

**LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY**

# DIGI TALENTS: Labour mobility programme of ICT graduates between Slovakia, Ukraine and Moldova

 Project completed

## About the Project

Digi Talents was a Slovak - Moldovan - Ukrainian labour mobility and career development programme for young Moldovan and Ukrainian ICT professionals. During a three-year implementation period, this pilot project offered Moldovan and Ukrainian participants internship and employment opportunities to gain new skills and experience in leading ICT companies in Slovakia. The project developed an operational framework for a labour mobility programme that supports the transfer of knowledge and skills between the Slovak, Moldovan and Ukrainian ICT sectors, as well as the development of relations between private companies and universities from these countries.



### Partners

This MPF project was implemented by the EMA - Development and Mobility Agency in collaboration with the National Coalition for Digital Skills and Jobs of the Slovak Republic (Digital Coalition) and the Moldovan Association of Information and Communications Technology Companies (ATIC).



### Countries

Moldova, Ukraine and Slovakia



### Time frame

**July 2021 - June 2024** (36 months)



### Budget

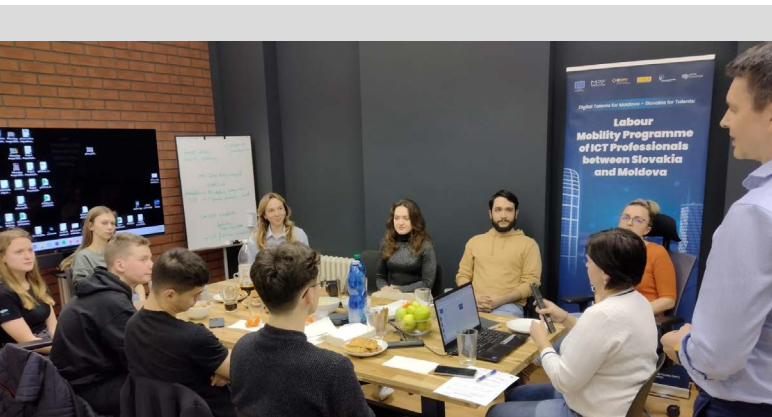
**EUR 1,337,667.14** (94.93% from AMIF)

## Activities



### Pre-departure

The project provided pre-departure support to young Moldovan and Ukrainian ICT talents selected for internships or employment in Slovakia. This included administrative assistance, relocation support and comprehensive pre-departure orientation. Additionally, all selected participants were offered Slovak and English language courses as well as ICT technical training to enhance their skills and integration in the Slovak labour market.



*Meetup event with the participants, Bratislava, 2024*



### Mobility

Digi Talents facilitated the temporary labour mobility of 18 young Moldovan and Ukrainian ICT professionals, who were provided with professional mentorship, skills development and the opportunity to learn from experts in the field. In Slovakia, 16 ICT companies participated in the programme by offering temporary placements.



### (Re)Integration

The project provided reintegration support for successful programme graduates back into the labour market in Moldova and Ukraine. The project team provided personalised professional guidance through interview training, assistance with CV preparation, and providing linkages with relevant companies in network. To support the participants for their career prospects, each participant was offered individual assistance before the end of the mobility term, addressing their personal needs and preferences.



### Capacity building and Knowledge Exchange

The project strived for capacity building, especially through the Digital Academy Social Programme and Talent Incubator Laboratory at the Technical University of Moldova. A large pool of students and fresh graduates (828) received training in ICT skills or professional development. The establishment of the Talent Incubator Laboratory ensured the sustainability of capacity-building efforts beyond the project's end. Overall, more than 40 young talents from Moldova and Ukraine received capacity-building training -language courses, ICT courses, or professional development training focused on soft skills and preparation for the labour market.



*A training session at Talent Incubator Laboratory, Technical University of Moldova (TUM, 2024)*



Panel discussion with government representatives at the closing seminar on 21 May 2024 (left to right):

Mario Lelovský, Director, National Coalition for Digital Skills and Jobs of the Slovak Republic; Branislav Ondruš, State Secretary, Ministry of Labour of the Slovak Republic; Viktória Skřivánková, Director, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, VAIA; Vladimír Šimoňák, State Secretary, Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic.

The project team also produced the *Handbook on Labour Mobility Programme*, which presents valuable insights and recommendations on implementation of labour mobility schemes. The handbook was introduced to governmental and partner country stakeholders during the *Closing Seminar* organised in May 2024. This was a unique opportunity to share the outcomes of Digi Talents and exchange knowledge and practical experience on labour mobility and foreign talent acquisition programmes.



### Establishment of operational framework and advocacy on migration procedures

Digi Talents had a direct influence on Slovak immigration legislation, facilitating an amendment to the visa requirements for highly-skilled third-country nationals. Following advocacy efforts of the project partners in Slovakia, the entry of ICT talents from Moldova (and other non-EU countries) was simplified with the change on degree requirement of ICT professionals and reduction of salary threshold.

## More online sources on Digi Talents

- [Info Campaign Video](#)
- [The Digi Talents Programme](#)
- [Corina and Radu: Meet our Digi Talents from Moldova](#)
- [Closing seminar](#)

Implemented by



## The Migration Partnership Facility



This project was awarded and contracted in the framework of the Migration Partnership Facility (MPF); an EU-funded initiative implemented by ICMPD in support of the external dimension of the EU migration policy. Through its grants, the MPF facilitates the execution of projects to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

Funded by the European Union



Contracted by ICMPD

