

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Republic of Moldova

Environmental Performance Reviews

Third Review



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REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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The United Nations issued the second Environmental Performance Review of the Republic of Moldova (Environmental Performance Reviews Series No. 23) in 2005.

This volume is issued in English and Russian.

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Foreword

In 1993, Environmental Performance Reviews (EPRs) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) were initiated at the second Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, in Lucerne, Switzerland. They were intended to cover the ECE member States that are not members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Subsequently, the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy decided to make them part of its regular programme. Since then, the Ministers affirmed their support for the EPR Programme, and decided in 2003 that the Programme should continue with a second cycle of reviews, and lately they formally endorsed the third cycle of reviews in 2011.

In response to new global and regional concerns, it was decided that integrating green economy into the third cycle of the EPR Programme promises to add value to its work, first, due to its relevance and importance for the countries under review and, second, due to the potential to enhance international cooperation with the community of donors and investors.

Through the peer review process, EPRs also promote dialogue among ECE member States and the harmonization of environmental conditions and policies throughout the region. As a voluntary exercise, an EPR is undertaken only at the request of the country concerned.

The studies are carried out by international teams of experts from the region working closely with national experts from the reviewed country. The teams also benefit from close cooperation with other organizations in the United Nations system, for instance the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) as well as with the European Environment Agency (EEA) and other organizations.

This is the third EPR of the Republic of Moldova published by ECE. The review takes stock of progress made by the country in the management of its environment since the country was reviewed the second time in 2005. It assesses the implementation of the recommendations in the second review (annex I). This third EPR also covers ten issues of specific importance to the country related to policymaking, planning and implementation, the financing of environmental policies and projects, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the integration of environmental concerns into economic sectors, in particular agriculture.

I hope that this third EPR will be useful in supporting policymakers and representatives of civil society in their efforts to improve environmental management and to further promote sustainable development in the Republic of Moldova, and that the lessons learned from the peer review process will also benefit other countries of the ECE region.



Michael Møller
Acting Executive Secretary
Economic Commission for Europe

Preface

The Republic of Moldova is the first country that has been reviewed under the third cycle of EPRs. The third Environmental Performance Review (EPR) of the Republic of Moldova began in May 2012 with a preparatory mission. During this mission, the structure of the review report was agreed upon and the time schedule established. A review mission took place on 5-13 February 2013. The team of international experts taking part included experts from Estonia, Georgia, Germany and Slovakia, as well as from the EEA and ECE.

The draft EPR report was submitted to the Republic of Moldova for comment and to the ECE Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews for consideration in August 2013. During its meeting on 1-2 October 2013, the Expert Group discussed the report in detail with expert representatives of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, focusing in particular on the conclusions and recommendations made by the international experts.

The EPR recommendations, with suggested amendments from the Expert Group, were then submitted for peer review to the nineteenth session of the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy on 24 October 2013. A high-level delegation from the Republic of Moldova participated in the peer review. The Committee adopted the recommendations as set out in this report.

The Committee on Environmental Policy and the ECE review team would like to thank the Government of the Republic of Moldova and its experts who worked with the international experts and contributed their knowledge and assistance. ECE wishes the Government of the Republic of Moldova further success in carrying out the tasks involved in meeting its environmental objectives, including the implementation of the recommendations in this third review.

ECE would also like to express its appreciation to the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, and to the German Federal Environment Agency for their support to the EPR Programme through the Advisory Assistance Programme for Environmental Protection in the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia; to Germany and the EEA for having delegated their experts for the review; and to the UNDP for its support of the EPR Programme and this review.



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