PROGRESS REPORT NO. 1

Title of the Intervention:	Resilient communities through women empowerment (phase 2)
Contract Number:	• Sweden Ref. 1289897 • Norway Ref. 1288926 • UNDP Project ID: 01002849
Project Period:	July 2024 – July 2028
Project Total Budget:	NOK 37,9 mln SEK 53,00 mln **Total in USD** ~8,461,359 USD
Project Budget for the Reporting Period	157,552.29 USD
Donors:	Sweden, Norway
Implementing partner:	United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in the Republic of Moldova
Reporting period:	1 August – 31 December 2024
Due date:	February 2025

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

2024

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List of abbreviations

AWP	Annual Work Plan
ANRE	National Agency for the Energy Regulation – Moldovan NRA
BEI	Baseline Emission Inventory
COP	Community of Practice
CoM	The Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy
DIM	Direct Implementation Modality
EC	Energy Community
EE	Energy Efficiency
RES	Renewable Energy Sources
LPA	Local Public Authority
MAFI	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry
NECP	Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan of the Republic of Moldova for 2025-2030
NDS	National Development Strategy 2030
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PB	Project Board
PM	Project Manager
PMT	Project Management Team
ProDoc	Project Document
RES	Renewable Energy Sources
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SECAP	Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan
TOR	Terms of References
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
US$	United States Dollars

Executive Summary

- The reporting period covers the operational and programmatic start-up of the 'Resilient Communities through Women Empowerment', phase 2 (hereinafter referred to as 'ResCom 2') Project and includes the five months of the Project. The activities are in line with the approved Annual Work Plan (AWP) by the Steering Committee on October 10, 2024 and the 'ResCom 2' Project Document (*Annex 1* - The 2024 'ResCom2' Annual Work Plan).

- The operational start of the Project, Norway component, represents the date when the Finance Agreement was signed between the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Moldova (i.e. on 15 July 2024). The operational completion of the Norwegian component is 31 December 2027.

- With regards to Swedish component the Project period is 30 July 2024 until 31 July 2028, as stipulated in the Third-Party Cost-Sharing Agreement between Sweden, represented by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and UNDP. The total budget of the Project is US$8,461,359 provided entirely by Sweden and Norway.

- Pursuing the overall goal of project to enhance gender-responsive climate resilience in Moldova by integrating gender considerations into climate policies, empowering women leaders, and promoting climate-smart solutions, the preparatory work has been initiated by the Project Team, namely engagement with the relevant stakeholders, initiation of new partnerships and selection of the target groups.

- At the operational level, the project office has been set up, and the recruitment process for the Project Team has been initiated in accordance with the organizational structure outlined in the Project Document.

- The Steering committee was engaged in two (2) Project Board Meetings during which were discussed and approved documents of high importance related the Project's activities.

- The description below reflects the key achievements under each of the 4 programmatic outcomes of the Project, as well as in terms of 'Project Management' (referred to as 'Outcome 5' for the purpose of reporting and planning).

- Under Outcome 1 the project focused on preparing the documents for launching the Call for selection of 20 partner localities. Thus, the evaluation criteria for selection of 20 localities has been approved by the Steering Committee on October 10 2024 and the Call was subsequently launched with a deadline of November 30.The evaluation stage has commenced and as result, twenty (20) communities will be chosen at the beginning of 2025 to benefit from participatory development or update of their community-level Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAPs), which shall serve as the cornerstones of our effort to achieve gender-responsive climate adaptation and mitigation. As part of the same activity, a new competition will be organized in 2025 to select five (5) amalgamated territorial units to benefit from support in the development of Gender-Sensitive Sustainable Climate and Energy Plans and technical and financial assistance in their implementation. The selection criteria for this competition are to be approved at the Steering Committee conducted in the yearly months of 2025. Under the same Outcome the Project team has started the work on elaboration of a gender analysis on mainstreaming the GE aspects in the sectors relevant for the project and as a first document to work on is to integrate the gender-related inputs int the adaptation component of National Determined Contributions 3.0., a policy document elaborated recently by Ministry of Environment jointly with UNDP support.

- The commencement of activities under Outcome 2 is scheduled for 2025. In preparation, a preliminary discussion was held in 2024 with the Ministry of Economic Development and Digitalization. The focus of this discussion was on implementing a capacity and institutional development program for business incubators across the country, integrating climate and gender components into their operations. The Ministry expressed appreciation for the proposed support and agreed to outline further steps starting in 2025.

- Under Outcome 3, the primary focus has been on the deployment of the Energy Communities concept in Moldova (Activity 3.3). Building on the foundation laid during the ResCom1 framework, the second phase has continued with support to the Ministry of Energy in developing a Rulebook for establishing Renewable Energy Sources Energy Communities (RES EC). Additionally, a promotion campaign has been designed with project support to ensure widespread dissemination of its benefits, in collaboration with other engaged partners.

- As part of the same Outcome, support envisaged under Output 3.4 has been launched. The twelve (12) localities benefiting from this support have been informed about the continuation of the partnership, following the gender-sensitive climate plans developed in phase 1. Specifically, there is a funding opportunity for implementing a priority action, which must be decided participatorily by engaging the local community. This effort began in 2024 with local consultations and will culminate in 2025 will culminate in 2025 with the approval and implementation of a local project for financing throughout the year.

- With regards to Outcome 4, work on the Knowledge Platform has commenced in partnership with the UNDP National Adaptation Plan 2 Project. A list of materials produced under ResCom 1 has been identified and will be incorporated into the www.clima.gov.md website. This platform will serve as a one-stop-shop for anyone seeking information on climate-related topics.

- Additionally, support activities have been implemented for women agri-producers, who were beneficiaries of phase 1, by connecting them with national market events, thereby facilitating their market expansion.

- Operational achievements under Outcome 5 included the hiring of four staff members for the Project Team: (i) Project Manager, (ii) Communication Analyst, (iii) Project Assistant, and (iv) Driver. The Project Office was secured and fully equipped.

- In programmatic terms, the composition of the Project Board was established, the Board Regulation was drafted, and two Project Board meetings were convened during the reporting period. The first Project Board meeting was held in person on October 10, 2024, resulting in the approval of the Board Regulation, the Action Plan for 2024, and the Selection Criteria for partner localities and Pilot Energy Communities.

- The second Board meeting was held virtually via email and involved the approval and endorsement of criteria for selecting NGOs to pilot two Energy Communities within the ResCom2 Project, as well as the revised Annual Work Plan (AWP).

I. Progress by Outcomes and Activities

The Section I of the Report presents the progress achieved in the reporting period across the four Programmatic Outcomes, under the respective activities and sub-activities, in accordance with the Board-endorsed 2024 Annual Work Plan. Considering that the reporting period covers the start-up of the Project, the below described activities, are referring mostly to the preparatory work conducted in the first five month of the project.

Progress by Outcomes and Activities

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

OUTCOME 1: Capacities of the national and local authorities to plan strategically, implement plans, deliver services, and to advance climate and gender nexus enhanced

Output 1.1: Climate and gender mainstreamed into relevant local and national policy frameworks and strengthened local public authorities

Activity 1.1.0 Baseline and Endline study on the level of awareness on gender sensitive climate change adaptation measures in target localities

A baseline study is planned for March 2025 to establish a comprehensive understanding of the current perceptions, positions, and status of key indicators related to gender transformative climate change adaptation measures in 25 target communities. This study will serve as a benchmark against which future progress will be measured.

The primary objective is to assess the level of awareness regarding gender transformative climate change adaptation measures before the project's interventions begin. To achieve this, a specialized research company will be contracted in the first quarter of 2025 to conduct the study.

Key areas of focus include identifying the most pressing climate change issues in these communities and evaluating the population's awareness of climate change and its intersection with gender aspects. The study will also examine the level of engagement of local communities in climate change adaptation efforts, including their participation in decision-making processes and the adoption of climate-resilient behaviors.

Additionally, the study will assess the involvement of local authorities and women, including vulnerable groups, in addressing and implementing climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. It will also gauge the understanding of the gender and climate nexus among these groups.

This baseline study will provide valuable insights that will inform the project's strategies and interventions, ensuring they are effectively tailored to the needs and conditions of the target communities.

Activity 1.1.1 Participatory elaboration of community gender-sensitive SECAPs (Sustainable Energy and Climate Acton Plan) by engaging society in inclusive manner, targeting groups formed by poor women and men to participate in determining SECAPs development priorities

The program aims to contribute to the sustainable development and increase the resilience of 25 partner localities by implementing activities to adapt to climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The open call for identifying 20 partner communities that are interested in receiving support for the development of their gender-sensitive Sustainable Energy Climate Action Plans was carried out between November 6, 2024 - November 30, 2024, based on the eligibility and evaluation criteria approved by the ResCom 2 Steering Committee (*Annex 2*). The competition targeted three distinct groups of communities:

1. Communities that have already created their SECAPs but require updates to incorporate a gender perspective.

2. Communities that have developed Climate Action Plans but need to enhance them with sustainable energy and gender-related elements.

3. Communities that currently lack SECAPs but are eager to initiate the development process.

Please refer to the *Annex 3,4, and 5* to view the Guide for application and relevant annexes.

Key results 2024 |Outcome 1|

- ✓ 1 Call for selection of target localities successfully launched and carried out
- ✓ 64 localities applied to benefit of support for SECAPs elaboration and implementation, including 7 from Transnistria
- ✓ 155 (incl. 73 % women) representatives of LPAS informed on climate-change adaptation and mitigation measure and the SECAPs role
- ✓ 2 policies under review for incorporation of gender aspects

In order to ensure a wide dissemination of the Call for Applications, 3 (three) outreach events were held offline in the Center (Chisinau), South (Causeni) and North (Soroca) of the country, as well as 1 (one) online session between November 7, 2025 - November 23, 2025.

Over 120 participants (73 % representing women) received detailed information about the purpose of the call for applications, eligibility criteria and how to fulfil the requested application documents. At the deadline, 64 applications were received from North, Centre and South regions including the Territorial - Administrative Unit of Gagauzia and Transnistria (*Figure 1*). **50 applications** were submitted by the local public authorities which currently do not have SECAPs but are interested in initiating the process of its developing (*Figure 2).*

*Figure 1: The distribution of the applicants **(%)** based on districts is as follows:*

1. *Left bank of Nistru - 7 applications*
2. *Anenii Noi - 6 applications*
3. *Straseni* - 5 *applications*
4. *Cahul - 5 applications*
5. *UTAG* - 4 *applications*
6. *Drochia* - 4 *applications*
7. *Ialoveni - 4 applications*
8. *Causeni - 3 applications*
9. *Floresti - 2 applications*
10. *Orhei - 2 application*
11. *Ocnita - 2 applications*
12. *Hincesti - 2 applications*
13. *Falesti - 2 applications*
14. *Stefan-Voda* - 2 *applications*
15. *Telenesti - 2 applications*
16. *Ungheni - 2 applications*
17. *Chisinau – 2 applications*
18. *Riscani – 2 applications*
19. *Singerei – 1 application*
20. *Edinet – 1 application*
21. *Soroca – 1 application*
22. *Glodeni – 1 application*
23. *Criuleni – 1 application*
24. *Calarasi – 1 application*

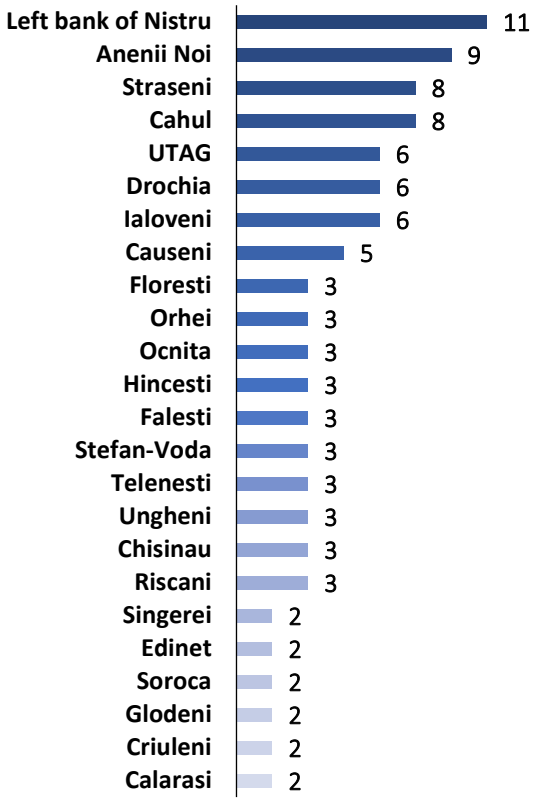
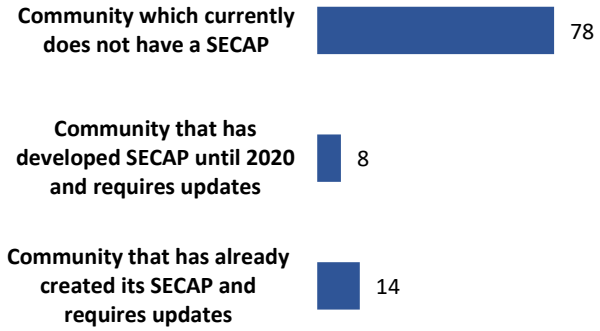


*Figure 2: The distribution of the applications **(%)** based on the SECAP category is as follows:*



*1. Community that has already created its SECAP, but needs updates to incorporate the new context with elements of sustainable energy, climate, energy poverty, or gender issues - **9 applications***

*2. Community that has developed SECAP until 2020, but requires updates to incorporate the new context with elements of sustainable energy, climate, energy poverty, or gender issues - **5 applications***

*3. Community which currently does not have a SECAP, but is interested in initiating the process of developing this plan - **50 applications***

The thorough evaluation of the received applications will be conducted at the beginning of 2025, in close consultation with the Ministry of Environment and the Alliance for Energy Efficiency and Renewables. This evaluation will be based on the following approved criteria:

- ✓ The demonstrated level of commitment from key actors and vulnerable groups in adapting to climate change and increasing energy resilience.
- ✓ The need for support in developing or updating local gender-sensitive plans for energy and climate, with the involvement of local actors.
- ✓ The justification for support to enhance the locality's resilience to climate change, involving the local agricultural and civic sectors.
- ✓ The anticipated impact of the support on the community and the agricultural sector, including its effects on women.

Once the 20 localities are selected and approved by the Steering Committee, dedicated assistance will be provided throughout 2025 and 2026 that includes both – technical and financial assistance for building local resilience to climate change effects.

Activity 1.1.3 - 1.1.4 Gender considerations mainstream as per identified gaps

Although the implementation of these Outputs is scheduled to begin in 2025, the Project undertook several preparatory activities in 2024. An international consultant with expertise in providing training support and policy advice in the climate-change gender area was contracted to assist the project team in conducting a gender analysis and mainstreaming gender aspects into the relevant sectors of the projects.

Additionally, planning meetings with relevant stakeholders were conducted, leading to the identification of two priority documents for the ResCom 2 project:

1. Integration of gender-related inputs into the newly developed contributions for the adaptation component of National Determined Contribution 3.0, prepared by the Ministry of Environment with UNDP support.
2. Mainstreaming gender considerations into the SECAPs elaboration methodology.

Once finalized, these documents will be shared with relevant stakeholders for implementation and large use.

Activity 1.1.5. - 1.1.7 Provision of technical support and expertise to advance efficient, resilient and gender-responsive local governance

Despite the fact that activities are planned to start in 2025, during the reporting period, the team engaged in discussions with the State Chancellery to identify LPA clusters willing to initiate the voluntary amalgamation process. In 2025, the team will support up to five LPA clusters by providing thematic assistance on legal, financial, and communication aspects. Additionally, the team will facilitate the Vision Building exercise within the identified LPA clusters, using the methodology developed by UNDP and endorsed by the State Chancellery. The **Vision Building toolkit** was developed to assist administrative-territorial units (ATUs) in organizing and facilitating a participatory vision-building process for the organization and operation of amalgamated ATUs. This toolkit provides a structured framework to assess the impact of amalgamation and raises awareness among local stakeholders.

Each **Vision Building exercise** consists of five thematic sessions: **(i) institutional structure, (ii) public services, (iii) public institutions, (iv) public property, and (v) local budgets**, followed

by a **final validation session** with the participation of local stakeholders, including mayors, local civil servants, council members, administrators of local operators, and heads of public institutions.

These activities will strengthen the capacities of local public authorities to manage the amalgamation process effectively, ensuring that newly formed LPAs are better structured, more resilient, and responsive to local needs.

Output 1.2. Multi-stakeholder engagement on climate and gender policy processes enabled

No activities have been conducted in the reporting period.

OUTCOME 2: National and local women leadership in climate actions expanded and advanced

The interventions under this Outcome are planned to commence in 2025. To prepare the Capacity and Institutional Development Program for business incubators nationwide, with the aim of integrating climate and gender components into their operations, several key activities will be undertaken:

- Assessing the modus operandi of the business incubators, identifying their strengths and weaknesses in fulfilling their mandate.
- Evaluating their institutional needs.
- Providing guidance on upgrading their activities in line with recent developments and pilot initiatives.

The activities are to be undertaken in close coordination with with the Ministry of Economic Development and Digitalization.

Additionally, this effort will be supported by forums and capacity-building events specifically dedicated to women, to promote women's leadership in climate actions**.** These initiatives aim to promote women's leadership in climate actions and foster partnerships and synergies with regional business incubators, ultimately benefiting both parties.

OUTCOME 3: Women led climate-smart solutions are identified, supported and replicated among women groups and target communities

Output 3.1: Climate smart activities demonstrated in households of women with economic activity, women entrepreneurs and in communities

Activities 3.1 to 3.2 pertain to the seed funding that will be provided in 2026 for the implementation of local projects prioritized in the 25 selected localities as part of the SECAPs.

UNDP will collaborate with 25 communities (including 5 amalgamated units) in both rural and urban areas. This collaboration will involve the implementation of community-based climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives, working in synergy with 80 women-led households and 25 women-led businesses. The total budget available for grants is USD 1,980,000, allocated as follows:

- USD 1,000,000 to financially support 25 LPAs in implementing SECAPs-related actions (aligned with the local SECAP), with up to USD 40,000 each.
- USD 480,000 to support 25 women-led agri-businesses in implementing climate-smart solutions (aligned with local SECAPs), with up to USD 20,000 each.
- USD 480,000 to support 80 women with economic activities in households across all 25 selected localities in implementing climate-smart solutions (aligned with local SECAPs), with up to USD 6,000 each.

Activity 3.3. Synergies in advancing climate smart solutions among women groups facilitated

Preparatory work began during Phase I, focusing on creating an enabling environment for the energy community concept in Moldova. This included consultations with local authorities and business representatives on the potential for piloting renewable energy solutions at the local level, organizing study visits to Austria and Slovenia to learn from EU experiences, and facilitating a high-level event on the potential of energy communities in Moldova. Where the participants were from the Ministry of Energy, national energy regulator and National Center for Sustainable Energy. These events, which involved national stakeholders and decision-makers engaged in energy policy and regulatory framework development, led to the creation of recommendations for secondary legislation on energy communities in Moldova. Consequently, a policy document was developed with UNDP support, serving as guidance for the main energy stakeholders in drafting the Regulation on Renewable Energy Communities, which was approved at the end of December 2024 and which is providing guidelines for establishing and managing RECs to empower local communities, promote renewable energy, and enhance climate resilience.(*Annex 6*)

Key results 2024 |Outcome 3|

- ✓ Selection Criteria for selection of NGOs to pilot EC developed and endorsed by
- ✓ 2 policy documents elaborated with Project support for operationalization of energy communities the Project Board
- ✓ One Quick-off event organized for launching the support for 12 localities.
- ✓ 172 community members (70 % women) engaged in revision of local climate plans

Moreover, a complementary effort has been done consisting of analyzing of legal options regarding the registration and operationalization of a renewable Energy Community. **(***Annex 7***)** The document provides legal options for potential stakeholders wiling to create an energy community and guide them in the best option that fits their needs and requirements.

In order to ensure a wide dissemination on the energy communities concept and benefits a video illustration has been produces by the project team and shared by the partners such as the Ministry of Energy, National Energy Regulation Agency.

Starting in 2025, under the second phase of the project (ResCom 2), and with the support of Norway and Sweden, the Republic of Moldova will test its first energy communities using renewable energy sources. In this context, UNDP announced a grant competition to select non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to pilot the first renewable energy communities in Moldova.

Through this competition, two (2) NGOs will be selected to receive grants of $100,000 each to provide financial and technical assistance to two newly established energy communities.

Approval criteria for selection of NGO**s (***Annex 8***)**. was created by the project team and approved by the project board in December 2024. The selection of NGOs for the grant program is based on the following:

- **Eligibility**: legally registered associations with at least three years of proven activity, non-profit purpose, and experience in community projects.
- **Evaluation**: based on experience in local campaigns, stakeholder engagement, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and training activities. The proposed methodology and team composition will also be evaluated.

This support involves engagement of NGOs in mapping the potential for cooperation, facilitating inter-municipal collaboration where needed, conducting feasibility and cost-benefit assessments, developing an operational business model, and establishing a mechanism for energy communities.

Activity 3.4 Technical and financial assistance for implementing gender-inclusive local climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction plans

As part of the ResCom 1 project, dedicated support was provided to develop gender-inclusive local climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction plans in twelve partner localities. This initiative aimed to enhance community resilience by integrating gender considerations into climate and disaster risk management strategies. The twelve localities that successfully developed these plans are Filipeni (Leova), Nișcani (Călărași), Tuzara (Călărași), Borogani (Leova), Tigheci (Leova), Dezghingea (UTAG), Cișmichioi (UTAG), Sîrma (Leova), Pârjolteni (Călărași), Bravicea (Călărași), Bașcalia (Basarabeasca), and Cioresti (Nisporeni).

Under the ResCom 2 framework, financial assistance is planned to support the twelve projects prioritized by the communities after updating their climate adaptation and risk reduction plans in collaboration with citizens, local organizations, and the private sector.

Therefore, during the reporting period, a kickoff event was organized on September 26, 2024, to provide details of the envisaged support (*Annex 9 - Agenda of the event).* The event aimed to offer guidance on further steps to be undertaken and to inform on the methodology for updating the climate plans, ensuring that the proposed solutions are effective and address the needs of women and other vulnerable groups.



Figure 3 Workshop on 26th of September on support for gender-sensitive climate plans

Following this event, in November 2024, all twelve communities received assistance in preparing and updating the assessment of their current needs. Workshops were organized to revise existing action plans within the Local Development Strategies, focusing on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, with particular attention to gender sensitivity.

The workshops were well-attended, with 172 participants, including 137 women (80% participation) and 35 men. The detailed revisions of the action plans in the twelve localities included measures aimed at energy projects, climate-resilient infrastructure, environmental protection, and disaster reduction.

For example, the action plan for Filipeni (Leova) focused on sustainable agricultural practices, energy efficiency, and waste management, benefiting all 2,050 residents. Similarly, the plan for Tigheci (Leova) included the creation of wind turbines for renewable energy, road repairs, and river cleanup, impacting 1,337 citizens. Each locality's plan was tailored to address its specific needs and vulnerabilities, ensuring that the proposed solutions were relevant and effective.



Figure 4 Individual workshops in each of the 12 LPAs for the revision of climate adaptation and risk reduction plans

The revised plans (*Annex 10)* significantly benefit the communities by enhancing their resilience to climate change and disasters. The focus on gender sensitivity ensures that the needs of women and other vulnerable groups are addressed, promoting inclusive and sustainable development.

As a follow-up to this effort, a prioritization exercise was conducted with these authorities to identify the most urgent actions to be implemented. Preliminary results show a strong need for support in energy-efficient measures. Ten out of twelve localities expressed their need to switch their public services to alternative energy sources, a much-needed support in the context of the energy crisis at the end of the year that led to increased electricity tariffs starting in 2025. The remaining two localities opted for river-bed cleaning (Sîrma, Leova) and multi-functional equipment for waste management (Tuzara, Călărași).

In 2025, following the prioritization exercise, twelve projects will be financed with a grant amount of USD 30,000 per locality. Additionally, the project will be co-financed with at least 10% of the provided grant.

OUTCOME 4: Women-led Climate Smart Solutions Disseminated and Societal Awareness Raised

In the reporting period, the Project developed the communication and visibility framework of the project and proceeded with its implementation as per agreed work plan. For more details, please refer to the details provided below.

Key results 2024 |Outcome 4|

- ✓ Two fair events conducted for ResCom 2 beneficiaries.
- ✓ 10 women agri-producers supported to access new markets.
- ✓ One knowledge platform supported for incorporating gender-climate aspects.
- ✓ Project's Communication Plan and Strategy developed
- ✓ Project's visual identity produced
- ✓ Eco-friendly visibility materials designed and produced
- ✓ At least 17 social media platforms used to communicate about the Project's interventions

Under **Output 4.1**, was initiated the communication with ResCom1 beneficiaries to provide further assistance in accessing new markets.

As part of this effort, five women agri-producers were supported to participate in the 2024 edition of IarmarEco. IarmarEco is an annual event organized by Ecovisio to promote ecological opportunities, social entrepreneurship, social initiatives, and a sustainable lifestyle. It uniquely combines a fair, facilitated networking, workshops, and interactive presentations, making it a standout event in the Moldovan ecology and social activism landscape.

Through this platform, beneficiaries, including honey producers, herbal processors, and local artisans, showcased their products directly to the public. This support provided them with valuable opportunities to interact with new and existing customers, receive feedback, and improve their products. Networking opportunities, such as a dedicated Viber group for exhibitors, also facilitated potential collaborations and partnerships. These engagements helped the beneficiaries better understand customer preferences, enhance product offerings, and improve product promotion.





Fig 5 ResCom 2 beneficiaries at IarmarEco 2024 edition

To scale up support for women agri-producers in marketing their products, a new cohort of beneficiaries received assistance in December 2024. These women agri-producers showcased their products at the IarmarEco Christmas Edition 2024, held on December 8, 2024, at Digital Park in Chișinău. The event attracted approximately 1,200 visitors and over 60 exhibitors.

Despite some last-minute changes in attendance, beneficiaries, including honey producers, cereal flakes makers, and bread artisans, had the opportunity to engage directly with customers, expand their clients's database and promote their business activity.




Fig 6 ResCom 2 beneficiaries at IarmarEco Christmas Edition 2024

The Output 4.2 Data and information for the climate change knowledge management portal gathered, systematised and published – is at an advanced stage. Jointly with UNDP/NAP 2- project team, a list of materials produced under ResCom 1 has been identified and will be incorporated into the www.clima.gov.md website.

These materials include:

1. Climate-smart activities demonstrated in households of women with economic activity, women entrepreneurs, and communities.
2. Knowledge products for agri-producers and communities.
3. Educational resources in the climate-gender area.

This platform will serve as a one-stop shop for anyone seeking information on climate-related topics and is scheduled to be officially launched in March 2025.

Output 4.3. Project visibility ensured

To date, the Project has collaboratively produced the **Communication and Outreach Strategy of the Project** for the period August 2024 – July 2028 (see *Annex 11).*

Further on, the Project developed a set of **visibility materials** of the Project, including:

- Project Folder (recycled paper)
- Project Notepad (recycled paper)
- Eco pens (eco-materials)
- T-shirts
- Project banners (RO)
- Hoodies
- Personalized annual agendas
- Jackets

The visibility materials shall be used in engagements with Project partners, as well as for distribution at project's events and trainings.

In the reporting period the Project has produced and disseminated to the media from both banks of the Nistru River three (3) **Press Releases** - one announcing the Launch of the project,

one on the Launch of the Call for the selection of 20 partner communities and one on the support that will be provided for the authorities in creating the first energy communities:

https://www.undp.org/ro/moldova/press-releases/moldova-isi-intensifica-eforturile-de-spori-rezilienta-climatica-femeilor-din-mediul-rural-cu-sprijinul-suediei-norvegiei-si

https://www.undp.org/moldova/press-releases/call-selection-20-communities-will-benefit-support-enhance-climate-resilience

https://www.undp.org/moldova/press-releases/sweden-norway-and-undp-will-support-authorities-creating-first-energy-communities-renewable-energy-sources-republic-moldova

In terms of **Social Media communication**, the Project has used the following (17) channels and platforms to disseminate project related announcements and events:

- UNDP Moldova Facebook Page
- UNDP Moldova Instagram Page
- UNDP Moldova X page

Facebook groups:

- Dezvoltare regionala in Moldova
- Agrobiznes Club
- Jurnalism de Mediu
- Afacere frumoasă la tine acasă
- Mediu curat pentru o viata sanatoasa
- Clubul Oamenilor de Succes
- Jurnalistii Nostri
- Mass media pentru egalitatea de gen
- Clubul Jurnalistilor din Moldova
- Mass-media din Republica Moldova
- Granturi Moldova
- Societatea civila din Republica Moldova
- Poduri peste Nistru - Мосты доверия через Днестр
- Jurnalisti

Some examples:

- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid0SJrS5yRtSH8X6JYnEVfhW4BwPWwWYQnDLgFu4eyEMGn4eq1fhdYYcr4KW9k3iGmZl
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid02x3HB6so5xYaXG3mFzvPiT8w56CSa5ERx4hs6oUnp2RbmPXcqq1hwws1JMTvJgyBXl
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid02c5yoXCsN2bikJtCCzeFqPm43hyznM521kZZrWQE8VYc27iPxfwiHtoMFTYCSxbqWl
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid0M1Y2sfc61HF2uHVjodF8QfSQ43XSkSKpgWikY3EUfx5cSZ1mBjreBh9m5MGrKYAel
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid0h7u9EAB6zTLqmWBCmoHQsj3aZLHgpoVUhPQvzrktYZMJJrJvgXxmTcpYm5wHJ1WPl
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid0aFW1KbGATcWyyRvoiA6GdErSZmfxg9AgJrVzV4JSGpYhMvfDW4eBpBxegjLBPwo8l
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid0UwJw3fQAbgsBTXXm7Qb6gp9ZkaX6A8wM3bfm9K9mBRbWM2ssHNesnnJW2azEzheKl

- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid021ZcUN4AUXsrTKvZHAwnBHWiChD1ooUtVbYoR3AwShRoh7HSRbYsTXAefrWxYLTGjl
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid021N35DooTxuToFXaS7r1RR3LTRLaeNNXVVbTRuuR88ediZcytkzM9ibXbmjS2aAxDl
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/posts/pfbid0214ZbyP3XRYu35JzDCpyo7ofi8sB6HkFVBmFTdp3Vn1VSiXWs2jDx6mmyUgGtcQryl
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/videos/445004498667520/
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/videos/1767508843788671/
- https://www.facebook.com/PNUDMoldova/videos/3955530298056876/

In total, social media posts created in 2024 have reached **32165** people on Facebook, Instagram and X.

OUTCOME 5: Project Management

To date, the Project is comprised of 4 (four) full-time staff members, hired in 2024. Five (5) new members are to join the Project team starting with 2025 – Finance associate, Project Officer Capacity building and Outreach, Project Officer/Environment, Project Officer/Energy, Project Associate/Procurement.

Project Board

In the first months of project's operational period, the Regulation of the Project Board was drafted *(see Annex 12).* As Board Members were invited Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry and one NGO working in gender equality area. Letters requesting nominees to the Project Board were issued to all institutions included in the Project Board. As result, the Board Composition was completed in line with the ProDoc provisions and as recommended by the Project Local Appraisal Committee held on July 11, 2024.

The first Project Board Meeting was organized in-person on October 11, 2024, with the participation of all 7 members. The second Board meeting has been conducted online on 12 December 2024. The Detailed Minutes of the Project Boards are presented in *Annex 13*.

II. Finances

The financial resources allocated in 2024 for the implementation of the project were of:

- From **Sweden** - USD 190,186.38 (SEK 2,000,000), which represents the first installment received under the Cost-Sharing agreement between Sweden, represented by SIDA and UNDP.

- From **Norway** – USD 1,138,840.85 (NOK 12,292,500)

The funds were administered in line with the Annual Work Plan for 2024 endorsed by the Project Board.

Out of the first installments, a total of USD 128,537 was spent in 2024, with details presented in the *Annex 14 – Financial Report 2024*. The table below presents the 2024 expenditures by Outcomes.

Figure 7. Project budget allocation, 2024

Budget Allocation, by Outcomes	Total planned 2024, $	Total spent, 2024, $
OUTCOME 1: Capacities of the national and local authorities to plan strategically, implement plans, deliver services, and to advance climate and gender nexus enhanced	20,500	7,572
OUTCOME 2: National and local women leadership in climate actions expanded and advanced	0.00	0.00
OUTCOME 3: Women led climate-smart solutions are identified, supported and replicated among women groups and target communities	13,550	28,291
OUTCOME 4: Women-led Climate Smart Solutions Disseminated and Societal Awareness Raised	12,812	8,751
OUTCOME 5: Project Management	96,158	75,392
Contingency reserve 2% (Norway funds)	2,861	0,00
GMS, 8%	11,671	8,531
GRAND TOTAL	**157,552**	**128,537**

III. Updated Risk Log

As per standard UNDP requirements, the Project Team monitored risks quarterly and reported on the status of the risks to the UNDP Country Office. Risks have been reported as critical when the impact and probablity 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).

In the reporting period, the Project's Risk Log and Mitigation measures have been updated to reflect the additional risks that emerged in 2024 The updated Risk Log 2024 is presented in *Annex 15*.