



Piloting diaspora mobilisation schemes in the education and research sectors in Moldova

ACTION BASICS

Beneficiary institution	 <p>The Bureau for Relations with Diaspora (BRD) is a directorate of the Moldovan State Chancellery which coordinates state policies in the field of diaspora engagement. Created in 2012, its mandate includes: drafting and developing the strategic and operational framework for the area of diaspora, migration, and development; ensuring diaspora's rights and building trust; mobilising, harnessing, and recognising the diaspora's human potential; and engaging diaspora directly and indirectly in the sustainable economic development of Moldova.</p>
Diaspora professionals	<p>Three Moldovan diaspora professionals will be recruited:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Dorina Baltag has 12+ years of professional experience accumulated at universities in the Netherlands and United Kingdom. Currently she is a visiting researcher at the Institute for Diplomacy & International Governance (Loughborough University-London). In the last 10 years Dorina has been an active diaspora member as founder and CEO of Noroc Olanda (Moldovan diaspora Foundation). • Mariana Plămădeală holds an MSc in Quality Management Systems and 7+ years of professional experience gained in France and the United Kingdom. Since 2012, she leads diaspora activities on integration of Romanian speaking migrants and in 2019, she founded the R.U.D.A NGO in the UK. • Olga Bostan is a junior researcher in the field of migration, currently advancing her expertise in anthropology at Leipzig University in Germany. Besides her activity as junior lecturer at Maastricht University, Olga accumulated 5+ years of experience as Research and Development Officer at Noroc Olanda Foundation in the Netherlands.
Duration	12 months
Sustainable Development Goals	 

MAIN FEATURES

Context & needs	<p>Experiencing high levels of emigration and brain drain, Moldova has made it a strategic priority to utilise the human potential of its diaspora in decision-making and developmental processes. One of the conclusions derived from the 2021 Moldovan Diaspora Congress is the need to collaborate with diaspora professionals on ongoing sectoral reforms through developing a co-working hub and knowledge exchange programmes.</p> <p>Despite limited capacities and funding for extensive research and skills auditing, the government strives to further develop communication channels with the diaspora and to learn more about its potential for development.</p> <p>The BRD requested assistance from EUDiF and diaspora's expertise in establishing a thematic network of diaspora members working in education and research that could later on be replicated in other sectors. This Action will set the ground and capacitate the BRD, as a liaison agency, to conceptualise, prepare, and pilot a diaspora skills transfer scheme on a smaller scale - with a specific target group (academic diaspora) in a targeted sector (education and research).</p>
Objectives	<p>General objective</p> <p>The Action aims to enhance the capacities of the BRD in piloting a diaspora knowledge transfer scheme for education and research.</p> <p>Specific objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the mapping of sectoral needs and opportunities in terms of Moldovan academic diaspora expertise. • Provide practical guidelines to BRD and Moldovan stakeholders in setting up a diaspora skills transfer scheme in the targeted sector. • Build and pilot co-working hubs of diaspora professionals to uphold country reforms in education and research.



ACTION PLAN

DP4D Priority sectors



Digitalisation



Education



Entrepreneurship



Environment



Health

Types of diaspora expertise

- Conduct of assessments, research and/or evaluations
 - **Assessment of the sectoral needs** for diaspora-targeted expertise
 - **Technical expertise** in mapping out the profiles of the Moldovan 'academic diaspora'
 - **Review and desk analysis of best practices** on diaspora skills transfers relevant to Moldova
- Organisation of knowledge transfer events
 - **Focus groups with diaspora members and national stakeholders** to reflect on possible involvement and opportunities
 - **Peer exchange sessions** on diaspora knowledge transfer
 - **Practical workshop/s** for development and validation of the roadmap on diaspora knowledge transfer
- Development of strategic documents and/or training tools
 - **Development of a practical roadmap** on diaspora knowledge transfer options tailored to the Moldovan context
 - **Lessons learnt fiche** on the conceptualisation and testing phases
- Visibility and communication activities
- Facilitation of networking and partnerships
 - **Technical advice** in creating the academic diaspora co-working hub in the education and research fields

Outputs

- Baseline assessment report** including the assessment of the sectoral needs for expertise and available diaspora profiles for the expertise transfer, along with case examples and best practices of diaspora skills transfer schemes relevant for Moldova
- **Practical tools** to conduct needs assessment and diaspora profiling for the BRD and other stakeholders
 - **Roadmap** to guide the BRD and targeted institutions on setting up diaspora skills transfer schemes
 - **Co-working hub model in the education sector** and terms of reference which could be replicable in other sectors
 - **Lessons learnt fiche** reflecting best practices and recommendations gathered during the conceptualisation and pilot testing phases

Expected results

- **Increased know-how** of BRD and relevant stakeholders on needs analysis and diaspora profiling
- **Increased capacity** for institutions to communicate and work with diaspora through co-working hubs
- **Increased knowledge** on how to harness diaspora human capital by developing mobilisation schemes for knowledge transfer in targeted sectors

Find out more at
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