



PRESS RELEASE



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Chisinau and Tiraspol will partner to improve road safety

Chisinau, November 1, 2012 -- Chisinau and Tiraspol will work together to reduce the number of road accidents. This partnership was discussed today during a training organized by the Automobile Clubs of Moldova and Transnistrian region in the framework of the „Support to Confidence Building Measures” Programme, funded by the European Union and co-funded and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme in Moldova.

Experts in road safety from the Eastern Alliance for Safe and Sustainable Transport (UK) shared their experience in creating local partnerships to reduce the number of car accidents in the United Kingdom. Representatives of road police department, municipal transport unit and non-governmental organizations from both banks of the Nistru river have come up with a common vision on undertaking similar initiatives in Chisinau and Tiraspol.

„Each life lost on the roads of Moldova „costs” the national economy about 511 000 USD. 41,8% of the total number of car accidents in Moldova take place in Chisinau, in which hundreds of people’s lives are lost. That is why it is very important that all authorities responsible for road safety, and civil society join efforts to find solutions”, Serghei Diaconu, head of Moldova’s Road Police Department, said.

„We hope that this project will bring together authorities from both banks of Nistru river to increase awareness about the road safety measures which will ultimately reduce the number of road accidents and save people’s lives”, Hubert Duhot, Project Manager at the EU Delegation to Moldova, said.

UNDP’s Resident Representative in Moldova, Nicola Harrington-Buhay, stated that the timeliness of the workshop was relevant more than ever as the UN General Assembly proclaimed the period 2011-2020 as the Decade of Action for Road Safety. „Today’s event is a step forward in Moldova’s commitment to reduce the number of road accidents by 50% by 2020. The partnership between Chisinau and Tiraspol in ensuring better road safety will save lives of people from both banks of the Nistru River”.

The training is part of a series of activities carried out by the project „Development of Partnerships to Reduce the Number of Road Accidents in Chisinau and Tiraspol”, implemented by Automobile Clubs of Moldova and Transnistrian region in partnership with the Eastern Alliance for Safe and

Sustainable Transport from Great Britain. Apart from trainings, the project will produce analyses and reports on road safety, will develop strategies for creating partnerships in Tiraspol and Chisinau and will undertake practical activities on road safety and social information campaigns.

Funded by the EU and co-funded and implemented by UNDP, „Support to Confidence Building Measures” Programme contributes to confidence building between both banks of the Nistru River by involving local authorities, civil society organisations, business community and other stakeholders, as well as through ensuring economic and social development of local communities. The Programme has five key areas: business development, civil society, renovation of key social infrastructure through community development, health and environment.

The „Support to Confidence Building Measures” Programme is a 3-year project implemented during 2012-2015. The Programme total budget is 10,600,000 EUR, provided by the European Union (EUR 9,500,000) and by UNDP Moldova (EUR 1,100,000).

For more information, please contact: Olga Vasiliev, Project Officer/Civil Society Development, SCBM Programme, Tel: (+ 22 373) 839 866, E-mail: olga.vasiliev@undp.org , Natalia Costas, Communication Consultant, SCBM Programme, Tel: (+373 22) 69221141, E-mail: natalia.costas@undp.org