

EU CO-OPERATION NEWS

Newsletter of the Delegation of the European Union to Moldova

EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EU-FUNDED PROJECT ORGANIZED ONE-WEEK STUDY TOUR

During 15–20th November, 2010, the EU-funded project "Strengthening Moldova's capacity to manage labour and return migration" in partnership with the Federal Employment Agency of Germany organized a study tour on vocational education to Nurnberg, Germany.

Among the participants of the study tour there were representatives of the Minister of Labour, Family and Social Protection, Minister of Education, National Employment Agency, Chamber of Commerce and directors of several schools for vocational education. This study tour aimed to exchange information and experience linked to vocational education, improve the practice in this area as well as to establish European standards and procedures in vocational education domain.



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EU –FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTED THE 4TH PILOT TRAINING ON DOCUMENT SECURITY

On 13–16 November, 2010, Moldovan officials were trained on the document security during the 4th Support Pilot Training. The training was implemented under the project "Strengthening Capacities and Cooperation in the Identification of Forged and Falsified Travel Documents at the Moldova-Romania Border", funded by the European Commission.

The training session was performed by the national trainers, who had been trained during training of trainers organised earlier under the same project. International experts-trainers from the Netherlands and Romanian provided a guidance, support and supervision of the national trainers.

All the 20 participants, representing the Border Guard Service,

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Informational Technologies and Communication, received a comprehensive four-days training on various aspects of document security.

The topics of the training included: the secure documents production features, profiling and impostor detection. Special attention was given to the practical exercises of work with the documents and simulation games.

The outputs of the training were analysis of the overall results of the training module and recommendations on sustainability of the project results, elaborated by the international experts in cooperation with the representatives of the working group.

The next workshop will be organised in January 2011.

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THE WORKSHOP ON THE JUDICIARY REFORM WAS ORGANISED WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION HIGH LEVEL POLICY ADVICE MISSION (EUHLPAM)

On 30 November-3 December, 2010, the workshop on the Judiciary Reform: procedures and criteria for judges selection, promotion and performance evaluation held in Chisinau, Moldova.

The initiative of this workshop was taken by the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Council of Magistracy in recognition of importance of the judges' selection, promotion and evaluation system not only for judicial system and also for all society.

The workshop was conducted in accordance with the so-called Logical Framework Approach (LFA) methodology, which is a planning tool widely used in strategic and programmatic planning. Participants of the workshop were members of the Superior Council of Magistracy,



judges from different levels courts, representatives of the Bar of Advocates, State Prosecutor's office, the Ministry of Justice, University and, the civil society and relevant NGOs. During the workshop recommendations were developed for reviewing and amendment the criteria for selection of judges to the first instance court; criteria for promotion of judges to court of higher instance; criteria for promotion of judges to the position of chairperson for a court and procedures in order to ensure transparency and impartiality.

This project was funded and supported by the EU funded projects, namely by the EU High Level Policy Advice Mission (EUHLPAM) and by the Support to the implementation of Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and the European Union and by the Moldovan-Lithuanian Foundation "European Integration Studies Centre".

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THE WORLD BANK COOPERATES WITH NGOs IN MOLDOVA TO ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY OF FOREST LOGGING PRACTICES

The World Bank has launched a cooperation effort with the NGO communities in Moldova to implement activities under the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument – Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (ENPI-FLEG) Program for the period of 2010–2011.

The forest public association "Silva - Mileniu III" was selected to provide FLEG professional education and training for the forestry staff on creating and using databases and GIS for FLEG purposes, as well as to develop digital forest mapping and provide trainings on forest cover change mapping for the purpose of assessing sustainability of the forest logging practices. A digital forest map (database, conventional system for the cadastre, thematic maps)



will be developed along with the appropriate training programs provided for all forestland owners. The NGO Ecological Society "Biotica" was engaged to implement the World Bank's subprogram related to strengthening institutional and human capacities of entities subordinated to the Forest Agency Moldsilva (ICAS, nature reserves, forestry units), including organization of relevant educational process.

Environmental NGO "Eco-Spectru" was assigned to conduct a Community Forest Management Planning in several districts of Moldova, organize several workshops with local communities dependent on forests, and provide local authorities with the materials on the forest management planning works (47 studies and 94 maps).



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EU SUPPORTED THE ROAD SHOW: "MOLDOVAN FORESTS: REALITY, PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS"

On 7th December, 2010, with the support of the European Union, a road show took place in the framework of the ENPI-FLEG Program "Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia".

The show aimed at drawing the attention of the civil society on the following issues: problems regarding the forest fund of Moldova, application of legal provisions and forest sector management, citizens' access to information the legal usage of the forest resources and wood pulp, as well to familiarisation with the European Union actions oriented forest protection and management.



Aurel Lozan, IUCN's National Consultant ENPI FLEG, commented that one of the problems and challenges of the forest sector is the illegal logging: "Official data on the level of wood illegally logged in Moldova during 1997-2004 stated an amount of 142300 cubic meters. Thus the total amount of revenue lost was over 10 million Moldavian lei. Illegal logging is a serious threat to forest ecosystems and their biodiversity."

During the project implementation period it is intended to improve the relevant legislation, and specifically to revise and update the Forestry Code as well as other relevant legal acts.

Among the participants of the road show were representatives of the European Union Delegation to Moldova, Ministry of Ecology, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Agency "Moldsilva", Eco NGOs and representatives from the business sector and wood processing companies.

More information at: www.enpi-fleg.org

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MOLDOVAN HONEY MEETS THE EUROPEAN UNION STANDARDS FOR EXPORT

On 8th December, 2010, the European Project "Support for the implementation of agreements between Moldova and the European Union" organized an information session on successful practices of honey production in Moldova.

The event targeted the producers and economic agents in the region and aimed to be a transfer of knowledge and best practices in accordance with the European Union rules. Local beekeepers also received from industry experts (Adrija Sietinsone and Richard Moody) the EU recommendations manual on hygiene norms, on how the honey should be packaged, transported, etc. The informative session included as well an inspection visit to the local honey producer recognized by the authorities to meet the EU standards.



Moldova is a leading producer of honey, with a potential market for the European Union, given the excess production that allows the export without negative effects for the domestic market.

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EU FUNDED PROJECT "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PROGRAMME ROMANIA-MOLDOVA AND CADES 2004-2005"HELD THE CLOSING CONFERENCE

On 8th December, 2010, the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Moldova organized the closing Conference of the project "Technical Assistance for Neighborhood Programmes Romania-Moldova and CADSES 2004-2005" funded by the European Union in the framework of the Moldova –Romania Neighborhood Program 2004-2006, which was implemented in the period 18thJuly, 2007 – 31st December, 2010.

The project aimed to the establishment of the operational office for the Country Contact Point for the Cross Border Cooperation (CBC) Programmes.

The successful results of the 12 CBC projects implemented in the

framework of the Moldova–Romania Neighborhood Programme 2004-2006 were presented at the conference. The following achievements were mentioned: the collaboration with the partners from Romania, lessons learned and new funding opportunities of the Joint Operational Programmes obtained under European Neighborhood Partnership Instrument financed by the European Union.

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THE EUROPEAN BORDER ASSISTANCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE (EUBAM) SUPPORTS NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION CONFERENCE IN MOLDOVA

On 9th December, 2010, the national conference "Achievements and Perspectives in the Corruption Prevention" held in Chisinau, Moldova. The main statement of the conference was about the corruption is a real danger for democracy, and it is necessary to mobilize all state powers for its elimination.

The event was jointly organized by EUBAM and the Centre for Combating Economic Crimes and Corruption (CCECC). The conference gathered together representatives of the Moldovan government, law enforcement agencies, civil society, international organisations and diplomats. Conference participants were greeted by Moldovan Prime Minister Vladimir Filat and Political Officer of the EU Delegation to Moldova Dirk Lorenz.



Udo Burkholder, the Head of EUBAM highlighted that there should be no place for corruption in state institutions: » The corruption is a disease that undermines the basis of power. It impedes the development of reforms and favours the loss of public means. The corruption is garbage that needs to be taken out every day."

The main topics of the conference were anti-corruption efforts undertaken by the government of Moldova in 2010, the role of law enforcement, control bodies and courts in implementing the anti-corruption policies, transparency and responsibility in political activity.

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STUDY TOUR WAS ORGANISED WITH THE SUPPORT OF EU-FUNDED PROJECT FOR THE DELEGATION OF NINE MOLDOVAN OPERATORS INVOLVED IN FIGHTING AGAINST CHILD TRAFFICKING

On 12–16 December, 2010 there has been exchange of best practices in Italy held for the delegation of 9 Moldovan operators involved in fighting against child trafficking.

Meetings have been held with Italian Tribunal for Minors, Specialized section for minors of State and Local Police, Social Services, Anti-trafficking NGO, Child Shelter.

Meetings have enabled delegates to share their real-life experiences, to communicate with their peers from Italy and expand their professional networks, to learn from others, as well as to review and comment on case studies presented.

Moreover this professional exchange aimed to help with knowledge



transfer and elimination of stereotyping and prejudice and will provide the opportunity for development of the long-term partnership amongst all parties involved in fight against trafficking of children.

Participants considered the exchange of best practice as a good opportunity for a deep analysis of the principle of the best interests of the child, and as a good experience to give new impulses to the efforts carried out in Moldova to improve the system of prevention, protection and rehabilitation of child victims of trafficking for/and sexual exploitation.

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"COMMUNICATE YOUR WORK"-A COMMUNICATION SKILLS TRAINING WAS CONDUCTED BY THE EU-FUNDED PROJECT "SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENTS BETWEEN EU AND MOLDOVA."

On 13-14 December, 2010, the EU-funded project "Support to the implementation of agreements between EU and Moldova" jointly with specialized trainers provided a practical and instructive course to the staff of the Center for Legal Approximation (CLA) to ensure they are equipped with the skills needed to communicate successfully with the media.

During the two days of training, the CLA team learned how to present their complex technical language into simple language, completed exercises and obtained techniques in order to make the institution more responsive, accessible, and understandable in its communications with the public.



Recent discussions with journalists revealed a serious mismatch between the information they receive and what they understand. By using plain language, a public institution could send a clear message about their activity, their needs, services offered for the benefit of the society.

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EU-FUNDED STUDY VISIT ON THE EFFECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF ILL-TREATMENT

On 13-15 December, 2010, the Democracy Support Programme organized a 3-day study visit to Scottish governmental institutions entitled "The effective investigation of ill-treatment: Scots law and practice" and a seminar on the same subject.

There were 6 prosecutors representing different divisions of the General Prosecutors' Office, including the recently established Division for Combating Torture and the Division on analysis and implementation of the ECHR, as well as two police officers from the Unit for Internal Investigations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The programme contained visits to the Crown Office, the Police Complaints Commissioner for Scotland and the University of Glasgow. As a result of the study visit the participants were given



advices on how domestic practice of investigation could be improved through the establishment of proper practices and effective working relationships and on how to provide effective protection for pre-trial detainees against ill-treatment while in custody. Moldovan prosecutors and police officers visited an arrest house where arrested persons are held up to 12/24 hours (the Helen Street Police Station) and a full fledged prison (Barlinnie) comprising a pre trial detention facility along with imprisonment of convicted persons.

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DEMOCRACY SUPPORT PROGRAMME OFFERS COMMUNICATION EXPERTISE TO THE PARLIAMENT OF MOLDOVA

During 13-20 December, 2010, an international consultant on communication and public relations provided analysis and comments on the recently developed 2011-2013 plan for the implementation of the Parliament of Moldova communication strategy.

The expert shared the experience of the new EU member-countries pre-accession communication strategies aimed at different groups of society and provided expert advice to the PRM Director General and key staff on respective best practices. He also conducted a seminar for the staff of Apparatus on successful communication strategies and practices in the Baltic States parliaments. The expert's recommendations on how to increase the general public's trust and support of the Parliament will be put to use once the implementation of the communication strategy action plan begins in early 2011.

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EU-FUNDED ROUND TABLE DISCUSSED COORDINATION COUNCIL OF AUDIOVISUAL (CCA) FINAL MEDIA MONITORING REPORT

On 13th December, 2010, the Democracy Support Programme organized a round-table for the national and local broadcasters and civil society representatives to discuss the results of CCA's final media monitoring report on the early parliamentary elections.

The round-table was attended by some 30 representatives of the TV and radio channels, media NGOs etc. The meeting participants highlighted the improvements in the quality of CCA's media monitoring activities – the CCA issued and examined three detailed media monitoring reports during the election campaign and sanctioned promptly the TV channels violating the legal requirements to ensure balance and pluralism in the news programs.



The results shown for the first time were close to the similar reports made by civil society and international organizations.

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TRAINING FOR JOURNALISTS ORGANIZED BY THE DEMOCRACY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

During 14-16th December 2010, the Democracy Support Programme organized an in-house training on preparing, planning and managing 'quality' radio and TV programmes for the journalists from the public channels "Radio Moldova" and "Moldova 1".

The workshop for "Radio Moldova" was conducted by Dominique Thierry, Director of Trans Euro Media (France), and for "Moldova 1" – by Laurent Rouy, the Programme coordinator of Trans Euro Media (France). Together with the editorial teams from the public broadcaster, the experts analyzed the format, concept and content of the ongoing social-cultural and sport programmes and presented to the participants the formats of the similar programmes produced by public broadcasters from the European Union countries. The experts



also helped the teams from TV and Radio to redesign the format and concept of a social-cultural radio programme and a sport TV programme.

20 journalists from public TV and radio channels were trained on preparing, planning and managing 'quality' radio and TV programmes. The outputs of the training were 2 detailed plans for a social-cultural radio programme and a sport TV programme elaborated by the participants.

In the period 17-20 January 2011, the Programme will organize a follow-up in-house training for the same participants.

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NATIONAL TEMPUS OFFICE IN MOLDOVA HELD THE TEMPUS INFORMATION DAY

On 15th December, 2010, the National Tempus Office (NTO) organized the Tempus Information Day (TID).

The TID objective was to inform beneficiaries about how to prepare a proposal under the Tempus IV – 4th Calls for Proposals, about the rules in Tempus projects implementation and about other EU related programmes.

About 95 persons participated at the event representing Moldovan higher education institutions, Ministry of Education and other interested entities.

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THE EUROPEAN BORDER ASSISTANCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE (EUBAM) MARKS ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY BY OPENING A PHOTO EXHIBITION IN CHISINAU

On 16th December, 2010, the photo exhibition that marks the fifth anniversary of the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) was opened at the Media Centre of the Economic Academy of Moldova.

At the opening ceremony there were representatives of the Delegation of the European Union to Moldova, the Government of the Republic of Moldova, diplomatic corps, representatives of border guard and customs services, academics and the media.

"We are very grateful to all our partners for their support over these five years. Together we have achieved a lot, but of course a lot of work still has to be done," said Mr Slawomir Pichor, Deputy Head of EUBAM.



The exhibition "Borderlands" contained pictures taken by professional photographers, including Konstantin Grozdev, EUBAM's photographer and Julia Gorodetska, journalist from Odessa. The rest of the pictures were taken by members of the multi-national EUBAM team and its local counterparts from Moldova and Ukraine.

Some photos illustrated the work of EUBAM and its partners - the border guard and customs services of Moldova and Ukraine - along the Moldovan-Ukrainian border. Other pictures focused on the natural beauty and on people of Ukraine and Moldova, where the Mission has been working over the last five years.

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EU FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTS MOLDOVA`S COMMITMENTS TO ACHIEVE THE EU STANDARDS IN THE FIELD OF COMPANY LAW AND POLICY

On 17th December, 2010, an important expert study "Company Law and Policy – Approximation to EU Standards in Moldova" has been launching in Chisinau. The assessment is part of the sixteen specialized studies developed by the EU funded project "Support for the Implementation of Agreements between the Republic of Moldova and the European Union".

The Ambassador Dirk Schuebel, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Moldova congratulated the project and the author – Nathalie Gasperini on the quality and relevance of the assessment. Ambassador Schuebel said: "Freedom of establishment underpinned by modern company law standards is important to the trade relations between the EU and Moldova, including those



envisaged for the future under the negotiations on the European Union Moldova Association Agreement."

The study was also welcomed by Alexandru Gozun, Director of the Development Section of Business Environment, of Ministry of Economy and Trade and Mr. Veaceslav Pituscan, Chief of the Economic Relations with EU Section, Assistance and Sectoral Coordination of Ministry for Foreign Affairs and European Integration.

To read more about the priority areas for Company Law and Policy in Moldova, please access www.support-md-eu.md

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EU FUNDED PROJECT HELPED MOLDOVA TO REACH THE EU STANDARDS IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

On 17th December, 2010 in Chisinau, the assessment "Environmental Protection Law and Policy – Approximation to EU Standards in Moldova" has been started. This study is organized with the assistance of the EU funded project "Support for the Implementation of Agreements between the Republic of Moldova and the European Union." This expert study is a part of the sixteen specialized studies developed.

The Ambassador, Dirk Schuebel (Head of the European Union Delegation to the Republic of Moldova) marked in his welcome speech the author Breda Howard on the quality and relevance of the assessment. Ambassador Dirk Schuebel said: "The development of EU environmental policy and law has moved from inauspicious



beginnings to the point, where the EU now plays a leading international role on environmental issues."

Breda Howard underlined the following changes to be introduced to full approximation: national priority given to the environment, a Strategy Framework developed, a modern Environmental Framework Law elaborated, critical capacity constraints removed.

To read more about the priority areas for Environmental Protection in Moldova, please access www.supportmd-eu.md

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EXPERT STUDY "TRANSPORT LAW AND POLICY APPROXIMATION TO THE EU STANDARDS" WAS LAUNCED IN CHISINAU

On 17th, December, 2010 the EU funded project, provided support to Moldova's commitments to achieve EU standards in the field of Transport, started an important expert study in Chisinau, Moldova on law approximation to the EU standards. The assessment is part of the sixteen specialized studies developed by the EU funded project "Support for the Implementation of Agreements between the Republic of Moldova and the European Union".

In the welcome speech the Ambassador Dirk Schuebel (Head of the European Union Delegation to the Republic of Moldova) congratulated the project and Martin Horseling, the author of the assessment.

Dirk Schuebel said: "The process of adopting the EU approach in



transport policy provides clear benefits for the citizens of Moldova. In the EU, the liberalization and harmonization process has resulted in better services at a lower cost, thereby enhancing economic development." The study was also welcomed by Anatol Salaru, Minister of Transport and Road Infrastructure and Veaceslav Pituscan, Chief of the Section of Economic Relations with EU, Assistance and Sectoral Coordination Ministry for Foreign Affairs and European Integration.

Based on the analysis and assessment of law approximation in the Republic of Moldova in the field of Transport Law and Policy Martin Horseling provided some recommendations related to the gaps existing in the legislation of Moldova, to the insufficient enforcement of existing legislation, to the institutional structure reforms need to be implemented, to making the priorities as to economic benefits of the newly adopted legislation.

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EU FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTS INFORMATION MATERIAL FOR LABOUR MIGRANTS HEADING TO RUSSIA

On 18th December, 2010, in the occasion of the International Migrants Day, International Organization for Migration in Chisinau launched a guide for labor migrants heading for Russia in order to inform them about all the new rules meant for foreigners.

This guide provides reliable information on the rights, duties and responsibilities of migrants in accordance with Russian legislation. It comprehensively describes the procedure of the migrants' registration and work permits acquisition, as well as provides a list of the required documents entry and stay in Russia.

The guide also contains important addresses and hotlines numbers. It provides the information based on migration legislation of the Russian Federation according to the latest amendments from October 2010 and is being distributed free of charge.



The guide was developed by the International Organization for Migration, Mission to Moldova in cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Moldova, and was published in the framework of an EU-funded project titled "Supporting the implementation of the Migration and Development component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership."

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EU-FUNDED DEMOCRACY SUPPORT PROGRAMME TRAINED PARLIAMENTARY STUFF ON INTERNATIONAL PROTOCOL MATTERS

During 20–21st December, 2010, the Parliament staff benefited from a training course on international protocol. The purpose of the two-day training course was to prepare the staff and members of the Moldovan Parliament to use correct protocol when dealing with international and regional players.

The training topics included following: handling the organization and logistics pertaining to the high level formal as well as informal visits and personal contacts with distinguished visitors; establishing order of precedence and preparing agendas, including table seating, and vehicle seating protocol; organizing and participating in international social events/conferences and receptions, handling the organization of signing agreement ceremonies and etc. A total



of 20 trainees attended the training which combined theory, discussions and a series of practical cases of immediate relevance and use to the project beneficiaries.

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EU SUPPORTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS

On 23th December, 2010, the European Union has released the first 15 million EUR tranche to the Republic of Moldova within the Economic Stimulation in Rural Areas Sector Policy Support Programme. This budget support programme valued at 45 million EUR, will be implemented during 2010 – 2012.

The main objective of the Programme is to contribute to the sustainable economic development of rural areas in the Republic of Moldova. This will be achieved through the support of interventions in the economic and Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) sectors and on regional development as well as through the provision of related technical assistance to the Moldovan authorities. The EU support will be the biggest grant-based support to the Moldovan rural development sector in the period 2010-2012. This is the 4th



budget support operation implemented by the EU in Moldova in addition to the Social (21 million EUR), Health (46.6 million EUR) and Water and sanitation (42 million EUR) sector policy support programmes.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

18-20 JANUARY 2011, CHISINAU

International Centre for Migration Policy Development will organize a workshop for evaluation and feedback of the pilot phase on training on document security. Contact person: Monika Weber, e-mail: *monika.weber@icmpd.org*

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! THE NEXT ISSUE WILL COME OUT IN JANUARY 2011.

This newsletter is produced in the framework of the project "Communication and Visibility in Moldova 2010". The project is funded by the European Union and implemented by KEY Communications in consortium with PARC Communications. Contact person: Olga Vergeles, e-mail:vergeles@keycommunications.ua