



EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EU AND CRIMEA ATTRACT FOREIGN INVESTMENTS AND TOURISTS TO UKRAINE'S PENINSULA

Crimea, 28–30 May – The Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador José Manuel Pinto Teixeira, together with EU Member States' Ambassadors launched two new EU-funded projects within the EU Joint Cooperation Initiative in Crimea: 1) Foreign Direct Investment Promotion in Sevastopol and 2) Crimean Tourism Diversification and Support.

During the visit, Ambassador Teixeira said: "With its natural beauty and strategic location on the shores of the Black Sea, Crimea has a very big business and tourism potential. With some support from the EU, we hope to help the citizens of Crimea use and benefit from this potential to its fullest."

The project in Sevastopol will help set up a fully operational Investment Promotion Agency, identify "Investment Success Stories" and help local authorities build for Sevastopol an image as an attractive city for doing business. With €1.9 million budget, and over two years, the project thus aims to attract Foreign Direct Investment to Sevastopol.

The Crimean Tourism Diversification and Support Project aims to improve the efficiency of regional authorities in the field of tourism and related sectors of the economy. Aiming to attract tourists and promote the socio-economic development of the peninsula, the three year, and €5 million project will develop a competitive sustainable tourism, a sustainable mechanism for improving resorts' quality, and diversify tourist products and quality of services in Crimea.

For further information: <http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ukraine/>



CIUDAD PROJECT TO SAVE URBAN HERITAGE HOLDS ITS FINAL CONFERENCE

Kyiv, 28–29 May – The House of Architecture hosted the final conference of the EU-funded project "RKM_Save Urban Heritage". The project was implemented under the EU Cooperation in Urban Development and Dialogue (CIUDAD) programme by the City of Rome, in partnership with the City of Kyiv and the City of Moscow, as well as other partners.

With a programme of workshops, guided tours and lectures, in collaboration with local administrators, universities, foundations, associations and citizens, the Urban Heritage project has worked for two years to increase awareness about the importance of avant-garde and constructivist architectural heritage in the cities of Kyiv and Moscow.

Core to the project are the international networked labs, based in Moscow and Kyiv, designed to assist stakeholders in developing instruments for the marketing and promotion of each city's cultural heritage, the development of plans with experts and investors for building restoration, the creation of regulations for cultural heritage conservation and the development of an on-line database of avant-garde architecture in the two cities.

For further information: <http://www.saveurbanheritage.eu/>



UKRAINIAN STATISTICAL SYSTEM CLOSER TO EUROPEAN STANDARDS

Kyiv, 25 May – Representatives of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine and of Statistics Denmark held the second Steering Committee Meeting of the Twinning project that started in November 2011 on "Development of new statistical methodologies and indicators in selected areas of statistics in line with the EU statistical standards".

Through expert visits and study tours, this successful twinning project supports the on-going reform of the Ukrainian statistical system on such important issues as national accounts, business statistics, housing price index, tourism satellite account and more. The duration of the project is 18 months, with a € 1,000,000 budget.

The provision of high level advice by experts working within the European Union statistical services from Denmark, Finland, Spain, the United Kingdom, Lithuania and Latvia is the best way of making the State Statistics Service of Ukraine aware of the latest developments in statistical methods. Issuing timely and reliable statistical data allows the government and economic actors to make sound and timely decisions for the benefit of all Ukrainians.

For further information: <http://www.dst.dk/en/consulting/projects/ukraine2011.aspx>



COMMUNITY EVENTS DEMONSTRATE ACTIVE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN CIVIL SOCIETY AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

23-31 May – Ten local events were held in the communities of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts within the EU-funded project “Citizen and the State: Developing Partnership for Good Governance in Ukraine”.

The 2-year project has been implemented by the British Council Ukraine and its partners – the Agency for Legislative Initiatives and Association “Socio-Economic Strategies and Partnerships”. Donetsk and Luhansk Oblast Councils are ready to support local mini-projects prepared by participants of the project which will be implemented by coalitions of civil society organisations and local authorities in the project pilot sites. And during the local events mini-projects were presented to wide audience in villages, towns and cities of two oblasts.

As the projects are aimed at demonstration of the benefits of co-operation between citizens and authorities in resolving of the most urgent problems in communities, heated discussions were concentrated on the issues varying from local infrastructure development to e-governance. Round tables, focus groups, presentations and general meetings of residents gave the opportunity to citizens to voice their concerns, put forward new ideas and explore new grounds for co-operation.



For further information: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/ukraine-projects-citizen-and-state.htm>

POLICY AND LEGAL ADVICE TO BRING UKRAINE CLOSER TO THE EU

Kyiv, 18 May – The European Union permanently assists the Ukrainian authorities in implementation of the Partnership and Co-operation Agreement, the European Neighbourhood Action Plan as well as the practical instrument which will replace it and the envisaged Association Agreement.

The €2.5 million Ukrainian-European Policy and Legal Advice Centre Phase V (UEPLAC-V) funded by the EU since 2009 provided assistance to the Co-ordination Bureau for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration at the Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers for enhancing Ukrainian capacity in terms of implementation of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement; approximation of its legislation to the EU laws; strengthening the Ukrainian policy-making and legislative process in conformity with Ukraine’s EU integration objectives.

At its closing conference the UEPLAC-V experts highlighted EU-Ukraine achievements in the field of policy advice and coordination and examined how Ukrainian legislation has moved closer to EU norms. This “forum for discussion” looked at new approaches to better harmonise EU-Ukraine legislations.

For further information: <http://ueplac.kiev.ua/>

EUBAM HANDS OVER TRAINING KITS TO UKRAINIAN PARTNERS

Odessa, 16 May – The EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) has handed over approximately €4,000 worth of training equipment to the training academies of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine and State Customs Service of Ukraine.

The equipment comprised a laptop, printer, scanner, video camera, projector, educational films and a training manual that will be used for the delivery of a management training programme to middle management personnel at both services. The training manual itself is the product of two years’ joint work by EUBAM’s Capacity Building Unit, the Ukrainian Customs Academy in Dnepropetrovsk, and the National Academy of the State Border Guard Service in Khmelnytsky.

The programme, “Effective Management Instruments”, is the first training programme to be jointly developed and jointly rolled out by EUBAM and both services.

“EUBAM is paying special attention to the younger generation and to students cadets in the academies,” said Udo Burkholder, Head of EUBAM, at the handover ceremony. “That is why we have deepened our cooperation with academic institutions and training centres in both the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.”



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



UKRAINIAN CITIES INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

Cherkasy, 15-16 May – Energy efficiency in cities was one of the main issues addressed at the conference entitled “Implementation of the Covenant of Mayors: The path to Ukraine’s energy security” gathering national and local authorities, national and international institutions, EU Member States Embassies, non-governmental organisations, member cities of the Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine Association, experts and consultants.

Host city of the event Cherkasy signed the Covenant of Mayors (CoM) in March 2012 committing to meet and exceed the European Union 20% CO2 reduction objective by 2020. At the conference the mayor of Cherkasy, Sergiy Odarych said that the city aims to completely refuse the use of gas for heating at private houses and public institutions, and its substitution by alternative sources of energy. Addressing the audience, he shared his positive experiences with acceptance of energy saving technologies.

The CoM was launched by the European Union in 2008 to endorse and support the efforts deployed by local authorities in the implementation of sustainable energy policies. The CoM is the mainstream European movement involving local and regional authorities, voluntarily committing to increasing energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources on their territories. At present 25 Ukrainian cities are CoM signatories.

For further information: <http://www.eumayors.eu/>



EASTERN PARTNERSHIP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS INITIATIVE SEES CUSTOMS AND BUSINESS JOIN FORCES

Odessa, 14 May – Representatives of large international companies such as Imperial Tobacco and Chanel joined customs representatives from six countries for the first of a three-day workshop devoted to the protection of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).

It is the first time the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) has managed to bring customs and businesses (right holders) together for such an IPR workshop. Cooperation between right holders and customs services – and between the customs services of different countries – is crucial to the fight against IPR violations. Businesses depend on customs services to detect counterfeit goods, while customs services depend on businesses to assist in identifying consignments of counterfeit goods – so there is a clear mutual interest in cooperation.

The workshop is the joint initiative of EUBAM and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD). ICMPD is funding the workshop in the context of the EU-funded Eastern Partnership Integrated Border Management Flagship Initiative. The initiative is timely given the threat posed to IPR by the EURO2012 football championship, which provides organised criminals with an additional incentive to produce counterfeit goods.

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



UKRAINIAN AND MOLDOVAN STUDENTS GATHER FOR SIXTH EUBAM YOUTH AGAINST CORRUPTION SCHOOL

Yalta, 6-13 May – Students from both sides of the Moldova-Ukraine border have gathered for the sixth “Youth against Corruption” school, organised by the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) in cooperation with the Centre for Combating Economic Crimes and Corruption (CCECC) of the Republic of Moldova and the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine (UASBGS).

At the opening ceremony, the 26 students – carefully selected by EUBAM from universities in Moldova and Ukraine – were told by the Head of EUBAM, Udo Burkholder, that “you, the younger generation, carry the hopes of your countries on your shoulders and will lead the fight against corruption, which is the key to strengthening democracy and creating a fairer society for everybody”.

The week-long programme included practical and theoretical sessions on aspects of anti-corruption such as international instruments for preventing corruption, European principles of good governance, and ethical conduct in the public service. A Democratic Governance representative from the United Nations Development Programme also gave a presentation to the students on “UN values and ethical standards and promoting integrity”.

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





EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

2 JUNE – 1 JULY, FRIENDSHIP ARCH, KYIV

European Village 2012, a month-long open air event promoting best practices in the eleven selected areas of EU-Ukraine co-operation and international development

For further information: <http://eurovillage2012.org/>

4-8 JUNE, KYIV

TAIEX Expert Mission on Territorial Governance for officials from the Ministry of Regional Development and the Regional State Administrations

For further information: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taiox/>

14-15 JUNE, THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS

Study Visit on Suspicious Financial Transactions for personnel from the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) of Ukraine

For further information: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taiox/>

18-22 JUNE, MADRID, SPAIN

Study visit on harmonization of African Swine Fever diagnostic techniques for officials from the State Research Institute of Laboratory Diagnostics and Veterinary and Sanitary Expertise

For further information: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taiox/>

21 JUNE, KYIV

Workshop on Value Added Tax in Agriculture for officials of the State Tax Service

For further information: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taiox/>

25-29 JUNE, ISPRA, ITALY

Study visit on the yield crop forecasting for experts in the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine

For further information: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taiox/>