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EU4Environment
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

The European Union supports the Republic of Moldova in its green transformation

Chisinau/Zoom, 9 September 2022

On 9 September 2022, Moldova's Inter-ministerial Working Group on the promotion of Sustainable Development and Green Economy met to review progress and the next steps in greening the national economy. Such interactions among different governmental and non-governmental stakeholders are regularly facilitated by the EU-funded "European Union for Environment (EU4Environment)" programme. Supporting this dialogue, and thereby the broader the green transformation, is one of the ways in which the European Union aims to help increase economic resilience and growth, improve citizens' well-being, and preserve Moldova's natural capital. The EU4Environment programme also works in areas such as pollution reduction and waste management, sustainable forestry, green jobs creation, and promotion of sustainable lifestyles.

In his opening speech, Mr. Sergiu Gaibu, Minister of Economy of the Republic of Moldova, highlighted the serious impacts of the recent crises on the Moldovan economy. He outlined that: *"The current energy crisis forces us to become even more energy efficient and accelerates the switch to alternative energy sources. We will redouble efforts to promote green technologies, including through digitalisation and optimisation of processes"*. He also referred to very positive results of cooperation between EU4Environment and the Organisation for the Development of the Entrepreneurship (OECD), which aims at making Moldova's enterprises more environmentally aware and performant.

Ms. Iordanca-Rodica Iordanov, State Secretary of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova, highlighted several relevant policy development processes, including Moldova's Green Economy Promotion Programme for 2023-2027; its Environmental Strategy until 2033, as well as a Low-emission Development Programme until 2030. She also underlined her Ministry's willingness to continue collaboration with EU4Environment and its implementing organisations.

Mr. Adam Grodzicki, Deputy Head of Operations at the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova, outlined the need for more policy reforms within the environmental sector, in line with the European Green Deal objectives. He also stated that: *"In parallel, implementation of the legal framework needs to be prioritized to ensure we make the green transition a reality on the ground. The European Union remains committed to accelerating this transition, which provides the opportunity to transform environmental challenges into economic and social opportunities while leaving no one behind."*

The meeting brought together over 70 governmental officials, NGOs, representatives of the EU Delegation and international organisations. The participants acknowledged good progress in

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[implementing the EU4Environment programme](#). They also reviewed elements of key policies promoting a Green Economy in Moldova, including the Green Economy Action Plan for 2023-2027, the National Waste Management Programme, the Programme and Action Plan on Low Emissions, as well as a project on the Expansion of Forest Areas for 2022-2032.

During the discussion on education on green economy, participants reviewed the up-coming communications campaign around the World Clean Up Day 2022. Within this campaign, Moldovan citizens will gather to collect waste in nature and in public areas [all over the country](#). An associated campaign on [sustainable lifestyles](#) was also presented. The latter will focus on waste management and sustainable mobility, outlining everyday actions that people can easily engage in to protect the environment while also improving their health and saving money.

With help from the European Union and UNEP, the Inter-ministerial Working Group gathers twice per year. The meeting on 9 September 2022 marked the seventh year of the Working Group's existence.

Background:

The EU4Environment Action, funded by the European Union, aims to support the Eastern Partner countries to preserve and better use their natural capital, increase people's environmental well-being, and grasp new development opportunities. With a budget of some EUR 20 million, EU4Environment is implemented by five international partners: OECD, UNIDO, UNEP, UNECE and the World Bank.

EU4Environment website: <https://www.eu4environment.org/>.

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