



# Modernization of Local Public Services in the Republic of Moldova

#### MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING

17 January, 2019



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> Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC Agenția Elvețiană pentru Dezvoltare și Cooperare





In cooperation with

Ministerul Agriculturii, Dezvoltării Regionale și Mediului

#### **Specific Objective I**

Support in Coordination of Regional Development Policy

#### **Specific Objective II:**

Support to Regional Development Councils and LPAs

#### **PROJECT OBJECTIVE:**

Improve the framework conditions for a citizen-oriented implementation of regional development policy in priority sectors of local public service provision

#### **Specific Objective III:**

Support to Regional Development Agencies

#### **Specific Objective IV**

Institutionalisation of Training and Capacity Development

#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### Legislative and normative documents regarding regional development (I)

- The final draft conceptual framework for the New Paradigm on Regional Development is developed;
- The final draft of the National Policy on Urban Centres was developed and presented at the regional level, as well as at NCCRD, Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure and Ministry of Finance;
- Study visit to Romania for exchange of experience on spatial planning was carried out;

#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

Legislative and normative documents regarding regional development (II)

- Further advisory support has been provided to PCERD on the following issues: strategic orientation on SWM, WSS issues, potential revision of the RD paradigm, including support to economic/business infrastructure development in the regions and other topics;
- Approval of draft Government Decision and Regulation on the new national institution that will manage the National Ecologic Fund and National Regional Development Fund is on hold.

#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### **RBM** in Regional Development

- The new guidelines on the pilot RBM for NSRD and RDS 2016-2020 has been approved by MARDE by Order no. 226 dated 04.10.2018; the piloting was initiated;
- Support to RDA North and South on presentation of the RBM in WSS sector to the Regional Sector Groups was provided;
- Support on annual reporting on implementation of NSRD/RDS was initiated;

#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### **Communication support in regional development**

- MARDE Brandbook on visual identity was developed and approved by MARDE;
- 9th issue of MARDE's Newsletter was elaborated and available for public distribution;
- A workshop on 'Strategic communication elements: how we develop a strategy and action plan' was delivered.

**Next steps for January – June 2019** 

#### Legislative and normative documents regarding regional development

- National Policy on Urban Centres is open for public consultations and approved by Government;
- Draft Government Decision and Regulation on the new national institution that will manage the National Ecologic Fund and National Regional Development Fund is approved by Government;
- Selected legislative acts are amended in line with the current waste management law (tbc);
- Action Plan of the National Strategy on Waste Management is updated (tbc).

**Next steps for January – June 2019** 

#### RBM and communication support in regional development

- Advisory support in Monitoring and Evaluation of the NSRD and RDS 2016-2020 is provided (including annual progress reports);
- Mid-term assessment of the NSRD/RDS 2016-2020 is conceptualized;
- Database for the projects funded from NFRD (with possible extension to NEF) is developed, provided approval of the Government Decision on new Agency;
- The 10<sup>th</sup> issue of MARDE Newsletter is edited and published.

#### **Challenges**

- Non-approval of final draft Government Decision and Regulation on new Agency responsible for administration of NEF and NFRD creates delays in provision of further support with its operationalisation and development of database;
- Unclarities on territorial administrative reform still create delays in the development of the legal and normative framework related to regional development;
- Pending approval of the Code on Urbanism and Constructions by the Parliament, as well as unclarity with the reform of the Department for Spatial Planning currently under MARDE creates delays in the provision of the planned GIZ support.

#### **Decisions to be taken (I)**

- MARDE to request the State Chancellery and Centre for Implementation of Reforms to provide clear vision on further steps to be taken in relation to the National Ecologic Fund and National Regional Development Fund under the given circumstances;
- MARDE to decide on priority measures of support in the spatial planning;
- MARDE to decide if on the date and format of national consultations on the National Policy on Urban Centres, as well as submission to the Government;
- GIZ and MARDE to agree on the further support in the SWM sector;

## Decisions to be taken (II)

- GIZ to postpone the further support to the Permanent Commission on Environment and Regional Development until after elections;
- MARDE and RDAs need to provide details on the support needed in the RBM area;
- GIZ support in RD Communication is limited to advisory support in elaboration of MARDE newsletter.

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#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### RDCs coordination of the implementation of the RDSs is improved (I)

- 3 Regional Sector Programmes for ATU Gagauzia (WSS, EE and RLR) were approved by RDC;
- RSCs in WSS and SWM met regularly; the results of these activities were presented in the RDC meetings in the North, Centre and South DRs;
- GIZ supported RDAs in exercising the secretariat function for RDCs/RSCs members from 3 Development Regions (North, Center and South);
- 2 RSCs: in Water Supply and Sanitation and in Infrastructure Development for Business and Tourism, were created by RDC from Gagauzia.

#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

RDCs coordination of the implementation of the RDSs is improved (II)

- 3 study visits were organized in Romania on best practices in the field of WSS and SWM sectors for LPAs and RDAs representatives from North, Center and South DR;
- One workshop on International Experience in WSS Planning was organized for WSS RSC members from all regions;
- Training module for RDC/RSC members was elaborated and piloted by the Academy of Public Administration;
- Information portals dedicated for RDC/RSC members from 4 Development Regions are functional.

**Next steps for January – June 2019** 

#### RDCs coordination of the implementation of the RDSs is improved

- Provide support for RDCs/RSCs from 4 Development Regions including monitoring of the implementation of RDSs and ongoing infrastructure projects;
- Trainings for RDCs via RSCs in WSS strategic planning, project portfolio management and in attracting investments is provided through an exchange programme;
- RSCs in WSS and SWM sectors benefit from exchange of experiences by organising visits between the DRs;
- RSCs in SWM identify key priorities for capacity development for further institutionalization in training modules

**Next steps for January – June 2019** 

#### 3 project proposals are available for Gagauzia Development Region

 The results from the participative planning processes in WSS, EE in public buildings and RLR sectors for Gagauzia DR are presented to donor community;

# Local Development Plans of 25 partner LPAs, elaborated in a participatory way, reflect the priorities of RDSs

- To compile and disseminate lessons learnt from participatory local planning in EE in public buildings and WSS sectors;
- Organize with Energy Efficiency Agency a joint international workshop on lessons learned, recommendations and next steps for improving planning processes in energy efficiency sector;

## Challenges

- Due to upcoming parliamentary and local elections certain RDC/RSC activities may be postponed;
- Additional capacity development support needed for the new composition of RDCs.

#### Decisions to be taken

- GIZ to provide advisory support to RDAs in assistance to LPAs in sectoral strategic planning, development of project portfolio and in attracting investments;
- MARDE/RDAs to take over the secretariat function for RDCs/RSCs.

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## **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### Complementary support in implementation of public services projects (I)

- 6 WSS chapters from SEDSs (II level) and 9 local plans (I level) were updated in participatory way and adequately reflect social and gender aspects;
- 5 EE programs/action plans in public buildings were developed in accordance with Energy Efficiency Agency methodology;
- One study visit in Latvia for (10) energy efficiency managers and central institutions in the field (EEA and MEI) was organized;
- 5 LPAs benefiting on investment measures (Cahul, Calarasi, Drochia, Edinet and Falesti) are aware about the opportunities for inter-municipal cooperation;
- LPAs and WSS service providers from Cahul and Leova rayons benefited on exchange of experience in inter-municipal cooperation and regionalization of water services from Romania.

## **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### Complementary support in implementation of public services projects (II)

- 3 service delegation contracts between WSS service providers and involved LPAs from Cahul (Rosu) and Leova (largara, Hanasenii Noi) rayons were signed;
- Cahul WSS service provider was capacitated in the area of Strategic Planning, Institutional Development, Human Resources Management, as well in accountancy of the delegated assets;
- Diagnostic analysis and Business plan for Leova WSS service provider were prepared;
- Local Citizen Committees in 10 WSS projects and Parents Associations in 8
   EE projects were trained how to monitor the infrastructure projects;
- Assessment studies related to satisfaction concerning service delivery in all WSS and EE investment projects were prepared.

**Next steps for January – June 2019** 

#### Complementary support in implementation of public services projects

- Local Citizen Committees (LCCs) in 10 projects in WSS and 8 Parents
   Associations (Pas) in EE projects continue to monitor of the implementation
   of infrastructure projects;
- Concepts for raising awareness campaigns in WSS and EE fields are elaborated, taking into consideration gender and social sensitive aspects
- Local Citizen Committees and Parents Associations are adequately represented and participate in Local Steering Committees meetings in 10 WSS projects and 8 EE projects.

#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### Investment measures in public services projects

- (DE) completion of WSS Leova-largara inter-municipal pipeline works & financing secured;
- (DE) handing-over of SWM & WSS service trucks to Calarasi;
- (CH) formal budgeted extension of SDC contribution (+0.6 MEUR / 2019);
- (CH) redesign of Lebedenco local networks, contracting of construction works Cahul-Lebedenco;
- (EU) contracting of 2 WSS and 7 EE projects technical designs all contracting completed (~ 2,1 MEUR of 2,35 MEUR);
- (EU) extension of EU Grant Agreement for technical designs until end of 2019.

#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### Complementary support in implementation of public services projects

- Continue support in public property registration at LPAs;
- Temporary HELPDESK established at CCI to advise potential bidders;
- Review of EU PraG guided Project Implementation Manual;
- Local contributions are secured (WSS Drochia pending);
- Supportive individual EE technical standard amendments by MEI (i.a. re LED, use of insulation material, use of window frame materials);
- Process-integration of GIZ Construction Department improved.

#### **Next steps for January – December 2019**

#### Investment measures in public services projects

- (DE) formal handing-over of WSS Leova-largara project;
- (CH) completion & handing-over of WSS Cahul-Lebedenco project;
- (EU) completion & approval by GIZ of technical designs for 10 WSS & 8 EE projects;
- (EU) for 10 WSS & 8 EE projects:
  - Preparation of tender documentation;
  - Public procurement procedures;
  - Contracting works & technical supervision (incl. external GIZ supervision).

# **Next steps for January – December 2019**

#### Complementary support in implementation of public services projects (I)

- Update of EU PraG guided Project Implementation Manual (i.a. with regard to procurement of works);
- WSS IMC institutional arrangements are in place in Cahul, Leova and Riscani (Prut Cluster) Rayons;
- Delegation contracts are in place re water service provision;
- Compile & disseminate knowledge product re IMC in the water sector;

# **Next steps for January – December 2019**

#### Complementary support in implementation of public services projects (II)

- Disseminate knowledge product re anti-corruption measures in the area of public procurement;
- Establish HELPDESK at CCI for private sector in support of procurement of works;
- Provision of Capacity Development measures for the RDAs re procurement, accounting, financial and contract management.

## Challenges (I)

- Numerous amendments of scope of technical designs, volumes and related funding needs;
- Individual requests for amendments of technical standards;
- WSS Calarasi potentially completed by end of 2020 vs. Chisinau-Calarasi inter-municipal water pipeline implemented via KfW only functional in 2023-'24 leading to temporarily continued supply with existing water sources;
- Public property registration largely not properly in place because of lack of administrative capacity (violation of regulations);

## **Challenges (II)**

- WSS Ustia: significant delay in technical design due to unclear property question (location of pumping station) & significant delay in completion of water supply system to be financed by national sources;
- Securing the positions of local project managers;
- Delays of tariff approvals by ANRE (i.a. Calarasi, ...).

#### **Decisions to be taken**

- MC participants urge the national and local stakeholders to obey to the legislation and establish property registration and local cadaster systems according to the legislation.
- MC participants urge Cahul Rayon to issue a guarantee note regarding additional design services agreed with GIZ.
- MC participants urge ANRE to speed up its approval processes for tariff setting

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#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### Support the institutionalization of trainings

- APA piloted 1 training and reimplemented 10 trainings
- TUM-AMAC piloted 2 trainings and reimplemented 4 trainings;
- TUM-EE reimplemented 3 trainings
- CCI reimplemented 1 EUREM course

#### **Achievements during July – December 2018**

#### **Training Modules**

#### **Academy of Public Administration**

- 1. Management of RDCs;
- 2. Local and regional marketing for competitive regional development;
- 3. Management and project development;
- 4. Regional Development;
- 5. Public Property Management;
- 6. Public procurement and conflicts of interest.

#### **Technical University of Moldova**

- 1. Legislative and normative acts in the water sector;
- 2. Work safety and protection in the WSS sector;
- 3. Management of EE in public buildings;
- 4. New solutions and techniques for EE projects in public buildings.



## **Achievements during July-December 2018**

#### Support the institutionalization of trainings - Aggregated Data 2018

Participants: 757 Female: 435 (57%)

Participants' profile:

•	LPA 1	283	37%
•	LPA 2	162	21%
•	WSS operators	214	28%
•	RDA, MARDE	13	2%
•	Others	89	12%

Level of satisfaction: Training was useful for participant's work
 72% Strongly agree, 27 % Agree, 1% Disagree.

#### **Achievements during July-December 2018**

#### **Organisational development**

 Visibility and communication of the Institute for Continuous Education in Energy Efficiency (TUM) improved;

#### **Exchange of good practices/experiences**

- EE sector: 1 study visit to Czech Republic was organized for 26 representatives of LPAs, RDAs, EEA, EE managers, local project managers, TUM/EE and school managers;
- WSS sector: 4 study visits to Romania for 50 participants was supported for representatives of WSS operators
  - 1. Financial accounting;
  - Human Resources management;
  - 3. Attracting investments, designing and construction off WSS objects;
  - 4. Client relations.

#### **Next steps for January-June 2019**

#### Support the institutionalization of trainings:

- APA: 1 training module for LPAs developed and piloted, reimplementation of trainings based on needs;
- TUM-AMAC: updating and reimplementation of 2 training modules in WSS
- TUM-EE: development and piloting of 1 training module in EE area;
- ASEM: updating and piloting of 1 training module in WSS.

#### Improve institutional capacities of training institutions:

- Quality Management Systems (or aspects) implemented;
- Strategic Development plans developed;

#### **Exchange of good practices/experiences:**

2 study missions in WSS and EE.

#### **Next steps for January-June 2019**

#### **Capacity development of service operators:**

- Consulting provided to companies to ensure efficient WSS operations, based on needs' prioritization.
- Focus areas:
  - 1. Tariffs calculation methodology;
  - 2. Service delegation contracts;
  - 3. Reorganisation support (knowledge package).

# Specific objective 4 Challenges

- Financial sustainability of trainings and training institutions;
- Quality management system for TUM;
- Capacity development for WSS operators.

# The process of insitutionalisation

- 1. Needs assessment;
- 2. Module development;
- 3. Train of Trainers;
- 4. Piloting;
- 5. Adjusting;
- 6. Reimplementation;
- 7. Updating;
- 8. Reimplementation.

# All presentations can be accessed at

www.serviciilocale.md







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# Thank you for your attention!

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