

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Chisinau versus regions of Moldova: where politics meets business and citizens

*Saxophone Conference Hall, Jazz hotel, Vlaicu Pircalab 72 Str., Chisinau
March 9, 2017*

10.30 – 11.00 **Opening speeches**

Igor Munteanu, Executive Director IDIS "Viitorul", former Moldovan ambassador to the United States, Mexico, and Canada

Michal Mlynar, Director General for the International Organisations, Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic

Igor Malai, Deputy Head of General Directorate of Regional Development, Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions in Moldova

Panel I: Competitiveness for growth: Investing for inclusive development through sustainability of different size municipalities

11.00 – 11.20 **Moldova's local competitiveness: the best and the worst components of local business environment**

Ion Butmalai, IDIS "Viitorul" economist

11.20 – 12.30 **Discussions**

The main issues for discussion on local competitiveness through territorial public services:

- Efficient public investment, critical in the current period of economic difficulty
- Support for the economic vitality of regions and territories
- Local authorities: the main actors responsible for the public investment
- Migration – its' social and economic price on regions development

Moderator: *Liubomir Chiriac, Vice Director of IDIS "Viitorul"*

Main speakers: Ion Bodrug (North Regional Development Agency), Viorel Furdui (CALM), Vasile Soldan (ZEL Balti), Gheorghe Raileanu (Cimislia municipality), Robert Kicina (Business Alliance of Slovakia)

Panelists: RDAs representatives, Olesia Cazacu (MiDL project), Alexandru Branza (Deputy President of Ungheni rayon), Vladimir Cociorva (Mayor of Braviceni)

12.30 – 12.45 **Coffee break**

Panel II: Budgets without secrets: transparency and civic engagement

12.45 – 13.30 **Discussions**

The main issues for discussion on transparency in the decision-making process:

- What is the financial sustainability for a ordinary citizen in Moldova?
- If I were mayor?
- Engaged citizens = healthy budgets
- Transparent public procurement
- Open local government

Moderator: *Veaceslav Ionita, IDIS "Viitorul" expert*

Panelists: Peter Golias (INEKO), Veaceslav Negruta, Mihail Manoli, Angela Secrieru, Veaceslav Kunev, Liliana Agarcova (Analytical team members), Viorel Pirvan (IDIS "Viitorul"), Michal Pisko (Transparency International Slovakia)

13.30 – 14.00 **Conclusions and recommendations. Closing of the conference**

The event is held within the initiative "Transparent, financially healthy and competitive local governments in Moldova". The initiative is implemented by the Institute for Economic and Social Reforms in Slovakia (INEKO), in partnership with IDIS "Viitorul" with the financial support of the Official Development Assistance of the Slovak Republic (SlovakAid) and the USA Embassy in Moldova. The initiative aims to increase the transparency, financial accountability, and competitiveness of local authorities in Moldova.