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BUILDING EUROPE TOGETHER

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New Head of the Institution Building Unit as from 1st October

In the framework of a general reshuffling in DG Enlargement, Andrew Rasbash has been officially appointed as new Head of the Institution Building Unit (IBU). Morten Jung-Olsen will move to the Unit dealing with the Iceland accession.
Before joining the IBU, Mr Rasbash was Head of the Task Force for the Turkish Cypriot Community in DG Enlargement. He previously led the Internal Audit Capability Unit and the EC Delegation in Latvia.

New entry in the Twinning Team

Marc PATUZZO joined the Twinning Team on May 16. He will deal both with TAIEX internal market activities and the support of the Twinning instrument.
After graduating in Translation, Marc specialised in International

Relations and European Studies. His previous professional experience includes jobs as Business Events Manager and Programme Manager in the private sector and in international organisations.

2010 NCP Meeting

The annual meeting of the Twinning and TAIEX network of National Contact Points took place on June 7 and 8 in the Charlemagne building, Brussels.

42nd RTA Training Session (Brussels 21st and 22nd of October 2010)

The 41st RTA training session took place in June and was attended by 16 RTAs and 2 observers.
The next RTA training session is scheduled for October 21 and 22 at the Centre Albert Borschette.
In 2011, three sessions are scheduled (February-June-October).

Maximising external visibility and ensuring efficient internal project management through a dedicated web site

The purpose of this article is to outline the functions and the added value that a dedicated Twinning project website can generate by increasing visibility, better information exchange and enhanced meeting/mission coordination. Colleagues are invited to learn from the experiences made and encouraged to consider the implementation of such web sites for their own purposes too.

Already before the official kick-off of the EU-funded Twinning project "Institutional Strengthening of the Energy Regulatory Commission" (FYR of Macedonia) a dedicated website was launched by the five implementing partners.
E-Control (the Austrian energy regulatory authority), AEI (Agency for European Integration and Economic Development), EXAA (Energy Exchange Austria), TÜV Austria (Austrian standardisation agency), and AGEN-RS (the Slovenian energy regulatory authority) decided to dedicate a part of the project's visibility budget to the design and implementation of a Twinning website, www.e-twinning.at.
The website – set up in about four weeks – intended to fulfil three distinct purposes, outlined in the following sections.

1) <u>Increasing public visibility</u>
A high visibility level online can be critical to the successful implementation of any EU-funded Twinning project. Through a dedicated website, project-related news and press releases can be easily available on the internet by a large audience. This material can be easily found through the most widely used internet search engines.

2) <u>Facilitating information and document exchange</u>
In a restricted website area (accessible only through username and password), key project documents can be stored. This way, all Twinning partners have access to the latest version of documents relevant to their work.

3) Easing <u>the organisation of Twinning meetings and overall project management</u>
The Twinning website also provides a centralised calendar that serves multiple purposes: firstly, meetings can be marked on the calendar and colleagues working on the project can register. Working and also administrative documents (e.g. timesheets, mission reports) can be uploaded. Secondly, the calendar can be used for managing the project and monitoring its overall evolution. In fact, all scheduled meetings are displayed in a concise manner and public holidays are marked. As a result, any potential overlap of missions and meetings is avoided. Third, all users assigned to a relevant group receive automatic e-mail notifications when relevant documents are uploaded.

The implementation of a project-specific Twinning website proved very successful. All people working on the Twinning project (both from the BC and MS) have been using the website frequently and have started to appreciate its full potential. In order to promote the use of the Twinning website, separate training was carried out. Based on the experience from this project, it appears that the use of a website can usefully foster visibility of any Twinning project.

Best Practices

If you have a "best practice" from your project to share, please send your article (maximum 300 words) to the functional mailbox elarg-twinning@ec.europa.eu .
All the suggestions are welcome.

Twinning Communication Tool

The Twinning Community Tool (TCT) is based on CircaBC and provides a collaboration tool that allows users (from within and outside the Commission) to exchange files, comments and links on a unique platform.
The main purpose of TCT is to create a virtual network of Resident Twinning Advisers, National Contact Points, EU Delegations and other relevant stakeholders of Twinning.
If you belong to one of the above categories and wish to participate to the network, please send a mail with your name, role, organisation and a valid e-mail account to the address: elarg-twinning@ec.europa.eu.

You can always contact the Twinning Coordination Team in Brussels should you or your staff requires additional information:

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Functional e-mail boxes:

elarg-twinning@ec.europa.eu - for proposals sent by the National contact points for Twinning to the Twinning co-ordination team

elarg-twinning-stc@ec.europa.eu - for sending draft Twinning contracts and draft Twinning contract addenda to be examined by the Twinning steering committee

elarg-twinning-reports@ec.europa.eu - for sending all Twinning quarterly and final reports

Website: *http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/how-does-it-work/technical-assistance/twinning_en.htm*.
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