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

**Zagreb, 28-29 May**

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| **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, Estonia  Moderator: **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, Armenia  Speaker 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, Poland  Moderator: 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, France  Moderator: **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, Italy  Moderator: **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 NEAR  Moderator: **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)** | |

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| **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, Lebanon  Moderator: **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)