

Project “International Mobility of Labour”
Bilateral cooperation Italy – Moldova (2016/2017)

November 2017

Since the signature of the bilateral agreement on labour and migration in 2011, the General Directorate for Migration of the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and the Moldovan Ministries of Labour and Foreign Affairs started a fruitful dialogue on mobility, circular migration, vocational training and on the strengthening of human capital.

In accordance with the requirements of the Moldovan counterparts emerged during the numerous meetings occurred, the General Directorate for Migration and its technical agency ANPAL Servizi (former Italia Lavoro) have proposed bilateral cooperation actions and high level training activities. The aim is to promote and reinforce the Moldovan vocational training system by enhancing its strategic value and encouraging the growth of human capital as a strategic lever of economic development and of dialogue between the two countries.

Bilateral cooperation actions implemented in 2016

1) *Workshop on Social Economy: policies for a socially responsible labour market (June, 13th - 17th 2016)*

According to the National Employment Agency data, more than 85% of unemployed Moldovans reside in rural areas of the country. To address this issue, the Moldovan Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MoLSPF) has expressed its strong interest in the development of social enterprises and cooperatives. Considering the Italian experience in the field of social economy, the General Directorate for Migration and ANPAL Servizi have proposed to the MoLSPF a bilateral cooperation action - *Workshop on Social Economy: policies for a socially responsible labour market* - aimed at sharing experiences and models among Moldovan and Italian public and private institutions which could be replicated locally. The workshop took place from 13 to 17 of June 2016 with a first phase of theoretical classes in Rome and a second phase of study visits to social enterprises in Bologna.

The action was addressed to officials of the Moldovan Ministries of Labour, Family and Social Protection, Economy, Foreign Affairs and European Integration, of the ANOFM (National Employment Agency) and ODIMM (Organization for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises). It was designed to facilitate the sharing and exchange of knowledge among public and private representatives of the social economy sector, with specific focus on legal framework, set up and management of social enterprises and public policies to curb social unease. The following Italian stakeholders have been involved: the Ministry of Labour, Emilia Romagna Region, relevant associations of Italian cooperatives (Confcooperative and Legacoop), ANCI (National Association of Italian Municipalities), Foundation for the innovation of the third sector (FITS), Universities (Milano and Trento), Banca Prossima, experts and operators of the sector. The action has supported Moldovan relevant stakeholders in acquiring models to improve public services responsible for providing information, orientation and technical support on enterprises set up, business start-up and access to credit for potential entrepreneurs.

2) *Capacity building action on European project planning (October, 17th – 21st 2016)*

In accordance with the need expressed by the Moldovan counterpart to strengthen the capacity of the governmental institutions to play an active role in designing and planning cooperation initiatives with the EU and/or EU Member States, the General Directorate for Migration and ANPAL Servizi have proposed and implemented in Chisinau, from 17 to 21 of October 2016 a capacity building action on European project planning.

The action was addressed to officials of the Moldovan Ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Economy, Information Technology and Communication, Regional Development and Construction.

The intervention aimed at increasing the capacity of the relevant Moldovan institutions to access to EU funds and take part to European partnerships and at strengthening the skills of relevant public officials in designing and managing EU funded projects.

Bilateral cooperation action implemented in 2017

1) Training action in the field of Organic Agriculture production and certification (July, 3rd – 22nd 2017)

The General Directorate for Migration and Agency ANPAL Servizi proposed and implemented, in collaboration with the Moldovan Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment a bilateral cooperation initiative in order to implement a training action in the field of Organic Agriculture aimed to reinforce the sector and the related vocational training system. In fact, the development of the sector is one of the main priorities in the context of the objectives set out by the National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development 2014-2020, and it has a significant role for the economic growth of the country.

The Moldovan Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment selected 20 Moldovan technicians who took part in a high-level training course in the organic farming sector, held in Italy from 3 to 22 July 2017, at IAM.B *Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari* - Italian section of the CIHEAM - *Centre International des Hautes Études Agronomiques Méditerranéennes*.

The intervention, entirely funded by the project “*International Mobility of Labour*”, implemented by ANPAL Servizi, aimed at enhancing the skills of Moldovan technicians and trainers on certification systems for agri-food chains and organic products and strengthening the vocational training system in the area of organic quality certification, compulsory for the access of many Moldovan products to the EU market.

Proposed bilateral cooperation actions to be implemented in 2017/2018

2) Training action in the field of Energy Efficiency

The General Directorate for Migration and ANPAL Servizi have proposed, in accordance with the needs expressed by the AEE - *Agenția pentru Eficiență Energetică* (the Moldovan Agency for Energy Efficiency) a bilateral cooperation initiative in order to implement training actions in the field of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies.

The training activity fits into the logic of strengthening the vocational training system in the field of renewable energies, especially considering, regarding the 2014-2020 programming period, the support that the European Union offers to Moldovan Institutions in the reform processes of key areas, including energy.

The training action is addressed to 20 Moldovan technicians/trainers and aims at enhancing energy efficiency and renewable energies expertise. Thus, the trained Moldovan experts may contribute to the transfer of knowledge and to the development of new skills by intervening through the dissemination of internationally recognized techniques and methods and by strengthening the Moldovan vocational training system targeting energy efficiency and renewable energies.

According to the technical proposal, ANPAL Servizi, through a procedure of public evidence, will entrust a qualified third subject with relevant experience in the energy sector with the implementation of the training action. The technical subject will be probably selected in autumn 2017. The training action will be held in Italy and Moldova, according to a timeframe that will be jointly defined by ANPAL Servizi, the AEE and the technical subject.