



EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EU-FUNDED TWINNING PROJECT ORGANISES A STUDY TOUR TO DENMARK AND LATVIA

The EU-funded Twinning Project "Support for the Ukrainian Veterinary Services in Enhancing the Legal and Technical Aspects of Food Safety Control System" arranged a study visit to Denmark and Latvia for 5 Ukrainian veterinary inspectors.

On 6th – 11th February 2011 the study visit took place within the framework of Component 4 "Introduction to the EU veterinary border inspection".

Three Ukrainian veterinary border inspectors from relevant public institutions (South-Western, Southern, and Odessa Regional Services of the State Veterinary and Sanitary control at the State Border and Transportation), as well as two representatives from the State Committee of Veterinary Medicine of Ukraine participated in highly specialized practical training at the Danish and Latvian Border inspection points (BIP).

During the practical training at Copenhagen airport and seaport (Denmark) the participants got information about relevant BIP control procedures and BIP design as well as TRACES database. In Latvia the Ukrainian officials could visit the Paternieki road BIP (on the Latvian-Belarusian border) and the Daugavpils railway BIP (on the Latvian-Russian border).

The main attention was focused on introduction to BIP control procedures, particularities of identification process and physical checks. The Ukrainian specialists got acquainted with daily cooperation activities practiced by the EU BIPs. All trained key persons are expected to be trainers for their Ukrainian colleagues.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT "THE CITIZEN AND THE STATE: DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIP FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE IN UKRAINE" CONVENED MEETING IN DONETSK

On 15th February 2011, the Steering Group of the EU-funded project "The Citizen and the State: Developing Partnership for Good Governance in Ukraine" gathered for the first time in Donetsk. The Project Steering Group was established on the initiative of the British Council and its partners, the Association of NGOs "Socio-Economic Strategies and Partnerships" and NGO "Agency for Legislative Initiatives".

Representatives from local administrations and local self-governance bodies in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts were also invited to take part in the event.

The Steering Group will be involved in consultation and discussion regarding the content of training, other project activities and materials that will be developed by the project team. They will also be invited to comment on the "Strategy and Policy Framework" for local administrations and self-governing bodies, and the "Citizen Participation Strategy" that will be developed during the course of the project. Margaret Jack, Director of the British Council in Ukraine and Cultural Attache of the British Embassy in Ukraine, greeted the participants and stressed the importance of civil society engagement into the decision-making processes at local level.

As a result of the meeting, the participants agreed on the strategic framework of the project's implementation, analysed the results of the baseline assessment of the project's target audiences and agreed the content of the training for local authorities and NGOs in both oblasts.

Project web page: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/uk/ukraine-projects-citizen-and-state.htm/>

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EU_UNDP INTERREGIONAL CONFERENCE "COMMUNITY INITIATIVE IN ACTION: LOCAL DEVELOPMENT" TOOK PLACE IN IVANO-FRANKIVSK

On 22nd February 2011, the representatives of five rural community organisations from Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Ternopil, Volun and Zakarpattya regions gathered to speak about success of Community Based Approach (CBA) initiatives. The meeting aimed to present the success stories of implementing the Project which improved the quality of life in rural areas due to financial support by the European Union-UNDP program.

Launched in December 2007, the CBA Project cooperates with more than 1000 local communities in all oblasts of Ukraine and AR Crimea to ensure sustainable local development through support to self-organization of communities, capacity building and support to implementation of community initiatives.

Ivano-Frankivsk region was represented at the conference by the community organization (CO) of Halych town which has organized and created the charity fund "Open Your Heart to People".

Entire community worked upon the local development plan which defined introducing energy saving technologies in local kindergarten as a top priority.

Leader of community organization "Development Agency of Perechyn Town" presented another successful example of communities' self-organization in Zakarpattya region. The project envisaged installation of 694 eco-containers with the total cost of UAH 189 000 placed in front of each household.

Laura Garagnani, Head of Operations of the Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine, and Olivier Adam, UN Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative took part in the conference.

Community Based Approach to Local Development Project is completed on 5 March 2011. Approval of the second phase of CBA Project is being finalized. The 4-years-long phase will have the budget of € 17million.

More information at: www.cba.org.ua

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ENPI FLEG PROGRAM INITIATES DISCUSSION ON PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE FOREST LEGISLATION IN UKRAINE

The roundtable on forest legislation was organized on 24th February 2011 by the experts of the ENPI FLEG Program jointly with the NGO "Bureau of Ecological Investigations".

Representatives from the Ministry of ecology and natural resources of Ukraine, Ministry of Internal Affairs, forestry scientists and practitioners, NGOs and the ENPI FLEG Program experts participated in the event.

Opening remarks were delivered by the World Bank consultant in Ukraine Oleg Storchous, who presented outcomes of his analytical research on legal regulation of the long-term forest use.

As a result of this discussion, experts will elaborate a list of specific proposals on improving forest use legislation which will be submitted to Verkhovna Rada, Cabinet of Ministers, Ministry of Agro-Industrial Policy, and the State Agency of Forest Resources of Ukraine.



More detailed information on this event can be viewed at: [http://www.fleg.org.ua/index.php?id=6&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=93](http://www.fleg.org.ua/index.php?id=6&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=93)

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DONETSK HOSTS DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY BASED DEVELOPMENT APPROACH WITH UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE

On 25th February 2011 in Donetsk, Olivier Adam, UN Resident Coordinator, took part in the conference "CBA Project in Donetsk region: Results, Perspectives, Innovations". The event marks the closure of the first phase of CBA Project and outlines the prospects of cooperation.

The conference was aimed at presenting the results of community development activities in Donetsk region, implemented by EU/UNDP CBA Project in partnership with oblast administration, oblast council and 8 pilot rayons: Artemivsky, Dobropilsky, Kostyantynivsky, Krasnoarmiysky, Novoazovsky, Slovyansky, Starobeshivsky and Telmanivsky. Mykola Zahoruyko, Head of Association of Local Governments of Donetsk region, represented the regional authorities.

Heads of pilot rayons and village councils attended the conference to present their achievements. Heads of non-pilot areas came to learn from the experience of their neighbours and enquire about prospects of cooperation with CBA Project in future. Exhibition of children's drawings and creative works "Community Based Approach to Local Development with Children's Eyes" evoked special interest of participants

Olivier Adam highly estimated the efficiency of cooperation with Donetsk region and appreciated considerable support provided by all executive and elected authorities for the empowerment and development of local communities.

CBA Project was launched in Donetsk region on 18 December 2008. Since then, 40 rural communities got self-organized and created community organizations. In total, local communities have implemented 51 community micro-projects in the region.

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CROATIA SHARES ITS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE WITH CRIMEA

At the end of February 2011, 14 representatives of Crimean authorities, local governance and the Crimean Agency for Regional Development (ARD) visited the Republic of Croatia to learn about this country's experience in regional development, in particular as regards the setup and running of regional development agencies, their interaction with central government and local partners.

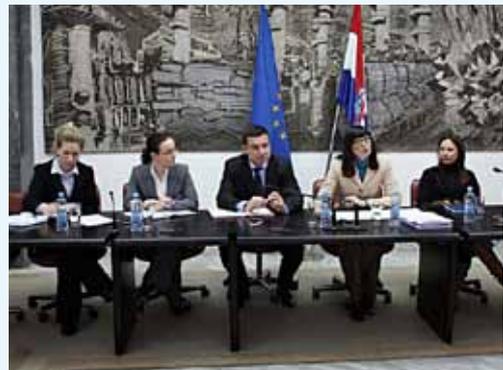
"Croatia is of particular interest to us: it actively utilises European funds to promote its regional development. Similar opportunities are today offered to Ukraine in the framework of the Eastern Partnership and other EU cooperation instruments. Moreover, Croatia and Crimea present a lot of similarities in terms of their economic structure and natural environment", said Petro Koshukov, Deputy Team Leader of the EU/UNDP ARD Support Project.

In total, the Crimean delegation held over 15 meetings with central, regional and local authorities, regional development agencies, businessmen, and international institutions, and visited several different regions in Croatia. Meetings with central and regional authorities were particularly focused on the use of European funds, preparation of territorial socio-economic development projects and creation of a national database which would allow tracking project planning and implementation.

The participants were particularly interested in learning the details in the light of the new regional policy of Ukraine moving towards the target programme methodology in budgeting. The output of the training was development of Memorandum of Understanding.

"Signing Memorandum of Understanding is a concrete step towards cooperation. I regard the study tour to Croatia as the start of constructive negotiations between the regions. It shall lay ground for active development of relations. Moreover, we saw vivid interest to Crimea on the part of investors", commented Oleksiy Starodubov.

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THE EUROPEAN UNION INVITES CHILDREN TO TAKE PART IN THE DRAWING COMPETITION ON THE THEME OF EQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

On 9th March 2011, the European Union launched a drawing competition on the theme of equality between men and women with prizes for the winners of up to €1,000. Children aged 8 to 10 are invited to take part in the competition.

This year the theme of the competition is "Once upon a time, there was a girl and a boy, and together they wanted to make a better world...".

Children are invited to send their drawings by 20th May 2011 to: 29, Kreschatik Street, Apt 48, 01001 Kyiv, Ukraine.

All submissions should be on A4 paper only, on one side and with the last name of the author, age, class and school address indicated on the reverse side.

The international competition is already in its fifth year and aims to raise the awareness of equal opportunities for women and men. In single year 2010 more than 49,000 children between the ages of 8-10 years from 61 different countries took part in competition and Olga Chumachenko, a 9-year old from Kakhovka town of Kherson region was one of the winners.

The Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine together with the Ministry of education and science, youth and sports will select a total of 10 of the best drawings from Ukraine during the open competition to send onto the final selection with the winners announced at the end of June 2011.

Winning drawings from past competitions can be found on the website:
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/gender/drawing-competition-2010_en.htm

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

15-17 MARCH, DNEPROPETRIVSK

The Twinning Project "Support for the Ukrainian Veterinary Services" organizes the second workshop on training on EU residue legislation and National Residue Control Plan.

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16 MARCH, KYIV

Final conference of "Coal Sector Policy Support Programme".

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16 MARCH, KYIV

Final conference of the joint project "Women and children's rights" implemented by the Council of Europe, Kyiv.

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