

European Union allocates € 60 million assistance package to Ukraine

€60 million have been committed from the 2010 Budget for the national programme of EU assistance to Ukraine. Among the Programme's priorities is support to the reforms in the justice sector and supporting energy efficiency and environmental projects. Moreover sustainable socio-economic development at the local level throughout the country and specifically in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol shall be encouraged.

Through this assistance package the EU aims to support Ukraine in developing a sustainable and coherent reform strategy in the justice sector. A series of actions will also be financed to improve essential community needs and generate new opportunities for economic development in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol, by providing support to tourism development, social infrastructure development and foreign direct investment promotion.

The EU will encourage the strengthening of participatory governance and community-based initiatives throughout Ukraine in order to enable citizens on a local level to actively take part in decision making concerning their communities, and to enhance energy efficiency at the local level.

Moreover the assistance will also contribute to an "Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership Fund", a multi-donor fund to be used primarily for supporting energy efficiency and environmental projects. This fund aims at achieving a significant reduction of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions in Ukraine. Finally, a Twinning and Technical assistance facility will be financed in order to meet the objectives of the EU-Ukraine Association Agenda and to prepare Ukraine for implementation of the Association Agreement and the deep and comprehensive free trade agreement between the EU and Ukraine.

Background:

The national allocations from the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument are the main source of Community assistance for the partner states along the Eastern border of the EU and the Mediterranean.

The aim of the assistance is to promote enhanced cooperation and progressive economic integration between the European Union and the partner countries and, in particular, the implementation of partnership and cooperation agreements, association agreements or other existing and future agreements. Furthermore, the assistance shall also encourage partner countries' efforts aimed at promoting good governance and equitable social and economic development.

Download the Annual Action Programme 2010 part I for Ukraine:

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/ap/aap/2010_en.htm

Additional information:

- On EU assistance to Ukraine:

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/neighbourhood/country-cooperation/ukraine/ukraine_en.htm

- On external relations EU-Ukraine:

http://eeas.europa.eu/ukraine/index_en.htm

- On the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP):

http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/index_en.htm

- On the Eastern Partnership:

http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/eastern/index_en.htm

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