

Republic of Moldova

Moldova Climate Adaptation

RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK



Developed by
Project Management Team
www.moldovapops.md

Chisinau, Moldova
January, 2017

Table of Content

1	Executive Summary	6
2	Project Description	8
3	Resettlement Policy Framework: Objective and Scope	11
4	Legal Framework Pertaining to Land Use for development Purposes	12
4.1	Moldavian legislation applicable in cases of displacement and resettlement	12
4.2	World Bank policy on involuntary resettlement	13
4.3	Gap analysis of national and World Bank safeguard requirements	14
5	Socioeconomic Baseline Analysis of Project Area	15
5.1	Project area of influence	15
5.2	Socioeconomic analysis of country and project context	17
5.3	Land ownership and land use patterns	21
6	Key Principles for implementation of social management framework	22
7	Project Affected Persons (PAPs)	24
8	Potential Social Impacts and Mitigation Measures	25
9	Social Assessment/Screening Procedure	27
10	Entitlements Matrix	29
11	Stakeholder Analysis and Engagement Plan	33
12	Grievance Redress Mechanism	34
13	Implementation Arrangement	37
14	Monitoring and evaluation	38
15	RPF Disclosure and Consultation	38

Abbreviations

A- RAP – Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan

AM – Apele Moldovei

CIS – Centralized Irrigation System

ERPF - Environmental and Social Management Framework

MCADP - Moldova Climate Adaptation Project

OP – Operational Policy

RPF- Resettlement Policy Framework

SIA –Social Impact Assessment

PMT - Project Management Team

LPA – Local Public Authorities

NGO – Non-governmental organisation

PAP – Project Affected Person

RAP – Resettlement Action Plan

RPF – Resettlement Policy Framework

WB – World Bank

WUA – Water User Associations

List of figures

Figure 1. The location of the identified six rayons (in green circles) for afforestation activities, rehabilitation of forest belts and rehabilitation of pastures.	16
Figure 2. Map of existing irrigation systems in Moldova.....	16
Figure 3. Rural/Urban population in the Republic of Moldova 2000-2016	17

List of tables

Table 1. The total population (in thousands) of the rayons in 2010, 2013 and 2015	19
Table 3 Project affected persons as per Moldavian legislation.....	24
Table 4. Project affected persons – WB provisions	24
Table 5. Table -Social Screening checklist to assess involuntary resettlement impacts and social risks.....	27
Table 6. Responsible entities for implementation of RPF	37

Definitions/Terminology

Land users – persons who are working the land but do not have formal rights of ownership. The land users can use the land based on a renting agreement or they are registered/ customary users (in the agricultural registry available at the municipality level). Beside these two categories, there are also users who traditionally have used a land plot but they are not registered with the municipality and illegal/sporadic users;

Land owners - persons who possess legal documents over the land plots. They can be either official landowners or legitimate (legalizable) landowners. The last category includes the landowners who possess a house or a building on a land plot and have not yet officially registered the house and the land near the house. Only the land plots with houses and the ones near a house can be legalized;

Project Affected Persons (PAPs) – persons who are directly or indirectly impacted by the project activities;

Resettlement measures – set of activities that are needed in order to mitigate the impacts on the income level of affected persons;

Involuntary resettlement – this term usually refers both to physical displacement (relocation or loss of shelter) and to economic displacement (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or means of livelihood) as a result of project-related land acquisition or restriction of access to natural resources. In the current project context, this term is used only in reference to economic displacement. This is due to the case that all the investments are proposed to take place on public lands.

Vulnerable group - refers to people who, by virtue of gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, indigenous status, age, disability, economic disadvantage or social status may be more adversely affected by project impacts than others and who may be limited in their ability to claim or take advantage of project

1 Executive Summary

In the context of Climate Adaptation Project (MCAP), the Government of Moldova, represented by Ministry of Environment has decided to prepare a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) in order to address adverse social impacts and risks associated with the project development and implementation. The RPF has been prepared in compliance with Moldavian laws and World Bank's social safeguards policies and guidelines.

The project has not identified specific interventions and geographical locations yet. Therefore, it is not possible to prepare specific safeguards instruments at this stage. The Social Impact Assessment (SIA) revealed that there will be no private land acquisitions, physical displacement or resettlement under the project. It neither intends to invest in protected areas nor in the designated parks declared by the Moldova Government. The SIA identifies limited adverse social impacts such as loss of livelihood, economic displacement and restriction of access to people who use natural and livelihood resources during the period of rehabilitation and reconstructions of such resources. The OP 4.12 Involuntary resettlement policy is triggered in order to address some of these economic displacement aspects and other social risks associated with land use. The RPF presents the general framework to implement a set of mitigation measures to ensure fair and equal treatments for all the affected persons including compensations for their properties or livelihoods affected adversely . It also includes a brief description of the project area of influence and project-affected persons, social impacts and mitigation measures, grievance redress mechanism, stakeholder engagement process prior to and during project implementation, draft entitlement matrix and institutional arrangements for implementation of RPF.

MCAP includes four components, each including several activities. Out of all activities only two types of activities are included in component 1 of the project which will have a direct or indirect impact on people's livelihoods and economic activities. The first activity is related to restoration of degraded land owned by Local Public Authorities (LPAs), through a mixture of afforestation, protection/shelter belts and improved pastures. The second activity focuses on irrigation and especially on specific support offered to members of Water Users Associations to access the existing irrigation systems. All actions will be implemented on public lands. Still, due to the unforeseen actions or due to technical constrains, there might be some adverse impacts on private land.

The implementation of the above mentioned actions might lead to potential disturbances to land situated in the immediate proximity of the area that is allocated for afforestation, pasture rehabilitation or for establishment of the forest shelter belts. Same situation might occur when implementing measures for supporting persons to access the irrigation systems (some infrastructure equipment might cross private lands). Disputes and conflicts might occur in situations when trying to obtain the Right of Way (RoW) to connect to the hydrants. Another

area of potential social risks is the disturbances to farmers / vulnerable groups during pasture rehabilitation due to access limitations imposed for herding during certain periods.

For all these situations the PIU has developed a set of measures that are aiming at compensating the incurred losses by all PAPs. The entitlement matrix includes packages of compensatory measures that need to be disclosed and discussed with all relevant stakeholders, including the PAPs and decided together with them on the most appropriate mean for compensation.

The RPF therefore includes some additional provisions for assuring that all affected parties are effectively engaged prior to and during project implementation and adverse impacts are mitigated timely and fair manner.

2 Project Description

The Government of Moldova is currently preparing a Climate Adaptation & Forestry project to be financed by the World Bank. Moldova Climate Adaptation and Forestry Project (MCADP) objective is to enhance productivity and resilience through climate-smart forestry and agriculture in targeted landscapes and through strengthening national climate forecasting and disaster management systems.

The project is focusing on land management, irrigation, civil protection and emergency situations. Envisaged actions that will be included in the project will generate some environmental and social impacts. The World Bank’s environmental and social safeguards are to be triggered in this respect and the borrower agency will prepare a set of safeguards documents that will assist the project implementation process and ensure that all social impacts will be properly identified and assessed in all project stages and the negative ones will be effectively mitigated.

Based on the feasibility study results and information provided by technical teams¹ the following activities will be implemented under different components in the proposed investment programme:

Component 1: Climate-resilient Practices in the Agriculture Sector	
<i>Sub-component 1.1. Scale-up of Farmers’ Climate Smart Agricultural Practices</i>	
1.1.1.	Demonstrative projects (Grant scheme) - scaling up of integrated climate resilient practices and investments, such as greenhouses, minimum and no-till agriculture, UV/hail nets, micro/drip irrigation;
1.1.2	Capacity building - promotion and public awareness of CSA as well as a special training program to facilitate the farmers’ adoption of climate adaptation measures and technologies.
<i>Sub-component 1.2. Community-based irrigation and strengthening of Water User Associations (WUA)</i>	
1.2.1	Technical assistance to WUAs, capacity building
1.2.2	Grant facility for on-farm irrigation equipment

This component aims to enhance adoption of climate-resilient agriculture practices in selected rural landscapes by supporting: (i) scale-up of farmers’ climate-smart agricultural (CSA) practices and provision of related-advisory services; and (ii) community-based irrigation and strengthening of Water User Associations (WUA).

Sub-component 1.1. Scale-up of Farmers’ Climate Smart Agricultural Practices. Demand-driven investments aimed at scaling up successful climate adaption measures on agricultural farmlands will be supported through matching grants that will be available to eligible farmers and agricultural producers, including rural households and private/agricultural entities in

¹ Project description is based on the latest information provided by the technical /client team and these are subject to change further as the technical teams conduct assessments to refine/prioritize the investments.

Moldova. The project will make available climate adaptation grants for on-farm climate-smart investments and technologies such as anti-hale protection, rain water/surface water harvesting, drip irrigation, greenhouse climate control systems; no-till and other soil conservation measures. It is anticipated that the great majority of grants will benefit farmers operating on small plots and will support micro-investments for low-cost solutions with the remaining grants targeted at bigger, commercial farmers for small- and medium-size investments in more complex technologies. Grant size and co-financing ratio vary depending on the type and size of investments: up to 90% of micro-investments with a grant size ceiling of US\$2,200; up to 70% of small-size investments with a grant ceiling of US\$20,000 and up to 50% of medium-size investments with a grant ceiling of US\$40,000. Eligibility criteria include among others: (i) land titling rights; (ii) willingness to contribute financially; (iii) commitment to participate in capacity building activities; and (iv) willingness to provide access to the farm/site for knowledge and experience sharing. Matching grants will be delivered through the National Rural Development Agency (ACSA) given its experience and successful performance in managing similar grants in the agriculture sector under Bank-funded projects and its country-wide network. Farmers from at least 200 villages are expected to participate in the project. This sub-component will also include promotion and public awareness of CSA as well as a special training program to facilitate the farmers' adoption of climate adaptation measures and technologies.

Sub-component 1.2. Support to community-based irrigation. This sub-component provides grant financing to Water User Associations (WUAs) to help their member farmers to access 10 existing large-scale irrigation systems that were recently rehabilitated under the US-funded Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC). This activity will address the current lack of adequate and appropriate on-farm irrigation equipment that can also satisfy the minimum pumping capacity requirement of the rehabilitate MCC schemes. Climate adaptation grants for eligible investments (e.g. mobile aspersion irrigation machines with reel and console and a hydraulic turbine) will be provided on a demand-driven basis to eligible WUAs. This sub-component will also provide capacity building to WUAs to manage irrigation more effectively and improve their governance and management processes. Capacity building will be delivered by the Sustainable Development Account (SDA) Moldova, a public institution established to continue the implementation of the MCC program.

COMPONENT 2. Climate-resilient Forest and Pasture Management	
Sub-component 2.1. Community Forest and Pasture Management.	
2.1.1.	Silvo-pastoral management plans - integrated and participatory planning and management of public lands at the level of the LPA including pastures, forests and protection forest belts
2.1.2	Investments in afforestation and rehabilitation of community forest lands and pastures.
Sub-component 2.2. Ecological Restoration of Degraded Forests	
2.2.1.	National Centre for Forest Genetics and Seeds (NCFGS)
2.2.2.	Capacity building and training on climate-resilient ecological restoration that would include field trials and best practice demonstration sites

This component aims to improve the climate resilience of the forestry and pasture lands through improved climate-smart management. The first sub-component focuses on afforestation and rehabilitation of forest lands and pastures. The second sub-component will support provision of native and climate-adapted seeds and capacity building on ecological restoration.

Sub-component 2.1. Community Forest and Pasture Management. Activities will support integrated participatory forest and pasture management planning at the Local Public Authority (LPA) level, as well as investments in afforestation and rehabilitation of community forest lands and pastures. The plans will facilitate the holistic and integrated approach to the management of LPA land resources (pastures and forests) and contribute to more efficient and sustainable use of these resources. Investment activities will be concentrated in selected LPAs within six priority rayons, and will include afforestation, rehabilitation of forest belts, new shelterbelts, riparian buffers, and rehabilitation of degraded lands and pastures. Eligibility and selection criteria will apply to the LPA’s sites to be restored/rehabilitated. Approximately 2500 ha of communal forest lands and 700ha of degraded pastures are expected to be restored. Technical assistance and financial support to LPAs will be provided through ICAS, a state forestry research and management institute that has had previous and successful experience with similar projects funded by the WB/BioCarbon Fund.

Sub-component 2.2. Ecological Restoration of Degraded Forests. This sub-component will include the establishment of a National Centre for Forest Genetics and Seeds (NCFGS) to improve production capacity (both quantity and quality) of certified reproductive material from native climate change resilient species; investments in a modern nursery production facility to enhance the national capacity for seedling production; capacity building and training on climate-resilient ecological restoration that would include field trials and best practice demonstration sites.

Component 3: Climate and Disaster Risk Management	
<i>Sub-component 3.1. Improved climate-related disaster preparedness and response.</i>	
3.1.1.	Preparedness and response equipment and training
3.1.3.	Modernization and upgrading of the Balti regional Emergency Command Center (ECC) to international standards
<i>Sub-component 3.2. Contingent Emergency Response Facility</i>	

This component aims to strengthen Moldova’s climate and disaster risk management systems and, in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency, provide immediate financing to respond quickly to such emergency.

Sub-component 3.1. Improved climate-related disaster preparedness and response. This sub-component aims to strengthen the capacity of national and regional Civil Protection authorities to prepare for and respond to extreme weather events linked to climate change by supporting (i) preparedness and response equipment and training (ii) modernization and upgrading of the Balti regional Emergency Command Center (ECC) to international standards. The provision of equipment and certified training, such as the renewal of fire and rescue units, will reduce critical response time and improve the safety and efficiency of interventions. A decrease of the environmental impact of emergency operations (due to more modern environmentally-friendly equipment), a more streamlined management process, and reduced maintenance costs are expected. The refurbishment of the regional ECC in Balti will provide redundancy and interoperability to the national emergency management system, ensuring a modern and

continuous management of incidents of diverse scales at local and national levels, and will render a more efficient use of resources for emergency preparedness and response. The regional ECC will further facilitate joint disaster response with local agency representatives. Training of ECC staff will enhance crisis management decision-making processes, allowing CPESS to issue timely warnings and undertake prevention and response measures, including evacuating affected populations.

Sub-component 3.2. Contingent Emergency Response Facility. The objective of this sub-component is to improve Moldova's capacity to better respond to disasters. Following an adverse natural or man-made event that causes a major disaster; the Government of Moldova may request the Bank to re-allocate project funds to this component to partially cover emergency response and recovery costs. This sub-component could also be used to channel additional funds should they become available as a result of the emergency. [1]

Component 4: Project Management and Monitoring

This component will finance the operating costs of a Project Management Team (PMT) housed within the Ministry of Environment (MOE) to carry out project management functions for the project. Support will be provided for procurement, financial management, coordination, reporting, and monitoring and evaluation. The PMT will be responsible for coordination among the implementing agencies to ensure smooth project implementation.

3 Resettlement Policy Framework: Objective and Scope

Development induced displacement most time create adverse social and economic consequences. Displacement can be either physical or economic. Economic displacement results in disruption of commerce and industry, which is accompanied by loss of activities and income by the persons and households impacted by the project. Physical displacement on the other hand causes damage or loss of properties, resettlement or relocation of people due to project interventions. These Project Affected Persons (PAP) find themselves in a difficult environment without adequate preparation and without consideration of their adaptation to the receiving environment, which can have adverse results. In particular, under displaced conditions, social and community systems experience pressure which causes disassociation of related groups, destruction of traditional values and loss of cultural identity, which can result in conflicts, loss of social identity and function.

Thus it is vital to develop proper mitigation measures and socially acceptable arrangements to address these social impacts. The RPF has been prepared with the aim of laying out the principles for addressing such potential adverse social and economic impacts initiated by the development of MCADP in compliance with Moldavian laws and the World Bank's social safeguards policy principles and guidelines.

This document focuses on presenting the general framework to address project related adverse social impacts of the PAPs. There are two categories of activities that will have direct or indirect impact on people's livelihoods. The first activity is related to restoration of degraded land owned by Local Public Authorities (LPAs), through a mixture of afforestation, protection/shelter belts and improved pastures. The second activity focuses on irrigation and especially on specific support offered to members of Water Users Associations to access the existing irrigation systems. The same principles will apply in case of changed project design and other activities resulting in land acquisition or economic displacement currently not foreseen.

As described in the technical summaries of the proposed investments, all the activities foreseen to occur within this project will be located on public lands. The Environmental Assessment Framework prepared for this project includes special provisions for assessing lands proposed for afforestation or pasture improvement so that all proposed investments will avoid land that is included in any Protected Areas (PAs), both national and local ones. Furthermore, the selection criteria for lands that will be included in this project areas formulated as follows: (a) land must be owned by the LPA, (b) LPA's willingness for including the land for afforestation / rehabilitation; the selection needs to be based on participatory decision making process, (c) land must not be in a protected area. Thus, the current document does not include a process framework which is usually required in cases when investment projects are occurring in natural protected areas.

4 Legal Framework Pertaining to Land Use for development Purposes

4.1 Moldavian legislation applicable in cases of displacement and resettlement

Moldovan legislation doesn't make explicit references to resettlement issues. However, there are legal provisions relevant for development of social safeguards instruments and these address expropriation of land or property for the public interest. Moldova has a legal framework that establishes the expropriation as a legal operation by which the property and the property rights of private property are forcedly transferred into the public property, in order to carry out the public utility works for national or local interest, with fair compensation. The expropriation procedures are governed by the Law on Expropriation for Public Benefit, No. 488-XIV adopted on July 8, 1999 and detailed by the Government Decision No. 660 of 15 June 2006.

The main Moldovan laws and regulations pertaining to land acquisition and resettlement are:

1. Constitution of the Republic of Moldova (adopted on July 29, 1994);
2. Civil Code No. 1107-XV of June 6, 2002;
3. Land Code No. 828-XII of December 25, 1991;
4. Water Law no. 272-XVI of 23.12.2011;
5. Family Code No. 1316 of October 26, 2000;
6. Law On expropriation for public benefit No. 488-XIV of July 8, 1999;
7. Law On normative price and order of purchase and sale of land No. 1308-XIII of July

25, 1997;

8. Law On public administration No. 436-XVI of December 28, 2006;

The land Code is one the most important act that is important to be considered in resettlement cases. This document establishes the categories of land based on their use and mandates the necessary protection regimes for different land categories.

The law on expropriation for public benefit projects offers guidance and sets the procedures for supporting projects to be implemented when these are in need of obtaining certain lands.

The main principles set in the expropriation law are:

- the law is applicable only if the project is declared as being of public interest and the responsible authority (at national / regional or local level) issues an official decision in this respect;
- The Expropriator has to value the property both at market value and normative value. Cash compensation at market rate or normative rate whichever is higher is paid to the Affected Person prior to expropriation. Transaction costs are bared by the Expropriator;
- Land to land option is also considered under expropriation law;
- The expropriation law does not have any provision on how to consider persons without formal title on property.

4.2 World Bank Policy on Involuntary Resettlement

World Bank policy (OP 4.12) aims to avoid involuntary resettlement as far as possible, or to minimize its negative social and economic impacts. Specifically, OP 4.12 stipulates that development projects should avoid or minimize involuntary resettlement, but in cases where it is unavoidable, when people lose their homes or livelihoods as a result of the project implementation, their standard of living should be restored at least to pre-project levels or better conditions. OP 4.12 encourages public participation in resettlement planning and implementation. The OP 4.12 also emphasizes that affected persons should be assisted in their efforts to improve or at least to recover their incomes and their living standards after the project interventions. The policy requires the implementing borrower agencies to prepare appropriate resettlement planning instruments prior to impregnation of investments that may impact on people, their property and livelihood.

Furthermore, the WB OP 4.12 also includes provisions for situations when financed projects involves involuntary restriction of access to legally designated parks and protected areas, the nature of restrictions, as well as the type of measures necessary to mitigate adverse impacts, is determined with the participation of the displaced persons during the design and implementation of the project. In such cases, the borrower prepares a process framework acceptable to the Bank, describing the participatory process by which (a) specific components of the project will be prepared and implemented; (b) the criteria for eligibility of displaced persons will be determined; (c) measures to assist the displaced persons in their efforts to improve their livelihoods, or at least to restore them, in real terms, while maintaining the

sustainability of the park or protected area, will be identified; and (d) potential conflicts involving displaced persons will be resolved. The process framework also includes a description of the arrangements for implementing and monitoring the process.

4.3 Gap Analysis of National and World Bank Safeguard Requirements

Some of the main principles of the WB OP 4.12 are provided partially met in the national legislation and these are the following:

- The preliminary compensation payment is compulsory in cases when land and property rights are acquired forcibly
- The compensation offer should correspond to the market price or should be compensated by a building or land plot with the same size and value;
- Other damages, such as temporary or permanent loss of crops or production assets, should be compensated;
- Grievances should be examined and solved.

However, the WB OP 4.12 is more explicit as compared to Moldovan legislation regarding such issues as:

- ***Resettlement planning and procedural requirements, engagement practices with PAPs*** – according to Moldovan legislation, the procedure for economic displacement situation is mostly described as a linear set of action, that includes identification of official land owners, valuation process for the affected land plots, decision on the compensation values and communicating it to affected persons and payments. The WB requirements are also oriented towards understanding the link between the affected land and the livelihood of the PAPs. Thus, the recommended approach is much more participatory, engaging with PAPs more and conducting a socio-economic survey for understanding their livelihood.
- ***PAPs entitled for compensation***– according to Moldavian laws, only the legal owners of the land are entitled for compensations. WB safeguards explicitly mention that compensation should be granted to all categories of affected persons, including informal users of the property or the property rights and informal businesses. Beside this, compensation packages should include not only monetary measures by also assistance to PAPs as needed (documenting their rights, initiating property inheritance procedure, etc).
- ***Compensation at replacement cost.***) According to WB provisions, in determining the replacement cost of the affected land or asset, the cost of market value plus taxes and fees, if any, should be taken into account. Moldavian law for expropriation refers to the normative value for land that is determined by licensed evaluators. This does not include all the taxes and fees associated with the land.
- ***Cut-off date*** – The Moldavia laws are not explicitly mentioning the term cut-off date. The cut-off date is usually considered the date when an official decision

is taken by national/regional or local authorities and where all PAPs (legal owners) are identified and compensation packages are decided. According to WB requirements, the cut-off date is the date when the census is finalised.

- ***Protection of vulnerable groups*** (poor and landless persons, women, elderly, minorities) – since the Moldavian laws do not make any difference between land owners, there are no provisions for protection of vulnerable groups. WB requirements are reflecting this and include special provisions for assistance of identified vulnerable groups.
- ***Grievance redress mechanism*** – the difference between Moldavian laws and the WB requirements in respect to grievance redress mechanism can be noticed when analysing the way complaints are dealt with during the resettlement processes. According to Moldavian laws, PAPs can submit their grievances during the process and a committee for grievance redress is established. This commission is only analysing if the compensation package is in line with the legal framework. There are no provisions for assuring that the compensation packages are sufficient, fair and fulfil the needs expressed by the PAPs. Moreover, the commission that is established under Moldavian laws is not playing a mediator role.

5 Socioeconomic Baseline Analysis of Project Area

5.1 Project area of influence

Based on the technical and feasibility assessments and client agency information, the following aspects determine the project area of influence:

- Not all the project components and sub-components include actions that might have a potential adverse social impacts/risks. Only two activities might generate such impact: (i) restoration of degraded land owned by Local Public Authorities (LPAs), through a mixture of afforestation, protection/shelter belts and improved pastures and (ii) support actions offered to members of Water Users Associations (WUA) to access the existing irrigation systems.
- At present, the project area of influence somewhat known only for the second action (ii) related to irrigation services. For the first action, the area of influence is not yet clearly defined.
- The project design may change and other activities may result in land acquisition or economic displacement. These cannot be assessed at this point.

The afforestation, rehabilitation of forest belts and rehabilitation of pastures actions will be concentrated in six districts (rayons) which together offer the potential to provide a suitable land for these actions. Up to date, these rayons have not yet been selected. A total number of 12 rayons are currently analysed. In order to be able to assess the potential resettlement situations, we have included in this report six rayons which have the highest potential to be selected: Basarabasca, Causeni, Cimislia, Falesti, Hincesti and Ungheni. Still, since the

selection process is still undergoing, these are presented only as an example. Once the final six rayons are selected, a detailed analysis of their socio-economic context will be performed.

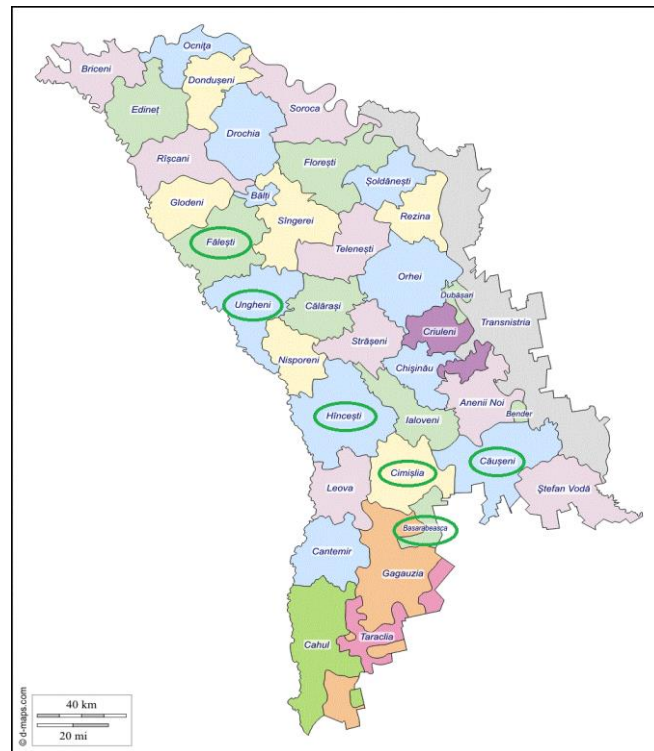
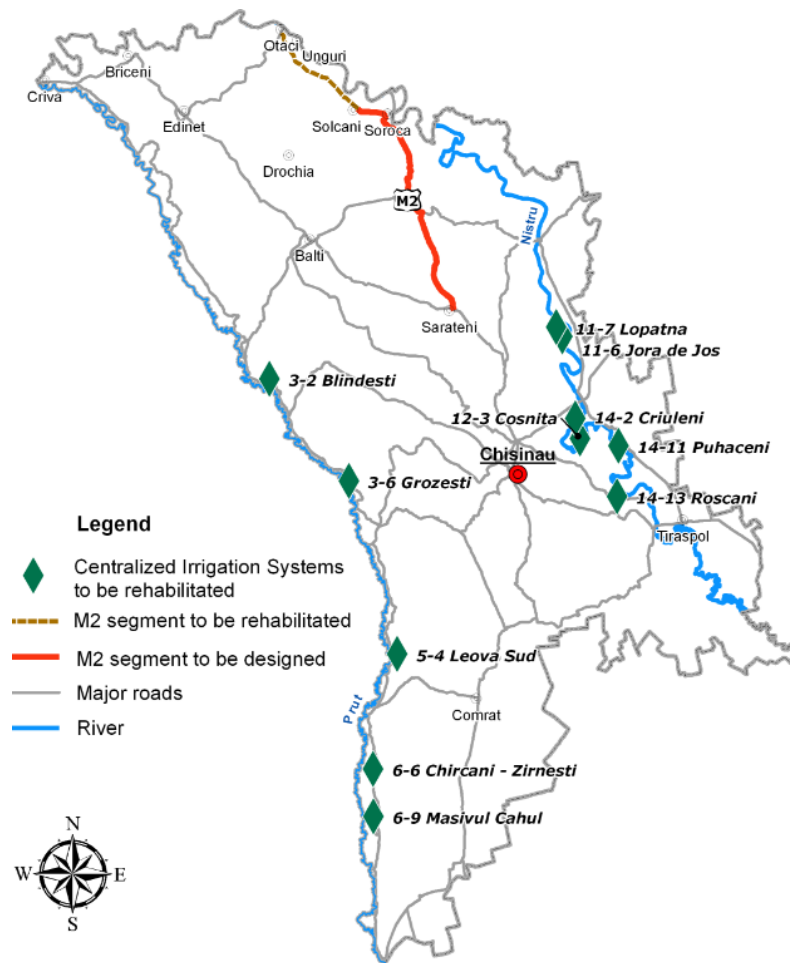


Figure 1. The location of the identified six rayons (in green circles) for afforestation activities, rehabilitation of forest belts and rehabilitation of pastures.

All the actions foreseen for supporting WUAs members to access the existing irrigation systems will take place in the Centre and South region of Moldova. The below map presents the location of the existing irrigation systems that were rehabilitated during the COMPACT programme².

Figure 2. Map of existing irrigation systems in Moldova (source: <http://mca.gov.md/ro/Map.html>, accessed on 12.12.2016)

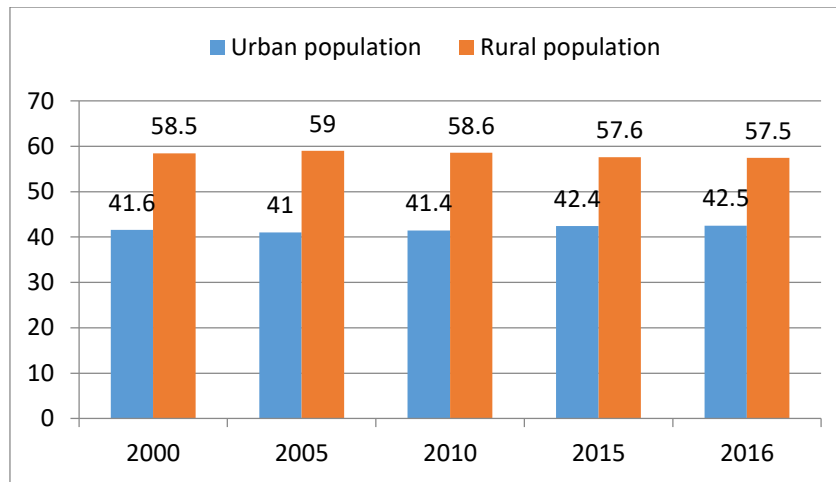
² The presented map includes also the road rehabilitation component of previous COMPACT investment. This was already implemented and is not subject to our project. Also, the map includes one irrigation system (Cahul) that is not functional and is not subject to our project.



5.2 Socioeconomic Analysis of Country and Project Context

The socio-economic data collected during the project appraisal stage are limited to national and regional data. Since there is not yet a clear delineation of the areas where investments will occur, the socio-economic data reflects a snap-shot of the Moldavian society relevant for our project. According to official statistics, the majority of the population of Republic of Moldova (57.5%) lives in rural areas – 2,042,005 inhabitants compared to 42.5% or 1,511,051 inhabitants in urban areas (stated for 2016).

Figure 3. Rural/Urban population in the Republic of Moldova 2000-2016 (in % out of total population) (source: Republic of Moldova National Bureau of Statistics 2016, accessed on 22.11.2016)



According to local media³, the internal migration is growing year by year. More Moldovans leave their home towns and choose to live in the cities where they can find more job opportunities. In the last three years, 40 thousands people have emigrated to the capital (Chisinau) from other towns of the country, with an average of 13.3 thousands annually. Besides Chisinau, the Balti city is the second preferred destination, with an average of 1.3 thousands of immigrated population annually. Other two preferred destinations in the last three years are Orhei and Cahul cities, with an average of 1.2 thousands of immigrated population annually.

People who migrate towards big cities or abroad are mostly working age population – up to 90% and the predominant age group is 20-34 years. The rural areas of Moldova are currently facing a new challenge. The population living in the villages is mainly represented by elderly persons.

Besides job opportunities in urban areas, it is also necessary to mention other reasons that indirectly forced the internal immigration, which is the low level of the social and economic infrastructure existing in the rural areas. The access to the water supply and sewerage system, the access to the centralised heating system, the supply of gas is at a very poor level. For instance, in 2012⁴ about 68.9% of the urban population and 22.7% of the rural population has benefited from access to water and 50.1% of the urban population and just 1.0% of rural localities rural had access to the sewerage system. Also, the access to education is limited in villages and the access to health services is much more limited in rural areas than in urban areas.

The difference between the official data and the reality is due to the official residency of the population which is being unchanged. During the Soviet period a residence visa was strictly required in order to ensure the employment, especially in urban areas, when moving within the territory of the country. Currently, any person may reside and be employed in any district,

³ Figures source: <http://agora.md/analize/79/migratia-interna-in-moldova-satele---punct-de-plecare-chisinau--punct-de-destinatatie>, accessed on November 27, 2016

⁴ Article by Olesca C. See <http://diez.md/2013/10/02/cele-doua-realitati-paralele-din-moldova-viata-de-la-sat-si-cea-de-la-oras/>

regardless of the permanent residence address, which may be registered in any other district of the country. Moldova is considered to be the poorest country in Europe, while the reduction of the country population represents one of the most unfavourable trends for the Moldovan labour market evolution, which in principle, was caused by the situation regarding the economic decline (1991-1999), which has caused in turn a decline in life quality and labour force migration, more extensive in villages than in cities.

The labour migration has been a widespread phenomenon during the past two decades in the Republic of Moldova. According to national statistics, the share of population that left the country in search for better paid jobs increased starting with 2000 – 8.4%, 2005 – 27.7%. Almost one quarter of the working age population was working or looking for work abroad. From 2005 till 2010 the share of emigrants a bit stabilized – 25.2%. The majority of labour migrants leave for CIS countries, mostly Russian Federation and Ukraine, and Western Europe, with large outflows to Italy. This has a direct impact on rural population. The Moldavian villages are facing a new challenge that is visible almost everywhere, except for the villages close by the big cities. Population in most villages is ageing and only elderly persons are still living in the rural areas.

About half of millions of persons are living in the 6 rayons selected for implementing the afforestation, rehabilitation of forest belts and rehabilitation of pastures actions. The below table presents the total population and the demographic trend of each rayon.

Table 1. The total population (in thousands) of the rayons in 2010, 2013 and 2015 (source: Republic of Moldova National Bureau of Statistics)

	2010	2013	2015
Basarabasca	29 304	28 765	28 562
Causeni	92 450	91 477	90 664
Cimislia	61 951	60 811	60 231
Falesti	92 755	92 021	91 633.5
Hincesti	122 398	121 234	120 461
Ungheni	117 398	117 322	117 312.5

As it can be observed in the Table 3, Hincesti and Ungheni have the highest number of population followed by Falesti. However, the population of each rayon has been decreasing in the last 5 years. One of the reasons might be, as already mentioned in the previous section, the general trend of rural population moving towards large urban areas, mainly in central region of the country or even outside the country.

Agriculture and manufacturing industry (wine making and bakery) are the main branches of the socio-economic development of the rayons. The budget revenues and the socio-economic progress crucially depend on these branches. The main crops grown are: grain and vegetables, wheat, barley, corn, sunflower and potatoes.

The following administrative units are included in the area of influence for the investments foreseen for improving the existing irrigation systems:

	Administrative unit	Settlements
1	Blindesti	Sculeni Petresti Medeleni
2	Chircani-Zirnesti	Cucoara Chircani Zirnesti
3	Cosnita	Cosnita Pirita Pohrebea
4	Criuleni	Criuleni Slobozia Dusca
5	Grozesti	Grozesti villages, Soltanesti and Barboieni, Nisporeni town
6	Jora de Jos	Viscauti Jora de Jos
7	Leova Sud	Leova Filipeni villages Hanasenii Noi
8	Lopatna	Lopatna Jora de Mijloc Jora de Sus
9	Puhaceni	Puhaceni Delacau Serpeni
10	Roscani	Gura Bicului Roscani

Data regarding the rehabilitated central irrigation systems are presented in the below table.

CIS name	Irrigated area (ha)	Rehabilitated systems/pump stations	Installed pumps	Official name/Date of establishment	Number of members
Blindesti	587	3	13	“Blindesti” January 6, 2012	75 users of farmland 22 of which are women

Chircani-Zirnesti	2'545 Drainage area: 4605	10 irrigation modules 10 pump stations 2 drainage pumping stations	29	“Chircani-Zirnesti” January 20, 2012	552 153 women
Cosnita	2'483	4 pump stations	10	“Cosnita” January 25, 2012	1'172 447 women
Criuleni	778	2	4	“Criuleni” December 22, 2011	401 176 women
Grozesti	1'100	2	9	“Prutenii II” February 10, 2012	755 268 women
Jora de Jos	1'270	4	17	“Jorile” January 12, 2012	509 165 women
Leova Sud	980	2	9	“Filipeni” January 27, 2012	308 165 women
Lopatna	512	1	3	“AgroRufeni” January 19, 2012	500 173 women
Puhaceni	920	2	4	“Acva-Grup” January 27, 2012	2300 937 women
Roscani	700	2	9	“AgroAcvila” February 17, 2012	700 317 women

The total number of members for each WUAs is presented in the above table, with Puhaceni system having the highest number of members and Blindesti the smallest. However, the number of active members differ. For instance, the Chircani-Zirnesti WUA has a total number of members of 552 but the active ones – 44. Only 44 member pays the annual membership fee of 180 MDL/ha (almost 9 EUR). This is due to the lack of engagement and lack of solutions for procuring the on-farm irrigation systems necessary for each farmer to access the rehabilitated irrigation systems.

5.3 Land ownership and land use patterns

The land use data provided by the National Bureau of Statistic show that the largest part of the agricultural lands is owned by the private sector 85% with a stable trend line.

According to Moldsilva Agency official data⁵, only about 12.7 % (326.4 thousand ha) of Moldovan territory is covered by forests, compared to nearly 36 percent in EU countries. Forests tend to occupy hilly areas with the majority of forests located in the central part of the country and slightly less in the north and even fewer in the south.

The limited forest resources have direct linkages to soil erosion, landslide, desertification, biodiversity deterioration, and degraded microclimate and water resources. According to a survey conducted under the ENPI FLEG program in Moldova, citizens believe that forest quality has decreased in the last 20 years while an excessive forest logging has been ongoing.⁶

The forests are mostly owned by the State or Local Public Authorities (LPA). Moldova's forestry sector mostly consists of state-owned forests, which cover nearly 87.2% of the forestland; and LPA forests, which cover about 12.2% of the forestland. State owned forests are administered by the state Agency Moldsilva, which is responsible for forestry and hunting policymaking and management. There are also few private forests established mainly over the last decade which is less than 1%.⁶

With regard to the pastures, according to national statistics, out of the 345 000 hectares under pasture use, 340 000 are owned by the LPA while the remaining part is under private ownership. Regional distribution is: North 39%; Centre 34%; and South 22%. Moldovan pastures are highly affected by droughts and land degradation processes.⁷

6 Key Principles for implementing the RPF

The following principles will guide the implementation of the RPF in livelihood restoration and address other social risks

- Where there are physical or economic displacement due to subproject interventions, a Resettlement Action Plan/Livelihood Restoration Plan shall be developed and the project-affected persons assisted to improve their living standards, or, at least, the restoration of conditions existing prior to launching of the project;
- Land acquisition and compensation (in case there will be any) of affected households and persons shall be carried out in compliance with the applicable Moldavian legislation and the WB OP 4.12 policy guidelines;
- Consultations shall be conducted with the project-affected persons, information related to livelihood restoration issues shall be published, and they shall be

⁵ See <http://www.moldsilva.gov.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=180&t=/National-Forest-Land/Forest-Resources> , accessed on November 27, 2016

⁶ Social Development Unit (2013), Social Accountability Review: Forestry Sector in Moldova. Document of the World Bank

⁷ Turi F. (2016). Draft contribution on Forests and Pastures. Sub-component 1.2 of this project.

offered options and technically and economically appropriate alternate livelihood /resettlement benefits;

- Vulnerable and most significantly project-affected persons shall receive special assistance;
- Illegal land occupants shall not receive compensation for the lost land (if any), but they will receive a livelihood allowance/any other development work in the lands in lieu of land compensation and will be fully compensated for losses other than land, such as assets;
- For legal land owners, who haven't registered the land plot, support to register and legalize the land shall be provided and they shall be fully reimbursed for the damage related to the loss of the land, ensuring restoration of income and rehabilitation;
- The compensation amount should be in line with the income lost or provided at replacement value of the crop, lost asset, land etc. The replacement cost will be assessed by an independent evaluator selected by the PMT. Where possible in kind compensation measures will be offered.
- Compensation activities shall be completed prior to the beginning of specific construction activities, which create the need for resettlement;
- Payment of compensation, resettlement-related assistance and rehabilitation shall be completed before the commencement of any kind of construction activities;
- A fair and accountable grievance redress mechanism shall be developed and established.

Moldovan legislation has no reference to the term “replacement cost” but it uses the term “construction cost” in relation to all costs linked to the construction of object. According to par. 19 of the Provisional Regulations on the assessment of real estate, the “construction cost” is being determined based on the estimate norms and provisions of other normative documents. The “replacement cost” is determined as follows:

- For agricultural land, it is pre-project or pre-displacement, whichever is higher, market value of land of equal productive potential or use located in proximity of the affected land, plus the cost of preparing the land to levels similar to those of the affected land, plus the cost of and registration and transfer taxes.
- For land in urban areas, it is pre-displacement market value of land of equal size and use, with similar or improved public infrastructure facilities and services located in proximity of the affected land, plus the cost of any registration and transfer taxes.
- For houses and other structures, it is a market cost of materials needed to build a replacement structure with size and quality similar to or better than those of the affected structure, or to repair a partially affected structure, plus cost of transportation of building materials to the construction site and cost of any labor and contractors' fees. The costs of any registration and transfer taxes are also paid and the values of benefits to be derived from the project are included in assessment of an affected asset.

7 Project Affected Persons (PAPs)

Project affected persons are identified differently by national legislation and WB policies. According to national legislation and national practices, following groups are categorised as PAPs:

Table 2 Project affected persons as per Moldavian legislation

Impacted aspect	Criteria	Legal provision
Land property/usage rights	Legal ownership and existing users (who are able to register their customary rights at a public notary)	- compensation for value of land
Houses / shelters	Legal ownership, users	- compensation for value of house and all the assets belonging to the household
Crops/Trees	Damaged crops – permanent or temporary	- compensation for temporary losses (depending on the time framework of project construction) - compensation for permanent trees (depending on type of crop)

According to WB OP 4.12 the following additional criteria for defining PAPs have been analysed:

Table 3. Project affected persons – WB provisions

Impacted aspects	Criteria	WB provisions
Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reductions in income due to the construction/rehabilitation work during restoration of degraded land - reduction in income due to construction/rehabilitation work or operation of irrigation equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all persons whose livelihood is impacted by the actions foreseen under restoration of degraded land; - at least 2 options should be presented to PAPs; - consultation process with PAPs should start as early as possible, preferably during the design stage; - public disclosure of entitlement matrix; - fair compensation;

Economic losses	- documented losses due to restoration of degraded land regardless of legal ownership	- compensation for all losses incurred;
Land and households	Land owners/land users	- compensation for all losses at replacement value for all owners and users regardless of having a formal title
Crops	Land owners/land users Sharecroppers	- compensation for temporary losses (depending on the time framework of project construction) - compensation for permanent crops (depending on the type of crop)

Based on the above criteria the following PAPs are defined in the context of the project:

- a) legal owners of land that will be needed for the afforestation, construction or rehabilitation of shelter belts and rehabilitation of pasture;
- b) land users registered with local municipalities that use land plots in the areas impacted by afforestation, construction or rehabilitation of shelter belts and rehabilitation of pasture
- c) legal owners of land that will be impacted by the construction work or operation of the new irrigation equipment;
- d) land users registered with local municipalities that use land plots situated in the area of existing centralized irrigation systems
- e) Land Users regardless of ownership status
- f) Illegal/informal land users in the state owned lands;
- g) Public/Civil Institutions who uses lands in project area

8 Potential Social Impacts and Mitigation Measures

According to the findings of the social assessment and the outcomes of the discussions with representatives of authorities engaged in this process, all the actions that are foreseen for restoration of degraded land will take place on public owned land. Thus, the resettlement impact of these actions will be reduced to minimum. Since there are no specific intervention and geographical locations are defined yet, specific safeguards instruments could not be prepared but only a framework approach is possible at this stage. A Social Impact Assessment report that was prepared under this assignment and is a stand alone document.

The communities that are in the area of existing irrigation systems are already familiar with the access restrictions since they have been exposed to such situations when the centralized irrigation systems have been constructed. The impacted persons have received compensations

for the economic displacement situations. The current RPF has considered this experience and is built on the good practices learnt from this.

Access Restriction (Process) Framework

The social impact assessment carried out reveals that the proposed project interventions may generate certain adverse impacts, especially restriction/control of use of certain lands by farmers and other local population during the project implementation. Hence, a broader access restriction framework outlining the measures to mitigate such impacts are described below

Component 1: Resilient rural landscapes

Sub-component 1.2. Community-based irrigation and strengthening of Water User Associations (WUA)

Proposed Interventions: The activities aiming at upscaling access to irrigation, the project is designed for supporting the access to existing large-scale pumped systems rehabilitated by MCC (10 schemes) and on providing access to on-farm irrigation equipment for members of WUAs.

Potential Social Impacts:

- Potential disturbance to neighbouring land owners/users during project implementation and operation & maintenance period
- Potential situations with acquiring the Right of Way (RoW) to connect to the hydrants through private land owners/farm lands

Sub-component 2.1. Community Forest and Pasture Management.

Proposed Interventions: Restoration of degraded land owned by Local Public Authorities (LPAs), through a mixture of afforestation, protection belts and improved pastures. The project is aiming at reaching the following indicators: establishing 1,800 ha of new forests (including afforestation, riparian buffers and new forest belts), rehabilitation of 500 ha of forest belts and 700 ha of pastures.

Potential Social Impacts:

- Potential disturbance on adjacent (nearby) land due to works for preparing the land for afforestation (especially for protection belts). Pasture land can be lost due to afforestation which may lead to conflicts with land users
- Potential disturbances for farmers / vulnerable groups during pasture rehabilitation due to limitations imposed for herding on certain periods.

Based on the above, a tentative access restriction/process framework has been prepared to ensure due diligence in carrying out the proposed interventions (see below).

Access Restriction/ Mitigation Process

1	Conduct social screening/assessments of potential impacts
---	---

2	Identify each specific users/communities that may impacted during the project implementation (This group might include, but not limited to: single headed households (male or female); unemployed persons, herders using pastures, children that are working as herders, elderly persons depending on usage of pastures or land that will be included in the project, illegal occupants of land, people that are considered at social risks (persons with disabilities, poor persons that benefit from social assistance, etc)
3	Public consultations with affected communities on the possible impacts (especially those that are situated in the areas where pasture rehabilitation actions – along the entire process of project development and implementation so that all impacts and mitigation measures are discussed and agreed with their representatives)
4	Prepare a livelihood restoration plan (LRP)/ Access Restriction Plan (or a resettlement action plan (RAP / A-RAP) based on RFP).
5	Participatory Action Plan with all stakeholders (community representatives, contractors and LAPs) to implement the project interventions
6	Establish Grievance Redress System to receive and resolve any issues pertaining to project implementation
7	Implement access restriction/livelihood restriction and/or other safeguards measures agreed upon through participatory planning
8	Complete compensations PAPs//alternate livelihood assistance/access to resources
9	Prepare Periodical Progress/M&E reports to the PIU
10	Prepare a brief sub project completion report on social safeguards and share with the Bank

9 Social Assessment/Screening Procedure

Screening of potential social impacts will be carried out on each interventions using the following checklist (table.4). The social expert(s) attached to PMT then will prepare necessary safeguards documents (social screening/due diligence reports/resettlement action plans) based on the magnitude of social risks/ impacts.

Table 4. Table -Social Screening checklist to assess involuntary resettlement impacts and social risks

Probable Involuntary Resettlement/Social Impacts	Yes	No	Not Known	Details
1. Will the intervention include new physical construction work?				

2. Does the intervention include upgrading or rehabilitation of existing physical facilities?				
3. Is the intervention likely to cause any permanent damage to or loss of housing, other assets, resource use?				
4. Is the site chosen for this work free from encumbrances and is in possession of the Public/government/community land?				
5. Is this sub project intervention requiring private land acquisitions?				
6. If the site is privately owned, can this land be purchased through negotiated settlement? (Willing Buyer – Willing Seller)				
7. If the land parcel has to be acquired, is the actual plot size and ownership status known?				
8. Are these land owners willing to voluntarily donate the required land for this sub-project?				
9. Whether the affected land owners likely to lose more than 10% of their land/structure area because of donation?				
10. Is land for material mobilization or transport for the civil work available within the existing plot/ Right of Way?				
11. Are there any non-titled people who are living/doing business on the proposed site/project locations that use for civil work?				
12. Is any temporary impact likely?				
13. Is there any possibility to move out, close of business/commercial/livelihood activities of persons during constructions?				
14. Is there any physical displacement of persons due to constructions?				
15. Does this project involve resettlement of any persons? If yes, give details.				
16. Will there be loss of /damage to agricultural lands, standing crops, trees?				
17. Will there be loss of incomes and livelihoods?				
18. Will people permanently or temporarily lose access to facilities, services, or natural resources?				
19. Will project cause loss of employment/Jobs				
20. Will project generate excessive labor influx as a result of the constructions				

If this initial screening reveals any adverse impacts that may require mitigation and due diligence, following action should be undertaken;

- Prepare Social Screening Reports outlining mitigation measures for the likely minor impacts/losses (C category)
- If initial screening identified significant impacts on livelihood, properties and or economic assets, then undertake a socioeconomic survey (SES) of all APs. A plan which will contain practical actions may be required for addressing vulnerable group needs if they are among the APs.(B category)
- If there is physical /economic displacement, resettlements or livelihood impacts, then prepare resettlement action plans (if the impacts not affect more than 200 APs, an abbreviated RAPs to be prepared. The impacts are significant which affect more than 200 APs, a full RAPs to be prepared (A Category).
- In case of temporary livelihood losses, restriction to access for livelihood resources, then livelihood restoration plans/ Accesses Restriction Plans/ or other necessary impact mitigation plans to be prepared.

These social safeguards instruments to be submitted to the Bank social safeguards Specialist for review and approval and to Regional Safeguards Adviser (RSA) , in case of A-RAPs and RAPs for review and clearance. (Template for Social Screening Report and RAP are given in Annexes)

10 Entitlements Matrix

The following entitlement matrix has been designed for both resettlement situations. This has to be refined after conducting a full socio-economic assessment of targeted communities.

Category of PAP	Type of Project affected right or property or loss	Entitlement	Process and specific conditions
<i>LAND LOSSES</i>			
Land owners	Loss of agricultural land plot (entire or partial)	Provide a replacement land plot of similar size in a location acceptable to PAP + compensation for land registration and other similar costs OR Cash compensation based on replacement value (evaluation done by an independent expert)	The options address all land owners in the project area of influence It applies to persons that are not registered as owners but can become owners if they undergo the legalization process. Preference for mutual agreement but in case this is not possible, then apply expropriation law.
Land users (registered/traditional users)	Loss of customary rights of land use	Provide a replacement land plot of similar size in a location acceptable to PAP OR Cash compensation based on replacement value	Options apply to registered, non-registered, traditional and illegal land users in the project area of influence For PAPs that are included in the vulnerable group category, preference will be for replacement of land plot with another plot of similar size

Category of PAP	Type of Project affected right or property or loss	Entitlement	Process and specific conditions
<i>LOSS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT AND ACCESS TO NATURAL RESOURCES</i>			
Land owners/users	Loss of agricultural product (permanent or temporary)	<p>In kind compensation for the affected crops – provide minimum one year average production quantity for the damaged crop</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Cash compensation for affected crop – assess the value for one-year’s production.</p>	<p>The entitled persons include all owners/users of land situated in the project area of influence and access roads area who have their crops affected by the development of the project. Compensation will also include subsidies that are lost.</p>
Orchard owner/users	Loss of trees and income from annual product	<p>If allocation of a new land plot, then assistance for establishing a new plantation (buying the trees, covering planting costs)</p> <p>+</p> <p>Cash or in kind compensation for the expected crop (if there is no possibility to wait for harvesting for the year when the construction occurs)</p> <p>+</p> <p>Cash compensations for all crops until trees reach the same age as the lost ones</p> <p>+</p> <p>Cash compensation for any kind of improvements made to the land / trees prior to the cut-off date (e.g. irrigation system), where applicable</p> <p>OR</p>	

Category of PAP	Type of Project affected right or property or loss	Entitlement	Process and specific conditions
		<p>Cash compensation for lost trees at replacement value. The estimation costs should be done based on an independent evaluation that should consider the age, type, productivity and years of production of trees.</p> <p>+</p> <p>Cash compensation for any kind of improvements made to the land / trees prior to the cut-off date (e.g. irrigation system), where applicable.</p>	
Users of grazing area	Loss of access to natural resources	<p>Provide access to another grazing area</p> <p>+</p> <p>Provide in kind compensation (hay or fodder) or cash compensation proportional to the land plot area and the number of animals that are grazing there. This should be done until access to new grazing area is secured.</p>	<p>Census of population in the project area of influence will include also information on livestock and the grazing patterns.</p> <p>Based on this, compensation should be provided to owners of cattle who are using the land plots only for grazing areas and who do not have an alternative land plot for this.</p>

11 Stakeholder Analysis and Engagement Plan

The current project is aiming at supporting the Government of Moldova and the population of Moldova to improve their capacities for adaptation to climate change impacts. Although the investments are aiming at having a positive impact for all categories of persons, there will be also some whom might be experiencing some adverse impacts. As described in chapter 6 there are several categories of stakeholders whom needs special attention during project development and implementation period:

- a) legal owners of land that will be needed for the afforestation, construction or rehabilitation of shelter belts and rehabilitation of pasture;
- b) land users registered with local municipalities that use land plots in the areas impacted by afforestation, construction or rehabilitation of shelter belts and rehabilitation of pasture
- c) legal owners of land that will be impacted by the construction work or operation of the new irrigation equipment;
- d) land users registered with local municipalities that use land plots situated in the area of existing centralized irrigation systems
- e) Land Users regardless of ownership status
- f) Illegal/informal land users in the state owned lands;
- g) Public/Civil Institutions who uses lands in project area.

Consultation with and between all project stakeholders should precede throughout project planning, implementation and evaluation.

The Stakeholder Engagement Framework (SEF) document prepared under this project is the main document that sets the overall engagement framework for this project. The current RPF includes specific provisions for engagement for the above mentioned categories of stakeholders. All the provisions are in line with the SEF.

The engagement actions are foreseen only for the period covering the pre-implementation stage of the project, which corresponds with the disclosure period of RPF, the project feasibility stage including the development of RAP or A-RAP (as needed). The following actions are should be performed during this period:

- public disclosure of RPF –Draft RPF disclosure will be posted for consultation on national public web-platform (particip.gov.md), as well as on website of the Project Management Team (moldovapops.md) PMT will further forwarded electronically the ERPF Summary to environmental NGO's, and to the involved state institutions - to the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, and others interested stakeholders
- hold at least one key stakeholder meeting with representatives of the national authorities for discussing the RPF provisions and the entitlement matrix

- conduct one public consultation meeting where representatives of all interested stakeholders should be invited and where they could present their comments and suggestions to RPF.
- Review the RPF based on comments and suggestions received.
- Final version of the Resettlement Policy Framework approved by World Bank is to be posted on World Bank's InfoShop for its disclosure as well as on websites of the Project Management Team in Moldova.
- Conduct a full social impact assessment, identify the PAPs and collect information about their socio-economic conditions
- Decide on the need for developing appropriate safeguards documents (Social Screening Report, RAP or A-RAP, Livelihood Restoration Plan, Access Restriction Plan etc)
- Conduct a census of all PAPs
- Establish the cut-off date - usually is the date when the census is finalized – and communicate the cut-off date to all PAPs
- Hold formal or informal meetings with PAPs for better understanding their socio-economic situation and for consulting on the entitlements
- Develop appropriate safeguards documents and disclose them country and Bank disclosure system.

Beside these actions, the PMT has committed to implement all the activities mentioned in the Stakeholder Engagement report prepared under this assignment. This document includes specific actions for different categories of stakeholder (direct or indirect affected persons).

12 Grievance Redress Mechanism

In order to enable the project-affected persons to submit complaints about decisions, actions and activities related to compensation for land and other assets, a complaint mechanism will be put in place. The PAPs shall receive complete information related to their rights and complaint procedures for the purpose of enabling them to submit their complaints, orally or in writing, during the period of consultations, interviewing and issue of compensation. But, in order to prevent delays due to long and formal procedures related to submission of complaints and compensation of damage, we shall try initially to avoid these complaints. This will be achieved by full openness in development and implementation of the LRP or RAP (as needed) and by involvement of project-affected persons in these processes.

According to Moldavian law, an official grievance redress committee is usually established in cases of resettlement. Still, there is no specific legislative requirement for establishing an independent grievance mechanism. A project specific grievance mechanism should be established and this should be culturally appropriate and transparent to promptly and effectively receive and address specific concerns about compensation and relocation that are raised by PAPs.

However, expropriation laws and administrative codes in Moldova do outline the rights of affected citizens (those with formal legal rights) to appeal to courts on various occasions during the expropriation procedure. Experience so far also shows that project affected people usually

communicate with the expropriation beneficiary, in connection with their specific grievances and with the aim of reaching a compensation agreement, before filing appeals with the relevant administrative authorities or courts. In some cases, these existing procedures could be built on, to develop an appropriate grievance mechanism.

A grievance mechanism will be available to allow a PAP appealing any decision, practice or activity arising from land or other assets compensation. PAPs will be fully informed of their rights and of the procedures for addressing complaints whether verbally or in writing during consultation, survey, and at the time of compensation. Care will always be taken to prevent grievances rather than going through a redress process. This can be obtained through careful design and implementation, by ensuring full participation and consultation with the PAPs, and by establishing extensive communication and coordination between the affected communities, the EA, and local governments in general.

It is important to ensure that affected people are informed about:

- How and where to submit grievances;
- The grievance process and specific information which is needed from the person with the grievance;
- When and where to expect a response;
- If they are unsatisfied with the response, what is the next available channel for submitting a grievance?

In most cases, questions and grievances can be answered by staff involved in projects. However, in larger scale resettlement/livelihood restoration programmes, it is also necessary to develop a second level of grievance resolution, which would involve the participation of impartial persons. Experience shows that the most effective way of organizing such a mechanism is to form a committee which would include a representative of the owner of the project, representative of project implementing agency/institution, representatives of relevant local authorities, various stakeholders including project affected people and independent agencies/organizations, e.g. NGOs, ombudsman offices. Grievance mechanisms must not impede access to existing judicial and administrative remedies.

In order to mitigate the possible disputes and conflicts during the RPF (RAP or LRP) implementation process a Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) will be established by the PMT for specific sectors.

Registers of grievances will be established in locations close to potentially affected people, e.g. the administrative building of affected local authority. The GRC will be responsible for handling the grievances in a timely manner. The grievance is managed by a two tier system as described below:

I	Complaints resolution will be attempted at community level with the involvement of local authorities, the assisting NGO and informal mediators.
----------	---

II	If still unresolved, a grievance can then be lodged to the GRC. The PAP will be invited by the GRC two weeks after the complaints had been filed to hear the case. Two days after the hearing the GRC will inform the PAP whether the case is to be dismissed or whether a recommendation has been made to PMT for settling the case.
III	If after the GRC intervention no solution has been reached, a grievance can be directly lodged with the PIU. The PAP must lodge the complaint within 2 weeks after receiving a response on the original complaint from the GRC and must produce documents supporting his/her claim. The PMT will provide a response within 2 weeks of registering the complaint. The PMT decision must be in compliance with the RPF provisions.
IV	Should the grievance redress system fail to satisfy the PAP, they can pursue further action by submitting their case to the appropriate court of law.

Beside this grievance mechanism used for the land acquisition process, the following simplified mechanism will be used in case PAPs will have suggestions/complaints:

- a simple template will be available at the premises of affected communities. A template is presented in annex 1 to this document;
- a local community liaison person or vulnerable group liaison will be appointed and he/she will keep constant contact with the PAPs. They could address their grievances directly to the liaison person;
- the liaison person should report weekly about the grievances address by PAPs to PMT;

13 Implementation Arrangement

The Ministry of Environment is the Project initiator. The Ministry and the Project Management Team (PMT) established by the Ministry shall be totally responsible for the project implementation, which includes among other tasks preparation, implementation, funding and coordination of resettlement tasks. The PMT shall be responsible for the implementation of the RPF in close partnership with local authorities. The PMT shall assist the project-affected persons in protecting their rights and preparation of the documents required for the registration of the land to be acquired, agreement on land use and agreement on easement. Compensation/rehabilitation activities shall be implemented prior to the beginning of construction.

Once the RPF has been adopted, all parties involved in the Project, including the PMT and the Contractor(s), are obliged to implement the requirements of this document. Responsibilities will be shared between the Ministry Environment, Ministry of Agriculture the PMT, the Contractor and other involved agencies, according to the following table:

Table 5. Responsible entities for implementation of RPF

TASK	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
Information disclosure to all Project Affected People	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and PMT
Development of RAP	External consultants together with PMT
Assistance to PAPs	PMT together with representatives of local authorities , especially social departments
Assistance to affected population to legalize their properties	PMT and local authorities
Negotiations and expropriation activities (if needed), prior to construction commencement	PMT with the support of external consultants and the Resettlement Committee
Payment/provision of compensation packages	PMT with the support of local authorities and external consultants
Provision of resettlement assistance	PMT with the support of external consultants
Grievance management	Grievance Redress Committee and PMT

14 Monitoring and evaluation

The objective of monitoring is to provide the PMT and the WB with feedback on RPF implementation and to identify problems and successes as early as possible to allow timely adjustment of implementation arrangements.

The PMT will monitor and report on the effectiveness of RPF. The implementation of RPF will mean the development of appropriate safeguards instruments (resettlement action plan or other due diligence reports such as livelihood restoration plan and/or access restriction plan). In any of the above cases, the following aspects should be considered for monitoring and evaluation:

- number of persons engaged during the preparing of RAP or LRP (gender disaggregation if possible)
- entitlement matrix agreed with all stakeholders, including PAPs
- number of complaints/grievances received and resolved .

Once the safeguards instruments are developed, the monitoring and evaluation actions should concentrate on concrete indicators such as:

- number of informed and consulted PAPs about the entitlements
- number of events organised for information and consultation
- number of agreements signed with PAPs
- rate of disbursed payments (compensations)
- number of complaints.
- restoration of income and benefits to cut-off level or better
- PAPs perception of standard of living prior and after
- PAPs perceived level of welfare impacts from land management improvements and irrigation.

All the information collected during the monitoring periods will be included in report that will be presented quarterly by PMT to WB representatives.

15 RPF Disclosure and Consultation

Draft RPF disclosure occurred on 30th of January, 2017 by its posting for consultation on national public web-platform (*particip.gov.md*), as well as on website of the Project Management Team (*moldovapops.md*) PMT has further forwarded electronically the ERPF Summary to environmental NGO's, and to the involved state institutions - to the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, and others interested stakeholders.

Consultation on draft RPF took place on 13th of February, 2017 at premises of Ministry of Environment in Chisinau with participation of representatives of implementing agencies, national environmental authorities, NGO's and PMT.

After the meeting, on the basis of input from participants as well as received comments on draft RPF posted two weeks earlier for consultation, there were made relevant corrections both in the main text and annexes of the RPF to better meet stakeholders' concern. The Report on Consultation on the Draft RPF with interested parties is presented in *Annex 4*.

Final version of the Resettlement Policy Framework approved by World Bank is to be posted on World Bank's InfoShop for its disclosure as well as on websites of the Project Management Team in Moldova.

Annex 1 Social Screening Report Format

Probable social risks /involuntary resettlement effects	Yes	No	Not Known	Details
Will the sub-project include any physical construction work?				
Does the sub-project include upgrading or rehabilitation of existing physical facilities?				
Is the sub-project likely to cause any damage to or loss of housing, other assets, resource use?				
Is the site for chosen for this work free from encumbrances and is in possession of the government/local authority?				
If the site is privately owned, will this be purchased or obtained through voluntary donation?				
If the land parcel has to be acquired, is the actual plot size and ownership status known?				
Is land for material mobilization or transport for the civil work available within the existing plot/ Right of Way?				
Are there any non-titled people who living/doing business on the proposed site for civil work?				
Will there be loss of /damage to agricultural lands, standing crops, trees?				
Will there be loss of incomes and livelihoods?				
Will people permanently or temporarily lose access to facilities, services, or natural resources?				
Does the Public Local Authority have its own procedures for land acquisition?				
Are there any previous land acquisitions involved in rehabilitation/upgrading in the lands proposed for subproject?				
Whether the affected land/structure owners likely to lose less than 10% of their land/structure area.				
If so, are these land / structure owners willing to voluntarily donate the required land for this sub-project?				
Is any temporary impact likely?				

Estimate of Specific Impacts

Components of the Sub Project	Site Clearing	Earthwork	Construction of Bridges and Other Structures
Private land required (Sq. m.)			
No. of land owners losing more than 10% of land area			
Government land required (Sq. m.)			
Other land required (Sq. m.)			
No of houses affected			

No of shops affected			
Public utilities affected			

Information on Affected Persons

Any estimate of the likely number of households that will be affected by the sub project?

- No. Yes. If yes, approximately how many?
- No. of HHs losing <10% of their productive assets:
 - (land/cowshed/shops):
- No. of HHs losing 10% or more of their productive assets?

Decision on Categorization

After reviewing the answers above, it is determined that the sub project is:

- Categorized as an 'A' project, a full resettlement plan is required
- Categorized as a 'B' project, a short resettlement plan is required
- Categorized as an 'C' project, no RP is required, Only Due Diligence Reports such as Livelihood Restoration Plan or Access Restriction Plan is required

Are any vulnerable households affected? No. Yes. (If yes, please briefly describe their situation with estimated numbers of HHs.)

What are the needs and priorities for social and economic betterment of vulnerable people who are affected by this project?

Screening Official

Authorized Person, Implementing Agency

Date:

Date:

Approved by:

Date:

ANNEX 2 – TEMPLATE OF RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2. PROJECT IMPACTS

3. EVALUATION OF PROJECT IMPACTS AND COMPENSATION (socio-economic study, census survey of affected persons and valuation of assets);

4. CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION

5. LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

6. MTIGATION MEASURES

7. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

8. IMPLEMENTATION AND TIMETABLE

9. BUDGET

10. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

Annex 3. Grievance Reporting Format template

Project :

Full Name, Surname

(In case you want to remain anonymous, please do not fill this part. This will not give us the possibility to reply to your suggestion/comment)

<i>Reference No.</i>	
<i>Received on</i>	
<i>Received by</i>	

Contact information (*please fill in how you want to be contacted*):

Post Address _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Contact:

Valentin Plesca

Tel./Fax: **[XX pls. provide]**

e-mail: **[XX pls. provide]**

Preferred contact Language: Romanian Russian (pls. specify)

Please note here your suggestions and comments concerning the planned construction of the Project:

Please send this form back to

PMT per mail, fax, e-mail

Annex 4. Public Consultation Report

Date: February 13, 2017 | Venue: Ministry of Environment, Chisinau

Location/venue	Objective	Invitees	Participants (see attached List)	Summary, conclusions and comments
Chisinau, Ministry of Environment	<p>To introduce the MCAP project and its components, including ESMF, safeguards procedures and RPF, and solicit feedback.</p> <p>Note: The draft documents were disclosed for public two weeks earlier on the Ministry of Environment website (mediu.gov.md) and PMT website (moldovapops.md).</p>	<p>The invitation to participate in Consultation was sent to the following institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ministry of Environment – Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry – Ministry of Internal Affairs – World Bank Chisinau Office – ACSA Agency – Moldsilva Agency – ICAS – Sustainable Development Agency – State Ecological Inspectorate – Institute of Ecology and Geography – National Environmental Center (NGO) – Climate Change Office 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Podoroghin Inga, ME 2. Oprea Alexandru, MIA 3. Busuioc Corneliu, SDA 4. Ojog Constantin, Acsa 5. Fala Anatolie, Acsa 6. Talmaci Ion, ICAS 7. Palancean Alexei, Moldsilva Agency 8. Mustea Mihai, NEC 9. Osipov Dumitru, SEI 10. Cyrille Valett, ME 11. Popov Leonid, CEA Garantie SA 12. Ivanov Octavii, CALM 13. Tronza Serafima, ME 14. Barbarasa Ion, PMT 15. Plesca Valentin, PMT 16. Gorasov Igor, PMT 17. Popovici Ciprian, PMT consultant 18. Overcenco Aureliu, PMT consultant 	<p>On the meeting, there were presented and discussed: Moldova Climate Adaptation Project, its components and activities (presenter Igor Gorasov), Environmental and Social Management Framework and safeguards procedures (presenter Aureliu Overcenco) and Resettlement Policy Framework for proposed project (presenter Ciprian Popovici).</p> <p>The attendees actively participated in discussions which were mainly focused on the proposed activities within project components, environmental screening /impact assessment procedures and social aspects of project implementation, and mainly were referred to: Consultation process with municipalities and representatives of local communities for assuring their commitment for participating within the project – to be performed asap – clear provisions to be included in the stakeholder engagement plan; Criteria for afforestation of river banks – to be determined and included in the project documents; Discussions were also about different species of trees that should be planted during afforestation actions - to be consulted with local communities; The compensation process – this needs to be transparent and communicated very clear to all impacted persons from early stage. Furthermore, it should be clearly communicated the way financial compensation will be granted, and oths.</p> <p>After the meeting, on the basis of input from participants, there were made relevant corrections both in the ESMF and PPF documents to better meet stakeholders' concern.</p>

List of participants

Lista participanților

la Consultări publice privind Cadrul de Management de Mediu și Social pentru Proiectul Adaptării Climatice în Moldova

Chișinău, Ministerul Mediului
13 februarie 2017, ora 14.00

#	Numele, prenumele	Instituția	Date de contact	Semnătura
1.	Oprea Alexandru	Serviciul PC și SE/MAI		
2.	CORNEA BUSENISE	FDD Moldova	060301245	
3.	Constantin Ojog	ACSA	069200805	
4.	Tala Anastolie	ACSA	069011255	
5.	Talimaci Ion	YDAS	069182693	
6.	Palanceanu Stenel	Serviciu „Moldoschiză”	069130969	
7.	Muraru Mihail	CNM	069111863	
8.	OSIPOV D-24	DESS	osipov@ies.gov.md	
9.	Cyrille Vallat	Min. Mediului	cyrille.vallat@mediu.gov.md	
10.	Popov Leonid	C.A. „Garantia” S.A.	leonid.popov@getoo.co.uk	
11.	GRANDU OCTAVIU	CALM	OCTAVIU V. ANDRUȘ CALM.MD 079588273	
12.	Monica Serafim	Min. Med-1	022 204530	
13.	Fonari Vladimîr	Min. Med	069 533724	
14.	Podorozhin Iulie	Min. Mediu	ing.podorozhin@mediu.gov.md	
15.	Pleşee Valentin	Centr. Naț. de Inform. și Cons. Pop.	plesee@moldova.pops.md	
16.	Borboreanu Ion	EMIP Management Durabil	POBorboreanu@moldovapops.md	

