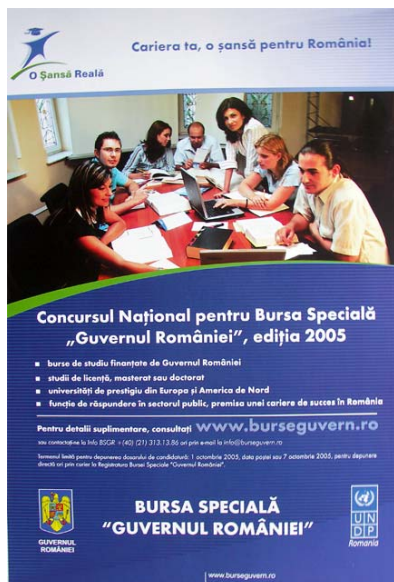


Leading the way towards a new generation of public managers



UNDP Romania and the Ministry of Education and Research jointly announced on 13 September 2005 at the UN House the official launch of the 2005 national competition for the Romanian Government Special Scholarships (RGSS). 48 RGSS beneficiaries from the 2004 competition are already on their way to leading universities worldwide, where they will study for the next 2-3 years before taking up their position as public managers.

The event was preceded by the Annual Tripartite Meeting for the RGSS Programme, which brought together Ms. Soknan Han Jung, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative, Minister Mircea Miclea of the Ministry of Education and Research, and Prof. Ioan Pânzaru, Chairman of the RGSS Commission.

“The Scholarship programme for public managers is a remarkable, farsighted initiative of the Romanian Government, which UNDP fully supports with its management expertise. It is **an investment in youth, an investment in the future, an investment for sustainable development**, and Romania is certain to reap important benefits from this investment when the young people trained in leading universities abroad return to Romania to be the **agents of change** in the

public sector”, said Ms. Jung.

The RGSS Programme is designed to support brilliant young Romanians interested in pursuing a management career in the Romanian public sector. The programme will contribute to **transforming Romania's public sector into a modern, efficient and accountable administration at the service of the citizens**. The scholarships offered by RGSS cover most of the expenses related to studies abroad towards under-graduate, master's or doctoral degrees in prestigious European and North American universities.

With the support of UNDP Romania, the RGSS Commission selected, out of more than 900 contestants, a first generation of 48 future public leaders as RGSS beneficiaries. All information regarding the current Romanian Government Special Scholarships competition and calendar, as well as the full list of the 2004 winners is available at www.burseguvern.ro.

At the press conference, the media was briefed on the improved 2005 competition procedures: a smoother and simpler registration process, and higher interview standards to assess the leadership potential of the candidates. As a result, a tougher 2005 competition is envisaged.

Committed to principles of efficiency, transparency, accountability and political neutrality, UNDP Romania offers its full support in implementing this Programme, thus contributing to the Romanian Government's public administration reform efforts.



From left to right: Mr. Razvan Cirica, UNDP Romania, Prof. Ioan Panzaru, Chairman of the RGSS Commission, Ms. Soknan Han Jung, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Mircea Miclea, Minister of Education and Research, Mr. Mihai Toader, RGSS Project Manager

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