



## Support to the national anti-corruption strategy of Moldova

### – project summary –

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Project title	Support to the national anti-corruption strategy of Moldova (PACO Moldova)
Project area	Moldova
Budget	EURO 350 000
Funding	European Commission/Voluntary contributions to PACO by Switzerland and Finland (proposed)
Implementation	Council of Europe (Department of Crime Problems/DGI - Legal Affairs)
Duration	12 months (1 January – 31 December 2005)

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### BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

The people of Moldova perceive corruption – next to poverty and crime in general – to be their priority concern in that it affects their livelihoods and development prospects and undermines their trust in democracy and State institutions. Moreover, corruption facilitates trafficking in human beings. In order to tackle corruption in a comprehensive manner, the Moldavian authorities have drafted a national Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan. It is to consist of measures aimed at:

- enhancing legislation and the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice institutions to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate corruption
- preventing corruption within public institutions, in particular within those particularly at risk
- raising awareness, educating the public and mobilising civil society support
- strengthening international cooperation and compliance with international standards.

The Strategy and Action Plan were adopted by Parliament in December 2004. The Strategy and Action Plan are rather ambitious. The main challenge is implementation. It is to be noted that already in 1999 and 2002 strategies had been prepared but were only partially carried out.

Following an expert mission fielded by the Council of Europe in October 2004 it has therefore been agreed upon that:

- An institutional mechanism should be put in place to ensure the coordination, monitoring and day to day management of the Strategy and Action Plan. It should consist of the already existing Coordinative Council headed by the President of Moldova, a Monitoring Group comprising the main stakeholders (including civil society and the business community), and the Centre for Combating Corruption and Economic Crime (CCCEC) as the Secretariat
- Ten priority actions should be selected from among the many measures of the Action Plan. Implementation of these measures should begin as soon as possible and be completed before the end of 2005. It is hoped that this would create a positive momentum and add credibility to the Strategy and Action Plan. These actions will also help address several recommendations made by the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) in July 2003.

The year 2005 thus constitutes a pilot phase during which the effectiveness of the anti-corruption legislation and institutions and the feasibility of the Strategy and Action Plan will be tested and reviewed. Progress made will be evaluated by the end of 2005 in the course of a national anti-corruption conference.

The current project will support the Moldovian authorities during this phase, that is, in the implementation of the priority activities.

## **OBJECTIVE, OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES**

<b>Overall objective</b>	<b>To contribute to the prevention and control of corruption so that it no longer undermines the confidence of the public in the political and judicial system, democracy, the rule of law and economic and social development in Moldova</b>	
<b>Project objective</b>	<b>To support the implementation of the ten priority actions foreseen for 2005 under the draft Moldavian Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan</b>	
Indicators	By month 6, a survey on public perception and attitude is available  By month 11, a progress report on the anti-corruption Strategy implementation is available, as well as a draft update of the Action Plan	
<b>Output 1</b>	<b>Institutional mechanism to coordinate, manage and monitor the Strategy and Action Plan in place and functioning</b>	
Activity 1.1	Advise the CCCEC in the setting up of the institutional mechanism for the implementation of the Strategy	Months 1 & 2 January - February 2005
Activity 1.2	Assist CCCEC and Monitoring Group in commissioning of a survey on the public perception and attitude towards corruption as well as the attitude towards the CCCEC and other anti-corruption bodies	Month 6 June 2005
Activity 1.3	Assist CCCEC and Monitoring Group in the preparation of a report on the progress made and the problems encountered in the implementation of the Anti-corruption Strategy and the Action Plan, including proposals for an update of the Action Plan	Month 11 November 2005
	Assist CCCEC and Monitoring Group in the organisation of a national anti-corruption conference to review progress made, update the Action Plan, ensure political commitment and public support to the anti-corruption Strategy	Month 12 December 2005
<b>Output 2</b>	<b>Review of competencies of the main enforcement institutions in the investigation and prosecution of corruption offences and recommendations for improvements available</b>	
Indicators	By month 3, three reviews have been completed and submitted to relevant authorities	
Activity 2.1	CCCEC: Carry out an expert mission to review structure, organisation, management, independence, accountability and operational procedures of the CCCEC to enable it to lead the implementation of anti-corruption investigation, prevention and public education and support; review the	Months 1 - 3 January - March 2005

	fiscal functions of the CCCEC against those of the tax authorities, and its audit functions against those of the Court of Audit. Take into account the recommendations of the Moneyval evaluation (foreseen for January 2005) regarding the effectiveness of the Financial Intelligence Unit within the CCCEC	
Activity 2.2	Anti-corruption Department in the Office of the Prosecutor General: Expert mission to review responsibilities, resources required, coordination/interaction with the CCCEC	Months 1 – 3 January – March 2005
Activity 2.3	Ministry of Interior: Expert mission to review responsibilities and capacities of officers investigating corruption; coordination/ interaction with the CCCEC	Months 1 – 3 January – March 2005
<b>Output 3</b>	<b>Review of the criminal anti-corruption legislation in terms of its compliance with international standards and its effectiveness</b>	
Indicators	By month 4, proposals for legislative amendments available for submission to relevant authorities One workshop organised	
Activity 3.1	Commission expert opinions	Months 1- 4 January – April 2005
Activity 3.2	Carry out a workshop on current anti-corruption legislation	
<b>Output 4</b>	<b>Risk analyses and recommendations for the prevention of corruption available for at least 5 key institutions</b>	
Indicators	Risk analysis completed by month 9 and respectively 11	
Activity 4.1	Carry our risk analysis within the CCCEC	Months 4-9 April – September 2005
Activity 4.2	Carry our risk analysis within the Judiciary	Months 4-9 April – September 2005
Activity 4.3	Carry our risk analysis within the prosecution	Months 4-9 April – September 2005
Activity 4.4	Risk analysis within Border Police	October – November 2005
Activity 4.5	Risk analysis within Customs Department	October – November 2005
<b>Output 5</b>	<b>Draft law on financing of political parties and electoral campaigns available and recommendations for monitoring by civil society available</b>	
Indicators	By month 2, expert opinion on the draft law completed By month 2, 2 round tables held	
Activity 5.1	Prepare an opinion followed by a round table discussion on the draft law on the financing of political parties	Month 1-2 January – February 2005
Activity 5.2	Hold a round table discussion with political parties, Central Election Commission as well as media and non-governmental organisations to agree on a mechanism monitoring application of the law	Month 2 February 2005
<b>Output 6</b>	<b>Up to 30 judges, prosecutors, police officers and CCCEC staff trained in the investigation, prosecution and</b>	

<b>adjudication of corruption</b>		
Indicators	By month 9, up to 3 training events held By month 5, one study visit organized Number of practitioners trained.	
Activity 6.1	Support the CCCEC in the organisation of up to 3 in-country training courses for judges, prosecutors, police officers and CCCEC staff	Months 3-9 March – September 2005
Activity 6.2	Organise 1 study visit for a total of up to 12 judges, prosecutors, police officers and CCCEC	Month 5 May 2005
<b>Output 7 Up to 6 public awareness workshops held on specific topics related to corruption</b>		
Indicators	By month 10, up to 6 awareness workshops held Assist the CCCEC and civil society organisations in the organisation of workshops on:	Months 2 – 10 February – October 2005
Activity 7.1	▪ conflicts of interest	
Activity 7.2	▪ identifying and reporting on corruption	
Activity 7.3	▪ investigative journalism	
Activity 7.4	▪ codes of ethic	
Activity 7.5	▪ access to information	
<b>Output 8 Risks of corruption related to trafficking in human beings analysed and recommendations for actions available</b>		
Indicators	By month 9, the analysis on corruption and trafficking completed By month 10, up to 2 workshops on corruption and trafficking held and proposals for action available	
Activity 8.1	Prepare an analysis on corruption in relation to trafficking in human beings	Month 9 September 2005
Activity 8.2	Carry out 2 workshops to identify risks of corruption in relation to THB and to develop recommendations for action	Months 9 – 10 September – October 2005

## IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The project will be managed by the Technical Cooperation Section of the Department of Crime Problems at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. The project will supplement the Joint Programme Moldova (Council of Europe/European Commission) signed in 2004. Activities related to corruption in the judiciary will be co-financed from that Joint Programme. The resident expert for the justice component of the Joint Programme will also support the implementation of project activities in Chisinau.

The Centre for Combating Corruption and Economic Crime of Moldova will be the main counterpart institution.

## CONTACT

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