



European SME Week 2019 marked with an Innovation Seminar

As part of 2019 European SME Week, the role of innovation in economic development was highlighted during an “Innovation Seminar” which was held on 22 November at Bedestan, Nicosia.

The purpose of the event was to mark 2019 European SME Week, acknowledge the recently awarded grant beneficiaries, and highlight the importance of being innovative in businesses. At the event, 27 projects which received EU grant from the EU's Private Sector Development Programme, 4th Call for Proposals were acknowledged. Also, Mr. Brian Murray from the EU-funded “Innovative Entrepreneurship” Project, delivered a presentation on “Being Innovative in Business”. The opening speeches were made by Mr. Kjartan Björnsson, Mr. Hasan Taçoy, and Ms. Ebru Kaptan Sertoğlu.



The Innovative Entrepreneurship project aims to promote innovative business

sessions, and seminars. Apart from the capacity building through seminars, Innovative Entrepreneurship project targets those who need support while setting up their own businesses/start-ups through the Into Business programme.



In 2018, the European Commission as part of the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community, launched a 5-million Euro call for proposal aiming to increase the capacities of Competitive Enterprises, Clusters, and Business Support Organisations. The purpose of the SME4 call for proposals was to speed up economic growth of the Turkish Cypriot community with a view to create more and better jobs through support to individual companies, groups of companies and Business Support Organisations as multipliers. Specifically, the European Commission aims to increase the capability of SMEs to access the European Union (EU) market, as well as their ability to face competition by supporting the implementation of EU standards and innovation, through the provision of financial investment incentives.



Strengthening the Capacity of Veterinary Services for the Eradication of Animal Diseases

With the support of the European Commission, the "Animal Disease Eradication: Strengthening the Capacity of Veterinary Services" event was held on 14 November at Merit Hotel, Nicosia.

The event on "Animal Disease Eradication: Strengthening the Capacity of Veterinary Services" provided information on the procedures and cost-sharing scheme with regards to the assignment of private veterinarians on behalf of the Veterinary Department for specific tasks and responsibilities. The event also highlighted the EU contribution in improving animal and public health in the Turkish Cypriot community by implementing EU standards. The opening speeches were made by Mr. Michael Docherty and Mr. Dursun Oğuz.



This event is the second of a series of activities organised on the eradication of animal diseases. The first activity was the "Animal Disease Eradication:

animal health for food safety and reduction of losses for farmers with a particular focus on brucellosis.



held at the EU Infopoint

The award ceremony of "My Favorite EU Project" photo competition, which was organised for all high school students as part of Europe Day 2019 celebrations, was held on 11 November at the EU Infopoint, Nicosia.

The competition encouraged young people to discover EU-funded projects near them and assess how these projects contribute to their daily lives. After the jury evaluation, Sevim Kendir won the first place, Esra Beyoğlu won the second place and Yuşa Kürkçü won the third place. Additionally, Halil İbrahim Aydın received the Jury Special Award, while Sevim Kendir and Ersu Şenyurt received the honorable mentions. At the award ceremony, the winners of the competition and the owners of the photos which were chosen to be exhibited received their prizes. The opening speeches were made by Mr. Arttu Makipaa and Mr. Ali Yaman.



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events organised in partnership with the EU Infopoint and the Universal Children's Rights Association on 23 November at Civic Space, Nicosia. The events included animation screening, diversity training, hygiene training, environment-themed theatre, map and card games, and karaoke. Approximately 25 children aged 7-12 enjoyed the fun-packed afternoon.

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The EU Infopoint aims to increase public knowledge, awareness and understanding of the European Union, its values, policies and programmes as well as the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community. The EU Infopoint is a project funded by the European Union under the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community with the aim to bring the Turkish Cypriot community closer to the EU.

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