

## MAYORS OF RAION CENTERS STUDYING TO COMBAT CORRUPTION

Chisinau, April 15 ( [INFOTAG](#) ). The seminar titled "Towns without Corruption - Towns with Future" was opened in Chisinau on Monday. At these seminars the Mayors of raion centers learn how to provide transparency and to combat corruption more efficiently at the local level. The conference is conducted in the frame of the project "Transparency and Anti-corruption Strategies at the Local Level" by the Ministry of Public Administration with support on the part of the UNDP Moldova.

Minister Valentin Guznac designated corruption as an exclusively dangerous disease and remarked, though the Government declared combating corruption as one its priority tasks, it will not be able to defeat it without support on the part of the society.

"The transparency increase in the activities of local administrations is directly proportional to the reduction of the corruption level. Combating corruption must facilitate the growth of the national economy and attracting foreign investments", - Guznac said.

According to UNDP Moldova Representatives Kaarina Immonen, the corruption is characteristic of all countries, but it is particularly widespread in developing states.

Former Mayor of La Paz city (Bolivia) Ronald MacLean-Abaroa said that in 70-80ies of the XX century his country survived the period of the transition from the centralized administration system to a democratic administration and can share its experience with Moldova.

In his words, corruption is similar to a disease, which must be treated very seriously, otherwise all the society can be infected.

Representatives of the Transparency International Moldova Lilia Carasciuc remarked that the more corrupted the country is, the less competitive its goods at markets are. The surveys showed that during the last years, tax evasions constitute from 25% to 40% of the tax sums, transferred to the state budget.