

Progress in Moldova on environmental issues in the period 2012-2013

commitment to domestic reform
accurately reflects the level and
intensity of links with the EU

Main objective - European integration

- Moldova has achieved progress in negotiating an Association Agreement (AA) with the EU. It has provisionally closed 23 of 25 chapters, the remaining two, talks on which were launched earlier in 2012
- The EU has been quite supportive along this path and actually this agreement (AA) could be signed in the nearest future (spring 2014)

Greater cooperation with the EU

- Main activities in cooperation with EU are under Danube Convention – Danube Climate change strategy, Joint Danube Declaration, Danube Strategy, neighborhood program etc. Total around 25 different activities are implemented in Moldova in the frame of the Danube activities in such fields like: nutrient management, risk assessment, climate change, bilateral projects with Romania and other Danube countries

Stronger administrative institutions and procedures

- Strengthening capacities of civil society institutions in climate change (Climate Forum East Project)
- New legislation – Water Law, Climate change strategy etc
- Strategy on environmental policy
- Management plans are part of the development of the planning process for implementation of the EU Directives
- Environmental issues are part of the program for governance on central level
- Parliament ratified Convention on **Pollution Release and Transfer Register** , April 2013

Integration of environmental component in other policy areas

- Environmental issues are part of the sectoral and regional plans for social and economic development, including plans for cooperation in the frame of the Eastern Partnership Program
- Strategic planning includes environmental issues.
- Management plans for implementation of the EU environmental Directives are part of general planning process in Moldova for main policy documents

Environmental impact assessment

- Law on environmental impact assessments that is based on EU Directives and the Espoo Convention is actually being developed in Moldova
- Main sectoral activities performed in Moldova were under EIP procedures with participation of the civil society institutions. Practices for implementation of the EIP provisions need to be enforced and monitored

Access to information and public participation

- Moldova is actively involved in ensuring of the access to information and undertakes efforts to public participation in the decision making process. However, the actual practices need improvement in the aspects related to decision making process at the local level.
- Public participation is poor in the development of plans for local social and economic development on local level and involvement of civil society for including of environmental concerns in such plans needs to be strengthened, especially on the implementation phases.
- Informational centers on the state of local environment are not presented on regional level and an opportunity on theirs' hosting by local authorities is needed

Cooperation on Common Environmental Information System

- in the frame of **EU/Moldova Action Plan in the Chapter 2.6 Transport, energy**, telecommunications, environment, and Research, development and innovation under “Research, development and innovation”.
- The immediate result of EU-RM collaborative relations is expressed in the participation of Moldovan Institutions in the Framework Programs in the area of environmental research: 65 project proposals submitted to the FP6, 17 were accepted, 4 of them (23,5%) being in ICT area
- Project on modern approach in the architecture of the data base for water resources
- Misings - Moldova is not engaged in the development of the Common Environmental Information System.