EMAIL FOR POTENTIAL EUROPEAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPANT IN CONNECT

 **Subject:** Request for European municipal expertise in Moldova

Sometimes municipalities find themselves dealing with issues that call for extra knowledge, skills and experience. As we write to you, your colleagues in Moldova are facing challenges in waste management.

CONNECT is looking for European municipal colleagues like you, who are eager to assist your municipal colleagues in these countries.

**About CONNECT**

CONNECT acts as a catalyst for change by bringing demand together with supply. The colleague-to-colleague approach generates immediate trust and understanding – and great results. For a short introduction to the CONNECT mechanism, please watch this[video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=32eV1ZSFii4).

**CONNECT’s added value**

CONNECT is complementary to existing forms of decentralised cooperation. The short-term exchanges are a good entry point into decentralised cooperation – and a first step towards new partnerships. They are also great learning experiences for the European participants, as demonstrated by last years’ exchanges in Colombia, Cambodia and Ghana.

“*You get a different perspective on how to address and tackle issues in service delivery for local governments” – Sigrún Arnadóttir, Mayor of Sandgerdi, Iceland*

**Do you want offer your expertise?**

We hope your municipality is interested in assisting with an exchange of expertise. Attached is the requests from Moldova (waste management). The exchange in Moldova will be in English (with interpretation to Romanian).Perhaps you and/or a colleague could assist them.

To request a CONNECT exchange:

1. Complete the attached application form – clearly defining your response to the challenges that the Moldovan municipalities are facing
2. Complete the template “letter of commitment”, and have this signed by a politician or manager (whichever is applicable).
3. Send the application and letter of commitment to connect@ccre-cemr.org before **10 June 2018.**

**Keep in mind**

The CONNECT team will get in touch with your municipality to assist in fine-tuning your application. However, an application does not guarantee a CONNECT exchange. Municipalities must respond with a feasible approach, aligned with the needs and context of the municipalities in Moldova. CONNECT’s selection committee will then try to create a good match with the requesting municipalities. If you are not chosen to assist the Moldovan municipalities, but you want to remain up-to-date on opportunities for exchanges, please let us know by emailing connect@ccre-cemr.org.

We look forward to receiving applications from your members and to establishing fruitful connections in Moldova. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With kind regards,

The CONNECT team