

23 May 2014

EU CO-OPERATION NEWS

Newsletter of the Delegation of the European Union to Moldova

GOOD GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

THE EU PROJECT 'SUPPORTING MOLDOVA TO IMPLEMENT THE EU-MOLDOVA ACTION PLAN ON VISA LIBERALISATION'

Strengthening the knowledge of judiciary on protection mechanism for migrants. In the period of 1-2 April in Chisinau was held the third Fighting Irregular Migration in Moldova- FIRMM training for judges.

The overall objective of the event was to provide an overview on the principle standards for migrants' protection under the Council of Europe tools, with a special focus on the European Convention of Human Rights (ECtHR). The seminar topic was chosen at the special request of the Moldovan National Institute of Justice, based on the need to enhance the acquaintance of judges and prosecutors with the CoE standards and European Court of Human Rights jurisprudence. Experts from Human Rights Directorate of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg and a lawyer from the European Court of Human Rights delivered presentations on the main instruments and handbooks of the CoE concerning the status of migrants. The discussions were based on the international jurisprudence and the national judicial practice. An added value of the seminar was the practical talks on selected migrants-related case law, processed in the ECtHR. As well at the seminar was presented the draft of the Resource book on human rights protection of migrants' for judiciary developed within the project and planned to be printed in the next few months.



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EUBAM LECTURE ON FIGHTING ORGANIZED CRIME AT 'EU STUDY DAYS'

On April 3, EUBAM delivered a lecture on 'EU best practices in fighting organised crime'.

During the lecture students had an opportunity to learn more about the types of criminal groups and the methods of fighting organized crime used by international law-enforcement agencies. Piotr Bartoszek, EUBAM Organized Crime Investigation Specialist, also talked about the role of EUBAM in supporting Moldovan and Ukrainian law-enforcement agencies in this area.

'It was a very interesting lecture which stirred up an active discussion during which we tried to find the best solution to resolve the problem of organized crime in Ukraine', said Yuliya Sapiga, the participant of the event.

The EU Study Days is an education project initiated by the Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine. It provides an opportunity for Ukrainian university students and graduates to gain deeper and wider knowledge about the European Union and EU-Ukraine relations from key experts in the field and from different viewpoints. The project also facilitates the establishment of a network of young Ukrainians who will be able to share their experiences and implement joint initiatives in the future.



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EU PROJECT SUPPORTS A JOINT SESSION OF THE JUSTICE SECTOR REFORM STRATEGY MONITORING AND COORDINATION MECHANISM WORKING GROUPS, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AND CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

On April 15, the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the EU Project "Support to the Coordination of Justice Sector Reform in Moldova" arranged and hosted a joint session of the Justice Sector Reform Strategy Monitoring and Coordination Mechanism Working Groups, relevant International Development Partners and Civil Society representatives.

It was held with the view of reporting on the status and challenges of implementation of the Justice Sector Reform Strategy and Action Plan in 2013. In particular, close to 80 participants of the event were presented relevant analytical Report and initial results of introducing integrated monitoring exercise, as well as the progress achieved by the Moldovan authorities in complying with the benchmarks of the ENPI 2012 Policy Support Programme to the Justice Sector reforms.

Minister of Justice Mr Oleg Efrim mentioned that since the end of the political crisis, in particular as from summer 2013 the reform has comprised implementation of over 60 activities from the Action Plan.

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SUPPORTING THE NEGOTIATION OF THE READMISSION AGREEMENT WITH ARMENIA

Following a preparatory seminar, ICMPD offered support to the Moldovan Ministry of Interior in organising the first negotiation round on the Readmission Agreement with Armenia on 14-16 April 2014 in Chisinau. Both sides agreed on the draft text of the Agreement and its Implementing Protocol, which shall be finalised in a second round planned in Armenia.

The preparatory seminar organised within the FIRM project on the exchange of experience in negotiating and implementing Readmission Agreements with third countries took place in February in Chisinau. The event prepared the Moldovan delegation for negotiation with Armenia and Kazakhstan. Experts from Hungary and Poland shared the new EU trends on readmission, including voluntary return clauses, the latest tools for monitoring and innovative approaches in the readmission field. The discussions revealed detailed information about countries of interest for Moldova, such as Georgia, Armenia, Kazakhstan or Russia, which is very valuable for delegates in preparing for negotiations.

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STUDY VISIT TO LATVIA

On 15-18 April 2014, a study visit to Latvia took place to introduce the institute of 'Plenipotentiary Border Representatives (PBR)' to practitioners working at the border and experts from the educational institutions of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia and Moldova. It was conducted under the project 'Eastern Partnership Cooperation in the Fight against Irregular Migration – Supporting the Implementation of the Prague Process Action Plan (EaP-SIPPAP)'.

The study visit started with an event at the State Border Guard College in Rezekne, where the PBR institute in the Baltic States and Eastern Partnership countries was discussed among the participants. Presentations addressed a number of issues: significance of the institute of PBR, intergovernmental and interagency agreement on the work of PBR, training of border delegates, the development of a PBR institute in the EaP region, and the demarcation of the state border and the role of border delegates in this process.

The following two days featured visits to the Opolji Border Guard Unit, railway and land border crossing points, the State Border Guard College and the Aviation Board. The former provided the participants an opportunity to see how Latvia's border crossing points function and are managed. Through the latter visits (at the State Border Guard College and the Aviation Board), the participants were able to learn about how Latvia trains and educates its border guards and how aviation is used in border surveillance.

On the last day, participants had a feedback session on the knowledge acquired. They also discussed the relevance of the practices for their own countries.

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EXCHANGE VISIT ON READMISSION FOR ARMENIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO MOLDOVA

Armenian representatives of the State Migration Service, Passports and Visas Directorate, National Security Service and Ministry of Justice, accompanied by the IOM Yerevan coordinator visited Moldova during 16th – 19th of April 2014 to gain knowledge of Moldavian experience in readmission management.

Armenian officials met with the MFAEI, MIA and BMA representatives who presented Moldova's experience in cooperation with the EU on migration and asylum issues, including Mobility Partnership, Visa Facilitation and Readmission agreements, as well as Moldovan experience in negotiating of readmission agreements with EU and third countries and observing migrants' rights. Besides that, they had the opportunity to learn about the Border Police Department (BPD) experience in use of biometric features, technical aspects of verification, identification and referral of irregular migrants in light of the new competences of the BPD, including trans-border cooperation on the matter. The delegation also discussed readmission and related issues with EU Delegation to Moldova, NGOs, IOM and other stakeholders in the country. Another important outcome of the visit was the finalization of the first round of Moldova-Armenia bilateral readmission negotiation.

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INTERNSHIP AT EUBAM

25 April, Odessa, Ukraine. The European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine is offering the opportunity to acquire experience working as Interns in summer – autumn 2014.

4 positions are opened for the following EUBAM Sections/Offices:

- Technical Support Transnistrian Settlement Section – one Intern during the period of 2 months in August – September.
- Coordination Desk – one Intern during the period of 1 month in August – September.
- Head of Mission Office – one Intern during the period of 2 months in August - September
- Strategy Planning and Performance Office – one Intern during the period of one month (15 August – 15 September)

Upon acceptance, all Interns will be requested to sign an Internship Agreement.

Location: EUBAM Headquarters in Odessa, Ukraine.

Duration: 1 to 2 months (exceptions can be made for some positions).

Salary: Unpaid.

Interns will be responsible for covering all costs: travel, visa, medical insurance, accommodation and meals. Interns are also responsible for finding suitable accommodation for the duration of the Internship. EUBAM can provide assistance on finding accommodation, if needed. Upon request, EUBAM can provide a letter in support of visa procedures.

Application Deadline: 15 June 2014 for all positions.

Contact Information: EUBAM Internship Coordinator: Ms. Anna Stakhanova, Head of Mission Office internship@eubam.org.



SOCIAL AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT TITLE: „SUPPORT THE USE OF REMITTANCES FOR NEW BUSINESSES AND JOBS CREATION” IMPLEMENTATION: MOLDOVA, THREE DISTRICTS FROM THE SOUTH, CENTRAL AND NORTH

In the framework of the “Support the use of remittances for new businesses and jobs creation” Project, on April 2014 2 training sessions of post creation assistance were organized in Chisinau and Drochia for 25 final beneficiaries of the project, which are dealing mainly in production field. The post creation seminars were organized at the request of beneficiaries with the theme: “Business Development in production sector - Management and Marketing efficiency”.

During the training sessions there were discussed important aspects aimed at developing a business, namely: marketing strategies, skills and management techniques. Participants had the opportunity to deduct the instructional applicability of different business ideas in terms of success and risks that may influence their business development.

With the purpose of increasing the impact of the project, in April there were disseminated 720 brochures “Success Stories” to the local authorities (North, Centre and South regions) in order to keep the visibility of the project for South, North and Centre Regions. Also, during April month 3 success stories were developed and posted in national newspapers (1 article in Natura newspaper, 2 articles in Curierul Agricol newspaper).

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THE FIRST STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE TRANSPLANT AGENCY TWINNING PROJECT

The first Steering Committee Meeting of the Transplant Agency Twinning project took place on 1 April.

During the meeting, the members of the Steering Committee discussed the 1st Interim Quarterly Report of the project, the coordination and management plan, the assessment methods and the action plan for the implementation of the project.

The representatives of the implementation consortium have jointly agreed with the Ministry of Health and Transplant Agency on the need to include some changes in the previously established activity plan and suggested some actions to improve the visibility of the transplant activities.

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COOPERATION BETWEEN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES

In the period 1-3 April, the EU funded project "Consolidation of migration management capacities in the Republic of Moldova" has organized an informative seminar with the topic "Consolidation of cooperation between public and private employment agencies" for the employees in the domain of the National Employment Agency, private employment agencies, Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, and of course big employers.

The subjects discussed within the event envisaged the cooperation of NEA with big employers in comparison with private employment agencies' one and their role on the labor market of Moldova. The seminar was opened by experts in this area from France and Sweden who described the audience their countries' labor market, cooperation between public and private employment agencies, what are the advantages, challenges and risks in this area. A special importance was given to the areas of collaboration between private and public employment agencies.

Within the seminar there were presented data of the study regarding private employment agencies from the Republic of Moldova that underlined the importance of these on the labor market, legal framework of their activity and helped to identify the areas of cooperation with NEA.

An improved collaboration between public and private employment agencies will contribute to the transparency of the labor market and increase of the employment rate.

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NEW TOOLS IN HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE APPLIED IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Over 200 medical institution managers and heads of human resources for health (HRH) departments completed a national course in HRH management and governance held in the period December 2013–April 2014. The course closing ceremony in Chisinau on 11 April 2014 was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Health, WHO Country Office, Delegation of the European Union in the Republic of Moldova, and the School of Public Health.

The training was implemented by the School of Public Health, with support from the WHO Country Office and the Ministry of Health. The aim of the course was to build capacity and offer new tools to enable health care managers to deal with shortages of qualified and motivated personnel or their unequal distribution between areas and different types of facilities. The course also aimed to promote a health workforce plan that includes training, performance, deployment and retention of health professionals.

The ongoing process of strengthening the capacity of the Republic of Moldova to manage the migration of Moldovan health professionals is related to the EU-funded project "Better Managing the Mobility of the Health Professionals in the Republic of Moldova".

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CONSOLIDATION OF MASS-MEDIA RELATIONS

In the period 14th-15th April, the EU-funded project „Consolidation of migration management capacities in the Republic of Moldova” organised a training session with the topic „Communication with mass-media: rules and procedures” for 15 employees of the National Employment Agency (NEA).

The two-day seminar was led by Mrs. Oana Marinescu, a Romanian expert with wide experience in institutional communication being in the past the spokesman of the prime-minister and chief of general direction for communication by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

To consolidate NEA's communication capacities with mass-media representatives the trainer has come with many exercises. She also offered many advices to participants regarding special situations and how to boost their relation with mass-media. A correctly informed public creates the image of the institution and depends on the efficient communication with mass-media. Thus, mass-media has to be seen more as a partner and source of communication with the public.

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LAUNCH OF THE WEB PAGE FOR INTERNSHIPS: WWW.STAGII.GOV.MD

Friday, 18th of April, the Bureau for Diaspora Relations has launched the web page for internships in public and private sectors: www.stagii.gov.md

The web page was elaborated with the financial support of the EU funded project "Consolidation of migration management capacities in the Republic of Moldova".

The product targets Moldovan students studying abroad willing to make their internship in Moldova at a public or private institution. In this way, we hope to bring to life the link with the home country and use the knowledge gathered by our students abroad for the development of the country.

At the same time, the access of students from Moldova to internships on the site shall not be limited.

To apply for the position available on the site, the visitor has to send the necessary documents in the attention of the employer at the e-mail address indicated in the description of the internship. The process of selection is transparent and under the responsibility of the employer. At the moment, more than 50 internships are available on the web page www.stagii.gov.md at different institutions and specialties.

Thus, we encourage students from abroad, including those from the country, to apply for the internship wanted. It might be that it becomes their future work place.

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MOLDOVAN SPECIALISTS HAVE ACCESS TO A MODERN TOOL OF ONLINE LEARNING IN WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AT HIGH RISK OF HIV INFECTION

About 50 Moldovan specialists, including representatives of youth-friendly health centres, NGOs, outreach workers, and representatives of public health institutions, participated in a training course on the use of Computerized Adaptation and Training Tool in Counseling and Testing HIV (ICATT), held on April 29, 2014 in Chisinau.

ICATT is an online learning tool developed by UNICEF for professionals working with vulnerable young people, which includes international guides, games, video case studies and other interesting materials.

ICATT was adapted to the local context by a team of foreign experts, who came to Moldova in the period of 29 April-3 May 2014. Experts helped the local team to adapt the Romanian version of the on-line learning tool, trained the specialists to use it and contributed to the development of ten video case studies involving young people and adolescents. The case studies will be used as part of the training program online .

The activity was conducted under "Strengthening capacity of non-state actors for HIV testing and counseling of most at risk adolescents and young people" regional UNICEF project funded by European Union.

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TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MOLDOVA ENERGY AND BIOMASS PROJECT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE CELEBRATION OF EUROPE DAY IN CHISINAU AND COMRAT

The Team of Moldova Energy and Biomass Project will participate in the Europe Day celebrated on May 10th in Chisinau and on May 17th in Comrat. People from these settlements – visitors of the European Town – will have access to the information about the events unrolled by Moldova Energy and Biomass Project, get acquainted with the Project results achieved so far and with the on-going programmes.

During the Europe Day, the Project Team, in partnership with Gutta Club Members, is going to unroll interactive activities for young people; hold master classes to teach them how to employ renewable energy sources, waste, and how to have an Eco behaviour. Also, a Biomass Boiler Caravan will be organised on May 10th and May 17th. People will have the chance to see how a biomass boiler is operated, and find out about the types of boilers manufactured and assembled in the Republic of Moldova. These exhibitions pursue the goal to promote biomass energy as an environment-friendly and economically efficient alternative to natural gas or coal heating.

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THE ECO-MOBILE EXHIBITION OF BIOMASS BOILERS WILL COVER THE WHOLE COUNTRY

The mobile exhibition of biomass boilers for households was launched on 6 April in Stefan Voda district. Thousands of people from the district villages were able to see how the biomass boilers function and the types of biofuel produced in Republic of Moldova.

Stefan Voda district inhabitants, as well as the guests from the neighboring districts obtained from the primary source a complete information regarding the Household Subsidy Program on purchasing a biomass boiler, were able to see the boilers within this program and discussed with the Energy and Biomass Project team as well as with Energy Efficiency Agency's team regarding the potential of the biomass energy for the Republic of Moldova and its use in order to reduce the external energy dependence.

The mobile exhibition of biomass boilers for households will be organized in the period of April-July in the district, in Chisinau, Cahul, Comrat, Hincesti, Ungleni, Balti, Orhei, Edinet and Soroca.

Household subsidy program on purchasing a biomass boiler was launched by the UE-UNDP "Energy and Biomass" Project and is implemented in partnership with the Energy Efficiency Agency.

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THE SMS CAMPAIGN ON PROMOTING THE HOUSEHOLD SUBSIDY PROGRAM FOR BIOMASS BOILERS WITH 1.300 EURO REIMBURSEMENT WAS LAUNCHED

An SMS campaign on promoting the Household and Microenterprises Subsidy Program for biomass boilers was launched by the EU-UNDP „Energy and Biomass” Project, in partnership with Moldcell.

Thousands of subscribers from all the regions of the Republic of Moldova received in April information regarding the offer on purchasing biomass boilers with a 1.300 EURO reimbursement from European funds.

Those who wish to purchase a biomass boiler will make the following steps: (1) choose a biomass boiler produced or assembled in Republic of Moldova, (2) submit a request at the Energy Efficiency Agency, (3) install the boiler, and then receive the subsidy amount of 1.300 Euro.

The purpose of the Program is to promote the biomass energy in the residential and private sectors and to reduce the energy dependence of the Republic of Moldova. The use of the biomass energy brings economic, social and ecological benefits: new businesses are launched, new jobs created, the money paid for the fuel remain in the Republic of Moldova, and, an also very important fact, the volume of CO2 emissions are reduced.

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SCHOOL CHILDREN OF "VASILE LUPU" LYCEUM PRODUCE WIND BASED ELECTRICITY AND COOK ON SOLAR POWERED OVENS

School children of "Vasile Lupu" Lyceum know the secret of renewable energy production and efficient energy use thanks to the educational course "Renewable Energy Sources" taught during the on-going school year for the first time. The Course on Renewables has been launched in the Republic of Moldova by EU-UNDP funded Moldova Energy and Biomass Project.

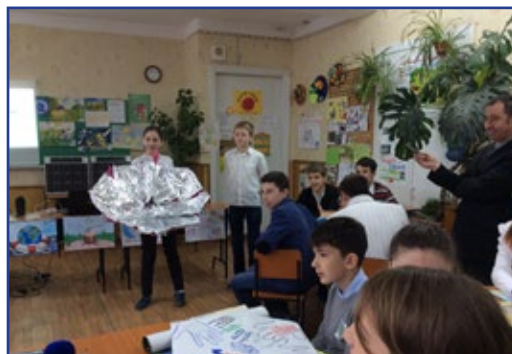
On 16 April, pupils of VII-B Class spent one of their lessons to produce wind based electricity from mini-turbines, showed how they could cook using an umbrella made into a solar oven, and shared some practical advice on how to make the energy use more efficient both at school and at home.

Lessons on renewables and energy efficiency are conducted in an interactive manner. Thus, school children take part in debates within the school, discuss topics on eco-energy on-line with hundreds of pupils from other schools across Moldova, build models of photovoltaic panels, wind turbines or biomass power plants, and organize flash-mobs around environmental issues.

For the first time in the Republic of Moldova, schools across the country are able to study renewables and energy efficiency topics during the 2013-2014 school year, and this activity is backed by the Moldovan Ministry of Education Order, pursuant to which the "Renewable Energy Sources" Course has been included in the list of optional school subjects.

The total project budget is 14.56 million EURO, allocated by the European Commission (14 million EURO) and UNDP Moldova (560,000 EURO).

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CONFLICT PREVENTION

3480 CHILDREN FROM BOTH BANKS OF THE NISTRU RIVER BENEFITED FROM PSYCHO-SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

In one year, 39 teachers and 3480 children from 20 local communities of both banks of the Nistru River benefited from a variety of activities that led to the improvement of the development of children from rural areas and the prevention of abuse, neglect and exploitation of children, by means of the "Building a common approach to children" project.

The project was carried out by the Terre des hommes Delegation in Moldova. Its success was possible thanks to the fruitful collaboration with the Department for Education of Falesti district and "Care and attention to the childhood" Foundation from the Transnistrian region and due to the financial assistance of the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme funded by the European Union, co-funded and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme.

One important feature of the project was the joint learning and the experience sharing among teachers from the right and left banks of the Nistru River. It was supported by a joint training held in Ukraine, where teachers had the opportunity to improve their level of understanding of child participation, non-violent communication, stereotypes, and positive discipline.

The project concluded with a complementary joint workshop for animators which took place on April 5-6, 2014, in Vadul lui Voda. The workshop brought together the 39 teachers that were directly involved in the project's activities.

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OTHER EVENTS

6-8 MAY, REPUBLICAN CLINICAL HOSPITAL, CHISINAU, R. MOLDOVA

Seminar on 'Biovigilance aspects in the field of organs, tissues and cells donation and transplantation

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7-8 MAY 2014, R. MOLDOVA

Grants management seminar for the grant beneficiaries within the "Building Bridges, Facing Challenges" project

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10 MAY, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

Europe Day

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10 MAY, CHISINAU, R. MOLDOVA

IOM mission to Moldova will participate to the Europe Day

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19-21 MAY, VDAB, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Enhancing NEA Call Centre capacities and public private cooperation

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19-23 MAY, BUDAPEST/SZEGED, HUNGARY

Study visit to Hungary

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23-27 JUNE (VENUE TO BE DETERMINED)

One week training on organ donation

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This newsletter is produced in the framework
of the project "Communication and Visibility 2014 in Moldova".

The project is funded by the European Union and implemented by PARC Communications.

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