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# EU4Environment

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

## Awareness Raising Workshop Strategic Environmental Assessment Application in the Republic of Moldova

### DRAFT AGENDA

1 November 2019  
Chisinau, Republic of Moldova



Action implemented by:

**Awareness Raising Workshop**  
**Strategic Environmental Assessment Application in the Republic of Moldova**

**1 November, 2019 (9:00 – 17:00)**  
**Jolly Alon Hotel Chisinau (address: Maria Cibotari Street 37)**  
**Large conference-room (the left wing) ground floor**

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**Background**

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) effectively promotes sustainable development by mainstreaming environment into economic development at a national and local level. SEA is a well-established, practical and efficient planning and environmental governance tool/system set out in the UNECE Protocol on SEA to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and in the European Union's Directive on SEA (2001/42/EC). It ensures that development plans in key sectors such as energy, water and waste management with likely significant adverse environmental impacts are efficiently developed taking into account environmental and health considerations. SEA, in particular, will allow identification of the most sustainable and cost-effective strategic development alternatives in the Republic of Moldova for attracting new investments and for improving its environment. SEA also helps strengthen the country's environmental governance through fostering transparency and consultation with relevant stakeholders and the public prior to the approval of plans and programmes. SEA in a transboundary context can also greatly facilitate regional cooperation on environmental matters.

Since 2004 the UNECE secretariat has provided technical assistance and capacity building support to foster ratification of, and accession to, the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA in the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. In 2013-2018 UNECE within the EU funded programme *Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood (EaP GREEN)* supported Moldova in the development and adoption of the EIA Law (adoption 2014; entry into force 2015) and the SEA Law (adoption 2017; entry into force 2018). The legislative and institutional framework development process was further assisted through a number of capacity building and awareness activities under the EaP GREEN, including two SEA pilot projects. The EIA Law and SEA Law are the most apparent landmarks of the progress towards the functional system for SEA and EIA application meeting the requirements of the Espoo Convention, SEA Protocol and relevant EU legislation.

The application of SEA in practice remains very limited in the country as the overall institutional capacities for SEA require significantly more strengthening to be fully fit for purpose. This includes the high turn-over of SEA-related staff in the environmental authorities and associated institutional memory challenges. There is still a clear need to support environmental, health and sectoral planning authorities through awareness-raising and capacity-building activities addressing, inter alia, the benefits of SEA, relevant procedures and challenges as well as respective roles of different authorities in the implementation of SEA procedures.

Within the framework of the EU-funded "European Union for Environment" (EU4Environment) programme (2019 – 2022), UNECE is assisting Moldova in building adequate capacities for the effective and systematic application of SEA and transboundary EIA. Furthermore, Moldova will be supported in fully aligning its national legislation with the relevant EU Directives, the Protocol on SEA and the Espoo Convention. This workshop is the first event organized by UNECE in Moldova under the SEA and transboundary EIA component

of EU4Environment to promote the application of SEA in accordance with the national legislation.

#### **Meeting objectives, expected outputs and outcomes**

- promote the application of SEA in the Republic of Moldova in line with the requirements of the UNECE Protocol on SEA, EU SEA Directive and national legislation on SEA;
- support relevant national authorities by raising awareness about benefits of SEA, relevant procedures and roles and responsibilities in the implementation of SEA procedures
- follow up on the SEA related outcomes of the EaP GREEN

#### **Participants**

Up to 32 staff members of the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment, Environment Agency, Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure, Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection/Agency for Public Health, Ministry of Finance, State Chancellery with a number of participants from environmental NGOs active in this area.

#### **Practical Information**

Simultaneous interpretation in English and Romanian will be provided.

#### **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, UN Environment, 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](mailto:EU4Environment@oecd.org)

## DRAFT AGENDA

1 NOVEMBER 2019, Friday

Jolly Alon Hotel Chisinau, Large conference-room (the left wing) ground floor

address: Maria Cibotari Street 37

| Time          | Item  |
|---------------|---|
| 08:30 – 9:00  | <b>Registration of participants, welcome coffee</b>   |
| 9:00 - 9:20   | <b>Opening remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ms. Iuliana Cantaragiu, State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment</li><li>• Mr. Gintautas Baranauskas, Deputy Head of Operations Section, EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova</li><li>• Mr. Leonid Kalashnyk, Environmental Affairs Officer, EU4Environment Project Manager in UNECE</li></ul> |
| 9:20 - 9:45   | <b>Introduction to the workshop</b><br><i>Facilitated by consultants to Michal Musil and Rodica Iordanov, consultants to UNECE</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Objectives and agenda</li><li>• Brief summary of the outcomes of EaP GREEN</li><li>• Participants' expectations from the training</li></ul>  |
| 9:45 - 10:00  | <b>UNECE Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment</b><br><i>Presentation by Leonid Kalashnyk, UNECE</i>   |
| 10:00 - 10:45 | <b>SEA process: Steps in accordance with the UNECE Protocol on SEA, EU SEA Directive and the SEA National Legislation</b><br><i>Presentation by Michal Musil and Rodica Iordanov, consultants to UNECE</i><br><br>Questions and answers   |
| 10:45 - 11:15 | <b>Coffee break</b>   |
| 11:15 - 12:30 | <b>SEA application for the state plans/programmes: principles, benefits, roles of involved actors, interaction with the planning process</b><br><i>Presentation by Michal Musil and Rodica Iordanov, consultants to UNECE</i><br><br>Questions and answers  |
| 12:30 - 13:30 | <b>Lunch</b>  |
| 13:30 - 14:30 | <b>SEA application: practical aspects, challenges, typical problems</b><br><i>Presentation by Michal Musil and Rodica Iordanov, consultants to UNECE</i><br><br>Questions and answers   |
| 14:30 – 15:00 | <b>UNECE technical assistance on enhancing capacities for SEA in the Republic of Moldova in line with the EU SEA Directive and UNECE Protocol on SEA within the EU-funded EU4Environment Programme</b><br><i>Presented by Mr. Leonid Kalashnyk, UNECE</i>   |
| 15:00 – 15:30 | <b>Coffee break</b>   |
| 15:30 – 16:45 | <b>Discussion of SEA-related needs in the Republic of Moldova</b><br><i>Facilitated by Michal Musil and Rodica Iordanov, consultants to UNECE</i>   |
| 16:45 – 17:00 | <b>Closing: Summary and further steps</b>   |