



Newsletter 01/2021

August 2021

The projects from the second call of the Danube Transnational Programme 2014–2020 successfully implemented in the Republic of Moldova

Dear partners and colleagues,

The Public Institution “Office for External Assistance Programs Management”, acting as the National Contact Point of the Danube Transnational Programme 2014–2020 in the Republic of Moldova, shares with you the first edition of its newsletter.

With the financial support of the European Union, the Danube Transnational Programme 2014–2020 has contributed to the implementation of a number of valuable projects, which aim to improve public policies and institutional cooperation, being implemented by an extended transnational partnership in accordance with the common Community provisions and corresponding to the objectives of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR).

Nearing the end of the implementation period of seven projects in the second call of the program, we want to showcase the main achievements of these projects, regarding the integration of policies in selected areas (innovation and social responsibility, environment and culture, connectivity and energy responsibility, good governance) in the Danube macro-region.

Launched in summer of the year 2018 simultaneously in several states located in the Danube basin, the projects are to be completed by the end of this year.

In some of them, pilot actions were carried out to be extended at national level, and in others the Republic of Moldova obtained beautiful results, appreciated throughout the Danube area.



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Young women entrepreneurs, encouraged to start a business

The “Women in Business – Fostering the Young Women Entrepreneurship in the Danube Region” project (DTP2-048/1.2), implemented in the Republic of Moldova by the Organization for Small and Medium Enterprises Sector Development, can serve as a model for the states in the Danube area.

So far, our country has participated in a series of actions carried out jointly with eight partner states of the project. It is also about to conduct a study on the needs and barriers encountered by young women, who want to start and develop their own business, develop an agenda of policies to support women entrepreneurship and publish a guide containing good practices in the field.



At the same time, innovative training programs have been developed and four entrepreneurial pilot centres for women were created in the Danube region. [Details here](#)



The second chance for entrepreneurs in difficulty



Businesses in difficulty are supported by the project “DanubeChance2.0 – Embracing failure to facilitate second-chance entrepreneurship in the Danube region” (DTP-012/1.2), implemented at the national level by the Organization for Small and Medium Enterprises Sector Development.

Thus, dozens of entrepreneurs from the Republic of Moldova were helped through the training course “Trial and error” to overcome the consequences of the crisis, resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Regional Action Plan has also been developed, based on the main areas of intervention, included in the “Second-chance Entrepreneurship Strategy for the Danube region”.

Within the same project, after the launch of the pilot initiative to revitalize business, several entrepreneurs in difficulty were identified, benefiting from support services offered by mentors, leading them to rethink their business strategy. [Details here](#)



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Practical steps in promoting social innovation

The development of social entrepreneurship in the countries of the Danube region is the aim of a project entitled “Finance4SocialChange – Leveraging Finance 4 positive Social Change” (DTP2-011/1.2).

Currently, partner states, including the Republic of Moldova, represented by the Organization for Small and Medium Enterprises Sector Development, are working on the elaboration of a strategy aiming to develop social entrepreneurship.



The main project achievements relate to the creation of an online training platform for social entrepreneurship in the Danube area and the development of 6 training modules for beneficiaries. About 30 social entrepreneurs and key actors in our country were trained in this regard.

Likewise, two entrepreneurs from the Republic of Moldova took part in an international competition of innovative social business ideas, getting to the semi-finals. [Details here](#)



Innovative system for developing students' entrepreneurial skills



In partnership with eight states from the Danube region, the Republic of Moldova has launched an innovative learning system, designed to stimulate social entrepreneurship among secondary school' students. This is one of the achievements of the project “InnoSchool – Strengthening social innovation and entrepreneurial spirit of secondary schools' students by using highly innovative Learning System” (DTP2-021/1.2).

The project partner in the Republic of Moldova, the Public Association for Children and Youth “Făclia” from Ungheni, ensured the piloting of InnoSchool in 21 schools from five districts of the country. Thus, about 380 students have developed their entrepreneurial skills and generated creative solutions to tackle the specific social needs of their communities.

Currently, each country participating in the project is in the process of developing an Action Plan to include the InnoSchool learning system in the school curriculum. [Details here](#)

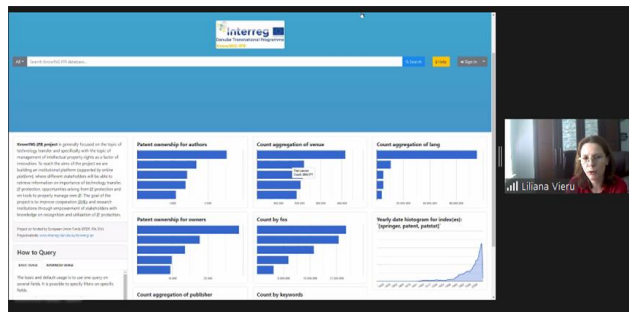


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Intellectual property rights, managed more efficiently

Data on patents from around the world and publications in various technical domains can be accessed free of charge through a transnational online platform, created within the project “KnowING IPR - Fostering Innovation in the Danube Region through Knowledge Engineering and IPR Management” (DTP2-076/1.1).



The 13 partner states of the project organized a series of activities to promote the platform and training on its use. The State Agency for Intellectual Property, project partner in the Republic of Moldova, conducted a series of webinars for representatives of several universities in the country, small and medium enterprises and provided advice to interested parties.

Within the project, a mentoring program was implemented in the field of intellectual property rights, patenting and technological offer. [Details here](#)



Measures to improve the safety of road infrastructure



“Your Road Safety is on our RADAR!” is the motto proposed by Automobile Club from Moldova, being promoted by 11 partner states of the project “RADAR – Risk Assessment on Danube Area Roads” (DTP2-046/3.1).

These countries have benefited from the road safety training modules, developed by a group of international experts and adjusted to the specific circumstances of each state. Thus, based on the mentioned modules, online training courses, were conducted.

Study visits were also undertaken to several countries to take advantage from the best international practices. In the Republic of Moldova, a study was conducted to assess the safety of areas around two schools – in urban and rural settings. The results of the research showed that the roads around these schools are at risk of accidents. Therefore, the first steps were taken to remedy the situation.

At the same time, each partner state of the project has developed a national Action Plan to improve the safety of road infrastructure. [Details here](#)

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Better monitoring of sediment quality in the Danube basin

Partners from 14 countries in the Danube basin can monitor the quality of sediment samples collected from pilot areas of the basin based on a unique methodology. It was developed as part of the European project “SIMONA – Sediment-quality Information, Monitoring and Assessment System to support transnational cooperation for joint Danube Basin water management” (DTP2-093/2.1), implemented in the Republic of Moldova by the Institute of Geology and Seismology.



Among the most important results of the project are the analysis of existing legislative framework in the field of sediment quality in the partner states, as well as the evaluation of the capacities to perform laboratory analyses in each country.

Additionally, sediment samples were taken from two selected areas (“Costești-Stânca” accumulation lake and “Beleu” lake) from the Republic of Moldova, which were sent for examination to the Research Centre in Hungary. [Details here](#)

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