

**Joint Declaration of Intent**

**on**

**the Establishment of an Institutional Partnership**

**on the Transition in the Heating Sector and Capacity Building**

**in Energy Agencies**

between

**the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action of the**

**Federal Republic of Germany**

**and the Ministry of the Environment, Climate Protection and the Energy**

**Sector of the State of Baden-Württemberg**

on the one part

and

**the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Moldova**

**and the Public Institution National Center for Sustainable Energy**

on the other part.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Ministry of the Environment, Climate Protection and the Energy Sector of the State of Baden-Württemberg, as well as the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Moldova and the Public Institution National Center for Sustainable Energy (hereafter referred to as "Sides"), express their common aspiration to foster the cooperation between both countries by implementing an Institutional Partnership between Germany and Moldova, with a particular focus on institutional development as well as strengthening of technical capacities of the Moldovan Partners.

The Sides have, therefore, come to the following understanding:

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this Joint Declaration of Intent is to foster the bilateral cooperation between both countries through the implementation of an Institutional Partnership between the Sides, with a particular focus on the institutional development as well as strengthening of technical capacity of the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Moldova and the Public Institution National Center for Sustainable Energy of the Republic of Moldova. This Joint Declaration of Intent is based on equality, reciprocity, and mutual benefit.

Currently, Germany and Moldova are already implementing the project “Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies in the Republic of Moldova” financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by the “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)”. Both the institutional partnership and this project should cooperate and coordinate if required and use their synergies to align their goals and to optimise the input of resources in their common sector.

## **Areas of Cooperation**

The Sides have identified, but will not be limited to, the following areas of cooperation:

- Heat Transition in the context of climate change, energy autonomy and adjustment of national practices to EU legislation;
- Municipal heat planning;
- Capacity building in the Public Institution National Center for Sustainable Energy as well as communication strategies with stakeholders.

## **Roles and Tasks**

The Sides intend to develop a joint vision, while allocating the required human and financial resources. All decisions related to the future will be taken by mutual consent.

In charge of managing the project will be:

- For the German Side: Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action and the Ministry of the Environment, Climate Protection and the Energy Sector of the State of Baden-Württemberg
- For the Moldovan Side: Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Moldova and the Public Institution National Center for Sustainable Energy

A project plan will be drafted jointly by all Sides. The project plan will include components, activities, indicators, objectives and timing, while supporting the allocation of human and financial resources. The duration and content of each activity will depend on the requirements of the partners in Moldova and the possibilities of the German institutions defined in the workplan.

The German contribution may include, but will not be limited to, short term missions of experts from German public administrations or related bodies to the Republic of Moldova or Moldovan ones to the Federal Republic of Germany. The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action emphasize its intention to fund the project within the scope of its possibilities. The above mentioned BMZ financed project “Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies in the Republic of Moldova” also intends to contribute funding for certain activities of the Institutional Partnership. Activities may be conducted within the framework of the available resources.

The contribution from the Moldovan Side will include the following: The Moldovan Side will define and provide the key personnel necessary to work with German experts and ensure their collaboration during the project and the expert missions. The contribution will include assistance with logistical and related matters for the expert missions. The Moldovan Side will provide, within the scope of its possibilities, necessary facilities in case of events related to the project implementation (e.g. booking of the event venues, services such as catering, translation etc.). It will provide necessary technical equipment for presentations, seminars and workshops during expert missions.

It will provide existing documents regarding the heating road map process for all concerned stakeholders as well as relevant legal documents related to the Public Institution National Center for Sustainable Energy.

### **Governance**

Each Side will designate liaison persons who will be in charge of the overall coordination and steering of all collaborative efforts between the Sides foreseen by this Joint Declaration of Intent. The Liaison persons will track and report on the status and progress of ongoing collaborative efforts between the Sides.

A German – Moldovan coordinating approach should be established with meetings on a regular basis in order to steer implementation and evaluate the respective results.

### **Bilateral Agreement on Technical Cooperation**

The Sides concur that any activities under this Institutional Partnership should be in accordance with the bilateral Agreement of 10 July 2014 on Technical Cooperation.

### **Final Provisions**

This Joint Declaration of Intent will come into effect on the day of signature by the Sides. It may be amended at any time by mutual consent. Amendments should be done in writing.

The cooperation will end 12 months after signature. It may be extended by mutual consent with a prior written notification sent by either Side at least one month prior to the termination of the Joint Declaration of Intent.

### **Legal Status**

This Joint Declaration of Intent does not constitute a binding agreement and is not intended to create any rights or obligations under domestic or international law.

### **Termination**

Either Side may terminate the cooperation under this Joint Declaration of Intent at any time. It should inform the other Side of its intention to terminate it through written notice not less than three months prior.

### **Settlement of Differences**

Any difference between the Sides arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Joint Declaration of Intent should be settled amicably through consultations or negotiations between the Sides.

Signed in Chisinau on October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024 in four copies in the English language.

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| For the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs<br>and Climate Action of the Federal Republic of<br>Germany | For the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of<br>Moldova |
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