

U.S. Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC) Moldova

FY 20-21 Humanitarian Assistance Strategy

Humanitarian Assistance (HA), Humanitarian and Civic Assistance (HCA), and Excess Property (EP)

1. General:

The ***purpose*** of this strategy is to establish the guidelines, focus and methodology for execution of the Humanitarian Assistance (HA) Program funded through the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster and Civic Aid (OHDACA) program.

The ***goal*** of this strategy is to support the U.S. European Command (EUCOM) Commander's priorities in Moldova while building the capacity of Moldovan public institutions to provide essential services to civilian populations through civil-military engagement.

The ***objective*** of this strategy is to improve DoD access, visibility and relationships in areas in Moldova that are not otherwise available to U.S. forces.

This strategy establishes the necessary steps to identify and select projects that support the US Embassy Moldova Integrated Country Strategy, the DoD Country Cooperation Plan, EUCOM HA Program Goals, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals for Moldova, Water and Sanitation Standards in Schools; World Health Organization, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Practices in the Schools of Moldova. Furthermore, all projects comply with the Policy Guidance for DoD Overseas Humanitarian Assistance Program, Standard Operating Procedures for EUCOM HA Programs, and the Joint Publication 3-57 CIV-MIL Operations.

Projects selected under the ODC Moldova HA Program must supplement or complement, but not duplicate or replace, the efforts of other US Government agencies that have primary responsibility for providing foreign assistance in Moldova, and will be coordinated through the Embassy Assistance Coordination Working Group and the EUCOM Civic Engagement Branch. ODC Moldova HA Program projects will support communities which have an identifiable and measurable need and will be selected through close coordination with local and regional officials.

2. HA Focus area:

Under this strategy, the ODC Moldova HA program will focus on areas of interest identified by the DoD, the EUCOM Commander and US Embassy/USAID. These areas include:

- Locations in Moldova that are important for access and influence through building friendships and common understanding with host nation civil society, and
- Locations with an unstable security environment in order to promote regional stability and security to achieve CCP objectives to reach theater strategic end states.

Under this strategy, the ODC Moldova HA program will focus on specific types/categories of projects in accordance with the Policy Guidance for DoD Overseas Humanitarian Assistance Program, Secretary of Defense, Standard Operating Procedure for US EUCOM Humanitarian Assistance Program, and Joint Publication 3-57 CIV-MIL Operations:

- **Disaster preparedness:** Disaster risk reduction, mitigation, and preparedness projects to build the capacity of the Moldovan government to meet the humanitarian needs of the civilian population during an emergency response to large-scale disaster.
- **Essential services, sanitation services in schools/preschools of Moldova:** Assist the Moldovan government to improve basic infrastructure in schools and preschools to ensure safe and adequate educational environments and essential services.
- **Essential health services/access to healthcare.** Assist the Moldovan government to improve essential medical facilities, increasing the capabilities of professional medical personnel to provide improved medical care to the civilian population.
- **Support North Carolina State Partnership Program (SPP):** As the program with greatest depth and longevity, the partnership between the State of North Carolina and Moldova will maximize the impact of US Government funding invested through interagency cooperation.

3. Project Identification Guidelines:

ODC Moldova conducts meetings with Local and Regional Authorities and other Community Leaders to present the EUCOM HA program. Potential projects are identified based on the detailed project proposals from partner agencies, Moldovan authorities or international organizations.

4. Project Selection Guidelines:

ODC selects and submits project proposals to EUCOM for approval through the following process.

- Host nation submits aid request, including sustainment plan and appropriate letter of approval.
- ODC conducts a strategy analysis to validate compliance with the following objectives:
 - o US Mission to Moldova Integrated Country Strategy, Goal 3, Objective 2: “Building Personal Links with the United States,” Sub-Objective: “Extend Assistance Projects to Communities in Need,” Key activities: “Concentrate DoD outreach efforts on specific community needs. (i.e. sanitation and access to water in kindergartens, primary and high schools in vulnerable locations)”
 - o Country Cooperation Plan SLOA 3.4, LOA 2b: “Essential Services” – Focused on enhancing the Moldovan civil sector’s ability to deliver health and water and sanitation services to vulnerable and underserved sections of Moldova.
 - o “Moldova National Strategy for Water Supply and Sanitation” - Government Decision #662 (June 13, 2007): Objective - decentralization and extension of public water supply and sewage services to increase access; reduction by 50% of water-related diseases; increase by 50% access to safe sources of drinking water and to improved sewage system; urban waste water treatment.
 - o UN Millennium Development Goals for Moldova, Goal #7: Target 10, Indicator 29 “Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water” by enhancing sustainable access to an improved water source. Also, Target 11, Indicator 30, 31: “By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of rural population by enhancing access to improved sanitation”.

5. HA Program Evaluation Guidelines

To ensure that the goals and strategic objectives are achieved, ODC conducts regular visits to monitor project performance and inspect the project effectiveness both during and after execution. The ODC will also engage with the English language students at each location as part of the ODC Community Engagement Program. A Civil Affairs team will evaluate the ODC Moldova HA Program every 2 years by visiting completed projects.

ODC will evaluate this strategy every other year and coordinate with EUCOM and other sections of the U.S. Embassy in Chisinau.

6. References:

- *Department of Defense (DoD) Country Cooperation Plan*
- *European Command (EUCOM) Humanitarian Assistance Program Goals*
- *US Embassy Moldova Integrated Country Strategy*
- *Policy Guidance for DoD Overseas Humanitarian Assistance Program Secretary of Defense*
- *Standard Operating Procedure for US EUCOM Humanitarian Assistance Program*
- *Joint Publication 3-57 CIV-MIL Operations*
- *Moldova National Strategy for Water Supply and Sanitation*
- *United Nations Millennium Development Goals for Moldova*
- *Water and Sanitation Standards in Schools, World Health Organization*
- *Study on The Quality of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Practices in the Schools of Moldova, UNICEF*

7. Conclusion:

This Humanitarian Assistance Strategy is approved for implementation as of 01 October 2019.

Very Respectfully,



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Chief, Office of Defense Cooperation

