

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

**Promoting synergy between PRTRs and experience
gained from the Convention's Task Force on Access to
Information**

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Aarhus Convention

Is based on three interconnected elements:



Public access to information
(on request and through active
dissemination)



Public participation
on making decisions



Access to justice in
environmental
problems

The Protocol on PRTRs to the Aarhus Convention assures public access to information concerning emissions and the pollutants transfer, which can be used in different purposes, from the reducing of atmospheric pollution until the improvement decision making- process regarding landscaping and comparative assessment of the environment performance of economic agents.



Electronic information tools based on modern digital technologies are essential for promoting the updated implementation of all three elements of the Convention and Protocol on PRTRs. These tools can grow significantly the degree of awareness and the public involvement in environmental problems. The Convention's Task Force on Access to Information developed the updated Recommendations on the more effective use of electronic information tools and will monitor their implementation.

Challenges to address:

The modernization of the informational system of environment is not always a priority of investment in the general agenda of digitalization.

The digital divide, for example due to high connection costs and poor connectivity, lack of computer literacy; barriers for groups and communities in vulnerable situations, such as the elderly, women in some societies, migrants, people with disabilities.

The progress of digitalization is not equal between local, regional and national levels.



**Current focus of the Task Force work –
Decision VII/1**

- Access to environment-related product information (see outcomes of the 26th meeting of the Convention's Working Group of the Parties)
- The provision of information to the public authorities by third parties, both routinely and in case of an imminent threat to human health or the environment
- Use of modern technologies by the public
- Transparency of the public authorities
- Access to information on emissions into the environment



Digitalization in the Republic of Moldova

- The Republic of Moldova- deputy prime minister for digitalization.
- The Government of the Republic of Moldova launched the digitalization process in 2010, creating the Electronic Government Center.
- In 2018, this center (E-Government)" was reorganized into the public institution "Electronic Government Agency.
- Current: The support tool regarding the digitalization of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, through which it is proposed to support the technological transfer and digital development of enterprises in order to capitalize on the innovative potential, facilitating their access to internal and external markets and improve access to environment-related information on products.
- The program for the digital transformation of small and medium-sized enterprises is financed from the state budget of the Republic of Moldova and is implemented by the Organization for the Development of Entrepreneurship (ODA), together with the strategic partners of the program: the European Union, USAID and the Government of Sweden.



Access to information, including PRTRs, in the Republic of Moldova

The access to environmental information in the Republic of Moldova is continuously developing through the implementation of the ENI SEIS Est II Project - the development of a common environmental information system (SEIS).

Activities proposed for the next period:



Implementation of methods, tools, procedures and standards for environmental information/data management responsibilities among public institutions;



The development of the Integrated Environmental Information Management System for connecting all existing databases; digitization of existing databases; sharing information between databases of different institutions.



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THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION

Angela Panciuc,
Ministry of Environment
of the Republic of Moldova

