

Republic of Moldova: Preparation of the Third Biennial Update Report (BUR3) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10311

Countries

Moldova

Project Name

Republic of Moldova: Preparation of the Third Biennial Update Report (BUR3) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Agenices

UNEP

Date received by PM

7/19/2019

Review completed by PM

Program Manager

Milena Vasquez

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

EA

Expedited Enabling Activity req (CEO)

Part 1: Project Information

Focal area elements

Is the enabling activity aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes, this enabling activity is aligned with the GEF's CCM objective on fostering enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through enabling activities.

Agency Response

Project description summary

Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes the project structure is appropriate.

Agency Response

Co-financing

Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified [and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?]

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes, some in-kind cofinancing is provided but not required for enabling activities.

Agency Response

GEF Resource Availability

Is the proposed GEF financing in Table D (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes, these resources are in line.

Agency Response

Are they within the resources available from:

The STAR allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

N/A. This EA is requesting resources from the CCM set-aside.

Agency Response

The focal area allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

N/A. This EA is requesting resources from the CCM set-aside.

Agency Response

The LDCF under the principle of equitable access

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

Focal area set-aside?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes. This EA is requesting resources from the CCM set-aside and resources are available.

Agency Response

Is the financing presented adequate and demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes the EA is requesting the maximum amount to support Moldova's BUR 3.

Agency Response

Part 2: Enabling Activity Justification

Background and Context.

Are the achievements of previously implemented enabling activities cited since the country(ies) became a party to the Convention?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Not entirely. There is no information on the previous BURs prepared and submitted (including information on inventories completed), nor of the outcomes of the ICA processes. In addition, there is no information regarding the current Fifth National Communication under implementation.

9/26/2019: Information on previous BURs and outcomes of the ICA process has been added. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

16 September 2019

Additional requested information on GHG Inventories completed, Inventory Years to be covered under the Fifth National Communication & BUR3 and the outcome of the ICA process for BUR2 have been included under Part II: Background and Context.

While the BUR3 for Moldova is expected to be completed and submitted to UNFCCC in 2021, with the GHG inventory report of time series 1990-2018; Moldova's Fifth National Communication (NC5) Project that started on 5 August 2019 is expected to be completed and submitted to the UNFCCC by October 2022. Under the NC5 project, the "National Inventory Report: 1990-2019, GHGs Sources and Sinks in the Republic of Moldova" will also be prepared as a technical annex of the NC5.

Goals, Objectives, and Activities.

Is the project framework sufficiently described?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Please comment on whether there is any overlap between the work under the Fifth National Communication and this BUR. In particular regarding inventories, training, and the stocktaking assessment and institutional arrangements for preparation of subsequent NCs and BURs. And based on this assessment, please clarify if the full amount available is necessary to support this third BUR. Further, based on the outcomes of the ICA process, please elaborate on how this project will support the Republic of Moldova in improving this BUR and its capacity to meet future transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement.

9/26/2019: Additional information on the synergies with the NC5 project and on the relevant timelines has been provided. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

16 September 2019

Additional information/clarification on the scope of the NC5 and BUR3 have been included in Section A and Section C.

Recommendations from the BUR1 & BUR2 ICA processes, will be implemented, as much as possible; hence the request for US\$ 352,000 to support Moldova to respond to the recommendations so as to meet the enhanced transparency requirement under the Paris Agreement, as well as try out the newly constituted institutional arrangement.

On training: Training will provide an opportunity to build the capacity of national experts working on various components of these two reports, with an aim of understanding not only the difference in scope of the 2 reports, but to also build the capacity of experts in the areas suggested under the ICA. The BUR3 and NC5 projects will also have different implementation timelines and depending on when the relevant training opportunities arise the projects will respectively support the national experts to participate in the trainings as appropriate, with prior approval of the IA.

The stocktaking assessment for preparation of subsequent NCs and BURs aims to allow for a seamless transition to subsequent NC and BUR in this case Moldova's transition to its BUR4. This exercise will: -

- - provide a recommendation the appropriate time for Moldova to transition to its Initial Biennial Transparency Reporting (BTR) preparation, under the Paris Agreement, as will be guided by the COP Decisions and GEF funding processes.
- - Support an analysis of ICA recommendations that were taken up in the BUR3 process; and those that still need further improvement in the subsequent BUR/BTR.
- - provide a final qualitative rating of Moldova's institutional arrangements; amongst other activities, with an aim of supporting continuous improvement on reporting under the Convention and the Paris agreement

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Based on the above preliminary outcomes of the ICA process, both NC5 and the proposed BUR3 projects are envisaged to greatly support the Republic of Moldova in improving its capacity to meet the future transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement. Improvements on institutional Arrangements have been put in place following the results of the international consultation and analysis (ICA) process; and these arrangements will be further tested and improved during the execution of the BUR3 and NC5. Additional recommendations that will be taken up in this project will be those related to using the new common reporting tables format to be approved for reporting purposes under the transparency framework referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement as well as those related to using the new CRF Reporter software via the submission portal. The projects will also support other capacity-building needs identified by the Republic of Moldova (as listed above), specifically those related to enhancing the GHG statistical accounting system which are considered important as well in the context of the future transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement. The full amount of US\$ 352,000 requested for BUR3 project will enable the Republic of Moldova address the above recommendations and in meeting its future transparency requirements under the Paris agreement.

Stakeholders.

Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes.

Agency Response

Gender equality and women's empowerment.

Has the gender analysis been completed? Did the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities? If so, does the project/program include gender-responsive activities, gender-sensitive indicators and expected results?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes.

Agency Response

Monitoring and Evaluation.

Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes,.

Agency Response

Cost Effectiveness.

Is the project cost effective?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes.

Agency Response

Cost Ranges

If there was a deviation in the cost range, was this explained?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

No deviation.

Agency Response

Part III. Endorsement/ Approval by OFP

Country endorsement

Has the project been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point and has the name and position been checked against the GEF database?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Yes, the OFP Mr. Ion Lica has endorsed the project.

Agency Response

Response to Comments

Are all the comments adequately responded to? (only as applicable)

GEF Secretariat Comment

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

STAP Comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

Termsheet, reflow table and agency capacity in NGI Projects

Does the project provide sufficient detail in Annex A (indicative termsheet) to take a decision on the following selection criteria: co-financing ratios, financial terms and conditions, and financial additionality? If not, please provide comments. Does the project provide a detailed reflow table in Annex B to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments. After reading the questionnaire in Annex C, is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

Is CEO Endorsement/approval recommended?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Not yet, please address comments above.

Yes, PM recommends CEO approval.

CEO Memo

The objective of this project is to support the Republic of Moldova to prepare and submit its Third Biennial Update Report (BUR 3) to comply with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) reporting requirements while responding to its national development goals.

It builds on the lessons learned and will address barriers identified in its previous two BUR cycles. It has three key outputs:

-National consultations organized to review and approve the BUR 3 Project Implementation Plan;

-BUR 3 for the Republic of Moldova prepared and submitted to UNFCCC by December 2021;

-A self-assessment and stocktaking exercise for preparation of the project proposal for the subsequent BUR of the RM to the UNFCCC completed.

This enabling activity will be implemented in coordination with the Fifth National Communication currently under implementation, which will be completed by October 2020 and included a national inventory report through 2019.

Review Dates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

Response to Secretariat comments

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		