Third Environmental Performance Review – implementation of recommendations

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The Republic of Moldova - first country reviewed under the third cycle of EPRs.

- the third EPR began in May 2012,
- at 19th session of the CEP on 24 October 2013 – adopted the recommendations,
- on 5th June 2014 third EPR was launched at national level.

3rd EPR of the Republic of Moldova was published in 2014

- 10 chapters, 41 recommendations
  - implemented – 9 (21%)
  - partially implemented – 25 (60%)
  - not implemented – 8 (19%)
National documents that provide environmental priorities:

- **Association Agreement** Republic of Moldova - European Union, Chapter 16. Environment (Art. 86-91) and Chapter 17. Climate action (Art. 92-97) (Law no. 112 from 02.07.2014);
- **Government Activity Program 2016 – 2018** (Chapter VIII „Environmental protection”);
- **National Action Plan** for implementation of the Association Agreement Moldova - European Union, for the period 2014-2016 (GD No. 808 from 10.07.2014);
- **Legislative program** that provides transposition commitments undertaken under the Association Agreement between the Republic of Moldova, for the years 2015-2016 (Parliament Decision no. 146 from 9 July 2015);
- On 28 of December 2016 by the Government was approved new Action Plan for implementation of the Association Agreement for the period 2017-2019;
Adopted strategic/legal framework in the environmental sector:

- Environmental Strategy 2014-2023 and implementation Plan (GD no. 301 from 24.04.2014);
- National Strategy on Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) 2014-2028 (GD no. 199 from 20.03.2014);
- National Plan for expansion of forest areas 2014-2018 (GD no. 101 from 10.02.2014);
- National Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change until 2020 and implementation Plan (GD no. 1009 from 10.12.2014);
- National Strategy on Biodiversity 2015-2020 (GD no. 274 from 18.05.2015);
- National Programme for implementation of the targets under the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova (GD no. 1063 from 16.09.2016);

Implementation progress/monitoring reports of the policy documents:
Adopted strategic/legal framework in the environmental sector:

- Law on Environmental Impact Assessment (No. 86 from 29.05.2014);

Institutional framework for environment and sustainable development:

- Concept for environmental institutional reform has been developed and discussed within the MoE system;
- new draft of Regulation of the Ministry of Environment;
Chapter 2: Regulatory and information instruments and their enforcement

- Law No. 230 from 23/09/2016 on amending and completing some legislative acts, which requires reform of state controls;
- Methodology for planning state control for business activity in environmental protection and natural resources based on the analysis of risk criteria (GD No. 373 from 27/05/2014);
- Control institutions annually planning controls, and published on the website of the Government: https://controale.gov.md/acasa
Law No. 281 from 16 December 2016 amending and completing some legislative acts, which introduced changes to Law No. 1540/1998 on Environmental Pollution and the Law no. 1515/1993 on Environmental Protection;

National Ecological Fund was consolidated into a single fund;

Law on public water supply and sewerage (No. 303 of 13.12.2013) - establish an independent regulatory body for tariff setting in WSS;

Government Decision No. 561 of 19.08.2015 on regulating the institutional framework and mechanism for coordinating external assistance given to Moldova by international organizations and donor countries (Sectorial Coordination Council ”Environment, Water supply and sanitation”)
Chapter 4: Environmental monitoring, information and education

- Concept project integrated environmental information system (will promoted for approval during 2017);
- SoER 2016 was based on indicator approach;
- Six indicators in the following areas: air, climate change, biodiversity, water;
- It was developed didactic kit "Environmental Education", which contains guide for teachers at elementary, secondary school.
Chapter 5: Implementation of international environmental agreements and commitments:

- Order regarding nomination of the National Focal Points for Environmental Conventions;

Chapter 6: Climate change adaptation and mitigation

- National Commission for the implementation and realization of the commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and of the mechanisms and provisions of the Kyoto Protocol – will be revised after ratification of the Paris Agreement.
- Draft strategy for the forestry sector adapt to climate change;
Chapter 7: Sustainable water management

- Regulation on State Cadastre of Water (GD No. 763 of 23.9.2013);
- Technical design and operation of Regulations on water resources information system in Moldova (SIRA) (GD No. 672 of 30 May 2016);
- Drafted 2 river basin management plans of the Danube river basin and Prut River-Black Sea;
Chapter 8: Waste management

- draft Government decision approving the list of waste;
- draft Government decision approving the Regulation on landfills;

Chapter 9: Biodiversity and protected areas

- Draft Law on genetically modified organisms (GMO) approved by the Government (No. 820 of 01.07.2016) forwarded to the Parliament, currently under discussion within the parliamentary commissions;
Recommendation 2.2: The Ministry of Environment should reform the system of issuing environmental permits;

Recommendation 6.1: The Government should strengthen its capacity to formulate climate change policy by creating a dedicated section on climate change within the regular structure of the Ministry of Environment;

Recommendation 8.2: Once the law on waste management has been adopted, the Government should strengthen the central national authority dealing with waste management, enabling it to support the implementation of the law and the National Waste Management Strategy;

Recommendation 9.2: The Ministry of Environment, in cooperation with the Agency “Moldsilva”, should accelerate the preparation of the new law on protected areas;

Chapter 10: Agriculture and environment: Recommendation 10.1; Recommendation 10.2; Recommendation 10.3; Recommendation 10.
Institutional challenges related to the lack of necessary structures and reduced number of staff.

Limited capacities of specialists working in the field and a high staff fluctuation.

Lack of financial resources necessary for implementation of environmental policy.

A challenging political environment.
Third EPR – support needs

➢ To implement the institutional reform in the environmental sector: Reforming the environmental institutions to improve the governance is a priority recognized in both the Association Agenda and the Environmental Strategy;

➢ Environmental institutional reform should be integrated into the overall public administration reform;

➢ Support needed to finalize the legal framework and adopt implementing mechanisms, especially in the following subsector: Waste management, Industrial Emissions Directive and their implementing instruments; develop and adopt the legislation related to integrated environmental permitting.

➢ Support needed to implement the new legislation: enforce the implementing mechanisms for EIA and SEA; strengthen the capacities to implement environmental assessments both on national and local levels; build up integrated environmental information system (EIS).
Third EPR – support needs

- **Investment needs**, as assessed in the Environmental Strategy - 9,1 billion MDL (643 mln. USD).
- In the coming years - emphasis to proper prioritization and selection of projects and on better streamlining the investment support.
- Most considerable investments so far – in water supply and sanitation.
- Future priority investments – in implementation of the Waste Management Strategy, as well as in tackling climate change challenges.
Thank you for your attention!

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