

IN FOCUS:

EaPTC in Facts and Figures

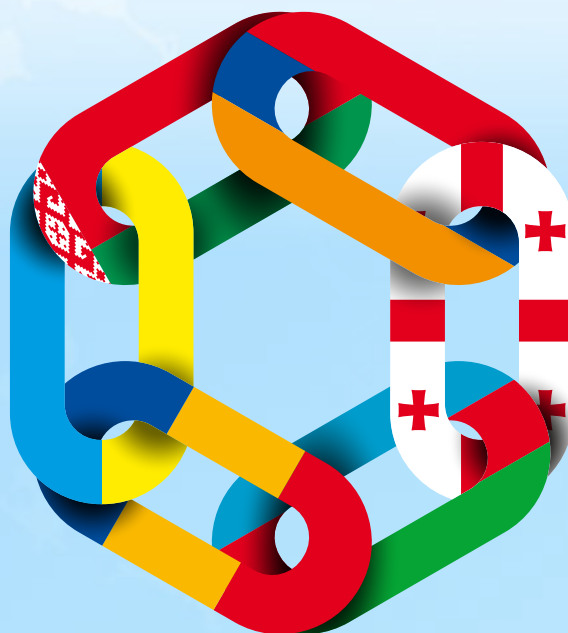
JDMC Working Group Meetings

Advocacy, Promotion and Communication Activities:

- EaPTC Launching Conference
- Public Consultations
- Information Sessions for Donors
- Media Briefings

Capacity Building Activities

Participation in other events



EaPTC in:

Facts

- ✓ The EaPTC team has completed introductory capacity building modules B1 and M1 in all countries and programme regions.
- ✓ EaPTC team organised and conducted bilateral working group meetings between future JDMC members of the TC programmes Armenia-Georgia, Moldova-Ukraine, Azerbaijan-Georgia and Belarus-Ukraine.
- ✓ The first of the four Joint Decision Making Committees, JDMC between Armenia and Georgia, has been formally established and the respective Joint Operational Programme and Rules of Procedure approved.
- ✓ EaPTC Managing Authority South has become operational to cover the TC programmes Armenia-Georgia and Azerbaijan-Georgia as well as Managing Authorities North to cover the TC Programmes Belarus-Ukraine and Moldova-Ukraine.

Figures

- ✓ 494 contacts registered in on-line Partner search
- ✓ 3200 participants took part in Capacity Building Seminars
- ✓ 256 project ideas generated within B2-B3 seminars
- ✓ 724 people participated in EaPTC regional conferences
- ✓ 618 participants took part in Public consultations
- ✓ 436 representatives of regional mass media attended media briefings
- ✓ 610 likes on Facebook
- ✓ 2908 records in Contact Database, including:



JDMC Working Group Meetings

Joint Decision Making Committee (JDMC) for each Territorial Cooperation Programme is a main management structure to ensure full ownership of programme results by the beneficiary countries as well as an efficient implementation of the territorial cooperation programmes. It brings together representatives of the central government, local authorities and civil society organisations (CSOs). The EaPTC team organised and conducted the following bilateral working group meetings between Joint Decision Making Committee (JDMC) members of the TC programmes Armenia-Georgia, Azerbaijan-Georgia, Belarus-Ukraine and Moldova-Ukraine.

Armenia-Georgia Territorial Cooperation Programme



◆ On 16.05.2014 in Tbilisi, Georgia

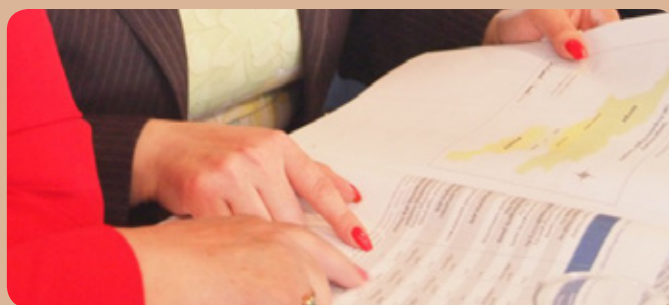
The EaPTC team organised the first JDMC working group meeting with participation of the Georgian and Armenian delegations. The Georgian delegation was led by Mr. Shergelashvili, the First Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure and Armenian delegation was headed by Mr. Terteryan the First Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration. Both sides reviewed and preliminarily accepted the draft Joint Operational Programme, discussed the draft rules of procedure, and agreed on the programme launch time schedule.



◆ On 20.05.2014 in Dilijan, Armenia

The second working group meeting, chaired by Armenia, formally established the JDMC and approved the Joint Operational Programme of TC Armenia-Georgia and Rules of Procedure. All JDMC members signed the declaration of impartiality and confidentiality. The parties discussed draft Guidelines for Applicants presented by the Managing Authority South.

The event received a wide coverage in the national and regional mass media.



Azerbaijan-Georgia Territorial Cooperation Programme

- ◆ On 20.12.13 in Telavi, Georgia

The first JDMC working group meeting was attended by 8 participants from each country. The participants paid specific attention to the discussion of the draft Strategy for EaPTC Programmes; they preliminary agreed the priorities for territorial cooperation between Azerbaijan and Georgia, and discussed the draft rules of procedure for the JDMC.

The second working group meeting is scheduled for September 2014 in Ganja, Azerbaijan.

Belarus-Ukraine Territorial Cooperation Programme

- ◆ On 21 May, 2014, the Kyiv, Ukraine

The first working group meeting brought together representatives of central and regional administrations of Belarus and Ukraine as well as Managing Authority North – 21 participants in total. Belorussian and Ukrainian delegations agreed on indicative priorities for territorial cooperation between two countries, discussed the programme implementation modalities with the Managing Authority, and set an indicative time schedule for formal establishment of the JDMC.



- ◆ On 03.07.2014 in Tbilisi, Georgia

The representatives of central and regional authorities as well as civil society organizations gathered in Tbilisi for the second working group meeting to adjust the priorities of the draft JOP, discuss the draft Rules of Procedures and establish a time schedule for further joint actions. Following active discussions, expressed comments and remarks the participants agreed to use a written procedure for finalising the JOP. It was tentatively decided to hold the inaugural JDMC meeting in mid-September 2014.



Moldova-Ukraine Territorial Cooperation Programme



◆ On 15.7.2014 in Chisinau, Moldova

The Draft Joint Operational Programme, its priorities, proposed actions, indicators of achievement, the Draft Rules of Procedure for Joint Decision Making Committee as well as action plan for launching TC programme Moldova-Ukraine were in focus of the second working group meeting. The participants provisionally accepted the Joint Operational Programme and preliminary scheduled to hold the inaugural JDMC meeting for mid-September 2014.

◆ On 8.11.2013 in Odesa, Ukraine

Representatives of key decisions making institutions from Moldova and Ukraine met to discuss the programming and management issues of the Moldova-Ukraine territorial cooperation programme. The participants discussed the provisions of the EaPTC Strategy, agreed with operational objectives and priorities and defined a timeline of the establishment of a Joint Decision-Making Committee (JDMC) of the bilateral programme.



Advocacy, Promotion and Communication Activities

EaPTC Launching Conference, 04.07.2014, Tbilisi, Georgia

The International Conference «Launching Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation Programmes» was successfully held in Tbilisi Marriott Hotel. The priorities, objectives, institutional basis and management mechanisms of the Eastern Partnership



Territorial Cooperation Programme (EaPTC) were the high topics of discussions. For the first time more than 170 representatives of central and regional authorities, civil society organizations and independent experts from all six Eastern Partnership countries have gathered together to give a start to the territorial cooperation grant programmes.

The special issue of the EaPTC Newsletter was devoted to the outcomes and results of the Launching conference (more details can be found [here](#))

Public Consultations

At stakeholders' consultation meetings, the participants had an opportunity to comment the draft Joint Operational Programme, provide recommendations and other feedback.



On May 27 – 30, 2014 the public consultations were organised for the Armenia-Georgia Territorial Cooperation Programme. The consultations took place in Rustavi, Marneuli, Akhaltsikhe, Akhalkalaki (Georgia) and Gyumri, Vanadzor, Ijevan (Armenia). In total 119 participants were present.



For territorial cooperation programme Belarus-Ukraine the public consultations were held **on July 11 – August 1, 2014** in Chernihiv, Kyiv, Korosten, Zhytomyr, Rivne, Sarny, Kovel, Lutsk (Ukraine), and Brest (Belarus) 288 participants took part in the events.



On July 14 – 25, 2014 public consultations took place in Chisinau, Cahul, Balti (Moldova) and Chernivtsi, Vinnytsya, Odesa (Ukraine) in a framework of Moldova-Ukraine territorial cooperation programme. 211 participants in total visited the consultations.

Also the Drafts of Joint Operational Programmes for every abovementioned Territorial Cooperation Programme were uploaded on the EaPTC web-site under specific TC Programme and offered for wide public consultations. Interested organisations and persons could leave their comments and/or recommendations in English or Russian on the web-site. All views and ideas have been considered while working out the final version of the JOP.

Information Sessions for Donors

EaPTC team has continuously conducted meetings with international donors and updated the lists of donors active in eligible regions in all six countries. Totally, 68 individual meetings with donor organizations were conducted in different countries.

The information sessions were organized with the aim to promote the EaPTC among the international donors, technical assistance programmes and potential beneficiaries and raise their awareness about the opportunities to support and co-finance joint projects. The informational sessions for donors' communities active in the EaPTC countries were held in Tbilisi on the 17th of June, 2014; in Yerevan on the 23rd of June; in Minsk on the 8th of July; in Chisinau on the 14th of July and in Kyiv on the 28th of July.



Media Briefings

Media Briefings for AZ-GE Territorial Cooperation Programme

took place in Azerbaijan in February 2014. The media briefing was organised in Baku on 11.02.2014 in the premises of the EU Delegation to Azerbaijan. Two media briefings in the programme regions followed on 12.02.2014 in Sheki (Sheki–Zaqatala region) and on



13.02.2014 in Shamkir (Ganja–Gazakh). The corresponding Media briefings in Georgia under the AZ-GE Territorial Cooperation Programme took place on 18.06.2013 in Marneuli (Kvemo–Kartli) on 18.09.2013 in Telavi (Kakheti).

The EaPTC team organised **media briefings for BY-UA Territorial Cooperation Programme** in Belarus on 05.03.2014 in Brest and on 07.03.2013 in Gomel. The corresponding media events for the Ukrainian regional mass media took place on 27.08-01.09.2013 in Chernihiv, Kyiv, Zhytomyr, Rivne and Lutsk.



The media briefings in participating countries embraced regional and local journalists representing TV, radio, print and internet mass media. Journalists received information about the objectives, priorities, scope, eligible regions and current developments by the respective EaPTC programmes.



Capacity Building Activities

The EaPTC capacity building programme has been designed to raise capacities of two main target groups:

- ◆ Policy level institutions involved in management of programmes (modules M);
- ◆ Potential project beneficiaries (modules B).

More details on the complex capacity building programme are described in the previous issue of the EaPTC Newsletter and can be found [here](#).

For beneficiaries:

B1 – Opportunities of the Territorial Cooperation Programme – completed in all eligible regions of four Territorial Cooperation programmes

B2-B3 – Initial Partner Identification and Project Idea Development – eligible regions of the Moldova-Ukraine TC programme

B4 – Project Preparation (general) – eligible regions of Armenia and Georgia

For managers:

M1 – Working Group meeting of future JDMC members «Specifics of TA programmes and related management aspects» – completed for all 4 programmes

M3-M4 – «Needs analysis, definition of programme priorities and implementation aspects» – TC programme Armenia-Georgia



For the activities in Belarus, in total, six events were organised in the eligible area (Brest, Kobryn, Pinsk, Gomel, Mozyr and Rogachev) on 22-24.01.2014. The seminars aimed at introducing a concept and principles of Eastern Partnership territorial cooperation and getting feedback on local development needs. 181 participants took part in the seminars.



Six events were held in Azerbaijan, in particular in Ganja (two sessions), Shamkir, Qazakh, Sheki and Zagatala on 20-22.05.2014 to acquaint the participants with the opportunities of the territorial cooperation of border regions of Azerbaijan with their neighbours in Georgia. Overall 273 participants took part in the seminars.



The team launched capacity building module B2-B3 for the TC programme Moldova-Ukraine. The module primarily aims at assisting organisations from eligible regions to identify potential partners and jointly generate initial project ideas. The team organised and facilitated six 2-day workshops on January – February 2014. Three of the events took place in Moldova (Chisinau, Comrat and Balti), and three – in Ukraine (Odessa, Vynnitsya and Chernivtsi). All six workshops attracted 319 participants from both countries. By the end of the module the facilitators collected 135 project ideas/proposals put forward by the participants.



Module B4 of the Capacity Building Plan – “General Project Management” – was launched. The aim of the training module is to develop the project ideas into coherent project proposals. It primarily targets those who took part in the partner identification and project idea generation workshops (module B2-B3) and came up with a joint project idea. For the TC programme Armenia-Georgia, two extensive 3-day training events were held in Akhaltsikhe, Georgia (on 30 April- 2 May, 2014) and Dilijan, Armenia (on 6-8 May, 2014). The methodology of the module combined theoretical inputs, practical work in small groups and networking exercises. As a result of the workshops, the participants worked out 18 logical framework matrices in relation to their initial joint project ideas.

Participation in Other Events

The EaPTC experts took part in several meeting and conference initiated by other institutions, different CSO networks and coalitions:

- ◆ **«Civil society at local dimension: situation analysis, approaches and strategies of development», March 19-21, 2014, Vilnius, Lithuania.**

The conference discussed regional development issues in Belarus from the local civil society organisations point of view. It brought together various development actors, representatives of international programmes and institutions, national civil society organisations, the expert community and local organisations and initiatives. The conference aimed at finding joint solutions on how to harmonise development strategies and increase their overall efficiency in reaching out Belarusian local civil society.

◆ **Roundtable «Models of public participation in implementation of the Association Agreement between EU and Ukraine» April 18, Kyiv, Ukraine**

The meeting discussed the concept of the Civil Society Platform in support of the Association Agreement between EC and Ukraine. The main task of the platform is to facilitate and monitor the implementation of the Association Agreement to provide qualified consulting on specific provisions. EaPTC expert Lyubov Palyvoda highlighted the territorial cooperation with Belarus and Moldova, where the CSO are involved at local and regional level.

◆ **Training «Fiscal decentralisation and territorial cooperation» April 7-8, Brussels, Belgium**

The training was organised by Association of Local Democracy Agencies and geared to the representatives of regions from across Europe including EaP countries. Training on territorial cooperation was held in cooperation with members of the Subgroup on Local Government and Public Administration reform of the CSF EaP. Team Leader Alexei Sekarev presented EaPTC programmes with focus on civil society participation.

◆ **Workshop «Improving EU-related public communication in the Eastern partner countries» April 7-8, Tbilisi, Georgia**

The workshop was organised by the Estonian Centre of Eastern Partnership in cooperation with the Georgian Foundation of Strategic and International Studies. Lyubov Palyvoda, the EaPTC Advocacy Expert and Tatiana Derevyankina, Communication Expert presented EaPTC communication strategy and discussed ways to enhance EU visibility in remote regions of EaP countries.