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**EU4Environment**  
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

# EU4Environment in the Republic of Moldova

Major progress in 2021-22, detailed plans for September – December  
2022 and general plans for 2023 (project extension)

(prepared by the IPs and NAC for the **NIC meeting, 09.09.2022**)

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

### Progress in January – August 2022

- ✓ Regular support for organization/logistics of **inter-ministerial dialogue on Green Economy (GE)**
- ✓ In collaboration with the Academy of Public Administration (APA), **GE topics were integrated into professional development courses** on "Integrated strategic planning", "Development of public policies" and "Monitoring and evaluation of public policies"
- ✓ **Catalog of professional development courses** for central and local public authorities was **supplemented with an Environmental Management course**

### Plans for 2022 (September – December)

- ✓ Continued **inter-ministerial dialogue on GE and overall oversight of EU4Environment progress**
- ✓ Promotion (integration into APA programs) and delivery of **the introductory GE course among civil servants**
- ✓ Analysis of sectoral policies by trained civil servants, using skills obtained through the in-depth **GE policy/analysis training course**
- ✓ Elaboration of the **Green Economy Program and Action Plan for 2023-2027**
- ✓ Develop an **investment needs assessment** in alignment with review of national GE strategy
- ✓ **Green Economy online course** to be adapted and integrated on APA's "LearnIn Distance" training platform
- ✓ **Awareness raising campaigns for general public**

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

### General plans for 2023

- ✓ Continued **inter-ministerial dialogue on GE**
- ✓ Promotion and application of **GE concepts among civil servants**
- ✓ **Investment needs assessment:** in alignment with review of national GE Programme

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

### Progress in January – August 2022

- ✓ Leg. assistance: **Amended laws** on EIA and on SEA: final drafts completed + the law on amendments adopted by Parliament of the Republic of Moldova in late July 2022
- ✓ Needs assessment for **SEA course for public servants + university-level course + awareness-raising materials**

### Plans for 2022 (September - December)

- ✓ Finalization of the **two draft Guidelines** in line with the law on amendments:
  - *Guidelines on Quality Control of SEA Documentation*
  - *Guidelines on QC of Transboundary EIA Documentation*
- ✓ Preparing and scoping phases of a **pilot SEA pilot** project
- ✓ Preparation of **SEA course for public servants + university-level course** on SEA and transboundary EIA
- ✓ Needs-assessment for developing a **model for a SEA database** for the beneficiary countries incl. RM
- ✓ Preparation of the draft **Order of the Minister** (assessment and certification of experts/legal persons for the development of SEA and EIA documentation)

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

General plans for end 2022 – early 2023

- ✓ **Training Workshop on Quality Control of SEA and EIA Documentation** - upon the finalization of Guidelines on Quality Control (late 2022)
- ✓ **SEA report phase of the pilot SEA** implementation
- ✓ Finalized **SEA course for public servants** + finalized **university-level course** on SEA and transboundary EIA (early 2023)
- ✓ Development of **awareness-raising materials** (Q4 2022 – Q1 2023)
- ✓ **Model for a SEA database** for the beneficiary countries developed (Q3 2023)
- ✓ Finalization of the draft **Order of the Minister** (assessment and certification of experts/legal persons for the development of SEA and EIA documentation)
- ✓ Other methodologies/guidelines on EIA and SEA - (upon the completion of the mentioned Guidelines on Quality Control of SEA Documentation and of Transb. EIA Documentation)

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

### Progress in January – August 2022

- ✓ Webinar on RECP for businesses (10 February 2022) **at the EU Industry Weeks**
- ✓ **Gender mainstreaming in industry: training** (14-15 June 2022)
- ✓ RECP web page hosted by ODA (formed ODIMM) at [www.odimm.md](http://www.odimm.md)
- ✓ Completing **EIP prefeasibility assessments** at IP Tracom and FEZ Valkanesz and preparing final report; UNIDO missions organized to validate the findings on 6-7 and 20-24 of June
- ✓ More than 60 companies were invited to RECP Clubs: the first meeting of **RECP Club** in Gagauzia on 21 of June, 8 companies as members; the first meeting of RECP Club in Cahul on 19 of July, 7 companies as members
- ✓ Collaboration with **EU4Regions** and a joint event in Cahul
- ✓ **15 RECP trainees** and **15 demonstration SMEs** identified; RECP training delivered 5 modules out of 6, and 8 SMEs questionnaires with reports containing completed calculation data
- ✓ Launched the **monitoring of 10 RECP alumna SMEs** from EaP GREEN Action (2013-17)

### Plans for 2022 (September - December)

- ✓ Presenting the results of EIP feasibility assessments at IP and FEZ at a dedicated event
- ✓ Completing meetings of **2 RECP Clubs** in Cahul and Gagauzia: the first module of RECP Clubs is tentatively scheduled for 21 September 2022, followed by developing RECP Action Plans for 15 enterprises
- ✓ **Finalisation of training RECP program in Chisinau in-person** for 15 RECP experts
- ✓ **Finalizing RECP assessments** of 15 SMEs, final 15 reports and 15 business cases of most relevant measures for resource efficiency improvements
- ✓ **2<sup>nd</sup> stakeholders group meeting**
- ✓ Finalizing the strategy for RECP institutionalization and support to the RECP network establishment
- ✓ Awareness campaign on the **concept and tools of the EU Single Market for Green Products** initiative in view of national eco-labelling practices
- ✓ **Regional event on piloting Industrial Waste Mapping in the Eastern Partnership countries** (23 September, 2022)
- ✓ **Regional Consultations on EIP feasibility guidelines for Eastern Partnership countries (Q4)**

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

### General plans for 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**– continued in 2023 once a quarter;
- ✓ Elaboration of Investment Plans for 10 SMEs on RECP measures implementation with external financing/loans
- ✓ Monitoring of 10 RECP alumnae SMEs from EaP GREEN Action (2013-17): 10 Business Cases
- ✓ **RECP Clubs** progress report on 2 RECP clubs with 15 member SMEs; monitoring Action Plans implementation
- ✓ **RECP Stakeholders group meeting** (every 6 months)
- ✓ **Regional Event on Experience of SMGP/Product Environmental Footprint** application in EaP countries

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

### Progress in January – August 2022

- ✓ Draft of **Regulation on eco-labelling** (aligned with EU Regulations) developed; elaboration of **national eco-label** initiated
- ✓ Initiation of **prioritisation of new products for SPP** and elaboration of **associated sustainability criteria**
- ✓ **National Waste Management Program and National Waste Action Plan** developed (currently under internal government review)
- ✓ Finalisation of **eco-innovation market and policy assessment** (wine and apparel production as priority sectors) and approval during a national validation thereof
- ✓ **Selection of 8 SMEs through a national call for proposals** to receive eco-innovation advisory-services
- ✓ 2 SMEs already begun **assessing the eco-innovation potential** using UNEP’s methodology and guidance

### Plans for 2022 (September – December)

- ✓ **High-level dialogue on Sustainable Public Procurement and eco-labelling** (30 September)
- ✓ **Media-breakfast on Green Economy** (1 October) and **press-tour on eco-innovation** (3 October)
- ✓ **Public hearing** on draft regulation on **eco-labelling**
- ✓ Assessment of the existing **EPR mechanisms** and improvement of the legal framework on EPR implementation for **WEEE and waste batteries**
- ✓ Finalizing **assessment of eco-innovation potential of 8 SMEs**, and development of **roadmaps** for 5 of them

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

### General plans for 2023

- ✓ Draft **SPP criteria and guidelines for priority product groups, communication campaign**
- ✓ Contribute to **regulation on eco-labelling** and to **criteria** for different product categories
- ✓ Finalise **SMEs eco-innovation** roadmaps, identifying next steps and funding opportunities, and encouraging **regional experience** sharing
- ✓ **NWMP** and NWAP submitted for review and government approval
- ✓ Assessment and training to enhance **E-waste EPR mechanisms**

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

### Progress in January – August 2022

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ **Online self-assessment tool for greening SMEs** (over 580 SMEs benefitted from the tool)
- ✓ Publication of the assessment report of the **environmental compliance assurance** system and the system of administrative sanctions in English and in Romanian
- ✓ **Clean Public Transport (CPT)** – training and knowledge-sharing for experts on managing green public investments
- ✓ Development of the Operational Manual for **the National Ecological Fund** and assistance to develop **new regulation for the National Ecological Fund**
- ✓ Draft chapter on **greening the debt capital market in Moldova** (green bonds market)
- ✓ **Draft report on administrative capacity** for environmental management

### Plans for 2022 (September - December)

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ Comments on the **draft law on the EU Industrial Emissions Directive** and support on its implementation
- ✓ Assistance with the development of **metrics for measuring SME greening**
- ✓ Development of **General Binding Rules** for selected sector of SMEs
- ✓ Analytical support to the development of **environmental liability and damage assessment legislation**
- ✓ Report on Green Public Investment Programme in **clean urban transport sector** in Moldova
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Start of assistance with **environmental tax reform**

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

### Progress in January – August 2022

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

- ✓ Analysis on Moldova included in the **EaP fossil-fuel subsidies report and Policy Highlights 2020**
- ✓ A regional capacity building seminar on joint **environmental inspections** (July 2022)
- ✓ Three webinars and trainings on **green public investment programmes**
- ✓ Regional expert meeting on **greening debt capital markets in EaP countries and Kazakhstan: The role for green bonds** (June 2022)

### Plans for 2022 (September - December)

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

- ✓ Regional **capacity building seminar on environmental liability** (14-15 September 2022)
- ✓ Regional environmental **compliance assurance seminar** focusing on inspections (5-6 December 2022)

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

### General plans for 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
- ✓ 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 January – August 2022

- ✓ Work started on the following tasks:
  - ✓ Developing **National Emerald Roadmap**
  - ✓ Developing **Emerald related legal framework** for improved Emerald species and habitat conservation
  - ✓ Developing **Guidelines** for preparing Emerald management plans
  - ✓ Developing **Emerald sites management plans** for 3 selected sites
  - ✓ **Building human and informational capacity** to ensure sustainable management of the Emerald Network
  - ✓ Support to the development of the **National Afforestation and Reforestation Program**
- ✓ EU Green Week 2022 Partner event on biodiversity conservation in the EaP countries, with a focus on resilience of local communities (May 2022)

### Plans for 2022 (September - December)

- ✓ Continue work on **advancing the establishment of the Emerald Network**: drafting **National Emerald Road Map**, 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
- ✓ Continue support to the development of **the National Afforestation and Reforestation Program**

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

### General plans for 2023

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ Conduct **baseline mapping** for community engagement in forests and NRM, support **8 communities** to improve their practical knowledge on NRM
- ✓ Start work on **developing community-based and participatory forest management model** as well as conducting **forest management planning** and **silvo-pastoral planning for community-owned land**
- ✓ Start **analytical work** on domestic consumption of wood products to counteract illegal logging
- ✓ **Web platform** to promote marketing and sustainable trade of forest products
- ✓ **Diagnostic analysis** of national forest monitoring system and recommendations
- ✓ **Pilot design and demonstration** of a key-species traceability information system

#### Regional:

- ✓ Initiate **regional study** on accounting for ecosystem services in the EaP countries
- ✓ Initiate **regional study** on innovative forest finance and investment
- ✓ Organize **regional workshop and study tour** to exchange experience on management of Natura 2000 sites in the EU countries
- ✓ **Online training course** on legal timber trade and EUTR requirements
- ✓ **Workshop** on e-timber trade platforms and other innovative technologies.

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

### Progress in January – August 2022

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ **Green growth indicators in Moldova: report and web platform** (hosted by the Ministry of Environment) and their launch at WG on GE (Feb 2022)
- ✓ **Special session on GGIs** to present policy recommendations at EU Green Week (with outreach of appx. 14 000 citizens)
- ✓ **New edition of country profile** for 2021-2022 (in English)
- ✓ **Video** on green growth indicators in Romanian
- ✓ Promotion of EU4Environment on **national web sites** and in mass media

#### Regional:

- ✓ Side event at EU Green Week **“Biodiversity and Resilience in the Eastern Partner countries: How to make it Real for Local Communities”** (1 June 2022)
- ✓ Updates on EU4Environment website & social media
- ✓ [Monthly Newsletters](#)

### Plans for 2022 (September - December)

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ Finalization of the **policy brief** in English and Romanian
- ✓ Translation of the **country profile** into Romanian language
- ✓ Updates of EU4Environment Facebook page for Moldova
- ✓ Translation of selected materials into **national language**

#### Regional:

- ✓ **Fourth Regional Assembly meeting** (22 Sept 2022)
- ✓ 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 2023

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ New 4<sup>th</sup> 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)
- ✓ Final Regional Assembly meeting (2023)

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