



PRESS RELEASE

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Moldova: A Partner Country ready for Host Nation Support

The last PPRD East 2 National Advisory Group for Moldova met in Chisinau on 13 and 14 February 2019 to present the country accomplishments during the 4 and a half years of Programme implementation. Moldova speed up its commitment in the Programme and successfully achieved key institutional and legal reforms, namely the adoption of Host Nation Support governmental decision on June 2017 and Host Nation Support Standard Operational Procedure the same year in November.

2 months after the adoption of Host Nation Support governmental decision, Moldova hosted in September 2017 the first ever regional full-scale field exercise called EU MOLDEX 2017. More than 700 participants from the 9 countries worked together in an earthquake scenario. It has been a major opportunity for Partners Countries to test cooperation, coordination, communication and Host Nation Support capacities during disaster response.

"Moldova was very proud to host the first ever EU funded full-scale civil protection exercise in the Eastern Partnership region. This was made possible because of our commitment to benefit from the PPRD East 2 activities. What we improved the most is the Host Nation Support. Now we know how to better coordinate international assistance and how to efficiently organize foreign disaster response teams if Moldova ever should be stricken by an earthquake or another major disaster", stated Mr Ghenadie Barbu, Head of the Coordination Planning and Operation Directorate of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the PPRD East 2 Steering Committee member.

European Union Ambassador Mr Peter Michalko noted that *"the citizens of the Republic of Moldova are entitled to a vigilant and performant civil protection service. We hope and we trust that, with the PPRD East 2 Programme, we have been able to provide support in that direction – here in the Republic of Moldova as well as in other Eastern Partnership Countries"*.

In terms of facts and figures, Moldova has been committed to all activities proposed by the Programme, participating in 51 events (38 regional and 13 national) with a total of 1033 participants (523 national civil protection and 510 other national Disaster Risk Management stakeholders). 5 thematic Focal Points have been appointed and all inter-institutional working groups. The regional approach of the PPRD East 2 Programme, by sharing experience, remains also an added value for Moldova, particularly in the field of Flood Risk Management. One of the best examples is the development of the Nistru River Flood Risk Management Protocol following the ratification of the Agreement between Ukraine and Moldova on Cooperation on the conservation of the Nistru River basin by Parliaments of both countries.

Background

The EU-funded Programme on Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters (PPRD East) was designed to contribute to the peace, stability, security and prosperity of the Eastern Partner Countries. It aims also to protect the environment, population, cultural heritage, resources and infrastructures of the region by strengthening the countries' resilience, preparedness and response to man-made disasters and disasters caused by natural hazards. Currently in its 2nd phase, the PPRD East Programme facilitates the strengthening of disaster risk management capacities at the national level in **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine**, strengthens regional cooperation among the Partner Countries, and brings Partner Countries progressively closer to the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. This 2nd phase runs from 2014 to 2019 with a budget of €5.5 million.

For more information, please see the link: www.pprdeast2.eu



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The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

"The European Union is made up of 28 countries and the people of those countries. It is a unique political and economic partnership founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, equality, the rule of law and human rights. Over more than fifty years we have created a zone of peace, democracy, stability and prosperity on our continent while maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The EU looks to share its values and achievements with neighbouring countries and peoples and those farther afield."