



Romania-Ukraine-Republic of Moldova  
CROSS BORDER COOPERATION

Ungheni, 27 March 2015

## **Interconnection gas pipeline between the Gas Transmission System of Romania and the Gas Transmission System of the Republic of Moldova on the Iasi (Romania) – Ungheni (Moldova) direction.**

### **Main dates:**

Start of construction:	August 2013
Finalization of the construction:	August 2014
Moldovan gas operator company “Vestmoldtransgas” established:	July 2014
Gas supplies from Romania started:	March 2015

Since 2010, Moldova is member of the "Energy Community" which aims to extend the EU internal energy market to EU neighbours. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine and Kosovo are members. The EU aims to integrate these countries to the EU market by legislation but also by connecting them physically to the European energy market.

The National Agency for Mineral Resources is implementing, in partnership with the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Moldova the project “Interconnection gas pipeline between the Natural Gas Transmission System of Romania and the Natural Gas Transmission System of the Republic of Moldova on the Iasi (Romania) – Ungheni (Moldova) direction” MIS-ETC Code 993.

The total cost of the Iasi-Ungheni interconnection gas pipeline is cca €26 million, including the EU contribution around €7 million. The gas pipeline (DN 500, 50 bar) with a total length of 43.2 km, has a capacity of 1.5 billion cubic meters. Initially cca 50 million cubic meters per year will be supplied from Romania (for information - the country's annual consumption in 2013 was about 1 billion. cubic meters of gas, without Transnistria).

### **The major objectives of this project are to:**

1. Ensure a higher level of energy security for the Republic of Moldova and for the eastern part of Romania by diversifying the sources of gas supply
2. Increase social and economic development of urban and rural areas within the North-east bordering regions of Romania and of the Republic of Moldova by increasing the capacity and interoperability of energy supply network.

3. Enhance the sustainability and the quality of energy infrastructure within the target area by implementing modern technologies
4. Strengthen the cross-border cooperation between Romania and Republic of Moldova, as well as between the local public administrations, in the field of energy management and consolidation of their capacities to generate and implement joint projects.

The ceremony for the inauguration of the Iasi-Ungheni pipeline took place on the 27 August 2014 (22nd anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Moldova), with participation of high level officials of both countries, European Commission, representatives of the Project Partners, local authorities, mass-media.

The “Vestmoldtransgaz” (Republic of Moldova) state-owned company provides gas transportation service through the Iasi-Ungheni gas pipeline, under the license obtained in early January 2015. Gas will be supplied through Iasi-Ungheni pipeline by “OMV Petrom” company (Romania), of the Austrian oil and gas group OMV, which concluded a one-year contract with the “Energocom” company (Republic of Moldova) on 22 December 2014.

On 4th of March 2015 the gas supplies from Romania through the Iasi-Ungheni pipeline started. Moldova will import gas, providing over 10,300 consumers from the western Ungheni and Nisporeni districts.

A feasibility study on extending the Ungheni-Iasi gas pipeline to Chisinau is presently carried out, and that according to estimations, this eventual connection construction would be completed by late 2017.

Investments amounting to over 80 million euros, of which 10 million will be financed by the EU, are necessary for extending the gas pipeline to Chisinau. Its capacity will be 1.5 billion cubic meters per year, more than Moldova's annual consumption.

**The Joint Operational Programme Romania-Ukraine-Republic of Moldova 2007-2013 is financed by the European Union through the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument and co-financed by the participating countries in the programme.**

**Common borders. Common solutions.**



A project implemented by the Ministry of Economy Republic of Moldova

Piata Marii Adunari Nationale, nr.1, mun. Chisinau, MD-2033 Republic of Moldova  
Tel: +373 22 25-01-07  
Fax: +373 22 23-40-64

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Joint Managing Authority  
Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration, Romania  
Tel: 0040372111332  
Fax: 0040372111456

The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

“The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders”.