

# **Circular Economy and New Growth Opportunities**



Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production among SMEs in the Republic of Moldova

# The EU4ENVIRONMENT

Funded by the European Union, the EU4Environment Action aims to preserve and better use the natural capital, increase people's environmental well-being, and stimulate economic growth in the six EaP countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine. By bringing together environmental and economic actors, it helps deliver policy and legislative changes, making planning and investment greener, stimulating thus the uptake of innovative technologies by adopting new business models and creating green jobs. It also promotes a better environmental governance, improved management of protected areas and forests, and sustainable trade. The Action, spanning from 2019-2022, involves five implementing organizations - OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO, and the World Bank – that focus on producing tangible and achievable results in line with the goals, priorities and overall cooperation targets defined by the Partner countries.

Building on the important achievements of the former EaP GREEN Programme (2013-2017) in the Republic of Moldova, in which 64 participating SMEs demonstrated the effectiveness of UNIDO's RECP approach, resulting in reduced consumption of resources, energy, and water, UNIDO will continue to promote and build national capacities to enable SMEs in switching to a Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production. In addition, UNIDO will identify opportunities that can support the creation of circular value chains to raise the opportunities and benefits of a Circular Economy among enterprises, the government, and the civil society.

EU4Environment Actions are clustered around five priority results:



Under Result 2- "Circular Economy and New Growth Opportunities", UNIDO is scaling up "Resource Efficient & Cleaner Production among SMEs" in the Republic of Moldova and other EaP countries and will further work on building the capacity of SMEs to use RECP and economovation approaches in their operations. About 20 Moldovan enterprises will be assisted in revising their business models. The local experts trained in the RECP methodology and approaches will then conduct assessments in the selected companies. The implementation of the RECP methodology will help to increase productivity, product quality, and the competitiveness of SMEs. The project will ensure long-term sustainability for the acquired knowledge in Moldova.

Action implemented by:











# Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production among SMEs in the Republic of Moldova is scaled up



### **Supporting RECP Clubs**

RECP clubs will be established in two regions to promote peer coaching mechanism and enhance the productivity of industrial enterprises. As a means of introducing CE principles, the project will aim at assessing waste sources from industrial activities and identify recycling options (source to waste) where CE models can be introduced as tools such as "waste maps" on a pilot basis. The national capacity to implement RECP will be further built through strengthening support institutions, raising awareness about RECP benefits, and sharing knowledge on how it could be implemented nationwide.

- ✓ Support SMEs to create internal capacities on the integration of RECP principles in their business, leading them towards the identification of viable economic and environmental solutions that improve their productivity and green their performance
- Scale up RECP demonstrations in the country through RECP Clubs - a peer review coaching mechanism established in 2 municipalities

# **Circular Economy**

- ✓ Raising Awareness on CE concepts and approaches
- Identifying and assessing waste sources from production activities
- ✓ Identifying recycling options in recognized waste sources
- ✓ Preparing waste maps in pilot municipalities

✓ Increasing the number of companies applying cost-effective measures for reducing energy, water and material consumptions, and waste and emission generations, through a systematic and integrated evaluation methodology

**Additional RECP Assessments** 

- ✓ The RECP saving catalogue, supported by developed studies, and the RECP action and monitoring plans for each company
- Contribution to establishing initial capacities in the companies for RECP adoption as a necessary strategy for business growth

## Raising Awareness & Sharing Knowledge

- Supporting & promoting Circular Economy and RECP concepts, methodologies, tools, and results of project implementation among programme stakeholders and relevant target groups through efficient communication tools & channels
- ✓ Improving awareness and understanding of country specific RECP opportunities and benefits to further develop market demand for the RECP services
- ✓ Strengthening the national capacities and collaboration on CE/RECP in Moldova through national professional networks for knowledge sharing among experts, business owners, and staff from demonstration companies to ensure a continuous exchange of technical expertise, a proper knowledge management, and a regular exchange among professionals

#### **Training of National Experts**

✓ Providing hands-on experience and advancing training on RECP demonstration companies team and other professionals to foster a continuous learning process on RECP among industry professionals, and expand the local market of service providers

### For more information, contact:



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