



№38, 8 November, 2012

GOOD GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

MOLDOVAN AND UKRAINIAN STUDENTS PRESENT ACHIEVEMENTS OF SEVENTH «YOUTH AGAINST CORRUPTION» SCHOOL

21 October, Chisinau: Students from Moldova and Ukraine taking part in the autumn «Youth against Corruption» school – organised by the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine in cooperation with the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine and the National Anti-Corruption Centre of Moldova – left journalists in Chisinau in no doubt as to their intention to wage a «war» against corruption.

A group of the «Youth against Corruption» students directly addressed the media at the Regency Hotel in Chisinau alongside the Head of EUBAM, Udo Burkholder, and the acting Head of the National Anti-Corruption Centre, Viorel Chetraru.

The students' press conference concluded the seventh «Youth against Corruption» school, a week-long event dedicated to raising awareness among the younger generation of the damage to society caused by corruption.

For further information: <http://eubam.org/>



REGIONAL ANTI-TRAFFICKING TRAINING FOR BORDER GUARDS HELD IN CHISINAU

8-10 October, Chisinau: 25 representatives from border guard and front line agencies from all the six Eastern Partnership countries participated in the first trafficking in human beings (THB) training conducted by international experts from the Slovenian Police and EU Agency Frontex.

During the three-day training, international experts presented the latest practices on identifying victims, recognising and intercepting potential human trafficking situations, gathering intelligence and conducting successful investigations with a focus on recent trends and emerging issues, such as trafficking for labour exploitation, as well as more known forms of trafficking (prostitution, organ trafficking).

The training served as a basis for information-sharing and a discussion on the different investigation and intelligence methods of various countries.

For further information: <http://www.icmpd.org/>



WORKSHOPS ON ANTI-CORRUPTION STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

4-5 October, Causeni and Telenesti: Two one-day participatory workshops were held in Causeni and Telenesti District Councils within the EU-Council of Europe Facility Project on Good Governance and Fight against Corruption. The workshops each brought together about 30 representatives of the District Councils, civil society and the Centre for Combating Economic Crime and Corruption to discuss and develop local strategies to address corruption risks identified in each District Council during the risk assessment exercise.

Based on the two strategies, a Model Integrity Plan for Moldovan local governments will be drafted allowing other local authorities to adopt and implement it in their districts. The local anti-corruption strategies will be developed through a participatory approach in cooperation with two local NGOs – Institute for Urban Development (IDU) and Resource Centre for Human Rights (CReDO).

For further information: <http://www.coe.int/eap-corruption>





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CARABINEERS LEARN MORE ABOUT ENSURING AND RESTORING PUBLIC ORDER

3-5 October, Chisinau: 40 officers of the Carabineers Department, Police Academy «Stefan cel Mare», Regiment of patrol and sentinel «SCUT» and Police Brigade with Special Destination «Fulger» attended a workshop on ensuring and restoring public order.

The participants benefited from specific training sessions on the legislative framework on ensuring and restoring public order; tactics and procedures used for ensuring / restoring public order during disturbance of public meetings; respect for human rights during public meetings and sporting competitions by forces of order; relation between forces of order and media.

The workshop was organised with the support of Technical Assistance Information Exchange Instrument of the European Commission (TAIEX).

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TWINNING PROJECT IN THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AGENCY SUMS UP ACHIEVEMENTS

3 October, Chisinau: The Closing Conference of the Twinning Project in the Public Procurement Agency officially marked its end and brought together project partners, as well as Government officials and project beneficiaries to make an overview of the project's results. The project lasted for 23 months having a total budget of €1 million.

The Head of the EU Delegation to Moldova, Ambassador Dirk Schuebel in his opening speech stressed the importance of the field of public procurement for a country's sustainable economic development. Ambassador Schuebel stated that the implemented project was especially relevant in the context of Association Agreement negotiations.

The Minister of Finance Veaceslav Negruta declared that the project was a successful one, creating a solid basis for the public procurement system in Moldova. Mr. Negruta also stated that an efficient public procurement system is essential not only for specialists in the field, but for all citizens, being an indispensable element of a market economy.

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TRANSPPOSITION OF EU LEGISLATION INTO PUBLIC HEALTH IN MOLDOVA

Evaluation of the level of transposition of EU legislation into national public health legislation related to the specific acquis and the transposition plan were done by the group of public health specialists from the National Centre of Public Health in the framework of the WHO Country Office in the Republic of Moldova initiative and EU-funded project "Health Sector Budget Support Related Technical Assistance".

Evaluation results were presented and discussed during the workshop that was carried out on 27 September 2012. The evaluation of the level of transposition of the EU legislation into national public health legislation allowed to assess the degree of implementation of the *acquis communautaire*, to identify the problems with each transposing act and to plan concrete steps to transpose the EU legislation into national legislation.

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BLOGGING AS A TOOL TO PROMOTE CONFIDENCE BUILDING BETWEEN BOTH BANKS OF THE NISTRU RIVER

20 September, Chisinau: More than 60 pupils and teachers from 10 schools from the Transnistrian region will attend a series of training programmes where they will learn how to create a blog to post about their school activity. These trainings are carried out by the Independent Journalism Centre (IJC) with the assistance of the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme.

The first two teams of pupils and teachers from the Transnistrian region have already attended the training in blogging and have created two blogs for their schools.

Olga Ceaicovscaia, teacher at the Malaiești School: «We will publish videos and pictures of our work on the blog we've created. We will also try to transfer the information we used to publish during the last two years in our school newspaper «My Community» on our newly created blog».

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SOCIAL AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

EU-FUNDED PROJECT ON PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS PRESENT ACHIEVEMENTS

24 October, Chisinau: The European Union contributed to the protection of victims of trafficking in human beings (THB) in Moldova, including Transnistria, and to the better prevention of THB through a project implemented by the Association «M?decins du Monde» (France) in Balti, Falesti, Floresti, Riscani, Glodeni, Singerei and Transnistria region.

In order to identify victims of human trafficking, the project experts trained medical and socio-educational professionals, while two mobile teams provided psychological and social consultations in rural areas. The project also raised awareness of human trafficking in schools, working alongside children and vulnerable adolescents by organising media campaigns throughout the region.

Among the main results of the project implementation presented during the closing event are 331 assisted cases of trafficking, 1,078 trained specialists, 1,865 students informed on trafficking in human beings, about 10,000 people informed on this issue.

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MOLDOVA'S EXTENDED MIGRATION PROFILE – AN EFFICIENT TOOL FOR MIGRATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT

24 October, Chisinau: Experts of the International Organisation for Migration and the International Labour Organisation presented the Extended Migration Profile (EMP) Report. The EMP exercise in Moldova fosters the efficient migration management through supporting the development of evidence-based policies. The entire process of EMP exercise in Moldova is monitored and supervised by a Technical Working Group (TWG), a platform of dialogue between government entities, data users and producers, to address issues of information sharing, capacity-building and coherent policy development related to migration.

The fourth session of the TWG aimed at presenting the EMP Report, reflecting the most accurate and structured data on migration trends and impact on Moldova's labour market, demographic evolution, economic and social development. Also, it provides concrete key findings and recommendations to policy makers to develop migration management evidence based policies in Moldova for the benefit of the migrants and their families.

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EU SUPPORTS MOLDOVA TO MEET THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

23 October, Chisinau: A national information campaign related to Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) progress in Moldova has been officially launched to sustain the current awareness and confidence of individual citizens, public institutions and non-state actors in Moldova towards the country's ongoing consolidated efforts to complete the MDGs final targets.

The campaign is financed by the European Union through the project «Civil society and private sector as contributors to Millennium Development Goals' implementation».

The MDGs were established by the United Nations in 2000 and are eight international development goals like eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS, ensuring environmental sustainability etc. All UN Member States, including Moldova, have agreed to achieve these goals by the year 2015.

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MOLDOVAN PUBLIC AUTHORITIES ARE TRAINED ON LEGAL WORK AND STAY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

23 October, Chisinau: Moldovan public authorities are trained regarding legal work and stay in the European Union. The training sessions are organised by the EU-funded project «Consolidation of migration management capacities in the Republic of Moldova». The event is aimed at strengthening the institutional capacities of the participants from different public authorities, as: National Employment Agency, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Bureau of Migration and Asylum, National Confederation of Trade Unions, private employment agencies, etc.

The training session lasts for one day, for each country, with a total period of 3 weeks, this being one of the biggest project activities.

«This activity's main purpose is to inform the representatives of public institutions in the area of labour force migration, about legal work and stay in the EU, so that they disseminate further on this information among those looking for a job outside the country», mentioned Per Lindberg, Project Director.

For further information: <http://legal-in.eu/>



EU-FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTS STUDY VISIT TO ITALY OF MOLDOVAN SOCIAL ASSISTANTS

22-26 October, Rome: Moldovan social assistants working with children left behind have got familiarised with the child protection services provided by the Italian Social Centres, working with different categories of children, including those vulnerable and left behind.

10 social assistants and representatives of Moldovan Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, specialised in child protection visited a few Italian centres, as well as local authorities in order to better understand the Italian child protection system and have an exchange of experience.

The first study visit for Moldovan social assistants was organised by the National Associations of Italian communities within the EU-funded project «Addressing the negative effects of migration on minors and families left behind». The second visit is planned for the beginning of November 2012.

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THE FIFTH CONGRESS OF MOLDOVAN DIASPORA IN CHISINAU

11-13 October, Chisinau: About 80 representatives of Moldovan Diaspora from all over the world met within the Fifth Diaspora Congress organised by the Bureau of Interethnic Relations in partnership with the IOM Mission to Moldova within the EU-funded «Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU- Moldova Mobility Partnership» project.

The Congress constituted a platform of discussions focused on mobilising the efforts of the Government to solve Diaspora's problems, based on its experience, as well as on involving Diaspora in social, economic, academic, and political processes going on in Moldova. Over a period of three days, the representatives of about 50 Diaspora associations from 33 countries worldwide had the possibility to get informed and to increase their experience.

The event finalised with a plenary session during which the Resolution of the Fifth Diaspora Congress was adopted, covering the drawn conclusions and subsequent priority actions to be undertaken by the Government with the involvement and commitment of the Diaspora.

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PROGRAMME ON TEMPORARY RETURN OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MOLDOVAN SCIENTIFIC DIASPORA

13 October, Chisinau: The Academy of Sciences of Moldova in cooperation with the IOM Mission to Moldova carried out a wrap-up workshop for the programme of temporary return of representatives of the Moldovan Scientific Diaspora.

The event was organised within the Fifth Congress of Diaspora and brought together relevant national and international academia. It showcased the results and success stories of the pilot programme on temporary return of representatives of the Moldovan Scientific Diaspora which aimed at addressing brain drain through temporary return of expatriated Moldovan scientists and researchers to strengthen Moldova as a research and development hub and to promote temporary and permanent return and skill transfer.

IOM and ASM supported over 30 scientific Diaspora members selected on a competitive basis for short-term visits of 7-14 days through the period September 2010 – July 2012 with the purpose to perform research activities at universities and R&D institutions from Moldova.

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PILOT PROGRAMME PROMOTING RETURN OF MOLDOVAN OVERSEAS GRADUATES

13 October, Chisinau: More than 40 young graduates were assisted to return home from different countries and integrate into the local labour market within the project «Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership».

A special session during Diaspora Congress held on 11-13 October 2012 was dedicated to a wrap-up workshop on the pilot programme aimed to promote Moldovan overseas graduates return. The programme's objective was to address brain drain by promoting the circulation of innovative ideas and skill transfer in the process of youth migration. The beneficiaries of the Programme, young graduates of foreign universities aged 18-35, shared their experience abroad, as well as their contribution to the local labour market. The majority of these young people were employed in private sector, fewer – in the public and NGO sectors. The predominant sectors of employment are economy, justice, management and banking.

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ROUNDTABLES WITH DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, HEALTH AND MIGRATION-RELATED PROJECTS

Representatives from diplomatic missions in the Republic of Moldova participated on 4 September 2012 in the roundtable organized by World Health Organization Country Office in Republic of Moldova in the framework of the Project "Better managing the mobility of health professionals in the Republic of Moldova" financed by the European Union.

The meeting provided a good opportunity to discuss collaboration between the Ministry of Health and EU Member States Ministries, cooperation with different professional bodies from EU countries, potential support of diplomatic missions in Moldova in promotion/facilitation of the circular migration of Moldovan health professionals.

Similar roundtable was conducted on 5 September 2012 with different health-related and migration-related projects in the Republic of Moldova to ensure complete coordination and information exchange and taking into consideration the experience accumulated in other EU migration-related and health-related projects.

For further information: whomda@euro.who.int





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TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

TRADE REGIMES OPPORTUNITIES WERE PRESENTED TO TRANSNISTRIAN ENTREPRENEURS

25 October, Ribnita: 25 economic entities from Transnistria learned about the benefits of current trade regimes during a seminar organised by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Moldova (CCI) with the support of the EU-funded Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme. Entrepreneurs from metallurgical, baking and textile industries from Ribnita, Camenca, Tiraspol and other localities from the left bank of the Nistru River attended the workshop.

This seminar is one of the ranges of business support activities provided by the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme. Their aim is to increase competitiveness in small and medium enterprises, to exploit the export potential as well as to build confidence and to increase the cooperation relations between business communities from both banks of the Nistru River.

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EU FUNDS PURCHASE OF BIOMASS FUEL PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT THROUGH THE LEASING MECHANISM

25 October, Chisinau: The Deputy Prime Minister of Economy, Valeriu Lazar, and the Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP in Moldova, Narine Sahakyan, have signed the document aimed at launching a new programme, totalling €1 million, provided for lease purchase, by instalment, of biomass fuel production equipment. The money is provided by the European Union, through the Energy and Biomass Project, financed by the EU and co-financed and implemented by UNDP Moldova.

The Programme aims at fostering the biofuel production market in Moldova, and is intended to facilitate the procurement of a wide range of biomass briquetting equipment by private sector entities. The equipment will be sold under favourable conditions for a three-year period, with no commission, no interest and 0% VAT. It is expected that 200-250 new jobs will be created by the leasing mechanism.

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PROFESSIONAL FOSTER FAMILY'S SERVICE TO BE DEVELOPED IN TRANSNISTRIAN REGION

15 October, Chisinau: Specialists in social assistance and child protection field from both banks of the Nistru River have joined their efforts to develop a professional foster family's service in the Transnistrian region. A project in this regard has been launched by the NGO «Detstvo Detyam» from Tiraspol and «Partnerships for Every Child» from Chisinau within the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme.

The project foresees trainings of specialists from NGOs and local authorities from the Transnistrian region in order to develop a professional foster family's service, campaigns to identify potential parents and their subsequent preparation for children's placement in the foster families and their social and psychological support and legal assistance, as well as further monitoring of these families.

The first training module was held in Tiraspol in September 2012 and gathered 20 specialists and representatives from local authorities from the Transnistrian region that will form the team which will implement this service in the region.

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TRANSNISTRIAN ENTREPRENEURS SET UP OWN BUSINESSES DUE TO EU-FUNDED BUSINESS TRAININGS

27 September, Chisinau: «In less than one year I managed to set up my own business, employ more than 15 persons and expand my work area. It was possible only due to the knowledge acquired and the skills developed within the Business School», said Maria Redecop, a 24 years old entrepreneur, during the roundtable organized in Tiraspol by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Transnistria.

Maria Redecop is one of the approximately 700 entrepreneurs from the left bank of the Nistru River who, during May 2010 – December 2011, attended professional training courses in the Business School, launched by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry from Tiraspol with the assistance of the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme.

The graduates of the training courses, trainers and teachers of the Business School have gathered now at a roundtable in order to exchange experience, discuss achievements and the challenges they face, as well as the opportunities for improving and developing the future training programs of the Business School.

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TWINNING PROJECT IN THE CONSUMER PROTECTION AGENCY OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED

27 September, Chisinau: The European Union will support the market surveillance, consumer protection and good business environment promotion in Moldova through a Twinning project in the Consumer Protection Agency (CPA). The project on support to the CPA in strengthening market surveillance capacities will last 21 month and has a total budget of €1 million.

The Head of the EU Delegation to Moldova, Ambassador Dirk Schuebel underlined, during the opening conference, that this project continues the line of recently launched Twinning projects in a field which is very relevant in the context of Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area negotiations. Mr. Schuebel stressed the importance of consumers' increased knowledge and welcomed the launching of a Twinning project with such objective.

The conference was chaired by Octavian Calmac, Deputy Minister of Economy, who confirmed the relevance of the project for CPA, as well as for the Ministry of Economy and the economic sector in general. Mr. Calmac stressed that achieving the aims of the project will facilitate increased consumers' confidence, as well their enhanced knowledge.

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ENTREPRENEURS FROM BOTH BANKS OF THE NISTRU RIVER WILL BENEFIT FROM ASSISTANCE IN THEIR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

17 September, Chisinau: Over 60 economic agents and more than 30 companies from both banks of the Nistru River will get assistance in developing their business within two projects launched by the Moldova Chamber of Commerce and Industry, supported by the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme.

The projects will increase the economic competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises, fully use their export potential, build confidence and enhance cooperation between the business communities on both banks of the Nistru River.

Thus, within the first project – «Business support and development services» – over 60 entrepreneurs will have the possibility to take part in study tours in Poland, Germany and Austria, promote their goods on the European market and find business partners. Within the second project – «Business consulting services» – employees from more than 30 companies will benefit from training on foreign trade, customs and tax legislation.

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EU CO-OPERATION NEWS

Newsletter of the Delegation of the European Union to Moldova

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

1–2 NOVEMBER, CHISINAU

First training on development of casualty reduction partnerships in Chisinau and Tiraspol organised by Automobile Club of Moldova within the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme

For further information: Natalia Costas, e-mail: natalia.costas@undp.org

8–9 NOVEMBER, CHISINAU

Roundtable on local partnerships establishment on casualty reduction organised by Automobile Club of Moldova and within the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme

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9–10 NOVEMBER, CHISINAU

Training in human rights for community leaders organised by CIDO NGO within the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme

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17 NOVEMBER, CHISINAU

Workshop on the rights of disabled people organised by «Mir Ravnih Vozmojnostei» NGO within the Support to Confidence Building Measures Programme

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5–9 NOVEMBER, CZECH REPUBLIC

Mission of IT experts from the National Employment Agency of Moldova, National House for Social Insurances and the National Bureau of Statistics within the EU-funded project «Consolidation of migration management capacities in the Republic of Moldova»

For further information: Cristina Cozma, e-mail: <http://legal-in.eu/>

13–16 NOVEMBER, CHISINAU

Training session on living and working legally in the European Union for public authorities within the EU-funded project «Consolidation of migration management capacities in the Republic of Moldova»

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