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**EU4CLIMATE PROJECT**

Regional Workshop on Long-Term Low

Emissions Development Strategies and

the Mainstreaming of Climate Policies

**Concept Note and Participant Agenda**

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

Radisson Blu Hotel, Begonia Hall

15-17 October 2019

**EU4CLIMATE PROJECT BACKGROUND**

The project EU4Climate helps governments in the six EU Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to act against climate change. The objective is to support the development and implementation of climate-related policies by the EaP countries which contribute to their low emission and climate resilient development and their commitments to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. The Initiative builds on important achievements of past cooperation programmes, such as the EU ClimaEast Programme, which supported climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts in EaP countries and was completed in 2017. The scope of the Initiative was defined in cooperation with all partner countries.

Overall, EU4C consists of the following components: (i) implementation and update of NDCs, (ii) development of national mid-century low-emission development strategies (LEDS), (iii) introducing or strengthening of robust emissions monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) frameworks, (iv) alignment with EU acquis, (v) mainstreaming climate in other sector, interinstitutional awareness and sectoral guidelines for implementing the Paris agreement, (vi) climate investment, (vii) adaptation planning.

This workshop focuses on components two and five, the support for developing LEDS, and builds the connection to element five, the mainstreaming of climate policies into other sectors.

**ACHIEVING LONG-TERM AMBITION WITH THE HELP OF NDCs**

The 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change establishes the long-term goal of keeping global temperature increases to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels (and aiming for 1.5 degrees Celsius) to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), which articulate national climate change efforts in the context of the Paris Agreement and countries’ development priorities, are not yet sufficient to achieve this long-term global goal. Future NDCs, submitted in 2020 and every five years thereafter, must therefore steadily increase in ambition and move countries closer to sustainable, low-emission development.

The ambitious objective of the Paris Agreement requires that countries think bigger and longer-term than what five-year NDC cycles might imply. To do so, countries may find it useful to step back from individual NDCs and envision where they want to be in terms of sustainable development in the long run – for example, in 2050. Long-standing development priorities – for instance, increasing energy access, increasing citizen mobility, and growing economies – can be assessed through a sustainability lens to articulate a 2050 vision that will contribute to the global climate change solution. Depending on country circumstances, full energy access may be achieved solely from renewables; mobility may be enhanced through fully electric transportation; and economic growth may be advanced through zero-waste, circular-economy models, investments in green technologies, and industrial-efficiency efforts that decarbonize economic growth.

Such a long-term, sustainable-development vision requires a profound shift in the development paradigm. Going forward, countries need to make steady progress toward a whole-of-society approach to transform their economies and mainstream climate in development planning. This means, for example, creating enabling environments for private investment in renewable energy instead of locking in emissions from coal-fired power plants as well as working with sub-national governments to prioritize clean, public transportation over ever-expanding freeway networks.

Articulating such an ambitious vision will also be an exercise in moving beyond incremental thinking and planning and, in some cases, beyond what is currently realistic. Considering the surfeit of new technologies – and the tumbling costs of these technologies – that the world has witnessed in the last 30 years leads to an appreciation of what is to come in the next 30 years to 2050. While government officials might point to costs or intermittency issues associated with achieving 100 percent renewable energy, renewables are already competitive in many markets, and costs continue to fall. Intermittency challenges may become moot with the advent of inexpensive energy-storage technologies.

The need for a long-term vision is reflected in the Paris Agreement (Art 4.19), which invites countries to communicate by 2020 “mid-century, long-term, low greenhouse gas emission development strategies”. These strategies can articulate 2050 aspirations and provide direction to future NDCs, which may be seen as five-year stepping-stones toward long-term visions. Long-term strategies can be living documents, adapted over time to changing circumstances and building on shorter-term development strategies and plans.

Even though Art. 4.19 only has a voluntary character, several governments have already responded to the invitation of the Paris Agreement and communicated their long-term strategies to the UNFCCC Secretariat. Mexico, for example, sets out a long-term development vision and roadmap to incorporate climate change into its development plans. The country aims to ensure access to clean energy, good health, and a safe environment for its citizens, while at the same time reducing its national greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent from 2000 levels by 2050. Mexico’s strategy provides the vision, principles, goals, and lines of action to build a climate-resilient society and achieve low-emissions development in line with national priorities.

Developing these long-term strategies calls for new and innovative approaches. It requires governments to move beyond current ways of doing business and envisions an ideal future for their countries and citizens. UNDP and the UNFCCC Secretariat recently incorporated dedicated discussions on long-term strategies and increased ambition at the Regional Dialogue on NDCs for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, held on 21-23 May 2018 in Tbilisi, Georgia, to invite participants to envision their country objectives for 2050.

In a nutshell, even though LEDS are a voluntary and nationally driven exercise, several points can be made in favor for formulating them nevertheless:

* Short-term goals are being aligned with long-term goals which guides the implementation of NDCs and avoids the lock-in of carbon-intensive technologies, which is important since investments cycles for energy infrastructure are long and once an investment is made the operation is likely to be in place until 2050 (‘locked-in’) which increases the cost of shifting to a low-carbon pathway.
* Countries are encouraged to step back from incremental, individual NDCs and to develop a vision where they want to be in terms of sustainable development in the long run. LEDS can be living documents, drafted under a democratic process with the input of several stakeholder groups.
* Splitting the overall GHG reduction target into sectoral targets and specific time-frames can turn the NDCs into five-year stepping-stones to achieve a greater picture, which also enhances ownership in the transformation process towards a low-carbon economy.

Now, the “*Regional Workshop on Long-Term Low Emissions Development Strategies and the Mainstreaming of Climate Policies*”, which will take place on 15-17 October 2019 in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, will carry forward the discussion, inspiring the six EU Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine - to take a step back and move from incremental to ambitious, long-term planning.

**LINK TO MAINSTREAMING**

The developing of LEDS also requires more precise sectoral pathways. In other words, this leads us to component five of the EU4C project, the mainstreaming (i.e., integrating) of climate change policies into development policies, plans, and programs across all sectors of the economy. This exercise also strengthens ownership of sectoral ministries during the low-carbon transformation process.

Mainstreaming, as defined by the European Commission (2004), is “*the process of systematically integrating a selected value/idea/theme into all domains of the EU development cooperation to promote specific as well as general development outcomes*.” Mainstreaming, in general, can cover adaptation and mitigation measures and implies that, in the end, climate policies don’t have to be “added” anymore since they are already an integrated part of a project. However, the success of mainstreaming efforts is hard to predict and depends on the country’s institutional setup, sectoral policies and can go down to the local level, especially for adaptation measures. Despite these varieties, some institutions and international organizations have published guidelines and best practices such as the European Commission and UNDP.

**REGIONAL WORKSHOP AGENDA**

Day one of this workshop focuses on LEDS and covers the state of the art, presents best practices, and shares experiences from existing examples from the region. We also address National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) as they are a critical element for contracting parties of the Energy Community. Day two picks up the discussion on NECPs and provides country- and sector examples in the context of LEDS. Day three introduces the mainstreaming of climate change mitigation policies into other sectors.

This three-day regional workshop is a practical exchange for the six EU Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine government practitioners, policy decision makers and international experts to share existing good practices, tools and benefits for LEDS development, explore implications of these strategies on near-term actions and sectoral policies, and generate momentum to respond to the invitation to prepare and submit long term strategies.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP**

The Regional Workshop will support the implementation of the Paris Agreement by:

* Highlighting emerging good practices, country experiences, expert views and support available on approaches to developing LT-LEDS and mainstreaming climate policies;
* Outlining the importance, benefits and urgency for engaging country governments now in the development of LT-LEDS and mainstreaming climate policies;
* Build a community of practitioners and support for advancing the global conversation and practice on developing LT-LEDS and mainstreaming climate policies;
* Draws the link to mainstreaming of climate change mitigation policies into other sectors and provides an understanding of developing sectoral pathways with a long-term vision.

**REGIONAL WORKSHOP TENTATIVE AGENDA**

**DAY 1, Tuesday, 15 October 2019**

***Simultaneous translation from English to Russian and vice versa are provided***

| **Time** | **Sessions** | **Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **8.30 – 09.00** | **Registration of Participants** |  |
| **09.00 – 10.00** | **Welcome remarks**  Welcome remarks by   * Minister of the Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Moldova * Head of Operations Section, EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova * UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in the Republic of Moldova   Welcome remarks by other participating international organizations:   * EC Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) * Energy Community Secretariat | Ms. Georgeta Mincu  Mr. Marco Gemmer  Ms. Andrea Cuzyova  Estelle Payan  Irina Lazzerini |
| **10.00 – 10.30** | **Opening & Participant Introductions**   * Remarks on the workshop’s objectives * Participating countries introduce themselves and state their expectations | Yevgen Groza  Country representatives |
| **10.30 – 11.00** | **Coffee Break & Interviews for Media** |  |
| **11.00 – 12.30** | **State of the Art, Lessons Learned and Best Practices**  This section introduces different perspectives and benefits for developing long-term strategies. Even though the LEDS do not have a binding character, some countries in the region have already submitted their long-term LEDS (Ukraine, among others) and some early insights and best practices can be drawn from them. This section provides an opportunity for these countries to share their experiences. Ukraine’s report, for instance, identifies problems and challenges and develops a strategic vision. Furthermore, one entire chapter is dedicated to the decarbonization of the country’s energy sector and non-CO2 emissions such as from water and agriculture are addressed as well.  Moderator:   * Natalia Kushko   **Panelists:**   * UNFCCC (Status of international process with developing/updating LEDS) * USAID LEDS (formerly involved in Ukraine) * Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment of the Republic of Moldova, Manager of Climate Change Office * Environment Agency Austria (the UK & Austrian “climate calculators” to explore consequences of different pathways[[1]](#footnote-1)) | Tugba Icmeli (Skype)  Natalia Kushko (Ukraine)  Vasile Scorpan  Johannes Mayer |
| **12.30 – 13.30** | **Lunch** |  |
| **13.30 – 15.00** | **National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs): Policy Process & Building Blocks**  The Ministerial Council of the Energy Community adopted Recommendation 2018/01/MC-EnC, which promotes the analytical and institutional requirements for developing integrated NECPs. NECPs are supposed to cover the period from 2021 to 2030 and present a strategy to reach the EU’s 2030 targets.  The Energy Community requests contracting parties to submit draft NECPs by March 2020. Final NECPs should be submitted by October 2020, after a feedback-process involving other Member States and Contracting Parties. In June 2018, the Energy Community Secretariat published policy guidelines to provide guidance to Contracting Parties and to describe the main required steps until the submission of national plans.   * Introducing key elements of NECPs * Indictive timeline for Contracting Parties of the Energy Community * Challenges (e.g., modelling of projections) * Alignment with existing national policies   Moderator: Irina Lazzerini  Panelists:   * Representative of the Energy Community * Representative of the European Commission (DG-NEAR) * NewClimate Institute (national alignment of climate policy processes) | Irina Lazzerini  Estelle Payan  Swithin Lui |
| **15.00 – 15.30** | **Coffee Break** |  |
| **15.30 – 16.30** | **Road map and building blocks to design LEDS – introducing key elements of a strategy**  The intent of this session is to introduce the breadth of aspects, considerations, and inputs which can be relevant when developing a long-term strategy. Participants will be able to get an overview of those elements, explore how each element might work in practice and how an element can feed into both near and long-term planning. The input relies on research institutes (such as WRI) and multi-stakeholder initiatives (such as 2050 Pathways).  The building blocks include:   * Crafting a long-term vision * Collecting input * Developing scenarios & pathways * Stakeholder engagement * Good governance * Adaptation & resilience planning * Sectoral planning * Finance & investment strategies   **15.30-16.00: Long-term Strategies: Climate Action Today with Tomorrow in Mind**  A presentation from the World Resource Institute (Global Climate Program).  **16.00-16.30: Key Elements by the 2050 Pathways Platform**  The 2050 Pathways Platform will join via Skype. | Juan Carlos Altamirano  Siddharth Pathak (Skype) |
| 16.30 – 17.30 | **Key elements of long-term strategies**  The intent of this session is to explore key aspects of LT-LEDS in more detail, hearing about country experiences, relevant tools, challenges, and how to overcome them.  **16.30 – 16.50: Key Lessons from Developing Long Term Strategies**  A presentation from the World Resource Institute (Global Climate Program).  **16.50 – 17.10: Collecting input & developing of scenarios for LEDS**  The representative of the Republic of Moldova will elaborate on country experience.  **17.10 – 17.30: Follow-Up Discussion**  After the two presentations as input, country representatives have the chance to discuss about key elements and major challenges.  Panelists**:**   * Representative of the Government of Armenia * Representative of the Government of Azerbaijan * Representative of the Government of Belarus * Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, Climate Change Division * Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment of the Republic of Moldova, Climate Change Office * Ministry of Energy and Environment of Ukraine | Juan Carlos Altamirano  Ion Comendant  Yevgen Groza  Artak Baghdasaryan Sima Mammadova  Ekaterina Boldyreva  Giorgi Machavariani  Ion Comendant  Antonina Platonina |
| 18:00-21:00 | **Guided tour**  Departure to CRICOVA WINERY[[2]](#footnote-2) for a two-hours guided winery tour (package – national: includes a tasting of 4 types of wine, paired with a 3-course traditional dinner).  **Note:** As this event happens in a wine cellar with a stable temperature all year round of about 14-15°C, we kindly ask participants to bring warm clothes. |  |
| 21:00-21:30 | **Return to**  **Radisson Blu Hotel** |  |

**DAY 2, Wednesday, 16 October 2019**

| **Time** | **Sessions** | **Comments** |
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| 09.00 – 09.15 | **Welcome back** |  |
| 09.15 – 10.30 | **National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs): Country Examples and Lessons Learned**  EU member states have submitted their NECP drafts by the end of last year and are currently undergoing a review process to finalize their drafts. In this session, NECPs are introduced. Afterwards, one EU member state and three EaP countries (Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine) will present their experience.  **Opening: Introduction** (Energy Community, 10 minutes)  **NECPs – The EaP Perspective**  As members of the Energy Community, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine can present their perspective.  Panelists:   * Representative of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, Climate Change Division * Representative of the Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure of the Republic of Moldova, Head of Energy Policies Direction * Representative of the Government of Ukraine | Irina Lazzerini  Giorgi Machavariani  Călin Negură  Oleksandr Diachuk |
| 10.30 – 11.00 | **Coffee Break** |  |
| 11.00 – 12.30 | **Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership: E5P**  The E5P initiative unites all Eastern Partnership countries. It is a multi-donor fund receiving support from the EU and 21 other countries. With initial involvement in the Ukraine, the fund has proven that multiples of the committed grants can be leveraged. The E5P works as a co-financier - with the WorldBank, EIB, EBRD, KfW and more as implementing agencies. This session will shed light on the perspectives of different players.  **Moderator:** *EU High-Level Advisers / EU Delegation*  Panelists:   * State Secretary for Economy, Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure * Director, Environmental Funds, EBRD * Director of Balti District Heating Company (a project completed with EBRD loan and E5P grant) * EU Delegation Moldova | Svetlana Zhekova  Alexandru Sonic  Adonai Herrera-Martinez  Marian Brinza  Christian Ballaro |
| 12.30 – 13.30 | **Lunch** |  |
| 13.30 – 14.00 | **Green Cities Framework – Mainstreaming of Climate Action in Cities**  Cities are critical to achieve climate change adaptation and mitigation goals. Therefore, the EBRD developed its “Green Cities Framework” which requires participating cities to develop Green City Action Plans (GCAPs). Two cities that have developed and approved GCAPs so far are Tbilisi and Yerevan.  **Presentation:**   * Director, Environmental Funds, EBRD | Adonai Herrera-Martinez |
| 14.00 – 15.30 | **Country Cases LEDS**  This session intends to present impressions from different projects and countries.  ***14.00 – 14.30: Ukraine’s LEDS - Lessons Learned and Recommendations***   * USAID LEDS (formerly involved in Ukraine)   ***14.30 – 15.00: Georgia’s LEDS - Lessons Learned and Recommendations***   * Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, Climate Change Division   ***15.00 – 15.30: Follow-Up / Q&A***  Moderator: Natalia Kushko   * Representatives of the EaP countries | Natalia Kushko  Giorgi Machavariani |
| 15.30 – 16.00 | **Coffee Break** |  |
| 16.00 – 17.00 | **Sectoral Pathways I: Energy Sector**.  This session addresses the development of sectoral strategies, thereby combining one crucial element of LEDS with mainstreaming of climate change policies into other sectors. Sectoral strategies divide the overarching GHG reduction target into smaller pieces and provide, thereby, clearer guidance and ownership. Most of the existing LEDS have outlined at least some sector pathways.  The first part deals with the energy sector, which is responsible for the lion’s share of the emissions and has been identified by most developing countries as key for implementing their NDCs.  Elements that can inspire the debate:   * Key elements of decarbonizing the energy sector * Credible examples and best practices from other countries * Energy sector pathways in currently available LEDS   **Presentations:**   * DG-NEAR   **Discussion / Country Experiences:**  Moderator:   * Senior Specialist, Renewable Energy Division, Energy Department, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure of Armenia * Representative of the Government of Azerbaijan * Ministry of Economy of Belarus * Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, Climate Change Division * Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure of the Republic of Moldova, Head of Energy Policies Direction * Representative of the Ukraine | Estelle Payan  Nazik Margaryan  Eldar Ahmadov  Anastasia Korzhanets Giorgi Machavariani  Călin Negură  Oleksandr Diachuk |
| 17.00 – 17.45 | **Sectoral Pathways II: Transport**  The second session on sectoral pathways addresses the transport sector in more detail.  Elements that can inspire the debate:   * Key elements * Transport sector pathways in currently available LEDS   **Presentation:**   * Representative of the Republic of Moldova, National Consultant (15 mins)   **Discussion / Country Experiences:**  **Moderator:** Yevgen Groza   * Representative of the Government of Azerbaijan * Ministry of Economy of Belarus * Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, Climate Change Division * Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure of the Republic of Moldova, Transport Direction, Road Transport Service * Ministry of Energy and Environment of Ukraine | Sergiu Codreanu  Maharram Mehtiyev  Anastasia Korzhanets Giorgi Machavariani  Petru Bambuleac  Antonina Platonina |
| 17.45 – 18.00 | **Closing Remarks**  All participants are asked to provide and discuss closing remarks.   * Follow-up discussion * Open questions * Hands-on advice: How to take long term strategies forward? | Yevgen Groza  All Participants |

**DAY 3, Thursday, 17 October 2019**

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| **Time** | **Sessions** | **Comments** |
| 09.00 – 09.10 | **Welcome Back** |  |
| 09.10 – 10.00 | **Introducing Mainstreaming**  This section introduces the use of mainstreaming and its principles and draws the link to LEDS and its sectoral pathways. Definition and purpose of mainstreaming  Panelists:   * Expert Ana Moreno Mendieta (specialist in formulation, implementation, and monitoring of EU and UN programmes) | Ana Moreno Mendieta |
| 10.00 – 10.15 | **Coffee Break** |  |
| 10.15 – 10.45 | **International experience with mainstreaming climate policies**  Presentation:   * NDC Support Programme | Susanne Olbrisch (Skype) |
| 10.45 – 11.45 | **EU Guidelines on Mainstreaming**  This section provides an overview of EU Mainstreaming Guidelines and general methodology. While these guidelines are intended for staff in the European Commission, they provide a helpful toolbox on climate change mainstreaming and are complemented by credible examples, practical tools, and sector notes.   * Tools and methods: Climate Change Mainstreaming in Practice * Sector notes: Energy & Agriculture   Panelists:   * Expert Ana Moreno Mendieta (specialist in formulation, implementation, and monitoring of EU and UN programmes) | Ana Moreno Mendieta |
| 11.45 – 12.45 | **Country Discussions**  Participants can discuss their experience with mainstreaming of (environmental) policies.  **Moldova’s experience with climate mainstreaming into the forestry sector**   * Deputy-Director of Research and Forestry Management Institute, Moldsilva Agency (20 minutes)   **Follow-Up / Q&A**   * Moderator: Ana Moreno Mendieta (follow up) | Ion Talmaci |
| 12.45 – 13.30 | **Closing Remarks**  All participants are asked to provide and discuss closing remarks.   * Follow-up discussion * Open questions * Hands-on advice | All Participants |
| 13.30 – 14.30 | **Lunch** |  |

1. <http://2050-calculator-tool.decc.gov.uk> and <http://www.klimarechner.at/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://winetours.md/eng/winery-tours/cricova-winery>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)