TAIEX AND TWINNING – INSTRUMENTS FOR SHARING EU EXPERTISE

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FINANCIAL INFORMATION: CATALYST FOR GROWTH
SENIOR OFFICIALS’ WORKSHOP, 28-29 March 2017, Brussels
Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument - Mission

The TAIEX instrument of the EC was created in 1996 to support partner countries in

- Understanding
- Drafting
- Implementing & Enforcing

EU policies, legislation, rules – the acquis
**TAIEX BENEFICIARIES**

- Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey;

- Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine;

- All countries covered by the Partnership Instrument;

- EU Member States in the framework of the administrative cooperation within the policies managed by DG for Regional and Urban Policy.

* *this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence*
MAIN AREAS COVERED

Justice
Home Affairs

Internal Market
Customs
Employment
Regional Policy

Agriculture
Food Safety

Environment
Energy
Transport
Telecommunications
“PEER TO PEER” EXPERTISE
EU Member States’ public-sector officials

Every year 3,000 EU Member State public experts reach more than 20,000 counterparts in beneficiaries’ administrations.

Such expertise is not available in the private sector.
TAIEX: A SUCCESS STORY

A demand driven and tailor-made
Adapted to your needs

Gap-filling
Targeted and complementary to other EU assistance

Quick
Straightforward application and fast delivery

Peer-to-peer
Networking between Member States and Beneficiary officials

Short-term assistance
Long-term effect
FORMS OF ASSISTANCE

TAIEX assistance is delivered through:

- Workshops (usually 2 days)
- Expert Mission (max 5 days)
- Study Visits (3 participants, max 5 days)
ON-LINE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

E-application link - http://europa.eu/!xT39Xp

Encode your e-mail address - a confirmation e-mail will be received with a link to be followed to access your e-application

Fill in and submit the application
You are a public official from one of the TAIEX beneficiary countries and you are about to prepare an Application Form for TAIEX assistance.

If you want to prepare a new application, enter your professional email address, click on the Create new button and you will receive an automatic email with a URL link leading to a new application form.

In case you have already used this system to prepare applications and you want to edit and/or submit them, enter your professional email address, click on Get my list button and you will receive an email providing an overview of all your application forms generated so far.
KEY INFORMATION NEEDED
TAIEX CYCLE

1. Submission Request
2. Consultation process
3. Approval
4. Planning, Expert identification
5. Implementation
6. Evaluation
PREPARATION OF TAIEX ACTIVITIES

- Timing
- Agenda
- Experts
- Host institution
- Participants

Week 1  Week 2  Week 3  Week 4  Week 5  Week 6  Week 7  Week 8  Week 9
HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

TAIEX can quickly deliver the requested assistance

From the submission of the application, a minimum of 6-8 weeks for the dispatching of an expert and of about 10 weeks for the organisation of a seminar.
An external services provider is responsible for all logistical arrangements, including:

- Travel
- Accommodation
- Transfer of per diems
STATISTICS - 2016 IN NUMBERS

Participants: 25447
Experts: 3368
Requests: 1674
Activities: 1424
NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES ORGANISED PER SECTOR IN 2016

- Agriculture and Food Safety: 232
- Environment, Transport, and Telecommunications: 212
- Internal Market, Customs, Employment, Regional Policy: 407
- Justice and Home Affairs: 351
EVENTS BREAKDOWN
IPA BENEFICIARIES IN 2016

- Albania: 72
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 96
- Kosovo: 94
- Montenegro: 131
- Serbia: 114
- the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: 120
- Turkey: 85
EVENTS BREAKDOWN
ENI EAST BENEFICIARIES IN 2016

- Armenia: 13
- Azerbaijan: 19
- Belarus: 20
- Georgia: 19
- Moldova: 46
- Ukraine: 97
EVALUATION - FEEDBACK ON THE QUALITY OF THE EXPERTS IN 2016

- Excellent: 58%
- Good: 34%
- Satisfactory: 7%
- Poor: 1%
IMPACT EVALUATION
AFTER 6 MONTHS SINCE 01/2016

Better understanding of the EU legislation covered: 87%
Organisational changes - creation of new departments/positions: 29%
Improved internal working procedures: 69%
Draft of a new law/act or modification of an existing one: 42%
**TAIEX EXAMPLES**

**Already organised:**


2) Study Visit on Financial Reporting Standards organised for officials from Ministry of Finance of Ukraine – 16-17/03/2015.
In the pipeline:

1) Expert Mission on Accounting and International Financial Reporting Standards to be organised for officials from the National Securities and Stock Market Commission of Ukraine;

2) TAIEX Expert Mission on Public Sector Accounting Standards – to be organised for the Ministry of Finance of Azerbaijan.
WHAT IS A TWINNING PROJECT?

A Twinning is a project between two Public Administrations one in a European Union (EU) Member State (MS) and its equivalent in the Pre-accession (IPA) Region or Neighbourhood Region (ENI);

The areas in which the Twinning projects can be deployed are exclusively of a public nature and fall under the competency of public administrations.
AIM OF TWINNING

The aim of Twinning is two-fold: improve the internal organisation and structure of the administration and approximate the legislation to EU acquis;

Beneficiary administrations retain ownership of the project, from the conception of the Twinning fiche (equivalent to Terms of reference) until the conclusion of the project.

Twinning is a demand driven project
TWINNING BENEFICIARIES

✓ **IPA** - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey;

✓ **ENI EAST** - Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine;

✓ **ENI SOUTH** - Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia
TWINNING STEPS

1. Needs analysis (NCP Beneficiary country, EUD, Beneficiary administration)
2. Drafting and circulation of the "Twinning fiche (ToRs)"
3. Proposals of the Member States
4. Evaluation of the proposals
5. Notification of the results
6. Joint drafting (BC and MS) of the work plan and signing of the contract
7. Implementation of the project (12-36 months)
8. Drafting of the final report
9. Peer review mission
In addition to the standard Twinning instrument, where projects run for 12 to 36 months, we have "Twinning Light", which is designed to offer a more flexible, mid-term approach for projects running up to 6-8 months and without the presence of a so called Resident Twinning Adviser for a maximum budget of € 250,000.
TWINNING IN NUMBERS
SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1998

Twinning projects circulated

- More than 2700
- Corresponding to a total budget
  - More than 2 billion Euro
- Main sectors
  - Justice, Agriculture, Environment and Finance
TWINNING FICHES CIRCULATED 2014-2015 - 2016 BY BENEFICIARY COUNTRY
MEMBER STATES SELECTED AS LEADERS 2014-2015 -2016: IPA
MEMBER STATES SELECTED AS LEADERS 2014-2015 -2016: ENI EAST
TWINNING EXAMPLES – ENI EAST

➢ Strengthening the Institutional and Administrative Capacity of the Chamber of Accounts of Azerbaijan (incoming);

➢ Development of external audit and control of public finances in Ukraine - Accounting Chamber of Ukraine (incoming);

➢ Institutional Strengthening of the State Audit Office of Georgia (implemented);

➢ Consolidation and Strengthening the External Public Audit in Moldova (implemented).
TWINNING EXAMPLES – IPA

- Strengthening of external auditing capacities – Supreme Audit Institution of Albania (ongoing);


- Further support to the Office of the Auditor General of Kosovo to reach EU good practice standards (implemented).
TWINNING EXAMPLES – IPA

- Enhanced capacity for public sector accounting standards (PSAS) - Turkey (call launched, not awarded yet);

- Audit Quality Control in the State Audit Institution - Serbia (project awarded, contracting stage);
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Stay connected with us

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