



PROJECT DOCUMENT

Republic of Moldova

Project Title: Sustainable and resilient communities through women empowerment

Project Number:

Implementing Partner: United Nations Development Program – Republic of Moldova (UNDP)

Start Date: 10 March 2020 **End Date:** 31 March 2023 **PAC Meeting date:** 28 February 2020

Brief Description

Republic of Moldova is facing many significant environmental issues triggered mainly by the unsustainable use of natural resources and agricultural practices. As a result, there is continuous degradation and loss of fertile land and biodiversity and air and water pollution from point and non-point sources due to high motorization and dumping of waste and chemicals. All these along with the pending climate change risks directly and indirectly affect the living conditions and health of the population, and especially of women, as well as the economic development of the country, contributing to further increase in poverty, especially in rural areas.

In Moldova, the poverty rate is 7.5 times higher in rural areas than in large cities. Since a significant part of the rural population is engaged in subsistence agricultural activities, the risk of falling below the poverty line is high in years of climate-related extreme events. Rural population is increasingly vulnerable to climate change impacts¹, especially women and women-led households, who are not able to provide resources and services needed to ensure water, food and energy supply for their families². Moreover, rural poor have limited knowledge regarding the sustainable and environment-friendly agricultural and forestry practices that would increase adaptation and resilience capacities of communities and ecosystems.

The strategy of the project is to build inclusive sustainable and resilient communities and create an enabling environment for women's economic, social and educational empowerment through the following outcomes: (i) sustainable, climate resilient and environmentally-sound livelihoods defined and local capacities & knowledge on environment, climate change and gender enhanced and implemented successfully (ii) NGOs capacities to provide expertise to LPAs and women in the field of resilience to climate change, sustainable development and gender mainstreaming; (iii) environment-friendly and climate resilient practices and projects implemented by women headed households, women agri-producers and communities; and, (iv) sustainable and climate resilient practices and business models disseminated and replicated.

The proposed project is fully aligned with the national priorities in the area of gender, environment protection, climate change and agriculture and the country's commitment to pursue European integration and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The planned interventions will specifically contribute to implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy 2017-2021, the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2014-2020, the National Environmental Strategy 2014-2023, the Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy 2014-2020, Strategy on Biological Diversity 2015-2020 and to the EU-Moldova Association Agreement.

In accomplishing the first outcome, the project will be guided by the UNDP 5-step capacity development approach with focus on women and men (including women from vulnerable groups – women with disabilities, elderly women, young women, roma women etc): engage women on capacity development; assess capacities and needs; formulate a capacity development response; implement a capacity development response; and evaluate capacity development. The individual level capacity (technical skills, knowledge, and experience) will be tackled by the proposed project and would enable the target women groups to have a better understanding of the environmental sustainability and to cope with climate change events and risks.

¹ 3rd National Communication under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

² Gender Equality Strategy of Moldova 2017-2021

The second outcome will capacitate NGOs to provide expertise to LPAs and women in the field of resilience to climate change, sustainable development and gender mainstreaming.



In implementing the third outcome, the project will provide financial, technical and informational support to women headed households, agri-producers and communities for piloting environment-friendly and climate change resilient practices in agriculture, forestry and other relevant areas aligned with their economic and social needs. The project will provide micro-size grants to 60 women-headed households, medium sized grants to 10 women agri-producers and 30 communities to support environment-related and climate change resilient activities and expand livelihood opportunities.

The last outcome aims to support preparation of case studies, best practices, lessons learned and other relevant information on climate adaptation solutions and sustainable and resilient livelihoods from the pilot communities to enable their replication and scaling at the national level. The experience will be shared and replicated beyond project borders through sharing events, agricultural extension networks, environmental forums, mass-media and other communication tools.

The project builds upon the foundation laid by the Project "Supporting National Adaptation Planning Process in Moldova" (NAP Project) financed by the Austrian Development Agency and implemented by UNDP. The objective of the NAP Project was to advance medium and long-term adaptation planning in Moldova with an iterative adaptation planning process. By pursuing this goal, the project managed to strengthen the technical and institutional capacities for climate change adaptation coordination, planning and programming.

<p>Contributing Outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD or GPD):</p> <p>Outcome 3: The people of Moldova, in particular the most vulnerable, benefit from enhanced environmental governance, energy security, sustainable management of natural resources, and climate and disaster resilient development</p> <p>Indicator 3.4 Number of people in rural areas benefiting from sustainable land, pasture and forest management practices, by sex</p> <p>Indicator 3.5 Proportion of districts applying climate resilient practices</p> <p>Indicative Output(s) with gender marker³: GEN3 (Gender equality as a principle objective)</p>	Total resources required:	2,281,275 USD	
	Total resources allocated:	2,281,275 USD	
		UNDP TRAC:	n/a
		Donor:	2,281,275 USD
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Agreed by (signatures)⁴:

Embassy of Sweden to Moldova	UNDP Moldova
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List of Acronyms

ACSA	National Agency for Rural Development
AIPA	Agency for Agricultural Intervention and Payments
APA	Agricultural Producers' Associations
AWP	Annual Work Plan
CALM	Congress of Local Authorities
CBO	Community Based Organization
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women DIM – Direct Implementation Modality
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
LPA	Local Public Authority
LPAC	Local Project Appraisal Committee
LVI	Livelihood Vulnerability Index
MARDE	Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment
MLSF	Ministry of Labour, Social protection and Family
NEX	Nationally Executed
NFFM	National Farmers Federation Moldova
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
PB	Project Board
PIMS	Project Information Management System
PM	Project Manager
PMT	Project Management Team
RDA	Regional Development Agency
SBAA	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TOR	Terms of References
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
US\$	United States Dollars
WB	World Bank

I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

The Republic of Moldova is a small-sized, landlocked country in Eastern Europe, with a total land surface of 33,846 square kilometers and a population of 3.55 million. Moldova shares its border with Romania to the south and west, and Ukraine to the north and east. Moldova is categorized as a lower-middle-income economy with a per capita GDP of 1,900 USD in 2016. The majority of the population, 57%, is concentrated in rural areas and depends on agriculture for food and income. Over the past ten years, Moldova's economy has gone through significant structural changes. As a result, employment rates have steadily declined while productivity has increased. The service sector has been the largest contributor to economic growth,⁵ but tradable sectors, namely agriculture and manufacturing, have stagnated.⁶

Overall poverty rates in Moldova have decreased significantly, from 26% in 2008 to 11.4% in 2014. Yet, Moldova remains one of the poorest countries in Europe and faces challenges in sustaining the progress. Poverty is most severe in rural areas. The average income of the rural population has stayed consistently lower (by 25%) than the income of the urban population.⁷ Low wages, limited numbers of jobs, climate related shocks, poor infrastructure and livelihood conditions in rural areas have led to rural-urban migration.

Moldova is facing many significant environmental issues. Poor management of solid waste leads to soil, air and water pollution, while inadequate management of forests and unsustainable agricultural practices result in soil degradation and biodiversity loss. All these directly and indirectly affect the living conditions and health of the population, as well as the economic development, contributing to further increase in poverty, especially in rural areas.

Considering its economic structure and geographic features, Moldova is highly vulnerable to climate change. Since the 1980s, the climate in the Republic of Moldova has been trending strongly towards conditions that are more arid, with the average temperature raise of 0.58°C per decade and with 2–3°C increase by 2050, according to the climate models. Drought and floods are the major climate risks, and in Moldova's climate induced disasters are occurring more frequently and on a recurring basis, causing an average of 4 million US dollars per year of economic damage. According to a range of studies, including the Republic of Moldova's Third National Communication under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), extreme weather events are likely to become more frequent in the future and the socio-economic costs of climate related disaster are expected to further increase. The total cost of inaction on climate adaptation is estimated at around 600 million US dollars, and this value is expected to more than double in real terms by 2050 to around 1.3 billion US dollars⁸.

The agriculture sector in Moldova has one of the highest exposures and vulnerabilities to climate change. The 2007 drought, one of the worst in recent history, caused a 23% decline in production compared to the previous year. Wheat and maize, two main staple crops, were significantly impacted: wheat production fell by 40% and maize fell by 73%. Moldova's high-value exports, grapes and apples, are also impacted by the increasing incidence and severity of drought, particularly as higher temperatures are increasing their crop water demands. Projections of higher temperatures and variable rainfall (see Figure 1) will heavily impact the yields of rain-fed crops, which comprise 87% of production. Increased demand for irrigation combined with reduced water supply overall are likely to lead to irrigation shortages, impacting irrigated crops as well.

Due to unsustainable land management practices, about 43% of the agricultural land is eroded to some degree, with about 6.4% considered highly eroded (up to 30 tons of soil loss per hectare). The eroded area increases by about 7,700 hectares per year on average.⁹ Taking into account that the

⁵ Economic growth is driven by consumption and remittances (which account for a quarter of GDP growth, a rate that is among the highest in the world), while export and investment rates remain negative. (World Bank, 2017)

⁶ Moroz V., et al. 2015. Country report: Republic of Moldova. National Institute for Economic Research. European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration

⁷ NBS. 2017. National Bureau of Statistics

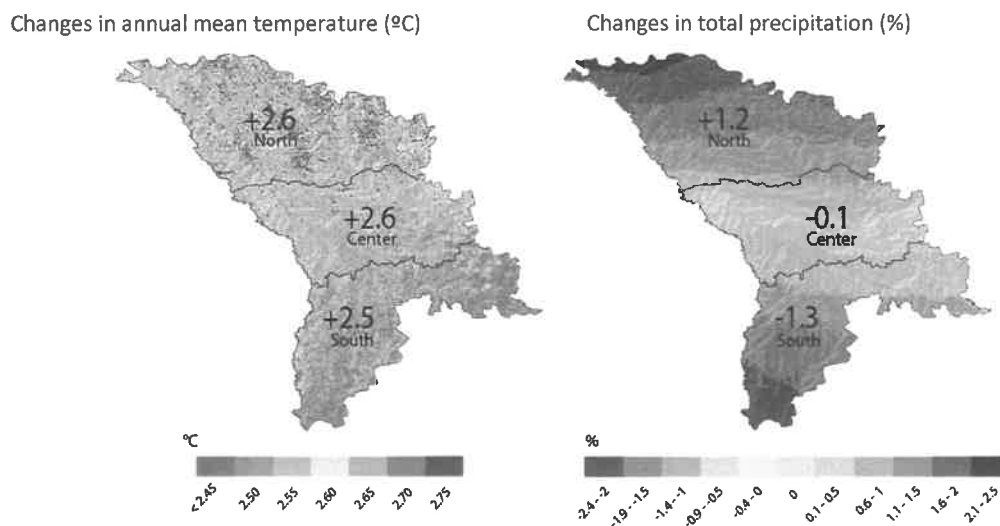
⁸ Economic Assessment of Climate Adaptation Investment Needs in Moldova

⁹ Moroz V., et al. 2015. Country report: Republic of Moldova. National Institute for Economic Research. European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration

soil erosion may cause up to 40 % reduction in agricultural yields, its economic damage to the rural population is significant. Additionally, land degradation leads not only to losses of soil productivity but have also a direct negative impact on the price competitiveness of the agricultural produce. In the most extreme cases these processes cause land abandonment, heavily deteriorating rural livelihoods, especially for poor smallholder farmers. Annually the soil erosion in the country leads to average losses of at a minimum of US\$40 million in foregone agricultural production.¹⁰

Higher temperatures and drought will directly impact livestock (primarily poultry, cattle and sheep) by compromising animal health, and indirectly by reducing feed availability and quality. The area under improved pastures is six times lower than the number of livestock heads in Moldova (625,000 heads), which increases pressure on improved pastures. The severe drought of 2007 cost livestock producers 305 million USD and decreased herd size by 1.8%. By 2040, climate change could result in a 35% cumulative loss of net revenue, particularly for chickens and cattle, while higher temperatures and variable rainfall will cause a decline of 4–7% in pasture productivity.

Figure 1. Projected changes in temperature and precipitation in Moldova by 2050



Source: Collins et al. (2013)¹¹

Currently, forests cover 11.4% of the land in Moldova, being the least forest-covered country in Europe (average about 30%). Forests also provide a large share of firewood to rural communities who cannot afford use of gas for heating. According to the scientific research studies, forest lands should occupy at least 15 per cent of the country's territory in order to ensure a constant ecological equilibrium and a stronger effect on the climate and hydrological conditions, enhance productivity of agricultural lands.¹² At the same time, it is well recognized that helping to improve forest sector performance and increasing the forest cover and the sustainability of landscapes will also contribute to reducing poverty and increasing the wealth of the bottom 40% of the population.¹³

The low percentage of forest cover partially explains the frequency and severity of soil erosion, flooding, and landslide events.¹⁴ Even small changes in temperature and precipitation affect future forest growth and regeneration. Higher temperatures induce faster rates of water loss, leading to drier conditions that slow growth rates, and in severe cases, cause tree loss. Higher temperatures also tend to decrease the efficiency of water use by plants. In Moldova, climate change could lead

¹⁰ Rural productivity in Moldova – Managing Natural Vulnerability. 23 May 2007 (http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDS/IB/2008/01/14/000020953_20080114161258/Rendered/PDF/421380Moldova01uctivityEng01PUBLIC1.pdf)

¹¹ Collins et al. 2013. Long-term climate change: Projections, commitments and irreversibility. In: Climate change. The physical science basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. [Stocker TF et al. (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA

¹² 4th National Communication under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

¹³ World Bank. Republic of Moldova: Forest Policy Note. Chisinau, Stiinta, 2015

¹⁴ Gavrilita P. and Druta A. 2010. Moldova. In: Mátyás (ed.). Forests and climate change in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Forests and Climate Change Working Paper 8, Food and Agricultural Organization

to a decrease of beech, durmast and oak forests in favour of semi-arid forests and dryland pastures more suitable to hotter, drier conditions. By 2040, 15–25% of trees in the Northern Region will likely be water stressed. Hornbeam and ash will be the most vulnerable, with ash biomass growth estimated to decrease by 20–40% by 2050.¹⁵

The agriculture in the Republic of Moldova provides livelihood opportunities to more than half of the population, and the sector is technologically underdeveloped and not sufficiently sustainable and adapted to climate change risks. Subsistence-oriented farms and rural households are particularly vulnerable, because of a lack of means for species diversification and issues of access to public subsidies and insurance services. In the southern part of the country, the geographic and weather peculiarities magnify the economic vulnerability of farmers. Besides having a direct impact on the agricultural sector, climate changes poses risks for the quality and availability of water. The observable impact of climate change also includes lowering the regeneration capacity of forests, trees density and species survival.

The environment degradation and climate change risks are affecting primarily the rural poor and especially women. In Moldova, the poverty rate is 7.5 times higher in rural areas than in large cities. Since a significant part of the rural population is engaged in subsistence agricultural activities, the risk of falling below the poverty line is high in years of climate-related extreme events. Rural population is increasingly vulnerable to climate change impacts¹⁶, especially women and women-led households, who are not able to provide resources and services needed to ensure water, food and energy supply for their families¹⁷. Moreover, rural poor have limited knowledge regarding sustainable agricultural and forestry practices that would increase adaptation and resilience capacities of communities and ecosystems.

According to General Agricultural Census conducted in 2011¹⁸, there are a total of 902 214 agricultural holdings in the Republic of Moldova. At the national level 36% of the agricultural holdings are headed by women and 64% by men. Only 3 446 (0.4%) of agricultural holdings have juridical status of which only 14% are headed by women. Despite the fact that women make up 36% of the total agricultural holdings they manage only 19% of the land due to the fact that on average male holders in Moldova manage 1.21 hectares compared to 0.86 hectares managed by female holders. Only 11.9% of women headed holdings process for sale and the rest only for self-consumption. According to the same Census women own less livestock, agricultural machinery and equipment and only 34.6% of women benefited from government support for diversification of farm activities.

Although gender equality has been on the national agenda for many years, women still face important challenges in terms of empowerment. Women in Moldova continue to be under-represented, only one in four business managers. The employment rate of women (37%) is lower than that of men (42%) even though women's proportion in the total population is a bit higher (52%), compared to 48%). The employment rate is lower for women with children (51%) for those with one child and 48% for those with three or more children, compared to 58% for women with no children) and 27% of employed women are involved in informal jobs. About 66% of women's total working time is made up by unpaid work (mainly domestic and care work), while men allocate twice as little time for this activity. The women are still expected to be the family caretakers and housekeepers, which impedes their participation in economic and public life.

UNDP Moldova is the leading agency in the area of climate change and disaster risk reduction, providing policy planning assistance and guidance, individual and institutional capacity development, and demonstration on the ground of innovative climate and disaster risk reduction solutions in line with the national and global resilient development objectives, including SDGs.

¹⁵ Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. 2013. Third National Communication of the Republic of Moldova under the UNFCCC; and World Bank. 2014. Rep. of Moldova Forest Policy Note. World Bank: Washington, DC. Available at: <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/494321468052757894/pdf/ACS115260REVIS00FOREST0POLICY0NOTE.pdf>

¹⁶ 3rd National Communication under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

¹⁷ Gender Equality Strategy of Moldova 2017-2021

¹⁸ <http://www.statistica.md/newsview.php?l=en&id=4533&idc=30>

In 2009/2010 UNDP Moldova conducted a research and analysis for the National Human Development Report with a climate change dedicated focus, followed by support to the Government of Moldova in preparation of the overarching disaster risk reduction and adaptation and mitigation strategies. As part of the Project „Support to the National Adaptation Planning Process“, financed by the Austrian Development Agency during 2013-2017, UNDP in partnership with the national institutions supported putting in place adaptation strategies in agriculture and forestry sectors, integration of climate change adaptation into ongoing medium and long-term national planning and budgeting frameworks, creation of the cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder Climate Change Coordination Mechanism, including M&E framework and enhancement of hydrological and weather forecast services in line with the EU Meteoalarm standards.

Analysis of national policies

The Republic Moldova has developed a number of sectorial and cross-sectorial strategies, policies, concepts and related action plans that tackle environment, climate change and gender. The following are relevant for the purpose of this project:

*The Gender Strategy of the Republic of Moldova 2017-2021*¹⁹ aims at empowering women and the de facto implementation of the equality between women and men in Moldova. The goals set for the next five years show the global tendencies and the carrying out of the commitments taken by Moldovan internationally, focused on ensuring the observance of human rights, functioning of democracy and economic growth based on competitiveness.

*The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2014-2020*²⁰ has been conceived to enhance the resilience to climate-induced hazards, including through halving the climate change vulnerability in the priority sectors, including agricultural, water resources, health, forestry, energy and transport. The Strategy goal is “to assure that the Republic of Moldova’s social and economic development is less vulnerable to climate change impacts by becoming more resilient”.

*The National Environmental Strategy 2014-2023*²¹, aims at the creation of an efficient environmental management system, which would contribute to the increase in the environmental factors’ quality and guarantee the right of the population for a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. The project will contribute to achievement of the first specific objective “Ensuring conditions for good governance and effectiveness of institutional and managerial potential in the field of environmental protection to achieve environmental objectives; the second one, “integrating the principles of environmental protection, of sustainable development and green economic development, and of climate change adaptation in all sectors of national economy” and the sixth one “ensuring rational use, protection and conservation of natural resources;.

*The Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy 2014-2020*²² with its second main objective calls for ensuring sustainable management of natural resources in agriculture through (i) support sustainable agricultural land and water management practices; (ii) support environmentally friendly production technologies, organic production and products ensuring biodiversity and (iii) support to adaptation and mitigation of climate challenges effects on agricultural production.

The Strategy on Biological Diversity of the Republic of Moldova 2015-2020 aims at addressing the reasons which determine the loss of biodiversity by integrating the requirements to stop the process of losing biodiversity starting with the Government throughout the entire society; reduce direct pressure on biodiversity and promote sustainable use and improve the conditions of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity.

Analysis of the relevant international policies

¹⁹ <http://lex.justice.md/viewdoc.php?action=view&view=doc&id=370442&lang=1>

²⁰ <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=355945>

²¹ <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=352740>

²² <http://lex.justice.md/md/353310/>

Republic of Moldova has ratified in 1994 the Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)²³ – the international level reference document which sets forth the conditions to achieve efficient equality for women in all spheres of life and the obligations of the states to adhere to these conditions without any delays and to ensure equality of rights, de jure and de facto. Ratification of CEDAW meant for the Republic of Moldova assuming an obligation to promote within its national legal framework the principle of equality of men and women and ensuring effective application of this principle.

Ratification by the Government of Moldova of the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change, but also the assumed commitments under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction is an indication of the country's intention to embark on sustainable and resilient development. The UN Sustainable Development Summit (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>) in September, 2015 adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to establish a basis for the new UN Development Agenda until 2030. The project will contribute to the following SDGs and the corresponding objective of each goal as per table 1.

Table 1: Project contribution to SDGs

SDG	Specific Global Objectives	Specific National Objectives
SDG #1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere	<p>1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance</p> <p>1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters</p>	<p>1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance and other resources.</p> <p>1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events, including droughts and floods</p>
SDG #2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	<p>2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round</p> <p>2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment</p> <p>2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality</p>	<p>2.3 Increase agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers through secure and equal access to productive resources, inputs, knowledge, financial services and markets.</p> <p>2.4 By 2030, implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity, help maintain ecosystems and strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather as drought, flooding and other disasters</p>

²³ UN Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women from 18.12.1979. Special edition „International treaties”, 1998, Volume 1, page114. In force for the Republic of Moldova from 31.07.1994.

<p>SDG #5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</p>	<p>5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life</p> <p>5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws</p> <p>5.b Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women</p>	<p>5.5. Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life</p>
<p>SDG #6 Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p>	<p>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally</p> <p>6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity</p> <p>6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes</p> <p>6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies</p> <p>6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management</p>	<p>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, reducing the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse</p> <p>6.4. By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater</p> <p>6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes</p>
<p>SDG #8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p>	<p>8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors</p> <p>8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services</p> <p>8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable</p>	<p>8.2 Stimulate the growth of economic productivity at higher rate compared to the real wage growth, through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors, defined as top-priority sectors by the Investment Attraction and Export Promotion Strategy 2016-2020 (1) agriculture and food industry;</p> <p>8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, resource efficiency in consumption and production to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation</p>

	Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead	
Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels	
SDG #12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources 12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses 12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature	12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources By 2030, significantly reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses. 12.8 By 2030, ensure that people, both in rural and urban areas, have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature
SDG #13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related hazards and natural disasters in all countries 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning	13.1. Ensure the climate-resilience by reducing by 50 percent climate-related risks and by facilitating the adaptation in 6 priority sectors – agriculture, water, health, forestry, energy and transport by 2020 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning 13.3 Consolidating the institutional framework related to climate change and raise awareness on climate change risks and adaptation measures of all relevant stakeholders, including population
SDG #15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally 15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation neutral world 15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species	15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation. 15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world 15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect

	15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts	and prevent the extinction of threatened species 15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts and territory improvement plans
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II. STRATEGY

Moldova’s rural women are four times more prone to absolute poverty²⁴ and more vulnerable to climate change, requiring targeted actions towards enhancing their access to alternative income generation activities and support services (i.e. subsidies), as well as information and knowledge on sustainable and resilient management of natural and agricultural resources on which they depend.

By shifting the focus from vulnerability to empowerment, adaptation responses have the potential to transform into gender equality opportunities. Such an approach would overturn gender stereotypes, compounded by social and cultural norms and will empower women to become agents of change.

The overarching strategy of the project is to build sustainable and inclusive resilient communities through empowering women to practice alternative livelihoods in the context of increased environmental degradation and vulnerabilities to extreme weather patterns. UNDP will work with women groups from 30 target communities and 6 districts (Nisporeni, Calarasi, Basarabeasca, Leova district from Gagauzia region and one district from the Transnistrian region) to increase their knowledge and skills for sustainable and resilient agriculture and forest practices and to explore alternative income generation activities in the respective sectors. The districts from Gagauzian and Transnistrian regions will be selected at the inception phase.

In order to create a favorable environment for this change in the community, LPA will be instructed in implementing environmental legislation and climate change adaptation measures.

The selected districts previously benefited from UNDP support for the climate change adaptation planning with gender mainstreamed and the proposed measured will enable subsequent operationalization of the respective plans. Further, the project will build upon the partnerships built with the LPAs and local communities and will take advantage of the successful collaboration with other development partners, NGOs and CBOs, described below.

The project will contribute to sustainable development and increased resilience to climate change of 30 communities (around 60,000-75,000 persons comprising 20,000 to 25,000 households) by building their environmental management and adaptive capacities to climate change and supporting the environment-friendly and climate resilient income generation activities with the highest potential. The implemented activities at the community level will contribute to the improved environmental conditions, enhanced climate change ecosystem-based adaptation, disaster and climate risk management and creation of pre-requisites for sustainable and resilient alternative livelihoods. The project will also directly strengthen the adaptive capacity and reduce the vulnerability of 150 women headed households (450-600 persons-indirectly) and 10 women headed agriculture enterprises (150-200 persons-indirectly) by supporting climate-smart agri-practices, animal husbandry, and other related activities that would contribute to food security and income generation regardless of the changes in the rainfall patterns and extreme weather events. The replication potential of successful climate resilient practices of the pilot models and capacity development measures would indirectly benefit the entire population of these 6 districts (343,000 persons) with further impacts on the other districts.

When working at the local level, the well tested community mobilization for empowerment approach will be applied – adjusted to the scope and needs of the project – ensuring that all interventions and initiatives are planned, established and managed with maximum involvement of the community members, thereby ensuring their ownership of initiatives. Community mobilization is a process

²⁴ Gender Equality Strategy of Moldova 2016-2020

through which action is stimulated by the community itself, or by others, that is planned, carried out and evaluated by community's members, groups and organizations on a participatory and sustained basis to improve overall living standards in the region. As such, the process of community mobilization is also seen as a powerful tool in the empowerment of women.

Through the identified actions the project will address such barriers towards women's empowerment as the: (i) limited knowledge and demonstrated models of climate risk reduction measures in the agriculture and forestry sectors; (ii) women's limited access to support services; (iii) low participation of communities in the adaptation measures where women would maintain a leading role and (vi) limited awareness of rural population on environmental degradation and adaptation to climate risks.

While addressing the critical constraints in building up environmental sustainability and resilience to climate change for women and their communities, the project resources will be used to improve the productivity and sustainability of household and farm operators and to support women farmers to better manage water scarcity, land degradation and forest depletion, as well as to diversify their production against climate risks, and introduce more sustainable and alternative income generation sources.

The additional national and local benefits that will be delivered primarily include the adoption of environment-friendly and climate adaptation practices that will reduce vulnerability of local agricultural communities to the impact of climate change, build capacity of local communities and local public sector entities to identify and assess climate risks, build community resilience and action to mitigate and manage such risks, to have an overview of environmental legislation to be implemented by the LPA.

The proposed project is fully aligned with the national priorities in the area of environment, gender, climate change and agriculture and the country's commitment to pursue European integration and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The planned interventions will contribute to implementation of the:

- Gender Equality Strategy 2017-2021, which calls for actions on women empowerment and integration of gender concerns into climate change related measures and policies in line with which the project activities were designed. The project is aiming at mainstreaming of climate change concerns into local develop policy planning frameworks which contributes to implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy objectives.
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2014-2020 where one of the objectives puts an emphasis on promoting policies and measures at sector levels to prevent adverse climate change effects. By piloting various adaptation solutions un rural areas of Moldova, the vulnerability and exposure of such sectors as agriculture, forestry and others relevant will be reduced with the support of this project. National Environmental Strategy 2014-2023 which urges integration of climate change and environment into all sectors of the economy, awareness and knowledge raising on environmental issues, waste management, forest expansion and conservation of natural ecosystems, all addressed by the current project under the grants programme for NGOs and women. The project will promote sustainable use of natural resources by the rural population while at the same time will address such environmental issues as biodiversity loss and degradation, soil and water pollution, waste and chemicals mismanagement and others, land degradation and others.
- Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy 2014-2020, aiming at ensuring sustainable management of natural resources in agriculture, which is one of the focuses of the project's grant scheme. Agriculture has the greatest impact on the natural and biological resources of Moldova and is the most vulnerable to climate change. Therefore, the grant scheme of the project will demonstrate viable climate change adaptation and environment-friendly solutions primarily in the agricultural sector.
- Strategy on Biological Diversity 2015-2020 where the project will support its implementation through actions aimed at economic valuing of ecosystem services and goods without harm to the later. Through the grant scheme, the project is promoting reduced use of agri-chemicals, sustainable fish production, bee keeping activities, agro-forestry measures, pasture restoration measures etc all contributing positively to conservation of biological diversity.

UNDP's actions and future role in this project will be based on the existing comparative advantage, such as strong local presence, well-established partnership with both local and national Government and civil society and availability of global expertise. Effective synergies will be established with other programs of UNDP Moldova²⁵. All interventions proposed under this project are in line with the UNDP Country Programme Document 2018-2020 and will support implementation of the three UNDAF outcomes: (a) governance, human rights and gender equality; (b) sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth; and (c) environmental sustainability and resilience.

As part of the methodology, UNDP will enhance the institutional capacities of the NGOs that will further work with LPA and extended communities.

UNDP will provide quality assurance of the deliverables of the involved NGOs and additional capacity building measures for the NGOs based on the needs identified in the quality assurance process.

III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The project objective is to build inclusive sustainable and resilient communities and create an enabling environment for women's economic, social and educational empowerment.

Project outcomes:

1. Sustainable, climate resilient and environmentally-sound livelihoods defined and local capacities&knowledge on environment, climate change and gender enhanced and implemented successfully
2. NGOs capacities to provide expertise to LPAs and women in the field of resilience to climate change, sustainable development and gender mainstreaming
3. Environment-friendly and climate resilient practices and projects implemented by women headed households, women agri-producers and communities
4. Sustainable and climate resilient practices and business models disseminated and replicated

The overall theory of change of the project is that,

If

- a) more information is available on the climate and environmental sensitivities precluding resilient and sustainable local development, and
- b) the role of women in sustainable and resilient management of the environment, natural resources and ecosystems is fully acknowledged, and
- c) women have adequate capacities to harness the economic potential of ecosystem services and goods without harm to the later, and
- d) LPAs understand their responsibilities and the need for actions towards preservation of natural capital from over-exploration, pollution and climate risks, and

²⁵ UNDP- GEF Small Grants Programmes for NGOs; UNDP/ADA Project " Promotion of climate change and disaster risk reduction solution in the water and civil protection sectors for enhanced rural resilience" 2019-2021; UNDP Project "Climate Change Education and Awareness Raising Project", 2019; EU4Climate, 2019-2022;

- e) civil society is properly equipped with knowledge and institutional and individual capacities to promote environmental stewardship, especially among women's groups, and,
- f) there are demonstrated viable alternative livelihood practices and initiatives by rural women of Moldova,

then

the enabling environment for women's economic, social and educational empowerment tailored to environmental management and climate change will be created, supporting building up of sustainable and resilient communities in Moldova

because

the focus in rural societies will be shifted from women's vulnerability to their empowerment, women will become agents of change and their knowledge, experiences and capacities for promoting alternative livelihoods under the current pending climate risks and shrinking natural resources will be valued and considered in rural developments.

Indicative activities

The project aims at enabling economic, social and educational resilience of women and their communities, through promotion of alternative livelihoods/sources of income in the context of environmental degradation and the pending climate change and disaster risks in 6 districts, more specifically in Nisporeni, Calarasi, Basarabeasca, and Leova districts and one district from Gagauzia region and one district from the Transnistrian region.

All communities from these districts will be invited to express their interest to take part in the project and show their commitment to contribute with at least 10% to the overall cost of the community project. The targeted communities will be selected by applying Livelihood Vulnerability Index (LVI) which gives the opportunity to analyze the problems on which the communities' climate change adaptation skills depend on. LVI is based on the concept of sustainable livelihood and incorporates major components such as socio-demographic profile, water supply, environment, financial assurance, climate variability, disasters and other. This approach includes exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity to climate change. The indicators and methodology are described in the 3rd National Communication of the Republic of Moldova under the UNFCCC.

The project is targeting 3 groups:

- o Group I – Women headed households (to be selected using vulnerability indicators and LPA guidance).
- o Group II – Small and medium women agri-producers (land-owners of 2 ha and more) and post-harvest producers.
- o Group III – Community level (30 communities to be identified by using LVI based on exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity to climate change).

In addition, the project will be targeting to enhance the institutional and individual capacities of non-governmental organizations dealing with rural livelihood development, environment, climate change and others relevant.

Outcome 1. Sustainable, climate resilient and environmentally sound livelihoods defined and local capacities&knowledge on environment, climate change and gender enhanced and implemented successfully

In accomplishing this outcome, the project will be guided by the UNDP 5-step capacity development approach²⁶ with focus on women, men and LPAs: engage women, men and LPAs in capacity

²⁶<http://www.undp.org/content/dam/aplaws/publication/en/publications/capacity-development/support-capacity->

development based on the assessed capacities and needs; formulate a capacity development response and implement a capacity development response; and evaluate capacity development. The individual level capacity (technical skills, knowledge, and experience) will be tackled by the proposed project that would enable target women and LPAs to manage the natural resources in a sustainable manner and cope with climate change events and risks.

1.1. Carry out district-level environmental and climate-change vulnerability assessment

In each of 6 selected districts, an analysis of the current environmental threats and climate change vulnerabilities of the local economies will be carried out, where not existing, in order to identify the climate change and environmental issues and risks to which the communities are exposed. The findings of the assessments will support the design of the capacity development activities as well as of the grants programme for the 3 target groups identified by the project. The results of the analysis will also support mainstreaming of the climate change, environment and gender into local development plans of the selected districts.

While the climate vulnerabilities have been explored in 4 of the selected districts under the UNDP/ADA Project “Support to the national adaption planning project”, in the framework of this project such assessments will be expanded to the selected districts of Gagauzia and Transnistria. In addition, the respective project will focus specifically on women’s needs and vulnerabilities, and the environmental concerns, an approach that was missing in the above-mentioned UNDP/ADA project.

There are various methodologies to assess climate change risks and vulnerabilities. For instance, “Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis” handbook developed by CARE targets community level analysis as well households. Moldova Disaster and Climate Risk Project implemented by UNDP has also elaborated “Local Level Disaster and Climate Risk Management Toolkit” which can be applied in terms of this project. Depending on the availability of data, the project will select the most appropriate methodology to carry out the community-level vulnerability assessment. For the purpose of knowledge codification and upscaling, the NGOs participating in the project will be trained on the selected methodologies for climate change risks and vulnerabilities assessment.

In parallel, representatives from each selected community will be invited to an inception meeting which will be organised in Chisinau. The half-day meeting will aim to promote the project and provide information on objectives, procedures, funds, time frame and opportunities, and to address the concerns. As a follow-up, the mayors from the respective communities will be invited to express interest of participation in the project and to contribute with 10% of the overall cost of the community project.

Further, awareness raising campaign will be carried out during a ½ to one-day field visit of project staff to the selected communities and will consist of meetings with the local authority and other community members including representatives of the mayor’s office, the local council, managers of community public institutions and social services, agricultural entrepreneurs, and other active women’s groups. Community meeting will have to elect a Community Initiative Group which will consist of 4 - 6 persons and a chairperson. The Community Initiative Group will consist predominantly of women, thus empowering women to take ownership, demonstrate initiative and deliver results. The Community Initiative Group will have the responsibility to mobilize the community and to supervise implementation of sub-projects at the community level.

1.2. Mainstreaming of gender, environmental protection and climate resilience into local development strategies and capacity building of LPAs

The current district-level development strategies do not reflect sufficiently the linkage between the environment protection, climate change risks and gender which in the absence of response measures impede sustainable and resilient livelihoods. The project will support mainstreaming of environmental protection and climate change adaptation solutions into local development policies of the selected districts. The climate responsive local development strategies will be further screened through gender lens and the focus on women’s needs and capabilities will be reinforced. The mainstreaming process will widely involve various stakeholders ranging from, LPAs, private sector,

local communities including women and vulnerable groups, into policy and decision-making over priorities that affect their well-being.

Under this activity, the project additionally will inform about the existing environmental and climate-related legislation supporting sustainable development of communities and the roles and contributions of the LPAs towards enforcing these at the local level. The experience gained with the transposition of the national legislation in the area of environment and climate change into local development plans and the LPAs' competencies in that regard will be codified through relevant guides and training materials. The upscaling strategy envisaged under Outcome 4 will envisage that such guides and training materials will be brought to the attention of LPAs beyond the pilot districts.

Based on the legal analysis and research and hands on experience gained during the mainstreaming process, a proper capacity building programme on environmental and climate-related legislation for LPAs will be designed and implemented. The capacity building programme will envisage mentoring and coaching activities as well as workshops, trainings and various events intended to enhance the capacity of the LPAs to plan and manage in a resilient manner the local natural capital.

1.3. Conduct capacity and needs assessment among women's groups and men agri-producers

This activity is intended to assess the adaptive capacities of women headed households and agri-producers, as well as of the men agri-producers in terms of access to and control over natural, human, social, physical, and financial resources under the pending environmental and climate change issues and risks identified during Activity 1.1. Specifically, under this activity the project will look into the knowledge gap and inputs required by women to maintain/put in place income generating activities/businesses which are environment-friendly and resilient to climate change. The identified activities/businesses will build upon the reliable water sources and infrastructure, land access and management, upgraded agricultural technology, accessible finance, market opportunities of agricultural and forest products and other needs as identified by the assessment. In completing this activity, the project will guide by the UNDP Capacity Assessment Methodology and will use the UNDP supporting tool that will help to assess capacity assets and needs as well as to formulate a capacity development response. The results of the assessment will feed into the capacity development programme (Activity 1.4.) and the grants programme (Outcome 3).

1.4. Carry out a practical capacity development programme for women and men agri-producers

Based on the results and recommendations of the capacity needs assessment (Activity 1.3), a capacity development programme will be designed for women and men agri-producers together with NGOs. The capacity development programme will address the critical environmental management and adaptation knowledge and skills required for sustainable development of agricultural communities. The intended trainings will enable women-led households and their communities to put in place and maintain environment-friendly and resilient income generation activities/businesses. Indicatively, the beneficiaries of the capacity development programme will gain basic skills in climate resilient livelihoods, acquire knowledge in conservation agriculture and relevant technologies, sustainable forest and pasture management and use, as well as of the water resources and others as identified by the capacity needs assessment and required to access and implement successfully the grants provided by the project

The methodology for the capacity development will be chosen in a participatory and transparent process between the project team and the targeted communities. This modular structure of the capacity development programme will allow target groups to adapt the individual programme to their needs. The selection of tools for the capacity development by the target group themselves guarantees ownership. It is planned to organize trainings that would be interactive with practical cases, examples and lectures and will offer possibilities to open discussion on experience with the aim to enhance specific skills of the target groups and their involvement into economic income generation activities. The alternative activities promoted by the project shall not foreclose options for other groups neither irreversibly degrade natural resources within a given ecosystem. Additional

training, where necessary, may be provided for target women in species recognition and collection techniques of forestry accessory products such as seeds, medicinal plants, fruits, mushrooms and berries. Such training would strengthen forest management practices and preserve the biodiversity as well as diversify the income for vulnerable groups practicing such activities. The project will guide and provide support to the participants in the capacity development programme in formulating their own sub-projects proposals

Outcome 2. NGOs capacities to provide expertise to LPAs and women in the field of resilience to climate change, sustainable development and gender mainstreaming enhanced

Civil society organizations and NGOs are important stakeholders in the area of environment protection and resilient development and their role to influence relevant policies and actions is acknowledged by the major global environment and climate change treaties.

There is a large number of civil society organizations registered in Moldova, which according to the 2018-2020 Civil Society Development Strategy is estimated at around 7950. However most of them (65%) are located in the municipality of Chisinau and at the same the majority is not active due to various constraints, among which limited financing, technical knowledge and project writing and implementation capacities. According to the EU Roadmap for Engagement with the civil society in the Republic of Moldova 2018-2020 about 59% of CSOs carry out their activity in the fields of education, culture and youth and about a quarter deals with social work, 19% with human rights, etc. This leaves a low number of NGOs dealing with the environment protection and resilient development. Although official statistics on the exact number of environmental NGOs is missing, around 67 NGOs registered for participation in the latest Environmental NGOs Forum.

UNDP has had several programmes targeting environmental civil society organizations and NGO such as the GEF Small Grants Programme (ongoing) and the EU-financed programme "Strengthening Environmental Governance by Building the Capacity of NGOs" (closed) and which both are aimed at promoting sustainable development and improved environmental management. The outcomes of the programmes emphasize the need for extensive capacity building of CSO and NGOs of environmental topics as well as their institutional and individual development.

Against this background this outcome will focus on strengthening the NGOs capacities to engage in local environmental and climate actions, natural resources management and decision-making.

2.1. Conduct institutional capacity assessment of environmental NGOs

This activity will build upon the ongoing mapping exercise of environmental non-governmental organizations initiated by the EcoContact NGOs. A Call for Expression of Interest will be prepared and disseminated through the existing platforms with the intention to identify up to 6 NGOs which can benefit from the institutional development support. Selection of the 6 NGOs will be conducted based on a checklist with minimum criteria for technical, financial, managerial and administrative capabilities for project implementation. The selected NGOs will be subject to an institutional assessment to identify the management, administrative and financial gaps which will be followed by an institutional development programme tailored to each selected NGO.

2.2. Carry out a core capacity development programme for the selected NGOs

The institutional development support programme for the selected NGOs will be designed around the UNDP's practice for building of institutional capacities for project implementation and/or SIDA's experience with such capacity development activities. The areas of focus of the programme are: 1) project management; 2) technical skills and resources; 3) financial management and internal controls; 4) administrative skills in the areas of procurement and recruitment. For each selected NGO a tailor capacity development programme will be prepared based on the identified capacity gaps. Implementation of the institutional capacity development programme will be guided and monitored by UNDP in line with its quality assurance role assumed under this project.

Implementation of this activity will be supported by an international company specialised in institutional capacity building of NGOs. Once the 6 selected NGOs put in place the internal institutional framework and comply with UNDP's requirements as regards the NGOs' capacities for project implementation, these will be considered as potential NGO candidates for operationalisation of the grants' component under Outcome 3 accompanied by the required coaching and mentoring support.

2.3. Design and implement a capacity building programme for NGOs on environmental and climate-change related legislation, challenges and response measures

The environmental and vulnerability assessments conducted in the 6 districts (Activity 1.1.) will inform the capacity building programme for NGOs, including for those participating in the core institutional development programmes and for those which submitted their applications as part of the Call for Expression of Interest described under activity 2.1. The capacity building programme for NGOs will be approved by the donor prior commencement. A series of national and local level training events on dedicated environmental and climate change topic will be organised in the framework of this project, as well on the relevant national legislation and global treaties and on how these shall inform the projects' formulation process. In addition, throughout the project implementation the 6 selected NGOs will be supported to participate in global and international dialogues on various environmental and climate-related topics, and to have exchange visits to/from international NGOs supporting resilient and sustainable development of communities in their countries.

OUTCOME 3. Environment-friendly and climate resilient practices and projects implemented by women headed households, women agri-producers and communities

Under this activity financial, technical and informational support will be provided to women headed households, agri-producers and communities for piloting environment-friendly and climate change resilient practices in agriculture, forestry and other areas aligned with their economic and social needs. The size of grants, financial contribution and provisional activities are presented in the table below.

Table 2: The size of grants, financial contribution and provisional activities

	Group I	Group II	Group III
Grant	Micro-grant up to 3.500 USD	Medium – grant up to 18.000 USD	Community – grant up to 16.000 USD
Co-financing	In-kind contribution (works)	20%	10%
Target group²⁷	60 households	10 entrepreneurs	30 communities
Activities to be financed (provisional)	Rainwater collection Access to surface and/or ground waters where permitted and applicable Greenhouses construction Drip irrigation	Climate smart agriculture activities ○ Agro-forestry ○ Improving water retention on agricultural lands ○ Soil restoration activities	Extension of forest area on degraded lands Restoration of wetlands hydrology Biomass production Pasture restoration

²⁷ Additional grants to households (150) and agri-producers (10) would be allocated if extra financial resources available, due to lower spend from established ceilings.

	Organic waste management - compost production Bee keeping Seeds and goods storages Animal husbandry Other related activities that would ensure food security in times of climatic extremes	Eco-tourism Organic crop and vegetable production Biomass or compost production Plants nurseries and berries production Orchard management Milk and cheese production Sustainable fish production Management of animal husbandry Integrated practices Post-harvest production Use of agro by-products Access to markets Other related environment-friendly and climate change resilient activities	Waste management Chemicals management Other related environment-friendly and climate change resilient activities
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3.1. Support for preparation of environment-friendly and climate resilient sub-project plans (business plans)

Following the mobilisation of women's groups and communities, and the provided trainings, a call for expression of interest for innovative environment-friendly and climate resilient project ideas for Group I, II and III will be announced. As a next step, for each selected project idea support will be provided for preparation of the business plans in line with the coaching and mentoring scheme. The coaching and mentoring scheme for LPAs and women's groups will be entrusted to NGOs-beneficiaries of the institutional capacity development programme under Activity 2.2.

3.2. 60 sub-projects with improved livelihood implemented

60 women will benefit from grants based on clear methodology and selection criteria, innovation inclusively. The grants are intended to promote climate-smart agri-practices, animal husbandry, and other related activities that would contribute to food security at the household level and income generation regardless of the changes in the rainfall patterns and extreme weather events. The projects will also promote the environmental sustainability at the community level. The sub-project would be however conditional on the following considerations (i) alignment of the sub-projects with the proposed project's development objective; (ii) financial feasibility of sub-projects; (iii) ability of the potential beneficiary to contribute in-kind and with works; (iv) demonstrated potential for the underlying investments to contribute to creating sustainable and replicable models. The maximum ceiling would be established at **US\$3,500** per household. A woman headed household would be eligible for one grant only. The general eligibility framework under the grant scheme is as follows:

- a) Beneficiaries must be physical persons;
- b) Beneficiaries should live in target communities identified by the project;
- c) Beneficiaries have no arrears to the public (state and local) budgets;
- d) Beneficiaries shall provide a legally acceptable commitment that the goods financed under the scheme would not be sold or otherwise transferred to a third party;

- e) Beneficiaries shall provide confirmation of commitment for participation in dissemination and demonstration activities²⁸
- f) Beneficiaries from vulnerable groups are encouraged to apply (women with disabilities, elderly women, young women, roma women).

Contract for goods and works will be signed with UNDP and contractors that would be responsible for, among other things:

- Execution of contract according to each sub-project plan;
- Execution of contract in agreed time frame;
- Quality and quantity of works, materials and equipment in compliance with national legislation, norms and standards;
- Engineering setup, and putting in operation of any installation or equipment according to sub-project design and national norms and standards;
- Training of target group in operation of any installation or equipment (if any);
- Participation in final commissioning of completed sub-project;
- Labor security during execution of works, compliance with fire protection, and environmental protection standards.

The Local Public Authority together with the Community Initiative Group will do overall supervision of sub-project implementation and will be responsible for: (i) monitoring and supervising contract execution; and (ii) commissioning of completed works. The project will provide the necessary technical and system support for collection, processing and maintenance of the monitoring data.

3.3. 10 entrepreneurial sub-projects implemented

10 women agri-producers will be supported with grants based on clear methodology and selection criteria, including innovation and the number of new jobs created. The grant would support climate-smart agri-practices, post-harvest production and other related environment-friendly and climate change resilient activities at small and medium enterprise scale and will be conditional on considerations of: (i) alignment of the sub-projects with the proposed project's development objective; (ii) financial feasibility of sub-projects; (iii) ability of the potential beneficiary to co-finance the underlying investment (20% from total investment); (iv) demonstrated potential for the underlying investments to contribute to creating sustainable and replicable climate resilient agri-models. The grants would compensate eligible women agri-producers up to 80% of incurred investment costs under a sub-project for eligible goods and works, with a maximum ceiling established at **US\$18,000** per agri-producer. A beneficiary would be eligible for one investment grant only. The general eligibility framework under the grant scheme is as follows:

- a) Beneficiaries must be private entities;
- b) Beneficiaries should be registered in target communities identified by the project;
- c) Beneficiaries should not be on the official list of banned agricultural producers;
- d) Beneficiaries pay current taxes and have no arrears to the public (state and local) budgets;
- e) Beneficiaries shall provide a legally acceptable commitment that the goods financed under the scheme would not be sold or otherwise transferred to a third party;
- f) Beneficiaries shall provide confirmation of commitment for participation in dissemination and demonstration activities.
- g) Beneficiaries from vulnerable groups are encouraged to apply (women with disabilities, elderly women, young women, roma women).

²⁸ Further details on beneficiary eligibility, award criteria and operating principles of the grant schemes will be elaborated in the Grant Operation Manual.

Contract for goods and works will be signed with UNDP and contractors that would be responsible for, among other things:

- Execution of contract according to each sub-project plan;
- Execution of contract in agreed time frame;
- Quality and quantity of works, materials and equipment in compliance with national legislation, norms and standards
- Engineering setup, and putting in operation of any installation or equipment according to sub-project design and national norms and standards
- Training of target group in operation of any installation or equipment (if any)
- Participation in final commissioning of completed sub-project
- Labor security during execution of works, compliance with fire protection, and environmental protection standards

The local public authority together with the Community Initiative Group will execute overall supervision of sub-project implementation and will be responsible for: (i) monitoring and supervising contract execution; and (ii) commissioning of completed works. The project will provide the necessary technical and system support for collection, processing and maintenance of the monitoring data. The project would also provide advice and facilitate marketing and commercialization of goods in order to cover the whole value chain.

3.4. 30 community sub-projects implemented

30 target communities will be assisted in the identification, formulation, planning and implementation of environment-friendly and climate resilient initiatives jointly with the LPAs and community members. Innovative techniques of community mobilization for women's empowerment will be applied. The project will ensure that all interventions and actions are planned, and managed with the maximum involvement of local partners and communities, thereby ensuring their collective responsibility and ownership of the initiatives.

Based on the community-level vulnerability assessment and the available community resources such as forest, water reservoirs, agricultural land, degraded land, pastures and others, the LPAs and communities with the project support, shall decide on the climate resilient activities with the highest adaptation impact. Indicatively, the communities could apply for extension of the forests degraded lands and landslides or to restore the ecological and hydrological integrity of wetlands (small earth dams, ponds, drainage, clearing of waterways to improve water harvesting and aquifer recharge), etc. This will contribute to enhanced climate change ecosystem-based adaptation, disaster and climate risk management and creation of pre-requisites for sustainable and resilient alternative livelihoods.

The grants would compensate LPAs up to 90% of incurred costs under a sub-project for eligible goods and works, with a maximum ceiling established at **US\$16,000** per community. The local public authority together with the Community Initiative Group will execute overall management of community project implementation and will be responsible for: (i) monitoring and supervising contract execution; and (ii) commissioning of completed works. The project will provide the necessary technical and system support for collection, processing and maintenance of monitoring data.

Outcome 4. Sustainable and climate resilient practices and business models disseminated and replicated

This component aims to support preparation of case studies, best practices, lessons learned and other relevant information on climate adaptation solutions and resilient livelihoods from the pilot communities to enable their replication and scaling at the national level. The experience will be shared and replicated beyond project borders through sharing events, agricultural extension networks, environmental forums, mass-media and other communication tools.

4.1. Formulate the Upscaling Strategy

This activity seeks to formulate a post project sustainability strategy that considers institutional and financial dimensions to expand environment-friendly and climate change resilient practices for sustainable development to other communities and districts.

- Institutional sustainability: Which institution should be involved to ensure that agriculture and forestry practices for resilient development will be sustainable, scalable and repeatable?
- Financial sustainability: What resources will be needed for replicating environment-friendly and climate smart agriculture practices? Which activities and who could co-finance those activities?

4.2. Formulate and implement the communication and outreach strategy

A communication and outreach strategy will be developed and implemented in order to communicate the importance of women's economic, social and educational empowerment and promote good practices of sustainable and climate change resilient livelihoods. The strategy will be based on the findings of the comprehensive needs assessment (Activity 1.2) and will envisage communication means to reach out to the target groups. One of the potential outreach product under consideration is the guidebook on "sustainable and climate resilient income generation activities/businesses" (to be confirmed during the needs assessment) can be produced based on lessons learned and best practices from Component 2.

The gained experience and good practices will be disseminated through farmer to farmer exchanges, various trainings, demonstration sites and other methods. These networks will be expanded beyond the 6 target districts, providing an entry point for other districts to adopt climate change resilient practices for sustainable development. The project will make efforts to establish pro-bono collaboration with the TV and radio station as an additional outreach and dissemination tool, capitalizing on the materials produced in the framework of the project.

Additional way of dissemination would be integration of the followings information into existing agro-inform platforms and extension services networks platforms: (i) a portfolio of project activities on income diversification (project plans); (ii) project success stories; (iii) thematic topics including: adoption and promotion of crop diversification and resilient agricultural best practices (e.g. improving water retention in agricultural areas, planting drought tolerant crops, early maturing crops, adopting multiple cropping techniques to spread risks); non-timber products for alternative income generation and sustainable forest practices (supporting the change of current collection techniques of forestry products such as seeds, medicinal plants, fruits, mushrooms and berries).

Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement

The stakeholder engagement is the foundation for the project implementation and sustainability. The project involves strong coordination among different stakeholders to achieve the expected results.

Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment (MARDE). The Ministry is responsible for the development and implementation of national agricultural, regional development and environmental policy, legislation, action plans, norms and standards. The Ministry is directly responsible for promoting environmentally friendly-practices. MARDE will oversee all aspects of project implementation as *the national implementing partner*. It will also facilitate functioning of the project management team (PMT), especially in regard to liaison with government authorities from different sectors. Ministry will ensure coordination with other relevant projects and initiatives and will be active in monitoring of the PMT activities. MARDE will also support the project by politically influencing agricultural practice e.g. promoting climate resilient practices.

Ministry of Labor, Social protection and Family (MLSF). The Ministry is responsible for the development and implementation of national policies in the following areas: labour, social security, social assistance, gender equality and demography. MLSF will ensure coordination with other relevant projects and initiatives and will be active in monitoring of the PMT activities.

Local Public Authorities (LPAs). Community public administrations have a significant role to play in the project. LPAs jointly with the community members will participate in the identification, formulation, planning and implementation of climate resilient initiatives and will execute overall

management of community project implementation and will be responsible for: (i) monitoring and supervising contract execution; and (ii) commissioning of completed works. LPAs responsibility also include mainstreaming of climate change adaptation solutions into local development policies.

Agency “Moldsilva”. The general task of the Agency is to implement the constitutional prerogatives and international ratified obligations of the Republic of Moldova on development, promotion and implementation of its policy in forestry and hunting, directed on the international trends of socio-economic sustainable development, rural development, rural employment, sustainable forestry, development, guarding, forests and wildlife protection, maintenance and conservation of biodiversity, professional training, access to environmental benefits and forestry research and education. Moldsilva will be an important partner for the implementation of reforestation activities on degraded lands, as well as for their related duties in forest resources management. The agency will provide, through its state forestry units, technical assistance, co-financing and support in implementing community projects.

Agency “Apele Moldovei”. The Agency has the following attributions among others: (i) organizes the design and construction of drinking water and sewage systems, the technical exploitation of accumulation lakes for common use, according to the hydrographic basin principle, as well as protection dikes; (ii) organizes the operation and repair of drainage and irrigation systems, drinking water supply systems and sewage systems; (iii) develops regulations and contributes, through concrete actions, to the maintenance in a technically appropriate manner of the accumulation basins, the antiviral constructions, the water distribution networks, the irrigation and drainage systems; (iv) organizes the financing of the works related to the construction, maintenance and reconstruction of the water management, hydro-ameliorative, water supply and sewerage objects. As such the Agency will play an important role in restoration of the ecological and hydrological integrity of wetlands (small earth dams, ponds, drainage, clearing of waterways to improve water harvesting and aquifer recharge).

Environment and Gender NGOs. All NGOs will participate in stakeholder consultation and training as relevant and will assist in the promotion and awareness raising of project activities.

- **BIOS** is a leader in the field of environmental protection, sustainable agriculture and community development in Moldova and will be involved in developing and testing climate resilient technologies and practices for pilot projects, among other activities. Additionally, the project team will collaborate with the “Bios” NGO on fostering the existing platforms/networks of communication with the NGOs community on land governance and to disseminate the project’s results through these platforms.
- **EcoContact** has great experience in human rights and environment legislation as well as practical knowledge and skills on environmental issues such as: water management, waste management, risk assessment, climate change, vulnerability, chemical management, environmental impact assessment, etc. EcoContact will be involved in capacity development programme among other activities. EcoContact has recently initiated mapping of all NGOs from the environmental sector and the project will capitalise on these data to ensure broad reach out to NGOs communities and their involvement across all project’s activities.
- **EcoVisio** runs educational and empowerment programs for individuals, create and advocate for viable examples of ecological and social innovations and boost cooperation between changemakers through networks’ development. EcoVisio has working experience in education for sustainable development, peace and transformative leadership, social entrepreneurship and green economy, rural development, organic agriculture, etc. and will be involved in capacity development programme among other activities. With such a background, EcoVisio is well placed to partner with the project on education and empowerment activities, as well as on providing support to women farmers to promote their products through IarmarEco events.
- **Congress of Local Authorities in Moldova (CALM)** represents the biggest local public association of local communities in Moldova and one of its main objectives is to contribute

to promoting successful models and practices in local and regional development, inter-municipal cooperation, provision of public services and good local governance. It serves as a centre of information, assistance, training, expertise and experience exchange and will as such be an important partner for outreach activities to promote replication and upscaling.

- **Pro Rural Invest** contributes to multidimensional and ongoing development of the rural sector through promotion of rural business development and providing assistance to rural entrepreneurs. It will assist in developing and testing climate resilient technologies and practices for pilot sub-projects.
- **Gender Centru** promotes gender equality in society through gender education programs, advocacy and media campaign, gender researches studies and will be involved in women empowerment activities.
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- **Moldova Organic Value Chain Alliance (MOVCA)** - the only association of ecologically certified farmers in Moldova which is lobbying the interests of the farmers in the area of organic farming, promoting innovation and providing value added services. The MOVCA Association will be an important partner of the project in promotion of organic farming system in the pilot districts of the project.
- **Association of Environment and Ecological Tourism Journalists of Moldova** – which has a priority information and awareness raising on environmental issues, access to information and public’s participation, promotion of sustainable development and of the partnership with LPAs and local and foreign NGOs, as well as others related to sustainable tourism.

Farmers Associations will be involved in the implementation of demonstration activities. In particular, National Farmers Federation Moldova (NFFM) and Republican Union of Agricultural Producers’ Associations (APA) will be involved. NFFM consists of 11 regional organizations and more than 700 local farmer associations which cover more than 27,000 farmer enterprises. The federation contributes to enhancing the legal framework related to rural economic development. It develops and implements specific programs related to ecological agriculture, rural tourism, and social and cultural development and facilitates farmer associations in different domains. APA represents the interests of the 14 regional agricultural ‘producers’ associations. APA includes approximately 1,200 economic agents farming 600,000 hectares.

UN-Women closely cooperates with the government, civil society, and private sector to advance social, economic and political rights and opportunities for women and girls, placing special focus on those from marginalized groups. UN Women also works closely with policy makers to adopt state programmes that empower women in technology and entrepreneurship.

Risks and Assumptions

As per standard UNDP requirements, the Project Team will monitor risks quarterly and report on the status of the risks to the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP Country Office will record progress in the UNDP ATLAS risk log. Risks will be reported as critical when the impact and probability are high (i.e. when impact is rated as 5, and when impact is rated as 4 and probability is rated at 3 or higher).

Table 3: Risks and mitigation measures

Project risks				
Description	Type	Impact & Probability 1 (low) to	Mitigation Measures	Owner

		5 (high)		
10 women agri-producers will not be identified	Operational	I = 3 P = 4	The project will run awareness campaign at the district and community level and will facilitate women agri-producers' engagement.	Project Team
Co-financing failure from Local Public Authorities and women agri-producers in the selected communities	Operational	I = 4 P = 3	In order to qualify for Grant, Local Public Authorities and entrepreneurs will be asked to sign a Memorandum of Understanding and by this guaranty the project co-financing.	Project Team
Weak capacity of implementing partners	Operational	I = 3 P = 2	The UNDP will address these risks by providing on-going training, coaching and mentoring.	Project Team
Lack of culture of participation	Operational	I = 4 P = 2	The project will use best practices and lessons learned to show tangible benefits from other similar contexts for communities, agri-business and household level, and will be working on changing the attitudes and behavior as well as will empower communities, CBOs and citizens to fully participate in all local development processes.	Project Team
Possible overlapping with ongoing projects	Operational	I = 2 P = 2	The project will identify cooperation activities with the ongoing programmes and projects and will develop joint activities in order to maximize the impact of the interventions.	Project Team
Politicians claiming their merit for project results	Political	I=3 P=2	The project team will exercise vigilance and will keep abreast of the political situation to apply a neutral approach in communication with politicians and politically affiliated authorities.	

Knowledge, Sustainability and Scaling Up

Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone through existing information sharing networks and forums.

The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in learning and and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation though lessons learned. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects.

Long-term sustainability will be sought through a broad capacity building effort designed to create a critical mass of efficient practitioners among women group and agricultural practitioners. Training will be a key component of this program, and in particular with an emphasis on learning by doing. The capacity building process will integrate participatory elements to fully address issues that affect the long-term sustainability of natural resources and the welfare of local agricultural communities (continuous training and on-farm demonstrations to consolidate adoption of adaptation technologies and encourage replication). In addition, participating women farmers and LPAs will contribute towards the cost of investments that would build ownership to project-supported adaptation measures and ensure some level of commitment to sustain these investments. Further, the project through Outcome 2 will support operationalization and implementation of the adopted local development plans with mainstreamed gender, environmental protection and climate change elements. The direct linkages with these strategies will provide a long-term institutional mechanism for managing climate risks and improve resilience to climate change for sustainable development. The sustainability of the project is also guaranteed by the full involvement and empowerment of key government actors throughout the multi-stakeholder processes in the various components of the

project. Women farmers will be the main targets of the awareness raising and capacity building program, and they will be the main beneficiaries of the pilot adaptation improvement component and the provision of new technologies. In addition, partnerships with these groups will be further strengthened by their increasing role in decision-making on investments in climate-resilient technologies, and the production and processing of agricultural products.

Mainstreaming gender

Gender mainstreaming has been defined by the United Nations Economic and Social Council as a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated'. The relative status of men and women, the interaction between gender and race, class and ethnicity, and questions of rights, control, ownership, power, and voice - all have a critical impact on the success and sustainability of every development intervention.

The project fully focuses on to advance gender equality and empower women as agents of change and leaders in the development processes that shape their lives, thereby contributing to achievement of national priorities presented in the Gender Equality Strategy of the Republic of Moldova 2017-2021. The project targets women household owners and women agri-producers to be supported by capacity development programme and grants for women's economic, social and educational empowerment. The project will also ensure that the Community Initiative Group will consist predominantly of women, thus empowering women to take ownership, demonstrate initiative and deliver results. Commonly women are part of community-based organizations and groups but are not generally part of the decision-making committee. The project would seek to encourage greater involvement of women community-based organizations.

IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Cost Efficiency and Effectiveness

The proposed strategy is expected to deliver maximum results while making the best use of available resources, offered by the Government of Sweden. Further resource mobilization efforts through the engagement with other Donors will be undertaken as necessary. The Project will look for synergies with other projects in the area of climate change, environment and civil society development that might allow for joint activities and for cost-sharing of the activities to achieve higher value for money, as well as will use the cost-saving Long-Term Agreements with certain categories of service/goods providers available for the UN Country Team agencies due to existing arrangements within the UN Moldova Country Office. Attention will be paid to the collaboration with other UNDP projects, such as for instance GEF SGP Programme, ADA-financed project on demonstration of climate change adaptation solutions in the water sector and civil protections and others as might emerge in the upcoming years.

Throughout the project implementation, the Project team shall maintain primary attention on other ongoing and planned initiatives (inside and outside of UNDP) and actively explore possible synergies and opportunities for co-ordination and co-operation to ensure complementary rather than overlapping activities. Consultations with key public authorities, other donors and financing entities will be conducted throughout the implementation in combination with required adaptive management, thereby seeking to ensure the most cost-effective and results oriented use of the Donor's resources assigned for the Project.

Inception Phase

The inception phase of the project will last 6 months since allocation of funds by the donor, and will include several actions to ensure smooth implementation of the project:

- 1) The missing baseline indicators of the project will be identified and subsequently the Results Framework (Annex 2 of the Project Document) will be updated correspondingly;
- 2) The concept for capacity development of the NGO will need to be developed as well in the inception phase and approved by the donor. The capacity building concept for NGOs's will be inclusive of the environmental justice topic. The developed NGOs Capacity Building Concept will be approved by the donor.
- 3) Describe the methodology for selection of relevant districts from Gagauzia and Transnistria and select these in the inception phase.
- 4) The early working plans will be presented to the donor for approval.

Project Management

The project will be carried out under the Direct Implementation Modality. This means that UNDP will take on the role of Implementing Partner and will assume the responsibility for mobilizing and applying effectively the required inputs in order to reach the expected outputs and outcomes. UNDP Moldova will assume the overall management responsibility and accountability for project administration, including organizing implementation of Project activities, procurement of goods and services, recruitment of Project personnel and national and international consultants, connecting to national and international expertise and knowledge networks, and the quality assurance, ensuring the timely and expedient implementation of Project activities, including the provision of continuous feedback and information sharing among stakeholders.

UNDP Country Office will provide programmatic, quality assurance, procurement, financial management and other operational support, while these direct project costs incurred will be charged to the Project budget. The Project will work in close collaboration with other UNDP Moldova Projects. The Project Team will look for synergies with other Projects that might allow for joint activities and for cost-sharing of the activities to achieve higher value for money.

The Project Team will be placed in rented premises and will require the necessary facilities and equipment to ensure functionality and operability of the project, including computers, copy machine, phones, project car, etc. The project team will have a possibility to take part in the staff development activities in country or abroad, as well as to accompany representatives of beneficiary/partner institutions in the study visits ensuring their good and efficient organisation and also building their capacities for the effective performance and efficient project implementation.

Audit arrangements

The Project is subject to the standard UNDP audit arrangements. Being a subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly and fully a part of the United Nations, UNDP enjoys a special status deriving from the UN Charter, the general legal framework of the UN, including the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the organization pursuant to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the UN adopted by the General Assembly in 1946. In accordance with this status, audits of UNDP are guided by the 'single audit' principle. Under that principle, any review by any external authority, including any governmental authority, is precluded under regulation 7.6 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, which provides that "the Board of Auditors shall be completely independent and solely responsible for the conduct of audit." This principle was reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/272: "The General Assembly [...] 11. Reaffirms the role of the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit as external oversight bodies, and, in this regard, affirms that any external review, audit, inspection, monitoring, evaluation or investigation of the Office can be undertaken only by such bodies or those mandated to do so by the General Assembly".

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) conducted an audit of UNDP Moldova in March-April 2018, covering the period 01 Jan 2017-31 Jan 2018. OAI assessed²⁹ the UNDP Moldova office as 'satisfactory' (the highest rating), which means "The assessed governance arrangements, risk management practices and controls were adequately established and functioning well. Issued identified by the audit, if any, are unlikely to affect the achievement of the objectives of the audited

²⁹ Audit of the UNDP Country Office in the Republic of Moldova, Report no. 1928 (23 May 2018), http://audit-public-disclosure.undp.org/view_audit_rpt_2.cfm?audit_id=1928

entity/area". Satisfactory performance was noted in the following relevant areas: governance, human resources management, procurement, financial resources management.

Financial management

Financial management of the project will be conducted under UNDP Financial Regulation and Rules (FRR). FRR are regulations that govern the financial management of the United Nations Development Programme and shall apply to all resources administered by UNDP and to all the Funds and Programmes administered by the Administrator. They ensure acceptable levels of controls, as well as separation of duties. The new FRR are issued effective 1 January 2012 and govern the broad financial management of UNDP and the funds administered by UNDP, including the budgeting and accounting of resources. They have been updated to reflect the adoption of IPSAS and its terminology; and the revised harmonized cost classifications of the Joint report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF on the road map to an integrated budget. Financial reporting mechanisms for the Project will follow UNDP rules and procedures and will comply with the reporting requirements of the Donor.

Anti-corruption

UNDP applies the UN Convention against Corruption and strictly follows the UNDP Policy of Fraud and Other Corrupt Practices at the country level. UNDP will provide mandatory capacity building for project staff and personnel to ensure compliance with the UNDP M&E Rules and Regulations, including on anti-corruption. The last internal audit of UNDP Country Office in Moldova (2018) has been satisfactory and there were no corruption cases identified at UNDP Moldova.

All Project staff will undertake the UNDP mandatory training courses on anti-corruption and on ethics during the project inception phase.

Accountability of managers at the country level is prescribed in UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) and the Internal Control Framework (ICF).

Intellectual property rights and use of logo

Project materials, publications, print or digital deliverables will be branded by the relevant UNDP logo and typography (subject to corporate brand-book) and donor's logo. All intellectual products produced under the Project will be equipped with a standard UNDP intellectual property right disclaimer and, at discretion and agreement with donors may be placed into creative commons.

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans: *[Note: monitoring and evaluation plans should be adapted to project context, as needed]*

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Cost (if any)
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and	Quarterly, or in the frequency required for	Slower than expected progress will be addressed	Project Management and

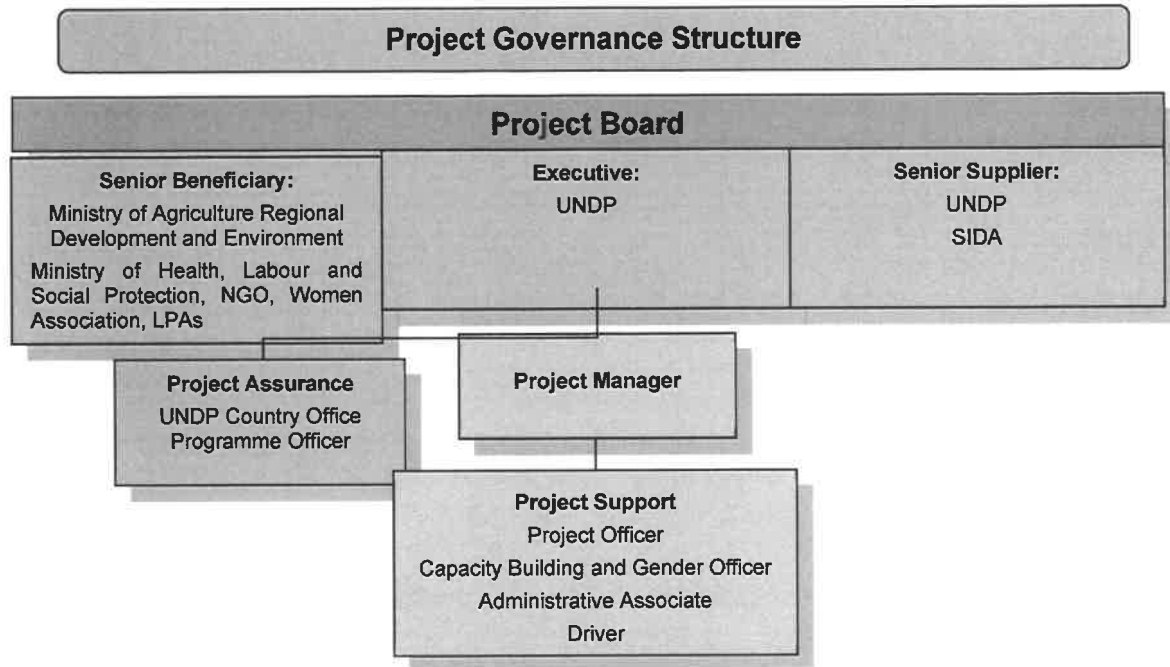
	analyzed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	each indicator.	by project management.	Project Quality Assurance costs
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	Project Management and Project Quality Assurance costs
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.	Project Management and Project Quality Assurance costs
Annual Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	Project Management and Project Quality Assurance costs
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.	Project Management and Project Quality Assurance costs
Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders,	Annually, and at the end of the		Project Management and

	consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	project (final report)		Project Quality Assurance costs
Project Review (Project Board)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board) will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	Specify frequency (i.e., at least annually)	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	Project Management and Project Quality Assurance costs

Evaluation Plan

Evaluation Title	Planned Completion Date	Cost
Final Evaluation	December 2021	25,000USD

VI. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS



The project will be implemented under the **Direct Implementation Modality (DIM)**. This means that UNDP will take on the role of Implementing Partner and will assume the responsibility for mobilizing and applying effectively the required inputs in order to reach the expected outputs and outcomes. UNDP Moldova will assume the overall management responsibility and accountability for project administration, including organizing implementation of Project activities, procurement of goods and services, recruitment of Project personnel and national and international consultants, connecting to national and international expertise and knowledge networks, and the quality assurance, ensuring the timely and expedient implementation of Project activities, including the provision of continuous feedback and information sharing among stakeholders.

Project Board (PB) will be responsible for making consensus-based decisions, in particular when guidance is required by the Project Manager (PM). The Board will play a critical role in project monitoring and evaluations by assuring the quality of these processes and associated products, and by using evaluations for improving performance, accountability and learning. The Project Board will ensure that required resources are committed. It will also arbitrate on any conflicts within the project and negotiate solutions to any problems with external bodies. Project board meetings are to be organized at least twice per year or to be convened upon necessity (as stipulated in the ProDoc). The Project Manager is responsible for the organization of the Board Meetings, with the support of the assistant.

Specific responsibilities of the PB should include:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints;
- Address project issues as raised by the project manager;
- Provide guidance on new project risks and agree on possible countermeasures and management actions to address specific risks;

- Agree on project manager's tolerances as required;
- Review the project progress and provide direction and recommendations to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans;
- Review combined delivery reports prior to certification by the implementing partner;
- Appraise the project's budget revisions, annual review report, make recommendations for the next annual work plan, and inform the outcome group about the results of the review;
- Provide ad-hoc direction and advice for exception situations when project manager's tolerances are exceeded;
- Assess and decide to proceed on project changes through appropriate revisions

Project Board decisions shall be made in accordance with international standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition. Members of the Project Board will consist of key national government representatives, UNDP senior official and other stakeholders and the donor Potential members of the Project Board will be reviewed and recommended for approval during the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) meeting. The final composition of the Project Board will be decided at the outset of project operations and presented in the Inception Report. New members into the Board or participants into the Board meetings during the project implementation can be invited at the decision of the Board, by ensuring, however, that the Board will remain sufficiently lean to facilitate its effective operation. The Project Board will contain of three distinct roles:

Executive Role: Representing the project ownership and chairs the Project Board.

Senior Supplier Role: This requires the representation of the interests of the funding parties for specific cost sharing projects and/or technical expertise to the project. The Senior Supplier's primary function within the Board will be to provide guidance regarding the technical feasibility of the project.

Senior Beneficiary Role: This role requires representing the interests of those who will ultimately benefit from the project. The Senior Beneficiary's primary function within the Board will be to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of different stakeholders and beneficiaries. Local Public Authorities will represent interest of beneficiaries in the Project Board.

Project Assurance: The Project Assurance role supports the Project Board Executive by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions which are mandatory on all projects.

The Project Assurance role supports the Project Board by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. Project Assurance has to be independent of the Project Manager; therefore, the Project Board cannot delegate any of its assurance responsibilities to the Project Manager. The Project Assurance role will rest with the Environment, Energy and Climate Change Cluster Lead of UNDP CO.

The following list includes the key suggested aspects that need to be checked by the Project Assurance throughout the project as part of ensuring that it remains consistent with, and continues to meet, a business need and that no change to the external environment effects the validity of the project:

- Ensure that funds are made available to the project;
- Ensure that risks and issues are properly managed and monitored, and that the logs are regularly updated;
- Ensure that Project Progress/Financial Reports are prepared and submitted on time, and according to standards in terms of format and content quality and submitted to the Project Board.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established and will comprise of a Project Manager, Project Officer, Capacity Building and Gender Officer, Administration and Finance Associate and Driver/Clerk. The PMU will be headed by the Project Manager (PM) who will be recruited on a competitive basis. The PM will run the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of UNDP and MARDE within the constraints laid down by the Board. The PM's prime responsibility is to ensure that the

project produces the results specified in the project document, to the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost. Development and consolidation of work plans, preparation of quarterly/annual progress reports, supervision the work of the project thematic experts, etc. are major responsibility of the PM. The terms of references for project management unit staff can be seen in the Annex 4.

VII. LEGAL CONTEXT

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Moldova and UNDP. All references in the SBAA to “Executing Agency” shall be deemed to refer to “Implementing Partner.”

VIII. RISK MANAGEMENT

1. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS.)
2. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the [project funds]³⁰ [UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document]³¹ are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.
3. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (<http://www.undp.org/ses>) and related Accountability Mechanism (<http://www.undp.org/secu-srm>).
4. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.
5. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.
6. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will ensure that the following obligations are binding on each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient:
 - a. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA [*for the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document*], the responsibility for the safety and security of each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and its personnel and property, and of UNDP’s property in such responsible party’s, subcontractor’s and sub-recipient’s custody, rests with such responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient. To this end, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall:
 - i. put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;

³⁰ To be used where UNDP is the Implementing Partner

³¹ To be used where the UN, a UN fund/programme or a specialized agency is the Implementing Partner

- ii. assume all risks and liabilities related to such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.
- b. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.
- c. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud or corruption, by its officials, consultants, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or programme or using the UNDP funds. It will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption and anti-fraud policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.
- d. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices and (b) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient agrees to the requirements of the above documents, which are an integral part of this Project Document and are available online at www.undp.org.
- e. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP will conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP programmes and projects. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant documentation, and granting access to its (and its consultants', subcontractors' and sub-recipients') premises, for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions as may be required for the purpose of an investigation. Should there be a limitation in meeting this obligation, UNDP shall consult with it to find a solution.
- f. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will promptly inform UNDP as the Implementing Partner in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud or corruption with due confidentiality.

Where it becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). It will provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

- g. UNDP will be entitled to a refund from the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud or corruption, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient under this or any other agreement.

Where such funds have not been refunded to UNDP, the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient agrees that donors to UNDP (including the Government) whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities under this Project Document, may seek recourse to such responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud or corruption, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document.

Note: The term “Project Document” as used in this clause shall be deemed to include any relevant subsidiary agreement further to the Project Document, including those with responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients.

- h. Each contract issued by the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from it shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.
- i. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project or programme, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.
- j. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled “Risk Management” are passed on to its subcontractors and sub-recipients and that all the clauses under this section entitled “Risk Management Standard Clauses” are adequately reflected, *mutatis mutandis*, in all its sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

- 1.
- 2.

IX. ANNEXES

Annex 1. Budget (attached)

Annex 2. Results Framework (attached)

Annex 3. Social and Environmental Screening Template (attached)

Annex 4. Key Project Staff Terms of References

Core project team

Project Manager

Project Officer (Environmental Engineer)

Capacity Building and Gender Officer

Administration and Finance Associate

Driver/Clerk

Short term experts

Communication Specialist

National Consultants (various positions)

Draft Terms of References for Key Project Staff are presented beneath. Detailed Terms of Reference for project staff and consultants will be finalized and published during the inception phase of the project.

PROJECT MANAGER

Education and experience

- University/Master Degree in Environment, Administration or other closely related areas
- At least 7 years of progressively responsible experience is required at the national or international level in the areas of community-based development and project management in environment field involving a significant element of community engagement and capacity building in the public and private sector
- Previous experience in development assistance or related work for a donor organization, governmental institutions, NGO or private sector / consulting firm is a very strong advantage.
- Strong analytical, drafting and communication skills.
- Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc) and advance knowledge of spreadsheet and database packages, experience in handling of web based management systems.
- Strong leadership skills and proven experience in managing interdisciplinary teams
- Fluency in Romanian, Russian and English is required

Duties and responsibilities

The Project Manager will have the responsibility to plan, oversee and ensure that the Project is producing the expected results at the right time, to the right standards of quality and within the allotted budget.

- Plan the activities of the project and monitor progress against the initial quality criteria;
- Mobilize goods and services to initiative activities, including drafting TORs and work specifications;
- Build, motivate and lead a high performing team consisting of project personnel, expert consultants, etc. Undertake personnel performance appraisals and career development coaching at project level;
- Monitor events as determined in the Project Monitoring Schedule Plan, and update the plan as required;
- Manage requests for the provision of financial resources by UNDP, using advance of funds, direct payments;
- Monitor financial resources and accounting to ensure accuracy and reliability of financial reports;
- Responsible for preparing and submitting financial reports to UNDP on a quarterly basis;
- Manage and monitor the project risks initially identified, submit new risks to the Project Board for consideration and decision on possible actions if required; update the status of these risks by maintaining the Project Risks Log;
- Be responsible for managing issues and requests for change by maintaining an Issues Log;
- Prepare the Project Progress Report (progress against planned activities, update on Risks and Issues, expenditures) and submit the report to the Project Board and Project Assurance;
- Prepare the Annual Review Report, and submit the report to the Project Board;
- Prepare the AWP for the following year, as well as Quarterly Plans if required;

- Ensure wide dissemination and visibility of project achievements. Establish and manage mechanisms for exchange of information, experience and lessons learned at the local and national levels
- Maintain close coordination with project partners, ensure synergies, avoid overlaps in project implementation, collaborate with other donors working in the same area, provide information relevant to the project.

PROJECT OFFICER

Education and experience

- University/Master Degree in Environmental Engineering or other closely related areas
- At least 7 years of progressively responsible experience is required at the national or international level in the areas of community-based development and project management in environment field involving a significant element of community engagement and capacity building in the public and private sector
- Previous experience in development assistance or related work for a donor organization, governmental institutions, NGO or private sector / consulting firm is a very strong advantage.
- Strong analytical, drafting and communication skills.
- Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc) and advance knowledge of spreadsheet and database packages, experience in handling of web based management systems.
- Strong leadership and communication skills
- Fluency in Romanian, Russian and English is required

Duties and responsibilities

The Project Officer will be part of the Project Management Team (PMT), under the overall supervision of the Project manager. The Project Officer is expected to work closely with the national expert and Grants' beneficiaries (women agri-producers, and women households' owners).

- Provide technical input and support to all activities of the PMT
- Draft TORs and work specifications for national expert and supervise all related activities that are implemented under this project.
- Work alongside the PMT Capacity Building and Gender Officer in:
 - Assessment of livelihood vulnerability at district level to identify 30 communities that will participate in the project
 - Detailed assessment of livelihood vulnerability of all 30 communities that will participate in the project
 - Conduct capacity and needs assessment for Local Public Authorities, women agri-producers, and women households' owners in 30 communities with the main focus on women agri-producers, and women household owners
 - Elaboration of practical capacity development programme for Local Public Authorities, women agri-producers, and women household owners in 30 communities
- Carry out practical capacity development programme for women agri-producers and women households' owners (including training in project writing and elaboration of projects concepts)
- Support women agri-producers and women household owners in preparing climate resilient sub-projects/ business plans

- Support and guide national experts in design of all technical specifications and investment plans
- Drafting contracts for works (goods and services) and plan sub-project activities
- Authorize and monitor payments for works
- Guiding, Coaching, Mentoring and Monitoring of all women agri-producers and women household owners' sub-projects
- Provide inputs to present and disseminate success stories
- Take part in national events with participation of LPAs, women agri-producers and women household owners to present good practices and lessons learnt from the project implementation
- Maintain close coordination with project partners, ensure synergies, avoid overlaps in project implementation, provide information relevant to the project.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND GENDER OFFICER

Education and experience

- Educated to degree level in Social Sciences, Public Administration, Economics, Civil Engineering, or other related areas;
- At least 5 years of progressively responsible experience at the national or international level of working in community based development projects or environmental projects
- At least 5 years of experience in technical assistance, including training and capacity building of the community public sector or related work for a donor organization, NGO or private sector
- Previous experience in implementing community development projects in close collaboration with regional and local authorities in the targeted regions, within external assistance programs, is required.
- Computer literacy
- Fluency in Romanian, Russian and English is required
- Strong leadership and communication skills

Duties and responsibilities

The Capacity Building and Gender Officer will be part of the Project Management Team (PMT), under the overall supervision of the Project manager. The Capacity Building and Gender Officer is expected to work closely with the national expert and Grants' beneficiaries (community projects).

- Provide inputs and support to all activities of the PMT
- Draft TORs and work specifications for national expert and supervise all related activities that are implemented under this project.
- Work alongside the PMT Project Officer in:
 - Assessment of livelihood vulnerability at district level to identify 30 communities that will participate in the project
 - Detailed assessment of livelihood vulnerability of all 30 communities that will participate in the project
 - Conduct capacity and needs assessment for Local Public Authorities, women agri-producers, and women households' owners in 30 communities with the main focus on LPAs

- Elaboration of practical capacity development programme for Local Public Authorities, women agri-producers, and women household owners in 30 communities
- Carry out practical capacity development programme for Local Public Authorities (including training in project writing and elaboration of projects concepts)
- Mainstream gender and climate-resilient models into the local development policies
- Support LPAs in preparing climate resilient sub-projects/ business plans
- Support and guide national experts in design of all technical specifications and investment plans
- Drafting contracts for works (goods and services) and plan sub-project activities
- Authorize and monitor payments for works
- Guiding, Coaching, Mentoring and Monitoring of all community' sub-projects
- Provide inputs to present and disseminate success stories
- Take part in national events with participation of LPAs, women agri-producers and women household owners to present good practices and lessons learnt from the project implementation
- Maintain close coordination with project partners, ensure synergies, avoid overlaps in project implementation, provide information relevant to the project.
- Identification of areas for support and interventions on gender
- Advise the project on gender policies and trends and relevant linkages to the project

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE ASSOCIATE

Education and experience

- University Degree in economics, finance, accounting, law, public administration or other related field.
- At least five years of experience in administrative work, accounting/finance, economics, or other substantive area is required.
- At least three years of previous experience in development assistance or related work for a donor organization, consulting company, or NGO is compulsory. Previous experience with EC/UNDP is a very strong advantage.
- Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc) and advance knowledge of spreadsheet and database packages, experience in handling web-based management systems.
- Fluency in Romanian, Russian and English is required.

Duties and responsibilities

Administrative management

- Pro-actively contribute to day-to-day project implementation and ensure conformity to expected results and project work-plans;
- Provide support to national consultants in the implementation of their tasks for the achievement of project results (communication, contracts, agenda, etc);
- Maintain records on all project personnel/national consultants and their respective status (contracts, ToRs, time and attendance – if appropriate, etc.) in accordance with accepted policies and procedures;

- Arrange external and internal meetings (including the meetings of the Project Board, Technical level, as well as other relevant meetings etc.).
- Prepare and issue contracts;
- Make pertinent logistical arrangements for the prompt and effective implementation of the programme activities;
- Collect project related information data
- Draft minutes of relevant project related meetings;
- Assume overall responsibility for administrative matters of a more general nature, such as registry and maintenance of project files and records;

Financial management

- Prepare requests for advance of funds and/or direct payments;
- Monitor budget expenditures and maintain a proper record of approved project budgets and their revisions;
- Prepare proposals for budget revisions;
- Prepare and submit expenditure and programme budget status reports;
- Respond to queries from UNDP with respect to financial aspects of the programme, liaise with UNDP appointed and external auditors wherever required;
- Prepare recurring reports as scheduled and special reports as required for budget preparations and audit;
- Advise and assist international advisors and national consultants on all aspects of allowances, travel claims and other financial matters and calculate payments due for claims and services;
- Draft minutes/evidences on evaluations related with public acquisitions at community level, financed by UNDP/EC and ensure full compliance with UNDP financial terms and conditions.
- If necessary, travel for control and auditing purposes to field projects and report on expended funds or incurred irregularities
- Undertake other financial and administrative tasks on an ad hoc basis.

COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST

Education and experience

- Educated to degree level
- At least ten years of experience in working with the media, a significant proportion of which should involve taking a leading role in conducting high-level media campaigns successfully targeting national press, television and radio
- A good working knowledge of environmental issues
- Experience of working in / with international organizations would be an advantage
- Fluency in Romanian and preferably also Russian. A good command of English is an advantage
- Computer literacy
- Proven ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team

Duties and responsibilities

The Media Specialist will be part of the Project Management Team (PMT), under the overall supervision of the Project Manager, but will also be expected to work closely with media specialists within the UNDP Country Office.

- Manage all aspects of communicating the project's aims, successes and impacts to the public via the print and broadcast media and via high-profile events.
- Work in co-ordination with media specialists in the UNDP Country Office to develop a communication and outreach strategy
- Take the lead in implementing the communication and outreach strategy, in close partnership with UNDP and Swedish Embassy
- Develop professional media package to provide background information about the project
- Elaborate guidebook on "climate resilient income generation activities/businesses" (to be confirmed during the needs assessment)
- Maintain regular communication with media contacts
- Regular production of press releases and monitoring of media exposure
- Undertake continuous monitoring of the impacts of the communication and outreach strategy through both a media log and a log of enquiries arising from media exposure
- Integrated project information (including success stories, thematic topics) into existing agro-inform platforms and extension services networks platforms.

Project: Sustainable and resilient communities through women empowerment
Annex 2: Results Framework

Outcomes/outputs	Indicators	Baseline	Target Y1	Target Y2	Target Y3	End of Project Target	Source of Verification	Assumption
<p>OUTCOME 1. Sustainable, climate resilient and environmentally sound livelihoods defined and local capacities/knowledge on environment, climate change and gender enhanced and implemented successfully</p>	<p>no. of LPAs from the pilot districts which apply Strategic Environmental Assessment Law with integrated gender aspects</p>	<p>data not available (a survey will be carried out at the initiation to determine the baseline)</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>at least 3 / 40 % of acts elaborated by LPA where SEA has been applied</p>	<p>at least 3 / 40 % of acts elaborated by LPA where SEA has been applied</p>	<p>at least 6 / 80 % of acts elaborated by LPA where SEA has been applied</p>	<p>PMU Reports Evaluation Report Success stories / LPA Report Community data surveys</p>	<p>The LPAs are open for review of the local development plans and acknowledge they role in transposing the SEA, EIA etc. into local development plans</p>
	<p>extend to which the capacity development programme of the project for women/women entrepreneurs implemented</p>	<p>the capacity development programme of the project not available</p>	<p>20%</p>	<p>40%</p>	<p>40%</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>PMU Reports Evaluation Report Media monitoring reports / LPA Reports</p>	<p>There is high interest from the rural women in the capacity development programme The programme is tailored to the women's needs</p>
	<p>number of local development plans that ensures women's equal access to resources for sustainable food production</p>	<p>4 with only climate change mainstreamed (from NAP project)</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>6 with gender and environment and climate change mainstreamed</p>	<p>Local development plans Websites of the pilot LPAs Minutes from the meetings with LPAs PMU Reports Evaluation Report</p>	<p>There is high buy-in from the LPAs towards project activities The LPAs acknowledge the importance of the environment and climate change in the local resilient development</p>
<p>2. Guides for LPAs on application of environment- and climate related legal and regulatory framework developed and disseminated</p>	<p>no. of guides elaborated, presented and disseminated</p>	<p>no guides on environment and climate change related legislation applicable to LPAs are available</p>	<p>at least 2</p>	<p>at least 1</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>at least 3 (one on SEA and EIA, one on environment related legislation and one on climate-related legislation)</p>	<p>The developed guides PMU Reports and Evaluation Report</p>	<p>The guides are developed in a user-friendly manner The project allocates sufficient resources for dissemination of guides and trainings on their applicability</p>
	<p>no. of LPA and civil society representative participating in the projects workshops; reports on the collected feedback</p>	<p>workshops organized by the project not available</p>	<p>1 at the national level</p>	<p>at least 3 (at the rayon level)</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>at least 10 (one national and 6 at the local level- one in each pilot district)</p>	<p>Workshop minutes and feedback reports Media reports PMU Reports Evaluation Reports Media Monitoring Reports</p>	<p>The LPAs and environmental NGOs interested in the information prepared for workshops and ready to disseminate further the knowledge and lessons learned</p>
<p>3. Workshops on particular environmental legislative acts conducted (ex. SEA, EIA)</p>	<p>no. of women and women's groups engaged in debates on environmental impacts</p>	<p>data not available</p>	<p>60</p>	<p>120</p>	<p>120</p>	<p>300</p>	<p>Workshops minutes and feedback reports Media reports PMU reports Evaluation Reports</p>	<p>Women and women's groups interested interested to participate in debates in environmental issues and acknowledge their role in environmental management</p>

4. Mentoring for application of legislations related to climate and environment provided at request as well as support in integrating gender aspects into local planning documents	no. of inquiries/ no. of documents developed with project support	data not available	n/a	at least 6	at least 6	at least 12 (LPAs which will benefit from gender, environment and CC mainstreaming and other involved in replication)	PMU Reports Evaluation Reports	There is high buy-in from the LPAs towards project activities. The LPAs acknowledge the importance of the environment and climate related legislation for the local development.
5. Workshops for women-headed households on environment protection, climate change and related income generation potential organized	no. of women participating in the workshop/ reports on collected feedback	workshops organized by the project not available	at least 300	at least 300	n/a	at least 600 (tentatively 100 women from each pilot district)	Workshop minutes PMU Reports and Evaluation Report	Women acknowledge the needs for learning on climate change, environment and their role in relation to these.
6. Workshops for women entrepreneurs on environment protection, climate change and related income generation potential organized	no. of women participating in the workshop; reports on the collected feedback	workshops organized by the project not available	at least 60	at least 60	n/a	at least 120 (tentatively 30 women entrepreneurs from each pilot district)	The developed knowledge products /feedback of the users of the knowledge products PMU Reports and Evaluation Report	The developed knowledge products are written in an accessible manner for the beneficiaries, are of good quality and relies on the findings of the community analysis.
7. Knowledge products on environment friendly and climate resilient practices and income generating activities elaborated based on specific needs of communities and women/women entrepreneurs ***	no. of developed knowledge products by the project	knowledge products developed by the project> not available / number of available knowledge products is relevant including those included in the footnote	at least 2	at least 4	n/a	at least 6 knowledge products (ex. guides for advancing climate-resilient livelihoods, guides on sustainable use of environmental media, etc.)	PMU Reports and Evaluation Report	The developed knowledge products are written in an accessible manner for the beneficiaries, are of good quality and relies on the findings of the community analysis.
OUTCOME 2. NGOs capacities to provide expertise to LPAs and women in the field of resilience to climate change, sustainable development and gender mainstreaming enhanced	% increase in the number of NGOs engaging in the environment, climate change and gender initiatives as a result of project interventions;	data not available	5%	20%	20%	45% increase	Reports on the environmental NGOs mapping PMU Reports Evaluation Report	NGOs are interested to expand their knowledge on environment, climate change and gender issues NGOs are interested to disseminate further the gained knowledge There is high buy-in from the NGOs for the project activities
OUTCOME 2. NGOs capacities to provide expertise to LPAs and women in the field of resilience to climate change, sustainable development and gender mainstreaming enhanced	no. of NGOs which apply improved internal policies as a result of project interventions;	data not available	6	n/a	n/a	6 as a result of project	UNDP quality assurance mechanism PMU Reports Evaluation Report	The roadmap for the selected NGOs institutional development is clearly defined and builds on the identified gaps The NGOs beneficiaries of the institutional development programme recognize the need for improvement and have potential for successful operation after project closure
OUTPUTS								

1. Institutional capacities of NGOs for project implementation improved	extend to which the identified assurance plans are implemented	assurance plans not available	60%	20%	20%	100%	UNDP quality assurance mechanism PMU Reports Evaluation Report	The NGOs beneficiaries of the institutional development programme recognize the need for improvement and have potential for successful operation after project closure
2. Advanced training events on climate change, environment and gender delivered to NGOs (ToT)	no. of trained NGOs	67 NGOs (those who registered during the latest environmental NGOs forum)	30	37	n/a	67 NGOs	Training events minutes PMU Reports Evaluation Report	The environmental NGOs are interested in the information prepared for training events and ready to disseminate further the knowledge and lessons learned
3. Capacities of the NGOs to deliver climate change and environment-related thematic workshops to IPA and women (households and businesses) improved	no. of delivered training events by NGOs	data not available	7	7	n/a	14 (one national and one in each pilot district) as a result of project	PMU Reports Evaluation Report	The topics for the training events are well coordinated with the environmental NGOs communities
4. Valuable input for the elaboration of knowledge products provided by the NGOs	extend to which NGOs provide inputs to the knowledge products	knowledge products developed by the project not available	10%	10%	n/a	at least 20% from those NGOs who attended the project's events	PMU Reports	The environmental NGOs are interested in the knowledge products prepared by the project and these respond to their knowledge gaps
OUTCOME 3. Environment-friendly and climate resilient practices and projects implemented by women headed households, women agr-producers and communities	extend to which the project's grant programme is implemented by women, women entrepreneurs and LPAs;	the grants programme of the project is not available	n/a	60%	40%	100%	Grant's Programme M&E Reports Progress Reports Final Report	The grant's programme is tailored to women's needs There is high community-level outreach to disseminate information on the grants programme
	no. of climate resilient and/or environment-friendly practices put in place by the project;	the projects hasn't implemented any such practices	n/a	6	4	10	Media monitoring reports M&E Reports Progress Report Final Report	The transfer of knowledge and technologies on climate and environment-friendly practices is adequate The promoted practices are suitable for the farmers land landscapes
	Income generated by the newly adopted environment-friendly and climate resilient practices with project support;	data not available	n/a	n/a	10%	10% increased from the baselines identified in the business plans/ the profit produced per year if available	M&E Reports Progress Reports Farmers reports Final Reports Business Plans	Women are open to demonstrate the additionally-generated revenues
OUTPUTS								
1. Climate resilient and environmentally-sustainable practices applied in households by women	number of household women who increase their income due to climate change adaptation/mitigation activities	0	n/a	40	20	60	M&E Reports	
	extend to which business plans are implemented successfully and the expected revenue achieved	business plans not yet developed	n/a	60%	40%	100%	M&E Reports	

2. Climate resilient and environmentally-sustainable practices applied in businesses by women	number of women entrepreneurs who increase their income due to climate change adaptation/mitigation activities	0	n/a	6	4	10	<p>Farmers reports</p> <p>Final Reports</p> <p>Business Plans</p>	Women and LPAs are willing to apply and maintain climate and environment-friendly practices
3. Projects aimed at enhanced climate resilient and sustainable development of the community implemented by LPAs	extend to which business plan implemented successfully and the expected revenue achieved	business plans not yet developed	n/a	60%	40%	100%		
4. Mentoring and coaching to support the LPAs, women led businesses and women-led households provided by the NGOs	number of implemented community grants with project financing	0	n/a	20	10	30	<p>NGOs reports</p> <p>PMU Reports</p> <p>Evaluation Report</p>	The topics for the training events are well coordinated with the environmental NGOs communities
5.	no. of NGOs involved in the mentoring and coaching over the activities implemented by the project	data not available	n/a	10%	10%			
OUTCOME 4. Sustainable and climate resilient practice and business models disseminated and replicated	extend to which the projects results, good practices and products are codified ***	there are no project's results, good practices and products	n/a	50%	50%	100% codified	<p>Communication, outreach and replication strategies</p> <p>Video spots, interviews, mass-media monitoring reports</p> <p>Success stories</p> <p>Seminars reports</p> <p>Websites of the project partners</p> <p>PMU reports</p> <p>M&E reports</p>	The environmental NGOs community is open for collaboration with the PMU
OUTPUTS								
1. Project's communication, outreach and upscaling strategies developed and implemented	extent to which the strategies are implemented	project's comm, outreach and replication strategies not available	40%	30%	30%	100% implementation		Project's implemented activities become success stories
2. Project's results, good practices and products disseminated through the available NGOs networks/platforms	no. of used NGOs networks/platforms	the number of NGOs networks/platform not known	at least 3	at least 1	at least 1	at least 5 (tentatively BIOS International Land Coalition, MOVCA network etc.)		The communication, outreach and replication strategies are of good quality
3. Project's results, good practices and products available online for replication in user-friendly manner	no. of used online tools/instruments	project's results, good practices and products not available	20%	40%	40%	100% availability		

*** Knowledge codification in the sense of this project means conversion of all the information generated by this project to documented information (guides, success stories, reports, lessons learned, etc) and disseminated through various means for further use.

*** The knowledge products developed by UNDP in the climate-related areas are all placed on the following online website/repository

<http://adapt.climateand/pagewiew.php?prodid=312&nod=18>

Note: this information is provided to avoid overlap with the existing knowledge products

Project: Sustainable and resilient communities through women empowerment
Annex 1. BUDGET

1 USD = 9,325 SEK

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year			Implementing Partner	PLANNED BUDGET		
		2,019	2,020	2,021		Budget Description	Amount, USD	Amount, SEK
	1.1. Carry out district level environmental and vulnerability assessment (2 vulnerability assessments in Gagauzia and Transnistria and 6 environmental assessments); gender mainstreaming	40,000	X	X		Contractual services-companies	40,000	381,000
	1.2. Mainstreaming of gender, environment and climate resilience into the local development policies; development of guides for LPAs through:							
	1.2.1. Establish partnerships with LPAs and support LPAs in integration of environment and climate change concerns into local development plans through promotion&advocacy activities	10,000	X	X		Contractual services-companies	10,000	95,250
	1.2.2. Support development of guides on environment and climate-related legislation	10,000	10,000	X	MARDE	Local consultant	16,000	152,400
	1.2.3. Carry-out training events on env&climate legislation/capacity building programme for LPAs	10,000	10,000	X		Printing	4,000	38,100
	1.2.4. Provide mentorship to LPAs on application of environmental legislation	X	10,000	10,000		Contractual services-companies	20,000	190,500
	1.3. Conduct capacity and needs assessments for women entrepreneurs, and women-headed households in 6 districts	12,000	X	X		Contractual services-companies	8,000	76,200
	1.4. Carry out practical capacity development programme for women and develop relevant knowledge products	20,000	31,000	X		Travel	4,000	38,100
		2,550	1,525	250		Contractual services-companies	41,000	390,525
		104,550	62,525	10,250		Rentling logistics	5,000	47,625
						Local consultant	5,000	47,625
						DPC (2.5%)	4,325	41,196
						Sub-Total for Output 1	177,325	1,689,021
	2.1. Conduct gap analysis/system-based audit of NGOs that expressed their interest to enroll in the capacity building Programme	6,000	X	X		Contractual services-companies	6,000	57,150
	2.2. Elaborate and implement a dedicated institutional capacity development programme for 6 selected NGOs	60,000	X	X		Contractual services-companies international (refers to Activity 2.2.)	60,000	571,500
	2.3. Design and implement a capacity building programme for NGOs on environment, climate change and gender topics	20,000	20,000	X		Contractual services-companies	40,000	381,000

	2.3.1. Study tours, exchange visits and participation in international dialogues for the selected NGOs	20,000	20,000	10,000		Contractual services-companies	50,000	476,250
DPC (2.5%) Outcome 2		2,650	1,000	250		DPC (2.5%)	3,900	37,148
Sub-Total Outcome 2		108,650	41,000	10,250		Sub-Total for Outcome 2	159,900	1,523,048
	3.1. Support for preparation of climate resilient sub-project business plans and applications	X	50,000	50,000		Contractual services-companies	100,000	952,500
	3.2. Implementation of 60 household sub-projects with improved livelihood (includes preparation of grants applications and coaching and mentoring grants for NGOs)	X	105,000	105,000		Contractual services-companies/local consultant/grants	210,000	2,000,250
	3.2.1. Coaching and mentoring grants for NGOs	X	35,000	35,000		Contractual services-companies/local consultant/grants	70,000	666,750
	3.3. Implementation of 10 entrepreneurial sub-projects	X	90,000	90,000		Contractual services-companies/local consultant/grants	180,000	1,714,500
	3.3.1. Coaching and mentoring grants for NGOs	X	35,000	35,000		Contractual services-companies/local consultant/grants	70,000	666,750
	3.4. Implementation of 30 communities' sub-projects (includes coaching and mentoring grants for NGOs)	X	240,000	240,000		Contractual services-companies/local consultant/grants	480,000	4,572,000
	3.4.1. Coaching and mentoring grants for NGOs	X	30,000	30,000		Contractual services-companies/local consultant/grants	60,000	571,500
DPC (2.5%) Output 3			14,625	14,625		DPC	29,250	278,606
Sub-Total for Outcome 3			599,625	599,625			1,199,250	11,422,886
	1. Formulate Upscaling Strategy	X	3,000	X		Local consultants	3,000	28,575
	2. Implementation of communication and outreach strategy (launching and closing workshops, visibility events, materials, etc)	10,600	38,100	41,100		Local consultants	31,800	302,895
						Travel (local)	3,000	28,575
						Contractual services-companies	45,000	428,625
						Printing	10,000	95,250
						DPC	2,320	22,098
DPC (2.5%) Outcome 4		265	1,028	1,028			95,120	906,018
Sub-Total for Outcome 3		10,865	42,128	42,128				
	Management and Administrative Costs	203,376	144,376	144,376		Climate Change, Environment and Energy Programme Analyst (10%) and Programme Associate (5%)	17,928	170,764
						Project manager	90,000	857,250
						Project officer (Environmental Engineer)	75,600	720,090
						Capacity building and Gender officer	75,600	720,090
						Admin. Associate	54,000	514,350
						Driver	33,000	314,325
						Stationary and office supplies	32,000	304,800
						Rental premises	42,000	400,050
						Transportation and maintenance cost	15,000	142,875
						Miscellaneous	12,000	114,300
						Car procurement (7 seats)	45,000	428,625
						International Consultant	20,000	190,500
						Local consultants	5,000	47,625
						DPC	12,928	123,141
DPC (2.5%) Output 1		X	X	20,000				
				5,000				
Sub-Total for Project Management		208,460	147,985	173,610			530,056	5,048,785
Contingency reserve (2%)		8,651	17,865	16,717			43,233	411,795
General Management Support (8%)		35,294	72,890	68,206		GMS	176,391	1,680,122
	TOTAL	476,470	984,018	970,787			2,381,275	22,681,644

Annex 3: Social and Environmental Screening Template

The completed template, which constitutes the Social and Environmental Screening Report, must be included as an annex to the Project Document. Please refer to the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure and Toolkit for guidance on how to answer the 6 questions.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Sustainable and Resilient Communities through Women Empowerment
2. Project Number	
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Republic of Moldova

Part A. Integrating Overarching Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Overarching Principles in order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?

Briefly describe in the space below how the Project mainstreams the human-rights based approach

The project aims to build inclusive resilient communities and create an enabling environment for women's economic, social and educational empowerment. The project will be working with women to increase their knowledge and skills for sustainable and resilient agriculture and forest practices, as well as expand their livelihood opportunities for alternative climate resilient income generation in 30 communities in 6 target districts (Singerei, Falesti, Nisporeni, Calarasi, Basarabasca, Leova). Therefore, with such a strong social focus, the design of the project has been guided by the principles of the human right-based approach, which ensures that the needs of the most marginalized in the society are prioritized in the respective context.

Please, see below how the project is linked to provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Article 3. "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person". The project will directly contribute to the protection of human health and the environment by promoting climate resilient agriculture and forestry practices and thus contributing to food security. *As such the project will contribute to protecting people's right to life.*

Article 19. "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and convey information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers." The project will ensure that project beneficiaries will be engaged in the project's implementation, through appropriate consultation mechanisms, awareness raising events and capacity and needs development programme to allow them to participate in the decision-making process as during the project formulation so during its implementation, express their opinions on the project and its intended activities. Furthermore, project activities, objectives and results will be widely disseminated through various media channels throughout the project's implementation. The project will contribute to people's access to information and provide them with opportunities to express their opinions.

Article 23 (1) "Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment". The project will help with further improvements in working conditions of women headed households and women agri-producers by developing climate resilient skills and infrastructure. *As such the project will contribute to protecting people's right to favorable conditions of work and improve work skills.*

Article 23 (3) Everyone who works has the right to just and favorable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection. The project will support income generating interventions resilient to climate change. *As such the project will contribute to people's right to ensure for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity*

Article 25 (1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control. The project will contribute to development of climate resilient skills for women groups and infrastructure that will help those in need to cope with climate change events and risks and thus ensuring food security in difficult times. *As such the project will contribute to people's right to ensure for himself and his family a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being even in circumstances beyond human control.*

Article 29(1) Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible. The project will support 30 target communities in the identification, formulation, planning and implementation of climate resilient initiatives jointly with the LPAs and community members. Innovative techniques of community mobilization for women's empowerment will be applied. The project will ensure that all interventions and actions are planned, and managed with the maximum involvement of local partners and communities, thereby ensuring their collective responsibility and ownership of the initiatives. *As such the project will contribute to development of collective responsibility.*

Briefly describe in the space below how the Project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment

Although gender equality has been on the national agenda for many years, women still face important challenges in terms of empowerment. Women in Moldova continue to be under-represented, only one in four business managers. The employment rate of women (37%) is lower than that of men (42%) even though women's proportion in the total population is a bit higher (52%), compared to 48%. According to General Agricultural Census conducted in 2011¹, there are a total of 902 214 agricultural holdings in the Republic of Moldova. At the national level 36% of the agricultural holdings are headed by women and 64% by men. The women are still expected to be the family caretakers and housekeepers, which impedes their participation in economic and public life.

The project fully focuses on to advance gender equality and empower women as agents of change and leaders in the development processes that shape their lives, thereby contributing to achievement of national priorities presented in the Gender Equality Strategy of the Republic of Moldova 2017-2021. The project targets women household owners and women agri-producers to be supported by capacity development programme and grants for women's economic, social and educational empowerment. The project will also ensure that the Community Initiative Group will consist predominantly of women, thus empowering women to take ownership, demonstrate initiative and deliver results. Commonly women are part of community-based organizations and groups but are not generally part of the decision-making committee. The project would seek to encourage greater involvement of women community-based organizations.

Briefly describe in the space below how the Project mainstreams environmental sustainability

The project supports implementation of several key national strategies and plans with climate change and environmental focus specifically the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2014-2020, the National Environmental Strategy 2014-2023, the Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy 2014-2020 and Program of the Government for the years 2015-2018. The project seeks to improve livelihoods through more efficient and environmentally sustainable agriculture practices and forest and water management. The project will apply a precautionary approach to conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services. The project will also support mainstreaming of climate change adaptation solutions identified during community-level vulnerability assessment and capacity and needs assessment into local development policies of 30 selected communities thus maximizing environmental sustainability.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <i>Note: Describe briefly potential social and environmental risks identified in Attachment 1 – Risk Screening Checklist (based on any “yes” responses).</i> Risk Description	QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 6</i>	QUESTION 6: What social and environmental assessment and management measures have been conducted and/or are required to address potential risks (for Risks with Moderate and High Significance)?
Impact and Probability (1-5)	Significance (Low, Moderate, High)	Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.

¹ <http://www.statistica.md/newsview.php?l=en&id=4533&idc=30>

Risk 1: Principle 1 (Q4): Potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, could potentially be excluded from fully participating in decisions that may affect them	I: 3 P: 2	Moderate	Limitations may exist in the capacities of local stakeholders, in particular poor and vulnerable women groups, to participate effectively in decision making that can affect them.	Vulnerable women groups prone to climate risk will be identified in the project inception phase and prioritized for climate resilient interventions. The stakeholder engagement process will be conducted in similar inclusive fashion, assuring broad representation of community members and existing relevant community-based organizations/groups.
Risk 2: Principle 1 (Q5): There is a risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project.	I: 3 P: 4	Moderate	Limitations exist in the capacities of local public authorities and community members to access and implement successfully the grants provided by the project.	The project will carry capacity development programme for all target groups LPAs, women headed households and women agri-producers including CBOs in strengthening the knowledge and skills in climate resilient livelihoods, conservation agriculture and relevant technologies, sustainable forest and pasture management and use, as well as of the water resources and others as identified by the capacity needs assessment and to access and implement successfully the grants provided by the project. With acquired knowledge and skills, the LPAs and community members should be able to put in place and maintain resilient income generation activities/businesses.
Risk 3: Standard 1 (Q1.5): With afforestation and hydrological activities, there is a risk of potential introducing invasive alien species	I: 3 P: 2	Moderate	The Project will promote through community projects the extension of the forests on degraded lands and landslides and restoration of the ecological and hydrological integrity of wetlands, etc.	The extension of the forests on degraded lands and landslides and restoration of the ecological and hydrological integrity of wetlands will contribute to enhanced climate change ecosystem-based adaptation, disaster and climate risk management and creation of pre-requisites for resilient alternative livelihoods. The promoted activities afforestation and restoration of hydrological integrity of wetlands will generate only a positive impact on the conservation of biological biodiversity. During the last year of the project it will be evaluated the rate of success of the restoration.
Risk 4: Standard 1 (Q1.6): The Project involves afforestation on degraded lands and landslides in which community harvesting of forest resources occurs	I: 2 P: 5	Low	The project will promote afforestation on degraded lands and landslides. Use of forest resources is practiced in the entire country.	Afforestation activities will be designed to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services of degraded areas. In addition, the Project will provide trainings for alternative income generation and sustainable forest practices (supporting the change of current collection techniques of forestry products such as seeds, medicinal plants, fruits, mushrooms and berries). In the Republic of Moldova, the State Ecological Inspectorate, which performs the state ecological expertise and control, cooperates with Agency Moldsilva on identifying and preventing forest contraventions. LPAs also have the responsibility of controls according the order no. 50 of 03.21.2011 "Regarding the control of the condition of forest belts and forestland managed by local public authorities"
Risk 5: Standard 1 (Q1.8): The Project involve significant	I: 3 P: 3	Moderate	The Project will promote through community projects the	The Agency Apela Moldovei has the responsibility to maintain in a technically appropriate manner the accumulation basins, the antiviral

extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water			restoration of the ecological and hydrological integrity of wetlands and irrigation activities.	constructions, the water distribution networks, the irrigation and drainage systems in country. Any water management activities prior to the implementation will be consulted, designed and authorized by the Agency.
Risk 6: Standard 3 (Q3.1): Project may involve community safety risks from small-scale construction activities	I: 3 P: 1	Low	The water management activities may involve construction of water storage tanks, cisterns; micro-reservoirs and dams; terracing, drip irrigation systems.	The Project will follow all technical and safety guidance on rain water harvesting systems, micro-reservoirs and drip irrigation systems.
Risk 7: Standard 7 (Q7.4): There may be a risk of application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health	I: 3 P: 1	Low	Pest control measures and agricultural support may involve potential use of pesticides	The Project will support sustainable and resilient agriculture and forest practices (e.g. organic agriculture, soil and water conservation) that would reduce the use of fertilizers and harmful pesticides, thus reducing the contamination of soil and water bodies. Though application of pesticides is not foreseen, but if potentially harmful ones are needed and/or will be used, they will be properly managed, stored, used, following national and international standard regulation and procedures.
QUESTION 4: What is the overall Project risk categorization?				
Select one (see SESP for guidance)				
<i>Low Risk</i>				
<i>Moderate Risk</i>				
<i>High Risk</i>				
QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are relevant?				
Check all that apply				
<i>Principle 1: Human Rights</i>				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>				
<input type="checkbox"/>				
1. Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Comments				
Stakeholder limitations in capacity may result in less than optimal implementation of project interventions, that will be addressed through capacity and needs assessment and capacity development programme.				
The promoted activities by the project such as afforestation and restoration of hydrological integrity of wetlands will generate only a positive impact on the conservation of biological biodiversity.				

	2. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	4. Cultural Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	6. Indigenous Peoples	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	7. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Project will support sustainable and resilient agriculture and forest practices (e.g. organic agriculture, soil and water conservation) that would reduce the use of fertilizers and harmful pesticides, thus reducing the contamination of soil and water bodies. Although biological pest control will be preferred, and not foreseen, potentially harmful pesticides may be needed for specific use. In this particular case, they will be properly managed, stored, used, following national and international standard regulation and procedures.

SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks		Answer (Yes/No)
Principles 1: Human Rights		
1.	Could the Project lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	No
2.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups? ²	No
3.	Could the Project potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups?	No
4.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	Yes
5.	Is there a risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project?	Yes
6.	Is there a risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	No
7.	Have local communities or individuals, given the opportunity, raised human rights concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process?	No
8.	Is there a risk that the Project would exacerbate conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	No
Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		
1.	Is there a likelihood that the proposed Project would have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	No
2.	Would the Project potentially reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	No
3.	Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process and has this been included in the overall Project proposal and in the risk assessment?	No
4.	Would the Project potentially limit women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? <i>For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being</i>	No
Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability: Screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific Standard-related questions below		
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		
1.1	Would the Project potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services?	No

² Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, gender, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender people and transsexuals.

	<i>For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes</i>	
1.2	Are any Project activities proposed within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	No
1.3	Does the Project involve changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	No
1.4	Would Project activities pose risks to endangered species?	No
1.5	Would the Project pose a risk of introducing invasive alien species?	Yes
1.6	Does the Project involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	Yes
1.7	Does the Project involve the production and/or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	No
1.8	Does the Project involve significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? <i>For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction</i>	Yes
1.9	Does the Project involve utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)	No
1.10	Would the Project generate potential adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
1.11	Would the Project result in secondary or consequential development activities which could lead to adverse social and environmental effects, or would it generate cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area?	No
Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation		
2.1	Will the proposed Project result in significant ³ greenhouse gas emissions or may exacerbate climate change?	No
2.2	Would the potential outcomes of the Project be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change?	No
2.3	Is the proposed Project likely to directly or indirectly increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change now or in the future (also known as maladaptive practices)? <i>For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding</i>	No
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions		
3.1	Would elements of Project construction, operation, or decommissioning pose potential safety risks to local communities?	Yes
3.2	Would the Project pose potential risks to community health and safety due to the transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	No
3.3	Does the Project involve large-scale infrastructure development (e.g. dams, roads, buildings)?	No
3.4	Would failure of structural elements of the Project pose risks to communities? (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)	No

³ In regards to CO₂, 'significant emissions' corresponds generally to more than 25,000 tons per year (from both direct and indirect sources). [The Guidance Note on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation provides additional information on GHG emissions.]

3.5	Would the proposed Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme climatic conditions?	No
3.6	Would the Project result in potential increased health risks (e.g. from water-borne or other vector-borne diseases or communicable infections such as HIV/AIDS)?	No
3.7	Does the Project pose potential risks and vulnerabilities related to occupational health and safety due to physical, chemical, biological, and radiological hazards during Project construction, operation, or decommissioning?	No
3.8	Does the Project involve support for employment or livelihoods that may fail to comply with national and international labor standards (i.e. principles and standards of ILO fundamental conventions)?	No
3.9	Does the Project engage security personnel that may pose a potential risk to health and safety of communities and/or individuals (e.g. due to a lack of adequate training or accountability)?	No
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
4.1	Will the proposed Project result in interventions that would potentially adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: Projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
4.2	Does the Project propose utilizing tangible and/or intangible forms of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
5.1	Would the Project potentially involve temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement?	No
5.2	Would the Project possibly result in economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	No
5.3	Is there a risk that the Project would lead to forced evictions? ⁴	No
5.4	Would the proposed Project possibly affect land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	No
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		
6.1	Are indigenous peoples present in the Project area (including Project area of influence)?	No
6.2	Is it likely that the Project or portions of the Project will be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.3	Would the proposed Project potentially affect the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the Project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? <i>If the answer to the screening question 6.3 is “yes” the potential risk impacts are considered potentially severe and/or critical and the Project would be categorized as either Moderate or High Risk.</i>	No
6.4	Has there been an absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	No

⁴ Forced evictions include acts and/or omissions involving the coerced or involuntary displacement of individuals, groups, or communities from homes and/or lands and common property resources that were occupied or depended upon, thus eliminating the ability of an individual, group, or community to reside or work in a particular dwelling, residence, or location without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protections.

6.5	Does the proposed Project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.6	Is there a potential for forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources?	No
6.7	Would the Project adversely affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.8	Would the Project potentially affect the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.9	Would the Project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	No
Standard 7: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
7.1	Would the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	No
7.2	Would the proposed Project potentially result in the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	No
7.3	Will the proposed Project potentially involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous chemicals and/or materials? Does the Project propose use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? <i>For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Conventions on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol</i>	No
7.4	Will the proposed Project involve the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	Yes
7.5	Does the Project include activities that require significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No