****

**TAIEX & Twinning National Contact Points meeting 2024**

**Zagreb, 28-29 May**

|  |
| --- |
| **Day 1: Tuesday, 28 May 2024**  |
| From 08:30  | *Registration and Welcome coffee, connecting participants*  |
| **09:00 –** **12:30**  | **Plenary session 1**  |
| 9:00 – 9:30  | **Welcome and introduction** **Speakers:****Ms Gordana Vidović Mesarek**, Director General European and International Law and Croatian NCP for TAIEX **Ms Adrienn Király,** Director for Neighbourhood East and Institution Building, DG NEAR  |
| 9:30 – 10:00  | **Overview of DG NEAR priorities and support of TAIEX and Twinning to DG NEAR priorities****Speakers:** **Ms Adrienn Király,** Director for Neighbourhood East and Institution Building, DG NEAR **Ms Sanna Silventoinen**, National Contact Point for EU Twinning & TAIEX & TSI, Finland**Mr Janno Pajo**, National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, EstoniaModerator: **Ms** **Fanny Marchal**, Head of Unit Institution Building, TAIEX & Twinning, DG NEAR  |
| 10:00 – 10:30  | *Break*  |
| 10:30 – 11:45  | **Focus on Eastern Partnership countries – Looking ahead. Key priorities and working together.****Speakers:****Ms Adrienn Király**, Director for Neighbourhood East and Institution Building, DG NEAR **Ms Astghik Hayrapetyan**, National Contact Point for TAIEX & Twinning, ArmeniaSpeaker from Azerbaijan TBC**Mr Davit Bazerashvili,** Head of EU Assistance Coordination and PAO, Georgia**Ms Emilia Cebotari,** National Contact Point for TAIEX and Twinning, Moldova**Ms Maryna Kanavets,** Director of the Center for Adaptation of the Civil Service to the Standards of the European Union, Ukraine**Ms Agnė Skaistytė**, National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, Lithuania**Mr Wojciech Gołębiowski,** Counsellor-General/ National Contact Point for Twinning and Taiex, PolandModerator: Mr Pearce Quinn, Team Leader Unit Institution Building, TAIEX & Twinning, DG NEAR    |
| 11:45 – 12:30  | **Croatia’s experience with the Twinning and TAIEX instruments****Speakers:****Ms Sanja Zekušić,** Senior Advisor, Office of the Director General, State Geodetic Administration (experience from Twinning projects)**Mr** **Zvonko Širić**, Head of Service for Audit of European Territorial Cooperation Programmes, Agency for Audit of European Union Programmes Implementation System (experience from Twinning projects)**Ms Višnja Grgasović,** Head of Department Climate Policy Sector, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development (experience from TAIEX projects)**Ms** **Martina Librenjak**, Head of International Regulations and Cooperation Department, Croatian Financial Services Supervisory Agency (experience from TAIEX projects)**Mr Marko Dragaš,** Head of Department for Regional & Infrastructure Projects, Montenegro**Ms Elizabeta Buova,** Head of Secretariat for European Affairs training center, TAIEX NCP, North Macedonia  |
| 12:30 – 14:00  | *Lunch break at the hotel restaurant*  |
| 14:00 – 15:00  | **Breakout room 1: Focus on Southern Neighbourhood - Looking ahead. Key priorities and working together.** **Speakers:** Introduction by DG NEAR**Dr Samar Al-Ahdal,** National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, Egypt**Ms Areej Alhadeed**, National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, Jordan**Ms Lamia Chamas,** National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, Lebanon**Mr Ahmed Al Muzaffar Al Ashhab,** National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, Libya**Mr Oussama Chellaf,** National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, Morocco**Ms Aglaé le Roux**, National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, FranceModerator: **Mr Gregory Tsouris**, Team Leader Institution Building Unit, TAIEX & Twinning, DG NEAR | **Breakout room 2: Twinning technical update Part 1**Moderators: * **Pearse Quinn**, Twinning Team Leader, Institution Building, TAIEX & Twinning Unit, DG NEAR
* **Marija Price-Martic,** Twinning Project Officer, Institution Building, TAIEX & Twinning Unit, DG NEAR
 |
| 15:00 – 15:30  | *Coffee Break and Networking in front of the conference room*   |
| 15:30 – 16:30  | **Breakout room 1: Focus on Western Balkans - Looking ahead. Key priorities and working together.** **Speakers:** Introduction by **Ms Adrienn Király**, Director for Neighbourhood East and Institution Building, DG NEAR **Mr Sonil Bilaj,** Director of the Directorate for Administration of EU Financial Assistance, Albania **Ms Lejla Spahic,** National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, Bosnia and Herzegovina,**Ms Dora Krasniqi,** National Contact Point for TAIEX, Kosovo\*[[1]](#footnote-2) **Mr Marko Dragaš,** National Contact Point for TAIEX, Montenegro **Ms Evgenija Serafimovska Kirkovski,** National Contact Point for Twinning, North Macedonia **Ms Jelena Stevanov,** National Contact Point for TAIEX, Serbia **Mr Norbert Schultes**, Head of Division Institutional Partnerships, Germany**Mr Gianfranco Bergantino**, National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, ItalyModerator: **Ms** **Fanny Marchal**, Head of Unit Institution Building, TAIEX & Twinning, DG NEAR  | **Breakout room 2: Twinning technical update Part 2** Moderators: same as for Part 1 |
| 16:30 – 16:45  | *Coffee Break and Networking in front of the conference room - Optional Family Photo* |
| 16:45 – 17:30  | **Breakout room 1: Key takeaways from TAIEX mobilisation the past years and niche areas where we expect to grow**   **Speakers:****Jovita Gudelyte,** Team Leader Institution Building Unit, TAIEX & Twinning, DG NEARModerator: **Mr Gregory Tsouris**, Team Leader Institution Building Unit, TAIEX & Twinning, DG NEAR | **Breakout room 2: Twinning technical update Part 3**Moderators: as for Part 1 |
| **17:00 – 17:30**  | **End of Day 1** |
| **19:30-21:00**  | **Cocktail dinner in Wine Bar Bornstein (hosted by Croatian MFEA)**  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Day 2: Wednesday, 29 May 2024**  |
| From 09:00  | *Welcome coffee in front of the conference rooms*   |
| **09:30 – 12:30**  | **Plenary sessions** |
| 09:30 – 10:30  | **Croatia led session on passing from beneficiary to experience sharing**.  **Ms Gordana Vidović Mesarek,** Director-General for European and International Law and Croatian NCP for TAIEX, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs   **Ms Dubravka Smolić Vlaić,** Head of Service for Knowledge Transfer and Croatian NCP for Twinning, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs**Ms Vedrana Kuštek,** Senior Analyst, Central Finance and Contracting Agency **Ms Ugnė Chmeliauskaitė,** Deputy Head of Development Cooperation Division, Lithuania**Mr Wojciech Gołębiowski,** Counsellor-General/ National Contact Point for Twinning and Taiex, Poland**Moderator: Ms Iva Jantolek,** Minister Counsellor, Service for Knowledge Transfer, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs  |
| 10:30-11:00  | *Coffee break in front of the conference rooms*  |
| 11:00 –12:00   | **What it is like to be an NCP (training/experience sharing/showcasing best practices)****Speakers:****Ms Astghik Hayrapetyan**, National Contact Point for TAIEX & Twinning, Armenia**Mr Gianfranco Bergantino**, National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, Italy**Ms Lamia Chamas**, National Contact Point for Twinning and TAIEX, LebanonModerator: **Ms** **Fanny Marchal**, Head of Unit Institution Building, TAIEX & Twinning, DG NEAR  |
| 12:00-12:30  |  *Wrap-up & Closing remarks*  |
| 12:30 – 14:00  | *Lunch at the hotel restaurant*  |
| **14:00 – 17:00**  | **Group Photo at Zrinjevac Park** **Nikola Subic Zrinski Square (meeting at the reception 14:00)** **Field Visit (optional - meeting at the reception 15:00)**  |

Working languages: Translation in EN and FR will be available in the Plenary and TAIEX breakout sessions. Twinning sessions will take place in EN.

1. \*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)