



MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MMXXVI

**National Report on the
Official Development
Assistance provided
by Romania in 2016**

This report has been elaborated by the
**Development Assistance Unit of the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs of Romania, with the support of
the United Nations Development Programme,
Regional Centre for Europe and Central Asia
(Ingrid Marinescu)**

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National Report on the Official Development Assistance provided by Romania in 2016

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TEODOR MELEŞCANU
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of Romania

2016 represented an important step in consolidating Romania's international profile as an emerging donor. The efforts that have been made in the past few years for re-shaping the international development cooperation policy have resulted in the adoption of a new legislative framework on development assistance and humanitarian aid and the setting up of the Agency for International Development Cooperation (RoAid).

At a national level, Law no. 213/2016 lays down this country's actions for international development cooperation and humanitarian aid that are financed from the state budget. The law also sets out Romania's strategic objectives in this field. At external level, the development policy provides economic and investment opportunities, improves the monitoring and control of the resources provided by Romania to the partner countries and enhances the diplomatic potential of this country.

At international level, in 2016, Romania re-committed itself to carrying out, together with the 193 member states of the United Nations Organization, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, addressing both the developing states and regions, and the developed ones.

At European level, Romania contributed to debates on the communications adopted by the European Commission in 2016: *Communication on the next steps towards a sustainable European future*, *Communication on a new European Consensus for Development and Communication on renewing the partnership with countries in Africa, the Pacific and the Caribbean*. In the strategic planning of Romania's development assistance policy, the new communications represent a benchmark at a European level. Romania, as a member state, will be heavily involved in identifying solutions to the new global challenges, as well as in supporting other states on the road to economic, political and social development.

I have the pleasure now to present the National Report on the Official Development Assistance provided by Romania in 2016. The Report presents a detailed analysis of the funds allocated by the Romanian public institutions to the benefit of Romania's partner countries, at the same time providing an overall image on the added value of Romania's contribution to the international efforts in the field.

I would like to take this opportunity and express my appreciation and acknowledgement to the MFA team, to the other ministries and government agencies, as well as to the civil society organisations in Romania for their efforts and for the extremely valuable results obtained in the field of development cooperation.

I am confident that Romania will continue this exercise of promoting solidarity and international cooperation in the coming years, as well.

This is the fifth national report which analyses Romania's development cooperation policy, aimed at strengthening the level of transparency and information on the reported contributions and the current stage of this policy.

The Report has been drawn up based on the information received from the public institutions active in implementing the national development cooperation policy. At a national level, 19 institutions reported such activities supporting the development of the partner states during 2016.

ROMANIA'S CONTRIBUTION, IN FIGURES:

0.14%
OF
GNI

The overall national development assistance budget reported by Romania in 2016 stood at de **1,093,597,017.07 RON**,¹ accounting for 0.14% of the gross national income (GNI). In this respect, there has been a significant increase in the development assistance funds, as compared to the previous years (0.11 % in 2014 and 0.09% in 2015).

20%
INCREASE IN
BILATERAL
ASSISTANCE

Bilateral contributions account for 41% of the funds provided by Romania. **There has been an increase of 20%** in the amount of bilateral assistance as compared to the previous year, which contributed to increased visibility of the actions carried out by Romania abroad.

63%
FOR
GOOD
GOVERNANCE

The sectors that benefitted most from Romania's official development assistance (ODA) in 2016 were: **Good governance (63%), Education (26%)** and **Humanitarian Aid (9%)**.

81%
MINISTRY OF
PUBLIC
FINANCE

Out of the total ODA funds granted by the public institutions in Romania in 2016, special reference should be made of the following: The **Ministry of Public Finance (81%)**, The **Ministry of National Education (8.9%)** and the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs (4.5%)**.

80
PARTNER
STATES

80 partner states benefitted from Romania's development assistance, mainly in the form of scholarships.

86%
FOR THE
REPUBLIC OF
MOLDOVA

The main country benefitting from Romania's bilateral assistance was the **Republic of Moldova (86%)**, followed by **Turkey² (4%)** and by **Serbia (1.3%)**.

¹ The amount includes the EU Facility for Refugees

² Includes the EU Facility for Refugees

I

**The Official
Development Assistance
in figures**

I. The Official Development Assistance in figures

**1
BIL.
RON**

Romania contributed 1 billion RON to the development of partner countries

**80
countries**

80 countries benefitted from Romania's development assistance

**40
MIL.
RON**

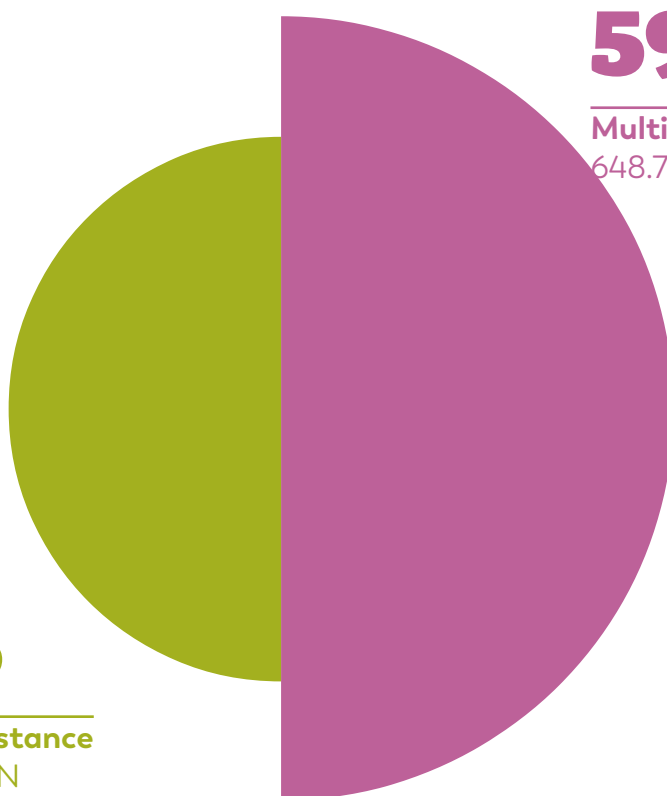
Romania granted humanitarian assistance worth 40 million RON to 10 countries

**19
public
institutions**

19 public institutions contributed to Romania's development cooperation programme in 2016

41%

Bilateral assistance
444.9 mil. RON



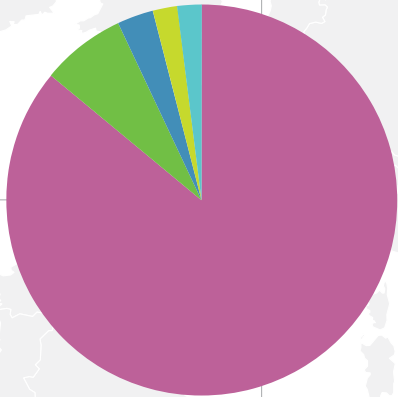
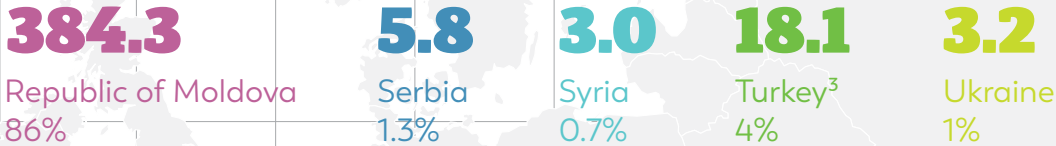
59%

Multilateral assistance
648.7 mil. RON

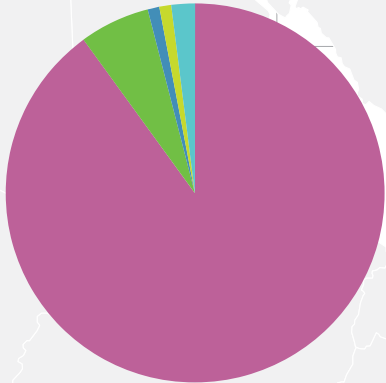
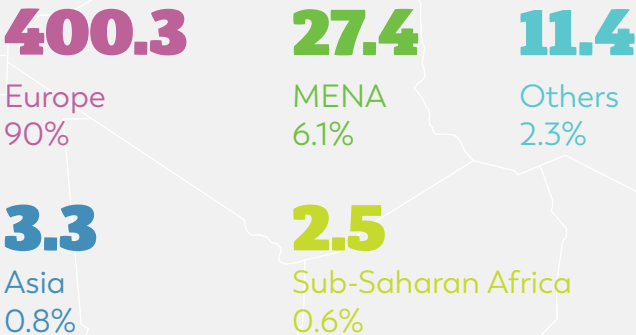
I.1. The ODA distribution by countries and geographic regions

In 2016, Romania contributed to the development of 80 countries all over the world, granting over 400 million RON as bilateral assistance. The Republic of Moldova remained the main beneficiary of Romania’s development assistance.

Main beneficiary countries (mil. RON)

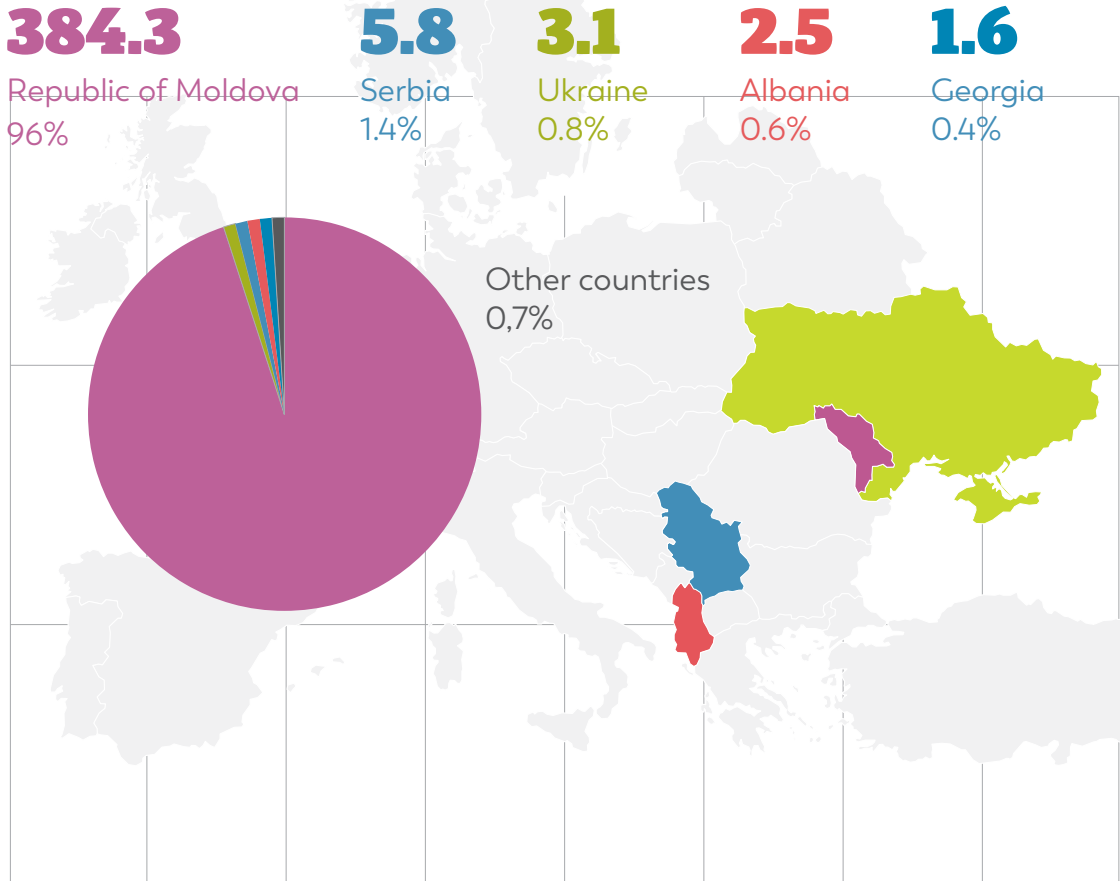


ODA distribution by geographic regions (mil. RON)

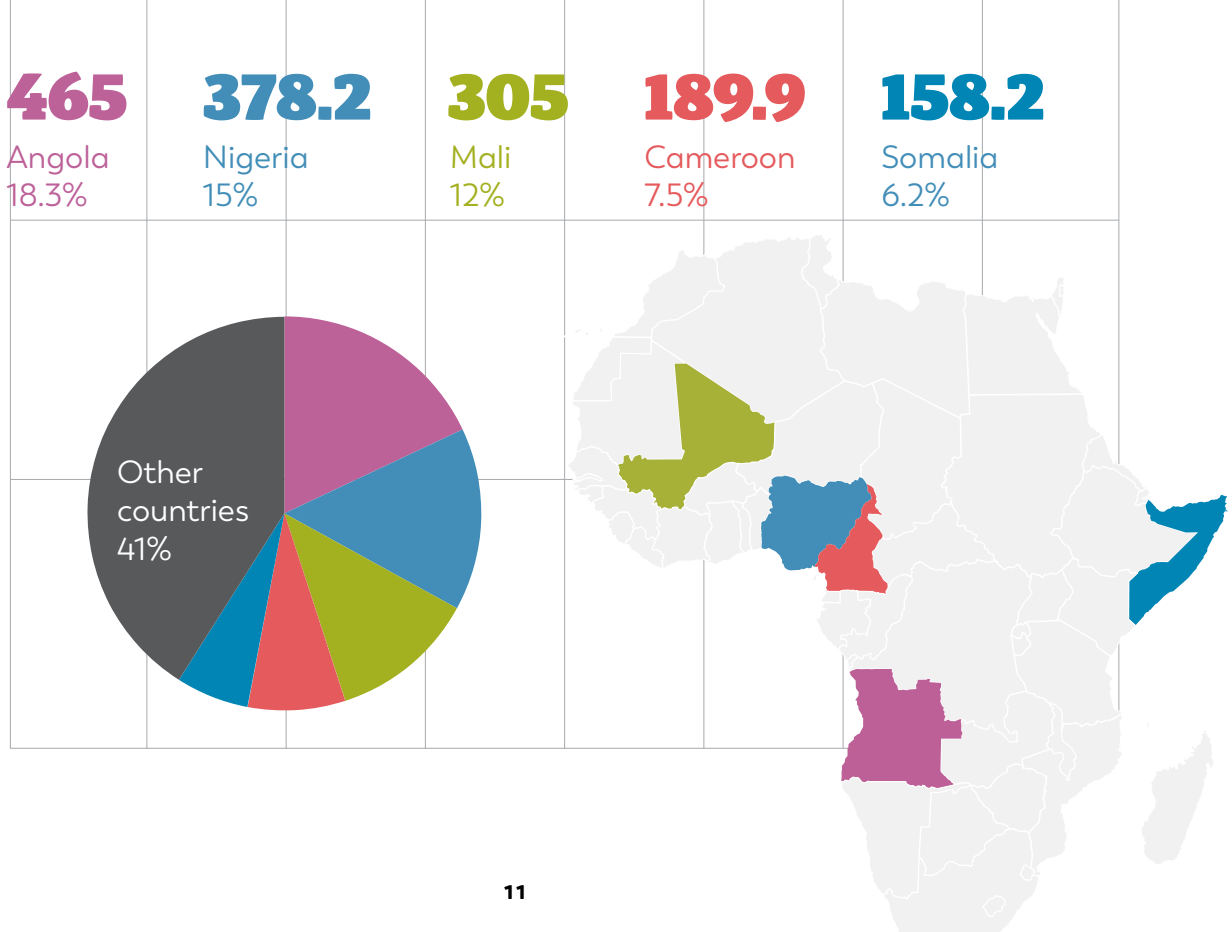


³ Includes the contribution of 4 mil. EUR to the EU Facility for Refugees

Main beneficiaries in Europe (mil. RON)

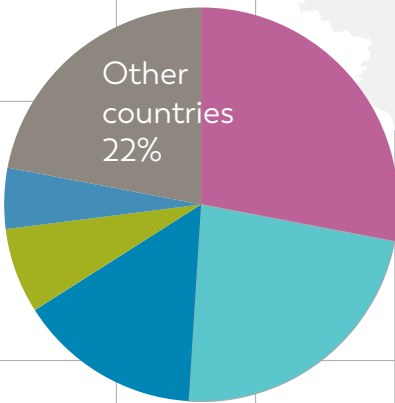


Main beneficiaries in Sub Saharan Africa (thousand RON)



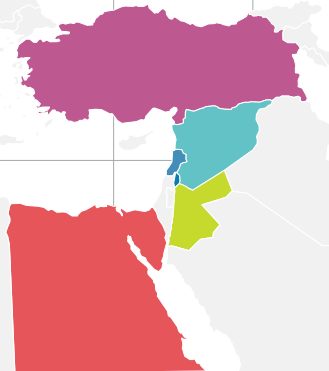
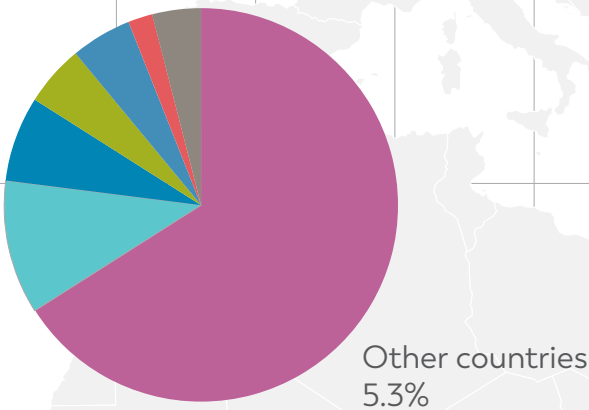
Main beneficiaries in ASIA (thousand RON)

932.8	771.1	447.9	244.2	181.7
Turkmenistan	Afghanistan	Vietnam	China	Pakistan
27.9%	23.1%	14.3%	7.3%	5.4%



Main beneficiaries in MENA (mil. RON)

18.1	3	2	1.2	1.2	0.4
Turkey	Syria	The Palestinian territories	Jordan	Lebanon	Egypt
66.2%	11.1%	7.3%	4.5%	4.2%	1.4%



I.2.The official development assistance by thematic areas

Main beneficiary sectors (mil. RON)



282.2

Good governance

justice reform, public administration reform, fight against corruption, electoral assistance



113.7

Education

education infrastructure, scholarships



40.4

Humanitarian aid

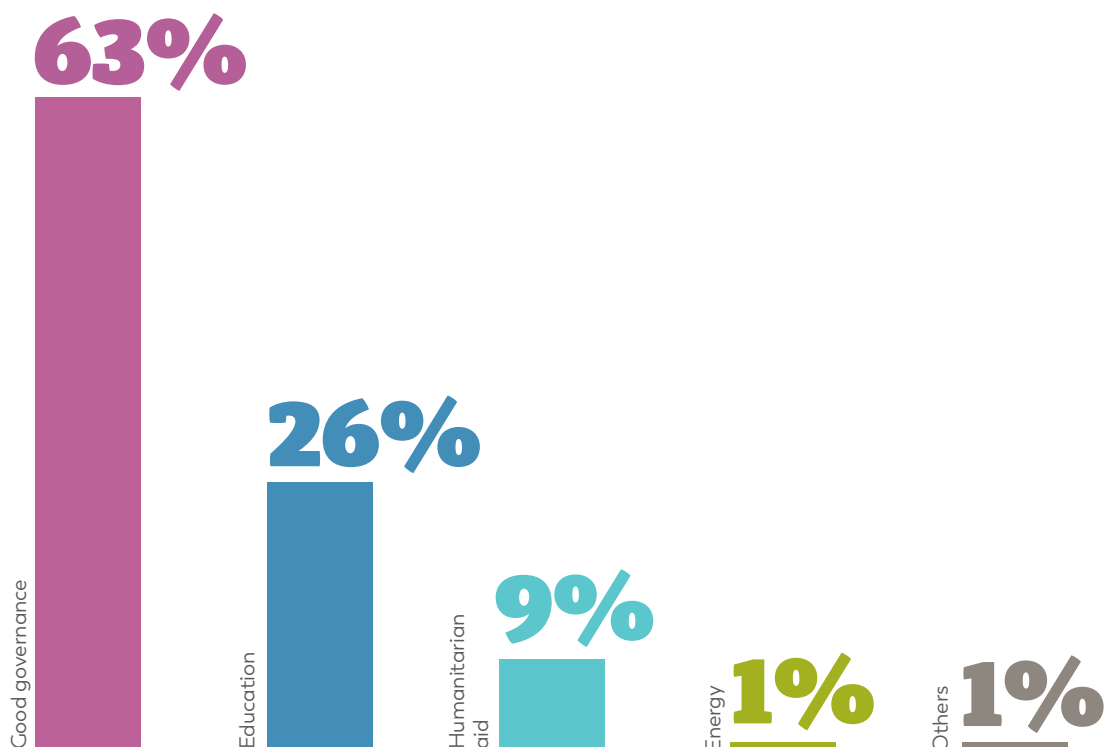


4.4

Energy

production and supply

ODA distribution by sectors



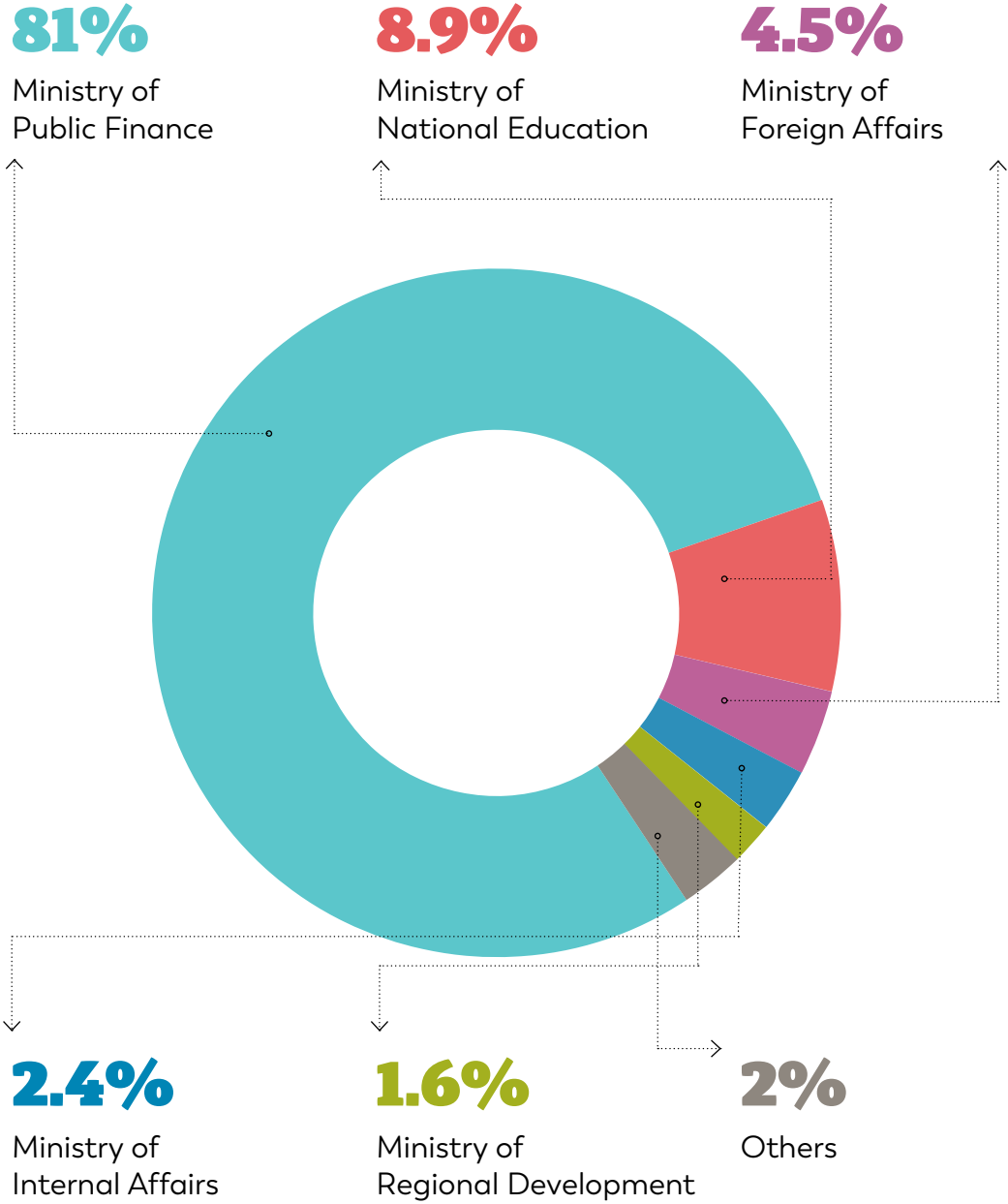
II

**Who contributes to
Romania's development
cooperation
programme?**

II. Who contributes to Romania's development cooperation programme?

In 2016, 19 public institutions in Romania reported the implementation or financing of development cooperation activities worth 1,093,597,017.07 RON.

Main contributions



Other institutions

INSTITUTION	AMOUNT (RON)
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	4,844,906
Ministry of Health	4,257,245.66
Ministry of Environment	2,739,688.95
Ministry of Labour and Social Justice	2,135,719.8
Ministry of Culture and Social Identity	1,411,996.82
Ministry of Justice	385,194.44
Permanent Electoral Authority	339,847.02
Chamber of Deputies	157,922.98
Ministry of Communications and the Information Society	81,864.32
Senate of Romania	43,612
National Tax Administration Agency	30,626
National Agency of Civil Servants	17,178.31
National Integrity Agency	16,935
Ministry of Youth and Sports	10,915.52
Ministry of National Defence	8,450

II.1 Ministry of Public Finance

In 2016, as in previous years, the Ministry of Public Finance (MPF) had the biggest share of the national ODA contribution (81%) accounting for **885,899,050.81 RON**. 70% of the funds reported by the MPF was in the form of multilateral contributions to the development budget of the European Commission, the European Development Fund, the International Development Association and the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank. Additionally, the MPF provided assistance to the Republic of Moldova, in the form of a non-reimbursable loan, whose first installment, worth approximately 270 million RON, was paid in 2016.

II.2 Ministry of National Education

In 2016, the ODA contribution of the Ministry of National Education (MNE) stood at **97,303,413 RON**, accounting for 8.9% of the total development assistance funds reported at a national level and was mainly in the form of scholarships and financial incentives for the citizens in the ODA eligible countries. Out of the MNE funds, 75% was allocated to the Republic of Moldova, the remaining being earmarked for a big number of countries all over the world.

In addition to the scholarships for students coming from the developing countries all over the world, other expenses reported by MNE in 2016 include: special

grants for the university staff from the Republic of Moldova, scholarships for refugee children from Syria who benefit from a form of protection in Romania and who were enrolled in the educational system in Romania in the school year 2015-2016.

II.3 Ministry of Internal Affairs

The ODA amounts reported by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) in 2016 amounted to **26,767,449.3 RON**. These were used for the international exercise organized by the Romanian Gendarmerie (RoGendIntEx 2016) with a view to training the order keeping forces participating in international peace-keeping missions, as well as for educational activities for several students in the Republic of Moldova and the Palestinian Territories.

Other ODA expenses reported by the MIA in 2016 included the food aid granted to the Republic of Moldova, worth 20 million RON, and the emergency humanitarian aid granted to the population affected by the floods on the territory of Macedonia, worth 606,086.42 RON. Added to these are the integrated assistance services for ensuring social protection and inclusion of the refugees and of asylum seekers on the territory of Romania, worth 4,556,455 RON. As for multilateral contributions, the MIA reported an amount of 461,319.28 RON as contribution to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

II.4 Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds

In 2016, the Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds provided assistance worth **17,781,214.06 RON** to the Republic of Moldova. Out of it, 13.6 million RON was used to finance the construction of kindergartens, the remaining being granted for providing the necessary technical assistance for building the Ungheni – Chişinău gas pipe and a dispatcher for the gas distribution to Ungheni.

II.5 Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

The total value of the assistance reported by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development amounts to **4,844,906**

Youth and children in the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Albania, Syria, and Ukraine benefitted from the majority of scholarships granted by the Ministry of National Education.

RON. It referred to the contributions to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), to the European Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), as well as to the International Seeds Testing Association (ISTA).

II.6 Ministry of Health

In 2016, the Ministry of Health reported a total amount of assistance worth **4,257,245.66 RON**, accounting for the contribution to the World Health Organization (WHO).

II.7 Ministry of Environment

The amount of contributions provided by the Ministry of Environment in 2016 reached **2,739,688.95 RON**. The main contribution reported by the Ministry of Environment was to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) – 2,600,000 RON, added to which is the contribution to the United Nations Frame-Convention on Climate Change.

II.8 Ministry of Labour and Social Justice

The ODA contribution reported by the Ministry of Labour and Social Justice in 2016 stood at 2,135,719.8 RON, representing the financial contribution to the budget of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

II.9 Ministry of Culture

The Ministry of Culture reported in 2016 a multilateral contribution worth **1,411,996.82 RON** to UNESCO, the amount reported as ODA accounting for 60% of the transferred funds.

II.10 Ministry of Justice

The contribution reported by the Ministry of Justice in 2016 stood at **385,194.44**

RON, representing the costs with posting a Romanian expert at the EUCAP Nestor Somalia mission, the training of penitentiary agents from the Republic of Moldova in Romania, the participation of experts from Georgia in a session of technical consultations organized by the Ministry of Justice in Romania, as well as the participation of experts from the Republic of Moldova in the joint meeting of the national commission on international humanitarian law, organized in Bucharest.

II.11 Permanent Electoral Authority

In 2016, the Permanent Electoral Authority (PEA) allocated ODA funds worth of **339,847.02 RON**. Approximately 52% of these funds were directed towards organizing international conferences and to the participation of Romanian experts in international training sessions, with the objective of sharing good practices in areas including electoral legislation, technologies used in elections, electoral management and electoral integrity. The remaining contributions reported by the PEA represented costs for the organization of electoral observation missions in countries such as the Republic of Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Dominican Republic.

II.12 Chamber of Deputies

In 2016, the Chamber of Deputies reported an ODA contribution worth **157,922.98 RON**, representing mainly costs for monitoring the parliamentary elections in Montenegro and Kazakhstan, as well as the presidential elections in the Republic of Moldova.

II.13 Ministry of Communications and the Information Society

The total amount of the ODA contribution reported by the Ministry of Communications and the Information Society in 2016 stood at **81,864.32 RON**, representing the reportable percentage of the annual financial contribution to the Universal Post Union (UPU).

II.14 Senate of Romania

The ODA contribution reported by the Senate amounted to **43,612 RON**, repre-

↓Volunteers at the *Post-conflict Reconstruction and Stabilization* training programme, funded by the Romanian MFA.

The Ministry of Public Finance channeled 75% of the total multilateral assistance provided by the Romanian public institutions to the European Commission's development budget.



© The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romania

senting cost for monitoring parliamentary elections in Kazakhstan, Serbia and Belarus, as well as the presidential elections in the Republic of Moldova.

II.15 National Tax Administration Agency

In 2016 the National Tax Administration Agency (ANAF) reported a contribution worth **30,626 RON**, representing the costs related to sharing the good practices on customs control and combating corruption in this field, with the Republic of Moldova and Serbia.

II.16 National Agency for Civil Servants

The National Agency for Civil Servants reported an ODA contribution of **17,178.31 RON** in 2016, representing the participation of Romanian experts in international public administration programmes, carried out in the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Belarus and Ukraine, aimed at carrying out an exchange of experience and sharing the good practices in the field.

II.17 National Integrity Agency

The National Integrity Agency reported an ODA contribution of **16,935 RON** in 2016, mainly referring to the organization and hosting of several working visits for the representatives of the partner institu-

tions in the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia, Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro and Egypt, as well as for the participation of Romanian experts in international conferences and seminars aimed at sharing good practices in the field of integrity.

II.18 Ministry of Youth and Sports

The ODA contribution reported by the Ministry of Youth and Sports in 2016 stood at **10,915.52 RON**. It included the participation of experts from the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in events organized for the International Human Rights Day in Romania.

II.19 Ministry of National Defence

The ODA expenses reported by the Ministry of National Defence (MND) in 2016 amounted to **8,450 RON** and were aimed at organizing consultations with the Ministry of Defence in the Republic of Moldova regarding the security system management and reform.

The MND has also supported the organization of the „Post-conflict reconstruction and stabilization” training programme, addressed to public officials in the Eastern and Southern neighbourhood.

↓ The project *A New Life for Young Offenders*, implemented by the West University and funded by the Romanian MFA, supported the socio-professional inclusion of youth in detention, in the Republic of Moldova.



© Olga Anghel (Coian, Republic of Moldova)

III

**Ministry of
Foreign Affairs**

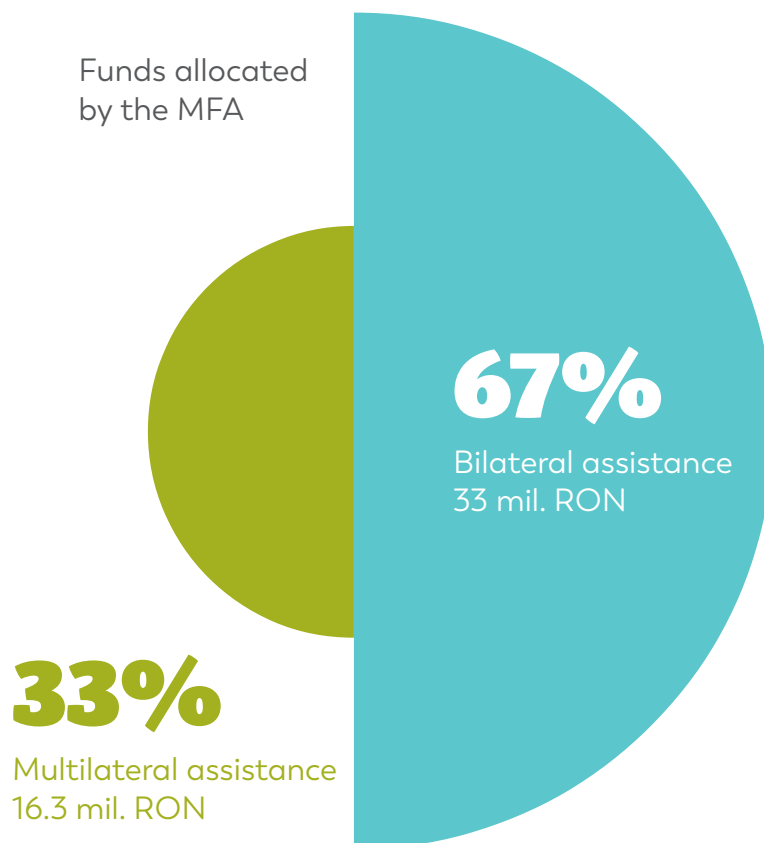
III. Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) as national coordinator of the development cooperation policy is benefitting from a special budget line for financing projects and programmes in the benefit of the developing countries, for emergency humanitarian aid and development education and public awareness projects. Likewise, the ministry also manages additional funds consisting of contributions to the budgets of international bodies.

In 2016, the development assistance reported by the MFA stood at **49,363,787.08 RON.**

While the multilateral assistance accounted for **33%** of the assistance granted by the MFA, and was particularly aimed at the payment of contributions to international organizations and funds, the remaining **67%** represented bilateral assistance aimed at priority domains such as:

good governance (public administration reform, justice system reform, electoral assistance, fight against corruption, integrity, freedom of the press etc.) and the civil society; Education (scholarships, vocational training, educational infrastructure); and Humanitarian assistance.





© Vlad Catană (Republic of Moldova)

III.1. ODA legislative reform

In 2016 the reform of the legislative framework regarding Romania's international development cooperation policy materialized in the adoption by the Parliament of Romania, in November 2016, of a new law on international development cooperation and humanitarian aid financed from the state budget of Romania, the ODA programmatic and institutional framework, as well as the financing and implementation framework regarding the international development cooperation and humanitarian aid policy.

Similarly, Law 213/2016 on international development cooperation and humanitarian aid laid the basis for setting up Romania's Agency for International Development Cooperation (RoAid), a public institution under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, responsible for the implementation of projects on development cooperation and humanitarian assistance. In December 2016, Government Decision 1006/2016 on the organization and functioning of the RoAid was adopted by the Government of Romania.

The new law reiterates the role of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as coordinator of the national policy on development cooperation and defines the role of the RoAid Agency.

The new law enhances the profile of our country as a development assistance donor as well as the visibility its actions, and the possibility of establishing new partnerships and joint actions with other donors. Similarly, the law supports the Romanian public institutions in promoting flagship topics in fields where Romania has expertise (transition experience, child protection, public administration reform, election reform, management of emergency situations).

Likewise, the new law opens up a window of opportunity for connecting the Romanian private sector to the development cooperation policy. Trade and investment represent essential elements of cooperation for development, with advantages for both the benefitting state and the donor state.

↑ The Inauguration of one of the over 900 kindergartens in the Republic of Moldova that were refurbished with the support of the Ministry of Regional Development and the MFA.

Romania's first ever International Development Cooperation Agency was created in 2016.

III.2. A brief evaluation of the development assistance provided by the MFA in 2016



© Olgața Anghel (Republic of Moldova)

↑ Over 72,000 children benefitted from better conditions in the over 900 kindergartens in the Republic of Moldova refurbished with the support of the Ministry of Regional Development and the MFA.

International development cooperation remains a priority domain of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, both at a normative level and as concerns granting financial contributions.

The main areas where the MFA provides development assistance are the following: transition to democracy by strengthening institutions and the rule of law, fight against corruption, good governance, peace and stability.

Thus, 49% of the MFA budget earmarked for development assistance was directed to five main countries: Turkey (39% – following the support granted for the management

of the Syrian crisis), the Republic of Moldova (5%), Syria (2%), Georgia (1%) and Ukraine (1%). There has been a more significant opening towards the MENA region following the implementation of projects that benefitted countries like: Lebanon, Tunisia, Jordan, Egypt and Iraq.

Considering the unprecedented increase in the number of humanitarian crises and natural disasters as well as the substantial increase in the number of people in need, the MFA provided in 2016 humanitarian assistance worth 22.4 million RON.

Although the amount of contributions in the form of development assistance provided by Romania increased, as compared to 2015, having reached now 0.14% of the GNI, attaining the level of 0.33%, as assumed at a European and international level, is still a challenge. Nevertheless, Romania proved to be a solid and trustworthy partner for the international community in development cooperation, as well as for the states and peoples that are facing major difficulties, and continued to extend its range of actions, based on the experience it acquired in the period of transition.

The MFA works closely with partners in the public sector and the civil society in Romania, as well as with international organizations, to implement the national ODA policy.

III.3. Projects financed from the MFA ODA budget in 2016

Republic of Moldova

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET (RON)
Training programme for the public administration staff in the Republic of Moldova	184,000 RON
Promotion of sustainable farming practices for fresh fruit in the Republic of Moldova	400,000 RON
The Mobility Fund for the experts of the civil society in Romania and the Republic of Moldova – 3rd Round, Romanian Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations in Development	138,000 RON
Increasing the competitiveness of the grape sector (table grapes) following the introduction of the Apirene grapes and the high strain grapes	382,500 RON
Consolidation of the integrated system of identification, prevention and combating of conflicts of interest in the Republic of Moldova through institutional cooperation and partnership with relevant stakeholders in Romania	322,000 RON
A new chance for the young people in penitentiaries	420,000 RON
Increasing the capacity of the potential beneficiaries of European cross-border financing in the Republic of Moldova and developing partnerships with potential beneficiaries in Romania.	207,000 RON
The dossiers of the Transnistrian conflict – blockages and solutions for the development of society on both banks of the river Nistru	138,000 RON
TOTAL	2,191,500 RON

Ukraine

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET (RON)
Electoral assistance for Ukraine	42,000 RON
Support for the development of the National Guard of Ukraine	189,000 RON
Improvement of the institutional capacity of the Ukrainian authorities dealing with the legal investigation and resolution of petty and big corruption cases	294,000 RON
TOTAL	528,505 RON

Georgia and Armenia

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET (RON)
Cooperation for Peace (COBERM) in Georgia	45,505 RON
Support for the implementation of the European Union Association Agreement with Georgia	273,000 RON

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET (RON)
Resilient communities – preparations in case of disasters, as a first step towards sustainable development (Georgia / Armenia)	210,000 RON
Alternative cultivation: pilot project for the greenhouse effect on greenhouses in the region of Shirak, Armenia	246,000 RON
TOTAL	774,505 RON

MENA

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET (RON)
Increasing the sustainability development cooperation in Egypt: setting up of social enterprises resilient to conflicts	168,000 RON
Electoral assistance to Egypt	42,000 RON
Training of public administration staff the Arab world countries	126,000 RON
Romania – Palestine: bridge over to the future of young people with disabilities	168,000 RON
TOTAL	504,000 RON

Thematic Projects

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET (RON)
Development of civilian capacities in the field of post-conflict reconstruction	161,000 RON
Integration of gender in elections, as part of the Global Project Electoral Cycle Support GPECS (phase 2)	240,000 RON
The Black Sea Non-Governmental Organizations Forum, the 9th edition	230,000 RON
Promotion of integrity and efficiency at a local level in Eastern Europe and the Caucasian region (Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine)	280,000 RON
Development of the inventory of Romanian expertise of democratization and development	230,000 RON
The Mobility Fund for government experts	400,000 RON
TOTAL	1,541,000 RON

Education for Development

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET (RON)
Continuation of the public awareness raising in the field of development assistance and institutional building of the MFA in the field	1,330,000 RON
Actions of cooperation, assistance and education for development	216,200 RON

PROJECT NAME	BUDGET (RON)
The Romanian Development Camp, the 9th edition, „The International Development Days”	184,000 RON
Support for journalists in Romania when approaching international development topics	92,000 RON
Increasing the level of information and active involvement of young people in the development problems of the current world - Global Cool!	92,000 RON
TOTAL	1,914,200 RON

III.4. Projects successfully implemented in 2016

➔ **The Mobility Fund for governmental experts** is a global rapid reaction instrument created in order to meet the ad-hoc needs of Romania’s partner countries by providing Romanian experts and expertise in the field where Romania brings in added value.

Although initially the Mobility Fund was destined only to Romania’s partner countries, subsequently its range of action extended to all the countries benefitting from development assistance, according to the OECD list. As of 2013, this innovative instrument has been used to finance 43 short missions meant to share the Romanian experience and expertise, in line with Romania’s development cooperation strategy.

The missions aimed at the professional training of experts from the beneficiary countries in areas such as: project management, the sanitary-veterinary field, public communication, consumer protection, and at sharing Romania’s experience/expertise in fields like: the EU pre-accession process, fight against corruption, competition, child protection, reform of the justice system, and national security. Likewise, the instrument has been used to evaluate the needs of the

beneficiary institutions and to monitor the infrastructure projects financed from Romania’s ODA budget in 2014.

During 2016, the Mobility Fund was also used to organize 14 missions for sharing Romania’s experience and expertise in areas including: child protection, anti-corruption and food safety, legislative harmonization, zootechnics, consumer protection, judicial cooperation etc.

“The mobility fund is an extraordinary instrument. (...) Simple procedures, maximum results, great satisfaction. (...) The amount of innovative ideas resulting from these exchanges has been amazing and materialized in the improvement of legislation, strategy and reform plans. Which, eventually, in my field, means a better life for children.” (Mirela Oprea, World Vision)

➔ **Since 2007, the MFA has been working together** with the organizations of the civil society in Romania on the information and awareness of the public about developing countries and the role that Romania, its citizens, as well as the journalists and media play in creating a sustainable world for all. In order to further convey the message, the Romanian NGDO Federation (FOND) and the MFA supported three Romanian



© Petruț Călinescu (Republic of Moldova)

↑ One of the photos taken as part of the project *Support for journalists in Romania when approaching international development topics*

journalists in 2016 in their documentation work of people in the Republic of Moldova, Georgia and Tunisia.

➔ **Cupcini is a town with 12,000 inhabitants**, 3 hour-drive from Chisinau. At the end of 2016, the non-functional canteen of the former boarding school of Cupcini turned into the first and only Information and Marketing Center for Apiculture. The Cupcini Center was developed by the Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions, in partnership with the North Regional Development Agency and beekeepers in the Republic of Moldova. The investment in the private sector in the Republic of Moldova worth 157,000 EUR came from the MFA and

is intended to be a model of good practice for the whole country. Besides the Cupcini Center, the project also includes experience sharing between beekeepers in Romania and in the Republic of Moldova, as well as of communication campaign whose purpose is to boost the consumption of honey.

➔ **Over one third of the people with disabilities in Palestine** has never been enrolled in school, disability being a widespread phenomenon, associated with hard living conditions. The MFA financed a project implemented by the Peoples Development Foundation in which 30 young people with disabilities, aged between 16 and 25, from Bethlehem took part in vocational training courses in the following areas: carpentry, metal work, shoe repairing, upholstery, clothing, ceramics and food. In addition, a niche was identified in the industry of restaurants and a school of cooking was set up which would train 10 youngsters with disabilities every year.

➔ **Six local rural communities in Georgia and Armenia** were trained on increasing resilience and better management of natural catastrophes caused by floods, earthquakes or landslides. The project „Resilient communities – training for the management of disasters as a first step towards sustainable development” was implemented by Caritas and financed from the development assistance budget of the MFA.

“The mobility fund is an extraordinary instrument. (...) Simple procedures, maximum results, great satisfaction. (...) The amount of innovative ideas resulting from these exchanges has been amazing and materialized in the improvement of legislation, strategy and reform plans.”

III.5. Humanitarian assistance

2016 was marked by a series of wide-scale crises and strong tension which left behind an unprecedented number of people in urgent need for humanitarian aid and tested the reaction capacity and cooperation model of the international community. From among the most devastating events at a global level, the humanitarian crises of Syria, Yemen, Iraq and South Sudan reached alarming proportions during this year, forcing two thirds of the residents to be internally displaced or get refuge outside the borders. The natural phenomena like Winston tropical cyclone in Fiji, hurricane Mathew in Haiti or hurricane El Niño which devastated regions in Eastern and Southern Africa, Central America and the Caribbean caused hundreds of victims and chain natural disasters.

Against the background of these situations and conflicts that shattered the international community, Romania reiterated its commitments to the humanitarian principles: by providing financial contributions to international organizations active in the field, by granting bilateral humanitarian aid to the affected states, and by launching a new legislative framework «Law 213/2016

on international development cooperation and humanitarian aid» which describes the national legislation in these domains. Thus, Romania aims at increasing the effectiveness and impact of its development cooperation and humanitarian assistance.

As an emerging donor, Romania responded positively to the appeals of the humanitarian community in various situations. Romania granted in-kind support to the people affected by conflicts in various regions, as well as to countries which had to provide shelter to refugees. Romania has also participated in EU humanitarian missions in the areas affected by the natural disasters.

In the face of these global challenges, Romania showed its solidarity, support for the states in need, by granting humanitarian aid meant to reduce the effects generated by the Syrian conflict on the children in Syria and

↓ One of the photos taken as part of the project *Support for journalists in Romania when approaching international development topics*, implemented by FOND with the MFA's support.

Romania responded to the 2016 global humanitarian crises, showing solidarity and support for the countries and people in need.



© Ioana Moldovan (Tunisia)

the Syrian refugees on the territories of the countries neighboring Syria. The amount of the financial assistance granted to the MFA stood at 4,375,000 EURO⁴ (19,665,000 RON). Similarly, Romania supported refugees in Lebanon and those affected by the Palestinian crisis through the Red Cross and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Likewise, the MIA responded positively to the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to support the state of Haiti by sending a Romanian specialist as head of the mission of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism during the period of the emergency generated by Mathew hurricane.

The humanitarian assistance granted by Romania in 2016 through the MFA was distributed as follows

Contribution to the EU Facility for Refugees	18 million RON (4 million EUR)
Allocated for children in Syria, via UNICEF	532,800 RON (120,000 EUR)
Allocated to reduce the effects of the conflict in Syria and for the protection of people in urgent need of humanitarian aid, through the International Red Cross Committee.	288,600 RON (65,000 EUR)
Allocated for the refugees in Lebanon through the financing of UNHCR	244,200 RON (55,000 EUR)
Allocated for reducing the effects of the Palestinian crisis through the International Red Cross Committee	155,400 RON (35,000 EUR)
Represented Romania's contribution for Haiti, granted through OCHA	222,000 RON (50,000 EUR)
The contribution to the World Food Programme, following Romania's commitment in this respect	444,000 RON (100,000 EUR)
Allocated in the form of unconditional contribution to UNWRA	159,840 RON (36,000 EUR)
Allocated in the form of unconditional contribution to UNHCR	444,000 RON (100,000 EUR)

In addition to these contributions, the MIA granted humanitarian aid worth 591,541 RON (133,230 EUR), through the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, in support of the population affected by the floods in Macedonia, as well as emergency aid to the Republic of Moldova worth 20 million RON.

All these efforts show Romania's commitment to increasing the efficiency and impact of development and humanitarian assistance and solidarity with the states and people that go through difficult situations.

⁴ Includes the EU Facility for Refugees

IV

Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

IV. Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

Agenda 2030 for sustainable development was adopted by the United Nations Organization on the 25 September 2015. The agenda set out the global framework for eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development by 2030.



Agenda 2030 includes a set of 17 sustainable development goals (SDG) and 169 specific goals, which mobilize all the countries and stakeholders the parliament, the government, towns, rural areas, the private sector, the civil society, the academia and scientists.

Romania contributes to the implementation of the sustainable development goals not only at a

national level but also internationally, following the support granted to the partner countries, by means of the official development assistance. In 2016, by using the contributions for development assistance Romania supported predominantly the following five sustainable development goals:



The Government of Romania provided **approx. 26 million RON for eradicating famine and providing food security** through humanitarian aid programs as well as the projects destined to **promoting sustainable agriculture**.

Innovation in agriculture

Romania invested **400 thousand RON** in the Republic of Moldova for promoting innovation in the production of fresh fruit.

Cultivation for export

Romania provided **382 thousand RON** to the Republic of Moldova for cultivating a new variety of seedless grapes eligible for export, too.



Higher education

In 2016 Romania granted scholarships for higher education studies worth 97 mil. RON, aimed at partner states on all continents.

Educational facilities

Romania provided approx. **15 mil. RON** for the development of educational facilities, especially in areas like the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Palestine.

Romania provided approx. **114 mil. RON** for promoting **high quality education** and for promotion of **lifelong learning opportunities** for everybody.



In 2016, Romania granted approx. **4.6 mil. RON** for the production and supply of energy in the Republic of Moldova and Armenia, with a view to ensuring the overall **access to energy** at accessible prices, a safe, sustainable and modern way.

In 2016, Romania granted **2.5 mil. RON** to the Republic of Moldova for the technical expertise necessary for the construction of the **Ungheni –Chisinau gas pipe** and 1.6 mil. RON for the construction of a dispatcher for the distribution of gas on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, at Ungheni.

Solar energy

256 thousand RON were invested in Armenia for the cultivation of farm products by using **solar energy** in the region of Shirak.



Civilian protection and conflict prevention

Romania provided approx. **390 thousand RON** for the organization of vocational training for civil servants in the MENA region.

Anti-corruption and legal and juridical development

Romania provided approx. **311 thousand RON** for sharing its experience in fighting corruption in countries like Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, and the Philippines.

Elections

Romania provided approx. **1.5 mil. RON** for missions of observation of elections in countries like Serbia, Georgia, and the Republic of Moldova.

Romania granted approx. **15 mil. RON** for the promotion of **peaceful** and inclusive **societies** for sustainable development, for **access to justice** for everybody and **the creation of efficient and responsible institutions**, following actions of good governance, consolidation of the rule of law, combating corruption, electoral assistance and participation in EU civilian missions and multilateral contributions. The main partner countries were: Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Macedonia, Egypt, Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Somalia.



In 2016, Romania granted approx. **5 mil. RON** for consolidating the means of implementing and **re-vitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development**, including by South-South cooperation, triangle cooperation and multilateral contributions.

The Mobility Fund for governmental experts

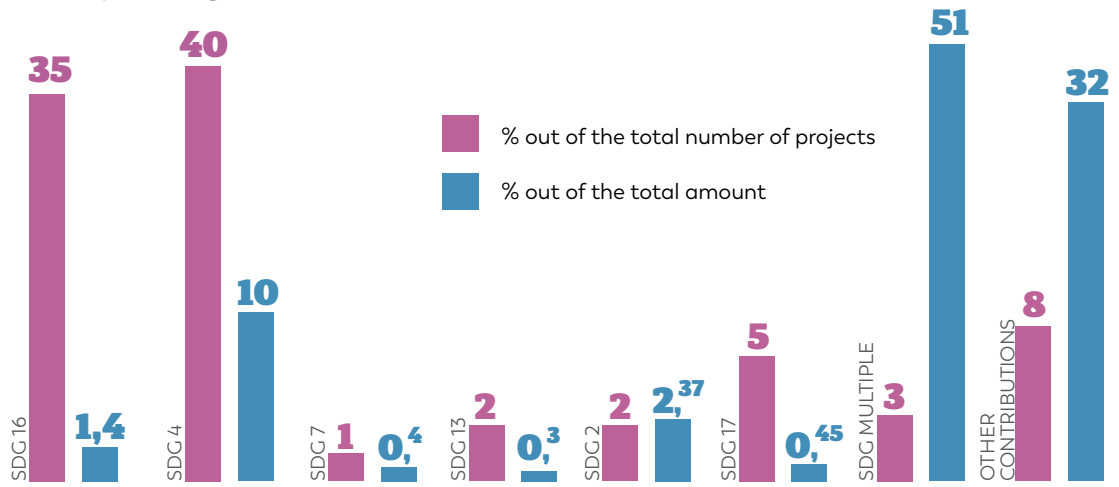
The rapid reaction instrument which facilitates the rapid transfer of Romanian experts and expertise according to the needs of the partner countries, by means of which Romania granted **55 thousand RON** for financing 14 missions in states like Georgia,

Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Tunisia, Egypt, Iraq.

Campaigns for public information on assistance for development

Romania granted **1.3 mil RON** for projects of public information on assistance for development in the following countries: the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Egypt, and Afghanistan.

The ODA distribution for the implementation of the sustainable development goal



* "multiple SDGs" refer to the contributions made by Romania to the EU budget on assistance for development, the EU Facility for Refugees or other international organizations (e.g. UN) and which support the implementation of several sustainable development goals.

* "other contributions" refer to projects which are aimed at other SDGs, humanitarian aid projects, multilateral contributions, administrative costs MFA/UNDP, reimbursable loans for the Republic of Moldova, etc.



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