



## Press Release

30 September, 2014

Chisinau

### **EU Ambassador to Moldova participates in the official opening ceremony of the Region South “Entrepreneurship – Key Factor in Regional Development” Forum in Cimislia**

*The Region South “Entrepreneurship – Key Factor in Regional Development” Forum was organised by the Moldovan Ministry for Regional Development and Construction (MRDC) in conjunction with the Southern Region Regional Development Agency (RDA South).*

The Forum is one of the many events organised by central, regional and local authorities within the framework of the European Union SME Week activities in the Republic of Moldova. It focussed on informing about EU, partner countries and national, regional and local authorities support offered to micro, small and medium-sized businesses. Another highlight was promoting entrepreneurship so that more people, and in particular younger ones, consider becoming an entrepreneur as a career option.

The European Union is supporting concrete aid programmes and initiatives in the field of regional and entrepreneurship development in the Republic of Moldova, with the Economic Stimulation in Rural Area Budget Support Programme (ESRA BSP) being a key platform for development.

The total EU financial assistance provided through the ESRA BSP programme during 2010-2014 was approximately EUR 72 million, with one of the focal intervention areas being the support to regional entrepreneurship and rural small and medium-sized businesses in the Republic of Moldova.

In this context, Ambassador Pirkka Tapiola, Head of EU Delegation to Moldova, outlined the overall interdependent concept of regional and entrepreneurial development applied by the European Union and its relevance to regional business development support policies and initiatives in the Republic of Moldova:

*“The European Union implements a wide range of regional entrepreneurship and small and medium-sized business development support programmes and projects in the Republic of Moldova in view of creating new businesses, generating new jobs and eliminating economic disparities between the different regions of Moldova”.*

### **Background information:**

The official opening ceremony of Region South Entrepreneurship Forum was attended by over 125 participants including officials from central, rayon and local authorities, donor community representatives, diplomatic corps representatives, local and national business association representatives and local businessmen and entrepreneurs.



*Photo caption:*

*Ambassador Pirkka Tapiola, Head of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova delivering his opening remarks at the official opening ceremony of the Region South Entrepreneurship Forum in Cimisia.*

### **For more information**

Delegation of the EU to Moldova: [http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/moldova/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/moldova/index_en.htm)



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Delegation of  
the European Union to Moldova

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The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.