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Project Title: **Building confidence between Chisinau and
Tiraspol**

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Country: Republic of Moldova

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I. SUMMARY

Total duration of the action	<i>18 months (with a possible extension of 6 months)</i>
Objectives of the action	<p>The <u>overall objective</u> of the project was to increase confidence between Chisinau and Tiraspol by involving municipalities and civil society organizations in various economic and social confidence building projects.</p> <p><u>Project specific objectives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to economic reintegration through promoting and supporting business advisory services and practices as well as their cross-river exchange. • Empower communities to implement and monitor development priorities as well as local actors to deliver services and upgrade the basic infrastructure; • Foster civil society development in the Transnistrian region by supporting them to address pressing social and community needs through cross-river partnerships.
Partner(s)	National and regional authorities, international, national and local NGOs active in the Transnistrian region, local municipalities etc.
Target group(s)	<p>Economic actors (including SMEs, Chambers of Commerce, business associations etc.)</p> <p>Communities and community based NGOs from the security zone</p> <p>Civil society organizations in the Transnistrian region of Moldova</p>
Final beneficiaries	Citizens of Republic of Moldova, including its Transnistrian region
Estimated results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased confidence and trust between citizens on both banks • Improved contacts between business associations on both sides of the Nistru River • At least 50 SMEs benefiting from better business advisory services and with improved management skills • Empowered communities and increased citizen action to participate in the implementation of local development priorities; at least 9 small infrastructure projects in the social and economic areas implemented • Strengthened capacity of civil society organisations to address pressing social and community needs; at least 20 cross-river partnerships supported
Main activities	<p>The above was tackled through the following project components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Business Development – including training and relevant business advisory services; promoting cross-river cooperation and partnership among business actors; and raising awareness on benefits of economic reintegration and access to EU market. 2. Communities Empowerment – a range of socio-economic projects in the communities from the security zone will be implemented. 3. CSOs Strengthening – Provision of grants to CSOs/NGOs focusing on practical improvements in areas relevant to the population. Cross-river partnerships and capacity building/development of NGOs will be encouraged and supported.

II. CONTEXT

Approaching Transnistrian case from a development angle has been the recent focus accelerated since 2007 through the confidence building measures initiatives aimed at improving cooperation between Chisinau and Tiraspol. The implementation was however difficult, given the continued electoral context the region; especially in terms of working with civil society, which remained small, underdeveloped and overall weaker than in the rest of Moldova.

In 2007, the leadership of Moldova proposed establishment of confidence-building measures (CBM) in order to contribute to the conflict settlement, country reintegration and improvement of relations between the people from both banks. The CBM-related proposals range from economic and trade cooperation, infrastructural projects, transport, health care and social issues, education and science, demilitarisation, humanitarian aid and finally agriculture. The proposals were warmly welcomed by the international community, as they were a first step in the right direction and might help to overcome the huge amount of distrust of Tiraspol towards Chisinau. On the left bank the reactions were mixed, ranging from outward rejection by the supporters of region's independence, towards a wait-and-see attitude from more open interest groups in the region.

The CBM initiative of the Moldovan Government had a mixed record because the sides saw the goals and the scope of the CBMs differently. Chisinau wanted the CBMs to spill over into political issues and saw them as spadework for a comprehensive program of reintegration. Tiraspol viewed the CBMs from a purely developmental (humanitarian aid) angle and refused outright to treat them as a launch pad for political talks and rapprochement. Because of these divergent views on the scope of the CBMs, relations between the sides soured. Nevertheless, the Government's CBM projects served as a foundation for further confidence-building initiatives.

After 2009 elections in Moldova, the new Government has decided to suspend the policy of isolating or ignoring Transnistria and started to engage the region across the board. It has left aside difficult political issues such as Transnistria's status and focused on small steps that could bring the sides closer to each other. It has tackled issues such as railways, economic cooperation, development projects (including social and health), trade and many others within the format of the CBM working groups.

As Moldova benefits from EU programmes with - assistance for political and economic reforms, visa facilitation, trade preferences, participation in educational, scientific and cultural community programmes, etc. - Transnistrian residents still remain unaware of these benefits and hence unable to use them. With the launch in 2009 of the EU confidence building projects, implemented by UNDP in Transnistria, covering among others access to basic health and social services; civil society/community development; business advisory services and business development initiatives, this situation has been reversed.

Given the more neutral environment for the confidence building program and a large potential that this program has, alongside the political negotiations at the top level Moldova's development partners have increasingly started to pursue the second, non-political, development-focused track in order to engage Transnistria. The purpose is to encourage change and modernization within the region, involve it in regional development processes, explore areas where common work benefits both sides and thereby build lasting prerequisites for a sustainable resolution of the conflict.

The first comprehensive part of this effort came about as a EUR 1.7 million package from the European Union for the Support to Civil Society in Transnistria project, focusing on areas that have direct repercussions on the needs of the population, such as medical care, the social sector, pre-school education facilities, environment, health and many other areas. A variety of organizations and institutions from Transnistria were involved in the implementation process, which ensured buy-in

from the local communities, raised the efficiency of projects and built up local capacity, reducing the isolation of the region.

The implementation of the first component has provided valuable lessons and expertise to the UNDP and this experience has been fully used to smooth the way for the second, EUR 2 mill package of the confidence-building measures (Building Confidence between Chisinau and Tiraspol). The second package is a logical continuation of the first, but branches off into ever-more areas to encourage development in the region, build local capacities and lay the ground for a lasting resolution of the conflict.

In terms of current political environment, it remained tense on both sides during 2010-2011. The aftermath of 2010 parliamentary elections in Moldova generated political uncertainty. Electoral cycles in Transnistria region started with the local elections on 28th of March 2010, elections to 'Supreme Soviet' (the local legislative body) in December 2010 and elections for the 'president' of the region in December 2011. The outcomes of these elections were important for the political configuration on both sides and the course that both sides will choose towards each other. The elections had a serious repercussion on the course of political negotiations and the ability of donors to continue their development activities in the region.

On the eve of the key elections, the Transnistrian authorities predictably wanted to exercise tight control over development assistance for fear that it may be elections-related. Coordinating the project work with the Transnistrian authorities remained a difficult task over the whole period of implementation.

III. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The overall objective of the project was to increase confidence between Chisinau and Tiraspol by involving municipalities, civil society organizations and other stakeholders in economic and social confidence building projects. The project addressed the needs of vulnerable communities, with a specific focus on Transnistrian region of Moldova, including the security zone. The project supported the establishment of cross-river partnerships, promoted economic cooperation and contributed towards confidence building among the actors and the population at large.

The program and specific interventions have been identified as a result of broad consultations with key stakeholders (Bureau for Reintegration, the Office of the EU Special Representative, the EU Delegation and other public institutions from the Moldovan Government, as well as Transnistrian region). The concept was developed after a thorough assessment of lessons learned in the Support to Civil Society in Transnistria Project (CBM1) and the political realities on the ground.

The project was conceptually divided into three major areas: 1) Business development; 2) Community empowerment; 3) Civil society development. Funding was also provided for research and support for the creation of Nistru Euroregion, as well as technical support within the process of settlement of the railways transportation issue.

1. Business Development

There has always been a significant interest on both sides in developing economic activities and improving the livelihoods of the people. Business development was incorporated as an integral program meant to tackle comprehensively the development of small and medium enterprises in Transnistria and establish close links between businesses on both sides. The assumption was that economic cooperation could bring sizeable benefits and create linkages between the sides, as well as bridge the divide between the increasingly estranged economic sectors. Support to business development in right-bank Moldova was relatively more advanced than in Transnistria region, where these services were practically non-existent, which was largely due to lack of associations or NGOs operating in this field.

The **business support program** sought to tackle business development in the region in a strategic way. It has identified the key obstacles that stymie business development and seeks to address the areas where the available resources can make the most difference, boosting the competitiveness of the SME sector and fostering cross-border business linkages and cooperation.

The **key structural impediments** to SME development in the region include a host of issues ranging from high taxes, intrusive checks by controlling agencies and lack of business education to political and economic instability. From among those, the following four constraints have been selected: lack of business training programs and qualified cadre; lack of business support infrastructure, including business incubators; lack of capital, investments, and affordable loans; and lack of joint business development programs and projects for both sides.

The first constraint has been addressed by setting up a **network of business schools** across Transnistria to develop the local pool of entrepreneurial skills and provide business training to beginner entrepreneurs, managers of existing SMEs and CEOs, as well as train local business trainers to meet the growing local demand for business education. A **research** into Transnistria's **SME environment** has been conducted and a blueprint for establishing a **business incubator** has been drafted. The business incubator will address the second constraint, lack of business support infrastructure. The third constraint will be addressed through a **study into Transnistria's micro-finance environment**. Finally, lack of joint business development opportunities and programs was addressed through **joint business support and advisory services** for both sides, including study visits to identify potential business opportunities, organization of specialized sessions and thematic roundtables for decision-makers, the business community, researchers and analysts; as well as consultancy and business support services for targeted beneficiaries on both banks of the Nistru River. The projects were designed to foster cross-river exchanges between similar beneficiaries and support the development of the private sector on both banks.

This component of the project envisaged careful steps towards establishing more links between the business communities on both banks. At the same time, the political situation in the region and the high degree of suspicion towards CBM programs made it an issue which had to be carefully managed in order to circumvent risks of closure of projects in the field of business development. The project included an increased amount of joint activities for entrepreneurs on both banks such as joint participation at seminars, joint visits to EU etc. contributing to increased interaction and cooperation between economic agents on both banks of the Nistru River.

2. Community Development

Implemented at the local level, communities' empowerment sub-projects addressed community needs and help citizens to solve their problems through common work and participation. Small community-led projects in the Security Zone were implemented on both banks of the Nistru River, including improvements of water supply, renovation of educational and health facilities, improvement of service delivery etc. These projects enhanced the capacities of rural community members to effectively participate in and benefit from the development initiatives through an increased demand of efficient delivery of social security services, as well as utilities provision. They also help residents from the Security Zone from both sides to resolve the common issues that they are faced with.

Rehabilitation of infrastructural units in the security zone on both banks of the Nistru River has involved local communities and has proved to be a sustainable confidence-building measure. The problems that communities on both banks are faced with are similar and they were jointly involved in order to better resolve them. The project has been run in a way that made local participation possible and opened the road towards community capacity development. These projects have served as pilot/demonstration projects that can be replicated by other communities and become a confidence building element providing services for the inhabitants of both banks.

The infrastructure projects were identified through a thorough participatory process which involved relevant stakeholders: initially within socio-economic development action plans of the communities,

followed by multiple assessment conducted by EC team of experts. Out of 35 concept notes proposed for consideration by the former Ministry of Reintegration, 9 best ranking project proposals were jointly with other stakeholders selected for financing.

The activities derived from the approaches, experience and best practices of UNDP interventions at community level in Moldova, where communities were assisted in social mobilisation, formation and support of community organisation mechanisms, provision of technical and financial support to community-led development projects. Capacities among community members were developed for sustainable local development processes such as identifying and prioritizing community development needs, developing strategies for addressing identified problems, mobilising resources to implement community development projects and managing and sustaining the outputs.

3. Civil society development

Civil society in Transnistria was continuously dealing with issues of underdevelopment and was comparatively weaker than the civil society from the rest of Moldova. It lacked capacity to push for reforms. NGO activity was centred in the main cities (Tiraspol, Bender and Dubasari) and was rather limited in rural areas. The number of CSOs focusing on youth issues, environment and community issues is small and those organizations which do exist have poor resources and limited capacities; thus reaffirming the need for provision of NGOs/CSOs capacity building programmes.

In previous years, most assistance to the Transnistrian region has been provided for humanitarian aid and social assistance projects. Only a small number of donors were working with Transnistria's civil society, and this support was sporadic. It is insufficient to foster the development of a strong, non-political third sector which would respond to the needs of the population and promote community empowerment. While a few large NGOs from the Transnistrian region – mainly from cities such as Tiraspol and Bender – have received most external financing, civil society at the local and grassroots level (TN) has remained undersized, lacks the capacity to push for reforms and has limited opportunities for independent development as well as lacks experience of cooperating with counterparts on the other bank.

Supporting the development of Transnistria's civil society organizations at the grassroots level as well as fostering the creation of cross-river partnerships and co-operation projects between Moldovan and Transnistrian NGOs became an important component of the "Support to Confidence Building Measures" (SCBM) project. The addition of this element to other on-going CSO cross-river confidence building projects strengthened the comprehensive approach adopted by the SCBM project as part of the confidence building work on both banks of the Nistru River. The UNDP supported the establishment of cross-river people-to-people contacts and grassroots links through NGO partnership projects on both sides, under the aegis of its call for proposals, opened for CSOs from both banks.

Following a comprehensive selection process, nine proposals were identified by a joint evaluation committee and were implemented starting with December 2010 to November 2011. Another two innovative ideas, coming from partnerships led by two well-known international NGOs: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and Crisis Management Initiative, were additionally accepted for funding by the Project Board in 2011.

4. Support to creation of Dniester Euroregion and restoration of railway traffic.

The idea to establish a Dniester Euroregion, including regions from Moldova, Transnistria and Ukraine, can contribute towards a peaceful and lasting resolution of the conflict. The first step towards that end, envisaged by the second CBM package, was a feasibility study of such Euroregion and an in-depth analysis of the conditions with special focus on the political, legal and socio-economic context in the participating regions (Soroca, Floresti from the right bank, as well as Camenca and Ribnitsa districts from the left bank of Nistru River, including Vinnitsa oblast of Ukraine), in order to map the needs and opportunities. The study was commissioned by the Budapest-based International Center for Democratic Transition.

Restoration of railways traffic through the Transnistrian region is one of the issues that has been subject to discussion among the parties for a long time, to no avail. The restoration of traffic could have high impact on the development processes and confidence building in particular. However, it has been politicized and attracted significant attention. The project sought to achieve progress in this area by collecting more technical information and conducting targeted discussions with both sides. Technical expertise and feasibility study were provided by EU experts, whose task was to develop a model of how the railways could function. This technical support, provided as part of the project was instrumental in re-launching the railway traffic through the TN region as of April 2012.

IV. SUMMARY OF IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

Key results achieved within the three components of the programme:

The business development component:

A host of business development activities impacted on the capacity of more than **1,000 entrepreneurs** on both banks of Nistru River.

- A business schools network has been set up in three cities (Tiraspol, Bender, Ribnita) in Transnistria to **cover 70% of the region's territory**;
- A series of innovative trainings were delivered in the area of business development, focusing on regulatory and legislative issues, management, business planning, financial management, access to funding and market access among others, producing and updated and focused curricula for business education in the region;
- More than **700 entrepreneurs benefited from the "Business School"** project with **204 students** participating in the training for beginner entrepreneurs, **364 listeners** in the trainings for the managers of existing SMEs and **117 listeners** from trainings for CEO and managers of large companies, while **15 local business trainers** were prepared to create a sustainable local pool of specialists;
- **200 businesses** surveyed and **25 in-depth interviews** with businesses have been conducted in three geographic areas of the TN region to identify key constraints that prevent SMEs growth;
- A comprehensive study on the **feasibility of establishing a business incubator** in TN region was finalised and publicly presented to stakeholders;
- **48 enterprises participated in joint study visits** for businessmen from both banks of the river in a move to re-establish economic ties, enhancing confidence between companies and increasing capacity to access the EU market;
- **Over 100 representatives** of the business communities on both banks, as well as authorities and representatives of the civil society, participated in **5 specialised seminars** to debate ways in overcoming economic difficulties and barriers between the two sides.
- The web portal: www.businessportal.md has been re-launched to address the needs of targeted beneficiaries on both banks of the Nistru River and provide updated economic and business-related information in a comprehensive manner.

Communities' empowerment component:

9 social infrastructure rehabilitation projects addressed the most urgent needs of more than **26,000 inhabitants** of 10 communities on both banks of Nistru River.

- **9,100 inhabitants** from three communities benefited from the purchase of special road maintenance equipment to address urgent community needs in Corjova, Molovata and Cocieri villages from Dubasari district;
- **1,500 persons** were provided with access to better conditions for pre-school education at the kindergarten in Puhaceni village, Anenii Noi district, which was fully repaired and re-equipped;
- The project to repair the roof and facilities at the indoor sporting hall in Roscani village, Anenii Noi district, addressed the needs of **1,820 inhabitants** from the village;

- **9,100 beneficiaries** received access to an inter-municipal domestic waste management service in three communities (Corjova, Molovata and Cocieri) from Dubasari district;
- The reconstruction of a housing centre for the elderly people in Calfa village, Anenii Noi district was completed and will positively affect the lives of **240 elderly citizens** from Calfa and neighbouring communities;
- **1,750 inhabitants** benefit from the rehabilitation of the kindergarten in Hagimus village, Causeni district;
- **2,390 beneficiaries** were provided with access to better conditions for pre-school education at the kindergarten in Firladeni village, Causeni district which was fully repaired and re-equipped;
- **734 inhabitants** benefited from the capital repairs of a dormitory of the lyceum in Holercani village, Dubasari district;
- Around **650 beneficiaries** were positively affected by the full repairs of a kindergarten in Cremenciug village, Slobozeia district from the Transnistrian region.

The civil society component:

9 cooperative civil society initiatives were supported, which positively impacted the lives of more than **14,000** beneficiaries on both banks of Nistru River

- **120 children and 15 educators** from Transnistrian region as well as beneficiaries of five Day Care Centres from the Transnistrian region underwent comprehensive training in protection of children's rights;
- **4 TV programs and talk shows** of the cycle "Территория Доверия" (Territory of Trust) produced and aired on both banks of the Nistru River;
- **75 students and 12 teachers** underwent journalistic training; **7,500 pupils** from the 10-12 grades from all schools of Tiraspol had access to a new, alternative source of information.
- **415 detainees** from 8 penitentiaries: 5 on the right bank and 3 on the left bank as well as **76 doctors and nurses** working in 8 penitentiaries trained in tuberculosis (TB) prevention and got access to better health care, by early detection of TB.
- **4,200 inhabitants** of the villages Beloci and Molochisul Mare from Ribnita rayon, TN region, were supported by Moldovan civil society counterparts in addressing common social issues, fostering partnerships and involving citizens in the community development processes;
- **105 members** of ecological NGOs from both banks were supported in promoting access to ecological information and the nature preservation's activity of the National Parks from Glodeni ("Padurea Domneasca") and Dubasari ("Iagorlik").
- **171 environmental activists trained in promotion of the Aarhus** Convention among environment NGOs from the both banks of the Nistru River, while 8 NGOs from both banks of the Nistru River, supported in establishing sustainable partnerships with other NGOs.
- **16 young people** with psycho-neurological problems from 15 years and older, trained in using professional printing equipment and offered a chance to earn additional money to their basic pension
- Over **1,000 young people** between 14-18 years from Criuleni, Orhei, Tiraspol, and Bender districts, on both banks, increased their level of knowledge and attitude on health education, including personal hygiene, reproductive health, sexually transmitted Infections (STI) and HIV/AIDS

V. OVERVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION PER PROJECT:

V.1 Business development sub-projects

V.1.1: Project "Business School as an Effective Tool for Business Development"

Implemented by: Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Transnistria

Partners in TN region and direct beneficiaries:

Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Transnistrian region; aspiring entrepreneurs, managers of existing SMEs, CEOs and managers of large companies from both banks of the Nistru river, business trainers; population at large. Total number of direct beneficiaries: 700

Budget: 225,000 EUR

Timeframe: April 2010 – December 2011

Overall goals of the project:

- create a sustainable business education system
- enhance the input of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) into economic growth and development.
- set up a network of business schools in Transnistria to develop local pool of entrepreneurial skills and provide business training to four target segments: a) beginner entrepreneurs, b) managers of existing SMEs, c) CEOs and managers of large companies and d) business trainers.



Overview of project implementation and results:

Three branches of the business school have been created in Tiraspol, Ribnitsa and Bender to cover 70% of Transnistrian region territory. The infrastructure and the buildings have been adjusted to the needs of the business schools.

Training curricula have been finalized, training materials developed ("Your own business in Transnistria. Basics of Creation", "Financial and Managerial Accounting", "State Control and Small business"). Trainers have been selected through a competitive selection for all levels: beginner entrepreneurs, managers of existing businesses and CEOs. The train-the-trainer trainings have been conducted for **15 business school trainers** from Transnistrian region and Moldova proper to build up local training capacity. As a result of the close collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Moldova, some trainings have been conducted by Moldovan and international experts. A wide scale communication campaign has been conducted on local radio, TV

and print media. The project has generated intense interest in Transnistria, with the number of applicants far exceeding the number of available slots. **204 students** have benefitted from the training for beginner entrepreneurs' level, **364 listeners** from the trainings for the managers of existing SMEs and **117 listeners** from trainings for CEO and managers of large companies.



A number of Business school listeners took part in a series of study trips and visits to trade fairs and exhibitions: a study visit of

15 listeners of the course "Restaurant and hotel business and tourism" was organized to Slovakia and Hungary (February 2011); a business trip for top level managers to the Industrial Exhibition "HANNOVER MESSE", Germany (April 2011); a business trip to Istanbul, Turkey, to attend the exhibition "**Agro Eurasia 2011**" at the TUYAP Fair and Convention and Congress Centre for 12 entrepreneurs of the agricultural sector (December 2011); a visit to Franchising Trade Show, Kyiv, Ukraine of fifty listeners demonstrated successful and stable franchises, while listeners participated as well at a series of events – conferences, specialized seminars, presentations and master classes which gave the chance to know about branch development perspectives, rules and principles of doing business in the new economic conditions (2011). Specialized sessions were conducted by think tanks to targeted



beneficiaries in both regions on European trade preferences of which Moldovan businesses benefit under the GSP+ and the Autonomous Trade Preferences schemes.

Articles in print and electronic media:

- <http://www.radiopmr.org/news/1511/3/V-Benderax-otkrylas-shkola-biznesa/>
- <http://www.pmr.name/catnews/tv-pmr/46496-sertifikati-ob-okonchanii-biznes-shkoli-poluchili-90-budushih-predprinimateley.html>
- <http://www.tv-pmr.com/news.php?id=10322>
- <http://www.nr2.ru/pmr/314930.html>
- <http://profvesti.org/2011/06/18/6031/>
- <http://tiraspol.ru/news/?action=show&id=1193>
- <http://tiraspol.ru/news/?action=show&id=1203>
- <http://tiraspol.ru/news/?action=show&id=1281>
- <http://tiraspol.ru/news/?action=show&id=1356>
- <http://tiraspol.ru/news/?action=show&id=1386>
- <http://tiraspol.ru/news/?action=show&id=1428>
- http://bstiraspol.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=87&Itemid=136
- http://bstiraspol.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=93&Itemid=142
- http://bstiraspol.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=117&Itemid=155
- http://bstiraspol.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=126&Itemid=160
- http://bstiraspol.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=134&Itemid=168

V.1.2: Project “Feasibility study on Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development in the Transnistrian region of Moldova”

Implemented by: “Advances” research company (Iasi, Romania), in partnership with sociological research company Noviy Vek (New Age) from Transnistria

Budget: 41,000 EUR

Timeframe: June 2010 – March 2011

Beneficiaries: Transnistria’s small and middle businesses, managers of existing businesses, analysts, researchers, practitioners

Partners in the TN region:

Sociological research company “New Age” - a local implementing partner NGO.

Overview of project implementation and results:

A consortium of an international company and a local Transnistrian company has been selected to carry out the study and 200 businesses have been surveyed and 25 in-depth interviews with businesses finalized in three geographic areas of the TN region. The analysis of Transnistria's SMEs environment, scope and areas of their activity; including a review of operational rules, regulatory framework, stakeholder analysis have been completed. Key constraints have been identified that prevent SMEs growth. The study on the feasibility of establishing a business incubator in TN region came out with specific technical and operational recommendations. Areas and types of economic activities that can be promoted in a non-political manner through cross-river partnerships have been identified. Specific areas/sectors where business incubator is being mostly needed have been researched.

The first part of the report analyses Transnistria’s SMEs environment, while the second part is based on the results of the market analysis (business environment) and provides practical recommendations for establishing a business incubator in Transnistria.

The study concludes by mentioning that among the key problems that businesses face are prohibitive the imperfect legislative framework, lack of business support infrastructure, lack of information about potential partners and lack of reliable business education to acquire new skills and knowledge. It also mentions that lack of micro-finance funds and lack of access to cheap loans impedes the

development of SMEs in the short and medium terms. This part concludes by saying that the establishment of a micro-finance fund would provide a serious boost to business development, as well as a business incubator will resolve many issues in terms of infrastructural support for SMEs, providing invaluable advice, consulting and practical aid in organizing and managing a business.

The final text of the study is attached to this report.

V.1.3: Project “Organization of study visits and a round table for business beneficiaries from Moldova and its Transnistrian Region”

Implemented by: “DC Vision” (Czech Republic)

Consortium Partners: “Small Business Solutions” (Chisinau, Moldova), “Capital Consulting Company LTD” (Tiraspol, Moldova)

Budget: 62,000 EUR

Timeframe: December 2010 – June 2011

Beneficiaries: business support providers, managers from textile and apparel sector, fruits and vegetable sector from Moldova and its Transnistrian Region

Total number of direct beneficiaries: 48 enterprises on both banks

Overview of project implementation and results:

The Czech company DC Vision implemented a series of activities aiming to support the business and economic development of the private sector on both sides of Nistru River. It envisioned re-establishing economic ties, enhancing confidence between companies and increasing capacity to access the EU market. The project organized a Round Table and three Study Tour/Business Missions to new EU member countries: Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia for three sectors: Textile & Apparel, IT & Business Support Services and Agribusiness.

The three days **visit to Poland** was organized for **15 Moldovan textile and apparel companies**, including 10 from Transnistria. The beneficiaries established business cooperation with Polish companies; learned about Polish experience in upgrading the business models; saw the textile and garment industry infrastructure available; understood the work of sector associations and their role played for the industry and established the basis for future joint projects, contracts, and partnerships.



understood the clustering concepts and value chain operators in education, development, incubation, cooperation etc.; established business cooperation between Moldovan and Czech companies in the field; became familiar with SME development policies, operators and strategies; learned about the Czech’s best practices of attracting foreign direct investments in IT sector and how it changed the business model and the management style.

The three days **visit to Czech Republic** was organized for **business support providers** from **17 Moldovan companies**, including 12 companies from Transnistria. They learned about business models of software/IT services providers and Business Process Outsourcing;



The **visit to Slovakia** was organized for **16 agro-processing companies** (focus dried and frozen fruits and vegetables, and some niche products). The beneficiaries managed to establish business cooperation between Slovak and Moldovan companies with the purpose of export of selected products groups to Slovak market; they made market investigation through site visits of local companies, meetings with sector stakeholders (i.e. associations, etc.), visiting stores, B2B meetings; understood market entry routes, distribution chain for selected groups of products; created the basis for future cooperation (i.e. export contracts, joint projects, partnerships).

V.1.4: Project “Organization of specialized sessions and thematic roundtables for business people on both sides of the Nistru River”

Implemented by: “Center for Strategic Studies and Reforms” (CISR, Moldova)

Consortium Partners: “Bureau for Political Research Mediator” (Transnistrian Region, Moldova), Mr. Denis Matveev, International Partner

Budget: 70,000 EUR

Timeframe: December 2010 – October 2011

Beneficiaries: business communities on both sides, owners of existing SMEs and CEOs of large companies on both banks, economic policy makers from Moldova and Transnistria, economic and sectoral experts and researchers from both sides, members of the Confidence-Building Group for Economic Issues, residents on both sides of the river

Status: Project activities concluded.

Project’s results:

5 specialized sessions and thematic roundtables were organised in Odessa (2), Chisinau, Tiraspol and Merenesti village, Bender district. These events were attended by business people on both sides of the Nistru River, policy professionals, decision makers, experts in the relevant sectors (economic/banking/finance), researchers and analysts from these sectors, representatives of the confidence-building working groups, representatives of relevant EU institutions (DG Trade), trade associations, think tanks as well as other stakeholders.

These events created a framework for joint work for officials, professionals and experts from different sectors, identified common opportunities for Moldovan and Transnistrian businesses, suggested ways of overcoming the difficulties and barriers, inform businesses about EU trade opportunities and the single market area, as well as provided upstream policy options, recommendations and expertise to the policy-making level, including Working Groups on Confidence Building Measures.

Specific topics for such meetings were:

- DCFTA negotiations and new opportunities offered by the EU’s single market area to businesses on both banks; obstacles and challenges that need to be addressed; reforms that need to be implemented as part of trade liberalization process with the EU; sectoral meetings (agriculture, wine, food, textile industries etc.) on issues and opportunities as well as problems pertaining to access to EU markets;
- EU product quality systems and their implementation in Moldova/Transnistrian region; product safety, systems, customs and legal regulations; the changes that will be required; opportunities for business development;
- Access to micro-financing for SME businesses in Moldova as well as discussing opportunities for such access for businesses originating from TN region; financing opportunities for Transnistria’s businesses and banking issues; small business development and related areas;
- Enhancing information/ awareness about existing opportunities within the ENP, educational and scientific programs, which can benefit the whole population of Moldova, including the Transnistrian region.

V.1.5: Project “Information Support Services to Businesses on Both Banks, including the Maintenance of a Web Portal”

Implemented by: “Organization for Small and Medium Enterprises Sector Development” (ODIMM, Moldova)

Consortium Partners: “Capital Consulting Company” (TN region), “Terranet” SRL (Moldova)

Budget: 17,000 EUR

Timeframe: December 2010 – December 2011

Beneficiaries: enterprises, business support providers, central and local public authorities, NGOs and other possible SME stakeholders.

Status: Project activities concluded.

Project’s results:

The web portal: www.businessportal.md has been updated to address the needs of targeted beneficiaries on both banks of Nistru River. The project included the development, launch and maintenance of a web portal with business development related information to be accessible for both Transnistrian region and Moldovan businesses. The web portal was directly connected to the on-going programs supported by the “Support to Confidence Building Measures Project” and publicized business support activities as well as presented in an interactive way the main outcomes of these activities. The portal also represents a knowledge sharing instrument that stores all available legislative information, technical regulations, framework and policy documents, as well as offers a marketplace for exchanging new ideas in an on-line forum that promotes cross-river contacts between businesses on both sides as well as promotes other business co-operation initiatives supported by the SCBM project.

V.2 Community empowerment sub-projects

V.2.1: Project “Improvement of pro-environment transportation capacities in Corjova village, Dubasari district”



Implemented by: Local administration and community committee

Direct beneficiaries: 10,000 residents of Corjova and adjacent villages, including Molovata Noua and Cocieri

Estimated budget: 40,000 EURO

Final budget: 30,125.71 EURO

Timeframe: May 2010 – November 2011.

Overall details of the project:

The population of the village is 2,589 persons. There are 70 streets with the total length of 47 km under the supervision of the local administration that require

maintenance. During winter, maintenance of the roads in good condition is rather difficult as specialized equipment is needed. The situation is similar in adjacent villages that are located on the plateau and facing a very special development context. The overall goal was to provide support in procurement of necessary technical equipment for maintaining of the roads



Overview of implementation:

The project “Support for Confidence Building Measures” held preliminary meetings, consultations with the beneficiaries. Taking into consideration the complexity of the issue, in particular, the geographical location of the village and the existing barriers on the left bank, all

necessary assistance was provided in coordination of this project.

In March 2010, the local administration and the Implementation Committee prepared a full package of documents for the launch of the public tender.

3 bidders took part in a public tender on the Universal Commodity Exchange of Moldova. The winning company – S.R.L. “Auto-PRESENT” presented the best offer, namely “Excavator Amcodor702 EB-02 (ЭО-2621)” for MDL 507 thousand.

The project also offered support to the local administration and the implementation committee in registering the transport vehicle, insuring it and carrying out the necessary technical maintenance procedures. This vehicle is currently used for the needs of Corjova and adjacent villages, resolving issues that earlier represented serious issues to village inhabitants: cleaning of the roads during winter, as well as other technical services offered to the citizens.

V.2.2: Project “Enhancing capacities for pre-school education in Puhaceni village, Anenii-Noi district”

Implemented by: Puhaceni village administration, local implementation committee.

Direct beneficiaries: Around 1,500 persons, out of which 167 children from different social groups; local community, adjacent communities, local authorities.



Estimated budget: 45,000.00 Euro

Final budget: 55,106 Euro

Timeframe: April 2010 – January 2011

Overall details of the project:

The village of Puhaceni is located on the right bank of the Nistru River. The population of the village is 3,881 persons. Children of school age comprise 589, and of pre-school age - 204. The kindergarten was built in 1974 and no capital repairs were ever made. The administration and the Implementation Committee submitted a project proposal to carry out repairs of the kindergarten “Andries”, to provide children of Puhaceni and adjacent communities with better conditions for pre-school education. Additionally, at a later stage, the project was expanded and received support in purchasing new furniture to complete the project and provide significantly better conditions for the beneficiaries.

Overview of implementation:

Full replacement of windows and doors, reconstruction of the roof, as well as necessary internal repairs and improvements were conducted. The renewed kindergarten hosted an official opening ceremony on July 22, 2011. Subsequently, the project board also decided to grant EUR 7,100 for the procurement of furniture and electrical appliances to improve conditions for the pre-school education process.

V.2.3: Project “Building opportunities for pro-health education in Roscani village, Anenii Noi district”.

Implemented by: Roscani administration, local implementation committee

Estimated budget: 15,000.00 EURO

Final budget: 16,649.78 EURO

Timeframe: April 2010 – September 2010

Direct beneficiaries: Around 1,820 persons, from Roscani



village and adjacent areas;

Overall details of the project:

The population of the village is 2,563 persons. The community applied for funding to cover the necessary repairs of the gym, toilet areas and auxiliary premises, which were in disastrous conditions. The main goal of the project was to create appropriate conditions for sport classes of the local school students, as well as provide access to inhabitants of the village and adjacent communities to operational sports facilities.

Overview of Implementation:

The project covered the repairs of the school indoor sport hall and the adjacent gym, including auxiliary sanitary units and the roof of the compound, in order to insure the durability of the repairs. The official opening of the premises took place on July 22, 2011. The repaired sport premises are in operation now, offering improved conditions for sport activities to the students of the village school and generally to the inhabitants of Roscani village.

V.2.4 : Project “Creation of inter municipal domestic waste management service”

Implemented by: Cocieri, Malovata and Corjova administrations, local inter community implementation committee



Direct beneficiaries: 9,100 inhabitants from Cocieri, Vasilevca, Malovata Noua and Corjova villages

Estimated budget: 150,161 EUR

Final total budget: 173,695 EUR (out of which **village contribution:** 69,143 EUR and **UNDP/EU Grant:** 104,552 EUR)

Timeframe: September 2009 – September 2011

Overall details of the project:

The villages Malovata Noua, Vasilievca, Cocieri and Corjova from the Dubasari district are located in the security zone, situated quite close to each other on the left bank of the Nistru River, but under the control of the Moldovan Government. As a result of community mobilization and strategic planning activities conducted through UNDP technical assistance for the villages in the security zone, communities Malovata Noua, Cocieri, Vasilevca and Corjova have collectively identified collection and management of domestic solid waste as a first priority need for the sustainable local development in their localities and included this idea in their Community Action Plans (CAP). All four communities jointly agreed to create a new public service – Intercommunity Waste Collecting and Management Service in the municipality Cocieri. The opening of this new service is set to create also additional jobs for 14 persons and give a possibility to get improved living conditions to a population of about 9,100 people.

Overview of implementation:

The project was supported mainly through the CBM project budget, with a contribution of 90,000 EUR, as well as through the Integrated Local Development programme, implemented by UNDP Moldova, contributing EUR 14,552.



This particular community development project mainly involved building of authorized regional garbage collection dump near the village Cocieri, with separation of garbage by types and planting of trees around the dump; installation of about 60 garbage collection platforms, placed through the streets in the villages. Activities also included the rehabilitation of an existing office for the newly created public service and provision of necessary computer equipment, furniture, billing system for quality operation of service. In order to insure a comprehensive service

delivery, the project also covered the procurement of one garbage collector, one tractor, one trailer, one dump truck, and about 180 garbage collection containers and 100 dustbins. An awareness campaign was organized in the beneficiary villages to promote the newly created inter-municipal service.

It is important to mention that about 80 local people got involved in the execution of works and have increased their earnings during difficult economic crisis period. The villages contributed 69,143 EUR for the design works, architectural supervision and expert testing, as well as general construction works.

V.2.5: Project “Better opportunities for social rehabilitation of third-age population in Calfa village, Anenii Noi district”



Implemented by the Calfa administration, local implementation committee

Direct beneficiaries: up to 240 elderly from the adjacent area who will be housed at the centre;

Estimated budget: 84,616 EUR.

Final budget: 81,067.82 EUR.

Timeframe: May 2010 – December 2011

Overall details of the project:

The population of Calfa village, Anenii Noi district, is 1,885 inhabitants, out of which 366 persons are retired pensioners, including 24 persons living without relatives' support. Given the problems faced by this specific vulnerable group, the community came with the proposal to create a social center that would provide social care for the elderly. The Center would be able to accommodate at any one time up to 50 persons; and also to provide medical and social assistance to elderly people in need at their homes. The need for such a Center was confirmed by enormous interest demonstrated by adjacent villages: Roscani, Hirbovet, Gura Bicului, Speia, Teia and Grigoriopol. A partnership agreement was already signed by 2 villages (Speia and Teia) with Calfa.



Overview of implementation:

The village administration and the Implementation Committee decided to offer a stand-alone building, which was not in use, in order to host the respective center. The project covered the necessary capital repairs of the building, including the replacement of all external and internal networks, assembling roof coating, internal and external furnishing, replacement of windows and doors, and some work related to land improvement.



On September 9th, the Project Board has made the decision on providing an additional grant of EUR 17,200 for the procurement of necessary furniture, equipment and appliances, in order to offer support for the opening of a fully operational social center. The official opening of the social center took place on February 16, 2012.

Under the 2012 budget, the local village administration succeeded to provide all necessary funds to offer support for the operation of the social center, hire support personnel, providing medical and social support to the elderly, as well as organize the preparation of food to be provided to the beneficiaries.

The operation of the social center is currently covering the needs of more than 240 elderly from Calfa village and neighboring villages, providing boarding services for up to 50 beneficiaries, addressing

urgent medical and social issues of beneficiaries at home, as well as involving elderly in joint activities at the center in order to assure their integration in the social life of the village.

V.2.6: Project “Enhancing capacities for pre-school education in Hagimus village, Causeni district”

Implemented by: Hagimus administration, local implementation committee

Direct beneficiaries: Near 1,750 persons, including 182 children from Hagimus village and neighboring communities.

Estimated budget: 84,287.67 EURO

Final budget: 90,661.27 EURO

Timeframe: July 2010 –September 2011



Overall details of the project:

Population in the Hagimus village is 2,896 persons. The kindergarten “Andries” is capable to accommodate up to one hundred children. The community has proposed to renovate the kindergarten, as it would ensure functioning of the institution on the appropriate level, and offer access to qualitative pre-school education of healthy children, hosting around 100 children at the same time and providing work for 15 persons with a possibility of opening additional hobby groups (music and sports).



Overview of implementation:

The project team supported the creation of the community implementation committee and assisted them in determining the most urgent needs of the community, as regards the implementation of kindergarten rehabilitation project.

The project covered the replacement of windows, doors, roof, external and internal furnishing, as well as full rehabilitation of the boiler-house and heating, replacement of all networks: water plumbing, sewage, etc. In the framework of the project, the local community also cooperated with the National Environmental Fund, which provided funds for the replacement of outer sewage and creation of waste water treatment plant.

The official opening of the kindergarten by representatives of the local community, EU Delegation to Moldova and UNDP Moldova, took place on November 21, 2011. The kindergarten is currently fully functional and its rehabilitation solved one of the most pressing issues for the village inhabitants.

V.2.7: Project “Enhancing capacities for pre-school education in Firladeni village, Causeni district”.

Implemented by: Firladeni administration, local implementation committee

Direct beneficiaries: 190 children as well as 2100 adult inhabitants from Firladeni village and neighboring communities.

Estimated budget: 228,148 Euro.

Final total budget: 239,044 Euro

Village contribution: 69,345 Euro

UNDP Grant: 169,699 Euro

Timeframe: December 2010 – December 2011





Overall details of the project:

The village Firladeni of the district of Causeni is located on the right bank of the Nistru River, 12 km away from the town of Bendery. There are 4,700 inhabitants, out of them 190 are children aged from 3 to 7, while around 2,100 inhabitants in Firladeni and surrounding communities are employed and directly affected by the lack of a kindergarten facility that would enable them to enroll their children in pre-school education. The kindergarten does not function since 1994, while it is indisputable that this institution is vitally necessary for ensuring access to basic education services. The opening of the kindergarten is set to create additional jobs for 33 persons and give children a possibility to get comprehensive pre-school education in

improved conditions.

Overview of implementation:

The project covered the construction of additional premises expressly required for the operation of a kindergarten. This included: connection of pipes; internal and external furnishing of additionally built premises; roof coating; boiler-house (including connection to gas supply); connection to heating system; installation of windows and doors in the premises. During the second stage of implementation, the project covered the full repairs of the older building, that previously was used to host a school.

All rehabilitation works were finalized according to the pre-approved timeframes. The facility is fully operational and provides outstanding conditions for the pre-school education of more than 100 children.

The absence of a kindergarten in the village was a major problem for the village inhabitants as it deprived the children of a fundamental right to have access to qualitative education as well as hindered their parents' ability to be fully integrated in their professional activities. The educational services provided by the facility will be further improved as the local administration provided necessary funds to hire the necessary professional and technical personnel at the kindergarten.

V.2.8: Project “Enhancing opportunities for student education in Holercani village, Dubasari district”

Implemented by: Holercani village administration, local implementation committee

Direct beneficiaries: Around 734 persons including students, professors, residents from Holercani and nearby villages in the security zone, local community.

Estimated budget: 98,495 EUR

Final budget: 109,843 EUR

Timeframe: November 2010 – May 2011.



Overall details of the project:

The hostel of the lyceum is located in the village of Holercani, Dubasari district. The number of population is 2,720 persons. The hostel was built in 1955 and since then only partial repairs were carried out. The hostel can accommodate 120 students of the lyceum, but due to lack of proper conditions there, only 30 pupils were accommodated at that moment. Children from five villages study in this lyceum and there was a stringent need to accommodate a growing number of students.

Overview of implementation:

The local implementation committee, with support from the UNDP project team, took the lead in determining the necessary works and most stringent needs to be addressed in the framework of this initiative. The project covered replacement of doors, replacement of the heating system, renovation of the façade, outer plasterworks, perimeter walks, renovation of floors, repairs of the central entrance and staircases, replacement of electric wiring and internal sewage system. Additional funding was also provided for procurement of new furniture and electrical appliances needed to re-equip the dormitory.

The facility is currently fully operation and provides very good lodging conditions for up to 120 students from both banks of the Nistru River, enhancing the interaction of the communities from both banks and supporting the reintegration of students in a joint educational process,

V.2.9: Project “Enhancing capacities for pre-school education in Cremenciug village, Slobozeia region”

Implemented by: Cremenciug kindergarten, local administration, local implementation committee

Direct beneficiaries: Around 650 persons from Cremenciug and adjacent villages;

Estimated budget: 120,830 EURO

Final budget: 121,286 EURO

Timeframe: November 2010 – December 2011



Overall details of the project:

The village Cremenciug of the district of Slobozeia is located on the right bank of the Nistru River, but is under the control of the de-facto authorities in Transnistria. Its population is 1,500 persons. The number of children and adolescents is 452. The building of the kindergarten has not seen any consistent repairs for almost 50 years and was in a deplorable condition. The local implementation committee determined this issue as a major developmental problem for the village, preventing the integration of population into professional activities and denying the children of the village from accessing qualitative pre-school education services.



Overview of implementation:

The project covered a host of rehabilitation works, including the replacement of windows; replacement of doors; interior furnishing; replacement of internal electric wiring; replacement of sanitary units fitments and an overall repair of these areas; an overhaul of the heating network; installation of suspended ceilings. In the framework of the project implementation the community ensured the connection of gas supply to the kindergarten. Additional funds were also provided for procurement of necessary furniture and electric appliances.

Currently the facility is fully operational and is able to host up to 70 children, providing them with very good conditions for pre-school education activities.

The implementation of the project “Capital repair of the kindergarten “Topolyok”” contributed to stopping the outflow of young families and created favorable conditions for life and work of the population, mobilizing the population in terms of socio-economic development of the village. The project improved the educational process and attracted a greater number of children.

V.3 Civil society development

V.3.1: Project “Improving the teaching program on children’s rights within the Day Centers for youth and children in Transnistria”.



Implemented by: PA „INTECO” ; partner: Caritas

Project budget: USD 25,820

Project’s timeframe: December 2010 – June 2011.

Beneficiaries: 120 children and 15 educators from Transnistrian region; children and young people at risk, beneficiaries of five Day Centres from the Transnistrian region.

Project’s geographic area: Tiraspol, Bender, Rîbnița, Rașcov, Sloboda Rașcov.

Overall goal of the project: to promote children’s rights in Transnistrian region in a child-friendly manner.

Specific objectives:

- 1) Strengthen the capacities of 5 Day Centres for children and youth at risk by training 15 educators in teaching children’s rights in a child-friendly method, and endowing the Centres with necessary instruments and materials for teaching and promoting children’s rights;
- 2) Increase the level of knowledge of about 120 children at risk from the region about their rights;
- 3) Increase the public awareness in the region on the importance of knowing and promoting children’s rights.

Project status: concluded. Delivery – 100%. The project was finalized, reports being submitted and approved as of August 2011. All activities were carried out in accordance with the project document and initial work plan. The project was assessed positively against the initially foreseen results, as well as the grantee’s strong capacity to implement projects/grants.

Project’s results:

- 5 Day Centres for children at risk from Transnistrian region equipped with a set of materials each, necessary for child-friendly teaching of children rights (100 copies of the CRC (friendly version), 10 copies of the adapted Educator’s Guide, 20 copies of the instructive film "Know Your Rights" translated into Russian, the "magic box" – a set of toys and other objects designed for teaching by playing);
- 15 educators from five Centers for Children at risk of Transnistria with improved knowledge and skills in applying the child-friendly methods to promote CR;
- 120 children from Transnistria aware of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and methods to revindicate their rights;
- 120 children promoting children’s rights through 5 photo exhibitions and 5 exhibitions of drawings organized within the 5 Day Centres from Transnistrian region participating in the project - Tiraspol, Bender, Ribnita, Rascov, Sloboda Rascov.



- Increased awareness of the importance of knowing children’s rights in the Transnistrian region, through articles in media; distribution of 1000 flags with CRC articles and 600 thematic flyers, and the permanent photo exhibition in the public garden „Stefan cel Mare” in Chisinau.

Within the implemented project, PA “INTECO” and the representatives of 5 Day Centres for children at risk from Transnistrian region, which activity is coordinated by CARITAS Moldova, have developed a successful

partnership, which was both productive and promising in terms of extending the project activities to other localities from the Transnistrian region.

PRESS clippings

<http://inteco.wordpress.com/>

http://www.promolex.md/upload/ebulletin/ro/nr42_1301667227ro_.pdf
http://www.civic.md/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=12064&Itemid=200003
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Article published in "Профсоюзные новости", Tiraspol, №24, 06/2011

<http://profvesti.org/2011/06/25/6066/>

Article published in the independent newspaper from Rîbnîța – "Добрый день", June 2011.

V.3.2: Project "Exchange of positive experience between Moldova and Transnistrian region on solving common social problems through a series of TV programs".

Implemented by: „Moldova Modernă” Foundation
Project partner: NGO "Centre for the Development of the Independent Television" (Центр развития независимого телевидения).



Project budget: USD 65,387

Project's timeframe: January 2011 – November 2011.

Beneficiaries: journalists from both banks of the Nistru River; experts in the area, and citizens of the Republic of Moldova, interested in establishing a constructive dialogue between both banks.

Overall goal of the project was to establish good working relations and foster the exchange of experience between the journalists and experts from the both banks in the process of finding a consensus on cultural and socio-economic problems of common interest for both sides.



Specific objectives:

- Promoting the confidence building measures through a series of TV programs, produced jointly by the journalists and with the participation of experts / invitees from the both banks of the Nistru River;
- Creating an internet based dialogue platform for media representatives, experts in the area, as well as for all interested persons on subjects of common interest for both sides.

Project status: Concluded. Project delivery – 78%. The 3rd installment in the amount of USD 13,089 was cancelled because of the official start of the election campaign in the Transnistrian region - all journalists and experts to whom a preliminary agreement was reached for the participation in the production of the 5th and 6th TV programs, refused the participation, and that made difficult the full conclusion of the project. Since any extension of project terms beyond November 2011 was excluded, it was agreed to finish the project with the production of 4 TV programs and broadcasting the programs on at least one national TV station, Moldova-1.

Project results:

As of November 2011, the grantee have produced **4 TV programs** of the cycle "Территория Доверия" (Territory of Trust), and a short promo program (15"), aiming at promoting the project's products, but also the CBM Project itself.

The first two programs had as invitees Mr A. Taranu and Mr V. Litskai, both members of the committees on the negotiations process in '90s. The program focused on the history of the problem, as well as presented the framework documents signed by parties starting with 1992 till present.

The second program which, in fact, is the second part of the first one, with the same invitees, focused on the negotiations in the “5+2” format, what it means and what are the expectations of each part, in the experts’ view.



The 3rd program focused on educational opportunities on both sides of the Nistru River, with the participation of Ms Elena Bobokova, the director of the Center “New Age” (Новый Век) and Mr Vasili Sova, the ex Minister for Reintegration.

4th TV program was dedicated to presenting the touristic routes in TN region. The program had the format of a documentary, presenting the touristic opportunities and

most interesting sites in the region.

Along with the 4th TV program, a **special promo-program** was developed in order to present the upcoming airing of these TV programs on Moldova-1 TV station (mid December 2011), but also for presenting the CBM Project.

The format of this promo program was also different. The program is presented by Mircea Surdu (the author of the known talk-show on the Public Company “Moldova-1) and comprises short interviews with the Head of the EU Delegation to Moldova, Mr Dirk Schuebel; Mr Victor Munteanu, the manager of the CBM Project, and the TV programs producer, Mr Sergei Tcaci.



The agreement to broadcast the TV programs produced within the project was reached with the Public Company “Moldova-1”, that agreed to broadcast all 4 TV programs across the whole territory of Moldova.

V.3.3: Project “Young journalist’s school in Transnistrian region”.

Implemented by: NGO Independent Institute of Law and Civil Society (Независимый Институт права и гражданского общества)



Project budget: USD 35,386

Project’s timeframe: January – July 2011. Project term extended by 30 September 2011.

Project’s geographic area: Tiraspol

Beneficiaries: 75 students and 12 teachers underwent journalistic training; 7,500 pupils from the 10-12 grades from all schools of Tiraspol had access to a new, alternative source of information.

Project partners: Interschool Training and Production Institute for vocational training and guidance of students, Tiraspol (ITPIVTGS);

Independent Journalism Centre (IJC), Chisinau.

Overall goal of the project was to teach young people to freely express their thoughts and, in the same time, to train them on the production of printed materials.

Specific objectives:

- create conditions and improve the professional methods and forms of education in media within the Interschool Training and Production Institute for vocational training and guidance of students from Tiraspol;

- contribute to the democratic education and development of young people from Tiraspol;
- provide the access to information on pressing social issues, as well as to local and international sources of information related to human rights for children and youth of the Transnistrian region.

Project status: concluded. Project delivery – 100%. The final report was submitted and approved on 25 October 2011.



Project results:

A set of equipment for running the “School of young journalists”: 5 computers, scanner, printer, copy machine, thermo-binder, and consumables for practical workshops: paper, toner etc. was purchased and placed within the Interschool Training and Production Institute for vocational training and guidance of students from Tiraspol, where the training of students was conducted, as well as the school newspaper is being developed.

12 teachers from the Interschool Training and Production Institute for vocational training and guidance of students from Tiraspol were trained by a team of journalists, recommended by the Independent Journalism Centre (Chisinau). The teaching process was divided into three trainings of two days each, and covered the following topics: "Content and editorial filling of a school newspaper", „Design of the school newspaper", and "Online Journalism".

During the trainings, teachers from the ITPIVTGS received a minimum of information needed to start working with students and to start the production of the school newspaper.

Following the cycle of specialized trainings, the ITPIVTGS has developed a training course for students, “School of young journalists” (implemented during April and May 2011), where **75 students** learned the production process of a newspaper and, jointly with the teachers, **produced four issues of the school newspaper “School’s news”** (7500 copies), that was distributed in the schools of Tiraspol during May – September 2011. In the process of developing the School newspaper, the team was constantly tutored by two Moldovan journalists, which conducted the trainings earlier.

It should be mentioned that the “School news” is the first school newspaper in the Transnistrian region. Thus, **7500 young people** from Tiraspol had access to an alternative source of information on pressing local social issues, as well as to international sources of information related to human rights, and other interesting information for children and youth.

6 members of the “School News” editorial team from Tiraposl participated at a 2-days workshop at the Independent Journalism Centre in Chisinau. Participants were offered more practical knowledge on the school newspaper production process; and have visited the Young Journalist’s School from Chisinau, for an exchange of experience.



The project’s internet page (<http://www.school-media.org>) was developed and reflects the basic information about the “School of young journalists” and the achieved results, as well as will serve as an online resource of information designed to the same target audience.

Efficient partnership was established with the Moldovan partner, the Centre for Independent Journalism.

Constraints and Lessons Learned

Within the current project a constructive dialogue and good working relations were established with the Independent Journalism Centre from Chisinau. At the recommendation of the IJC, the applicant was able to select a team of journalists – trainers for the project. As result, two of the trainers were permanently involved during the development of the School newspaper as tutors. Generally, the project did not have any significant delays in implementation or other issues, being implemented efficiently and on time.

V.3.4: Project “Improving the access of detainees from both sides of the Nistru River to health services – communication campaign on prevention of Tuberculosis”.

Implemented by: PA “Carlux” / TB/HIV Program in penitentiaries

Project budget: USD 44,058

Project’s timeframe: December 2010 – October 2011.

Beneficiaries: 415 detainees from 8 penitentiaries: 5 on the right bank: P-18 Brănești, P- 6 Soroca, P - 2 Lipcani, P - 4 Cricova, P - 3 Leova; 76 doctors and nurses working in 8 penitentiaries tained.

3 on the left bank: Glinoaia, Tiraspol, and the juvenile correctional facility from Alexandrovca.

Project partners: the Department of Penitentiary Institutions from Chisinau; PA „Reforme medico-sociale” from Bender, and the Department of Penitentiary Institutions from Tiraspol.

Overall goal of the project was to improve the access of detainees from the eastern region of Moldova to health care, by early detection of TB.

Specific objectives:

- 80% of detainees from the concerned prisons acquire knowledge on TB prevention;
- the communication and conflict management skills of the medical staff of prisons improvement by at least 95%.

Project status: Concluded. Delivery 100%. Final report submitted and approved on 10 November 2011. Additionally to the initially planned activities, a three-day training “Prevention of tuberculosis by the invisible theatre” was provided for 16 volunteers from both bank of the Nistru River, and awards for the most actively involved detainees in project activities were purchased and offered (a radio and two sets of personal hygiene products). These activities were funded from the savings in the amount of USD 3,926 accumulated at “unforeseen”, “bank charges” and “consultants” budget lines. Given the additional activities, the project was extended by 30 October 2011.

Project results:

A communication campaign "It's in your power: TB can be treated" was conducted in partnership with the Department of Penitentiary Institutions. Within the campaign the following materials were produced and distributed among inmates from 8 penitentiaries:

- Bilingual booklet "Protect yourself from tuberculosis" (24 pages) - 3000 copies;
- Poster "Your family awaits you healthy" - 500 copies in RO and 500 copies in RU;
- 2011 Pocket Calendar with TB prevention messages (3 posts) – 2000 in RO and 2000 in RU;
- Sticker for notebooks that contain tuberculosis symptoms and encourages to visit a doctor – 100 in RO and 50 in RU;
- pen with printed message "Be free of tuberculosis" - 300 Ro and 200 Ru;



- t-shirts "Cover your mouth and nose when you cough and sneeze!" - 100 pieces in Ro, 50 in Ru;
- Cups "Enjoy your tea in a ventilated room!" - 100 units in Ro, 50 in Ru.

19 informative video sessions in penitentiaries – 13 sessions on the right bank and 6 sessions on the left were organized. A total of 415 detainees (311 from the right and 104 from the left banks) were covered by this activity. As shown by the evaluation, an increase of 17,1% of knowledge of detainees on the subject was observed.

76 doctors and nurses from the penitentiary institutions, as well as the civil sector from the both banks learned the *Non-violent communication and conflict management* during **four trainings**, of which two conducted in Transnistrian region, and two on the right bank. During the training participants learned various methods of social communication; non-violent communication; communicating with difficult people; conflict management etc, and developed an algorithm to healthy communication with detainees or persons suspected of TB.

16 volunteers of the PA "Carlux" (Chisinau) and from the partner organization "Medical and Social Programs" (Bender) were trained within the project. The trainings were aimed at developing their social actor skills for the invisible theater, focusing on developing communication, counseling skills, and techniques to use when communicating with people who are ill or affected by TB.

Over 200 people (family, relatives, and friends of prisoners) were informed about TB through **19 invisible theatre performances** held at the prison gates of 5 penitentiaries from the right bank - Leova, Soroca, Lipcani, Branesti, Cricova (right bank). The team of volunteers performed the scenes while "infiltrated" among the prisons visitors - family members and relatives of detainees. Each performance had about 10-15 direct beneficiaries per presentation and, consecutively, other 20-30 indirect beneficiaries – persons they get in contact afterwards - detainees, relatives, friends, neighbours, etc. Each scene reflected a real situation, describing the inappropriate behavior of those living with tuberculosis, trying to draw the attention of inmates' relatives to the risks of the disease. Each scene conveys its own message: the importance to visit a doctor, the prevention actions, and the anti-tuberculosis treatment.

12,000 copies of the **bilingual informative bulletin for detainees "Free of tuberculosis"** (3 issues of 4000 copies each) were developed, published and distributed among detainees.

PRESS CLIPPINGS

The training of volunteers

<http://prisonstb.org.md/index.action?newsId=66&operation=1>

http://www.ccm.md/index.php?mact=News.cntnt01.detail.0&cntnt01articleid=167&cntnt01origid=72&cntnt01lang=ro_R0&cntnt01returnid=45

<http://www.curaj.net/2011/01/26/voluntarii-previn-tuberculoza-prin-teatrul-invizibil/>

<http://www.civic.md/stiri/11341-voluntarii-previn-tuberculoza-prin-teatrul-invizibil.html>

<http://www.stiri.md/ro/article/181462/voluntarii-previn-tuberculoza-prin-teatrul-invizibil>

<http://blogs.click.md/news/item/voluntarii-previn-tuberculoza-prin-teatrul-invizibil-lmnjpk>

The information campaign

http://www.trm.md/index.php?module=stiri_int&news_id=24891

<http://www.stiri.md/ro/article/209856/a-fost-lansat-campania-de-comunicare-n-penitenciare/>

http://www.civic.md/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=12268&Itemid=200003

<http://www.stiriaz.ro/ziare/articol/articol/a-fost-lansata-campania-de-comunicare-in-penitenciare/sumar-articol/13528506/>

<http://www.facebook.com/civic.md/posts/10150155526930894>

Workshops

<http://prisonstb.org.md/index.action;jsessionid=F670051F39425786BF98801642C008AA?newsId=67&operation=1>

http://www.ccm.md/index.php?mact=News.cntnt01.detail.0&cntnt01articleid=179&cntnt01origid=45&cntnt01lang=ro_R0&cntnt01returnid=45

Training for medical workers

http://www.ccm.md/index.php?mact=News.cntnt01.detail.0&cntnt01articleid=181&cntnt01origid=72&cntnt01lang=ro_R0&cntnt01returnid=45

V.3.5: Project "Partnership for local development between the both banks of the Nistru River through confidence, community action and pro-active attitude".



Implemented by: Regional Development Agency "HABITAT"

Project budget: USD 45,812

Project's timeframe: January – July 2011. Project term extended by 30 November 2011 by amendment no. 1 to the GA of 26.10.2011.

Beneficiaries: 4,200 inhabitants of the villages Beloci and Molochisul Mare from Ribnita rayon

Project partner: the LPA from Beloci and Molochisul Mare villages from the Ribnita rayon.

Overall goal of the project was to increase the degree of trust between the both banks of the river, by addressing common social issues, fostering partnerships and involving citizens in the community development processes in the villages Molochişul Mare și Beloci of Ribnita rayon.

Specific objectives:

- To repair the ambulatory and connect it to gas network in the village Molochisul Mare;
- To repair the ambulatory in the Beloci village;
- to identify and train local leaders and other human resources, able to think and build the future of the villages Molochisul Mare and Beloci of the Ribnita rayon;

Project status: concluded. Project delivery – 56%. Project implemented only partially, mainly due to the late authorization for gasification works from the specialized agency from the region, and the late registration by the Transnistrian *Committee for the approval of technical projects* of cooperation agreements, signed between the grantee and its TN partners, mayoralities from the villages Beloci and Molochisul Mare of Ribnita rayon (19 August 2011).

By the end of the project, the grantee concluded the first component of the project, which consisted of a series of trainings provided for the local leaders from the villages Molochisul Mare and Beloci, and carried out the works related to the modernization of the heating system within the medical ambulatories of these two villages. Both ambulatories were connected to the gas network and were endowed with new heating system. Final report was submitted and approved on 07 December 2011.

Project's results:

6 persons (3 from Beloci and 3 from Molochisul Mare) were trained during the **NGO Management Training**, during 15-17 February 2011. As a practical exercise the participants developed the mission of 2 NGOs they intend to register in each village. Beloci representatives chose for their future NGO the name НКО "СТРАТЕГ-Белочи", with the mission to assist in the development and implementation of strategies and projects for sustainable rural development in Beloci, through community mobilization and effective partnerships.

6 persons (3 from Beloci and 3 from Molochisul Mare) were trained during the **Training on Project Management**, during 23-25/02/2011. The participants learned to identify and describe a problem; formulate the project's goal and objectives, as well as to plan development activities and to draft a budget.

5 persons (3 from Beloci and 2 from Molochisul Mare) were trained during the **Community Development Training** (10-14/03/2011). The participants identified social, environmental and economic problems in their villages, as well as strategic directions for the development of the villages Molochisul Mare and Beloci.

Two public cafes with the participation of 26 persons (13 in each locality) from the villages Molochisul Mare and Beloci were held in May 2011. As result of these activities, with the participation of local leaders, the Local Plans for Integrated Community Development of these villages were elaborated. The plans will serve as basis for future project proposals.

At the request of project beneficiaries, and given the availability of funds, three additional trainings were carried out.

6 persons (3 from Beloci and 3 from Molochisul Mare villages) were trained in **Community Leadership** (05-07.11.2011). The training offered the participants the opportunity to understand what leadership is; the principles of an efficient leadership at the community level. The acquired knowledge should enable participants to identify the development opportunities, and design efficient plans for solving local problems.

6 persons (3 from Beloci and 3 from Molochisul Mare villages) were trained in **Social Entrepreneurship** (12-14.11.2011). The training aimed at encouraging the entrepreneurship spirit and fostering the creativity among the community leaders. Beside the basic information and definitions, the participants also discussed some examples of social business and its management.

7 persons (4 from Beloci and 3 from Molochisul Mare villages) were trained in **Effective Communication** during the training held on 20-21.11.2011. The training aimed at sharing with participants the modern concepts of communication and presentations, as well as to improve their skills in this area.



The project contributed to creating improved conditions within the **medical ambulatory** from the Molochisul Mare village that was **endowed with a new heating system, and was connected to local gaz network**. Annually, the ambulatory from Molochisul Mare provides medical services to circa 3,300 inhabitants of Molochișul Mare, Molochișul Mic, Garaba, Vadul Turcului, Stroiștei from the Ribnita rayon, as well as to 5,000 visitors and tourists, coming during the summer to these villages.

The project also contributed to creating improved conditions within the medical ambulatory from the

Beloci village, that was endowed with a new heating system, and was connected to local gas network. Annually, the ambulatory provides medical services to approximately 900 inhabitants of the village.

Constraints and Lessons Learned

The project „Partnership for local development between the both banks of the Nistru River through confidence, community action and pro-active attitude” was implemented by the Regional Development Agency “Habitat” in partnership with local authorities from the villages Molochisul Mare and Beloci from the Ribnita rayon. As per the initial proposal, the project had two distinct components.

The first component was aimed at strengthening the civil society’s capacity in these localities, by identifying and training the local leaders from these villages; assisting them in registering two new NGOs, and developing Local Plans for Integrated Community Development, as well as assisting the newly created NGOs in developing project proposals and guiding them through the whole fundraising process.

The second component (Activities 2-5) comprised the renovation of the medical ambulatories from both villages, small renovations works at the school from the Beloci viillage, and installing the drinking water system in the Beloci viillage. This set of activities was designed to serve as a practical example of partnering and cooperation between NGOs and local authorities.

From the second component, the activities were partially implemented, resuming to endowing the medical ambulatories from these two villages with new heating systems and connecting them to the local gas network.

The Moldovan implementing NGO “Habitat” organised and delivered the trainings as well as facilitated the management of the technical side of the project implementation, thus contributing to better cooperation between representatives of civil society form both banks of Nistru River, creating opening for future cooperation.

Press Clippings

The project launching round table: An article "The trust and cooperation would bring closer the banks of the Dniester" published in "Farul Nistrean" no. 05/7496 of 28/01/2011,

An article "Aiming to enhance the confidence between the inhabitants on both banks of the river" was published in "Cuvintul" newspaper no. 6/758 of 04/02/2011,

Also the local TV station from Soldanesti, "Impuls TV" made a reportage of the event and an interview with the mayor or the Beloci village. The reportage was broadcasted also within the network of independent TV stations, which has coverage of 85% of the Republic of Moldova.

A reportage on the cycle of trainings was placed on IMPULS TV on March 27, 2011:

<http://impulstv.com/stiri/viewvideo/552/stiri/parteneriat-intre-maluri>

and an article was published on :

<http://stirilocalemd.wordpress.com/2011/03/29/parteneriat-menit-sa-apropie-malurile-nistrului/>

V.3.6: Project "Natural reservations: to know and preserve one should see and love"

Implemented by: "Physicians for ecology"

Project budget: USD 13,089

Project's timeframe: January – July 2011

Beneficiaries: 105 members of ecological NGOs from Glodeni and Dubasari.

Project partners: NGO «Ночсфера», Glodeni and NGO «Акколада», Dubasari.

Project's geographic area: **Glodeni and Dubasari.**



Overall goal of the project was to facilitate the public's access to ecological information and the nature preservation's activity of the National Parks from Glodeni ("Padurea Domneasca") and Dubasari ("Iagorlik).

Specific objectives:

- Strengthening the cooperation between environment NGOs, the media institutions and the youth from both sides of the Nistru River (organizing bilateral visits (excursions), round tables and exchange of experience visits of NGOs, independent journalists and volunteers from both sides);
- Facilitate the access of the population to the unique ecological information about the Natural Reserves by spreading and exchanging the information, images, photos and other visual ecological materials (informative bulletin "Взгляд", ecological photo exhibitions in Dubasari and Glodeni).

Project status: concluded. Delivery 100%. The final report was submitted and approved on 23 August 2011. After the conclusion of project activities, an unspent amount of USD 280 was reported. The beneficiary requested, and was granted the approval of an additional activity - 1-day excursion to Natural Reserve "Tipova", Rezina (transportation and meals), aiming to achieve the same objectives.

Project results:

More than 105 members from ecological NGOs and young journalists from the both sides of the Nistru River (55 from Dubasari and 50 from Glodeni), had access to unique ecological information by visiting the natural reserves "Padurea Domneasca" (Glodeni), "Iagorlic" (Dubasari), and "Tipova". The visits were followed by debates on the preservation of natural resources. Improved access of the population of Glodeni and Dubasari to ecological information about the internationally recognised natural reserves of Moldova was facilitated through:

- 3 issues of an ecological bulletin (1500 copies),
- 2 thematic round tables organized in Glodeni and Dubasari, with the presentation of the results of the project, but also with slideshows and a video material prepared during the visits;
- 2000 copies of thematic posters with the best photos from the both Natural Reserves;
- 2 ecological photo exhibitions in Dubasari and Glodeni.

The exhibitions were prepared by the project partner “Accolada” from Dubasari and are intended to be exposed both in Glodeni and Dubasari. The Dubasari exhibition was opened on 05 May - World Environment Day, within the central library. The second exhibition was transported to Glodeni and the photos exhibited within the lyceum “D. Cantemir” in Glodeni. Starting with 01.09.2011 the exhibition will be moved to the conference room of the Dubasari station for young tourists, and in May 2012 the exposition will be transported to the Dubasari land museum.

- Improved cooperation between ecological NGOs from both sides. The project concluded with signing a long-term Agreement of Cooperation between the project partners, NGO «Hoocфepa» from Glodeni and the NGO “Physicians for ecology” from Dubasari. As well, the grantee signed a cooperation agreement with another NGO from Glodeni – “Globus”.

Press Clippings

<http://deos777.blogspot.com/2011/08/blog-post.html#comment-form>
http://vkontakte.ru/album49040255_139751876
http://vkontakte.ru/album49040255_130942359
<http://mediacenter.hostink.ru/iann/26-gazeta-dubossarskih-ekologov.html>
<http://nr2.ru/pmr/341833.html>
<http://dubossary.ru/page.php?47>
<http://pda.nr2.ru/pmr/343938.html>
<https://sites.google.com/site/ngoaliyeparusa/home/pohody/zapovedniki-bez-granic>
<http://maketravel.info/2011/08/16/V-Dubossarah-prohodit-fotovystavka-Zapovedniki-bez-granic-36-kadrov.html>
<http://new-region-2.livejournal.com/69792710.html>
http://dr-ecology.blogspot.com/2011/07/blog-post_16.html
<http://mediacenter.hostink.ru/iann/96-zapovedniki-bez-granic.html>
http://es-pmr.com/news/Zapovednik_%C2%ABIAgorlyk%C2%BB_byl_pervym_v_pridnestrovsko-moldavskojj_programme_%C2%ABZapovedniki_bez_granic%C2%BB_18609.html
<http://www.nr2.com.ua/pmr/341833.html/print/>
<http://ldrprmr.com/events/18-v-pmr/954-sobitie.html>
<http://noosfera-debate.narod.ru/Arhives.htm>
www.berg.bendery.md
www.eco-tiras.org

V.3.7: Project “Implementing the Aarhus Convention - launching the sustainable partnerships between the NGOs from both sides of the Nistru River”.

Implemented by: NGO “EcoContact”

Project budget: USD 34,150

Project’s timeframe: January – November 2011.

Beneficiaries: 171 environmental activists trained while 8 NGOs from both banks of the Nistru river, with a modest experience in the area, supported in establishing sustainable partnerships with other NGOs.

Project partner: NGO „DJIP”

Overall goal of the project was to encourage the promotion of the Aarhus Convention among environment NGOs from the both banks of the Nistru River.

Specific objectives:

- Improve the level of knowledge and skills of environment NGOs from the both banks in applying the principles of the Aarhus Convention;
- Solve specific local environment problems by applying the principles of the Aarhus Convention in cooperation with the NGOs from the both sides (mini grants);

Project status: concluded. Delivery – 100%. The final report was submitted and approved on 30 November 2011.



Project's results :

67 representatives of environmental NGOs from the both banks of the Nistru River have strengthened their skills and knowledge about the right to a healthy environment, access to information, public participation at the decision process in the area of environment protection, and access to justice on environment matters, during 4 thematic trainings on promoting the principles of the Aarhus Convention. Among the participants were representatives of 14 out of 19 existing environment NGOs in the TN region and representatives of 34 NGOs from the right bank. During these activities the main emphasis was put on preparing the participants for the upcoming small grants program, envisaged by the project as a practical exercise.

23 people were trained on the **access to environment information**, during the 3-days training on 19-20 February 2011 (Chişinău). The training aimed at arming the participants with the needed skills and knowledge for exercising their right to access the environment information; the methods of collecting / providing the information, and the communication technics etc.

20 NGO representatives were trained in **"Public Participation in Environmental Decision-making"** during 12-13 March 2011 (Chişinău). The training focused on the principles of public participation; methods; information channels; planning the public participation etc.

22 environment NGOs representatives were trained on the "Access to justice in environment issues" during 18-19 June 2011. This training was addressed to NGOs' representatives intending to bring a particular case before the court, concerning an environment.

27 people participated at the training on "Developing project proposals aiming at promoting the Aarhus Convention" during 15-16 October 2011. This was an additional activity in the project. The decision of organizing this activity emerged, first of all, as results of the poor quality of project proposals submitted during the small grants program and, secondly, because of the saved amounts within the project. The training aimed at strengthening the environment NGOs representatives' capacity to write successful project proposals. The participants discussed and analysed the best and worst experiences within the small grants program, and practiced in developing the project logical framework on real examples.

Three exchange of experience visits were organized for 12 Transnistrian environment NGOs to observe the activity of experienced NGO from the right bank, aiming at presenting their positive experience, but also designed for networking and developing sustainable partnerships in the area.

400 copies of the informative **brochure on best practices** in implementing Aarhus Convention in Moldova were published and distributed to environment NGOs that were trained within the project, for further usage and distribution within their future activities.

8 NGOs have strengthened their capacity in implementing projects in the environment protection area. Four (4) small partnership projects developed by NGOs trained within the project were implemented in 8 localities from both sides of the Nistru River. Each project aimed at solving an environment issues specific for each of 8 localities covered by the proposals.

The sub-project „Eşti informat – eşti protejat” (Be informed - Protect yourself!) was implemented by the PA "Renasterea Rurala" (Tohatin) in partnership with PA "Vitality" (Tiraspol), in the village Ciobrucci and Tohatin commune. The project addressed two issues: the lack of transparency in the decision making process vs the role of citizen's participation, and the quality of the drinking water in the wells of these localities.

The sub-project "The 21st century generation has the right to a clean environment" was implemented by the NGO "DJIP" from Ribnita in partnership with the PA "Centrul de Dezbateri" from Criuleni, and the NGO "EDEM" from Dubasari. Through the project 40 young people from these 3 localities promoted the active citizens' involvement in the decision making process through social theatre scenes.

The PA “EcoTox” (Chisinau) and the NGO “EcoSpectrum” (Bender) through the implemented sub-project conducted a survey on both banks on the role of Aarhus Centres in promoting the Convention’s principles.

The sub-project implemented by “EcoTiras” in partnership with the NGO “Pelican” (Bender), and the PA “L. Berg Fund” aimed at strengthening the capacity of the Centre of Ecological Information from Bender, and fostering its role in promoting the Aarhus Convention. Within the project a set of necessary equipment was purchased including a computer, a flipchart, a hard disc, consumables and DVDs. The Centre registered on DVDs a mini environment electronic library comprising international and national legal documents, Conventions, policy papers and reports in environment area, as well as relevant articles, monographs etc., that were distributed to school teachers from Bender, for modernizing their view in teaching the disciplines on environment protection.

V.3.8: Project “A school accessible to all” («Школа доступная для всех»)

Beneficiary: Non-commercial Partnership “Center for rehabilitation and Consultancy” (Базовый центр реабилитации и консультирования «ОСОРЦ»)

Partners: “Ianus Korchak” Rehabilitation Institute for persons with psycho – physical disabilities from Odessa, Ukraine, which offered the methodological support, and provided the trainings within the project.



Project Timeframe: 07 December 2010 – 29 April 2011;

Project budget: USD 13, 377

Project beneficiaries: 16 young people with psycho-neurological problems from 15 years and older, and their families.

Overall goal of the project was to cultivate the potential of young people with psycho-neurological disabilities in order to facilitate their social inclusion.

Specific objectives:

- Train young people with psycho-neurological disabilities on working with printing/copying equipment;

- Procure high performance printing/copying and binding equipment for the Centre;

- Ensure new work places within the Centre for young people with psycho-neurological disabilities.



Project status: concluded. Delivery – 100%. The final report was submitted and approved on 07 July 2011.

Project’s results:

The Centre acquired a high capacity copy machine, the binding equipment and necessary consumables (paper, toner etc). 8 educators/ teachers from the Rehabilitation Centre have improved skills in working with young people with disabilities

16 young people with psycho-neurological problems trained on working with the copy machine and the binding equipment; the post-training assessment and practical test showed that 5 young people out of 16 are capable to use the equipment at its full capacity, and that is a very good result considering the category of beneficiaries.

2 new work places created within the Centre, offering the young people with psychoneurological disability the possibility to earn additional money to their basic pension.

Sustainability of the project

The acquisition of the copy machine and the binding equipment is a solid investment, since it will allow the Centre not only to have two extra work places for young people with disability, but also

constitutes an opportunity for the Centre to provide copying / printing services for other NGOs or any interested parties, and so to have modest earnings for the Centre. In the near future, the Centre also plans to publish their informative bulletin, which will allow them to spread the information about their rehabilitation services throughout the region.

On the other hand, extending the services and possibilities within the rehabilitation Center means also more opportunities for young people with disabilities for social integration.

V.3.9: Project “Cross river partnership to ensure youth access to health education”.

Implemented by: Family Planning Association of Moldova (FPAM)

Project budget: USD 51,420.50.

Project’s timeframe: February – September 2011.

The project was extended by 15 November 2011.

Beneficiaries: Over 1000 young people between 14-18 years from Tiraspol, Criuleni, Orhei and Bender regions.

Project partners: Center for Support and Development of Civic Initiatives „Resonance” and the Y-PEER Network Moldova.

Project’s geographic area: Tiraspol, Criuleni, Orhei, Bender.



Overall goal of the project was to increase the level of knowledge, attitude and behaviour among young people from Tiraspol, Criuleni, Orhei and Bender on health education, including personal hygiene, reproductive health, sexually transmitted Infections (STI) and HIV/AIDS.

Specific objectives:

- Ensure access to health education for nearly 70% of young people living in Tiraspol, Criuleni, Bender and Orhei through peer to peer education methodology, i.e. social theatre;
- Mobilize young people to inform their peers about SRHR;
- Engage young people from 4 schools in social theatre activity and create 4 social theater clubs that will become members of Y-PEER network, 2 on the right bank and 2 on the left.

Project status: concluded. Project Delivery – 100%. The final report was submitted and approved on 18 November 2011. The initially approved amount for the project constituted USD 44,503. Given the satisfactory implementation of the project, the grantee was awarded additional funds in the amount of USD 6,917.50 (addendum no. 1 to the grant agreement of 26.09.2011), for a follow-up training, in order to strengthen the acquired skills and knowledge of 20 new peer educators from both banks of the Nistru River (Tiraspol, Bender, Criuleni and Orhei), engaged in promoting healthy life style among their peers.

Project results:

20 young people of 14-17 age groups from the schools of Tiraspol, Criuleni, Bender and Orhei (Biesti village) **trained as peer educators on sexual reproductive health**, during the ToT organized in February 2011, and during the follow-up training held in November 2011. The second training had also a planning component, where the extension of health education activities to rural areas on the both banks of the Nistru river, and the intervention strategy was discussed and agreed with the Transnistrian partner organization.

20 new peer educators had the opportunity not only to broaden their knowledge on STIs and HIV/AIDS prevention, **work with professional actors and international trainers** from the Y-Peer network, but also to **learn about the cycles of a project**, and exercising in writing project proposals. 4 (four) new social theater clubs, of 8-10 pupils each, were created in Tiraspol, Criuleni, Bender and Orhei (Biesti village), aiming to inform their peers through the social theatre performances.

961 adolescents from 7 educational establishments of Tiraspol, Criuleni, Bender and Orhei (Biesti village) were **informed about the healthy lifestyle**, responsible behaviour, HIV/AIDS, and STI prevention during the informational, educational and communication campaign “PRO-Health”, carried out during April–May 2011. These were short 15 social theatre presentations on health issues, applying peer to peer methodology.

8 social theatre clubs participated at the 2nd edition of the National Festival of social theatre performances and peer to peer experience on 26 June 2011 in Chisinau.

The festival hosted **130 participants and teachers from 7 regions of Moldova** (Drochia, Glodeni, Orhei, Criuleni, Cahul, Bender, and Tiraspol), and had as invitees 100 youngsters from Chisinau and 35 from other regions of the country. Among participants were also the clubs formed within the current project. The 3rd and the 2nd places were awarded to the teams from Tiraspol and Bender.

The festival was organized in partnership with the Y-Peer network and the Transnistrian partner, NGO “Resonance”, with the additional support from UNFPA, IOM, and the Ministry of Education.

Within the activity the following promotion materials were produced: festival flags (450 copies), t-shirts (150), 2 banners.

400 young people aged 13 – 18 from Transnistrian region informed about STI, HIV/AIDS during four (4) theatre performances held at the summer camp in Dubasari („Лесная поляна”), at the school in Glinioie village, and at the day-time summer camps from Parcani and Tasic (Grigoriopol) villages.

404 youngsters from the 6-11 grades, and 10 teachers from the schools of Tiraspol, Bender, Dubasari and villages Glinioie, Tasic and Parcani from the Transnistrian region were informed during **8 informative sessions** aimed at increasing the level of knowledge, attitude and behavior on preventing STI, HIV/SIDA, and informing about the basis of youth reproductive health.

The performances and the informative sessions were held by the members of the social theatre clubs from Bender and Tiraspol, and the volunteers of the “Resonance” Centre, using interactive methods as case study, brainstorming, energizers, work in groups etc; stressing the reasons why it is important to care about youth health, what risks the teenagers could face, the ways of STI, the symptoms of STI and HIV/AIDS.

Within the implemented project, the Family Planning Association of Moldova (SPFM), Y-Peer network and the NGO “Resonance” from Bender have developed a successful partnership, which was both productive and promising in terms of extending the existing project in the future, especially in rural areas of the Transnistrian region.

PRESS CLIPPINGS

- <http://y-peer.md/news/index.html?id=130927079949143867>
- <http://www.civic.md/anunturi/evenimente/14456-festivalul-de-teatru-social.html>
- <http://www.civic.md/comunicate/11455-tinerii-implicati-pentru-asi-informa-semenii-si-a-reduce-comportamentul-riscant-in-rindul-tinerilor.html>
- http://www.alaturidevoi.ro/?webpage=detail_news&id_news=881
- <http://www.info-prim.md/index.php?a=14&id=1690>
- <http://ong.md/index.php?mact=News.cntnt01.detail.0&cntnt01articleid=720&cntnt01returnid=36>
- <http://tineri.md/?pag=n2&opa=view&tip=noutati&id=197&l=ro>
- <http://spfmedia.blogspot.com/>
- <http://unfpa.md/index.php/en/press-releases/264-organizatorii-festivalului-de-teatru-social-au-desemnat-catigtorii-celei-de-a-doua-ediii.html>
- http://trm.md/index.php?module=stiri_int&news_id=26100
- <http://www.nr2.ru/pmr/333922.html>
- <http://www.nr2.ru/pmr/337377.html>
- Interview at the „Fiecare contează...” radio program, supported financially by UNFPA.
- Article published in the magazine „Не одна” (You are not alone), 6th edition, pages 22-24.

V.4 Additional support to CBM work.

V.4.1: Project “Feasibility study on the creation of Euroregion Dniester”

Implemented by: *International Center for Democratic Transitions (ICDT Hungary)*

Budget: EUR 72,000, from which EUR 22,000 is contributed by the Hungarian Foreign Ministry

Timeframe: June-December 2010

Overview of implementation:

ICDT was engaged (through an open tender) to conduct a feasibility study of Euroregion Dniester and prepare the founding documents for the entity.

Study tours were organised for the stakeholders from selected districts to be included in the future Euroregion, in order to share experiences of already existing Euroregions as well as identify opportunities for cooperation between the two banks.

The identified list of needs and opportunities for the future Dniester-Nistru Euroregion includes:

1. Cooperation in tourism development
2. Environmental cooperation and conservation
3. Cooperation in the development of infrastructure and transportation
4. Cooperation between communities, institutions and individuals
5. Economic development cooperation

The study itself represents an in-depth analysis of the political, legal and socio-economic context in the participating regions (Soroca, Floresti, Soldanesti from right bank and Camenca, Ribnitsa districts from Transnistrian region of Moldova as well as Vinnitsa, Yampil and Mogilev oblast of Ukraine). The study has mapped the needs and opportunities and produced findings and recommendations which will flow into practical implementation, conditioned by the availability of funds.

Text of the study is attached to the report.

V.4.2: Project “Transnistria Conflict Resolution Task Force”

Implemented by: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Budget: EUR 17,960

Timeframe: August-November 2011

Overview of implementation:

Following Project Board approval, the project team succeeded to support an additional activity, implemented in September 2011 by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (CEIP). CEIP project “Transnistria Conflict Resolution Task Force” marked the launching of an effort to build and maintain a permanent “sustained dialogue” among experts interested in the Transnistrian issue.

On September 11-14, at the Frankenwarte Academy in Wuerzburg, Germany, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (CEIP) organized the 1st inaugural Meeting of the Transnistria Conflict Resolution Task Force (TCRTF). The event was co-organized with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) and supported by the EU/UNDP, as well as by the Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO) of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The meeting brought together 29 non-governmental experts from Moldova (6), Transnistria (6), Russia(4), Ukraine(4), EU (6) and USA(3) with influence on decision-makers in their respective capitals.

This initiative has managed to involve leading experts representing all the stakeholders involved in the so-called 5+2 negotiations format. This allowed for a consistent and thorough discussion of the conflict in all its complexity and offered the participants a considerably more nuanced understanding of the problems in the region.

The meeting took place in the context of an improving atmosphere at the official Track 1 level. Throughout 2011, the parties to the conflict expressed their wish to resume the formal 5+2 talks, stalled for the last 5 years, and managed to agree to do so during a meeting on September 22 in Moscow. However, the discussions in Wuerzburg raised a series of questions and concerns about the prospects of a final settlement; as the participants themselves noted, reaching a mutually acceptable solution in the future will be difficult. What was clear, however, is that a breakthrough will need to be supported by a process of rapprochement that would include all the stakeholders in the 5+ 2. This

could be greatly helped by the Task Force, which is best equipped to ensure sustained dialogue and generate new ideas.

The participants considered that the first meeting of the Task Force was well organized and successful and appreciated the collegial atmosphere created by the staff at the Frankenwarte Academy in Wuerzburg. They called for similar meetings in the future, targeted toward specific fields related to the conflict.

V.4.3: Project Study tour to Cyprus for key civil society experts involved in CBM work and settlement of the Transnistrian problem

Implemented by: Crisis Management Initiative

Total budget: EUR 19,989

Timeframe: October –December 2011

Partners: Centre for Strategic Studies and Reforms (CISR), Chisinau and Bureau for Political Research and Information Technologies "Mediator", Tiraspol.

Overview of implementation:

The objective of the study tour was to begin the process of capacity building for key civil society experts from Chisinau, Tiraspol, EU, Kyiv and Moscow to analyse and support the development of effective CBMs in Moldova-Transnistria by providing them with access to relevant international expertise from the CBMs process in Cyprus. The study visit took place on 1 to 4 November 2011. A group of high-level experts focused on the peace process in Moldova-Transnistria were brought to Cyprus for an intensive study tour of the Cypriot experience with confidence building measures, socioeconomic cooperation and civil society peacebuilding initiatives, as well as a specific focus on the EU's rules of engagement for the unrecognized Northern part of Cyprus. The experts included former and current members of the official teams involved in the political negotiations in Moldova-Transnistria, as well as senior civil society experts. Participants also took part from Brussels, Berlin, Moscow and Kyiv.

During the study tour the experts met with former President of the Republic of Cyprus George Vasiliou, former Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat, current Special Representatives from both sides involved in the UN-facilitated negotiations process, as well as civil society experts, town mayors, chambers of commerce and officials from both the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot communities and the EU and UN institutions present on the island. Please see attached (Annex I) the full programme of the study visit.

In addition to the deepening of capacity in the expert community on international CBMs experience, the study tour also helped the group in building a common language regarding their future long term plans for work on CBMs with the government / authorities in Moldova-Transnistria, supported by CMI.

VI. PROJECT RISKS, ISSUES AND ACTIONS TAKEN

The active implementation of both phases of the "Support to Confidence Building Measures" programme during 2010-2011 was met with great suspicion and unwillingness to cooperate by the de-facto authorities of the Transnistrian region. Having in mind the growing political struggle between the sides and the disrupted political process of negotiations, the announcement of this programme was seen as an instrument of destabilization within the region, thus the Transnistrian security services launched a close following of all activities, even preventing sometimes meetings between the project team and the beneficiaries. This created un-expected obstacles to the implementation, which necessitated swift reactions and a continuous "shuttle diplomacy" process.

Several cycles of elections in the region ("parliamentary" elections in spring 2010 and preparations for the "presidential" elections in spring 2011) coincided with the launch and the implementation of the SCBM programme and generated a dismissal of EU-sponsored activities, while the project team

was prevented on several occasions to access the region, being refused entrance and moreover, being closely followed by representatives of Transnistrian special services.

The launching on the left bank of the civil society support activities, as part of the second package of CBM projects, only added to the suspicion by the Tiraspol authorities that the project is meant to create a potential for a “coup d’etat” in the region and actively prevented NGOs from participating in the grants programme. Meetings of the project team were each time followed by meetings of the special services agents with civil society beneficiaries in order to prevent their involvement in EU-sponsored programs. This situation demanded strenuous effort on behalf of the UNDP team, in order to convince NGOs to pursue their initiatives.

At the end of 2010, in order to create even more barriers to the EU-funded activities in the TN region, the de-facto authorities, adopted a special “Law on external assistance” that prevented any organization from the region to implement projects and receive funds on bank accounts in the region without a special permission of a “Coordination Council” under the control of the region’s special services. This law created another un-expected fence that necessitated strong pressure and a lot of discussions in order to alleviate the suspicions and de-block the project implementation.

Despite an initial acceptance by TN region authorities of the list of pre-selected projects during talks with representatives of the EU Delegation, almost each work-plan and every project had to be agreed once again with region’s authorities in the respective field. This practice postponed the launch of some projects or endangered the implementation of pre-agreed work plans. Despite these hurdles, the project succeeded to launch, implement and finalise all planned initiatives, swiftly reacting to all issues by maintaining an efficient permanent dialogue with counterparts in the region.

At the end of project implementation, **UNDP commissioned an independent evaluation** of its confidence-building work, implemented during 2009-2010. The purpose of the evaluation was to learn from the experience of EU-funded and UNDP-implemented development projects and confidence-building measures. The overall objectives were to provide an objective assessment of the achievements, constraints, performance, results, impact, relevance and sustainability of the interventions. The evaluation also sought to generate lessons from experiences in the respective interventions and inform current and future programming at the country level.

The evaluation data was collected through desk review, structured discussions were held with UNDP management and project staff; interviews were conducted with staff of NGOs from Transnistria and Moldova, field visits were made to project sites and meetings were held with the Government of Moldova, EU Delegation, and embassies of Russia, Sweden, and Britain.

The evaluation concluded with underlining that the project concepts, objectives, and components were relevant to the twin objectives of promoting development in Transnistria and creating connectivity and partnerships between people and institutions on both sides. It mentioned that remarkable results were achieved in complex contexts in many areas such as business development, health, environment, awareness-raising on social issues and HIV/AIDS, community empowerment, and civil society development. Most importantly, it set the foundation for further programme development in Transnistria.

The evaluation also recommended the continuation of implementing confidence-building measures through consistent and uniform implementation so that it develops fully as an established practice and norm. It was also recommended to continue maintaining exemplary standards of neutrality and transparency while promoting development activities through confidence-building measures and increasing understanding on the meaning of confidence-building for all stakeholders and civil societies involved with the project.

A risk table below is clearly describing existing risks and approaches towards mitigating those risks:

Description of risk	Type and Category	Risk management actions during 2010-2011
Volatile political and security environment, subject to unforeseen and sudden changes	Political/ High	The project team took into account the specific political setting that exists in the region at the moment of implementation. The implementation of the activities was planned and approached with caution, including the timing, visibility and presentation issues. The project team worked under the close guidance of UNDP Moldova, EU Special Representative office and EU Delegation. Using its vast network of connections in the region, the project team succeeded to prevent political obstacles in the way of several projects and had numerous meetings with representatives of regional authorities to explain the non-political nature of the action and to make possible the launching of the projects according to agreed schedules.
Activities may be delayed due to the regional context	Operational / Medium	The project ensured that the local administration is informed on an on-going basis about the aims and the activities planned, having regular meetings with them and involving them in the activities of the projects highlighted above
Different financial systems in the Transnistrian region	Operational / Medium	The UNDP worked through accounts on the right bank, considering to transfer funds, to the extent possible, to Moldovan accounts of the implementing partners.
Low capacity of civil society in the Transnistrian region to implement and absorb the assistance	Operational / High	To avoid this risk, a mixed approach in the implementation of activities was taken. Beside grants programmes, direct support to proposal development, as well as preparation for all technical information (i.e. infrastructure projects) was provided to the implementation partners. Permanent support was provided in terms of performance indicators tracking and actual implementation process.

VII. MEDIA COVERAGE

A media strategy to promote the projects in Transnistria and Moldova proper was put together. As a result, all of the CBM projects have been covered extensively by the only two TV channels in Transnistria, TSV and the Republican Channel. Projects also received extensive coverage in radio outlets, newspapers and web portals on both banks of the Nistru River, which enhanced EU's and UNDP's visibility in the region and explained to the broader public the goals and purposes of the confidence-building projects in the region.

A multitude of TV reports have been shown on both Transnistrian TV channels about the business school, raising its prestige and demonstrating the practical benefits of EU's presence in the region. A series of interviews with EU and UNDP officials on Transnistria's TV channels – which were prepared, negotiated and implemented by the project team – have provided a comprehensive conceptual framework for the project among the Transnistrian community.

The Communication Strategy of the project included a series of activities aiming to raise public awareness from two sides of Nistru River on implementation of the SCBM project. The Strategy is focused on usage of different efficient communication and media tools for promotion of project activities and results such as TV and Radio reportages and interview, newspaper articles etc. The media coverage was directed to environmental and health projects, rehabilitation of social

infrastructure, small and medium business development etc. The focus is on non-political areas and the relevance of these projects to the needs of the population, as well as SCBM project activities and achievements, ensuring visibility and communication, and promotion of the beneficiaries' results.

The objective of the Strategy is to provide timely and consistent information to beneficiaries, media and authorities/partners involved in the project; ensuring maximum transparency of the assistance efforts; identifying and implementing of efficient mechanisms for distribution of the information about the project's activities and results to the target group of the project; information and rising awareness of public opinion from two sides of the Nistru River about the social-economic problems and necessities in Transnistrian region.

In accordance with the Communication Strategy, in order to promote the results and ensure the visibility of the donors, the following media activities took place:

- Publication on www.undp.md of the basic information about the project;
- Dissemination of the information about the business schools in Transnistria where the beginner entrepreneurs will be trained and the skill enhancement courses for mid-level manager of existing companies will be offered;
- Dissemination of the information about the opening of the business school for beginner entrepreneurs and mid-level managers;
- Creation of a portfolio of photos and videos from project activities;
- Publication of the supplement OBIECTIV, edited by Association of Independent Press, in 4 pages, A3 format, distributed as insert to local and national newspapers from Moldova and Transnistrian region;
- Regular press releases or press conferences, publication of all info related to the projects on the UN/UNDP, EU and relevant NGOs websites;

All media materials (CDs and copies of other PR materials) are attached to the report.