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Featured Story

USAID SHOWS YOUTH THE BENEFITS OF CONSERVING ENERGY



Saving energy is key to any country's solid economic future and to its future as an independent country. Ukraine's dependence on imports for most of its energy supply makes energy conservation especially important. In the country, where 70 percent of heat from the apartment buildings escapes through windows, walls doors and bad heating systems, USAID believes that that every Ukrainian can contribute to saving heat by taking just small steps toward reducing their energy footprint. [Read more](#)

News

Economic Growth:

COMMERCIAL LAW CENTER CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF IMPACT

The Commercial Law Center (CLC), together with its friends and partners, recently celebrated 10 years of successful work that impacted the development of new legislation and commercial systems in Ukraine.

CLC is renowned among Ukrainian institutions for the quality of its programs and its successful legislative initiatives relating to mortgages, credit history, leasing, bankruptcy, the protection of property rights, and corporate law and governance. [Read more](#)

Governing Justly & Democratically:

UKRAINIAN JOURNALISTS: LACK OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION IMPACTS EVERYONE



information law and open a photo exhibit aimed at reinforcing the importance of access to information.

The *PidPRESSom*, (Under-PRESS) exhibit at the iconic *Babuín Café* in Kyiv includes 21 photo portraits of journalists. Each portrait is supported by a personal quote expressing the journalist's perspective on transparency, censorship and access to information in Ukraine

"Politicians need censorship to make us dependent. We need the freedom of speech to know the truth about the politicians and make them dependent on us," reads the citation by Natalia Ligachova, the Chief Editor of *Telekritika* magazine. [Read more](#)

Ukrainian artists, journalists and civil society activists gathered on January 24 to celebrate the passage of a progressive public

Investing in People:

USAID ADVANCES MATERNAL CARE IN UKRAINE



Fear and anxiety filled the heart of Natalia Voinerovskaya as she was preparing to deliver her second baby. She had her reasons: seven years ago, while delivering her first son, she had postpartum bleeding and nearly died. Doctors had fought hard to save her life and had stopped the bleeding after an hour medical intervention.

Also, at the time of her first delivery, Natalia's husband was not allowed to be in the delivery room – which was a standard post-Soviet birthing practice.

This time, however, her worries were unfounded. While delivering her second baby at the Donetsk Oblast Maternity Hospital last October, she couldn't help but smile. [Read more](#)

Belarus

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS HOLDS 2008 ALUMNI REUNION



In December, the office of U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Belarus brought together over 40 alumni of the *Community Connections exchange program-2008* to expose them to new contacts, encourage networking and cross-sector(al) cooperation, demonstrate successful methodologies of knowledge transfer, and introduce the alumni to an array of resources available to support project implementation.

Alexander Peresytkin, an NGO leader and a professor at Belarusian State University, stressed the importance of the assembly as the platform for exchanging opinions on how the competencies acquired during the visits to the U.S. could be utilized to encourage positive transformational processes of Belarusian society by individual alumni and collectively. [Read more](#)

USAID TO LAUNCH FIRST ENGLISH-LANGUAGE MBA PROGRAM IN BELARUS

The United States Embassy in Belarus and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) are partnering with the Belarusian State University (BSU) and the Embassy of Latvia to launch an English-language Master of Business Administration degree program in Belarus – the first of its kind in the nation.

The news was recently announced at the launch of the project *Developing an English-Language Master of Business Administration Program*. USAID/Belarus will provide funds and expertise to establish the program and transition it into a full-fledged Western-style MBA program, with the aim of receiving internationally recognized accreditation within five years.

USAID has supported business education development in Belarus through partnerships between American universities and business schools and Belarusian educational institutions for more than a decade. USAID remains the primary donor for establishing a high quality MBA program at the *School of Business and Management Technologies* at BSU. USAID's financial investment and technical assistance will be maximized through bringing U.S. guest lecturers to teach in the MBA program, and taking Belarusian professors to the U.S. to get firsthand knowledge of how American business schools operate. [Read more](#)

Moldova

RECENT ELECTORAL PROGRESS IN MOLDOVA

Last fall, Moldovans went to the polls for the fourth time in less than two years in an attempt to break the political stalemate that has existed since April 2009. The voter turnout was approximately 63 percent for the parliamentary election on November 28, 2010. Although the results required hard negotiations to produce a coalition government, the *Alliance For European Integration* was reestablished and is continuing Moldova's progress in economic and democratic reform.

The Central Electoral Commission of Moldova (CEC) collaborates with a USAID implementing partner, the *International Foundation for Electoral Systems* (IFES), to make electoral administration at all levels efficient, and to ensure democratic elections. IFES worked with all stakeholders to help the CEC conduct an improved joint civic and voter education campaign, reaching voters at home and abroad.

[Read more](#)



For additional information about USAID programs in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova please call USAID's Development Outreach and Communications Office at:

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