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News Digest

of the Joint Integrated Local
Development Programme

Headlines:

- JILDP Target Municipalities Are Completing Implementation of Administrative Capacity Strengthening Projects
- National Conference of Municipalities Held in Chisinau
- Municipalities Covered by JILDP Had the Opportunity to See Local Successful Businesses in Braviceni, Orhei
- Sergiu Palihovici: „In 2014, We Will Turn Our Country into a Development Site”



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Mihai Roşcovan
Programme Manager
Joint Integrated Local
Development Programme

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

This is the first issue of the News Digest of the Joint Integrated Local Development Programme 2013–2015, which presents information on our activities and projects implemented under the Programme.

Together with its partners, the Programme seeks to improve the lives of people in every community of Moldova. JILDLP supports the Government in implementing the decentralization reform, which culminated in 2013 with the approval of a new local finance system, to be applied in the whole country from 2015. We continue supporting the line ministries in developing sector decentralization strategies.

At the local level, we want to help the target localities of the Programme to become model municipalities, capable of providing high quality services, open to people, where important decisions are consulted with local residents, including vulnerable groups.

I wish you and us success in this joint effort!

Ivancea Has a New Local Socio-Development Development Strategy

On March 17, 2014, the local council of Ivancea commune, Orhei rayon, discussed and approved the Local Socio-Economic Development Strategy of the commune for 2014-2017, a document developed with the support of the Joint Integrated Local Development Program.

The mayor of Ivancea commune, Oleg Gaspar, presented the commune's development objectives, identified with the participation of three localities - members of the commune and included in the Strategy. These objectives target the integration of vulnerable groups in local development, launch of public services, economic development and improvement of the quality of life, as well as strengthening of the administrative capacities of the mayoralty.

The meeting was attended by local counselors, representatives of community groups empowered by the project, officials from institutions subordinated to the commune's councils and representatives of local businesses. Participants came up with explanations and suggestions for improving the plan of activities on implementation of the Strategy. Also during the meeting, a monitoring group for Strategy implementation was established, the membership of which includes representatives of LPA and of the empowered groups, residents of the three villages of the commune.

The meeting was held in the new conference room, which was renovated and equipped with furniture and equipment under local governments' institutional development project, supported by JILDLP. (*Vasile Cioaric*)



All 30 JILDLP target communities developed Local Development Strategies under the Programme. JILDLP promotes an inclusive approach and encourages local governments to engage people in their decision making. The strategies of all localities have been extensively consulted with the locals, including with representatives of vulnerable groups: women, elderly, and minorities.



JILDP Projects in Cărpineni, Hâncești: Street Lighting and Consulting Decisions with Local Residents

Carpineni commune, Hancesti rayon, participates in the Joint Integrated Local Development Program with two local development projects. The first project, launched in December 2013, aims at enhancing the Local Council capacity to develop draft decisions based on collaboration with Carpineni citizens. With the financial support of the JILDP, computers and multifunctional printers were purchased to allow the Council to conduct surveys in the locality and consult the planned decisions with the residents of the commune.

The total cost of this project is 85,525 MDL, including JILDP's contribution of 62,500 MDL and the contribution of municipality - 23,025 MDL.

Ion Cărpineanu, mayor of Carpineni: „Before I was elected as the mayor of Carpineni, all draft decisions were developed by the previous mayors without active involvement of the councilors and of the public opinion, i.e. of the villagers. We developed this project in order to provide the local councilors with the necessary technical support and make possible development of surveys and questionnaires with the involvement of citizens.”

The second project, implemented in the commune with the JILDP support, aims to reduce the criminality in the locality by installing public lighting on two central streets, where the highest number of nighttime thefts were recorded. The JILDP contributed with 15,000 USD for this activity, while the community contribution amounted to 63,407 MDL.

The original article can be accessed [here](#).



* The Joint Integrated Local Development Programme adopted a comprehensive approach in the work with its target communities. Officials from the 30 localities are trained in a number of specific areas: local taxes, local finance management, human resources and public property management, and public procurement.

* Municipalities also could access two types of grants: grants for small projects to strengthen administrative capacity (up to 5,000 USD), and grants for medium projects to launch or improve public services (max. 15,000 USD), for the benefit all residents, including vulnerable groups.

* Ten JILDP localities will become centers of clusters for the joint provision of public services, in groups of localities, using the mechanism of inter-municipal cooperation.

*To date, most localities covered by the JILDP have completed their capacity development projects and are now working on service related projects.

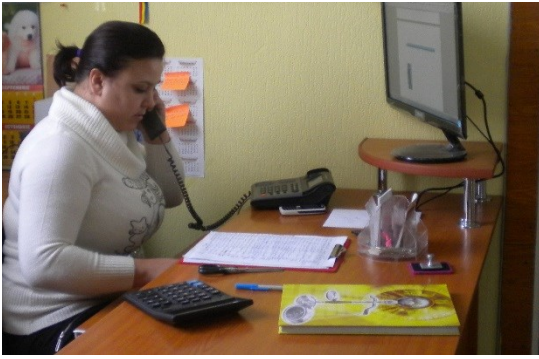
Larga Local Council Meetings Can Be Watched Online!

The municipality of Larga commune, Briceni, decided to use the grant for administrative capacity building in a unique way. Since February 2014, the sessions of the local council of Larga can be watched directly [on the web page of the Municipality](#), and rerun on the [Larga municipality's Youtube account](#). The hardware and software necessary for the online broadcasts were purchased with funds from the grant provided by JILDP.

Commune council meetings, regular planning meetings of local officials and other public meetings are held in a conference room, which has also been renovated with help from the Joint Integrated Local Development Programme.

The total project cost amounts to 86,810 MDL, including the municipality's in-kind contribution of 23,880 MDL and 62,930 MDL provide by the JILDP.





The Renovated Conference Room of Ciuciuleni Municipality Hosts Seminars for the Young Mothers

On February 27, the closing conference of “Efficiency in Activity: Safe Road to Community Progress” was held in the Ciuciuleni Municipality conference room. Under the project, the officials of Ciuciuleni municipality received new machinery and equipment, designed to enhance their performance. The Conference Room of the municipality has been properly equipped (a laptop for presentations, mobile projector and screen) in order to be able to hold the working meetings.

The renovated room is used for the meetings of the Local Council, which are public. Periodically, the Conference Room hosts thematic seminars for vulnerable groups. Using the equipment in the room, the social worker trains larger groups of people on filling in application forms to get social aid. It also hosts workshops with farmers, and lessons and trainings for young mothers in the commune, who can view thematic films and other multimedia materials.

The project aimed to enhance the capacity of LPAs to provide high quality, equal and efficient public services to community residents, including vulnerable groups, and to improve the working conditions of the municipality. The cost of the project amounts to 59,875 MDL, which were provided by the Joint Integrated Local Development Programme. (*Constantin Nunu*)

Mayors of JILDP target communities have the opportunity to learn and apply the best practices of local development, both regarding the work of the LPAs and in terms of economic development.

During the quarterly meeting with JILDP mayors on February 27 -28, the local officials visited Braviceni village, Orhei r-n, also called the „village with zero unemployment”, where they had the opportunity to learn more about some successful local businesses.





Sergiu Palihovici
Deputy Secretary General of the
Government of Moldova

“2014 will be a record year in terms of local investment opportunities, both from the state budget and from other sources and related funds: Road Fund, Environmental Fund, Energy Efficiency Fund, Regional Development Fund and others. In 2014, we intend to achieve in practice the slogan “country as a construction and development site”.”

Excerpt from an interview by Mr. Palihovici for Moldpres on 19 February 2014. The full interview can be accessed [here](#).

The National Conference of Mayors - Standing Forum for Discussions between CPA and LPAs

The mayors of all localities of Moldova and the presidents of raions met in Chisinau on March 14, at the Second National Conference of Mayors.

Organized by the Government of Moldova with participation of the Congress of Local Authorities and development partners, entitled "The role of local governments in ensuring decentralization, modernization and European integration of the Republic of Moldova", the conference aimed to strengthen communication between the central and the local governments on Moldova's development priorities.

Present at the conference, the Prime Minister of Moldova, Iurie Leanca, talked about local, rural and regional development, which have lately benefitted of increased attention. *“The welfare of our communities and citizens depends on you - and this is your real power. You have the power to make people's lives better, and the government will provide all necessary support for this,”* the Prime Minister Leanca said.

Deputy Secretary General of the Government, Sergiu Palihovici, proposed creating a platform for direct dialogue with the representatives of 1st and 2nd level local governments, which will meet quarterly. *„This permanent forum will allow us learn the achievements and the innovative spirit of mayors in the provision of local services, and will address the need to improve communication with colleagues, and the dialogue with citizens”,* said Sergiu Palihovici.

The Joint Integrated Local Development Program participated, along with other programs of UN agencies and other donors, in [an exhibition of projects and activities](#) at the local level, organized within the conference.

See the Government's press release on the event [here](#).



The **Joint Integrated Local Development Programme (JILDP)** assists the Government of Moldova in the decentralization process, which aims to promote local autonomy and access of all people, especially those in rural communities and vulnerable groups, to quality public services.

After the development and adoption, in 2012, of the National Decentralization Strategy, in 2013-2015, the Programme focuses on the implementation of the Strategy, with emphasis on two key directions:

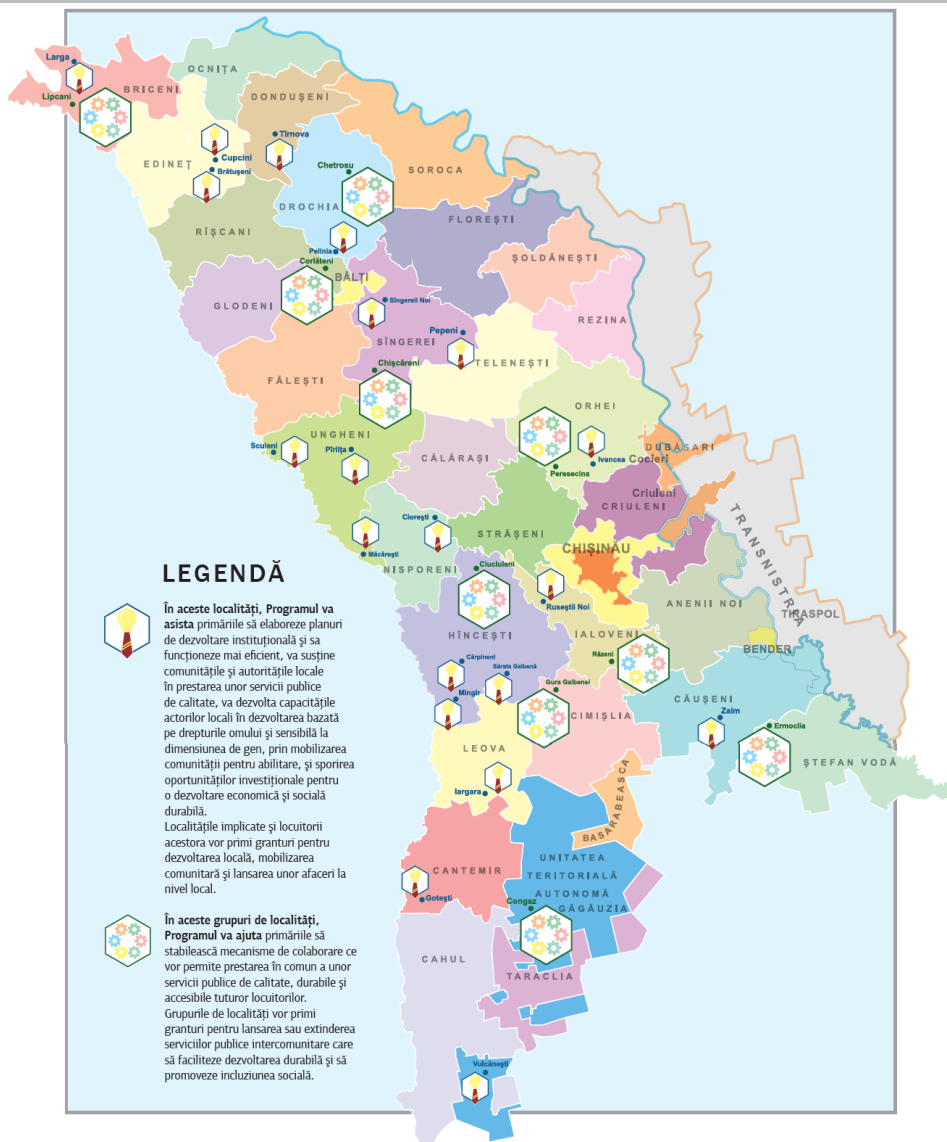
- *Improving the policy and legal framework to ensure local autonomy, availability and more efficient management of local resources, for provision of better services to all;*
- *Strengthening the local governments' capacity to provide public services in an efficient, fair and accessible manner, ensuring sustainable development and social inclusion.*

The Programme is implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), with financial support from the Government of Denmark.

JILDP's National Coordinator is the State Chancellery of the Government of the Republic of Moldova.

Opinions expressed in this News Digest are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of UNDP, UN Women, or the Government of Denmark.

JILDP Target Communities (2013 - 2015)



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