

**NEWSLETTER**

**SUPPORT TO CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES PROGRAMME**

**No 2 (July-September 2015)**



# MOBILITY FOR DEVELOPMENT

**«Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership and harnessing its benefits for the residents of the Transnistria Region of the Republic of Moldova»**

**2015-2017**



**Project funded by  
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Organization for Migration**

# RESULTS

## **Networking Workshop for enhancing the capacity of the national and local Small and Medium Enterprises support structures to comprehensively cater for the needs of returning migrant workers entrepreneurs**

One of the most significant project's activity is providing capacity building for officials and non-state business support service providers, enhancing their ability to consult returning migrant workers self-starting entrepreneurs and thereby contributing to local development, poverty reduction and prevention of irregular migration. The project works to build the capacity of the SME support structures by organizing training and networking workshops for promotion of self-starting entrepreneurship for the stakeholders from the Transnistria Region, business associations and service providers. The business support structures in the Transnistria Region, public or independent, as well as their counterparts from the right bank of the Nistru River, will be exposed to the European best practices in managing the services for beginning entrepreneurs, so that their operation is enriched with the best-available international practices. The project will work to facilitate their access to the respective EU experience, through a study visit as well as trainings and networking workshops.



More over, the project shall contribute to fostering the confidence building at human level between the two shores of the Nistru River by implementing activities for enhancing the capacity of stakeholders to develop and implement programs for promotion and facilitation of the return and professional reintegration of qualified and returning migrants through up-grading of the in-country system and creation of a set of measures facilitating the return and socio-economic reintegration of various groups of returning migrants.

Within this Component, on the 13th of August 2015 the first Networking Workshop for enhancing the capacity building of Business Service Providers was held in Skyland Resort, Hrushova village, Criuleni District. Thirty participants among Business Service Providers, NGOs and public and private institutions from the Moldova and the Transnistria Region's sides gathered to discuss about the challenges they are facing, what they would like to improve and change in their activities and the best available practices here in Moldova. Through a questionnaires, besides, they were asked to suggest what the following trainings will be about and which EU country has the best-available international practices.

Following this workshop, in the next months, capacity building trainings will be provided to the SMEs support service providers, in order to enhance their ability to consult returning migrant workers self-starting entrepreneurs and thereby contribute to local development, poverty reduction and prevention of irregular migration. Their knowledge will be enhanced on best practices and the role of the central and local public administrations in reducing the barriers hindering the development of the small and medium enterprises, regulations on entrepreneurial activity, efficient communication with private businesses, promotion of specific business support programs, establishment and operation of business incubators, and economic empowerment of returning migrant workers, particularly youth and women as well as socially vulnerable groups.

# RESULTS

## Feedbacks from the Participants of the Networking Workshop

*"Of course, a round-table organized by IOM Mission to Moldova, in terms of venue and format of communication, in terms of synergies of the invited organizations from both banks of the Nistru River, is very important.*

*Besides, thanks to the participation of NGOs from the right bank, we have been allowed to hear about other positive experiences and examples of public organizations of the country which work with similar economic conditions.*

*A special thanks goes to Ghenadie, for the organization and the relaxed business discussions."*

**Veniamin Vinnitchii**, Chairman of "Association of beekeeping and agricultural development", Tiraspol

*"Thank you for a great event!*

*The round table was very important for me and my organization, who received the wonderful opportunity to network with colleagues from the other bank and to establish business contacts. Thank you very much for it! Hopefully, I will see you soon in the framework of the trainings."*

**Svetlana Lopatin**, "Center for Social and Economic Development - Faces of the Future", Bender



*"Some of IOM's objectives are to promote local development, poverty reduction and the prevention of illegal migration. Strengthening the capacity of national institutions to support small and medium enterprises is the right approach to solve these problems, since these structures have the same goal, and small and medium enterprises play an important role in the economy and they are a source of innovation and job creation.*

*In this context, the event was organized as a round table - a format that is ideal for the exchange of ideas and experiences and the creation of "networks" among the participants. During the workshop, the first step in the process of enhancing the capacity building of business service providers, we stressed the need of improving the efficiency and quality of services, discussing the existing problems in the work environment and their possible solutions. Particular importance had the participation of institutions from both sides of the Nistru, discussing the barriers from the perspective of both shores and the possibility of future cooperation."*

**Iulia Macarenco**, Project Assistant/Office Manager, Center for Entrepreneurial Education and Business Support CEDA, Chişinău



## RESULTS

*“Thank you for the round table format for your workshop, during which all the participants had the opportunity to examine the practical experience of the right and left banks and to identify the problems that exist on both sides. The issues raised during the meeting could be solved with the implementation of this project, which also could prevent a lot of the social problems which exist at the moment due to the lack of conditions for the self-realization of forced migrants from both sides. I hope to have the possibility of further participation in the project.”*

**Svetlana Privailova**, director of NGO “Offer Kindness”, Tiraspol.

*“During the workshop, I had the possibility to meet with businesses from Transnistria, which, for me, was helpful because we analyzed which methods could help CCI businesses and what could be used, not only for the business environment, but also for the community.*

*The exchange of experiences led to many new ideas that we wish to implement in the future, but also to create new connections between both sides of the Nistru River.”*

**Cristina Vatamaniuc**, Chamber of Commerce Orhei.



*“Considering that the free development of small and medium enterprises is one of the basic elements to create the conditions for the return of immigrants, the round table was especially important to intensify the work of social organizations and business service providers in this area.*

*It was significant to obtain information on ongoing programs to support small and medium-sized businesses and returning migrants from both banks of the Nistru River, as well as to identify the needs of the development of structures that would facilitate the return and integration of migrants.*

*I hope that in the future this project will not only provide an opportunity for participants to improve their skills and acquire new knowledge, but also become a platform for working together on initiatives for the development of small and medium-sized businesses and the successful solution of the problems of migration, taking into account their diversity.”*

**Natalia Murakhovskaya**, ACED, Tiraspol

*“For me, it was important to participate in the roundtable for at least 2 reasons:*

*1. The need of developing the potential to train in entrepreneurship and of creating networks of trainers.*

*2. To develop relationships with Transnistrian NGOs.*

*In the future, we will work together with the representatives of NGOs from Transnistria, I already talked with 3 of them and I hope to create partnerships in the implementation of projects.*

*Thanks for the constructive work.”*

**Tatiana Puga**, Association Women in Business Balti

# RESULTS

## Conclusion of Phase I of the Support Programs for young graduates and migrants wishing to return and be employed in the country

Phase I of the “Promotion of migrants' return and skill transfer through facilitation of temporary professional placements (TPPs) for overseas graduates and returning migrants” program, within the “Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership and harnessing its benefits for the residents of the Transnistria Region of the Republic of Moldova” project, finished on the 31st of August 2015.

This call for applications lasted two months and was addressed to young graduates and migrants wishing to return and be employed in the country, including in the Transnistrian Region. Taking into account individual needs and the priorities of the program, IOM Moldova offered (a) support in identifying the vacancies, (b) logistical and administrative assistance in the process of return and reintegration, (c) a monthly allowance equivalent to 150 Euro in Moldovan lei for a period of up to six months to add to the basic salary where it will not be higher than/equivalent to 400 Euro in Moldovan lei, (d) and a partial reimbursement of the travel costs, following a vulnerability criteria.

The total number of applications received was: for what concerns the right-bank side, 38 persons, of which 20 young returning graduates and 18 returning migrants; from the left side, instead, 18 persons applied, 3 young graduates and 15 returning migrants.

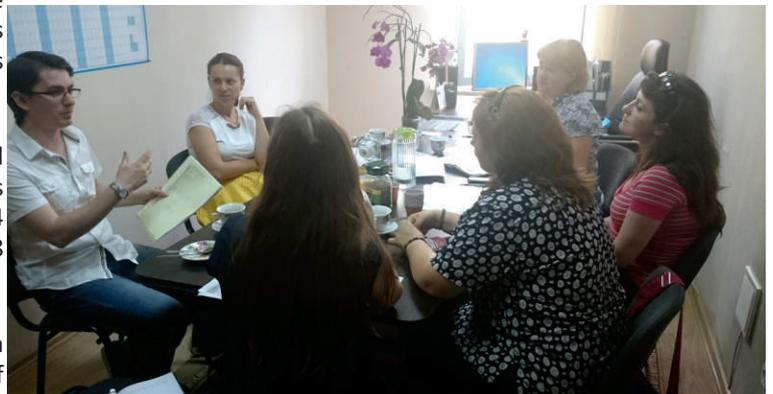
Among these applications, all the applicants have already received informational support, and: from the right-bank side, 8 applicants have already signed their contract, 4 young graduates and 4 migrants; from the Transnistrian Region, 3 young graduates and 8 returning migrants have already started their collaborations.

Taking the occasion of this first round of activities, IOM organised a Networking Event on the 1st of September, the main purpose of which was to present the initial results of the Program, to exchange ideas regarding the contribution of overseas graduates and returning migrants to the development of various strategic sectors of the Republic of Moldova and to address new visions of sustainable mechanisms for supporting the return and reintegration in to the labour market of young people who graduated in foreign universities and also migrants abroad.

During the event, the direct beneficiaries of the program emphasized the peculiarities of the reintegration process in the local labour market and highlighted the encountered benefits and obstacles to apply skills and know-how acquired abroad in the Moldovan context, including the Transnistria region.

The completion of these activities will directly contribute to the task set by the Government of promoting the local development, poverty reduction and prevention of irregular migration and trafficking, through job creation and offering opportunities for sustainable livelihood. It will also contribute to fostering the confidence building at human level between the two shores of the Nistru River by implementing activities for enhancing the capacity of the authorities to develop and implement programs for promotion and facilitation of the return and professional reintegration of qualified and returning migrants through up-grading of the in-country system targeting migrant returnees and creation of a set of measures facilitating the return and socio-economic reintegration of various groups of returning migrants. The Phase II of the program has already started soon, and the deadline for applying at the programs is 15th of November for the right bank and 15th of December for the left bank of the river Nistru.

p.s. During 2012-2015, over 250 young graduates from universities abroad were assisted and received logistic and informational support for their potential employment in their home country. Out of this number, 120 young graduates were successfully employed/or accomplished internship program in the public and private sector in Moldova.



# Interview

## The main results of the program to promote migrant's return and skill transfer through facilitation of temporary professional placements (TPPs) for Moldovan overseas graduates and returning migrants – Interview with Vitalie Varzari, IOM Local Consultant



### 1) What are the first considerations relating to these Support Programs?

The launch of two complimentary programs, on the 1st of June 2015, aimed at supporting the reintegration in the Moldovan labour market of returning migrants and young overseas graduates, has attracted genuine interest from these two target groups, but also from the receiving institutions in Moldova. Both Moldovan migrants and graduates who completed their studies abroad in 2015 have shown interest in the opportunities the programs for the support of returnees offer them and have applied to these programs, implemented by IOM Moldova.

### 2) How many applications did IOM receive? And from which countries are the applicants coming from or in which countries did they achieve their academic tutelage?

Since the launch of the programs, we have received 38 applications, 20 from young returning graduates and 18 from returning migrants. The majority of the migrants

which applied have a higher education (Bachelor and Master's Degree) and a rich practical experience obtained in Italy, Canada, Spain, USA, UK and Ireland, in various areas, such as logistics and international transport, consular affairs, food quality management, health, marketing, civil construction, hotel services, household services etc. Concerning the graduates, it is possible to note that their university and post-graduate studies have been undertaken in Romania, Lithuania, UK, Belgium, and their specialisations include international relations, European integration, diplomacy, economics and international business, project management, banking and finance, civil engineering, tourism and leisure services, foreign languages, regional development, etc.

### 3) Once someone applies, what does IOM offer?

IOM offers all of the applicants daily informational support depending on their individual needs, such as work experience, education acquired abroad, ambitions for career advancement and application of their knowledge in the country of origin. At the same time, valuing other project's opportunities and initiatives, the program has created synergies with these activities, such as those offered by the tools of NEXUS Moldova, SYSLAB Moldova, BCIS Moldova, NEA, FAR, HR-Consulting, referring to the IOM applicants these projects which concern them and help them in becoming more competitive in the Moldovan labour market. Special emphasis needs to be given to the enhancement of the communication between the beneficiaries of these ongoing programs and the ones from the previous editions, so to facilitate the transfer and assimilation of best practices for adaptation and social and professional integration in Moldova.

### 4) How many contracts did the applicants succeed in signing?

Up to now, eight applicants signed employment contracts with institutions in Moldova. Among them, four signed employment contracts with public institutions (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova, the District Council of Hincesti and the National Agency for Nuclear and Radioactive Activities) and four with private institutions (Civitta Moldova, Neotehnolux, SRL Svetlana Mihalachi and Orange Moldova).

### 5) In your opinion, what is the main purpose of these Programs?

It is worth noting that according to all the applicants, the beneficiaries and the employer institutions in Moldova, these programs are extremely useful, because they succeed, to a large extent, in contributing to the process of reintegrating the beneficiaries into the labour market, through informational, logistical and financial support and, therefore, in promoting the transfer of skills, knowledge and know how, thus facilitating the development of key sectors in Moldova. It is also worth mentioning that the programs want to contribute, through practical example, in increasing the understanding of the connection that the civil society and the business environment have with migration - development and practical mechanisms to apply to this nexus.

# RESULTS

## Working Group on Migration Profile



On September 4, 2015, the working meeting of the Working Group on Migration Profile, with the participation of the expert team of the International Organization for Migration and of the Transnistrian Research Team, was held in Tighina.

A number of issues of common interest for the participants in the event were addressed in the framework of the Working Meeting in the context of ongoing activity of development of the Migration Profile.

In this regard, international and regional experience in the field of migration statistics in the CIS countries, as well as related to segment of implementation of Migration Profiles was shared with the expert teams. Complementary, event participants familiarized themselves with international experience regarding to databases assessment and, particularly, data assessment matrixes.

Subsequently, IOM experts presented main activities to be implemented in the context of development of Migration Profile:

1. Action Plan for 2015 year of execution of Migration Profile;
2. Preparation of the first scientific workshop "Contemporary Migration Process";
3. Student competition on migration issue;
4. Diaspora mapping study: discussion and approval of the methodology of study;
5. Comparative glossary of migration terms;
6. Existent annotated bibliography in the field of migration in Transnistrian region;
7. Confirmation of the country for the study visit on migration statistical data collection, use and analyses;
8. Providing equipment to the Transnistrian region stakeholders in the context of technical capacity building of the authorities responsible for statistical data collection and production.



# RESULTS

## Strengthening the consultancy capacity of support service providers on how to start a business



From the 29th of September to the 1st of October 2015 the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) - Mission to Moldova, held in Skyland Resort a training for „Enhancing the capacity of the national and local small and medium enterprises (SME) support structures to comprehensively cater for the needs of returning migrant workers entrepreneurs”.

The three-day training, organised within the project “Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership and harnessing its benefits for the residents of the Transnistria Region of the Republic of Moldova”, was attended by the Organisation for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises (ODIMM), IOM, the Chamber of Commerce of Moldova and some of its branches in the region, and different NGOs, from the whole territory of Moldova, included the Transnistria Region, which provide advisory services on how to start a small new business.

The selected gained long-standing experience trainers were one from each Nistru's shore: Tatiana Batuschina, Board Chairman of the „International Centre of Advanced Women in Business” (ICAWB) for the Moldovan side, and Inna Polisciuc, founder and director of the Training and Consultancy Centre Yakhont, for the Transnistria side.

The training participants acquired knowledge and practical skills in the following areas: specific characteristics of the consultancy services, qualification requirements for consultants, methodology of information transfer and training for adults, development of techniques for intensive training for beginning entrepreneurs, social entrepreneurship: from the idea to the launch.

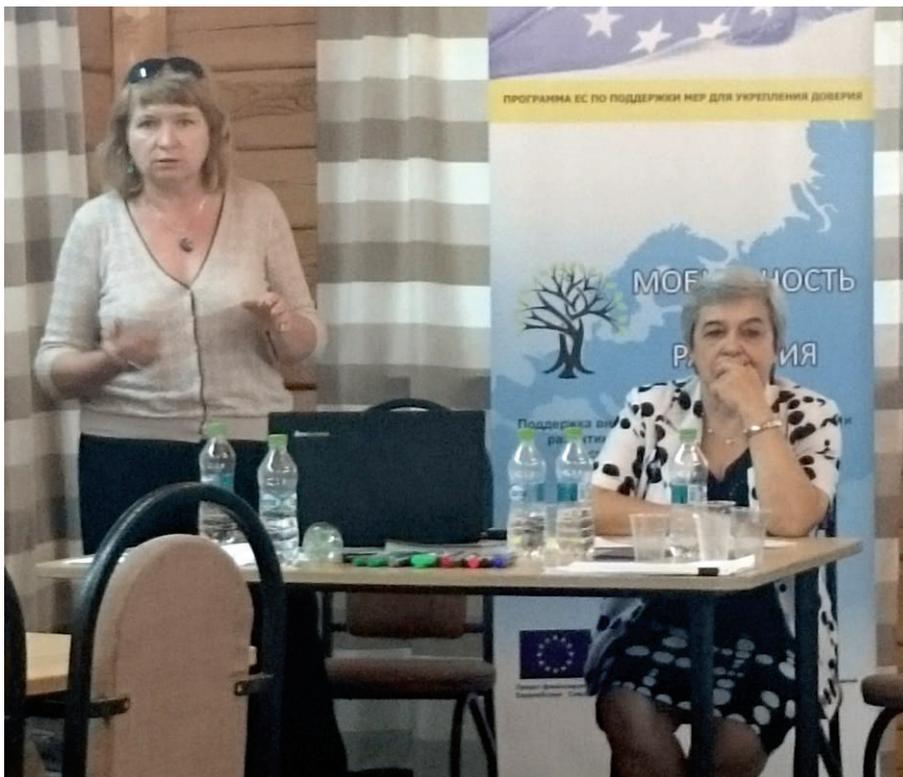
NGO representatives from both sides have exchanged experience and established cooperation networks.

Following this training, 11 participants will be selected to go on a study visit which will strengthen their knowledge on the role of the central and local public administrations in reducing the barriers hindering the development of the small and medium enterprises, regulations on entrepreneurial activity, efficient communication with private businesses, promotion of specific business support programs, establishment and operation of business incubators, and economic empowerment of returning migrant workers, particularly youth and women as well as socially vulnerable groups.

# RESULTS

This project will contribute directly to fostering the development of entrepreneurial culture and modern services improvement in business consulting, as well as contributing to local development, poverty reduction and prevention of irregular migration and trafficking, through jobs creation and offering of opportunities for sustainable livelihood.

## The feedback of one of our trainers, Inna Polisciuc, director and founder of the training and consulting centre "Yakhont", Tighina



My impression on the training, its organization and the process together, is positive. As trainers we tried to arrange the agenda in an interesting and logical format, and, most importantly, accordingly to the needs of the participants. The group was sufficiently motivated to learn actively. Participants knew their practical needs and worked, as we have seen, with pleasure. During the three days it was possible to feel the good group dynamic, and the participants were deeply involved in all stages of the learning process.

The structure of the lessons, throughout the three days, highlighted the relationship between knowledge and tools that were offered to the trainees. As providers of business advisory services, participants gained skills in education for adults, not only in the formal and usual way of training, but also in the form of "Citizens Advisors". The main characteristics of entrepreneurial activities and the essence of the benefits of a professional consultant in an organization were presented to the participants. Especially if

questions are related to social entrepreneurship - which is also a current topic in Moldova.

I would like to express my gratitude to the organizers and IOM Mission in Moldova, that offered to the participants the opportunity of training and promotion!



# CALENDAR

## **Enhancing the capacity of the national and local Small and Medium Enterprises support structures to comprehensively cater the needs of returning migrant workers entrepreneurs**

- I**▶ Planning and organizing the study visit in a EU country in order to know the European best practices in managing the services for beginning entrepreneurs, so that the cooperation of the right-bank and the left-bank is enriched with the best available international practices
  
- II**▶ Meeting and coordinating with the Organisation for Small and Medium Enterprises to up-grade the businessportal.md to include also the relevant service providers based in the Transnistria Region and serve the needs of the entrepreneurs from that area and of returning migrant workers, youth and women entrepreneurs

## **Promoting the expansion of the PARE 1+1 Program to the Transnistria Region**

- I**▶ Meeting and coordinating with Ministry of Economy and Organisation for Small and Medium Enterprises the plans and the methodology of this activity
  
- II**▶ Establishing the partnership and cooperation with Ministry of Economy and Organisation for Small and Medium Enterprises, their counterparts from the Transnistria Region

## **Work on Migration Data**

- I**▶ Launch of the Diaspora mapping
  
- II**▶ Work on the Migration Glossary and Migration Anthology
  
- III**▶ Study visit in Norway to support the research community to acquire international best practices in migration data collection and sharing mechanisms

## **Ongoing Support Programms**



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