



Development of the National Ecological Network of Moldova as part of the Pan-European Ecological Network, with emphasis on transboundary cooperation

Background

Moldova is situated in the central part of Europe within the Black Sea north-western region. Landscapes are heavily transformed due to agricultural expansion and dense rural population: agricultural area comprises around 75% of the country while forests cover 11%. Protected natural areas embrace only 4.65% of the country territory.

The Moldovan Government is a party to many international agreements concerning biodiversity such as the Convention on Biological Diversity with its European element being the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy. The stipulations of the Convention on Biological Diversity urges the development of national strategies and plans for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. Consequently the Parliament of Moldova adopted a “National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan”. The plan presupposes the creation of a National Ecological Network as a component part of the Pan-European Ecological Network.



Project

The long term goal of the Project is biological and landscape diversity conservation in Moldova through the creation of the National Ecological Network, integrating biological and landscape diversity concerns into economic sectors and embedding the framework of the Pan-European Ecological Network. In particular the Project aims to:

- create the National Ecological Network to halt biodiversity degradation and to create conditions for its restoration in Moldova
- improve long-term biodiversity conservation legal framework
- build links with other elements of the Pan-European Ecological Network situated in, and crossing with neighbouring countries, contributing to conservation of pan-European biodiversity
- create the Moldovan sector of the Pan-European Ecological Network
- introduce ecological networks into sectoral policies
- raise public awareness and building commitments towards biodiversity and landscape conservation as well as the sustainable use of nature resources.

The project is being implemented by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) in cooperation with BIOTICA Ecological Society and the Ministry of Environment of Moldova and is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

