



**This project is financed by the European Union
and implemented by the
United Nations Development Programme**



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

“Clima-East: Sustainable management of pastures and community forests in Moldova’s first National Park Orhei to demonstrate climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits and dividends for local communities” Project

announces an Expression of Interest for

GRANTS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF DEGRADED PASTURES*
(*open exclusively for LPAs located in Orhei National Park area)

“Clima-East: Sustainable management of pastures and community forests in Moldova’s first National Park Orhei to demonstrate climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits and dividends for local communities” Project is financed by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme. The project aim is to demonstrate a natural resource management model in the pastures and forests of Moldova which increases ecosystems’ capacity to sequester carbon under pending climate risks, while at the same time retaining biodiversity and economic values. The project will develop innovative pasture and community forest management systems on the whole territory of the park, including rehabilitation of 500 ha of pastures by awarding grants to local public authorities (LPA) based on project proposals as a mechanism for implementation.

In order to meet the above mentioned goal, the Clima East project announce an Expression of Interest for Grants opened for LPA located in Orhei National Park area and namely for 18 communities as follows: Seliste, Donici, Trebujeni, Pohorniceni, Telesu, Peresecina, Ghetlova, Morozeni, Putintei, Vatici, Ivancea, Neculaieuca from Orhei district, Romanesti, Tiganesti, Codreanca from Straseni district, Bravicea, Saseni from Calarasi and Mascauti from Criuleni district. Projects approved for funding will be implemented from July 2014 until November 2016. Projects submitted by eligible local authorities, will be evaluated and selected based on competitive procedures and through a transparent examination.

It is expected that each implemented project will produce positive environmental impacts by reducing soil erosion and runoff of nutrients, will increase carbon sequestration and soil moisture, and others. The compatibility of planned measures with environmental requirements will be addressed in the action plan for each grant separately.

The grantees (i.e. municipalities) must assume the obligation to ensure the sustainability of the investment, undertaken with the assistance of the European Union (EU) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In this respect, restored pastures will be used as hayfields for a period of minimum two years (during project implementation) and afterwards they will be managed in accordance with the pasture management plans developed under Clima East project, according to the provisions of the Regulation on grazing and mowing (GD. 667 of 23.07.2010).

Selected LPA should commit to contribute to awareness and training activities. The LPA must always inform communities, during regular meetings with local population, on each performed activity. Moreover, LPA grant beneficiaries shall take all necessary measures to ensure the visibility of the project in accordance with the Guide for Applicants.

The rules and procedures that will guide the submission, selection and implementation of projects can be found in the **Applicant's Guidelines***.

The application package should contain the following documents:

- 1) Request for grant allocation;
- 2) Minutes of the general meeting of citizens on submitting the project proposal for the grant competition;
- 3) Local Council Decision regarding approval of the project proposal and local contribution;
- 4) Letter of guarantee confirming the ownership of pastures to the category of public lands;
- 5) Project proposal.

***Templates of requested forms** as well as the **template of the project proposal** are included in the **Applicant's Guidelines** that is posted on the UNDP Moldova website (<http://www.undp.md/tenders/index.shtml>). These documents can also be received by sending a request to the following e-mail: alexandru.rotaru@undp.org.

Deadline for submission of proposals: Friday, 20th June 2014, 10:00 (Moldova local time).

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. The documents can be sent either by mail at: tenders-Moldova@undp.org titled as **"Grants-2014: Pastures improvement"**, or by post, or delivered physically in a sealed envelope (marked **"Grants-2014: Pastures improvement"**) to the following address: **UNDP Moldova, 131, 31 August 1989 Str., MD-2012, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. Attention: Registry Office/Procurement.**

Applications sent by fax will be rejected. Incomplete applications shall not be examined. Applications sent by e-mail should not exceed 5 MB in size. Applications larger than 5 MB should be split into several messages and each message subject should indicate "part x of y" besides the marking mentioned in the announcement and the solicitation documents. All electronic submissions are confirmed by an automatic reply from tenders-Moldova@undp.org . If you do not receive a confirmation by email, please, contact UNDP Moldova Registry Office by phone +373(0)22220-045. Offers received after the deadline shall be rejected. For additional information on the application process, please, contact Mr. Alexandru Rotaru either by phone at: +373 (0) 22 843101 or by e-mail at: alexandru.rotaru@undp.org.