

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Road Map for Mainstreaming Ageing Republic of Moldova



UNITED NATIONS

New York and Geneva, 2012

NOTE

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This publication reports on the findings and recommendations of the project 'Road Map for Mainstreaming Ageing in the Republic of Moldova' implemented by the Population Unit of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) with support from a grant provided by the European Union. UNECE would like to thank partners in the Republic of Moldova, including local experts, state, non-governmental and international organizations involved in the process, for their excellent cooperation and support. Specific thanks go to all interviewees of the fact-finding missions who shared their concerns and ideas (a list of interviewees can be found in Annex II). UNECE is especially indebted to Moldova's national focal point on ageing, Ms Larisa Rotaru of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family; to colleagues at the Republic of Moldova office of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), headed by Boris Gilca; and to other United Nations agencies in Moldova who provided valuable additional insight and logistical assistance.

At the UNECE Secretariat Viviane Brunne, Alexandre Sidorenko and Andres Vikat worked on the first phase of the project and Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich and Fiona Willis-Núñez finalised this report, with assistance from Bogdan Andrei in 2011. UNECE is grateful for expert contributions received from Eppu Mikkonen-Jeanneret, Christopher T. Mallmann and Olga Poalelungi. Fiona Willis-Núñez edited the report and France Font-Vérot prepared the layout.

Photographs are courtesy of Association of Advertising Agencies, Republic of Moldova.

ECE/WG.1/15

UNECE Information Unit Palais des Nations CH-1211 Geneva 10 Switzerland	Phone: +41 (0)22 917 44 44 Fax: +41 (0)22 917 05 05 E-mail: info.ece@unece.org Website: http://www.unece.org
--	--

UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATION

Copyright © United Nations, 2012
All rights reserved
Printed at United Nations, Geneva (Switzerland)

The present volume is the second of UNECE's reports on country-level projects entitled Road Maps for Mainstreaming Ageing, undertaken in UNECE member States at the request of their Governments. These projects are an integral part of the programme of work of the UNECE's Working Group on Ageing.

The Road Maps provide a guide through which the country in question can uphold the commitments of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) and its Regional Implementation Strategy (RIS). A Road Map is intended to help identify concrete actions relevant to the economic, social, cultural and political specificities of the given country, to aid the country in fulfilling these internationally-agreed commitments within the framework of their own national situation.

The Republic of Moldova embarked upon this project by requesting to work with UNECE in November 2009, while at the same time developing the related National Strategic Programme on demographic security for 2011-2025. The present report reflects the outcomes of a wide-ranging participatory process that has taken place since then, in which close consultation with the Government of the Republic of Moldova has been coupled with the pursuit of a participatory approach so that the final product reflects the inputs of a variety of stakeholders from amongst all sectors of Moldovan society.

It is hoped that this report will prove useful as a guide to policymakers, civil society representatives and others working in support of older persons, both in the Republic of Moldova and beyond. The actions identified here are specific to the case of the Republic of Moldova—in which the demographic ageing produced by falling fertility and mortality rates is compounded by the effects of large-scale emigration, the continued impacts of the transition to a market economy, and more recently the global economic crisis. Nevertheless, lessons drawn from this Road Map may be useful throughout the region, and may encourage other countries to review and develop their national strategies on ageing in order to implement internationally-agreed commitments more effectively.

Sven Alkalaj
Executive Secretary
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



You have time, I have only love... do not forget your elderly
Nataly Kanonik (©) - Andrey Rotary (design)

Foreword	iii
List of tables	vi
List of abbreviations	vii
List of experts	viii
Executive summary	ix
Statement by Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family.....	xi
Introduction	1
Method	2
Guiding principles.....	3
Chapters	
I. Contextual background on Moldova	5 - 9
A. Historical and political context	5
B. Economic context	6
C. Demographic context	6
D. Institutional framework for ageing-related policies	8
II. The policy framework: overview of existing laws and regulations	11 - 14
A. Introduction.....	11
B. National strategic programme on demographic security for 2011-2025	11
C. Green Paper of the Population	12
D. Other policy documents	12
Preceding policy documents	12
Activity Programme 2011-2014 “European Integration: Freedom, Democracy, Welfare”	13
National Development Strategy 2.0 “Moldova 2020” for 2012-2020	13
E. Conclusion: ageing in the Moldovan policy agenda	14
III. Observations of the field study and recommendation	15 - 47
A. Introduction.....	15
B. Observations and recommendations on areas related to the ten Commitments of the RIS.....	15
1. Integration of older persons in society	15
2. Perceptions and images of ageing and older persons.....	18
3. Stakeholder participation.....	20
4. Sustainable economic growth and development.....	22
5. Social protection	24
6. Labour market.....	27
7. Migration/returning migrants	29
8. Education and lifelong learning	33
9. Health and well-being of older persons.....	36
10. Housing and independent living	41
11. Intergenerational solidarity	42
12. Research and data collection landscape	44
13. Monitoring and evaluation of ageing-related policies	46
C. Outlook: the road ahead	47
Bibliography and list of documents reviewed.....	49
Annexes	
I. Questionnaire.....	61
II. List of participants (focus groups and interviews).....	65
III. Action Plan arising from the recommendations of the Road Map for the period 2012-2016.....	69

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1	Themes of the ten RIS commitments	3
Table 2	General facts about Moldova	5
Table 3	Selected demographic indicators for Moldova, 2010	7
Table 4	Ministries of the Republic of Moldova as of September 2011.....	8

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CCA	Common Country Assessment
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CPAP	Country Programme Action Plan
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EU	European Union
EUROSTAT	Statistical Office of the European Union
GDP	Gross domestic product
HDI	Human Development Index
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MLSPF	Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
MIPAA	Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing
NGO	Non-governmental organization
PPP	Purchasing power parity
RIS	Regional Implementation Strategy
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WHO	World Health Organization

LIST OF EXPERTS

Mr. Christopher T. Mallmann	International consultant
Ms. Eppu Mikkonen-Jeanneret	International consultant
Ms. Olga Poalelungi	Local consultant

CURRENCY

The currency of the Republic of Moldova is the Leu (plural Lei), abbreviated to MDL. At the time of preparing the publication (September 2011) 1 Leu was equal to 0.0855 United States dollars (1 dollar equals 11.69 Lei).