



CONCEPT

Regional Conference to mark the 10th anniversary of CALM Women's Network from Moldova

“Promoting women's leadership and gender equality in local governance: good practices and lessons learned from Moldova and the South-East Europe”

When: 10 December 2021, 10:00 – 13:00 CET/11:00 – 14:00 (Moldova, Romania time)

Where: Online, via zoom

Background

On 10 December 2021, the Women's Network of the Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM) marks its 10th anniversary. The goal of the Network since its creation has been to make the voice of women in local governments a strong and distinct one. As a consistent promoter of gender equality and of the idea that women must participate in the governance structures at all levels, CALM Women Network advocated and will continue to do so, on national and international platforms, for a more prominent, equitable and meaningful participation of women in decision-making processes. The consistent efforts of the Network over the past years contributed to a shift in the perceptions and attitudes towards women in leadership roles in Moldova. During this decade, the Network has achieved prominent results by increasing the number of women mayors, building capacities, and making the voices of local women leaders heard.

According to the data of the Central Electoral Commission, the share of women mayors in Moldova increased by about 4 % over the last three local electoral cycles – i.e. from 18% women mayors in 2011, to about 20% in 2015, and to almost 22% after the 2019 local elections. Presently, there are 194 women serving as mayors as of 2019 - and all of them are members of CALM Women's Network.

During the 16th General Assembly of the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS) held in May 2021, Mrs. Tatiana Badan, Mayor of Selemet Municipality from Moldova and CALM President, became the President of NALAS based on the rotational principle. Mrs. Badan is the 13th NALAS President and the first woman President in the history of the Network.



Considering CALM's current presidency of NALAS, with the occasion of its 10th anniversary, CALM Women's Network plans to hold a regional event on NALAS platform to share Moldova's experiences and lessons learned in advancing women leadership in local governance and the progress in implementing NALAS Women's Forum recommendations on GRB implementation. Under CALM guidance, 32 Local Governments from Moldova are assisted to mainstream gender equality in local policies and budgets in the framework of a partnership with UN Women Moldova Country office with funding from Sweden. Importantly, the envisaged regional exchange event is aimed to provide the opportunity for the Moldovan woman mayors to learn from select NALAS peers the experience and tips in practically advancing GRB and gender-sensitive local policies, strategies and plans.

Objectives

In this respect, CALM's Women Network will initiate and organise on 10 December 2021 an on-line, half day event having the following objectives:

- (i) presenting Moldova's experience and lessons learned in advancing women leadership in local governance;
- (ii) sharing Moldova's progress in implementing NALAS Women's Forum recommendations on GRB implementation;
- (iii) learning good practices from South-East Europe peers on how to practically and effectively advance GRB at the local level.
- (iv) discuss about the role of local governments in addressing violence against women in communities, considering also the ratification of the Istanbul Convention by Moldova.

Participants

The event is expected to be attended by Mayors and Local Governments practitioners from South East Europe, representatives of Local Governments Associations, members of NALAS, development partners, Central Government representatives, gender experts from Moldova and the region, etc.

The event is organized in the framework of the Partnership Agreement between CALM with UN Women Moldova with financial support Sweden, titled "Provision of extensive support to strengthen the capacities of local public authorities, including women mayor members of Women's Network of the Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova" (2021-2022).

AGENDA (draft)

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#Democracytalks

Date: 10 December 2021
Time: 10:00 – 13:00 CET/11:00 – 14:00 (Moldova, Romania time)
Location: on-line via Zoom.us
Translation: ENG-RO-ENG interpretation provided by CALM

Time	Session
10.00 – 10.40	<p>Conference opening and speeches of the guests of honour</p> <p>Ms Tatiana BADAN, NALAS and CALM President, Mayor of Selemet, Cimişlia district Ms Larisa VOLOH, Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Administration, Parliament of Moldova H.E. Ms Katarina FRIED, Ambassador of Sweden to the Republic of Moldova Ms Dominika STOJANOSKA, UN Women Moldova Country Representative Mr Kelmend ZAJAZI, NALAS Executive Director</p> <p><i>Moderator: Irina LUNCAŞU</i>, CALM Coordinator</p>
10.40 – 12.00	<p>Session I: South East Europe experience and lessons learned in advancing women leadership in local governance</p> <p>Ms Maria GALIŢ, Mayor of Sarata Veche, Falesti district, CALM Vice President, Deputy Head of Moldovan Delegation to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of CoE Ms Valentina CASIAN, CALM Vice President, mayor of Străşeni, Moldova Ms Mariana GÂJU, President of Romanian Women Mayors League, Vice President of ACoR, Mayor of Cumpăna, Romania, Ms Jasna GABRIČ, Mayor of Trbovlje, Slovenia</p> <p>Discussions</p>
12.00 – 12.50	<p>Session II: Gender Responsive Budgeting good practices at the local level in South East Europe</p> <p>Mr Boran IVANOSKI, NALAS Program Manager Ms Voltana ADEMI, Mayor of Municipality of Shkodër, Albania Mr Dushan RAICEVIC, NALAS Vice President, Mayor of Bar, Montenegro Ms Violeta CRUDU, Mayor of Cruzesti, mun. Chişinău, Moldova</p> <p>Discussions</p>
12.50 – 13.00	<p>Conference closing remarks</p> <p>Ms Tatiana BADAN, NALAS and CALM President, Mayor of Selemet, Cimişlia district</p>