

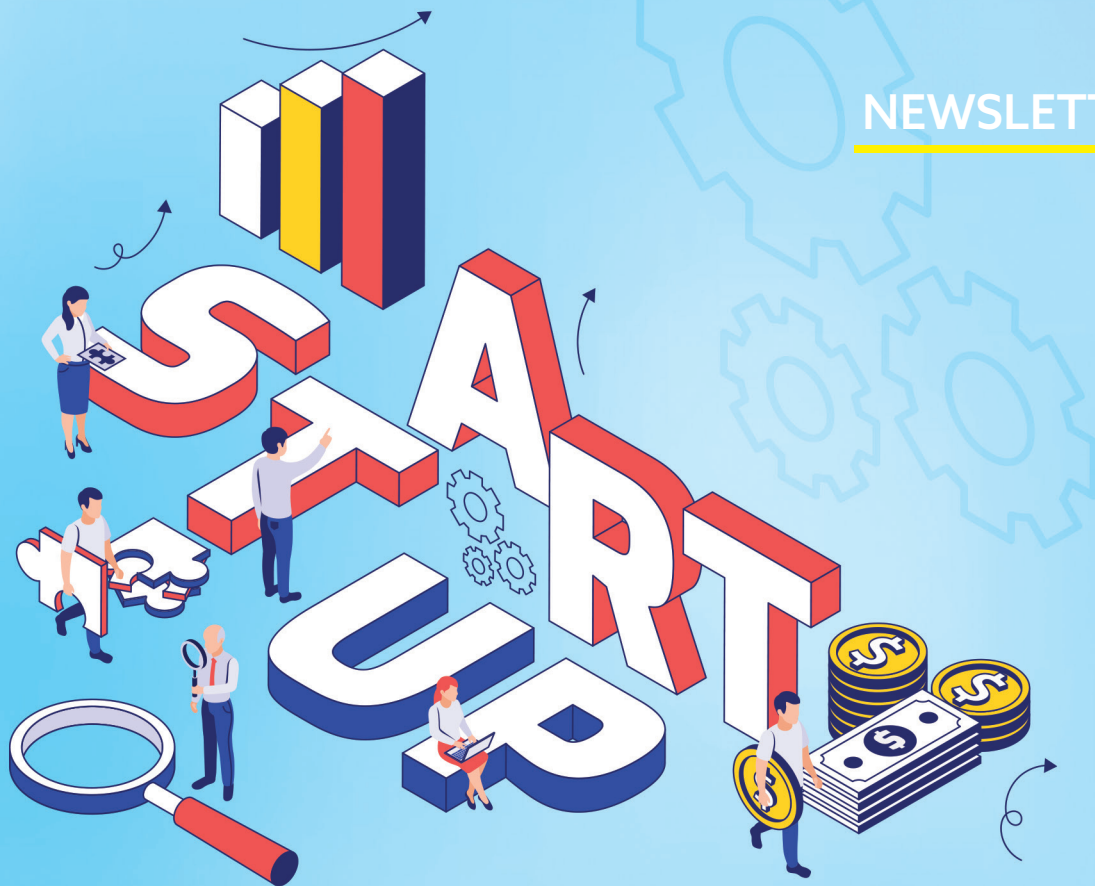


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# EMPOWERMENT of YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN MOLDOVA

NEWSLETTER

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# Key features about EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN MOLDOVA

The European Union and a consortium of associations from the Republic of Moldova are proud to present the project “Empowerment of Youth Entrepreneurship in Moldova”, launched in December 2022. This project represents a strong commitment to supporting the economic and social development of the Republic of Moldova, with a focus on strengthening the capacities of civil society organizations and promoting entrepreneurship among young people.



The main goal of the project is to strengthen the capacities of civil society organizations and promote entrepreneurship among young people in the Republic of Moldova. Through this project, the aim is to contribute to economic growth and create a favorable environment for innovation and entrepreneurial initiatives in the country.

The project is an important step in the EU’s ongoing commitment to supporting progress and reforms in the Republic of Moldova, given the importance of strengthening civil society and sustainable economic development for the country’s future.

The “Empowerment of Youth Entrepreneurship in Moldova” project has a duration of 3 years and a total budget of 2,503,202.94 Euros, of which 2,000,000.00 Euros represent EU co-financing. It is implemented by a consortium of experienced organizations, such as Help-Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V from Germany, and local organizations like Demos, Homecare, and Pro Cooperare Regionala from the Republic of Moldova.

## PROJECT PARTNERS

**Help-Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V** is an internationally active aid organization with more than 40 years of experience in humanitarian aid and development assistance. Today, Help is active in over 20 countries, helping people affected by humanitarian crises such as conflicts or natural disasters to lead a self-determined life. Helping people to help themselves is Help’s guiding principle. Help strengthens survivability, improves living conditions and increases the resilience of people in difficulty worldwide. Help’s assistance is needs-based and environmentally friendly and recognizes that people are equal in all their diversity and whatever their circumstances. In this way Help contribute to sustainable change in line with its vision: a world where need, poverty and social injustice have been overcome and everyone can live freely in dignity, peace and safety, and in harmony with the environment.

**Public Association „HOMECARE”** from the Republic of Moldova, located in Chisinau, is a non-profit, non-governmental, apolitical, and non-commercial organization established in 2005 with the aim of raising public awareness on issues affecting socially vulnerable individuals, advocating for and defending civil and social rights, as well as other legitimate rights and freedoms of elderly, disabled, children, and other socially unprotected individuals. The Association holds a License (A MMII no.049714) for providing consultative and curative medical assistance in the field of internal medicine and home-based medical-social assistance, as well as an Accreditation Certificate (no.2047) issued by the National Council for Health Evaluation and Accreditation. Annually, our projects serve over 3000 elderly individuals, lonely persons, disabled individuals, or patients with various chronic and/or terminal illnesses, providing them with a diverse range of free medical-social services at home throughout the territory of the Republic of Moldova. Other activities carried out by the Association include training and consultations in the field of home care for the following categories of beneficiaries: medical assistants, social workers, project managers in medical-social fields, patients, and their relatives. The quality of





services is recognized at the highest level and accepted by the relevant ministries and society as best practices models in home-based medical-social practice.

**Public Association “DEMOS”** is a public association which, since 2001, has been contributing to ensuring equal access to quality education, social services, as well as improving living conditions for children, youth, and adults in the Republic of Moldova.

In 23 years of activity, “DEMOS” has assisted nearly 100 thousand individuals, facilitating the development of independent living skills and socio-economic competencies, providing beneficiaries with support in educational, social, and vocational integration for a better living at home in their communities.



The greatest value of the association is the team composed of 13 experienced specialists with professional capacities in promoting and implementing educational, social, and youth policies at local, regional, and national levels.

“DEMOS” is a promoter of social innovations in the country, including in Transnistrian region.

Currently, the Socio-Vocational Integration Service for Children and Youth, designed by the association’s specialists in 2010, is implemented by NGOs from both right and left riverbanks of Nistru, based on “DEMOS” methodology.

“DEMOS” Association is a valuable resource for psychologists, educators, parents, possessing a rich specialty library, computerized platforms for assessing child development, and career planning.

“DEMOS” is a member of the Alliance of NGOs active in Child and Family Protection and coordinator of the “SVIS-Moldova” network of socio-professional integration service providers.

**Public Association „Pro Cooperare Regionala”** was founded on July 7, 2005, as a non-governmental and non-profit organization meant to contribute to the creation of the conditions for regional cooperation and civil society development in the Republic of Moldova.



Sergiu Mihailov  
*project coordinator*



Octavian Olaru  
*project assistant*

Overall mission of the organization is: sustainable development of rural communities from Moldova.

Vision: each community in the North of Moldova has the initiative and the necessary capacity to assume an active role in building its own future.

The main goal of the association is to contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of the rural population through socio-economic activities

“Pro Cooperare Regională” (ProCoRe) has experience from 2006 in community mobilization in rural areas, focusing on implementing small-scale investments projects in partnership with local NGOs, LPAs as well as entrepreneurs. During last 17 years of activity facilitated and managed the implementation of various projects in which have been capacitated local NGOs, local authorities and public institutions (schools and kindergartens) as well as entrepreneurs.

“Pro Cooperare Regională” has successful results in collaboration with international and local organisations engaged in promotion of LEADER approach in Moldova and creation of Local Actions Groups (LAGs).

Close relationships with local public authorities from I and II level have been established and civic and community education activities in about 140 villages from the region have been organized.

In all organization’s activities a special attention is given to ways of empowering individuals and communities to understand and claim their rights, to organize, participate and advocate for policy change.

“Pro Cooperare Regională” is member of the Moldova Eastern Partnership Civil Society Platform since 2012 and an active member of Civil Society Forum.

# First steps to enhance CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN MOLDOVA through the open Call for proposals

With the support of the European Union, the Republic of Moldova is undergoing a significant increase in the number of young entrepreneurs. The “Empowerment of Youth Entrepreneurship in t Moldova” project focuses on two main directions to achieve this goal.



Firstly, the project aims to provide support to 10 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) from the Northern, Central, Southern, and Transnistrian regions. Secondly, the initiative seeks to develop the entrepreneurial capacities of approximately 200 young Moldovans, providing them with the resources and opportunities needed to start and expand their own businesses.

To ensure transparency and provide essential information to applicants, informative sessions were organized in the targeted regions from July 5-7, 2023. These sessions clarified the submission methods, selection criteria, and project guidelines.

The main goal of the initiative is to build up the capacity of local CSOs to support the project’s objectives, focusing on assisting young entrepreneurs and vulnerable groups in their entrepreneurial endeavors.

By the set deadline, 41 applications were received: 14 from the Northern region, 17 from the Central region, 9 from the Southern region, and one proposal targeting all three regions.



With a generous investment from the European Union of 2 million euros, the project intends to strengthen the entrepreneurial environment in Moldova and fortify the role of civil society in community development, emphasizing the provision of quality services for the citizens of the Republic of Moldova.

In June 2023, an open call for proposals was launched for local CSOs. The conditions of this call were detailed and presented, with a budget allocation of 600,000 euros. CSOs had the opportunity to obtain grants of up to 60,000 euros, depending on the relevance and quality of the proposals.



# 10 CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS selected to make A CHANGE IN YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Following the open call for proposals for the “Empowerment of Youth Entrepreneurship in Moldova” project, 10 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) from Moldova’s regions were selected to implement innovative projects supported by the European Union in 28 districts of the country over the next two years.

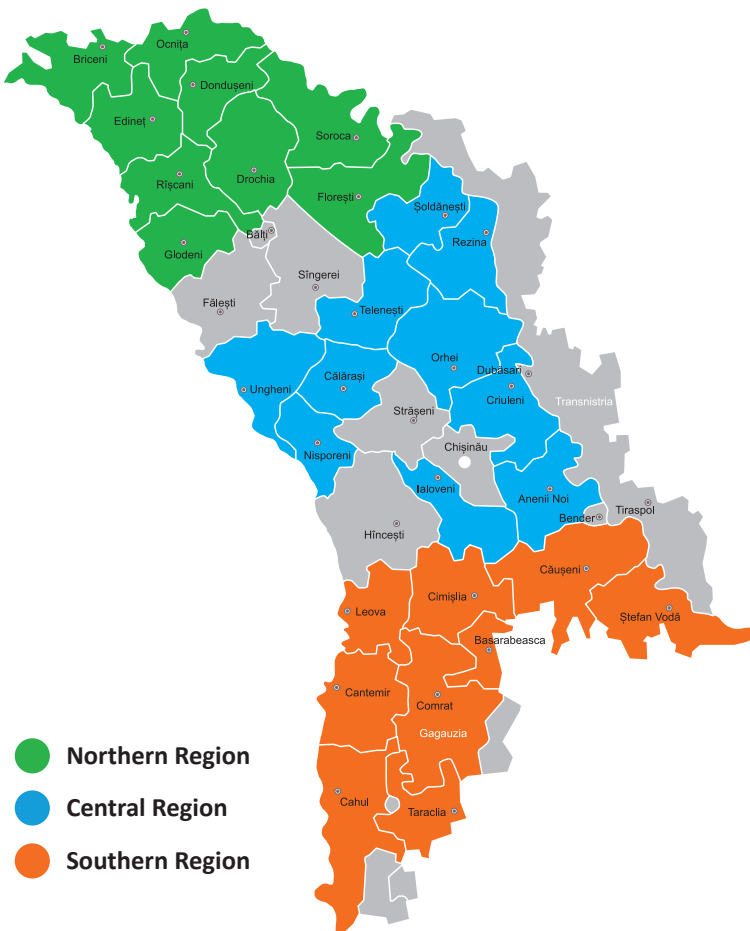
<b>Northern Region</b>
Resource Center “Univers”
Public Association “Baștina”
Public Association “Inima Nordului”
<b>Central Region</b>
Local Action Group “Trei Coline”
Public Association for Social Development and Innovation
Association for Civic Education “Viitorul Începe Azi”
Youth Association “Șansa”
<b>Southern Region</b>
Public Association Club “Vreau Să Știu”
Laboratory of Development Initiatives “LID Moldova”
Public Association “Dezvoltare prin Implicare”

From November 20th to December 2nd, 2023, the selected organizations within the “Empowerment of Youth Entrepreneurship in Moldova” project participated in the first capacity-building trainings. These trainings covered various essential practical topics for guiding young entrepreneurs, such as creating awareness campaigns, implementing selection procedures, and managing acquisitions ethically and efficiently.



The comprehensive course covered a wide range of practical topics, giving participants the skills and best practices needed for guiding young entrepreneurs. They learned how to create engaging information campaigns to attract promising candidates, implement rigorous selection procedures to identify the most impactful projects, and manage procurement processes in accordance to regulations and best practices. Additionally, the training equipped them with the skills to provide ongoing monitoring and mentorship to ensure the continued success of young entrepreneurs throughout the project’s duration.

A key element of the trainings was the interactivity: participants were very active and raised the questions especially in regard to the methodology of collaboration with local public authorities, the selection and enrollment criteria of young beneficiaries, as well as other essential details for the effective implementation of planned activities.



With a thorough understanding of project implementation, income generation support, and financial management, these ten organizations are now poised to make a tangible difference in the lives of young entrepreneurs across Moldova. Armed with the knowledge and skills gained through the training, they are ready to guide talented young individuals toward starting, developing, and sustaining successful businesses, ultimately contributing to economic growth and community prosperity.

**This Newsletter was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its content represents the sole responsibility of the “Empowerment of youth entrepreneurship in Moldova” project, financed by the European Union.  
The content of the publication belongs to the authors and does not necessarily reflect the vision of the European Union.**

**Contact details:  
Help – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V.  
[www.help-ev.de](http://www.help-ev.de)**

**Asociația Obștească ”DEMOS”  
<https://asociatiademos.wordpress.com>**

**”Pro Cooperare Regională”  
<https://procore.md/>**

**HEMECARE  
<https://homecare.md/en/acasa-english/>**