



TRACECA

Transport Corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia (TRACECA) is an international transport cooperation programme between the EU and its Partner Countries in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia. It has a permanent Secretariat in Baku, Azerbaijan. The cooperation framework covers the areas of maritime transport, aviation, road and rail, transport security, and transport infrastructure.

TRACECA seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- Support the political and economic independence of the Partner Countries by enhancing their capacity to access European and World markets through alternative transport routes.
- Encourage further regional co-operation among them.
- Attract the support of International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and private investors.
- Link the TRACECA route with the Trans-European Networks (TENs).

A number of regional TRACECA projects are currently being implemented in Ukraine:

Civil aviation safety and security: Improves aviation safety environments in line with European standards in the field of civil aviation; Timeframe: 2008-2011; Budget: €5 million

International Logistical Centres: Supports international trade and facilitates the movements of goods along the TRACECA corridor through improving logistics capabilities, interoperability and multimodal transport; Timeframe: 2009-2011; Budget: €3.4 million

Land transport safety and security (TRACECA): Improves transport safety and security in the Eastern neighbour countries and Central Asian TRACECA Partner countries in line with European standards in the field of land transport; Timeframe: 2009-2011; Budget: €3 million

Motorways of the Seas - Black Sea and Caspian Sea: Promotes the Motorways of the Sea concept and the creation of better maritime transport connections in the wider Black Sea and Caspian Sea region; Timeframe: 2009-2011; Budget: € 2.5 million

Maritime safety – Black Sea and Caspian Sea: Supports the development of common security management, maritime safety and ship pollution prevention for the Black Sea and Caspian Sea; Timeframe: 2009-2011; Budget: €3.5 million

Strengthening of transport training capacity: Contributes to the development of sustainable transport infrastructure and modern transport services in the TRACECA countries through the training of staff; Timeframe: 2008-2010; Budget: €2 million

Transport dialogue and networks interoperability: Facilitates regional cooperation in the field of transport through capacity building and training measures, as well as the development of transport forecasts and investment appraisals; Timeframe: 2009-2012; Budget: €6.5 million

For more information see: <http://www.traceca-org.org/> and <http://www.enpi-info.eu/>



EU TRANSPORT PROJECT PRESENTS PROGRESS IN PRIORITY LOGISTICS PROJECTS

On 15 April the EU-funded TRACECA project "International Logistic Centres for Western NIS and Caucasus" held a roundtable meeting in Kyiv. The event was organised for permanent TRACECA representatives from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, and for the stakeholders who are involved in development of the logistics sector in the Transport Corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia (TRACECA): international freight forwarding companies, land developers, and international financing institutions. Representatives of the EU Delegation and Ministry of Transport and Communications of Ukraine also attended the event.

The purpose of the meeting was to inform the participants on the progress in the priority logistics projects. The project team presented the initial results of the feasibility studies and master plans for the selected projects. In particular, comprehensive presentations were made on the projects in Ukraine (Boryspil Airport Commercial Park, Dry port "Euroterminal" in Odesa). The project experts also presented the development of master plans and preliminary feasibility investigations in Azerbaijan and Moldova and identified the next steps to be undertaken in Georgia and Armenia on the definition of the priority projects.

The event participants also visited Boryspil Airport Commercial Park in Kyiv, currently under development and received the information required to complete the pre-feasibility study for selected and approved sites.

More information at: <http://www.ilc-traceca.eu/>

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EU TRANSPORT PROJECT HOLDS AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS ON TRAFFIC SECURITY

On 16 April the EU-funded project "Support to the Integration of Ukraine in the Trans-European Transport Network TEN-T" held a launch of the Road Safety Component in Lviv, implemented with the support of the EURO-2012 Department of the Lviv City Council. The Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira attended the event.

The Road Safety Component is aimed at strengthening and increasing the competence level of the Ukrainian traffic authorities in anticipation of the EURO-2012 football championship with further implementation of various public awareness campaigns.

The project has already held a competition for the best billboard layouts for the campaign to prevent accidents and speeding and increase the use of safety belts. The speed control campaign will begin in May 2010, and the campaign on the safety belts usage is scheduled for July 2010. These campaigns will include promotional spots on radio and television, billboards and city lights.

Project experts have worked out the statistics and conducted a series of meetings with representatives of various public authorities and concluded that the greatest number of accidents in the region was caused by speeding. The objective of speed control campaign is reducing the number of accidents with traumatic consequences, and reducing deaths and injuries by 20%. For the whole year this will allow to save about 30 lives and prevent 200 injuries. It is recommended to focus on speed control and on using seat belts.



More information at: <http://www.ten-t.org.ua/en/>

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EU PROJECT HELPS SCHOOLS WARN OF DANGERS OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

On 8 April the EU-Council of Europe project "Strengthening and Protecting Women and Children's Rights in Ukraine" held in Kyiv a lesson for secondary schools to help teachers tackle the issue of trafficking in human beings with teenage pupils. The presentation followed a training session for teacher trainers from all regions of Ukraine to demonstrate how to implement the new guidelines for schools. The First Deputy Minister of Education and Science Borys Zhebrovsky confirmed during the event that the lesson will be shortly rolled out to all schools across the country.

The Head of Operations of the EU Delegation Laura Garagnani, said during the launch event: "EU practice proves that awareness initiatives targeted at children as potential victims of the sex trade and labour trafficking helps to reduce human trafficking."

According to the Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe Ake Peterson, "the Council of Europe supports the efforts of the Ukrainian government in implementing the Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. This school lesson contributes to the prevention of trafficking in children and youths and increases awareness among teachers of the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention".

According to the latest US government report on trafficking, Ukraine is both a source and transit country for men, women, and children trafficked for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced labour. Children are among the main trafficking victims with the Ministry of Internal Affairs reporting 51 victims in 2009 alone. The main destinations are Russia, Poland, Turkey, Italy, the Czech Republic, Portugal, and Spain.

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EU PROJECT PRESENTS A COMPLEX SURVEY OF COALMINING REGIONS

On 13-27 April the EU-funded project "Coal Sector Policy Support Programme" held a series of seminars in Luhansk, Donetsk, Lviv and Kyiv aimed at presenting results of a complex surveys conducted in coalmining regions (Donetsk, Luhansk, Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk and Volyn). The survey included in particular: household survey, survey on the situation with occupation and demands of the labour market, vocational education and further training needs survey, employers' opinion survey, survey of condition of social infrastructure objects that were transferred to local executive authorities balance due to mine closure, focus group discussions, and employers' interviews.



During the seminars the representatives of Oblast administrations, employment centres, Ukrainian Social Investment Fund, educational establishments, chambers of commerce and industry, non-governmental organisations had the opportunity to find out the results of international and local project experts' work. After presentations the participants continued the discussion on the results in groups and worked out a series of potential recommendations that will serve as a basis for developing recommendations to the Master Plan of Ukrainian coal industry development and regional development of coal-mining areas. The participants acknowledged that the results of the survey portray social and economic conditions of the researched territories which require urgent joint efforts on the regional and on the national levels directed to improving life of population in mining regions.

More information at: <http://www.eu-coalsector.com.ua/>

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EU PROJECT SUPPORTS INVESTIGATIONS OF ABUSES ACCORDING TO EUROPEAN STANDARDS

On 12 April the EU-Council of Europe project "Combating ill-treatment and impunity in South Caucasus, Moldova and Ukraine" held in Kyiv a roundtable on "Improving the legal and institutional mechanisms to ensure effective investigation of abuse complains in Ukraine according to European standards". The event was organised with the support of the Legislation Institute of the Parliament, Parliament Committee on Legislative Support of Law Enforcement and Ukrainian Centre for Legal Assistance "Public Defender".



During the event the project experts presented the country report "Combating domestic violence and impunity and effective abuse investigation" highlighting the situation in Ukraine and made recommendations to improve the national mechanism of investigation of complaints about the facts of abuses and impunity.

The country report was prepared after a mission to Ukraine, analysis of national legislation, legal and judicial practices, the study of basic aspects of national mechanism for combating of abuses from the part of law enforcement, inquiry and preliminary investigation bodies.

After the report presentation, the representatives of Parliament, the Institute for the Study of Crime of the National Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Government Representative to the European Court of Human Rights, as well as human rights organisations expressed their comments to the country report. The national experts also shared opinions on improving legal and institutional mechanisms to ensure effective investigations on complaints of abuse in Ukraine according to European standards.

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EUBAM SUMS UP ACHIEVEMENTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT

On 14-15 April the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) held an International Conference "Integrated Border Management Achievements and Way Ahead" in Kyiv. At the event, the Ukrainian and Moldovan Border Guard and Customs Services, FRONTEX, the EU's external border coordination body, representatives of the border services of 15 EU Member States and other organisations reiterated their commitment to supporting integrated border management (IBM) in the region. Approximately 100 delegates, representing 21 countries and 8 international organisations working in the field of border security attended the two-day conference.



Opening the event, the Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira said: "In the context of the European Union's Neighbourhood Policy, and of the recently launched Eastern Partnership, the European Commission pays special attention to border management with a view to strengthen the prosperity, stability and security of its Eastern neighbours". The goal of the conference was to provide an opportunity for the border agencies of Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and EU Member States for sharing experience in the implementation of the concept of Integrated Border Management on national levels. It also aimed at promoting international cooperation among border services, which is essential part of the EU Integrated Border Management model.

"EUBAM has supported improvements to border management standards in Moldova and Ukraine for nearly four and a half years. Our support has contributed to improved security, reduced smuggling and human trafficking as well as contributing to the development of the IBM concept in the region", said Udo Burkholder, acting Head of EUBAM. Joint activities between the Moldovan and Ukrainian Border Guards and Customs Services with EUBAM have included joint border control operations; the production of common border security assessments; joint public information activities, pilot projects on jointly operated border crossing points and joint.

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EU PROJECT ENHANCES UKRAINE'S INTEGRATION INTO THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

On 15-16 April the EU-funded Joint Support Office (JSO) for Enhancing Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area (ERA) held in Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhzhya the Information Days on "Opportunities for Ukraine's Research Organisations under the EU Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) on Research & Technological Development and its Specific Components". The events were organised with the support of the National Information Centre for EU-Ukraine Scientific and Technological (S&T) Cooperation (NIP Ukraine).



The European experts in FP7 rules and procedures in their native countries as well as internationally, shared their experience and knowledge with Ukrainian research project managers, researchers and private/public research organisations interested to participate in FP7 and keen to glean practical recommendations on how to put together competitive bids for future FP7 Calls for Proposals. Presentations focused on the four major FP7 components: Cooperation, Capacities, People and Ideas, as well as on recent and present experience of several Ukrainian research organisations with FP7. These presentations were followed by practical recommendations intended for potential applicants on competitive proposal drafting as well as successful partner search techniques.

The JSO aims to strengthen the capacity of the NIP Ukraine under the Ministry of Education and Science and to support Ukraine's S&T communities, including academia and businesses, more particularly innovative SMEs, in submitting more competitive proposals to the EU-funded 7th Framework Programme on Research & Technological Development in order to intensify Ukraine's participation in this EU Framework Programme.

More information at: <http://www.jso-era.org.ua/>
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EU PROJECT IMPROVES THE ENERGY CONSUMPTION MANAGEMENT IN MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS

On 16 April the EU-funded project "Management of Domains related to Energy in Local Authorities" (MODEL) of the EU programme "Cooperation in Urban Development and Dialogue" (CIUDAD) held in Lviv the launching event. The project on energy consumption management is implemented with the support of the European association of local authorities Energie-Cités in 6 cities from Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia and Moldova. The Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira and representatives of the Lviv City Council and Lviv Executive Committee attended the event.



In Lviv, the MODEL-CIUDAD project is aimed at implementation of energy saving measures in the "Sychivska" secondary school. The Lviv project budget amounts to about €133,582: 80% funded by the EU and 20% by the Lviv City Council. The modernisation of the gymnasium involves the external insulation of the building with polystyrene, installation of new windows, installation of radiator screens under the windows and modernisation of internal energy isolation systems.

The MODEL-CIUDAD project is also implemented in Kamianets-Podilskyi and Lutsk, as well as three cities from Georgia, Armenia and Moldova with a total budget of €637,090. The European association of local authorities Energie-Cités selected the 6 cities for energy consumption management projects taking into account their experience in development of energy saving measures.

More information at: <http://www.energie-cites.eu/>

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EU PROJECT HANDS OVER MODERN LABORATORY EQUIPMENT TO UKRAINIAN LABORATORIES

On 16 April the EU-funded project "Implementation of Ukraine's Commitments under WTO and ENP Frameworks in the Rural Sector" officially handed over in Lviv modern equipment to regional veterinary laboratory. The Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira attended the event. This equipment will enable Ukraine to meet European and international requirements regarding identifying residues of veterinary preparations in food products of animal origin.



The laboratory equipment for identifying residues of veterinary preparations in food products and specially equipped vehicles for transportation of samples on total amount of €2 million have been received by 4 regional laboratories and 2 institutes in 5 Ukrainian cities: Kyiv, Cherkassy, Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk and Lviv. Representatives of the suppliers are also conducting basic training on usage of this equipment for laboratory staff in Ukraine and Denmark.

The project with a total budget of €4.7 million is operating in several pilot regions of Ukraine promoting closer cooperation between EU and Ukraine, as well as harmonisation of Ukrainian standards in conformity with WTO requirements, in particular, in agrarian sector due to implementation of sector wide approach.

More information at: <http://www.swap-rural.org.ua/>

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EU AMBASSADOR ADDRESSES TO THE PARTICIPANTS OF COURTS AND SOCIETY SUMMIT

On 20-22 April the USAID-funded Ukraine Rule of Law Project held in Kyiv the Courts and Society Summit: Working Together to Promote Public Trust and Confidence. The event brought together leading policymakers, Ukrainian and international experts, and other key stakeholders to discuss ways to strengthen judicial independence, transparency and accountability in line with international and European standards.

The Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira addressed a welcome speech to the Summit participants: "The European Union has been supporting qualitative reforms of the Ukrainian court system. At the beginning of this decade, we started supporting training and awareness raising activities to promote the wider application by Ukrainian judges and prosecutors in their daily work of the European Convention on Human Rights. In 2009 alone, our current support to the justice sector of Ukraine totaled €11.5 million. Consequently, reforms in this field will play an important role in the future European Union Association Agreement with Ukraine and is doing so already now in our Association Agenda with Ukraine. The EU welcomes the recent creation of a working group on justice reforms enacted by a Presidential decree and chaired by the Minister of Justice of Ukraine. I sincerely hope that the group's work will result in the long awaited improvements of the functioning of courts in Ukraine". The Summit participants shared and discussed impact, best practices, and lessons learned in implementing programmes that support judicial reform in Ukraine.



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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

26-27 APRIL, ANTHRACITE, LUHANSK

Roundtable on Mine Dewatering of the EU-funded project "Coal Sector Policy Support Programme".

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26-27 APRIL, ODESA

Final Conference and official handover ceremony of equipment of the EU-funded project "Capacity Building and Technical Support to Ukrainian authorities to Effectively Respond to Irregular Transit- Migration".

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28 APRIL, KYIV

Closing conference of the EU-funded INOGATE project "Safety and Security of main gas transit infrastructure".

More information at: <http://www.inogate.org/>

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28 APRIL, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, ODESA

Presentation on "EU climate and energy policy: challenges beyond Copenhagen" organised by the EU Delegation with the support of the ENPI Info Centre.

More information at: <http://www.enpi-info.eu/>

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28-29 APRIL, PRESIDENT HOTEL, KYIV

Regional Workshop on handling food crises/emergencies organised by the Technical Assistance Information Exchange Instrument of the European Commission (TAIEX) in co-operation with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and Directorate General for Health and Consumers of the European Commission.

More information at: <http://taiex.ec.europa.eu/>

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29 APRIL, TEACHERS' HOUSE, KYIV

Roundtable discussion on multicultural approaches to teaching history in Ukraine. The roundtable is part of the new EU-funded project on "National minorities in the history of Ukraine" implemented by the All-Ukrainian Association of Teachers of History, Civic Education and Social Studies Nova Doba.

More information at: <http://www.novadoba.org.ua/>

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