



CZECH REPUBLIC
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAMME

MOLDOVA

2011-2017



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Czech Republic

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	2
2. DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA	3
2.1 MAIN MID-TERM PRIORITIES	3
2.2 PRIORITY SECTORS	3
2.2.1 <i>Social infrastructure and services</i>	3
2.2.2 <i>Water supply and sanitation (incl. waste management)</i>	4
2.2.3 <i>Agriculture</i>	4
2.2.4 <i>Environmental protection (liquidation and reduction of environmental hazards)</i>	4
3. ACTIVITIES OF OTHER DONORS	5
3.1 COORDINATION MECHANISMS	5
3.2 EU ACTIVITIES.....	5
3.3 CZECH REPUBLIC'S COOPERATION WITH OTHER DONORS	6
4. COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA.....	6
4.1 COOPERATION FOCUS AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE.....	6
4.2 PRIORITY SECTORS OF THE FUTURE COOPERATION.....	7
4.2.1 <i>Drinking water supply and sanitation</i>	8
4.2.2 <i>Government and civil society</i>	9
4.2.3 <i>Education and other social infrastructure and services</i>	9
4.2.4 <i>Agriculture, forestry and fishing</i>	10
4.2.5 <i>General environmental protection</i>	10
4.3 GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS OF THE COOPERATION PROGRAMME.....	11
5. TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF COOPERATION.....	11
5.1 PRINCIPAL ACTORS	11
5.2 COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS.....	12
5.3 MONITORING, EVALUATION AND MID-TERM ASSESSMENT.....	12
5.4 IMPLEMENTATION CONDITIONS	13
SUMMARY.....	14
APPENDIX – LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	17

1. Introduction

As a member of the European Union (EU) and the international community of democratic and economically developed countries, the Czech Republic recognizes the principle of solidarity and mutual support among people and countries, accepting its share of responsibility for dealing with global issues. This position reflects in providing of development cooperation that makes an integral part of Czech foreign policy. Through development cooperation the Czech Republic endorses international development commitments as well as the Millennium Development Goals. In line with EU principles, the Czech Republic carries out development cooperation on bilateral as well as multilateral basis.

Through development activities, the Czech Republic contributes to eradication of poverty as well as to sustainable economic and social development and environmental protection, while promoting democracy, human rights and good governance in partner countries¹. By providing development assistance, the Czech Republic also contributes to the strengthening of global security and stability and, inter alia, to the prevention of regional and local conflicts and to the prevention of undesirable migration.

Cross-cutting commitments, basic principles as well as territorial and sector priorities of Czech Republic's development cooperation are anchored in the Development Cooperation Strategy of the Czech Republic 2010-2017 (hereinafter the "Strategy") that was approved by the Czech government in May 2010. Development cooperation programmes between the Czech Republic and priority countries are the cornerstone of the bilateral development cooperation, and are to be carried out through bilateral development projects.

In accordance with the Strategy, the Republic of Moldova ("Moldova") belongs to the highest category of the partner countries, among priority countries with a development programme ("programme countries"). The Czech government decision's was based on development needs of Moldova, good mutual relations and effective results of the development cooperation to date.

Mutual relations between the Czech Republic and Moldova are good and friendly, having developed on bilateral and multilateral level over the recent years. Besides being the Czech Republic's development priority, Moldova is also among the countries receiving Czech transition assistance. Moldova is a partner country within the Eastern Partnership, an EU initiative focused on achieving stability and prosperity of states in the vicinity of the EU. Given the significant interest of Moldova in its integration within the European structures, the Czech Republic's involvement in the relations between the EU and Moldova becomes increasingly important.

The economic and social standing of Moldova has been marked by long-term decline of industrial production, unemployment and departure of a significant part of workforce to other countries. Based on the Human Development Index (HDI)² for the assessment of social prosperity within the UN Development Programme (UNDP), Moldova ranked no. 99 out of 169 countries in the world in 2010.

In line with development needs of Moldova and good development cooperation results to date, the Czech Republic, working closely with the representatives of Moldova, has developed the following Development Cooperation Programme for the period of 2011-2017.

¹ Act on development cooperation and humanitarian assistance to foreign countries and on amending related legislation no. 151/2010 Coll., effective 1 July 2010.

² [Http://hdr.undp.org/en](http://hdr.undp.org/en)

In the following period, development cooperation will focus primarily on supporting the development of the following sectors: water supply and sanitation; government and civic society; education, social infrastructure and services; agriculture, forestry and fishing as well as general environmental protection.

2. Development priorities of the Republic of Moldova

2.1 Main mid-term priorities

The government of Moldova has defined its main development priorities in the document “Rethink Moldova: Priorities for Medium Term Development”³. Besides updating mid-term priorities of the government, the document also provides foreign partners (donors) with guidance in fulfilling the development visions of the Moldovan government.

The mid-term priorities of Moldova identified in “Rethink Moldova” include especially:

- **Responsible governance** – effective civil service, anti-corruption, administrative decentralization etc.;
- **Economic recovery** – improved conditions for businesses and economic development, infrastructure investment, high value agriculture, regional development etc.;
- **Human capital** – education, health care, social protection etc.

2.2 Priority sectors

2.2.1 Social infrastructure and services

The current economic downturn in Moldova has a significant impact on the most vulnerable people. The government therefore focuses on identifying resources to cover social benefits for the neediest ones in order to prevent their social exclusion and proliferation of poverty. The outdated system of cost offsetting and material social benefits (reduced energy rates, reduced local fees and distribution of material support), based on categorization of needs, should gradually give way to direct care of the most vulnerable groups. In the mid-term horizon, the system of social services will focus on people with disabilities, i.e. the persons who are currently most at risk of facing social exclusion.

Mid-term priorities:

- Reform of residential care of children who are unprovided for;
- Protection of persons with disabilities (including children and adults) and their integration within the society.

In both cases, the reforms attempt to increase the share of home- and community-based care as opposed to residential care and to integrate people with disabilities in the society (i.e. to integrate children in the system of education and adults in the job market).

³ www.gov.md/.

2.2.2 Water supply and sanitation (incl. waste management)

The government of Moldova perceives the protection of water resources and the development of water and sewage infrastructure as its top priority. Its aim is to increase the number of inhabitants with access to water and sewage infrastructure.

Mid-term priorities:

- Protection of sources of drinking water – reduction of excess nitrates and microbiological contamination in rural water-supply networks by fencing off sources of drinking water;
- Clearing of illegal waste dumps;
- Protection of surface and underground water in rural areas, e.g. programmes for improving latrines;
- Public information campaigns focused on the protection of underground water in rural areas;
- Improvement of hygiene in rural educational institutions by e.g. installing small waste-water treatment facilities and by increasing hygienic standards in educational establishments.

2.2.3 Agriculture

Agriculture in Moldova, which remains the key industry in the country's economy, is marked by limited access of local producers to global markets, lack of storage capacities, limited access to loans and low investments. Positive change should be achieved through increasing value added of agricultural production.

Mid-term priorities:

- Organizing census of farmers;
- Providing farmers with access to local and export markets;
- Providing laboratories with equipment;
- Renewing irrigation systems;
- Improving farmers' access to loans and credits;
- Liberalizing trade in land;
- Proposing and implementing data administration systems;
- Supporting research in agriculture.

2.2.4 Environmental protection (liquidation and reduction of environmental hazards)

Moldova's National Development Strategy considers effective management of natural resources and maintenance of quality environment the key factor for a healthy population and an improved quality of living.

Mid-term priorities:

- Reducing degradation of natural resources and supporting their effective exploitation, while also preventing soil erosion;
- Improving waste management, also by creating infrastructure for storage of waste and its further processing;
- Management, controlled storage and liquidation of toxic chemicals and persistent organic pollutants (POPs);
- Expanding protected natural areas;
- Improving the level of forestation, planting new forests in degraded agricultural soil;
- Improving state enforcement of environmental legislation;
- Sustainable exploitation of natural resources.

3. Activities of other donors

3.1 Coordination mechanisms

On 19 January, 2010, the Moldovan government approved Regulation no. 12 on setting up institutional framework and mechanisms for the coordination of foreign assistance and invited individual ministers to set up sectoral committees to deal with foreign aid. A Coordination Department was subsequently established at the Prime Minister's office to coordinate all foreign aid and to maintain relations between the government and international and bilateral donors. Besides the Coordination Department, sector-specific donor coordination committees also exist and are led by representatives of UN agencies and the applicable departments of the Moldovan government.

In 2010, donor coordination following the above system focused on:

- Education;
- Water and sanitation (Water and Sanitation Coordination Group);
- Social protection (Social Protection Coordination Group);
- Transport infrastructure (Roads Sector Investment Programme).

In March 2010, the Moldova government and all relevant donors in Moldova, including the European Commission, World Bank and United Nations agreed on **Development Partnership Principles**. The document lays down the rules for coordination and harmonization between the Moldovan government and the donors. The principles are expected to improve effectiveness of foreign assistance.⁴

3.2 EU activities

The European Union equally works with Moldova on developing mutual relations. The EU support centres on development of democracy, good governance, reform of law, enhancement of government capacities, reduction of poverty and economic growth. In 2010

⁴ Development Partnership Principles – Coordination and Harmonization of Government and Partner Practices for Enhanced Effectiveness of Foreign Assistance to the Republic of Moldova - March 18 2010, Chisinau)

negotiations were initiated toward an ambitious and extensive **Association Agreement between the EU and Moldova** as an important contribution toward bringing Moldova closer to the EU both politically and economically.

Moldova is one of the target countries for the **EU Fast-Track initiative (FTI) of Division of Labour (DOL)**. The aim of the FTI is to support selected partner countries in the process of labour division in order to improve development results through a more effective support and enforcement of the principles laid down by the Paris Declaration.

The Division of Labour initiative and the function of EU member states as the leading donors and supporting facilitators (coordinators) are described in detail in the “Council Conclusions on an Operational Framework on Aid Effectiveness (November 2009)⁵“. In cooperation with the partner countries, the coordinators are to actively strive for effective labour division that will involve all actors of the development process, while also promoting the principle of “ownership and leadership” on the part of the partner country, i.e. the country’s active involvement in the formulation of priorities, and while also taking advantage of the donors’ comparative advantages. In Appendix II of the “Conclusions of the EU Council... of November 2009”, the Czech Republic was assigned the position of “supporting facilitator” for EU development assistance in Moldova.

3.3 Czech Republic’s cooperation with other donors

Through the Czech Development Agency (CzDA), the Czech Republic actively cooperates with a number of international organizations that pursue activities in Moldova. These include e.g. UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, IOM, the World Bank or the ILO. The Czech Republic equally works together with bilateral cooperation development agencies such as the ADA or SDC.

Cooperation with Moldova also takes place at the departmental level. For example, the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic currently holds negotiations aimed at promoting good governance, while also participating in complementary activities (besides providing direct technical assistance) within the programmes designed by the EU, financial institutions (IFIs) etc.

Other forms of cooperation, e.g. sharing of information, take place within the above coordination tools across the entire donor community.

4. Cooperation between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Moldova

4.1 Cooperation focus and achievements to date

Moldova perceives the Czech Republic as a stable and important development cooperation partner. The total funds invested in bilateral projects in Moldova over the last five years amounted to 200 million CZK, i.e. 8 million EUR. Several dozens Czech entities participated in the implementation of development programmes (including companies, NGOs, universities etc.).

⁵ The Council Conclusions on an Operational Framework on Aid Effectiveness (November 2009) come as a continuation of the EU Code of Conduct on the Complementarity and Division of Labour in Development Policy (2007).

Development intervention was aimed at e.g. reducing the negative impact of water management on environment, monitoring of water resources and their protection from environmental burdens as well as at flood control and waste management and also at dealing with environmental hazards by e.g. eliminating oil pollution to prevent adverse effects on the quality of surface and underground water etc. The general aim of environmental projects has been to contribute toward improving selected environmental quality indicators in Moldova.

In education, a project aimed at developing study programmes at Moldova State University in Chisinau had an important impact, dealing with the approximation of the university's standards to those in the EU. Also implemented was a project of providing support to extracurricular activities and integration of children from boarding schools.

In social infrastructure and services, the Czech Republic contributed to the development of Moldovan priorities in home care that sought to improve quality of home- and community-based care (including projects in the districts of Cahul and Dubassary).

Significant activities of the Czech Republic focused on supporting the Moldovan state administration in order to improve the government's capacity to control migration flows. Other projects included prevention of illegal migration from Moldova to the EU, including re-integration support to migrants returned from the EU countries.

In trade, the Czech Republic implemented the project "Supporting the Creation of Trade Policies and the Trade Regulation Framework in the Republic of Moldova" as a part of the Aid for Trade programme. Besides offering study stays and educational courses to Moldovan specialists, an "Analysis of the Current Needs in Small and Medium Businesses in the Republic of Moldova" was also carried out.

In finance and banking, a project of technical assistance (TA-ZRS) was implemented, focusing on financial and economic cooperation in the transition period. Based on a request of the Moldovan partner, the transfer of Czech experience with economic transition and implementation of EU *acquis communautaire* focused on legislation and administration of taxes and duties, the concept of public internal financial control (PIFC), management and control of pre-structural and structural funds, public finance reform, state budget and national debt control, funding of welfare and healthcare systems as well as on selected issues in financial services, with special focus on insurance.

Other projects were aimed at supporting rural development and enhancing management and consultancy skills of specialists at the National Agency for Rural Development (ACSA). In agriculture, a project involving the research, drafting and implementation of measures to stabilize agricultural production was implemented in the region of Braviceni. A model of sustainable management of farming land given the local specifics was one of the project outputs as was the construction of two waste-water treatment facilities and an awareness campaign dealing with the topic of water consumption.

4.2 Priority Sectors of the future cooperation

Czech development cooperation is based on partnership and follows the needs of the partner country. Priority sectors of Czech development cooperation in Moldova are based on the Czech Development Cooperation Strategy (the names of the priority areas have been adjusted to follow the OECD/DAC terminology), and reflect comparative advantages of the Czech Republic. In defining specific focus of development cooperation, the facts found out during programming mission that took place in October 2010 were used. Development cooperation in the next period will come as a continuation of successful development activities of the Czech Republic.

Considering the available financial and human resources, the Czech Republic puts the synergic effects among individual sectors to the fore. Sustainability will be central to all efforts.

Priority sectors in Moldova based on the Development Cooperation Strategy of the Czech Republic for 2010-2017	Priority sectors based on OECD/DAC terminology
Environment	Water supply and sanitation
	General environmental protection
Social development (including education, social and healthcare services)	Education
	Other social infrastructure and services
Agriculture	Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The present Development Cooperation Programme expands the above priority sectors to include also Government and Civil Society.

4.2.1 Drinking water supply and sanitation

Czech development cooperation focuses on water management as a priority area for Moldova. The imbalanced spatial distribution of precipitation, the oftentimes unsuitable water quality and the generally dated infrastructure, along with the lack of funds for the treatment and distribution of water are the causes of the unfavourable situation prevalent across urban as well as rural areas.

Most waste water of both communal and industrial character is left completely untreated and thus is the major contributing factor behind surface and underground water pollution.

The lack of technical and technological capacities in waste management represents a vital issue in Moldova's sustainable development, especially given the narrow link between waste and water management.

As the territory of Moldova still suffers from unresolved environmental burdens, development cooperation will primarily focus on projects that will deal with the impacts of the insufficient management and storage of oil products and other dangerous chemical substances. The implementation of these activities will be based on the long-term successful cooperation in the previous period that included e.g. the alleviation of environmental burdens caused by oil in order to deal with the negative impacts it had on the quality of surface and underground water etc.

The main goals of the Czech development cooperation in this sector include:

- Cooperation in the protection and exploitation of water resources;
- Cooperation in sanitation;
- Cooperation in waste management;
- Cooperation in alleviating environmental burdens.

4.2.2 Government and civil society

As a continuation of its activities to date, Czech development cooperation will focus e.g. on the necessary support in strengthening the government and its efforts to carry out the necessary structural reforms. This will include transfer of knowledge in the area of economic and social transition and the enhancement of the rule of law, creation of a functional and stable civic society as well as community development.

The improvement of capacities and skills of non-governmental non-profit organizations and civic initiatives (e.g. in management, fundraising, public relations, advocacy etc.) is also desirable, as is the creation of favourable environment for their activities (improvement of the legal framework and increase in public involvement in the civic society etc.).

In developing the society, it is the Moldova's government priority to enhance the effectiveness of state administration and its approximation to all social strata so as to prevent ineffective bureaucracy, corruption and grey economy, while increasing public awareness of law, effectiveness of economic administration as well as improving migration control. Assisting Moldova in the introduction of eGovernment is one of the ways of helping in this priority area, especially since the Czech Republic is one of the few European countries with positive practical experience in this area.

The main goals of the Czech development cooperation in this sector include:

- Enhancement of capacities of the Moldovan government and the transfer of knowledge in the area of economic and social transformation, enhanced rule of law;
- Assistance in the implementation of eGovernment as a part of a rule-of-law-based state, supporting direct communication between the government and the people;
- Support in creating a functional and stable civic society, strengthening of the role of civic associations and NGOs;
- Support of a more effective and progressive community and regional development;
- Technical cooperation in the management of public finance;
- Cooperation in migration management;
- Cooperation in dealing with issues of gender equality in the society;
- Provision of support to the Moldovan government in dealing with the issue of abuse of children and women.

4.2.3 Education and other social infrastructure and services

Czech development cooperation may be based on a number of successfully implemented previous projects. Given the scope of issues, it is preferable to focus on a few selected projects that could be used as positive role models across the country. The aim of Czech development cooperation in Moldova is, in cooperation with other donors, to effectively assist in the implementation of structural changes in and the reform of the social area as a whole. Special attention will be paid to assisting the most vulnerable inhabitants in dealing with difficult situations, in accordance with development priorities and needs of Moldova.

Employment policy is one of the most instrumental tools in fighting social exclusion. The Czech Development Cooperation Programme will therefore focus on supporting the development of the job market and the creation of employment opportunities, especially in rural areas where the access to employment services is scarce and uneven. By creating an offering of suitable retraining programmes targeting especially the unemployed or socially excluded, the Czech Republic will strive to contribute toward supporting the links between the system of education, vocational training and the needs of the job market.

The main goals of the Czech development cooperation in this sector include:

- Support of programmes for socially disadvantaged groups;
- Cooperation in creating a connection between education, social programmes and employment policy;
- Support of home assistance as an effective tool of providing social care services (support of Moldovan organizations and institutions aiming to develop home care on the national scale and to reform the relevant legislation);
- Cooperation in integrating the handicapped and socially disadvantaged within the society;
- Assistance in drafting a national plan of social care for abandoned children.

4.2.4 Agriculture, forestry and fishing

In terms agriculture, it is necessary to identify the ideal match between Moldova's development priorities and the possibilities of Czech entities active in development cooperation in order to support agriculture as the key component of the Moldovan economy. In this respect, projects focusing on food safety (to enhance competitiveness of Moldovan products on foreign markets) and on increasing the quality and effectiveness of agricultural production of small-scale farmers in the poorest regions of the country appear particularly suitable. At the national level, these activities will be completed with support of modern and high-quality research and education in agriculture.

To meet these priorities, the Czech Republic will focus on projects combining the transfer of know-how with a direct support of the target groups through supplies of technical equipment. Based on Czech development cooperation experience, projects with multiplication potential (such as the construction of agricultural centres) serving as role models for others seem especially valuable.

Moldova agriculture is marked by its weak export potential, lack of storage capacity, limited access to loans and credits and low investment. Therefore, the effort to market Moldovan agricultural products on foreign markets should become the common denominator of Czech development cooperation priorities.

The main goals of the Czech development cooperation in this sector include:

- Cooperation in supporting small- and mid-scale farming;
- Cooperation in enhancing food safety (in order to market Moldovan products on foreign markets).

4.2.5 General environmental protection

/Preparation of communities and local governments for dealing with environmental issues/

The Czech Republic perceives sustainable exploitation of natural resources and the maintenance of environmental quality as important factors that contribute to achieving a better quality of life and public health.

Frequent catastrophic floods represent one of the most significant issues that Moldova has to deal with. Extensive damage to state, community and private property has long-term economic impacts. Therefore, it is one of the government's priorities to ensure sufficient control of the risk of flooding by building a system of early warning against an imminent disaster. In this respect, the anticipation of a wide range of risks associated with flood-level waters is necessary in order to prevent economic damage as well as physical harm to the people living along streams and rivers.

The main goals of the Czech development cooperation in this sector include:

- Awareness raising and education in environmental issues;
- Preparation of communities and local governments for dealing with the most frequent types of disasters and for minimizing their consequences;
- Cooperation in building a system of flood protection.

4.3 Geographical focus of the cooperation programme

In accordance with the generally applied approach of other significant donors, including that of international organizations, the Czech Republic will not exclude any region from bilateral development cooperation in Moldova given the size of the country's territory. Within the Czech development cooperation, development projects have been implemented in Chisinau, Cahul, Dubassary, Marculesti, Nisporeni or Vulcanesti. Based on project types and the needs of the Moldovan partner, the Czech Republic will review its geographical focus as needed. A number of activities will equally focus on building nationwide capacities and infrastructure.

5. Technical aspects of cooperation

5.1 Principal actors

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic is in charge of development cooperation on behalf of the Czech Republic. It is responsible for drafting of the Development Cooperation Strategy, including selection of priority countries and priority sectors. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is also responsible for preparing cooperation programmes and for securing the funds necessary for the financing of development activities as well as for development cooperation programme and project evaluation.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the founder of the Czech Development Agency (CzDA) that provides for the identification, formulation, implementation and monitoring of development cooperation projects in accordance with the approved development programme, working closely with the partner country.

The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Chisinau (the Embassy) represents the Czech Republic in relevant coordinating bodies of development cooperation at the general level as well as at the level of specific sectors. It also participates in individual stages of the standard project cycle.

In Moldova, the Department for Coordination of Foreign Aid at the State Chancellery of the Republic of Moldova acts as the main partner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and CzDA in the field of development cooperation.

In identifying, formulating, implementing and monitoring bilateral development cooperation projects, the Czech Development Agency works with the relevant Moldovan institutions, most notably with the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family. Since April 2010, the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development, and its three regional agencies representing the “South”, “Centre” and “North” of Moldova, has been also among the most important partners.

5.2 Communication and Coordination mechanisms

The present programme is the basic strategic document for development cooperation coordination in Moldova. All major points of project preparation and implementation will be discussed with local institutional partners (see above), following the project cycle management rules standard for Czech development projects.

The mutual relations could be fostered further by the Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Moldova on Development Cooperation. The relevance of the bilateral agreement will be considered by both parties in the half way through the programme period, i.e. in 2014 at the latest.

5.3 Monitoring, evaluation and mid-term assessment

As a rule the CzDA, in cooperation with the Embassy, provides twice a year for the monitoring of the projects subject to implementation.

Working closely with the applicable institutions of the Republic of Moldova, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic carries out evaluation of completed projects (or a group of project from the same sector) and of development programmes. Should the need be, the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, in cooperation with the relevant institutions of Moldova, performs *ex ante* evaluation prior to the commencement of development activities in a new geographical area or priority sector.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic is also responsible for participating in evaluations performed by other donors as may be reasonably and purposefully required.

The results of evaluations performed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic in cooperation with the relevant Moldovan institutions will be considered within the subsequent cooperation programmes and within the actual development activities.

Half way through the programme period, i.e. in 2014, the programme will be subject to an assessment. The results of the mid-term assessment will be considered within a document that will adjust and modify the mid-term development cooperation priorities in Moldova under the current programme until 2017.

5.4 Implementation conditions

Both the Czech Republic and Moldova will contribute to project implementation and programme fulfilment by providing adequate technical support and human resources.

As a rule, the CzDA enters into a Memorandum of Understanding with institutional partners for individual projects that defines the rights and obligations of the parties.

If several donors are involved in a project, coordination or management committees may be set up. Such coordination and management bodies are attended by representatives of the CzDA or the Embassy.

Summary

The Development Cooperation Strategy of the Czech Republic for the period of 2010-2017 (the Strategy), approved by Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 24 May 2010 no. 366., put priority countries to the fore of development cooperation of the Czech Republic.

Within the Strategy, the government of the Czech Republic defined the Republic of Moldova (Moldova) as one of the priority states subject to cooperation programme (thus making it a programme country) due to particularly the following reasons:

- Need for development cooperation and the preparedness of the partner country to receive it;
- Successful development cooperation results to date;
- Coordination position of the Czech Republic within the donor community;
- Connection to other activities/aspects of Czech Republic's foreign policy (Transition Cooperation Programme, Eastern Partnership).

The Czech Republic has implemented development cooperation projects in Moldova since 2001. The projects are fully in line with Moldova's priorities in the social area (improvement of the quality of living, targeted social assistance etc.), in water supply and sanitation (exploitation of water resources and introduction of waste management), in agriculture (improving competitiveness and effectiveness) as well as in the environment (decontamination and alleviation of environmental burdens). In the following period, the Czech experience with the political and economic transition should also be shared with Moldova.

Czech development assistance is well received by the Moldovan partners and the donor community.

* * *

In 2011-2017, development cooperation of the Czech Republic will focus particularly on the following topics of development intervention:

Water supply and sanitation

- Cooperation in protecting and exploiting water resources;
- Cooperation in sanitation;
- Cooperation in waste management;
- Cooperation in alleviating environmental burdens.

Government and civil society

- Enhancement of capacities of the Moldova government and the transfer of knowledge in the area of economic and social transformation, enhanced rule of law;
- Assistance in the implementation of eGovernment as a part of a rule-of-law-based state, supporting direct communication between the government and the people;
- Support in creating a functional and stable civic society, strengthening of the role of civic associations and NGOs;
- Support of a more effective and quicker community and regional development;
- Technical cooperation in the management of public finance;
- Cooperation in migration management;
- Cooperation in dealing with issues of gender equality in the society;
- Provision of support to the Moldovan government in dealing with the issue of abuse of children and women.

Education and other social infrastructure and services

- Support of programmes for socially disadvantaged groups;
- Cooperation in creating a connection between education, social programmes and employment policy;
- Support of home assistance as an effective tool of providing social care services (support of Moldovan organizations and institutions aiming to develop the concept of home care on the national scale and to reform the relevant legislation);
- Cooperation in integrating the handicapped and socially disadvantaged within the society;
- Assistance in drafting a national plan of social care for abandoned children.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing

- Cooperation in supporting small- and mid-scale farming;
- Cooperation in enhancing food safety (in order to market Moldovan products on foreign markets).

General environmental protection

- Awareness raising and education in the environmental issues;
- Preparation of communities and local governments for dealing with the most frequent types of disasters and for minimizing their consequences;
- Cooperation in building a system of flood protection.

Appendix – List of abbreviations

ADA – Austrian Development Agency

CzDA – Czech Development Agency

DOL – Initiative of the EU on Division of Labour

EU – European Union

FTI – Fast-Track initiative

HDI – Human Development Index

GNI – Gross National Income

IFIs – International Financial Institutions

ILO – International Labour Organization

IOM - International Organization for Migration

MDGs – Millenium Development Goals

MFA – Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

NGOs – Non-governmental organizations

ODA – Official Development Assistance

OECD – Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

OECD/DAC – Development Assistance Committee

ORS – Department of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance

SDC – Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

UN – United Nations

UNDP – United Nations Development Programme

UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund

UNICEF – United Nations Children´s Fund