



Balanced social-economic development in regions

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA



MINISTRIES, REGIONAL AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATIONS, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, COMPANIES, LOCAL COMMUNITIES



For more than five years the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia coordinates the cooperation between Latvia and Moldova in the field of regional development.

Together with the Latvian Rural Forum and many other partners we organize activities, that strengthen local communities, the abilities of regional and local administrations and the economic growth of regions, promotes the development of the social-economic and cultural links between Latvia and Moldova.

In addition to the funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, we have attracted foreign financial instruments to continue and broaden this cooperation – implementing projects, promoting entrepreneurship, strengthening capacity in the fields of energy efficiency and procurement, as well as developing rural tourism.

Thanks to this long-term cooperation, more than 30 contracts have been signed between Latvian and Moldavian regions, local governments and non-governmental organizations, which do not just stay “on paper”, but based upon which different activities are organized. For example, in the Harvest festival organized by Jelgava district, for the third year a delegation from the Glodjani district in Moldova takes part and organizes a market for products from Moldova, food tastings and perform musical performances. By learning from the Latvian Rural Form and local action groups, a national rural development network was



“ We have received appreciation from the Gagauzian region administration for participating in the international investment forum in 2019 and the created cooperation platform. Such results bring satisfaction and motivate us to continue development cooperation. But we must admit that for sustainability we would need rather small but continuous financing.



created “Moldova Rural Forum”, which promotes the representation of interests of rural population, cooperation with policy makers and promotes eu-ro-integration.

Looking back at the current cooperation events, we are satisfied that learning from the Latvian experience, in 2019 the Gagauzia tourism information centre and other tourism offers in the Gagauzia region were created.

In cooperation with the Investment and Development Agency of Latvia and the Latvian embassy in Moldova, in November of 2019 we organized a visit of government officials, led by ambassador Uldis Mikuts. Two representatives from the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia (VARAM), deputy chairperson of the Līvāni district council and three entrepreneurs from Jūrmala, who also represented the charity organization “Lion club Jūrmala” took part in the visit. When meeting with similar charity organizations in Moldova, an agreement on joint projects in this field was also made.

Deputy chairperson of the Līvāni district council Ginta Kraukle confirmed that the experience gained during the “Invest Gagauzija 2019” as well as the impression about the Moldavian strategy on attracting investments, private-public partnership projects were very valuable. She also found the two-tier education system that is aimed at economic development and attraction of human resources, accenting vocational education based in a working environment, very interesting.

Our cooperation is becoming diverse, uninterrupted and sustainable, it does not stop at the project events. It is planned to continue cooperation, based on Moldavian priorities for cooperation with Latvia in the field of regional development, contributing to the balanced development of Moldavian regions and strengthening the social-economic ties of the Latvian and Moldavian territories.