



Funded by
the European Union

EU4Environment
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

Progressing on biodiversity protection: EU4Environment contribution towards better action in the Eastern Partnership countries

Dates: 15-16 February 2024

Meeting venue:

Radisson Blu Hotel, Mitropolit Varlaam St 77, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova,
conference room “Begonia”



Action implemented by:



Background

The World Bank is working with the EU's Eastern Partnership countries (EaP) in their implementation of the "Result Area 4: Ecosystem services and livelihoods of the European Union for Environment Action" through technical assistance and advisory services.

Within the programme, the World Bank supports the EaP governments and authorities in preserving biodiversity, conserving ecosystems and habitats. This includes the protection of forests and other natural areas that harbor biodiversity.

Meeting objectives, expected outputs and outcomes

On **15 February 2024**, the World Bank organizes a knowledge sharing and learning event "*Progressing on biodiversity protection: EU4Environment contribution towards better action*". The meeting will:

- take stock of progress on biodiversity protection and facilitate peer learning;
- discuss opportunities for improved funding mechanisms in this area;
- reflect on national ownership and sustainability of biodiversity protection activities.

On **16 February 2024**, the World Bank organizes an official launch of the report on "*Identification of High Conservation Value Forests in the Republic of Moldova*" followed by a *field visit*.

The meeting will:

- launch a new report and present key findings;
- discuss the rational balance between management and conservation through ecosystem services generation;
- share the knowledge and hands-on experience with a field visit to Nature Reserve Codrii.

Participants

The meeting will bring together focal points and their representatives, NGOs, and academia, representatives of the EU Delegation and forestry sector.

About the programme

EU4Environment aims to help the Eastern Partnership countries to preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being. To that end, it supports environment-related action; demonstrates and unlocks opportunities for greener growth; and sets mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts.

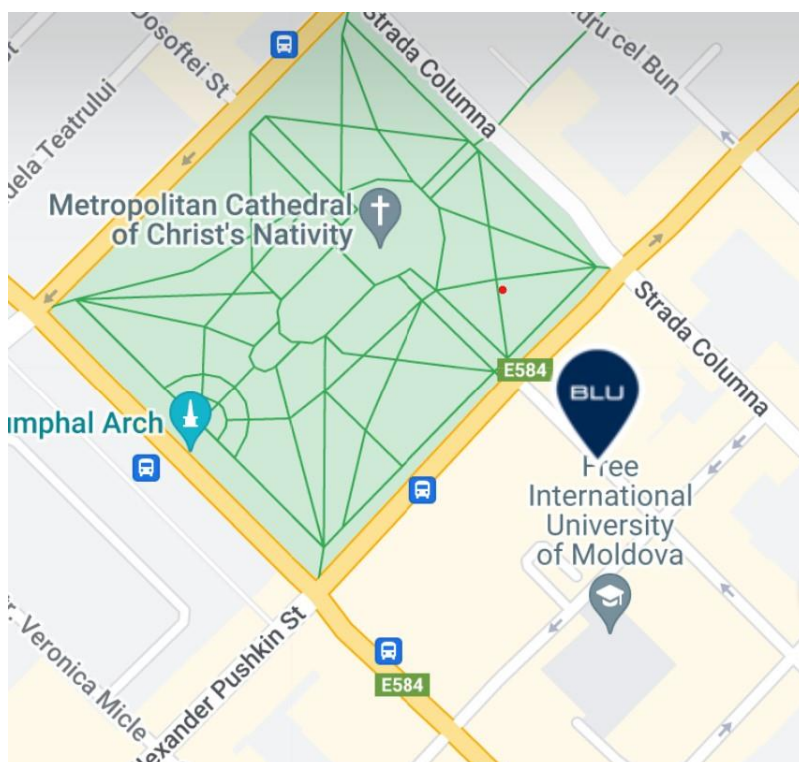
The Action is funded by the European Union and implemented by five Partner organisations: the OECD, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the World Bank based on a budget of some EUR 20 million. The Action implementation period is 2019-24.

Practical information

MEETING VENUE

The meeting starts at **09:00** on Thursday, **15 February 2024**. The **registration** with welcome coffee will be opened from **08:30** to **09:00**.

It will be held in **Radisson Blu Hotel** (Mitropolit Varlaam St 77, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova), conference room “**Begonia**”.



GETTING TO CHISINAU FROM THE AIRPORT/TRANSER

Airport transfer will be arranged by the meeting organisers. Please contact Tamara Ursu at (tursu@worldbank.org) for more details. The information on car/driver details will be shared separately for each arrival/departure transfer.

ACCOMMODATION

Only for participants eligible for the World Bank financial support:

Pre-paid hotel accommodation will be arranged by the meeting organizers for the invited participants at **Radisson Blu Hotel** in accordance with their itinerary.

BADGES AND REGISTRATION

The **registration** will be opened on 15 February 2024 from **08:30** to **09:00** in the “**Begonia**” room.

All participants are invited to pick up their badges at the **Registration desk** at the conference room entrance and sign against their name in the participants list.

MEALS

The lunch on 15 February will be offered to all participants at the hotel’s restaurant in the lobby. **On 16 February**, the packed lunch will be distributed to participants.

Coffee breaks will be offered to all registered meeting participants on 15 and 16 February 2024 in the lobby next to the conference room. Time for lunches/coffee breaks is specified in the agenda.

In the evening of **15 February**, all participants will be invited to join a **Cocktail** starting at **18:15** (till 20:00) in the lobby next to the Conference room. More details will be provided during the meeting.

FIELD TRIP TO NATURE RESERVE 'CODRII'

For the participants who will take part in the field trip to Nature Reserve 'Codrii' on 16 February, the departure is from the hotel at **12:00**. The packed lunch and water will be distributed. The return to Chisinau is expected around **19:00**. The participants are advised to wear boots and field clothing.

MEETING DOCUMENTS

Relevant documents will be circulated electronically. Only printed copies of agenda and the report will be available in the meeting room.

Power Point presentations will be available in English only and will not be printed for distribution but uploaded to the web site.

MEETING LANGUAGES

Simultaneous interpretation service will be provided from Romanian/Russian/Ukrainian into English.

LIABILITY AND INSURANCE

The World Bank will not take any responsibility for injuries or damages involving persons or property during the Conference. Participants are advised to take their own personal insurance prior to coming to Chisinau.

ABOUT CHISINAU

The majority of Chisinau attractions are located in the center and you can easily walk everywhere. In the very heart of the city, between the Cathedral and the Government House, you will find the **Triumphal arch**, one of the most popular Chisinau sights.

The **Nativity Cathedral** is located in Cathedral Park. The interior is stunning, everything you could expect from the Orthodox church in Eastern Europe.

In the central part of the city, across the street from the Triumphal arch, you can find an unobtrusive monument to the greatest Moldovan personality –



Stephen the Great. He was the Prince of Moldova at the end of the 15th century and until today he is considered the best ruler of this land. During his reign, he won 34 out of 36 battles and entrenched the position of Moldova on the map of Europe.

Behind the statue of Stephen the Great, there is an entrance to the **central park** named after the great ruler. This is the oldest park in the country. The park is often called "the Lovers' Park" since this is a popular meeting place for young couples.



For any logistical questions please contact Tamara Ursu at (tursu@worldbank.org) or Oksana Kovalenko at (okovalenko1@worldbank.org)

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN CHISINAU!