

HelpAge

International

Participation, Voice and Policy Dialogue on Ageing

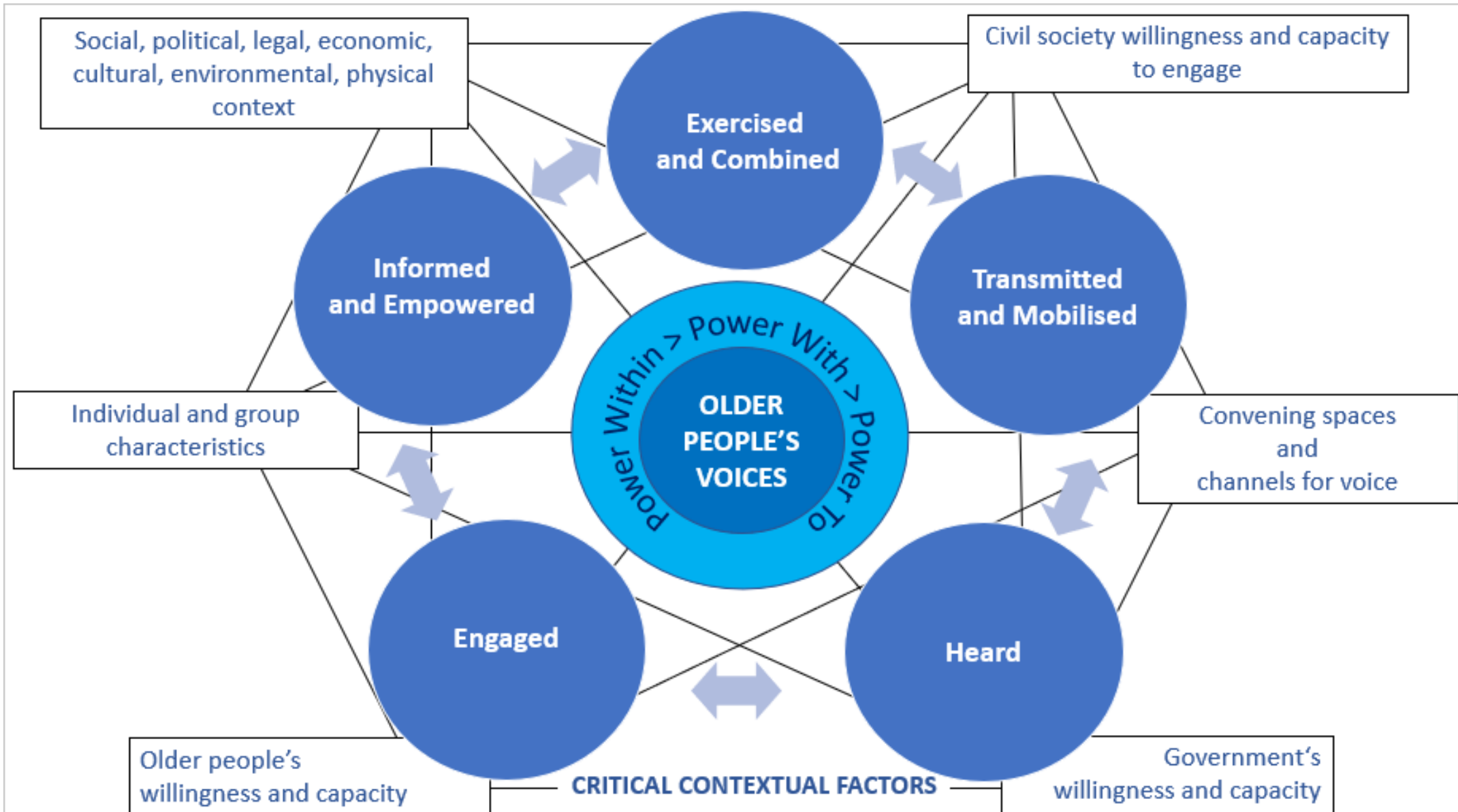
HelpAge Moldova experience
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Benefits of Meaningful Participation

- **Creating fair policies/laws** reflective of real needs enriched with additional experience and expertise of citizens
- **Strengthening democracy and good governance** - increases confidence in public institutions, promotes transparency and social accountability
- **Facilitating cross-sector dialogue** and reaching consensus.
- **Increasing partnerships**, ownership and responsibility in implementation of policies that affect citizens
- **Adopting more forward** and outward looking solutions on ageing;
- **Ensuring legitimacy of proposed** regulations and compliance with human rights standards and norms
- **Decreases costs** as parties can contribute with own resources to policy work

Voice Framework - model of participation



Voice Framework - model of participation

- **The framework outlines five domains of voice** from older people's voices being 'engaged' to older people's voices being 'heard'. Older people's voices being heard by decision makers may directly lead to policy change while voices of older people being transmitted and mobilised may lead to more older people being informed and empowered to produce the change.
- **The voice domains are surrounded by critical contextual factors** that influence the outcomes of voice-related activity. These may include political and social contexts, as well as CSOs and government capacity and/or willingness to engage.
- **In Moldova, we are lucky to have the enabling environment/context for meaningful participation on active ageing.**

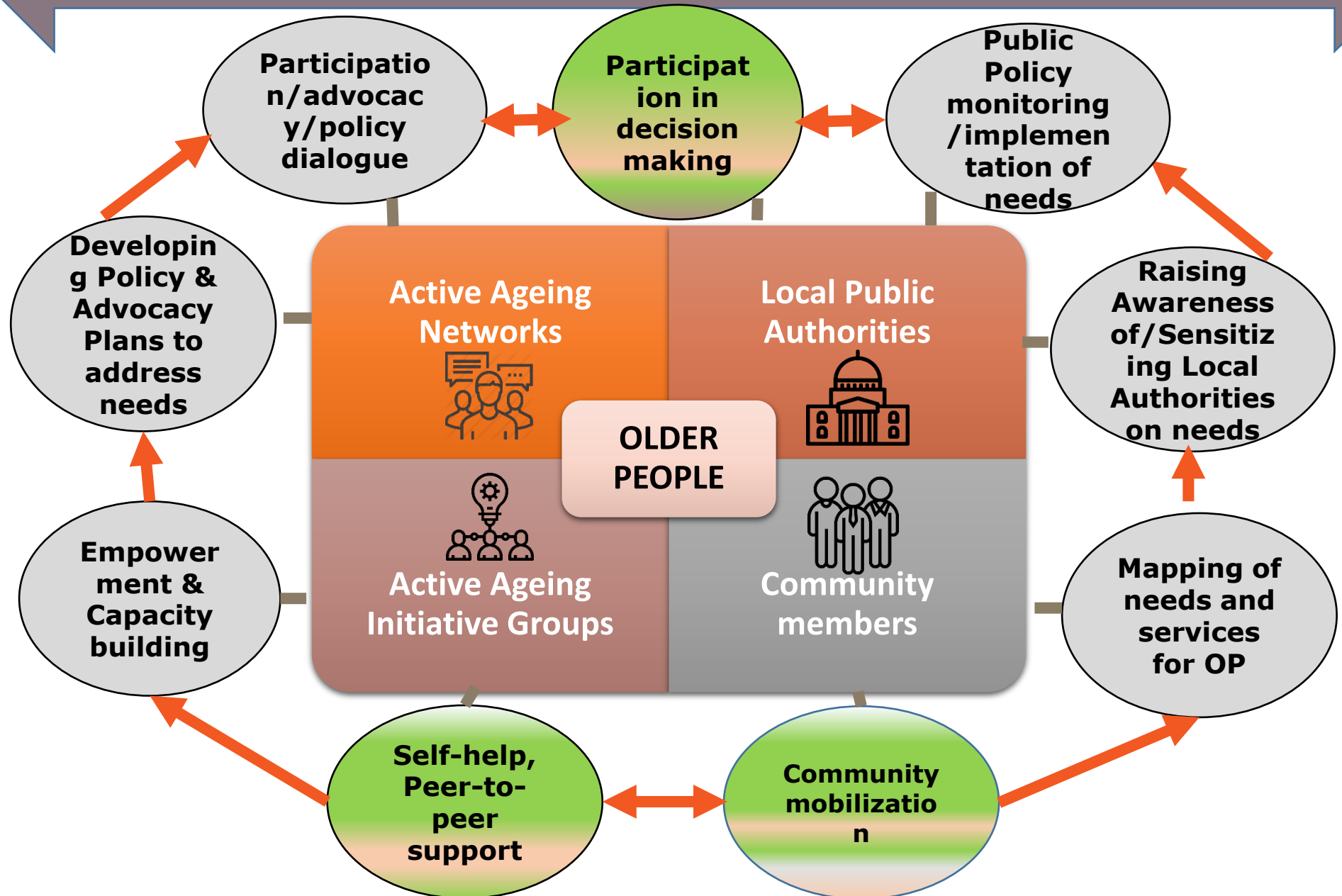
Context & Enabling Environment for Participation on Ageing

- **In 2012 the Government** of Moldova adopted a Road Map for mainstreaming ageing. HelpAge and the delegation of older people participated in civil society consultation meetings organized by the UNECE.
- **In 2014 the Government** adopted a National Programme and Plan on Mainstreaming Ageing into Public Policies (2014-2016)
- **In 2015** HelpAge formed the Platform on Active Ageing **with support from the UNFPA and the MHL&SP**
- **In 2015 the UNFPA developed a mainstreaming ageing methodology and trained** HelpAge and the Platform on Active Ageing to apply it for policy analysis.
- **In 2018, the Government adopted a new Plan on Implementing the Active Ageing Principle** for 2018-2021.

Praiseworthy:

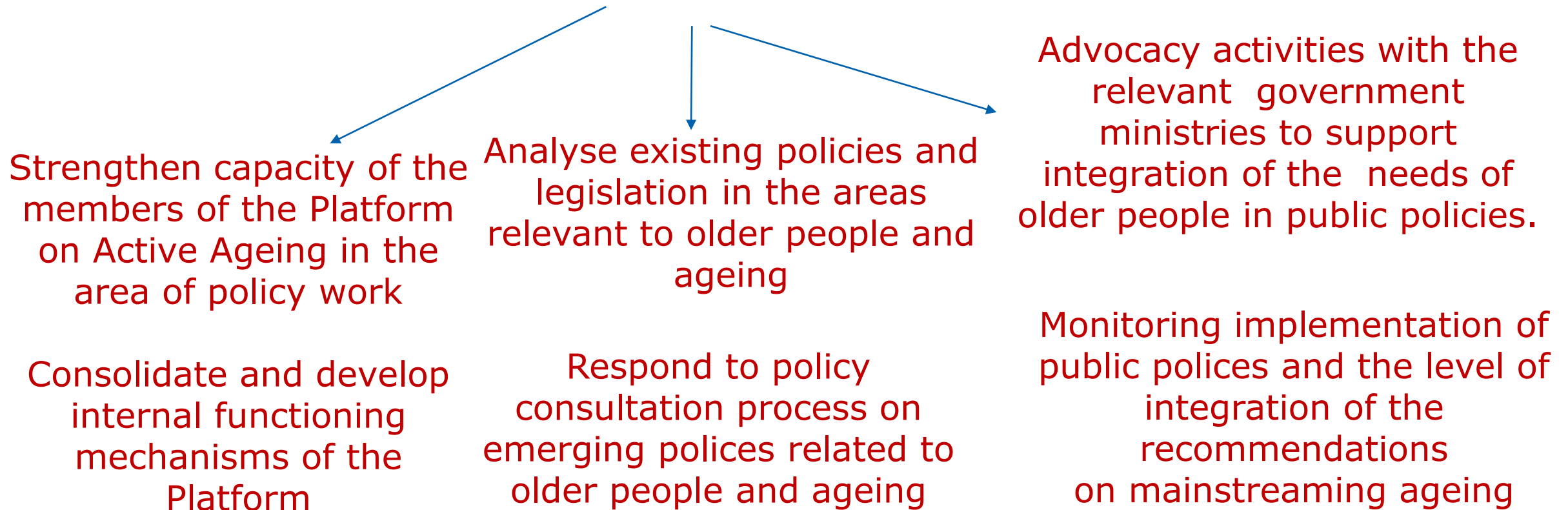
Good Cooperation with the Focal Point on Ageing and the UNFPA support

Community Participation Model



National Platform on Active Ageing

Protecting the rights of older people in Moldova and supporting work on mainstreaming ageing into public policies through policy analysis and policy dialogue.



Policies analysed on mainstreaming ageing 2015-2020

National Strategy on Employment and Labour Policies 2017-2021

National Programme on Health Promotion 2016-2020

National Strategy of Development of Physical Education and Sports of Moldova - 2020

Mainstreaming Ageing into Policies on Social Assistance (3 legislation documents)

National Strategy on Preventing and combatting Domestic Violence in the Family 2016-2021

National Programme on Compulsory Medical Insurance (UNIC)

Strategy on Ensuring Gender Equality 2017-2021

Analytical Note on the Strategy on Health Systems

Strategy on Life Long Learning (adult education with inclusion of older people)

National Action Plan on Human Rights for the period 2018-2022 (PNADO)

National Development Strategy Moldova 2030, especially under Priority 4 and 5 regarding education and health

Law on Pension System Reform and connecting legislation: Law 156 from 14.10.1998, Law 489-XIV, Law 278-XVI din 14.12.2007, Law 80 from 7.05.2010.

Key Outcomes:

Policy Analysis, Position Papers with key recommendations in the areas of: healthcare and subsidised medicines; social protection (pensions, social assistance and benefits), elder abuse were accepted by the relevant government Ministries that committed to review them and address where feasible.

Contributions made to the development of the National Development Strategy Moldova 2030, especially under Priority 4 and 5 on life-long learning and on health (**estimated about 62% of recommendations for the two priorities were accepted in the final document**).

The National Action Plan on Human Rights 2018-2022 (PNADO) includes now more activities responding to the needs of older people (**estimated 43% of the recommendations were included in the approved document**). **HelpAge is part of the national human rights monitoring process (guided by OHCHR)**

Our advocacy efforts and technical support on ageing to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection supported the development and adoption of the second phase of the National Plan on Active Ageing (2018-2021) that currently includes HelpAge and the Platform on Active Ageing as key partners in implementation of actions on developing self-help groups across Moldova, developing actions to enable consultation of LPAs with older people, and in supporting the government ministries to mainstream ageing into public policies.

Gaps and Recommendations

Gaps

- Insufficient Human Resources at government level to implement ageing perspectives.
- Poor communication and coordination on ageing issues of the Ministry's departments and cross Ministerial cooperation that limits meaningful participation of CSOs and older people
- Not all government officials have sufficient capacity to mainstream ageing into public policies.
- There is no Coordination Group on Ageing that would include the Ageing CSOs or older people and government
- There are no regular Platforms for Policy Dialogue (spaces for meetings with the government)
- The policy development based on MIPAA recommendation are implemented largely civil society, the role of the Ministry should be more proactive

Recommendations

- Continue to increase awareness about ageing and rights of older people at all levels of the government as the older people are still being treated as consumers of benefits
- Ageing should be a matter of all ministries and government structures not just the Focal Point on Ageing and capacity should be built on mainstreaming ageing of all officials
- Create a Coordination Group on Ageing and a functional National Committee/Council on Ageing and establish Councils of Elderly under local public administration.
- Develop Regular Policy Dialogue Platforms/spaces with participation of government officials, CSOs & OP
- Involve older people in consultations on policy design and policy monitoring (promote social accountability).
- Continue collaboration with civil society and continue strengthening the mini-grants programme within the MHL&SP.

Praiseworthy:

Good Cooperation with the Focal Point on Ageing and the UNFPA support