In focus:
Funded by the European Union’s Thematic Programme, the GOVAC and REVIS projects are being implemented in Georgia and Moldova by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), in cooperation with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), and with the support of several EU Member States and Switzerland, as well as the Council of Europe, and the Hague University for Applied Sciences:

- **GOVAC** - “Building training and analytical capacities on migration in Moldova and Georgia” – aims to set up a durable mechanism which ensures self-sufficient and institutionalised training capacities in the field of migration.
- **REVIS** - “Supporting the Implementation of the EC visa facilitation and readmission agreements in Moldova and Georgia” - seeks to enhance the capacities of government institutions in beneficiary countries to implement returns and readmission to and from Georgia/ Moldova.

**GOVAC: Academia Workshop on the elaboration of a migration curriculum in Georgia**

The *academia workshop* on the finalisation of the migration curriculum took place in Tbilisi from 17 – 21 September 2012. The workshop was attended by Georgian professors and lecturers of the Departments of Human Geography, Economy and Law. The GOVAC academia experts’ delegation comprised Prof. Philip Martin, Prof. Peter van Krieken, Prof. Michel Poulain and Ms. Anne Herm. The GOVAC team and its academia experts presented BA and MA migration course outlines to the Georgian counterparts which were preliminary accepted for further implementation. In addition, discussions were held with the governmental focal point within the Ministry of Justice (Civil Registry Agency - CRA) on future internships for students of the Tbilisi State University at government ministries and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Migration Commission and the Tbilisi State University.

The GOVAC team also handed over migration literature which was purchased within the framework of GOVAC according to the specific needs of Tbilisi State University, to Prof. Levan Aleksidze, Vice Rector of the University. Similar books will be also handed over to the Moldovan State University.

**GOVAC: Ad-hoc mission on the drafting of the government training manual in Moldova**

An *ad-hoc mission* to Chisinau was conducted from 16 – 19 September 2012 with the aim to further develop and draft the governmental migration curriculum and to conduct preparatory meetings for the upcoming workshops and the piloting of the migration manual. The institutions that were visited included the Bureau for Migration and Asylum of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry for Information Technology and Communication, the Ministry of foreign Affairs, the project Academia focal point at the Moldova State University, the Public Administration Academy, the Police Academy and the Training Unit of the Border Police. In the context of the mission, the beneficiaries were updated on the projects’ activities and received the possibility to provide their input and additional information on the elaboration of the training manual. All in all, the drafting outline of the migration manual received a positive feedback.

**GOVAC: Publication of Internship research paper**

The newest GOVAC publication titled "Research Papers drafted within the framework of the "Building Training and Analytical Capacities on Migration in Moldova and Georgia (GOVAC)" project, Internship to ICMPD", was published in October 2012. It is the first published outcome of the GOVAC project. The publication included the research papers elaborated by Georgian and Moldovan representatives of the internship to ICMPD: "Citizenship policies in Georgia and the European Union" by Natalia Chubinidze (CRA) and Mariam Kevlishvili (Tbilisi State University) and "In focus: GOVAC: Academia Workshop on the elaboration of a migration curriculum in Georgia". The workshop took place in Tbilisi from 17 – 21 September 2012. The workshop was attended by Georgian professors and lecturers of the Departments of Human Geography, Economy and Law. The GOVAC academia experts’ delegation comprised Prof. Philip Martin, Prof. Peter van Krieken, Prof. Michel Poulain and Ms. Anne Herm. The GOVAC team and its academia experts presented BA and MA migration course outlines to the Georgian counterparts which were preliminary accepted for further implementation. In addition, discussions were held with the governmental focal point within the Ministry of Justice (Civil Registry Agency - CRA) on future internships for students of the Tbilisi State University at government ministries and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Migration Commission and the Tbilisi State University. The GOVAC team also handed over migration literature which was purchased within the framework of GOVAC according to the specific needs of Tbilisi State University, to Prof. Levan Aleksidze, Vice Rector of the University. Similar books will be also handed over to the Moldovan State University.

In this issue:
- **GOVAC**:
  - Academia workshop on migration curriculum in Georgia
  - Ad-hoc mission on drafting of government training manual to Moldova
  - Publication of Research papers
- **REVIS**:
  - Ad-hoc mission to Georgia
  - 3rd module, procurement of equipment
- **GOVAC and REVIS**:
  - Coordination Groups meeting
GOVAC and REVIS Coordination Groups meetings:
The 2nd GOVAC and the 3rd REVIS Project Coordination Groups (PCG) meetings took place in Vienna on 12 September 2012 and gathered representatives of both projects’ partners and the GOVAC and REVIS project teams. The aim of the meeting was to present and discuss the status quo and previously conducted activities as well as next steps and upcoming activities of both GOVAC and REVIS.

In detail, during the GOVAC PCG meeting all previously conducted activities were presented, such as the internship to ICMPD, participation of the academia interns at a migration conference in Leiden, the knowledge transfer workshops in Georgia and Moldova, the development of the professional migration curriculum, knowledge transfer study visits to the Netherlands and Portugal and the Summer School. The upcoming finalisation of the training manual and the workshops in Georgia and Moldova on the finalisation and the piloting of the training curriculum were highlighted. The project partners had the opportunity to recommend potential experts for these workshops and to provide expertise on the final elaboration of the training manual. As a result of the discussion, ICMPD in cooperation with the project partners prepared and published a policy brief of Fostering of Cooperation between Academia and Government in the Field of Migration (http://www.icmpd.org/Policy-Briefs.2159.0.html).

During the REVIS PCG meeting all implemented activities of 2012 were highlighted, such as training seminars of readmission and visa in both Moldova and Georgia, the procurement of IT equipment for the beneficiaries and ad hoc study visit to Romania. The REVIS Local Project Officer, Ms. Diana Hincu, attended the meeting and received the opportunity to meet with all project partners and inform them about situation in Moldova. The same opportunity had also Mr. Guy Edmunds, DRC representative, who delivered presentation on particularly interesting (pre-election) situation in Georgia. Furthermore, it was also noted that the project was extended to a total of 24 months, ending in December 2012. Additionally, it was emphasised that one last workshop on visa and readmission will take place in Georgia in October 2012 and that the final conference will be held in Georgia as well by the end of the year, presumably at the beginning of December.

Finally, the EU awarded projects under the Thematic Call were presented: "Supporting the Republic of Moldova to implement the EU – Moldova Action Plan on Visa Liberalisation" starting in 2013, as well as the "Enhancing the Role of Georgian Emigrants at Home (ERGEM)" project which will also start in 2013.

All in all, the project partners participated actively at the meetings and gave positive feedback regarding the implementation of the projects thus far.

REVIS: Ad-hoc mission to Georgia
An ad-hoc mission to Georgia took place from 25 – 28 September 2012. The purpose of the travel was to present the REVIS project and its achievements at an event in the framework of another EU-funded project called "Support for the Authorities of Georgia to Implement the Readmission Agreement with the EU". Additionally, a handover of equipment to the Ministry of Interior was organised and follow-up meetings to the 3rd Project Coordination Group meeting.

REVIS: 3rd module: procurement of equipment

Magnifier for Georgian MFA
An integral part of the ReiVs project is the provision of technical equipment to the beneficiaries which will facilitate them in implementing both the readmission and visa facilitation agreements. Relevant stakeholders were asked to assess their needs in this respect and have submitted their suggestions to the ReViS project team.

Examination sets for the Moldovan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and magnifiers for the Georgian Ministry of Interior were procured and transferred to beneficiaries. A video conference system has been purchased for the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Moldovan Ministry of Interior.

REVIS: Foreseen activities
The last workshop on visa and readmission will be conducted in Georgia on 22 – 23 October 2012. Prior to the workshop an Action Plan on Georgian Visa Liberalisation (VLAP) will be drafted by an external expert. Lessons learned from other VLAPs will be taken into consideration. The VLAP will be presented at the workshop.

The final conference will take place in Georgia, presumably at the beginning of December 2012.

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