



PRESS RELEASE

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

The EU financed Energy and Biomass Project II has been launched

3 March 2015 – “80 modern biomass heating plants coupled with 21 solar collectors installed in schools, kindergartens, and community centres; 300 biomass-fired boilers provided at subsidised prices to households and microenterprises; seven public-private partnerships set to supply bioenergy” – these are just some of the expected results of the Energy and Biomass Project II launched today at a public event conducted in the school in Varnita village, Anenii Noi District, which is one of the 144 beneficiary institutions of the Project first phase (2011-2014).

“The Republic of Moldova is proving through the Energy and Biomass Project eloquent example that the targets set for energy efficiency and renewables are achievable. Consistency and effort – this is all that is needed. And the extension of the Project Agreement for Phase II, done thanks to the Development Partners’ contribution, will ensure the continuation of this endeavour in the following three years, so that the targets set by the Energy Strategy can be gradually achieved”, Stephane Christophe Bride, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Economy, said.

The Energy and Biomass Project II will be implemented during January 2015 – November 2017 with a budget totalling 9,41 million EURO provided by the European Union. During the extension period the Project will preserve its four interconnected activities, i.e. 1) Heating of public institutions with biomass energy; 2) Development of bio-energy private sector; 3) Training and education; and 4) Communication.

“The European Union provides assistance to the Republic of Moldova in the development of Renewable Energy sources which shall permit among others to limit the environmental impact of consumed energy and promote diversification of energy sources. We are happy to prolong the successful Moldova Energy and Biomass Project with a second phase, which will permit to consolidate the Biomass market we have contributed to create and extend its impact to new regions. All this will have a positive impact on improving the life of Moldovan citizens”, Pirkka Tapiola, Head of the EU Delegation to Moldova, asserted.

The Energy and Biomass Project II is expanding its boundaries to cover Transnistrian Region and small towns where heating plants are to be installed in public institutions, of which a certain number is earmarked for Transnistria, ATU Gagauzia and Taraclia District where applications from rural settlements would be accepted as well. The Project novelty is the solar energy based technology to be installed in kindergartens, healthcare centres and other institutions in parallel with the bio-energy technology.

“We are willing to apply for the funds provided by the Energy and Biomass Project II. There are public institutions we would like to have biomass heating plants installed with the aim to ensure their energy self-

sufficiency that is paramount for the region where Varnita Village is located. The village development makes us proud. Besides the Village Lyceum, there are also households that have biomass-fired boilers installed. More recently, two entrepreneurs have started producing biofuel”, Alexandru Nichitenco, Mayor of Varnita Village, mentioned.

The Project will focus its actions on strengthening the bio-energy private sector development via piloting public-private partnerships aimed at ensuring sustainable supply of biomass heat, on quality assurance of domestically produced biofuel and on co-financing the first laboratory to test the biofuel quality produced in the Republic of Moldova.

I am very pleased to represent the UN system in Moldova and the United Nations Development Program, which in partnership with the EU and the Government of Moldova is implementing this flagship project, which is spearheading innovation for sustainable development. The second phase of the Energy and Biomass Project, will further capitalize on the achievements of the first phase while fostering the triple effect of the use of renewable energy, namely: jobs creation and poverty eradication; environmental protection and reliable access to energy; and improved quality of life. These are the aspirations of the people of Moldova, as expressed during the recent post 2015 consultations, and the EU and UNDP are supporting their fulfilment”, stated Dafina Gercheva, Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme in Moldova.

Moldova Energy and Biomass Project II is a three-year project (2015-2017). The Project is financed by the European Union with a total budget of 9,41 million EURO and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme.

More information on the Energy and Biomass Project is available at: www.biomasa.md

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