



**ANNEX 4**

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2018 in favour  
of Republic of Moldova

**Action Document**

**for Support for the Implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement**

**INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL GRANT APPLICANTS**

**WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS**

This document constitutes the work programme for grants in the sense of **Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation and action programme/measure in the sense of Articles 2 and 3 of Regulation N° 236/2014.**

<b>1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number</b>	Support for the Implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement CRIS number: ENI/2018 /041-302; ENI/ 2018/041-547 financed under European Neighbourhood Instrument	
<b>2. Zone benefiting from the action/location</b>	Republic of Moldova The action shall be carried out at the following location: the whole territory of the Republic of Moldova	
<b>3. Programming document</b>	Single Support Framework for EU support to the Republic of Moldova 2017-2020	
<b>4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area</b>	Complementary support	DEV. Aid: YES
<b>5. Amounts concerned</b>	Total estimated cost: EUR 10 700 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 9 250 000 This action is co-financed in joint co-financing by UN Women for an amount of EUR 250 000 Estimated co-financing by potential grant beneficiaries: EUR 1 200 000	
<b>6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation</b>	Direct management (grants - direct award) Direct management – Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture	

<b>modality(ies)</b>	Indirect management with an international organisation (United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women))			
<b>7 a) DAC code(s)</b>	150 GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY 151 Government and civil society, general 15170 Women's equality organisations and institutions 15180 Ending violence against women and girls			
<b>b) Main Delivery Channel</b>	42000 European Commission 41146 UNWOMEN			
<b>8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)</b>	<b>General policy objective</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Main objective</b>
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
	Trade Development	X		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>RIO Convention markers</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Main objective</b>
	Biological diversity	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagship</b>	N/A		
<b>10. SDGs</b>	Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls			

## SUMMARY

The EU-Moldova Association Agreement highlights the need for key priority reforms in democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, good governance, a functioning market economy and sustainable development. This Programme is in line with the Eastern Partnership priorities, the objectives of the 2017-2020 Single Support Framework (SSF) for Moldova<sup>1</sup>, the European Union – Moldova Association Agreement<sup>2</sup> and the related

<sup>1</sup> Single Support Framework for EU support to Moldova (2017-2020): [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/single\\_support\\_framework\\_2017-2020.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/single_support_framework_2017-2020.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> The Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part. OJ L 260, 30.8.2014, p. 4.

Association Agenda<sup>3</sup>. It will also support the implementation of the Eastern Partnership's "20 Deliverables for 2020"<sup>4</sup>. The proposed activities will support the implementation of the priorities identified in the European Joint Development Cooperation Strategy (Joint Programming Document).

The proposed "Support for the Implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement" is funded under the heading of complementary measures of the Single Support Framework dedicated to the implementation of priority commitments deriving from the EU Association Agreement.

The Programme addresses two areas: (i) Moldova's participation in EU programmes; and (ii) gender equality (including support for Civil Society Organisations).

The assistance will aim to support governmental institutions in participating in joint projects under EU programmes. The action intends as well to support the Government and Local Public Authorities in addressing gender equality at national and local levels, as well as providing better services to the victims of domestic violence. Empowerment of Civil Society Organizations working in gender equality and fight against domestic violence will be sought.

## 1 CONTEXT

### 1.1 Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

Moldova is a lower middle-income country with a population of 3.55 million (estimated 2017)<sup>5</sup>. The population is distributed evenly between men (48.1 %) and women (51.9%). In 2017, the National Bureau of Statistics estimated that 42.7% of the population were urban dwellers and 57.3% lived in the rural areas. Moldova ranks 107<sup>th</sup> out of 188 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI-0.699 - 2016 HDI Report). Moldova remains the poorest country in Europe with a Gross Domestic Product per capita of USD 2,311, according to the latest census results<sup>6</sup>, which is roughly half of average income per capita in the post-Soviet region of USD 5,079<sup>7</sup>. An ENPI-funded project on regional statistics concluded that in 2014 56.32% of GDP was generated in Chisinau. The private sector accounts for 56.6% of GDP.

Sustained economic growth and reforms to the social protection system have helped to reduce poverty, but in 2014<sup>8</sup>, around 11% of the population were estimated as living below the absolute poverty line. The average monthly wage in 2017 was estimated at EUR 228. Absolute and relative poverty is particularly acute amongst the rural population, the elderly living alone and larger (5+) households in the urban areas and while there is little appreciable

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<sup>3</sup> OJ L 215, 19.8.2017, p3

<sup>4</sup> Eastern Partnership - 20 Deliverables for 2020 Focusing on key priorities and tangible results: [https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/swd\\_2017\\_300\\_f1\\_joint\\_staff\\_working\\_paper\\_en\\_v5\\_p1\\_940530.pdf](https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/swd_2017_300_f1_joint_staff_working_paper_en_v5_p1_940530.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> All data are derived from the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova ([www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md)) unless otherwise stated. The figure is considered to be overestimated; the real population would be around 2.8 million.

<sup>6</sup> World Bank, Economic update for Moldova, May, 2017 -

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/moldova/brief/moldova-economic-update>

<sup>7</sup> IMF Country Report No 17/102 <https://www.imf.org/external/country/mda/index.htm?type=42>

<sup>8</sup> This is the latest date for which reliable poverty data exists.

difference between men and women on the majority of indicators, there is a substantial difference in share of gross national income<sup>9</sup>. Moldova scored 1.010 on the Gender Development Index and 0.248 (rank 50<sup>th</sup>) on the Gender Inequality Index.

The economy is dominated by the service sector (63.2% of GDP end 2015) and the manufacturing sector (20.7% of GDP) but remittances by the diaspora are also central, amounting to around one quarter of GDP. Agriculture accounts for 16.1% of GDP and 27.5% of the active labour population continue to derive their living from primary agriculture. There is a significant trade imbalance (-2,387 million USD estimated end 2017). The fiscal deficit was 3.1% in 2017. Total external debt now stands at 86% of GDP and public and publicly-guaranteed external debt is currently 40.5% of GDP. Inflation remained steady in 2012-2014 (4.6% - 4.7%), rose to 9.6% in 2015, but has subsequently fallen back to 6.5% estimated at the end of 2017.

The official rate of unemployment at the end of 2017 was 4.2% (IMF estimated). However, this disguises the high levels of under employment and employment in the grey economy. Moldova has one of the lowest activity rates: the NBS reports that 35.8% of the population are economically active (1,273,000 persons). The employment rate of women is 39%, compared to 43% for men and women earn on average 12.4% less than men. Women are under-represented in highly paid and in demand sectors, and are mostly employed in lower-paid jobs in the “feminized” sectors of the economy, which include public administration, education, health and social assistance, trade, hotels, and restaurants, while men are more likely to be employed in machinery, metals and chemicals. For example, women represent over 80% of the labour force in the health sector, while earning on average 15.7 percent less than men.<sup>10</sup> In the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), women earn 32.8% less than men. There are also significant differences between different groups of the population: only 15% of Roma women over 15 years old are employed, compared to 34% of non-Roma women and 25% of Roma men.<sup>11</sup>

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, 6 out of 10 women experienced since the age of 15 at least one form of violence in the Republic of Moldova psychological, physical, or sexual etc. In rural area the data show that 7 out 10 experienced at least one form of violence.

The low wages and the limited number of decent jobs in the small towns and rural areas have simulated internal migration from the regions to Chisinau Municipality (approximately 6.2% per annum) and external migration (approximately 2,500 persons leave Moldova permanently each year).

Relations between the EU and Moldova are guided by the EU-Moldova Association Agreement (AA), including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), an Association Agenda, and the Visa Liberation Action Plan (VLAP). In line with the AA, the

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<sup>9</sup> The number of women entrepreneurs in rural areas is significantly lower than in urban areas (14.9 % compared to 27.5%). Women in rural areas tend to have more children and due to the lack of sufficient social services have to resort to part-time work in the informal economy or unpaid care-work.

<sup>10</sup> <http://genderpulse.md/ro/abilitare-economica/castigul-si-ecartul-salarial/castigul-si-ecartul-salarial>

<sup>11</sup> Profile of Roma Women and Girls, National Statistical Bureau, UN Women and UNDP, 2016  
[http://www.statistica.md/public/files/Cooperare\\_internationala/PNUD/10\\_tablouri\\_femei\\_RM/prof\\_6\\_rome.pdf](http://www.statistica.md/public/files/Cooperare_internationala/PNUD/10_tablouri_femei_RM/prof_6_rome.pdf)

Republic of Moldova has committed to gradually harmonize its legislation with the *acquis communautaire* and international instruments, including the areas of gender equality and anti-discrimination.

### ***1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework***

#### *Moldova's participation in EU Programmes*

Based on the differentiation principle of the EaP, and its more-for-more principle<sup>12</sup>, in 2010 the EU Council and the European Parliament adopted a Protocol to the AA/DCFTA<sup>13</sup> opening the possibility for Moldova to become associated to EU programmes and agencies. Such offer was particularly important in a context of strong economic and political competition in the EaP region.

Moldova is presently taking part in several EU programmes, notably Erasmus+, Horizon 2020, Health for Growth, Creative Europe and COSME. The Government of Moldova is keen to maintain, strengthen and extend its engagement with EU Programmes and acknowledges the importance of continued international co-operation.

Moldova was the second European Neighbourhood country and the first Eastern Partnership (EaP) country to become Associated to FP7 in 2012 and then to Horizon 2020 on 1 January 2014. These associations are consistent with the strengthening of Moldova's political and economic ties with the EU, as highlighted by the EU-Moldova Association Agreement (AA), including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA).

The association to Horizon 2020 is also consistent with the recently reviewed European Neighbourhood Policy and the new EU Global strategy that set support to the EU neighbourhood countries' socio-economic resilience as a strategic priority. Like other EaP countries, Moldova faced a dramatic decrease of its R&D intensity since the collapse of the Soviet Union. While the economic and geopolitical framework has considerably changed during the last 25 years, the adaptation of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) to these new frameworks was too half-hearted and not responsive enough. As a result, the national STI system is in a difficult situation, and if Moldova wants to stop the ongoing brain drain and prevent being cut off from leading international progress, the country needs to launch urgently ambitious reforms of its STI system. The association to Horizon 2020 is therefore a decisive incentive to launch such reform process.

Since September 2016, Moldova is the first European neighbourhood country and the fourth non-EU country participating in the Health for Growth Programme (2014-2020).

#### *Gender equality*

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<sup>12</sup> Increased EU support to its neighbours is conditional. It depends on progress in building and consolidating democracy and respect for the rule of law. The more and the faster a country progresses in its internal reforms, the more support it will get from the EU.

[https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/330/european-neighbourhood-policy-enp\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/330/european-neighbourhood-policy-enp_en)

<sup>13</sup> Such protocol was already attached to the EU-Moldova Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, that was anterior to the AA/DCFTA

The Constitution of the Republic of Moldova and the primary legislation include guarantees of women's rights. Moldova is party to seven of the nine core international human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). In recent years, further steps have been made to amend and adopt laws and policies which advance gender equality, notably the 'Law on ensuring equal opportunities for women and men (2006)', the 'Law on equality (2012)', the Law on Preventing and Combating Family Violence (2008), and related legal amendments to this and other 11 laws (2016) to align national legislation to Istanbul Convention. The later introduced, *inter alia*, provisions for emergency protection orders that allow police officers to isolate the aggressor immediately from the family home for up to 10 days, free legal assistance to victims guaranteed by the state, and ensured state funding for the phone line for 24-hour assistance. It also extends the definition of violence to include stalking, and extends the definition of subjects of violence.

In April 2017, the *National Strategy to ensure equality between women and men (2017-2021)* and its associated *Action Plan* were adopted, which *inter alia* require the mainstreaming of gender issues into all public policies and emphasise the need to strengthen institutional capacity at national and local levels. Law N° 71 (April 2016), modifying certain legal acts, introduced for the first time a minimum quota of 40% women for party lists and for the Cabinet. By the same Law, the gender machinery at the national and local levels is to be strengthened. Thus, attributions and responsibilities on coordination of the gender equality were assigned to be executed by the secretaries of the local councils of local public administrations. The responsibilities to designate, ensure and coordinate the work of the gender units belongs to the districts presidents and mayors. In the Republic of Moldova only the capital city, Chisinau, subscribed to the "The European Charter for Equality of women and men in local life", but no action plan was drafted and/or implemented.

In February 2018, the Government approved the *National Strategy for prevention and combating violence against women and violence against family for 2018-2023*. This Strategy is in line with the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) and sets standards for the prevention of gender-based violence, the protection of victims and the punishment of aggressors. The Strategy has a particular focus on increased prevention measures that are crucial to end violence against women and girls. It will be implemented via two national action plans covering the period of 2018-2020 and 2021-2023. The 1st Action Plan for 2018-2020 on the implementation of the *National Strategy for prevention and combating violence against women and violence against family* was approved along with the Strategy.

The European Union-Moldova Association Agreement (Article 32 (f)) states that the cooperation should involve enhancing gender equality and ensuring equal opportunities between women and men, as well as combating all forms of discrimination. In addition, the Association Agenda states that Moldova and the EU have a joint commitment in the short-term to ensure the implementation of the existing legislative and policy framework on domestic violence and in the medium-term to prepare for the ratification of the Istanbul Convention.

In September 2015, the European Commission adopted the Gender Action Plan II<sup>14</sup>. GAP II has as four objectives: ensuring the physical and psychological integrity of women and girls; promoting economic and social rights/empowerment of girls and women; strengthening girls' and women's voices and participation and shifting the institutional culture within the EC to deliver on EU commitments on gender equality more effectively. These objectives were reinforced at the Riga summit (2015), in the Joint Staff Working Document on "*Eastern Partnership - 20 Deliverables for 2020 Focusing on key priorities and tangible results*" (9 June 2017) and at the Brussels EaP summit in November 2017. Increased gender equality and non-discrimination are one of the cross-cutting deliverables of the above mentioned 20 Deliverables.

The intention is to focus on introducing gender mainstreaming in local decision-making, as well as combatting all forms of violence against women, domestic violence and violence against children, which remain a serious violation of the human rights of women and children in Moldova.

Istanbul Convention defines "violence against women" as a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life and "domestic violence" as all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim.<sup>15</sup>

Also, the Public Administration Reform strategy 2016-2020 and its Action Plan 2016-2018 include measures to train central and local public authorities in the application of principles and criteria specific for gender sensitive decentralization; these are led by the State Chancellery, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, the Academy of Public Administration and the local public authorities themselves.

### ***1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis***

The key stakeholders for this Action will be the concerned ministries, other central executive bodies, local public authorities, relevant civil society groups and, although indirectly, the donor community.

The key national authority in the coordination of external assistance is the Ministry of Finance, whereas the political oversight of the Association Agreement implementation is done by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration and policy coordination by the State Chancellery.

The lead stakeholder for the Erasmus+ programme is the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, as well as Moldovan Higher Education Institutions, which will benefit from

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<sup>14</sup> GAP II was endorsed by the Foreign Affairs Development Council on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

<sup>15</sup> Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

additional support through a specific financing window of Erasmus+ for the capacity building projects, international mobility and Jean Monnet actions.

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection is responsible for the formulation and implementation of the Action Plan on gender equality as well as support for anti-discrimination. Additional stakeholders are key line Ministries working on Gender Equality, such as the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment or the Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure, which are involved in adopting and implementing the policy, legal, and regulatory framework on gender equality in their respective sectors. The National Bureau of Statistics has a key role in the collection and use of gender-disaggregated data for policy development and monitoring. The Bureau for Diaspora Relations plays an important role through its work with migrant women.

A number of Civil Society Organizations are active in the field of gender equality and combatting violence against women, with the presence of two main platforms: the National Coalition “Life without violence” (22 organizations) and the Gender Equality Platform (26 organisations). Other women’s sectoral networks are also active, such as “Women’s Network in Agriculture” or women’s business associations.

The main target groups for this action are Government institutions, Local Public Authorities, civil society organizations and citizens of the Republic of Moldova.

### ***1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis***

#### **Priority 1: EU programmes**

##### ***a) Reimbursement of participation fees***

Although Moldova has participated consistently in EU programmes since 2014, the level of participation has been less than anticipated. The principal barriers to participation have been the lack of funds for the entry ticket and the administrative burden of collaborating on a multiplicity of projects. Consequently, the Moldovan authorities are presently taking part in a limited number of EU programmes, notably Horizon 2020, Health for Growth, COSME and Creative Europe. Since 2014, the European Commission has contributed approx. EUR 2 million towards the entry ticket for the participation in Horizon 2020 and COSME.

Moldovan partners are actively engaged in Horizon 2020. The expertise of the Academy of Sciences in implementing EU projects, through its Centre for International Projects, is recognised. Following the recent Government reforms in Moldova, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research is assuming responsibility for oversight of the Research sector while the National Agency for Research and Development covers, among other, the implementation of state’s policies in the research sector, including the operations related to Horizon 2020; it is important that the capacities of the Centre for International Projects are sustained and strengthened through continued international co-operation. Fifty percent of one entry ticket (2014-2015, EUR 913,644.32) was already reimbursed and a second one (2016-2017, EUR 985,193.40) is being processed.

Moldova is successfully participating in COSME programme since 2014. The reimbursement of fifty percent of two entry tickets was already processed (2014-2015, EUR 52,047.00, and 2016-2017, EUR 52,047.00).

Since joining the EU Health for Growth Programme in 2016, Moldova has participated in four joint actions under the programme. So far, Moldova nominated 13 organizations, out of which only 4 actually participated. Obstacles to Moldova's more active participation in the Joint Actions could be related to the Government's inability to ensure the necessary co-funding, administrative burden for a small country to deal with all joint actions or lack of understanding and limited dissemination of information about the EU Health Programme to national stakeholders. A National Information Day on the Health for Growth Programme was organised on June 5, 2018 in the country, in order to explain and promote this Programme to national stakeholders. The reimbursement of fifty percent of the first entry ticket (2016-2017, EUR 23,662.00) was partially paid.

With regard to the Creative Europe programme, only 1 project proposal has been supported since 2015, despite concerted efforts to promote the programme at local level. The main reasons are the problem of co-financing; the internal capacity of most of cultural actors, which do not have the resources to invest themselves in the participation to call for proposals; and the limited interest of European Partners to take Moldovan partners. To date, no reimbursement was processed for the participation in this programme.

The support foreseen under this Action will take the form of reimbursement of part of the costs of participation (entry ticket) and will be provided to strengthen the active participation of Moldova in EU Agencies and Programmes such as Horizon 2020, COSME, Health for Growth and Creative Europe.

*b/ Top-up of participation in Erasmus+*

Internationalisation, quality and implementation of structured reforms are among the main challenges of the Moldovan higher education system. Erasmus+ has a set of proven tools to support modernisation and internationalisation agenda of higher education (capacity building measures and international mobility scheme) and enhance the quality of teaching on EU and its policies (Jean Monnet actions).

In the last years, Higher Education Institutions of the Republic of Moldova were capable to absorb the offered 'International Credit Mobilities' (ICM) while the number of students willing to apply is increasing year after year. Most of the Moldovan universities have signed Mobility Agreements within the Erasmus + programme. Analysis of the official figures of the 3 first year programme selection of mobility projects (2015-2017) shows a total of 1334 ICM for Moldova with:

- 915 ICM on-going from Moldova to EU universities;
- 419 ICM in-coming to Moldova from the EU universities.

The selection of participants in 2015 and 2016 demonstrates that in average 1.5 people are competing for 1 ICM.

Moldova is actively involved in capacity building in higher education scheme and presents several good quality applications for much needed reforms in higher education. Nevertheless, due to budgetary constraints, only 10% of applications can be funded.

Jean Monnet actions are important tool to study, teach and research EU and its policies. A dedicated funding would allow Moldova to benefit from the opportunities offered by the scheme.

## Priority 2: Gender equality

### *a) Gender mainstreaming*

Although the new *National Strategy to ensure equality between women and men* emphasises the need for gender mainstreaming in all public policies, implementation to date has been weak, not the least because of the limited state resources allocated for gender equality objectives under the present and earlier National Action Plans. The situation is particularly acute at local level where the connection between citizens (women in particular) and the policy-making and decision-taking process within the local public administrations is limited. Budget decisions, which affect women's daily lives, are not made public and therefore lack transparency. There is limited access to decision-makers, opacity of information and a lack of responsiveness to citizens' inputs at the local level. This is especially the case for women who face multiple exclusion or discrimination (i.e. women with disabilities, women belonging to ethnic minorities, women living in rural areas, etc.).

The action seeks to identify, support and promote the implementation of gender mainstreaming in local public administrations, which are already undertaking concrete measures to advance gender equality and which are willing to take this commitment further and become role models for other local authorities. Where appropriate, synergies will be found with the Action in support of the focal regions.

### *b) All forms of violence against women, including domestic violence against children.*

According to a national violence prevalence survey conducted in 2011 by the National Bureau of Statistics<sup>16</sup>, seven out of 10 adult women in Moldova had experienced at least some form of violence from their partners. Women victims of violence have limited access to justice and there is a weak protection system in place for victims (police, health, shelters, psychological support etc.). Research also shows that eight years since the special laws on preventing and combating domestic violence entered into force, police officers still lack knowledge about legal provisions and respond to violence against women stipulated in the law.

According to the police data for 2017<sup>17</sup>, the number of reported cases of domestic violence continued to increase, reaching 10.871 cases, compared to 10.459 in 2016. However, the number of cases investigated as criminal offences decreased in 2017 to 956 compared to 1782

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<sup>16</sup> Violence against Women in the Family in the Republic of Moldova, 1st Edition, 2011

<http://www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&id=3626&idc=350>

<sup>17</sup> <http://politia.md/ro/advanced-page-type/rapoarte-si-evaluari>

cases in 2016. The number of contravention cases, on the contrary, increased from 833 cases in 2016 to 1941 in 2017.

There is a need to strengthen the response mechanism covering violence against women and domestic violence against children to ensure a comprehensive response of victims, to strengthen prevention and protection of victims and to provide high-quality services to the victims<sup>18</sup>.

## 2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

<b>Risks</b>	<b>Risk level (H/M/L)</b>	<b>Mitigating measures</b>
Participation of Moldova in Community Programmes remains limited and proves ineffective	M	Closer monitoring of the participation reports and identification of the obstacles to be addressed
Government of Moldova lacks ownership/political will to implement or to provide sufficient resources for implementation of the Gender related national strategies	M	The EUD will closely monitor the implementation of the Gender related strategies and measure its impact on institutional capacity, performance and long-term sustainability within the sector.
Women victims of violence and domestic violence are reluctant to register complaints or seek support services	H	Support advocacy, informational campaigns involving key professionals such as the Police, Social services and Health Care services and community initiatives that aim primarily at changing people's behaviour and attitudes to domestic and sexual violence.
<b>Assumptions</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government continues to implement the EU-Moldova agreement.</li> <li>• The Government remains committed to implement the reforms covered by the Action, and in particular to the pursuance of gender equality and anti-discrimination measures.</li> <li>• There is willingness on the part of public bodies to participate in EU Programmes.</li> <li>• There is willingness and capacity amongst local public administration, civil society</li> </ul>		

<sup>18</sup> A study by the U.S. State Department's from 2010 reported that 40% of Moldovan women had experienced at least one violent act in their lifetime. Furthermore, the study also showed that 12 percent of women have been victims of sexual violence in their lifetime both within and without the home, with 7.1% experiencing it in the past year. These percentages are significantly higher among rural women, and much higher among younger women. Domestic violence also has a serious impact on children witnessing and/or experiencing violence. Only one in three women report sexual violence to the police, due to stigma, lack of awareness and economic dependency.

organisations and community action groups to participate in and contribute to Action activities.
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### **3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

#### **3.1 Lessons learnt**

The main lessons learnt from a review of ongoing and former EU-funded programmes in Moldova are:

- The need to systematically invest in building the capacity of the gender equality mechanism which remain so far weak;
- The need for continued investment in advocacy and communication capacity, which challenge gender stereotypes and highlight the restrictions placed on the lives of women;
- The need to mainstream cross-cutting issues, notably civil society, youth, gender, a rights-based approach, social inclusion, environment and climate change;
- The importance of increasing the visibility of EU assistance and cooperation programmes, promoting EU values and ensuring the public dialogue.

#### **3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination**

The EU is the sole provider of support to participation in Community Programmes.

There are several donors involved in strengthening gender equality and women's empowerment in Moldova, for example the Swedish Development Cooperation Agency, Swiss Development Cooperation Agency, Austrian Development Agency, USAID, World Bank together with UN agencies, including UN Women, UNDP, UNICEF and UNDP. Complementarity and synergy will be ensured with the other actions identified in the Annual Action Programme, especially the action: "Inclusive economic empowerment of focal regions of Moldova" and projects funded through the Cross-Border Co-operation Programme 2014-2020. In line with GAP II, all EU-funded programmes and projects are required to mainstream gender and anti-discrimination issues.

This action will seek complementarity with the ongoing work carried out by UN Women Moldova and assistance in developing their detailed sectorial action plans for the implementation of the National Strategy for Gender Equality 2017-2021, with the support of the Government of Sweden, in close coordination with the head of Department of policies for ensuring equality between women and men (DEO), Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, to provide capacity building on gender equality to gender units from five line ministries (Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment, Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure and Ministry of Finance), and State Chancellery. A similar exercise will be undertaken later in 2018 for the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence in the context of the National Action Plan for the implementation of the UN SC Resolution 1325 adopted in March 2018.

The Government has established assistance coordination structures and processes under the auspices of the Ministry of Finance. The strong collaboration with development partners will be maintained through existing development coordination forums and other groupings some of which have been spearheaded by UN Women (such as the Group of Women Ambassadors formed in 2017). The EU Delegation is engaged in a wide-ranging policy dialogue with the Government, including through the EU High Level Policy Advice Mission (EUHLPAM). Advisors are present in each of the key sectors covered by this Action: Education and Research and Regional Development.

### 3.3 Cross-cutting issues

The effective implementation of the Association Agreement includes the fulfilment of the articles 4 (Human Rights and Public Administration Reform), 31 (Gender equality) and Chapter 17 (climate action, including environment measures). In this context, the following cross-cutting issues will be taken into consideration at the time of the preparation of the individual activities.

The **Human Rights-based Approach** (HRBA) is an approach to mainstreaming the content of the international human rights treaties in development work. By focusing on four key principles - Participation, Non-discrimination, Transparency and Accountability - HRBA will promote social transformation by empowering people to exercise their “voice” and “agency” to influence the processes of change. HRBA issues are addressed under Component 2 of this action.

The principles of **gender equality and women empowerment** are central to this Action, as women in Moldova continue to face gender inequalities when it comes to the labour market, the gender pay gap, laws which do not allow women to participate in certain occupations and age-based discrimination. In addition, women’s involvement in public/political decision-making positions is limited, which are aggravated by gender stereotypes and norms. Women also have the main responsibility for the unpaid care work, mainly due to limited public, childcare services. The implementation of this Action will be guided by the principles and objectives of the EU Gender Action Plan II and the 20 deliverables for 2020. Component 2 focuses on gender mainstreaming in public policies at national and local levels and to combat all forms of violence against women.

## 4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

### 4.1 Objectives/results

This programme is relevant for the Agenda 2030. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG Goal 5, but also promotes progress towards Goals 3, and 4. This does not imply a commitment by the Republic of Moldova benefiting from this programme.

The **overall objective** is to support the implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement.

The **specific objectives** (SO) of the action are:

**SO1:** To support participation of Moldova in EU Programmes.

**SO2:** To promote gender equality and women's empowerment through strengthened implementation of gender mainstreaming in local public policies, and to combat domestic violence affecting women and children.

The Action will achieve the following **results**:

**Result 1:** Moldova's participation in EU programmes is enhanced.

**Result 2:** Gender equality is promoted and mainstreamed in local policy-making and decision taking.

**Result 3:** Victims of domestic violence have greater access to effective survivor-focused multi-disciplinary services and violence prevention is piloted in local schools and communities.

## **4.2 Main activities**

### **Under SO 1/Result 1**

#### **Component 1: Increased participation of Moldova in EU programmes**

##### *Activity 1.1: Reimbursement of participation fees*

The support will be provided as a reimbursement of up to 50% of the "entry ticket" (yearly fees for the EU programmes for which a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is in force). The participation of the beneficiary in EU programmes and agencies shall follow the specific terms and conditions set out for each such programme/agency in the MoU.

Participation in other internal EU programmes will be explored according to the priorities expressed by the beneficiary, its financial possibilities, and the needs in the relevant sectors. An ongoing dialogue with the Moldovan authorities is underway in order to identify sectors for future cooperation in this matter.

##### *Activity 1.2: Top-up of the participation in Erasmus+ programme*

The support will take the form of an increase of the number of ICM mobility opportunities available for the Higher Education Institutions of the Republic of Moldova participating in Key Action 1 of the Erasmus+ programme, promoting the international exchange of students and staff between institutions in Erasmus+ Programme and Partner Countries.

### **Under SO2/Result 2 and Result 3**

#### **Component 2: Strengthened Gender capacity**

##### *Activity 2.1: Gender mainstreaming at local level*

The support is expected to contribute to the consolidation and fortification of gender mainstreaming at the local level, in line with the provisions of the *National Strategy to Ensure Equality between women and men in the Republic of Moldova* for the years 2017-2021. This

activity will be focused in selected municipalities and synergised with "Inclusive economic empowerment of focal regions of Moldova" Action Document.

The intervention seeks:

- to train elected and appointed representatives of the Local Public Authorities (LPAs) on gender equality and gender mainstreaming and its implication for decisions taken by the LPAs;
- to support LPAs to contribute to the principles of The European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life;
- to raise the capacities and knowledge on women's rights of local CSOs which advocate for gender equality;
- to raise awareness and educate continuously the public from the selected regions in the culture of gender equality and empower women in local decision-making processes.

#### *Activity 2.2: Combatting domestic violence against women and children*

The proposed intervention addressing domestic violence against women and children will build on the previously EU supported actions, particularly on improving the capacity and assessment tools of multi-disciplinary specialised response and services. Special attention will be paid to sexual forms of violence in domestic violence, as this area has not yet been covered by any action or donor.

The intervention seeks:

- to strengthen the capacities and inter-sectorial cooperation of service providers and multidisciplinary teams (in the areas of police, health, justice and social services) to address existing barriers to effective protection of women/ children victims of domestic violence, and prosecution of perpetrators;
- to establish a specialised service for the victims of sexual violence based on the existing service provide by the multi-disciplinary teams and shelter;
- to empower domestic violence survivors, in reaching out to employment and income generating activities;
- to pilot violence prevention programmes in schools and in communities to promote gender equality, respectful relations and a life free of violence for women and men, girls and boys.
- to raise the capacities and knowledge on women's rights of local CSOs that advocate for zero tolerance to domestic violence

A grant scheme will be provided to civil society organizations in the regions targeted under this Component so that they can implement awareness campaigns and actions on gender equality, women's rights and on zero tolerance to violence against women and domestic violence by targeting local communities and policy makers. This effort will enhance the impact of gender mainstreaming in LPAs and increase awareness towards preventing and combating violence against women and children.

Given the narrow specialization and scarcity of capacities of CSO at the local level, a combination of local and national CSO will be sought to partner with and sub-grant funds. Relevant proper capacity development will be built into the programme to ensure capacities increase.

Synergies will be sought with the on-going EU Budget Support for the Police Sector Reform (AAP2015), which also foresees strengthening the capacities of the police to fight against all forms of violence, including violence against women and children.

### **4.3 Intervention logic**

**5 THIS ACTION IS AIMED AT CREATING THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EU-MOLDOVA ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY THROUGH TARGETED ASSISTANCE IN THE AREA OF GENDER EQUALITY. THE ACTION WILL ALSO SUPPORT THE PARTICIPATION OF MOLDOVA IN EU HORIZONTAL PROGRAMMES.**IMPLEMENTATION

#### **5.1 Financing agreement**

In order to implement this action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country.

#### **5.2 Indicative implementation period**

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.2 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 months from the date of entry into force of the financing agreement.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorising officer responsible by amending this decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this decision constitute technical amendments in the sense of point (i) of Article 2(3)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014.

#### **5.3 Implementation modalities**

The envisaged assistance to the Republic of Moldova is deemed to follow the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU<sup>19</sup>.

##### **5.3.1.1 Grant: direct award for participation of Moldova in EU Programmes (direct management)**

(a) Objectives of the grant, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

The objective is to support the participation of Moldova in the EU Programmes "Horizon 2020", COSME, Creative Europe and Health for Growth for the years 2018-2019. This will be achieved by means of reimbursement of 50% of the annual participation fee required from Moldova as a contribution to each of the programmes' budget. Payment will be made on bi-annual basis after receiving evidence of the payment of the total fee for the corresponding year. No pre-financing is foreseen under this scheme.

The participation of Moldova in EU programmes shall follow the specific terms and conditions set out for each such programme/agency in the MoU.

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<sup>19</sup> [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/8442/consolidated-list-sanctions\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/8442/consolidated-list-sanctions_en)

The reimbursement will be subject of an annual executive report provided by the Government reflecting the fulfilment of minimum conditions set-up in each Memorandum of Understanding as well as performance indicators of the previous grants.

(b) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to the relevant institution under the Government of Moldova. The recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because, the action has specific characteristics requiring a specific type of beneficiary for its technical competence, specialisation or administrative power. The relevant grant beneficiary institutions are designated by Moldova in each respective memorandum of Understanding for being in charge of the respective EU programme.

(d) Essential selection and award criteria

The essential award criterion is the relevance of the proposed action to the objectives, results and activities as described in sections 4.1 and 4.2 above.

(e) Maximum rate of co-financing

The maximum possible rate of co-financing for this grant is 50%.

(f) Indicative trimester to conclude the grant agreement - Q2 2019

**5.3.1.2 Procurement (direct management)**

Subject in generic terms, if possible	Type (works, supplies, services)	Indicative number of contracts	Indicative trimester of launch of the procedure
Evaluation, audit	Services	2	Q2 2025

**5.3.1.3 Moldova's participation in Erasmus+ programme - Direct management by Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC)**

A part of this action will be implemented through direct management for the administration of the 'International Credit Mobility' action under the Erasmus+ programme in which Moldova participates. The management will be delegated to the European Commission Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (EAC).

The implementation method via a network of Erasmus+ National Agencies (NA) is justified because NA are responsible for the implementation of the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility scheme and this component will be implemented as a window of the Erasmus+ Programme. This will provide the fastest and most effective response, given that it combines already tested mobility activities integrated into an already existing programme, with established sustainable structures.

The NA will be responsible for the management of this component under the same implementation methods as the foreseen in the Erasmus+ Programme Guide, under the supervision of DG EAC. As contracting authority, the NA will be responsible for the selection/evaluation/award procedure.

(a) Objectives of the grants, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

As defined in section 4 above.

(b) Eligibility conditions

As defined by the Erasmus+ Programme Guide.

(c) Essential selection and award criteria

As defined by the Erasmus+ Programme Guide.

(d) Maximum rate of co-financing

As defined by the Erasmus+ Programme Guide.

(e) Indicative timing to launch the call

2nd half of 2018, 2nd half of 2019.

#### **5.3.1.4 Indirect management with an international organisation: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)**

A part of this action will be implemented through indirect management with UN Women. This implementation entails provision of capacity building, knowledge on gender equality and coaching activities to local public authorities, as well as provision of grants to civil society organisations. Implementation through UN Women is justified because of sector and thematic expertise in the proposed area, as well as the logistical and management capacities to carry out the proposed activities.

UN Women is the UN agency dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. The proposed project is consistent with both, the overall mandate of UN Women and with its specific engagement with Moldova, as set out in its Strategic Note 2018-2022.

The entrusted entity would carry out the following budget-implementation tasks: organising the public procurement, grant award procedures; concluding and managing the resulting contracts, including making of the related payments.

#### **5.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants**

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply.

The Commission's authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility in accordance with Article 9(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other

duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realization of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

## 5.5 Indicative budget

	<b>EU contribution (amount in EUR)</b>	<b>Indicative third party contribution, in EUR</b>
5.3.1.1 – Direct grant for participation of Moldova in EU programmes (direct management)	1,200,000	1,200,000
5.3.1.3 – Direct management by DG EAC	2,850,000	N.A
5.3.1.4. – Indirect management with UN Women	5,000,000	250,000
5.8 – Evaluation, 5.9 - Audit	200,000	N.A.
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9,250,000</b>	<b>1,450,000</b>

## 5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

For the activities of the Action a multi-stakeholder approach will be followed to ensure wide consensus.

The main counterparts of this action will be the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry of Education and Research and relevant local authorities. , .

A Project Steering Committee will be established under Component 2. The Delegation of the European Union to Moldova, together with the implementing partner, UN Women, will co-chair the Project Steering Committee for Component 2. The Project Steering Committee will include the Delegation of the European Union to Moldova, the implementing partner, UN Women, representatives of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection and of the targeted LPAs. The Project Steering Committee will meet every six months, or more frequently if required.

## 5.7 Performance monitoring and reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) or the list of result indicators (for budget support). The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means

envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

## **5.8 Evaluation**

Having regard to the importance of the action, an ex-post evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that part of the action will be implementation of innovative or pilot activities.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 3 months in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

Indicatively, one contract for evaluation services shall be concluded under a framework contract in Q2 of 2025.

## **5.9 Audit**

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

Indicatively, one contract for audit services shall be concluded under a framework contract in Q2 2025.

## **5.10 Communication and visibility**

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU.

This action shall contain communication and visibility measures, which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated at the start of

implementation. Communication and visibility activities related to the expected results of this programme will be foreseen under each of the contracts.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Requirements for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

As part of the Financing Agreement, the Moldovan government undertakes to ensure that the visibility of the EU contribution is given appropriate coverage in the various publicity media.

Visibility and communication actions shall demonstrate how the intervention contributes to the agreed programme objectives. Actions shall be aimed at strengthening general public awareness of interventions financed by EU and the objectives pursued. The actions shall aim at highlighting to the relevant target audiences the added value and impact of the EU's interventions. Visibility actions should also promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

Communication and visibility measures for the project activities under this Action Document will be reinforced, coordinated and implemented through the Action Document for Strategic communication and media support, which is part of the Annual Action Programme 2017 for the benefit of Moldova.

With regards to the Neighbourhood East, all EU-supported actions shall be aimed at increasing the awareness level of the target audiences on the connections, the outcome, and the final practical benefits for citizens of EU assistance provided in the framework of this action. Visibility actions should also promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

Outreaching/awareness raising activities will play a crucial part in the implementation of the Action. The implementation of the communication activities shall be the responsibility of the implementing organisations and shall be funded from the amounts allocated to the Action.

All necessary measures will be taken to publicise the fact that the action has received funding from the EU in line with the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions. Additional Visibility Guidelines developed by the Commission (European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations) will be strictly adhered to.

This action will be communicated externally as part of a wider context of EU support to the country, and where relevant to the Eastern Partnership region in order to enhance the effectiveness of communication activities and to reduce fragmentation in the area of EU communication.

## APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX (FOR PROJECT MODALITY) <sup>20</sup>

The activities, the expected outputs and all the indicators, targets and baselines included in the logframe matrix are indicative and may be updated during the implementation of the action, no amendment being required to the financing decision. When it is not possible to determine the outputs of an action at formulation stage, intermediary outcomes should be presented and the outputs defined during inception of the overall programme and its components. The indicative logframe matrix will evolve during the lifetime of the action: new lines will be added for including the activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) for the output and outcome indicators whenever it is relevant for monitoring and reporting purposes. Note also that indicators should be disaggregated by sex whenever relevant.

	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines (incl. reference year)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	To support the implementation of the Association Agreement	The Government meets the targets and provisions in the AA pertaining to commitments linked to the actions set out in this Action Document	As defined in relevant articles of the AA	As defined in relevant articles of the AA	Reports from the MoFAEI Council Conclusions on the Republic of Moldova (Annual Reports)	
Specific objective(s): Outcome(s)	SO1/Outcome1: Moldova's participation in EU programmes is enhanced	Continuous active participation of Moldova in EU programmes and Agencies	5 programmes (2018)	5 or more programmes (2021)	Government Annual Reports Number of invoices submitted and paid Reports from EU Programmes and Agencies and/or coordinating structures	The Moldovan Government is able to maintain its contributions (entry fees) to EU Agencies and Programmes
	SO2/Outcome2: Gender equality is mainstreamed in local policy-making and decision taking	Number of LPAs having policies and budgets developed and adopted, in accordance with an inclusive and evidence-based approach, complying with gender	0 (2018)	10 (2021)	Programme reports LPAs decisions (protocols, budgets, plans)	The national and local authorities continue to be supportive of the goals of gender equality and non-

<sup>20</sup> Mark indicators aligned with the relevant programming document mark with '\*' and indicators aligned to the EU Results Framework with '\*\*'.

	SO2/Outcome3: Victims of domestic, including sexual, violence have greater access to quality services, as well as violence prevention is piloted in local schools and communities.	mainstreaming approach in selected regions  Existence of sustainable, specialized, quality and coordinated services to victims of domestic, including sexual, violence in selected regions, in line with international standards	Non-existent (2018)	Specialized services exist in at least one pilot region (2021)	Programme reports Reports on pilot actions	discrimination  Individual women and women's groups are willing and able to participate in programme activities
<b>Outputs</b>	Stable number of Moldovan bodies participating in EU Programmes	Number of Moldovan bodies participating in EU Programmes	5 (2018)	5 or more (2021)	Government Annual Reports Number of invoices submitted and paid Reports from EU Programmes and/or coordinating structures	Moldovan bodies are able to develop project ideas to EU Programmes, which are judged worthy of collaboration
	Gender mainstreaming of public policies	Number of LPAs having Public policies gender mainstreamed	0 (2018)	10 (2021)	Programme reports LPAs decisions (protocols, budgets, plans)	The local authorities will after the training have sufficiently staff capable of including gender mainstreaming decision making.
	Range of quality services for women victims domestic, including sexual,	Number of multidisciplinary teams	0 (2018)	6 (2021)	Programme reports Reports on pilot	Local authorities and

	violence developed	with strengthened capacities to respond effectively to cases of violence against women and children			actions	civil society organisations are willing and have adequate resources to provide services to women suffering from domestic, including sexual, violence
	Secondary schools and media have staff trained to plan and implement violence prevention programmes	Number of institutions that foster beliefs and behaviours that oppose gender based violence and gives support to victims and gender equality	0 (2018)	30 (2021)	Implementing partner reports	Secondary schools and communities are willing to participate in the pilot initiatives