

Republic of Moldova's Country Programme for the engagement with GCF

Introduction:

At the Paris Conference in 2015, the Republic of Moldova put forward its "Intended Nationally Determined Contribution" (INDC) with a commitment to reduce, by 2030, the net greenhouse gas emissions by 64-78% relative to 1990 levels. The document also sets the objectives for adaptation to climate change. The country puts efforts to attain these ambitious goals, at the same time seeking external support in the form of financial resources, technology transfer, and technical assistance.

The Green Climate Fund, as part of the UNFCCC financial mechanism, supports the global effort of the world community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. It recognizes the need to ensure that developing country partners exercise ownership of climate change funding and integrate it within their own national action plans. The Country Programme for the engagement with GCF is a key tool to demonstrate country ownership across the programming process with the GCF to help the country transition and adapt to the implications of climate change, through short, medium and long-term measures that can promote new development pathways and resilience (per the Article 2.1 (a) and (b) of the Paris Agreement).



The Country Programme of the Republic of Moldova is foreseen as a living document that sets out country's climate change priorities, the engagement strategy with GCF, and the initial set of project ideas that the country would like to implement with GCF support, taking a gender-sensitive approach. It is also a basic document that supports the structured dialogue between GCF, the National Designated Authority (DNA), and the national and international GCF Accredited Entities (EAs). In this respect, AEs must demonstrate their commitment to climate change and sustainable development of Moldova and help to promote the paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate resilient development pathways, high social and environmental standards.

Keywords: Country Programme for engagement with GCF, NDC, concept notes (CNs), project proposals (PPs), climate change adaptation and mitigation, Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS), Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (CCAS), MRV system.

Country Programme's content:

The Programme consists of three main components and the respective annexes: 1) Country Profile; 2) Country Agenda in the engagement with GCF; 3) Monitoring and Evaluation of Country Programme implementation.

Country Profile.

Gross domestic product: US\$(current) 2290 per capita (2017); Population - 3.551 million (2017); RM emits less than 0.04% of total global CO2 emissions; Key climate risks - droughts and floods, annual average temperature increase, uneven rainfall distribution; Vulnerable sectors - agriculture, health, water, forestry, transport, energy; Key sector of GHG emissions: Energy - 68.1%; Bank credit cost - about 12%; Country Rate Risk Premium (RRP) - 9.25% ("Moody's rating").

Country Agenda in the engagement with GCF:

The Fund finances projects and programmes in line with its Results Management Framework (RMF), which defines eight strategic impacts to be achieved at the Fund level: Mitigation: 1. Energy generation and access; 2. Transport; 3. Buildings, cities, industries, and appliances; 4. Forests and land use; Adaptation: 5. Health, food and water security; 6. Livelihoods of people and communities; 7. Infrastructure and built environment; 8. Ecosystems and ecosystem services.

At the same time, the projects are eligible for funding if they:

- include measures that contribute to the achievement of the country's NDC objectives;
- comply with the Fund's six investment criteria (Impact potential, Paradigm shift potential, Sustainable development potential, Needs of the recipient, Country ownership, Efficiency and effectiveness) and meeting the minimum performance indicators established by the GCF.

Another important condition for accessing the GFC's financial resources is that the actions should represent the country's priorities and address strategic climate issues. Therefore, based on the preliminary extensive stakeholder consultation, the following priorities of the Republic of Moldova were identified:

Mitigation component: a) Energy Efficiency; b) Renewable Energy Sources (RES); c) Land Afforestation;



Adaptation component:

Agriculture	Building climate resilience of the agriculture sector through: -Sustainable soil management (conservation, precise, ecologic agriculture practices) -Promotion of efficient irrigation systems -Crop diversity and resistance -Increased food security -Integrated food-energy systems for Climate-Smart agriculture	Water Resources	Promote climate resilient water management through: -Water resources assessment, supply augmentation and demand management, taking into account social and gender aspects -Efficient water treatment and reuse -Management of extreme events (flooding, drought)
Transport	Promote clean and efficient transport in the country through: -Resilient urban infrastructure to reduce exposure to climate hazards -Climate proofing of transport infrastructure (roads, bridges, viaducts, railways, runways) -Adopt climate resilient codes, standards, and related instruments -Rural population access to climate resilient road system, which takes into account social, age and gender aspects.	Health	Increase climate resilience of health system to identify, monitor, respond and prepare for changes in health and disease burdens related to the climate of women and men (of different ages, abilities, social status, place of residence) through: -Improved health services to vulnerable groups of the population -Hospital infrastructure for operationalization to green standards -Prevention, early warning, management and overcoming the impact of extreme weather events (heat, cold, floods)
Forestry	Promote sustainable natural resources management through: -Afforestation/reforestation, considering the ecosystems -Sustainable forestry management and ecosystem services -Ecological restoration of degraded pastures	Energy	Ensure the country's energy security through: -Climate proofing of energy system infrastructure -Ensure the functioning of infrastructure and the energy sector on the occurrence of any climatic events -Promotion of water-energy-land nexus with emphasis on renewable sources of energy
Cross-sectoral Priorities		Enhanced resilience of communities of Moldova to adverse effects of climate change, taking into account the social and gender aspects	

The initial set of project ideas and initiatives of the Republic of Moldova complying with the Fund's investment priorities, country's climate investment and sustainable development priorities have been identified and proposed for Accredited Entities to transform them into GCF concept notes or project proposals. In total, 16 project ideas (10 on mitigation and 6 on adaptation) and the most relevant actions from LEDS and CCAS, along with needed readiness support for the engagement with GCF form the initial portfolio of Moldova. The portfolio will be updated and broaden based on submitted to the NDA concept notes and project proposals prepared by the AEs. Proposed CNs and PPs will undergo the prioritization process, with a final contribution to the whole Moldova's pipeline of the projects to be submitted to the GCF. The programmatic approach is to be implemented through an extensive consultation process ensured by the cross-sectoral Coordination Mechanism led by the NDA.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Country Programme's implementation: The monitoring of GCF-funded projects will be part of the overall country level Monitoring, Reporting and Verification system of mitigation and adaptation actions. The draft normative acts that will put in force a well-structured MRV is currently under public consultation. Their approval and publication are expected in 2018-2019. Being a living document, the Country Programme will be updated periodically, the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment as GCF NDA is responsible for this activity.

Conclusion

GCF Accredited Entities operating on Moldova's territory are highly encouraged to produce their Entity Work Programme with the overview of the entity's areas of work, priority sectors, planned concept notes and project proposals complying with eight strategic impacts of the GCF, country's investment priorities and having significant contribution to Moldova's climate change transformative project pipeline to be submitted to GCF.

<u>Contact information:</u> Climate Change Office

The Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment of the Republic of Moldova MD-2004, Chişinău, 156a Mitropolit Dosoftei street , of. 37, Tel/Fax: +373 22 232247; E-mail: adapt@clima.md







