

# CLIMATE ACTION IN MOLDOVA

## Country context

Moldova's National Inventory Report: 1990–2010, submitted at COP 19 - Warsaw in November 2013, reveals that its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions were driven by the energy sector, which contributed between 67–79% of total emissions over this period. Notably, the time series also reveals that total Moldovan direct GHG emissions and removals decreased.

By the time the Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) project started in 2014, **Moldova already had various policies and initiatives which were designed to integrate mitigation into national and sectoral development strategies**, to decarbonize the national economy while increasing the energy security, and to maximize economic opportunities and establish a climate-resilient economy. Moldova had established a Climate Change Office (CCO) within the Ministry of Environment (MoEN). The CCO was tasked with implementing the UNFCCC provisions and Kyoto Protocol mechanisms, including the preparation of National Communication reports. The CCO has now supported preparation of three National Communications that include national inventory reports on GHG emissions and sinks.

In addition, a previous United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Moldova project, initiated in 2010 in partnership with the MoEN, supported the development of a national Low Emission

Development Strategy (LEDS) to 2020, while also seeking to bring Moldova into compliance with the Copenhagen Accord. The national inventory for 1990–2010 and sectoral emission projections prepared under Moldova's Third National Communication provided the analytical basis for developing the LEDS draft. This draft built on existing initiatives such as the government's European Integration: Liberty, Democracy, Welfare for 2011–2014 (2011) programme; the National Development Strategy Moldova 2020 (2012); and a range of sectoral policy documents such as the Energy Strategy until 2030 (2013); Road Transport Infrastructure Strategy for 2008–2017 (2008); and National Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Agricultural Sector 2008-2015 (2008) among others. **Mitigation priorities were also identified for each major economic sector.** Finally, a Technology Needs Assessment had already been conducted.

Moldova sought to streamline its institutional frameworks and build local expertise in the areas of conducting national inventory activities, NAMA development, and monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) systems. LECB in Moldova therefore focused on these thematic areas in designing its interventions, and targeted support to MoEN and other ministries to address limitations in coordinating climate change activities and policy development at the national and sectoral levels.



# LECB MOLDOVA at a glance



**Total financing**  
US \$674,100

**2**

**Timeframe**  
2 years (2014-2016)



**Sectors**  
Energy, waste, LULUCF  
and industry



**Counterparts**  
Ministry of Environment of  
Moldova (MoEN)



## Thematic areas

- Institutional frameworks
- GHG inventory systems
- NAMAs
- LEDS
- INDC support
- MRV systems
- Private sector involvement
- Climate finance

## LECB EASTERN EUROPE

### Strengthened national GHG inventory system

LECB strengthened institutional and technical capacities to put in place a national inventory system to support the development of national GHG inventories or NDC reporting updates on a regular basis. It targeted training to government institutions and its inventory experts built capacities for inventory preparation and management, as well as on how to pursue and organize future trainings. To further support high quality, transparent and credible inventory reporting going forward, LECB also prepared a guidance manual and a detailed technical review of the inventory practices undertaken for the two largest emitting sectors, energy and land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF). It also played a key role in drafting a new government decision on the organization and functioning of the national system for monitoring and reporting GHG emissions. Through the capacities developed from these LECB activities, all major inventory sectors have transitioned to applying the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

### 1 Governmental decision

drafted for organization and functioning of the national GHG inventory system

### 8 Training workshops

held on national GHG inventory

### Registered NAMAs for international support

Four NAMA proposals and associated MRV systems were prioritized, formulated, prepared and registered for international support by LECB in Moldova. A multi-criteria decision analysis tool was prepared to support selection of priority NAMAs from a long list of mitigation actions. Two NAMAs were then developed for the energy sector (for energy efficient lighting, and small-scale combined heat and power) and one each for the forestry and waste sectors (NAMA for afforestation of degraded land, riverside areas and protection belts, and waste to energy NAMA, respectively). The proposal development took place in a collaborative manner by local experts and specialists with the support of the national LECB team driving the process.

## 20% Share of Moldova's conditional NDC mitigation target

contributed by implementation of the four NAMAs by 2030

## 4 NAMAs

prepared and registered for international support, for energy, forestry, and waste

### Designed legal framework for MRV system to track mitigation actions

Through LECB, Moldova elaborated a national-level MRV system framework with procedures for implementation, documentation and archiving, and verification. To support this document, LECB drew up a set of activities and documents including a capacity needs assessment of the existing MRV system. Moreover, a legal Act was designed to enshrine the government's decision to establish a national MRV system.

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### Mitigation measures

from seven sectors, screened to support selection of priority NAMAs

# RESULTS

# IMPACTS



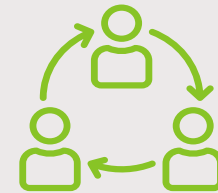
## Established a stable and sustainable foundation for continuing GHG inventory preparation and reporting,

through reinforcing the national inventory system and drafting a new government Act. Institutional capacities to undertake national inventory preparation in accordance to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines have been strengthened. Supplemented by the national MRV system, this will contribute to transparent and accurate monitoring and updating of Moldova's NDC commitments.



## Capacitated experts for NDC target setting, and development of new NAMAs and MRV systems

Experts from various fields are now able to develop NAMAs, evaluate mitigation measures, and comprehend the contribution of mitigation actions from different sectors to the country's NDC targets. The NAMA-related component of LECB led to further activities for developing eight new NAMA proposals post the LECB project. A roster of experts able to design, verify and monitor projects on low emissions has also been created.



## Participatory engagement of all sectors in technical and institutional capacity building, and awareness raising

Improved understanding of representatives from academia, and the public and private sectors on topics such as climate mitigation and adaptation, co-benefits, environmental impacts, and clean energy.



## General overview of the UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building Programme

Since its inception, the UNDP LECB programme has paved the way for effective and lasting climate action by building capacities of government staff to develop policies, strategies and tools that help implement their climate change goals. Focusing specifically on essential building blocks such as strengthening GHG inventory data and systems; formalization of institutional arrangement for climate actions; development and alignment of low emission development strategies (LEDS); and the creation of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), LECB provided much of the enabling environment necessary for countries to respond quickly to emerging needs, such as the submission of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and socialization of the Paris Agreement. Given its flexible nature and strong country ownership, often the originally-envisaged and measurable LECB outputs have been exceeded, leading to some unplanned but highly welcomed additional impacts.

## CASE STUDY

# LECB BEYOND POLITICAL BARRIERS

While considered by the United Nations as a part of the Republic of Moldova, Transnistria, located to the east of the Dniester River, has been a self-proclaimed state since 1992. Moldova itself has designated Transnistria as an autonomous territorial unit with special legal status. Nevertheless, these geopolitical complications did not stop the LECB project from expanding its reach and overcoming long-standing political tensions.

Seeing as climate change impacts are not deterred by borders, the leader of the MRV Working Group formed under the project decided

to include Transnistria in the LECB scope, and the issue was discussed with Moldovan authorities. With their approval, a mission to Transnistria was carried out, yielding information on low emission development, and a preliminary meeting was held with the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources. This effort succeeded in garnering the interest of the Ministry on Low Emission Development and as a result a regional workshop was organised in Transnistria by the end of 2016, attracting 110 participants raising awareness and building capacities on the themes of low emission economies and development.

The general reaction of the local experts was positive, expressing their interest on developing projects on these areas.

Early doubts about the success of hosting a regional workshop to bring Transnistria into the loop on climate change planning were cleared after an understanding was reached with local authorities, which allowed the event to be of ministerial level. Local media celebrated this aspect, further raising local interest and awareness on climate change mitigation and adaptation mechanisms, and the possibilities for participation.

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**From the scientific point of view, cooperation brings the best results. To divide now into one or the other bank [of the river] would be wrong because environmental problems and droughts affect all of us.**

”

**Sergui Ungureanu**  
MRV Working Group leader

## LECB Moldova made possible by:

The UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme was launched in January 2011 as part of a joint collaboration between the European Union, the Governments of Germany and Australia and UNDP. It is a global programme that helps countries build the public and private sector capacities needed to scale up country-driven mitigation actions.



Supported by:



based on a decision of the German Bundestag

