

# MAKING MIGRATION WORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## REP. OF MOLDOVA

2011 - 2023

About 25 per cent of the Republic of Moldova's population lives abroad, including over one third of the labour force. As a result, the population in Moldova is ageing and rural areas are becoming depopulated. This poses significant developmental challenges that can be addressed by better leveraging the contributions of migrants and diaspora. Moldova's ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity and the arrival/transit of approximately a million of displaced Ukrainians mean that the country experiences a complex interplay of identity and human mobility.

Moldova has implemented the migration mainstreaming and development approach since its inception. The **M4SD Programme**

caused a "paradigm change" within the country. Before implementation, the term diaspora was hardly recognized and the connections between migration and development was not well known. Today, Moldova has integrated migration in more than 25 sectoral policies, is better equipped for EU accession, has strengthened its local network of development changemakers and has a strong relationship with its diaspora bolstered by the Diaspora Relations Bureau and a new engagement strategy. This approach also helped the government to be better equipped to deal with the ongoing Ukrainian displacement crisis with strong policy and institutional foundations.

### SDGs impacted

**10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES**  
Indicator 10.7.2  
Countries with migration policies to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration

**17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**  
Target 17.14  
Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

## POLICY COHERENCE

National

**National Development Strategy 'European Moldova 2030'**  
Prominently features migration as a result of support provided by M4SD to establish the national migration mainstreaming coordination mechanism

**25 sectoral policies (e.g. employment, climate change, agricultural development)**  
Integrated human mobility as a result of support provided by M4SD

**Programme on Managing Migration Flow, Asylum, and Integration of Foreigners 2022-2025**  
Migration Data Survey Report, assessing current migration data framework and providing recommendations

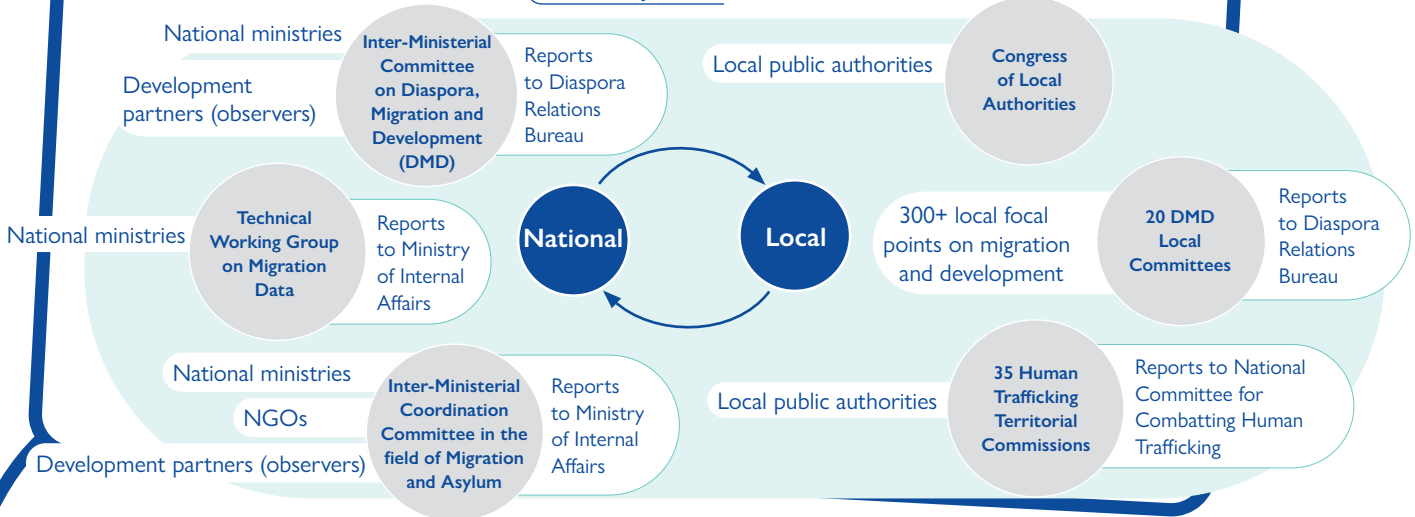
**National Strategy 'Diaspora 2025' & Action Plan**  
Diaspora Relations Bureau supported to develop, adopt and implement the engagement strategy  
Government co-led 2 international peer exchanges to learn, share best practices

Local

**25+ local communities from all regions**  
Local socio-economic development strategies and roadmaps  
Methodological guide to participatively monitor and evaluate the integration of Diaspora, Migration and Development (DMD) in policies (national and local)

## COORDINATION MECHANISMS

**17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**  
SDGs impacted



## PUTTING POLICIES INTO PRACTICE TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY WELLBEING

National

### SDGs impacted



Strong ownership, knowledge and leadership of the national government on migration and development, boding well for sustainability

Government better equipped to deal with changing migration dynamics, especially rapid displacement of Ukrainians, thanks to strong institutions and competencies on human mobility

Adapted and promoted two innovative approaches to Moldovan context to:

- Measure the economic contributions of diaspora to Moldova beyond remittances
- Estimate migration based on border crossing data

**Target 17.18**  
Increase availability of disaggregated data by migratory status, etc.

Diaspora engagement online platform [eMoldovaTa](#), providing diaspora members access to info and a platform for virtual engagement with their diaspora peers and with the partners from Moldova

Local

### Over 100+ local communities from all regions

Operational guide for [engaging diasporas in local development](#), to share Moldova's model with other countries and local governments to further engage diaspora in community development, including through:

- Diaspora Engagement Hub to measure human capital contribution
- National Diaspora Succeeds at Home Programme (DAR 1+3) matching diaspora, private sector and gov't contributions to improve local development

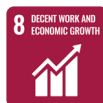
Conceptualizing **online grievance mechanism** for recording and addressing complaints of Moldovan labour migrants

### Cahul, Balti

**Local Migration Governance Indicators and Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)** joint exercise pilot-tested in 2 municipalities

Migrants' needs and voices reflected to bridge the gap between migration policies and people's policy perspectives

25 local communities **engaged private sector and public authorities** to promote local economic growth, with support of diaspora and migrants



**Target 16.7**  
Ensure responsive, inclusive and representative decision-making

SDGs impacted



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

## MAKING A REAL AND MEASURABLE IMPACT IN COMMUNITIES OF REP. OF MOLDOVA

This fiche has been developed under M4SD, a global programme operating in 11 countries from 2019-2023. The M4SD Programme aims to harness the development benefits and reduce the negative effects of migration for host and home communities, migrants and their family members. It is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The fiche illustrates not only the work of this programme but also the country's overall achievements on migration and sustainable development.

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