

## Sector Budget Support Programme on Economic Stimulation in Rural Area (ESRA)

**Period of implementation:** 01.02.2010 - 31.12.2015

**EaP countries:**  
Moldova

**Total budget:** € 71 128 086

**Implementing organisation(s):**  
Ministry of Economy



**Social media account links:**

**Project website:**

### Project description:

The objective of the project is to contribute to a more balanced economic development in the Republic of Moldova with special focus on rural areas through more efficient economic policies at country and sector level, better coordination mechanisms and more transparent and efficient financing mechanisms.

### Expected results:

- Rural businesses get more access to finance thanks to the ESRA programme, grants and loan guarantees for rural business improved significantly under four key national schemes: the "National programme for economic employment of youth"; the "PARE 1+1 remittance" investment attraction programme; the "Programme of the Moldovan Agriculture Intervention and Payment Agency"; and the "Loan guarantee scheme" of ODIMM, the Moldovan SMEs' development organisation.
- The four schemes combined awarded more than 3 000 grants and offered 200 loan guarantees, underpinning the creation of more than 10 000 new jobs (three in 10 held by women).
- As part of the dialogue on sector reforms, labour legislation was adjusted to reflect national commitments on gender equality and women's participation in the labour market.
- The rural business infrastructure improved, with the creation of 8 new business incubators in the rural areas of Leova, Stefan Voda, Rezina, Singerei, Dubasari, Cedir Lunga, Nisporeni, Calarasi and Cimislia.
- Entrepreneurship becomes part of labour policies. The ESRA programme provided more than 900 training days on entrepreneurship and small business development to staff from national and local public administrations. At the same time, the Ministry of Education introduced a new curriculum on entrepreneurship for technical and professional schools; more than 400 students enrolled in the first school year (2012/13).