

Community of Practice (CoP) is a platform for practitioners from the water and sanitation area where they exchange knowledge, experience, ideas and trends, and reinforce knowledge in the field.

CoP purpose is to support learning and to encourage the exchange of knowledge between practitioners from water supply and sanitation sector in order to strengthen a sector with strong professionals.

"Communities practitioners are also groups of people who share a concern, a set of problems or a passion about a subject, which deepens their knowledge and experience in the respective field through continuous interaction" (Wenger / Dermott / Snyder, 2002).

An important thing to note about CoP is that it should not be confused with a non-governmental organization or a coordinating council that has a certain legal status and is invested with decision-making power or a working group guided management, results-oriented and time-limited; or a self-help group that focuses on solving individual problems.

CoP Structure: The core team (core group) operates as a leading group based on a mandate to coordinate; Core group coordinates the CoP and provides secretarial support. Inner circle operates as a group of permanent members with an informal structure, which meets four times per year.

The Moldovan Water and Sanitation Community of Practice CoP was created in February 2011. In addition to regular meetings, study tours visits for its members are also organized:

- 2012, Switzerland: water supply systems administration and sanitation locally and regionally;
- 2013, Romania: water supply to small villages (experience of several counties);
- 2014, Czech Republic: implementation of the European Union Directives during the pre-accession period;
- 2016, Estonia: Governmental policy in water and sanitation sector.

Examples of topics discussed during CoP meetings:

- Forms and mechanisms of regionalization of water supply services in Moldova
- Presentation and discussion on revised Water and Sanitation Strategy (2014-2028)
- Water safety plans
- Water supply for small villages in Moldova
- Modern technologies for monitoring and control of water supply services
- Association Agreement Moldova-EU
- Law on public water supply and sanitation
- Implementation Constructed Wetlands in Moldova - experience to date
- Methodology for calculating the tariff for water supply services and sewerage
- Status and improvement of the regulatory framework in the design of water supply systems
- Water Consumer Associations as providers of water supply services in rural areas
- Benchmarking systems for water operators
- Small-scale wastewater treatment stations (selection, operation and monitoring)
- Ground water - quality and quantity aspects
- Contradictions and overlapping in water and sanitation sector planning
- Institutional framework of the sector post Governmental reform