

## Pathways to a Modern Public Administration: First generation of internationally trained public specialists ready to share what they learned

**Bucharest, 18 May 2007.** The “Romanian Government Special Scholarship (RGSS)” programme implemented by UNDP celebrated the graduation of its first generation of beneficiaries from the ***Intensive Programme of Training and Integration in the Romanian Public Sector*** under the aegis the National Institute of Administration. Since 2004, outstanding young professionals have been awarded scholarships to renowned international universities. Of these, the first graduates returned home to apply their acquired skills and knowledge to the benefit of Romania’s public administration reform.



*Group photo of Soknan Han Jung, UN RC/UNDP RC (L, first row), Prof. Pânzaru, RGSS Commission President, (second from L, last row), RGSS beneficiaries and the UNDP project team.*

The RGSS Programme is designed to transform Romania’s public sector into a modern, efficient and accountable administration at the service of its citizens. With Romanian Government funding of 1 million Euros for new scholarships annually, the RGSS is an investment in youth and an investment for sustainable development of the country.

After the completion of their Masters degree, the students returned home and underwent an intensive two-parts training: a theoretical overview of the specifics of Romanian public administration and

practical work in Romanian public institutions.

The graduation ceremony was presided over by Ambassador Soknan Han Jung, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Dragoş Dincă, State Secretary and General Director of the National Institute of Administration, Prof. Ioan Pânzaru, RGSS Commission President and Ioan Ciucă, Project Director on behalf of the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth.

UNDP has taken a catalytic role in assisting Romania’s effort to invest in human capital. “Public administration reform in Romania needs to be carried out by competent people, able to transform democratic values and principles into concrete actions. Those graduates, as well as the other RGSS beneficiaries who are studying abroad now, are the ones to assume the responsibility of modernizing the system in the full benefit of the public. They are the ones to bring an added value to the current practices and enhance their functionality”, said Ms. Jung.

The first RGSS graduates who returned and completed the mandatory training at the National Institute of Administration will be placed in key administrative positions by the end of 2007. Trained to become the foundation of change and mentality shift in the public sector, they will bring positive contributions to the values and practices of the Romanian public administration.

**For more information contact**

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