GREEN CLIMATE FUND

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United Nations Development Programme
GCF Readiness Programme Support/ Initiation Plan

Project title: Capacity building for climate action in the Republic of Moldova	
Country: Republic of Moldova	
Management Arrangements: Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) UNDP CO	**Implementing Partner**:
UNDAF/Country Programme Outcome (s): Outcome 4: By 2027, institutions and all people of Moldova benefit from and contribute to green and resilient development, sustainable use of natural resources and effective gender responsive climate change action and disaster risk management Output 4.1. National and local public authorities have enhanced environment governance capacity to ensure inclusive, effective transition to climate and disaster resilient, low emission and green development in line with the 2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement and other inter-governmentally agreed frameworks	
UNDP Strategic Plan Output: **Direction of change**: Outcome 1. Structural transformation accelerated, particularly, green, inclusive and digital solutions **Signature solutions:** 2. Governance	
UNDP Gender Marker: GEN2	
Quantum Award ID number: 1387382	**Quantum Project ID number:** 01004457
UNDP-GCF PIMS ID number: 9806	
Planned start date: 15 April 2025 (GCF Notification letter)	**Planned end date:** 15 January 2028 (GCF Notification letter date + 24 month + 3 months grace period)
Brief project description: Moldova, after decades of socio-economic transition, has only recently sustained growth but remains economically undiversified and climate-vulnerable. Warming and drying trends over 130 years signal a shift toward a semi-arid climate, making Moldova one of Europe's most climate-exposed nations with escalating future risks. Committed to action, Moldova updated its NDC in 2020, released NDC3.0 in 2025, and adopted the 2030 National Programme on Climate Change Adaptation (which was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2024 as a NAP) targeting net-zero by 2050 while aligning with EU climate goals. The country prioritizes inclusive approaches for vulnerable groups. Climate governance is led by the Ministry of	

Environment, sectoral ministries, and the National Commission on Climate Change chaired by the Prime Minister.

Moldova has advanced its climate policies but needs more support to achieve climate neutrality, enhance resilience, and align with EU and global goals. The inactive National Commission on Climate Change, weak integration of climate action into sector policies and budgets, insufficient financing, and poor knowledge management due to outdated data and limited dissemination tools all undermine progress.

The goal of this Readiness grant is to enhance the institutional capacities, technical expertise, and knowledge management systems necessary for addressing climate change and mobilizing climate finance in the Republic of Moldova. By strengthening these critical components, the grant will support Moldova in fulfilling its national, regional, and global climate commitments. A more effective planning and coordination framework will empower the government and relevant stakeholders to implement climate actions efficiently and effectively, thereby driving sustainable development and resilience. This will be achieved through the following predetermined GCF.
This readiness request, funded by the GCF, addresses 4 key barriers:

1) Limited capacity for coordination of climate action
2) Insufficient planning and mainstreaming of climate action
3) Limited financing, funding and budgeting for climate action
4) Inadequate data, knowledge and information management for climate action

The project aims to achieve the following outcomes to overcome these barriers:
Outcome 1.1: Country NDA or focal points and/or the network/systems that enable them to fulfil their roles, responsibilities and policy requirements are operational and effective
Outcome 2.2: GCF recipient countries have developed or enhanced strategic frameworks to address policy gaps, improve sectoral expertise, and enhance enabling environments for GCF Programming in low-emission investment.
Outcome 4.1: An increase in the number of quality project concept notes developed and submitted
Outcome 4.5: An increase in the proportion of Project Preparation Facility (PPF) requests and funding proposals approved as a result of Readiness and Preparatory Support
Outcome 5.1: Best practices with respect to institutional capacity building and coordination, direct access, and pipeline development are developed and disseminated to strengthen engagement by NDA, DAEs and delivery partners with the GCF

FINANCING PLAN	
GCF grant	USD 921,566 (without fees)
Total Budget administered by UNDP	USD 921,566 (without fees)

SIGNATURES		
Signature:	**Agreed by UNDP** Ms. Daniela Gasparikova, UNDP Resident Representative in Moldova	**Date/Month/Year:** 24/06/2025

Readiness and Preparatory Support

Proposal Template

Proposal title:	Capacity building for climate action in the Republic of Moldova
Country(ies):	Republic of Moldova
National Designated Authority(ies):	Ministry of Environment
Delivery Partner:	UNDP
Date of first submission:	28 November 2024
Date of current submission:	31 March 2025
Version number:	Version #3



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Before completing this proposal template, please read the revised **Readiness Guidebook** and learn how to access readiness resources under the GCF Readiness & Preparatory Support Programme.

How to complete this template?

Before completing this proposal template, please read carefully the revised Readiness Guidebook.

This proposal template should be completed by the Delivery Partners and the National Designated Authorities (NDA) or Focal Points. Once completed, this document should be submitted to the GCF by the NDA or Focal Point via the **online submission system**, Fluxx, accessible through the Country Portal of the GCF website.

Before submitting, please delete all the instructions in the document in grey font.

Please be concise. If you need to include any additional information, please enclose it to the proposal as an annex.

If the Delivery Partner implementing the Readiness support is not a GCF Accredited Entity for project Funding Proposals, please complete the Financial Management Capacity Assessment (FMCA) questionnaire and submit it to fmca@gcfund.org prior to or with this Readiness proposal.

How to get support to complete this template?

If you are not sure how to complete the proposal, or require support, please send an e-mail to countries@gcfund.org, copying both the Readiness Delivery Partner and the relevant GCF Regional Desk. Please refer to the Country Profiles page of the GCF website to identify the relevant GCF Regional Desk colleagues.

We will get back to you within five (5) working days to acknowledge receipt of your submission and discuss the way forward.

Section 1. Summary (*indicative* maximum length: three pages)

1.1 Country(ies) submitting the proposal	Country name:	Republic of Moldova
	Name of institution representing NDA or Focal Point:	Ministry of Environment
	Name of contact person:	Ms. Aliona Rusnac
	Contact person's position:	State Secretary
	Telephone number:	(022) 204-564
	Email:	aliona.rusnac@mediu.gov.md
	Full office address:	MD-2004, mun. bd Stefan cel Mare si Sfant, 162, Chisinau, Moldova
	Additional email addresses that need to be copied on correspondences:	sergiu.lazarencu@mediu.gov.md
1.2 Date of initial submission	28 November 2024	
1.3 Last date of resubmission	31 March 2025	**Version number** V. 3
1.4 Institution that will implement the Readiness grant	☐ National Designated Authority ☒ Delivery Partner	
	Name of institution:	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
	Name of official:	Nancy Bennet
	Position:	Executive Coordinator, a.i Vertical Funds Programming Support, Oversight & Compliance Hub Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS)

	Telephone number:	+1 917-498-7221
	Email:	nancy.bennet@undp.org
	Full office address:	UNDP, 918, FF-Building, 304 E45th Street, NY 10017, USA
	Additional email addresses that need to be copied on correspondences:	patricia.velasco@undp.org claudia.ortiz@undp.org nathaniel.pappoe@undp.org silvia.pana-carp@undp.org robin.merlier@undp.org seher.ariner@undp.org liam.fee@undp.org
1.5 Title of the Readiness support proposal	Capacity building for climate action in the Republic of Moldova.	
1.6 Readiness objectives of the proposal	☒ Objective 1. Capacity Building ☒ Objective 2. Strategic frameworks ☐ Objective 3. Adaptation planning[1] ☒ Objective 4. Pipeline development ☒ Objective 5. Knowledge sharing and learning	
1.7 Total requested amount and currency	USD 999,900 (including 8.5% DP Fee)	
1.8 Implementation period[2]	24 months	
1.9 Is this request a multiple-year strategic Readiness implementation request?[3]	☐ Yes ☒ No	

[1] Please note that for adaptation planning proposals, only the box for objective 3 may be ticked.
[2] The implementation period shall begin on the date the grant is effective.
[3] Please note that proposals for adaptation planning support (objective 3) cannot be submitted as multiple-year strategic Readiness proposals.

1.10 Brief summary of the request (maximum length: 500 words)

i) **Climate background and institutional and policy context**:

The Republic of Moldova has gone through a significant **socio-economic transition** since its independence in 1991 and has only in the last decade sustained economic growth. The Moldovan economy is not very diversified and vulnerable to climate conditions.

The **climate** in the Republic of Moldova has over the last 130 years become warmer and drier, and future climate projections indicate towards an even drier, semi-arid climate. Moldova ranks as one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in Europe and it is projected that the impacts of climate change on the country's social, environmental and economic dimensions will intensify in the medium- to long- term.

Moldova has shown a commitment to addressing climate change through various international agreements. The country submitted its updated **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2020, will submit its NDC3.0 in 2025, and developed the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in 2023**. The country is committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, and the updated NDC reflects a more ambitious approach to GHG reduction, sustainable energy transition, and sector-specific adaptation strategies. Country will launch the updated NDC in 2025. Moreover, Moldova's NDC update aligns with the EU's climate goals, especially considering its association agreement with the European Union. The inclusion of vulnerable groups such as women, Indigenous Peoples, and low-income populations in decision-making and benefit-sharing is another priority, ensuring a just transition in addressing climate impacts.

The Ministry of Environment (MoE) is responsible for environmental protection, climate change and natural resources. Sectoral ministries oversee sector policies and plans. The **National Commission on Climate Change (NCCC)** is an inter-institutional body headed by the Prime-Minister, with a mandate to promote and coordinate climate change policy implementation.

ii) Problem statement:

Moldova made progress in combating climate change with an ambitious policy and legal framework. However, additional support is needed for Moldova to advance the climate neutral pathways across all sectors of the economy, to build country resilience, and to fully align itself with EU and global climate change agreements and requirements. This pertains specifically to support for the coordination of climate action through the National Commission on Climate Change (NCCC) which has been largely non-operational thus far. Planning and mainstreaming of climate action in the main policies, strategies and budgets of key sectors is also lacking. Lack of financing further hinders effective climate action. Knowledge management on climate action in Moldova is also not up to speed, because lack of updated and evidence-based data, as well as effective tools and platforms for dissemination of knowledge and data.

iii) Goal and objectives

The goal of this Readiness grant is to enhance the institutional capacities, technical expertise, and knowledge management systems necessary for addressing climate change and mobilizing climate finance in the Republic of Moldova. By strengthening these critical components, the grant will support Moldova in fulfilling its national, regional, and global climate commitments. A more effective planning and coordination framework will empower the government and relevant stakeholders to implement climate actions efficiently and effectively, thereby driving sustainable development and resilience. This will be achieved through the following predetermined GCF Outcomes and outputs:

Outcome 1.1: NDA and the network/systems that enable them to fulfil their roles, responsibilities and policy requirements are operational and effective.
Output 1.1.2: NDA mechanisms established or strengthened for interinstitutional coordination
Outcome 2.2: Enhanced strategic frameworks to address policy gaps, improve sectoral expertise, and enhance enabling environments.
Output 2.2.3: NDC updated or revised and related policies developed.
Output 2.2.5: Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted
Outcome 4.1: Number of quality project Concept Notes submitted.
Output 4.1.1: Concept notes for priority sectors developed for submission to the GCF
Outcome 4.5: An increase in funding proposals approved.
Output 4.5.3: Assessments and studies conducted for the development of quality Full Proposal
Outcome 5.1: Best practices are developed and disseminated.
Output 5.1.1: knowledge products developed containing information on low emissions climate resilient development (LECRD), lessons learned, or best practices extracted from within the country and from other countries.
Output 5.1.2: NDA has established process, systems and/or platforms for identification of best practices, lessons learned and Knowledge Management

iv) Direct and indirect beneficiaries

The main beneficiaries are MoE and its agencies, the NCCC, and the agriculture, water, forestry, health, energy and transport sectors.

Indirect beneficiaries include local governments, CSOs and private sector. Gender based entities and advocates will receive special attention and targeted support.

1.11 List of abbreviations

Abbreviation (alphabetical order)	Meaning
ADA	Austrian Development Agency
AE	Accredited Entity
AEZ	Agro-ecological zone
AIPA	Agency for intervention and payments for Agriculture
APR	Annual Project Report (GCF)
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CBAM	Carbon Border Adjusted Mechanism (EU)
CBT	Climate Budget Tagging
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCAS	Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
CCCM	Climate Change Coordination Mechanism
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CEE	Central and Eastern Europe
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement

COP	Conference of Parties (under UNFCCC)
DAE	Direct Access Entity
DCFTA	Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement
DP	Delivery Partner
EBA	Ecosystem based Adaptation
ETS	Emissions Trading System (EU)
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FP	Full Proposal (GCF)
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GD	Government Decision
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GIES	General Inspectorate for Emergency situations
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
HDI	Human Development Index
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INDC	Intended National Determined Contribution
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change
IPPU	Industrial Processes and Product Use
IRMF	Integrated Results Management Framework
JCM	Joint Crediting Mechanism
LEDP	Low Emissions Development Programme
LEDS	Low Emissions Development Strategy
LPA	Local Public Authorities
LULUCF	Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forest
LTS	long-term strategy
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCC	Moldova Chamber of Commerce
MDB	Multilateral Development Banks
MDL	Moldovan Leu
MOE	Ministry of Environment
MSME	micro, small and medium-sized enterprise
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
NAP	National Adaptation Plan

NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NC	National Communication
NCCAP	National Climate Change Adaptation Programme
NCCC	National Commission on Climate Change
NCKP	The National Commission for Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change as well as the provisions and mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol
NCSD	National Council for Sustainable Development
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
ND-GAIN	Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative
NDS	National Development Strategy
NECP	National Energy and Climate Plan
NFERP	National Forest Extension and Rehabilitation Programme
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PCA	Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with European Union
PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment
PPF	Project Preparation Facility
PPP	Public-private partnerships
PV	Photovoltaics
RCP	Representative Concentration Pathway
RM	The Republic of Moldova
RFP	request for proposal
RPSP	Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme
RRMF	Readiness Results Management Framework
SHS	State Hydrometeorological Service
SWOT	Strengths Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
TNA	Technology Needs Assessment
TA	Technical Assistance
UNDC	Updated Nationally Determined Contribution
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USD	United States Dollar
USP-2	updated Strategic Plan for the GCF 2024–2027
WB	World Bank

Section 2. Situation analysis (*indicative* maximum length: four pages)

2.1. Country's background and context

2.1.1 Socio-economic context

1. The **Republic of Moldova** is in the central part of Europe, with a land area of 33 846 km^2. The country declared its independence on 27 August 1991 and the new Constitution of the State said that "Free market, economic initiative, fair competition are the basic factors of the economy"[4]. Changing the development paradigm has, however, imposed significant efforts, and the still ongoing transition to a new system of society and economic development significantly impacted living standards. This transformation caused a significant reduction in socio-economic indicators over the 1990-2016 period. 2. The country rated among the low-medium income countries in 1990, but in 2016 GDP reached only 72.3% of the 1990-year level[5]. See below table for more key country socio-economic information.

Table 1: Summary of key country information[6]



Land area:	33 846 km^2
Population:	2,512,800 (2023)[7],
Life expectancy at birth:	71.4 years (for 2022) [8]
GDP:	14.4 billion (2022) (in current USD) GDP per capita: 80,462 (MDL in 2023)
GNI per capita:	15.780 purchasing power parity (USD, 2022)[9]
Unemployment:	4,1 % of total labour force (2023)[10]
Human Development Index:	0.750 (position 90 out of 189 countries and territories)[11]
SDG Index Score:	78.63 out of 166[12]. Rank: 25 out of 163 countries.

[4] The Constitution of the Republic of Moldova. Art. 9(3)
[5] Updated NDC, 2020
[6] Moldova GCF Country Programme, 2024
[7] https://statistica.gov.md/ro/statistic_indicator_details/25
[8] https://statistica.gov.md/ro/statistic_indicator_details/25
[9] https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GNP.PCAP.PP.CD?locations=MD
[10] https://statistica.gov.md/ro
[11] UNDP (2020a). Republic of Moldova. Briefing note for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report.
[12] Sustainable Development Report (2023) Moldova. https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/rankings

2. During the last decade, Moldova has sustained **economic growth** at about 4.5% per year on average and withstood several economic crises, including the COVID pandemic. Although the economic development gap between the Republic of Moldova and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) is gradually narrowing, the pace is still slow[13]. After the economic recession of 2022, the economy is set to return to growth. As a result of rapidly growing energy[14] and food prices, surging inflation stands among the key challenges to Moldova's macroeconomic stability going forward, in addition to the high influx of war refugees from Ukraine. Overall, the EU ascertains that Moldova demonstrates a satisfactory track record in carrying out broadly sound macroeconomic policies. According to the EU, however, the shortage of political will and frequent changes of government have made reform implementation uneven at times and delayed the transformation into a competitive market economy[15].
3. The Moldovan **economy is not very diversified** and remains heavily reliant on the agricultural sector, which contributes about 12% of Moldova's official GDP. This dependence on agriculture makes the economy less flexible, productive, and vulnerable to climate conditions. The manufacturing sector remains relatively weak, with its share of GDP decreasing from 15.4% in 2016 to 12.4% in 2021. Industry and domestic trade are set to stagnate due to weak domestic and foreign demand, and construction is even set to remain at negative growth due to the high level of uncertainty and declining investment activity[16]. The energy sector suffers from key structural weaknesses, being fully dependent on the gas supply from Russia and having no storage capacity on its territory[17].
4. **Labour productivity** is much lower than the average of the countries in the CEE area, which indicates the low degree of technological advancement of the companies and the predominance of sectors focused on the production of goods and services with low added value[18].
5. Moldova suffers from low skill levels due to **low quality of education** and a significant emigration of qualified workers. Although investment in education, has been relatively high at 5.7% of GDP during 2019-2022, Moldova still scores below the OECD average according to the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) results, ranking 51st out of 78 countries. Yet, it is still relatively better than other countries in the region, and with progress noted in recent years[19].
6. A significant window of opportunity for further socio-economic development and attracting external assistance is represented by Moldova's status of candidate country for **EU accession**.[20] An Association Agreement and a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) was signed between the European Union (EU) and the Republic of Moldova in 2014 to activate structural reforms and to harmonise its legislation with the EU Acquis[21], in order to accede to the EU. The Republic of Moldova applied for EU membership in March 2022 and the European Council decided to open accession negotiations with the country in December 2023. The Association Agreement is an important treaty that commits Moldova to economic, judicial and financial reforms to converge its policies and legislation to those of the EU.

[13] GDP per capita has increased from 30% of the average of CEE countries in 2010 to 36% in 2022.

[14] The country imports around 75% of its energy Resources (NECP, 2023)

[15] Brussels, 17.6.2022 COM (2022) 406 final COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE COUNCIL Commission Opinion on the Republic of Moldova's application for membership of the European Union

[16] Country State Report 2023, Independent Analitic Center Expert-Grup https://www.expert-grup.org/ro/biblioteca/item/2619-raportul-de-stare-a-%C8%9B%C4%83rii-2023

[17] Brussels, 17.6.2022 COM(2022) 406 final COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE COUNCIL Commission Opinion on the Republic of Moldova's application for membership of the European Union

[18] Country State Report 2023, Independent Analitic Center Expert-Grup https://www.expert-grup.org/ro/biblioteca/item/2619-raportul-de-stare-a-%C8%9B%C4%83rii-2023

[19] Brussels, 17.6.2022 COM (2022) 406 final COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE COUNCIL Commission Opinion on the Republic of Moldova's application for membership of the European Union.

[20] Country State Report 2023, Independent Analitic Center Expert-Grup https://www.expert-grup.org/ro/biblioteca/item/2619-raportul-de-stare-a-%C8%9B%C4%83rii-2023

[21] The European Union (EU) acquis is the collection of common rights and obligations that constitute the body of EU law and is incorporated into the legal systems of EU Member States.

2.1.2 Climate change context

2.1.2a Past and future climate trends

7. The average annual air temperature in the Republic of Moldova varies from 6.3 °C in the North to 12.3 °C in the south, with a maximum temperature recorded at 42 °C and a minimum temperature of -35 °C. (very rarely recorded, every 45-50 years). Average **annual precipitation** varies between a minimum of 382 mm (2015) and a maximum of 960 mm (2010) in the North, to a minimum of 307 mm (2003) and a maximum of 813 mm (1997) in the South. The number of days with precipitation (0.1 mm and more) varied from a minimum of 111 days and a maximum of 174 days in the North, to a minimum of 91 (2003) and a maximum of 152 days (1991) in the South[22].
8. During the last 133 years, the climate in the Republic of Moldova has **become warmer and more arid**[23], with an average annual temperature increase of more than 1.2 °C, while the increase in precipitation was 51.3 mm[24], see also the Figures below[25]:

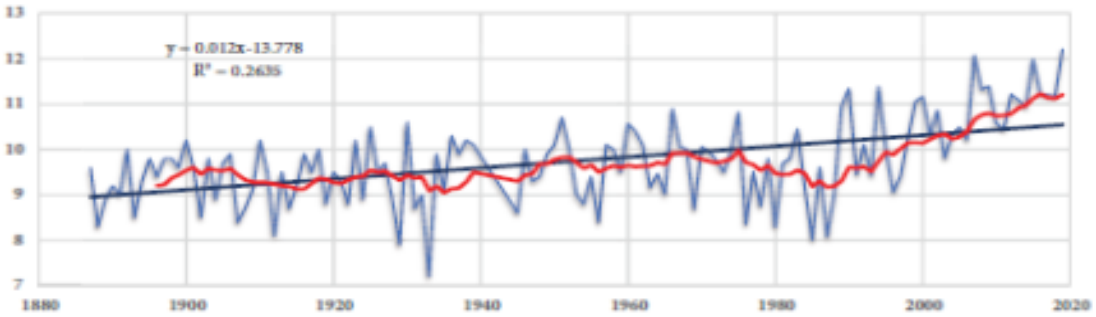


Fig. 1. Trends of annual average air temperature change (°C) for 1887-2019: blue (actual course trend), black solid line (linear trend secular course) and red line (10 year moving average trend) at the oldest the Republic of Moldova's meteorological station Chisinau, the central part of the country.

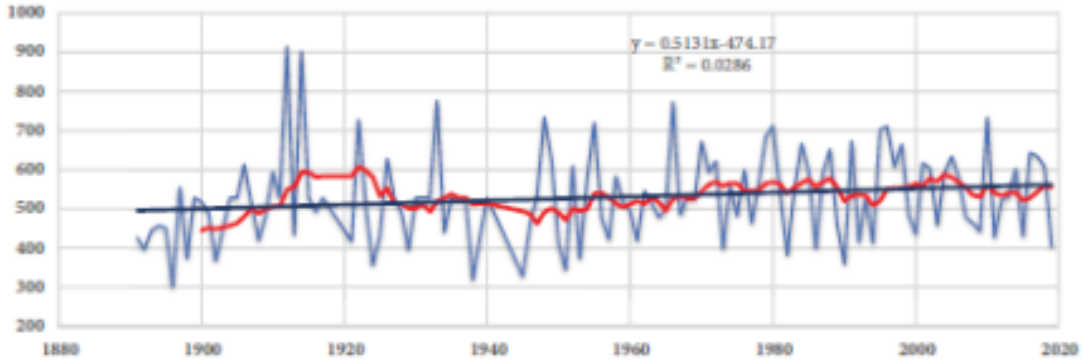


Fig. 2. Trends of annual average precipitation (mm) for 1891-2019: blue (actual course trend), black solid line (linear trend secular course) and red line (10 year moving average trend) at the oldest the Republic of Moldova's meteorological station Chisinau, the central part of the country

9. **Future climate change** has been examined for three agro-ecological zones (AEZ): North, Centre and South of Moldova, for the short (2016-2035), medium (2046-2065) and long term (2081-2100), and with reference to the period 1986-2005. A general trend of increasing annual and seasonal average temperatures is projected in all future emission scenarios. Precipitation projections show a moderate increase in precipitation in the northern AEZs in winter, while precipitation reductions will be more extended during summer and autumn, in all the country's regions[26]. Possible projections for future changes indicate that the Republic of Moldova is heading towards a drier, semi-arid climate. Decreasing summer and autumn precipitation against the background of increased temperatures will cause a severe moisture shortage and a sequential increase in evaporation potential during the 21st century[27], see also the figures below[28]:

[22] Fourth National Communication to the UNFCCC, 2018
[23] Fifth National Communication of the Republic of Moldova to the UNFCCC (2023)
[24] GCF Country Programme
[25] Fifth National Communication of the Republic of Moldova to the UNFCCC (2023)
[26] Fifth National Communication of the Republic of Moldova to the UNFCCC (2023)
[27] Fifth National Communication of the Republic of Moldova to the UNFCCC (2023)
[28] 4th National Communication to the UNFCCC, 2018

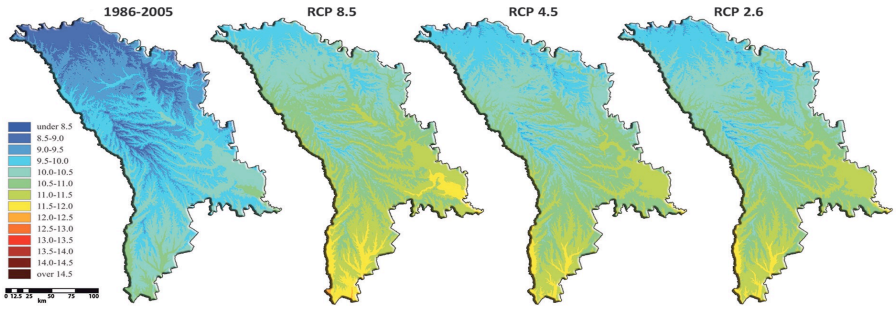


Figure 3. Modelling on the evolution of the projected annual average air temperature (°C) on the territory of the Republic of Moldova during 2016-2035 [29]

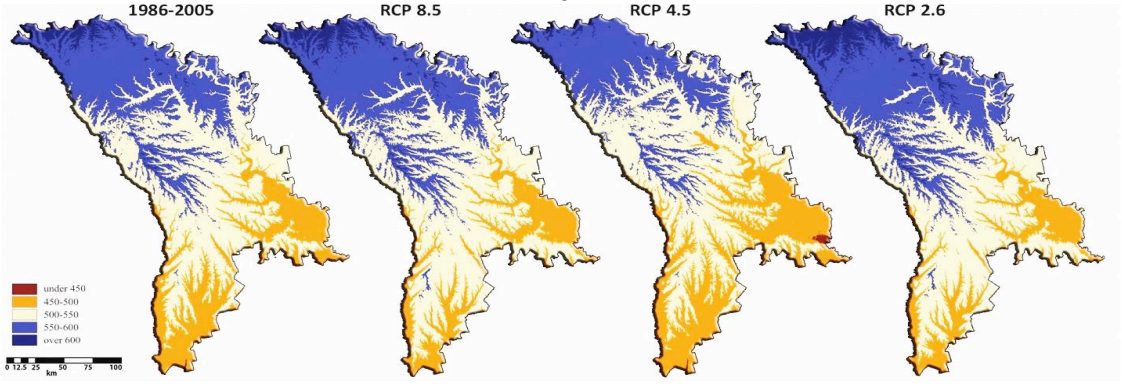


Figure 4. Projected evolution of total annual precipitation on the territory of the Republic of Moldova for 2016-2035, mm[30]

10. Moldova contributes 0.03% to the total global **greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** and is amongst the lowest range of the per capita footprint with 4.4 t CO_2e. The energy sector is the most important source of total emissions, followed by the agriculture, waste, and industrial processes and product use (IPPU) sectors in 2020. (see Fig. 3 below).



Figure 3: Sectoral Breakdown of total GHG emissions in 1990 and 2020[31]

11. The total **national direct GHG emissions** had decreased in the Republic of Moldova during the 1990-2020 period by 70%, from 45.25 Mt CO_2 equivalent in 1990 to 13.66 Mt CO_2 equivalent in 2020[32]. The GHG intensity (CO2 emissions per GDP) has also considerably decreased by 56% over the 1990-2016 period[33]. Throughout this period the Land Use Change and Forest (LULUCF) sector was a net source of carbon removal, though seemingly decreasing: In 1990, about 3.7% of

[29] RCP=Representation Concentration Pathways: Greenhouse gas concentration trajectories adopted by the IPCC, used for modelling and research, labelled after radiative forcing values in the year 2100, with higher values mean higher GHG emissions.
[30] 4th National Communication to the UNFCCC
[31] Fifth National Communication of the Republic of Moldova (2023)
[32] These figures are however debatable because of inclusion (or non-inclusion) of the "Left Bank of Dniester River" area
[33] Updated NDC, 2020

total GHG emissions were removed, while in 2020 only 0.03% of total GHG emissions were captured. This is mainly due to changes in the use and management practices of cropland, which have led to an important reduction of the organic carbon reserves in agricultural soils. Other influences are changes in forest management and use, increased volume of authorized harvesting of timber, increase of illicit logging[34].

12. In its **updated NDC**, the country's new economy-wide unconditional target is to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 70% below its 1990 level in 2030, instead of 64-67 per cent as committed in its initial Intended NDC[35]**. This could be further decreased to 88% below the 1990 level, if international low-cost financial resources, technology transfer, and technical cooperation are ensured**[36]. The country's emissions reduction targets by mid-century are established and operationalized through a Low Emission Development Program, that was developed and approved in 2023. The new NDC3.0 is currently being drafted, to be submitted in early 2025.

2.1.2b Vulnerability and impacts of climate change

13. The Republic of Moldova ranks as one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in Europe according to the ND-GAIN Index[37] for 2024. According to the study by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, *"Human Cost of Weather-Related Disasters 1995-2015"*, Moldova ranks in the top ten countries of the world with the highest proportion of people affected by climate disasters[38], particularly prone to floods and droughts[39]. According to the National Communications to the UNFCCC[40], Moldova is more likely to be affected by three types of climate hazards: Temperature increase, changes in precipitation regimes and increased climate-induced aridity.
14. The INFORM[41] Subnational Risk Index for Moldova (calculated in 2023) shows that administrative units[42] in Moldova are regarded as having Medium (40%) to High (14%) and Very High (6%) Risk to disaster and humanitarian crises, because of their relatively high Exposure to Hazards, elevated Vulnerability and lack of coping capacity (see also the figure below; more intense colour = higher risk).[43]

[34] NCCAP, 2023
[35] Intended NDC, 2015
[36] Updated NDC, 2020
[37] ND-GAIN Country Rankings as of February 2024. This index is based on a series of economic and social indicators, including adaptive capacity, sums up a country's vulnerability to climate change and other global challenges, combined with its readiness to increase resilience. Only Serbia, Bosnia-Hercegovina and Albania ranked lower in Europe. https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/rankings/
[38] Due mainly to a storm in 2000 that affected 2.6 million people out of a total population of 3.6 million.
[39] NCCAP, 2023
[40] Second National Communication of the RM (2009); Third National Communication of the RM (2013); Fourth National Communication of the RM (2018); Fifth National Communication of the Republic of Moldova (2023).
[41] INFORM is a collaboration of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Reference Group on Risk, Early Warning and Preparedness and the European Commission.
[42] Municipalities, communes, autonomous areas.
[43] https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Subnational-Risk/Moldova

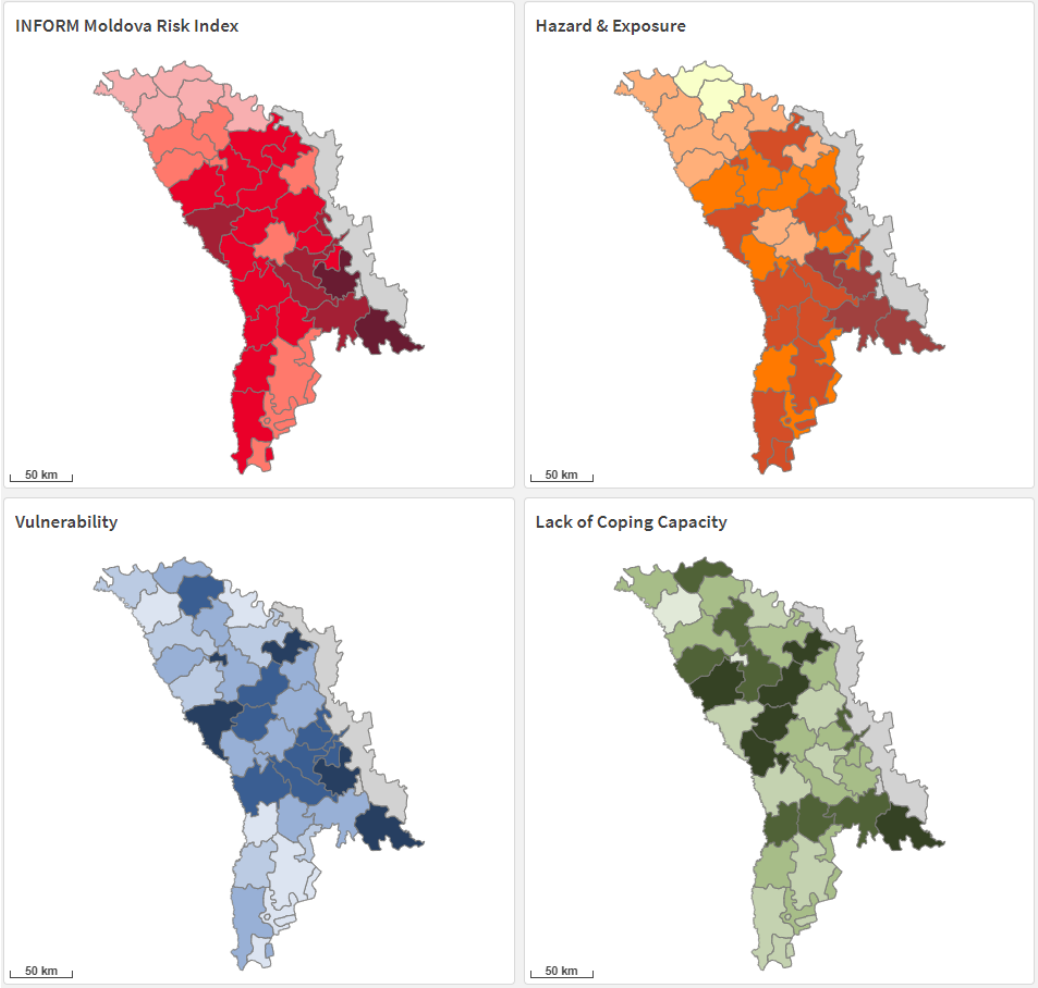


Fig. 4. Sub-national risk index.

15. Two distinctive patterns can be observed regarding the territorial distribution of the climate risks in Moldova: (i) Annual rainfall averages which show a decreasing trend from the North to the South (droughts); and (ii) An increase by approximately 100 mm of the multiannual rainfall averages in the upland regions depending on the neighbouring flatland areas (flash floods).In the Northern Region, the „high degree of vulnerability" is attributed to the Administrative Units of Drochia, Glodeni, and Singerei, while „low degree of vulnerability" to climate risks is found in Floresti and Balti Municipality. The districts with „high degree of vulnerability" to climate risks in Central Region during the 2008-2019 period was Dubasari, Nisporeni and Soldanesti (0.5094), and „low degree of vulnerability" were Criuleni and Straseni. In the Southern Region, the „high degree of vulnerability" was found in Basarabeasca, Cantemir and Leova districts, and „low degree of vulnerability" in Cahul, Cimislia and Gagauzia[44].
16. The socio-economic costs of climate-induced disasters are significant. The 2007 and 2012 droughts caused estimated economic losses of about USD 1.0 billion and USD 0.4 billion respectively; the 2008 and 2010 floods caused estimated economic losses of about USD 120 million and USD 42 million respectively[45]. It is projected that the impacts of climate change on the country's social, environmental and economic dimensions will intensify in the medium- to long-term[46]. See below for some of the vulnerabilities and impacts of climate change in the main sectors.
17. **Climate change vulnerability and impacts in the agriculture sector:** Agriculture employs about 30% of Moldova's population and is the basic pillar of the rural economy. However, the sector is exposed to and dependent on climatic conditions, being affected both by gradual changes in

[44] Fifth National Communication of the Republic of Moldova (2023). https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Moldova_NC5_EN_web.pdf
[45] Country Programme of the Republic of Moldova for the engagement with the Green Climate Fund. 2023-2027
[46] National Climate Change Adaptation Programme (NCCAP), 2023

temperature and precipitation distribution patterns, as well as by extreme climatic phenomena, i.e. droughts, hail, torrential rains, late spring and early autumn frosts, sudden temperature fluctuations in winter, etc. [47]

18. **Climate change impacts in the energy sector:** The vulnerabilities of the energy[48] sector in the Republic of Moldova is observed on both the demand and supply sides, such as production capacity, energy efficiency and supply security, amplified by climate change events such as high temperatures, changes in rainfall patterns, increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, including storms, floods, droughts, heat waves, etc.[49].
19. **Climate change impacts in the forestry sector:** The frequency and severity of weather and climate extremes are increasing, causing forest fires, severe droughts and pest outbreaks, all with potential devastating effects. Consequently, the economic viability of forests is affected, as well as their capacity to provide sustainable ecosystem services (wood, clean water and air, food and fiber, erosion control and habitat for forest biodiversity).[50]
20. **Climate change impacts the health sector.** Floods, droughts, storms, heat and cold waves create direct health risks and collateral effects such as infectious disease outbreaks, food shortages, and mental stress among citizens of the Republic of Moldova[51].
21. **Climate change impacts the transport sector.** The transport sector, which includes road, rail, naval and air transport, is vulnerable to increased frequency and intensity of storms (wind, rain, snow). This poses a challenge to both the continuity of the supply chain, as well as the resilience of the transport infrastructure and entails higher costs for its construction, maintenance and operation, considering that the Republic of Moldova is a country without direct access to the sea, and roads are the basic infrastructure, which play an essential role in the national economy[52].
22. **Climate change impacts the water resources sector.** Climate forecasts indicate that the average annual temperature will increase by 2°C and reduce annual runoff by 13% between 2010 and 2040, with consequently an estimated decrease in surface water flows in the Republic of Moldova by 16-20% by 2030[53].

2.2. Institutional and Policy Framework

i) Policy and Regulatory Framework

23. Moldova undertook to implement the **UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** in 2015, and a National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD) was established, with the task of coordinating and supervising the integration and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Between 2019-2022, the country has been working to align the processes in legislation, administration, and planning with the principles of the 2030 Agenda[54]. The overarching new **National Development Strategy "European Moldova - 2030"** (2022) sets the strategic development vision, reflecting the UN Sustainable Development Agenda and confirming the European aspirations as established in the EU Association Agreement[55]. It includes the country's development priorities and sustainability objectives to achieve by 2030, captured in 4 areas:
    1. Sustainable and inclusive economic development
    2. Long-term human and social capital
    3. Honest and efficient institutions
    4. A healthy environment

[47] Country Programme of the Republic of Moldova for the engagement with the Green Climate Fund. 2023-2027
[48] Moldova imports 100% of gas and oil products, while 80% of electricity is generated in the ATULBD (Left Bank of Dniester River). (NECP, 2023)
[49] Country Programme of the Republic of Moldova for the engagement with the Green Climate Fund (2023-2027); Interviews with Ministry of Energy.
[50] Country Programme of the Republic of Moldova for the engagement with the Green Climate Fund (2023-2027); Interviews with Moldsilva.
[51] Country Programme of the Republic of Moldova for the engagement with the Green Climate Fund (2023-2027); and interviews with Ministry of health
[52] Country Programme of the Republic of Moldova for the engagement with the Green Climate Fund. 2023-2027); Interviews with Ministry of Infrastructure
[53] NCCAP, 2023
[54] Moldova GCF Country Programme, 2024
[55] Association Agreement between the Republic of Moldova on one hand, and the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and member states on the other hand.

24. The success of the implementation of this strategy will, however, depend on its coherence with other policy documents and on the identification of resources for the implementation of the necessary measures.

The main policies guiding **climate change** response in Moldova are:

25. **Updated Nationally Determined Contribution of the Republic of Moldova (2020)**[56] that raised the ambition for emissions reduction with a new economy-wide conditional target[57], under which emissions could be reduced by up to **88%** below 1990 levels and an unconditional target[58] to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by **70%** below 1990 levels by 2030. It also identifies several adaptation measures, e.g. undertaking risk and vulnerability assessments, measures supporting the reduction of losses and damages, etc. The energy sector is a critical area of focus. Moldova plans to increase the share of renewable energy in its total energy mix, particularly through investments in wind, solar, and biomass energy. This is essential since energy production is the largest contributor to Moldova's GHG emissions. The development of Moldova's NDC 3.0 is ongoing, in alignment with global efforts to increase climate ambition and reflect updated scientific data. NDC 3.0 is set to be more ambitious than previous versions, focusing on long-term strategies to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, such as net-zero emissions by 2050. Countries, including Moldova, are expected to submit their updated NDCs by 2025. This NDC3.0 will be informed by the first global stocktake, which assesses overall progress toward the Paris Agreement's targets. Moldova's climate strategy is grounded in significant GHG reduction targets from a 1990 baseline, and this upcoming NDC version aims to enhance transparency, inclusivity, and coherence with sustainable development goals, ensuring vulnerable groups are considered in the national climate agenda

26. **National Climate Change Adaptation Programme until 2030 and its Action Plan (NCCAP, 2023)**[59] with the overall objective to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience to climate change impacts through systemic transformations in all priority adaptation sectors (agriculture, human health, forestry, energy production and resilience, water resources, and transport). The development of the document was supported by the NAP-2 UNDP/GCF project, and it was submitted to UNFCCC as Moldova's NAP.
27. **Low Emissions Development Program (LEDP) until 2030 and its Action Plan (2023)**[60] with its goal to achieve the GHG emission reduction objectives set out in the updated NDCs. The Programme identifies key actions for to reduce GHG emissions compared to the level recorded in the base year 1990 in the following sectors: Energy; transport; buildings; industrial processes; agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry (LULUFC); waste.
28. Moldova has submitted in 2023 its **Fifth National Communication**[61] to UNFCCC, with detailed assessment of decarbonization measures for all sectors.
29. The Integrated **National Energy and Climate Plan**[62] (NECP) of the Republic of Moldova for the period 2025-2030 provides an overview of the current state of the energy system and the existing energy and climate policy framework. The NECP pays a particular attention to the targets to be achieved by 2030, including the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, increase of energy production from renewable sources, promotion the energy efficiency, and strengthening of gas and power system interconnections.
30. **Other policies** that set priority objectives relevant for climate action include:
    - Environmental Strategy until 2033[63]

[56] https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/MD_Updated_NDC_final_version_EN.pdf
[57] A conditional target is a commitment that is conditional upon the availability of additional technology, know-how and financial sources.
[58] An unconditional target is a commitment to reach the target without any additional support.
[59] https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=140163&lang=ro
[60] https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=139980&lang=ro
[61] https://unfccc.int/documents/627100
[62] https://particip.gov.md/ro/document/stages/*/11984
[63] https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/nu-85-mm-2024_0.pdf

- Energy Strategy of the Republic of Moldova until 2030[64]
- Forest Code (2024)[65]
- Waste management strategy for 2013 -2027[66]
- National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development 2023 – 2030[67]
- The Land Improvement Programme to ensure sustainable management of soil resources for 2021-2025[68]
- National Forest Extension and Rehabilitation Program for the period 2023-2032 and the Action Plan for its implementation for the period 2023-2027[69]
- National Health Strategy 2030[70].
- Program for the promotion of the green and circular economy for 2024-2028 and the Action Plan for its implementation[71].

31. Additionally, **new policy documents are being developed**:
    - Draft Mobility Strategy[72]
    - Draft National Strategy on Disaster Risk reduction until 2030[73]
32. At **local level**, most districts and localities have socio-economic development plans, with some activities and targets related to adaptation and mitigation to climate change. A total of 52 municipalities/localities are the signatories of the Covenant of Mayors74 initiative and made commitments for sustainable energy initiatives and development of the and climate action plans, that should include an adaptation component[75].
33. The country has also started to implement some key mechanisms for **regional policy**[76], e.g. through the Energy Community Treaty (ECT), which allows the country to be an active member of the Regional and European Energy Market, obliging the state to align its national energy-related legislation with the community acquis. The Republic of Moldova also participates in the Danube Transnational Program, which has as its main objectives to promote innovation and entrepreneurship, preserve the natural and cultural heritage of the Danube region, improve connectivity and support the transition to a low-carbon economy.
34. To implement these strategies, as well as to be able to face the latest regional developments, the **International Monetary Fund** (IMF) provided significant support to the Republic of Moldova, which allows the authorities to respond to new challenges and realities quickly. Through this programme, the government aims to support the socially vulnerable groups hit by inflation, improve the conditions for business, speed up economic growth and enhance energy resilience. Attention to climate change is one of the conditionalities posed by the IMF to obtain this support. Therefore, strengthened institutional capacities and an improved legal and normative framework in the field of climate change would also help Moldova's sustainable economic, social and environmental development.

The **legal and regulatory framework** in the field of climate change in Moldova includes:

35. *Law nr. 78/2017 for the ratification of the Paris Agreement*. This Law is contributing to the implementation of the UNFCCC, including its objective, and aims to strengthen the global response to the threat posed by climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.
36. *Government Decision 1277/2018 on the establishment and functioning of the national system for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and other information relevant to climate*

[64] https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=68103&lang=ro
[65] https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=142948&lang=ro
[66] https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=114412&lang=ro#
[67] https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=136318&lang=ro
[68] https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=125027&lang=ro
[69] https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=135917&lang=ro
[70] https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=138493&lang=ro
[71] https://cancelaria.gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/nu-37-mm-2024.pdf
[72] https://particip.gov.md/ro/document/stages/anunt-privind-initierea-elaborarii-strategiei-de-mobilitate-pentru-anii-2023-2030/10176
[73] https://particip.gov.md/ru/document/stages/anuntul-privind-initierea-elaborarii-strategiei-nationale-de-reducere-a-riscurilor-de-dezastre-pentru-perioada-2024-2030/12873
[74] NCCAP, 2023
[75] https://www.com-east.eu/en/about-us/covenant-of-mayors-east/moldova/
[76] Brussels, 1.2.2023 SWD (2023) 32 final COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT Analytical Report following the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council Commission Opinion on the Republic of Moldova's application for membership of the European Union.

change. This decision partially transposes EU Regulation no. 525/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013, regarding a mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions, as well as reporting, at national and Union level, other information relevant to climate change.

37. *Government Decision No. 425/2024 on organization and functioning of the National Climate Change Commission* (NCCC). This decision replaces Government Decision No 444/2020 on the establishment of the coordination mechanism for activities in the field of climate change. This decision establishes NCCC as an inter-institutional body at Government level, without legal personality, with the status of coordinating policies in the field of climate change, public capital investment projects, in the context of climate change mitigation and adaptation, and natural disaster risk management.
38. *Climate Action Law No. 74/2024* (adopted in April 2024, to come in force by November 2025). This law establishes the normative framework in the field of climate actions and pursues the objective of achieving climate neutrality by the year 2050, as well as the framework for making progress in order to achieve the global objective in terms of adaptation to climate change. The purpose of this law is to ensure the gradual and irreversible reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in order to protect human health, the integrity of ecosystems and biodiversity against the threats posed by climate change, to strengthen the ability to adapt, to reduce society's vulnerability to climate change and increase climate resilience by applying the financial mechanism for pricing CO2 emissions) and the "polluter pays" principle. This Law is transposing the directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a system for the trading of greenhouse gas emission allowances within the Union.
39. *Law on promoting the use of renewable energy no. 10/2016*. This Law outlines the regulatory framework for renewable electricity through three support schemes: An auction arrangement for fixed price for large-capacity units (above a capacity threshold to be set by government decision); A fixed feed-in tariff scheme for power plants with capacity not exceeding the limit set by government, but not less than 10 kW; and, Net billing for small renewable sources, for own-electricity consumption (less than 200 kW). The Republic of Moldova is working on amending this Law following the transposition of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the EU on the promotion of the use and consumption of renewable energy sources[77]. The revised law is intended to solve some of the critical problems that prevent the development of the entire renewable energy sector regarding both the use of renewable energy in transport or for heating and cooling.
40. *Law on energy efficiency no. 139/2018*; This Law implements Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and the Council on energy efficiency, and Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and the Council establishing a framework for the setting of eco-design requirements for energy-related products. The purpose of this Law is to create the legal framework necessary to promote and improve energy efficiency through the implementation of energy efficiency action plans, the development of energy services market.
41. *Law on energy performance of buildings, No. 282/2023*. This Law enter into force on April 5th, 2024 with the provision that all new buildings must be built with an energy consumption nearly equal to zero.
42. *Law on the labelling of energy-related products, No. 282/2023*[78]. This Law is being supported by the Regulation 1003/2014 which establishes a set of labelling requirements for the following appliances: household tumble driers, air conditioners, domestic ovens and range hoods, electrical lamps and luminaries, household washing machines, household dishwashers, household refrigerating appliances and TV sets.
43. *Water Law no 272/2011*. This Law establishes the normative framework for monitoring, evaluation, management, protection and efficient use of surface and underground water sources, establishes

[77] Published in the Official Journal of the European Union L 328/210 of December 21st, 2018, in the version adapted and approved by the Decision of the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community no. 2021/14/MC-EnC.

[78] An energy market transformation is underway as part of the Energy Community Treaty implementation including the adoption of numerous pieces of legislation in the period 2019 – 2023 (NECP, 2023)

the mechanisms for the protection of the state of the waters, preventing any subsequent degradation of the waters, protecting and restoring the aquatic environment, the gradual and systematic convergence of their protection and management with European requirements. It also ensures a sufficient supply of surface water and underground water of good quality, with a view to the sustainable, balanced and equitable use of water, contributing to mitigating the effects of floods and droughts.

44. *Waste Law no. 209/2016*. This Law establishes the legal bases, the state policy and the necessary measures for the protection of the environment and the health of the population by preventing or reducing the adverse effects determined by the generation and management of waste and by reducing the general effects of the use of resources and increasing the efficiency of their use.
45. Meeting Moldova's obligations under the **EU negotiations** will require the transposition of the EU acquis into national legislation, as well as consistent and determined implementation. The EU Delegation in Moldova mentioned that this transposition and further progress for EU accession is going well, though somewhat uneven. Moldova already achieved good results in agriculture and rural development where it has implemented a substantial part of the EU Acquis. But there are other areas where approximation with the EU acquis is still limited. In general, challenges remain concerning capacities for mainstreaming the environmental and climate acquis, as well as for effective implementation and enforcement of legislation[79]. The requirements in this respect have even deepened following the promulgation of the European Climate Law[80], which provides the foundation for increased ambition and policy coherence on action to climate change in the EU, and that should be implemented in an integrated manner with other European Green Deal initiatives[81].
46. In summary, the **policy and legal framework surrounding climate change is quite ambitious, solid and recent** (e.g. the NCCAP and LEDP from 2023, the *Climate Law* of 2024 and the NDC is being revised – to be completed in 2025) and follows closely the relevant EU frameworks and guidance through its accession endeavours. The main challenge seems to be how to implement, coordinate, monitor and report on this policy framework, especially vis-à-vis the various sector policies, and thereby also following the EU recommendations and new directives. See the table below for a summary of key policy and legal instruments on climate change and how these align with the GCF Readiness Proposal.

Table 1: Summary of key policy and legal instruments on climate change

Climate policy/strategy/law/GD	Alignment with the GCF Readiness Proposal
Law 74/2024 on **Climate Action**	This re-establishes and clarifies the mandate of the NCCC. This GCF proposal will work specifically on further detailing and supporting the operationalization of this revised NCCC
Law 78/2017 for the **ratification of the Paris Agreement**	This Readiness grant will work on capacities for implementation of the Paris Agreement
National Climate Change Adaptation Programme (NCCAP) until 2030 and its Action Plan (GD 624/2023)[82]	This Readiness grant will support capacities and coordination to implement the NCCAP
Low Emissions Development Program (LEDP) until 2030 and its Action Plan (GD 659/2023)	This Readiness grant will support capacities and coordination to implement the LEDP
GD 425/2024 on **organization and functioning of the National Climate Change Commission**	This Readiness grant will work to support the objective of the GD and further detail the regulations the regulations and further details, plus technical support to operationalize the NCCC
Law 10/2016 on **Promoting Energy from Renewable Sources**	This Readiness grant will support building capacities to implement this law to promote renewable energy

[79] Brussels, 1.2.2023 SWD (2023) 32 final COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT Analytical Report following the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council Commission Opinion on the Republic of Moldova's application for membership of the European Union
[80] REGULATION (EU) 2021/1119 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 30 June 2021 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulations (EC) No 401/2009 and (EU) 2018/1999 ('European Climate Law').
[81] Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change. European Commission, 2021
[82] This supported by UNDP/GCF under the first NAP project

GD 1277/2018 on the **establishment and functioning of the national system for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and other information relevant to climate change.**	This Readiness grant will support capacities to improve MRV, especially around Greenhouse's gases to UNFCCC and implementation of the Paris Agreement
Law 139/2018 on **Energy Efficiency** Law 44/2014 on **Energy Labelling of Energy-Related Products** [83].	This Readiness grant will support building capacities to implement these laws to promote energy efficiency, including through Energy Labelling
Environment Strategy until 2030 (GD 409/2024)	This Readiness grant will build capacity to coordinate and implement these objectives around climate change.
The program for the promotion of the green and circular economy for the years 2024 – 2028 (GD 495/2024)	This Readiness grant will support the increase and use of climate finance from all sources.
Law 272/2011 on **Water**	This Readiness Proposal will support this law by undertaking a study of the effects of climate change on water availability in Moldova
National Forest Extension and Rehabilitation Program 2023 – 2032 (GD 55/2023)	This Readiness Proposal will support the implementation of this law by researching and supporting the use of Nature-based Solutions (NBS) and/or Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EBA) to climate change

ii) Institutional Framework

47. The **Ministry of Environment (MoE**) of the Republic of Moldova is the central state authority responsible for developing and promoting state policies and strategies for environmental protection, climate change and natural resources. On behalf of the Government, the MoE is responsible for implementing the international environmental treaties to which the country is a Party, including the UNFCCC[84]. The State Secretary for Environment is also the NDA for the GCF.
48. In order to develop the strategic and legal framework in the field of climate change, in 2023, a **Section on Climate Change Policy** was established within the Air Protection Policies Department of the Ministry of Environment. This Section deals mainly with the development of the strategic and legal framework, including the new Climate Action Law and related strategies, plans and its coordination (through the "revamped" NCCC) and reporting (including internationally). It currently has only two people as staff.
49. Although still in an ongoing reform process, a new **Environment Agency** under the Ministry deals mainly with monitoring, authorization issuance and reporting, and includes laboratories, "National Networks", and Information Systems (e.g. on Waste Management). The Environmental Agency has a mandate in the field of air protection and climate change, e.g. through the system of monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) for Greenhouse Gas Emissions. It also carries out the process of collection, centralization, validation and processing of data and information necessary for developing inventories and reports, e.g. National Communications and Biennial Update Reports (BUR), according to the provisions of the UNFCCC.
50. The "**Public Institution Environmental Projects National Implementation Office**" (PI EPNIO) has as its mission to support MoE and organizational structures to effectively implement external and internal technical assistance projects in environmental protection, use of natural resources and climate change, etc.
51. **"Apele Moldovei"** Agency deals with water management and deals with data, information and capacities around droughts and floods. **"Moldsilva"** Agency deals with forestry management and needs better capacities for reaction to and dealing with weather extremes. The **Environmental Protection Inspectorate** is the public authority empowered to carry out state supervision and control in the field of environmental protection and the use of natural resources.
52. The **State Hydrometeorological Service** (SHS) is a public institution whose main tasks are to monitor the state and evolution of hydrometeorological conditions in the country; develop meteorological, hydrological and agrometeorological forecasts; issue alerts on the imminence of dangerous hydrometeorological phenomena; and provide hydrometeorological information to the population, central and local public authorities, emergency services and rescuers.
53. The **General Inspectorate for Emergency Situation (GIES)** has the mandate to respond to emergencies and to enhance disaster resilience. It functions under a well-structured, cross-sectoral

[83] An energy market transformation is underway as part of the Energy Community Treaty implementation including the adoption of numerous pieces of legislation in the period 2019 – 2023 (NECP, 2023)
[84] 5th National Communication

National Commission for Emergency Situations, and effectively collaborates with local authorities, civil society and society at large.

54. The **National Bureau of Statistics** (NBS) is the institution that collects, processes and disseminates objective, reliable and timely statistics, necessary for the decision-making processes, research, forecasts and general information, following official approved procedures. Related to Climate Change NBS provides information on protection of atmospheric air; land and forest; meteorology (temperature, precipitation and wind speed); use of water resources; waste management, etc.
55. The **Ministry of Education and Research** supports the country's climate change policy by promoting dedicated educational programmes, scientific studies, and research and innovation activities.
56. The **National Agency for Research and Development** is responsible for implementing the national research, innovation and development policy, including in climate related areas.
57. The **Academy of Sciences of Moldova** is involved in developing and evaluating the results of scientific projects for various fields, in order to shape strategic visions on the future development of research and innovation directions, including for climate change.
58. The **Ministry of Finance** plays a key role in the country's economic and development planning, where all national and sectoral priorities are defined and implemented through specific budgetary allocations, that can facilitate the integration and financing of climate action at different government levels.
59. The **Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry** deals with land and irrigation in rural areas, that are the main focal areas for climate action in the Ministry, e.g. through its new "National Agency for Land Improvement" and the "Agency for intervention and payments for Agriculture" (AIPA) that manages the resources of the National Fund for the Development of Agriculture and the Rural Environment.
60. The **Ministry of Health** deals with Public Health, including how climate change affects health, e.g. through affected water provision, contaminated air, waste, zoonotic transmissions, etc.
61. The different Departments of the **Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development** have several mandates, e.g. on construction, roads and transportation, that influence or are influenced by climate change. The Ministry is also responsible for the national territorial plan that guides territorial planning at all levels and in all sectors. The Ministry also reports on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, which they find challenging because of lack of data, technical skills and expertise.
62. The **Ministry of Energy** is the originator and implementer of the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), which aligns with the EU transposition requirements, strategies and plans. In terms of climate change the NECP mostly deals with mitigation but has also adaptation (resilience) elements.
63. According to the **representative of the NGO EcoContact**[85], environmental NGOs have a very important role to play in Moldova, but struggle now, especially vis-à-vis "Business Associations" that are deemed more important at present.
64. The **Moldova Chamber of Commerce (MCC)** serves its 1200 private sector members and facilitates trade nationally and internationally. The MCC is in continuous dialogue with the government to advocate for the interests of the private sector.

See also the summary diagram below:

[85] Rodica Iordanov, also previous Minister of Environment in Moldova.

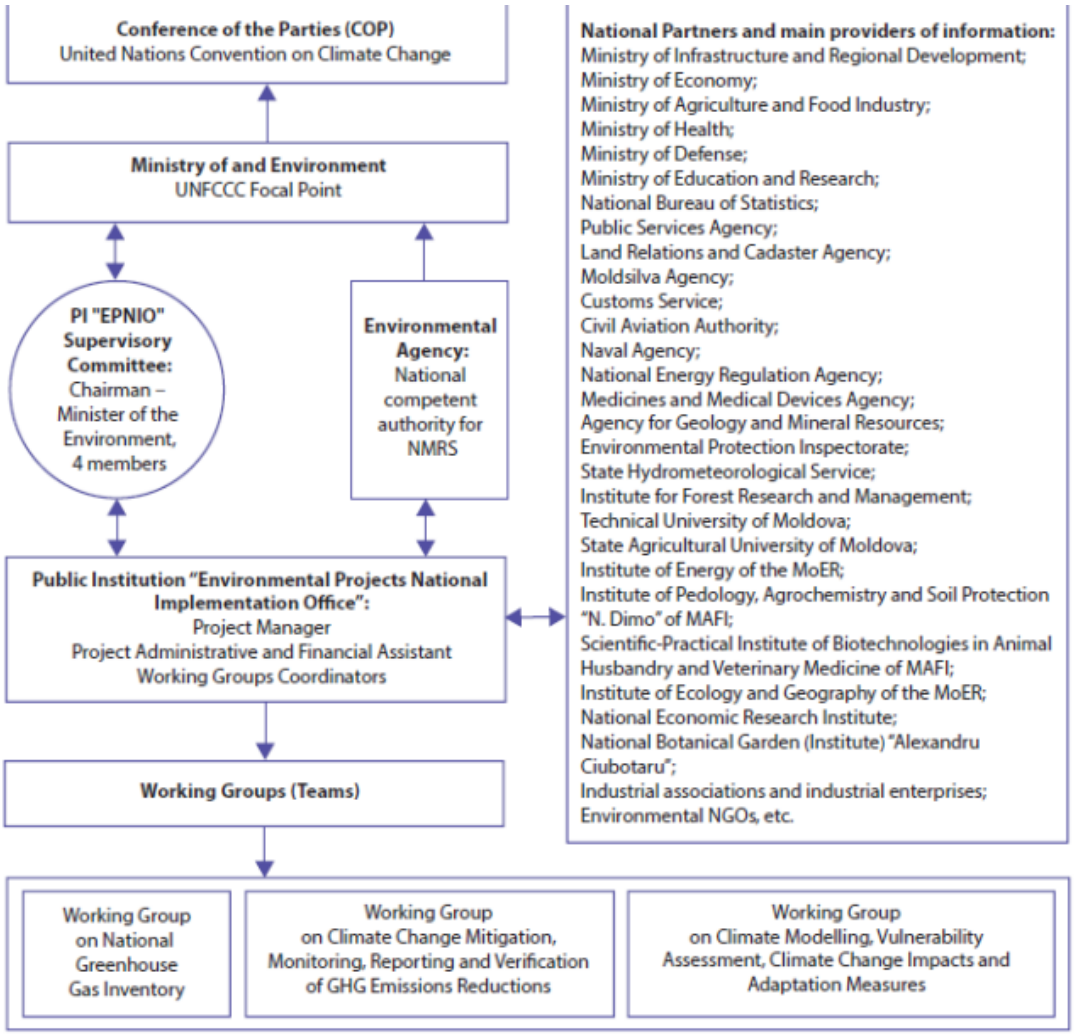


Fig. 5. Institutional arrangements addressing climate change and reporting in Moldova.

65. In accordance with the Government Decision no. 425 of 12.06.2024 on organization and functioning of the National Climate Change Commission, the **National Commission on Climate Change** (NCCC) is an inter-institutional body, without legal personality, headed by the Prime-Minister. Its mandate is to: Promote measures and actions necessary for application of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement provisions; Promote and coordinate climate change policy implementation; integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation in national and sectoral policy documents; recommend financing projects and programs in the field of climate change; monitor the implementation of climate change projects and programs; etc. The nominal composition of the NCCC is approved by the Government and consists of representatives of central public administration authorities. The 2024 Government Decision was approved based on the findings of the "Review of the Governance and Coordination Frameworks on Climate Change", undertaken under the NAP-2 project funded by the GCF in 2023, that highlighted weaknesses in its previous mandate and operations, and provided recommendations for improvement of the NCCC. Under the new Climate Action Law of 2024, a new set-up of the NCCC was outlined, highlighting the multi-sectoral approach of the NCCC, and with an oversight and secretariat role for the Ministry of Environment.

2.1. Gender equality analysis

66. **Women are more at risk** of poverty in Moldova and experience a higher prevalence of economic inactivity. Women and men perceive and identify risks to health, activity and life in the context of climate change differently. Because climate change has a stronger impact on marginalized groups, women and girls are more at risk, experiencing higher rates of morbidity, mortality and economic

impact, due to reduced capacities to resist to risks. These inequalities could be exacerbated by further worsening in climate conditions.

67. Especially **rural areas of the country bear the heavy burden** of extreme weather phenomena and rural women represent the most affected part of the country's population – more than half of them are already subjected to unemployment and nearly one third lead households living below the poverty line[86]. Rural women's main source of income is generated by agricultural activities, largely represented by processing the gardens surrounding their households. More than one third of these women face hardships in accessing basic utilities such as water, sanitation, and heating[87].
68. Current **rates of women's participation in decision-making and resource management processes** in climate change and disaster risk reduction are determined by the traditionally assigned gender roles and responsibilities at home and in society. Housework, including ensuring hygiene and sanitation, caring for children and the sick, are still usually considered women's responsibility in Moldova. More emphasis needs to be placed on women's experience in managing natural and domestic resources at the community and household level as essential means to contribute to the development and implementation of livelihood strategies adapted to the realities driven by climate change. Thus, the inclusion of the dimension of gender equality and women's empowerment in policy documents, institutional frameworks, financial opportunities, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation is a precondition for the process of effective action to tackle the negative consequences of climate change.
69. The **Strategy for ensuring equality between women and men in the Republic of Moldova for 2017-2021** included climate change as one of its strategic areas of intervention and reiterated the idea that the consequences of climate change deepen gender-based discrimination, thereby affecting women's social, cultural, economic and political opportunities and agency. The Strategy's implementation Action Plan included the intervention area (2.6) of Climate Change, stipulating as Specific Objective 1.10: "Adjustment of Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Strategies with reference to the gender dimension mainstreaming". Relevant progress was recorded through a range of interventions, from the elaboration of specific gender-responsive sectoral policies (e.g. for transportation and road infrastructure, agriculture, energy, water and sanitation, food security, regional development and constructions, health) to institutional capacity building (including civil servants' training on gender and intersectional issues), as well as mass communication and awareness raising on the climate-gender thematic spectrum.
70. Building on the 2017-2021 Strategy's positive track record, the **2023-2027 Program on promoting and ensuring equality between women and men in the Republic of Moldova** places a special emphasis on enhancing women's participation in decision making and resource management.[88] Through its General Objective 5, "Promoting women, including women from under-represented groups to leadership positions and in the decision-making process at central and local level", the Program mainstreams women's institutional agency across sectors, including environment and climate change.
71. The **Updated Nationally Determined Contribution of the Republic of Moldova (2020**) positions women as key players in overall climate action[89] and specifies that women at all levels shall be included in stakeholder consultations and adaptation planning and implementation. Representatives of women's associations are also members of the National Climate Change Commission (NCCC). Furthermore, women shall be granted equal access to clean and affordable energy, climate knowledge and training, climate change-related financing instruments and innovative technologies for multi-sectoral interventions, including resilient agricultural practices and value chains. The NDC3.0 will have a strong Gender component.
72. In Moldova, climate change has significant impacts on vulnerable groups, including women, children, the elderly, and rural communities, particularly those dependent on agriculture. These groups face increased risks due to Moldova's vulnerability to climate-induced events such as droughts, heatwaves, floods, and changes in precipitation patterns. Here are some key impacts:

    - **Rural and Agricultural Communities**: Agriculture is a critical sector in Moldova, and rural populations, many of whom depend on farming, are disproportionately affected by climate variability. Droughts and

[86] Cristei A., Terzi-Barbarosie D. & Bobcova E., 2019. The Perspective of Women in Rural Areas on both Banks of the Nistru River. Institute for Public Policies (IPP), Moldova.

[87] *Idem.*

[88] Program on promoting and ensuring equality between women and men in the Republic of Moldova for 2023-2027. Government of the Republic of Moldova, April 2023.

[89] Updated Nationally Determined Contribution of the Republic of Moldova. Government of the Republic of Moldova, March 2020.

extreme weather events lead to reduced crop yields and water shortages, directly impacting livelihoods and food security.

- **Women**: In rural areas, women often bear the responsibility for managing household resources, such as water and fuel, which are increasingly scarce due to climate change. Limited access to decision-making and financial resources further marginalizes women in adaptation planning and disaster response.
- **Elderly and Children**: These groups are more vulnerable to health-related impacts of climate change, such as heat stress, respiratory issues, and diseases spread by changing climate conditions. The elderly are at higher risk during extreme weather events, while children may face malnutrition due to reduced agricultural productivity.
- **Marginalized** Groups and the Poor**:** Low-income households and those living in informal settlements are particularly vulnerable to flooding and other extreme weather events. They often lack access to adequate housing, sanitation, and healthcare, making it difficult to cope with the impacts of climate change.

73. There is currently **significant momentum that calls for enhanced action towards strengthening climate change resilience capabilities** in the Republic of Moldova and empowering women to become equal partners and beneficiaries in these efforts. The steadily and positively evolving gender-responsive normative framework and institutional development – e.g. supported by UNDP through its project on advancing the national climate change adaptation process (NAP-2/2020-2025) – are further sustained by women's increasing involvement in decision-making, at various levels and their participation in economic activities that build individual, family and community resilience in the face of climate change consequences.
74. An institutional capacity assessment undertaken during the NAP process noted **significant gaps with respect to the integration of gender considerations in climate change planning** at the sectoral level and, despite progress made in this area, more targeted interventions are required to ensure women's effective and meaningful participation in decision making, alongside equal opportunities to access resources and benefit from development support[90]. The assessment found that gender issues should be more prominently incorporated into sectoral processes and governance systems. Some sectoral agencies have significant disparities with respect to the gender composition of their staff, e.g. in the forestry sector less than 20% of technical and engineering personnel are women.
75. To facilitate the **incorporation of gender and social issues into sectoral climate action planning processes**, a series of enabling conditions must first be fulfilled. This proposal will help address important underlying factors, from normative and methodological frameworks and institutional mechanisms to capacity building, knowledge generation and management, and multi-disciplinary, cross-sectoral mainstreaming of the gender dimension. Central governance and inter-institutional coordination platforms (NDA, NCCC), as well as relevant national stakeholders and beneficiaries will benefit from training opportunities including a focused gender component: From pertinent gender-disaggregated data and comprehensive needs assessments to women's participation in intervention design and implementation and access to economic, educational, and otherwise opportunities enhancing their agency in climate action. Strategic frameworks will be developed, reviewed, and enhanced through a consistent gender optic to ensure inclusive research with subsequent responsive policies. Moreover, gender mainstreaming will be positioned as key criterion in the evaluation of donor-funded development project proposals tackling various dimensions of climate change resilience (mitigation, adaptation, readiness).

2.2. Gaps and Barriers

76. Though the Republic of Moldova has made progress in addressing climate change, it is acknowledged that significant gaps remain, as a capacity development plan undertaken by the NAP Project mentions[91]. The following are the key and priority Barriers as encountered in the documents reviewed for general and sector-based gaps, with further additions as recorded from stakeholder consultations in April 2024 (see Annex II), and that are of relevance to this proposal:

[90] Capacity Development Plan in Support of Moldova's National Adaptation Planning Process. Final Report, 2021.

[91] Capacity Development Plan in Support of Moldova's National Adaptation Planning Process. Final Report, 2021

77. ***Barrier 1. Limited capacity for coordination of climate action***. Desk review and stakeholder consultations revealed that capacities around climate action need to be strengthened, primarily through the Ministry of Environment (MoE). This mainly includes better capacities for effective planning, coordination, knowledge and information management, costing and financing, reporting, it is particularly important to focus on the coordination facilitated by the **National Climate Change Committee (NCCC)**, which was formed in 2020. An evaluation of the progress of the initial National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCAS 2014-2020), and a separate examination of climate change governance and functioning of the NCCC under the NAP-2 project, have all highlighted ongoing challenges in the effectiveness of inter-institutional cooperation and coordination. **This was mainly** due to the fact that the NCCC has not been fully operational, as further highlighted through the following reported weaknesses, e.g. there is no record of NCCC meetings or decisions taken, NCCC composition needs to be amended due to changes in the institutions, but also because the NCCC is not seen as impartial and independent, NCCC lacks focus and importance and its leadership needs to be changed or restored, there are insufficient resources, a seemingly lack of technical ability, etc. Following these findings the set-up and mandate of the NCCC have been revised in the new Climate Law (2024), but now needs further regulations and effective capacities to operationalize its functions in a normative and effective manner.

78. ***Barrier 2. Insufficient planning and mainstreaming of climate actions***. The updated NDC (2020) reported insufficient prioritization of climate change in the national political agenda. Planning for climate action is still challenging, especially to establish linkages between national, urban, sector and local planning, and how these interlinked plans can better reflect climate risks. Better mainstreaming of climate change elements in policies, planning and budgeting is required by the sector ministries The drafting of a new NDC, supported by GIZ and USAID and scheduled for publication in 2025, presents an opportunity to address these gaps. It is crucial that the actions outlined in the current National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NCCAP) and the upcoming NDC are incorporated into the overarching policy framework, sector strategies, and their respective budgets. Presently, the integration of climate actions remains still limited, creating a risk that essential initiatives could be overlooked or underfunded. To facilitate meaningful change, a strategic approach that aligns climate priorities with national development goals is necessary. This would involve fostering collaboration among stakeholders, enhancing the capacity of sector ministries to incorporate climate considerations, and ensuring that climate-related budgeting reflects the urgency of the climate crisis.

79. ***Barrier 3. Limited Financing, funding and budgeting for climate action.*** There is limited availability of public funding for climate change measures, especially for adaptation. For instance, the financial resources for the NCCAP are estimated at 1,836,354,272 Moldova Lei (MDL, eq. 105,346,141USD), of which 275,453,140.8MDL (15%, eq. 6,042,681USD) from the state budget and 1,560,901,131.2MDL (85%, eq. 89,528,086USD) from outside sources (Donors). The limitations for public funding are mainly due socio-economic and political changes that Moldova is going through, worsened by the war and influx of refugees from Ukraine, regional tensions, and increasing energy prices and other inflationary pressures that have more importance for the government at present. Provision of adequate financing from different sources and at all levels is key for scaled-up climate action, as highlighted by key ministries and donors. This would demand better budgeting and allocation of national public funds, but in the short-term also increased donor and other outside funding, as this is still limited. This would require more substantial and bankable investment proposals and projects, as well as more mainstreamed climate elements in public and private investments. At present the capacity to develop these investment proposals in Moldova is inadequate, as is also witnessed from the limited private and donor funding for climate action in Moldova. Some international funding is forthcoming from few GCF, GEF and other multilateral (EU) and bilateral (GiZ, ADA) financed projects related to climate change (see also Table 2), but this is not sufficient to catalyze the necessary paradigm shift and for scaling up of transformative investments for necessary climate action in Moldova.

80. ***Barrier 4. Inadequate data, knowledge and information management for climate action***. There are gaps with respect to climate change-related data and information in all sectors, and this is a

significant impediment to effective climate action and disaster management planning[92]. The NDC also found that insufficient climate data and climate impact studies, e.g. for climate scenarios and for risk assessments, which inhibits policy making and planning, as also echoed by the agriculture, transport and water sectors during consultations. The State Hydrometeorological Service (SHS), General Inspectorate for Emergency situations (GIES) and Ministry of Environment also highlighted that solid, evidence-based data are needed, but also better technical and institutional capacities and tools, e.g. for national and international reporting (e.g. for National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), UNFCCC, EU, etc.). Although a web-based platform for climate data is established (under the previous NAP project), additional functionalities like real time agrometeorological and hydrological data to be added. Further maintenance and content improvement is needed. Creating better awareness on climate change, would need effective knowledge products, including lessons learned in Moldova and elsewhere, that can be used in educational systems and targeted awareness campaigns, but also for policy- and decision-makers in Moldova.

2.3. Problem statement

81. Moldova has made significant progress in addressing climate change, especially with the adoption of its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC, 2020) and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP, 2024). Moldova's NDC commits to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 70% compared to 1990 levels by 2030, and this will be updated in the ND3.0 (expected in 2025), while the NAP outlines a strategic framework for enhancing resilience in key sectors, including agriculture, energy, and water resources. As a current EU membership candidate country, Moldova is aligning itself with the European Union's climate neutrality targets and broader sustainability mandates. However, additional support is urgently needed to advance the country's climate-neutral pathway across all sectors of the economy, enhance resilience, and meet the requirements of both EU and global climate agreements. Key challenges include the limited operational capacity of the National Commission on Climate Change (NCCC), which has hindered effective coordination of national climate action. And also planning and mainstreaming climate considerations into sectoral policies, strategies, and national budgets remain insufficient, exposing critical sectors to climate-related risks. This gap is particularly acute in the integration of climate actions within sector-specific development plans. Moldova also faces a significant financing gap, with insufficient domestic resources for climate action and limited access to international climate finance. The lack of adequate public and private financing mechanisms hampers both mitigation and adaptation efforts. While external funding, particularly from donors, remains crucial, the capacity to develop bankable projects and attract private sector investment is currently inadequate. Moreover, knowledge management in climate action is underdeveloped. Moldova suffers from a lack of updated, evidence-based data on climate impacts and responses. The absence of effective tools and platforms for data sharing further limits the ability of decision-makers to implement well-informed, data-driven policies. Strengthening these areas is vital for Moldova to scale up its climate response and achieve its NDC and NAP targets.

2.4. Beneficiaries

82. The main stakeholder and the proponent and implementing agency of this proposal is the **Ministry of Environment (MoE)**. MoE houses the GCF NDA, which was closely engaged in the development this proposal. The NDA and the Climate Change Policy Section within the MoE form the basis for the institutional arrangements for engagement with public and private institutions as well as civil society on climate change activities. **MoE also acts as the Secretariat of the NCCC** that includes all involved and affected sectors, i.e. the ministries of energy, health, water, labour and social protection, forestry, agriculture, regional development, economy and infrastructure, gender, environment, internal affairs and emergency.
83. All relevant direct and indirect stakeholders are included in this proposal for support, especially for capacity improvement efforts and improved coordination. The main beneficiaries of the foreseen capacity-building efforts are MoE, NCCC and the agriculture, water management, the forestry, health, energy and transport sectors (Ministries, Departments, Agencies and all Value Chains involved). Indirect or secondary beneficiaries include other ministries and local governments, as well as all other entities associated with climate change in Moldova, e.g. CBOs and NGOs, the

[92] "Implementation Assessment of the Climate Change and Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan for the Republic of Moldova Until 2020" (published in 2021)

Congress of Local Authorities, universities, Academy of Sciences, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Moldova Chamber of Commerce (MCC) and its members and other private sector actors (e.g. banks and insurance companies). Gender based entities and advocates will receive special attention and targeted programmes.

84. The proposed project will primarily target the policy level, but will generally work to ensure that any policies, plans, or project ideas arising will be targeted for the benefit of the most vulnerable, including women, potentially marginalized groups, but also the youth. Awareness raising and capacity development will be focused on all relevant stakeholders and actors, including the private sector, based on knowledge products and information produced by the Project. Engagement with the marginalized and women's groups will be guided by the findings of the study "Cross-sectorial analysis of the impact of climate change on vulnerable groups" carried out in the framework of the Project NAP-2 project.

2.5. Stakeholder engagement

85. During the development of this proposal, the consultants have **consulted and engaged with most stakeholders** of the proposed project, including Ministries and Agencies, private sector, NGOs, CSOs, Private sector (e.g. the MCC), Local Authorities, International Organizations, Donors, etc. (see also List of organizations consulted during April 2024 in Annex I, also reported upon in a separate Report[93]). This engagement meant to ensure country ownership and leadership on this proposal and future implementation, as well as for all other climate change actions and endeavours, in line with the overall country's development and resilience goals as articulated in "Moldova 2030", NDC, NCCAP and LEDS.
86. Stakeholders' engagement will be considered throughout the project implementation, through sensitization, consultations and capacity-building activities. As an integral part of the project, a **stakeholder communication and engagement plan** will be formulated to ensure that a wide range of stakeholders will be consulted and engaged at all stages, including from civil society (including gender-based entities), academia, private sector (in particular medium- and small-holder farmers, but also banks and insurance companies), international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs, including those that represent women and vulnerable groups). In general, engagement activities will focus on building stakeholders' ownership and on increasing awareness and knowledge of the role of mitigation and adaptation to climate change impacts to sustain long-term development.

2.6. Synergies and Complementarity

87. See the Table below for similar climate change projects and activities, observed synergies and complementarities, challenges and learnings from these programmes, and how these could influence or relate to the current proposal.

Table 2: Synergies with existing projects in Moldova

Details of Readiness grants in the country (date of approval and implementation status/period, DP)	Objectives and key results expected / delivered	Synergies and Complementarities	Key implementation challenges and learnings

[93] Report on Stakeholder Consultations. May 2024. Main stakeholders consulted: Ministry of Environment (+ Agencies), Ministry of health, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture, Local Authorities, Farmers Associations, Chamber of Commerce, EU Delegation, GIES, SHS, UNDP, NBS, etc.

NAP-1: Supporting Moldova's National Climate Change Adaptation Planning Process" 2013-2017 (ADA)	The project aimed to support Moldova to put in place its National Adaptation Planning (NAP) process contributing to and building upon existing development planning strategies and processes and to implement priority adaptation actions.	The project set a solid foundation for the national adaptation planning process. Further activities must be a continuation of the previous training, awareness-raising and adaptation planning efforts.	Early stakeholders' involvement and consultation were crucial for successful measures implementation. Some key elements were developed and proved valuable for implementation of the NAP-2 project (see below) and the development of the NCCAP (i.e. the NAP).
NAP-2: Advancing Moldova's National Climate Change Adaptation Planning (GCF Readiness) 2020 – 2025	The project aims to address the barriers to prioritization of national investments in Climate Change Adaptation, and to increase the availability of human and financial capacity for the implementation of the priority actions identified during the NAP-1, and those that will emerge under this NAP-2 initiative	The project developed the NCCAP. The project also contributed to the operationalization of the NCCC. Further measures should be oriented towards further operationalizing this Commission and increasing its role in the climate planning process.	This project developed the NCCAP. However, planning and implementation of adaptation actions is still weak and needs support. Mainstreaming adaptation in local planning in Moldova is still in an incipient phase. The NAP process aims for a strong integration of climate risks into planning, budgeting and decision-making processes. Coordination has improved through the set-up of the NCCC but needs further operationalization.
EU4Climate 2019-2023 (EU)	The project goal is to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and the development towards a low-emissions and climate-resilient economy in all six EU EaP countries, through integration low-emissions and climate resilience objectives into development policies and plans.	The project components were oriented towards implementation and update of the NDCs, development of the mid-term LEDS and mainstreaming climate in other sectors and sectoral guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Agreement. For this purpose, policy documents were developed, training and awareness sessions were delivered.	This GCF proposal will build further capacities and support to leverage the acquired skills, implement the new policies and use the developed tools for mainstreaming.
Climate Change Adaptation: Nature-based Solutions in semi-arid ecosystems to increase rural resilience in Moldova (ADA). GCF Concept Note approved (2023) and PPF started (December 2024), for eventual implementation period of 5-7 years.	The overall objective is to reduce climate change related risks for vulnerable rural communities through the conservation and sustainable use of semi-arid ecosystems in the South region of Moldova.	The project addresses increasing impacts of climate change (CC) on natural ecosystems and water security in the South of Moldova. The project will address this through Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) solutions. Key elements are institutional and technical capacity development of governmental agencies and knowledge transfer on climate resilient management within the public and private sector. The Ministry of Environment is the main beneficiary of the project.	The PPF (approved December 2024) will include feasibility and other technical studies. These will need to be linked to, or inform the studies anticipated through this Readiness Proposal, both implemented through the same Ministry.
Increasing Carbon Removals from Forests and the Agrifood Sector in Moldova: Public-private Partnerships for Mitigation (FAO). Approval expected during 2025-2027 for implementation period of 4 – 5 years.	The project will aim at increasing carbon removals from forests and the agrifood sector in Moldova through participatory climate adaptive sustainable forest management practices.	Designing and establishing an appropriate strategic, operational and investment framework to ensure the sustainability, accountability and effectiveness of forestry and offsetting investments.	The project is still in Concept phase (to GCF). Synergies will have to be ensured after the Project approval phase, especially through capacity building and designing of financing options

Unlocking the Building Energy Efficiency Retrofit Market in Moldova (UNDP). Approval expected during 2025-2027 for implementation period of 4 – 5 years.	The objective of the proposed project is to scale-up investment in *energy efficiency retrofits of public and residential buildings* by supporting the design and implementation of the National Building Retrofit Program,	The second project sub-component will be focused on legal and regulatory framework update, as well as capacity building.	The project is still in Concept phase (to GCF). Synergies will have to be ensured after the Project approval phase, especially in building capacity and coordinating the climate related regulatory framework.
Climate-resilient Health Services in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (UNDP). Approval expected during 2025-2027 for implementation period of 4 – 5 years.	The programme will support and climate-proof COVID-19 recovery efforts by contributing to the enhanced capacities and preparedness of national health systems to withstand future health crises, including pandemics.	The project aims to provide education and training materials for various target groups, including vulnerable populations and youth. It also focuses on enhancing the climate literacy of medical staff regarding climate-sensitive diseases and their health impacts	The project is still in Concept phase (to GCF). Synergies will have to be ensured after the Project approval phase, especially supporting capacity building and creating awareness on climate impacts on Health in Moldova
Green City Facilities (GEF, 2018-2023)	The Facility aimed to foster transformational low-carbon, climate-resilient urban development for cities in the EBRD region, through policy support, green infrastructure investments, capacity building and accessing green finance.	The Programme contributed to creating new and significantly scaling up existing markets for commercial sustainable energy, energy efficiency and climate resilience financing.	Challenges: Lack of willingness and incentives of homeowner associations to strengthen their role in green urban development, Lessons learned: Need of working with the public administration on supporting regulatory framework and identifying financing modalities. Focus on awareness raising, coaching and capacity building.
Scaling up private sector climate finance through local financial institutions (GCF-EBRD SEFF co-financing Programme)	Programme works on sustainable energy and climate resilience through scaling up financing; developing sustainable energy and climate resilience projects; Transferring skills; Raising public awareness.	The Facility will make available concessional financial instruments. to address the incremental costs of low-carbon and climate-resilient infrastructure.	Project will link up and seek synergies in financing sustainable energy.

Section 3. Theory of change (ToC)

3.1. Theory of Change – Diagram

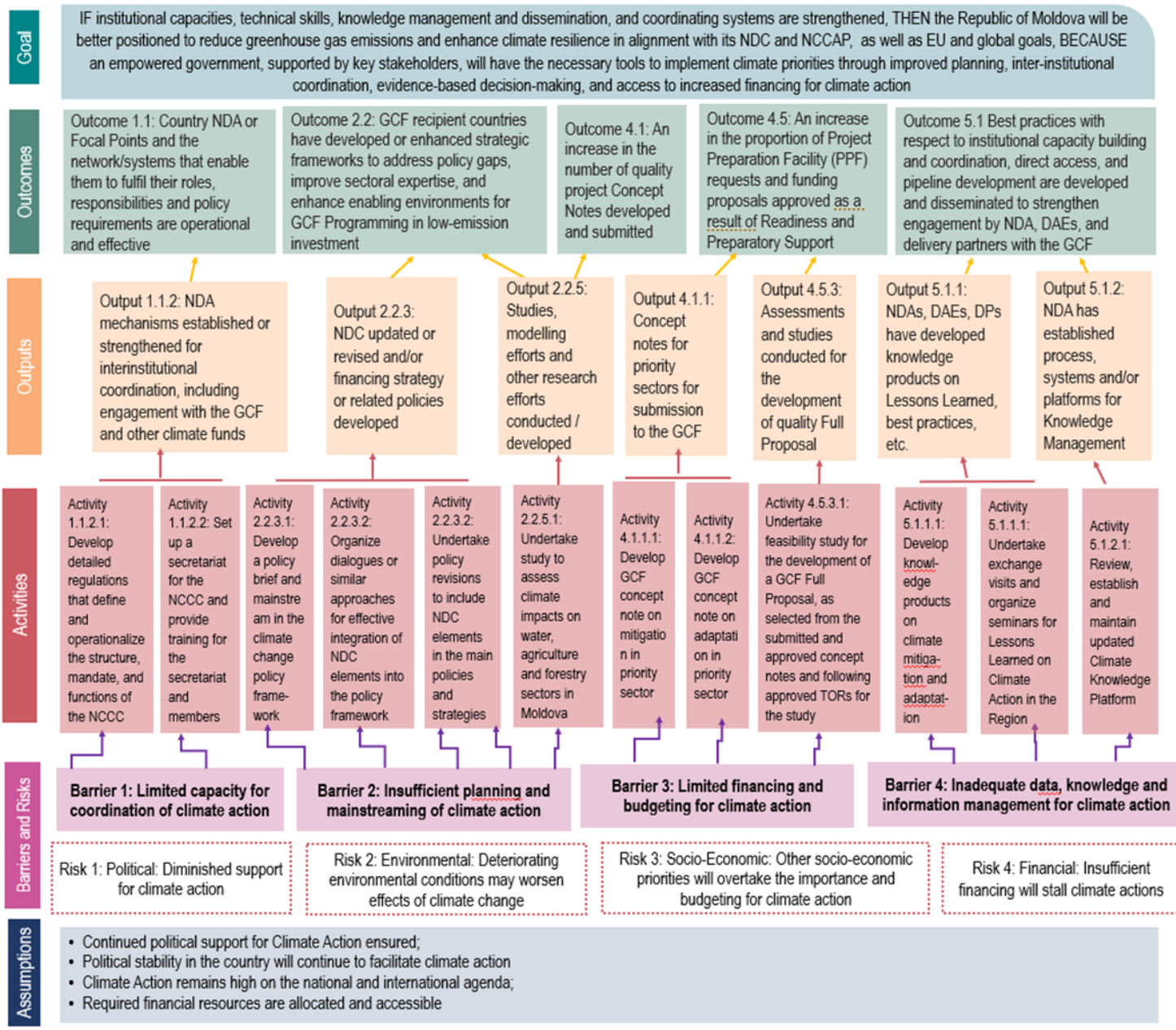


Fig. 6. Theory of Change Diagram

3.1. Theory of Change – Narrative

88. The goal of this Readiness grant is to enhance the institutional capacities, technical expertise, and knowledge management systems necessary for addressing climate change and mobilizing climate finance in the Republic of Moldova. By strengthening these critical components, the grant will support Moldova in fulfilling its national, regional, and global climate commitments. A more effective planning and coordination framework will empower the government and relevant stakeholders to implement climate actions efficiently and effectively, thereby driving sustainable development and resilience.

89. The **Goal statement** of this readiness grant is: "***IF*** *institutional capacities, technical skills, knowledge management and dissemination, and coordinating systems are strengthened,* ***THEN*** *the Republic of Moldova will be better positioned to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance*

climate resilience in alignment with its NDC3.0 and NCCAP, *as well as EU and global goals,* ***BECAUSE*** *an empowered government, supported by key stakeholders, will have the necessary tools to implement climate priorities through improved planning, inter-institutional coordination, evidence-based decision-making, and access to increased financing for climate action ".*

90. The current proposal will address the following **barriers** (mentioned in section 2.2).:
    - Barrier 1: Limited capacity for coordination of climate action.
    - Barrier 2: Insufficient planning and mainstreaming of climate actions.
    - Barrier 3: Limited financing and budgeting for climate action.
    - Barrier 4: Inadequate data, knowledge and information management for climate action.

91. **Planning for climate action** will need to be improved primarily through improved knowledge and capacities, including through mainstreaming of the Action Plans of the NDC3.0 and NCCAP into relevant strategies and policy end legal framework, so that government better guides climate action. Further studies will also be undertaken to support better sectoral climate risk assessments and strategies that sector-based policy- and decision-makers can use to inform, improve and implement climate action. **Financing for climate action** is a barrier that should be initially addressed through the development of quality Concept Notes on priority climate action for different donors, including GCF, and that will build a solid pipeline of quality climate action proposals as maintained by the Ministry of Environment. Further support is also needed to turn developed concepts into quality Full Proposals for climate change investments in priority sectors. The **knowledge management around climate change** will need to be improved, e.g. the web-based climate platform in Moldova would need to be revised and updated, to make it more user-friendly and relevant. This would then also be the basis of improved knowledge products that would better inform and disseminated to relevant stakeholders for more effective climate action.
92. This readiness grant is aligned to the following objectives:

- **Objective 1: Capacity Building**: GCF recipient countries and relevant stakeholders set up adequate systems – human, technical and institutional – that enables them to fulfil their roles and responsibilities towards the GCF and enhance their ability to achieve their objectives.
- **Objective 2: Strategic Frameworks**: GCF recipient countries develop robust strategic frameworks to guide GCF investment in complementarity with other climate financiers.
- **Objective 4: Pipeline Development**: Emanating from strategic frameworks and entity work programmes, a transformational pipeline developed of quality Concept Notes and funding proposals.
- **Objective 5: Knowledge sharing and learning**: GCF recipient countries have benefited from increased levels of awareness, knowledge sharing and learning that contribute to their developing and implementing transformational projects in low-carbon and climate-resilient development pathways.

And these are the following outcomes outputs and activities for this readiness grant:

93. **Outcome 1.1: Country NDA or Focal Points and the network/systems that enable them to fulfil their roles, responsibilities and policy requirements are operational and effective.**

This will specifically address **barrier 1: Limited capacity for coordination of climate action,** as strengthened NDA mechanisms and inter-institutional and cross-sectoral coordination (Output 1.1.2) will lead to better implementation of national (NDC, LDS, NAP) and international climate change priorities.

94. This will be achieved through the priority **Output 1.1.2: NDA mechanisms established or strengthened for interinstitutional coordination, including engagement with the GCF and other climate funds**. The support through this output will improve the coordination of needed climate actions through the operationalization and improved and more effective working of the NCCC, that has till now not been fully operational and is re-established by the Climate Law of 2024. The development of regulations for the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) (Activity 1.1.2.1) will further detail, formalize and operationalize its structure, mandate, and functioning, by providing a clear framework for how the NCCC should coordinate climate efforts across institutions. In addition, training and supporting the NCCC in its operations, including establishing a dedicated Secretariat (Activity 1.1.2.2), will enhance its technical and operational capacity, ensuring efficient coordination and effective engagement with the GCF and other climate funds. This ultimately supports Outcome 1.1 by ensuring that the NDA or Focal Points and their enabling networks are

operational, effective, and capable of fulfilling their roles, responsibilities, and policy requirements, particularly in terms of coordinating climate actions.

95. The key activities under this Output include:
    - ***Activity 1.1.2.1: Develop detailed regulations that define and operationalize the structure, mandate, and functions of the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC).***
      This activity will develop regulations to formalize the structure, mandate and functioning of the NCCC, ensuring that NCCC will better manage, oversee, and guide climate action in the country. The regulations should clearly define its roles in coordinating climate action with government agencies, stakeholders, and international partners, including the GCF, following the overall and general changes of mandate as included in *the Climate Law of 2024*. Additionally, the regulations will establish mechanisms for the NCCC's collaboration with relevant institutions, ensuring smooth and effective interinstitutional coordination. The regulations will be drafted through a multi-stakeholder consultation process, engaging legal experts and relevant ministries, and will undergo a validation process before adoption.
    - ***Activity 1.1.2.2: Set up a secretariat for the NCCC and provide training for the secretariat and NCCC members***
      This activity will set up and increase the capacity of a dedicated Secretariat of the NCCC within the Ministry of Environment (nominated as secretariat of the NCCC), thereby strengthening its functioning. It will support staffing the NCCC with a technical and administrative officer and train these staff members in the secretariat through dedicated trainings and mentorship on climate change background, effective coordination and support functions. It will also train the members of the NCCC through a series of targeted short training activities and developing and disseminating an operational manual and guidebook on the NCCC.

96. **Outcome 2.2: GCF recipient countries have developed or enhanced strategic frameworks to address policy gaps, improve sectoral expertise, and enhance enabling environments for GCF Programming in low-emission investment.**

The Republic of Moldova has a seemingly adequate strategic framework to deal with climate change with the updated NDC (2020), NDC 3.0 (2025) and the NCCAP (2024), but it lacks in implementation of these plans. Especially the mainstreaming of the needed actions in other National, Sector and Local policies, strategies and actions, as well as in the budgeting framework, needs improvement, thereby addressing
barrier 2: Insufficient planning and mainstreaming of climate actions.

97. This will be achieved through **Output 2.2.3: NDC updated or revised and/or financing strategy or related policies developed.** Currently (September 2024) the Moldova NDC3.0 is being developed, supported by GIZ, USAID and UNDP, and will be submitted early 2025. The GCF readiness grant will ensure that the NDC3.0 is adequately mainstreamed in the policy framework in Moldova that will lead to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and enhanced resilience to climate change (in line with the NCCAP). This will be achieved through the following activities:

    - ***Activity 2.2.3.1: Develop a policy brief including summary of elements from the NDC3.0 to integrate and mainstream in the climate change strategies and policy framework.***
      The Policy Brief should summarize and highlight the main elements and actions from the NDC 3.0 that are important to mainstream in other national, sector and local policies and strategies, so that these actions are effectively implemented and will yield results. This Policy brief should target the main policy- and decision-makers, including from all relevant government sectors and levels, as well as private sector, NGOs and foreign assistance providers and donors, e.g. through organizing sessions as highlighted in Activity 2.2.3.2.

    - ***Activity 2.2.3.2: Organize dialogues, stakeholder roundtables, and similar approaches for the effective integration of NDC3.0 elements into national and sectoral policies and strategies.***
      Based on the main messages from the policy brief (Activity 2.2.3.1), roundtables, dialogues, focus group sessions and other ways to inform and obtain feedback will be organized to obtain pertinent comments and agreements from pertinent stakeholders, including from the private sector. This will specifically pertain on what elements from the new NDC3.0 can be integrated into relevant national and sector strategies, policies, plans and actions.

- ***Activity 2.2.3.3: Undertake policy revisions to include NDC3.0 elements in the main national and sectoral policies and strategies.***
  Based on the Policy Brief (Activity 2.2.3.1) and the discussions with stakeholders (Activity 2.2.3. 2), revisions of the relevant national and sectoral strategies and policies are proposed and will be started to integrate the key and agreed climate relevant elements and actions in these strategies, plans and policies.

98. Outcome 2.2 will also be supported through **Output 2.2.5: Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed.** Through this Output updated and more relevant information and data will be made available that will help the planning and implementation of climate action, e.g. through undertaking updated and better detailed assessments of climate risks and planning for climate action in the water, agriculture, and health sectors (Activity 2.2.3.2).

The following priority Activity is proposed to achieve this Output:

- ***Activity 2.2.5.1: Undertake studies to assess climate impacts on the water, agriculture and forestry sectors in Moldova.***

The government requires better and updated assessments of climate change impacts the main priority sectors of agriculture, water, and forestry (as indicated in the NCCAP, 2024) These are important socio-economic sectors for Moldova, that are also (very) vulnerable for climate extremes. Some vulnerability studies in these sectors have been done, but new data, requirements and tools are emerging that require to update and improve these studies. These assessments would support implementation of NDC3.0 and NCCAP as well as serve as basis for development of Local Development Plans and will be undertaken combination with academia, State Hydrometeorological Service (SHS) and the relevant sector specialists

99. **Outcome 4.1: An increase in the number of quality project Concept Notes developed and submitted.**

This Outcome will specifically address **barrier 3: Limited financing and budgeting for climate action**. Through targeted capacity building and inputs from designated expertise, relevant and high-quality climate change concept notes (1 for adaptation priority project, 1 for mitigation priority project) that will be developed for submission to GCF (Output 4.1.1). This will increase immediate required financing for priority climate action, that will build on GCF readiness support, follows the recent GCF country programme document (2024) and that is linked to relevant national, regional, and local priorities and programmes.

This will be achieved through **Output 4.1.1: Concept notes for priority sectors developed with the support of the RPSP for submission to the GCF**. These concept notes will address the priority and immediate financing needs for priority actions as detailed in the NCCAP (2024) and the new NDC3.0 (2025) and following the recent GCF country programme.

The following activities are proposed to achieve this output:

- ***Activity 4.1.1.1: Develop GCF Concept Note on mitigation in priority sector.***
  This activity will develop a concept note for submission to GCF in the required template for a priority action as detailed in the new NDC3.0 (to be developed and published in 2025). This is likely in the Energy Sector, more specifically the “Promotion of Renewable Energy Sources / Energy Efficiency”, as this is the priority sector for mitigation in the new NDC3.0, as well as the Low Emission Development Programme (LEDP, 2030), but also in the “National Development Strategy 2030”, considering the energy security situation in the country, the “Programme for the Promotion on Green and Circular Economy” and the GCF Country Work Programme priority on “Energy generation and access”. This would also target the Private Sector that would be largely responsible for investing in and building the needed energy transition. Concept Note development will be undertaken following detailed Terms of Refence as developed by MoE, through contracting specialized consultants and in coordination with sector specialists and other relevant stakeholders.
- ***Activity 4.1.1.2: Develop GCF Concept Note on adaptation in Agriculture sector.***
  This activity will develop a concept note for submission to GCF in the required template for a priority action detailed in the NCCAP. This will be in the Agriculture – Water nexus, as this is key

in socio-economic and resilient development, and reflects priorities in the NDC3.0, NCCAP[94], Agriculture Strategies[95] and the GCF Work Programme (in the area of "Health, food and water security"). This will be further elaborated by the NDA and the NCCC, also in terms of final beneficiaries (public or private sector, or combination under PPP) and proposed implementation modalities. Concept Note Development will be undertaken following by contracting specialized consultants following detailed Terms of Refence as developed by MoE, in coordination with sector specialists and other relevant stakeholders.

100. **Outcome 4.5: An increase in the proportion of Project Preparation Facility (PPF) requests and funding proposals approved because of Readiness and Preparatory Support**. This Outcome will also address barrier **3: Limited financing and budgeting for climate action**, and builds on the Concept Notes developed Under Outcome 4.1 (Output 4.1.1). To develop the Concept Notes developed under Outcome 4.1 into Full Proposals (FP), technical assessments, and pre-feasibility studies will be conducted by experts to support the development of FPs through requests for PPF (Output 4.5.3).

- **Output 4.5.3: Assessments and studies conducted for the development of quality Full Proposal (FP) as part of the PPF's support.**
- ***Activity 4.5.3.1:*** *Undertake pre-feasibility studies for the development of a GCF Full Proposal, as selected from the submitted and approved Concept Notes..*

The precise information and data that are needed for developing a GCF Full Proposal are not yet known and will need to be established during Concept Note elaboration(under Output 4.1.1). Moldova is keen to start preparing a Full Proposal as early as possibly to acquire finance for the most pressing climate action priorities, and therefore expects to undertake per-feasibility studies during and after Concept Note development, in order to be fully prepared for eventual PPF requests. Specific TORs for such pre-feasibility studies will need to be developed in time by MoE, in collaboration with NDA, Executing Agency and the NCCC.

101. **Outcome 5.1 Best practices with respect to institutional capacity building and coordination, direct access, and pipeline development are developed and disseminated to strengthen engagement by NDA, DAEs, and delivery partners with the GCF**. This will address **Barrier 4: Inadequate data, knowledge and information management**. Better knowledge and awareness will be created and disseminated through improved information and knowledge products (Output 5.1.1), including improved, updated, open and widely used knowledge management systems and platforms that include local, regional, national and international best practices and lessons learned (Output 5.1.2). This will create an improved environment to inform, coordinate and execute priority climate action in Moldova.

102. This will be achieved through **Output 5.1.1: NDAs, DAEs, DPs have developed knowledge products containing information on LECRD, lessons learned, or best practices extracted from within the country and from other countries.** The following priority Activities are proposed to achieve this Output:

- ***Activity 5.1.1.1: Develop knowledge products on climate mitigation and adaptation lessons learned and solutions for Moldova.***
  Knowledge products (around 4 – 6) on key aspects and experiences with adaptation (e.g. on climate change adaptation for water resources and climate smart agriculture practices) and mitigation (e.g. on promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency measures) in Moldova would be distilled and used to inform future, more effective climate actions. This assists with developing, planning for, obtain financing and implementing key climate investments and projects, e.g. through climate risk assessments. This is of particular interest and use for key policy- and decision-makers of the main sectors in Moldova, but also the private sector and civil society that would need to play a more prominent role in climate action in the future.
- ***Activity 5.1.1.2: Undertake exchange visits and organize seminars for Lessons Learned on Climate Action in the Region***

[94] NCCAP Priority Action 5.1. "Adaptation of the agriculture sector to climate change by implementing complex agricultural practices, modern adaptation technologies and soil conservation"; and Priority action 5.6: "Adaptation of the water sector to climate change through efficient resource use, ensuring its quality and quantity and reducing the floods risk"

[95] E.g. attention to Climate Smart Agriculture, including water saving technologies.

Government and other key stakeholders in Moldova are keen to learn from other countries and organizations in the region on planning for, financing and implementing climate action. This is of particular interest for Moldova, being a small country in transition in a volatile region, and that will also help the rapprochement with the EU and learning from similar countries and programmes in the Eastern European and Balkan regions.

103. The Outcome is also supported through **Output 5.1.2: NDA has established process, systems and/or platforms for identification of best practices, lessons learned and Knowledge Management**. This Output will review, restore, update and improve the existing Climate Knowledge Platform that is not updated and much used, or eventually replace it if needed, through the following activities:

- ***Activity 5.1.2. 1: Review, establish and maintain updated Climate Knowledge Platform.*** The current knowledge platform that was developed under the NAP-1 between 2014 – 2018 is not updated and not much used and doesn't fulfil its function for sharing knowledge and informing stakeholders. The platform will be reviewed by a dedicated and specialized firm under this activity and solutions will be offered and developed, including a new outlook, user-friendly navigation, updated information and more publicity. This activity will also install a dedicated administrator for the platform / website, and ensure it is being updated and maintained periodically.

104. The following **assumptions** are considered that influence the enabling environment that the proposed project will be executed in. If these assumptions do not hold this may potentially endanger the implementation and the results to be achieved, and this will need to be considered during implementation of the project, as well as consider what the project could do to sustain the assumptions.

- **Assumption 1: Continued political support**. Continued political support for climate change is needed in Moldova and beyond, especially given the uncertain current political and socio-economic environment. This will affect all outcomes that depend on government's guidance and inputs, from planning, coordination, financing, implementation, knowledge management, etc.
- **Assumption 2: Political stability**. Political stability is needed in Moldova to stay the course on climate action and for improved sustainability, also internationally, e.g. in acceding the EU and being active in international negotiations. This will especially affect Outcomes 1.1. and 2.2 on government coordination and planning.
- **Assumption 3: Climate change remains high on agenda, also internationally**. There is a risk that climate change will be overridden by short-term socio-economic priorities and political gains. This can affect all outcomes, from planning to implementation of climate actions. Continued support and capacity enhancement to highlight the importance of mitigation and adaptation to climate change, also internationally, through provision of scientific evidence through impartial science and knowledge will counter this.
- **Assumption 4: Required financial resources are allocated and accessible**. Full scale and effective climate change mitigation and adaptation requires substantive and upscaled financing. This will specifically affect Outcomes 4.1. and 4.5 on financing of climate actions. Capacities will be enhanced, and appropriate and innovative financing mechanisms and schemes will be developed, to benefit from available public and private, national and international financing for effective scaled up climate action.

105. The **Risks** that are outlined in the Theory of Change Diagram are the following:

- **Political**: Diminished support for climate action.
- **Environmental**: Deteriorating environmental conditions may worsen effect of climate change.
- **Socio-economic**: Other socio-economic priorities will overtake the importance and budgeting for climate action.
- **Financial**: Insufficient financing will stall climate action. These and other risks are also further detailed in Table 5.

106. See further below table with main Outcomes, Outputs and Activities of the proposal, and how these address the barriers stated above.

Table 3. Overview Outcomes, Outputs and Activities

Outcome	Output	Activities	Barrier addressed
Outcome 1.1: Country NDA or Focal Points and the network / systems that enable them to fulfil their roles, responsibilities and policy requirements are operational and effective.	**Output 1.1.2**: NDA mechanisms established or strengthened for interinstitutional coordination, including engagement with the GCF and other climate funds	**Activity 1.1.2.1.1**: Develop detailed regulations that define and operationalize the structure, mandate, and functions of the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC).	**Barrier 1**: Limited capacity for coordination of climate action
		Activity 1.1.2.1.2: Set up a secretariat for the NCCC and provide training for the secretariat and NCCC members	
Outcome 2.2: GCF recipient countries have developed or enhanced strategic frameworks to address policy gaps, improve sectoral expertise, and enhance enabling environments for GCF Programming in low-emission investment	**Output 2.2.3:** NDC updated or revised and/or financing strategy or related policies developed.	**Activity 2.2.3.3.1:** Develop a policy brief including summary of elements to integrate and mainstream in the climate change strategies and policy framework.	**Barrier 2**: Insufficient planning and mainstreaming of climate actions
		Activity 2.2.3.3.2: Organize dialogues, stakeholder roundtables, and similar approaches for the effective integration of NDC elements into national and sectoral policies and strategies	
		Activity 2.2.3.3.3: Undertake policy revisions to include NDC elements in the main national and sectoral policies and strategies.	
	Output 2.2.5: Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed	**Activity 2.2.5.1.1:** Undertake study to assess climate impacts on the water, agriculture and forestry sectors in Moldova	
Outcome 4.1: An increase in the number of quality project Concept Notes developed and submitted	**Output 4.1.1:** Concept notes for priority sectors developed with the support of the RPSP for submission to the GCF.	**Activity 4.1.1.1.1:** Develop GCF concept note on mitigation in priority sector	**Barrier 3:** Limited financing and budgeting for climate action
		Activity 4.1.1.1.2: Develop GCF concept note on adaptation in agriculture sector.	
	Output 4.5.3: Assessments and studies conducted for the development of quality Full Proposal (FP) as part of the PPF's support.	**Activity 4.5.3.1.1**: Undertake feasibility study for the development of a GCF Full Proposal, as selected from the submitted and approved concept notes and following approved TORs for the study	
Outcome 5.1: Best practices with respect to institutional capacity building and coordination, direct access, and pipeline development are developed and disseminated to strengthen engagement by NDA, DAEs, and delivery partners with the GCF.	**Output 5.1.1:** NDAs, DAEs, DPs have developed knowledge products containing information on LECRD, lessons learned, or best practices extracted from within the country and from other countries.	**Activity 5.1.1.2.1:** Develop knowledge products on climate mitigation and adaptation lessons learned and solutions for Moldova.	**Barrier 4**: Inadequate data, knowledge and information manage-ment for climate action
		Activity 5.1.1.2.2: Undertake exchange visits and organize seminars for Lessons Learned on Climate Action in the Region	
	Output 5.1.2: NDA has established process, systems and/or platforms for identification of best practices, lessons learned and Knowledge Management.	**Activity 5.1.2.2.1:** Review, establish and maintain updated Climate Knowledge Platform.	

Section 4. Logical framework

Logical Framework is developed following the GCF Logframe template and is to be submitted separately.

Section 5. Implementation arrangements and other information (*indicative* maximum length: eight pages)

5.1. Implementation arrangements

The Government of **Moldova** has identified UNDP as its **delivery partner** for the current Readiness grant. UNDP will take responsibility, under the leadership and guidance of the NDA, for the implementation of this Readiness grant and will carry out all fiduciary and financial management, procurement of goods and services, monitoring, reporting activities, as well as management, oversight and control of consultants in compliance with UNDP's policies and procedures and in accordance with the Second Amended and Restated Framework Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant Agreement between the GCF and UNDP dated 22 July 2020. No grant funds will be used to pay for existing staff or consultants of the government or any beneficiaries. The project will be implemented under Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) following UNDP POPP guidance available here: https://popp.undp.org/SitePages/POPPSubject.aspx?SBJID=12&Menu=BusinessUnit.

The project will be implemented following UNDP's Direct Implementation Modality (DIM).

UNDP as the Delivery Partner will be responsible for the implementation of the readiness support and will carry out all fiduciary and financial oversight and management of the readiness funds, procurement of goods and services, and monitoring and reporting activities under this proposal in compliance with UNDP's policies and procedures and with the Second Amended and Restated Framework Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant Agreement agreed between GCF and UNDP dated 22 July 2020. UNDP will be responsible for effective and efficient utilization of funds, preparation, and submission of interim and final reports on achieved results to the NDA and GCF. UNDP will provide financial and technical oversight services for the outcomes and outputs of the project. UNDP will ensure that project monitoring and evaluation run according to an agreed schedule, and in line with UNDP and GCF requirements. UNDP will be responsible for overall execution of the project and for timely achievement of project results, under the leadership and guidance of the NDA.

NDA. MoE is the beneficiary of the current Readiness request and will therefore provide guidance to UNDP. It will facilitate and convene meetings of a technical and administrative nature, support in gaining access to data and information, and keep all local stakeholders informed of the progress of the Readiness grant. The NDA will ensure country ownership and achievement of outcomes and outputs, through its participation in the Project Board, and in day-to-day coordination meetings and activities between the NDA staff and the project team. The NDA will provide guidance during the implementation of activities by working with UNDP, consultants, and firms to ensure that the project achieves results that will deliver long-term impacts. The NDA will be responsible for providing quality control and endorsement of reports (technical, monitoring, and evaluation reports) and documents produced under the grant to ensure country ownership. The NDA will facilitate and steer engagements with line ministries, governments at the sub-national level, and other stakeholders as required. The grant funds will not be used to pay for the staff or consultants of the government or any beneficiaries.

The Project Management Unit. will be responsible for implementing the project. The PMU will be based in UNDP country office in **Moldova** and will be responsible for providing daily technical, administrative and financial project management. It will establish and coordinate collaboration with technical departments involved in project implementation and with **Ministry of Environment** support. It shall serve as the secretariat for the Project Board. It will facilitate project-related planning activities such as preparation of annual work plans and be responsible for overall project monitoring and reporting. The PMU will comprise of a Project Manager and administrative assistant. A brief description of roles and responsibilities of the PMU is provided in section 5.2. The PMU and the technical consultants' team will work under the direct supervision of UNDP with guidance from the NDA,

Project Board (PB): the Project Board comprises representatives from **UNDP and MoE**. The PB is established to review performance based on monitoring and evaluation, and implementation issues to ensure quality delivery of results. The PB is the most senior, dedicated oversight body for the project and will ensure alignment of readiness activities with national policies. The PB: i) provides overall

strategic guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints, and providing overall oversight of the project implementation; and ii) review project performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and the combined delivery report. The PB is responsible for making management decisions by consensus. To ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, PB decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. The PB will meet at least once a year to provide strategic guidance, hold project reviews to assess annual performance and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year. The PB will hold ad hoc meetings when necessary to deal with emerging issues

Project Advisory Group: This is the capacitated NCCC that serves as an advising body to all climate change activities in Moldova and that will support and promote the Readiness activities.

Project Board and the PMU will liaise closely with the NDA and staff in MoE. This approach will ensure coherence with and continuity of the already started climate change adaptation and mitigation process, use of available climate change-related platforms, knowledge products and the existing individual and institutional capacities.

The management arrangements for this project are summarized in the chart below:

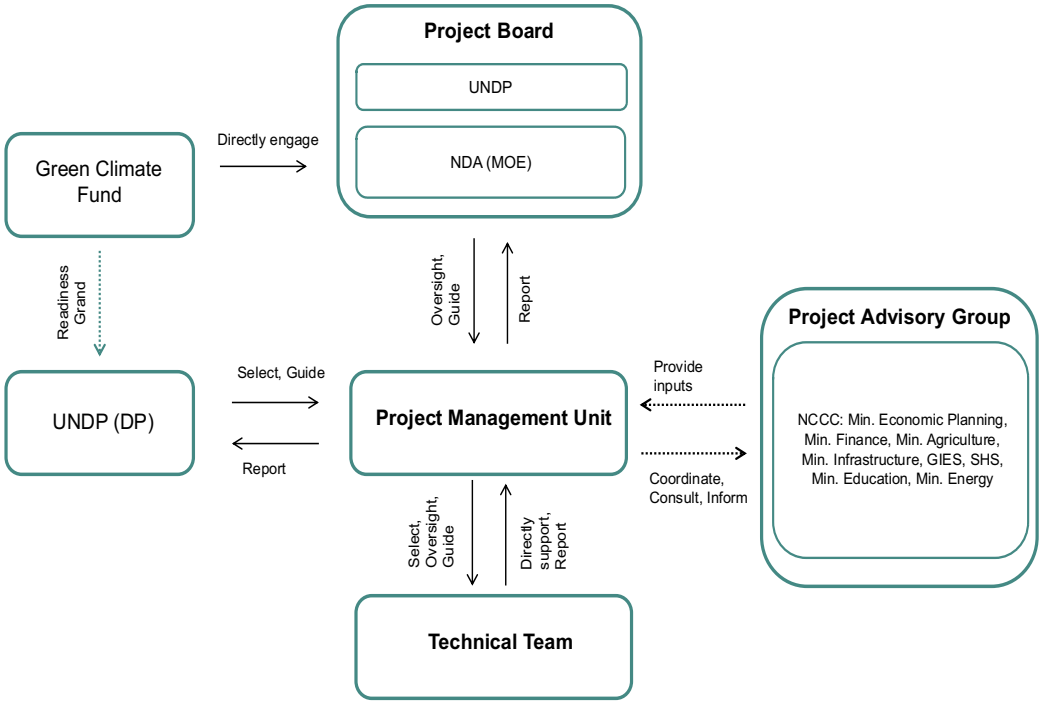


Fig. 7. Management arrangements

5.2. Implementation and Execution Roles and responsibilities

See below for all the envisaged Implementation support.

Table 4. Implementation support

Entity	Position Title	Outcomes / Outputs	Responsibilities	Minimum Qualifications	Budget note
UNDP	Project Coordinator /	Grant delivered within the	Oversee and manage the grant delivery	Education / Academic qualifications: • Advanced degree in Public Administration, Environment,	C, K, P, W, AC, AL

	Manager (Full Time)	approved scope, cost, and timeline		Climate Change, Natural Resources Management, etc. Professional qualifications: • Project Management experience • Worked in climate change • Worked with Government and International Donors • Good communication with range of stakeholders • Excellent language skills in Romanian and English (speaking and writing)	
UNDP	Project Associate (Full Time)	Support to all Outcomes / Outputs through Project Management	Support the Project Manager with all projects related administrative and accounts work	Education / Academic qualifications: • Degree in Public Administration, Project Management, Accounts, etc. Professional qualifications: • Project admin and accounts experience • Worked with Government and International Donors • Good communication with range of stakeholders • Fluent in Romanian and good English (speaking and writing)	C, K, P, W, AC, AL, and AR
NDA (MOE)	Policy & Capacity Development Officer (Part Time)	Outcomes 1 and 2	Technical and Capacity development support, especially to the NCCC (Output 1.1.2) and Policy revision and development (Output 2.2.3)	Education / Academic qualifications: • Advanced degree in Public Administration, Environment, Climate Change, Natural Resources Management, etc. Professional qualifications: • Experience in climate change • Worked with Government • Experience with International Donors • Excellent communication skills with range of diverse stakeholders • Fluent Romanian and good English language skills (speaking and writing)	C, K, P, W, AC, AL
UNDP	Climate Finance & Project Development Specialist (Part Time, Consultant)	Outcome 4.1 and 4.5.	Technical and capacity development support for developing Concept Notes (Output 4.1.1), Developing Full Proposals (Output 4.5.1.and 4.5.3)	Education / Academic qualifications: • Advanced degree in Public Administration, Economy, Climate Change, Natural Resources Management, etc. Professional qualifications: • Experience in climate change finance • Economy and finance experience • Developed international supported projects (including on climate change) • Worked with Government • Excellent communication with range of stakeholders • Fluent Romanian and English language skills (speaking and writing)	AB
UNDP	Knowledge Management and M&E Officer (Full Time)	All Outcomes. Outcome 5.1 (Output 5.1.1)	Support reporting and monitoring of all project outcomes.	Education / Academic qualifications: • Advanced degree in Public Administration, Economy, Environment, Climate Change,	AG

			Technical support for developing knowledge products and knowledge exchange	Natural Resources Management, etc. Professional qualifications: • Experience in M&E • Experience with climate change projects • Worked with Government • Knowledge of International Donors • Excellent communication with range of stakeholders • Fluent Romanian and English language skills (speaking and writing)	
UNDP / NDA	Information Management Officer (Part Time)	Outcome 5 (Output 5.1.2)	Technical IT support for revising, populating, updating and maintaining Web-based Knowledge Platform	Education / Academic qualifications: • Degree in Information Technology, Computer Science, etc. Professional qualifications: • Developed, supported and maintained websites • Worked on knowledge management and exchange • Worked with Government • Excellent communication with range of stakeholders • Fluent Romanian and good English language skills (speaking and writing)	AM

5.3. Risk and Mitigation Measures

5.3.1 Risk Assessment and Risk Monitoring Plan

Table 5. Risks.

Risk category[96]	Specific risk(s) / Risk(s) description	Probability of occurrence (Low, Medium, High)	Impact level (Low, Medium, High)	Mitigation action(s) If relevant, specify the strategies adopted by the ongoing readiness grant in the country to mitigate the risks	Entity(ies) responsible to manage the risk(s)
Operational	Risk of delays in starting up the project and further implementation, e.g. due to difficulties in recruitment of qualified project personnel and/or procurement of qualified consultants or firms	M	M	Developing timely and detailed TORs and/or tender processes, as well as publishing these timely and widely, and potentially reaching out to qualified individuals, consultants or firms	UNDP, MoE

[96] Risk categories can include: Operational, Political, Stakeholder engagement, Implementation, Natural-hazards related disasters, Unsustainability, Compliance, Money laundering, terrorist financing and prohibited practices, etc.

Political	Support for climate action may diminish because of other priorities, e.g. international geo-political risks (war in Ukraine), interior shifts around elections, etc.	M	M	Inform and create continuous awareness of the public, as well as policy- and decision-makers and politicians about the necessary climate action under all political environments.	UNDP MoE,
Stakeholder engagement	Risk of inadequate stakeholder engagement and inputs to the project	L	L	Already a lot of stakeholder awareness raising, and engagement has taken place under the GCF-UNDP NAP-2 project, as well as during the development of this proposal. This will continue during this project implementation	UNDP, MoE
Implementation	Insufficient political will and financing will stall necessary climate actions	M	M	Increase capacity, tools and provisions for increased budgets and new financing of climate action under this project	MoE, UNDP
Natural-hazards related disasters	Natural related hazards will continue in the future, and deteriorating environmental conditions may further worsen effects of climate change and render climate action more complicated.	M	M	Attention to nature based or ecosystem-based climate action when developing climate change related plans or concepts, as well as strengthening of disaster and emergency planning.	MoE, UNDP
Unsustainability	Effective climate action may become unsustainable, because other socio-economic priorities may overtake the importance and budgeting for climate action, e.g. continuous inflation and deteriorating living conditions.	M	M	Creating better knowledge and awareness on the consequences of lack of climate action and how that influences the socio-economic and sustainable growth in Moldova	MoE, UNDP
Compliance	Possibility of non-compliance to international and national regulations and protocols	L	L	UNDP as delivery partner will harness compliance to all relevant international protocols and mechanisms. Government will follow up nationally sanctioned compliance	UNDP, MoE
Money laundering	Risk of money laundering through project actions	L	L	UNDP has very strict protocols in place and Government has strengthened its mechanisms and sanctions against money laundering	UNDP, MoE

5.3.2 Sanctions and Restrictive Measures

UNDP as the Delivery Partner will undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the grant funds 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 https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-scconsolidated-
list. There are no UNSC restrictive measures in force within Moldova.

UNDP, by virtue of being an organ of the United Nations and therefore being part of the same entity, is also beholden to the principles on countering the financing of terrorism. UNDP systematically screens all entities being contracted by our partner with UNDP against the Consolidated UN Security Council Sanctions List. This is built into the capacity screening tools for partners, as well as in the Standard

Operating Procedures (SOP) for Vendor Management. UNDP also secures contractual representations from its national implementing partners that address risks of funds received for implementation of projects being used to support individuals or entities associated with terrorism and recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder appearing on the Consolidated UN Sanctions Lists.

This is further supplemented by internal controls to mitigate the risks, including due diligence requirements for partners and private entities UNDP intends to engage with. When developing a new project, UNDP ensures that risks are fully identified and considered in the project design and processes and that adequate and effective measures to prevent, monitor, and address such risks are put in place.

The normal verification of vendors on the sanctions list is done by checking the UNGM ineligibility list at various stages of the procurement processes - at the evaluation, in the submission to the Procurement Review Committees, further verified by the Procurement Review Committees prior to the award of contracts and at the point of vendor creation in ATLAS. These checks are documented in the evaluation reports. The UNGM Ineligibility list automatically compares the details of vendors registering on UNGM or any vendor that is searched on the site with the details of companies or individuals on lists such as the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List (CUNSCSL), World Bank's Listing of Ineligible Firms & Individuals, and lists of sanctioned/suspended vendors maintained by UN organizations. It specifically compares the company name, contacts and email addresses of registered vendors with the details on the mentioned lists. It is an automated search engine that is utilized by all UN Agencies.

The UNDP Regulations and Rules include a policy for protection against retaliation. This policy can be publicly accessed here: https://popp.undp.org/policy-page/protection-against-retaliation

It is the Policy of UNDP that Retaliation against individuals holding UNDP assignments/contracts (i.e., staff members, interns, UN Volunteers and contractors) who have, in good faith, properly reported allegations of misconduct, or who have cooperated with a duly authorized audit or investigation, is strictly prohibited. Such Retaliation violates the fundamental obligation of all staff members to uphold the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity as required under the UN Charter, and to discharge their functions and regulate their conduct with the interests of UNDP only in view.

5.3.3 Grievance Redress Mechanisms

UNDP promotes accountability to programme and project stakeholders by (i) enabling active local community engagement and participation in decision-making, particularly those at risk of being left behind; (ii) ensuring transparency of programming interventions through provision of timely, accessible and functional information regarding supported activities, including on potential environmental and social risks and impacts and management measures; (iii) ensuring stakeholders can communicate their concerns and have access to rights-compatible complaints redress processes and mechanisms; and (iv) ensuring effective monitoring—and where appropriate, participatory monitoring with stakeholders—and reporting on implementation of social and environmental risk management measures.

UNDP recognizes that even with strong planning and stakeholder engagement, unanticipated issues can still arise. Therefore, various channels and mechanisms are available to promote accountability and transparency.

The Grievance Redress Mechanism opens the possibility for individuals and communities to submit complaints and feedback directly to UNDP when they believe that a project implemented by UNDP affects or may be having an adverse impact on them, their community or the environment. The project-level GRM functions on two levels: at the Project Management level, under the direction of the Project Manager (supported by the project management unit), and as part of UNDP’s Project Assurance role in consultation with and in support of the Project Board. UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance function, under the direction of the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative.

Additionally, UNDP's social and environmental standards are underpinned by an Accountability Mechanism with two key components: (i) the Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM) (at the Country Office level and HQ level) that ensures individuals, peoples, and communities affected by projects have access to appropriate grievance resolution procedures for hearing and jointly addressing complaints and disputes related to the social and/or environmental impacts of UNDP-supported projects; and (ii) the Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU) which investigates alleged non-compliance with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards and screening procedure from project-affected stakeholders and recommends measures to address findings of non-compliance. For more details, refer to UNDP Accountability.

Further, UNDP has a policy for reporting misconduct and a strict **Policy for Protection Against Retaliation** for reporting misconduct and cooperating with a duly authorized audit or investigation.

Below are links to key UNDP documents and registries:

- Link 1: UNDP Accountability: https://www.undp.org/accountability/audit/social-and-environmental-compliance-review-and-stakeholder-response-mechanism
- Link 2: Stakeholder Response Mechanism - Case Registry: https://srm.info.undp.org/
- Link 3: Social and Environmental Compliance- Case Registry: https://secu.info.undp.org/
- Link 4: Project-level grievance redress mechanisms: https://info.undp.org/sites/bpps/SES_Toolkit/SES%20Document%20Library/Uploaded%20October%202016/UNDP%20SES%20Supplemental%20Guidance_Grievance%20Redress%20Mechanisms.pdf

5.4 Monitoring

Project monitoring will be led by UNDP as the DP in close coordination with the NDA. The monitoring of the project activities aims at achieving projected results and quality control. Activity monitoring will take place as project interventions occur. Project outputs and risks willbe monitored as part of the ongoing discussion and reporting to the GCF Empowered Committee formulated by the Ministry. Reporting will be submitted to GCF in alignment with the framework agreement.

All project activities will be monitored on a regular basis based against the expected outputs identified in the logical framework. This is the primary responsibility of the project manager. UNDP will be responsible for complying with all UNDP project-level M&E requirements as outlined in the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP). This includes ensuring the UNDP Quality Assurance Assessment during implementation is undertaken annually; the regular updating of the Quantum risk log; and the updating of the UNDP gender marker on anannual basis. Any quality concerns flagged during these monitoring activities (e.g., Annual Project Report quality assessment ratings) will be addressed by the PMU. UNDP will also ensure that the standard UNDP and GCF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality.

At the end of awareness workshops conducted under the project, a post-workshop assessment will be conducted to obtain feedback from participants regarding their learnings Additionally, all stakeholder consultative meetings and workshops will maintain a list of participants with sex-disaggregated data. In addition to the GCF annual progress reports, biannual progress reports will also be prepared by UNDP. A project risk register will be prepared that will serve as a record of all risks identified at the project level including likelihood, impact, significance level, risk owner, and risk treatment action. The risk register will be regularly monitored and updated so that emerging issues can be addressed promptly. The Project Board Steering Committee will monitor a project's performance against the indicators and will assess whether the project is meeting its objectives and milestones.

Audit: The project will be audited according to UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies on DIM implemented projects as well as the Framework Agreement.

Inception Workshop: Project inception workshop will be held within three months after the project document has been signed by all relevant parties with the objective of:

a. Sensitizing stakeholders on the overall readiness approach planned through theproject.
b. Discussing the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting and communication lines and conflict resolution mechanisms.
c. Reviewing the results framework and finalizing the indicators, means of verificationand monitoring plan.

Internal quarterly reporting to the NDA and empowered committee: Internal project levelquarterly progress meetings will be held, and reports will be provided by the PMU for the NDA and GCF Empowered Committee. These meetings/reports will highlight lessons learned and implementation challenges and how lessons can be fed back into the project to improve implementation.

Annual project report: UNDP and the NDA will prepare the annual project report for submission to the GCF. The PMU will ensure that the indicators included in the project resultsframework are monitored bi-annually in advance so that progress can be included in the report.

Project completion report: At the end of the project implementation period, UNDP will prepare a completion report and a financial report, both of which will be submitted to the GCFwithin the given timelines.

5.5 Other relevant information

MoE has officially requested support from the UNDP Moldova Country Office to develop this Proposal for submission to the GCF, recognizing UNDP's capacities and experience through previous successful initiatives. UNDP has a long-standing experience for project implementation with Government entities, including the Ministry of Environment. UNDP has developed and implemented several Climate Change programmes, e.g. the National Adaptation Plan project funded by GCF, that lead to capacity building on climate change, improved coordination of climate change and that developed the NCCAP. Other climate change readiness programs have also been implemented by UNDP through the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM). The Ministry of Environment and the NDA have long benefitted from capacity building programmes by projects and initiatives implemented by UNDP. UNDP also has extensive experience in developing and implementing GCF Readiness Programmes in various other countries, mostly linked to NAP development and MRV implementation. Given UNDP's comparative advantage and its close association with the MoE, the Ministry requested UNDP to develop this proposal.

This "transitional" readiness support proposal was first conceived and developed as a Multi-Year Proposal under the new Readiness Strategy for 2024-2027. However, given the urgency of the required support, and the fact that the modalities for proposal development and implementation under the new 2024-2027 Strategy were not yet clarified at the time of this proposal development, this was changed as a Transitional. Limited Readiness Support proposal, targeting especially priority capacity development elements of the NDA and other relevant stakeholders. This proposal can therefore be considered as an interim proposal for further pipeline development for climate action, including potentially a GCF Multi-Year Readiness Support programme when modalities have been clarified and approved.

Exit and sustainability strategy: The various capacity building programmes, as well as the development of oversight, coordination and monitoring mechanisms and functions, the development of concept notes and bankable projects, as well as establishing effective knowledge management systems including up to date information and effective platforms for storage and dissemination will ensure continuity and sustainability of the systems and functions after closure of the project. A more detailed exit strategy will be developed during implementation and well before closure of the project, so that latest changes and adaptations can be considered.

To avoid any possible conflicts of interest deriving from the delivery partner's role as an accredited entity, the prioritization of investments and projects in the context of this readiness grant, will be made through a broad consultation process with relevant stakeholders, including other potential implementing entities. The final validation of these priorities will be carried out through the countries' own relevant coordination mechanism and institutional arrangements, with the participation of other government agencies, as well as representatives from civil society and private sector as the NDA deems relevant, to ensure chosen priorities are fully aligned with national plans and strategies and adequately includes inputs from consulted stakeholders.

Grant closure: Upon completion of the grant activities, the grant recipient (Delivery Partner) shall transfer all tangible and intangible assets and their ownership to the grant beneficiaries, or any other body(ies) designated by the NDA.

Prohibited practices policies: UNDP has a strict Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy (AML CFT). There are several measures designed to impose stringent controls and due diligence requirements, raise awareness, and facilitate the appropriate reporting process to prevent and detect activities linked to money laundering and financing of terrorism.

Measures include screening potential counterparties prior to contractual agreement against the United Nations Global Marketplace Ineligible Vendor Lists. Contractual arrangements will have appropriate representations and warranties from UNDP's Counterparties regarding AML/CFT, with termination clauses in case of breach of such AML/CFT representations and warranties.

All credible allegations of activities believed to contravene the principles set out in this AML/CFT Policy will be assessed and investigated, as appropriate, in accordance with the Charter of the UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations ("OAI"), the OAI Investigation Guidelines and the UNDP Legal Framework for Addressing Non-compliance with UN Standards of Conduct, when applicable. The AML/CFT Policy will be strictly followed during the project implementation.

Further UNDP has a policy for reporting misconduct and a strict Policy for Protection Against Retaliation for reporting misconduct and cooperating with a duly authorized audit or investigation.

Social and Environmental Screening: This project proposal has been screened (i) to identify and reflect the significance of potential impacts or risks that project activities might present, and (ii) to identify opportunities to enhance benefits and to support stakeholders. UNDP's mandatory Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) provides detailed requirements and guidance on screening and assessment. Categorization is undertaken to reflect the level of review and resources required for addressing such impacts and risks. UNDP will utilize its Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) to identify potential social and environmental risks and opportunities associated with the project. Concept notes developed under the project for submission to GCF will be scrutinized as to its type, location, scale, sensitivity and the magnitude of its potential social and environmental impacts. Potential adverse gender impacts related to project activities will also be identified and differentiated measures will be adopted to prevent gender-based discrimination. Potential risks of gender-based violence and/or sexual exploitation and abuse of men, women, girls and boys that may occur in connection with any of the designed activities will be considered.

Section 6. Budget, Procurement, HR and Implementation plans:

6.1. Budget Plan

See the attached budget plan and notes in separate File.

6.2. Procurement Plan

See the attached procurement plan and notes in separate File.

6.3 Human Resources (HR) Plan

See the attached Human Resources plan and notes in separate File.

6.4 Implementation Plan

See attached Budget with Implementation Plan

ANNEXES

Annex I: Stakeholders consulted (during field mission)

Itinerary of the field mission from 22 – 26 April 2024 and stakeholders' meetings:

Day	Time	Organization / Representative	Persons Met	Location
Monday 22nd of April, 2024	9.30 - 10.30	UNDP Country Office (CO)	Inga PODOROGHIN (Programme Specialist/Cluster Lead/Climate Change, Environment and Energy), Silvia PANA-CARP (Programme Analyst / Climate Change, Environment and Energy)	UNDP Office
	11.30 – 12.45	Ministry of Environment	Aliona RUSNAC, NDA, State Secretary, Andrei CUCOȘ, Head of Atmospheric Air Protection Policies Department	Ministry of Environment
	12.45 – 13.30	Ministry of Environment	Justina GRIGARAVICIENCE, EU High-Level Adviser on Environment and Green Transition	Ministry of Environment
	14.00 - 15.30	Ministry of Health & National Agency for Public Health	Angela PARASCHIV, State Secretary, Angela COSTANDACHE, Main Advisory Officer, External Assistance Coordination Division, Mariana GÎNCU, Head of Public Health and Public Health Emergencies Policy Department, Aurelia POPOV, Main Advisory Officer, Public Health and Public Health Emergencies Policy Department Ion ȘALARU, Deputy Director of the National Public Health Agency	Ministry of Health
	16.00 - 17.30	Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM)	Alexandru OSADCI, Coordinator of International Relations	CALM office
Tuesday 23rd of April, 2024	9.00- 10.30	Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development & Road Administration	Eugeniu HARABARA, Deputy General State Secretary Nicolai MÎNDRA, State Secretary Tatiana LEȘAN, Head of the Public Policy Coordination and European Integration Department Alexei BOȘNEAGA, Head of the Territorial and Urban Planning Policies Department Radu ROGOVEI, Road Development Policies Department	9.00-10.30 Sala 322, et 3 intrarea de pe str. Puskin
	11.00 – 13.00	NGO Round table:	Rodica IORDANOV, Representative of EcoContact and ex-Minister of Environment	NAP-2 PMU, Bernardazzi 49
	14.00 - 15.30	Ministry of Energy & Energy Efficiency Agency & Energy Efficiency Fund	Carolina NOVAC, State Secretary Lucia ARSENII, Junior Non-Key Expert/Assistant of the EU High Level Adviser on Energy	Sala de sedinta et: 3
Wednes-day 24th of April, 2024	9.00 – 11:00	Field Visit to Straseni LPA	Cristina SMOLENSCHI, Vice Mayor; EU Mayors Covenant visit (Azerbaijan, Georgia)	Straseni District Town
	11.15- 13:00	Farmer Association	Tatiana DAHNUVICI, Representative of Local Farmer Association, Sergiu VULPE, Beekeeper	Straseni (Rural)
	14.00– 15.30	Chamber of Commerce	Sergiu HAREA, President Natalia CALENIC, Vicepresident, Mihai BÎLBA, Vicepresident, Dianna RUSSU, Head of the CCI Members Support and Promotion Division	Chamber of Commerce office

Day	Time	Organization / Representative	Persons Met	Location
	16.00–17.00	European Union Delegation	Solomon IOANNOU, Attaché / Programme Officer,	EUD office
Thursday 25th of April, 2024	09.00–10.30	Ministry of Agriculture	Angela DOGOTARI, Head of Land Improvement & Land Fund Department	Cab 1410
	11.00 – 12.30	General Inspectorate for Emergency Situation	Oleg MALASEVCHI, Head of the Prevention General Department	Iacob Hincu 3
	14.00 - 15.30	Ministry Finance	Natalia SCLEARUC,	Ministry of Finance
	16.00 - 17.30	State Hydrometeorological Service	Mihail GRIGORAȘ, Deputy Director Lidia TREȘCILO, Head of the Meteorological and Hydrological Monitoring Center Tatiana DABIJA, Head of the Forecasts and Warnings Center Gherman BEJENARU, Head of the Hydrological Monitoring Department	SHS premise
Friday 26th of April, 2024	9.00 - 11.00	1. Apele Moldovei 2. Moldsilva 3. Environmental Protection Inspectorate (EPI) 4. Environmental Agency 5. ICAS	Aliona RUSNAC, NDA, State Secretary, MoE Andrei CUCOȘ, Head of Atmospheric Air Protection Policies Department, MoE, Victoria GRATII, Head of Integrated Water Resources Management Policies Department, MoE, Galina NOROCEA, Main Advisory Officer, Elizaveta ALEXANDROV, Advisory Officer, Nature Conservation and Biosecurity Policies Department, MoE, Adrian SCUTELNIC, Advisory Officer, Forestry and Hunting Policy Division, MoE Silvia NELIPOVSCHI, Environment Quality Monitoring Department, Environment Agency Ion TALMACI, Technical Deputy Director, Instutute for Forestry Research and Mangement, Maxim BRUMA, Head of the Waste and Chemicals Management Department, EPI Alexandru JAMAN, Head of the Forestry Fund, Natural Protected Areas and Green Spaces department, EPI	Ministry of Environment (conf room)
	11.30 – 12:30	UNDP cluster debriefing	Silvia PANA-CARP, Programme Analyst / Climate Change, Environment and Energy	UNDP Office
	14.30 – 16.00	Meeting with NAP2 Team – Next Steps	Pavel GAVRILITA Katea MELNICENCO	PMU NAP-2, Bernardazzi 49
	16:00	UNDP RTA	Lili ILIEVA	Virtual, PMU NAP-2, Bernardazzi 49
Wednesday 15 May 2024	09:00 – 10:00	National Bureau of Statistics	Ludmila LUNGU, Head of the Agriculture and Environment Statistics Department Elena ORLOVA, Head of the Environmental Statistics Division	Virtual (MS Teams)

Total Budget and Work Plan			
Quantum Award ID:	1387382	Quantum Output Project ID:	01004457
Quantum Proposal or Award Title:	PIMS 9806 Republic of Moldova GCF NDA Readiness		
Quantum Business Unit	UNDP-MDA		
Quantum Primary Output Project Title:	Capacity building for climate action in the Republic of Moldova		
UNDP-GCF PIMS No.	9806		
Implementing Partner	UNDP		

Quantum Outcome (GCF Component)	Quantum Output (GCF Outcome)	Quantum Activity (GCF Output)	Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP, IP, or Responsible Party)	Quantum Fund ID	Quantum Donor ID	Quantum Budgetary Account Code	Quantum Budget Account Description	Amount Year *2025* (USD)	Amount Year *2026* (USD)	Amount Total (USD)	See Budget Note
Objective 1 : Capacity Building.	**Outcome 1.1: Country NDAs or focal points and the network/ systems that enable them to fulfil their roles, responsibilities and policy requirements are operational and effective**	Output 1.1.2: NDA mechanisms established or strengthened for interinstitutional coordination, including engagement with the GCF and other climate funds	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71200*	*International Consultants*		12,000.00	12,000.00	A
						71300	*Local Consultants*	21,000.00	81,000.00	102,000.00	B, D
						71400	*Contractual Services-Individual*	25,000.00	25,000.00	50,000.00	C
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	1,500.00	4,500.00	6,000.00	E
						74200	*Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs*	2,000.00	3,000.00	5,000.00	F
						72200	*Equipment and Furniture*	5,000.00		5,000.00	G
						72500	*Supplies*	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	H
Objective 2 : Strategic Frameworks.	**Outcome 2.2: GCF recipient countries have developed or enhanced**	Output 2.2.3: NDC updated or revised and/or financing strategy or related policies developed.	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71300*	*Local Consultants*	9,000.00	33,000.00	42,000.00	I, J
						71400	*Contractual Services-Individual*	20,000.00	20,000.00	40,000.00	K

	strategic frameworks to address policy gaps, improve sectoral expertise, and enhance enabling environments for GCF Programming in low-emission investment					*75700*	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	1,500.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	L, M
						74200	*Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs*		4,000.00	4,000.00	N
		Output 2.2.5: Studies, modelling efforts and other research efforts conducted/developed	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71300*	*Local Consultants*	30,000.00	58,000.00	88,000.00	O, Q
						71400	*Contractual Services-Individual*	25,000.00	25,000.00	50,000.00	P
						71600	*Travel*	16,000.00	16,000.00	32,000.00	R
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*		1,500.00	1,500.00	S
						74200	*Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs*	6,000.00	6,000.00	12,000.00	T
Objective 4: Pipeline Development	**Outcome 4.1: An increase in the number of quality project Concept Notes developed and submitted**	Output 4.1.1: Concept notes for priority sectors developed with the support of the RPSP for submission to the GCF	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71200*	*International Consultants*	6,000.00	6,000.00	12,000.00	U
						71300	*Local Consultants*	8,000.00	32,000.00	40,000.00	V, X
						71400	*Contractual Services-Individual*	20,000.00	20,000.00	40,000.00	W
						71600	*Travel*		16,000.00	16,000.00	Y
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*	1,500.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	Z
						74200	*Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs*	1,500.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	AA
	Outcome 4.5. An increase in the number of quality funding proposals developed and submitted that target SIDS, LDCs and African states.	Output 4.5.3: Assessments and studies conducted for the development of quality Full Proposal (FP) as part of the PPF's support	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71200*	*International Consultants*		18,000.00	18,000.00	AB
						71400	*Contractual Services-Individual*	20,000.00	30,000.00	50,000.00	AC
						71300	*Local Consultants*		32,000.00	32,000.00	AD
						74200	*Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs*		1,500.00	1,500.00	AE
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*		1,500.00	1,500.00	AF

Objective 5: Knowledge sharing and learning	**Outcome 5.1: Best practices with respect to institutional capacity building and coordination, direct access, and pipeline development are developed and disseminated to strengthen engagement by NDA, DAEs, and delivery partners with the GCF**	Output 5.1.1: NDAs, DAEs, DPs have developed knowledge products containing information on LECRD, lessons learned, or best practices extracted from within the country and from other countries	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71300*	*Local Consultants*	12,000.00	12,000.00	24,000.00	AG
						72100	*Contractual Services-Companies*	34,000.00	34,000.00	68,000.00	AH
						71600	*Travel*	8,000.00	8,000.00	16,000.00	AI
						74200	*Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs*	2,500.00	2,500.00	5,000.00	AJ
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*		1,500.00	1,500.00	AK
		Output 5.1.2: NDA has established process, systems and/or platforms for identification of best practices, lessons learned and Knowledge Management	001981 UNDP	66001	12526	*71400*	*Contractual Services-Individual*	20,500.00	20,500.00	41,000.00	AL
						71300	*Local Consultants*	9,600.00	9,600.00	19,200.00	AM
						72200	*Equipment and Furniture*	4,000.00		4,000.00	AN
						75700	*Training, Workshops and Confer*		1,500.00	1,500.00	AO
						74200	*Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs*	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	AP
Total Outcome Budget								313,600.00	544,100.00	857,700.00	
Project Management Cost (PMC)	**Project Management Cost (PMC)**	**Project Management Cost (PMC)**	**001981 UNDP**	**66001**	**12526**	*72200*	*Equipment and Furniture*	7,000		7,000	AQ
						71400	*Contractual Services-Individual*	2,500	2,500	5,000	AR
						74100	*Professional Services*	5,000		5,000	AS
						72500	*Supplies*	750	750	1,500	AT
						73100	*Rental & Maintenance Premises*	12,000	12,000	24,000	AU
						74596	*Services to Projects - GOEs*	10,000	11,366	21,366	AV
Total PMC								37,250	26,616	63,866	
Total Project Grant without fee								350,850	570,716	921,566.00	

DP Fee 8.5%	29,823	48,511	78,334.00	
Total Grant	380,673	619,227	999,900.00	

Budget Notes

Budget Note	Detailed Description
A	Cost for one International Consultant for develop detailed regulations that define and operationalize the structure, mandate, and functions of the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) (20 days at approximate rate of USD 600/day) (Activity 1.1.2.1.)
B	Cost for two National Consultants for develop detailed regulations that define and operationalize the structure, mandate, and functions of the National Climate Change Committee (90 days at approximate rate of USD 200/day) (Activity 1.1.2.1.)
C	Cost for the Project Manager, National Technical Advsier and Project Associate to provide oversight and support for the NCCC secretariat (10 months at approximate rate of USD 5000/month) (Output 1.1)
D	Cost for 2 Advisors (1 for the NCCC Secretariat on mitigation component and one for the NCCC Secretariat on adapation component) for 14 months at approximate rate of USD 3000/month per Advisor for the implementation of (Activity 1.1.2.2.)
E	Costs associated with the preparation and delivery of 4 training and workshop days, including material, venue and supplemental meeting needs for NCCC members, secretariat and other pertinent stakeholders on effective coordination and functioning of NCCC (at $1,500/workshop day for a total of 4 days for 30 people) (Activity 1.1.2.2.)
F	Costs associated with the production of communication resources (newsletters, brochures, fact sheets, etc.), outreach, lessons learnt and best practice, as well as knowledge modules, decisions and training materials for NCCC. Assumed at a lumpsum of USD 5,000 (Activity 1.1.2.2.)
G	A lumpsum of USD 5,000 for the acquisition of laptops, screens, software licenses, portable hard drive, printer etc., as needed for the NCCC secretariat. At least 2 laptops, 2 PC Monitors, docking stations, UPS etc. (Activity 1.1.2.2.)
H	Office supplies for the National Climate Change Commission secretariat at a lumpsum of USD 4,000 (Activity 1.1.2.2.)
I	Cost of one National Consultant to develop Policy Brief on NDC, including potential for mainstreaming (90 days at approximate rate of USD 200/day) (Activity 2.2.3.1)
J	Cost for one National Consultant to undertake relevant policy reviews for mainstreaming NDC elements (120 days at approximate rate of USD 200/day) (Activity 2.2.3.2 and Activity 2.2.3.3)
K	Cost for the Project Manager, National Technical Advsier and Project Associate to oversee policy reviews (8 months at approximate rate of USD 5000/month) (Output 2.2.3)
L	Costs associated with the preparation and delivery of one 1-day workshop, including material, venue and supplemental meeting needs for consultations and validation of policy brief ($1,500/workshop day for 30 people) (Activity 2.2.3.1)
M	Costs associated with the preparation and delivery of one 1-day workshop, including material, venue and supplemental meeting needs for consultations and and validation of policy revisions($1,500/workshop day for 30 people) (Activity 2.2.3.3)
N	Cost associate with printing of documents and materials for training, visibility and comunication material at a lumpsum of USD 4,000

O	Cost for at least 5 national consultant to study and model the impact of climate change on: 1. Water availability; 2. Health systems; 3. Agriculture; 4. Transport and urbanization; 5 Forestry sector (total 360 days at approximate rate of USD 200/day). The studies will support implementation of Nationally Determined Contibution and National Climate Change Adaptation Program. There may be synergies between available consultants that will reduce the number of contracts – will be assessed during the procurement process. (Activity 2.2.5.1)
P	Cost for the Project Manager, National Technical Advsier and Project Associate to oversee studies of climate impacts on different sectors (10 months at approximate rate of USD 5000/month) (Output 2.2)
Q	Cost for two National consultants for climate change modelling (80 days at approximate rate of USD 200/day) (Activity 2.2.5.1)
R	2 International learning visit /exchange of experience / capacity building for 4 people at USD 4,000 per participant ($1,000 airfare and $3,000 DSA) for about 1-week (Activity 2.2.5.1)
S	Costs associated with the preparation and delivery of one 1-day workshop, including material, venue and supplemental meeting needs for training on climate impact on different sectors ($1,500/workshop day for 30 people) (Activity 2.2.5.1)
T	Costs associated with the production of communication resources (newsletters, brochures, fact sheets, etc.), outreach, lessons learnt and best practice, as well as knowledge modules, decisions and training material. Set of 4 materials are expected to be printed at the cost of USD 3,000 per set. (Output 2.2.3)
U	Cost for one International Consultant to lead the development/revision of at least two Concept Notes (20 days at approximate rate of USD 600/day) (Activity 4.1.1.2
V	Cost for at least three Local consultants to support the development of at least four concept notes (total 160 days at approximate rate of USD 200/day) (Activity 4.1.1.1 and Activity 4.1.1.2)
W	Cost for the Project Manager, National Technical Advsier and Project Associate to oversee and support development of at least four Concept Notes and pipeline (8 months at approximate rate of USD 5000/month) (Output 4.1)
X	Cost of one Local consultant to train Central and Local Public Authorities in development of Concept Notes (40 days at approximate rate of USD 200/day) (Activity 4.1.1.2)
Y	One International learning visit for CC technologies transfer for 4 people at USD 4,000 per participant ($1,000 airfare and $3,000 DSA) for about 1-week (Activity 4.1.1.2)
Z	Costs associated with the preparation and delivery of 2 one-day workshop days, including material, venue and supplemental meeting needs (at $1,500/workshop day for 30 people) for consultations and validation of concept notes (Activity 4.1.1.2)
AA	Costs associated with the production of communication resources (newsletters, brochures, fact sheets, etc.), outreach, lessons learnt and best practice, as well as knowledge modules, decisions and training materials at a lumpsum of USD 3,000 (Output 4.1.1)
AB	Cost of one International Lead Consultant for GCF Full Proposal development (30 days at approximate rate of USD 600/day) (Activity 4.5.3.1)
AC	Cost for the Project Manager, National Technical Advsier and Project Associate to support and guide Full Proposal Development (10 months at approximate rate of USD 5000/month) (Output 4.5)
AD	Cost of at least four Local Consultants for Full Proposal development, including for specific studies (total 160 days at approximate rate of USD 200/day) (Activity 4.5.3.1)
AE	Costs associated with the production of communication resources (newsletters, brochures, fact sheets, etc.), outreach, lessons learnt and best practice, as well as training materials for Full Proposal Development at a lumpsum of USD 1,500.
AF	Costs associated with the preparation and delivery of one-day workshops, including material, venue and supplemental meeting needs (at $1,500/workshop day for 30 people) for consultations, training and validation of GCF Full Proposal (Activity 4.5.3.1)
AG	Cost of one Local Consultant to oversee development of knowledge products and maintaining Climate Change Information and Knowledge Management Portal (total 20 months at approximate rate of USD 1,200$/month) (Activity 5.1.1.1)
AH	Professional services - Firm #1: to engage a firm for up to USD 68,000 lumpsum to develop additional real time functionalities for Climate Change Information and Knowledge Management Portal (Activity 5.1.1.1
AI	Two International travel for official billateral or regional meetings on CC actions, technology transfer, best practicies to support climate promise for 2 people at USD 4,000 per participant ($1,000 airfare and $3,000 DSA) for about 1-week (Activity 5.1.1.2)

AJ	Costs associated with Audio Visual & Printing materials for knowledge dissemination at a lumpsum of USD 5,000
AK	Costs associated with the preparation and delivery of one-day Workshop / Training / Webinars, including material, venue and supplemental meeting needs (at $1,500/workshop day for 30 people) for introduction and use of knowledge products
AL	Cost for the Project Manager, National Technical Advsier and Project Associate to oversee and support development knowledge products (10 months at approximate rate of USD 4100/month) (Output 5.1)
AM	Cost of one Comunication Specialist (USD 800 per month for a period of 24 months) (Activity 5.1.2.1)
AN	Cost associated with purchase of IT equipmet (server) for climate change information and knowledge management portal at a lumpsum of USD 4,000
AO	One day Workshop on web-based platform updating and maintenance. The cost includes material, venue and supplemental meeting needs (at $1,500/workshop day for 30 people) (Activity 5.1.2.1)
AP	Costs associated with Audio Visual & Printing materials for knowledge dissemination at a lumpsum of USD 5,000
AQ	Cost associated with acquisition 2 laptops, 2 PC Monitors, docking stations, UPS, software licenses, portable hard drive, printer etc., as needed for PM team at a lumpsum of USD 7,000 (PM cost)
AR	Cost of Project Associate
AS	Cost associated with audit services at a lumpsum of USD 4,000
AT	Office supplies for the printing of documents for various project management activities, communications, monitoring and reporting documents and other informative documents for dissemination to key stakeholders, as appropriate at a lumpsum of USD 1500 (PM cost)
AU	Costs associated with renting UNDP premises for the project team (PM cost)
AV	Services to project including longlisting, shortlisting, contract management, payments, reconciliations etc Project services will be charged as per local UNDP UPL. (PM cost)