

## GOOD GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

### ADVISORY MISSION TO THE BORDER POLICE DEPARTMENT

In April 2013 an EU Long Term Advisor (LTA) to the Border Police Department (BPD) has been assigned within the framework of the EU-funded project **Strengthening Migration Management and Cooperation on Readmission in Eastern Europe (MIGRECO)** to support the BPD in policy formulation and strategic development issues.

The major achievements of the LTA seconded by a national expert since April 2013 are:

- 1) drafting and initiation of important operational documents as BPD Strategic Development Program, the BPD human resources concept, the Risk Management Plan, BPD communication strategy;
- 2) revising and improvement of the normative framework of the Integrated Border Management strategy and its Action Plan for 2014-2016, elaboration of the policy and regulatory acts related to border police management such as internal regulations, inter-departmental agreements, fundraising and international cooperation.

The advisors work in close relations with officials from other departments of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and contribute to the improvement of the normative framework of the whole MIA, namely: the Law on the MIA civil servant with special status, Concept on MIA personnel professional training etc. The experts joined their efforts with other relevant EU projects, national and international stakeholders, like EUBAM, TAIEX experts, Romanian professional training institutions, Ungheni Border Police National College and Police Academy of the MIA. The experts will continue to provide support for the next period of the project lifetime.

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### SUPPORT FROM THE BRITISH EMBASSY TO EU TWINNING PROJECT

On the 11th and 12th February 2014, in the context of implementing the **Twinning Project "Support to Moldova in the field of norms and standards in food safety for plant origin products"**, a workshop entitled **"ISO 17020 Accreditation and documenting what we do"** was held in Chisinau. **Eighteen staff from various Divisions and Units of the National Food Safety Agency (NFSA), including several Heads of Divisions, attended the training course that was hosted by the British Embassy.**

During the two-day training workshop, the two UK Short-Term Experts (STEs) from the Food and Environment Research Agency (Fera), UK (Mr David Galsworthy, Head of Quality and Ms Judith Marshall, GLP Quality Assurance Manager), delivered presentations and facilitated group-work sessions to enhance the NFSA's capacity to work towards implementing an ISO 17020 compliant system.

The Member State STEs described the methodology of ISO 17020 and assisted NFSA colleagues identify key operational processes, working on establishing process inputs and outputs and the drafting of several process maps (e.g. inspection at import, inspection at export; inspection of grain quality; registration of producers).

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### FOCUS ON CORRUPTION

**13 February, 2014 Chisinau, – More than 100 students discussed the best EU practice in good governance and fight against corruption during an EUBAM-organised lecture for the students of Free International University and the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova.**

"This is my favorite EUBAM lecture of all I attended earlier. I didn't know how effectively the other countries are fighting corruption, so for me it was a great opportunity to learn more about corruption. Being part of younger generation, I hope I can continue the fight against corruption to help our country prosper" said Oleg Jekov, a 3rd year student from International Relations Department.

The lecture, delivered by EUBAM Anti-Corruption Specialist Pawel Rutkowski, included theoretical discussions and examples of best EU practices in fight against corruption and the unique anti-corruption challenges facing Moldova.

The lecture was the first in the EUBAM lecture series this academic year. EUBAM has delivered lectures in its partner universities in Moldova since 2009.

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# EU CO-OPERATION NEWS

Newsletter of the Delegation of the European Union to Moldova

## CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES FIGHT CIGARETTE SMUGGLING

**18 February, Odessa. Smuggling of cigarettes through the central sector of Moldovan - Ukrainian border was the most serious risks to border security on the Ukrainian-Moldovan border in 2013. To tackle this risk, representatives from customs and law enforcement agencies of Moldova and Ukraine got together at EUBAM headquarters for a Task Force Tobacco meeting.**

The aim of the meeting was to plan cooperative measures in fighting and preventing the illegal activity in the area of tobacco product smuggling. The participants discussed proposals concerning operational aspects of counteracting cigarettes smuggling in the region. EUBAM used the opportunity to present to the Moldovan and Ukrainian partners the EU multi-level approach.

The Mission prepared the ground for further cooperation of Moldovan and Ukrainian colleagues with their international partners. This time the Ukrainian and Moldovan customs officers were joined by their EU colleagues from European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and HM Revenue and Customs (UK).

The Task Force Tobacco was established in 2010 and since then it has coordinated the joint efforts of Ukrainian and Moldovan customs agencies in combating the smuggling of tobacco products from Moldova and Ukraine into the European Union.

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## STRENGTHENING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) SYSTEM IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA.

**February 20, was officially launched the project "Strengthening public-private partnership in the Republic of Moldova" by Twinning program, which was started in January 2014.**

The aim of the Twinning project is the development of PPP in the Republic of Moldova, as well as stimulating investments in infrastructure, including in the transport sector, in terms of efficient use of resources. Under this Twinning project will be established the cooperation between the management of the EU Member States and experts from the Moldovan Ministry of Economy and its subordinate Agency for State Property.

Ambassador Pirkka Tapiola, Head of the EU Delegation to Moldova, said that "Moldova and its economy needs for change. Business climate should be encouraged by the state through such partnerships. It is very important that in the Twinning project participate as experts and representatives of the latest innovations, the German Ministry of Economy and Energy. I have no doubt that when their reliable assistance Moldovan entrepreneurs are able to achieve a lot and in many different areas of business"

Project implementation period is January 2014 - January 2016

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## SOCIAL AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

### DUTCH PRACTICES FOR MOLDOVAN YOUNGSTERS

**In the beginning of February 12 young people from 4 regions of the Republic of Moldova, volunteers from the mobile team, representatives of civil society organizations and representatives of trade unions, have learned from the Dutch experience how to promote the socio-economical rights of the youth.**

The study visit aimed at getting the participants acquainted with CNV International (Dutch trade union federation)/CNV Youth board & staff and their regular union work and starting a social dialogue with active members of CNV Youth, as well as at visiting Youth organizations that work with CNV Youth, visiting the work field and attending projects in progress by CNV Youth.

Thus, based on the outcomes of the study visit and the feedback the mobile team receives on their activities, the National Confederation of Trade Unions of Moldova will adjust their activities in order to provide youth friendly trade union services.

The "Decent Work for YOUth - Improving the social-economic situation of the young people in Moldova by empowering the youth and the civil society" project is implemented by Foundation CNV International, the Association for Children and Youth "Faclia" and the National Trade Union Confederation of Moldova. The project is financially supported by the European Union through the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights.

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### NEXUS LOCAL SERVICE CENTERS STARTED DOING WELL BY DOING GOOD

**Professional service, client-oriented approach, friendly ambiance and certainly an open smile – that is what people will find at the NEXUS Local Service Centers, officially inaugurated during the month of February in the three pilot zones of the project: Cahul, Edinet and Ungheni.**

Representatives of the local public authorities and Bureau for Relations with Diaspora - NEXUS' local and national partners - as well as, representatives of EU Delegation, major donor of the project, joined NEXUS team at the ribbon cutting ceremonies, welcoming this new, operational stage of the project. At the ceremonies also were leaders from local private companies and NGOs, emphasizing the importance of NEXUS as a connector between service providers and migrants as clients.

In his opening remarks, Nicolaas de Zwager, NEXUS Moldova project coordinator and IASCI director and founder mentioned that the Local Service Centers opening is a key milestone of the project: "This is not our final point, this is just the beginning of a huge umbrella that will cover not only individual needs and interests of migrants and their families, but also will boost local businesses by helping them reach a valuable market niche, which in turn build local communities. Doing well by doing good – this is NEXUS' main principle and in this sense NEXUS Local Service Centers will become centers of excellence."

NEXUS Local Service Centers are open to visitors on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 10:00 and 16:00. Also the centers are open to initiatives of collaboration from any sector, at all levels.

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### TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

#### THE SHARE OF SUBSIDIES GRANTED TO HOUSEHOLDS AND MICROENTERPRISES FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF BIOMASS BOILERS HAS BEEN INCREASED TO 1,300 EURO

**28 February. The decision to increase the share of subsidies from 1,000 to 1,300 EURO was approved by the Moldova Energy and Biomass Project Board, chaired by Valeriu Lazar, Minister of Economy.**

The boilers to be purchased under this Programme are to be manufactured/assembled in the Republic of Moldova. Up to the present, 15 companies have been accredited by the Energy Efficiency Agency to provide boilers to households within the Programme. These companies portfolio comprises a wide range of boilers either manufactured in the Republic of Moldova or assembled locally from parts made by well-known European manufacturers from such countries as Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Romania, Latvia and Greece. The companies to deliver biomass boilers will be accredited on a continuous basis.

Approximately 600 families will be able to buy modern biomass boilers under advantageous conditions. So far, circa 100 families have been enrolled in the Programme.

The Programme aimed at supplying biomass boilers to households under advantageous conditions is an activity of the EU-UNDP funded Moldova Energy and Biomass Project carried out in partnership with the Energy Efficiency Agency. The total project budget is EURO 14.56 million, allocated by the European Commission (EURO 14 million) and UNDP Moldova (EURO 560,000).

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#### LEOVA DISTRICT WILL HAVE 16 NEW BIOMASS HEATING PLANTS AND A SERVICE UNIT FOR THEIR MANAGEMENT

**Setting a service unit for managing biomass heating plants is one of the initiatives launched by the EU-UNDP funded Energy and Biomass Project with the aim to establish a reliable market of integrated services in the bioenergy sector. The Energy and Biomass Project investment made for setting the Public-Private Partnership in Leova District amounts to EUR 100,000, allocated at the expense of European funds, while the selected economic entity is expected to allocate at least MDL 6 million (EUR 350,000).**

The economic entity – part of the Public-Private Partnership, selected after an open tender - is expected to invest at least EUR 350,000 in building 16 pellet-fired heating plants, and to provide them and other five heating plants already in place, with high-quality biofuel, having employed operators to manage these biomass heating plants.

Leova District Council will be the owner of these heating plants, and the latter will be managed by the selected economic entity for 11 years. The Public-Private Partnership Model to be launched in Leova District aims to be a successful example in setting integrated services for heating plants management, including their construction, provision with biofuel and operation.

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### “TA TO ECONOMIC STIMULATION IN RURAL AREA BUDGET SUPPORT PROGRAMME (ESRA BSP)” PUBLISHES PUBLIC SECTOR REGIONAL INVESTMENT PROFILES

As part of its continued activities within the framework of the EC-funded 2010-2012 Economic Stimulation in Rural Area Budget Support Programme (2010-2012 ESRA BSP) - Component 7 (close policy coordination with Regional Development Agency on regional policy development), the project – in close cooperation with the Moldovan Ministry for Regional Development and Construction (MRDC) - designed, formulated and published a Directory of Moldovan Public Sector Regional Investment Profiles.

This particular publication contributes to the overall objective of the EU-funded Economic Stimulation of Rural Area Budgetary Support Programme (ESRA BSP), namely to promote to a more balanced regional economic development in the Republic of Moldova by promoting specific economic growth strategies and correlated business development activities and actions at regional and rural level.

The Directory, which can also be found on the project's web site ([www.gfa-esra.md](http://www.gfa-esra.md)), contains comprehensive outlines of specific investment profiles put forward by carefully selected public sector regional and local authorities, agencies and state enterprises. The Directory covers business cooperation proposals in a wide range of sectors including but not limited to municipal infrastructure including but not limited to road-building as well as water, water supply and water sanitation, business support infrastructure such as Business Incubators and Industrial Parks and various land development and landscape embellishment projects.

This publication complements the already published Private Sector Regional Investment Profiles for Moldova's Regions North, Centre and South and brings to a successful end the different regional development technical assistance support actions undertaken within the framework of the ESRA BSP Programme since 2010.

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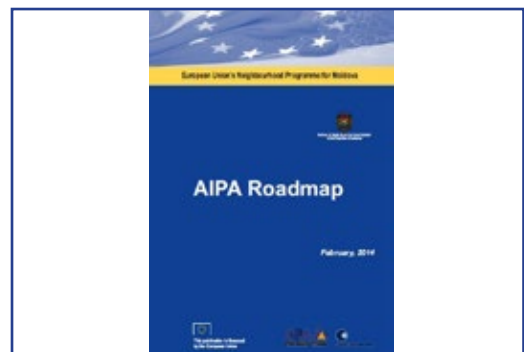
### “TA TO ECONOMIC STIMULATION IN RURAL AREA (ESRA) BUDGET SUPPORT PROGRAMME” SUPPORTS THE MOLDOVAN AGRICULTURE INTERVENTION PAYMENT AGENCY (AIPA) IN THE FORMULATION OF ITS “AIPA ROADMAP”

As part of its project activities within the framework of the EC-funded 2013 Eastern Partnership Integration and Cooperation Programme (EaPIC), and more specifically, EaPIC's support to the Economic Stimulation in Rural Area Budget Support Programme (ESRA BSP) - Component 2 (support to access to finance), the project – at the specific request of the Moldovan Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MAFI) and its subordinated agency the Moldovan Agriculture Intervention and Payment Agency (AIPA) - mobilised two international short-term experts to support AIPA in the formulation of its: “Roadmap for the implementation of the Moldovan Agricultural Rural Development Payment Support Schemes in line with EU operating structures during the period 2014-2020”.

The Roadmap, which was finished end of February, 2014 and subsequently presented to and approved by AIPA's senior management, outlines the various steps and actions to be undertaken by AIPA in order to fully operate according to similar EU Agricultural Payment Agencies' procedural operations. The Roadmap also contains a suggested timeline for the completion of the various tasks identified and allocates overall and specific responsibility to individual AIPA staff and departments in view of achieving the tasks identified.

It is anticipated that the Roadmap formulated will strategically guide AIPA's senior management in the years to come and its actual implementation will be supported by different EC-funded programmes and projects within the framework of future agricultural and rural development (ARD) aid support to the Republic of Moldova during the period 2014-2020.

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## CONFLICT PREVENTION

### EU-UNDP PROGRAMME SUPPORTS TOURISM DEVELOPMENT ON BOTH BANKS OF THE NISTRU RIVER.

**21 February .Villages on both banks become more attractive to locals and tourists. After a 20-year break, an energy-saving system of street illumination with a length of 14 km was officially launched in Ustia with the support of the EU-UNDP Programme financial assistance.**

Over the next year, at least 250 vulnerable young people from the Speia village, situated on the left bank of the Nistru River, will acquire skills in making craft items and will be able to find a job. 10 new rural pensions will be created and 250 families from villages on both banks of the Nistru River will be connected to the „Let's go to the countryside!” tourism network, by using various innovative tools. These were just some of the expected results of the new projects presented by the EU-UNDP “Support to Confidence Building Measures” Programme within an event organized in the form of “sezatoare” – a traditional Moldovan handicrafts evening sitting, in the village of Ustia, Dubasari district.

“These traditions, your hospitality and the charming scenery of the Nistru River have a high touristic potential that could bring an extra income for rural families.

Moreover, EU assistance to Ustia does not stop here, as there is already another project related to energy efficiency that will be implemented in Ustia, also in partnership with UNDP, and which will further improve the quality of life in the village”, said Ambassador Pirkka Tapiola, Head of the EU Delegation to Moldova.

The Programme is implemented during 2012-2015 and the total budget is EUR 10,600,000, provided by the European Union (EUR 9,500,000) and UNDP (EUR 1,100,000).

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## OTHER EVENTS

### **24 – 28 MARCH, CHISINAU, R.MOLDOVA**

Expert Mission on Monitoring Regulatory Compliance in Telecommunications

For more information on TAIEX assistance go to: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix>

### **31 MARCH– 03 APRIL, KOLN,BENSBERG, FRECHEN, DUISBURG AND LEVERKUSSEN, GERMANY**

Study visit on traffic video surveillance

For more information on TAIEX assistance go to: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix>

### **1 APRIL, CHISINAU, R.MOLDOVA**

Steering Committee Meeting, Transplant Agency

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### **1 APRIL – 3 APRIL, CHISINAU, R.MOLDOVA**

Workshop on crime scene investigation

For more information on TAIEX assistance go to: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix>

### **3-4 APRIL, CHISINAU, R.MOLDOVA**

Training for Moldovan specialists in elaboration of national occupational standards

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### **08 - 10 APRIL, MADRID, SPAIN**

Study Visit on Protecting Critical Infrastructure

For more information on TAIEX assistance go to: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix>

### **7-11 APRIL, CHISINAU, R.MOLDOVA**

Workshop on migration and social public policies – employment of labour force, labour market issues, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family.

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### **14-15 APRIL, CHISINAU, R.MOLDOVA**

Workshop on improving NEA communication with mass-media representatives

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### **14-15 APRIL, CHISINAU, R.MOLDOVA**

Rules and procedures when working with mass-media in the public sector, Leogrand hotel.

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### **END OF APRIL 2014**

Launch of the joint Ukrainian and Moldovan study on Nondiscrimination, Tolerance and Hate Crimes.

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### **END OF APRIL 2014**

Finalization of six IT Modules for CONSUL subsystem of the SIIAMA for General Division of Consular Affairs of the MFAEI.

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## **APRIL , STEFAN VODA, CAHUL, COMRAT, R. MOLDOVA**

Mobile exhibition of household biomass boilers offered under preferential conditions

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## **APRIL, LEOVA, R. MOLDOVA**

Public Private Partnership Contract signing on delivering biomass heat energy services

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