

# Implementation of the European Water Framework Directive on a local level in the Republic of Moldova

The Republic of Moldova has to implement the water management standards of the European Water Framework Directive (WFD) due to the Association Agreement with the European Union of June 2014. This is a big challenge for the country since the development of management plans and strategies to achieve a good ecological status of the water has just started.

In the past, especially small river entities, which have to be managed exclusively by the local authorities under Moldovan law, were heavily contaminated and until now most of them are not subject to any ecological management.

## Capacity building for local authorities on water management

The project “Capacity building for local authorities on water management in the Republic of Moldova” which is funded by the 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 of the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety is therefore aiming to improve the water management capacities of local authorities and the civil society. From August 2016 until October 2018 the Independent Institute for Environmental Issues (UfU) e.V. in close cooperation with the Moldovan NGO Eco-Tiras will support the development of the water management of small rivers with the following activities.

## Project activities

As a first step in close cooperation with the Moldovan Ministry for the Environment an explanatory guide including guidelines how to implement the provisions of the WFD will be developed in Russian and Rumanian language. It will afterwards be completed by an English summary of its main content. The guide will explain the legal concept of the WFD and contain explanations on how to install River Basin Councils as well as best practices to improve the ecological status of small rivers.

The guide will thereafter be used as a basis for training workshops for members of local authorities and NGOs in Chisinau, Comrat and Benderi.

Besides, a brochure for the general public on the state of the environment of small river entities in Moldova will help to raise the awareness for their importance and current ecological status.

Moreover, the project will help to install a Water Basin Council for the River Baltata where local authorities and the civil society will jointly work together to improve the water and ecological status of this river situated close to Chisinau. The Council will serve as a role model to encourage other local authorities and the civil society to work on the better management of small rivers in Moldova.

During the whole project period, German water-management experts from the NGO and local administration level will participate and present in these activity related workshops. This knowledge transfer will help to strengthen the transnational cooperation and to learn from experiences made during the implementation of the WFD in Germany.

## Further information:

<http://www.ufu.de/de/projekte-umweltrecht/wassermanagement-moldau.html>

<http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/themen/nachhaltigkeit-strategien-internationales/kooperation-in-mittel-osteuroopa-dem-kaukasus/projekt-datenbank-des-beratungshilfeprogramms/kapazitaetsbildung-fuer-das-wassermanagement-auf>

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River Baltata close to Budești