http://cpi.asm.md

ERA Instruments implementation in Moldova

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Preassociation Steps

- **2008 –** Started discussions of possibility of association to FP7

- **2008 – Action Plan-1: Moldovan Initiative: Knowledge Excellence (2008-2013)** Preparation for association to FP7

- **2008-2011 –** Preparing Asociation to FP7

- **2011 –** Association to FP7

- **2011 – Action Plan 2: Moldova towards the HORIZON 2020 (2011-2013)** - Implementation of the status of Associated Country to FP7 and Preparation for association and implementation of the status of Associated Country to H2020.

- **2013 – Action Plan 3: Moldova in HORIZON 2020 (2014-2020) - I**mplementation of the status of Associated Country to H2020.

- **2013 –** Creation of National Committee for Association to H2020

- **2014 –** Coordination at the national level with Public Authorities the opportunities and conditions of association, including financial issues

- **2013-2014 –** Negotiations of association to H2020

- 2014 – Association to H2020: WP 2014-2015, WP 2026-2017, WP 2018-2020

- 2018-2020 – Preparation of Association to FP9 (2021-2028)

- **Asurance of visibility through: www.asm.md , www.cpi.asm.md, www.fp7.asm.md, www.h2020.md, www.euraxess.md, www.international.asm.md**

Association to the EU Framework Programmes

October 11, 2011 (Brussels) Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science and Gheorghe Duca, President of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova, have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding for the association of Moldova to the EU's Seventh Research Framework Programme (FP7: 2007-2013).**

July 1st, 2014 **five Western Balkan countries** (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) and the **Republic of Moldova secured full access to the European Union's new seven year research and innovation programme, Horizon 2020: 2014-2020.**

Status of Associated Country to H2020 foreseen:

- Participation in HORIZON 2020 Programme and

- Integration in the European Research Area - a single market for ideas in Europe - Synonymous to Excellence.

The 5+1 Key ERA Priorities:

1. ***More effective national research systems/*** *Sistemele naționale de cercetare mai efective*

2. ***Optimal transnational cooperation and competition/*** *Cooperarea și competitivitatea mai optimală*

       2.a Jointly addressing grand challenges/ *Inițiativele de programe comune*

       2.b Effective investment in and use of research infrastructure/ *Investiții si utilizarea mai efectivă a infrastructurii de cercetare*

3. ***An open labor market for researchers/*** *O piața de munca deschisă pentru cercetători*

4. ***Gender equality and gender mainstreaming in research/*** *Egalitatea de gender in cercetare*

5. ***Optimal Circulation and Transfer of Knowledge including via Digital ERA, Open Science/*** *Circulația optimală, accesul și transferul cunoștințelor*

6. ***International Cooperation/*** *Cooperarea internațională*

Implementation of the Status of Associated Country to FP7 & H2020

- **The Academy of Sciences of Moldova – coordinate the implementation of the Status of Associated Country at the national level** *(overall responsibility, membership fee payment, strategic documents and activities approval).*

- **The Center of International Projects (CIP) – ASM Science Support Public Institution – H2020 activities - implementation unit**

To assure implementation of the status of associated country to H2020 the following activities were developed at the national level:

1. *Adjustment the National rules and procedures to the EU requirements*
2. *Better integration in the European Research and Innovation Area*
3. *Implementation of the bilateral and multilateral cooperation framework*
4. *Promote EURAXESS Programme and Contribution to implementation of Charter & Code principles*
5. *Promote Open Access and other ERA instruments*
6. *Support FP7 & H2020 NCP Network*
7. *Assurance of participation in FP7 & H2020 Programme Committees and in Strategic and ERA Committees, Working Groups, etc*
8. *Support Moldovan Office for Science and Technology in Brussels (MOST)*
9. *Attraction of Moldovan Scientific Diaspora*
10. *Organization of Promotional & Informational Events/ Researcher's Night, Science Slam, InfoDays, etc*

1. More effective National Research Systems

Strengthening of R&D System in Moldova through:

1) Distribution of public money on a competitive basis within the following National Programmes:

- **National Programmes:** *institutional development, state programmes, young scientists support, events organization support, research infrastructure, monographs & scientific papers editing, bilateral &multilateral programmes, technology transfer programmes, etc.*
- **Specific Programmes to stimulate participation in H2020 with support of the EU External Actions Grant:**
  - *Modernization of the Research Infrastructure Grants (10 projects);*
  - *Connection of the Centers of Excellence to the EU Research Infrastructure (12 projects);*
  - *Assuring Mobility of Researchers/ Networking events, Preparatory Meetings, etc (>100 meetings);*
  - *European Bonus Programme (>50 grants)*
  - *Trainings abroad on Projects Writing and Financial Management (>20 trainings)*

2) Reorganization of R&D System:
  - *Incorporation of H2020–related activities in all strategic and administrative issues and documents;*
  - *Policy Support Facilities under Horizon 2020 expert mission recommendations*
  - *Science and Innovation Code modification;*
  - *Reorganization of the science and innovation management;*
  - *Elaboration of set of reforms and plan for their implementation.*

Strengthening of R&D System in Moldova through:

R&D Policy support activities and dialogue:

- **Policy Support Facilities under HORIZON 2020 expert mission – Moldovan R&D sector review,** *Dec 2015 - May 2016*

- **National Strategy for Integration in the European Research Area/** *under discussion since 2015*

- **Evaluation & Expertise for Scientific Excellence in the EaP Region/** *Regional Workshop, Chisinau May 2014*

- **ERA Workshop on Strengthening of National R&D Sector/** *Chisinau, 23 June 2016*

- **Conference on 'Sharing experiences from the Association to H2020'/ *EaP* ** *Regional Workshop, Chisinau May 2017*

- **Registration on the Smart Specialization S3 Platform following the "S3 Design Learning Workshop"/***JRC, S3 Platform, Chisinau, February 2016*

- **Participation in European thematic COFUND ERA-NETs and JPIs/** *in process*

- **Facilitating macro-regional scope and link up to socio-economic actors of Research Infrastructure in the Danube Region/** *Submitted a Declaration of Interest to be involved as an Associated Strategic Partner in the project, 2016*

2. Optimal transnational cooperation and competition
2.a. Jointly addressing grand challenges

Conditions need to be created to benefit from strengthened cross-border cooperation and competition through:

- *Defining common priorities and joint research agendas, building on the Joint Programming Initiatives and input from strategic forward looking activities*

- *Implementing joint research agendas, when possible, through joint or at least synchronised calls between Member States based on joint international peer reviews delivering comparable scores for all proposals. This would ensure pan-European competition, the benefits of which are already widely acknowledged by Member States (almost all participate frequently in joint ERA-NET calls and some choose to award national funding to researchers on the ERC reserve list for this very reason).*

- *Jointly implementing and/or financing calls and projects, building on experience to date and the provisions for Public-Public Partnerships in Horizon 2020. This requires national funding rules to be made compatible and to converge to common European standards.*

- *Joint research agendas should be implemented in cooperation with non-EU countries where relevant and appropriate.*

2. Optimal transnational cooperation and competition Bilateral & Multilateral Cooperation:

- More then 40 bilateral scientific cooperation agreements signed by ASM with the R&D Funding Partners from Europe, NIS and other countries;

- Since 2009 were supported more than 300 bilateral projects under cooperation agreements with the National R&D Funding Authorities from **Belarus, Germany, France, Italy, Romania, Russia, Ukraine** and **STCU;**

- **Since 2012 were introduced the <u>overarch priorities in all National Programmes</u>:**
  - *Demonstrate the experience of participation in the FP7 &H2020 Programme;*
  - *Consolidation of efforts for elaboration and submission the new projects to FP7 & H2020 programmes during the implementation of projects.*

Participation within ERANET and other Joint Calls is very important to lay the ground for further participation in the EU FP:

- ▸ **FP7 Black-Sea-ERA.Net** – Pilot Joint Call
- ▸ **FP7 SEERA-EI** – Pilot Joint Call
- ▸ **FP7 ERA.Net-RUS-PLUS -** Single Joint Call, 2014 and 2017
- ▸ **H2020 Water Works ERA.Net** 2014-2019 in Support of the **Water JPI**–*Announced 2014, 2015, 2017*
- ▸ **BMBF Danube Regional Call** – 2 ongoing projects
- ▸ **H2020 Black Sea HORIZON** – Joint Call - *Announced in 2017*
- ▸ **H2020 IC4Water ERA.Net**– Joint Call - *Announced in 2017*
- ▸ **H2020 AXIC ERA.Net** – Joint Call – *To be Announced in 2018*

Joint Programming Initiatives

It is a structured and strategic process whereby Member States agree, on a voluntary basis and in a partnership approach, on common visions and Strategic Research Agendas (SRA) to address major societal challenges.

Water challenges for a changing world	**Academy of Sciences of Moldov** *WaterWorks2014 - ERA.Net COFUND JPI Joint Call* *WaterWorks2015 - ERA.Net COFUND JPI Joint Call* *WaterWorks2017 - ERA.Net COFUND JPI Joint Call* *IC4Water2017 - ERA.Net COFUND JPI Joint Call*
Cultural Heritage and Global Change: a new challenge for Europe	**Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Moldova**
Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe	Academy of Sciences of Moldova *AXIS-ERA.Net – Joint Call Announcement - 2018*
MYBL JPI	Academy of Sciences of Moldova **In process**
Joining other JPIs/ Urban Europe, etc.:	**In process**

2.b. Effective investment in and use of research infrastructure

Excellent research depends upon world-class facilities and research infrastructures (RIs), including ICT-based e-infrastructures (eRIs). Such RIs attract talent and stimulate innovation and business opportunities. eRIs in particular enable increasingly prevalent data-intensive collaborative research by geographically dispersed teams - eScience.

European Commission will:

- Support through Horizon 2020 access to RIs as well as the on-going overall integration of EU RIs particularly those awarded ERIC status.

- Encourage Member States to link RI roadmaps to the ESFRI roadmap and Smart Specialization Strategies in Structural Funds co-financed research and innovation programmes.

- Support training programmes for the management of such Ris.

- Develop in cooperation with ESFRI, and other stakeholders a Charter of Access setting out common standards and harmonized access rules and conditions for the use of Ris.

- Work with ESFRI to set priorities for implementing the Roadmap and to provide advice and guidance to Member States on overcoming legal, financial or technical obstacles to implementation.

- Define with ESFRI and other stakeholders common evaluation principles, impact-assessment criteria and monitoring tools which can be applied in regional, national and European programmes to help combine funds from different sources

At the National level: first steps and measures to improve research infrastructure:

- *National & International Programmes for Equipment Purchase*

- *Connection of the Centers of Excellence to the EU Research Infrastructure-2015-2016 (12 projects);*

- *Modernization of the Research Infrastructure-2017-2018 (10 projects);*

- *Registration on the Smart Specialization S3 Platform following the "S3 Design Learning Workshop"*

3. An open labor market for researchers EURAXESS

Facilitating mobility, supporting training and ensuring attractive careers

- *While **researcher mobility contributes to excellence**, several obstacles stand in the way of a genuine European research labour market. One of the most important is the **lack of transparent, open and merit-based recruitment, which makes research careers less attractive** and hampers mobility, Gender equality and research performance.*

- *Giving **non-nationals/ non-residents access to national grants and making them portable across borders** would make mobility easier. In some cases, legal and administrative barriers prevent this. Initiatives such as **'Money Follows Researcher'** show how those barriers can be removed and how Member States and research organisations can organise access to and portability of national grants, while upholding the interests of all parties.*

- *Other obstacles include **human resources policies** which result in poor career prospects for young researchers, inadequate Gender equality practices, social security obstacles and, insufficient academia-business mobility with only one in six researchers in academia having experience in the private sector. Obstacles to the fair recognition of academic diplomas also persist.*

3. An open labor market for researchers EURAXESS in Moldova

▶ **January 1, 2012**, the Republic of Moldova was included in the Pan-European Network **EURAXESS - Researchers in Motion: Jobs, Services, Rights, Links**

▶ The **National EURAXESS Portal : www.euraxess.md** was launched on the **RESEARCHER'S NIGHT** Event on September 27, 2013 to provide access to a full range of information and support services for European and non-European researchers, who are seeking for a job offered in research institutions in the EU members or associated countries.

▶ Within the EU Starting Grant: **Set-up EURAXESS Network Services in Moldova** were developed:

▶ **29 EURAXESS Local Contact Points**

within R&D Institutions, NGO and SMEs:

▶ **3 EURAXESS Service Centers** established:

▶ *EURAXESS-NORD, Balti, north part,*

▶ *EURAXESS-CENTRE, Chisinau-central and*

▶ *EURAXESS-SUD, Comrat - south part of Moldova*

5 November 2015 – EURAXESS ROAD SHOW reached Moldova for the first time!

3. An open labor market for researchers EURAXESS Rights: Charter and Code

- **December 12, 2011**, the scientific community of the Republic of Moldova joined the **European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers**, providing a set of principles and conditions which specify the responsibilities and rights of both researchers and employers.

- Since 2012 Moldova is involved in the working sessions of 4th cohort of the **Human Resources Strategy for Researchers.**

- Since 2013 CIP started to work with several selected R&D Institution in order to implement the Charter & Code principles.

- **Six LOGOs "Excellence in Research"**
  was offered by the European Commission to the:
- *University of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, 2014;*
- *State University of Moldova, 2015;*
- *National Institute for Economic Research, 2015;*
- *State University of Medicine and Pharmaceutics "N.Testemitanu", 2016*
- *Institute for Development of Informational Society, 2016*
- *Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, 2017*

- Main expectation – to obtain and maintain **more Logos**: **"HR Excellence in Research".**

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

4. Gender equality and gender mainstreaming in research

In spite of national and EU-level strategies on Gender equality, **European research still suffers from a considerable loss and inefficient use of highly skilled women.** The annual increase in female researchers is less than half the annual number of female PhD graduates and too few women are in leadership positions or involved in decision-making. The integration of a gender dimension into the design, evaluation and implementation of research is also still too limited. The challenge is to improve on all these points to increase the quality and relevance of research. The Commission is already committed to ensure 40% of the under-represented sex in all its expert groups, panels and committees and will **apply this particularly under Horizon 2020.**

The countries are invited to:

- *Create a legal and policy environment and provide incentives to remove legal and other barriers to the recruitment, retention and career progression of female researchers while fully complying with EU law on Gender equality; address gender imbalances in decision making processes and strengthen the gender dimension in research programmes.*

- *Engage in partnerships with funding agencies, research organisations and universities **to foster cultural and institutional change on gender** - charters, performance agreements, awards.*

- *Ensure that **at least 40% of the under-represented sex participate in committees involved in recruitment/career progression** and in establishing and evaluating research programme.*

The Research Stakeholders Organizations are invited to:

*Implement institutional change relating to HR management, funding, decision-making and research programmes through **Gender Equality Plans** which aim to conduct impact assessment / audits of procedures and practices to identify gender bias, implement innovative strategies to correct any bias and set targets and **monitor progress via indicators***.

5. Optimal circulation, access to and transfer of scientific knowledge

To guarantee access to and uptake of knowledge by all.

Research and innovation benefit from scientists, research institutions, businesses and citizens accessing, sharing and using existing scientific knowledge and the possibility to express timely expectations or concerns on such activities. A major challenge is to broadly implement Open Access - i.e. free internet access to and use of publicly-funded scientific publications and data.

To increase the economic impact of research, we need to foster Open Innovation, links between research, business and education (the knowledge triangle) as via EIT and in particular knowledge transfer between public research institutions and the private sector while respecting intellectual property rights.

As most knowledge creation and transfer uses digital means, all barriers preventing seamless online access to digital research services for collaboration, computing and accessing scientific information (e-Science) and to einfrastructures must also be removed by promoting a digital ERA. The different types of knowledge transfer, circulation and access should also be judiciously factored into research cooperation with non-EU countries.

Member States are invited to:

- Define and coordinate their policies on access to and preservation of scientific information
- Ensure that public research contributes to Open Innovation and foster knowledge transfer between public and private sectors through national knowledge transfer strategies
- Harmonise access and usage policies for research and education-related public einfrastructures and for associated digital research services enabling consortia of different types of public and private partners
- Adopt and implement national strategies for electronic identity for researchers giving them transnational access to digital research services

5. Optimal circulation, access to and transfer of scientific knowledge

Research stakeholder organisations are invited to:

- Adopt and implement open access measures for publications and data resulting from publicly funded research

- Implement and promote the uptake of electronic identity and digital research services

- Ensure optimal interaction and linkages and strategic partnering between academia and industry and define joint collaborative research agendas to maximize the use of research results

- Improve recognition and professionalization of knowledge transfer activities and strengthen the role of knowledge transfer offices

The Commission will:

- Establish open access to scientific publications as a general principle for all EU funded projects in Horizon 2020. For research data, develop a flexible approach that takes into account different scientific areas and business-related interests

- Continue to fund projects related to open access

- Adopt a Communication and Recommendation to Member States on access to and preservation of scientific information in the digital age

- Propose a roadmap for e-infrastructure development to support e-Science through open access to research tools and resources

- Support activities to raise stakeholder awareness of open access and e-Science

- Develop through assessment of existing initiatives a comprehensive policy approach to Open innovation and knowledge transfer, and consult stakeholders on it.

- Work with stakeholders to develop a set of model consortium agreements to enhance knowledge transfer

- Facilitate a Member State forum for regular exchange and reporting on national developments on the provision, take-up and use of digital research services

5. Open Science in the Republic of Moldova

OPEN ACCESS

National R&D Strategy 2020

↓

all national research journals are in OA

Instrumentul Bibliometric Național

IBN

www.ibn.idsi.md

biggest national database of research publications in OA

JOURNALS registered in IBN

104 registered journals

65 accredited journals

16 journals in

DOAJ DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

over **51000** articles registered in IBN

✓ **OA Week**
- organised annually since 2009
- leader – *Electronic Resources for Moldova Consortium* (*REM Moldova*)

✓ **OA policies**
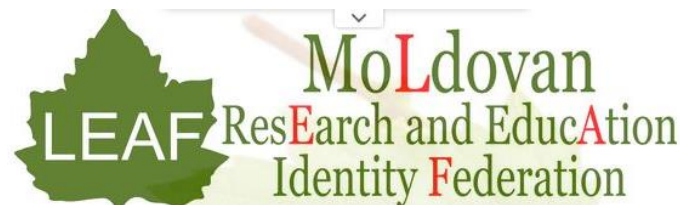- adopted by 8 institutions (2012, ASEM)
- 8 OA policies included in ROARMAP

✓ **Institutional Repositories**
- established in 8 universities & 1 research organisation
- 7 repositories registered in OpenDOAR
- 8 repositories registered in ROAR

Open Educational Resources

Coalition for **Open Educational Resources in Moldova** established in 2016 (14 member-organisations)
http://red.prodidactica.md

LEAF **MoLdovan ResEarch and EducAtion Identity Federation**
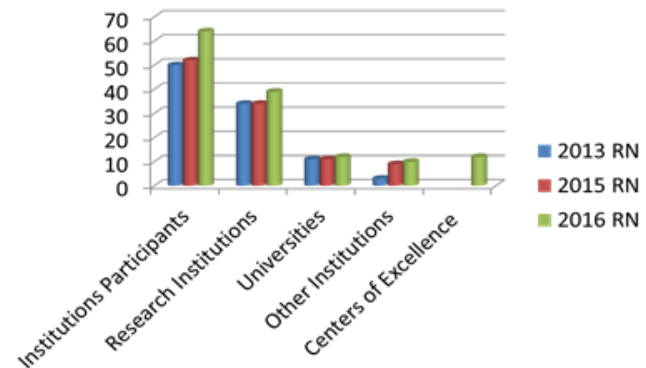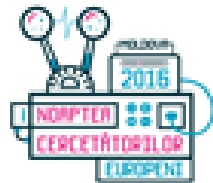
http://federations.renam.md/

Dissemination and Promotional Activities

- **Researcher's Night-Promotional Events**
  - 2013 – 4000 visitors
  - 2015 – 4500 visitors
  - 2016 – 5500 visitors

- **HORIZON 2020** *Regional Launch Event for the Eastern Partnership Countries:* *March 17, 2014, Chisinau*

- **International Science Day and Day of the Academy of Sciences Celebration** *- November and June, Annually, Chisinau*

- **HORIZON 2020** *Launch Events*, *each November Annually, Chisinau*

- **Europe Days in Moldova -** *Chisinau, Comrat, Cahul, Balti May, each May Annually*

- **Science Slam** promotional event – *2014 - 2017 (9 Editions), Chisinau*

- **MOLDEXPO National Exhibition,** *Infoinvent, Made in Moldova, etc.Chisinau*

- **Regular Informational Campaign on H2020 Promotion -** *Infodays, Practical Trainings, Consultations, Promotional Events, National Thematic Exhibitions in Chisinau, Balti, Comrat, Cahul, Taraclia, Stefan Voda, Soroca, etc.*

Thank you!

http://asm.md/ - ASM

http://cpi.asm.md/ - CIP

http://h2020.md/ - H2020 National Portal

http://euraxess.md/ - EURAXESS National Portal