

# EU project helps Moldova implement provisions of EU law on fuel quality and monitoring of industrial emissions

EU-funded experts supported the Ministry of Natural Resources in approximation of the Moldovan law to the EU acquis on fuel quality and emissions trading

## Abstract:

In 2015, the EU-funded Clima East project commissioned two international experts with experience in EU legislation on emissions trading and fuel quality to support the government of Moldova. The experts helped transpose elements of the European acquis on emissions trading and fuel quality into the law of Moldova. The experts were also entrusted with recommending appropriate institutional frameworks for the implementation of the envisaged legislative and regulatory changes.

The experts also proposed roadmaps for the implementation of recommended steps which will form a basis of work for the planned interministerial working groups charged with the implementation of the provisions stated in the EU-Moldova Association Agreement.

## Quote:

*'We were extremely satisfied with the input from Clima East's experts. We appreciate the reports and roadmaps outlining the steps that have to be taken in line with the timelines agreed with the EU in the Association Agreement. (Maria Nagorny, Ministry of Environment, Moldova)*

## Context:

On 27 June 2014, the Republic of Moldova signed Association Agreement (AA) with the EU. In line with the AA, Moldova will carry out approximation of its law to the EU legislation referred to in Annex XII to the AA.

Moldova currently does not have a uniform single legislative act on climate change. Elements of mitigation and adaptation policy are reflected in a number of legal acts and need to be harmonised with the EU legal provisions on climate change. The fuel quality monitoring in the Republic of Moldova does not correspond to the requirements of a standard EN 14274.

Moldova also needs to establish a fuel quality monitoring system. Another problem is that testing laboratories lack equipment to operate in line with the standards. Furthermore, Moldova's GHG emissions from industrial installations are not monitored at present, and a system enabling this needs to be established from scratch.

The Clima East policy project offered an opportunity, through its 'Expert Facility'<sup>1</sup>, to address these problems with the help of international experts advising the Ministry of Environment, other relevant government ministries and organisation

<sup>1</sup> For more information on Clima East's Expert Facility please visit: [climaeast.eu/expert-facility](http://climaeast.eu/expert-facility)

## Objectives:

The project consisted of two workstreams:

1. approximation of the Moldovan law to Directive 2003/87/EC establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emissions allowance trading within the Community, and
2. approximation of the Moldovan law to Directive 98/70/EC on the quality of petrol and diesel fuels and amending Directive 93/12/EEC.

These two workstreams were covered by separate reports with recommendations and roadmaps outlining next steps for the Moldovan administration. The overall objective of the project was to contribute to Moldova's progress on the way towards fulfilling the obligations of the Association Agreement.

## Impact:

The roadmaps will enable the administration to define next steps and to monitor implementation of the necessary legislative and regulatory measures. A challenge of setting up Competent Authorities demonstrates the need for an overhaul of the current administrative structures in order to ensure that new functions are defined and implemented. The new legislation and its implementing provisions will affect operators of industrial installations for those companies that will be obliged to monitor, verify and report their GHG emissions for workstream 1 (emissions trading), while importers of fuels, and ultimately, all vehicle owners will be affected in one way or another in the case of the impact of workstream 2 (fuel quality)

As stated by some officials during a seminar presenting the findings of a report on fuel quality, Moldova is still a relatively poor country (in fact, it is the poorest European country) and the majority of cars on Moldova's roads are old second-hand vehicles. This may impact the speed with which the country will adopt biofuels.

## Figures and Facts:

### Figures

- The Expert Facility is a €2.6 million component of the overall Clima East budget of €8 million.
- This individual assignment was completed at a cost of approx. €56,000 for the provision of two international experts.

### Facts

- Approximation of legislative and regulatory framework to the EU acquis is a priority of the Accession countries.
- This project providing recommendations and roadmaps for two key AA requirements in the field of climate change policy and measures was completed over June 2015 - September 2015.
- The follow-up envisages setting up two interministerial workgroups in charge of implementing the two roadmaps.