



The Programme is funded  
by the European Union



Common Challenges – Joint Solutions



Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation  
Территориальное сотрудничество  
стран Восточного партнерства

## PRESS RELEASE

*March 30, 2018 Tbilisi Georgia*

### **EU boosts Azerbaijani-Georgian cross-border cooperation**

Today, March 30, 2018, the representatives of Azerbaijani – Georgian international partnerships have gathered in Tbilisi Marriott Hotel for highlighting the commencement of the Azerbaijan – Georgia Territorial Cooperation Programme. The European Union has granted 1.35 mln Euros for implementation of 6 cross boarder projects selected from 29 submitted applications within the call for proposals.

The awarded grant projects of the Azerbaijan – Georgia EaPTC Programme are aimed at strengthening regional development and cross-border cooperation between two countries in the fields of improving the living conditions of local communities, solving the problems of environment, youth employment and tourism development.

**Dominik Papenheim**, Programme Officer at the Delegation of the European Union to Georgia, said: *"With the launch of the new projects, the European Union exports a proven success model to the regions at the Georgian-Azerbaijani border. The selected projects are about a core idea of European integration: Bringing together people from different countries, working on concrete issues and improving people's daily lives."*

**Natalia Alhazishvili**, Team Leader of the EaPTC Managing Authority South (GIZ), stressed: *"We are pleased to launch cross-border cooperation projects, financed by the European Union. We believe these projects will build and deepen the existing good will between the neighboring regions of Azerbaijan and Georgia and will contribute to socio-economic development of these regions"*

**Erikas Jankauskas**, EaPTC Support Programme Team Leader, highlighted: *"We are proud today to mark the official launch of the Azerbaijan – Georgia Territorial Cooperation grant projects and congratulate all the partners for their huge efforts on this way. For the first time, Azeri and Georgian local communities will work together on addressing the most crucial challenges of the bordering areas. We hope that the projects will be successful, bring new priceless experience and encourage other regions and municipalities to take joint actions for mutual benefits of people living on the both sides of the border"*.

**Background.** The Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation Programme's (EaPTC) goal is to create a favourable environment for territorial cooperation programmes along the borders of Moldova – Ukraine, Armenia – Georgia, Azerbaijan – Georgia and Belarus – Ukraine with due regard to specifics of each border area. It is also aimed at developing the capacity of state and non-state bodies of neighboring countries to develop and implement joint cross-border projects. The total contribution of the European Union within the framework of the EaPTC Programme is 12.5 million euros.

The Eastern Partnership (EaP) is an European Union initiative directed at six countries of Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The initiative aims at closer relations between the EU and the Eastern partners, deepening their political co-operation and economic integration.

For additional information please contact Ms Tatiana Derevyankina, EaPTC Communication Expert at:

[tatiana.derevyankina@eaptc.eu](mailto:tatiana.derevyankina@eaptc.eu)

<http://www.eaptc.eu>

<https://www.facebook.com/eaptc.eu>

<https://twitter.com/EaPTC>

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/EaPTC-5109143>

#### **The Programme is implemented by:**

Managing Authority - Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Altair Asesores-led Consortium

