



EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

A TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT IS ORGANISED BY PROJECT LEADER ORGANISATION IN THE TWINNING PROJECT

During 16–21 January 2011 training needs assessment was organized by the delegation of the Danish Patent and Trademark Office (DKPTO), Project Leader organisation in the Twinning Project.

The EU experts Marianne Helledi Knudsen, Principal project consultant of International Projects, and Kim Buchardt Christiansen, Head of Customer Service, evaluated marketing and promotion strategies used by specialists from the IP Promotion and Publishing Department to promote the role of intellectual property in Moldova.

In the framework of the activity the EU experts have met the representatives of the Agency for Innovation and Technology Transfer within the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and with the patent attorneys.

At the end of the mission, the European experts made a detailed assessment of marketing, communication and promotion strategies used to promote the role of intellectual property in Moldova.

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THE EU BORDER ASSISTANCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE HELPS AGENCIES BUILD EXPERTISE IN FIGHT AGAINST CIGARETTE SMUGGLING

On January 18 and 20 2011, over 50 Moldovan and Ukrainian customs and border guard officers received training on cigarette anti-smuggling techniques at BCPs (Border Crossing Points) in Tudora (Moldova) and Starokozache (Ukraine).

The training was delivered by Galentin Georgiev, a police analyst from the Analytical and Operational Support Unit of EUBAM, with the assistance of Svitlana Prishchenko from EUBAM's Capacity Building Unit.

The training was organised following a request made by EUBAM's partners, the customs and border guard services of Moldova and Ukraine. Since a recent appreciation in excise taxes on cigarettes introduced by the Ukraine government, authorities have observed a corresponding increase in cigarette smuggling across the Moldova-Ukraine border.

During the training, border guard and customs officers who work at BCPs learned about the extent and nature of cigarette smuggling in Eastern Europe, EU best practices in tackling such phenomena, concealment methods, and techniques in recognition of counterfeit products.

The training was part of EUBAM's 'exemplary border crossing point' pilot project, which aims to create two 'islands of integrity' along the Moldovan-Ukrainian border, and support regional anti-corruption initiatives.

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DEMOCRACY SUPPORT PROGRAMME TRAINS JOURNALISTS FROM RADIO MOLDOVA

During 19–21 January 2011, the Democracy Support Programme organised a follow-up in-house training on preparing, planning and managing 'quality' radio programmes for the journalists from the public channel "Radio Moldova".

The workshop was conducted by Dominique Thierry, Director of Trans Euro Media (France). The expert discussed and analysed with the editorial team from "Radio Moldova" a new format of the social-cultural programme, designed during on training in December 2010 and implemented by "Radio Moldova".

Dominique Thierry presented his observations on the strengths and weaknesses of the new branded social-cultural radio programme and corresponding recommendations and advised "Radio Moldova" in improving the content and concept of the programme. The output of the follow-up training is a new branded social-cultural programme based on French and international experience in the field which is broadcasted from Monday to Friday by "Radio Moldova".



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EUBAM AND THE ACADEMY OF ECONOMIC STUDIES OF MOLDOVA SIGN JOINT STATEMENT ON COOPERATION

On 25th January 2011, the Head of the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM), Mr. Udo Burkholder, and the rector of the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova (AESM), Grigore Belostecinic, signed a joint statement on cooperation.

The agreement aims to improve the knowledge of students and Academy staff on border management and customs issues. Under the terms of the agreement EUBAM experts will provide lectures to students, host open days at the Mission's headquarters and organise visits to EUBAM field offices along the Moldovan-Ukrainian border.

The statement signed is one of five cooperation agreements the Mission has now signed with Ukrainian and Moldovan universities. The comprehensive lecture series incorporates discussions on topics such as Schengen Aquis, EU methods in combating international crime, and EU standards in border management. In 2010, in partnership with the Centre for Combating Economic Crimes and Corruption in Moldova and the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, EUBAM hosted an anti-corruption summer school – 'Youth Against Corruption' – for 26 young Moldovan and Ukrainian students.



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EU FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTS TRAINING ON SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS IN CLOSED FACILITIES

During 1–3 February 2011, over 25 representatives of Government institutions and civil society organizations working in the field of migrant’s rights received training on providing social and humanitarian assistance to migrants in closed facilities.

The training was organized by the International Organization for Migration, Mission to Moldova (IOM) in partnership with the UK NGO Migrant Helpline (MHL) in the framework of 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)”.

The training represented an exchange of experience and knowledge between the experts from a country of destination for migrants and a country of origin, to a lesser extent transit and destination – Moldova. Due to the latter’s neighbouring position with the EU, the number of irregular third country nationals identified in Moldova has been steadily growing. Therefore the experience of the MHL experts was highly appreciated by the training participants as proved by the final evaluation forms.

All the participants found the information useful and innovative, but most importantly valuable and applicable in their daily work. The training provided a great opportunity for the participants to meet key stakeholders in both the government and the civil society sectors and foster partnerships that will benefit the needs of migrants.

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SOCIAL DIALOGUE – A NECESSITY FOR THE LABOUR FORCE FROM MOLDOVA

On 9–10 of February, the EU-funded project „Strengthening Moldova’s capacity to manage labour and return migration” organized a seminar with the topic „Social Dialogue on the labour market of Moldova”.

This seminar is the first of those 4 planned for the current year to enhance the social dialogue on labor market of Moldova.

„Social dialogue is an important tool of the labor market and economy in all. We hope that in Moldova, having already the experience of a country with an economy of transition, to have at the end of this year a „grown-up” social dialogue, mentioned Goran Trogen, one of the Swedish experts who lead the seminars and hold a know-how experience in social dialogue.

Among the participants there were representatives of the National Confederation of Trade Unions of Moldova and the National Confederation of Patronate of Moldova, as well as of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Economy.

According to Mr. Per Lindberg, director of the project, the experience of Sweden and Ukraine, can lay the basis of the social dialogue on labour market in Moldova, which tends towards integration in the European Union and thus to the alignment of European and international standards in all domains.

A special accent will be put on the consolidation of the social partners’ capacities, so that the social dialogue is sustainable and continuous.

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A MOLDOVAN DELEGATION AT THE OPENING OF THE JUDICIAL YEAR OF ECHR

The Moldovan Delegation, headed by the Minister of Justice Mr. Alexander Tanase, participated in the opening ceremony of the Judicial Year of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

During the visit, financed through the Joint Programme between the Council of Europe and the European Union entitled "Democracy Support Programme", the delegation met with the Council of Europe Secretary General Mr. Thorbjorn Jagland and the Director General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs Mr. Philippe Boilat to discuss the priorities of the new Government of the Republic of Moldova in the field of justice and legal reform.



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FIRST SHELTERED APARTMENT IN MOLDOVA OPENS DOORS IN BALTI

The first sheltered apartment in the Republic of Moldova will be opened in March 2011 in Balti, a town in the North of Moldova. The other three sheltered apartments will be ready for use of beneficiaries – people with mental health problems – in May-August of the current year.

The opening of the first four sheltered apartments in Moldova is possible due to the project "Developing and piloting sheltered housing service for people with mental illness in Moldova" funded by European Union Delegation and Mental Health Initiative Open Society Institute, Hungary.

The project partners are the Dutch NGO "Global Initiative on Psychiatry", the Association "SOMATO", and Balti city hall.

One of the coordinators of the service "Mobile Team" from the Association „SOMATO”, Corina Popa says that during the project implementation, 60 people with mental health problems from Balti will benefit from medical care, psychiatric and psychological counselling at home, offered by mobile team that comprises medical staff and social workers.

„21 people with mental health problems have already benefited from the mobile team service”, said Corina Popa.

Within this project there were also organized 2 cycles of trainings for specialists involved in the implementation of the program. Trainings were conducted by experts from the Netherlands.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

16–18 FEBRUARY, CHISINAU

A workshop on evaluation of the pilot phase on information exchange on document security.

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