



## PRESS RELEASE

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### THE FIRST PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING TO TAKE PLACE

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of July, the first Project Steering Committee meeting to discuss progress of the project will take place, to verify achievements of outputs and mandatory results and to discuss actions undertaken in the second quarter.

Agenda of Project Steering Committee will cover information on project communication plan and work plan for the second quarter of Project implementation. Project Steering Committee includes 9 members and representatives from Delegation of European Union to Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Welfare of Republic of Latvia which is the lead project partner, German Association for Social Security Policy and Research as junior project leader and State Social Protection Fund of the Republic of Azerbaijan as representatives of beneficiary country.

The first quarter of EU funded Twinning project "**Support to the State Social Protection Fund on the introduction of funded element within the insurance–pension system, establishment of non–state pension funds and development of legal framework for regulating their activity**" covers the period from April 7, 2014 to July 6, 2014, however project implementation started on May 8, 2014 with arrival of the RTA.

The reporting quarter activities affect the future progress of the project as there was organized in the first month of the start of the project, a kick-off meeting (project launching conference), which was attended by nearly one hundred participants from various state institutions, private sector and media. During the kick off meeting, participants received information on project objectives, implemented activities, planned outputs and outcomes, and also there were made short introductions about EU MS - pension system of Latvia and Germany.

In the first quarter, Twinning project team was formed and the preparatory work for the first experts' mission on project activity 4.1. "In-depth presentation of the state pension system of the EU MS to relevant SSPF staff and other stakeholders" started.

The objective of communication is to deliver to the target groups of project accurate and timely information on implementing project's progress, on content of implementing activities and undertaken measures of pension policy developments. Commonly 9 groups of communication activities will be organised to cover all target groups.

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“The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 60 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms.

The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders”.