

## **Moldovan government and NGO representatives to learn about inclusive governance**

The e-Governance Academy Estonia, Open Government Institute Moldova and E-Government Center Moldova are organizing a working workshop for public servants and civil society representatives in Chişinău on April 7 & 8, 2015 focusing on “Citizen engagement in decision making processes”. The event is one of the commitment which Moldova Government together with Civil Society co-committed to implement as part of Moldova Second Action Plan on Open Government, under Moldova’s membership in the Open Government Partnership (OGP).

The event will also provide a platform for learning and sharing practical mechanisms and tools for citizen engagement, including from Estonian experience, and ways inclusion of civic groups and individual citizens in governance can be achieved.

Kristina Reinsalu, the director of the e-democracy sector at the academy, says that both parties – the government and NGOs – need capacity building on inclusion in order to be equal partners and achieve results.

The workshop, which will be given to more than 70 participants, is being co-moderated by the Estonian and Moldovan team of experts. It brings Liia Hänni and Kristina Reinsalu from the e-Governance Academy and Hille Hinsberg from Praxis and Veronica Cretu, Constantin Rusu, Onorica Banciu and Nicu Cretu from the Open Government Institute Moldova.

The event will be opened by Stela Mocan, Executive Director of the Moldovan e-Government Centre, and Veronica Cretu, head of Open Government Institute Moldova.

A draft of the “Citizen Engagement in Decision Making” processes guide will also be presented as part of the workshop and consulted with the participants. Experts from the e-Governance Academy played an advisory role in its compilation alongside Hinsberg. Reinsalu says the handbook will be of help to state officials, providing them with tips on how to implement the existing legal framework in the area of Access to Information and Transparency in the Decision Making Processes as part of their work.

The e-Governance Academy has carried out a number of projects designed to boost e-governance capabilities in Moldova in recent years.

The workshop on April 7-8, 2015 is part of the ‘Introduction of the principles of open governance in the inclusion of citizens in the decision-making process in Moldova’ project, which is being supported by the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs within the framework of development cooperation.