“Addressing the challenges posed by migration phenomenon on children: the Republic of Moldova experience and vision in policy making and in establishing of relevant support mechanisms”

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General Information

- Surface – 34,000 km²
- Population – 3,557,600
- Working age population – 1,172,000
- Children – 750,000
- Unemployment rate – 5.1%
- Registered unemployed – 25,462
- Migrants – over 600,000
- Remittances rate in GDP – over 30%
- in 2013 over 43,500 households with children has received social aid cash benefit due to poverty
Background: recent research projects

• „Efects of migration from Republic of Moldova and Georgia on children who remains at home”
  
  (financed by EU and implemented by Maastricht University and Kiel Institute for World Economy)

• „Addressing the negative effects of migration on children and families left behind”
  
  (financed by EU and Italian MoLSP and implemented by MoLSPF of Moldova, IOM Moldova and Italian MoLSP)
Background: recent research projects

- over 105,000 children have at least one parent abroad, of which in 21,700 cases it’s both or single parent
- over 90% - systematically communicate with their migrant parents
- 1% - have no friends
- 1% - are in tensioned relation with their caregivers
- 5% - are exposed to verbal violence and 11% to physical violence in the family
- 0.15% - eat only once a day
- 2.7% - prepare the meal themselves
- 2% - have nothing to eat 1-2 times in month in last 12 months
- 0.6% - has nobody to help them with the homework
- 5/5% - not attend school sometimes because have to work at home and 2.5% - because they don’t want to
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**Law 140/2013 on special protection of children at risk and children separated from parents**

*Children separated from parents* – a child who is effectively lack of parental care in situations determined by their absence, including also the cases then parents went to work abroad, the child who was taken from parents because of existing of an evident danger for his life and/or health and also a child for whom the competent authorities established a legal status as being a child temporary without or without parental care.
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Law 140/2013 Art. 13 children whose parents are working abroad

(1) Information on the identification of children whose parents / single parent are gone / has gone to work abroad must be provided to local guardianship authority by:

   a) administration of educational institutions - semiannually until October 30, respectively, April 30 of each year;

   b) specialists child protection, community social workers, family doctors, police officers - within 3 days after the child's identification.

(2) Based on the information specified in par. (1) local guardianship authority orders the child's situation assessment by the community social worker, and shall, with the consent of parents / sole parent establish guardianship / trusteeship according to legislation if the evaluation shows that the initial growth conditions and education of children are adequate.

(3) Assessment of the child by the community social worker is carried out for up to 30 days.

(4) The parents / single parent who goes abroad for a period exceeding three months and whose children remain in Moldova is to notify the local guardianship authority about the care that children remain.

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**Child situation check fiche**

- general information about the child and person who care for him, then parents are abroad
- special medical needs and adhering to treatment
- school attendance and support in homework preparation
- living conditions
- relationship with peers, parents and caregivers
- conclusions made by community social worker
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Social Assistance Authomatized Informational System

- available at community/regional/central levels
- includes data on children whose both or single parents are migrants
- includes data on children at risk and children without parental care and their case management
- allows input, storage, monitoring and analysis of data at all administrative levels for research and evidence-based micro and macro policy development
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**National Strategy on Child Protection 2014-2020**

Specific objective 1-4

In order to **address the negative effects of migration of parents on minors left behind** the following measures are to be taken:

• Implementing an effective mechanism of evidence and monitoring the situation of children whose parents/single parents are abroad;

• Implementing of information/awareness programs and conciliation services for migrants parents, children left behind and persons who take care of children;

• Increasing the capacity of the educational system in addressing social risks including social risks for children whose parents are migrants.
Perspectives

To develop and implement the National support service and mechanisms to promote positive parenting skills in order to prevent and combat violence, neglect and exploitation of children.

To develop telecommunication instruments and resource for improving parental capacities and counseling of migrant parents as well as their children.

To strengthen the capacities of the Moldovan Diaspora associations for promotion and advancement of the exercise of parental role by migrants with children left behind.
Thank You!

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