analytical and Operational Support Unit. “EUBAM has helped improve the Ukrainian and Moldovan border services capacity here since 2005. This huge seizure is a direct result of using proper risk analysis and earns our respect and congratulations,” he added.



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EU-FUNDED PROGRAMME ON DEMOCRACY SUPPORT IMPROVES THE ACTIVITY OF PUBLIC MEDIA

On 19–21 July the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented “Democracy Support Programme” held an assessment visit to Moldova for two media experts who should elaborate the monitoring methodology for Coordinating Council of Audiovisual (CCA) and “Teleradio-Moldova” (TRM). The experts representing MEM098 (Slovakia) and Oxford Media Research (UK), two media institutions from the EU, have examined the existing situation in media monitoring field of Moldova, provisions of Moldovan laws related to media monitoring, tools and methods used by CCA and other relevant organisations.

In July the Programme also presented two reports made by other two media experts from the BBC World Service Trust (UK) and the Independent Centre for Journalism (Romania). The first report based on assessment visit to TRM and CCA considers that updating technology at TRM is vital for its survival: without a base investment into equipment and skills, there is a risk the broadcaster will be unable to meet audience expectations. The second report based on the analysis of the Code of Ethics for Journalists from Moldova provides valuable comments on the document and makes proposals for improving this one in accordance with the European standards.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT PROVIDES TRAININGS ON MONITORING OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

On 21-22 July the EU-funded project “Addressing Needs of Vulnerable Layers of Population in the Republic of Moldova” in co-operation with the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family held a training session on monitoring of social assistance in Donduseni. More than 40 social assistants from the local administrations of Donduseni and Ocnita attended the trainings.

Training session aimed primarily at updating the knowledge of social professionals as regards the legislation on social aid and its disbursement, including changes in legislation, procedures for granting the right for social aid, change, renewal and termination of the right for social aid, and correct interpretation of key concepts defined in the legislation.

The project held already the same training sessions in other 3 pilot districts: on 16–17 June in Balti for 44 social assistants, including from Singerei; on 23–24 June in Leova for 49 social assistants, including from Cantemir; on 30 June–01 July in Ialoveni for 65 social assistants, including from Straseni.



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EU-FUNDED PROJECT HOLDS A WORKSHOP ON CONTROL OF SOCIAL AID BENEFICIARIES

On 23 July the EU-funded project “Addressing Needs of Vulnerable Layers of Population in the Republic of Moldova” held in co-operation with the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MMPSF), and National Employment Agency (ANOFM) a workshop on implementation of control of social aid beneficiaries. More than 40 participants from the MMPSF, ANOFM, as well as local employment agencies attended the event.

The workshop was focused on the implementation of the Instruction for checking the status of social aid beneficiaries and on improving the activity framework of employment agencies by reducing the set of documents required to be submitted by directorates/departments of social assistance and family protection, as due to the new software implemented late in July 2010.

The project experts presented the operation mode of the software used in co-operation between ANOFM and departments/sections of social assistance and family protection to monitor social aid, which is a part of the mechanism for preventing error and fraud.

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EUBAM SUPPORTS YOUNG MOLDOVANS AND UKRAINIANS IN FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

On 25 July–1 August the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) held in Moldova the first international anti-corruption summer school “Youth against corruption”. During one week at the summer camp, 26 Moldovan and Ukrainian students, aged 19–26, were involved in a range of activities, including lectures on corruption and its prevention, Q&As and role plays.

The agenda of the summer school, organised by the Centre for Combating Economic Crimes and Corruption of Moldova (CCECC), the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine and EUBAM, included study trips to one of the EUBAM field offices in Kuchurgan, Ukraine and to CCECC Headquarters. The participants made a final presentation titled “Life without corruption at my university”.



“Thanks to EUBAM financial assistance and continued partnership we have the possibility to open a summer school for the students of Moldovan and Ukrainian institutions. This is the first international anti-corruption school with such an impressive budget,” said Victor Colin, Head of Direction of Prevention and Criminal Analysis, CCECC.

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

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EU FUNDED PROJECT ANALYSES MOLDOVAN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD LEGISLATION

On 27 July the EU-funded project “Support for the implementation of agreements between Moldova and EU” presented a thorough analysis dealing with law, institutions and policy concerning Moldovan agriculture and food – an area of fundamental interest for the effective functioning of the economy and social structures.

Welcoming the EU study, the Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador Dirk Schuebel stated: “The analysis is intended to assist policy makers and implementers alike in identifying the direction, prioritisation and scheduling of the next steps to be taken in this challenging but essential process over the coming years”.

The third of a series of expert studies on law approximation to EU standards in Moldova, the Agriculture and Food Law and Policy study emphasises that the areas of legislation and policy, which represent the reason for the current and future unused quota and underutilised preferential access should be prioritised for future intervention to facilitate and develop export to the EU.

At this stage it is considered that the key priorities for policy, regulation and institutional reform should concern the system of food safety including the so-called “hygiene package” as well as microbiological and chemical requirements. Also of key importance is the primary legislation relating to animal and plant health and the mechanisms to implement them.

More information at: <http://www.support-md-eu.md/>

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

2–6 AUGUST, CHISINAU

Specialised training on legislative matters regarding the water law for the staff of the Centre for Legal Approximation and the Ministry of Environment within the EU-funded project “Support for the implementation of agreements between Moldova and EU”

More information at: <http://www.support-md-eu.md/>

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6–7 AUGUST, CHISINAU

Workshop for journalists, editors, and producers from “Teleradio-Moldova” on producing debates on constitutional referendum within the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented “Democracy Support Programme”

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9–12 AUGUST, CHISINAU

Coaching and support to specific people/groups from “Teleradio-Moldova” on planning and broadcasting the debates on constitutional referendum within the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented “Democracy Support Programme”

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13–15 AUGUST, CHISINAU

Training on media coverage of constitutional referendum for all interested Moldovan journalists within the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented “Democracy Support Programme”

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20–22 AUGUST, CHISINAU

Training on production of quality political programme for the staff of “Teleradio-Moldova” within the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented “Democracy Support Programme”

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25 AUGUST, CHISINAU

Coordinating Council of Audiovisual (CCA) should discuss and adopt during a public sitting the new media monitoring elaborated by the experts within the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented “Democracy Support Programme”

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