

PRESS RELEASE

Tbilisi, 07 October 2015

The European Union supports Georgia in strengthening the structure and capabilities of the Employment Support Services (ESS)

The European Union together with the Slovakian Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, the Hungarian Ministry of National Economy, State Secretariat for Vocational Training and Labour Market, the Labour Office of the Czech Republic will launch a new Twinning project for the capacity building for the Employment Support Services (ESS) in Georgia as part of the Social Service Agency under the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs. The official presentation of the project will be held on Wednesday 7 October, 2015 at 09:30 am, at Expo Georgia, Event Hall #3 (118, Tsereteli Ave, Tbilisi).

The objective of the € 1.1 million project is to provide complex institutional and capacity building to empower the ESS and the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia and other relevant staff to effectively fulfil its mission and duties and deliver well-targeted, high-quality, gender-sensitive and cost-effective services to job seekers. During 18 months experts and specialists from Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Georgia will work together to build the capacity of the Social Service Agency of Georgia (SSA) with key actions including training, employment service for job-seekers and employers, and promoting entrepreneurship. The project will also contribute to establish a well-functioning Labour Market Information System and a fully functional customer system of the EES, well known as Worknet in Georgia.

The outcomes of the project will also help meet the obligations arising from the Association Agreement between the European Union and the Government of Georgia, including the re-establishment of the functionalities of a modern EU-style Public Employment Service in the country which is bridging the employers with job-seekers.

Mr. Zaza Sopromadze Deputy Minister, Ministry for Labour, Health and Social Affairs, Director of the Social Service Agency will open the conference together with Mr. Branislav Ondrus State Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of Slovakia, Consortium Leader from the EU Member States side. Attending the conference will also be representatives from the Ministry for Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, the three EU member states, as well as the European Union Delegation to Georgia.

Background:

Twinning is a European Union initiative, which brings together public sector expertise from EU Member States and beneficiary countries with the aim of enhancing co-operative activities. Twinning projects must yield concrete operational results for the beneficiary country under the terms of the Association Agreement between that country and the EU.

For additional information, please see:

www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/georgia or www.ssa.gov.ge

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The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.