



EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

TEMPUS CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO MODERNISE HIGHER EDUCATION

Kyiv, 21 December – Representatives of the main Ukrainian higher education institutions gathered at Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University to learn about the participation in the EU-funded Tempus IV programme. This programme supports the modernisation of higher education and creates an area of co-operation in countries surrounding the EU.

The event aimed at informing the participants about the new fifth call for proposals under the Tempus IV programme as well as to draw attention to the novelties of the call, e.g. modified National Priorities, e-application form, partnerships, types of funded actions etc.

In addition to detailed discussions on the Tempus IV programme, the participants were updated on other EU-funded programmes in the field of education opened to Ukraine, such as Erasmus Mundus and Jean Monnet.

The National Tempus Information Day was organised by the National Tempus Office in Ukraine and Taras Shevchenko University in close cooperation with the EU Delegation to Ukraine and the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science.

The deadline for submission of applications under the fifth call for proposals is 23 February 2012.

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EUBAM CONTRIBUTES TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF ANALYTICAL AND MANAGERIAL CAPACITIES OF THE PARTNER SERVICES

Odessa, 21 December – The European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) donated services software and laptop computers to Moldovan and Ukrainian border guard. The donation, made by Mr. Slawomir Pichor, Deputy Head of EUBAM, should improve analytical and managerial capacities of border agencies

The analytical software packages SmartDraw, handed over to the border guard and customs services of Moldova and Ukraine will help risk analyses units to visualize data, and thus enhance the quality of their analysis of the security situation on the border.

The thirty laptop computers with necessary software are being donated to the Moldovan and Ukrainian partner services to support the trainees of the international course for border guard local commanders, which is currently being delivered by the EUBAM to develop the professional capabilities of middle managers.

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CRIMEAN LOCAL AND REGIONAL OFFICIALS PASS EXAMS ON PROJECT CYCLE MANAGEMENT

Simferopol, 20 December – Representatives of Crimea District and City Administrations, Ministries and Committees passed exams on strategy building, programming and streamlining institutions, strategic tools to foster economic development and project cycle management.

Crimean officials attended the training programme on local and regional development consisted of three two-day modules, organised by the joint EU-UNDP project on support to the Regional Development Agency of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. The trainings were provided by Ane Sindik, leading international expert in regional development from Croatia. The expert prepared questions for the final examination including all aspects throughout the course.

Many participants were surprised by the level of required knowledge in the area. In particular, Lyudmila Sklyarova, Head of Economic Department of Dzhankoy District State Administration, noted that the questions were quite difficult, but a comprehensive understanding of local and regional development aspects, which was obtained during these modules, helped to reflect the vision of certain issues.



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EU-FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTS THE ELABORATION OF THE REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY OF CRIMEA

Simferopol, 16 December – The EU-funded Agency for Regional Development of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (RDA) held the meeting of the working group on elaboration of Crimea Regional Innovation Strategy. The meeting was moderated by Wolfgang Wedderkopf, international expert in innovative development and Mustafa Sait-Ametov, Director of RDA Research and Strategic Planning Department.

The participants discussed the technology audit of Crimean enterprises aimed to assess the needs in innovations. The working group made a preliminary list of enterprises to be selected for survey which shall comply with such criteria as their industry affiliation, technological orientation, size of enterprises. The main task at this stage is to generate maximum balancing selection in all respects, taking into account the priorities of the Socio-economic Development Strategy of Crimea till 2020.

Participants of the meeting made constructive proposal and appropriate decisions. Namely, members of the working group wanted to expand proposed list and include enterprises of processing industries, agricultural producers and construction companies.



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LARGEST EU-FUNDED EASTERN EUROPEAN GENDER PROJECT SUMS UP ACHIEVEMENTS

Kyiv, 16 December – Almost 2,500 trainings for 50,000 Ukrainian civil servants, teachers and different level policy makers, 18 manuals, 3 education centres, 5 academic departments, one completed gender map of Ukraine. These are results of the three-year work of the joint EU-UNDP Equal Opportunities and Women's Rights in Ukraine Programme. The project started in September 2008 to support Ukrainian Government and civil society in the implementation of gender equality mechanisms and eliminate stereotypes as to the role of women and men in society.

“Changing mentalities is very difficult task”, noted Larysa Kobelyanska, Project Coordinator. “The society is ready, public opinion is formed, people are waiting for these changes. But it will depend on the political will of relevant governmental bodies to make real decisions”, she added.

The experts also agreed on the need to change the mindset of government officials.

Jose Roman LEON LORA, Head of Section for economic cooperation, regional and social development of the EU Delegation to Ukraine, spoke about the numerous positive legislative initiatives, at the same time stressing the need to ensure their efficient implementation.

The Ministry of Social Policy clearly expressed its commitment to follow up actions initiated by the project. The Department of Family Policy of the Ministry is planning to support the institution of gender advisors in Ukraine and also create regional expert council that will deal with cases of gender inequality reported by the population.

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EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORTS UKRAINE TO BOOST TRADE AND CONSUMER CONFIDENCE

Kyiv, 14 December – Accreditation is a key area in cooperation between Ukraine and the European Union, especially with regard to the future EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area.

A new Twinning Project on further development of the National Accreditation Agency of Ukraine (NAAU) according to European practices was officially presented by the Head of the EU Delegation and Ambassadors of the United Kingdom and Germany. Drawing upon the wide experience of the United Kingdom and Germany, this Twinning project will facilitate Ukraine's exports to the European Union.

The ability of Ukrainian manufacturers and businesses to test, certify and inspect their own goods and services for export to the EU Member States will be a huge advantage to the Ukrainian economy. It will improve the quality of goods and services and thus strengthen the local economy. Losses incurred by goods, particularly perishable ones, that are rejected at EU Member States' borders will disappear. In the long run, the project will give a massive boost to consumer confidence.

Building upon previous cooperation, the Twinning project will tackle new areas of importance to the economy, such as Management Systems, Certification of Products, Notified Bodies and Traceable Calibrations. The number of NAAU areas recognised in Europe is foreseen to increase through the € 1.5 million 47 month project, which started in October 2011.

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EU SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN OIL AND GAS METROLOGY

Kyiv, 12 December, 2011- Representatives from the EU, Ukrainian authorities and sector representatives from several countries attended the Final Project Conference.

As part of the EU-funded INOGATE programme, the project performed Feasibility studies to expand the Metrological Centre in Boyarka with new services to include oil, oil product and liquefied gas, as well as training facilities for oil and gas metrology. Optimization and control of the hydrocarbons transit flows and leakage monitoring were also part of the studies.

The study affirmed the technical, environmental and economical feasibility of the extension Metrological Centre in Boyarka to include new services.

The EU-funded project has established the basis for the further development of the Metrological Centre in Boyarka as an international state-of-the-art metrology organization. It also represents another step forward in the EU-Ukraine energy convergence and enhanced energy security, improving the transparency of the gas transport to Europe.

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EU-FUNDED SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SHOWS MULTIPLE RESULTS

Kyiv, 8 December – Key Ukrainian national and regional level bodies and institutions responsible for regional development policy formulation and implementation, non-governmental organisations, research institutions, international community in Ukraine and experts gathered together at the closing event of the EU-funded Support to Sustainable Regional Development Project.

During the last 3.5 years the project has been the key technical assistance initiative of the European Union in regional development. It worked closely with Ukrainian decision makers and proposed a full-fledged model of management of regional development policy for Ukraine that is in line with international best practice. It also elaborated a step by step action plan on the reform implementation. The proposed model includes all required aspects of regional development including the structures for the consistent and effective governance of regional development in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian government has expressed a strong interest in approximating its policies to EU Regional Policy. Several important policy documents, including an update of the National Strategy for Regional Development until 2015 are currently under elaboration. Further, a State Fund for Regional Development has been proposed to the Parliament.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

14-16 FEBRUARY, KHRESHCHATYK HOTEL, KYIV

Opening meeting/planning seminar within the EU TRACECA Civil Aviation II project

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7 TO 9 FEBRUARY, CHATENAY-MALABRY, FRANCE

TAIEX study visit for employees of the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine (SNRIU) on characterisation and control of radioactive waste and packages

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

14 TO 15 FEBRUARY, LVIV

TAIEX workshop on European experience on eradication of rabies for the State Committee for Veterinary Medicine of Ukraine and the State scientific and research Institute for laboratory diagnostics and veterinary-sanitary examination

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