

2020 Project Implementation Review (PIR)



Moldova Green Cities

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A. Basic Data

Project Information	
UNDP PIMS ID	5492
GEF ID	9042
Title	Moldova Sustainable Green Cities - Catalyzing investment in sustainable green cities through a wholistic integrated urban planning approach to urban development in the Republic of Moldova
Country(ies)	Moldova Republic, Moldova Republic
UNDP-GEF Technical Team	Energy, Infrastructure, Transport and Technology
Project Implementing Partner	Government
Joint Agencies	(not set or not applicable)
Project Type	Full Size

Project Description

The objective of the project is to catalyze investments in low carbon green urban development based on integrated urban planning approach by encouraging innovation, participatory planning and partnerships between a variety of public and private sector entities.

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Other Partners	(not set or not applicable)

B. Overall Ratings

Overall DO Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall IP Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial

C. Development Progress

Description

Objective

To catalyze investments in low carbon green urban development by an integrated urban planning approach and by encouraging innovation, participatory planning and partnerships with a variety of public and private sector entities.

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
Extent to which climate finance is being accessed (IRRF 1.4.1 a)	0	At least USD 2 million leveraged for investments directly initiated or supported by the GCL	At least USD 10 million leveraged for investments directly initiated or supported by the GCL	Progress towards midterm target achievement has been, by and large, negatively affected by the political volatility of 2018-2019; only 13,6% (USD 272,000) climate finance leveraged to date compared against the midterm target. Risk of not achieving the midterm target level envisaged at the time of project development could be considered critical for this reporting period. Main trigger is the political and financial context and will be monitored according to M&E plan. The project has stepped up progress towards this ambitious mid-term target. So far, approximately USD 272,000 have been leveraged for climate related innovative projects, through several key strategic partnerships formed with the Energy Efficiency Fund, Innovation Facility-Russian Trust Fund, Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDG's. The resource mobilization is going slower than initially thought at the	By mid-term of the project the midterm target is achieved to 35,5% (USD 723,309). Progress towards midterm target achievement has been negatively affected by the political volatility of 2018-2019 years, instability at Chisinau municipality administration until fall 2019 and Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 and following financial crisis. Nerveless, the project has advanced towards mid-term target. So far, more that 200 000 USD have been leveraged for innovative projects in line with project's scope, through several key strategic partnerships formed with the Energy Efficiency Fund, Innovation Facility- Russian Trust Fund, Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDG's, and EV Point Srl - private sector company. Based on numerous consultations and institutional analysis done during 2018-2019 years, it was decided that GCL will operate in a

project design, when the GCL was intended to be formally set up soon after the project launch.

GCL functions were performed by the project during this reporting period, as the GCL per se is not institutionalized yet. This happened due to the volatile political context, staff turnover at government level, Chisinau mayor demise immediately after the inception workshop (April 2018), local elections for Chisinau in June 2018 (which were canceled by the court), interim mayor appointment, parliamentary elections and government demise (culminating in June 2019) and interim mayor demise on the 4th of July 2019, which led to delays in implementation of the initial MoU with the Municipality, aimed at setting up the GCL within the Municipality. This has prevented a more robust approach to resource mobilization, that would have likely followed after a formal GCL set-up within the Municipality of Chisinau.

The project has commissioned a reassessment of options for GCL set-up (as an independent entity linked to the Municipal agenda), which has highlighted a suitable possibility for the EUR during the next 10 years. GCL GCL institutional set-up (ie. as NGO) and these assessments have also grounded the development of a fullfledged Business Plan. It is therefore expected that the resource mobilization will gain momentum as of July 2019 onward. The draft GCL

form of independent NGO, wiht the scope to contribute to the Municipal agenda and having as founders private sector companies. The institutional set-up was approved by Project board in June 2020, paving the way for GCL legal registration. The draft GCL business plan was developed and presented to the Project Board in the second half of 2019 and will be adjusted in 2020 according to new realities. The business plan foresees attraction of (green) investments in the medium term (next 5 years) however it needs to be updated in terms of financial flows, to be done in cooperation with founders.

In addition, the GCL supported Municipality in advancing priority green urban development. Thanks to cooperation with EBRD, the project supported in the development of the Chisinau Green City Action Plan, which was approved in May 2020. The Green City Action Plan indicates the possibility to leverage climate related investments of 235 million is suggested to further cooperate with the EBRD and Municipality to support a part of these investments. The project has had several discussions with EBRD regarding GCL involvement in

business plan BP is to be approved by respective projects implementation. Project Board in the second half of Nerveless, GCL can participate alone or in partnership with other 2019.. The BP foresees attraction of (green) investments in the amount of entities in tenders announced by the EBRD. USD 5,92 million during the next 5 vears. In addition, the GCL will support Another project driven activity in priority green urban development the reporting period was investments. In this sense, during this developing of a Roadmap for reporting period, the project has Sustainable Energy and Climate actively supported EBRD in the Action Plan (SECAP) development. development of the Chisinau Green The Municipality commenced to City Action Plan (nearly finalized) and develop SECAP by endorsing the has facilitated policy dialogues during request to EU Covenant of Mayors meetings organized by Chisinau in June 2020. municipality. According to the assessments The Green City Action Plan is nearly undertaken by the project so far finalized and indicates the possibility and considering the national to leverage climate related political and global financial investments of at least 108 million context, the respective indicator EUR during the next 10 years. Part of would need to be revised at the this investments will be supported by mid-term of the project. This aspect the GCL in partnership with the was also raised during the Municipality and other donors (such as Inception Workshop by concerned EBRD-EIB), the scale of the GCL stakeholders. supported green investments will become clearer during the next reporting period. However, for this current reporting period, the risk of achieving the desired financing target is considered critical. In the project document, the financial risk is considered substantial in impact but low in probability (I=4)

and P=2) According to the assessments undertaken by the

			project so far and considering the national political and financial context, the financial risk probability should be upgraded to moderate, as also indicated during the Inception Workshop by concerned stakeholders. The project is preparing a tighter monitoring scheme during the next reporting period.	
Number of direct project beneficiaries with gender disaggregated data.	5,000 people, from whom not more than 60% for the same gender	20,000 people, from whom not more than 60% for the same gender	midterm target is on track, the demonstration projects are initiated in 2019. MRV system is currently being integrated into the design of the demonstration project (both in terms of energy performance and gender related parameters). So far the project's initiatives have reached approximately 690,000 beneficiaries out of which 60% are women. This is an approximative estimation considering that the improvement of air quality (through the urban mobility initiative) and creating urban regeneration areas (through solar trees installations) in the city center will benefit Chisinau population in its entirety. The number of beneficiaries will be accurately monitored once MRV systems will be in place during the next reporting period. The dialogue for the transfer of the Energy Management Information System	project's ongoing and planned initiatives will reach approximately 690,000 beneficiaries out of which 60% are women. This is an approximate estimation considering the activities implemented in reporting period, such us the improvement of air quality, dedicated bus lanes, redesigned streets, public lightning, biomass use, solar trees installations, from which will benefit Chisinau population in its entirety. The Energy Management Information System (EMIS) platform (developed by UNDP

				Croatia) has been initiated during this reporting period, and it will include a general MRV mechanism and the MRV systems integrated in demo and fast track challenge projects. The project is expected to have a full operational MRV system by mid project and accurately reflect the reach-out to the envisaged number of beneficiaries	integrated in demo and fast track challenge projects. The project has developed a full operational MRV system which accurately reflect the reach-out to the envisaged number of beneficiaries.
Direct GHG emission reduction impact of the project	0	20 ktons of CO2eq calculated over a 20 year lifetime of the investment	200 ktons of CO2eq calculated over 20 year lifetime of the investment	Progress towards midterm target achievement is on track. The (sub)projects co-financed so far by the Green City Project will cumulatively lead to 32.26 kilotons CO2eq reduction calculated over a 20 year as follows: - Electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Moldova - 32,230 tones over next 20 years - Solar palm trees— 28 tones over next 20 years - 2018 Electric Vehicles Marathon - 1,2 tones	The (sub)projects co-financed so far by the Green City Project will cumulatively lead to 150.5 kilotones CO2eq. reduction calculated over a 20 year as follows: - Electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Moldova – 32.3 kt CO2eq over next 20 years - Urban waste to biomass energy project – 95.3 kt CO2eq over next 20 years - Energy efficiency in residential buildings – 5.4 kt CO2eq over next 20 years (initiated in 2020 but implemented in 2021) - Introduction of bus rapid transit system in Chisinau – 10.9 kt CO2eq over next 20 years - Redesign and reconstruction of str. 31 August 1989 – 3.8 kt CO2eq over next 20 years

The progress of the objectiv	e can be described as:	On track		
				- Second life for EV batteries – 121 tones CO2eq. over next 20 years
				- Solar palm trees – 28 tones CO2eq. over next 20 years
				- EMIS – 10 % reduction of energy consumption in group of buildings - 540 tones CO2eq over next 20 years
				- Neighborhood renewal green urban demonstration project – 2.2 kt CO2eq over next 20 years (initiated in 2020 but implemented in 2021-2022)

Outcome 1

Fully operational Green City Lab recognized by the key stakeholders as the leading innovation, knowledge management and networking platform which is profitable and a source of expertise for catalyzing sustainable low carbon green city development in Moldova with secured funding to continue its operation also after the UNDP/GEF project closure.

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	_	End of project target level		Cumulative progress since project start
Status of the GCL and the specific outputs under Outcome 1 to support its operations		the GCL is finalized and agreed and implemented. The GCL established as a self- standing public or semipublic institution (prior to the midterm review) with a	self- standing public or semi- public institution with all the outputs of the attached work plan under Outcome 1 completed. The GCL must be able	The preparatory work for the establishment of the GCL is in an advance stage, despite the national political crises which led to implementation delays. GCL per se is not yet institutionalized, however the project has a clear way forward to reach target by mid-project. The host-	Target will be achieved by end of 2020. The institutionalization of the GCL is in an advance stage, despite all the challenges. However, it delays for several months due to COVID 19 pandemic which slowed done the process. During the 2018-2019 period several options for GCL setup were analyzed, starting from semi-public institution under the

shareholders agreement, articles grow as it has of association, a Board, and an Executive Director appointed by the Board, with all the outputs of its work plan under Outcome 1 (see Annex A) at an advance stage of implementation.

operations and to of the project and it should have at least 5 clients. each generating revenues of \$40,000 per annum or more completed or being meaning that the GCL should have revenues of at least \$200,000 per annum by the end of the project.

identified and the final resolution (approval) of the City Council is alternative sources expected anytime soon. The Business of revenue outside Plan is nearly finalized.

> Initially, the project has concluded an MoU with the Municipality of Chisinau early 2018, which was expected to establish the GCL as a semi-public institution under the umbrella of the Municipality. During that time, the political context became increasingly tense and social unrest following the contestation of local mayoral elections in 2018 (by the political party holding the majority) led to a stalemate and many decisions at the local municipality level have been indefinitely postponed. This was the case with the MoU concerning the establishment of the GCL within the municipality.

As a result, the project has looked into other available options. Grounded by a study commissioned in 2019, the project has also devised the best available alternative solution to establish the GCL (choosing NGO as a feasible option). The draft Business Plan developed by the project is expected to be approved by the Project Board in the second half of 2019.

The project had opted for a stepwise approach: have the GCL function as an independent NGO, become gradually self financed by the end of

umbrella of the Municipality, UNDP tailored entity and distinct NGO.

Based on the Expression of Interest for the GCL founders were received 12 applications, out of which 4 companies were selected as founders with experience in GCL area of interest (energy efficiency in buildings, urban mobility, resource efficient waste management and environmental protection):

- PREMIER ENERGY SRL
- SIMPALS SRL
- ABS SRL
- AM SISTEME SRL

The COVID-19 pandemic and associated General and Health emergency situation, with special regime of work for state institutions delayed the institutionalization of the GCL. The GCL foundation was approved by Project board in June 2020, which is followed by signature of relevant MoUs and registration at the Agency of Public services.

The host-building for the GCL has been identified and approved by the City Council in May 2020., nevertheless the construction is in an advanced unadequate state and

			the project, and consisting of two units: (i) advisory and project management unit, becoming financially profitable by earning money from fees and overheads costs and(ii) investment brokering unit, earning money from mobilizing capital for the City of Chisinau, for green investments. The GCL is therefore envisaged to act as a green advisory and an investment service platform, a project development/implementation unit to support of the Municipality of Chisinau (but not limited to it). The NGO will be selected based on a competitive process and contracted using a Low value grant agreement modality. The NGO is supposed to have an Executive director, Board and a 4-permanent staff at the initial stage. Overall, progress on achieving the mid term target is on track.	
Number of partnerships for green ority development established in the frame of jointly implemented and/or developed projects and measures with gender disaggregated data, as applicable.	At least 1 formal co-operation agreements in the frame of jointly developed and/or implemented projects or other initiatives with at least one public or private entities, of	At least 5 formal co-operation agreements in the frame of jointly developed and/or implemented projects or other initiatives with at least 10 public or private entities, of	were signed (out of which, one cooperation Co-financing Agreement with Energy Efficiency Fund): So far, agreements were concluded	Nine formal partnership agreements were signed, as follows: Six cooperation agreements (MoU) were signed with (i) Chisinau City Hall, (ii) General department of Architecture and Land relations of the Chisinau Municipal council (iii) Energy Efficiency Fund (iv) Metro

	than 70% managed by the same	which not more than 70% managed by the same gender.	USD for supporting development of the Urban mobility plan of the Chisinau and (ii) with the Russian Trust Fund for provision of Moscow expertise in establishment of the smart city labs. Three additional cooperation agreements (MoU) were signed with (iii) Chisinau City Hall, (iv) General department of Architecture and Land relations of the Chisinau Municipal council and (v) Energy Efficiency Fund. Since the GCL is not formally set up yet and the project performs its functions, these first formal cooperation agreements are signed with the project (UNDP). However, some of the projects implemented under these frameworks by UNDP Green Cities Project will be transferred to the GCL during the next reporting periods. By June 2020, the fully functional Green City Lab (GCL) is expected to have formal cooperation contracts signed independently of UNDP, as indicated in the Business Plan.	Cash&Carry (v) Orange Moldova and (vi) Data-Pop Alliance. Additional MoU is planned to be signed in the upcoming period with Fly Electric for electric vehicles charging infrastructure expansion. One cooperation Co-financing Agreement was signed with Energy Efficiency Fund in the amount of USD 118,000. Additional to this a Co-financing Agreement is planned to be signed with Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure in the amount of USD 580,000 (10 million MDL) for piloting interventions in residential buildings. Two agreements were signed with a private sector company EV Point str. for developing of the EV charging stations in the total amount of USD 296,170. Agreements were concluded with (i) the Czech -UNDP Partnership for SDG's in the amount of 241,725 USD for supporting Urban mobility and Energy Efficiency initiatives in Chisinau and (ii) with the Russian Trust Fund for provision of Moscow expertise in establishment of the smart city labs, development of dedicated bus lanes and developing modern norms for street lighting. Since the GCL was not formally set up and the project performs its functions, the first formal
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				cooperation agreements were signed with the project (UNDP). However, some of the projects implemented under these frameworks by UNDP Green Cities Project will be transferred to the GCL during the next reporting periods.
Value of signed contracts / agreements not funded by GEF resources for covering the GCL operational costs	and implementation	At least 5 or more signed non-GEF funded contracts or agreements at the combined value of at least USD 500,000 to enable GCL to continue its financially sustainable operation after the end of the project. The GCL shall have a target of annual revenues of \$200,000 per annum by the end of the project, not including fees that are earned from the project itself. This should be broken down into the GCL having at least 5 clients who pay at least	Target achieved. So far, one non-GEF Cost sharing agreement was concluded with the Energy Efficiency Fund in the amount of USD 118,000 provided by the government of Moldova, for the development of a country-wide network of electric vehicles charging stations. An implementation fee of 5% was charged.	Target achieved. One non-GEF Cost sharing agreement was concluded with the Energy Efficiency Fund in the amount of USD 118,000 provided by the government of Moldova, for the development of a country-wide network of electric vehicles charging stations. An implementation fee of 5% was charged. Additional to this a Co-financing Agreement is planned to be signed with Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure in the amount of USD 580,000 (10 million MDL) for piloting interventions in residential buildings.

			\$40,000 USD per annum each.	
The progress of the objective can be des	scribed as: O	On track		

Outcome 2

Successfully completed pilot/demonstration projects with related monitoring, reporting and verification of the results in the areas of: i) integrated and participatory urban land use and mobility planning; ii) residential building energy efficiency and renewable energy use; iii) low carbon mobility; and iv) resource efficient waste management.

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2019	Cumulative progress since project start
The extent, to which integrated and participatory planning methodologies are taken into use in updating the Chisinau General Urban Development Plan (PUG) and related zonal plans, including gender disaggregated data on the number stakeholders engaged into the process.	support of UNDP-GEF ESCO project, General Urban Develop-ment Plan for Chisinau is outdated	Municipality working together for updating the PUG based on an integrated participatory approach with specific outputs	plan finalized based on an integrated and participatory planning methodology suggested by the Green City Lab and having a balance participation of both male and female stakeholders	Progress towards achieving the mid term target is on track. Several key policy dialogues and demonstrative interventions initiated by the project and supporting the green urban planning in Chisinau, are in various stages of implementation. The project: - Supports Chisinau Municipality in the elaboration of the Green City Action Plan in terms of providing the participatory planning platform, facilitating policy dialogues and ensuring that the principles of Green Urban Development are integrated into this. The Green City Plan is developed by EBRD and planned to be finalized by 2019. - Supports the development of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP- named by the municipality	Progress towards achieving the mid term target is on track. Several interventions in support of the green urban planning in Chisinau, are in various stages of implementation: - Supporting Chisinau Municipality in development of the Green City Action Plan (GCAP) in partnership with EBRD. The GCAP was finalized and approved by Chisinau Municipal Council in May 2020. - Supporting the development of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMPnamed by the municipality Sustainable transport concept) and associated investments: Green Guide for Street Design approval and testing on 31 August 1989 str. Which is under renovation; development of Dedicated Bike and

Sustainable transport concept) and associated investments: Green Guide for Street Design, Bike sharing, measuring passengers' flow, eticketing. Support to urban green sustainable mobility, is implemented in Mobility Hackathon was organized collaboration with Municipality, Czech -UNDP Partnership for SDG's and Orange. With these partners' support and the support of the European Space Agency, the project is providing platform for urban mobility and the municipality with accurate big data development of the Al algorithm for through a distinct algorithm (OPAL) Open Data Algorithm). The OPAL is elaborated for Moldova by "Data Pop Alliance" through a partnership memorandum with UNDP within a project implemented regionally by the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub "Building more vibrant and resilient cities".

Supports the development of a Green Design Code to inform the implementation of projects as a regulation within the PUG and to inform the updating of other construction norms (SNIPs) managed by the Ministry of Regional Development and Construction. This will be complemented by facilitating and supporting the initiation and development of specific measures contributing to the actual implementation of the PUG. The project is in the process of finalization of the Street design guide of the Chisinau, that will help the

Bus lanes; Launching electric scooter sharing. Also during the reporting period, thanks to cooperation with European Space and Orange Support an Urban in October 2020. Following the hackathon, two teams are continuing to provide support to Municipality in developing a GIS public transport timetable and fleet management. Based on collaboration with Czech -UNDP Partnership for SDG's a Chisinau smart transport strategy and Action Plan is under development.

- Supporting the development of a Green Design Code, that will provide a framework to help the local decision-makers to design new affordable and energy efficient housing, undertake efficient measures for retrofitting the existing building stock, implement the buildings green certification, as well as use of green building materials and design.
- Supporting the Municipality of Chisinau in development of the integrated urban development strategies (Chisinau Development Concept and Strategy and General Urban Development Plan of Chisinau) through digital

Status of the pilot/demo projects	Baseline to be developed	The design and	Completed	Architecture department of the City in better planning of the city infrastructure. Both Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan and Street design guide will be ultimately integrated in the updated PUG of the Municipality.	transformation of the municipality's paper and pdf based 2007 GUDP in GIS format to be further included in the Municipality updated geospatial data fund. The activity is part of a larger partnership for integrated urban development that envisage development of the Chisinau Development Concept and Strategy (with financial support of the "RosKongress Fundation" and "Academy of Real Estate", Russian Federation) and new General Urban Development Plan (GUDP) of Chisinau (with financial support of the "Asociatia Centrul de Cercetare pentru Dezvltare Durabila", Romania). - Supporting the Municipality in institutional process modelling of the Department of Architecture, Urban Planning and Land Relations, to strengthen the institutional capacities in integrated and participatory land use planning. The implemented activity included full analysis of the business processes, with a view to optimizing the activities and digitizing the processes. Proposals on the legal, procedural, IT and inter-institutional framework were provided. The midterm target is achieved.
for each of the targeted	after selection of demonstration projects	financing decisions completed for at	construction of at least one	target is on track. Progress towards end project target bear some risks which will be monitored by the project	The design are completed for all the demonstration projects. The

pilot/demo project	through a tighter monitoring scheme to	
from each targeted subsector with a potential to collectively meet the direct GHG reduction target of the project	be developed after the approval of the Business Plan in second half of 2019. The design are nearly completed for the demonstration projects. Cumulatively, the GHG reduction	implemented for each subsector: 1. Urban mobility and alternative transport. This is the first demo project initiated by the project in 2018, which is largely financed from non-GEF sources, Czech - UNDP Partnership for SDG's, Russian Trust Fund for Development, Stat budget, European Space Agency and private sector contribution. The
	- Solar palm trees (to be installed in several cities) – 28 tones CO2 over next 20 years - 2018 Electric Vehicles Marathon - 1,2 tones CO2	MoU with Chisinau City Hall and General department of Architecture and Land relations of the Chisinau Municipal council, Orange Moldova mobile operator, Metro Cash&Carry and Energy Efficiency Fund were further signed for project operationalization. The project is addressing key
	- 2019 Electric Vehicles Marathon – 2,6 tones CO2	aspects of the sustainable urban mobility, responding to the municipality's priorities, need for reliable data chief among others:
	- Energy efficiency in residential buildings – 270,5 tones CO2 or 5,410 tones over next 20 years	Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan is being developed by Green City project in partnership with Municipality based on data collected and processed by Municipal Planning Institute
	- Neighborhood renewal green urban demonstration project – 2 225 tones over next 20 years CO2	Chisinau proiect, European Space Agency and Orange Moldova via a dashboard for urban mobility data visualization. Data are collected and analyzed.

- Urban Waste to Biomass Energy project – 3.904 tones or 78.080 tones over next 20 years CO2
- EMIS 10 % reduction of energy consumption in group of buildings approx. 27 tones CO2 or 540 tones over next 20 years request, the Street design g piloted on one of the city ce street (31 August 1989 str.) currently under renovation (

The first demo project on Sustainable Urban Mobility (SUM) was initiated during this reporting period and cofunded by the Czech -UNDP Partnership for SDG's among others. The MoU with Chisinau City Hall and General department of Architecture and Land relations of the Chisinau Municipal council, Orange Moldova mobile operator and Energy Efficiency Fund were further signed for project operationalization.

The project is addressing key aspects of the sustainable urban mobility, responding to the municipality's priorities, need for reliable data chief among others:

• Sustainable Urban Mobility
Plan is being developed by Green City
project in partnership with Municipality
based on data collected and
processed by Municipal Planning
Institute Chisinau proiect, European
Space Agency and Orange Moldova

- Developed the Street Design Guide taking into consideration the green aspects and civil society participation/opinion and directly influence the future streets renovation projects design. Based on the Municipality of Chisinau request, the Street design guide is piloted on one of the city center currently under renovation (from EBRD street renovation package). If succeed the project will be replicated on other 3 streets from the same EBRD funded street renovation package. Under this collaboration, the project in providing technical assistance and works supervision, while the Municipality is performing the works.
- Piloting the first dedicated bus lane in Chisinau on 5 central streets, thanks to collaboration with Russia UNDP Trust Fund for Development and Municipal Transport department. Under this collaboration, the project in providing technical assistance and works supervision, while the Municipality is performing the works. By the end of the year, support to the municipality will be provided for drafting an action plan for further expansion of the dedicated bus lane network in Chisinau.

via OPAL (designed by the Data Pop Alliance). Data are collected and analyzed.

- Developing the Street Design Guide taking into consideration the green aspects and civil society participation/opinion and directly influence the future streets renovation projects design.
- Mobility Lab is being established to offer consultancy support to the Traffic department of the Chisinau municipality in implementation of the on-going traffic infrastructure projects (dedicated bus lanes, bike lanes, modern bus stations, redesigning of the streets, etc.).
- A study on Electrical vehicle charging station network development was developed and will be complemented with installation of min. 30 charging stations in the country (including Chisinau).

The following four demo projects will be transferred from Green City Project UNDP to Green City Lab entity during the next reporting period:

(i) Elaboration for a zonal plan for BIC River. This project is approved for funding by the government of Romania, however, funds disbursement is delayed due to reasons beyond project's control. It is expected that the project will start

- Providing Technical support for dedicated bicycle lanes establishment. In the first stage a general vision for establishment of a network of bicycle lanes was developed and tested on 31 August 1989 str. which interconnect two major parks in the city center. In the upcoming period, the municipality will receive additional technical support for designing bicycle lanes on another two to three streets in order to start creating a bicycle network in Chisinau.
- Development of the Chisinau Smart Transport and Mobility Strategy and Action Plan, with the financial support of the Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs. The goal of the Chisinau Smart Transport and Mobility Strategy and Action Plan is to help develop a desirable intelligent transport system for Chisinau city that is practical and cost-effective for an efficient and effective transport management system (using Intelligent Transport Systems) in Chisinau city. The strategy and action plan is expected to be finalized by mid-2021.
- Support the Municipality in Public transport schedule optimization using machine learning and based

during the second half of 2019, there are risks however which will be monitored.

Description: Elaboration of the min. 1 (one) zonal plan which will inform the beneficiaries how to better realize the planned works and to install the small architectural elements. This will complement planned investments of the Chisinau municipality for 2, 04 km of Bic river restoration and consolidation in accordance to elaborated Green Zonal Plan. Technical Assistance: 50,000 USD Investments: 100,000 USD. Cofinancing Romanian Government: 10 mil EUR

(ii) Energy efficiency in residential building; This project concept is developed, and co-financing will be sought in 2020 after the finalization of the Green City Action Plan. Dialogues for future partnership with EBRD /EIB were initiated and are promising.

Description: Provide the platform to catalyze community action and the establishment of a functioning Home Owners Associations where this does not exist or lacks skills and capacity to build a cohort of fundable buildings and owners, paving the way for the accelerated roll out of proposed investments in EE in the residential sector. Elaboration of the feasibility studies, technical documentation,

- on GIS and mobility data provided by Orange Telecom company.
- Supporting the Municipality in assessment the efficiency of the Municipality Transport Department activities (transport, financial, HR) and develop a relevant roadmap for the restructuring. This activity should finalize with in-deep changes in functioning of the transport department with more focus on urban mobility sustainable practices. Functional analysis is Part of the City Hall Reform supported by UNDP.
- A study on Electrical vehicle charging station network development was developed and is complemented with installation of 63 charging stations in the country (including Chisinau) out of which min. 3 are DC fast chargers.
- Development of the Standardized Public Lighting Norms, financed by the Russian-UNDP Trust Fund for Development, will finalize with harmonization of the national legislation to international norms.
- 2. Urban Waste to Biomass Energy Project:

Status: The Pre-feasibility study was developed in 2019 aiming reducing fuel poverty in poorer

energy audit and organization of public events and complimentary thermal insulation of the building envelope, change of the substation and automatic thermal control. Technical Assistance: 25,000 USD Investments: 250,000 USD (iii) Neighborhood renewal green urban demonstration project. This project will be implemented during the next reporting period. Description: Elaboration of a 'Green Design Code' for both existing and new buildings and a Green Infrastructure Strategy to inform the new spatial plan in the form of the PUG and to provide a degree of protection for green spaces and ecosystems to contribute to the flood management strategy of the City. Elaboration of the concept, feasibility study and adjusting of technical documentation for the planned works and organization of public consultations/information. Realization of some investments in accordance with elaborated green zonal plans and can refer to: Rainwater harvesting, Local food; Solar Hot Water/PV; Green spaces greation/improving land.	eliable ership) cipality his a ject ne next ment ential rmance idelines ns on ng EE sulted ership n coulding rs cts (incl.
of some investments in accordance with elaborated green zonal plans and can refer to: Rainwater harvesting,	cal es are 2020
visual amenity. Technical Assistance: 25,000 USD Investments: 180,000 USD MoEI (constructions compor has planned for 2020 and 20 financial means for 10 million (USD 580,000), planned for some interventions in reside	021 n MDL piloting

this initiative with an additional USD 50.000 from the funded by the IRH Innovation Facility for installation of the 2 small scale Photovoltaic trees. Furthermore, the project is in the process of finalization of the Street design guide of the Chisinau, that will help the Architecture department of the City to better plan for the city infrastructure. Both Sustainable Urban outside the city). Mobility Plan and Street design guide will be ultimately integrated in the updated PUG of the Municipality

Urban Waste to Biomass (iv) Energy Project:

Status: The briquetting project is part of a larger initiative of establishing a bio waste composting platform in Chisinau, The project concept is currently submitted for approval to the specialized department. Life Cycle City Council. The project approval and Assessment for most typical formal signature is expected to be delayed, due to upcoming local elections. Description: Design of plant project envisage integration of and equipment, distribution and low carbon delivery systems. Survey of households benefitting from solid fuel support and advice on the criteria for the replacement of boilers and cooking In addition to the Green design equipment. Detailed business case and technical feasibility. Creation of the production facility (briquettes from urban biomass) will be part of investments. Technical Assistance:

Status: The project has complemented buildings. The Cost-Sharing Agreement is proposed to be signed between project/GCL and Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure so as to obtain better synergy of all efforts and to plan several interventions for making more efficient the consumption of energy resources in several typeblocks in Chisinau (or maybe even

> 4. Neighborhood renewal green urban demonstration project.

Elaboration of a 'Green Design Code' for both existing and new buildings was initiated in 2019. The draft of the Buildings Green Design Code was developed and will be consulted with the Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure residential buildings (143 and MS building series) is on-going. The green building certification as a mandatory requirement for public buildings rehabilitation works.

code, the project is collaborating with UNECE for making construction materials production and processes greener and energy efficient.

	30,000 USD; Investments: 220,000 USD	The selection process of the residential building and associated Home owners association for demo project in Solar Hot Water/PV piloting using EPC contract (incl. MRV equipment) is in final evaluation stage. By the end of the next reporting period the feasibility study, energy audit and adjusting of technical documentation for the planned works will be performed.
		In 2019, the project has complemented this initiative with an additional USD 50,000 from the funded by the IRH Innovation Facility for installation of the 2 small scale Photovoltaic trees.
		5. Elaboration for a zonal plan for BIC River. This project is approved for funding by the government of Romania, however, funds disbursement is delayed due to reasons beyond project's control.
		Description: Elaboration of the min. 1 (one) zonal plan which will inform the beneficiaries how to better realize the planned works and to install the small architectural elements. This will complement planned investments of the Chisinau municipality for 2, 04 km of Bic river restoration and consolidation in accordance to elaborated Green Zonal Plan. Technical Assistance: 50,000 USD Investments: 100,000 USD. Co-

				financing Romanian Government: 10 mil EUR At the June 2020 Project board meeting was approved the reallocation of available resources meant for implementing the pilot project for drafting the Zonal Plan for the River BÎC for co-financing the setup of the Cadaster and Strategy for Green Spaces' Development, under the condition of approving the necessary resources in the municipal budget (approx USD 850,000) or to implement other initiative jointly identified with the Municipality. The respective change will be suggested to be included in the MTR recommendations. Cumulatively, the GHG reduction potential of these projects is expected to reach 150.5 ktones kilotones CO2eq. reduction calculated over a 20 year.
Number of projects supported by the "Fast Track Challenge Program" with monitored gender disaggregated data on project beneficiaries and their contribution to supporting gender equality.	with monitored, verified and reported data, as applicable, on the achieved GHG savings, of which at least 1 project having also a	projects with monitored, verified and reported data, as applicable, on the achieved GHG savings, of which at least 3 projects	Progress is on track to have Fast Track Challenge projects monitored with GHG and gender parameters. The second round of call of proposals of the Fast Track Challenge Program was initiated in June 2019 with the application deadline of end-July 2019 and will entail MRV mechanism embedded in their design.	Progress is on track to have Fast Track Challenge projects monitored with GHG and gender parameters. The projects under the first call supported 3 innovative actions such as: 3D printed urban benches; sensors to measure air pollution and pedestrian cross walks for people with disabilities.

	impact on supporting gender equality	impact on supporting gender equality	•	of alternative transport and eco driving, energy efficiency in
				The third round of call of proposals of the Fast Track Challenge Program was initiated in July 2020 with the application deadline of beginning of August 2020 and entail MRV mechanism embedded in their design.
The progress of the objective can be described as:	On track			

Outcome 3

Monitoring and Evaluation, knowledge management and replication of project results.

Description of Indicator		_	End of project target level		Cumulative progress since project start
•	system in place	emissions reductions resulting from project activities in place	MRV system (including EMIS) with open data access and	EMIS system. The transfer of knowledge from UNDP Croatia in this	initially by UNDP Croatia was

arrangements and 2006, within the UNDP Project" successfully deployed on UNDP verified data from Removal of barriers for energy server in December 2019. all activities. agreements in efficiency in Croatia. It is successfully place to continue Currently EMIS is piloted on 43 Introduction of with data reporting used in the country (more than 13.000 EMIS with open municipal buildings public buildings in the system). This also after the data access for project on all the system was also implemented in There is major interest from the selected public Republic of Serbia, Bosnia and supported pilot Energy Efficiency Agency in (and as applicable) projects and other Herzegovina. Developed EMIS system replicating EMIS at national level. residential is also available in Romania, but it was incl. amending the legislation to selected GHG buildings, PUCs emission sources never used at regional or national make it mandatory for all public and other agreed within the City. level. buildings. obiects. The project had laid down the It is envisaged that EMIS will cover methodology for EMIS transfer, has increasingly more public and had exploratory meetings with UNDP residential buildings in Chisinau counterparts and tabled a calendar of and other cities and be operated by next steps and milestones for full the Green City Lab in the future. transfer of EMIS during the next It is also envisaged that EMIS will reporting period. contribute to overall energy data The project is currently looking into collection for the development of ways to (i) engage with Croatian the Sustainable Energy and international experts that have Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for developed the EMIS software, (ii) Chisinau. The Chisinau Municipal identify the necessary regulatory council approved a declaration to amendments to align with the national the Covenant of Mayors and 2030 energy and building certification Climate Change Adaptation requirements, norms and procedures Agenda. and (iii) identify a group of buildings (residential and public) in order to test EMIS in partnership with Chisinau Municipality, Union Fenosa, Termoelectrica. Trainings for energy experts regarding the EMIS system management, data collection and analysis are also currently discussed and designed by the project team.

Agreed knowledge management	0	The virtual Green	The Green City	It is envisaged that EMIS will cover increasingly more public and residential buildings in Chisinau and other cities and be operated by the Green City Lab in the future. Progress towards achieving midterm	Progress towards achieving
(KM) products and events delivered		City KM platform established At least one international Green	KM platform sustained after the project	target is on track. The Green City KM platform is being built as part of the Green City web page and it is nearly finalized. The project in partnership with UNDP Innovation team and Chisinau City Hall, has developed the concept of a citizen engagement platform www.eu.chisinau.md. The platform encourages citizens to report all sorts of local public deficiencies and track their solution progress through a user-friendly interface. The solution will provide an information outflow channel to be used by the City Hall when updating registered users with urgent announcements. Furthermore, the platform will be used, in the later stage, by municipality as a way to receive feedback from citizens on different municipal initiatives as well as to get a sense of how the citizens feel about the quality of public services. Data collected through the platform will serve as an important	midterm target is on track. The Green City KM platform is being built as part of the Green City web page which was finalized. The project in partnership with UNDP Innovation team and Chisinau City Hall, has developed the concept of a citizen engagement platform www.eu.chisinau.md which is fully operational since January 2020. The platform encourages citizens to report all sorts of local public deficiencies and track their solution progress through a user-friendly interface. Furthermore, the platform will be used, in the later stage, by municipality as a way to receive feedback from citizens on different municipal initiatives as well as to

	source for authorities' decision making and budgeting, seeking an improvement in public service delivery. The pilot is designed together with citizens and local public authorities, in the best traditions of based on the principles of Human Centered Design.
	Furthermore, the information about the project activities, relevant news and initiatives is disseminated and shared through Green city Facebook page with more than 2000 users. www.greencity.md and Facebook Green City Lab. The project was involved in 2018 I a global UNDP campaign - Social Good Summit by promoting urban mobility activities. In 2018 the project co-organized an International Smart city Conference in Chisinau (June 2018). The project supported Municipality of Chisinau in organization of the first Investment Forum (May 2019). Furthermore, the information about the project activities, relevant news and initiatives is disseminated and shared through Green city Lab and intitatives is disseminated and shared through Green city Lab and www.greencity.md. The Facebook page at the end June 2020, has a total number of 2,708 likes, increased by 30% in 2020, and 2,826 followers. The project was involved in 2018 and 2019 a global UNDP campaign - Social Good Summit by promoting urban mobility and climate change activities. Over the reported period Green City Lab produced 48 video spots/stories showcasing project results & activities. All events were widely and intensively promoted in media, social media, UNDP, City Hall and other partners' web pages. Over 300 mass-media materials (TV reportages and programs, radio news, articles in newspapers, news for the web portal and news agencies) about the project

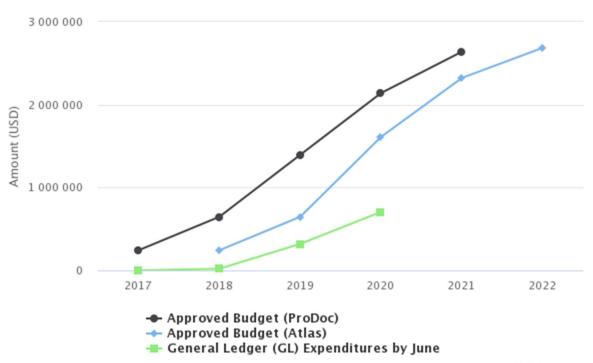
				initiatives and results were disseminated. Projects activities were reflected in 26 press releases about project initiatives & results, widely disseminated. GCL teamed with RBEC Communication Department and UNDP Communication Analyst to promote widely UNDP Moldova activities: video story "Moldova Drive Electric", story for UN Climate Summit Campaign " Moldova: the face of green transport".
Number of EoIs received for replicating the project intervention strategy, specific technical solutions or business models for new projects and/or municipalities	0	municipality and 5 project proponents expressing interest to replicate one or more of the supported interventions.	Moreover, the Green city project successful experience related to Electric vehicles charging stations was replicated by UNDP Ecuador.	Progress towards achieving end project target is onTrack. The project activities will be replicated in the region. Ongoing project activities (ex. SUMP), EMIS and other technical solutions are planned to be included in the EU-UNDP Focal-regions project targeting 2 municipalities, based on the discussion between project teams. Moreover, the Green city project successful experience related to Electric vehicles charging stations was replicated by UNDP Ecuador. Collaboration is established and exchange of information is done with other UN agencies, World Bank and EBRD/EIB.

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The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track				

D. Implementation Progress

Cumulative Disbursements



Highcharts.com

Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc):	26.74%
Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year:	32.97%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August):	705,890

Key Financing Amounts		
PPG Amount	100,000	
GEF Grant Amount	2,639,726	
Co-financing	39,930,000	

Key Project Dates	
PIF Approval Date	Jun 4, 2015
CEO Endorsement Date	Jul 13, 2017
Project Document Signature Date (project start date):	Nov 8, 2017
Date of Inception Workshop	Apr 18, 2018
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	May 8, 2020

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Actual Date of Mid-term Review	(not set or not applicable)
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	Aug 8, 2022
Original Planned Closing Date	Nov 8, 2022
Revised Planned Closing Date	(not set or not applicable)

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2019 to 1 July 2020)		
020-06-02		
019-07-02		

E. Critical Risk Management

Current Types of Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period		
Strategic	The Green City Lab fails to establish itself as a self-sustaining entity and raise funding for new projects after the end of the GEF grant support.		
	Management response: Careful selection of the appropriate institutional set was done in the first 2 years of project implementation. The business model and list of services were developed using the best international practices linked to the experimentation in the initial stage prior to replication. However, economic crisis that affected the global economy as a result of COVID-19 pandemic can have a major impact on GCL financial sustainability. While in initial phase some of the companies committed to financially support the GCL operation, after the pandemic started, all the potential founders resumed to in-king support and co-participation in projects implementation.		
Political	The foreseen co-operation and co-financing arrangements with the key project partners fail to materialize, especial in the Covid-19 pandemic.		
	In the result of the Government reform, political instability at municipal level after the project development phase and Covid-19 pandemic some risks can occur in respecting the co-financing letters.		
	Management response:		
	The project will build on the successful partnerships and dialogues with key financing institutions and other stakeholders identified during the project implementation.		
	Risk mitigation measures have been already put in place by the project:		
	i) active follow up with key project partners to discuss about the commitments made;		
	ii) reflecting and reacting to the eventually changing circumstances with appropriate adaptive management actions and;		
	iii) as required, identify potential new partners and co-financing sources and adjust the project activities accordingly. An additional USD 427,139 funds were leveraged during this reporting period, and additional USD 580,000 are envisaged in the next period based on the potential collaboration with Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure.		

F. Adjustments

Risk Management

The Country Office is responsible for completing the Risk Management section of the PIR in consultation with the RTA. Before updating the PIR, the Country Office must update project-level risks in the Atlas Risk Register line with UNDP's enterprise risk management policy and have a detailed discussion with the RTA on risk management. Next, the Country Office must select below the 'high' risks identified in the Atlas Risk Register as well as any other 'substantial' risks from the Atlas Risk Register identified by the RTA as needing to be addressed in the PIR. Moderate and Low risks do not need to be entered in the PIR Risk Management section. After selecting the risk, a text field will appear where the Country Office should describe the risk and explain actions undertaken this reporting period to address the risk selected.

Select the risk(s) from the options that match the 'high' risks in the project's UNDP Risk Register as well as any 'significant' risks from the register, as agreed with the RTA. Please describe the risk identified and explain the management approach agreed between the RTA and Country Office on managing/mitigating the risk.
Strategic
Political

Comments on delays in key project milestones

Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

The mid-term review is performed with slight delay caused by COVID-19 pandemic. The MTR is following the UNDP-GEF recommendations for MTR and TE during the pandemic.

Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

The mid-term review is performed with delay caused by COVID-19 pandemic. The ToR for the MTR was consulted with UNDP-GEF RTA.

UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.

(not set or not applicable)

2020 Implementation Progress Rating

G. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role

Role	Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating		
Project Manager/Coordinator	Satisfactory	- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -		
Overall Assessment	A satisfactory (S) rating to the Project progress is reflecting the progress towards achievement of development objective (DO).			
	The Development Objective Indicators of the project are expected to be achieved at the end of the project implementation and impact will be visible after project completion. The project objective is to catalyze investments in low carbon green urban development by an integrated urban planning approach and by encouraging innovation, participatory planning and partnerships among and between a variety of public and private sector entities. This objective will be achieved will be through the design, creation, operation, and sustaining of a Green City Lab (GCL).			
	Additional funding of USD 723,309 has been leveraged through key partner and access to climate finance, making impossible achieving the midterm pleater of 2 million USD climate financing. The project has been progressing towards the midterm GHG reduction target, which will be achieved through demonstrative initiatives which have started last year concerning electric tracked dedicated bus and bicycle lanes and solar energy are expected to lead to kilotones CO2eq. reduction calculated over a 20 years.			
	Outcome 1			
	The project is progressing well towards the	development outcome.		
	Setting-up the Green City Lab (GCL) started under the umbrella of the Municipality, shift independent entity in the form of the NGO. founder a selected NGO was not supported Following additional research and taking in private sector it was decided to seek involved founders. An EoI ((EoI19/02012) with clear launched in December 2019 for selection the become founders for the GCL. 12 application of the GCL and the GCL application of the GCL.	ting to UNDP tailored entity until The initial option for GCL having as d by the Project board in June 2020. to account the flexibility and agile of the rement of the private sector as GCL requirements for the candidates was the private sector companies willing to cons were received by the deadline in		
	- Premier Energy (former Gas Natural distributor in the country	al Fenosa), the largest electricity		
	 Simpals SRL, the well-known IT go different areas, starting with on-line market and sport domains. 			
	 ABS SRL, a well-known company t management and sorting, plastic collection contract with Chisinau municipality on wast 	and processing. The company has a		
	- AM SISTEME SRL, is part of the g Gaz S.A. and has experience in construction systems, water and gas networks, solar ho	·		
	<u>l</u>	Page 35 of 73		

2020 Development Objective Progress

The COVID-19 pandemic and associated General and Health emergency situation, with special regime of work for state institutions delayed the institutionalization of the GCL. The GCL foundation was approved by Project board in June 2020, which is followed by signature of relevant MoUs (MoU is covering set-up, operation and closing GCL). Draft MoU was developed and are currently under discussion and signature. After MoU signature, the General Assembly of founding members will be gathered for adoption of the articles of association and other documents needed for registration at the Agency of Public Services, and initiation of director selection. The official registration in the state register lasts approx.1-2 months, and will be followed by operational activities (opening bank accounts, registration with the tax authorities, official employment of staff), conclusion of the Low value grant agreement between UNDP and GCL for operational costs covering and support in implementation of delegated activities. Financial support will be allocated in minimum 2 grants/tranches in the maximum amount of 300,000 USD (1st grant/tranche offered in 2020 will be of 150,000 USD). The draft Business Plan was presented to the Project board in July 2020, and will be updated according to the new economic realities in 2020 after the GCL staff recruitment. The BP foresees attraction of (green) investments in the amount of USD 5,92 million during the next 5 years. In parallel, the GCL Board will have to approve all internal regulations, including the regulation on membership (including categories of membership, criteria for membership, access fee and membership fee) in accordance with signed MoU. Training of the GCL staff in the area of project management, data analysis, etc., will be one of the main priority for the GCP in the upcoming months (on-line courses will be preferred taking into consideration COVID-19 pandemic.

The host-building for the GCL has been identified and approved by the City Council in May 2020. The building will be rehabilitated and will serve as an innovation hub for green projects. The GCL is supposed to have an Executive director, Board and a 4-permanent staff at the initial stage.

GCL trademark was officially registered at AGEPI.

However, for this current reporting period, the risk of not achieving the desired financing target is considered critical. In the project document, the financial risk is considered substantial in impact but low in probability (I=4 and P=2). According to the assessments undertaken by the project so far and considering the national political and financial context, the financial risk probability should be upgraded to moderate, as also indicated during the Inception Workshop by concerned stakeholders. The project is preparing a tighter monitoring scheme during the next reporting period, to accompany the Business Plan and Risk Assessment.

GCL Organigram and forecasted capital

The project had opted for a stepwise approach: have the GCL function as an independent NGO, become gradually self-financed by the end of the project, and consisting of two units: (i) advisory and project management unit, becoming financially profitable by earning money from fees and overheads costs and(ii) investment brokering unit, earning money from mobilizing capital for the City of Chisinau, for green investments. The GCL is therefore envisaged to act as a green advisory and an investment service platform, a project development/implementation unit to support of the Municipality of Chisinau (but not limited to it).

The revenues of the GCL are expected to come from advisory fees from consultancy work, project management, resource mobilization and investment brokering fees. However, as investment brokering is not developed in Moldova, there is a risk that revenues from this activity come at a later stage or will not materialize at all. This risk, along with other financial risks will be adequately

monitored. According to the BP financial forecast, the GCL will need to attract investments amounting to USD 5.93 million during the next 5 years, necessary to achieve the end project target of GCL 200,000 USD yearly revenue. The estimations highlighted during the preparation of Chisinau Municipality Green Action Plan are speaking of climate change related investments of 235 million EUR million during the next years. Partly, these investments are expected to be supported by the GCL in cooperation with other donors and development partners.

By now the Green City Lab functions are performed by UNDP Green Cities Project and overall progress towards achieving the midterm targets have been good, despite delays.

Partnerships

Particularly notable are the key partnerships concluded so far and the best practices in establishing similar innovative green urban development centers/hubs that were studies by the project team and as possible adapted to the national realities.

The project has partnered with:

- (i) Energy Efficiency Fund and private sector company, (USD 118,414) and EV Point (USD 296,170) for installation of 63 electrical charging stations in the country out of which min. 3 are DC fast chargers.
- (ii) Innovation Facility (USD 50,000) which supported neighborhood renewal demonstration, through the installation of small scale photovoltaic trees and testing the crowdfunding investment modality
- (iii) Russia Trust Fund (USD 17,000), under which technical expertise was transferred from Russia and several recommendations were jointly explored with the Moscow Smart City Team in view of the application of their best practices in Chisinau. Russian experience related to establishment of dedicated bus lanes and implementation and adoption of international norms at national level in street lightning was also provided.
- (iv) Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs (241,725 USD) supports deployment of Czech expertise to support sustainable urban mobility planning; Street design guide development; Institutional advice and Roadmap development for implementation of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan of the Chisinau Municipality; development and implementation of Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy Sources (RES) in multi-storey building based on EPC practices; and development of the Smart Transport and Mobility Strategy and Action Plan for Chisinau City.
- (v) Various partnerships for urban environment, energy consumption, population density, land use and transport reliable data handling collection and analysis have been concluded with Orange Telecom company, European Space Agency, City Experiment Fund, UNDP MiLab. This data is used by the Municipality for the development of a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. This also covers behavioural change joint activities with MiLab in energy and plastic consumption, big data, citizen engagement and urban mobility. The joint implemented activities are estimated at USD 181,045.
- (vi) Partnerships with METRO Cash & Carry, Legrand and QMS International materialized in installation of additional 3 electric vehicles charging stations in METRO parking areas an investment of USD 32,000.

Outcome 2

Chisinau municipality has acknowledged UNDP Green Cities Project's role as a strategic partner for the municipality, and often selecting the project as a partner for implementation of urban mobility and integrated land use planning projects. Also, leveraging UNDP's convening power as a neutral broker and facilitator of partnerships among key institutions for green urban development planning the project was requested to support the institutional reform of Transport and Architecture Departments form the Municipality as part of City Hall Reform supported by UNDP.

The project supported local policy dialogue and the development of the Green City Action Plan by EBRD, which was approved by the Municipal council in May 2020.

Under this outcome, the demonstration projects and Fast Track Challenge Projects with MRV integrated in their design, promoting green urban development in four urban sectors have been finalized and some are under implementation.

Urban mobility

The project has positioned itself as Municipality's key strategic partner especially for their utmost priority sector which is the urban sustainable mobility. This is the reason for initiating the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) and Smart Transport and Mobility Strategy and Action Plan for Chisinau City with a sense of urgency, shared with the other donors for that matter. The SUMP and Smart Transport and Mobility Strategy and Action Plan for Chisinau City were financed by the Green City project with USD 120,000 and it is co-financed by the Czech Trust Fund (USD181,655) and Russia-UNDP Partnership for Development (USD12,000) and benefits from international technical expertise. The goal of the Chisinau Smart Transport and Mobility Strategy and Action Plan is to help develop a desirable intelligent transport system for Chisinau city that is practical and cost-effective for an efficient and effective transport management system (using Intelligent Transport Systems) in Chisinau city. The strategy and action plan is expected to be finalized by mid-2021. The first version of the Transport development Concept was developed in May 2020 as a basis for SUMP.

The Streets' Design Guide for Chisinau, as part of SUMP development, is on Municipal Council Agenda for approval. The Street Design Guide represents a set of recommendations and good practices for recovering Chisinau streets as public spaces and a tool which helps the authorities and the private sector to design and build safer, more comfortable and more pleasant streets and public spaces based on people's needs. Street design guide is used for renovation of 31 August 1989 str. (part of EBRD credit line). Several modern urban planning approaches are tested, such us Dedicated 2-way bicycle lanes, parallel parking, mixed pedestrian zones. If succeed the project will be replicated on other 3 streets from the same EBRD funded street renovation package (Tighina, Alexandru cel Bun and Columna streets).

The dedicated bicycle lanes establishment is another Municipality and project priority for green transport promotion. In the first stage a general vision for establishment of a network of bicycle lanes was developed and tested on 31 August 1989 str. which interconnect two major parks in the city center. In the upcoming period, the municipality will receive additional technical support for designing bicycle lanes on another two to three streets in order to start creating a bicycle network in Chisinau.

Based on a broad Partnership between UNDP MiLab, GCL, European Space Agency, Premier Energy and Orange a complex study was done related to Land use (2004-2019), based on GIS/Ortophoto; Population day/night distribution based on Orange and Gas Natural Fenosa data; and Case study on population access to public transport based on Orange data. The resulted data were made possible

organization of the Urban mobility Hackaton, where more than 17 teams tried to identify smart and innovative solutions for transportation optimization and urban mobility in Chişinău. Following the hackathon, with Orange and UDP support two teams are continuing to provide support to Municipality in developing a GIS platform for urban mobility and development of the AI algorithm for public transport timetable and fleet management.

The project succeeded to engage with the Municipality and Russia – UNDP Trust Fund in provision of technical assistance for dedicated lanes for public transport development. Under this activity, the project is providing general ttechnical requirements and recommendations for organization and design of dedicated lanes for public transportation; support in development of the technical documentation for implementing the pilot-project (perimeter of bd. Vieru – str. Bodoni – str. Mateevici – str. Puşkin and Stefan cel Mare blvd.) and recommendations for dedicated lanes establishment for the whole city.

The Standardized Public Lighting Norms were financed by the Russian-UNDP Trust Fund for Development, with an aim of having unified standards for public lighting and harmonization of the national legislation to international norms. Currently the project is discussing with Municipality to pilot new standards on one of the city streets.

Integrated land use planning

Based on a broad partnership, the project is supporting the Municipality of Chisinau in development of the integrated urban development strategies (Chisinau Development Concept and Strategy and General Urban Development Plan of Chisinau) through digital transformation of the municipality's paper and pdf based 2007 GUDP in GIS format to be further included in the Municipality geo-spatial data fund database. The activity is part of a partnership for integrated urban development that envisage development of the Chisinau Development Concept and Strategy (with financial support of the "RosKongress Fundation" and "Academy of Real Estate", Russian Federation) and new General Urban Development Plan (GUDP) of Chisinau (with financial support of the "Asociatia Centrul de Cercetare pentru Dezvltare Durabila", Romania). The Municipality geo-spatial data fund database will be further populated with land use and construction permissive documents issued between 2007 – 2020.

Green transport promotion

The partnership with the Energy Efficiency Agency and private sector company EV Point Srl. has attracted USD 414,584 for the installation of 63 electric charging stations throughout the country compatible with all types of EV and PHEV vehicles. By end of the reporting period 24 stations were installed in the country (19 localities, 48 charging points).

The project's first Electric Vehicles Marathon of October 2018 has been quite successful and inspired a similar initiatives in 2019 and 2020. Ripple effects of this initiative has materialled into further partnerships facilitated by the project between METRO Cash&Carry and QMS International for the installation of three cutting edge electric vehicle charges in the country. The project's concrete interventions have brought green urban awareness to a new level in Moldova. For example, the Electric Vehicles Marathons and deployment of electric charging stations facilitated by the project have led to an increase electric vehicle in the country (from 36 in July 2018 to more than 500 in June 2020), suggesting a surprisingly significant impact in a short amount of time.

In support of the Neighborhood Renewal Green Urban Demonstration Project, the project has been successful in attracting 50,000 USD from Innovation Facility for

installation of the 2 small scale Photovoltaic trees, planned to be replicated in the city using a crowdsourcing platform.

Urban Waste to Biomass Energy Project

The Pre-feasibility study was developed in 2019 aiming reducing fuel poverty in poorer households. Based on a Pre-Feasibility study the most reliable option (Public-Private Partnership) was selected with the Municipality management (an Endorsement letter from municipality was received in May 2020). Following to this a Feasibility study was commissioned with the deadline of August 2020. Following the feasibility study approval by the Chisinau Municipal Council, the demo project will be implemented in the next reporting period (incl. equipment procurement). To be mentioned, that because of fragile political stability in Municipal council, and resistance to changes in Municipal enterprises, there is risk of non-acceptance of the PPP. The project prepared an alternative plan, which can be put rapidly into practice.

Energy efficiency in residential building

Draft Energy Performance Contract developed and Guidelines for Homeowners Associations on contracting and implementing EE projects were developed and consulted with the MoEI and EEA. The activity is financially supported by the Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs in partnership with Energy Efficiency Agency. Building selection criteria development for testing ESCO and EPC were developed. Selection of the residential building and associated Home owners association for demo projects piloting using EPC contract (incl. MRV equipment) is in final evaluation stage. The energy audit and all relevant technical design and planning activities are supposed to be finalized in 2020 and retrofitting works to start in 2021. Replication in the future is planned at municipal level through Municipal buildings rehabilitation programme using municipal budget resources.

Ministry Economy and Infrastructure board member informed the board members, that Constructions department of the Ministry has planned 10 million MDL (USD 580,000) for 2020 and 2021 for piloting some interventions in residential buildings. The Cost-Sharing Agreement is proposed to be signed between project/GCL and Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure so as to obtain better synergy of all efforts and to plan several interventions for making more efficient the consumption of energy resources in several type-blocks in Chisinau (or maybe even outside the city).

Neighborhood renewal green urban demonstration project.

Elaboration of a 'Green Design Code' for both existing and new buildings was initiated in 2019. The draft of the Buildings Green Design Code was developed and are consulted with the Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure specialized department. Life Cycle Assessment for most typical residential buildings (143 and MS building series) is on-going. Two guidelines are developed in support to the Green Design Code: the technical guide for Green Design of the buildings in Moldova's climate conditions and the Operational guidelines for the building certified specialists. The project in collaboration with Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure seeks the possibility of integration of green building certification as a mandatory requirement for public buildings rehabilitation works.

In addition to the Green design code, the project participated at the development of the UNECE USD 1,4 mln regional project "Improving the energy efficiency of the global building supply chain industry and its products to deliver high performance

buildings", that will offer the possibility to make tangible changes in construction materials production and processes to make them greener and more energy efficient.

The selection process of the residential building and associated Home owners association for demo project in Solar Hot Water/PV piloting using EPC contract (incl. MRV equipment) is in final evaluation stage. By the end of the next reporting period the feasibility study, energy audit and adjusting of technical documentation for the planned works will be performed.

In 2019, the project has complemented this initiative with an additional USD 50,000 from the funded by the IRH Innovation Facility for installation of the 2 small scale Photovoltaic trees. Furthermore, the project finalized development of the Street design guide of the Chisinau (currently under Municipal council approval), that will help the Architecture department of the City to better plan for the city infrastructure. Both Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan and Street design guide will be ultimately integrated in the updated PUG of the Municipality.

Elaboration for a zonal plan for BIC River

This project concerns the elaboration of one zonal plan informing the beneficiaries how to better realize the planned works and to install the small architectural elements. The demo project had to complement planned investments of the Chisinau municipality for 2, 04 km of Bic river restoration and consolidation using 10 Mil Euro Romanian Grant Project for Bic river restoration "Solutions for Adaptation to Climate Change". However, funds disbursement is delayed for more than 3 years due to reasons beyond project's control, and there is a big risk that the resources will not be allocated in the result of COVID-19 pandemic.

At the June 2020 meeting, the Project board approved the reallocation of available resources meant for implementing the pilot project for drafting the Zonal Plan for the River BîC for co-financing the setup of the Cadaster and Strategy for Green Spaces', under the condition of approving the necessary resources in the municipal budget (approx. USD 850,000) or to implement other initiative jointly identified with the Municipality. The respective change will be suggested to be included in the MTR recommendations.

Fast Track Challenge Programme

"Fast Track" challenge program(s) is building on the general model of challenge programs implemented in other countries (based on Innovation Challenge Award for private sector companies) to offer technical assistance in the range of USD 8000 for new and innovative complementary solutions contributing to low carbon green city development and which can be brought to implementation quickly and at modest costs. The Fast Track Challenge Project call of 2019 has financed seven project focused on:

- Collecting and delivery of the real on-line data from sensors on water polution and water quality of the Bic river in Chisinau
- -Transforming organic animal and vegetal waste from Botanical and Zoological gardens into the compost using Effective Microorganisms method throught Bokashi fermentation.
- -Development and integration of the Eco-Driving" training module into the national curricula for drivers as a mandatory course of study.

- -Testing the series-parallel system for calculation of individual heat consumption and optimization of heat distribution in vertical heating systems in one building.
- Re-use of the old 100 kW electric vehicle battery that is not suitable more for EV drive, as a storage for the PV panels in one multiapartment residential building.
- Testing the alternative waste management model for composting the organic waste resulted from household's use.
- Development of the electric scooter sharing system in Chisinau city centre as a cheap mobility alternative.

The third round of call of proposals of the Fast Track Challenge Program was initiated in July 2020 with the application deadline of beginning of August 2020.

Outcome 3

Knowledge Management Platform

The project has set-up a knowledge management platform with an aim of more effective citizen engagement. The management platform entail a comprehensive on-line open data on green urban development and a roster of experts and constitute a clearing house for the green city development providing a basis for project's outreach, community engagement, capacity and partnership building activities.

The Green City KM platform was built as part of the Green City web page. The project with the support of UNDP Innovation team and Chisinau City Hall, has developed the and launched the citizen engagement platform www.eu.chisinau.md. The platform encourages citizens to report all sorts of local public deficiencies and track their solution progress through a user-friendly interface. Furthermore, the platform will be used, in the later stage, by municipality as a way to receive feedback from citizens on different municipal initiatives as well as to get a sense of how the citizens feel about the quality of public services. Data collected through the platform serves as an important source for authorities' decision making and budgeting, seeking an improvement in public service delivery. The pilot was designed together with citizens and local public authorities, in the best traditions of based on the principles of Human Centred Design.

The project has built a Green City Platform, a web page and a social media (Facebook) page with more than 2,826 followers so far.

The project was involved in 2019 I a global UNDP campaign - Social Good Summit by promoting climate change agenda.

Green City Project has planned and organized following awareness raising events of different format:

- 2019 07 02: Street design guide public launch
- 2019 07 03-07: Moldova Electro-Marathon
- 2019 07 10: Solar trees installation works (Rascani district)
- 2019 09 28: Solar tree launch (Ciocana district)
- 2019 10 25-28: Urban Mobility Hackathon
- 2019 11 10-16: ElectricUltraMaraton

Over the reported period Green City Lab produced 48 video spots/stories showcasing project results & activities. All video stories were uploaded on Youtube channel: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLW8tTWcbumleAeC-

- a series of photo galleries, available here: https://www.flickr.com/photos/undpmoldova/albums

All events were widely and intensively promoted in media, social media, UNDP, City Hall and other partners' web pages. Over 300 mass-media materials (TV reportages and programs, radio news, articles in newspapers, news for the web portal and news agencies) about the project initiatives and results were disseminated. Media monitoring was done monthly.

Projects activities were reflected in 26 press releases about project initiatives & results, widely disseminated.

GCL teamed with RBEC Communication Department and UNDP Communication Analyst to promote widely UNDP Moldova activities: video story "Moldova Drive Electric", story for UN Climate Summit Campaign "Moldova: the face of green transport" (https://undpmoldova.exposure.co/moldova-the-face-of-green-transport) being featured on the global exposure home page www.exposure.co

The Annual Communication Work Plan (for 2019, 2020) were fully implemented except several activities planet for the first half of 2020 and postponed due to novel COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the reported period several brochures and guides were produced, the main one being the Street Design Guide - http://greencity.md/chisinau-ghid-dedesign-al-strazilor/

MRV and EMIS

The MRV is included in the design of the demonstration projects and the Fast Track Challenge projects. The project generate annual MRV reports.

EMIS software and data base developed initially by UNDP Croatia was successfully deployed on UNDP server in December 2019.

The first explanatory workshop for energy managers with involvement of Serbian colleagues and in partnership with Energy Efficiency Agency was successfully delivered in January 2020.

An agreement was reached with Municipality of Chisinau and EBRD to pilot EMIS on selected 23 municipality buildings as part of the EBRD contract (by installation of smart meters). Another 20 buildings will be also included in the pilot project by including the consumption data manually. At the end of a pilot phase the data will be compared.

There is major interest from the Energy Efficiency Agency in replicating EMIS at national level, incl. amending the legislation to make it mandatory for all public buildings.

It is envisaged that EMIS will cover increasingly more public and residential buildings in Chisinau and other cities and be operated by the Green City Lab in the future.

EMIS is a perfect data collection tool for the Chisinau Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan development (SECAP) currently supported by the project based on the Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDG funding. The Chisinau Municipal council approved a declaration to the Covenant of Mayors and 2030 Climate Change Adaptation Agenda, endorsing in this was official intention to develop SECAP in the next 2 years. SECAP roadmap development and ToRs for needed staff will be provided by the project soon.

Project delivery

The project implementation is on track and has delivered the planned activities in 2019. The delivery was 100% (USD 404,426). The total budget for 2020 is USD 1.115,959, which was increased after budget revision in January 2020. So far, the implementation of project activities is on track and 2020 delivery has reached 33.2% at end of June 2020.

Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory

Overall Assessment

The project Development Objective and Implementation progress are rated as Satisfactory

The objective of the project is to catalyze investments in low carbon green urban development based on integrated urban planning approach by encouraging innovation, participatory planning and partnerships between a variety of public and private sector entities.

As a vehicle for this, the project supports the design, launching, and establishment of the Green City Lab to become the leading knowledge management and networking platform, clearing house, an inter-mediator of finance and a source of innovations and expertise to catalyze sustainable low carbon green city development in Moldova with a mission to transform Chisinau and other urban centres in Moldova into modern green and smart European cities with improved quality of life for their citizens, while also demonstrating opportunities for sustainable economic growth.

The progress towards development outcome is on track with slight delay in establishment of the Green City Lab. The delay was caused by multiple factors beyond project control and failing to to achieve the ambitious mid-term target of USD 2 mil of carbon investments by project's midterm. The target was set-up based on the similar lab (Carbon Trust Fund, London, UK) financial projections and experience, which was long term subsidized by the London City Hall.

The risk of failing to catalyze the expected investments in low carbon green urban development has been adequately monitored. USD 2mil mid term climate finance target has been acknowledged as being overly ambitious since the inception period, when stakeholders' consultations have highlighted this risk and the project management have increased the risk probability from 2 to 3. Therefore, two critical risks have been monitored for this reporting period, and upgraded from 2 to 3 namely: (i) The Green City Lab fails to establish itself as a self-sustaining entity and raise funding for new projects after the end of the GEF grant support (I=4; P=3).

UNDP CO is addressing this risk by assessing the best institutional and financial models for Green City Lab. In result this led to selection of private sector companies as founding members and leading partners for the GCL. (ii) The foreseen cooperation and co-financing arrangements with the key project partners fail to materialize. In order to mitigate this risk, and supported by the CO, the project is continuously seeking to reinforce key partnerships, building on initial financial pledges and letters of endorsement and seeking to conclude new innovative partnerships both with regional UNDP Initiatives (Russian Trust Fund for Development, Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs, Innovation Fund), Municipality, Government - these are all initiatives triggered by new and traditional partnerships sought by the project during this reporting period. To be mentioned that project succeeded to attract several private partners (EV Point, QMS International,, Orange Moldova) in project implementation, with overall co-financing of more than USD 300,000.

Outcome 1

The project is making all possible efforts towards setting up a fully operational Green City Lab (GCL) recognized by the key stakeholders as the leading innovation, knowledge management and networking platform and a source of expertise for catalyzing sustainable low carbon green city development in Moldova with secured funding to continue its operation after the UNDP/GEF project closure. Different options for GCL set-up were analyzed and many of them being impossible to apply either from sustainability or flexibility/independency point of view. Also, the legal framework do not provide sufficient options for GCL operational sustainability.

The recommendations concerning the institutional set-up, staffing, financial planning etc, led to the conclusion that the most feasible option for a sustainable institutional GCL set-up was to register GCL as an NGO. Under this scenario it was initially proposed to select an existing NGO, based on a competitive process, and built it capacity, relying at the same time on existing team experience and reputation. This option was not supported by the Project board in July 2019. After broad discussions with key stakeholders and taking into account private sector flexibility and profit orientation it was recommended to seek the possibility of private sector involvement in the GCL. Different scenarios of private sector engagement were discussed, including through direct discussions with major actors such as Premier Energy (largest energy provider), Orange Moldova (largest telecom company), big retailers (Metro Cash&Carry, Kaufland) and IT companies (Starnet and Simpals).

Parallel discussions were held with newly elected Chisinau Municipality administration for joining the efforts in Municipality EBRD financed projects implementation under the GCL. Unfortunately this was restricted by current EBRD and Municipality rules, but it was agreed to seek the possibility in the future once the GCL is fully functional.

In the result in December 2019, it was identified that the best option for private sector involvement is through establishment of the GCL in the legal form of Patronage Association. Meantime, a new Law on NGO's was developed in accordance with EU practices, and being approved in June, which allows registration the GCL as a ordinary NGO. The GCL will benefit from the new law by being able to receive 2% of revenue taxes from juridical entities and individuals and having as the same time as members private sector companies, individual experts and NGOs, which was not possible under the previous Law.

Based on a competitive process 12 applications were received and pre-selected 4 companies that received the higher rating and are proposed as founding members of the GCL: PREMIER ENERGY SRL, SIMPALS SRL, ABS SRL, AM SISTEME SRL. All this companies are well known and active in the areas of GCL intervention.

The proposed founding members were approved by the Project board in it's decision from 02 June 2020.

In support of the GCL operationalization, the Municipality of Chisinau allocated a dedicated building in historical center through the Municipal Council on 21 May 2020. Building is offered for an initial period of 5 years, and will be fully renovated by the project.

In the upcoming period, the project will undertake all necessary steps for GCL institutionalization according to the national legislation, support in staff selection and its training. According to the developed Business plan, the GCL will be financially supported in the initial stage in the amount of max USD 300,000 based on the Low Value Grant Agreement.

The project is currently performing the GCL operations and has managed to position itself as a leader in promoting green urban sustainable mobility, conclude several partnerships (chiefly among them are: Energy Efficiency Fund; Orange; Russia Trust Fund; Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs, EV Point) and leverage USD 451,309 during this reporting period (USD 723,309 from project start).

In the reporting period, the project was actively involved in supporting EBRD efforts for advancing green urban agenda, which finalized with Green City Action Plan approval by Municipal council on 19 May 2020.

Particularly notable are the project team efforts in establishing new partnerships and attracting additional resources for project implementation. This particularity also influenced the overall financial delivery of the project, that is low in GEF resources spending but incredible high in results obtained, especially in demo projects implementation part of the project. Also, the project team is relying on different partners joint contribution to activities implementation and splitting the cost, respecting in this was the Value for Money principle.

Cumulatively from the project start partnerships were established with:

- (i) Energy Efficiency Fund and private sector company, (USD 118,414) and EV Point (USD 296,170) for installation of 63 electrical charging stations in the country out of which min. 3 are DC fast chargers.
- (ii) Innovation Facility (USD 50,000) which supported neighborhood renewal demonstration, through the installation of small scale photovoltaic trees and testing the crowdfunding investment modality
- (iii) Russia Trust Fund (USD 17,000), under which technical expertise was transferred from Russia and several recommendations were jointly explored with the Moscow Smart City Team in view of the application of their best practices in Chisinau. Russian experience related to establishment of dedicated bus lanes and implementation and adoption of international norms at national level in street lightning was also provided.
- (iv) Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs (241,725 USD) supports deployment of Czech expertise to support sustainable urban mobility planning; Street design guide development; Institutional advice and Roadmap development for implementation of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan of the Chisinau Municipality; development and implementation of Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy Sources (RES) in multi-storey building based on EPC practices; and development of the Smart Transport and Mobility Strategy and Action Plan for Chisinau City.
- (v) Various partnerships for urban environment, energy consumption, population density, land use and transport reliable data handling collection and analysis have been concluded with Orange Telecom company, European Space Agency, City Experiment Fund, UNDP MiLab. This data is used by the Municipality for the development of a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. This also covers

behavioural change joint activities with MiLab in energy and plastic consumption, big data, citizen engagement and urban mobility. The joint implemented activities are estimated at USD 181,045.

(vi) Partnerships with METRO Cash & Carry, Legrand and QMS International materialized in installation of additional 3 electric vehicles charging stations in METRO parking areas - an investment of USD 32,000.

Outcome 2

The project showed good progress related to demo projects implementation. The design of all demonstration projects finalized in 2019 with clear activities to be implemented and each partner role.

A very good partnership with Chisinau Municipality led to advancing in a number of pilots related to urban mobility. An intelligent and adaptive management was put in place by the project team, where the project is coming with Consultancy support and Technical assistance, while the Municipality is performing all the works from the Municipal budget. This approach led to making the project the main partner for urban mobility and land use projects, with much more activities implemented or under implementation compare to approved in ProDoc. The interventions are related to:

- Supporting in development of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan
- Development of the Strategy and Action Plan for Intelligent Transport System in Chisinău
- Development and Approval of the Streets' Design Guide for Chisinau
- Development of the Dashboard for urban data visualization based on collection and analysis of the mobility, land, use, population and energy consumption data
- Development of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool for management and optimization of the public transport schedule in Chisinau, that will increase the efficiency of the fleet management.
- Establishment of dedicated lanes for public transport on 5 streets from city centre
- Re-design of 31 August 1989 str. (currently under renovation from EBRD loan) based on provisions of the Streets' Design Guide for Chisinau, developed by the project.
- Functional analysis of the Municipal Architecture and Transport departments to modernize and make more efficient the processes management
- Transposing into GIS format the current GUP for Chisinau (2007-2025) as a basic element for development for development of the new Chisinau Municipality sustainable development strategy and new General Urbanistic Plan
- Installation of the 2 solar trees.

By receiving USD 118,000 from the Energy Efficiency Fund and attracting a private sector company as a partner co-financing with USD 414,584, the project was extremely successful in becoming the leading actor in developing electromobility in Moldova. The Opportunity study was developed in 2019, which assessed the perspective of electromobility in Moldova, indicated the locations for chargers to be installed, in order to ensure interconnectivity between Romania and Moldova, and

pointed the legal and financial support needed from the Government to boost use of electric vehicles. By now, out 63 electric charging stations, 24 are already installed across the country. The rest will be installed by the end of the year. To be mentioned, that the charging stations rely on the energy mix of min 30% from renewables, contributing in this way to CO2 reduction. Additional 3 charging stations are installed based on a partnership facilitated by the project between METRO Cash&Carry and QMS International. Another charging station was installed near the residential multiapartment building and rely fully on photovoltaic energy. The activity was done based on a collaboration between QMS International and the project.

Starting with autumn 2019, the project initiated the activities for transforming Urban Waste to Biomass. A developed pre-feasibility study identified the Public-Private Partnership as the best option for project implementation. Following Municipality support letter received in May 2020, a Feasibility study was commissioned with the deadline of August 2020, which will be presented to the Municipal Council for approval in order to advance with project implementation. In order to overcome the possible risks of non-acceptance of the PPP, the project prepared an alternative plan, which can be put rapidly into practice.

The project is actively facilitating local policy dialogues and seeking entry points for), supporting the development of a Green Design Code to inform the implementation of projects as a regulation within the PUG and to inform the updating of other construction norms (SNIPs) managed by the Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure. The draft of the Buildings Green Design Code was developed and are consulted with the Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure specialized department. Life Cycle Assessment for most typical residential buildings (143 and MS building series) is on-going. Two guidelines are developed in support to the Green Design Code: the technical guide for Green Design of the buildings in Moldova's climate conditions and the Operational guidelines for the building certified specialists. As a complementary activity, the project team supported UNDP CO in co-participating at development of the UNECE USD 1,4 mln regional project "Improving the energy efficiency of the global building supply chain industry and its products to deliver high performance buildings", that should make tangible changes in construction industry.

As for Energy efficiency in residential building pilot project, with the support of Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDGs and in partnership with Energy Efficiency Agency the Draft Energy Performance Contract for residential sector and Guidelines for Homeowners Associations on contracting and implementing EE projects were developed. Selection of the residential building and associated Home owners association for demo projects piloting using EPC contract is in final evaluation stage. The energy audit and all relevant technical design and planning activities are supposed to be finalized in 2020 and retrofitting works to start in 2021.

The selection process of the residential building and associated Home owners association for demo project in Solar Hot Water/PV piloting using EPC contract (incl. MRV equipment) is in final evaluation stage. By the end of the next reporting period the feasibility study, energy audit and adjusting of technical documentation for the planned works will be performed.

As for elaboration for a zonal plan for BIC River, the project proposed to the board reallocation of available resources for co-financing the setup of the Cadaster and Strategy for Green Spaces', under the condition of approving the necessary resources in the municipal budget. A supporting Municipal council decision was approved in June 2020. In case the Municipal resources will not be leveraged, other

initiative will be identified with the Municipality and proposed to the Project board for approval.

Under Fast Track Challenge first call, the project has supported 7 innovative actions in the areas of alternative transport and eco driving, energy efficiency in buildings and waste management. The third call of proposals of the Fast Track Challenge Program was initiated in July 2020 The total approximated number of beneficiaries is 690,000 out of which 60% women. Among other initiatives, these projects are designed to encourage broad community engagement and participation.

Outcome 3

Under Outcome 3 the implementation is going well, and the outputs obtained so far are already positioning the project as a trend setter in green urban development and a facilitator, bringing citizens together and closer to Municipality.

The progress towards setting up a knowledge management architecture to facilitate learning scaling up and replication and a consistent M&E mechanism, is tangible. The project already represents a trend-setter concerning electric transport in Moldova. The Electric Vehicles Marathons organized in October 2018, July and October 2019) and the deployment of electric charging stations facilitated by the project have led to an increase in electric vehicles in the country (from 36 in July 2018 to 500 in June 2019), suggesting the impact and transformational change that was triggered by the project and the nation wide outreach through various social media platforms built up during this reporting period.

A comprehensive knowledge management and networking platform finalized, based on green city web site, providing a basis for bringing citizens closer to the municipality therefore supporting community engagement, capacity and partnership building activities; learning and access to green urban development knowledge;

The project, has developed the and launched the citizen engagement platform www.eu.chisinau.md which in the very short period of time became the main channel for communication between citizens and City Hall. The platform encourages citizens to report all sorts of local public deficiencies and track their solution progress through a user-friendly interface.

The project has so far built and activated a web page and a social media (Facebook) page with more than 2800 users. Following the UNDP Monthly media reports, the project was constantly in the top of the rating for media coverage in the reporting period. Numerous, posts, video stories, press releases were developed by the project in the reporting period.

Dialogues with other UNDP country offices that have used EMIS (Energy management Information System) in Croatia, led to EMIS transfer in Moldova in the reporting period. EMIS is being piloted on Municipal public buildings as part of a joint collaboration with EBRD. The result of the first year EMIS piloting will be reported in the next year PIR. EMIS will be also used as a data collection tool for the Chisinau Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan development (SECAP) currently supported by the project based on the Czech-UNDP Partnership for SDG funding. The Chisinau Municipal council approved a declaration to the Covenant of Mayors and 2030 Climate Change Adaptation Agenda.

The project has been progressing well towards the midterm GHG reduction target, which will be achieved through the demonstrative initiatives which have started last year concerning electric transport, dedicated bus and bicycle lanes and solar

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	energy are expected to lead to 150.5 kilotones CO2eq. reduction calculated over a 20 years.	
	The project had implemented the 2019 planned activities, total budget USD 404,426 and delivery was 100%. For 2019, the planned budget is USD 1.115,959 and the delivery at the time of reporting (end June) is 33.2% and 40.2 (on 6 July). The relatively low financial delivery from the project start is explained by attracting additional resources and partnerships for project activities implementation and saving the GEF allocated resources, that will be used in next reporting periods for additional activities implementation.	
Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating
GEF Operational Focal point	Satisfactory	- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -
Overall Assessment	The project is rated as Satisfactory. While the project started with delay (in April 2018) facing late signature of the AWP, it succeeded in a little bit more than 2 years to achieve tangible results which will contribute to the climate change mitigation agenda of the country.	
	It's very important that the project found the best option for setting up the Green City Lab by involving private sector companies. This approach is very innovative and can represent a good practice for other projects both in the country and in the region.	
	The project has very close collaboration was	
	Also, the project engaged successfully with multilateral donors and IFI in the activities big data and energy efficiency.	•
	The project is very active in promoting electincrease of the electric and plug-in vehicle charging stations installed with the project sector resources, are available in any part transit between neighborhood countries.	s in the country. The electric vehicles support, using governmental and private
	In the waste management area, the project private-public partnership for woody bioma The proposed solution will bring economic one side, municipality and vulnerable famil	ss waste transformation into briquettes. benefits to private sector partner from
	On energy efficiency in buildings domain, t actively with the Ministry of Economy and I Termoelectrica and Homeowners Associat the HoA and buildings for retrofitting works speeding up the works implementation dur	infrastructure, Energy Efficiency Agency, ion. The current process of selection of and Photovoltaics, would contribute to
	While the 10 Mil Euro Romanian Grant Pro Adaptation to Climate Change" did not man project as adaptive management is more to and Strategy for Green Spaces will solve to in Chisinau and would contribute to reaching	terialize, a solution proposed by the han welcome. The developed Cadaster he problem of green spaces management

The Fast Track Challenge Programme proved to be an important tool for testing innovative ideas that contribute to CO2 reduction. One of the recently implemented project "Re-use of the old 100 kW electric vehicle battery that is not suitable more for EV drive, as a storage for the PV panels in one multiapartment residential building" was widely mediatized and represent a very good solution for buildings without access to energy. A specific interest to this innovative solution was raised by the gas stations, that wants to replace backup generators. EMIS is another project best practice that can bring to tangible energy and CO2 reductions in public/residential buildings and in industrial sectors. The project interventions are very visible and well promoted through all the communication channels: Facebook, TV, radio, internet. Numerous events were organized by the project (incl. Electromobility marathons and Urban mobility Hackaton). Role 2020 Development Objective Progress 2020 Implementation Progress Rating Rating - IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF **Project Implementing Partner** Satisfactory Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -Overall Assessment Satisfactory rating is given to the project. From its start the project has a close collaboration with the Municipality of Chisinau in different areas: urban mobility, urbanism, energy efficiency and land use planning. Also, the project is physically located in the Municipality premises, which makes the collaboration even closer. Starting with this year, the projects workplan was fully integrated in the Municipality workplan, putting more responsibility on the Municipal department in relation to the jointly implemented activities. The Municipality supported establishment of the Green City Lab as an independent and self-sustainable entity, that cannot be affected by any political interferences but at the same time being anchored to the Municipality Agenda. Special attention should be given to the project support offered to the Municpality in solving the urban mobility problems. Thanks to project support and project attracted resources form Czech and Russian Trust Funds several initiatives were implemented or are under implementation: Development of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan as follow up to Transport development Concept. The activity is implemented jointly with the Municipality Architecture and Urbanism Department with which the project has signed a Memorandum of Understanding, Smart Transport and Mobility Strategy and Action Plan for Chisinau City financed by the Czech – UNDP Partnership for SDGs 3. Functional analysis of the Transport Department The Streets' Design Guide for Chisinau, financed by the Czech – UNDP Partnership for SDGs, was endorsed to Municipal Council for approval. The dedicated bicycle lanes establishment is currently tested on 31 August 1989 str. with a replication potential on several other streets from the city. Urban mobility Hackaton organized in 2019 that continues with GIS platform

fleet management development.

for urban mobility development and AI algorithm for public transport timetable and

- 7. Provision of technical consultancy support for establishing of dedicated bus lanes on bd. Vieru str. Bodoni str. Mateevici str. Puşkin and Stefan cel Mare blvd.) financed by the Russia UNDP Trust Fund for Development.
- 8. Development Standardized Public Lighting Norms, also financed by the Russia UNDP Trust Fund for Development. The norms will be piloted on one or several streets from the city.
- Installation of two photovoltaic trees in the city based on joint collaboration.

In the result of the functional analysis of the Architecture, Urbanism and Land Use department supported by project, it was identified lack of the interdepartmental collaboration, poor construction and land use permits evidence, and lack of the GIS database of the planning documents and construction permits. To overcome this issues, the project is supporting Municipality is digitizing existing GUP as a basis for Municipality geo-spatial data fund database that will be later on populated with land use and construction permissive documents issued between 2007 – 2020. The digitized GUP and database will serve as a foundation for the new Chisinau Development Concept and Strategy and new General Urban Plan.

There is an interesting activity implemented by the project related to transformation of urban wood biomass into briquettes. Several options were presented and most feasible one was selected jointly between city hall and the project. When implemented, the urban green spaces entity will benefit from less costs for wood exploitation with increased revenues, as indicated in the Pre-feasibility study.

The project is actively collaborating with EBRD in testing EMIS system on preselected 23 municipal buildings. This activity is a win-win one for both entities as it will clearly indicate the baseline and savings after the retrofitting works.

The Municipality is carefully following selection of the buildings for retrofitting and interaction with Home Owners Associations process undertaken by project now, because it will help in the future with implementation of the Municipal buildings rehabilitation programme and involvement of Home Owners Associations in the process.

While the Green design Code for the buildings is implemented jointly with Ministry of Economy, it will help Municipality in applying high quality standards for public and residential buildings retrofitting.

By looking at the project indicators it seems that some of the project indicators are unachievable or too optimistic. This refers to the climate finance leveraged resources, especially this is very actual now in the middle of epidemiological and financial crisis. From my personal perspective, as deputy mayor and Head of the project board, the project is doing everything possible to attract additional resources for climate related projects, that leaded to USD723,309 attraction during the last two years, but it's hard to believe that the target of USD10 mln will be realistic to be achieved. As the project is currently in the process of Mid term evaluation, I would recommend to revise some of the indicators and making them more realistic.

In conclusion should be mentioned that the project is very timely for the current dynamic Municipal agenda.

Role

2020 Development Objective Progress Rating

2020 Implementation Progress Rating

Other Partners	(not set or not applicable)	- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -	
Overall Assessment	(not set or not applicable)		
Role	2020 Development Objective Progress Rating	2020 Implementation Progress Rating	
UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory	
Overall Assessment	The objective of this project is to catalyze investments in low carbon green urban development by an integrated urban planning approach and by encouraging innovation, participatory planning and partnerships with a variety of public and private sector entities. The main way that this project intends to do this is by designing, launching, and sustaining a Green City Lab (GCL) within the City of Chisnau. I am rating this project an MS for DO or Development Objective and a MS or IP (implementation progress). As the GCL is still not set up, it is not clear whether or not the target of \$10 million USD of investment will be leveraged by the GCL and at least 200,000 tonnes of CO2e will be reduced from direct project emissions. Initial estimates are that the pilot projects supported by the project team of UNDP are likely to lead to a 150,500 tonnes of CO2eq to be reduced over a 20 year lifetime.		
	Last year I wrote the project is MS and the year because while there is progress there. The main reason for the continued MS rati (GCL) is still not set up yet. The fact that it set up as a municipal NGO with private se but I do have concerns about who will be what happens if the private sector comparenvisaged designing, launching and imple project and supporting pilot green urban d launched, the project has instead been su the project team was the Green City Lab a of the GCL. At one point the project was e team to be the GCL for the entire project to point. This is all very well but the project to needs to close when the GEF project close project will be lost.	e are also barriers and further delays also. Ing has to be that the Green City Lab was finally decided that the GCL wil be ctor founders is a positive development in control and who will be in charge so lies disagree. While the project strategy menting the GCL by the mid-term of the evelopment projects once the GCL is proporting pilot demonstration projects as if and this has contributed to the slow set up vening considering to consider the project luration. Luckily this stopped at some eam is not sustainable. The project office	
	The project started in November 2017 and November 2022. After 2 years and 9 mont (although it is indeed close) and the cumu \$705,990 out of a total GEF project budge project time period has passed and that cuthis rates as MS. A project board meeting 2020 had to be cancelled due to the COVI has been affected by political instability in months there have been changes in gover scandals, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Thave slowed overall delivery of the project	hs, the GCL is still not established lative delivery stands at 26.7% or some t of some \$2,639,736. Given that half the imulative delivery for this year was 32.9% which was scheduled to be held in March D-19 pandemic. Project implementation Republic of Modova. In the past 12 mment, changes in Mayor, more hese factors have impeded progress and	
	I will now assess each outcome one by on	e:	

Outcome 1 of the project aims to have a fully operational Green City Lab recognized by the key stakeholders as the leading innovation, knowledge management and networking platform which is profitable and a source of expertise for catalyzing sustainable low carbon green city development in Moldova with secured funding to continue its operation also after the UNDP/GEF project closure. As I mentioned, there have been some delays in setting up the GCL but at least the structure is finally agreed (NGO with private sector founder members) and the GCL which was on track to be established by early 2020 , then by mid-2020, is no scheduled to be on track by the end of 2020. Estabishment of the GCL by the end of 2020 of course means that there are only two years left of project implementation before the project is due to close the project will likely require an extension especially since the UNDP plan for supporting the GCL through grants reduced over time is for a period of some three years. Even without the GCL in operation, the project has to be commended for working closely through the EBRD where, the project supported in the development of the Chisinau Green City Action Plan, which was approved in May 2020. The Green City Action Plan indicates the possibility to leverage climate related investments of 235 million EUR during the next 10 years and it is great that the project works with the EBRD on this important issue. A previous UNDP GEF project called ESCO Moldova was supposed to work on a green city action plan , but did not, so it is really positive that the project is working in this area of supporting a green city action plan. The project rates as MS under outcome 1 but only because the GCL is not set up yet. Once it is set up, and if the good work continues on the pilot demonstration projects, including through transferring ownership to the GCL of the ongoing green urban demonstration projects then it is quite possible that this outcome could be rated S or satisfactory next year.

Outcome 2 of the project calls for successfully completed pilot/demonstration projects with related monitoring, reporting and verification of the results in the areas of: i) integrated and participatory urban land use and mobility planning; ii) residential building energy efficiency and renewable energy use; iii) low carbon mobility; and iv) resource efficient waste management. The project team has been doing a very good area on this outcome with my main concern being that all the green pilot urban development initiatives are being carried out by the project team and not by the GCL (Green City Lab) which does not exist yet. Pilot green urban initiatives supported by the project, to date, include an urban mobility and alternative transport project and has developed a sustainable urban mobility plan and a street design guide as well as piloting the first dedicated bus lane in Chisinau on 5 central streets. The sustainable transport projects have benefitted from help from the Czech and the Russian Trust Funds. Another pilot project on urban waste to energy is being developed and feasibility study is being completed and the investment is scheduled to take place in 2021. A third pilot project works on improving draft energy performance contracts and developing guidelines tat weill help develop the ESCO market. This, in my view, will be a very challenging pilot to implement as a previously implemented UNDP GEF ESCO Moldova project implemented by UNDP in Moldova (ended up with a U rating) showed just how difficult and challenging it is to develop the ESCO market. A fourth pilot project works on a neighborhood renewal green urban development project which includes developing a green design code and a life cycle assessment for most buildings. The pilot project, once implemented aims to work with home owners association for demo projects in Solar Hot Water/PV piloting using EPC contract (incl. MRV equipment) and it is expected to be completed by mid 2021. As part of the neighborhood green renewable project USD 50,000 was already spent by the IRH Innovation Facility on solar tress and these were demonstrated to great effect putting solar panels in trees and powering electricity to the grid. Finally, the project has developed a 5th green pilot demo on the elaboration for a zonal plan for BIC River. This project is approved for funding

by the government of Romania and the project is expected to be approved in 2021. Project has done a really good job in this area and I am rating this component an S due to how active the project has been. My one main concern is that there needs to be a clear plan to turn ownership and development of the pilot projects over to the GCL and this has not been done yet. Hopefully, by the next reporting period it will be possible to report that the GCL is indeed finally operational and is supporting projects. Cumulatively, the GHG reduction potential of the pilot projects is over 150,000 tonnes of CO2e or more so the project is well on track to meet its CO2 emission reduction targets.

Outcome 3 of the project calls for the monitoring and Evaluation, knowledge management and replication of project results. City of Chisinau has appointed the GCL to be the strategic partner for energy management which is indeed good news. This component of the project has focused on developing an energy management information system (EMIS) from Croatia to Moldova and on this component, the project has been doing very well. The EMIS software and database of energy consumption has been transferred to the Republic of Moldova and EMIS has been piloted with 43 municipal buildings. The Energy Efficiency Agency is interested to replicate EMIS at a national level. Scaling up EMIS to the national level is a role that could be undertaken by the GCL once it is operational. Indeed, it is already envisaged that EMIS will cover increasingly more public and residential buildings in Chisinau and other cities and be operated by the Green City Lab in the future. EMIS can contribute to overall energy data collection for the development of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for Chisinau and therefore it will assist the EBRD with their efforts to provide financing for energy efficiency in public buildings in the Republic of Moldova.

In summary, while the project has done a good job with designing the GCL there are still delays and it is still not operational. The founders of the GCL are private companies but there is still no vision on what their role should be. The Green City Lab should articulate as quickly and clearly as possible what the role for the private sector is vis-à-vis the Green City Lab, and their role needs to be clearly defined especially if they are not required to contribute financially. The Green City Lab is focused on serving the municipality, so there is a need to identify the role and involvement of the private sector and also to deal with possible conflict of interest issues where the private sector company might want to be the winner of a tender organized by the municipality and the GCL. There are conflict of interest issues that need to be addressed. There should also be a transparent discussion with the founding members on the role of subsequent Green City Lab members as well as with UNDP in terms of what support can be provided beyond the lifetime of the project.

Given that UNDP has a plan to support the GCL over aperiod of some 3 years with grants each year and the first year a higher amount, the second year a lower amount, and then the third year even less and the fourth year zero it really means that the GCL really needs to be established and operational with staff, including a Director, on board by the end of 2020 and once that happens its business plans needs to be update, and projects need to be transferred from the project team to the GCL. With COVID-19 still around risks of delays remain and the challenge of raising funds and developing more projects will be even more difficult. In summary, given the risks around the establishment of the GCL and its sustainability I am giving this project an MS in 2020 just like I have given it an MS in 2019. However, I would like to commend the team on their pro-active approach and their dyanamism in developing multiple green urban development projects at the same time. If the GCL

2020 Project Implementation Repo	2020 Project	Implement	ation Re	epor
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is as active as the project team, and is able to further refine and a define a sustainable business model then it will have a good chance to succeed.

H. Gender

Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning. The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

Gender Analysis and Action Plan: Gender Analysis Green Cities 27-16.pdf

Gender Analysis and Action Plan: Gender Analysis Green Cities 27-16.pdf

Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.

(not set or not applicable)

Atlas Gender Marker Rating

GEN1: some contribution to gender equality

Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):

Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes

Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: No

Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes

Not applicable: No

Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.

The project has commissioned a gender analysis and is in the process of devising a Gender Action Plan for mainstreaming gender into its policy work and in the demonstrative projects, considering the gender-specific implications, the different roles of men and women in the targeted communities.

Throughout the many policy dialogues, the project has pointed out during various meetings, the need to devise local level policies through a gender perspective and using a Leave No One Behind approach. On the same time, the project team has actively looked to engage the public though many media and outreach events destined to raise awareness on the issue of green urban development.

During this reporting period, the project has commissioned a gender analysis to further inform the project awareness raisings activities and the project interventions overall, on best approaches to

highlight the role of civic participation, role of women participation into decision making and the need to reach out to the poorest and most vulnerable groups first. By so doing, the project is supporting the Municipality to deploy large gender-sensitive and inclusive participatory policy debates.

The Gender Action Plan will be implemented during the next reporting period.

Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.

The results of the project's activities concerning gender mainstreaming will be reported during the next reporting period.

I. Social and Environmental Standards

Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

The Project Manager and/or the project's Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

SESP: SESP Green Cities.pdf

For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.

(not set or not applicable)

1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?

Yes

If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.

In the context of the COVID-19 outbreak and its social and economic impacts the project is moderately impacted, as described below:

- 1. Delay in establishment and operationalizing of the Green City Lab. The agreed strategy for the GCL as a not-for profit organization with private sector companies as founders selected based on the Eol can be seriously impacted in the part of their financial commitments and sustainability. At the beginning of 2020, 12 companies expressed their interest in becoming the founders for the GCL. Based on the evaluation, 5 out of 12 passed the minimum evaluation criteria. The updated interaction with the 5 selected companies, following the COVID-19 pandemic and its socio-economic impacts, showed that one company is no longer interested in being founder of GCL, while other companies have revisited their intention to co-finance GCL operational activities, but keeping only in-kind contribution (at least during the first year of GCL operation).
- 2. Delay in development of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan, as there is a limited urban traffic during the pandemic, which makes it difficult to collect baseline urban mobility data. Also, during the summer time the traffic suffers changes as there are no major disturbances as e.g. education activities, which affects traffic behavior. Also, the project is supposed to support the Municipality during the public consultation process of the draft SUMP in autumn, which also might be affected, delayed or even canceled.
- 3. Procurement of the equipment for the EMIS and urban mobility demo project, as well as other service works that can be delayed as per supply chain problems. Also, increase in offer price can occur.
- 4. Related to EV chargers contract, out 30 chargers, 24 were installed and operational. The rest of 39 chargers, that have to be installed by the end of November can also be affected if a second waive of COVID-19 will happen in autumn. To be mentioned that the country of origin of the equipment is Spain. As the EV chargers infrastructure project is a joint one with the private sector, their operational capacity and financial stability can be seriously impacted and even bankrupt (in case the oil prices will remain very low and interest for the electromobility will decrease).

- 5. Some of the Fast Track Challange projects (especially those dealing with equipment procurement, e.g. electroscooters share service) are implemented with delays due to disruptions in supply chains.
- 6. Due to international travel restrictions and restrictions for meetings organization, some deliverable of the experts was presented with delays (especially that one to be realized in the first half of the year).
- 7. Municipality of Chisinau is very much focused on the COVID-19 mitigation and response, minimizing their efforts in other areas. The impact comes from the following factors, especially financial one:
- Low financial ability/budget incomes due to reduced fiscal operations at municipal level
- Increased subsidizing in public transport sector
- Increased focus on health sector and support to vulnerable people
- Low work performance, which causes delays in day-to-day activities and projects implementation due to emergency situation and stay-at-home order.

Also, the Municipality announced that implementation or co-financing some of the planned projects and will be canceled for this year and rescheduled to next years, due to unexpected COVID-19 expenditures. Several options are under consideration, but no final decision was announced, as depends on pandemic evolution.

- 8. Some PR activities according to the Communication plan can be delayed or canceled.
- 9. Mid-term Evaluation was delayed according to GEF recommendations.
- 2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.

No

If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.

N/A

3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.

No

If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.

The project has prepared a SES at the time of project document and CEO Endorsement Request submission.

The project is currently looking into the necessity of designing a SES for each demonstration project entailing construction works (by the end of 2020) during the next reporting period.

4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential)?
No
If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.
N/A

J. Communicating Impact

Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's lives.

(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)

The project is promoting civic participation and an improved living urban environment though Green City Lab, which is, in fact, a mechanism designed for people to take control and positively influence and manage their urban environment.

So far, the project has positioned itself as leader and trend-setter for electric transport in Chisinau, which, considering that 14% of the GHG emissions in Moldova come from the transport sector, is quite an accomplishment. The Electric Vehicles Marathons organized two years in a row in 2018 and 2019 by the project, with plug-in and hybrid cars roaming across Moldovan roads for five days promoted innovative, electric transportation and demonstrated the performance of the zero-emission electric cars, leading to a reduction of approximately 1.2 tones GHG emissions.

Combined with the project-facilitated deployment of an electric vehicle charging infrastructure consisting of 63 charging stations across the country, the total reduction in GHG emissions is expected to come close to 32.23 kilotones GHG over the next 20 years. Moreover, these two initiatives led to a registered increase in the number of electric vehicles in the country from 36 in July 2018 to 200 in June 2019, and already over 500 in 2020, suggesting a surprisingly significant impact in a short amount of time. Also, partnering with METRO Cash&Carry, 3 fast chargers were installed in all the store's parking lots so the personnel and the costumers can charge their vehicles while working or shopping.

Second life of EV batteries is another activity aimed to help people rethink their waste and get creative on the reuse of the materials. So, the first charging station for electric cars powered by photovoltaic energy was launched in Chisinau. The technology uses used batteries from electric cars to store surplus green energy. Annually, they will ensure a reduction in CO2 emissions of approximately 7845 kg.

Another premier for Chisinau, is a scooter sharing service soon to be launched. Residents of the city will be able to move across the city rapidly and pollution free. The service will start its activity with 30 scooters and will grow as the local population will be more acquainted with this form of transportation. In parallel, for the development of urban cycling and use of alternative transportation, Green City Lab elaborated a Strategic Plan for the Implementation of Bicycle Infrastructure in Chisinau. This document will provide support to municipal authorities for the implementation and expansion of bicycle infrastructure in line with European practices and standards.

According to the provisions of the Street Design Guide, developed in 2019, one of the streets in Chisinau are redesigned and reconstructed (31 August street) becoming a green corridor that will connect two parks from different districts of the city. The benefits of this transformation will be enjoyed not only by the inhabitants of the areas close to these parks, but also by the entire city, as an alternative mobility connection to the Center will be ensured and thus the pressure on the public and private transport system will be reduced.

People in Chisinau can enjoy a relaxed and community-friendly ambiance in a demonstrative neighborhood renewed area, initiated by the project. Though this initiative two solar palm trees installations are piloted, part of a larger regional initiative funded by the IRH Innovation Facility. In these areas, people can enjoy WIFI Hotspot, CCTV camera, power autonomy, digital screen, charging station and a more comfortable, creative, multi-cultural, vibrant and eco-friendly city life. These smart trees will provide an annual reduction of more than 700 kg of CO2. The purpose of this initiative is to raise awareness among citizens on the benefits of green energy transition in public spaces. Following the credo "What is done by people is loved by people" the project has invited Chisinau citizens to get involve and suggest further locations for these smart trees. As part of the same initiative 25 urban creative benches made by 3D printing were produced and installed on one of the city's streets. Beside the fact that 3D technology ensures the creation of street furniture of any shape, reduces construction time and costs, the newly installed benches are offering additional space for recreation for the residents of the neighborhood.

Through partnerships with mobile phone companies such as Orange, the project is facilitating collection and analysis of environmental data. Smart sensors for air pollution were deployed in the city of Chisinau, through an array of IoT connected monitoring stations, focused on environmental quality surveillance, with sensors for air quality installed on trolleybuses, providing the Municipality, academic and research institutes with reliable data sets, informing policy decisions and improving environmental governance and people's lives. A platform for the visualization of the data was developed and soon will be launched. This platform will allow the residents of the city to monitor the data on the air quality in their neighborhoods and in the city, also, they will be able to see the difference in the air quality in different period of time with a higher use of personal cars versus a holiday seasons or weekends and observe the difference and the impact of the cars on the air quality.

Civic participating in green urban management receive a boost, through citizen engagement platform www.eu.chisinau.md which is fully operational since January 2020. Via the platform citizens now can report all sorts of local public deficiencies and track their solution progress through a user-friendly interface.

Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media

Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.

Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.

• IT technologies have opened up many opportunities for sharing data. As an enormous amount of data is collected and generated on daily basis, there is huge potential to analyse and use such data to improve effectiveness of public services and citizen interaction with them.

The project has developed, in partnership with UNDP Innovation team and Chisinau City Hall, a concept of citizen engagement platform www.eu.chisinau.md. The platform encourages citizens to report on local public deficiencies and track their solution progress through a user-friendly interface.

The solution will provide an information outflow channel to be used by the City Hall when updating registered users with urgent announcements. Furthermore, at a later stage, the platform will be used by the municipality as a way to receive feedback from citizens on different municipal initiatives as well as to get a sense of how the citizens feel about the quality of public services.

Data collected through the platform will serve as an important source for authorities' decision making and budgeting, seeking an improvement in public service delivery. The pilot is designed together with citizens and local public authorities, in the best traditions of based on the principles of Human Centered Design. The platform will become operational during the next reporting period.

The project's main innovation and knowledge mechanism will be the Green City Lab, which at the time of this reporting, is nearing the official approval of the most feasible institutional set-up modality. So far, the project is performing some of the roles of the Green City Lab, and the project was very actively positioned UNDP Green Cities initiative as a key outreach mechanism for sustainable urban mobility and inclusive urban governance, by setting up a dedicated website and Facebook page with 2,708 likes, increased by 30% in 2020, and 2,826 followers: www.greencity.md and Facebook Green City Lab being active on youtube: YouTube Green City Lab Channel and disseminating results through UNDP website: Green City Lab page UNDP website and Green City Lab: green innovations and urban development for Chisinau.

Flickr Photo Galleries:

- Social Good Summit 2018: Building together the Chisinau of tomorrow
- Electric, hybrid and plug-in cars marathon 2018

Moldova Electric Marathon 2019:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/undpmoldova/albums/72157709445042831

https://tvc.md/noua-masini-100-electrice-pornesc-intr-un-maraton-prin-moldova-video

https://bit.ly/2NvqPOy

https://bit.ly/2Jux93P

https//bit.ly/2Nylbva

https://twitter.com/UNDPEurasia/status/1147070956915101696

https://twitter.com/UNDPMoldova/status/1146686360482385920

Moldova Electric, Hybrid, Plug-in cars marathon 2018:

https://undpeurasia.exposure.co/illuminating-the-present

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRL1ZXaP5Fo

https://bit.ly/2XRew2U

https://piataauto.md/Stiri/2018/10/Ziua-1-in-Moldova-Hybrid-Electro-Maraton-Cum-a-fost-VIDEO/

https://piataauto.md/Stiri/2018/11/Ziua-2-Moldova-Hybrid-Electro-Maraton-cum-sa-conduci-incarci-automobilele-electrice-departe-capitala/

https://piataauto.md/Stiri/2018/11/Ziua-3-Moldova-Hybrid-Electro-Maraton-provocari-electrice-peisaje-de-toamna/

https://piataauto.md/Stiri/2018/11/Sambata-3-noiembrie-PMAN-cunoasteti-pe-viu-automobilele-Moldova-Hybrid-Electro-Maraton/

https://piataauto.md/Stiri/2018/11/Ziua-4-Moldova-Hybrid-Electro-Maraton-electromobilele-limita-epuizarii-bateriilor/

https://piataauto.md/Stiri/2018/11/Ultima-zi-Moldova-Hybrid-Electro-Maraton-automobilele-electrice-hibride-revenit-capitala/

https://piataauto.md/Stiri/2018/12/Video-report-Moldova-Hybrid-Electro-Maraton/

https://www.prime.md/ro/calatorie-ecologica-prin-moldova-paisprezece-entuziasti-au-pornit-intr-o-aventura-cu-masinile-electr 81510.html

https://www.publika.md/aventura-prin-moldova-la-bordul-masinilor-electrice-cat-va-dura-expeditia-si-care-este-scopul-acesteia_3023498.html#ixzz5dGjlM5yl

http://tvrmoldova.md/actualitate/maraton-eco-zece-masini-electrice-vor-parcurge-timp-de-cinci-zile-drumurile-din-republica-moldova/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZEtxtLNm0c

https://twitter.com/UNDPEurasia/status/1070604845529382913

https://twitter.com/UNDPEurasia/status/1057621218365530112

https://twitter.com/UNDPEurasia/status/1055752729228988416

Fast Track Challenge

https://twitter.com/UNDPMoldova/status/1141022749357461511

http://www.jurnal.md/ro/news/d6a585cac1dbb8ca/banci-3d-intr-un-sector-din-capitala-cum-arata-acestea.html

https://stiri.md/article/social/cum-arata-primele-banci-3d-instalate-pe-un-bulevard-din-chisinau

http://tv8.md/2019/05/05/primele-banci-scoase-la-imprimanta-3d-au-fost-instalate-pe-o-alee-dinchisinau/

https://bit.ly/2XqT4xB

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrQLs3IY6L0

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http://www.jurnaltv.md/news/8038687c1f64fbc1/in-toate-sectoarele-chisinaului-vor-fi-instalati-senzoride-masurare-a-calitatii-aerului.html

http://jurnal.md/ro/news/766051b2b70619ec/senzori-de-masurare-a-calitatii-aerului-vor-fi-instalati-in-chisinau.html

https://diez.md/2019/06/06/este-important-sa-cunoastem-nivelul-de-poluanti-echipament-inteligent-de-masurare-calitatii-aerului-va-fi-instalat-la-chisinau/

http://tvrmoldova.md/social/pe-strazile-principale-din-5-sectoare-ale-orasului-chisinau-vor-fi-instalati-senzori-de-masurare-a-calitatii-aerului/

Solar trees

https://www.facebook.com/greencitymoldova/videos/372006300207118/?v=372006300207118

https://bit.ly/2XtKW4t

https://bit.ly/2LB6vJ7

https://diez.md/2019/02/04/tinerii-arhitecti-si-designeri-pot-participa-la-concursul-de-amenajare-spatiului-aferent-arborilor-solari/

https://www.prime.md/ro/copaci-fotovoltaici-pe-strazile-capitalei-arborii-vor-servi-drept-statii-de-incarcare-a-smartphone-urilor 82134.html

EV charger METRO launch

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVkVNZn0IvA&list=PLW8tTWcbumleAeC-IA3So3m7jXLwJYO1K&index=6&t=0s

http://tvrmoldova.md/social/o-statie-de-incarcare-a-automobilelor-electrice-a-fost-instalata-la-metro/

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http://tv8.md/2019/03/05/foto-in-chisinau-a-aparut-inca-o-statie-de-incarcare-a-automobilelor-electrice-va-putea-fi-folosita-gratuit-de-clientii-unui-hypermarket/

http://protv.md/stiri/actualitate/de-azi-proprietarii-de-automobile-electrice-isi-pot-alimenta-masinile---2502731.html

https://www.trm.md/ro/social/prima-statie-de-incarcare-a-automobilelor-electrice-a-fost-inaugurata-lachisinau

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Project Location Data

Provide the coordinates for the project's geo-location sites. Provide the coordinates in decimal degrees (Longitude and Latitude). If you are not able to provide the coordinates in decimal degrees, you can alternatively provide them in the Degrees, Minutes, Seconds format. If you have this

information stored in a GIS file, upload it below (e.g. shapefile, kmz/kml, or csv). If the project has multiple sites, please attach an Excel file with the coordinates for each site in either decimal degrees or in degrees, minutes, seconds format.

Please attach the GIS data. Any of the following formats are acceptable: shapefile (.shp)*, kmz, kml. If helpful, see here a quick note on how to gather geo-reference info. *Note that a shapefile is composed of several files: a .shp file should be zipped in a folder accompanied by the file extensions: .shx, .sbn, .prj, .dbf, .cpg, .sbx, .xml. If the project has multiple sites, please attach an Excel file with the coordinates for each site in either decimal degrees or in degrees, minutes, seconds format. (not set or not applicable) Provide geo-location in longitude, latitude, format. If you have this information stored in a GIS file, please upload it below (e.g. shapefile, kmz/kml, or csv). 47.00556 Longitude 28.8575 Alternatively, provide geo-location in degrees, minutes, seconds format. Please also provide information on what the coordinates point to in the space provided. 47 Minutes 00 Seconds 20 Coordinates description Chisinau city

K. Partnerships

Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important! All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?
Yes
Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?
No
Does the project work with the Private Sector?
Yes
Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?
No
Does the project work with UN Volunteers?
No
Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?
Yes
CEO Endorsement Request: PIMS 5492 Moldova Green Cities_CEO endorsement_request_July 4 2017.docx
Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.
- The project worked together with private sector companies (EV Points srl., QMS International srl., Metro Cash&Carry) in the framework of Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations Network development.
- The project is constantly working with private sector companies as service providers and as grant receivers in the framework of Fast Track Challenge Programme.
- During this reporting period, the project succeeded to transfer Energy Management System (EMIS) from Balcan countries.

L. Annex - Ratings Definitions

Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions

- (HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.
- (S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.
- (MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.
- (MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.
- (U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.
- (HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions

- (HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.
- (S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.
- (MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.
- (MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.
- (U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.
- (HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.