

# Action Plan for Implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity

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REPUBLIC of MOLDOVA

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# Protected area information:

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## **Lead implementing agency:** (Add name of primary government agency)

Ministry of Environment

## **Multi-stakeholder committee:** (Add description)

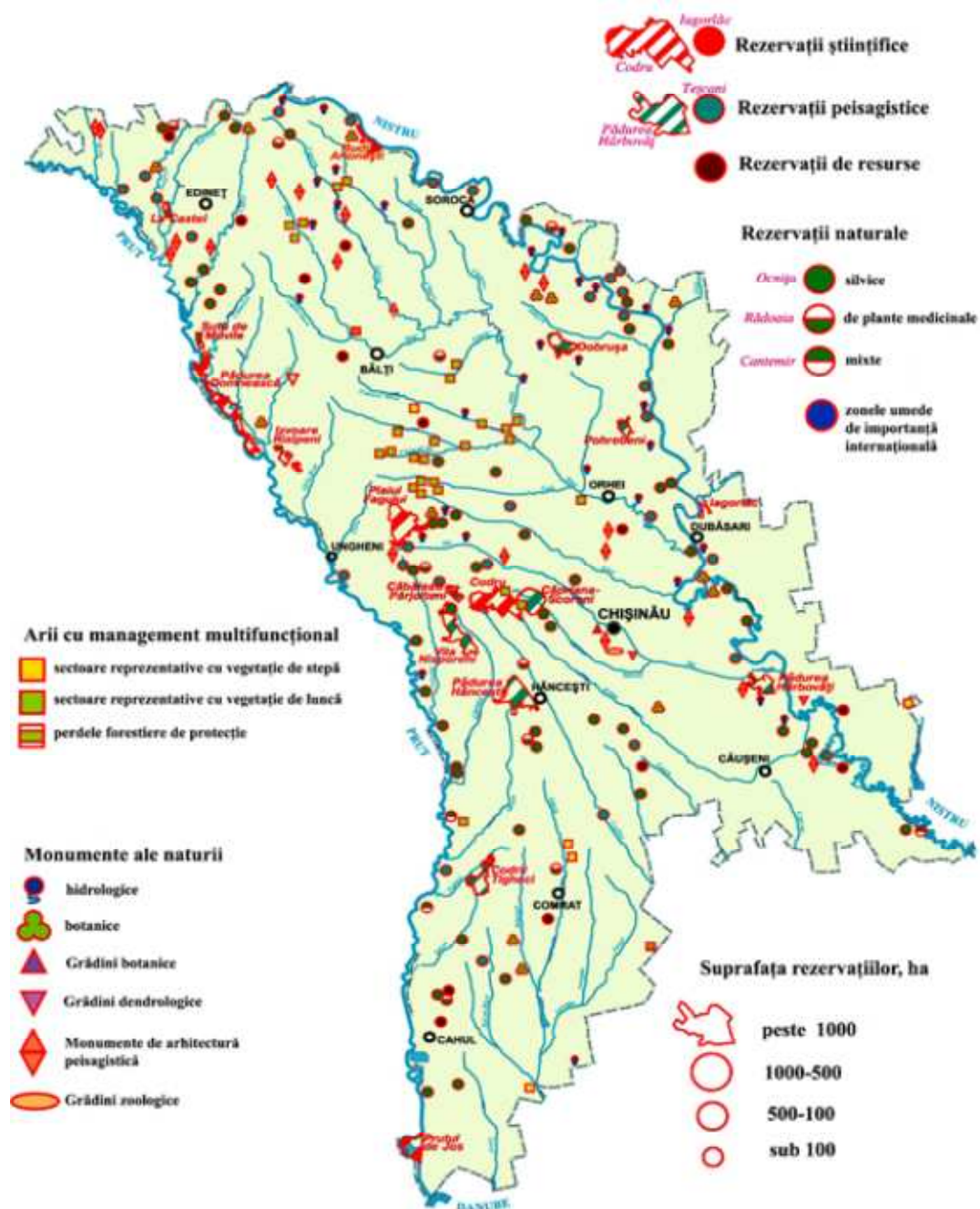
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry  
Ministry of Regional Development and Construction  
Ministry of Information Technologies and Communications,  
State forestry agency "Moldsilva"  
Tourism Agency  
Water Agency „ApeleMoldovei”  
Agency of Land Relations and Cadastre  
Local public authorities  
NGO's

# Description of protected area system

## Coverage

(Amount and % protected for terrestrial and marine; maps of protected area system)

The total surface of protected areas as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2012 is **157,227 ha** or **4,65%** from the territory of the Republic of Moldova



## Description and background

(Summary description)

Currently, there are 304 PAs in Moldova, distributed into 11 categories as follows:

Category IUCN	Category	Number	Surface (ha)
Scientific reserve	Ia	5	19378
Nature monument	III	130	2907,2
Nature reserve	IV	63	8009
Landscape reserve	V	41	34200
Resources reserve	VI	13	523
Area with multifunctional management	VII	32	1027,4
Dendrological garden		2	104
Zoological garden		1	20
Landscape architecture monument		21	304,96
Wetland of international importance		3	94705,5
<b>Total</b>		<b>311</b>	<b>157,227</b>

Moldovan Law on Protected Areas comprises two other categories which are not covered at the moment: National park and Biosphere reserve. Therefore there is ongoing UNDP/GEF project working on the establishment of the first national park with a coverage of 33,792 ha in the central part of the country. Also, there is a strong interest to establish a trilateral Biosphere reserve in the southern part of the country.

## Governance types

(Summary matrix of governance types)

Based on the range of international guidance and recommendations, the system of governance and institutional management for protected areas should fulfill seven main conditions. Each of these is briefly described below, and for each a summary of the current situation in Moldova is described.

### *A. A commitment on the part of the government to nature conservation and protected areas and a clear legal basis for governance and management*

#### **Summary of the current situation in Moldova**

This commitment is demonstrated in Moldova by ratification of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the development of enabling legislation at the national level. The Republic of Moldova has established a legal basis through the following main legal instruments.

- The Law on State Protected Areas Fund 1998
- Frame Regulations on National Parks, Monuments of Nature, Resource Reservations and Biosphere Reserves 2000
- Regulation regarding the procedure for establishing the protected natural area regime. 2002

- Law on Ecological Network

***B. A National Authority (or authorities) with responsibility for i) developing and improving policy and law ii) for implementing policy and law and iii) for monitoring and reporting on implementation of policy and law***

**Summary of the current situation in Moldova**

According to national legislation the National Authority is the 'Central Authority for the Environment/State Body Responsible for Natural Resources and Environment Protection'. At present the Central Authority is the Ministry of Environment, acting mainly through the Department of Policy Analysis, Monitoring and Assessment, the Department of Natural Resources and Biodiversity and the State Ecological Inspectorate.

***C. A clearly and rationally defined national system of protected areas including all main IUCN Categories and ideally covering 10% of the territory of the country.***

**Summary of the current situation in Moldova**

Moldova has a network of protected areas covering 4.6% of the country. Moldova's protected areas have not yet been fully integrated into a national representative system. Work is going on to define protected area categories in a simpler way that is consistent with international norms. Existing protected areas are being revalidated and an IUCN supported project is working to establish a National Ecological Network.

***D. Entitled and competent managing entities for individual protected areas in the system***

**Summary of the current situation in Moldova**

In Moldova the main entities entitled to manage protected areas are as follows

- 'Central Authority for the Environment/State Body Responsible for Natural Resources and Environment Protection' is the 'default' manager of Scientific Reserves.
- Central Public Administration Authorities. With respect to Monuments of nature; Natural reservations; Landscape reservations and Monuments of landscape architecture.
- The Forestry Central Authority. This function is fulfilled by Moldsilva which may be appointed as management authority for protected areas within the forest estate and for Scientific Reservations (subject to agreement with the Central Authority).
- Local Public Administration Authorities. May be appointed as managers of Natural reservations; Landscape reservations and Monuments of landscape architecture.

***E. Means and mechanisms for public participation in governance***

There should be means for stakeholders who are directly affected by decisions regarding protected areas to have access to information, to express their views and to contribute to those decisions.

#### **Summary of the current situation in Moldova**

The Law on the State Protected Areas Fund 1998 and the Regulation regarding the procedure for establishing the protected natural area regime (2002) 'NGOs determines a range of rights for citizens and for NGOs to have access to information, to propose establishment of protected areas and to

Under the 2002 Regulation *'The way to establish the protected natural areas shall take into consideration the interests of the local communities, with the participation of local people in enforcement of measures dealing with the protection, conservation and rational use of natural resources and by encouraging the conservation of local traditional practices and knowledge on how to harness these resources to the benefit of the respective communities.'* The regulation also states that the establishment of protected areas requires: *e)the decisions of the local public administration authorities and the approval of local people and land owner.*

#### ***F. Systems of planning management, monitoring, reporting and adaptive management leading to effective and efficient management***

##### **Summary of the current situation in Moldova**

The process of revalidating protected areas in Moldova includes the preparation of standard descriptions for all protected areas. Management plans (in the sense of IUCN) are not normally prepared (although 3 plans have been prepared for wetland sites). Monitoring and inspection is conducted through the Ecological Inspectorate; this mainly concerns enforcement of the law regarding correct management and protection and does not measure the effectiveness of the regime of management or the condition of the protected area. More regular ecological monitoring does take place in some Scientific Reserves, but this is not normally linked to a management plan.

#### ***G. Adequate resources are available to at minimum maintain the system of protected area in a favourable state***

##### **Summary of the current situation in Moldova**

According to the report of Zubarev (2011)

*'Actual financing of PAs in Moldova (2008-2009) estimated in the framework of this project amounted to US\$1.2-1.3 mil, which did not exceed 45% of the amount necessary for basic management and 38% - for optimal management of PAs system. Costs associated with the maintenance of PAs in Moldova, constitute only 0.02% of GDP and amounted to an annual average of about US\$671 per km<sup>2</sup>.*

*Achieving the above-mentioned objective of this project includes development of the enabling framework for PAs management, building capacity of institutions and of individuals and establishing Moldova's first national park at Orhei. Financing also plays an important role in achieving this objective,*

*in terms of funding the PAs system, the institutions responsible for the system and the individual PAs within that.*

*To address PAs system's challenges and take advantage of their opportunities, there is a need to build a financially sustainable system include skilled personnel; infrastructure sufficient to the needed management and visitor services; an adequate legal environment; as well as to develop a system for community participation.'*

## **Key threats**

(Description of key threats, and maps, if available)

1. Insufficient institutional capacity to ensure the appropriate management and protection of PAs and biodiversity
2. Lack of cooperation between agencies
3. Lack of sustainable funding;
4. Weak implementation of environmental legislation, including PAs area
5. Local public authorities have a weak collaboration with central environmental authorities regarding the establishment and protection of PAs
6. Insufficient capacity at the national and site level on planning, management, monitoring and reporting
7. Lack of management skills at site level;
8. Weak co-ordination of scientific programs and biodiversity rehabilitation

## **Barriers for effective implementation**

(Description of key barrier s for effective implementation)

- A. A commitment on the part of the government to nature conservation and protected areas and a clear legal basis for governance and management***

### **Summary of limitations and challenges**

The Legal Framework is generally quite adequate, but does include some elements that are unclear or that are subject to dispute or different interpretations (particularly with respect to management of Scientific Reserves). There is a lack of secondary legislation to determine the exact means of implementing the law. The implementation of some of the proposals in this report may require amendments to the Law.

- B. A National Authority (or authorities) with responsibility for i) developing and improving policy and law ii) for implementing policy and law and iii) for monitoring and reporting on implementation of policy and law***

#### **Summary of limitations and challenges**

The Ministry of Environment lacks capacity effectively to fulfil all of its functions with respect to protected areas. There is a lack of clear institutional arrangement between the Ministry and Moldsilva on management of Scientific Reserves.

#### ***C. A clearly and rationally defined national system of protected areas including all main IUCN Categories and ideally covering 10% of the territory of the country.***

#### **Summary of limitations and challenges**

There is a need to coordinate the work on revalidation with the work on Network development in order to avoid overlaps and contradictions. Achieving a target of 10% may prove to be a challenge.

#### ***D. Entitled and competent managing entities for individual protected areas in the system***

#### **Summary of limitations and challenges**

Management capacity and effectiveness is very limited among all potential managing entities with the exception of Moldsilva. Most Local Authorities do not have the capacity or resources to manage PAs in their administrative areas. The Ministry does not have the capacity directly to manage the Scientific Reserves.

#### ***E. Means and mechanisms for public participation in governance***

#### **Summary of limitations and challenges**

Although there are mechanisms for public participation in identifying, managing and monitoring PAs, there are no legal requirements for formalising stakeholder involvement (e.g. through consultative Councils), except in National Parks.

#### ***F. Systems of planning management, monitoring, reporting and adaptive management leading to effective and efficient management***

#### **Summary of limitations and challenges**

Without a clear and common system of planning, monitoring and reporting it cannot be guaranteed that Moldova's protected areas will be managed according to their objectives and needs. There is a significant risk of mismanagement and degradation of nationally and internationally important sites.



*G. Adequate resources are available to at minimum maintain the system of protected area in a favourable state*

*Summary of limitations and challenges*

Without improved and sustained funding and increased human capacity it will not be possible to maintain the system of protected areas in an acceptable condition.

## National Targets and Vision for Protected Areas

(Insert national targets for protected areas/Target 11 of the Aichi Targets. Include rationale from protected area gap assessment, if completed, along with any additional information about the vision for the protected area system, including statements about the value of the protected area system to the country)

In the framework of UNDP/GEF MSP 4016 project “Improving coverage and management effectiveness of the PAS” the **Protected Area System Rationalization and Expansion Plan** is under development that will set up the country vision and targets for protected area system. Also, the biodiversity targets according with Aichi targets will be identified in the process of development of NBSAP for up to 2020. The process started in spring 2012 with the support of GEF/UNDP EA project.

**Some draft notes on national Targets for PAs (up till 2020):**

- To increase the surface of terrestrial PAs up till 5,5% by 2015
- All the PAs have management plans developed in participatory processes and approved;
- At least 40% of the PAs staff trained in PAs management;
- Establish active stakeholder platforms for all main PAs (Consultative Council);
- The Government funds are secured to cover at least minimum management measures for the PAs network (at least 50% of the national PAs budget);
- Establish of national platform of key stakeholders for harmonizing legislation that is impacting PAs.

# Progress in and plans for achieving the goals of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

**Progress:** 0 = no work, 1 = just started, 2 = partially complete, 3 = nearly complete, 4 = complete

Goals of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas	Progress 0-4
• Progress in <b>establishing and strengthening national and regional systems</b> of protected areas(1.1)	3
• Progress in integrating protected areas into <b>broader land- and seascapes and sectors</b>	1

so as to maintain ecological structure and function(1.2)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in establishing and strengthening <b>regional networks, transboundary protected areas</b> (TBPAs) and collaboration between neighboring protected areas across <b>national boundaries</b> (1.3)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in substantially improving <b>site-based</b> protected area planning and management(1.4)</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in preventing and mitigating the negative impacts of <b>key threats</b> to protected areas(1.5)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in promoting <b>equity and benefit-sharing</b>(2.1)</li> <li>Progress in assessing and implementing diverse protected area <b>governance types</b>(2.1)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in enhancing and securing <b>involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders</b>(2.2)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in providing an <b>enabling policy, institutional and socio-economic</b> environment for protected areas (3.1)</li> <li>Progress in assessing the <b>contribution of protected areas</b> to local and national economies (3.1)</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in <b>building capacity</b> for the planning, establishment and management of protected areas(3.2)</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in developing, applying and transferring appropriate <b>technologies</b> for protected areas(3.3)</li> </ul>	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in ensuring <b>financial sustainability</b> of protected areas and national and regional systems of protected areas (3.4)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in strengthening <b>communication, education and public awareness</b>(3.5)</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in developing and adopting <b>minimum standards and best practices</b> for national and regional protected area systems(4.1)</li> </ul>	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in evaluating and improving the <b>effectiveness of protected areas management</b>(4.2)</li> </ul>	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in <b>assessing and monitoring</b> protected area status and trends(4.3)</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in ensuring that <b>scientific knowledge</b> contributes to the establishment and effectiveness of protected areas and protected area systems(4.4)</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in <b>marine protected areas</b></li> </ul>	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress in incorporating <b>climate change</b> aspects into protected areas</li> </ul>	1

## Priority activities for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas:

Activities	Timeline
<i>Establishment of a rational representative and comprehensive system of protected areas</i>	2014
<i>Establishing effective and efficient and consistent management of individual protected areas</i>	2016
<i>Strengthening the governance structures at the national level</i>	2013
<i>Developing of PAs network by creating national parks following the European example.</i>	2015

<i>Implementing a sustainable financing and resourcing mechanism for PA system in Republic of Moldova</i>	2015
<i>Building individual capacity for management and administration of protected areas</i>	2020
<i>Building public awareness and support for protected areas and public participation in management</i>	2020

## **Action Plans (detailed steps)for completing priority activities for fully implementing theProgramme of Work on Protected Areas:**

### *Activity 1: Establishment of a rational representative and comprehensive system of protected areas*

<b>Key steps</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible agencies</b>	<b>Indicative budget</b>
Simplify the categories of protected area and Prepare norms and standards for each protected area category.	2012	Ministry of Environment.  Supported by the PAs Project	30,000 USD
Prepare standard descriptions and maps for each protected area in the system	2013	Ministry of Environment.  Supported by the PAs Project	120,000 USD
Establish a detailed cadastre and GIS archive of protected areas	2013	Ministry of Environment.	30,000 USD
Draft a strategy for strengthening and expanding the Protected Area System of Moldova and incorporate it into the new national Biodiversity strategy and action plan	2012-2014	Ministry of Environment. Other agencies responsible for development of the BSAP	200,000 USD
Amend relevant laws and regulations to incorporate modern governance in the framework of Moldova's PAS	2012 - ongoing	Government. Ministry of	50,000 USD

		Environment and other relevant ministries.	
Extension of PA system with representative areas of under-represented vegetation	2014 - ongoing	Ministry of Environment, State forest agency Moldsilva, Academy of Sciences of Moldova	500,000 USD

*Activity2: Establishing effective and efficient and consistent management of individual protected areas*

Keysteps	Timeline	Responsible agencies	Indicative budget
Assist administering authorities to prepare management plans for all protected areas (including budgets and financial plans) to standard formats	2016	Ministry of Environment, Moldsilva, LPAs, Other Managing Entities.	200,000 USD
Introduce a standard format and system for protected area monitoring and reporting	Guidelines prepared by the end of 2012.  System operational by the end of 2014.	Ministry of Environment, Moldsilva, LPAs, Other Managing Entities.  Supported by the PAS Project.	60,000 USD
Develop and disseminate operational guidelines for sustainable protected area management.	2013	Ministry of Environment,  Supported by the PAS Project.	80,000 USD

*Activity3: Strengthening the governance structures at the national level.*

Keysteps	Timeline	Responsible agencies	Indicative budget
Reorganise the Natural Resources and Biodiversity Division in the Ministry of Environment to include a Protected Areas Unit	2012	Ministry of Environment	20,000 USD

Amend the role of the State Ecological Inspectorate with respect to protected areas	2012-13	Ministry of Environment	20,000 USD
Clarify and strengthen the role of the National Scientific Authority	2011	Ministry of Environment, Academy of Sciences.	20,000 USD
Establish a unit in Moldsilva responsible for Protected Areas (under the Forest Fund Department)	End of 2012	Agency Moldsilva	50,000 USD
Establish responsibilities for management of protected areas at the level of the forest enterprise	End of 2013	Agency Moldsilva	50,000 USD
Update and reorganise protected areas with their own administrations within Moldsilva	End of 2013	Agency Moldsilva, Ministry of Environment, Academy of Sciences.	250,000 USD
Reconvene the national Man and Biosphere Committee	2013	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Finance, Moldsilva, Academy of Sciences, LPA, NGOS	20,000 USD
Finalise and approve the Law on Landscapes and establish the State National Committee on Landscapes	2012-13	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Finance, Moldsilva, Academy of Sciences, LPA, NGOS.	40,000 USD

*Activity4: Developing of PAs network by creating national parks following the European example and strengthening and extending the decentralised management of protected areas.*

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible agencies	Indicative budget
Creating two National Parks - „Orhei” and „Lower Dniester”	2014	Ministry of Environment, State forest agency Moldsilva,	800,000 USD

		Academy of Sciences of Moldova	
Creating of Biosphere Reserve "Prutul de Jos".	2015	Ministry of Environment, State forest agency Moldsilva, Academy of Sciences of Moldova	500,000 USD
Strengthen capacity of Local Public Administrations for PA Management	2013-16	LPAs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Territorial Development and Construction	400,000 USD
Legally define processes for 'contracting out' management of decentralised protected areas	2012 -13	Ministry of Environment, LPAs,  Supported by the PAs Project.	10,000 USD

**Activity5: Implementing a sustainable financing and resourcing mechanism for PA system in Republic of Moldova**

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible agencies	Indicative budget
Prepare norms and standards for resourcing each category of protected area	2012-13	Ministry of Environment,  Supported by the PAs Project.	20,000 USD
Prepare a detailed strategy and plan for long term financing of the protected areas system and for individual protected areas	2012 - 2013	Ministry of Environment.  Supported by the PAs Project.	20,000 USD
Implementing of the strategy and plan for long term financing of the protected areas system (incl. Increasing of Ecological Funds contribution, other mechanisms )	2014 - 2018	Ministry of Environment.  Ministry of Finance, other ministries	800,000 USD

**Activity6: Building individual capacity for management and administration of protected areas**

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible agencies	Indicative budget
Build capacity of staff in charge of managing the protected area system and individual protected areas (trainings, exchange visits etc.)	2012 - 2020	Ministry of Environment, Academy of Sciences, Universities and other educational institutions.	250,000 USD

**Activity7: Building public awareness and support for protected areas and public participation in management**

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible agencies	Indicative budget
Enhance the role of Non-Governmental Organisations and civil society in Protected Areas.	2012-14	Ministry of Environment , NGOs	50,000 USD
Establish stakeholder consultative committees for all major protected areas	Orhei National Park: Mid 2013  Other PAs: End of 2014.	Ministry of Environment, LPAs, Moldsilva, NGOs  Supported by the PAs Project.	50,000 USD
Establish and maintain a public access website and information portal about protected Areas in Moldova	2013	Ministry of Environment	30,000 USD
Increase public awareness about the importance of protected areas and biodiversity conservation.	Awareness campaign conducted by mid of 2013.  On-going up to 2020	Ministry of Environment  Supported by the PAs Project.	250,000 USD

(Insert more as needed)

# Key assessment results

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**Ecological gap assessment** (insert summary findings if available)

**Management effectiveness assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Sustainable finance assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

State Protected Natural Areas Fund Act<sup>1</sup> establishes expressly that the financing of scientific reserves, national parks, biosphere reserves, dendrological gardens and zoos gardens is from the state budget, the special means of environmental funds, from donations of individuals and businesses, including foreign, from other means.

Other categories of protected natural areas are financed from the budgets of administrative-territorial units, of local ecological fund, from means of public property land holders, from donations from individuals and businesses, including foreign, from other sources not prohibited by law.

Annual scientific research programs of scientific reserves, national parks, biosphere reserves, dendrological gardens and zoos gardens and other categories of protected areas is financed by the state order and special budgetary resources managed by the General Scientific Council.

Funds obtained in the protected natural areas - a legal person, of scientific activities, the nature protection, tourism, entertainment, advertising, editorial, cognitive, by selling hunting and fishing gear confiscated, natural resources obtained illegally, donations, and other activities practiced legally in protected natural areas, while respecting their protection regime, it remains at the disposal of their administration and are not taxable, and they shall be used in scientific and environmental purposes, and to equip each unit.

Given all said it could be concluded that from protected natural areas fund only state natural reserves had their sources for the maintenance. These are allocations from the state budget (17.4% of available income in 2008 and 15.5% - in 2009) and own revenues (82.1% of available income in 2008 and 84.3% - in 2009) (Table 8). Revenues come primarily from the realization of production in forestry (76.9% of total revenues in 2008 and 73.4% - in 2009), ancillary activities comprise only 7.1% of the total in 2008 and 8.6% in 2009 (Diagrams 3 and 4).

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<sup>1</sup> [Law No 1538 of 25.02.1998 on State Protected Natural Areas Fund, art. 90-92.](#)



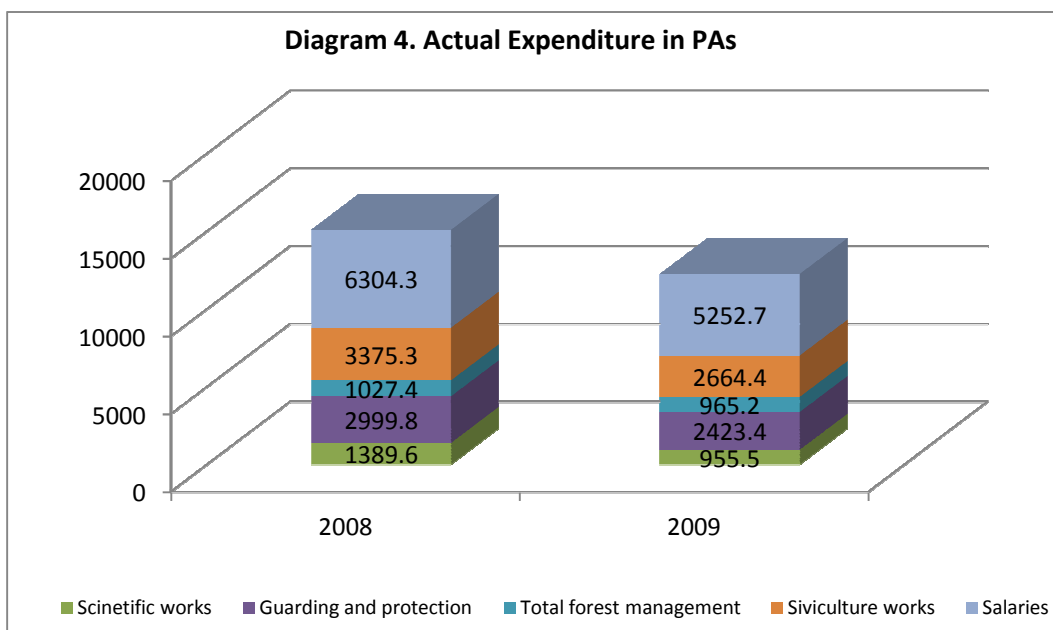
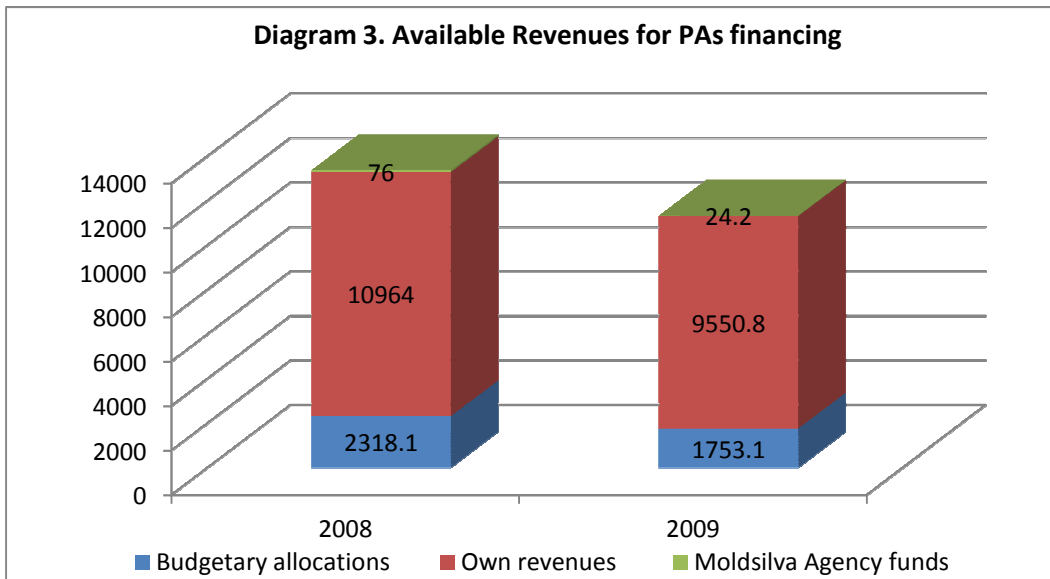
A number of other protected areas located on the territory of forestry enterprises received minimal support from the funds of the enterprises to ensure the regime (in 2008 0.6% of total revenues and 0.2% in 2009). Other areas have not nor such financing.

In the State Natural Reserves maintenance costs prevail in forestry work (25.7% of total expenditure in 2008 and 23.0% a. - in 2009), works of guarding and protection of forests, hunting households (22.9% in 2008 and 20.9% - in 2009) and workers salary (48.3% in 2008 and 45.4% in 2009). (Table 8 and 9). Capital Investment has not been made.

In 2008 expenses were covered by revenue in the proportion of 101.2 percent, in 2009 - 97.5 percent.

**Table 1. Revenues and Expenditures for protected natural areas**

N d/o	Source of funding	Funding destination	2008		2009	
			thousands of lei	%	thousands of lei	%
1	Budgetary allocations	State Natural Reserves	2318,1	17,4	1753,1	15,5
2	Own revenues	State Natural Reserves	10964,0	82,1	9550,8	84,3
3	In forestry	State Natural Reserves	10467,3	78,4	8574,7	75,7
4	Product realization	State Natural Reserves	10270,1	76,9	8316,5	73,4
5	Other revenues	State Natural Reserves	197,2	1,5	258,2	2,3
6	Ancillary	State Natural Reserves	946,7	7,1	976,1	8,6
8	Agency "Moldsilva" Funds	Protected Natural Areas (except SNR)	76,0	0,6	24,2	0,2
9	Total available financing	Protected Natural Areas	13358,1	100,0	11328,1	100,0
10	Expenditures	Protected Natural Areas	13126,1	100,0	11591,6	100,0
11	Total expenditures in forestry	State Natural Reserves	12630,2	96,2	10742,4	92,7
12	forest arranging	State Natural Reserves	74,3	0,6	47,0	0,4
13	forest monitoring	State Natural Reserves	2,1	0,02	0,7	0,01
14	science works	State Natural Reserves	1389,6	10,6	955,5	8,2
15	PA regime ensuring	Protected Natural Areas (except SNR)	76,0	0,6	24,2	0,2
16	Works of guarding and protection of forests, hunting households	State Natural Reserves	2999,8	22,9	2423,4	20,9
17	Total forest culture	State Natural Reserves	1027,4	7,8	965,2	8,3
18	Forestry works	State Natural Reserves	3375,3	25,7	2664,4	23,0
19	Total expenditures ancillary production	State Natural Reserves	419,9	3,2	825,0	7,1
20	Salary Fund	State Natural Reserves	6304,3	48,3	5252,7	45,4
21	Degree of coverage of expenditure by revenue, %	Protected Natural Areas	101,2		97,5	



Systemic planning of protected areas fund is sufficiently ensured political, legal and partly institutional. However, the protection regime of the state protected natural areas is not fully respected, does not meet the rigors of modern management in terms of planning, execution and organizational support. Management plans be developed in accordance with international standards. In Moldova there is no a stable funding plan for the protected areas.

The main impediments for the requirements to protect are the weak awareness of economic and financial managers to the importance of PAs and inappropriate inclusion of environmental requirements

in land planning, lack of accountability of local governments and landowners to properly manage protected areas, low level of awareness and lack of jobs for locals in the vicinity of protected areas, lack of stable sources of financing of the PAs management, environmental legislation contradictions etc. Summary of opportunities, risks and changes necessary legal framework for effective implementation of financial mechanisms for PAs management is presented in table 10.

Also, research is needed in the PA and effective monitoring of the state for protected areas and protection system, main barrier to implementing such programs are limited financial resources and the shortage of specialists. Although the volume of funding for research on biodiversity has increased four times in recent years, it now provides only one third of requirements.

To the ones already said it should be added need of deep investigate the economic and financial aspects of PAs management, studies on the experience of other countries to diversify financial mechanisms for filling the funding of the PA funds.

In covering of the financial needs of PAs important are financial planning and marketing skills. Financial portfolios for PAs need to be more secure, based on the different funding sources. So, financial planning and diversification can help ensure that different costs and funding needs are met, improving PA financial sustainability and management effectiveness.

Sustainable PA finance requires supportive policy and market conditions. The key to promoting private reserves and increasing private investment in public PAs is enabling legislation, policies permitting PA authorities to set fees and retain revenues etc.

There is be mentioned that domestic beneficiaries of public natural areas cannot be forced into pressuring politicians to allocate greater funding for PAs and/or international beneficiaries do not pay for the benefits they receive, public area management agencies are forced to “sell” area benefits in order to expand their budget<sup>2</sup>. In other words, they have an incentive to create a market in the biodiversity they manage because non-market funding mechanisms have been inadequate relative to conservation needs and the benefits that such areas bestow on society.

**Capacity needs assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Policy environment assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Protected area integration and mainstreaming assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

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<sup>2</sup> See footnote 35. Pag.15;

**Protected area valuation assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Climate change resilience and adaptation assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

(Insert other assessment results if available)