



# Building policies & developing youth work in the Republic of Moldova

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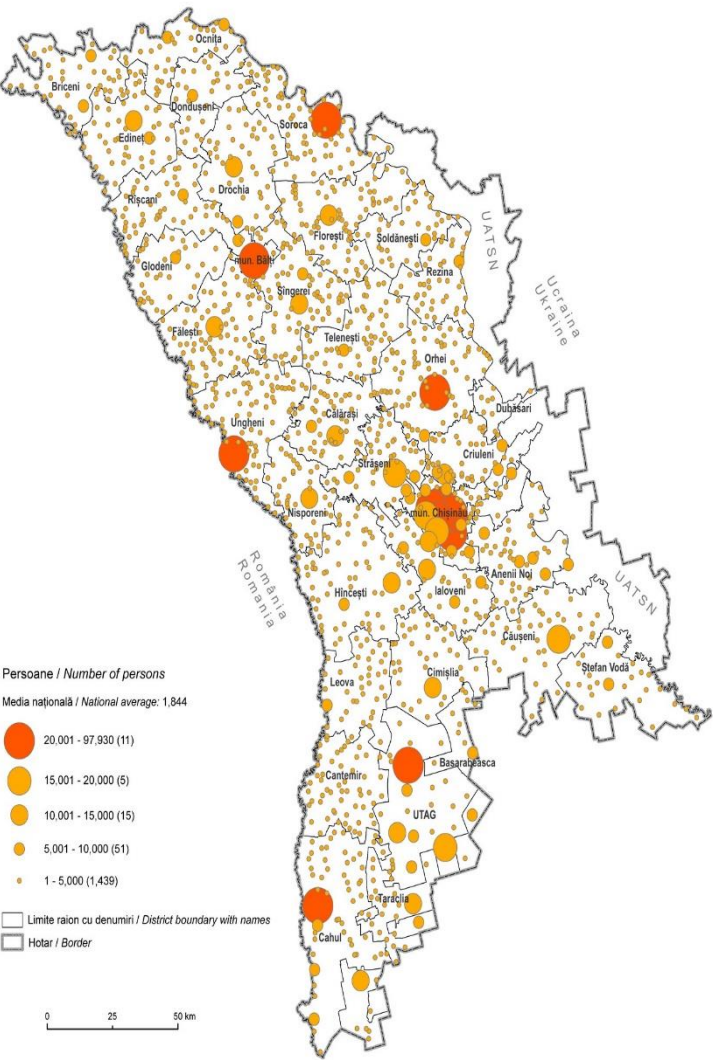
# Republic of Moldova

- \* Situated in the Eastern Europe;
- \* Capital city- Chisinau;
- \* Total area- 33,846 km<sup>2</sup>;
- \* Population- 3,547.500 inhabitants





**Distribuția populației pe localități**  
*Population distribution by settlement*

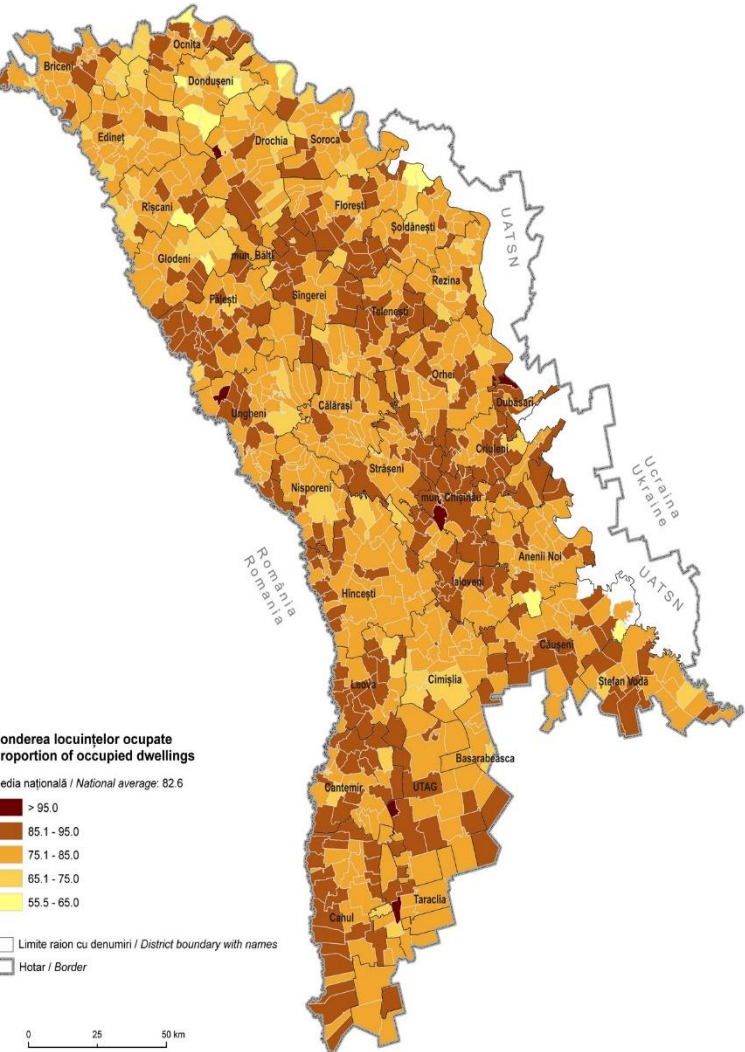


Sursa datelor statistice / Source of statistical data:  
Recensământul Populației și Locuințelor 2014, Republica Moldova  
2014 Population and Housing Census, Republic of Moldova

Sursa datelor geografice / Source of geographic data: ARF/CALIRC

Transnistria și comunele Chitran, Crenceniuc, Gâsca, Corjoia și mun. Tigîna nu au fost recensate  
Transnistria and the communes of Chitran, Crenceniuc, Gâsca, Corjoia and Tigina Mun. were not enumerated

**Ponderea locuințelor ocupate pe comune**  
*Proportion of occupied dwellings by communes*

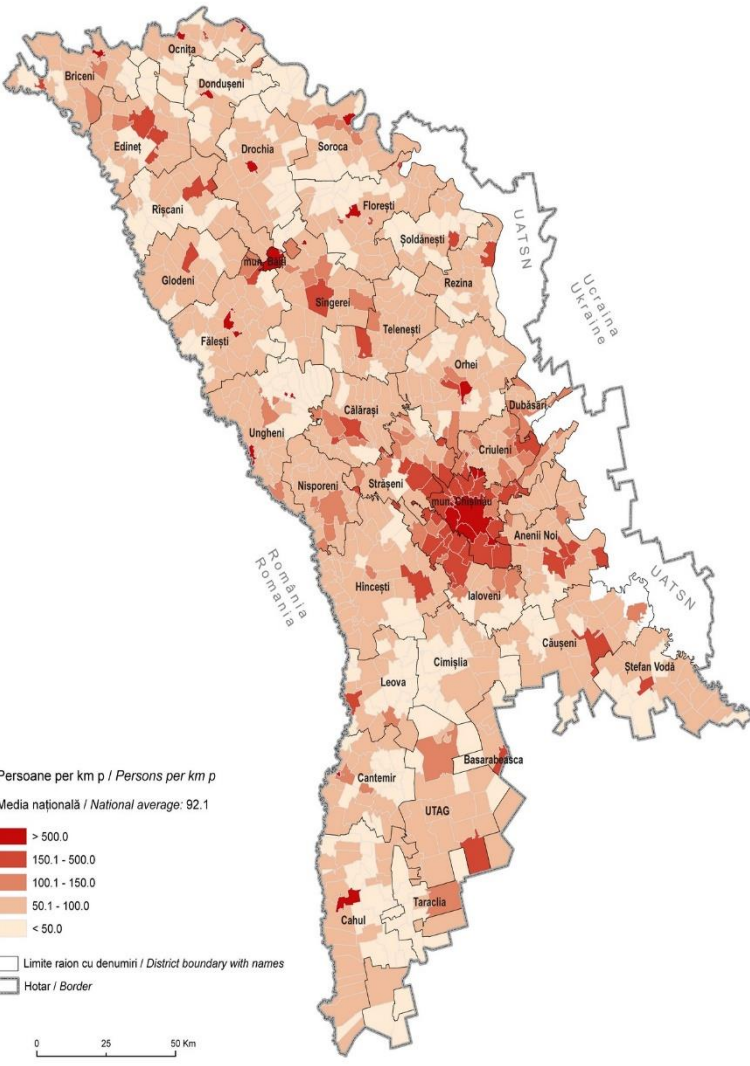


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**Densitatea populației pe comune**  
*Population density by communes*



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# General overview on the youth sector

- **1,2 million** young people aged between **14-35 years** constitute about **33,8%** of the total population (according to the Results of Population and Housing Census in the Republic of Moldova in 2014, the number of young people is decreasing);
- Currently, **16 Regional Youth Councils** are active, and are part of the National Network of Youth Councils
- **20 Youth Centers** funded by the Local Public Authorities (LPA);
- The number of **Youth Friendly Health Centers** has been expanded from **12** in 2009 to **41** in 2018, with a coverage throughout the country.

# General overview on the youth work development

- The approach to youth policy and youth work at the beginning of 90's could not be very different from what it was until 1991
- *Youth work* – the term does not have a strict rendering in Romanian, and a word-by-word translation can create confusions
- *Youth activity* – notion used to describe a process, not an action

# Overview of the youth sector in the 90's

- Even if the Government has adopted some Youth Policies Papers between 1991-1998, the term “youth work” was missing from documents
- Authorities began to value the role of specialists in the field of youth, sport and culture, which were working with local governments and public associations in order to involve youth in different activities
- Types of taken actions – cultural and youth festivals, contests, sport competitions, interest clubs (hobby clubs), etc.

## 1999 (*Law on youth*)

- *Youth work institution* - organization that unfolds activities with and for young people;
- *Youth social service* - special institution offering information and consulting services, social assistance for young people;
- *Youth Centre* – defined as a public institution for youth which gives opportunities to spend the free time according to special programs

# Building the identity of the youth sector

- A new **Law on Youth** was adopted by the Parliament in July, 2016, which redefines the youth age barrier as 14 – 35 years old. The new law contains new concepts/definitions, such as: youth work; non-formal education of young people; youth worker; youth organization; youth center; regional youth council etc.
- The Law regulates the principles and objectives of the youth policies, fields of state intervention in the youth area and the requirements from youth policy stakeholders.



# Building the identity of the youth sector

***youth activity (youth work)*** – any action with and for young people, of social, cultural, educational or civic nature, that is based on non-formal learning processes and of voluntary participation of young people, coordinated by a youth worker or a youth specialist

***youth worker*** – person who, through youth activity, offers support to young people in personal, social and education development, in order to ensure their better integration into society

The youth worker is a person who carries out various activities with young people from the community or with groups of young people **without necessarily** following a planned and systematic activity

The youth worker may be a youth leader, a volunteer, a person within a youth organization or any other organization



# Building the identity of the youth sector

- ***youth specialist (in youth work)*** – person who has received a special training in the field of youth work and that provides professional services to young persons

The youth specialist realizes a planned, systematic and professional activity in relation to young people or a group of young people within an institutionalized youth service

The youth specialist is based on training in the field of youth work and acts within an institution providing services for young people

# Building the identity of the youth sector

## National Strategy for Youth Sector Development 2020

- VISION - developing, enhancing and recognizing youth sector as a stakeholder in the country's development process, which will ensure the socio-economic integration of youth
- **4 priorities of the Strategy:**
  - Youth participation
  - Services for youth
  - Economic opportunities for youth
  - Strengthening the youth sector *(General objective - to develop the youth sector infrastructure and support mechanisms in order to assure the quality youth work)*
- Results and targets are established for each priority.

# How do we provide support for the development of youth work?

- Developing the mechanism of the financial support
- Elaborating programs which sustain the youth work implementation
- Making of the methodological framework of the quality youth work
- Building and developing the infrastructure (institutions, youth workers, youth centers, youth organizations, youth leaders, etc.) inclusively empowering the local public administration



**Developing the mechanism of the financial support**

# Youth sector funding (budget classification)

Program Budgeting

Program:  
Youth and Sport

Subprogram:  
Youth

Developing and  
promoting the  
Youth Work

Maintenance  
of the Youth  
Centres

Strengthen the  
representative  
structures  
of young  
people

Grants  
Program  
for youth  
initiatives

Youth services  
delivering



# Assessing the youth work (indicators)

Performance indicators	Program: Youth and Sport				
	Subprogram: Youth				
	<i>The action/activity 00239</i>	<i>The action 00394</i>	<i>The action 00461</i>	<i>The action 00462</i>	<i>The action 00463</i>
	<i>Developing and promoting the Youth Work</i>	<i>Maintenance of the Youth Centres</i>	<i>Strengthen the representative structures of young people</i>	<i>Grants Program for youth initiatives</i>	<i>Youth services delivering</i>
<i>Outcome indicators</i>					
<i>Production indicators</i>					
<i>Efficiency indicators</i>					

# Youth work indicators

Performance indicators	Program: Youth and Sport	
	Subprogram: Youth	
	<i>The action/activity 00239</i>	<i>The action 00461</i>
	<i>Developing and promoting the Youth Work</i>	<i>Strengthening the representative structures of young people</i>
Outcome indicators	Proportion of the implemented activities with inter-sectoral character related to the total number of the accomplished activities	Locality proportion of administrative territorial units represented by young people in the decision making process Proportion of accepted proposals by the Local Public Administration in the decision making process, in comparison with the number of proposals planned by the representative structures
Production indicators	Number of implemented activities with inter-sectoral character	Number of the involved young people in the activity of youth representative structures Number of localities represented by young people within youth structures Number of submitted proposals of young people accepted by Local Public Authorities in the decision making process
Efficiency indicators	Average expenses for implementation of inter-sectoral activities	Average expenses for the involvement of a young person in the activity of youth representative structures Average expenses for the functioning of the representative structure



**Elaborating programs which sustain the youth  
work implementation**

# Annual Grants Program

- 23 Youth NGOs received funding in 2018 within the **Annual Grant Program of the Ministry** - dedicated to support and develop youth NGO sector in Moldova which provides, on a competitive basis, logistically and financially support to achieve initiatives, programs and youth projects, consolidating in this way cooperation with civil society. In 2017, the Program fund was increased to 6 million Lei (≈300 000 €), for 2019 the financing fund is similar (26 Youth NGOs).

## 2 projects categories

- Local / regional projects up to 10,000 €
- National / International projects up to 15,000 €

# National Youth Capital

- The **Youth Capital** is an initiative taken from the experience of the European Youth Forum and involves the selection of a locality from the Republic of Moldova, within which, during one year, the youth activities of the Local Public Authority, Regional and national NGOs, international organizations, and Central Public Authorities are concentrated.
- Youth Capitals - Ungheni (2011), Cahul (2012), Ialoveni (2013), Soroca (2014) Sîngerei (2015), Ialoveni (2016), Varnița (2017), Cahul (2018), Costești (2019)



# National support program for strengthening and development of the regional youth councils

Annually, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research launches the Assistance Program to enhance and develop Regional Youth Councils

Program Plan:

I Component – Consulting and empowering Regional Youth Councils

II Component – Co-financing activity programs of Regional Youth Councils

- Currently, 16 Regional Youth Councils are active, and are part of the National Network of Youth Councils
- In 2018 there were 792 young people - members of the National Network of Youth Councils and involved about 7000 young people in different activities
- Soon we will launch a web site of the Local Youth Councils

# Youth Centers Development Program 2022

Another program developed by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research is the **Youth Centers Development Program**, which is implemented during 2017-2022

The program will be implemented in the territorial-administrative units of the Republic of Moldova, where the local public authorities of the second level are ready to undertake the responsibility to develop and expand the territorial coverage of youth services.

56 centers expect to receive material support in the form of technical equipment and office furniture.

# Youth Centers Development Program 2022

## Program Components:

**Component I:** Professional development of human resources in the youth centers;

**Component II:** Support for the development of the technical and material basis of youth centers;

**Component III:** Support for the development of the District / Municipal Grant Program to fund Youth Initiatives / Youth Projects

- **20 districts** have signed already Partnership Agreements with the Ministry on the implementation of the Program



# Youth Centers Development Program 2022

In December 2017, a partnership agreement was signed between the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on the establishment of the Joint Fund for the development of youth services, including for the most vulnerable, which will in particular contribute to the implementation of the 1<sup>st</sup> component of the Program.

# Development of the field of Volunteering Program

## Commission on certification of host institutions for volunteering activity

- The main instruments of work that volunteers obtain:  
Volunteering contract; Nominal volunteering certificate; Voluntary book; Letter of Recommendation;  
The main volunteering activities are: National Volunteering Week; Festival of Volunteers; National Conference on Volunteering
- At this point, we have about 150 accredited host organizations for receiving volunteers, and about 1500 volunteer books released







**Making of the methodological framework of the  
quality youth work**

**Building and developing the infrastructure**

# Infrastructure, system of youth policy and assurance the quality of youth work

- The **National Agency for Programs Development and Youth Work** will be an administrative authority under the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research established for the training and continuous improvement of the staff, programs, activities and services for the youth field, and for their implementation, accreditation, monitoring and evaluation.

## **The main responsibilities of the Agency**

- coordinating the implementation of current programs in the youth sector that develops youth work;
  - develop and implement a national monitoring mechanism and ensure the quality of youth services;
  - development and training of human resources;
  - development of various thematic studies, research and analysis in the field
- The draft of the Government decision on the establishment of the Agency is on the last lap of the discussions with interested stakeholders

# Conclusions

- ▶ Youth policies in the Republic of Moldova have developed gradually, even if they were not always competitive with international tendencies from the domain
- ▶ Youth work, non-formal education and voluntary activities started to get developed by youth organizations in the last 10 years
- ▶ Professionalization of youth workers and development of youth work will contribute to the growth of youth-beneficiaries of youth activities
- ▶ Continuous support for LPA, Youth Centers, Youth Organizations and Empowerment of Youth and Youth Leaders will contribute to the development of youth work
- ▶ The development of the normative framework, the financial support mechanisms, the youth programs and the youth infrastructure will lead to the qualitative implementation of the youth work



**Thank you for your attention!**

**Questions and reflections**