



## PROJECT INFORMATION

### Continuation of the dialog – public participation in environmental matters in Moldova

Updated: March 2016



Free access to court forms a pillar of the Aarhus Convention

Source: Spelleken Associates

**Target country/region:** Republic of Moldova

**Duration:** 06/2013 – 01/2016

**Beneficiaries:** Governmental and non-governmental organisations in the Republic of Moldova

**Implementing organisations:** Independent Institute for Environmental Issues (UfU), Eco-TIRAS

**Project number:** 28939

## Background

As one of its first members, Moldova ratified the Aarhus Convention in August 1999. Nevertheless, the implementation of its objectives into the Moldovan legal system remained incomplete until today. Surplus, public participation in environmental issues is still very uncommon. In the frame of an earlier project, UfU helped to establish an Action Plan to foster the implementation of the three pillars of the Aarhus Convention (information, participation, access to justice) in Moldova. The Moldovan government adopted the plan in June 2011.

## Project details

The current project aimed for the effective and accelerated implementation process of the Aarhus Convention in Moldova via an active supervision. The Moldovan Environmental Information Act was updated and integrated into the legislative process. A regulation, concerning the public participation in environmental issues, was drafted and a broad audience gained access to an updated and republished guide on Public Participation for the employees of public administration authorities. Members of NGOs gained knowledge on progressive participatory methods in workshops and such an improved perception of participatory rights. The Moldovan Government received the draft for a new Aarhus Convention Action Plan for the period 2016-2020. A guide on the benefits and obstacles concerning the environmental matters of the European Association Agreement accompanied it. Of particular interest within the project is the successful expansion of sensitized persons and stakeholders on issues concerning the Aarhus Convention, now including young people also from the Transnistrian region of Moldova as well as representatives of local authorities and NGOs in the Russian speaking Moldovan provinces.

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**Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP)** for environmental protection in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and other countries neighbouring the European Union – a programme of the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

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