



**PHARE Business Support Programme III of the European Union for Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Turkey**  
**UEAPME SME-FIT II**  
**Activity Report Form for Sectoral and EU-Partners (JEUNE participating in Bulgaria)**

<b>Name of Activity (eg Nat Training, Acquis Diss, Inst Building etc):</b>	Seminar with representatives of government and trade unions
<b>Title of activity you participated in according to invitation:</b>	Social Dialogue – an unused reserve to foster SMEs in Bulgaria

<b>Place of event: SOFIA, Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs</b>	<b>Date of event: 26-03-2009</b>
<b>Name of your association: UEAPME</b>	<b>Name of reporting partner: Andrea Benassi, GS</b>

**What was your role in the activity? (eg speaker, expert for institution building etc)**  
 Speaker and expert: Introducing UEAPME and its role as a European Social Partner

<b>What was the content and the objective of the activity?</b>	<b>What are your personal observations on the results? Did you encounter any problems? Please evaluate:</b>	<b>Any other comments? Is there a need for further actions with this partner?</b>
The objectives were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To explain the Social Dialogue on EU-level and UEAPME's involvement and tasks</li> <li>- To introduce the Small Business Act and its advantages for Bulgarian SMEs</li> <li>- To foster the network between UPEE, UEAPME and the present representatives of Bulgarian ministries as well as trade unions and leaders of political parties.</li> </ul>	The results were extremely positive: The activity was planned as a round table chaired by Todor Detchev, Deputy President of UPEE and upon invitation of the Bulgarian Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs. Mr Lazarov, Deputy Minister for Labour and Social Affairs in Bulgaria welcomed the participants to the round table. Topics discussed were the current situation for employers as well as employees and the challenges ahead. The discussion could have been livelier. However, the huge number of participants at the round table clearly portrayed how much the participants appreciated this event and the initiative taken by UPEE and the ministry.	The trade unions and employers' associations seem well established in Bulgaria and the relations with the ministries are working well.  For the moment being no need for further actions with regards to Social Dialogue in Bulgaria. However, once the SBA develops, there might be a need for further actions.

**Contact person: Iris Marlovits**

**Place and Date: 31-03-2009**

**Signature of reporting partner:**

