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EU4Environment

Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

Consultation event on ecolabelling
in the Republic of Moldova

DRAFT AGENDA

Tuesday, 27 December 2022
10.00 – 12:00 (Chisinau, EEST)

Action implemented by:



Background

In 2014, the Republic of Moldova signed an Association Agreement with the European Union (EU) demonstrating its commitment and readiness to reform and harmonise different sectors' policies aligned with the EU approaches. Several Agreements' articles foresee the transformation towards Green Economy principles, more specifically, it calls for setting up the eco-labelling systems. Ecolabelling is also one of the sustainability criteria and tools for Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) that the EU promotes in the Republic of Moldova.

Development of ecolabels contributes to meeting important requests of society:

- General increase of concern in the population on the sustainability attributes of their products.
- Coherence between SPP and ecolabeling as tools for SPP (in case SPP become mandatory in a country, companies would be strongly motivated to obtain eco-labels for their products).
- Increase of the EU market access sustainability-marketed products grew more than twice as fast as conventionally marketed products in the past 6 years (Centre for sustainable business, 2021).

The regulatory framework of the Republic of Moldova currently does not transpose the provisions of Regulation (EC) No. 66/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council (EEC) of 25 November 2009 on EU Eco-label. At the same time, the national legislative basis includes a number of laws and policy documents that indirectly regulate the aspects of eco-labelling: Environmental Strategy for 2014–2023; Law on Ratification of the Association Agreement; Law on Labelling of Energy-Related Products; Law on Eco-design Requirements for Energy-Related Products; Law on Organic Agri-Food Production etc. The Republic of Moldova committed to implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda by the end of 2030 (where ecolabels especially contribute to accomplishing the Goal 12 Responsible Consumption and Production). Finally, the numerous international treaties which the Republic of Moldova is a party to, formulate requirements on eco-labelling development and access to environmental information.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is one of the five partner agencies implementing the EU-funded EU4 Environment (2019-2022) Action. This regional programme supports 6 countries, including the Republic of Moldova, in making policy planning and investment greener, stimulating the uptake of innovative products and technologies, and raising awareness about the benefits of environmental action. More specifically, within EU4Environment's component on "circular economy and new growth opportunities", UNEP supports the Republic of Moldova to promote activities related to SPP issues and its complementary tools, such as eco-labelling.

UNEP in close cooperation with the PA EcoContact implements a set of activities on promotion of eco-labelling system development in the Republic of Moldova. In particular, a comprehensive assessment of the legal framework of Moldova was prepared, identifying the current state related to the eco labelling, and existing laws facilitating the regulation and later implementation of eco labelling in the country. The only existing and currently functioning system of environmental labelling in Moldova is on organic labelling in the agriculture sector.

In order to understand better the application of the EU ecolabelling system, the document provides an analysis of the EU ecolabel with its specific particularities and summarises key challenges; as well as the most suitable institution that could accredit and be responsible for the eco-labelling issuance. The assessment is available in [Romanian](#) and [English](#).

The Roadmap to align an eco-labelling system in Moldova was drafted to determine the objectives and measures to be taken to facilitate the transposition of the provisions set out in the EU Regulation on the Ecolabel (Regulation (EC) No 66/2010) in the Republic of Moldova. Largely, the roadmap is an action plan of successfully creating and implementing a voluntary national eco-labelling scheme. The Roadmap is available in [Romanian](#) and [English](#).

The most valuable progress is the elaboration of the Regulation on Ecolabelling by the transposition of the Regulation (EC) No 66/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on EU Ecolabel and develop all supportive documents (Note, RIA, Draft of Governmental Decision, Regulation).

Objectives of the consultation event on ecolabelling

- Leverage the discussion on ecolabelling draft Regulation.
- Collect opinions and feedbacks from the relevant stakeholders on the draft Regulation on ecolabelling.
- Promote ecolabelling as an efficient tool on access of information to individuals, as well as a tool for SPP.
- Promote ecolabelling as a strategical tool to increase access to different markets (i.e., the EU market).
- Ensure awareness and full support of finalisation of the Regulation on ecolabelling and promote ecolabelling practices in the Republic of Moldova as an efficient way to meet commitments under the EU Association Agreement and numerous environmental multilateral agreements.

Participants

The consultation event will bring the responsible stakeholders for the implementation and application of ecolabelling mechanism as is foreseen in the draft Regulation on ecolabelling.

Practical information

The consultation event will be held on 27 December 2022 (10:00-12:00) online via Zoom platform.

Romanian is the languages of the event.

Format and questions to the panellists

The event will be organised as a technical consultation workshop. The Ministry and experts involved in Regulation development will present point by point the draft Regulation in order to collect the inputs from the participants.

Moderator of the event: Natalia Guranda, Executive Director PA EcoContact

About EU4Environment

The “European Union for Environment” (**EU4Environment**) aims to help the six partner countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being, by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts.

The Action is funded by the European Union and implemented by five Partner organisations: OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank based on a budget of some EUR 20 million. The Action implementation period is 2019-2022.

For further information contact: EU4Environment@oecd.org.

For more information, please visit our website: www.eu4environment.org.

Consultation event on ecolabelling in the Republic of Moldova, 27 December 2022

The event will take place in online format via Zoom Platform

Moderator: Natalia GURANDA, Executive director PA EcoContact

Time	Item
10.00 -10.05	Introduction by the Moderator
10:05- 10:15	Welcome speech <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Maria Nagornii, Head of Pollution Prevention Policy Directorate, Ministry of the Environment• Mrs. Natalia Guranda, Executive Director PA EcoContact
10:15-11:00	Presentation of the draft Regulation on eco-labelling (transposition of EU Regulation 66/2010) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Irina PUNGA, Legal Consultant PA EcoContact
11:00-11:30	Q&A session, collection of feedbacks and recommendations Closure of the event and following steps