



EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

DEMOCRACY SUPPORT PROGRAMME TRAINS JOURNALISTS ON CAMPAIGN REPORTING

Journalists of public and commercial radio and TV, newspapers, weeklies and internet platforms were trained, in the period 2-4 November 2010, on how to cover the snap parliamentary elections. The training was attended by 20 editors and senior journalists from media outlets in Moldova, inclusively editors from Gagauzia.

The training featured lecturers and presentations by Mr Robert Heukels (Netherlands), former program director of the Dutch national broadcasting company, Mr Catalin Gambos (Romania), editor for Radio Romania, and Ms Charlotte Govaert (Netherlands), producer and director of a documentary series devoted to investigative journalism. The participants also had a chance to get first-hand information from Mr Iurie Ciocan, Secretary of Central Election Commission, on the proper use of the electoral terminology and reporting techniques on electoral procedures. The training included practical sessions on legal provisions and boundaries for media coverage during elections and responsibilities of media personnel in coverage of the early parliamentary elections. The journalists had meetings with representatives of NGOs which are monitoring the electoral process and with Mr. Ivan Godársky, Media Analyst, OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission.



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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ORGANISES TRAININGS FOR POLICE OFFICERS

On 2-9 November the EU-funded project "Additional Measures to Fight Child Trafficking in Moldova" held 3 two-day training sessions on "Techniques for the Child Interview in cases of child victim/witness of trafficking and/or sexual exploitation". The trainings were organised in co-operation with Moldovan Ministry of Interior for more than 30 police officers, especially inspectors for minors from different areas of Moldova.

This activity was looking to strengthen and promote adequate treatment and support of the child in going through the still-traumatic process of investigations and interviews, reducing the secondary victimisation of the child, while building and advancing police officers' knowledge and skills on special techniques of communication and strengthening of rapport with a child.



For this purpose has been developed a training module in cooperation with the Centre to Combat Trafficking in Persons and has been recommended for inclusion in the basic/continuous training programme for police officers. The training module employed in this project has included not only classroom teaching but also role playing, communication instruments, dramatization and other interactive/participatory techniques.

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MOLDOVAN PRESS COUNCIL BOOSTS ITS INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS THANKS TO EU-FUNDED DEMOCRACY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The Moldovan Press Council has established good contacts with their counterparts in some 32 countries with support of the Joint Programme of the European Union and Council of Europe "Democracy Support Programme to Moldova". In the period 3-6 November, the chairwoman and the secretary of Moldovan Press Council, Mrs Ludmila Andronic and Mr Petru Macovei participated at 12th annual conference of the Alliance of Independent Press Councils of Europe (AIPCE), held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.



The AIPCE annual conference provided a forum for Media and Press Council representatives to discuss topical issues, to exchange ideas and to offer and receive advice. The attendance of this annual reunion had a significant importance for the two representatives of the Press Council as it built collaboration relationships with press councils from other 32 countries, boosted the knowledge and skills necessary for examining complaints of media consumers and initiated the dialogue between press institutions and media consumers.

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EU PROJECT PRESENTS INVENTORY OF ILLEGAL/NON-COMPLIANT DISPOSAL SITES IN MOLDOVA

On 3 November the EU-funded regional project "Waste Governance – ENPI East" organised a seminar to present the results of inventory of existing illegal/non-compliant disposal sites in 8 districts of the Southern Development Region of the Republic of Moldova along with a baseline analysis of the existing waste management system.



The seminar envisages to present the in-depth information regarding the current situation in the waste management system, existing difficulties and shortcomings in the Southern Development area and to present the outcomes of the field investigation conducted throughout the period of June-October 2010. Field work was realised through route surveying, completing documentation, photo-documentation, and spatial referencing observation points. The project

The project with a budget of € 5,845,500 is implemented in the ENPI East Countries and aims at assisting and supporting the partner countries in their efforts to reduce the risks arising from inappropriate management of waste, that thereby create environmental pollution hazards to the community and to natural resources.

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EU JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE HOLDS AN INFORMATION EXCHANGE EVENT IN CHISINAU

On 8–9 November the Joint Research Centre of the European Union (JRC) held in Chisinau a JRC Information Exchange Event, followed by a workshop. Both events were organised together with the Academy of Sciences of Moldova. The objective of the information event was to deliver an insight on the JRC's activities with specific focus on metrology (IRMM) and identify possible areas of collaboration. The foresight workshop reflected the Moldovan request to inform the national experts on foresight methods with a view of initiating such an exercise in the future.

The JRC Information Exchange Event aimed at strengthening co-operation of Moldovan scientific community with the European Union, especially in the process of association to the EU Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), a financial tool through which the European Union supports research and development activities covering almost all scientific disciplines. During the Event new partnerships were identified and new joint project ideas were presented.

The JRC is a Directorate-General of the European Commission which provides customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU policies. As a service of the European Commission, the JRC functions as a reference centre of science and technology for the Union.

More information at: <http://www.international.asm.md/>

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EU-FUNDED HOLDS TRADE MISSION TO THE NETHERLANDS

On 8–11 November the EU-funded project "Support to Export Promotion and Investment Attraction in the Republic of Moldova" co-financed and co-organised an export and investment trade mission to Rotterdam and The Hague in the Netherlands.

While the event in Rotterdam consisted of a business seminar for interested Dutch businessmen on how to do business in Moldova, followed by direct business-to-business meetings between Moldovan and Dutch entrepreneurs, the event in The Hague focused on the possibilities of establishing Moldovan-Dutch Joint Ventures within the framework of the Dutch Government-funded Private Sector Initiative (PSI) Investment Grant Facility.

The attending Moldovan Delegation consisted of over 15 Moldovan companies, primarily originating from the agricultural and agri-processing sectors. The events organised in Rotterdam and The Hague attracted over 35 interested Dutch companies and businessmen.

More information at: <http://miepo.md/>

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DEMOCRACY SUPPORT PROGRAMME PROVIDES CRUCIAL ADVISE ON MEDIA MONITORING TO CCA

In the period 11–27 November, Mr. Marek Mracka, programme coordinator of Europe's leading media monitoring organisation MEMO98, advised and assisted the Coordinating Council of Audiovisual (CCA) in drafting the 2nd and 3rd media monitoring reports on the Early Parliamentary Elections.

The Slovak expert advised the staff members of the Monitoring Unit of CCA how to carry out the media monitoring and assisted the Head of the Monitoring Unit in elaboration of the media monitoring reports in accordance with the European standards. He participated at the daily and weekly meeting of the staff of the Monitoring Unit of CCA and presented his observations on strength and weaknesses of the media monitoring activities and corresponding recommendations. The media monitoring reports were presented on 19th and 26th of November during the CCA sitting.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ORGANISES STUDY VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS

On 8–12 November 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 the Netherlands. The visit was hosted by the Dutch Royal Marechaussee, which is a partner of the project.

During the study visit Moldovan participants familiarised themselves with the theoretical and practical aspects of work of the Dutch colleagues in the field of document security. The intensive programme included introduction into the work of the Expertise Centre of Identity Fraud and Documents, visits to the International Schiphol Airport, Dutch passport printing company Morpho, Graphic High School in Eindhoven with the demonstration of the printing techniques and visit to the Royal Marechaussee Academy in Appeldorn.



The practical aspects of the study visit were covered by the workshops and training sessions, including on-site training on EidsonTD system and e-learning tool. The visit created an added value to the knowledge and skills developed by the Moldovan officials in the earlier project activities.

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EU-FUNDED TRAINING ON EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION FOR NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

On 10-12 November the EU-funded project "Strengthening Moldova's capacity to manage labour and return migration" held in Stockholm, Sweden a training session on external communication for 12 directors of the National Employment Agency (NEA), called "ambassadors" within the institution. This training had the goal to enrich the capacities of NEA directors in terms of communication with job seekers, employers, private agencies of employment and other partners.

The role of the "ambassadors" is to get the necessary knowledge in order to change the attitude in working matters, so that NEA is able to offer services of high quality and European standards to our citizens. In this respect, there have been organised two training sessions on internal and external communication, so that afterwards they could spread the information within the Agency and be as an example for other employees as well as their support.



"This training managed to enrich and strengthen our knowledge. Specialists from the Swedish Public Employment Agency hold a wide working experience which we tried to take over," mentioned Liudmila Diminet, director of NEA from Cahul.

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

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CROSS-BORDER CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME OPENS A BRANCH OFFICE IN MOLDOVA

On 11 November the EU-funded Cross-Border Cooperation Programme Romania-Ukraine-Republic of Moldova announced the opening of the three branch offices of Programme's Joint Technical Secretariat in Chisinau, Chernivtsi and Odessa.

These offices will help to promote the Programme, and give reliable information to potential applicants and beneficiaries located in all participating countries regarding the technical conditions for financing. The branch office in Chisinau will cover the whole country, while the offices in Ukraine will cover Odessa and Chernivtsi Regions, as well as the adjoining Programme's areas from Ukraine.

The Cross-Border Cooperation Programme Romania-Ukraine-Republic of Moldova aims to create bridges among the three countries involved in order to help the border areas overcome their similar development challenges. EU funding for the Programme is €126.72 million for the period of 2007-2013. The programme is financed from the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument.



More information at: <http://www.ro-ua-md.net/>

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INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT: INCREASING SECURITY AND SIMPLIFYING BORDER CROSSING

On 15 November the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) held in Chisinau an International Conference on Integrated Border Management (IBM). Jointly organised with the Border Guard Service of the Republic of Moldova, the conference has gathered together more than 100 top managers and professionals from the border agencies of Ukraine and Moldova, 3 other EU Eastern Partnership countries, 12 EU Member States, representatives of embassies to Moldova and 12 international organisations working in the field of border security.



“Modern states have to rely on an economy which is open for international trade and yet at the same time offer a high degree of security to their citizens,” said Ambassador Dirk Schuebel, Head of the EU Delegation. “The Integrated Border Management Concept has an important role to play in efficiently combating illegal migration, trafficking in human beings, and other cross-border crimes. It also allows for simplified border checks, thus, making borders easier to cross,” he added.

EU Integrated Border Management model is one of the main elements of EU security strategy. The IBM model implies intensive cooperation amongst border agencies internally and internationally. Instruments such as modern risk analysis techniques, highly professional human resources, training, communication and information exchange, developed infrastructure and effective equipment help to achieve positive results.

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

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ORGANISES SUPPORTED PILOT TRAINING ON DOCUMENT SECURITY

On 15–18 November the EU-funded project “Strengthening Capacities and Cooperation in the Identification of Forged and Falsified Travel Documents at the Moldova–Romania Border” organised the Supported Pilot Training on document security for the representatives of the Border Guard Service, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Informational Technologies and Communication.



This was the third training of its kind, organised in the project, following the training piloted in summer this year. The Supported Pilot training was performed by the national trainers from the Border Guard Service and the Ministry of Interior. The support and methodological supervision of the training was provided by the Dutch and Romanian trainers in the field of document security.

The national trainers were qualified in the course of the training of trainers which was organised within the project on 24 May–4 June. While the training curricula for the supported pilot trainings were developed by Working Group on training on document security, consisting of the representatives of the Moldovan institutions and international experts. The next training will take place in December 2010.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT CONDUCTS TRAINING FOR MOLDOVAN MIGRATION AUTHORITIES

On 16-18 of November the EU funded project "Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building for the Governments of Ukraine and Moldova for the Implementation of Readmission Agreements with the European Union" (GUMIRA) held a training on Cultural Orientation and Conflict Management for Moldovan migration authorities and local NGOs. The objective of the training was to increase the awareness of Moldovan authorities on intercultural issues, enabling them to foresee, prevent and resolve possible conflict situations while working with groups of migrants.

15 representatives from the Border Guards Service, the Bureau for Migration and Asylum, the Migrants Accommodation Centre as well as local NGOs took part in the training. The participants were provided with key knowledge and best practices in the domain. This will allow them to better collaborate, communicate and negotiate conflicts in multicultural environments through developing cultural sensitivity and respect, recognising differences in values and priorities as well as through a better understanding of cultural differences and migrants' needs insuring at the same time safe accommodation for detained migrants.



More information at: <http://www.iom.md/>

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EU TWINS ITS BEST PRACTICES AND STANDARDS IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN MOLDOVA

On 18 November the EU Delegation, the Moldovan Agency for Public Procurement and the Romanian Ministry of Public Finance launched the EU-funded Twinning Project „Support for Public Procurement System in Republic of Moldova”. The overall objective of this project is to strengthen Moldova’s public administration through further development, improvement and reinforcement of the public procurement within the Moldovan public finance system.

The project with a budget of about €1 million will enhance the implementing capacities of public procurement in Moldova at all levels, with particular emphasis on the Agency for Material Resources, Public Procurement and Humanitarian Aid. It should improve the functioning of the current public procurement system through increased transparency and information provision which would ensure the fulfilment of the basic principles of public procurement, i.e. the assurance of transparency, non-discrimination, fair competition and access to legal recourse.

This covers organisational and managerial aspects, staff development, procedures and an administrative system in order to strengthen long term operational competence and capacity of contracting entities as well as approximation with EU legislation on public procurement.

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EUBAM SUMMARISES THE JOINT BORDER CONTROL OPERATION ON MOLDOVAN-UKRAINIAN BORDER

On 18 November the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) gathered in Odessa the representatives of the Ukrainian and Moldovan border services and other law enforcement bodies of Ukraine to evaluate the Joint Border Control Operation TYRA 2010 along the Moldovan-Ukrainian border and chart the way forward for future international cooperation in border management.

"Through the joint work of Moldovan and Ukrainian border services with direct EUBAM support, TYRA 2010 has positively impacted on border security along the Moldovan-Ukrainian border," said Slawomir Pichor, Deputy Head of EUBAM. "Inter-agency, cross-border and international cooperation is vital in securing borders and the intelligence led approach taken by the partners in this operation is a great example of that."



TYRA 2010 is the 7th joint border control operation along the Moldovan-Ukrainian border. As a result of the operation, smuggled goods detected are valued at over €535,000. This is 170% increase over the previous 6th operation in 2009. For the first time, the 7th joint border control operation included representatives from EUROPOL and FRONTEX.

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

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TWO EU FUNDED PROJECTS INAUGURATED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE "SUPPORT TO CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES" PROGRAMME

On November 19th, The Head of the EU Delegation inaugurated two projects in the Transnistrian region in the Slobodzia region: a municipal solid waste management system in Nezavertaloivca and an Outpatient health care services in Cioburci.

The waste management system was completed with new platforms and containers for solid waste collection as well as with a new modern truck for waste collection. The project envisaged joint work by Moldovan and Transnistrian environmental specialists to address waste management issues in the region.

The Outpatient health care services in Cioburci was renovated and equipped with new furniture and basic medical equipment and appears now as a pilot center in the region.

These projects have implied intensive and day-to-day cooperation between experts from both sides of the Nistru river and are part of EU increasing efforts to contribute to building confidence in the region.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT HOLDS A FAIR ON LABOUR MARKET OPPORTUNITIES IN GERMANY

On 20 November the EU-funded project "Strengthening Moldova's capacity to manage labour and return migration" held in Nurnberg, Germany the 2nd Informative Fair on Labour Market Opportunities from Moldova. The event gathered Moldovans living in Germany, and wishing to return home. In this respect there were invited 10 leading Moldovan companies and 2 private agencies of recruitment that offered vacancies from the following domains: IT, banking, constructions, food and beverage industry, services, etc.

„This job fair offered us the possibility to look for employees with highly qualified skills and European knowledge who will for sure contribute to the company's development in particular and to the country one in general," remarked the employers.



The job fair has been organised by the National Employment Agency and EU-funded project in partnership with the German Centre for International Migration who presented its project of supporting Moldovan experts returned home.

Sergiu Sainciuc, Vice Minister of Labor, Social Protection and Family was present at the official opening of the job fair. He welcomed this kind of events that aim to inform Moldovans abroad about possibilities of the labor market from Moldova.

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

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THANKS TO EU PROJECT THE INHABITANTS OF CIOBRUCI VILLAGE WILL RECEIVE QUALITY MEDICAL SERVICES

On 22 November in Ciobrucu village, Slobozia district was inaugurated the Medical Center repaired and renovated from European Union funds. The reconstruction of the medical institution was carried out in the framework of the project «Never Alone», implemented by EU/UNDP programme "Support to Confidence Building Measures".



The purpose of the project «Never Alone», implemented by "Regina Pacis Foundation", was the renovation and reparation of the Medical Center from Ciobrucu village, offering to the inhabitants of this village, but also from neighbouring villages, access to high quality and prompt health services. In September, "Regina Pacis Foundation" has successfully completed the reparation of the ambulatory, rebuilding and re-equipping all the offices with modern medical equipment and furniture.

«We have achieved our goal, and the problem of the access of the population to quality health services was solved. Today, after implementation of the project, the village has a Medical Centre repaired and equipped with modern equipment. Also, thanks to the project, a group of local doctors participated in several study tours in Anenii Noi and Chisinau, gathering theoretical and practical skills in providing quality healthcare. The project had also a social impact, because have informed 120 young people on healthy lifestyle. The trainings improved and strengthened the relations between the inhabitants of this region", said Ilie Zabica, the coordinator of the project.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTS INVESTING MIGRANTS' REMITTANCES INTO ECONOMY

On 22 November the Government of Moldova launched the pilot Programme on Attracting Remittances into the Economy "PARE 1+1". It was adopted by a Government Decision in October and aims to stimulate the transfer of remittance through official channels, transfer of knowledge and know-how, facilitate the access of migrants to funds, and the creation of new working places in Moldova.

Implemented by the Organisation for Small and Medium Enterprises (OSME) for the period of 2010-2012, PARE 1+1 will match every 1 leu invested by a Moldovan migrant or his/her 1st grade relative is coupled with another 1 leu from the state for launching a new private enterprise, or the development of an existing enterprise, especially in rural areas. The programme will comprise four Components: Information campaigns, Trainings and Consultancy, Financing of the businesses, and Monitoring and Assessment.



The International Organisation for Migration through the EU-funded project "Supporting the implementation of migration and development component of the Mobility Partnership EU-Moldova" will support OSME in the information campaign of PARE 1+1, as well as provide grants to several migrants who will demonstrate the feasibility of their businesses for the development of the local community.

More information at: <http://www.iom.md/> and <http://www.odimm.md/>
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APPROXIMATION TO EU STANDARDS IN STATE AID LAW AND POLICY

On 23 November the EU-funded project "Support for the Implementation of the Agreements between the Republic of Moldova and the European Union" held a media briefing on state aid law and policy, a subject of fundamental interest for competition, trade and Moldova's process of EU Integration. The event facilitated the presentation of the first major study in Moldova on state aid and subsidies regulation in line with EU, WTO and CEFTA requirements, entitles "State Aid Law and Policy – Approximation to EU Standards in the Republic of Moldova".



The Study is part of the Project's Sectoral Law Approximation Guidelines series and offers a detailed assessment together with strategic recommendations and conclusions for the further development of the law approximation process in Moldova in relation to State aid regulation. State aid regulation is regarded as being one of the most complex and difficult spheres in the EU integration process.

In 1998 Moldova committed itself to gradual approximation of law and policy with EU standards in this field and related commitments have since been entered into in the WTO and CEFTA 2006 setting. To date, there has been very little progress in establishing a national system of state aid regulation in Moldova

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EU-FUNDED TWINNING PROJECT HOLDS KICK-OFF MEETING

On 23 November the EU-funded Twinning Project "Support to Implementation and Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights in the Republic of Moldova" held the Kick-Off Meeting. The overall objective of this project with a budget of €1 million is to improve the implementation and the enforcement of intellectual property rights in the Republic of Moldova, in line with the provisions in the EU-Moldova Action Plan.



The Project will be implemented during 2 years by the Danish Patent and Trademark Office, the Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks and the State Agency on Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova (AGEPI). It will strengthen the administrative capacity of AGEPI, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs (Direction of Frauds), Ministry of Economy and Trade, Customs Service, to establish a constructive dialogue between all stakeholders and to effectively enforce intellectual property rights.

Representatives of public authorities responsible for the enforcement and protection of intellectual property rights, non-governmental organisations and the academic community took part in the conference to launch the project.

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EU SUPPORTS DEMOCRATISATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CAHUL REGION

On 24 November the EU-funded project "Capacity strengthening and awareness raising in Cahul region" held in Cahul the final conference. The overall objective of the project was to promote democratisation and sustainable development of Cahul region. Experts from Jelgava (Latvia) together with its cooperation partners from Downpatrick (UK) during 2 years provide trainings for decision makers and specialists of Cahul region municipalities and representatives of NGOs in different spheres: financial system of municipalities, decentralisation and democratisation, environmental and social issues, sustainable development, encouraging of local initiatives and local action groups, EU issues.



Children drawings competition were organised in all three countries (Latvia, Moldova, and UK) in order to improve the understanding of giving culture and charity. Also children parents, families and classmates were informed about project and its objectives giving wider understanding of development cooperation. Within the project the youth forum took place to start the dialogue, cooperation and best practice exchange between young people – next decision makers and creators of politics – from involved countries. During the project implementation the new project concept between Euroregion „Saule“ – which member is Jelgava District Council – and Euroregion „Lower Danube“ which embraces several regions from Moldova, Ukraine and Romania was elaborated.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT SUMS UP ACHIEVEMENTS

On 25 November the EU-funded project "Support to Export Promotion and Investment Attraction in the Republic of Moldova" (SEPIA) held an end-of-project press conference to communicate the results achieved during the project implementation. The project with a total budget of €1.6 million ran for 24 months and aimed at promotion of Moldovan exports, attract foreign investors and assist selected Moldovan Testing Laboratories in gaining international-recognised accreditation. Its main beneficiaries were the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries.



Octavian Calmac, Vice Minister of Economy, provided a general overview of the export and investment environment in Moldova, highlighted specific governmental initiatives to support Moldovan exporters and attract foreign investors and thanked the SEPIA project for the support given during project implementation.

Vasile Bumakov, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Food Industries, described the general Measurement-Standardisation-Testing-Quality (MSTQ) structure prevailing in Moldova and stressed the efforts made by the Government of Moldova to approximate this infrastructure to the EU level.

Ambassador Dirk Schuebel, Head of the EU Delegation to Moldova mentioned in his speech that "the project has achieved all the outputs we set it out to do and we are happy to see that this is also recognised by other donors as, for instance, the Dutch Centre for Promotion of Imports from Third Countries (CBI) will continue the export programmes initiated by the Project in, amongst others, the wine, fresh fruit and vegetables and ICT sectors".

More information at: <http://miepo.md/>

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EU FUNDED PROJECT DONATES PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION EQUIPMENT TO THE COORDINATING COUNCIL OF AUDIOVISUAL

The conference room of the Coordinating Council of Audiovisual (CCA) of the Republic of Moldova is now endowed with specialised equipment for presentation of the media monitoring reports, video materials etc. The equipment was donated on 26 November by the Joint Programme of the European Union and Council of Europe "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova".



The new equipment (LCD displays, conference room microphones and audio systems and notebook with HDMI output) will enable CCA to present the results of the monitoring reports drafted by its Monitoring Unit, the news items contested by political parties or citizens in the complaints, the materials submitted by broadcasters to CCA for requesting the new licenses etc. The total cost of the devices donated by Democracy Support Programme is around 8000 Euros.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

The EU-funded and UNDP-implemented project "Electoral Support to Moldova" provided support to the Central Electoral Commission (CEEC) in organisation of pilot electronic voting during the parliamentary elections on 28 November. The project equipped with laptops 43 pilot polling stations in the Centru district of Chisinau to test the electronic voter registry based on the findings of the Referendum pilot test.

The institutional capacity of the CEC was again tested in terms of organising and co-ordinating the entirety of activities related to Pilot Test. Compared to September Pilot Test the CEC took over all the activities regarding co-ordination of e-register operators which is an enormous step towards the future.

The project in co-operation with the IOM also provided support to the CEC and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (MFAEI) for out of country voting on 28 November. The project provided training and material support to both organisations, as well as public information campaigns and activities for Moldovan Voters residing abroad.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT INITIATES THE REVISION OF THE CEC COMMUNICATION PLAN

The EU-funded and UNDP-implemented project "Electoral Support to Moldova" initiated in November the revision of the Communication Plan of the Central Electoral Commission (CEC) through a training session with the CEC Civic Education and Training Department based on lessons learned from the Referendum. Using the findings of the training, CEC with the Project revised the overall Communication Plan for the parliamentary elections on 28 November with the CEC Head of Civic Education and Training.

With this baseline document, the project initiated and coordinated a common communication strategic plan and financial inputs from international donors and stakeholders (CoE, IFES) in the view of a strong civic education/information campaign for the November elections. The project funded the production of a strategy and designing all materials.

Fourteen PSAs (audio and audio-visual, Romanian and Russian, some in animation versions) were produced, as well as billboards, over the street liners, light boxes, posters, leaflets, internet banners, coasters. A social network campaign was designed, for the first time and in collaboration with the CEC and Project Communication Centre, which was equipped by the project with ceiling camera, Interview Room, professional lights. The project organised also an Internet competition.

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EU-FUNDED DEMOCRACY SUPPORT PROGRAMME TRAINS JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS

Some 60 judges and prosecutors have been trained in November within the Democracy Support Programme in Moldova. The participants attended two types of trainings each covering specific issues such as combating ill-treatment and impunity and the use of alternatives to pre-trial detention and imprisonment.

The trainings were carried out by two national trainers who earlier this year passed a Training-of-Trainers on the European Court of Human Rights and the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture standards for combating ill-treatment and impunity and The use of alternatives to pre-trial detention and imprisonment. This training session is an essential component of the Joint Programme's efforts in combating torture and ill-treatment and promote human rights awareness in Moldova.



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IMPACT OF EU STANDARDS IN MOLDOVAN UNIVERSITIES

In November the EU-funded project "Support for the Implementation of Agreements between the Republic of Moldova and the European Union" has organised a series of information seminars on EU food regulation with students and teachers from several Universities in Chisinau. The purpose of the seminars programme was to raise the informational level of both the teachers and students about EU law, more specifically the approximation of agri-food legislation in Moldova.

The presentation included a short introduction to EU food law systems and the harmonisation process in Moldova using the example of fruit and vegetables quality and safety regulations. Richard Moody, EU expert and English lawyer specialised in agri-food legislation, presented the changes in Moldovan agri-food legislation in the context of the EU law approximation process that Moldova is currently undergoing. "The EU model of agri-food regulation is a successful and sustainable model which can be usefully used as a reference for Moldovan agri-food development", he said.



Ion Bulgac, a lecturer at the law faculty of the agrarian university said "having an EU expert giving out extremely important information regarding the effects of EU norms on Moldovan agri-food legislation, adds significant value to our own teaching methods and we appreciate the EU project activity of raising awareness in our universities."

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POLICE OFFICERS ON EU-FUNDED STUDY VISIT TO LONDON METROPOLITAN POLICE

On 17-21 November, some eleven police officers visited London Metropolitan Police Service with the aim to study in more details specific crowd management and riot control tactics and techniques. The Moldovan police officers had the opportunity to see the equipment and vehicles used for public order purposes, they also visited the Special Operations Room, where an in-depth presentation of the operational planning and chain of command examples was made.



The participants also had the opportunity to visit the Public Order Training, Milton, where they observed the public order training practices and techniques, including the use of force. On the last day the Moldovan delegation visited the Charlton Athletic Football Club and saw the operational planning and chain of command principles in action for a football match. The study visit, organized by the in the framework of the democracy Support Programme, is part of ongoing efforts aimed at providing Moldovan law-enforcement agencies with knowledge of the international principles for upholding freedom of assembly. It is hoped that it will be translated into improved policing practices and better understanding of the role of law enforcement agencies during demonstrations.

Contact person: **Ulvi Akhundlu**, e-mail: ulvi.akhundlu@coe.int

EU PROJECT HAS BROUGHT DRINKING WATER IN NEZAVERTAILOVCA VILLAGE

The NGO «Renașterea» in partnership with local authorities and local associations „Akvavita” from Nezavertailovka and with support of EU programme “Support to Confidence Building Measures” have managed in less than one year to repair water and sewage systems from Nezavertailovca, providing drinking water for more than half of the villagers.



From the project resources, it was repaired the aqueduct and sewer system in two local schools and kindergartens, being also renovated cafeterias, kitchens and bathrooms in the schools. Today 476 pupils and 66 children under school age from Nezavertailovca have permanent access to drinking water and use modern toilets and washstands with warm water, reducing in such way significantly the degree of illness of children with infectious diseases.

The project “Reparation of water and sewer systems in Nezavertailovca village, Slobozia district» was implemented during eight months by the NGO «Renastarea» in partnership with local authorities and local NGO “Akvavita”. The project goal was to provide circa 50% of the inhabitants of Nezavertailovca village with high quality drinking water, to increase the awareness of the villagers on the need to store and rational use of natural resources, including drinking water, and to develop civil society capacity to solve concrete problems in partnership with local authorities and NGOs from other regions.

Contact person: **Victor Munteanu**, e-mail: victor.munteanu@undp.org



EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

29 NOVEMBER – 3 DECEMBER, VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

TAIEX Study Visit on Corruption Risk Analysis in Public Institutions.

Contact person: Christiane Kirschbaum, e-mail: Christiane.Kirschbaum@ec.europa.eu

29 NOVEMBER – 3 DECEMBER, CHISINAU

TAIEX Expert Mission.

Contact person: Christiane Kirschbaum, e-mail: Christiane.Kirschbaum@ec.europa.eu

1 AND 9 DECEMBER, CHISINAU

One-day training sessions on prevention and combating ill-treatment and impunity for police officers, prosecutors and judges within the EU-funded "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova"

Contact person: Ulvi Akhundlu, e-mail: ulvi.akhundlu@coe.int

2 AND 10 DECEMBER, CHISINAU

One-day training sessions on use of alternatives to pre-trial detention and imprisonment for judges and prosecutors within the EU-funded "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova"

Contact person: Ulvi Akhundlu, e-mail: ulvi.akhundlu@coe.int

7 DECEMBER, MOLDOVA

A road show in the framework of ENPI-FLEG Program.

9–10 DECEMBER, CHISINAU

Workshop on Harmonisation of Electricity Standards aiming to transfer know-how on low voltage European/IEC standards

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

Contact person: Yana Naralska, e-mail: y.naralska@gmail.com

13 DECEMBER, CHISINAU

Round table on "Media monitoring by Coordinating Council of Audiovisual – results and lessons learned" within the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova"

Contact person: Ulvi Akhundlu, e-mail: ulvi.akhundlu@coe.int

13–15 DECEMBER, GLASGOW

Study visit by prosecutors and officials of the Ministry of the Interior on effective investigation of ill-treatment within the EU-funded "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova"

Contact person: Ulvi Akhundlu, e-mail: ulvi.akhundlu@coe.int

14–16 DECEMBER, CHISINAU

In-house training for the staff of the public-service broadcaster "Teleradio Moldova" in preparing, planning and managing 'quality' Radio and TV programmes with a focus on social-cultural and sport programmes

Contact person: Ulvi Akhundlu, e-mail: ulvi.akhundlu@coe.int

15 DECEMBER, CHISINAU

2nd Steering Committee Meeting of the Democracy Support Programme

Contact person: Ulvi Akhundlu, e-mail: ulvi.akhundlu@coe.int

16–17 DECEMBER, CHISINAU

Seminar on Article 3 and 8 of the ECHR for the staff of the Moldovan Human Rights Centre (Ombudsman Office) within the EU-funded and Council of Europe-implemented "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova"

Contact person: Ulvi Akhundlu, e-mail: ulvi.akhundlu@coe.int

20–21 DECEMBER, CHISINAU

Training on international protocol for the members of the Parliament and its staff within the EU-funded "Democracy Support Programme in Moldova"

Contact person: Ulvi Akhundlu, e-mail: ulvi.akhundlu@coe.int