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**EU4Environment**  
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

# EU4Environment in the Republic of Moldova

**Major progress in 2022, detailed plans for January - June 2023 and  
general plans for 2023**

**(prepared by the IPs and NAC for the WG NIC meeting, 17.02.2023)**

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# EU4Environment

Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

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

### Progress in 2022

- ✓ Regular support for organization/logistics of **inter-ministerial dialogue on Green Economy (GE)**
- ✓ In collaboration with the Institute of Public Administration, 3 GE e-courses delivered & attended by 86 civil servants from the central and local public authorities
- ✓ **A roadmap developed** for e-learning products
- ✓ **Draft Concept for the Program on the promotion of a GE in the Republic of Moldova** developed
- ✓ **Awareness raising campaign on sustainable lifestyles** completed (1.4M outreach)

### Plans for 2023 (January – June)

- ✓ Continued **inter-ministerial dialogue on GE and overall oversight of EU4Environment progress**
- ✓ Develop the **Program on the promotion of a GE and an Action Plan for 2023-2027**

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

### General plans for 2023

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- ✓ Continued **inter-ministerial dialogue on GE**
- ✓ Promotion and application **of GE concepts among civil servants**
- ✓ Further **plans for 10 more distance learning courses, 5 training GE e-courses each semester.**

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

### Progress in 2022

- ✓ Leg. assistance: Amended laws on EIA and on SEA fully aligned with the EU Directives adopted by Parliament of the Republic of Moldova by Oct-Nov 2022
- ✓ Pilot Strategic Environmental Assessment project: ToRs for national and int'l SEA experts agreed; the two experts hired and continued consultations with the Ministry of Economy re the availability of a concept of the Programme on Industries Development
- ✓ Further revision of the draft Guidelines on Quality Control (QC) of SEA Documentation and the draft Guidelines on QC of Transb. EIA Documentation as per feedback from the Ministry of Environment and Environment Agency (and amended Laws on EIA and SEA)

### Plans for 2023 (January - June)

- ✓ Finalization of the **two draft Guidelines on QC** (in progress)
- ✓ SEA team establishment, kick-off and scoping phases of the **pilot SEA pilot** (*programme concept recently received on **07 February 2023** enabling further implementation of the pilot*)
- ✓ Development of a **model for a SEA database** for the beneficiary countries incl. RM (in progress)
- ✓ Preparation of the draft **Order of the Minister** (assessment and certification of experts/legal persons for the development of SEA and EIA documentation) – parameters of the assignment being clarified

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

### General plans for end 2023

- ✓ **SEA report phase of the pilot SEA**
- ✓ **Training Workshop on Quality Control of SEA and EIA Documentation** - upon the finalization of Guidelines on Quality Control (Q2 2023 date TBC)
- ✓ Development of **awareness-raising materials/posters** (Q2 – Q3 2023)
- ✓ **Model for a SEA database** finalized (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)
- ✓ Preparation of **SEA course for public servants + university-level course** on SEA and transboundary EIA [*subject to availability of final tranche funding/second half of 2023*]

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

### Progress in 2022

- ✓ Webinar on RECP for businesses (February 2022) **at the EU Industry Weeks**
- ✓ **Gender mainstreaming in industry: training** (June 2022)
- ✓ **EIP prefeasibility assessments** of IP Tracom and FEZ Valkanesz are completed; UNIDO missions organized to validate the findings in June
- ✓ RECP Clubs:
  - ✓ Launched **RECP Club** in **Gagauzia** in June, (8 companies); launched RECP Club in Cahul in July, (7 companies)
  - ✓ Collaboration with **EU4Regions** on RECP Clubs and a joint event in Cahul
  - ✓ Hybrid coaching modality; in-person visits in December
  - ✓ “Package offer” on emergency energy savings for 300+ enterprises
- ✓ RECP training completed for 15 trainees
- ✓ Reports on RECP assessments of 9 SMEs are approved
- ✓ Progress in **monitoring of 10 RECP alumni SMEs** from EaP GREEN Action (2013-17)
- ✓ Implementing partner for **EU Single Market for Green Products** is contacted (CIVITTA-led consortium with EcoProfit national partner)
- ✓ **Regional event on piloting Industrial Waste Mapping in the Eastern Partnership countries** (September)
- ✓ Updated RECP web page hosted by ODA at [www.odimm.md](http://www.odimm.md)

### Plans for 2023 (January - June)

- ✓ Completing **RECP assessments** (Reports) for 5 SMEs
- ✓ Developing ca 15 **Business Cases** of most relevant measures for resource efficiency improvements
- ✓ Completing meetings of **2 RECP Clubs** in Cahul and Gagauzia, finalizing Action Plans for ca 15 enterprises
- ✓ Finalizing 10 **Business Plans** for specific RECP measures
- ✓ **Certificates** award for trainees of RECP program
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> **stakeholders group** meeting (May)
- ✓ 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** (March) and a webinar **end of March**
- ✓ Presenting EIP Advancing Guide and the results of EIP feasibility assessments in Moldova at **Regional Consultations on EIP feasibility guidelines for Eastern Partnership countries** (March)
- ✓ Awareness campaign on **Industrial Waste Mapping** for EaP region

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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 materials
- ✓ **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 RECP measures implementation
- ✓ **RECP Clubs** progress report
- ✓ **Developing “RECP Business Card for Moldova”** Brochure using monitoring data
- ✓ **National Conference on Circular Economy and New Growth Opportunities;** certificates award for trainees and companies of RECP program
- ✓ **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 2022

- ✓ Finalisation of **Regulation on eco-labelling**; elaboration of **national eco-label** and **public hearing**
- ✓ Initiation of **prioritisation of new products for SPP**, market readiness and elaboration of **associated sustainability criteria**
- ✓ **High-level dialogue on SPP and eco-labelling**
- ✓ **Media-breakfast** and **press-tour on GE**
- ✓ **National Waste Management Program and National Waste Action Plan** submitted for review and government approval
- ✓ Assessment completed of the existing **EPR mechanisms** and improvement of the legal framework on **EPR implementation for WEEE and waste batteries**
- ✓ Continued collaboration with ODA to identify priority sectors for eco-innovation (wine and apparel production), select interested SMEs, and provide **eco-innovation advisory services**

### Plans for 2023 (January – June)

- ✓ **Training materials on eco-labelling and training workshops (2)**
- ✓ Draft **SPP criteria and guidelines** for priority product groups, **communication materials** and **campaign**
- ✓ Finalizing **assessment of eco-innovation potential of 8 SMEs**, and development of **roadmaps** for (at least) 5 of them
- ✓ Organize a **final national workshop** to review **eco-innovation** findings and present recommendations for the broader private sector
- ✓ Support **participation of Moldovan industry representatives** in **international fairs** related to eco-innovation, resource efficiency and/or cleaner production

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Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

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

### General plans for 2023

- ✓ Finalization of the **Regulation on eco-labelling in Moldova** (aligned with the EU Regulation on eco-labelling)
- ✓ **SPP pilot tenders for priority product groups, communication campaign**
- ✓ Finalization of **eco-innovation roadmap development for 8 SMEs in Moldova**, with final event to present lessons learned and to draw in additional EU experiences

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

### Progress in 2022

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ **Online self-assessment tool for greening SMEs** (over 580 SMEs benefitted from the tool)
- ✓ Presentation of recent developments on regulations related to the EU Industrial Emission Directive and the BAT application at the 7th meeting of the **OECD Expert Group on BAT** (October 2022)
- ✓ Publication of the assessment report on 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
- ✓ Draft Operational Manual for the **National Ecological Fund** and assistance to develop **new regulation for the National Ecological Fund** (amendments to the Law on Environmental Protection approved)
- ✓ Launching work to analyse environmental taxation and environmental budget expenditure
- ✓ Country chapter on **greening the debt capital market** in Moldova
- ✓ Advanced version of **report on administrative capacity** for environmental management

### Plans for 2023 (January - June)

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ Assistance with the development of **metrics for measuring SME greening**
- ✓ Development of **General Binding Rules** for selected sector of SMEs
- ✓ Comments on draft revisions to legislation on **environmental liability and damage assessment** by a legal expert (tbc)
- ✓ Publishing report on Green Public Investment Programme in **clean urban transport sector** in Moldova
- ✓ Final Operational Manual for the **National Ecological Fund**
- ✓ Final report on Applying Fiscal-Budgetary Instruments (environmental taxation and budget expenditure) to Solve Environmental Issues in Moldova
- ✓ Development of new draft Law and accompanying regulations on payments for environmental pollution
- ✓ Methodological work on subsidies provided in the form of tax expenditure will be developed as part of the regional analysis
- ✓ 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 2022

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

- ✓ A regional capacity building seminar on joint **environmental inspections** (July 2022)
- ✓ A regional **capacity building seminar on environmental liability** (14-15 September 2022)
- ✓ A regional environmental **compliance assurance seminar** focusing on inspections (5-6 December 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)
- ✓ Session on green bonds in the EaP countries as part of the GreenPact EECCA Sustainable Finance Forum (April 2022)

### Plans for 2023

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

- ✓ A regional review of approaches to blending public and private resources in a national context
- ✓ Conference on reforming environmental funds in the region (Q3 2023)
- ✓ Methodological guidance on the design of tax expenditure monitoring and reporting with a focus on the energy sector
- ✓ Final regional report "Greening debt capital markets in the EaP region"
- ✓ International conference on "Financing the Net-Zero Transition in the EaP Countries and Central Asia" (April 2023)
- ✓ Regional seminars on SME, BAT, OECD Forum on Green Finance

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

### Progress in 2022 (July – December)

#### Completed work:

- ✓ Support to the MoE for designing the **National Forest Extension and Rehabilitation Program (NFERP)** / Dec 2022

#### Ongoing work:

- ✓ **Advancing the establishment of the Emerald Network:** developing Recommendations for the National Emerald Roadmap, legal gap analysis to incorporate Emerald species and habitat conservation under Bern Convention, Guidelines for unified Emerald management plans, representative sites selected for management planning, awareness raising
- ✓ **High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF)** under assessment (methodology agreed, consultations with key-stakeholders started, analysis report & mapping in progress)

### Plans for 2023 (January - June)

- ✓ Continue work on advancing the establishment of the **Emerald Network** including:
  - disseminating draft outputs for public consultations
  - inclusion of Emerald network in the Panel “Biodiversity and Protected Areas” during planned National Forum of Environmental NGOs (16-17 March, 2023)
- ✓ Continue work on **high conservation value forests (HCVF)** & organizing a workshop with stakeholders (NGOs, experts, authorities) on sharing and discussing preliminary data

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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
- ✓ Develop **practical knowledge (e.g., tools; guidelines; training)** to improve communities' engagement in sustainable NRM. In Moldova the focus will be on participatory forest and pasture management planning
- ✓ Start **analytical work** on domestic consumption of wood products to counteract illegal logging
- ✓ Advise on **options and functionalities of a web platform** to promote marketing and sustainable trade of forest products
- ✓ **Diagnostic analysis** of national forest monitoring system and recommendations
- ✓ **Advisory support** to developing key-species traceability information system

#### Regional:

- ✓ Initiate **regional study** on accounting for ecosystem services in the EaP countries
- ✓ Organize **regional workshops and study tours** 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
- ✓ Develop a **regional document** on the state of SFM and legal timber trade in EaP countries and recommendations for strengthening timber trade and export controls

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

### Progress in 2022

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ **Report on green growth indicators** in English and Romanian
- ✓ **Online GGIs platform** in English and Romanian (hosted by the Ministry of Environment)
- ✓ **Policy brief** in English and Romanian
- ✓ **New edition of country profile** for 2021-2022 (in English and Romanian)
- ✓ **Video** on green growth indicators in Romanian
- ✓ **Final project event** at WG GE high-level inter-ministerial (Feb 2022)
- ✓ **Special session on GGIs** to present policy recommendations at EU Green Week (with outreach of appx. 15 000 citizens)
- ✓ **High-level event** “Towards Green Transformation of Moldova” within EU Green Week
- ✓ Promotion of EU4Environment on **national web sites** and in mass media

#### Regional:

- ✓ **Fourth Regional Assembly meeting** (22 Sept 2022)
- ✓ **Regional** event “Biodiversity and Resilience in the EaP Countries: How to Make It Real for Local Communities?” within EU Green Week
- ✓ Updates on EU4Environment website & social media
- ✓ [Monthly Newsletters](#)

### Plans for 2023 (January - June)

#### Country-specific:

- ✓ **High-level event** “Green Economy – Made in Moldova”
- ✓ Updates of EU4Environment **Facebook** page for Moldova
- ✓ Translation of selected materials into **national language**

#### Regional:

- ✓ **Campaigns** around EU Green Week, international env days
- ✓ 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 5<sup>th</sup> and final edition of the **country profile**, in English and Romanian languages
- ✓ Updates of EU4Environment Facebook page for Moldova

#### Regional:

- ✓ **Final Brochure** of EU4Environment Programme, including achievements in Moldova (Q4 2023)
- ✓ **Programme report** with selected success stories from EU4Environment, including Moldova (Q4 2023)
- ✓ Final Programme **video**
- ✓ **Regional meeting** on green growth indicators (Q4 2023)
- ✓ **Final Regional Assembly** meeting (Q4 2023)

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