

## Transport & Mobility

### Your task

You are leading a team advising the Moldovan Ministry of Transports and Road Infrastructure on the development of a new transport strategy. The program is subject to a loan agreement between Moldova and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

After reviewing an early draft version of the strategy, you notice that it neither assesses the needs of children, nor includes children in its recommendations.

**You use an upcoming meeting with the Deputy Minister of Transport and the EBRD to make the case for an explicit inclusion of children and to propose how children could be consulted in the process. Prepare a 3 minutes pitch with your team.**

### For inspiration and reference, please consult:

1. Tool 2.8: Sector Checklist: Transportation (infrastructure and services)
2. Tool 3.1: Matrices for assessing the environment for child participation
3. Tool 5.1. Areas of policy reform and their potential impacts of children
4. Tool 6.4: 'Identifying key stakeholders'

### Resources:

- Association Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova (2014): Article 138
- UNICEF in Moldova - who we are, what we do: p. 48 - 49
- UN Final Report on Post-2015 Country Consultations in the Republic of Moldova, 2013: p. 88

### **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 Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova (Brussels, 26 June 2014)***

#### **CHAPTER 15 - Transport**

##### **Article 80**

- (a) expand and strengthen their transport cooperation in order to contribute to the development of sustainable transport systems;

(b) promote efficient, safe and secure transport operations as well as intermodality and interoperability of transport systems; and endeavour to enhance the main transport links between their territories.

### **Article 81**

That cooperation shall cover, among others, the following areas:

- (a) development of a sustainable national transport policy covering all modes of transport, particularly with a view to ensuring efficient, safe and secure transport systems and promoting the integration of considerations in the sphere of transport into other policy areas;
- (b) development of sector strategies in light of the national transport policy (including legal requirements for the upgrading of technical equipment and transport fleets to meet highest international standards) for road, rail, inland waterway, aviation, and intermodality, including timetables and milestones for implementation, administrative responsibilities as well as financing plans;
- (c) improvement of the infrastructure policy in order to better identify and evaluate infrastructure projects in the various modes of transport;
- (d)...

## **UN Final Report on Post-2015 Country Consultations in the Republic of Moldova, 2013, p. 88**

### **2.5. Infrastructure**

#### **Current situation**

Poor infrastructure was listed among the key constraints to economic growth in Moldova in the Report on analysis of constraints to economic growth in 2010. The EBRD Index for infrastructure reform in Moldova was 2.3 in 2010 (out of a maximum of 3) with no improvements since 2005 and lower scores for roads, railways and water and wastewater. The 2012 EBRD Transition Report assesses the progress of Moldova in road and urban transport infrastructure being 2.7 out of 4 and in railways and water and wastewater 2 out of 4. Even though this score was in line with the level of GDP per capita in Moldova, the poor quality of roads prevents the development of a land and transport sector,

logistical and other services pertaining to this area and affects Moldova's attractiveness as a transit country for land transport.

**GENEVA, November 19, 2009** - UNICEF's Regional Director for Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, Steven Allen, has raised the alarm over the number of children killed and injured in road deaths.

"Achieving safety on the road is a challenge and needs a systemic approach that moves away from the idea that children should adapt their behaviour to cope with traffic, to an approach which recognises children's needs should be addressed in the design and management of road systems," said Mr Allen.

UNICEF and World Health Organisation(WHO) road safety research indicates:

- Road traffic injuries are the leading cause of death among 15-19 year-olds globally and the second leading cause among 5 to 14-year-olds;
- Approximately 10 million children are injured or disabled, annually, on the road;
- 93 per cent of child road deaths happen in low and middle-income countries, which have less than half the world's vehicles.

Mr Allen addressed the 'First Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety: Time for Action', held in Moscow, on November 19, on behalf of the UNICEF Executive Director, Ann M. Veneman.

UNICEF suggests a number of actions to improve child road safety. They include setting and implementing speed limits and traffic calming measures thereby creating safer environments for children to play; safe school routes including provision of suitable school buses, car-free areas, adult supervision to enable children to cross roads safely and children wearing seat belts in cars.

Recommendations for effective action to improve road safety entail improved and sustained enforcement of comprehensive road safety laws in conjunction with government-backed public awareness campaigns and civil society participation. Given the proven and

effective preventative measures employed in more developed countries to improve road safety for children, it is hoped other countries will follow.

This ministerial conference aims to raise the profile of road safety, globally, and will make recommendations to the UN General Assembly. It is hoped the UN Road Safety Collaboration and Global Road Safety Facility, hosted by the World Bank, will provide frameworks for enhanced international collaboration on this important issue.

## **Video**

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