







Government of the Republic of Moldova Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development P.I. National Office for Regional and Local Development

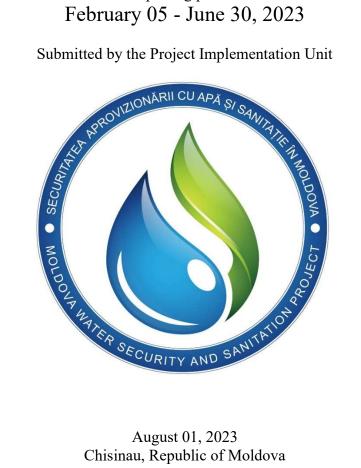
SEMIANNUAL REPORT no. 2

on the implementation of the

"Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project"

Reporting period: February 05 - June 30, 2023

Submitted by the Project Implementation Unit



Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADA Austrian Development Agency
ATU Autonomous Territorial Unit

BoQ Bill of Quantities

CERC Contingent Emergency Response Component
CWSC Citizen Water and Sanitation Committees

DED Detailed Engineering Design

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

ES Environmental and Social

ESS Environmental and Social Standards

ESIA Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

ESMF Environmental and Social Management Framework

ESMP Environmental and Social Management Plan

FM Financial Manager
GD Government Decision
GoM Government of Moldova

GRM Grievance Redress Mechanism HBS Household Budget Survey

HCF Health Care Facility
HR Human Resources

KPI Key Performance Indicator LPA Local Public Administration

NWSSDP National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan

MER Ministry of Education and Research

MH Ministry of Health

M&E Monitoring and Evaluation

MIRD Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development

MIS Management Information System

MWSSP Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project

NORLD National Office of Regional and Local Development

NAER National Agency for Energy Regulation

NRW Nonrevenue Water

NWSSDP National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan

PAD Project Appraisal Document
PDO Project Development Objective
PIA Project Implementation Agreement

PIE Project Implementing Entity



Semiannual Report no 2 for the period February 05- June 30, 2023

PIP Performance Improvement Plan
PIU Project Implementation Unit
POM Project Operations Manual
RDA Regional Development Agency
SEP Stakeholder Engagement Plan

TA Technical Assistance
ToR Terms of Reference

TUM Technical University of Moldova

VAT Value Added Tax

WB World Bank

WSS Water Supply and Sanitation
WASH Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WWTP Waste Water Treatment Plant

Report:	SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT no. 2
Date of submission	August 01, 2023
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Executive summary

Draigat title	MOLDOVA WATER SECURITY AND SANITATION PROJECT						
Project title	MOLDOVA WATER SECURITY AND SANITATION PROJECT The National Office for Regional and Local Development under Ministry of Infrastructure and						
Implementing Agency	Regional Development on the basis of Government Decision No 271 of April 20, 2022.						
Project duration	August 05, 2022 – January 31, 2027						
	February 05 - June 30, 2023						
Reported period							
The Project	(i) to increase access to safely managed water supply and sanitation services in selected rural areas						
Development	and towns, and to strengthen national and local institutional capacity for water supply and sanitation						
Objective (PDO)	service delivery;						
	(ii) in case of an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, respond promptly and effectively to it.						
PDO Level	PDO 1: Increase access to safely managed water supply and sanitation services in selected rural						
Indicators or	areas and towns						
Outputs /	(a) People provided with access to safely managed water services in selected rural areas and						
specific	towns (number/gender disaggregated)						
objectives	(b) People provided with access to safely managed sanitation services in selected rural areas						
	and towns (number/gender disaggregated)						
	PDO 2: Strengthen national and local institutional capacity for water supply and sanitation delivery						
	(c) National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan (NWSSDP) with						
	prioritized investment program and financing strategy developed and under						
	implementation (text)						
	(d) Number of participating operators demonstrating core institutional capacities for						
	improved water supply and sanitation service delivery (Number).						
Project	Component 1: Increasing access to safely managed water supply and sanitation services in						
Components:	selected rural areas and small towns						
	Subcomponent 1.1: Expanding Access and Quality of WSS services						
	Subcomponent 1.2: Improving WASH facilities in public social institutions						
	Component 2: Strengthening institutional capacity at national and local levels for WSS						
	service delivery.						
	Subcomponent 2.1: Building national institutional capacity for WSS						
	Subcomponent 2.2: Improving performance of WSS service providers						
	Component 3: Project Management and Coordination						
	Component 4: Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC).						
Project partners,	The target groups - participating WSS operators, and the population in selected LPAs from the three						
stakeholders	Development Regions: North, South and ATU Gagauzia						
and target groups	Key partners of the project: MIRD, MSIF, RDAs, MoH, MoER, MoEnv, NAER, TUM, AMAC						
Key	- Hiring the PIU staff;						
achievements	- Signing of Implementation Support Agreements with RDA South, North and Gagauzia;						
for reported	- Signing of the Cooperation Agreement by P.I. NORLD, RDAs and LPAs (except for Rişcani);						
period	- Creation of the Local Water and Sanitation Committee (LWSC) and Organization of the						
	information activities for LWSC members (except for Rişcani sub-project);						
	- Developing of the Roadmap and ToR necessary for the elaboration of the WSSNDP;						
	- Elaboration of the draft law amending/complementing Law No 303/2013;						
	- Receiving of the lists of institutions, for WASH facilities in healthcare and educational						
	institutions, provided by the Ministry of Health of the RM and the Ministry of Education and						
	Research;						
	- Creating the MWSSP web page and Facebook page;						
Key	- Signing of the Cooperation Agreement by P.I. NORLD, RDAs and LPAs from Riscani rayon.						
challenges/	Varatic Commune refused to participate in the project;						
risks for	- The cooperation process, for signing of the Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement with						
reported period	NAER;						



	 Delaying the approval process of the Regulation on the application of tax facilities (GD 105 on 28.02.2023); Delaying in the process of change of the land, for the construction of the sewage treatment plant in Soroca; The development of the Government Decision regarding approval of the criteria for authorization, construction, registration, control, operation and maintenance of appropriate individual wastewater collection and treatment system. The reasons are: reluctance of responsible authorities to approve legislative changes and lack of qualified personnel in the field; Lack of qualified personnel in the field or companies with the necessary experience to participate in tenders;
Project budget	 The project budget amounts to 46.5 million Euro, including: Financing Agreement signed between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the International Development Association (ratified by Law 169/2022) in the amount of 44.1 million Euro; Single Donor (Austrian Development Agency) Trust Fund Grant Agreement, signed between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / International Development Association (TF0B7739) in the amount of 1.5 million Euro. Local contribution around of 0.881 million Euro.



1. Project background

The Government of Moldova (GoM) is currently implementing a project supported by the World Bank (IDA) financing the **Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project (MWSSP).** The Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project directly supports the Government's commitment to Sustainable Development Goal No.6: to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene by 2030 through its Action Program and the National Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy 2014-2030.

The World Bank's Water Security Diagnostic and Future Outlook¹ showed that there are several pressing challenges to Moldova's water security, such as:

- (i) inequalities in access, inadequate quality of water supply in small towns and weak performance of service providers;
- (ii) poor environmental health and environmental pollution due to lack of sanitation and wastewater collection and treatment;
- (iii) weak institutions, fragmented financing streams and unresolved reform areas which hinder programmatic delivery of services.

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is:

- (i) to increase access to safely managed water supply and sanitation services in selected rural areas and towns, and to strengthen national and local institutional capacity for water supply and sanitation service delivery;
- (ii) in case of an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, respond promptly and effectively to it.

Access in water supply and sanitation (WSS) is constrained by large coverage gaps in rural areas, compounded by income status. Compared to other countries in the Danube region, the share of population with access to basic water and sanitation services in Moldova is low. The gap between urban and rural remains one of the largest in Europe and is one of the key water security issues the country is facing. Based on JMP-data², gains were made in rural water supply access to drinking water services from piped networks, from 33 percent in 2000 to an estimate 40 percent in 2017, while urban piped service remained almost stable at 85 percent.

Household Budget Survey (HBS) (2018) data provides the picture on national access to a public piped water supply being 70 percent, with urban access at 92.4 percent and rural access at 52.2 percent. However, the water quality of rural piped system is often compromised and is below drinking water quality standard. Those not served by public centralized systems rely on so-called self-supply, through private shallow wells. Around one in three people rely on self-supply for their drinking water with 80

² Joint Monitoring Program data is derived based on linear extrapolations using national survey data and JMP population estimates; discrepancies between nationally reported data can be found due to differences in estimation methods and definitions. See also: https://washdata.org/data



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¹ https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/34809

percent of wells not compliant with drinking water norms (e.g. nitrates, e-coli). The poorest quintile of the rural population faces the largest obstacles to get connected to a public system and is least able to invest in private piped supply by wells (9 percent), with 42.2 percent of the poorest households collecting water with buckets or carts. In 2018, out of a total of 1,220 centralized water systems, 1,168 were functional, although performance data is not systematically available.

In response to these challenges, the Project Development Objective (PDO) of the MWSSP is to increase access to safely managed water supply and sanitation services in selected rural areas and towns, and to strengthen institutional capacities for water supply and sanitation service delivery. Strengthening institutional capacities for water supply and sanitation service delivery refers to both national level planning and sector development capacities, as well as to improved operational efficiency and delivery at utility level.



Figure 1. The map of the MWSSP

Source: Project Appraisal Document of the MWSSP

The basic legal document of the Project is the Financing Agreement of the Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project (MWSSP) between the Republic of Moldova and the International Development Association, ratified by Decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova No 368 of 09.03.2022 approving the signing of the Financing Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and the International Development Association for the implementation of the "Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project", and also the Law no.169/2022 for the ratification of the Financing Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and the International Association for Development in order to realize the "Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project".

The project is implementing by the P.I. National Office for Regional and Local Development under MIRD, acting on the basis of Government Decision No 271 of 20.04.2022.



The Project Appraisal Document (PAD), as per Report No: PAD4095, including all the World Bank policies, institutional, financial, procurement, technical, social and environmental conditions and the Project Operational Manual for the implementation of MWSSP are the basic documents guiding the project implementation activities.

The following WB Standards and Rules are considered relevant to the Project:

- ✓ Regarding Environmental and Social Standards issues:
 - ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
 - ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions
 - ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and management
 - ESS4 Community Health and Safety
 - ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restriction on land Use and Involuntary Resettlement
 - ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources
 - ESS10 Stakeholder Engagements and Information Disclosure

✓ Regarding **Procurement** issues:

- the World Bank Procurement Regulations for Investment Project Financing (IPF) Borrowers
- Procurement in IPF of Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, and
- with the Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, as on July 1, 2016

✓ Regarding **Financial Management** issues:

- Disbursement Guidelines for Investment Project Financing, dated February 2017
- MWSSP Disbursement Letter
- Financial Agreement ratified under the Law No 169 on June 23, 2022, and via Presidential Decree 528 on July 07, 2022

The MWSSP has four components:

Component 1: Increasing access to safely managed WSS services in selected rural areas and towns This component will develop new and rehabilitate existing WSS infrastructure and WASH facilities in rural areas and towns, thus expanding access and quality of services for households, businesses, and public institutions and supporting resilience. Component 1 supports climate adaption through (a) providing reliable centralized water supply protecting vulnerable households from drought and poor water quality; (b) improving wastewater systems, sanitation, and WASH facilities, reducing environmental exposure to pathogens exacerbated by flooding, particularly in towns facing frequent flooding; and (c) ensuring climate-resilient design of all infrastructure for robust functioning under extreme weather events. It consists of two subcomponents:



Subcomponent 1.1: Expanding access and quality of WSS services. This subcomponent will finance climate-resilient investments in towns and rural areas. This includes the following:

- (a) Water supply investments: Expansion and rehabilitation of the regional water systems for water supply production and distribution, and service connections for LPAs in selected districts, including the preparation of relevant technical studies and management documents; technical supervision; and citizen engagement activities. This refers to water supply infrastructure in two preliminarily identified subprojects, that is, regional water system expansion for LPAs in Cahul District and the ATU of Gagauzia and a regional water supply system with a surface water treatment plant in Riscani District. Many LPAs, particularly in the south (Cahul) as well as in the northern part along the Prut (Riscani), face shortages of water in the summer, with shallow wells/springs posing a challenge such as in the Prut cluster villages, in the Vulcanesti town, and other villages in Cahul District.
- (b) Wastewater investments: Expansion and rehabilitation of wastewater systems in selected towns, including the construction and rehabilitation of sewer networks and service connections, and the construction of new wastewater treatment plants, including the preparation of relevant technical studies and management documents; technical supervision; and citizen engagement activities. This refers to two preliminarily identified subprojects in Soroca and Comrat towns. There are areas in the Comrat town that face frequent flooding, and the Soroca town is also vulnerable directly on the right bank of the Dniester. The project will support the assessment of flood risk and impact at the household level and, in addition to ensuring resilient design of infrastructure, provide measures to reduce the impact of floods where possible.
- (c) **Pilot for on-site household sanitation:** selected rural or peri-urban villages, will benefit from the improvement of on-site household sanitation following a demand-led approach through the provision of technical assistance, the implementation of information campaigns, and the carrying out of civil works. The pilot will be co-financed through the ADA grant. This pilot will demonstrate the use of climate-resilient low-cost technologies for rural sanitation.

Subcomponent 1.2: Improving resilient WASH facilities in public social institutions. This subcomponent will finance works, goods, consulting services, non-consulting services and training/workshops to realize climate-resilient WASH facilities in HCFs and education institutions and implement hygiene education and behavior change communication program.

Component 2: Strengthening institutional capacity at national and local levels for WSS service delivery. This component focusses on institutional capacities of national and subnational entities and WSS operators for management, planning, regulation and reform implementation, and performance improvement of service providers for green, resilience, and inclusive service delivery. At the national level, development of plans, policies, and regulatory documents will support climate adaptation through climate-resilient planning, and at the local level, performance improvements will deliver



climate benefits through reduction of NRW and improvement of energy efficiency. It consists of two subcomponents:

Subcomponent 2.1: Building national institutional capacity for WSS. This subcomponent aims to strengthen critical functions of facilitating and implementing WSS sector reform, investment planning and monitoring, and sector modernization and build capacities to this end of the assigned lead unit/entity within MIRD's structure. It finances goods, non-consulting services, consulting services, and training/workshops for activities that strengthen institutional capacities for planning, financing, economic regulation, performance monitoring, professional development, and the revision and development of new policies and normative documents.

Subcomponent 2.2: Improving performance of WSS service providers Subcomponent 2.2 will finance works, goods, consulting services, non-consulting services, and training to support the implementation of a prioritized rolling multiyear PIP of selected WSS operators involved under Subcomponent 1.1. WSS operators will carry out annual assessments on PIP implementation and KPIs, including publication of results and feedback rounds with customers. The financing for selected WSS operators will be allocated based on results. Investments and TA activities identified in the PIPs are based on utility diagnostics and include, but are not limited to, the following: improving technical and commercial operations, improving financial management (FM), HR management, and organization and strategy aspects, including improving asset management systems and inventories, energy efficiency, NRW reduction programs, water metering practices and equipment to improve climate resilience, water safety, and business continuity, and enhancing responsiveness to customers.

Component 3: Project management and coordination. This component will finance operational costs, consulting services, non-consulting services, goods, and training to finance the overall project management cost, including the project team at the Project Implementation Unit (PIU), implementation support consultants at the regional level within MIRD's RDAs for environmental and social standards implementation, and, at the national level, MIRD as the project implementing entity (PIE). It will finance training costs, including for capacity building in procurement, environmental, and social standards, specialized short-term implementation support consultants, financial audits, project communication and citizen consultations, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

Component 4: Contingent emergency response component (CERC). A provisional zero-amount component is included, which will allow for rapid reallocation of credit/loan proceeds from other components during an emergency under streamlined procurement and disbursement procedures. This component allows the Government to request the World Bank to recategorize and reallocate financing from other project components to cover emergency response and recovery costs.



2. PROGRESS TOWARDS THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES

2.1. Component 1. Increasing access to safely management water supply and sanitation services in selected rural areas and towns

2.1.1 Subcomponent 1.1 Expanding access and quality of WSS services

a) Water supply investments

a.1. Expansion and improvement of water supply services in Cahul and Vulcanesti rayons.

The Cahul water supply subproject represents a construction for the expansion of the water supply system in Cahul Rayon (using Prut water) to connect villages in several LPAs in Cahul Rayon as well as Vulcanesti town (ATU Gagauzia).

Coffee Canul Canul

Figure 2. Proposed water supply scheme in Cahul rayon

Source: 2019 10 18 Factsheet WSS Cahul Project

Identified villages and towns face significant water supply access and quality challenges. Water supply in Vulcanesti town and other villages in the south suffers from frequent shortages due to droughts, and deep groundwater is polluted and not compliant with drinking water norms (non-potable water). The beneficiaries of the mentioned subproject are the following localities: (i) Pelinei village (including Satuc village), (ii) Gavanoasa village (including Vladimirovca and Nicolaevca villages), (iii) Alexanderfeld village, (iv) Alexandru Ioan Cuza village, (v) Vulcanesti Town and (vi) and Vulcanesti Railway Station with a total number of 24,674 beneficiaries.



Water supply infrastructure components are planned, within the subproject, as shown in the table below.

Table 1. Water supply infrastructure components that are planned for the subproject

"Expansion and improvement of water supply services in Cahul and Vulcanesti rayons"

"Expansion and improvement of water supply		Technical	•
Item	mu	characteristic	Quantity, unit
from the water source			
Main water pipeline	km		2x48.3=96.57
Disinfection Stations	unit		5
Pumping/ Repumping stations	unit		2
Pelinei village			
Main water pipeline	km		23.7
Water tank	m ³	50	1
Satuc village			
Main water pipeline	km		0
Water tank	m ³	25	1
Households in Pelinei commune (Pelinei and Satuc)	no		717
Găvănoasa village			
Main water pipeline	km		17.3
Water tank	m ³	50	1
Vladimirovca village			
Main water pipeline	km		7
Water tank	m ³	25	2
Nicolaevca village			
Main water pipeline	km		8.5
Water tank	m ³	25	1
Households in (Gavanoasa, Nicolaevca and Vladimirovca)	no		622
Vulcănești town			
Main water pipeline	km		9
Water tank	m^3	25	1

Source: 2019 10 18 Factsheet WSS Cahul Project

Since the beginning of the project, the following actions were carried out:

- The Cahul Rayonal Council Decision no. 10/06-V (on the participation of the Cahul Rayon in the MWSSP and the conditions to be fulfilled) was approved on December 15, 2022;
- The LPS's Council Decisions (regarding participation in the MWSSP and the conditions to be fulfilled) were approved by the Local Councils as follows:
 - ✓ LPA Gavanoasa (Decision no. 5/1 on December 06, 2022);
 - ✓ LPA Pelinei (Decision no. 7/9 on November 21, 2022);
 - ✓ LPA Alexanderfeld (Decision no. 8/1 on December 02, 2022);

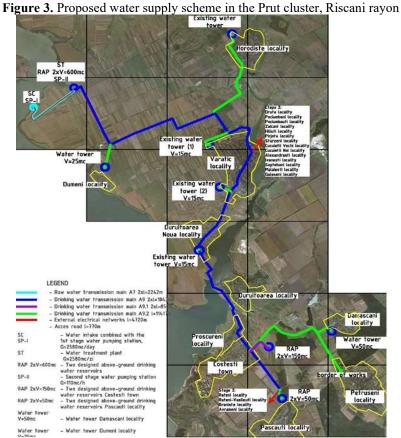


- ✓ LPA Alexandru Ioan Cuza (Decision no. 10/2 on December 12, 2022)
- ✓ LPA Vulcanesti (Decision no. 9/30 on December 22, 2022)
- The Cooperation Agreement was signed on March 15, 2023, by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs;
- The ToR for DED & BoQ adjustment was developed and was received "No objections note" from the WB experts:
 - ✓ The date of request for offer from the company which elaborated the original DED & BoQ was March 17, 2023. Deadline for submission of the offer April 07, 2023.
 - ✓ On April 05, 2023 the technical and financial offer was received.
 - ✓ The composition of the Negotiating Working Group was approved on May 04, 2023 by NORLD Order No. 14.
 - ✓ Submission of all information (ToR, tender's documents, regulations, etc.) to the Working Group was made on May 10, 2023.
 - ✓ On May 29, 2023 the evaluation preparation meeting was conducted.
 - ✓ The negotiation and clarification meeting was held on June 06, 2023.
 - ✓ At the reporting date the contract is in the process of being drawn up.
- The ToR for ESIA & ESMP was developed and was received "No objections note" from the WB experts.
 - ✓ The first announcement was placed on March 21, 2023, in the *Public Procurement Bulletin* No 23, and on the NORLD website and invitation sent to a qualified company. The deadline for submission of offers was April 04, 2023. No. of offers received was 0.
 - ✓ The second announcement was placed on April 07, 2023, in *Moldova Suverana* No 13, on NORLD site and invitations were sent to 6 companies. The deadline for submission of the offers was April 17, 2023. No. of offers that was received -0.
 - ✓ The third announcement was placed on April 21, 2023, in *Moldova Suverană* no. 15, on NORLD website and invitations were sent to 7 companies. The deadline for submission of the offers was May 05, 2023. No. of offers that was received -1.
 - ✓ The composition of the Negotiating Working Group was approved on May 04, 2023 by NORLD Order No. 14.
 - ✓ Submission of all information (ToR, offers, regulations etc.) to the Working Group was made on May 10, 2023.
 - ✓ Holding of the preparation meeting for the evaluation May 29, 2023.
 - ✓ The Expression of Interest Evaluation Report was approved on June 6, 2023 and the technical and financial offer was requested from the company in the same day.
 - ✓ On the reporting date the contract with the company is in the process of being drawn up.



a.2. Expansion and improvement of water supply services in the Prut cluster, Riscani rayon.

The Riscani water supply subproject represents a construction of a new regional water system in Riscani District taking water from the Prut for Costesti LPA and villages in additional LPAs. The beneficiaries of the mentioned subproject are the following localities: (i) Costeti town (including villages which are part of the town: Duruitoarea, Proscureni, Pascauti and Damascani), (ii) Duruitoarea Noua village (including Dumeni village), (iii) Văratic village, (iv) Horodiste village and (v) Petruseni village with a total number of 9,518 beneficiaries.



Source: GIZ / Modernization of Local Public Services project / Feasibility Study for Aggregating Water Supply Services

for "Prut" Cluster of Riscani Rayon

Water supply infrastructure components that are planned, within the subproject, are shown in the table below.

Table 2. Water supply infrastructure components that are planned for the subproject "Expansion and improvement of water supply services in the Prut cluster, Riscani rayon"

Item	mu	Technical characteristic	Quantity	Note
Water treatment plant			1	
Main pipeline for raw water	km		2.29x2=4.58	consists of two pipes
Main potable water pipeline	km		24.5x2=49	consists of two pipes
Water tank	unit	650 m^3	2	



Item	mu	Technical characteristic	Quantity	Note
Water tank	unit	150 m ³	2	
Pumping stations	unit		2	
Pășcăuți village				
Water distribution networks	km		11.2	
Water tank	m ³	50	2	
Disinfection Station	unit		1	
Connections	no		450	
Damaşcani village				
Water distribution networks	km		5.7	
Water tank	m ³	50	1	
Disinfection Station	unit		1	
Connections	no		145	

Source: 2019 10 18 Factsheet WSS Riscani Project

Number of inhabitants for localities from Prut Cluster from Riscani Rayon was approved according to the Feasibility Study for Aggregation of Water Supply Services in Prut Cluster, Riscani rayon with options for wastewater collection and treatment services (28 settlements in the Western part of Riscani rayon, located in the zone of Prut River)"

The raw water from the Prut River will be captured through the water intake, which consists of fish protection structure, two parallel pipes and the first stage water pumping station. The capacity of the water intake was adopted, taking into account the number of inhabitants from 28 localities (Prut Cluster) from the Riscani Rayon

Table 3. Data regarding designed capacity of the water treatment facility for Prut Cluster, Riscani Rayon

	Total no. of inhabitants	q _{sp} ,	Qday avg, m³/day	Kday max	Qday max, m³/day	Technological water losses for WTP, (20%)	Capacity of water intake, m³/day
water intake	26,019	70	1,821.33	1.25	2,276.66	455.30	2,732.00
water treatment	26,019	70	1,821.33	1.25	2,276.66	455.30	2,732.00
plant							

Source: "Improvement of water supply and sewerage services in Pascauti, Damascani, Proscureni, Galaseni, Malaiesti and Hiliuti localites from Riscani Rayon". Explanatory memorandum. Chisinau 2019

Since the beginning of the project, the following action were carried out:

- Developed draft of the local Council decisions;
- Developed the draft Cooperation Agreement to be signed by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs;
- In December 2022, were approved Local Councils Decisions of all LPA, except LPA Varatic. This is an implementation risk of the subproject, due to a negative decision of the Varatic Local Council from the Riscani Rayon to participate in the project. To mitigate this risk and in order to convince the LPA representatives and the population of the Varatic village, the PIU team realized the following actions:



- ✓ On April 27, 2023 the PIU team participated in the Public Consultations in Varatic in order to present the project to the population and explain the advantages of joining the project
- ✓ On May 23, 2023, was held a meeting with MIRD, RDA North and Riscani Rayon Council regarding the participation of the Varatic commune in the project. The representatives of Riscani Rayon Council made a commitment to pay the contribution for the Varatic in order to continue the implementation of the project. On the basis of the provisions of the minute of the meeting (signed by all participating parties) and the decisions approved at the meeting on 23.05.2023, the following were drawn up:
 - a. Draft decision of the Riscani Rayon Council;
 - b. Draft decision of the Varatic Local Council;
 - c. Draft decision of the other LPAs;
 - d. The draft Cooperation Agreement, where the Varatic LPA ensures participation as a partner and will issue the necessary permit documents for the construction of the main pipeline.
- ✓ On June 12-16, 2023 the need for the continuation of the sub-project was discussed with the World Bank's representatives the MWSSP team leader and coordinator.
- ✓ On June 26, 2023, the PIU representatives participated in the meeting of the local council of Varatic to discuss the mechanism of participation of the locality in the project as a partner, because the main pipeline crosses the intra-village of the locality and it is the necessity to ensure that the LPA will issue the necessary permit documents (urban planning certificate, construction permit, etc.) if necessary.
- As a result of the actions taken, on the reporting date, the LPA's Council Decisions (regarding participation in the MWSSP and the conditions to be fulfilled, according to the PIU/NORLD letter no. 02-23/765 from 08.06.2023) were approved by the Local Councils as follows:
 - ✓ LPA Petruseni (Decision no. 2/2 on June 12, 2023);
 - ✓ LPA Horodiste (Decision no. 05/02 on December 09, 2022);
 - ✓ LPA Varatic will participate in the project as a partner (Decision no. 03/01 on June 26, 2023);
 - ✓ The decision of the LPA Costesti and Duruitoarea Noua are planned to be approved in July.
 - ✓ The Decision No 03/17 was approved on June 16, 2023 of the Riscani Rayon Council amending the Decision of the Rayon Council no. 01/03 on January 13, 2023 regarding Cooperation Agreement to be signed by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs
- The ToR for DED & BoQ adjustment, was developed;
- The ToR for ESIA & ESMP was developed;
- It was prepared so called Preliminary Environment Impact Assessment to seek the decision of Environmental Agency about the necessity to conduct full scale EIA (yes/no).
 - ✓ On May 05, 2023 the Riscani Environmental Inspectorate requested additional information, which was provided on May 10, 2023. The response regarding the need for EIA was received on May 19, 2023 by the letter of the Northern Environmental Agency no. 18/175/2023 on May 19, 2023 addressed to Riscani Rayon Council, Economy Department. A response to the comments received has been prepared, but due to the context of the project, the process is stopped.



b) Wastewater investments

b.3. Expansion and improvements of wastewater services in Soroca. The Soroca subproject represents construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant as well as expansion and reconstruction of the wastewater network in Soroca town.

Wastewater Pumping Stations in Soroca

Construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewerage Infrastructure in Soroca Municipality

Pumping Station South

Sewer Pressure Main

Designed Wastewater Treatment Plant

Designed Wastewater Treatment Plant

Figure 4. Layout of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Pressure Sewer and

Source: Developed by the PIU/NORLD engineers

Currently untreated wastewater directly pollutes the Dniester River, the main source of water for downstream settlements and is identified as a national priority for prevention of waterway pollution.

Table 4. Wastewater infrastructure components that are planned for the subproject "Expansion and improvements of wastewater services in Soroca"

Item	mu	Technical characteristic	Quantity
New construction			
Wastewater treatment plant	unit	$2,300 \text{ m}^3/\text{day}$	1
Centre pumping station	unit	2+1 pumps,	1
		36 l/s, 50 kW	
South pumping station	unit	1+1 pumps, 4.4 l/s, 1 kW	1
Wastewater collection pressure networks	km	DN400	5.8



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Item	mu	Technical characteristic	Quantity
Wastewater collection pressure networks	km	DN90	0.83
Access road to the treatment plant	km		3
Connection of the treatment plant to the electricity networks	km		Est. 2.5
Connection of the treatment plant to the water	km		Est. 2.5
supply networks			
Other components for STAGE I, depending	on the a	vailability of financial sources	
Rehabilitation of existing wastewater networks	km		3.9
Small wastewater pumping stations	unit		2
Connections	unit		388

Source: Feasibility Study and ESIA for Soroca Sanitation Project, 2021

For this subproject the following equipment/works are foreseen:

List of equipment/works for Soroca Wastewater Treatment Plant and Main Sewer Pipeline

1.a. Wastewater treatment plant: Screens; Aerated grit chamber; Imhoff tank; Intermediate pumping station; Trickling filter; Secondary clarifier; Sludge drying beds; Disinfection unit; Pipelines; Power supply and electrical installations; SCADA system, control system and measurements; Plant buildings; Utilities; Laboratory Equipment & Ancillary Supplies; Access road to WWTP and landscaping and outside installations.

1.b. Main Sewer Pipeline: pipe; Automatic screen, chamber; Central pumping station; South pumping station; Automations system; Power supply of the Pumping Stations; Manholes; Installation works and Landscaping and access road³

It has been estimated that only 42% of the population of Soroca town is connected to the sewerage system. All the multi-storey buildings are connected to the existing sewerage system, whereas only 24% of the individual houses and 21% of economic agents and budgetary institutions are connected.

Table 5. Number of active water and wastewater connections in Soroca

	Number of active water connections 2020 baseline Water actio*		Number of active wastewater connections 2020 baseline	Population Wastewater coverage ratio*	
Soroca	9,333	66%	5,902	42%	
villages	2,177	50%	0	0%	
Total JSC "Regia Apa Canal Soroca"	11,510	62%	5,902	32%	

Source: JSC "Regia Apa Canal Soroca"

In order to realize all the planned activities for the implementation of the Soroca sanitation subproject, since the beginning of the project, the following actions were carried out:

- The Soroca Municipal Council Decision no. 22/2 (on the participation of the municipality of Soroca in the MWSSP and the conditions to be fulfilled) was approved on January 12, 2023;

³ Feasibility Study and ESIA for Soroca Sanitation Project, 2021



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- The Cooperation Agreement was signed on March 22, 2023, by the P.I. NORLD, RDA North and Soroca LPA;
- Analysis of the Feasibility Study;
- Defining the segments of the sewerage network to be rehabilitated and extended;
- Elaboration of the cost estimates for Detailed Design and Construction Works;
- Elaboration of the preliminary schemes and layouts based on the detailed analysis of the Feasibility Study and the proposed technical solutions;
- Phasing of the project implementation based on the available budget, the technical solutions and the preliminary sizing of the Wastewater Treatment Plant;
- Elaboration of the general layout for the Wastewater Treatment Plant based on the preliminary sizing;
- Elaboration of the preliminary technical drawings of the technological processes for the Wastewater Treatment Plant;
- Preliminary drawing of the main pressure pipeline;
- Analysis of the technical solutions for two Wastewater Pumping Stations (Centre and South);
- Analysis of the options to be implemented according to the results of the cost estimates;
- Analysis of the procedures for procuring the Detailed Design and Construction Works;
- Agreement on the acceptance of the World Bank's *Design and Build* procurement procedure, with all relevant stakeholders, inclusive during the meeting that was held on March 14, 2023 with the participation of MIRD and NORLD;
- Preliminary drafting the Civil, Mechanical and Electrical parts of the Technical Specifications;
- Initially it was agreed that the geotechnical works would be financed from the local budget, according to an agreement with the public authorities of Soroca town. During the meeting with representatives of Soroca Town Hall on May 26, 2023 it was found that it would be more efficient if these works will be contracted under the Project, because the municipality of Soroca did not managed to allocate the necessary financial resources. The Terms of Reference for *topographical survey, geological study and expertise of the wastewater pumping stations' buildings* were developed and "No objections note" was received from the WB experts; The notice for submission of expressions of interest was published *Moldova Suverana* no. 23 on June 16, 2023 as well as on the NORLD website. Deadline for submission was June 27, 2023. At the reporting date 2 offers were received.
- Development of the Terms of Reference for *Employer's Requirements within the Design and Build bidding package*. The announcement was published on June 23, 2023 in *Moldova Suverana* no. 24 and on the NORLD website. The deadline for submission of offers is July 07, 2023.
- The land transfer from Moldsilva (Forestry Department) to Soroca Municipality is in the process. The draft GD for land transfer is under development.



b.4. Expansion and improvements of wastewater services in Comrat municipality.

The Comrat subproject represents construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant as well as expansion and construction of the wastewater network in Comrat town, where untreated wastewater directly pollutes the Ialpug River, Comrat lake, and downstream Congaz lake, affecting the Danube River downstream.

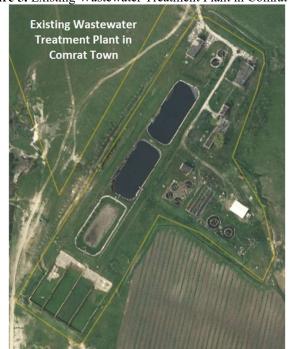


Figure 5. Existing Wastewater Treatment Plant in Comrat town

Source: geodata.gov.md

Existing wastewater collectors are in dire need of rehabilitation, and expansion of sewerage network is required. The old wastewater treatment plant is damaged and not in function. Frequent flooding exacerbates the environmental health impact.

Table 6. Wastewater infrastructure components -current situation in Comrat

Item	mu	Quantity
Wastewater treatment plant (5,700 m³/day)	unit	1
Volume of wastewater that enters the Wastewater treatment plant	m ³ /day	1,400
Existing wastewater networks	km	33.2
Wastewater networks under construction	km	8.5
Wastewater networks included in existing detailed design	km	15.1
Wastewater networks that needed detailed design	km	94.4
Connections	unit	3,749
Households that need to be connected	unit	5,494

Source: Municipal Company Su-Canal



The collected wastewater is pumped to the Central Wastewater Pumping Station and after that is pumped to the wastewater treatment plant which is not functioning and is a source of pollution for the Ialpug river, where it is discharged.

Table 7. Number of active water and wastewater connections in Comrat

	Population, persons	Population Water coverage ratio	Population Wastewater coverage ratio
Comrat	26,200	93%	35%

Source Gagauzia WWS Regional Sector Program 2018

In order to realize all the planned activities for the implementation of the subproject, since the beginning of the project, the following actions were carried out:

- The Comrat Municipal Council Decision no. 1/1 (on the participation of the Compat municipality in the MWSSP and the conditions to be fulfilled) was approved on January 09, 2023;
- The Cooperation Agreement was signed on March 16, 2023, by the P.I. NORLD, RDA Gagauzia and Comrat LPA;
- Analysis of the documentation and the project concept for the regionalization and development of the water supply and wastewater infrastructure for the Gagauzia development region;
- Analysis of the existent situation related to the water supply and wastewater infrastructure (maps, schemes);
- Field visits and analysis of the current situation related to the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant:
- Analysis of geological and topographical data with identifying problems that may arise at the Terms of Reference's elaboration stage.
- Elaboration of Terms of Reference for the Feasibility Study and ESIA and approval of the documents at the meeting on March 16, 2023 with the participation of NORLD, RDA Gagauzia, Comrat LPA;
- The international tender for the Feasibility Study and ESIA was launched on March 21, 2023 in the *Public Procurement Bulletin* No. 23, NORLD website and UNDB Online. The deadline for submission was April 07, 2023. 15 expressions of interest were received. The composition of the Working Group was established by NORLD Order No 15 on 04.05.2023. Expressions of interest, ToR and other documents were submitted to the working group for evaluation on May 17, 2023. The Evaluation of Expressions of Interest and approval of the Evaluation Report was made on June 28, 2023. On the reporting date the preparation of the request for technical and financial offers from 6 short-listed companies started.
- Evaluation of the proposals for elaboration of the Feasibility Study



c) Pilot for on-site household sanitation

c.5. Improvements in on-site sanitation services for rural villages. The LPA(s) with rural villages or peri-urban areas below 2,000 persons will be selected based on criteria identified in the POM. These households will sign an "On-site Sanitation Household Agreement" with the PIU and LPA to consent to the conditions of the support scheme, for which appropriate processes and plans will be developed by the PIU. Participating households will be responsible for contributing to the small works contracts, covering the on-site treatment and disposal facility, in a differentiated way depending on socioeconomic status, with the LPA facilitating the collection of household contributions and depositing this in the Project's Operating Account.



Figure 6. Installation scheme of a septic tank

Source: Draft of Market Study regarding on-site sanitation systems (septic tanks)

For the implementation of *On-site sanitation pilot project*, since the beginning of the project, the following actions were implemented:

- The ToR for conducting a market study regarding on-site sanitation systems (septic tanks) was developed and the "No objections note" from the WB experts was received;
- The ToR for the elaboration of the Government Decision regarding approval of the criteria for authorization, construction, registration, control, operation and maintenance of appropriate individual wastewater collection and treatment systems was developed and the "No objections note" from the WB experts was received;
- The Application Guide for the selection of the beneficiary community/communities of the pilot project on the construction of small-scale sanitation infrastructure in rural and peri-urban households was elaborated. The main chapters are: purpose and objectives of the selection; eligibility criteria; stages of the selection procedure; conditions for submitting the set of documents in the selection procedure and forms for the application process.;



- In order to *Develop of the Government Decision- stakeholder involvement*, on May 23, 2023 a meeting was held with Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development, Ministry of Health, National Public Health Agency, Ministry of Environment on sanitation solutions for small localities (especially septic tanks), where sewerage systems are not feasible. The participants at the meeting discussed their opinions on the advantages and disadvantages regarding septic tanks. The advantages included: low cost and a feasible solution for small localities. Among the disadvantages and risks related to septic tanks were specified: Geological study needed; If the soil is impermeable and the amount of wastewater is high there is a risk of landslides; Wastewater is not treated for pathogenic microorganisms; There is a risk of insufficient maintenance of the septic tank by householders and For legal exploitation of septic tanks, a nearby river is needed for water discharge. In conclusion, it was decided to wait for the finalization of the Market Study on septic tanks and then, after the presentation of the results of the Market Study, to hold another meeting on this topic.
- Regarding the Contraction of the consultant for the elaboration of the draft Government Decision on the approval of the criteria for authorization, construction, registration, control, operation and maintenance of appropriate individual wastewater collection and treatment systems, the ToR for contracting an expert for elaboration of the draft Government Decision was developed. Procurement procedures was launched for 4 times.
 - 1. The first announcement was published in civic.md, *Logos Press* no. 5 on February 10, 2023, NORLD website February 10, 2023. Deadline for submission of the offers was February 24, 2023. Number of offers that were submitted -0.
 - 2. The second announcement was published in *Logos Press* no.13 on April 07, 2023 and NORLD website. Deadline for submission of offers was April 21, 2023. Number of offers that were submitted -0.
 - 3. The third announcement was published in *Moldova Suverana* no. 17 on May 05, 2023 and NORLD website. Deadline for submission of offers was May 19, 2023. Number of offers that were submitted -0.
 - 4. The fourth announcement was published in *Moldova Suverana* no. 25 on June 30, 2023; NORLD website and civic.md. Deadline for submission of offers was July 10, 2023.
- In order to elaborate the *Market study regarding on-site sanitation systems (septic tanks)*, the contract no. MD-PIU-NORLD-339411-CS-INDV was signed on April 03, 2023. On April 14, 2023 according to the contract, is the deadline for submission of deliverable 1 (Methodological Note). By the reporting date the deliverable has not been submitted. To this issue was written email dated: April 18, 2023, May 10, 2023 and May 11, 2023. On 16 May, the consultant submitted:
 - 1. a part of the Market Study Report (containing: structure, introduction, objectives, methodology, findings related to technical, legal and regulatory issues);
 - 2. an estimate of the costs of the installation works;



- 3. commercial offers for septic tanks from 10 companies (manufacturers and distributors) from Moldova, Romania and China;
- 4. 3 options for on-site septic tank construction.

Another email requesting submission of deliverables was sent in June 07, 2023. On June 19, 2023 was sent an official letter from the National Office for Regional and Local Development to the expert, requiring submission of deliverables by June 27, 2023. On June 27, was received an email from the expert in which the expert promises to submit the deliverables until June 30, 2023. On June 30, 2023 no deliverables were received.



2.1.2 Subcomponent 1.2 "Improving WASH facilities in selected Health Care facilities and Selected Educational Institutions"

According to the Financing Agreement and the Project Appraisal Document, the Wash, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) component will be oriented for improvement of handwashing and hygiene facilities in social institutions, taking in consideration, where appropriate, low carbon emission technologies, and also the design of WASH facilities has to respond to girls'/women's needs (privacy, menstrual hygiene management (MHM) facilities) and be accessible for people with disabilities. In this regard, the implementation of this component depends on the list of institutions which was provided by the Ministry of Health (MH) and Ministry of Education and Research (MER). The planned indicator for the present component is to improve WASH facilities in 100 schools and 25 Health Care Facilities (HCF). MER presented the list with 33 schools and MH presented the list with 31 HCF. These abovementioned lists were approved by the Ministries and presented for the screening phase.

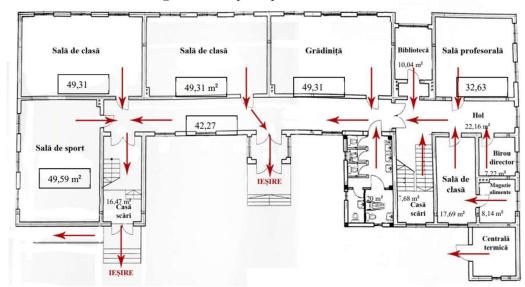


Figure 7. Example of plan of a school floor

Source: symbolic image

For the implementation of the WASH component, since the beginning of the project, the PIU has carried out the following actions:

- Organized 3 meetings with MER in order to discuss the objective of the WASH component and the proposed options;
- 2 meetings with MH in order to discuss the objective of the WASH component;
- Support the MER to complete a data base information regarding 1,004 institutions;
- Updating information (screening) of the first draft list presented by the MH for 36 previously selected institutions;
- Support for the health and educational institutions in preparing the needed information;
 - Received the lists of institution for screening phase from MER and MH;



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- The WASH engineer was hired on June 05, 2023. He is be responsible for: (i) the screening of the presented institutions, (ii) development of the ToR for the designing company (iii) development of the ToR for the construction works execution company (iv) monitoring of al the activities for the implementation of the designed works.;
- During the June month the engineer caried out the screening phase for 64 institutions;
- The reports on the results of the screening phase were developed and presented to the MER and MH for decisions approval regarding the list of institution which will benefit from the project interventions.



2.2. Component 2. Strengthening institutional capacity at national and local levels of WSS service delivery.

2.2.1 Subcomponent 2.1 Building national institutional capacity for WSSS

a) sector planning and financing for programmatic delivery

The elaboration and implementation of a National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan (NWSSDP), investment program and financing strategy and the capacity development of its assigned lead entity; the NWSSDP outlines a staged process for regionalization, consolidation of funding mechanism and a prioritized investment program;

For the development of the NWSSDP, Investment program and Financing Strategy, since the beginning of the project, the PIU has carried out the following actions:

- ✓ Analysis of the GD no. 715/2022 for the approval of the Regulation on the framework content, methodological principles for the development and updating and approval of the National Territorial Development Plan;
- ✓ Analysis of the Instruction on the elaboration of the specialized section "Water supply and sanitation" of the Plan of National Territorial Development, approved by the Minister Order no. 128.2020:
- ✓ Analysis of the documents developed by the project team during the preparation within the ECAPDEV project.

By order of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development No. 28 on February 28,2023, the *Unit for the coordination* of the process of elaboration of the *National Territorial Development Plan* - specialized section *Water supply and sanitation* was designated.

(i) Action: Development of the Roadmap, necessary for the elaboration of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan

The Roadmap necessary for the elaboration of the *National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan* (WSSNDP), was developed. In the document were described all necessary actions for the elaboration and approval of the WSSNDP. The Roadmap contain the name of the action; responsible institutions; description of the action and legal basis of the action.

(ii) Action: Drawing up the specifications for contracting a consultancy company to draw up the WSSNDP

The first draft of the terms of reference (ToR) has been prepared and submitted for review to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development on May 19, 2023. The main chapters of the Terms of Reference for the elaboration of the *National Territorial Development Plan for the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector in Moldova, the Long-Term Investment Program and the Financing Strategy* are: purpose and objectives; scope of the services; the service delivery stages and main tasks; deliverables, implementation plan and implementation arrangements.

On June 12, 2023 the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development has sent the letter, no 09-3047 to all interested parties to announce that, by the Government's Decision, was constituted the *National Council* for *Territorial Planning*. In this context the Ministry organizes the first meeting of



the Council on June 27, 2023. During this meeting the ToR was presented and discussed. The details are presented in the Minutes of the meeting.

On June 28, 2023 the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development has sent the letter, no 09-3325 to all interested parties for submission of proposals and objections on ToR until June 30, 2023. The ToR will be approved, if no proposals or objections receive by the set date.

After this approval, the ToR will be sent to the World Bank experts for "No objections". After this the procurement procedures will be initiated.

(iii) Action: Hire strategic planning consultant to provide support to the *Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development*

The consultant will provide support to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development in the implementation of Sub-component 2.1, in particular will support the development of the *National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan* and also will assist in planned sector reforms. The procurement procedures for hire the strategic planning consultant were launched for 4 times.

- 1) The first announcement was published *in Logos Press* no 5 on February 10, 2023, civic.md and NORLD website. Deadline for submission of the offers February 24, 2023. No. of offers submitted -0.
- 2) The second announcement was published on March 17, 2023 in *Moldova Suverana* no. 10 and NORLD website. Deadline for submission of the offers March 31, 2023. No. of offers submitted 0:
- 3) The third announcement was published in *Moldova Suverana* on April 07, 2023 no. 13. Deadline for submission of the offers April 21, 2023. No. of offers submitted -0;
- 4) The fourth announcement was published in *Moldova Suverana* on May 26, 2023 no. 20. Deadline for submission of the offers June 09, 2023. No. of offers submitted- 1. On June 30, 2023 the negotiation process is ongoing. If the negotiations are successful in July 2023 will be signed the contract.

Capacity Development of the Lead WSS Unit. On June 30, 2023, 4 persons were hired out of 5 available positions, these are: Head of Department, Deputy Head of Department and 2 Senior Consultants). By the Ministry Order No 28 of 28.02.2023 the commitment to employ staff for Lead WSS Unit is assigned /transferred to MIRD.

At the reporting period the ToR for capacity building for the Lead Unit/ responsible for WSS is in the process of development.

b) support for selected operators

Technical assistance to selected LPAs and WSS operators to support the aggregation process into licensed regional operators (on legal, technical, financial) following the NWSSDP will be initiated after the elaboration and approbation of the NWSSDP;



c) legislative and design reform

Legislative and design reform. The preparation of amendments and/or new legislation (for example, Law 303 and requirements for licensing), policies and normative documents (on regulatory method and social tariffs), and design and construction norms for sanitation (updating outdated norms) and related capacity building, as per the NWSSDP.

In order to ensure the initiation of the proposed reforms in the field of WSS according to the Project Appraisal Document, the PIU realized the following actions:

- Ammendement of the Law 303/2013 on water supply and sewerage public service:
 - ✓ On April 01, 2023 was contracted the consultant for work together with MIRD representatives and the Parliamentary Working Group in order to develop the draft Law 303, to support in promoting and public consultation of the draft Law;
 - ✓ The concept of the amendments of the Law 303 was developed and approved by MIRD and Parliament Working Group. The proposed concept aspects to amend Law 303 were drafted and submitted to MIRD on May 04, 2023;
 - ✓ The first draft of the amended Law was prepared and submitted to MIRD on May 22, 2023. On May 31, 2023, the second draft of the amended Law was available.
 - ✓ On June 30, 2023 the MIDR internal meeting was held to agree on the amendments to the Law.
- Development and implementation of the Management Informational Systems:
 - ✓ Organized 2 meeting (on May 15, 2023 and June 05, 2023) with representatives of the National Energy Regulatory Agency;
 - ✓ The draft of the Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement was agreed on June 28, 2023;
 - ✓ Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement is planned to be signed at the end of July, 2023.
- Development/revision of standards/norms for sanitation:
 - ✓ On March 14, 2023 was held a meeting with MIRD and NORLD regarding the elaboration of the Moldavan Construction Normative "External sewerage networks and installations". It was decided that it will be more appropriate to draw up a single Moldavan Construction Normative, without delimitation according to the number of populations. The only condition is that this will be discussed within the responsible Technical Committee. Also, during the meeting, the need to develop the NCM for external water supply networks was discussed, depending on the available budget.



d) monitoring and benchmarking of operators

Monitoring and benchmarking of operators. The development and roll-out of a national Management Information System (MIS) for WSS operators; definition of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the MIS and start benchmarking;

Since the beginning of the project, 2 meetings were organized with National Agency for Energy Regulation (NAER), were was discussed the plan in order to develop the Management Information System, and to introduce the definition of the KPIs for benchmarking. Thus, during the discussions, was established NAER already has approved a *Decision no. 356/2019 regarding the approval of the Framework Regulation regarding the performance indicators of the public water supply and sewerage service.*

Since the beginning of the project the cooperation process with NAER is challenging. In March the first e-mail was sent for review and sign the Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement. No response was received. In April with MIRD's support was requested an invitation of NAER for discussions. On May 15, 2023 a meeting was held with NAER representatives. Another meeting with NAER was held on June 05, 2023. At the reporting period is available a draft of the Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement for signing at the end of July.

e) support for regulatory strengthening

Support for regulatory strengthening. Technical assistance to NAER, WSS operators, and LPAs to accelerate tariff review and approval in line with updated regulations for licensed operators.

Since the beginning of the project, 2 meetings (May 15, 2023 and June 05, 2023) were organized with NAER, during which topics relevant to the project were discussed, including activities aimed at reducing the time of examination/re-examination and approval of tariffs.

At the reporting period is in the process of elaboration the questionnaire for the *List of needs regarding tariff applications and approvals, for technical assistance to NAER, LPAs, and WSS operators*.

d) human capital development

Human capital development. The implementation of a professional development program, in collaboration with AMAC and TUM and WSS operators, to increase qualifications and advance careers of existing staff and attract people, specifically women, for employment in the sector.

For the implementation of the present activity, 2 working meetings were held with the representatives of the Technical University of Moldova (TUM) and AMAC, in which the objectives of the project were discussed. At the same time, during the discussions, the technical aspects of the tasks that need to be implemented were addressed.



Since the beginning of the project, with the support of AMAC, the lists of people with higher education, employee of the water supply and sewerage operators were identified, that are to benefit from qualification studies (18 months) and requalification studies (12 months).

At the proposal of the parties, taking into account that neither the Financing Agreement nor the Project Appraisal Document establish the mechanisms for the collaboration of the parties involved (P.I. NORLD, TUM and AMAC), a Cooperation Agreement was drawn up, in which the responsibilities of each party are described. On April 08, 2023 the "No objection note" on the Cooperation Agreement was received from the WB experts. The Cooperation Agreement was signed on Apryl 20, 2023, by the P.I. NORLD, MTU and AMAC;

The draft list of participants is prepared. At the reporting date the final list is in the process of elaboration, in order to prepare the contract.

The draft of *Communication Plan for Information Campaign* in order to promote the WSS sector and to convince pupils to come to the TUM is prepared and discussed with TUM representatives.



2.2.2 Subcomponent 2.2: Improving performance of WSS service providers

Improving performance of WSS service providers will finance works, goods, consulting services, non-consulting services, training to support the implementation of a prioritized rolling multi-year Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) of selected WSS operators involved under Subcomponent 1.1. These include five WSS operators: JSC "Apă-Canal Cahul", JSC "Regia Apă Canal Soroca", Municipal Enterprise "Su-Canal" Comrat, Municipal Enterprise Apă-Canal Vulcanesti, and a proposed establishment of a new JSC, founded by the LPAs of Costesti town and other LPAs. WSS operators will carry out annual assessments on PIP implementation and KPIs, including publication of results and feedback rounds with customers. The financing for selected WSS operators will be allocated based on results.

Investments and technical assistance activities identified in the PIPs are based on utility diagnostics and include but are not limited to the following: improving technical and commercial operations, improving financial management, human resource management and organization & strategy aspects, including improving asset management systems and inventories, energy efficiency, NRW reduction programs, water metering practices and equipment to improve climate resilience, water safety and business continuity, and enhancing responsiveness to customers.

At the reporting date is in the process of elaboration of the ToR for the consulting services that consist of elaboration of the **Performance Improvement Plan** of the operators participating in the project and the **Baseline Assessment** of the operators:

- 1. the multi-year **Performance Improvement Plan (PIP)** exclusively for the **Municipal Enterprise Comrat and Municipal Enterprise Vulcanesti.**
- 2. Baseline assessment for the five WSS operators: JSC Cahul, JSC Soroca, Municipal Enterprise Comrat, Municipal Enterprise Vulcanesti, and a proposed establishment of a new JSC, founded by the LPAs of Costesti town and other LPAs



3. KEY ACTIVITIES OF THE REPORTING PERIOD

- 3.1. Component 1. Increasing access to safely management water supply and sanitation services in selected rural areas and towns
- 3.1.1. Subcomponent 1.1 Supporting the expansion of the access and quality of WSS
- a) Water supply investments
- a.1. Expansion and improvement water supply services in Cahul and Vulcanesti rayons.

During the reporting period, the following action were carried out:

- The Cooperation Agreement was signed on March 15, 2023, by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs;
- The ToR for DED & BoQ adjustment was developed and was received "No objections note" from the WB experts; The date of request for offer from the company which elaborated the original DED & BoQ was March 17, 2023. Deadline for submission of the offer April 07, 2023. On April 05, 2023 the technical and financial offer was received. The composition of the Negotiating Working Group was approved on May 04, 2023 by NORLD Order No. 14. Submission of all information (ToR, tenders, regulations, etc.) to the Working Group was made on May 10, 2023. On the May 29, was conducted the evaluation preparation meeting. The negotiation and clarification meeting was held on June 06, 2023. At the reporting date the contract is in the process of being drawn up.
- The ToR for ESIA & ESMP was developed and was received "No objections note" from the WB experts. The first announcement was placed on March 21, 2023, in the *Public Procurement Bulletin* No 23, and on the NORLD website and invitation sent to a qualified company. The deadline for submission of offers was April 04, 2023. No. of offers received was 0. The second announcement was placed on April 07, 2023, in *Moldova Suverana* No 13, on NORLD site and invitations were sent to 6 companies. The deadline for submission of the offers was April 17, 2023. No. of offers that was received -0. The third announcement was placed on April 21, 2023, in *Moldova Suverană* no. 15, on NORLD website and invitations were sent to 7 companies. The deadline for submission of the offers was May 05, 2023. No. of offers that was received -1. The composition of the Negotiating Working Group was approved on May 04, 2023 by NORLD Order No. 14. Submission of all information (ToR, offers, regulations etc.) to the Working Group was made on May 10, 2023. Holding of the preparation meeting for the evaluation May 29, 2023. The Expression of Interest Evaluation Report was approved on June 6, 2023 and the technical and financial offer was requested from the company



in the same day. On the reporting date the contract with the company is in the process of being drawn up.

During the next period are planned the following actions:

- Review of the adjusted DED and BoQ;
- Developing the ToR for the construction company, according to the adjusted DED and BoQ;
- Developing the ToR for the technical supervision company;
- Initiation of the procurement procedures of the construction works;
- Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator;

a.2. Expansion and improvement water supply services in the Prut cluster, Riscani rayon.

In December 2022, were approved Local Councils Decisions of all LPA, except LPA Varatic. This is an implementation risk of the subproject, due to a negative decision of the Varatic Local Council from the Riscani Rayon to participate in the project.

During the reporting period, also the following action were carried out:

- To mitigate this risk and in order to convince, the LPA representatives and the population of the Varatic village, to participate in the project, the PIU team realized the following actions:
 - ✓ On April 27, 2023 the PIU team participated in the Public Consultations in Variatic in order to present the project to the population and explain the advantages of joining the project
 - ✓ On May 23, 2023, was held a meeting with MIRD, RDA North and Riscani Rayon Council regarding the participation of the Varatic commune in the project. The representatives of Riscani Rayon Council made a commitment to pay the contribution for the Varatic in order to continue the implementation of the project. On the basis of the provisions of the minute of the meeting (signed by all participating parties) and the decisions approved at the meeting on 23.05.2023, the following were drawn up:
 - a. Draft decision of the Riscani Rayon Council;
 - b. Draft decision of the Varatic Local Council;
 - c. Draft decision of the other LPAs;
 - d. The draft Cooperation Agreement, where the Varatic LPA ensures participation as a partner and will issue the necessary permit documents for the construction of the main pipeline.
 - ✓ On June 12-16, 2023 the need for the continuation of the project was discussed with the World Bank representative the MWSSP team leader and coordinator.
 - ✓ On June 26, 2023, the PIU representatives participated in the meeting of the local council of Varatic to discuss the mechanism of participation of the locality in the project as a partner, because the main pipeline crosses the intra-village of the locality and we need to ensure that



- the LPA will issue the necessary permit documents (urban planning certificate, construction permit, etc.) if necessary.
- As a result of the actions taken, on the reporting date, the LPA's Council Decisions (regarding participation in the MWSSP and the conditions to be fulfilled, according to the PIU/NORLD letter no. 02-23/765 from 08.06.2023) were approved by the Local Councils as follows:
 - ✓ LPA Petruseni (Decision no. 2/2 on June 12, 2023);
 - ✓ LPA Horodiste (Decision no. 05/02 on December 09, 2022);
 - ✓ LPA Varatic will participate in the project as a partner (Decision no. 03/01 on June 26, 2023);
 - ✓ The decision of the LPA Costesti and Duruitoarea Noua are planned to be approved in July.
 - ✓ The Decision No 03/17 was approved on June 16, 2023 of the Riscani Rayon Council amending the Decision of the Rayon Council no. 01/03 on January 13, 2023 regarding Cooperation Agreement to be signed by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs
- The ToR for DED & BoQ adjustment, was developed;
- The ToR for ESIA & ESMP was developed;
- Prepared so called Preliminary Environment Impact Assessment to seek the decision of Environmental Agency about the necessity to conduct full scale EIA (yes/no).
 - ✓ On May 05, 2023 the Riscani Environmental Inspectorate requested additional information, which was provided on May 10, 2023. The response regarding the need for EIA was received on May 19, 2023 by the letter of the Northern Environmental Agency no. 18/175/2023 on May 19, 2023 addressed to Riscani Rayon Council, Economy Department. A response to the comments received has been prepared, but due to the context of the project, the process is stopped.

During the next period are planned the following actions:

- Signing the Cooperation Agreement by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs;
- Direct contracting the Designing Company for the adjustment of the DED and BoQ;
- Carrying out procurement and contracting procedures of the company that will prepare the ESIA & ESMP for the sub-project;
- Review of the adjusted DED and BoQ;
- Support for the creation and licensing of the new regional operator in the field of WSS in Riscani District;
- Developing the ToR for the construction company, according to the adjusted DED and BoQ;
- Developing the ToR for the technical supervision company;
- Initiation of the procurement procedures of the construction works;
- Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator;



b) Wastewater investments

b.3. Expansion and improvements of wastewater services in Soroca.

In order to realize all the planned activities for the implementation of the Soroca sanitation subproject, during the reporting period, the following actions were carried out:

- The Cooperation Agreement was signed on March 22, 2023, by the P.I. NORLD, RDA North and Soroca LPA;
- Elaboration of the preliminary schemes and layouts based on the detailed analysis of the Feasibility Study and the proposed technical solutions;
- Agreement on the acceptance of the World Bank's *Design and Build* procurement procedure, with all relevant stakeholders, inclusive during the meeting that was held on March 14, 2023 with the participation of MIRD and NORLD;
- Preliminary drafting the Civil, Mechanical and Electrical parts of the Technical Specifications;
- Initially it was agreed that the geotechnical works would be financed from the local budget, according to an agreement with the public authorities of Soroca town. During the meeting with representatives of Soroca Town Hall on May 26, 2023 it was found that it would be more efficient if these works will be contracted under the Project. The Terms of Reference for *topographical survey, geological study and expertise of the wastewater pumping stations' buildings* were developed and "No objections note" was received from the WB experts; The notice for submission of expressions of interest was published *Moldova Suverana* no. 23 on June 16, 2023 as well as on the NORLD website. Deadline for submission was June 27, 2023. At the reporting date 2 offers were received.
- Development of the Terms of Reference for *Employer's Requirements within the Design and Build bidding package*. The announcement was published on June 23, 2023 in *Moldova Suverana* no. 24 and on the NORLD website. The deadline for submission of tenders is July 07, 2023;
- The land transfer from Moldsilva (Forestry Department) to Soroca Municipality is in the process. The draft GD for land transfer is under development.

During the next period are planned the following actions:

- Expertise of the existing buildings of the Wastewater Pumping Stations;
- Topographical and geological surveys for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Wastewater Pumping Stations and Sewer Pressure Main;
- Development of the technical specifications, preliminary concept design and cost estimates based on the approved procurement procedures (Design and Build type of contract);



- Updating cost estimates for electric power and water supply connections according to the technical conditions;
- Carrying out procurement and contracting procedures of the design and construction company;
- Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator.

b.4. Expansion and improvements of wastewater services in Comrat municipality.

In order to realize all the planned activities for the implementation of the subproject, during the reporting period, the following actions were carried out:

- The Cooperation Agreement was signed on March 16, 2023, by the P.I. NORLD, RDA Gagauzia and Comrat LPA;
- Field visits and analysis of the current situation related to the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant:
- Elaboration of Terms of Reference for the Feasibility Study and ESIA and approval of the documents at the meeting on March 16, 2023 with the participation of NORLD, RDA Gagauzia, Comrat LPA;
- The international tender for the Feasibility Study and ESIA was launched on March 21, 2023 in the *Public Procurement Bulletin* No. 23, NORLD website and UNDB Online. The deadline for submission was April 07, 2023. 15 expressions of interest were received. The composition of the Working Group was established by NORLD Order No 15 on 04.05.2023. Expressions of interest, ToR and other documents were submitted to the working group for evaluation on May 17, 2023. The Evaluation of Expressions of Interest and approval of the Evaluation Report was made on June 28, 2023. On the reporting date the preparation of the request for technical and financial offers from 6 short-listed companies started.
- Evaluation of the proposals for elaboration of the Feasibility Study

During the next period are planned the following actions:

- Elaboration of the Feasibility study.
- Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator;



c) Pilot for on-site household sanitation

c.5. Improvements in on-site sanitation services for rural villages.

For the implementation of *On-site sanitation pilot project*, during the reported period the following actions were implemented:

- The ToR for conducting a market study regarding on-site sanitation systems (septic tanks) was developed and the "No objections note" from the WB experts was received;
- The ToR for the elaboration of the Government Decision regarding approval of the criteria for authorization, construction, registration, control, operation and maintenance of appropriate individual wastewater collection and treatment systems was developed and the "No objections note" from the WB experts was received;
- In order to *Develop of the Government Decision- stakeholder involvement,* on May 23, 2023 a meeting was held with Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development, Ministry of Health, National Public Health Agency, Ministry of Environment on sanitation solutions for small localities (especially septic tanks), where sewerage systems are not feasible. The participants at the meeting discussed their opinions on the advantages and disadvantages regarding septic tanks. The advantages included: low cost and a feasible solution for small localities. Among the disadvantages and risks related to septic tanks were specified: Geological study needed; If the soil is impermeable and the amount of wastewater is high there is a risk of landslides; Wastewater is not treated for pathogenic microorganisms; There is a risk of insufficient maintenance of the septic tank by householders and For legal exploitation of septic tanks, a nearby river is needed for water discharge. In conclusion, it was decided to wait for the finalization of the Market Study on septic tanks and then, after the presentation of the results of the Market Study, to hold another meeting on this topic.
- Regarding the Contraction of the consultant for the elaboration of the draft Government Decision on the approval of the criteria for authorization, construction, registration, control, operation and maintenance of appropriate individual wastewater collection and treatment systems, the ToR for contracting an expert for elaboration of the draft Government Decision was developed. Procurement procedures was lunched for 4 times.
 - 1. The first announcement was published in civic.md, *Logos Press* no. 5 on February 10, 2023, NORLD website February 10, 2023. Deadline for submission of the offers was February 24, 2023. Number of offers that were submitted -0.
 - 2. The second announcement was published in *Logos Press* no.13 on April 07, 2023 and NORLD website. Deadline for submission of offers was April 21, 2023. Number of offers that were submitted -0.
 - 3. The third announcement was published in *Moldova Suverana* no. 17 on May 05, 2023 and NORLD website. Deadline for submission of offers was May 19, 2023. Number of offers that were submitted -0.



- 4. The fourth announcement was published in *Moldova Suverana* no. 25 on June 30, 2023; NORLD website and civic.md. Deadline for submission of offers was July 10, 2023.
- In order to elaborate the *Market study regarding on-site sanitation systems* (*septic tanks*), the contract no. MD-PIU-NORLD-339411-CS-INDV was signed on April 03, 2023. On April 14, 2023 according to the contract, is the deadline for submission of deliverable 1 (Methodological Note). By the reporting date the deliverable has not been submitted. To this issue was written email dated: April 18, 2023, May 10, 2023 and May 11, 2023. On 16 May, 2023 the consultant submitted:
 - 1. a part of the Market Study Report (containing: structure, introduction, objectives, methodology, findings related to technical, legal and regulatory issues)
 - 2. an estimate of the costs of the installation works
 - 3. commercial offers for septic tanks from 10 companies (manufacturers and distributors) from Moldova, Romania and China.
 - 4. 3 options for on-site septic tank construction
 - Another email requesting submission of deliverables was sent in June 07, 2023. On June 19, 2023 was sent an official letter from the National Office for Regional and Local Development to the expert, requiring submission of deliverables by June 27, 2023. On June 27, was received an email from the expert in which the expert promises to submit the deliverables until June 30, 2023. On June 30, 2023 no deliverables were received.

Taking into account that the regulatory framework of the Republic of Moldova does not allow the installation of septic tanks, this issue will be discussed in the meeting of the Project Coordination Group.



3.1.2. Subcomponent 1.2 "Improving WASH facilities in selected Health Care facilities and Selected Educational Institutions"

For the implementation of the WASH component, during the reporting period, the PIU has carried out the following actions:

- Received the lists of institution for screening phase from MER and MH;
- The WASH engineer was hired from June 05, 2023. He will be responsible for: (i) the screening of the presented institutions, (ii) development of the ToR for the designing company (iii) development of the ToR for the construction works execution company (iv) monitoring of all the activities for the implementation of the designed works.;
- The engineer caried out the screening phase for 64 institutions;
- The reports on the results of the screening phase were elaborated and send to the ministries for approval

The results of the assessment of healthcare facilities

The evaluation study of medical institutions proposed by the Ministry of Health was conducted to determine the needs and challenges faced by each institution in order to meet sanitation and hygiene (WASH) standards and requirements. **31 institutions** from 8 rayons (Basarabeasca, Briceni, Cahul, Drochia, Ocnita, Riscani, Soroca) and UTAG were assessed. Data were collected by filling in the *Data Collection Form* regarding the water supply, sanitation systems and hygiene practices in healthcare facilities. Field visits were carried out in June 2023 by the WASH engineer. He together with responsible persons from the evaluated institutions completed the forms with the relevant information.

Data in the *Data Collection Form* refers to: general data about the institution (10 questions); water supply, sanitation and hygiene elements (35 questions) and the conclusions and recommendations of the engineer. The *Data Collection Form for healthcare facilities* is presented in Annex 5.



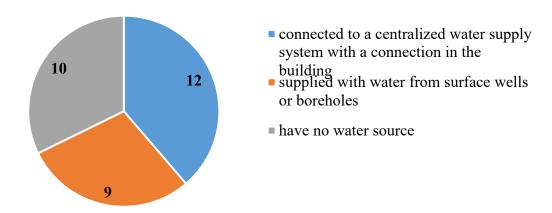


Figure 8. The main characteristics of the assessed healthcare facilities (water supply), no.

Source: Report on WASH assessed healthcare facilities

Of the 31 institutions, only 12 are connected to a centralized water supply system with a connection in the building, 9 institutions are supplied with water from surface wells or boreholes, located on the territory of the health institutions and 10 institutions have no water source. As regards the sewerage, only 3 institutions are connected to a centralized sewerage system, 15 institutions have a pit latrine and 13 institutions have no functioning sewage system.

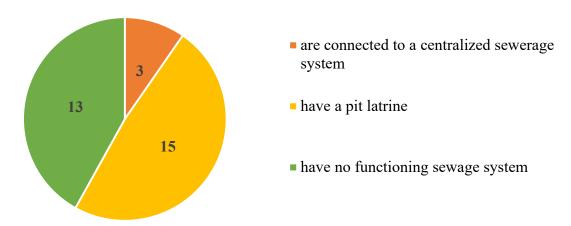


Figure 9 The main characteristics of the assessed healthcare facilities (sewerage), no.

Source: Report on WASH assessed healthcare facilities

Of the 31 institutions, only 14 have indoor toilets, which are partially heated, ventilated and lit. These indoor toilets are mostly equipped with soap, toilet paper and litter bins. The other 17 institutions do not have adequate hygiene conditions, providing patients and staff with only dry toilets (composting, Ecosan type), located in outside the building and without sanitation, ventilation, heating, lighting, facilities or hygiene adequate conditions.



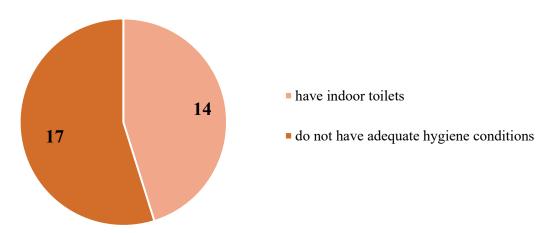


Figure 10. The main characteristics of the assessed healthcare facilities (toilet facilities), no.

Source: Report on WASH assessed healthcare facilities

Of the 31 institutions, none has adapted cabin for people with disabilities.

Regarding hand hygiene, all institutions have sinks and liquid soap available for hand washing. However, some institutions use mechanical sinks because of limited indoor water networks, requiring manual addition of water.

Thus, in order to improve hygiene conditions, depending on the needs of each institution assessed, they were divided into categories such as: Routine repair; Capital repair; Reorganization works and Separate block in courtyard.

The results of the assessment of educational institutions

The evaluation study of educational institutions proposed by the Ministry of Education and Research was conducted to determine the needs and challenges faced by each institution in order to meet sanitation and hygiene (WASH) standards and requirements. **33 institutions** from 3 rayons (Soroca, Cahul, Riscani) and UTAG were assessed. Data were collected by filling in the *Data Collection Form* regarding the water supply, sanitation systems and hygiene practices in educational institutions. Field visits were carried out in June 2023 by the WASH engineer. He together with responsible persons from the evaluated institutions completed the forms with the relevant information.

Data in the *Data Collection Form* refers to: general data about the institution (10 questions); water supply, sanitation and hygiene elements (39 questions) and the conclusions and recommendations of the engineer. The *Data Collection Form for educational institutions* is presented in Annex 6.

Of the 33 institutions, only 18 are connected to a centralized water supply system with an indoor connection, 12 institutions used surface wells or boreholes, located on the territory of the educational institutions and 3 institutions have an outdoor connection to a centralized water supply system.



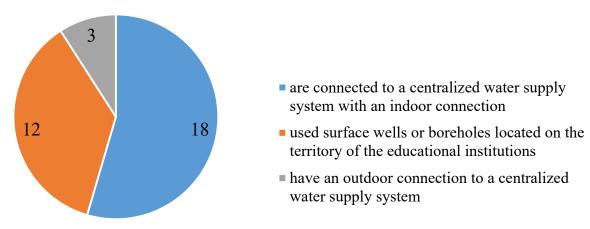


Figure 11. The main characteristics of the assessed educational institutions (water supply), no.

Source: Report on WASH assessed educational institutions

As regards the sewerage, only 5 institutions are connected to a centralized sewerage system, 21 institutions have a pit latrine and 7 institutions have no functioning sewage system

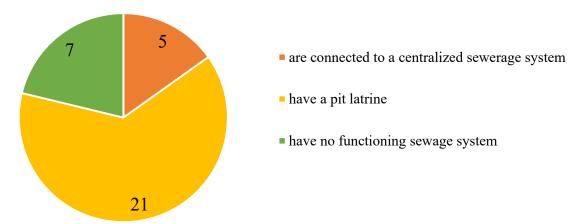


Figure 12. The main characteristics of the assessed educational institutions (sewerage), no.

Source: Report on WASH assessed educational institutions

Of the 33 institutions, only 9 have indoor toilets, which are partially heated, ventilated and lit. These indoor toilets are mostly equipped with soap, toilet paper and litter bins. The other 24 institutions do not have adequate hygiene conditions, providing pupils and staff with only dry toilets (composting, Ecosan type), located in outside the building and without sanitation, ventilation, heating, lighting, facilities or hygiene adequate conditions.



toilets located outside the building
toilets located inside the building
toilets located inside the building, but are used the outside one
toilet both inside and outside

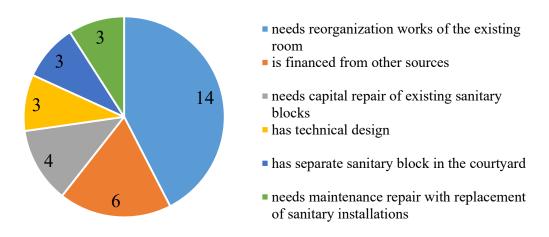
Figure 13. The main characteristics of the assessed healthcare facilities (toilet facilities), no.

Source: Report on WASH assessed educational institutions

Of the 33 institutions, only 4 has adapted cabin for people with disabilities.

Thus, in order to improve hygiene conditions, depending on the needs of each institution assessed, they were divided into categories presented in the figure below.

Figure 14. The categories of the educational institutions in order to improve hygiene conditions, depending on the needs, no.



Source: Report on WASH assessed educational institutions



During the next period are planned the following actions:

- 1 meeting with MER in order the discuss the results of screening phase and to approve the final list of schools;
- 1 meeting with MH in order the discuss the results of screening phase and to approve the final list of HCF;
- Elaboration of a ToR for design company;
- Elaboration of ToR for the execution of construction works;



3.2. Component 2. Strengthening institutional capacity at national and local levels of WSS service delivery.

3.2.1. Subcomponent 2.1 Building national institutional capacity for WSSS

a) sector planning and financing for programmatic delivery

By order of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development No. 28 on February 28 ,2023, the Unit for the coordination of the process of elaboration of the *National Territorial Development Plan* - specialized section *Water supply and sanitation* was designated.

For the development of the NWSSDP, Investment program and Financing Strategy, since the beginning of the project, the PIU has carried out the following actions:

i. Action: Development of the Roadmap, necessary for the elaboration of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan

The Roadmap necessary for the elaboration of the *National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan* (WSSNDP), was developed. In the document was described all necessary action for the elaboration and approval of the WSSNDP. The Roadmap contain the name of the action; responsible institutions; description of the action and legal basis of the action.

ii. Action: Drawing up the specifications for contracting a consultancy company to draw up the WSSNDP

The first draft of the terms of reference (ToR) has been prepared and submitted for review to the MIRD on May 19, 2023. The main chapters of the ToR for the elaboration of the *National Territorial Development Plan for the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector in Moldova, the Long-Term Investment Program and the Financing Strategy* are: purpose and objectives; scope of the services; the service delivery stages and main tasks; deliverables, implementation plan and implementation arrangements. On June 12, 2023 the MIRD has sent the letter, no 09-3047 to all interested parties to announce that, by the Government's Decision, was constituted the *National Council* for *Territorial Planning*. In this context the Ministry organizes the first meeting of the Council on June 27, 2023. During this meeting the ToR was presented and discussed.

On June 28, 2023 the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development has sent the letter, no 09-3325 to all interested parties for submission of proposals and objections on ToR until June 30, 2023. The ToR will be approved, if no proposals or objections receive by the set date.

After this approval, the ToR will be sent to the World Bank experts for "No objections note". After this the procurement procedures will be initiated.

iii. Action: Hire strategic planning consultant to provide support to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development

The consultant will provide support to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development in the implementation of Sub-component 2.1, in particular will support the development of the *National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan* and also will assist in planned sector reforms. The procurement procedures for hire the strategic planning consultant were launched for 4 times.

✓ The first announcement was published *in Logos Press* no 5 on February 10, 2023, civic.md and NORLD website. Deadline for submission of the offers - February 24,



- 2023. No. of offers submitted -0;
- ✓ The second announcement was published on March 17, 2023 in *Moldova Suverana* no. 10 and NORLD website. Deadline for submission of the offers March 31, 2023. No. of offers submitted -0;
- ✓ The third announcement was published in *Moldova Suverana* on April 07, 2023 no. 13. Deadline for submission of the offers April 21, 2023. No. of offers submitted-0;
- ✓ The fourth announcement was published in *Moldova Suverana* on May 26, 2023 no. 20. Deadline for submission of the offers June 09, 2023. No. of offers submitted-1. On June 30, 2023 the negotiation process is ongoing. If the negotiations are successful in July 2023 will be signed the contract.

On the reporting date within the Lead WSS Unit of the MIRD 4 persons were hired out of 5 available positions, this are: Head of Department, Deputy Head of Department and 2 Senior Consultants. By the Ministry Order No 28 of 28.02.2023 the commitment to employ staff for Lead WSS Unit is assigned /transferred to MIRD.

At the reporting period the ToR for capacity building for the Lead Unit/ responsible for WSS is in the process of development.

b) support for selected operators

Technical assistance to selected LPAs and WSS operators to support the aggregation process into licensed regional operators (on legal, technical, financial) following the NWSSDP will be initiated after the elaboration and approbation of the NWSSDP;

c) legislative and design reform

In order to ensure the initiation of the proposed reforms in the field of WSS according to the Project Appraisal Document, the PIU realized the following actions:

- Ammendement of the Law 303/2013 on water supply and sewerage public service:
 - ✓ On April 01, 2023 was contracted the consultant for work together with MIRD representatives and the Parliamentary Working Group in order to develop the draft Law 303, to support in promoting and public consultation of the draft Law;
 - ✓ The concept of the amendments of the Law 303 was developed and approved by MIRD and Parliament Working Group. The proposed concept aspects to amend Law 303 were drafted and submitted to MIRD on May 04, 2023;
 - ✓ The first draft of the amended Law was prepared and submitted to MIRD on May 22, 2023. On May 31, 2023, the second draft of the amended Law was available.
 - ✓ On June 30, 2023 the MIDR internal meeting was held to agree on the amendments to the Law.
- Development and implementation of the Management Informational Systems:



- ✓ Organized 2 meeting (on May 15, 2023 and June 05, 2023) with representatives of the National Energy Regulatory Agency;
- ✓ The draft of the Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement was agreed on June 28, 2023;
- ✓ Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement is planned to be signed at the end of July, 2023.
- Development/revision of standards/norms for sanitation:
 - ✓ On March 14, 2023 was held a meeting with MIRD and NORLD regarding the elaboration of the Moldavan Construction Normative "External sewerage networks and installations". It was decided that it will be more appropriate to draw up a single Moldavan Construction Normative, without delimitation according to the number of populations. The only condition is that this will be discussed within the responsible Technical Committee. Also, during the meeting, the need to develop the NCM for external water supply networks was discussed, depending on the available budget.

d) monitoring and benchmarking of operators

Monitoring and benchmarking of operators. The development and roll-out of a national Management Information System (MIS) for WSS operators; definition of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the MIS and start benchmarking;

In the reporting period, 2 meetings (on May 15, 2023 and June 05, 2023) were organized with National Agency for Energy Regulation (NAER), were was discussed the plan in order to develop the Management Information System, and to introduce the definition of the KPIs for benchmarking. Thus, during the discussions, was established NAER already has approved a *Decision no. 356/2019* regarding the approval of the Framework Regulation regarding the performance indicators of the public water supply and sewerage service.

The cooperation process with NAER is challenging. In March the first e-mail was sent for review and sign the Cooperation Agreement. No response was received. In April with MIRD's support was requested an invitation of NAER for discussions. On May 15, 2023 a meeting was held with NAER representatives. Another meeting with NAER was held on June 05, 2023. At the reporting period is available a draft of the Cooperation Agreement for signing. In July in planned to sign the Cooperation Agreement.

e) support for regulatory strengthening

Support for regulatory strengthening. TA to NAER, WSS operators, and LPAs to accelerate tariff review and approval in line with updated regulations for licensed operators.

Since the beginning of the project, 2 meetings (May 15, 2023 and June 05, 2023) were organized with NAER, during which topics relevant to the project were discussed, including activities aimed at reducing the time of examination/re-examination and approval of tariffs.

At the reporting period is in the process of elaboration the questionnaire for the *List of needs regarding tariff applications and approvals for technical assistance to NAER, LPAs, and WSS operators*.



f) human capital development

At the proposal of the parties, taking into account that neither the Financing Agreement nor the Project Appraisal Document establish the mechanisms for the collaboration of the parties involved (P.I. NORLD, TUM and AMAC), a Cooperation Agreement was drawn up, in which the responsibilities of each party are described. On Apryl 08, 2023 the "No objection note" on the Cooperation Agreement was received from the WB experts. The Cooperation Agreement was signed on Apryl 20, 2023, by the P.I. NORLD, TUM and AMAC;

The draft list of participants is prepared. At the reporting date the final list is in the process of elaboration, in order to prepare the contract.

The draft of *Communication Plan for Information Campaign* in order to promote the WSS sector and to convince pupils to come to the TUM is prepared and discussed with TUM representatives.

<u>In the next period under subcomponent 2.1, are planned the following actions:</u>

- For development of the NWSSDP:
 - ✓ Contracting the strategic planning consultant to provide support to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development in the implementation of the Subcomponent 2.1, especially to support the development of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan and also to support in the planned sector reforms
 - ✓ Approvement of the ToR by the MIRD and National Committee for Territorial Planning;
 - ✓ Sending the ToR for "No objection note" to the WB team;
 - ✓ Starting procurement procedures
- For ammendement of the Law 303/2013 on water supply and sewerage public service:
 - ✓ Initiation of the promotion of the Government Decision for the approval of the Amendment to the Law;
 - ✓ Public consultation;
 - ✓ Governmental consultation;
 - ✓ Approval of the Government Decision;
 - ✓ Sending the draft Law for the approval in the Parliament.
- Development and implementation of the Management Informational Systems:
 - ✓ Signing the Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement;
 - ✓ Development of the ToR for the development of the Concept of the Information System, in accordance with the provisions of Law no. 467/2003 regarding computerization and state information resources and which has to be coordinated with the E-Governance Agency and approved by Government Decision. Later, after the approval of the Concept of the Information System, the ToR for the development of the Information System will be elaborated, with the subsequent development of the MIS, Promotion for approval of the GD Government Decision for approval of the Concept of the MIS;
- Development/revision of standards/norms for sanitation:



- ✓ Contracting the Consulting company for the development of the new Normative in Construction "External sewerage networks and installations";
- Human development capital:
 - ✓ Approval of the list of 50 persons with higher education from WSS operators, for qualification and requalification studies;
 - ✓ Signing the Contract for the provision of services with the Technical University of Moldova;
 - ✓ Support in ensuring the accreditation by the Ministry of Education and Research of qualification and requalification studies for people with college technical studies;
 - ✓ Support for TUM in requesting 20 places financed from the state budget to request the reopening of a specialized Group in the field of water supply and sewage, in accordance with the provisions of the Project Appraisal Document.



3.2.2 Subcomponent 2.2: Improving performance of WSS service providers

During the reporting period, is initiated the elaboration of the ToR for the consulting services that consist of elaboration of the **Performance Improvement Plan** of the operators participating in the project and the **Baseline Assessment** of the operators:

- 1. the multi-year **Performance Improvement Plan (PIP)** exclusively for the **Municipal Enterprise Comrat and Municipal Enterprise Vulcanesti.**
- 2. Baseline assessment for the five WSS operators: JSC "Apa-Canal" Cahul, JSC "Regia Apa Canal" Soroca, Municipal Enterprise "Su-Canal" Comrat, Municipal Enterprise "Apa-Canal Vulcanesti" and a Municipal Enterprise Directia de Productie "Apa-Canal Costesti"

In the next period, the following actions are planned to be implemented:

- Finalizing ToR and the receiving the "No objections Note" from the WB experts on ToR for the consulting services that consist of elaboration of the *Performance Improvement Plan* of the operators participating in the project and the *Baseline Assessment* of the operators
 - Contracting a consultant for elaboration of the services
- Elaboration of the *Performance Improvement Plan* of the operators participating in the project and the *Baseline Assessment* of the operators



4. THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION UNIT'S ACTIVITIES

4.1. Implementation arrangements

Project Implementation Agreement (PIA). The PIA has been signed by the MIRD and NORLD/PIU on August 02, 2022. It includes the responsibilities of each institution in the implementation of the project, the PIU's commitments to implement the project in accordance with this agreement, the Environment and Social Standards, the Environment and Social Commitment Plan, the Anti-Corruption Guidelines, the Procurement Regulations, and the Project Operations Manual (POM), as applicable.

Project Coordination Group (PCG). The PCG was established by MIRD via a Ministerial Decree issued on December 14, 2022, with structure and functions as per the POM prepared by PIU and approved by the Bank team, with the objective of coordinating the implementation of the Project and endorsing its annual implementation plans.

The first meeting of the Project Coordination Group Holding was held on April 11, 2023. The Minutes no.6 on April 11, 2023 of the meeting of the Project Coordination Group was approved. The annexes of the Minutes are: approved Semestrial Report no.1 and approved Action Plan for PIU.

Implementation Support Agreements. The RDAs, which have comparative advantage and experience in the implementation of WSS infrastructure as well as local presence, will be the employers of major civil works under the project. The Bank Team provided comments on the draft Support Agreement developed by the NORLD/PIU, between MIRD, NORLD / PIU and the RDAs North, South and Gagauzia. The agreements provide details on:

- (i) the roles and responsibilities for the implementation of sub-component 1.1 of the Project,
- (ii) cooperation mechanism between the parties, and
- (iii) RDA's commitment to implement its relevant part of the Project. The agreements also specify the agreed local government contributions towards the civil works, which will be transferred by the LPAs in the PIU Account, and the responsibilities of all parties at each stage of the project implementation process.

The above agreements were sign:

- 1. Implementation Support Agreements with MIRD, NORLD, RDA South signed on March 22, 2023
- 2. Implementation Support Agreements with MIRD, NORLD, RDA North signed on March 22, 2023
- 3. Implementation Support Agreements with MIRD, NORLD, RDA Gagauzia signed on March 22, 2023

Trust Funds supported Activities. On March 03, 2023 was hold a workshop on Governance and Technical Advisory Support by SKAT Consultants. More than 30 representatives of WB, MIRD, North RDA, South RDA, Gagauzia RDA, PIUs of NORLD and Riscani Rayon Council attended the workshop.

On June 16, 2023, the second workshop was held with the participation of 34 representatives of the WB, Embassy of Japan, MIDR, South RDA, Gagauzia RDA, PIU/NORLD and LPAs from Cahul, Comrat, Vulcanesti and Soroca. The issues that were were discussed: technical assistance for WS



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infrastructure management (management delegation contracts, tariff application, licensing and capacity building of operators) as well as technical assistance to optimize design and incorporate resilience into the regional water supply system.



4.2. Project Implementation Unit

Project Implementation Unit. According to the Project Appraisal Document and the Project Operations Manual, the PIU is planned to be staffed with the following positions: (i) project manager, (ii) procurement specialist, (iii) procurement assistant, (iv) FM specialist, (v) environmental specialist, (vi) social specialist, (vii) chief WSS engineer, (viii) communications specialist, (ix) citizen engagement/gender specialist, (x) monitoring and evaluation (M&E) specialist, (xii) administrative assistant, (xii) WSS engineer (xiii) WASH facility engineer/coordinator and (iv) WSS chief engineer. In addition, several consultants are planned to be hired: institutional development specialist, legal specialist, and short-term consultants for specific technical inputs. Also, for each RDA, one technical WSS consultant will be hired, and part-time environmental and social consultant support will be provided during project implementation. At the national level, a WSS sector specialist will be hired to support the MIRD in coordinating its activity with other ministries and institutions.

At the reporting date 12 positions (project manager, procurement specialist, FM specialist, environmental specialist, social specialist, chief WSS engineer, WSS engineer, communications specialist, M&E Specialist, WASH engineer, administrative assistant and driver and logistics specialist, have been hired for meeting the effectiveness condition. Also, With the approval by the Bank, the responsibilities for the Gender Specialist tasks were delegated to the PIU's social specialist and the citizen engagement responsibilities were delegated to the PIU's environmental specialist. The contracts signing with Procurement specialist -II and Strategic planning consultant to provide support to the MIRD in the implementation of Sub-component 2.1, are planned to be made in July 2023

According to the employment plan 4 positions were to be hired in the period February -April 2023: Institutional and utility development expert for Component 2, Rural Sanitation on-site sanitation Engineer, Legal consultant and Technical Consultant to provide support to MIRD for subcomp. 1.1. These persons have not been hired because the need for their involvement has not yet arisen. The remaining positions are planned to be hired according the attached "Hiring Schedule" (Annex 1).

4.3. Financial Management

Financial management arrangements of the project are fitted in a general financial management rule established for the public agencies by the Ministry of Finance of Moldova. Project Implementation Unit (PIU), being a sub-unit under NORLD, perform all budget planning arrangements as part of the MIRD. All planning procedures, the annual budget and medium-term budget framework (MTBF) are organized based on WB and MoF requirements. All budget projections are prepared based on Project Procurement Plan and the Project Implementation Plan. It is prepared for each type of the project activity and approved initially by the NORLD, then by the MIRD and sent to the MoF to be included in the budget documents.

The payments for project activities are administrated through the State Treasure. Such a management ensures ex-ante controls for all contract payments which are performed via treasure account (excluding direct payments).

Accounting policies and procedures of the Project are reflected in the Project Operational Manual as a separate chapter "Financial Management" approved by the WB. It was adjusted after finalization of the negotiations with project's stakeholders.

Disbursement status. The MWSSP opened an EUR designated account in the National Bank of Moldova administrated by the State Treasury for the project implementation propose. The estimated disbursement plan for first year of implementation initially was approved as 1.0 million US\$. During the January 16-17, 2023 WB Mission, the disbursement target by June 30, 2023 was 500 thousand US\$. MWSSP disbursed EUR 626.6 thousand or historical equivalent of US\$ 667.8 thousand (see the table below).

The total percent of disbursement as of June 30, 2023 is 1.42% from signed EUR 44,100.0 thousand under the IDA70270.

Table 8. Disbursement records as of June 30, 2023

WB/Trans No.	Application Payment Amount, EUR	Paid Amount, EUR	USD Equivalents	Date Received
TOTAL	626,556.63	626,556.63	667,796.30	
4	55,201.35	55,201.35	60,326.80	13-Jun-2023
3	350,000.00	350,000.00	383,075.00	12-Jun-2023
2	71,355.28	71,355.28	78,369.50	14-Apr-2023
1	150,000.00	150,000.00	146,025.00	07-Oct-2022

Source: PIU FM data

The registered disbursements have been performed only from IDA 70270.

The disbursements for the next FY 2024 are projected in amount of EUR 3,100 thousand (see the data from the table below).



Table 9. Disbursement projection for FY 2024, July, 2023 – June 2024

Quarter	Period	Cey	Planned disbursement
1st Q	July 2023 - Sept 2023	EUR	100,000.00
2nd Q	Oct 2023 - Dec 2023	EUR	1,000,000.00
3rd Q	Jan 2024 - March 2024	EUR	500,000.00
4th Q	April 2024 - June 2024	EUR	1,500,000.00
	Total, fiscal year 2024	EUR	3,100,000.00

Source: PIU FM data

All payments obligations were paid in time, without delays. The expenses done are distributed over the project components as presented in the table below.

Table 10: Expenses per components, as of June 30, 2023

	Spent in current reporting period (Jan – Jun 2023)	Cumulative expenses, EUR	Planned, cumulative expenses, EUR	% in planned cumulative costs	% in total project cost
A	1	2	3	4=2/3.3	5=2/3.Total
1. Increasing access to safely managed WSS services in selected rural areas and towns	-	-	40,993,572.0	ı	
2. Strengthening institutional capacity at national and local levels for WSS service delivery	-	-	3,459,006.0	-	
3. Project management and coordination	140,693.08	212,048.37	2,091,329.0	10.1%	0.5%
4. Contingent emergency response component	-	-	-	-	
Total	140,693.08	212,048.37	46,543,907.0	X	X

Source: PIU FM data

At the end of the reporting period, we have no unpaid obligations.

Annual Audit. Since the first disbursement occurred in the last quarter of the year, the UIP/NORLD has asked the WB approved an exception for the FY2022 audit on February 6th, 2023. The first audit period for the project will be October 14, 2022 - December 31, 2023. The procedure for selecting the audit company will be launched in October 2023.

Approved project budget in the annual budget. The project budget for FY2023 has been approved in amount of EUR 6.2 million. Due to the late adoption of the decision regarding the VAT exemption (end of February, 2023) we are planning to decrease the spending projection for 2023 in the annual state budget by EUR 3.6 million. The work for drafting projections for FY 2024 will start in June and will be done based on status of works, goods and services procurement procedures currently launched and planned activities for the next 3 years.



4.4. Procurement activities

Since the beginning of the project 14 consulting services contracts have been signed with Individual Consultants (Project Manager, Financial Specialist, Procurement Specialist, Environmental Specialist, Social Specialist, Chief WSS engineer, WSS Engineer, Communication Specialist, Driver /Logistics Specialist, Technical consultant for the development of a Technical Market Study, Legal consultant for the elaboration of the required amendments for Law no. 303/2013, M&E Specialist, WASH Engineer and Administrative assistant).

In the reporting period have been signed contracts divided into the following categories:

1. Individual Consultants:

In the period of reporting - February 05- June 30, 2023, have been signed contracts with the following Individual Consultants:

- 1) Technical consultant for the development of a Technical Market Study regarding on-site sanitation systems septic tanks (4,500 USD);
- 2) Legal consultant for the elaboration of the required amendments for Law no. 303/2013 regarding the public water supply and sewerage service (Euro 10,489.50);
- 3) M&E Specialist.
- 4) WASH Engineer, and
- 5) Administrative assistant.

Chief WSS Engineer-1 has terminated his contract with NORLD and another Chief WSS Engineer, has been selected for this position and the contract was signed on May 10, 2023.

The fourth advertisement for selection of Strategic planning consultant to provide support to MIRD in the implementation of the Subcomponent 2.1, had been published on May 26, 2023. One qualified CV had been received. Contract negotiations have been started. It is expected to sign the contract until the middle of July 2023.

The advertisement for hiring the second Procurement Specialist has been published on June 9, 2023. Bank's No Objection for the Evaluation Report has been obtained and the contract is expected to be signed contract until the middle of July 2023.

Legal consultant for the elaboration of the draft Government Decision regarding approval of criteria for authorization, construction, registration, control, operation and maintenance of appropriate individual wastewater collection and treatment systems had been advertised 4 times on local newspaper and NORLD Web page. The fourth advertisement had been published on June 30, 2023.

2. Consultant Services (firms):

Review and up-date of Detailed Design technical documents for Cahul Sub-project implementation (Direct selection) had been sent to Fluxproiect S.R.L on March 17, 2023. The Technical and Financial proposals have been received on April 05, 2023. Have been conducted negotiation meeting and requests for clarifications. The Draft contract is elaborated and it is expected to be signed by the middle of July 2023.



The REoI for Development the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Environmental and Social Management Plan for the Cahul – Vulcanesti water supply Sub-projects (CQS) had been advertised three times. The last one has been advertised on April 23, 2023 and one qualified Expression of interest was received. The Evaluation report have approved on May 12, 2023 and the upon request the Technical and Financial proposals have been received on June 21, 2023. The draft contract is elaborated, in process of negotiation and it is expected to be signed by the middle of July 2023.

The REoI for Comrat Sanitation Project, Feasibility Study and ESIA (QCBS) have been published on March 21, 2023 with deadline on April 7, 2023. Fifteen international EoIs had been received. The Evaluation Report with 6 short-listed companies have been approved on June 28, 2023. The elaboration of RfP have been started.

The REoI for the Consulting Company to produce a video spot promoting Water Supply and Sewerage Program (WSSP) at the Technical University of Moldova -TUM (CQS) has been published two times. The last one was advertised on June 23, 2023. Two firms expressed their interest. The Evaluation Report it is expected to be approved by the Committee on July 03, 2023.

The REoI for The technical expertise of the existing buildings, the geotechnical study and the topographic survey for the project "Construction of the wastewater treatment plant and the sewerage infrastructure in the municipality of Soroca" have been advertised on June 16, 2023 with the deadline on June 27, 2023. Two EoIs have been received. The Evaluation Report is expected to be signed on July 05, 2023.

The Reol for Elaboration of the Employer's Requirements chapters for the project "Construction of the wastewater treatment plant and the sewerage infrastructure in the municipality of Soroca" have been advertised on June 23, 2023. Deadline is July 07, 2023.

3. Goods:

Two contracts for delivery of office furniture and office ICT equipment had been signed. Equipment and Furniture were delivered.

The Bank's *No Objection Note* had been received for hiring the following individual consultants or contracting the companies:

- Technical consultant to provide support to the MIRD in the implementation of the Subcomponent 1.1.;
- The ToR for video spot to promote the specialty Department of Heat, Water, Gas and Environmental Protection, specialty Water Supply, Sewerage TUM
- ToR for promotional materials (flyer for GRM and leaflet to promote the project)



4.5. Environmental activities

As provided in ESMF E&S screening of the activities to be financed under MWSS Project has been conducted in order to identify the appropriate environmental instrument to be applied within each subproject implementation process. The screening has been conducted following both the World Bank and National procedure as described in ESMF document.

The screening based on WB standards resulted into the conclusion that all sub-projects fall into the category of Significant ES risks and a Site-specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and - as integral part of the ESIA - Environmental and Social Management Plan should be developed.

In this respect the Terms of Reference to hire a consulting company to develop ESIA / ESMP have been prepared, sent to and received the Bank's No Objections.

The national screening procedure was launched in line with the Law 86/2014 on Environment Impact Assessment as well as the Law 851/1996 on Environmental Expertise.

Two packages of documents describing the preliminary estimated environmental impact of Riscani and Soroca sub-projects have been submitted for official environmental screening to the Moldovan Environmental Agency. The PIU seeks the EA's decision on either:

- a) to conduct a full-scale Environmental Impact Assessment of above-mentioned sub-projects or
- b) conduct the simplest procedure of Environmental Expertise of the Detailed Design Package.

The received replies from Environmental Agency provides the following:

on Soroca — no decision making is possible as long as the procedure of changing the land destination process (the terrain identified to build the Waste Water Treatment Plant should have been transferred from forest fond to the municipality of Soroca) is not finished.

In this respect: In May 2023 the PIU has convened a meeting with participation of Ministry of Environment, Environmental Agency, Apele Moldovei Agency to discuss the situation and to find an acceptable solution to speed-up the decision-making process. It was commonly accepted that the process of changing the destination of terrain in question is almost finished. It remains only to formally officialize it via a Governmental Decision (the Ministry of Environment is preparing the package to be submitted to the Government to issue the Decision). Given this context it was decided that i) PIU will repeatedly submit to the Environmental Agency the package of documents initiating the Preliminary Impact Assessment (screening) procedure and ii) the Environmental Agency will issue its decision with a clearly stated pre-condition that no works will be allowed on the terrain in question without officially published Governmental Decision on changing the destination of the above-mentioned terrain.

on *Riscani* – the previous semiannual report mentioned that the PIU's late submission of the documentation to initiate the Preliminary EIA evaluation on Riscani sub-project is due to the fact that no Agreements has been signed with all the Riscani's beneficiary localities. The situation nowadays is still the same: no Agreement with Riscani Rayon Council is signed. No agreements with rural beneficiary villages are signed. Moreover, two beneficiary localities – Varatic and Duruitoarea Noua - are considering to quit the MWSSP project.



Despite such an uncertain situation, and in order to avoid non-complying with national legal framework and to be as much as possible in line with the project time-schedule the PIU has initiated the process of Preliminary EIA. In this respect on April 2023 the PIU has sent to the Environmental Agency North the required by law 86 package of documents.

By its reply (letter ref.no 18/175/2023) dated 19.05.23 the Agency informed the Riscani Rayon Council that a decision could not be possible to make due to the fact that many land-spots allocated for water supply infrastructure construction in Riscani rayon are attributed in Land Cadaster to the category "agricultural land". No water supply infrastructure is allowed for construction on agricultural land by art.36 of the Land Code. Thus, the decision of the Environmental Agency North concluded that when the land destination of the just mentioned spots is changed from "agricultural land" into "land for construction" the decision will be taken and Riscani Rayon Council / PIU will be informed / notified on this.

What are the consequences of late decision making on national EIA procedure? Is this a barrier in Project implementation progress? Will the project stay behind the established time-schedule? The answer is **NO** due to the following reasons:

- The Environmental Agency's decision of Preliminary EIA is not part of the Critical Path of the project at least until the finalization of consultancy services foreseen for Soroca sub-project (the procurement procedures are in the very incipient stage nowadays). The same apply to the Riscani sub-project where even the Agreements have not been signed yet. This means that there is enough time to finalize the national EIA screening procedure (see the description above) to comply with local administrative formalities.
- Even though the Environmental Agency will issue a decision that a full-scale EIA is required (unlikely) the one for Soroca is already developed in September 2021 at the MWSSP preparation stage together with Soroca WWTP construction Feasibility Study. So, it will be just a matter of registration of the ESIA Report in the Environmental Agency Register of environmental permits a formal procedure.

Damascani Village: Water Tower $V = 50 \text{ m}^3$, Chlorination station, on the terrain with cadastral 71231040334 public, land category / land use -" agricultural".



⁴ <u>Platform C</u>: Dumeni Village: 1. Water Tower $V=25m^3$ Hp=15m, 2. Chlorination station, 3. Manhole F-53, on the terrain with cadastral number 71601080373, ownership – public, land category / use –" agricultural";

<u>Platform E:</u> Duruitoarea Nouă Village: Water Tower $V=50m^3$ H=18m, 2. Chlorination station, 3. Manhole F-55, 4. Cămin de golire CG-19 on the terrain with cadastral number 71602020392, ownership—public, land category / use —" agricultural";

<u>Platform F:</u> Costești Village: 1. Two accumulation basins $V = 150m^3$, 2. Chlorination station, 3. Two manholes F/HI-58 si F/HI-59, 4. 4. Two manholes – F-56 si F-57; 5. Cămin de golire CG-20. On the terrain with cadastral number 71231070521, ownership – public, land category / land use –" agricultural"

<u>Platform G:</u> Horodişte Village: 1. Chlorination station, 2. Water tower, 3. Cămin de golire CG-21, 4. Manhole Fex - 1. On terrain with cadastral number 71311140103—public, land category / land use — unclear;

Platforma I: Costesti Village: 1. Re-pumping station SPR – 1, 2. Căminul de golire / hazna CG -23.

Besides the activities described above the following activities have been undertaken during the reporting period:

- Three site—visits jointly with the WB Social Expert as well as WB Environmental Specialist were conducted to see the Riscani, Comrat and Cahul Vulcanesti project area. The objective of the visits was to preliminary assess the current context at the level of particular villages, to have a closer look at the existing social infrastructure as well as the areas that are environmentally valuable in view to identify the most probable ones to be affected by construction works. Opportunity to discuss with local population (final beneficiaries) the approaches to mitigate the probable impact were used. One particular task during the visits was to identify the likelihood of ESS5 trigger along the main pipeline rout.
- Contribution was made on preparation, launching and conducting the procurement to hire the Consultant to develop the ESIA and ESMP documents for Cahul and Riscani sub-projects. At the day of writing this report the procurement process is finished, the Consultant was selected and the contract ready to be signed.
- In close cooperation with the PIU engineers and the consulting company hired to up-date the Detailed Design Documentation ES aspects to be integrated in the Bidding Package for Works Procurement were discussed. Moreover, it was specially mentioned that the during the revision of main pipeline routing the Consultant will pay special attention on ES ESS5 and will act accordingly: the goal is to the maximum extent possible avoiding the crossing of private land.

The next 6 months of ES safeguards implementation activities will be mainly dedicated to the following:

- To obtain the decision from the Environmental Agency on the necessity to conduct the EIA study in Riscani and Soroca in line with the screening procedure of the national Law no 86 / 2014 on Environmental Impact Assessment.
- To monitor and evaluate the progresses made on the above mentioned ESIA/ESMP consultancy implementation.
- Undertake regular visits to Cahul, Comrat and Riscani (under the assumption that Implementation Agreements will be signed there) project areas in order to monitor the process of implementation of the ESIA contract in Cahul sub-project and Comrat sub-project (ESIA part of the Comrat WWTP Feasibility Study Contract which is under procurement process nowadays).
- Work on Public Consultation Preparation in all the project areas Cahul, Comrat and Riscani as needed.
- To work closely with the Riscani Rayon Council to assist them in initiating and conducting the procedure of the change of land destination in the above-mentioned villages.



4.6. Social activities

In accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and the project Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) the below activities were conducted.

(i) Citizen engagement aspects.

Citizen Water and Sanitation Committees. The Regulation of Citizen Water and Sanitation Committees was developed. This document provides information on how Citizen Water and Sanitation Committees (CWSC) will be created and which will be the responsibilities and tasks of each member. The CWSCs were set up and will operate as a local, non-governmental and non-political initiative group, with members from the beneficiary localities of the project, with the aim of ensuring community participation at all stages of the project, including the monitoring of environmental and social impacts that may occur during construction works in the locality. The CWSC is the local focal point for citizen engagement and also, has the role to receive and analyze of complaints at the local level.

Thus, in all the localities included in the MWSSP sub-projects (exception Riscani sub-project) by decision of the local council CWSC members were appointed (Annex 2). Generally, there are 5 CLAS members for rural localities, but for cities their number is higher, 7 members in Soroca and 9 members in Comrat. Although the CWSC regulation recommends 5 members (one representative of LPA, an employee of the water service operator/service provider (if any); a representative of a public institution (education, health) or social worker in the community; a consumer representative; a member of civil society representing vulnerable/marginalized groups, at least 2 members of CWSC to be women) the increase of the number of members was determined by the need to represent certain groups/institutions.

After the appointment of the CWSC the first meeting was conducted and were elected the President and the Secretary of the CWSC, a person responsible for gender issues and a person responsible for the GRM at local level. The minutes of these meetings have been submitted to the PIU, see an example in Annex 3.

CWSC members benefited from trainings from PIU. After the first meetings and the election of the responsible members, the PIU team (social and gender expert and environment and citizen engagement expert) went to each locality to discuss with the CWSC members. Thus, information sessions were organized in each locality to discuss the role and responsibilities of the members, the involvement of the population, different categories of people, including women and other vulnerable categories engagement, and the functioning of the GRM and the role of CWSC in this process. In total, 7 information sessions were organized for CWSC members.



Table 11. Information about the establishment of CWSCs and the training carried out

Locality	No of the decision of establishment	Date	Date of minutes of the first meeting	Date of CWSC training		
Cahul Sub-project						
A.I. Cuza	Nr. 3/3	07.04.2023	04.05.2023	11.05.2023		
Alexanderfeld	Nr. 4/5	13.04.2023	18.04.2023	11.05.2023		
Pelinei	Nr. 4/9	02.05.2023	17.05.2023	18.05.2023		
Gavanoasa	Nr. 2/9	03.04.2023	17.05.2023	18.05.2023		
Vulcanesti	Nr. 4/9	31.05.2023	31.05.2023	8.06.2023		
Soroca Sub-project						
	Nr.25/7	24.05.2023	31.05.2023	31.05.2023		
Comrat Sub-project						
	Nr.8/1	26.05.2023	31.05.2023	8.06.2023		

Source: developed by the PIU staff

Public Consultations. On April 27, 2023 was organized by the LPA Varatic a public consultation, with participation of representatives from the Riscani District Council and representatives of MWSSP PIU. The participation of Varatic village from Riscani district in the MWSSP was discussed.

During the event, which was attended by approximately 80 people - women and men, members of the project implementation team presented detailed information about the project and the benefits that the community would have from it, especially the health risks related to water quality, the risk of lack of water in the artesian wells, the potential cost of the water services from the new sources etc.

(ii) Grievance Redress Mechanism

Grievance Redress Mechanism. The Grievance Redress Mechanism was established on national, regional and local, except for the localities from Riscani sub-project.

The GRM framework was developed with all interested parties of the project, also this includes the responsibilities for the management and operation of the GRM. The principles and responsibilities are described in the regulation developed for the GRM. Also is described the procedure of submission of a complaint through GRM and methods/ channels (online (email, site), by phone, by mail, physically at the headquarters/offices). The complaint submission form is available in 3 languages: Romanian, Russian and English.

A complaint registration form has been developed, based on it the information will be collected for the GRM log, regardless of the method by which the complaint was sent/received. The basic indicators for the GRM log have been established, they will be included at each level and then centralized at PIU level.

By request No. 02-23/469 of 13.04.2023, PIU requested the RDAs to delegate the persons responsible for GRM from each Agency involved in the project. Thus, development agencies have delegated people at regional level responsible for GRM. The CWSCs were also informed about the existence of these regional GRM focal points, so that they knew with whom they could cooperate at regional level,



when necessary. At the training with CWSCs a particular focus was on GRM. CWSC members were informed about the functioning mechanism, the role of CWSC in the complaint management process at local level, types of complaints, ways in which complaints can be submitted, how to register etc. At PIU level a dedicated email address has been opened for GRM - reclamatii@ondrl.gov.md. Also, on the NORLD website, under the section dedicated to the MWSSP project there will be a separate section for Complaints which will contain all the information on GRM and how to submit complaints, it will be available from July 2023. For people with limited access to the internet or/and who use online resources less frequently we are in the process of developing a leaflet with information on GRM, the draft is presented in Annex 7. The leaflet will be available in the Romanian and Russian languages.

(iii) Gender Action Plan.

Gender Action Plan. A desk review was conducted on Gender issues, examining the project documents, also the Moldova Country Gender Action Plan (2022) and other relevant documents. The Project Gender Action Plan was developed in alignment with national strategies on gender issues. The plan was coordinated with WB representatives and presented to the project team. The Gender Action Plan established a framework for planning interventions under the Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project (MWSSP) in order to address gender gaps and contribute to gender equality in the country. Also, the Gender Action Plan of MWSSP has specific goals to ensure equal opportunities for girls and women to water and sanitation services and to increase economic opportunities for women, addressing occupational segregation and increasing voice of women.

The gender equality and social inclusion training. On May 16, 2023 was conducted a training for PIU staff on gender equality and social inclusion (the agenda is in Annex 4). The gender equality expert and director of Women 4 Women NGO and gender expert at the World Bank Moldova, together with PIU social and gender expert analyzed the concept of gender equality in the specific context of the Republic of Moldova. They also discussed the challenges and inequalities faced by women and men in our country, as well as ways to promote change in society. Also was presented the relevant requirements under the ESF, with the focus on ESS1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 10 where gender equality and inclusion play a key role. During the training, it was mentioned about the importance of the contribution and the role of each PIU member in ensuring gender equality both in the PIU team and in the implementation of the project.

In each locality was established a Gender focal point, nominated from the Citizen Water and Sanitation Committee (CWSC). This person will be particularly tasked with gender related activities, the involvement of women in the community and their participation in public consultations and other project activities. The local gender focal point will also provide information and support to women for GRM.

Activities planned for the next 6 months:

- To update SEP according with the local agreements with LPA, the CWSC regulation and GRM.



- To ensure GRM is functional at all 3 levels: local, regional and national.
- To provide support in closed cooperation with the Project Communication Specialist to CWSC/ LPAs and RDAs in the process of community engagement and managing grievances.
- To set up CWSC in Riscani subproject, after the agreements signed with LPAs.
- To undertake a visit to Trifauti village (near site of sub-project Soroca) in order to better understand the general and local social context of sub-project to manage and to mitigate potential social risks.
- To incorporate ESS relevant aspects and specifications of the procurement documents to ensure that the ES aspects are fully integrated.
- To offer support and supervision for the company that will carry out the ESIA for Cahul subproject.



4.7. Communication and visibility of the Project

The Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project aims to improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation for people living in selected rural and urban areas of Moldova. In order to achieve its goals, the project is carrying out various activities, including the development of a communication strategy and the implementation of communication activities.

During the reporting period, the following action were carried out:

- Development of Project Logo: A project logo has been created to establish a distinct identity and brand for the project. This logo will be consistently used across all project materials, promoting recognition and association with the project.
- Facebook Page: A dedicated Facebook page has been established as a platform for sharing information about the project's key activities and progress. The page serves as an interactive channel for stakeholders and beneficiaries to stay informed and engaged. A total of 36 posts have been shared on the Facebook page, ensuring regular communication with the target audience.
- Drafting of Communication Strategy and Action Plan: A Communication Strategy and Action Plan have been developed to guide the project's communication efforts effectively. These documents are currently awaiting approval from the director of the National Office for Regional and Local Development, ensuring alignment with project objectives.
- Website Development: A new website (landing page) has been developed and hosted on the website of the P.I. National Office for Regional and Local Development. The website provides detailed information about the project, its objectives, and ongoing activities, serving as a reliable source of information for visitors.
- *Press Releases*: To highlight the project's events and activities, eight press releases have been posted on the project's website. These press releases effectively disseminate information to the media and the public, increasing awareness and understanding of the project's endeavors.
- *Progress on Electronic Newsletter*: Work is currently underway to create an electronic newsletter, which will be published twice a year on the project's website. The newsletter will serve as a crucial communication tool, providing updates on the project's most recent activities and results.
- Communication Plan for Water Supply and Sewerage Program of Moldova Technical University. A Communication Plan has been developed to promote the Water Supply and Sewerage Program of the Moldova Technical University. The objective is to attract potential students to the program. The document is currently awaiting approval from the director of the National Office for Regional and Local Development. Additionally, Terms of References for a video spot promoting the WSS program at TUM have been developed, laying the groundwork for its production.
- Design of Leaflets: Two leaflets are currently being designed to promote the Grievance Redress Mechanism and the Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project. The selection of a suitable company, in accordance with the developed Terms of References, will ensure the professional



publication and distribution of these leaflets. (The draft of two leaflets are presented in the Annex 7 and 8)

During the next period are planned the following actions:

- Completion of Electronic Newsletter: The electronic newsletter is expected to be completed by the end of July. It will serve as a vital medium for sharing project updates and progress with stakeholders and the wider public and will be available on the website.
- Design and Printing of Leaflets: The design and printing of leaflets to promote the Grievance Redress Mechanism and the Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project will be carried out. This will contribute to raising awareness and understanding among the target audience.
- Implementation of Communication Plan: The communication plan aimed at promoting the Water Security and Sanitation Program of the Technical University will be implemented. This involves selecting a company to produce a video spot, supervising the production process, promoting the video spot through various media channels, and crafting success stories about program graduates for inclusion in the electronic newsletter.
- Writing of Press Releases and Facebook Posts: Continued efforts will be made to write and publish press releases and Facebook posts about the project's activities. These communications will help stakeholders stay informed and engaged, ensuring ongoing visibility and support for the Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project.



4.8. Reporting, monitoring and evaluation activities

According to the Financing Agreement, the Recipient shall furnish to the Association each Project Report not later than forty-five days after the end of the calendar semester, covering the calendar semester. According to the PAD the PIU, through its M&E specialist, with the support of MIRD, RDAs, WSS operators, and LPAs, coordinates all data collection, consolidates, and integrates progress and results in semiannual project progress reports.

Taking into account the above-mentioned aspects, the information, regarding the date of presentation of the Semiannual reports and the date of approval, are presented in the table below.

Table 12. Presentation and approval dates of the Semiannual reports of the MWSSP

No.	Reports	Reporting period Intended submission date		Submission date
1.	Semiannual report no. 1	August 5, 2022 -	March 5, 2023	March 05, 2023
		February 5, 2023		
2.	Semiannual report no. 2	Status on June 30, 2023	August 15, 2023	August 01, 2023

Source: developed by the PIU

Reporting, monitoring and evaluation process refers to:

- (a) monitoring of the performance of the project toward achievement of the PDO and result indicators on a semiannual basis and
- (b) implementation progress against all activities and the timely identification of bottlenecks. M&E of results are taking place against the indicators in the Results Framework and procedures are detailed in the POM.

Table 13. Project Development Objective Indicators

	Indicator Name	Baseline	Intermediate Targets, Year 1	Frequency	Evaluation Status at June 30, 2023
PDOI_I	Increasing access to safely managed water	r supply servi	ices in selected ru	ral areas and	towns
PDOI_I_1	People provided with access to safely managed water supply services in selected rural areas and towns (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi - annually	0.00
PDOI_I_1g	Out of which female (Percentage)	0.00	0.00	Semi - annually	0.00
PDOI_I_2	People provided with access to safely managed sanitation services in selected rural areas and towns (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi - annually	0.00
PDOI_I_2g	Out of which female (Percentage)	0.00	0.00	Semi - annually	0.00
PDOI_II	Strengthening institutional capacity at n	ational and lo	ocal levels for imp	roved WSS s	ervice delivery
PDOI_II_3	National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan (NWSSDP) with prioritized	No NWSSDP exists	Working group for NWSSDP created	Annually	The Unit for the coordination of the process of elaboration of the National Territorial



	Indicator Name	Baseline	Intermediate Targets, Year 1	Frequency	Evaluation Status at June 30, 2023
PDOI_I	Increasing access to safely managed water supply services in selected rural areas and towns				
	investment program and financing strategy developed and under implementation (Text)				Development Plan - specialized section Water supply and sanitation was designated. The Roadmap and ToR for elaboration of the NWSSDP were developed and is in the process of approval.
PDOI_II_4	Number of participating operators demonstrating core institutional capacities for improved water supply and sanitation service delivery (Number)	0.00	0.00	Annually	0.00

Source: Project Appraisal Document, pag.53

Considering the fact that at the current stage the activities related to the preparation of the documentation for the construction works are ongoing, most of the Intermediate Results Indicators have a value of 0.

Table 14. Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

	Indicator Name	Baseline	Intermediate Targets, Year 1	Frequency	Evaluation Status at June 30, 2023		
IRI_1.1	Subcomponent 1.1: Expanding access and quality of WSS services						
IRI_1.1.1	Number of households with a functional connection to a safely managed water supply service (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00		
IRI_1.1.1s	Number of households with increased resilience to droughts resulting from a functional connection to a safely managed water supply service (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00		
IRI_1.1.2	Number of households with a functional sewer connection to a safely managed sanitation service (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00		
IRI_1.1.2e	Number of households contributing to reduction in GHG emissions resulting from a functional sewer connection to a safely managed sanitation service (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00		
IRI_1.1.3	Wastewater and septage treated in selected small towns as per national discharge standards (Cubic meters/year)	0.00	0.00	Annually	0.00		



	Indicator Name	Baseline	Intermediate Targets, Year 1	Frequency	Evaluation Status at June 30, 2023
IRI_1.1.4	Number of households gaining access to safely managed sanitation through the on-site household sanitation pilot (Number)	0.00	100.00	Semi- annually	0.00
IRI_1.1.5s	Number of poor and vulnerable households gaining access to safely managed sanitation services (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00
IRI_1.2	Subcomponent 1.2: Improving WASH facilit	ies in public	institutions		
IRI_1.2.1	Number of schools with functional safely managed drinking water supply, and basic sanitation and hygiene facilities (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00
IRI_1.2.2	Number of health care facilities with functional safely managed drinking water supply, basic sanitation and hygiene facilities (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00
IRI_1.2.3	Number of people in schools participating in hygiene education and communication programs (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00
IRI_1.2.3g	Out of which female	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00
IRI_2.1	Subcomponent 2.1.: Building national institu	tional capa	city for WSS		
IRI_2.1.1	Number of legislative and/or normative documents developed in support of sector modernization (Number)	0.00	0.00	Annually	A second draft of the Low 303 is available
IRI_2.1.2	National Management Information System (MIS) for WSS service providers developed and operational (Text)	No national system exists; KPIs are not yet agreed	KPIs defined and	Annually	No national system exists; KPIs are not yet agreed
IRI_2.1.3	Number of participants that have successfully completed accredited professional development program and that advance or gain employment in technical positions in WSS utility sector (Number)	0.00	0.00	Annually	0.00
IRI_2.1.3g	Number of female participants successfully completing the accredited professional development program and that advance or gain employment in technical positions within the WSS utility sector (Number)	0.00	0.00	Annually	0.00
IRI_2.1.4	Number of people benefitting from training and workshops related to regulatory framework, policy implementation and the use sector MIS (Number)	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00
IRI_2.1.4g	out of which female (Percentage	0.00	0.00	Semi- annually	0.00



	Indicator Name	Baseline	Intermediate Targets, Year 1	Frequency	Evaluation Status at June 30, 2023
IRI_2.2	Subcomponent 2.2: Improving performance	of WSS ser	vice providers		
IRI_2.2.1	Average relative reduction of Non Revenue Water (expressed in m3/km network per year) for participating utilities compared to baseline value (Percentage)	0.00	0.00	Annually	0.00
IRI_2.2.2	Average relative increase of Total Cost Coverage ratio for participating utilities over the baseline value (Percentage)	0.00	0.00	Annually	0.00
IRI_2.2.3	Share of beneficiaries who report that the project has established effective engagement processes (Percentage)	0.00	75.00	Annually	0.00
IRI_2.2.3g	Share of female beneficiaries who report that the project has established effective engagement processes (Percentage)	0.00	75.00	Annually	0.00

Source: Project Appraisal Document, pag.54

For the Indicator IRI_2.1.1 Number of legislative and/or normative documents developed in support of sector modernization (Number) under Subcomponent 2.1.: Building national institutional capacity for WSS, a second draft of the Low 303 is available.

During the reporting period, the following action were carried out:

- ✓ the draft of the project-level M&E System was developed;
- ✓ the draft of the project M&E Plan was developed;
- ✓ Monitoring the activity of the contracting consultants
- ✓ the Checklists of the implementation of the actions planned for April and May 2023, based on Activity Plan for 2023 of the PIU and Aide Memoire, were developed
- ✓ The Short Report for May for WB TL was developed
- ✓ The *Monthly Report* of the MWSSP for May 2023 for the State Chancellery was developed During the next period are planned the following actions:
 - elaboration of the semiannual Report of the MWSSP for the WB experts and Project Coordination Group.
 - elaboration of the monthly *Checklists of the implementation of the actions planned* for June, July, August, September, October and November 2023 for the MIRD;
 - monitoring and coordinating of the PIP elaboration and baseline assessment for relevant indicators that will be conducted in Year 1, for KPIs for the selected WSS Operators;
 - elaboration of the Monthly Report of the MWSSP for the State Chancellery;
 - elaboration of the semiannual Report for the activities with the Austrian Development Agency's funding;
 - monitoring and coordinating *The Citizen Engagement Surveys* using a digital platform.



4.9. Challenges and risks for implementation of the project

The key challenges and risks, for the implementation of the MWSSP in the reporting period, that will lead to delays in implementing some actions are:

- Signing of the Cooperation Agreement by P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs from Riscani rayon. Varatic Commune refused to participate in the project;
- The delay in signing the Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement with NAER;
- Delaying the approval process of the *Regulation on the application of tax facilities* (GD 105 on 28.02.2023);
- Delaying in the process of change of land, for the construction of the sewage treatment plant in Soroca:
- Delaying in the development of the Government Decision regarding approval of the criteria for authorization, construction, registration, control, operation and maintenance of appropriate individual wastewater collection and treatment system. The reasons are: reluctance of responsible authorities to approve legislative changes and lack of qualified personnel in the field;
- The involvement of partners from the TUM is challenging because the period in which the project activities are planned coincided with the period of the bachelor and master exams and the admission process;
- Lack of qualified personnel in the field or companies with the necessary experience to participate in tenders;



5.UPDATED LIST OF ACTIVITIES

5.1. Reporting based on the list of planned activities for the reporting period

			The status of the action			
Activity	Action	Start Date	Completed	Ongoing	It is not started	
			+		*	
General activities						
Project Institutional Arrangements	Planning the first meeting of the Project Coordination Group	March 15, 2023	+			
	Delegation of the Department of Policies in the Field of Water Supply and Sanitation, as the Lead WSS Unit	March 10, 2023	+			
	Developing ToR for building the capacity of the Lead WSS Unit	September 29, 2023				
	Hiring the remaining Staff of the PIU, according to the Hiring schedule presented to the WB experts	Until June, 2023				
Project Support Agreements (RDA)	Signing the Implementation Support Agreements with RDA South	March 10, 2023	4			
	Signing the Implementation Support Agreements with RDA North	March 15, 2023	+			
	Signing the Implementation Support Agreements with RDA Gagauzia	March 15, 2023	4			
Financial management	Approval of the GD regarding the VAT exemptions	February 28, 2023	+			
Social aspects	Finalization and making functional the Grievance Redress Mechanism	April 28, 2023		0		
	Development of the Gender Action Plan	March 31, 2023	+			
Subcomonent 1.1	Subcomonent 1.1					
Expansion and	Signing the Cooperation Agreement by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs	March 30, 2023	4			
improvements of wastewater services in Soroca	Development of the Terms of Reference including technical specifications, preliminary concept design, and cost estimates based on the approved procurement procedures	February 1, 2023				



			The sta	atus of the a	ection
Activity	Action	Start Date	Completed	Ongoing	It is not started
			4	0	*
	Carrying out procurement and contracting procedures of the design and construction company	December 15, 2023			
	Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator	May 31, 2023			*
	Creation of the Citizen Water and Sanitation Committee	April 28, 2023	+		
	Signing the Cooperation Agreement by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs	March 30, 2023			
	Direct contracting for the Designing Company for the adjustment of the DED and BoQ	March 15, 2023			*
	Carrying out procurement and contracting procedures of the company that will prepare the ESIA & ESMP for the sub-project	March 15, 2023			*
Expansion and improvement water	Support for the creation and licencing of the new regional operator in the field of WSS in Riscani District	April 1, 2023			*
supply services in the Prut cluster, Riscani rayon	Developing the ToR and bidding documents for the construction company, according to the adjusted DED and BoQ	November 1, 2023			
	Developing the ToR for the technical supervision company	September 1, 2023			
	Initiation of the procurement procedures of the works	December 1, 2023			
	Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator	May 31, 2023			*
	Creation of the Citizen Water and Sanitation Committee	April 1, 2023			*
Expansion and improvement water	Signing the Cooperation Agreement by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs	March 20, 2023	+		
supply services in Cahul and Vulcanesti Rayons	Direct contracting for the Designing Company for the adjustment of the DED and BoQ	March 15, 2023			
	Carrying out procurement and contracting procedures of the company that will prepare the ESIA & ESMP for the sub-project	March 15, 2023			
	Developing the ToR for the construction company, according to the adjusted DED and BoQ	November 1, 2023			



			The sta	atus of the a	action
Activity	Action	Start Date	Completed	Ongoing	It is not started
			4		**
	Developing the ToR for the technical supervision company	September 1, 2023			
	Initiation of the procurement procedures of the works	December 1, 2023			
	Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator	April 15, 2023			*
	Creation of the Citizen Water and Sanitation Committee	April 1, 2023	+		
Expansion and improvement of	Signing the Cooperation Agreement by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs	March 20, 2023	+		
wastewater services in Comrat municipalities	Starting procurement procedures for contracting the Consulting company for the elaboration of the Feasibility study	April 15, 2023			
On site sanitation program	Develop the Market Study	April 30, 2023			
	Develop and approve the GD	May 31, 2023		0	
	Select the beneficiary locality	May 31, 2023			
	Hire the designing company	October 31, 2023			
	Develop the DED and BoQ	March 31, 2024			
Subcomponent 1.2					
Improving resilient WASH facilities in	Approve lists of institutions provided by MoH and MoER	February 28, 2023	+		
public and social institutions	Hire the WASH Engineer	March 31, 2023	+		
	Prepare ToR on technical aspect for the designing company	September 30, 2023			
	Hire the design company	January 31, 2024			
	Start works execution	January 31, 2025			
Subcomponent 2.1					
Sector planning and financing for	Development of the Road Map, necessary for the elaboration of the NWSSDP	March 30, 2023	4		
programmatic delivery	Development of the ToR to contract de Consulting Company to develop the NWSSDP	April 30, 2023	4		



			The sta	atus of the a	ection
Activity	Action	Start Date	Completed	Ongoing	It is not started
			4	0	*
	Development of the ToR to contract the company for Strategic Environmental Assessment for the NWSSDP	February 29, 2023			*
	Development Capacity Development Program for Lead WSS Unit	April 30, 2023			
	Development of the ToR for building the capacity of the Lead WSS Unit	September 30, 2023		0	
Legislative and design reform	Contracting the consultant who will work together with MIRD representatives and the Parliamentary Working Group in order to develop the draft Law, to support in promoting and public consultation of the draft Law	March 10, 2023	+		
	Contracting the Consulting company for the elaboration of the Moldavan Construction Normative "External sewerage networks and installations"	April 1, 2023			
	Contracting the consultant for the elaboration of the draft Government Decision regarding approval of the criteria for authorization, construction, registration, control, operation and maintenance of appropriate individual wastewater collection and treatment systems	March 10, 2023			
	Contracting the strategic planning consultant to provide support to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development in the implementation of the Subcomponent 2.1, especially to support the development of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Development Plan and also to support in the planned sector reforms	March 10, 2023			
	Modification of the GD 950/2013 for the approval of the Regulation regarding the requirements for the collection, purification and discharge of waste water into the sewage system and/or in the emission for urban and rural localities	April 1, 2023			
Monitoring and benchmarking of	8	April 1, 2023			
operators	Develop the ToR for NAER Regulation with economic KPIs	April 1, 2023			*
	Develop ToR to contract a Consultant to develop the draft GD	August 1, 2023			



			The status of the action			
Activity	Action	Action Start Date Con		Ongoing	It is not started	
			4		*	
	Starting procurement procedures for contracting the consultant for who will develop the GD and ToR for the consulting company for developing MIS	November 1, 2024				
	Starting procurement procedures for contracting company for developing MIS	April 1, 2024				
Human capital development	Development and Request for "No objection Note" for the developed Cooperation Agreement, and subsequently ensuring its signature	March 15, 2023	+			
	Approval of the list of 50 persons with higher education from WSS operators, for qualification and requalification studies	April 10, 2023				
	Signing the Contract for the provision of services with the Technical University of Moldova	May 30, 2023			*	
	Support in ensuring the accreditation by the Ministry of Education and Research of qualification and requalification studies for people with college technical studies	May 30, 2023			*	
	Support for TUM in requesting 20 places financed from the state budget to request the reopening of a specialized Group in the field of water supply and sewage, in accordance with the provisions of the Project Appraisal Document	April 10, 2023			*	
Note:		Actions that a reporting peri		the		



5.2. Updated list of activities for the next reporting period

Activity	Action	Start Date
Component 1 Increase	ing access to safely managed WSS services in selected rural areas and towns	S
Subcomonent 1.1 Exp	anding access and quality of WSS services	
Expansion and	Development of the Terms of Reference including technical specifications, preliminary concept design, and cost estimates based on the approved procurement procedures	February 1, 2023
improvements of wastewater services in Soroca	Carrying out procurement and contracting procedures of the design and construction company	December 15, 2023
in Soloca	Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator	May 31, 2023
	Signing the Cooperation Agreement by the P.I. NORLD, RDA and LPAs	March 30, 2023
	Direct contracting for the Designing Company for the adjustment of the DED and BoQ	March 15, 2023
	Carrying out procurement and contracting procedures of the company that will prepare the ESIA & ESMP for the sub-project	March 15, 2023
Expansion and improvement water	Support for the creation and licencing of the new regional operator in the field of WSS in Riscani District	April 1, 2023
supply services in the Prut cluster,	Developing the ToR and bidding documents for the construction company, according to the adjusted DED and BoQ	November 1, 2023
Riscani rayon	Developing the ToR for the technical supervision company	September 1, 2023
	Initiation of the procurement procedures of the works	December 1, 2023
	Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator	May 31, 2023
	Creation of the Citizen Water and Sanitation Committee	April 1, 2023
	Direct contracting for the Designing Company for the adjustment of the DED and BoQ	March 15, 2023
Expansion and	Carrying out procurement and contracting procedures of the company that will prepare the ESIA & ESMP for the sub-project	March 15, 2023
improvement water supply services in	Developing the ToR for the construction company, according to the adjusted DED and BoQ	November 1, 2023
Cahul and Vulcanesti Rayons	Developing the ToR for the technical supervision company	September 1, 2023
	Initiation of the procurement procedures of the works	December 1, 2023
	Support for the drafting and signing of contracts for the delegation of WSS services to the licensed operator	April 15, 2023
Expansion and improvement of wastewater services	Starting procurement procedures for contracting the Consulting company for the elaboration of the Feasibility study	April 15, 2023
in Comrat municipalities	Signing the contract with the Consulting company for the elaboration of the Feasibility study	June 01, 2023
Improvements in onsite sanitation	Develop and approve the GD	May 31, 2023



Activity	Action	Start Date
services for rural	Select the beneficiary locality	May 31, 2023
villages	Hire the designing company	October 31, 2023
	Develop the DED and BoQ	March 31, 2024
Subcomponent 1.2 In	nproving resilient WASH facilities in public social institutions	
	Approval the lists of provided institutions, after holding the meetings, regarding the results of screening phase, with MoH and MoER	April 15, 2023
Improving resilient WASH facilities in	Prepare ToR on technical aspect for the designing company	September 30, 2023
public and social institutions	Hire the design company	January 31, 2024
mstructons	Prepare ToR on technical aspect for the construction company	March 31, 2024
	Start works execution	June 30, 2024
Component 2 Strengt	thening institutional capacity at national and local levels for WSS service del	livery
Subcomponent 2.1 B	uilding national institutional capacity for WSS	
Sector planning and financing for		
programmatic delivery	Development Capacity Development Program for Lead WSS Unit	September 30, 2023
Legislative and	Contracting the Consulting company for the elaboration of the Moldavan Construction Normative "External sewerage networks and installations"	April 1, 2023
design reform	Modification of the GD 950/2013 for the approval of the Regulation regarding the requirements for the collection, purification and discharge of waste water into the sewage system and/or in the emission for urban and rural localities	April 1, 2023
	Signing the Inter-Institutional Cooperation Agreement	April 1, 2023
	Develop the ToR for NAER Regulation with economic KPIs	April 1, 2023
Monitoring and	Develop ToR to contract a Consultant to develop the draft GD	August 1, 2023
benchmarking of operators	Starting procurement procedures for contracting the consultant for who will develop the GD and ToR for the consulting company for developing MIS	November 1, 2023
	Starting procurement procedures for contracting company for developing MIS	April 1, 2024
	Approval of the list of 50 persons with higher education from WSS operators, for qualification and requalification studies	April 10, 2023
	Signing the Contract for the provision of services with the Technical University of Moldova	May 30, 2023
Human capital development	Support in ensuring the accreditation by the Ministry of Education and Research of qualification and requalification studies for people with college technical studies	May 30, 2023
	Support for TUM in requesting 20 places financed from the state budget to request the reopening of a specialized Group in the field of water supply and sewage, in accordance with the provisions of the Project Appraisal Document	April 10, 2023
Subcomponent 2.2 In		



Activity	Action	Start Date				
	Development of the ToR for the elaboration of the <i>Performance Improvement Plan</i> and the <i>Baseline Assessment</i> the operators involved in the project					
	Contracting the consultant for the elaboration of the <i>Performance Improvement Plan</i> and the <i>Baseline Assessment</i> of the operators involved in the project	31 July 2023				
Component 3. Project	t management and coordination (issues that was not included in previous ac	tivities)				
Social aspects	Finalization and making functional the Grievance Redress Mechanism	April 28, 2023				
Hiring the remaining Staff of the PIU	Hiring the remaining Staff of the PIU, according to the Hiring schedule presented to the WB experts	Until June, 2023				
Component 4: Contingent emergency response component						



ANNEXES

Annex 1. Hiring Report and Schedule

Annex 1. Hiring Report an	a sene		edule fo	r hiring	g the rem	aining 1	PIU staf	ff				
D 1/1			2022	2				2	2023			
Position name	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July
Project Manager												
Financial Specialist												
Social Specialist												
Environmental Specialist												
Chief WSS Engineer												
Procurement Specialist												
Communication specialist												
Gender and citizen engagement specialist*												
M&E specialist												
Administrative assistant												
WSS engineer (to support the chief WSS engineer)												
Energy efficiency specialist 2.2												
Institutional and utility development expert for Component 2												
Rural Sanitation Engineer (on-site sanitation)												
Legal consultant												
RDAs social, citizen engagement and environmental consultants												
RDAs technical support (from NORLD)												
Technical Consultant to provide support to MIRD for subcomp. 1.1												
WASH engineer/ coordination												
Consultant for MIRD for subcomponent 2.1												
Note:		are hired			it's not started			in progress			de of th ting pe	

Note: *Gender tasks had been delegated to the Social Specialist and Citizen Engagement tasks had been delegated to the Environmental Specialist. No Objection had been received on November 23, 2022. Amendments to the contracts with social specialist and environmental specialist had been signed on December 1, 2022



Annex 2. Example of Local Decision for CWSC set up

REPUBLICA MOLDOVA CONSILIUL COMUNEI GĂVĂNOASA, RAIONUL CAHUL MD-5317, s.Găvănoasa Tel/ fax (299) 57-2-36



РЕСПУБЛИКА МОЛДОВА СОВЕТ КОММУНЫ ГЭВЭНОАСА, КАХУЛЬСКИЙ РАЙОН МД- 5317, с.Гэвэноаса Тел/факс (299) 57-2-36

DECIZIE

Nr.2/9 din 03.04.2023

"Cu privire la aprobarea componenței Comitetului Local pentru Apă și Sanitație (CLAS),,

În temeiul demersului I.P, Oficiul Național de Dezvoltare Regională și Locală (ONDRL) și conform prevederilor Legii nr. 169/2022 pentru ratificarea Acordului de finanțare dintre Republica Moldova și Asociația Internațională pentru Dezvoltare și Acordului de Grant între Republica Moldova și Banca Internațională de Reconstrucție și Dezvoltare/ Asociația Internațională de Dezvoltare care acționează ca administrator al Fondului fiduciar unic al donatorului în vederea realizării Proiectului "Securitatea aprovizionării cu apă și sanitație în Moldova" și în temeiul art. 14 alin. (2) lit. b), c), f), h)..j) p);i alin. (3) din Legea nr.436/2006 privind Administrația publica locală, cu modificările completările ulterioare, având avizul pozitiv al Comisie de specialitatea și în baza decizie Consiliului local nr.5/1 din 06.12.2022 cu privire la aprobarea deciziei de participare în cadrul proiectului "Securitatea aprovizionării cu apă și sanitație în Moldova" și a acordului semnat de către APL cu ONDRL în acest sens, cu avizul comisiilor consultative de specialitate, Consiliul comunei Găvănoasa

A DECIS:

- Se aprobă componența Comitetului Local pentru Apă şi Sanitație din 5 membri, după cum urmează:
 - a. <u>Ivanov Vadim</u> primarul comunei Găvănoasa, reprezentant al APL;
 - b. Torontoi Antonina angajat al operatorului de servicii S.A. Apă Canal Cahul.
 - c. Alexandrov Larisa , asistentă medicală, CS Găvănoasa, (reprezentant al instituției publice;
 - d. Ivanov Valeriu- profesor, Gimnaziul-grădiniță,, Igor Creţu,, , reprezentant al consumatorilor;
 - e. Arabadji Mariana- asistentă socială comunitară, membru al societății civile care reprezintă grupurile vulnerabile/ marginalizate).
- 2. Conform Regulamentului CLAS cel puțin doi membri ai comitetului sunt femei. Totodată, din membrii CLAS, la prima ședință se va alege: un președinte, un(o) secretar(ă), o persoană responsabilă de Mecanismul de soluționare a plângerilor/reclamațiilor și o persoană responsabilă de aspectele de gen, iar Procesul verbal



- privind alegerea în una din funcțiile menționate anterior, va fi prezentat Unității de Implementare a Proiectului din cadrul I.P. Oficiului Național de Dezvoltare Regională și Locală.
- 3. În cazul în care una din persoanele delegate se retrage, este numită altă persoană în funcția deținută, sau delegată de către instituția/grupul social local, autoritatea publică lcală va aproba o nouă decizie în acest sens, iar CLAS va aproba și va prezenta Unității de Implementare a Proiectului un nou PV privitor la alegerea persoanelor în funcțiile descrise la punctul 2 a prezentei decizii.
- 4. Comitetul Local pentru Apă şi Sanitație va reprezenta autoritatea responsabilă la nivel local pentru realizarea acestui proiect. CLAS va colabora cu Unitatea de Implementare a Proiectului şi alte entități pentru asigurarea implementării acțiunilor planificate în localitate ca parte componentă a Proiectului "Securitatea aprovizionării cu apă şi sanitație în Moldova". Toate acțiunile se vor desfășura în conformitate cu Standardele de Mediu şi Sociale ale Băncii Mondiale şi cu Planul de Management Social şi de Mediu şi Manualul Operațional al proiectului, toate așa cum sunt definite şi cum se solicită în Acordul de Finanțare şi Acordul de Grant aprobat prin Legea nr. 169/2022.
- Controlul executării prezentei decizii este responsabilitatea primarului comunei Găvănoasa,dl Ivanov Vadim.

Președinta ședinței

Alexandrova Tatiana

Contrasemnează: Secretara Consiliului Local

Ivanov Antonina

Digitally signed by Alexandrova Tatiana Date: 2023.04.07 16:36:09 EEST Reason: MoldSign Signature Location: Moldova



Digitally signed by Ivanov Antonina Date: 2023.04.07 16:40:10 EEST Reason: MoldSign Signature Location: Moldova





Annex 3. Example of First meeting minutes of the CWSC



REPUBLICA MOLDOVA PRIMĂRIA COMUNEI PELINEI RAIONUL CAHUL

MD- 3927, raionul Cahul, comuna Pelinei, cod fiscal: 1007601007011 tel/fax 0(299) 74-2-44,74-2-45, e-mail: primaria.pelinei@apl.gov.md

COMITETUL LOCAL PENTRU APĂ ȘI SANITAȚIE

(CLAS)

Proces verbal Nr.1 din 17.05.2023

Total membri - 5

Prezenți - 5

Ordinea de zi

Cu privire la alegerea președintelui (ei), secretarului (ei) și repartizarea responsabilităților în CLAS.

Se examinează întrebarea cu privire la alegerea președintelui (ei), secretarului (ei) și repartizarea responsabilităților în CLAS.

A luat cuvântul:

Luca Tudor, primarul comunei Pelinei, care a vorbit despre proiectul "securitatea aprovizionării cu apă și sanitație în Republica Moldova", despre comitetul CLAS, atribuțiile acestuia, despre necesitatea de a alege președinte, secretar și de a împărți responsabilitățile între membri.

S-a propus:

Presedinte - Luca Tudor,

Vot unanim.

Secretară - Peiu Maia,

Vot unanim.



Responsabil pentru egalitatea de gen -Acriş Dumitru,

Vot unanim.

Responsabilă de soluționarea plângerilor și reclamațiilor - Acriș Olga,

Vot unanim.

Decizie

- 1. Se ia act de informația prezentată de către primarul comunei Pelinei, Luca Tudor.
- 2. Prin vot unanim președinte al CLAS este ales dl Luca Tudor.
- 3. Prin vot unanim secretară a CLAS este aleasă d-na Peiu Maia.
- 4. Prin vot unanim responsabil pentru egalitatea de gen este desemnat dl Acriș Dumitru.
- Prin vot unanim responsabilă pentru soluționarea plângerilor şi reclamațiilor este desemnată d-na Acriş Olga.

Președinte CLAS Luca Tudor

Secretară CLAS Peiu Maia



Annex 4. The agenda of the Training on gender equality and social inclusion

Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project

Training on gender equality and social inclusion

16 May 2023

Venue: PIU, Alexandru cel Bun 51A

10.00 - 10:15	Opening and Expectations from training
10:15 – 11:15	Gender equality in the Republic of Moldova, "Women for Women" NGO
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 - 12:30	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, WB Social and Gender Consultant
12:30 - 14.00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:00	Gender Action Plan of the Project, Social specialist PIU
15:00 - 15:30	Q&A



Annex 5. The Data Collection Form for healthcare facilities

Formular de colectare a datelor privind Asigurarea cu apă, siteme de sanitați și practici de igienă în instituțiile medicale Evaluarea inițială

Subiect	Date colectate	Observaţii
Data evaluării		
Denumirea instituției		
Adresa		
Persoana de contact: Nume:		
Poziție/Funcție:		
Număr de telefon:		
e-mail:		
Locația	☐ Rural	
,	□ Urban	
	☐ Peri urban	
Tipul instituției	☐ Fell ulbali	
Tipui ilistituției		
Programul de lucru și		
numărul de schimburi, dacă		
este cazul		
Numărul de angajați total:		
Personal de gen feminin:		
Personal de gen masculin:		
Numărul de cadre medicale:		
Numărul de personal		
administrativ/de conducere:		
Numărul personalului tehnic:		
	alimentare cu apă, sanitație și igienă	
Când a fost construită		
clădirea?		
Cine este gestionarul clădirii		
și a terenului?		
Clădirea a fost proiectată		
pentru a servi drept instituție		
medicală?		
Serviciile/facilitățile de	□ Da	
alimentare cu apă, sanitație și	□ Nu	
igienă au fost vreodată		
renovate?		
Au fost inițiate careva	□ Da	
lucrări/proiecte de renovare	□ Nu	
sau îmbunătățire a blocurilor sanitare?		
samar.		



Utilități locale (structuri ApaCanal) alimentare cu apă și sanităție în incinta clădrii? Altele Contractuale existențe pentru furmizarea de servicii de alimentare cu apă și sanităție? Contract de servicii de canalizare și tratare a apelor uzate sanitație? Contract pentru servicii de vidanjare și transport al apei uzate și a nămolului Altele Contract pentru servicii de vidanjare și transport al apei uzate și a nămolului Altele Contract pentru servicii de vidanjare și transport al apei uzate și a nămolului Altele Sistem centralizat de alimentare cu apă și apă livrată în clădre Sistem centralizat de alimentare cu apă și branșament în curte (apa nu este disponibilă în interiorul clădirii) Făntană de mică adâncime protejată pe teritoriul instituției Sondă pe teritoriul instituției Sondă pe teritoriul instituției Apa potabilă (ce corespunde normelor de apă potabilă)? Preț pe M3 = Sistem centralizate le Da tratare/filtrare? Nu Nu se aplică Nu Nu se aplică Apa este disponibilă în momentul vizitei? Nu Nu se aplică Apa este furnizată în mod continuu? Nu Nu se aplică Preți potabile (de băut) sunt în clădire? Unde sunt amplasate punctele de distribuție a apei potabile (de băut) sunt în clădire? In incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei In toalete In afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) Nu Nu Nu Nu Nu Nu Nu N		Cine este responsabil pentru furnizarea serviciilor de	☐ Autorități publice locale	
n incinta clădirii?			☐ Utilități locale (structuri ApaCanal)	
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tratare/filtrare? Nu Nu se aplică Apa este disponibilă în Da Da Nu Apa este furnizată în mod continuu? Câte puncte de distribuție a apei potabile (de băut) sunt în clădire? Unde sunt amplasate punctele de distribuție a apei de băut? In incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei În toalete În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) Este cel puțin un punct de Nu Marul total Funcționale În incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei În toalete În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă)				
Apa este disponibilă în				
Apa este disponibilă în momentul vizitei?		tratare/intrare?		
momentul vizitei? □ Nu Apa este furnizată în mod continuu? □ Da □ Nu Câte puncte de distribuție a apei potabile (de băut) sunt în clădire? Unde sunt amplasate punctele de distribuție a apei de băut? □ În clădire, la fiecare etaj □ În incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei □ În toalete □ În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) □ Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) □ Este cel puțin un punct de □ Da			☐ Nu se aplică	
Apa este furnizată în mod continuu? Câte puncte de distribuție a apei potabile (de băut) sunt în clădire? Unde sunt amplasate punctele de distribuție a apei de băut? In clădire, la fiecare etaj in incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei in toalete in afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) Este cel puțin un punct de in Da			□ Da	
Câte puncte de distribuție a apei potabile (de băut) sunt în clădire? Unde sunt amplasate punctele de distribuție a apei de băut? In clădire, la fiecare etaj in incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei in toalete in afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) Este cel puțin un punct de			□ Nu	
Câte puncte de distribuție a apei potabile (de băut) sunt în clădire? Unde sunt amplasate punctele de distribuție a apei de băut? □ În clădire, la fiecare etaj □ În incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei □ În toalete □ În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) □ Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) Este cel puțin un punct de □ Da			□ Da	
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apei potabile (de băut) sunt în clădire? Unde sunt amplasate punctele de distribuție a apei de băut? □ În clădire, la fiecare etaj □ În incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei □ În toalete □ În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) □ Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) Este cel puțin un punct de □ Da				
Unde sunt amplasate punctele de distribuție a apei de băut? Dîn clădire, la fiecare etaj Dîn incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei Dîn toalete Dîn afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) Da Este cel puțin un punct de Da				
punctele de distribuție a apei de băut? \[\begin{array}{c} \limin \text{in incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei} \\ \begin{array}{c} \limin \text{in toalete} \\ \begin{array}{c} \limin \text{in toalete comune} \\ \begin{array}{c} \limin \text{dara toaletelor (în zonele comune)} \\ \begin{array}{c} \limin \text{delte} \\ \begin{array}{c} \limin \text{delta alta fîntînă} \\ \end{array} \] Este cel puţin un punct de \[\begin{array}{c} \limin \text{Da} \\ \end{array}		clădire?	runcționale	
de băut? \[\begin{align*} \text{ in toalete} \\ \text{ in afara toaletelor (în zonele comune)} \\ \text{ Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă)} \\ \text{ Este cel puţin un punct de} \\ \text{ Da} \]			,	
☐ In toalete ☐ În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) ☐ Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) Este cel puţin un punct de ☐ Da				
□ Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) Este cel puțin un punct de □ Da		de baut!	☐ În toalete	
□ Altele (Caldare cu apa adusa de la alta fîntînă) Este cel puțin un punct de □ Da			☐ În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune)	
○ , î · i · · · î · i · · · · · · · · · · ·				
apă potabilă accesibil			□ Da	
		apă potabilă accesibil	□Nu	



persoanelor cu mobilitate limitată?	□ Nu se aplică	
	Dacă punctele de apă potabilă nu sunt accesibile, care sunt impedimentele	
Ce tip de sistem de sanitație	☐ Sistem centralizat de canalizare	
este utilizat (canalizare și epurare)?	☐ Canalizare stație de epurare a apelor uzate pe teritoriul instituției	
	☐ Fosă septică	
	☐ Hazna sau rezervor pentru excreții și ape uzate	
	□ Altele	
Costurile serviciului de sanitație	Prețul per transport și tratare a apelor uzate pe M3	
Ce tip de toalete se	□WC	
utilizează?	□ Latrine	
	☐ Toalete uscate (compostare, tip Ecosan)	
	□ Altele	
Unde se află grupurile	☐ În interiorul clădirii, la fiecare etaj	
sanitare?	☐ În interiorul clădirii, dar nu la fiecare etaj	
	☐ În afara clădirii	
	☐ Unele în clădire și altele în afara clădirii	
Toaletele sunt separate	Da	
pentru personal si pacienti?	□ Nu	
_	□ Nu se aplică	
Toaletele sunt separate	□ Da	
pentru pacientii de sex	□ Nu	
masculin si feminine?	□ Nu se aplică	
Câte toalete sunt în instituție?	Numărul total de toalete (inclusiv nefuncționale)	
,	Numărul toaletelor funcționale	
	Numărul de toalete pentru femei	
	Numărul de toalete pentru bărbați	
T. 1 1. × 1	Numărul de toalete pentru personal	
Este cel puţin o cabină de toaletă accesibilă persoanelor cu mobilitate limitată?	□ Da	
	□ Nu	
	□ Nu se aplică	
Cabinele de toaletă oferă suficientă intimitate?	□ Da	
	□ Nu	
	□ Nu se aplică	
Cât de curate sunt toaletele?	☐ Toate sau mai mult de jumătate din cabine sunt curate	
	☐ Toate sau mai mult de jumătate din cabine sunt	
	oarecum curate	
	☐ Toate sau mai mult de jumătate din instalații nu sunt	
	curate	



Iluminatul din toalete este	☐ Toate toaletele au iluminare funcțională	
adecvat și funcțional?	☐ Jumătate sau mai multe dintre toalete au iluminare	
	funcțională	
	☐ Foarte puţine sau niciuna dintre toalete nu are	
	iluminare funcțională	
Ventilația în toalete este	□ Da	
adecvată și funcțională?	☐ Parţial	
	☐ Fără ventilație	
Toaletele sunt încălzite pe	□ Da	
timp de iarnă?	☐ Parțial	
	☐ Fără încălzire	
Hârtia igienica este	☐ Da, întotdeauna	
disponibila in toaleta?	☐ Da, de cele mai multe ori	
	□ Rar	
	☐ Nu, niciodată	
Pubelele de gunoi sunt	□ Da	
prevăzute în toalete?	□ Nu	
	□ Nu se aplică	
Pubelele sanitare pentru	□ Da	
eliminarea produselor de	□ Nu	
igienă menstruală folosite	□ Nu se aplică	
sunt prevăzute în cabinele de	_ 1 to 55 sp.1101	
toaletă pentru femei?	NT ~ 1, , 1 1 ' , 1 ,'' 1	
Câte instalații de spălare a mâinilor sunt?	Numărul total de instalații = 1 Numărul instalațiilor funcționale =1	
Unde se află facilitățile de		
spălare a mâinilor?	☐ În clădire, la fiecare etaj	
Sparance a manner.	☐ În incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei☐ În toalete	
	☐ În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune)	
Apa este disponibilă pentru	☐ Altele	
spălarea mâinilor?	☐ Da, întotdeauna	
spainted mannior.	☐ De cele mai multe ori	
	Rar	
	□ Nu, niciodată	
G* 1 , 1: '1'1	□ Nu se aplică	
Săpunul este disponibil pentru spălarea mâinilor?	☐ Da, întotdeauna	
pentru spararea maninor:	☐ De cele mai multe ori	
	Rar	
	☐ Nu, niciodată	
	☐ Nu se aplică	
Facilitățile de spălare a	□ Da	
mâinilor sunt accesibile	□ Nu	
persoanelor cu mobilitate limitată?	☐ Nu se aplică	



Apa curentă caldă este	□ Da	
furnizată la instalațiile de	□ Nu	
spălare a mâinilor?	□ Nu se aplică	



Annex 6. The Data Collection Form for educational institutions

Formular de colectare a datelor privind Asigurarea cu apă, siteme de sanitați și practici de igienă în școli Evaluarea inițială⁵ Subject Date colectate **Observații** Data evaluării Denumirea școlii Adresa școlii Persoana de contact: Nume Poziție/Funcție Număr de telefon e-mail □ Rural Locația școlii □ Urban □ Periurban Tipul școlii ☐ Grădinită ☐ Scoală primară ☐ Şcoală generală □ Liceu ☐ Altele Intervalul de vârstă al De la ani la ani elevilor Programul școlar (programul de lucru si numărul de schimburi, dacă este cazul) Numărul de elevi care Numărul total frecventează școala Numărul de fete Numărul de băieți Numărul elevilor cu Nu sunt mobilitate limitată Numărul de angajati Total Personal de gen feminin Personal de gen masculin Numărul de cadre didactice Numărul de personal administrativ/de conducere Numărul personalului tehnic Infrastructura și serviciile de alimentare cu apă, sanitație și igienă Când a fost construită școala?

⁵ Evaluare realizată de UNICEF Moldova în coordonare cu Ministerul Educației și Cercetării în școlile preselectate de MEC (din 05 mai 2023).



Clădirea a fost proiectată pentru a servi drept școală (și pentru categoria de vîrstă a

1 11 4 1.1 6	
elevilor găzduiți în acest moment)?	
Serviciile/facilitățile de	□ Da
alimentare cu apă, sanitație și	□ Nu
igienă au fost vreodată	
renovate?	
Au fost inițiate careva	□ Da
lucrări/proiecte de renovare	□ Nu
sau îmbunătățire a bloctirilor	
sanitare?	
Cine este responsabil pentru	☐ Autorități publice locale
furnizarea serviciilor de	☐ Utilități locale (structuri ApaCanal)
alimentare cu apă și sanitație	☐ Administrația școlii
în incinta școlii?	□ Altele
Care sunt aranjamentele	☐ Contract de furnizare a apei
contractuale existente pentru	
	,
furnizarea de servicii de	uzate
alimentare cu apă și	Contract pentru ambele servicii cu un singur furnizor
sanitație?	☐ Contract pentru servicii de vidanjare și transport al
	apei uzate și a nămolului
	□ Altele
Care este principala sursă de	☐ Sistem centralizat de alimentare cu apă și apă livrată
apă pentru școală?	în clădirea școlii
,	☐ Sistem centyralizat de alimentare cu apă și
	pranșament în curtea școlii (apa nu este disponibilă în
	interiorul clădirii)
	☐ Fântână de mică adâncime protejată pe teritoriul
	școlii școlii
	□ Sondă pe teritoriul școlii
<u> </u>	Apă nu este disponibilă
Care este costul pentru	Preţ pe M3 lei
serviciile de alimentare cu	
apă?	
Apa potabilă (ce corespunde	□ Da
normelor de apă potabilă)?	□ Nu
Când a fost testată apa și cine	
are rezultatele	
Există instalații de	□ Da
tratare/filtrare?	□ Nu
	□ Nu se aplică
Apa este disponibilă în	□ Da
momentul vizitei?	□ Nu
Apa este furnizată în mod	□ Da
continuu?	□ Nu
Commuu:	170
Câte puncte de distribuție a	Numărul total
apei potabile (de băut) sunt în	Funcționale
școală?	1 unoționale



Unde sunt amplasate	☐ În clădirea școlii, la fiecare etaj	
punctele de distribuție a apei	☐ În incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei	
de băut?	☐ În toalete V	
	☐ În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune)	
	☐ Altele	
Este cel puțin un punct de	□ Da	
apă potabilă accesibil celor	□ Nu	
mai mici copii din școală?	☐ Nu se aplică	
Este cel puţin un punct de	□ Da	
apă potabilă accesibil elevilor	□ Nu	
cu mobilitate limitată?	☐ Nu se aplică	
ca moontace minata.	I ita se aprica	
	Dacă punctele de apă potabilă nu sunt accesibile, care	
	sunt impedimentele	
Ce tip de sistem de sanitație	☐ Sistem centralizat de canalizare	
este utilizat (canalizare și	☐ Canalizare stație de epurare a apelor uzate pe	
epurare)?	teritoriul instituției	
cpurare):	☐ Fosă septică	
	☐ Hazna sau rezervor pentru excreții și ape uzate	
	☐ Altele	
Costurile serviciului de	Prețul per transport și tratare a apelor uzate pe	
sanitație	M3 lei transport/ cisterna (1/an)	
Samtație	wis lei transport disterna (1/an)	
Ce tip de toalete utilizează	□ WC	
elevii?	☐ Latrine	
elevii!		
	☐ Toalete uscate (compostare, tip Ecosan) ☐ Altele	
Undo so oflă ammunilo	☐ În interiorul clădirii școlii, la fiecare etaj	
Unde se află grupurile	☐ În interiorul clădirii școlii, dar nu la fiecare etaj	
sanitare pentru elevi?	☐ În afara clădirii școlii	
	_	
	Unele în clădirea școlii și altele în afara clădirii	
Câte toalete /cabine sunt în	Numărul total de toalete/cabine	
instituție?	Numărul total de toalete/caoine Numărul toaletelor/cabinelor funcționale	
mstruție:	,	
	Numărul de toalete/cabine pentru fete	
	Numărul de toalete/ cabine pentru băieți	
Esta asl mutin a	Numărul de toalete/ cabine pentru personal	
Este cel puţin o	□ Da	
toaletă/cabină accesibilă	□ Nu □ Na a a a l' · ·	
celor mai mici copii din	□ Nu se aplică	
școală?	П D-	
Este cel puţin o cabină de	□ Da N	
toaletă accesibilă elevilor cu	□ Nu so onlică	
mobilitate limitată?	Nu se aplică	
Cabinele de toaletă oferă	Da No	
suficientă intimitate elevilor?	□ Nu □ Nu se aplică	
	LILI INDINE ADDICA	



Cât de curate sunt toaletele elevilor?	 □ Toate sau mai mult de jumătate din cabine sunt curate □ Toate sau mai mult de jumătate din cabine sunt oarecum curate □ Toate sau mai mult de jumătate din instalații nu sunt curate
Iluminatul din toalete este adecvat și funcțional?	 □ Toate toaletele au iluminare funcțională □ Jumătate sau mai multe dintre toalete au iluminare funcțională □ Foarte puține sau niciuna dintre toalete nu are iluminare funcțională
Ventilația în toalete este adecvată și funcțională?	□ Da□ Parțial□ Fără ventilație
Toaletele sunt încălzite pe timp de iarnă?	□ Da□ Parţial□ Fără încălzire
Hârtia igienica este disponibila in toaleta/cabine?	 □ Da, întotdeauna □ Da, de cele mai multe ori □ Rar □ Nu, niciodată
Pubelele de gunoi sunt prevăzute în toalete?	□ Da □ Nu □ Nu se aplică
Pubelele sanitare pentru eliminarea produselor de igienă menstruală folosite sunt prevăzute în cabinele de toaletă pentru fete?	□ Da □ Nu □ Nu se aplică
Câte instalații de spălare a mâinilor sunt accesibile și funcționale?	Numărul total de instalații de spălat mainile Numărul instalațiilor funcționale
Unde se află facilitățile de spălare a mâinilor?	 În clădirea școlii, la fiecare etaj În incinta cantinei sau în apropierea cantinei/cantinei În toalete V În afara toaletelor (în zonele comune) Altele
Apa este disponibilă pentru spălarea mâinilor?	 □ Da, întotdeauna □ De cele mai multe ori □ Rar □ Nu, niciodată □ Nu se aplică
Săpunul este disponibil pentru spălarea mâinilor?	 □ Da, întotdeauna □ De cele mai multe ori □ Rar □ Nu, niciodată □ Nu se aplică



Facilitățile de spălare a	☐ Da, întotdeauna
mâinilor sunt accesibile	☐ De cele mai multe ori
tuturor elevilor din școală?	□ Rar
	□ Nu, niciodată
	□ Nu se aplică
Facilitățile de spălare a	□ Da
mâinilor sunt accesibile celor	□ Nu
mai mici copii de la școală?	□ Nu se aplică
Facilitățile de spălare a	□ Da
mâinilor sunt accesibile	□ Nu
elevilor cu mobilitate	□ Nu se aplică
limitată?	
Apa curentă caldă/caldă este	□ Da
furnizată la instalațiile de	□ Nu
spălare a mâinilor?	□ Nu se aplică



Annex 7. Draft of leaflet for promotion of the Grievance Redress Mechanism



Fă-ți vocea auzită!



Cum poți face acest lucru?

Adresează-te la primăria din localitatea ta, la Comitetul Local pentru Apă și Sanitație (CLAS)!

Contactează:

Oficiului Național de Dezvoltare Regională și Locală/ Unitatea de Implementare a Proiectului

- +373 69 131 817
- reclamatii@ondrl.gov.md
- mun. Chişinău, MD-2005, str. Alexandru cel Bun, nr. 51 A, etaj. 2

















Agenția de Dezvoltare Nord

Sub-proiectele din Soroca, Rîșcani

- +373 231 61 980
- adrnord@adrnord.gov.md
- Republica Moldova, MD-3110 mun. Bălţi, Piaţa Vasile Alecsandri 8

Agenția de Dezvoltare Sud

Sub-proiectele din r-nul Cahul

- +373 241 26 286
- adrsud@adrsud.gov.md
- Republica Moldova, MD-4101 or. Cimişlia, bld. Ştefan cel Mare 12

Agenția de Dezvoltare Găgăuzia

Sub-proiectul Comrat

- +373 298 22 693
- adrgagauzia@adrgagauzia.gov.md
- Republica Moldova, mun. Comrat, str. Strada Tretiacov 36

Ministerul Infrastructurii și Dezvoltării Regionale

- +373 22 250 500
- secretariat@midr.gov.md
- Republica Moldova, Chişinău, MD-2012 Piaţa Marii Adunări Naţionale 1

Mai multe informații despre Mecanismul de soluționare a reclamațiilor



Banca Mondială

grievances@worldbank.org

Prin intermediul platformei online SSR al Băncii Mondiale:



Proiectul "Securitatea Aprovizionării cu Apă și Sanitație în Moldova"



Annex 8. Draft of leaflet for promotion of the Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project







Sporirea accesului la serviciile de alimentare cu apă și de sanitație, gestionate în condiții de siguranță și consolidarea capacității instituționale la nivel național și local pentru prestarea de servicii de alimentare cu apă și de sanitație;

Perioada de implementare a proiectului



Bugetul proiectului



44 100 000 Euro

- Asociația Internațională de Dezvoltare
- Agenția Austriacă pentru Dezvoltare

1 550 000 Euro

3%

- Contribuția localităților
- Beneficiari directi

96,5 mil persoane





Creșterea accesului la servicii sigure de alimentare cu apă și sanitație în localitățile rurale și urbane selectate

Subcomponenta 1.1:

- Îmbunătățirea accesului și a calității serviciilor de alimentare cu apă și sanitație (AAS)
- Extinderea şi îmbunătățirea serviciilor de alimentare cu apă în raioanele Rîşcani, Cahul şi în orașul Vulcăneşti
- Extinderea şi îmbunătățirea infrastructurii de canalizare în municipiile Soroca și Comrat
- Proiect pilot pentru îmbunătățirea serviciilor de sanitație în gospodăriile casnice

Subcomponenta 1.2:

 Îmbunătățirea facilităților de apă, sanitație și igienă WASH în instituțiile publice (școli și centre medicale)









Austrian
 Development
 Agency



Consolidarea capacității instituționale la nivel național și local pentru îmbunătățirea serviciilor de alimentare cu apă și sanitație

Subcomponenta 2.1:

- Consolidarea capacității instituționale la nivel național în domeniul AAS:
- Elaborarea şi implementarea Planului Naţional de Dezvoltare a Sectorului de Alimentare cu Apă şi Sanitaţie (PNDSAAS);
- Asistență tehnică pentru APL şi operatorii AAS selectați pentru a sprijini procesul de regionalizare a serviciilor şi asocierea în operatori regionali licențiați în baza PNDSAAS;
- Pregătirea modificărilor legislative, a politicilor, a documentelor normative, a normelor de proiectare şi construcţie pentru sanitaţie (actualizarea normelor învechite) şi consolidarea capacităţilor aferente, conform PNDSAAS;
- ► Dezvoltarea şi implementarea unui sistem de management al informațiilor național (MIS) pentru operatorii AAS, precum şi definirea indicatorilor-cheie de performanță (KPI) pentru MIS şi începerea evaluării comparative (benchmarking);
- Asistență tehnică pentru ANRE, operatorii AAS și APL pentru a accelera revizuirea și aprobarea tarifelor în conformitate cu reglementările pentru operatorii licențiați;
- Implementarea unui program de dezvoltare profesională, în colaborare cu Asociația Moldova Apă -Canai (AMAC) şi Universitatea Tehnică a Moldovei (UTM) şi operatorii AAS.

