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# EU4Environment in the Republic of Moldova

**Major progress in 2021, detailed plans for January – June 2022 and  
general plans for 2022-2023 (project extension)**

**(prepared by the IPs and NAC for the NIC meeting, 18.02.2022)**

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## Result 1. Greener decision making (1.1, 1.2, 1.4 - UNEP)

### Progress in 2021

- ✓ Regular support for organization/logistics of **inter-ministerial dialogue on Green Economy (GE)**: previous WG/NIC meeting (12.02.2021);
- ✓ Translation and **launch of Romanian version of an introductory GE course; Academy of Public Administration** started promotion and host the course
- ✓ 7 completed the **in-depth Green Economy (GE) policy-making course**
- ✓ Awareness raising campaigns: **National High Level Round table “Green Economy. Made in Moldova”** (29.01.2021); EUGreenWeek 2021 (31.04-04.06.2021), WED2021 (05.06.2021).

### Plans for 2022 (January – June)

- ✓ Continued **inter-ministerial dialogue on GE and overall oversight of EU4Environment GG/NIC meeting**
- ✓ Promotion and deliver of **the introductory GE course among various civil servants**; GE course integrated in the ongoing programs at the APA
- ✓ Analysis of sectoral policies by trained civil servants, using skills obtained at **GE policy making/analysis training course**;
- ✓ **Investment needs assessment**: start investment needs assessment in alignment with review of national GE strategy
- ✓ **Awareness raising campaigns for general public**: National and global campaigns, in synergy with Activity 5.2 (communication)

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## Result 1. Greener decision making (1.1, 1.2, 1.4 - UNEP)

### General plans for 2022-2023

- ✓ Continued **inter-ministerial dialogue on GE and overall oversight of EU4Environment GG/NIC meeting**
- ✓ Promotion **of the introductory GE course among various civil servants**; GE course integrated in the ongoing programs at the APA
- ✓ Development and delivery of the 2nd edition of the specialized e-course “Green Transition in Eastern Partnership Countries’
- ✓ **Investment needs assessment**: in alignment with review of national GE Program
- ✓ **Awareness raising campaigns for general public**: National High Level Round table “Green Economy. Made in Moldova”, national and global campaigns, in synergy with the activity 5.2 on communication

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## Result 1. Greener decision making (1.3 - UNECE: SEA/EIA)

### Progress in 2021

- ✓ Leg. assistance (Q2 - Q4 2021): **Drafting of amended laws** on EIA and on SEA (*pre-final drafts completed*)
- ✓ **2nd Awareness-Raising Workshop the Practical Application of SEA (online; 23 April 2021)**
- ✓ **Romanian version of the video** on transboundary EIA/Espoo Convention prepared (*Aug 2021*)
- ✓ First drafts developed and submitted to the MoE (*to be continued after the adoption of legislative amendments to the Law on EIA, Law on SEA*) of:
  - *Guidelines on Quality Control of SEA Documentation*
  - *Guidelines on QC of Transb. EIA Documentation*

### Plans for 2022 (January – June)

- ✓ Finalization of the two **Guidelines on Quality Control** in line with the adoption of legislative amendments
- ✓ Launch of a pilot SEA **pilot** project upon its endorsement by the EU (*a formal proposal is pending from the Republic of Moldova*)
- ✓ Development of **SEA course for public servants + university-level course** on SEA and transboundary EIA (*needs assessment phase in progress till Q2 2022*)
- ✓ Development of a **model for a SEA** database for the beneficiary countries incl. RM (*start of the needs assessment and conceptual design phase postponed till Q2 2022*)

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## Result 1. Greener decision making (1.3 - UNECE: SEA/EIA)

### General plans for 2022-2023

- ✓ **Training Workshop on Quality Control of SEA and EIA Documentation** - upon the finalization of Guidelines on Quality Control (second half of 2022)
- ✓ **Pilot SEA** implementation (throughout 2022; expected completion NOT LATER THAN Q2 2023)
- ✓ Finalized **SEA course for public servants** + finalized **university-level course** on SEA and transboundary EIA (Q4 2022) incl. a **train-the-trainer workshop** on the course material for future instructors
- ✓ Development of **awareness-raising materials** (Q2 – Q4 2022)
- ✓ **Model for a SEA database** for the beneficiary countries developed (Q1 2023)
- ✓ **National awareness raising event** to promote the adoption of the amended laws on EIA and on SEA (timing tbc)
- ✓ Preparation of the draft **Order of the Minister** (assessment and certification of experts/legal persons for the development of SEA and EIA documentation) – timing tbc
- ✓ Other methodologies/guidelines on EIA and SEA - (upon the completion of the Guidelines on Quality Control)

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## Result 2. Circular economy and new growth opportunities (2.1, 2.2 - UNIDO)

### Progress in 2021

- ✓ Contracting of the RECP **National Coordinator**; RECP Visibility plan agreed with support from UNIDO HQ; engagement of EaP GREEN alumni SMEs
- ✓ UNIDO presentation on RECP tools at the ODIMM's anniversary event for SMEs;
- ✓ First RECP stakeholders group meeting; approval of regions for RECP Clubs, contracting the Clubs implementing partner and launching the search for companies in Cahul and Gagauzia;
- ✓ Confirmation of **priority manufacturing industries** for RECP and calls for RECP trainees and demonstration SMEs published; 10+ RECP trainees and 10+ companies identified;
- ✓ **Consultations with NFPs** and a support letter for ODIMM as a partner for RECP activities received; ToR is drafted and ODIMM is contracted;
- ✓ Application to host RECP event for businesses at the EU Industry Weeks
- ✓ Progress in EIP feasibility assessments of IP Tracom and SEZ Valkanesz; 2 EIP workshops and a consultation on IP Tracom updates (Dec. '21)
- ✓ SMGP international partner contracted

### Plans for 2022 (January-June)

- ✓ Webinar on RECP for businesses, 10 February 2022
- ✓ Completing EIP feasibility assessments at IP and FEZ and preparing final report; presenting the results to the public at a dedicated event
- ✓ Completing implementation of **2 RECP Clubs** in Cahul and Gagauzia;
- ✓ 15+ RECP action plans developed by Clubs' member enterprises;
- ✓ **RECP Training and assessments** are launched with ODIMM's support;
- ✓ **Training** of 15 RECP experts (till the end of Summer);
- ✓ **Initial RECP site reviews** of 28 companies (January) contributing to **RECP assessment** of 15 SMEs (till September 2022);
- ✓ **Gender mainstreaming in industry: training** (Spring 2022);
- ✓ Monitoring of 10 RECP alumnae SMEs from EaP GREEN Action (2013-17): 10 draft Business Cases prepared;
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> stakeholders group meeting

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## Result 2. Circular economy and new growth opportunities (UNIDO)

### General plans for 2022-2023

- ✓ **Raising awareness and sharing knowledge on RECP:** communication plan, web presence, awareness raising events and materials (during the year);
- ✓ **Regional RECP Centers/Partners meeting** (bi-monthly from July to November 2021) – continued in 2022 once a quarter;
- ✓ Training and assessment activities completed resulting in a set of draft full technical reports of RECP assessments (in English and national languages)(Q3); RECP Action Plans approved by companies for implementation (Q4);
- ✓ RECP Business plans for 10 enterprises developed;
- ✓ **RECP Clubs** progress report on 2 RECP clubs activities with member SMEs;
- ✓ **RECP Stakeholders group meeting** (every 6 months) and the First National RECP/CE conference conceptualized and organized (end 2022);
- ✓ Awareness about **concept and tools of the EU Single Market for Green Products** initiative in view of national eco-labelling practices (Q2, 2022);
- ✓ **Regional Event on Experience of SMGP/Product Environmental Footprint** application in EaP countries (Q4, 2022);
- ✓ **Regional Consultations on EIP feasibility guidelines for Eastern Partnership countries** (Q3, 2022);
- ✓ **Regional event on piloting Industrial Waste Mapping in the Eastern Partnership countries** (Q3, 2022).

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## Result 2. Circular economy and new growth opportunities (2.3-2.6 - UNEP)

### Progress in 2021

- ✓ **Progress on SPP since 2017 reviewed** by the International and National Experts in consultation with the Public Procurement Agency;
- ✓ Technical support to the development of **Governmental Decree on SPP**
- ✓ **Assessment and the draft Roadmap on eco-labeling** prepared and presented to the stakeholders at webinar (PA EcoContact)
- ✓ Organized training session for competent authorities on **eco-labelling**
- ✓ Consultations with Organization for the Small and Medium Enterprise Sector Development (ODIMM) to assist with **eco-innovation promotion and trainings**
- ✓ Supported the **Use of strategic approaches on waste management** – development of the **National Waste Management Programme (NWMP) and National Waste Action Plan (NWAP)**; developed **NWMP and NWAP**
- ✓ Workshops conducted for **NWMP and NWAP**
- ✓ First **eco-innovation workshop**; first draft eco-innovation policy and market assessment
- ✓ Participation in a **regional experience sharing event on eco-innovation for SMEs**

### Plans for 2022 (January - June)

- ✓ Identify **priority product groups**, review market readiness, update the sustainability criteria for priority products
- ✓ Draft **SPP guidelines for priority product groups**
- ✓ Draft guidelines on development of **eco-labelling criteria** for different product categories
- ✓ **Eco-innovation market and policy analysis** in priority sectors; national validation workshop
- ✓ Call to invite SMEs and provide technical assistance **for eco-innovation** assessment and business strategies
- ✓ E-waste EPR assessment

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## Result 2. Circular economy and new growth opportunities (2.3 – 2.6 - UNEP)

### General plans for 2022-2023

- ✓ Draft **SPP criteria and guidelines for priority product groups, communication campaign**
- ✓ Draft **regulation on eco-labelling** and organize two public hearings
- ✓ Draft guidelines on development of **eco-labelling criteria** for different product categories
- ✓ Organize training for business communities on eco-labelling and SPP
- ✓ **Eco-innovation workshop; market and policy analysis** in priority sectors; national validation workshop; technical assistance for revision of SMEs' business strategies; participation in a **regional experience sharing event on eco-innovation for SMEs**
- ✓ **NWMP** and NWAP submitted to the governmental procedures
- ✓ Assessment and training to enhance **E-waste EPR**
- ✓ **Policy reform:** following GE Program and GE plans developed by the in-depth training participants.

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## Result 3. Environmental level playing field (OECD)

### Progress in 2021

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ **Online self-assessment tool for greening SMEs**
- ✓ Comments on draft **National Strategy for Greening SMEs**
- ✓ Draft chapter on **greening the debt capital market in Moldova** (green bonds market)
- ✓ **Finalization of Report on the compliance assurance system** and system of administrative sanctions (meeting on 15 Sept; a session at the regional seminar on 17 Nov 2021);
- ✓ **Clean Public Transport (CPT)** Programme, with the kick-off meeting on 5 Feb 2021, training on 15-16 Dec 2021 and two draft reports
- ✓ Development of the Operational Manual for **the National Ecological Fund**
- ✓ **Administrative capacity** for env management (interviews, draft report)

### Plans for 2022 (January-June)

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ Comments on the **draft law on IED** and support on its implementation
- ✓ Assistance with the development of **metrics for measuring SME greening**
- ✓ Development of **GBRs** for a specific economic sector
- ✓ Publication of the **assessment report on the compliance assurance system**
- ✓ Possible activity on environmental **damage assessment**
- ✓ Implementation of the designed **Clean Public Transport (CPT)** Programme
- ✓ Support to the reform of the **National Ecological Fund**
- ✓ Finalisation of the country-level assessment with major findings from **green bonds** project
- ✓ Presenting the results of work on strengthening **administrative capacity** for environmental management in Moldova

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## Result 3. Environmental level playing field (OECD)

### Progress in 2021

#### Regional activities, including the Republic of Moldova:

- ✓ Regional **seminar on SMEs** (June 2021)
- ✓ Analysis on Moldova included in the **EaP fossil-fuel subsidies report and Policy Highlights 2020**
- ✓ Second **regional compliance assurance seminar** (17-18 November 2021)
- ✓ Moldova participation in the **EU GREEN Week EU4Environment event**
- ✓ Three webinars on **green public investment programmes**

### Plans for 2022 (January-June)

#### Regional, including the Republic of Moldova:

- ✓ National capacity-building seminar on **inspections**

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## Result 3. Environmental level playing field (OECD)

### General plans for 2022-2023

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ Analysis on the existing approaches to the **regulation of large emission** sources and recommendations for reform in light of the EU IED, roadmap and training
- ✓ Support to development of legislative proposal, based on the country needs, possibly combined with development of legislation regulating damage compensation
- ✓ Reforming energy-related tax expenditure subsidies: analytical report, including legal and regulatory support
- ✓ Action Plan for strengthening administrative capacity for environmental management in Moldova and training

#### Regional:

- ✓ Updated review of **environmental funds**
- ✓ Publication of a regional report on **Green Bonds markets**
- ✓ Regional meetings on **green finance, compliance assurance** and on **BAT**

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## Result 4. Ecosystem Services and Livelihoods (the World Bank)

### Progress in 2021

- ✓ Mobilization and Inception Phase (January – June 2021):
- ✓ Regional and country teams set up
- ✓ Consultations with the Government and stakeholders on Country Work preparation
- ✓ First draft CWP developed and submitted to the WB team
- ✓ Country Work Plan Discussion with the Government and stakeholders (June 24, 2021)
- ✓ Finalization of Country and Regional Work Plans (August – November 2021)

### Plans for 2022 (January – June)

- ✓ Draft a **National Emerald Road Map (NERM)**
- ✓ Start developing an **Emerald-related legal framework**
- ✓ Start designing **Emerald Network Management Plans** for the 3 selected sites
- ✓ Start activities to **build human and informational capacity** to ensure sustainable management of the Emerald Network
- ✓ Start the assessment of **high conservation value forests (HCVF)** (=functional zoning to reveal forests of outstanding importance)
- ✓ Start work **on categorizing all species-relevant forest habitats** according to the conservation needs
- ✓ Start work on producing a **general HCVF map** by using appropriate GIS data
- ✓ Start drafting recommendations to **improve protected area (PA) legal framework**

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## Result 4. Ecosystem Services and Livelihoods (the World Bank)

### General plans for 2022-2023

- ✓ Assistance provided to the MoE on drafting the **document of the National Afforestation and Reforestation Plan 2022-2031 (NARP)**
- ✓ Start defining a **participatory model for planning sustainable management** of both forest and pastoral resources
- ✓ Start analytical work on the **optimal ratio between forests and pastures** necessary to support a balanced coexistence
- ✓ Start working with stakeholders on **assessing consumption levels of wood products harvested from domestic forest ecosystems**
- ✓ Start working on developing a **forest products website** as a diverse commodity market for customers and all interested
- ✓ Start revising **forest and pasture management legal framework** through employing principles of landscape approach

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## Result 5. Monitoring progress at environment-economy nexus (OECD)

### Progress in 2021

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ Work on **green growth indicators in Moldova (report and web platform)**
- ✓ **New country profile**, including COVID-19 green responses (in English and in Romanian languages)
- ✓ Promotion of EU4Environment on **national web sites** and in mass media
- ✓ National communication campaign “Green Economy - Made in Moldova”

#### Regional:

- ✓ **EU4ENV Brochure – progress at mid-term**
- ✓ **Video** on green growth indicators in English
- ✓ Side event at EU Green Week “**Towards zero pollution in the EaP countries**” (27 May 2021)
- ✓ **Third Regional Assembly meeting** (21 Sept 2021)
- ✓ Side event at EU Waste Reduction Week “**Towards waste reduction in the EaP countries**” (25 Nov 2021)
- ✓ Updates on EU4Environment website & social media
- ✓ [Monthly Newsletters](#)

### Plans for 2022 (January-June)

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ Presentation of the **report on green growth indicators, web platform** (hosted by Ministry of Environment web site) and **policy brief**
- ✓ **Video** on green growth indicators in Romanian
- ✓ New edition of the **country profile**, in English and Romanian language
- ✓ Communications **campaign** on green economy (EU Green Week);
- ✓ Updates of EU4Environment Facebook page for Moldova;
- ✓ Translation of selected materials into **national language**

#### Regional:

- ✓ Launching work on **regional online report on green growth indicators**, including information on Moldova
- ✓ More **newsletters, videos**, promotion on **social media**, coordination with other programmes, & work with “**young EU ambassadors**”

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## Result 5. Monitoring progress at environment-economy nexus (OECD)

### General plans for 2022-2023

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ New edition of the **country profile**, in English and Romanian language
- ✓ Updates of EU4Environment Facebook page for Moldova

#### Regional:

- ✓ **Regional report** on green growth indicators, including Moldova
- ✓ **Regional meeting** on green growth indicators
- ✓ **Final Brochure** of EU4Environment Programme, including achievements in Moldova (2023)
- ✓ Fourth Regional Assembly meeting (Sept 2022)

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