

Approaches to Conservation of Protected Sites in Moldova with Regard to EU Standards

Sharing experiences among European partners

International conference

Organisers: ArniKa, Biotica, EcoContact

Supporters: Transition Promotion Programme, ADA, SIDA

Date: December 10th, 2025

Location: Summit Events, Chisinau, Str. Tighina 49/3, Chișinău

Participants: MD State institutions, international partners, NGOs and experts from the environmental sector

9:00- 9:30 - Registration of the participants (welcome coffee)

9:30-10:00	Official Opening Moderator: Gabriel Mărgineanu, Executive director, AO Societatea Ecologică "BIOTICA"
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9:30-9:35	Aliona Rusnac , State Secretary, Ministry of Environment
9:35-9:40	Adam Piňos , Deputy Ambassador, Embassy of the Czech Republic
9:40-9:45	Sandra Horina , Head of ADA Office, Austrian Development Agency
9:45-9:50	Maria Tropp , Head of Development Cooperation, Embassy of Sweden
9:50-9:55	Franciska Flugt Kirkegaard , Programme Officer for Green Transition and Environment, EU Delegation in Moldova
9:55-10:00	Gabriel Mărgineanu , Executive director AO Ecological Society "BIOTICA" Call to comment on the draft conference final declaration, QR code (scan)

10:10-11:20	<p>Discussion Panel I</p> <p>International Experience in the Protection of Natural Protected Areas</p> <p>National and EU site protection and conservation</p> <p>Moderator: Gabriel Mărgineanu, Executive director, AO Societatea Ecologică "BIOTICA"</p>
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10:10-10:25	<p>Petr Roth, independent consultant, former deputy Minister of Environment of the Czech Republic</p> <p><i>Natura 2000 network and its unexpected side benefits – experience from the Czech Republic</i></p>
10:25-10:35	<p>Petr Roth, independent consultant, former deputy Minister of Environment of the Czech Republic</p> <p><i>Examples not to follow from Natura 2000 building in various current EU member states</i></p>
10:35-10:45	<p>Natalia Guranda, Environmental expert, EcoContact</p> <p><i>Transition from Emerald to Natura 2000 - results of LIFE RENATA</i></p>
10:45-10:50	<p>Aliona Miron, expert, ICAS GBNI</p> <p><i>LIFE RENATA Project – Support for Improving the Emerald Network in the Republic of Moldova, authors: Aliona Miron, Alexandru Galupa, ICAS</i></p>
10:50-11:05	<p>Elena Tofan-Dorofeev, Olga Ioniță, Aliona Miron, Botanical experts</p> <p><i>Mapping of Emerald species in the Bugeac Steppe Site based on the Natura 2000 methodology (Pilot Project in the Republic of Moldova</i></p>
11:05-11:20	<p>Erika Vaida-Bela, conservation specialist, founder of ProPark Foundation for Protected Areas, Romania</p> <p><i>Example of the management and governance system of protected areas in Romania</i></p>

11:20-11:55 Coffee break

Continuation:

12:00-12:15	Erika Vaida-Bela , conservation specialist, founder of ProPark Foundation for Protected Areas, Romania <i>Guide for developing a management plan for protected areas</i>
12:15-12:30	Aurel Lozan , expert, World Bank <i>Advancing Conservation Standards in Moldova: Emerald Implementation and Natura 2000 Readiness</i>
12:30-12:40	Milica Miskovic , Expert programme de conservare, IUCN ECARO (online) <i>IUCN Green List standard with some examples from Europe</i>
12:40-12:45	Pavel Pinkava , Arnika <i>Hand-over of N2000-related outputs to the MD MoE/ICAS</i>
12:45-13:00	Moderated discussion: Concrete steps towards the EU accession in the field of biodiversity conservation in the Republic of Moldova

13:00 – 13:45 Lunch

13:45-15:15	Discussion Panel II Policies and Tools for Protected Areas Moderator: Natalia Guranda, Eco Contact
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13:45-14:00	Vitalie Drăgan , Head of Department, Ministry of Environment <i>Retrospective View: Progress in the Implementation of Conventions and Policy Achievements in environment</i>
14:00-14:20	Iordanca-Rodica Iordanov , Executive director, EcoContact <i>Draft Law on Protected Areas</i>
14:20-14:30	Ion Marin , Environmental Expert, PA EcoContact

	<i>The IS concept "Register of protected areas"</i>
14:30- 14:40	Irina Punga , coordinator of law programs, PA EcoContact <i>Public institution Administration of Protected Natural Areas</i>
14:40-14:50	Gabriel Mărgineanu , Executive director, AO SE „BIOTICA” <i>Improving Policy Documents for Environmental Protection in Local Communities</i>
14:50- 15:00	Discussions: Strengthening the Legislative Framework and Management of Protected Areas

15:00– 15: 30 Coffee break

15:30-17:15	Discussion Panel III Species Conservation and Community Involvement Moderator: Maria Gurscaia
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15:30-15:50	Ion Roșca, Director, Botanical Garden <i>The Red Book of the Republic of Moldova – New Edition: Presentation of Proposals</i>
15:50-16:10	Michael Grossmann, ERF <i>European rangers: roles, mandates/powers, training, equipment, recognition, legal status, protection - examples from the European perspective</i>
16:10-16:25	Nicolai Nastasi, Director, Asociația obștească "Rangerii" (NRA) <i>Moldovan rangers and their work and challenges</i>
16:25-16:35	Maria Gurscaia, ERF, NRA <i>International cooperations for improvement of MD rangers' competences and advocating for legalizing ranger profession in MD</i>

16:35-16:50	Gabriel Mărgineanu , Executive director, AO SE „BIOTICA” <i>Practical project examples: habitat restoration, tree planting, water resource protection, tourist trails</i>
16:50-17:00	Discussion: How to support communities in conservation actions
17:00-17:30	Amending and approval of the final declaration

17:30 – Fourchette

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The content presented at the conference exclusively reflects the opinions and analysis of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official position of the funders or partner institutions.