

## **Social Protection**

### **Your task**

You are leading a team advising both, the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Labour, Family, and Social Protection on the development of a reform program, aimed to strengthen the capacity of the administration in charge of developing and implementing employment and social policies.

You are reviewing an early draft version of the reform program. While it contains excellent passages, instrumental in making the administration more efficient and transparent, you think that the reform will be less effective in strengthening the development and implementation of child relevant employment and social policies.

**You use an upcoming meeting with the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs to make the case for strengthening child relevant sections of the reform program. Prepare a 3 minutes pitch with your team.**

### **For inspiration and reference, please consult:**

1. Tool 2.5: Sector Checklist 'Social Protection'
2. Tool 3.1: Matrices for assessing the environment for child participation
3. Tool 4.1.4: Child sensitive governance assessment tool: Government effectiveness
4. Tool 4.2: Checklist for Legislation

**Resources:**

- Association Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova (2014): Article 138
- Association Agenda, between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova (2014): see citations
- UNICEF in Moldova - who we are, what we do: p. 10-12
- UN Final Report on Post-2015 Country Consultations in the Republic of Moldova, 2013: p. 95-96
- UNICEF, Integrated Social - Protection Systems Enhancing Equity for Children

**Association Agreement (2014) - Article 138**

Such cooperation shall include, in particular:

- (a) the prevention and combating of all forms of exploitation (including child labour), abuse, negligence and violence against children, including by developing and strengthening the legal and institutional framework as well as through awareness-raising campaigns in that domain;
- (b) the improvement of the system of identification and assistance of children in vulnerable situations, including increased participation by children in decision-making processes and the implementation of efficient mechanisms to handle individual complaints made by children;
- (c) exchange of information and best practices on the alleviation of poverty among children, including on measures to focus social policies on children's wellbeing, and to promote and facilitate children's access to education;
- (d) the implementation of measures aimed at promoting children's rights within the family and institutions, and strengthening the capacity of parents and carers in order to ensure child development; and
- (e) accession to, ratification and implementation of the relevant international documents, including those developed within the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Hague Conference on Private International Law, with the purpose of promoting and protecting of children's rights in line with the highest standards in the field.

***ASSOCIATION AGENDA BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA  
(Brussels, 26 June 2014), p. 13-14***

***Employment, social policies and equal opportunities***

The parties will work together in order to:

- strengthen the capacity of the administration in charge of developing and implementing employment and social policies, notably employment services and social services
- ...

***Public administration reform and management of public finances***

The parties will work together to ensure the development of a well-functioning public administration sector, sound public finance management policies, and internal financial control and external audit. This cooperation will include work to:

- strengthen the institutional and human resources capacity of central and local public administrations, to improve and implement policy and ensure the efficient and effective delivery of high-quality public services;
- ...

## **UNICEF, Integrated Social - Protection Systems Enhancing Equity for Children, p. 15**

### ***The Case for Social Protection and Children: Ensuring children's well-being and contributing to national development***

***Increased relevance of social protection:*** Persistent inequalities in economic and human development, increasing volatility at the macro and household level, the threats posed to sustainable development by climate change, and changing population trends have all increased the relevance of social protection across the regions.

***Equity and social protection:*** Social protection is a crucial policy and programming tool for addressing equity. It strengthens the capacity of families to care for their children and removes barriers to accessing services, while reaching those who are most vulnerable.

*It thus helps to even the playing field and contributes to a fairer distribution of resources.*

### ***Child-sensitive social protection helps all children to realize their rights and full potential***

*As recognized by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), children have a right to social security, including social insurance, and to an adequate standard of living.*

*Social protection systems need to be responsive to the multiple and compounding vulnerabilities faced by children and their families.*

*An intergenerational approach recognizes the critical role of care-takers, and the importance of addressing their broader vulnerabilities.*

***Investing in children now, reaping long-term returns:*** The demonstrated impacts of social protection on children's development last long beyond childhood, increasing adult productivity and contributing to breaking the inter-generational cycle of poverty. Social protection can also have positive impacts on the economic activities of households with potential multiplier effects.