



Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10805

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT No

NGI No

Project Title

Advancing transboundary co-operation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin through implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP)

Countries

Regional

Agency(ies)

UNDP

Other Executing Partner(s)

OSCE

Executing Partner Type

Others

GEF Focal Area

International Waters

Sector

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, International Waters, Freshwater, Aquifer, River Basin, Pollution, Persistent toxic substances, Nutrient pollution from all sectors except wastewater, Nutrient pollution from Wastewater, Plastics, Strategic Action Plan Implementation, Fisheries, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Climate resilience, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Disaster risk management, Biodiversity, Species, Threatened Species, Mainstreaming, Extractive Industries, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Biomes, Rivers, Wetlands, Influencing models, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Demonstrate innovative approach, Transform policy and regulatory environments, Stakeholders, Local Communities, Type of Engagement, Participation, Partnership, Consultation, Information Dissemination, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Capital providers, SMEs, Large corporations, Beneficiaries, Communications, Public Campaigns, Awareness Raising, Education, Behavior change, Civil Society, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Academia, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Access to benefits and services, Access and control over natural resources, Capacity Development, Participation and leadership, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Women groups, Gender-sensitive indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Theory of change, Indicators to measure change, Adaptive management, Targeted Research, Enabling Activities, Knowledge Generation, Knowledge Exchange, Innovation

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

No Contribution 0

Climate Change Adaptation

Significant Objective 1

Biodiversity

No Contribution 0

Land Degradation

No Contribution 0

Submission Date

11/13/2023

Expected Implementation Start

7/1/2024

Expected Completion Date

6/30/2028

Duration

48In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

570,000.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
IW-3-5		GET	1,240,000.00	11,625,000.00
IW-3-6		GET	3,260,000.00	10,000,000.00
IW-3-6		GET	1,500,000.00	10,000,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			6,000,000.00	31,625,000.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

To advance Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River basin contributing to sustainable development by supporting the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme priority actions.

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Strengthening Moldovan-Ukrainian cooperation in the field of water resources management	Technical Assistance	Outcome 1.1: Riparians have strengthened political commitment and capacity to implement the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin.	Output 1.1.1: Fully operational Dniester Commission	GET	350,000.00	1,460,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Strengthening the regulatory framework and national capacities to implement the SAP, country commitments under the UNECE Water Convention and the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD) in the Dniester River basin	Technical Assistance	Outcome 2.1: Countries have strengthened the legal framework and capacity to implement the SAP, the UNECE Water Convention and the EU WFD	Output 2.1.1: Draft of new laws and regulations in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as a basis for implementation of SAP (a max. no. of 2 draft laws/regulations per country) Output 2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity in state authorities to implement the SAP, the UNECE Water Convention and the EU WFD (approx. 2 trainings)	GET	195,000.00	1,570,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3: Reducing anthropogenic impact to improve ecological status in the Dniester River basin as defined in the SAP	Technical Assistance	Outcome 3.1: Improved ecological status in the Dniester river basin	<p>Output 3.1.1: Methodological guidelines and facilitated investment opportunities to improve the ecological status in the Dniester River basin (a max. no. of 2 methodological guidelines and 2 investment plans)</p> <p>Output 3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River basin (a max. no. of 2 demonstration projects per country)</p>	GET	1,850,000.00	17,213,750.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 4: Adaptation to climate change and increasing preparedness for and resilience to natural disasters	Technical Assistance	Outcome 4.1: Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods	<p>Output 4.1.1: Update of the Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin and of its Implementation Plan?, and implementation of selected adaptation actions (a max. no. of 2 adaptation actions per country)</p> <p>Output 4.1.2: Maps, hydrological models, early warning and response systems for floods</p> <p>Output 4.1.3: Drought management plan and implementation of selected actions</p>	GET	1,690,000.00	3,950,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 5: Public awareness and involvement projects to empower and raise the capacity of stakeholders, project communications and outreach	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 5.1: Improved capacity of experts and stakeholders to develop and participate in activities in support of water management and water cooperation</p> <p>Outcome 5.2 Enabled stakeholders? awareness and actions through effective project information sharing</p>	<p>Output 5.1.1: Awareness raising campaigns and activities to empower stakeholders (at least 2 awareness raising actions)</p> <p>Output 5.2.1: Project website within the existing Dniester Commission website</p> <p>Output 5.2.2: Communication, stakeholder and gender strategies documented, implemented and shared across the Dniester River basin</p> <p>Output 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF /IW:LEARN activities</p>	GET	1,000,000.00	3,150,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
			<p>Output 5.2.4:</p> <p>IW Experience Notes and other IW:LEARN related products and services.</p>			
Component 6: Enhancing research for governance in the Dniester River basin as identified in the SAP	Technical Assistance	<p>Outcome 6.1: Deepened, joint scientific understanding for decision making in the Dniester River Basin</p>	<p>Output 6.1.1: Networking meetings for the scientific community focusing on applied research in the Dniester basin (at least 2 meetings)</p> <p>Output 6.1.2: Applied research as prioritised in SAP on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring</p>	GET	450,000.00	2,700,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
M &E: strategy guiding project management to achieve delivery of project outputs	Technical Assistance	Outcome M&E M &E strategy guiding project management to achieve delivery of project outputs	Output M&E: Monitoring and evaluation developed and implemented to ensure adaptive project management	GET	180,000.00	
Sub Total (\$)					5,715,000.00	30,043,750.00

Project Management Cost (PMC)

GET	285,000.00	1,581,250.00
Sub Total(\$)	285,000.00	1,581,250.00
Total Project Cost(\$)	6,000,000.00	31,625,000.00

Please provide justification

C. Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Ukraine	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	5,000,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Moldova	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	500,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Moldova	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	22,500,000.00
Other	OSCE	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,625,000.00
Other	UNECE	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,000,000.00
Total Co-Financing(\$)				31,625,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Co-financing letters have been provided by the project countries ?the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine- as well as the project implementing partners - OSCE and UNECE. The following gives a brief description of the co-financing included in the table above. They are indicative at this stage and will be explored further and confirmed during the project development phase. ? Ukrainian national government is providing recurrent expenditures (staff time); - Moldovan government is providing recurrent expenditures (staff time) as well as public investment through a programme on water supply and sewage. It includes construction of the waste water treatment plant in Soroca town directly polluting the Dniester river upstream of the major water intake for Chisinau, Moldova?s capital. This investment is to be provided by the World Bank within its project Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project. More information is available here: <https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P173076> with more details here (p. 16, component 4, item 1.1.b); - OSCE (as represented by its Secretariat) and the UNECE are providing in-kind contribution calculated as substantial Extra-Budgetary contribution to the OSCE Main Programme ?Activities Relating to the Economic and Environmental Aspects of Security?, staff time and/or contribution in the field of environmental protection, with a particular focus on water management, climate change, good environmental governance, etc. through extra-budgetary projects and programmes. ?

D. Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
UNDP	GE T	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	6,000,000	570,000	6,570,000.00
Total Grant Resources(\$)					6,000,000.00	570,000.00	6,570,000.00

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount (\$)

150,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

14,250

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
UNDP	GET	Regional	International Waters	International Waters	150,000	14,250	164,250.00
Total Project Costs(\$)					150,000.00	14,250.00	164,250.00

Core Indicators

Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	4050.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	4,050.00		

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00	210.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	210.00		

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Type/Name of Third Party Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value or other forest loss avoided

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title	Submitted
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Indicator 7 Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Shared water Ecosystem	Dniester	Dniester		
Count	1	1	0	0

Indicator 7.1 Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Dniester	2	2		

Indicator 7.2 Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional management institution(s) (RMI) to support its implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Dniester	3	3		

Indicator 7.3 Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees (IMC; scale 1 to 4; See Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Dniester	2	2		

Indicator 7.4 Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products(scale 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
Dniester	1	1		

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	10,000	20,140		
Male	10,000	17,860		
Total	20000	38000	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

* Indicator #3: Total area of demonstration projects is 40.5 km², which includes the following: Installation of 3 floating trash booms on the Dniester River (Soroca -1/5 of the affected area equals 2.4 km²; Vadul lui Vod? ?1/5 of the affected area equals 2.9 km²; Tudora ?1/5 of the affected area equals 0.4 km²; Construction of the fish spawning ground in the lower part of the Dniester River Area ? 0,5 km²; and Development and implementation of mitigation measures for the construction of the Yampil-Koseuts bridge in Yampil TG, Mohyliv-Podilskyi rayon, Vinnytsia oblast: Yampil ? 9. 5 km² ; Cosauti ?6.5 km²). To the above, the area to be covered by activity ?Enhancing capacity in emergency preparedness and prevention of accidental pollution by tailings storage facilities (TSFs) located in the Dniester River basin, considering modern international standards and best available techniques? with a total area of 17.8 km² (Stebnyk (Poliminiral) ?0.7 km²; Kalush (Oriana) ?12.9 km²; and Novy Rozdil (Sirka) ?4.7 km²) should be added. Indicator #4: This indicators includes area affected by adaptation actions: Activity 4.1.1.6: Developing and implementing pilot physical improvements to the Dniester delta reed-bed area (Ukraine with involvement of Moldova for non-physical activities) ? 10 km length (0.5 km²); Activity 4.1.1.7: Developing and implementing further measures for the revitalization of the Yahorlyk River section (Ukraine with involvement of Moldova for non-physical activities) ? 10 km length (0.5 km²); Activity 4.1.1.9: Restoring a sector of the Dniester old bed (Blind or Old Dniester) ? (Moldova) ? 10 length km (0.5 km²); and Activity 4.1.1.10: Planting riparian buffers on both banks of the Dniester River (Moldova with some planting in Ukraine) ? 0.6 km². Indicator #11: According to statistics, in the majority of areas of pilot projects male/female ratio is 47% / 53%. Numbers were calculated only for 4 of the proposed demonstration projects that will directly affect the surrounding population. Also, for some demonstration projects only 1/5 of the total population and total areas were calculated to have a realistic picture of impact. Areas to be covered by the adaptation actions in output 4.1.1 were also calculated. Based on that total number of direct beneficiaries in the demonstration projects will be equal to 38 000 (20,140 female and 17,860 male).

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

1) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

The Dniester is one of the largest rivers in Ukraine and it is the largest river in Moldova. It flows from Ukraine, on the border between the two countries and then into Moldova before it returns to Ukraine. Thus, both countries are upstream as well as downstream. The river is part of the Black Sea basin. The overall length of the river is 1,350 km, and the surface area of the basin covers more than 72,000 km². The source of the Dniester is in the Carpathian Mountains at an elevation of 911 metres above sea level and the river flows into the Dniester Estuary, an inlet of the Black Sea, which is separated from it by a narrow spit. Reservoirs in the basin include the Dubasari in Moldova and the Novodnistrovsk hydroelectric power complex located upstream on the border between Ukraine and Moldova, consisting of the main reservoir and buffer reservoir of the Dniester Hydroelectric Power Plant (HPP) and the reservoir of the pumped-storage HPP.

The surface and groundwaters in the Dniester basin are the principal source of water for all sectors and users in Moldova but it is also important for Western and Southern parts of Ukraine. Examples of important dependent sectors are drinking water, hydro energy, irrigation and fisheries. The population in the basin is about 2.7 million in the Republic of Moldova and 5 million in Ukraine. Although not geographically within the basin of the Ukraine, the city of Odesa with a population of close to a million takes its drinking water from the river.

There is no immediate shortage of water resources in the region as a whole, although maintaining this status over the long term depends to a large degree on future changes in the river's water regime, the economic development in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, and the introduction of an improved water management and use. The outcomes of the project will not lead to potential negative impacts of climate change. In this context, the climate risk of the project should be ranked as low (on a scale of low, moderate, high and very high). However, the study of climate change scenarios and corresponding vulnerabilities in the Dniester River basin (<https://dniester-commission.com/en/publications/climate-change/>) demonstrate that water scarcity and increased irregularity of water flow are some of the looming threats to sustainable development. The distribution of precipitation throughout the basin may become more uneven. On the whole, milder and more humid winters can be expected, as well as hotter and drier summers. Declining groundwater levels and the further deterioration in the condition of small rivers are expected. The very dry year of 2020 in the Dniester River basin may be an example of the changes expected due to climate change.

On the territory of the Dniester River basin, the indigenous peoples are Ukrainians, Moldovans, and to a lesser extent Crimean Tatars, Karaites, Krymchaks, Bulgarians (Taraclia community) and Gagauzes, if at all. Efforts will be made to involve all of these through consultations during the project's

implementation, for example by using an appropriate platform for involvement of the public. The Project will also aim at promoting gender inclusive involvement of these communities.

In the foundational GEF funded Dniester project (?Enabling transboundary co-operation and integrated water resources management in the Dniester River Basin?) implemented in 2017-2021 a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) was conducted. The TDA identified the following key transboundary issues and their causes: organic pollution due to insufficient sewage treatment or lack thereof; nutrient pollution due to insufficient sewage treatment or lack thereof, as well as diffuse pollution from agricultural land; pollution by hazardous substances from municipal and industrial discharges, and diffuse pollution; hydro-morphological changes associated with hydropower, flood protection, as well as the regulation of the flow of small and medium-sized rivers, and contamination by plastic and other household waste. Climate change, floods, droughts and water shortages are important factors for the relationship between water quantity and quality. Finally, invasive species are defined as a transboundary issue.

The foundational GEF Dniester project supported the establishment and operation of the Commission on Sustainable Use and Protection of the Dniester River Basin (Dniester Commission) and its Working Groups in its initial stages. While formally not members of the Dniester Commission, stakeholders from Transnistria were involved in project activities where possible, including in the Commission meetings, as observers. Important project components included a report on the impact of the Dniester Hydropower Complex on water use and ecosystems, an analysis of spring ecological reproductive water releases from the Dniester reservoir and an inventory of tailing storage facilities along the river. Work on fisheries, joint monitoring and economic valuation of ecosystems constituted additional components.

The TDA completed during the foundational GEF Dniester project identified the driving forces of the transboundary and shared water management challenges. Driving forces include the use/pollution/limiting infrastructure of water in the following sectors: housing and utilities, agriculture, fisheries, hydropower and flood protection. Important root causes for the challenges identified in these sectors are:

- ? Weak governance framework and institutions
- ? Lack of technical capacities
- ? Lack of available and agreed-on scientific proof/ data
- ? Insufficient financial resources
- ? Poor awareness in the society and among stakeholders
- ? Climate change

Implementation of the transboundary SAP requires support by a strong political will and awareness of economic benefits from long-term sustainable development. There is a growing appreciation of this link among decision makers, but the critical ties to ecosystem preservation, sustainable water quality and water quantity management in line with international best practices, growing impacts of climate change and emerging tensions between sector-driven water uses may not yet be fully understood. There is a risk

that tensions over water quantity, quality (in particular, the provision of clean drinking water of adequate quality to urban and rural communities as a first priority) and availability may increase within the basin. Governments may also pursue sectoral economic development based on the political power of specific ministries at the cost of long-term sustainable development within and between the countries. Failure to harmonise informed efforts at the local, national and transboundary levels is likely to have negative effects. More specifically, barriers include:

? Policy & Regulatory:

? Difficulty to fully enforce the SAP and the national legal framework to protect water resources and connected ecosystems; and

? Difficulty to coordinate the different legal and policy framework for water management across all stakeholders in the basin, including Transdnistria.

? Institutional:

? Insufficient expertise and investment in capacity building to meet the many specific needs and conditions across the basin and within the countries at the local, national and transboundary levels;

? Lack of ability to prioritise water resource management across the basin due to lack of resources;

? Lack of sustained capacity to meet the required commitments of the bilateral Treaty; and

? Frequent changes at institutional level/ reorganization's.

? Knowledge/informational:

? Lack of updated and research-based data on surface and groundwater resource availability and quality, including flow and recharge rates, and insufficient capacity to effectively use already available information in relevant sectors; and

? Lack of basin-wide coordinated information and analysis to support the balancing of sectoral demands.

? Technological:

? Lack of access to and application of technologies, including due to lack of financial resources, that can serve multiple benefits in water resource management and reduce costs of irrational water losses, pollution and environmental degradation.

Due to constraints posed by the war against Ukraine, the conditions for a 25+27 format meeting with realistic prospects for tangible results are currently not present. Challenges resulting from the war, in particular, energy sector issues and imports of goods have become the focus of discussions between the Sides. In this context, Moldova has sought to utilize its leverage to bring Transdnistria more within the Moldovan economic space. This has led Tiraspol to become frustrated with Chisinau's actions. The

OSCE Mission to Moldova has spent a majority of its efforts to de-escalate tensions between the Sides and propose constructive steps to resolving issues. More broadly, but still influences the political environment, Moldova has been focused on implementing reforms in order to start EU accession negotiations. At the same time, Moldova is slowly removing itself from Russian influence, which is straining bilateral relations.

The European Council granted Moldova and Ukraine the status of candidate countries for accession to the European Union in June 2022. The political objective of the two countries to become EU members will serve as a main driving force for the project as the introduction and application of EU regulations related to water and the environment give significant synergies to SAP implementation. In this regard the ongoing implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive is particularly important.

The project is an important factor in reaching the SDG 6 (Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all) targets, but also SDGs 5, 13, 15, 16 and 17. The project will also contribute to the fulfilment of international commitments under the UN Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (including the alignment of national adaptation plans) and other international agreements. The EU Green Deal is another aspect that will be supported by the project.

2) Baseline Scenario and any associated baseline projects

The attention to transboundary water resources management in the Dniester River Basin has been high throughout the Post-Soviet period, including important contributions by NGOs. Biodiversity, water quality and in particular water release regimes from the Novodnestrovsk reservoirs have been and remain themes for debate. Floods and droughts are frequent phenomena in the basin. While there is a growing acknowledgement that there are already effects of climate change, adaptation measures are still not adequately or sufficiently considered.

Starting in 2004, at the request of both riparian countries, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) have supported the development of transboundary cooperation on the river. In 2008 negotiations on a bilateral Treaty were initiated. After four years of negotiations and dialogue, and with the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin (Dniester Treaty) was signed by the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in November 2012. The Republic of Moldova and Ukraine are Parties to the UNECE Water Convention and have an obligation to implement its articles. The signing of a basin-wide Treaty fulfilled part of these obligations.

In 2014 the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine signed and ratified Association Agreements with the European Union. The Association Agreements included the introduction and application of a number of EU WFD. Preparation of RBMPs according to the EU WFD is presently an important component of water-related activities in the two countries. In accordance with the Law of the Republic of Moldova "On Water", Moldova developed a RBMP for the Dniester Basin District, which was approved by the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Moldova in 2017. This RBMP is presently being implemented. In Ukraine the preparations are on-going for the establishment of the first RBMP for the Dniester Basin. Support for the work on the Moldovan as well as Ukrainian side has been provided by the GEF foundational project.

To date, the implementation of the EU legislation including the WFD is challenged by a low institutional capacity that has been further exacerbated by frequent reorganizations, insufficient budget allocations, and lack of qualified national experts (see ?barriers? above). The support of the GEF foundational project has been important for moving forward with the RBMPs. There is still quite a lot to be done in both countries, including in enhancing the interaction and engagement with relevant structures in Transdnistria.

The Dniester Treaty, signed in November 2012, was ratified by both parliaments in the following years. The first meeting of the Commission took place in Chisinau in September 2018. The GEF foundational project provided important support for the establishment and the operation of the Dniester Commission and its Working Groups.

There is also an Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Government of Ukraine on the Joint Use and Protection of Border Waters from 1994. The territorial scopes of the Agreement of 1994 and the Treaty of 2012 do not coincide. The 1994 Agreement applies to all ?border waters?, while the 2012 Treaty covers the Dniester River Basin.

In the GEF foundational project representatives of the public as well as authorities in this region were actively engaged with the aim to facilitate basin-wide cooperation and coordination. Furthermore, the project undertook continued and considerable efforts to engage stakeholders from Transdnistria in the project activities, with a view to enhance cooperation and coordination between all stakeholders in the basin.

The Republic of Moldova and Ukraine are committed to develop and implement RBMPs. However, the capacity to do so successfully in the long-term may not be sufficient. It is likely that the work underway will not be sufficiently coordinated across the basin. An efficient dialogue in the Dniester Commission and its Working Groups is crucial. This dialogue is supported by the GEF foundational project but further efforts are needed for sustained future cooperation and coordination.

The proposed project builds on a set of baseline national and bilateral projects, which aim to support transboundary water management as well as national integrated natural resource management including cross sectoral coordination within the basin. These various initiatives and projects would benefit from being more firmly linked to and complemented by a wider initiative to address the integrated capacity building and other support needed for the full implementation of the SAP. In particular, the current donor investments on the ground do not sufficiently build the governance capacity on the basin level for the countries to sustain long-term basin-wide water management in line with the stated desires of the countries. A key component of this proposed project is the facilitation of investment support to SAP implementation.

The baseline projects that GEF will add an increment to include:

? Harmonization of Moldova?s legislation with EU Directives in the area of water supply and sanitation (Czech Development Agency)

? Strengthening the institutional framework in the water and sanitation sector in the Republic of Moldova (Austrian Development Agency, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation)

- ? Promotion of climate change and disaster risk reduction solution in the water and civil protection sectors for enhanced rural resilience (in Moldova, Austrian Development Agency)
- ? Rehabilitation of the water supply system in the Municipality of Nisporeni, Republic of Moldova (EU Commission)
- ? European Union Water Initiative Plus for the Eastern Partnership (for the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine among other countries, funded by the EU Commission, implemented by the UNECE, the OECD, Environment Agency Austria and the French International Office for Water)
- ? The Dniester Hydro Power Complex Social and Environmental Impact Study (funded by SIDA, implemented by UNDP Moldova)
- ? Inter-municipal water management along the Dniester (GIZ)
- ? Support to Ukraine in approximation of the EU environmental acquis (EU Commission)
- ? Improving environmental monitoring in the Black Sea (EU Commission)
- ? Moldova water security and sanitation project (World Bank)
- ? Prevention, Preparedness and Response to natural and man-made disasters in Eastern Partnership countries ? phase 3 (PPRD East 3) (EU Commission)
- ? EU4Environment (EU Commission)
- ? EU4Climate (EU Commission)
- ? EU4Youth: Social Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Development (SEED) programme for Green Growth in Borderline Communities (EU Commission)
- ? Horizon 2020 (EU Commission)
- ? Black Sea Basin projects under development (EU Commission, GEF International Waters)
- ? Reconstruction of irrigation systems in the Lower Dniester (EBRD)

In the area of climate change, in the framework of previous projects, the OSCE and UNECE provided support to the two countries in advancing discussions on how future climate change might affect the situation in the Dniester basin, through the development of a joint analysis of problems and of concrete solutions to these problems. The joint work on climate change adaptation by riparians in the basin resulted in the development of a joint Strategy: ?Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin? and the associated Implementation Plan for the Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin. This is a unique example for transboundary basins and it shows that the countries are committed to the work on climate change adaptation. The document, which was prepared with the participation of environmental protection and water resources management agencies and organizations in Moldova and Ukraine and which has taken into account the views of a broad range of stakeholders, aimed, among others, to present the joint vision of the countries in the basin and to support and guide their joint actions with regard to:

- ? Understanding the basin as a single ecological system in the context of climate change and other types of impacts on water resources;
- ? Fulfilment of international commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and other international agreements;
- ? Alignment of national adaptation plans, integrated management of sections of the basin and other similar management tools in the field of adaptation to the maximum extent possible with the demands of transboundary climate change adaptation, while avoiding 'unilateral' adaptation to the detriment of other countries and parts of the basin;
- ? Validation and establishment of a hierarchy of investment needs for management of the transboundary Dniester basin in a changing climate, using governmental and other resources, as well as international cooperation mechanisms;
- ? Measures to promote improved management and transboundary cooperation in the basin as a whole.

3) The Proposed Alternative Scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project

The project's objective is to advance Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Dniester River basin contributing to sustainable development by supporting the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) priority actions. The project is aligned with Objective 3 of GEF 7 International Waters Programming Directions: *Enhance water security in freshwater ecosystems*. The focus of the project is IW 3-6 Enhanced cooperation on shared freshwater basins. The project will further provide benefits to the GEF Biodiversity and Climate Change focal areas. The project is also based on the TDA/SAP that were developed with the active involvement of government representatives and other stakeholders of the riparian countries in the context of the previous foundational GEF Dniester project. The SAP has been officially endorsed by Moldova and Ukraine on 31 March 2021. The components in the project have been designed to follow the strategic directions of action as identified in the SAP. Each project component addresses one of the strategic directions of action identified in the SAP, and have been kept separate with a view to provide a better overview on how the project supports the implementation of the SAP in each of its strategic directions and the associated achieved results. Furthermore, this is also aimed at ensuring a smoother monitoring and evaluation of the progress achieved throughout the project implementation.

The Theory of Change (ToC) is based on the logical links between outputs, outcomes and impacts taking into account the barriers identified (see Figure 1 below). In addition to the logics applied in the project planning, there are a few important principles applied in the foundational GEF Dniester project that will be actively used in the new project. The following principles are key factors in the ToC for the project:

1. There has been a focus on transboundary water resources management in the Dniester River Basin throughout the Post-Soviet period, including by NGOs and other stakeholders. Biodiversity, water quality, floods, droughts, water release regimes from the Novodnestrovsk reservoirs have been and remain themes for debate. As was the case in the foundational GEF Dniester project, this engagement will be proactively used to draw the attention to the importance of project activities and achievements. Project components 5 and 6 are particularly important in this respect.

2. This high level of engagement of NGOs, including women's organisations, and other stakeholders in Moldova as well as Ukraine during previous foundational GEF Dniester project phase will be used to facilitate the continued dialogue on the local, national and transboundary levels as political and administrative changes has taken place since the foundational GEF Dniester project. This will be important in project components 1, 2 and 5.

3. The project applies important aspects of International Law for transboundary water cooperation as reflected in the UN Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. Both countries are Parties to this convention. The principles of this convention are reflected in the 1994 Agreement and 2012 Treaty on transboundary water cooperation between the two countries. The active participation of the UNECE Convention Secretariat in the foundational GEF Dniester project as well as in the new project strengthens this link further and promotes the achievement of project objectives. In particular project component 1 is supported by this approach to organising the project.

4. The project implementation will build on the dialogue of the two countries in the framework of the existing Dniester Commission, established as a result of the 2012 Treaty and developed with support of the foundational project. The further development of the Commission in project component 1 will give positive effects on the other project components. For example, the work under the Commission will help to develop the understanding in water-dependent sectors at the national and transboundary levels.

5. An external positive factor taken into account in the project design is the strong political push in both countries to become members in the EU. EU legislation on water and the environment that is being actively implemented in both countries has been an important aspect in the project design and will contribute to the achievement of project outputs and outcomes. In particular project components 2, 3 and 4 will benefit from the link to EU policies.

6. It has been a strategy during the foundational GEF Dniester project to coordinate and work closely with other linked projects (including baseline projects) funded by various development agencies and this is also the approach in the new project. This will, for example, help to build the governance capacity on the basin level for donor investments in the basin. Project components 2, 3, 4 and 6 are likely to benefit from the synergies achieved applying this principle.

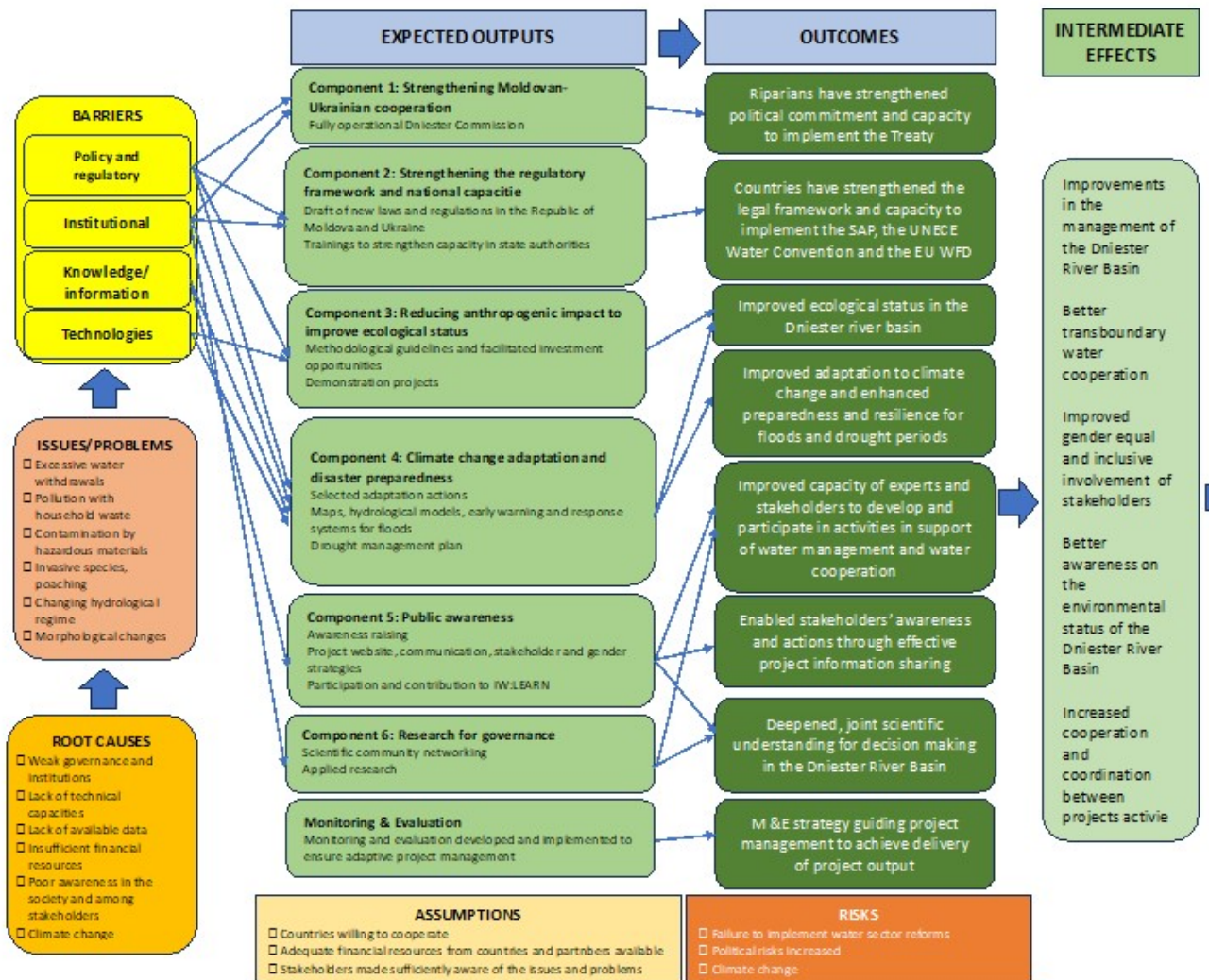


Figure 1: The Theory of Change

A major threat to the project's implementation that has emerged since the PIF approval is the war against Ukraine. This is a negative factor for the project as it will most likely contribute to limitations with regard to the administrative capacity of the country. The political drive toward an EU membership of the project countries, in particular Ukraine, has likely been strengthened as a result of the war.

Taking all of the above into consideration, it is expected that the project will lead to improvements in transboundary water management through both national and transboundary activities. In the longer term, as the SAP is implemented, improvements in the environmental and water resource status in the Dniester River Basin should be clearly identifiable. The project will enable the countries to build confidence at the national and transboundary levels for improved water management and strengthened regional cooperation. There will be opportunities for developing shared solutions and exchanging lessons learned. The full application of the Treaty between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Cabinet

of Ministers of Ukraine on Cooperation in the Field of Protection and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin and the establishment of the Dniester River Basin Commission will help the countries to meet their commitments and goals, even under the challenge of climate change. The project will contribute to improving adaptation capacity to climate change and enhancing preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods. The project will contribute to addressing some of the serious ecological challenges within the Dniester River Basin including the loss of biodiversity. Finally, the project will contribute, through applied research as prioritised in SAP, on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring.

Implementation of the project through the six inter-linked components will deliver the overall objective of the project. Component 1 will focus on the framework for transboundary water cooperation. The institutional and legal framework, and capacity on the national level is the main theme in component 2 while SAP-defined activities with a direct impact on the environment will be the focus in component 3. Climate change planning and adaptation will be the theme of component 4, and public awareness and stakeholder involvement will be important parts of component 5. Finally, component 6 will deal with research needed for a deepened understanding of issues specified in the SAP.

? **Component 1:** Strengthening Moldovan-Ukrainian cooperation in the field of water resources management, which will include support to the item 6.1 of the SAP (To ensure the operation of joint Dniester River basin Commission).

? **Component 2:** Strengthening the regulatory framework and national capacities to implement the SAP, country commitments under the UN Water Convention and the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD) in the Dniester River basin. This will include support for the following items in the SAP: 3.2. (Sustainable water resources management); 3.3. (Protect biodiversity); 5.1. (Update / development of regulatory framework); 5.2. (Application of the regulatory framework); 6.2. (Support the activities of national basin bodies);

? **Component 3:** Reducing anthropogenic impact to improve ecological status in the Dniester River basin as defined in the SAP. This will include support for the following items in the SAP: 1.1 (Reducing pollution from point sources); 1.2 (Reducing pollution from diffuse sources); 1.3. (Reducing plastic contamination); 1.4. (Prevention of accidental pollution and tailing dump management); 2.1. (Improvement of the hydrological regime); 2.2. (Restoration of morphological characteristics)

? **Component 4:** Adaptation to climate change and increasing preparedness for and resilience to natural disasters. This will include support for the following items in the SAP: 4.1. (Adaptation to climate change); 4.2. (Flood and drought risk management); Horizontal support to project activities and achievement of SAP objectives.

? **Component 5:** Public awareness and involvement projects to empower and raise the capacity of stakeholders, project communications and outreach. This will include support for the following items in the SAP: 7.1. (Increasing public awareness); Horizontal support to project communication and management.

? **Component 6:** Enhancing research for governance in the Dniester River basin as identified in the SAP. This will include support for the following items in the SAP: 3.1. (Monitoring of water bodies and information exchange); 7.2. (Ensuring scientific activity)

Component 1: Strengthening Moldovan-Ukrainian cooperation in the field of water resources management

Cooperation in the field of water resource management is realised through the activity of the Commission on Sustainable Use and Protection of the Dniester River Basin (Dniester Commission), which was created based on the Treaty between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on Cooperation in the Field of Protection and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin, signed in Rome on 29 November 2012.

At the request of the basin countries, within the former foundational GEF Dniester project "Enabling Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin", implemented by UNDP, OSCE and UNECE in 2017-2021, two main Dniester River basin documents were developed: Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for 2021-2035. At present, these documents are the guiding documents of the Dniester Commission activities.

The component will build on the close cooperation of and support provided to the Dniester Commission and its Working Groups. It is important to further strengthen this body responsible for the implementation of the Dniester Treaty. The Dniester Commission and its Working Groups have improved the situation but additional steps are needed for a sustained and constructive cooperation. In implementing activities of this component, coordination and synergies with other ongoing projects in the participating countries will be sought with a view to make the best use of financial resources, avoid duplications and maximise benefits.

Output 1.1.1: Fully operational Dniester Commission



Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverable from Output 1.1.1 is:

Enhanced collaboration between the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in the field of the Dniester River and water management

Output 1.1.1 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Strengthened political commitment and capacity to implement the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin

The costs for output: GEF Grant USD 350,000.00

This Output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity in state authorities to implement the SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD
- ? Output 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF /IW: LEARN activities
- ? Output 6.1.1: Networking meetings for the scientific community focusing on applied research in the Dniester basin

Between 2018 and 2023, one preparatory and 3 official meetings of the Dniester Commission took place (Preparatory Meeting of the Commission (5 April 2018); First meeting of the Commission (17 Sept 2018); Second meeting of the Commission (4-5 April 2019); 3rd meeting of the Commission (28-29 October 2021). The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for 21-24 November 2023), at which different problems and aspects of water management at basin level were discussed. A set of important issues is under consideration at every meeting of the Dniester Commission: functioning of the Dniester Hydropower Complex, including its rules of operation and its impact on the hydrological and biological state of the Dniester River and economy of the riparian population, spring ecological releases, water pollution and tailing storage facilities. Due to the low regularity of the meetings of the Commission (as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the war against Ukraine), the capacity of the Commission to resolve critical issues should be sustained.

Additional steps are needed to be taken to achieve sustained and constructive cooperation between the two countries. This will include organisation of regular meetings of working groups and a commission, as well as exchange of expertise between members of Dniester Commission and other river commissions from Europe in order to increase the capacity of Dniester Commission members. In this regard the activities that should be performed should include establishment of partnerships and collaboration agreements with other basins? commissions from different states, development and implementation of plans of joint meetings, the exchange of experience, organisation of specific internships - attracting international experts for consultation, if necessary - preparation and presentation of reports, etc.

This output has the following objective:

- ? Strengthen the capacity of the Dniester Commission to address the priority issues relevant to both countries in the Dniester River Basin; and
- ? Enhance regional coordination between the two countries through establishment of partnerships and networking.

The Output 1.1.1 is comprised of the following activities:

- ? Activity 1.1.1.1. Supporting the Dniester Commission and its WGs? work
- ? Activity 1.1.1.2 Facilitating capacity building for and exchange of knowledge and experience between members of Dniester Commission and other European river commissions through twinning and experience sharing
- ? Activity 1.1.1.3. Engaging international experts and mediators for consultation in the field of water management
- ? Activity 1.1.1.4. Developing and operating of DniesterGIS platform

The main partners in the implementation of this output are the members of the Dniester Commission and Working Groups, UNECE Secretariat of Water Convention and River Basin Commissions in the EU member states. The role of PCU in the implementation of the activity includes logistical support of the specified types of activities and monitoring of their efficiency.

Activity 1.1.1.1. Supporting the Dniester Commission, its WGs? work and to the Dniester Basin committees / councils in both countries

This activity includes support to the development and implementation of annual plans for the Commission and its WGs; support in organising and holding meetings at national and basin levels; financial support for the activities and travel of commission and working group members, adoption of changes to the Rules and procedures of the Commission if any. This activity will also include identification and improvement of gender equality and social inclusion. Support to the Dniester Basin committees / councils in both countries is also foreseen. Coordination and synergies with the Swedish International Development Cooperation (SIDA) funded project "Supporting the Moldovan authorities in the sustainable management of the Dniester River" (referred to as the national project), to be implemented in the Republic of Moldova by the UNDP Country Office in Moldova will be ensured. Technical support for the work of the Dniester Commission and its Working Groups on the Moldovan side will be provided by the mentioned project until the end of the project, scheduled for August 2026.

Transboundary monitoring and harmonization in classification of ecological and chemical state of water bodies remain one of the most important issues in the Dniester basin and have a crucial role for implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in both countries. Because of that the project foresees specific support to the WG on Water Monitoring and Information Exchange. In particular, it will support:

- ? analytical research on how to harmonize approaches to identification of ecological and chemical state of water bodies especially in relation to biological indicators in the riparian countries;
- ? activities in accordance with the new Regulation on cooperation in monitoring and exchange of information, namely, such as joint/coordinated samplings and measurements of the laboratories, discussions of the results and preparing recommendations for improving joint cross-border monitoring.

Activity 1.1.1.2. Facilitating capacity building for and exchange of knowledge and experience between members of Dniester Commission and other European river commissions

Exchange of expertise between members of Dniester Commission and other river commissions from the European Union is an important activity that should be considered in order to increase their capacity for all aspects of water management. This activity should include the establishment of partnerships with other basins' commissions, development of meeting plans and implementation of joint meetings, development of collaboration agreements.

This activity also foresees the conduction of training of secretaries of the Dniester Commission, its WG chairpersons and designated members of the Dniester Commission, preferably with the limited involvement of members of the national Dniester Basin committee (Moldova) / Council (Ukraine).

Activity 1.1.1.3. Engaging international experts and mediators for consultation in the field of water management

Cooperation on different fields of water and biodiversity management between riparian countries is a challenge. Ecosystem services as well as the Dniester Hydropower Complex regulation and its impact on the natural and socio-economic components in its downstream part are examples. Many other themes are also important such as joint data protocols, mainstreaming of joint data standards, etc. In this regard, an international independent team of experts can provide important input. The external experts such as mediators (national and international) should provide assistance in finding compromise solutions for the debatable questions and support in the preparation of the joint decisions of the WGs. Coordination with the national project will be ensured. The national project will support with expertise for developing the position of the Republic of Moldova in relation to the Dniester Hydropower Complex only. Further support on the other thematic areas ? such as joint data protocols, mainstreaming of joint data standards, etc., as well as for Ukraine in relation to the Dniester Hydropower Complex will be covered by the GEF project.

Activity 1.1.1.4. Developing and operating of DniesterGIS platform

The basic purpose of DniesterGIS platform is to integrate the geospatial information of the entire Dniester hydrographic basin into a single geoinformation system (web system) to facilitate the joint Moldovan-Ukrainian management of the basin. Main activities to be performed are development of the DniesterGIS platform, combination, integration and placement of the common information for the entire hydrographic basin and its maintenance and management. It is assumed that the following manipulations with geospatial information will be carried out within DniesterGIS: placement and modification (by administrators), viewing (by all interested parties), and downloading (by authorised users). The platform will be a component of the website of the Dniester Commission. A responsible team formed by representatives from within each state will perform all the activities for platform development and management. Besides, a special working group should be established within the Dniester Commission to deal with this platform (following the example of a similar group in the ICPDR). This platform should be integrated into the corresponding geoportals in Ukraine and Moldova. This platform should display information that directly relates to the results of the implementation of EU Directives in the Dniester basin in both countries. The development of DniesterGIS will be carried out in stages, such as a development of the concept, design, construction and operation of the platform. Technical preparation of the platform will be supported in the framework of the project, while its operation will be discussed during the Inception Phase and agreed upon by the countries, at a convenient time.

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Component 2: Strengthening the regulatory framework and national capacities to implement the SAP, country commitments under the UN Water Convention and the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD) in the Dniester River basin

Component 2 will build upon the TDA, findings, and recommendations from previous Dniester (I, II, III) projects. It will also consider existing national and transboundary policy documents and agreements. The guiding principles and methodological approach align with the UN Water Convention and the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD). In both the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, new water legislation and regulations are in the process of being drafted and adopted. However, additional efforts are required to ensure their full functionality. Coordination with the national project will be ensured. During the Inception Phase it will be discussed and agreed upon with the relevant authorities in the Republic of Moldova whether further support in relation to this activity will be required. Support to Ukraine for this activity will continue to be provided, as the national project offers support only for the Republic of Moldova.

The regulatory basis for water management in the Republic of Moldova as well as in Ukraine is the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD). Nonetheless, the implementation of the respective laws necessitates support for the development of secondary legislation, methodologies, and policy documents that address not only national but also transboundary contexts. The development of institutional capacities at the national level should be accompanied by efforts to enhance the capacities of local actors. These efforts should focus on evaluating, integrating, and implementing activities related to the EU WFD.

The river basin management in the Republic of Moldova and in Ukraine is a conceptual novelty, requiring authorities to allocate resources not only for the specific measures outlined in the river basin management plans but also for supporting the functioning of the coordination mechanism. Currently, most actions outlined in mentioned plans rely on external (international) support. Shifting this paradigm involves understanding how actions can be integrated into local development planning, identifying available financial instruments, gender concerns should and, importantly, exploring best practices and existing solutions to inform decision-making.

Component 2 will build on the TDA, the UN Water Convention and the approved SAP, and also the ongoing implementation of the EU WFD. In the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine new water legislation and regulations are being drafted and adopted but additional efforts are needed. There is also a need to

raise the capacity of institutions and officials to manage the improvement of national and transboundary water management.

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Output 2.1.1: Draft of new laws and regulations in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as a basis for implementation of SAP

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Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverables from Output 2.1.1 are:

- ? Two laws/regulations for Moldova will be developed and sent for approval
- ? Two laws/regulations for Ukraine will be developed and sent for approval.

Output 2.1.1 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Strengthened capacity of the authorities from both countries to implement measures aligned with UN Water Convention and the EU WFD

The costs for Output 2.1.1: GEF Grant USD 70,000

This Output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 3.1.1: Methodological guidelines and facilitated investment opportunities to improve the ecological status in the Dniester River basin
- ? Output 3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River basin (a max. no. Of 2 demonstration projects per country)
- ? Output 5.2.4: IW Experience Notes and other IW:LEARN related products and services

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On the basis of needs identified with regard to water policy, legislation and regulations support will be provided. This work, undertaken at the national level will support the implementation of SAP. In Ukraine, the new laws developed should contribute to the fulfilment of the requirements for the Accession of Ukraine to the European Union.

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Since the support can be given to the drafting of maximum two laws/regulations for each country, the decision on the subject of draft laws and regulations will be taken during the Inception Phase. Through consultative processes, the key documents to be formulated in the project will be identified in a participatory manner. The criteria guiding the selection of these documents include:

? Address stringent environmental concerns: The chosen documents must effectively tackle pressing environmental issues related to the Dniester River.

? Being a priority at the national level: The selected documents should align with and address priorities set at the national level.

? Possibility to develop the document within the project timeline: The feasibility of developing the document within the designated project timeline is a crucial consideration.

? Commitment of national partners to develop and promote the document: A vital criterion is the dedication and commitment of national partners to actively participate in the development of the identified document.

The Output 2.1.1 is comprised of the following activities:

? Activity 2.1.1.1: Drafting regulations for consideration and adoption

? Activity 2.1.1.2: Facilitating gender and socially inclusive public consultations for draft document review

? Activity 2.1.1.3: Promoting and lobbying for document approval

The main partners in the implementation of the output in Ukraine and Moldova will be the ministries for environment and nature protection, ministries for social affairs, water authorities, regional administration

and civil society organisations. The role of PCU in the implementation of the activity includes logistical support of the specified types of activities and monitoring of their efficiency.

Activity 2.1.1.1: Drafting regulations for consideration and adoption

In support of drafting regulations for consideration and adoption, the Project Co-ordination Unit (PCU) will engage at least two experts for each document. One expert will be a legal specialist, while the other(s) will possess expertise in the relevant thematic area. This dual-expert approach ensures comprehensive consideration of both content and procedural aspects throughout the elaboration process. The responsible agency in each country will establish a working group to develop the legal act, adhering to existing procedures. This group will function as a consultative body, providing support throughout the development process.

The legislation to be drafted in Moldova includes the following:

- ? Plan for ichthyofauna management (including fishing regulations)
- ? Revision of Fishery law for fish protection in the wintering pits in order to combat poaching
- ? Plan for water protection against nitrate pollution caused by agriculture, with a special focus on the gender dimension

Coordination with the national project will be ensured. Decision on two pieces of regulation to be developed will be made during the Inception Phase.

The legislation to be drafted in Ukraine includes the following:

- ? Finalisation of the draft law on waste from the mining industry
- ? Development of the legislation to implement the provisions of the EU Nitrate Directive and its further implementation

? Analysis of required changes in national legislation and local programs to ensure implementation of the river basin and flood risk management plans followed by drafting specific legislation to introduce those changes into the relevant legal documents

Decision on two pieces of regulation to be developed will be made during the Inception Phase.

Activity 2.1.1.2: Facilitating gender and socially inclusive public consultations for draft document review

The PCU will collaborate with stakeholders involved in the project to facilitate gender and socially inclusive public consultations for the documents under development. The consultation procedure will adhere to existing laws and regulations governing public consultations in each country, and experts will actively participate in events organised by national partners.

Activity 2.1.1.3: Promoting and lobbying for document approval

Collaborating with key stakeholders engaged in the approval process, the PCU will work to ensure that all comments are duly considered, fostering knowledge and garnering support for the process. Dissemination of information to a broader audience and communication with the mass media will complement this effort, contributing to the promotion and lobbying of documents for approval.

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Output 2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity of state authorities to implement SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD

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Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverables from Output 2.1.2 are:

? Targeted training courses for staff responsible for water management

? Increased level of networking between representatives from river-basin councils from two countries.

Output 2.1.2 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Strengthened capacity of the authorities from both countries to implement measures aligned with UN Water Convention and the EU WFD

The costs for Output 2.1.2: GEF Grant USD 125,000

This Output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 2.1.1: Draft of new laws and regulations in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as a basis for implementation of SAP
- ? Output 3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River basin
- ? Output 5.2.4: IW Experience Notes and other IW:LEARN related products and services.

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This output will respond to capacity-building needs in the water sector and organise targeted training courses for staff responsible for water management at national and local level in both participating countries, including a module on gender equality. It will provide support to public authorities in implementing the measures set out in the SAP, RBMPs and Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP). The planned training also aims to strengthen the capacity of key water management experts, including those involved in transboundary cooperation, and equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote and implement the adopted plans and programs. In support of this initiative, the training program will emphasise knowledge aspects, including adaptation to climate change, climate risk management, and water-saving technologies.

Additionally, the program will address the development of soft skills among trainees by incorporating themes such as stakeholder management, collaboration with mass media, gender mainstreaming and awareness raising. It is crucial to gather best practices that can serve as exemplary models, inspiring the replication of successful and feasible approaches.

By establishing connections and enhancing the relationship between the two countries, the project aims to lay the groundwork for future collaborative initiatives. The activities under this output will also support participation and contribution of Moldova and Ukraine representatives in the relevant thematic capacity building events of the UN Water Convention.

A separate part of the training could be the training of specialists from Western Region Water Monitoring Laboratory, which operates on the basis of the Dniester basin authority. Given the large sample volumes and many indicators to be analysed, the laboratory staff needs professional training, expansion of the equipment arsenal, and training with EU experts involved in similar analysis. In addition, the project will provide support to the Southern Region Water Monitoring Laboratory because it is performing for monitoring in the Lower Dniester.

The Output 2.1.2 is comprised of the following activities:

- ? Activity 2.1.2.1 Conducting training for the basin representatives from the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine on select thematic areas relevant to river basin management
- ? Activity 2.1.2.2 Organising exchange visits and networking for country representatives

Partners in the implementation of this output at the national level are the ministries of environmental protection and natural resources of both countries, respective state water agencies, training centres for water management personnel, the Dniester basin authority, other basin authorities and regional water management organisations within the Dniester basin, and local governments. The role of PCU in the implementation of the activities includes logistical support of the specified types of activities and monitoring of their efficiency.

Activity 2.1.2.1 Conducting training for the basin representatives from the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine on select thematic areas relevant to river basin management

The PCU will hire a team of consultants to design curricula for a 2-day training program aimed at basin representatives at national and local level in both countries. This training will draw on globally

recognized best practices and regional expertise. Training materials will be made available in both Romanian and Ukrainian languages, and separate two-day sessions will be conducted in each country. In Moldova, up to five sub-basin management committees will be invited to participate, and in Ukraine a dedicated training group/centre representing basin authorities and regional water organisations will be established under the auspices of the Dniester Basin Authority. The training thematic areas will cover River Basin Management Planning, climate change adaptation, prevention of climate-related risks, stakeholder engagement, media interaction, and public outreach. All training materials will be accessible on the Dniester Commission's website, national web resources, and remain available for interested parties post-project completion.

Activity 2.1.2.2 Organising exchange visits and networking for country representatives

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In an effort to enhance cooperation, a four-day exchange visit will be arranged to facilitate the sharing of best practices. Ten representatives from each country will visit selected locations, possibly a location that also has an example of women's participation in transboundary water management through community engagement, providing them the opportunity to discuss best practices, share concerns, and establish potential partnerships for future collaborative initiatives.

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Component 3: Reducing anthropogenic impact to improve ecological status in the Dniester River basin as defined in the SAP

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Agricultural land accounts for approximately 70 per cent of the total basin area. As a result of widespread unsustainable agricultural practices, degradation and erosion of the soil contribute to diffuse pollution of surface water and groundwater by run-off (including nitrogen and phosphorus compounds, pesticides and suspended substances).

Point source pollution ? from livestock production, public utilities and industry ? accounts for a large part of the water pollution. Most of the wastewater treatment installations in place are outdated and in poor condition.

Component 3 will build on conclusions from the SAP and RBMPs on how to improve the ecological and chemical status of water bodies in the Dniester River Basin. This includes application of directed policy

efforts as well as facilitation of investments. The project will identify opportunities to catalyse and/or provide support to planning of investments. Stress reduction efforts will be accompanied by associated governance mechanisms as developed under other components. Important concerns in this respect are sewage networks, communal and industrial wastewater treatment (including management of sludge), agriculture, waste management, tailing storage dams and protected areas. Within this component, a collaboration will be established with the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution through its Secretariat, in particular in the context of the implementation of the forthcoming GEF project ?Implementing Ecosystem Based Management approaches in the Black Sea LME?.

The component has two separate but interrelated outputs. One is focused on development of methodological guidelines for specific issues, which could be applied in both countries, taking in consideration specificities of their administrative organisations. The other output includes implementation of several demonstration projects, possibly some that include women farmers and/or women-headed farming households, that will be, first, an opportunity to solve critical issues related to negative anthropogenic impacts on the Dniester River Basin and, second, the testing ground for the methodological guidelines. Once they will be tested on the ground, the guidelines will be revised to integrate experiences gained from demonstration projects to become a useful tool for further activities beyond the project's lifetime.

Output 3.1.1: Methodological guidelines and facilitated investment opportunities to improve the ecological status in the Dniester River basin

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Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverable from Output 3.1.1 is:

- ? Development, publication and dissemination of methodological documents
- ? Feasibility study on investment opportunities

Output 3.1.1 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Improved ecological status in the Dniester River basin

The costs for Output 3.1.1: GEF Grant USD 200,000

This output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 2.1.1: Draft of new laws and regulations in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as a basis for implementation of SAP
- ? Output 3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River basin
- ? Output 6.1.2: Applied research as prioritized in SAP on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring.

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This output aims at utilising opportunities offered by the actions listed in the SAP and national RBMPs for improvement of the ecological situation in the Dniester River basin. Activities will contribute to preparation of actions implemented including in the framework of the GEF project (Output 3.1.2) to decrease environmental risks. Not more than two plans/analyses/methodologies per country will be prepared under the project.

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The Output 3.1.1 is comprised of the following activities:

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- ? Activity 3.1.1.1: Developing methodological guidelines
- ? Activity 3.1.1.2 Analysing opportunities for investments in cooperation with IFIs and local authorities
- ? Activity 3.1.1.3: Developing a pre-feasibility study for investments in wastewater treatment

Partners for the implementation of this output are the ministries of economy, finance, environmental protection and natural resources, infrastructure, health, agrarian policy, and various relevant state agencies, local executive authorities, local self-government bodies in Ukraine and environmental NGOs, in particular those that specifically deal with gender issues. On the Moldovan side, the partners include ministries of finance, economy, environment, health, infrastructure and regional development, agriculture and food industry, and a number of state agencies and public companies and environmental

NGOs. The role of PCU in the implementation of the activities includes logistical support of the specified types of activities and monitoring of their efficiency.

Activity 3.1.1.1: Developing methodological guidelines

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This activity envisages development of two methodological guidelines. The following guidelines have been proposed by the two countries:

? Guidelines to improve provision of ecosystem services in the Dniester River basin: In order to assess the state of the ecosystems but also the impact brought to them by humans, it is necessary to develop the methodology for estimating the ecosystem services and elements for their economic valuation. A baseline can be created by collecting and assessing sex-disaggregated data of livelihoods in the basin, how water is used and for what purpose by male and female users of different ages and by different communities. Sources and extent of pollution caused by these activities can be identified. This baseline can be created for the project beneficiaries. Project beneficiaries can be selected on the basis of social and economic activities related to water, with special effort to include women-headed households engaged in agriculture and fishing. These identified beneficiaries/households could also be included in the demonstration projects. Certain methodological approaches were identified and applied within the previous foundational GEF Dniester project, but the complexity of the field requires special attention to this area, particularly having in mind the identified gaps in national regulatory framework, management decisions, and public awareness of already recognized European approaches to conservation and restoration of ecosystem services. This activity also involves consultations with the Working Group on ecosystems and biodiversity under the Dniester Commission to develop common approaches to assessing ecosystem services in the Dniester basin and proposals for the adoption of relevant legislation.

? Guidelines on management of sapropel (sediments extracted from rivers and reservoirs) to be used on agricultural land: The draft second Dniester River Basin Management Plan stipulates that - along with other measures to revive the water bodies - the excavation of sediments to eliminate water courses and lakes? clogging is envisaged. Restoration or improvement of soil fertility with sapropel-based products helps nature to balance the soil ecosystem and minimise harmful processes from various types of soil pollution: pesticides, agrochemicals, industrial emissions, natural disasters, fire and plastics. The Guideline will describe all necessary technological steps that should be taken (analysis of the contamination of the sapropel with pesticides and heavy metals, dewatering, infestation with pathogen bacteria, etc?) before use in the agricultural fields.

? Guidelines of treated wastewater for irrigation: Focus of this document will be to study the implementation of the constructed wetlands concept, which has already been tried in Moldova, with a view to improving and replicating this practice in both countries, in particular for use of the treated water for irrigation. During the development of the guideline the environmental safeguards screening procedure will be undertaken to assess the need for additional measures.

During the Inception Phase, the countries will agree on which guidelines of the three mentioned above will be developed. The selected guidelines will have to complement the current activities as well as be applicable in both countries.

Activity 3.1.1.2 Analysing opportunities for investments in cooperation with IFIs and local authorities

The purpose of this analysis is to create a basis for further financing of transboundary cooperation in the Dniester River basin namely the implementation of SAP. To prepare recommendations on the investment opportunities there is a need:

- ? to analyse the cost-effectiveness of the selected measures and prioritise their implementation using available national methodologies; and
- ? develop an investment plan for the measures prioritised and coordinate it with the relevant stakeholders; and
- ? organise public hearings and discussion of the investment plan through the basin committee/council and the Dniester Commission followed by approval of the plan.

Activity 3.1.1.3: Developing a pre-feasibility study for investments in wastewater treatment

The purpose of the pre-feasibility study is to assess the cost-effectiveness of wastewater treatment before the discharge into the Dniester River basin (wastewater from housing and communal services, industrial wastewater, and agricultural runoff) and cost recovery potential aiming to improve the status of aquatic ecosystems of the Dniester River basin. The following will be done, involving both participating countries:

- ? Consideration of the possibilities and prospects for wastewater use (analysis of legislation and regulations on wastewater discharge into water bodies, peculiarities of the use of sewage sludge);
- ? Preliminary study, which includes review of data on existing physical, chemical, biological and hydrological indicators, information on assessment methods, etc. validation of field/laboratory methods (if required) as well as assessment of technical and financial resources required;
- ? Assessment based on environmental and economic criteria (safety, needed resources, resource reimbursement, determination and calculation of resource recovery costs);
- ? Reporting and preparation of recommendations for financial and environmental decision-making.

The project will take into consideration limitations related to available current methodologies. Overall, the project will consider national methodologies in both Moldova and Ukraine, while assessing them through the basin lens and will prioritize measures in consultation with the relevant stakeholders from the basin perspective. Other possible basin-level methodologies for prioritization will be also considered. Furthermore, the project will provide recommendations on how to improve current national methodologies, which are living documents and can be adjusted based on new findings and available knowledge.

Output 3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River basin

Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverable from Output 3.1.2 is:

- ? Four demonstration projects implemented
- ? Additional data on the application and suitability of methodological guidelines

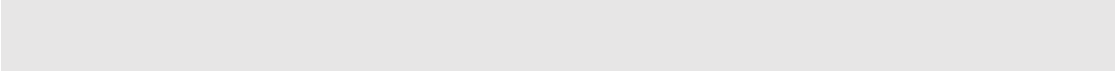
Output 3.1.2 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Improved ecological status in the Dniester River basin

The costs for Output 3.1.2: GEF Grant USD 1,650,000

This output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 3.1.1: Methodological guidelines and facilitated investment opportunities to improve the ecological status in the Dniester River basin
- ? Output 6.1.2: Applied research as prioritised in SAP on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring



This output includes targeted actions to improve the ecological status in the Dniester River Basin based on the identification and analyses in Output 3.1.1. The activities undertaken will include demonstration projects. Not more than 2 demonstration projects per country will be implemented (total of four).

The Output 3.1.2 is comprised of the following activities:

- ? Activity 3.1.2.1: Selection and implementation of the demonstration projects
- ? Activity 3.1.2.2: Reviewing demonstration projects to evaluate methodological guidelines

Activity 3.1.2.1: Selection and implementation of the demonstration projects

The participating countries have proposed a total of eight demonstration projects that will be considered by the project. The final decision on the selected projects will be taken during the Inception Phase when each project will be analysed and assessed applying the following criteria:

- ? cost of the demonstration project,
- ? relevance for the primary objective of the GEF project,
- ? relevance of the demonstration project for the national river basin and flood risk management plans,
- ? complementarity with other initiatives in the region,
- ? complementarity with methodological guidelines produced under Output 3.1.1,
- ? implementation capacity at the location of the proposed project, and
- ? replication potential in the other country participating in the project.

The selected projects should not overlap in terms of issues being addressed. A short description of the eight proposed demonstration projects, of which four will be chosen and implemented, is given below:

Moldova

-

? Installation of 3 floating trash booms on the Dniester River: Plastic pollution is one of the identified problems in the Dniester River basin described in the Transboundary Diagnostic Study. Also, strategic objective 1.3 from Strategic Action Plan for 2021-2035 is dedicated to its reduction. Plastic pollution has a direct impact on water quality, but also on the state of biodiversity. The main aim of the project is ensuring clean water by reduction of plastic pollution with utilisation by installation of 3 floating trash booms in the Dniester River. As a result, the amount of plastic and other surface waste in the Dniester River will decrease. It should be mentioned that the locations will be permanently monitored, which will allow a better understanding of the formation and consistency of the waste on the surface of the water. The project will result in following outputs: technical report on the situation of plastic pollution and other sewage waste and the best solutions for their capture, including program for waste monitoring and management, and 3 installed floating trash booms on the Dniester River.

? Construction of the fish spawning ground in the lower part of the Dniester River: Establishment of the fish spawning ground in the lower part of the Dniester River will help to protect biodiversity and increase fish diversity within the limits of the "Lower Dniester" National Park and of the "Nijnednestrovschii" National Park in the lower regions of the Dniester within the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. Main activities to be performed are development of the diagnostic study, technical project and construction of the fish spawning ground. Coordination with the national project will be ensured. During the inception phase it will be discussed and agreed upon if support for this project is still relevant or whether due to the support provided for this project within the national project, other projects will be selected for implementation, or other topics will be selected under the same project, which have not been supported in the national project.

? The use of partially treated sewage water for irrigation: A procedure for applying the necessary documents for irrigating agricultural land with wastewater will be developed. A feasibility study for the implementation of a wastewater treatment system, technical specifications and permits for its use for irrigation will be developed, in particular those including special provisions for women farmers and women-headed farming households.

Ukraine

? Public-Private partnership cooperation on the use of partially treated sewage water for irrigation: Implementation of the project will help to reduce the amount of fresh water from the Dniester used for

irrigation of agricultural land, which is extremely important in the context of water scarcity in the basin during the summer low water period. The possibility of using wastewater (permanent or seasonal) for irrigation will conserve water resources to maintain the necessary ecological flow in the river and preserve biological resources. In the frame of the demo project, the necessary documents and procedures needed for irrigating agricultural land with wastewater will be developed in Ukraine. A feasibility study will include the development of the necessary regulatory documents for the irrigation of agricultural land with wastewater, the selection of a pilot facility (wastewater treatment system and agricultural enterprise), preparation of the necessary permit applications and actual implementation. Locations and measures on sewage treatment facilities proposed by the RBMP will be considered. This experience will be disseminated among local communities.

? Enhancing capacity in emergency preparedness and prevention of accidental pollution by tailings storage facilities (TSFs) located in the Dniester River basin, considering modern international standards and best available techniques: The project aims to enhance efforts in providing environmental safety of TSFs in the Dniester River Basin based on the results of the TSFs inventory held 2018 ? 2021 years in the framework of foundational GEF Dniester project. Project activities are intended to address the identified gaps in emergency planning by promoting international norms of a TSF safety and by implementing modern methods of monitoring of dams' stability, as well as to analyse existing environmental hotspots with accidental pollution of water bodies in the river basin, and to develop relevant recommendations for TSFs operators and competent authorities of Ukraine. The issue of transboundary pollution is the one of the key points throughout project activities in terms of accidental pollution prevention in the transboundary river basin considering guidelines of the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

? Restoration of wetlands in the Upper Dniester riverbed: Project aims for restoring regulated water flow in degraded areas of the old Dniester riverbed near the Halych national nature park. The riverbed was straightened and diked during the Soviet times, leading to the loss of environmental, scientific, economic, recreational and other values of the Dniester's old channels, siltation and overgrowth of reeds and cattails. The project aims to restore selected oxbow arms of the Dniester to a close to natural status and demonstrate what ecosystem services such restoration can provide to communities and biodiversity.

? Promoting the development of a network of nature reserve sites and water protection zones to improve environmental conditions in the Lower Dniester basin: The aim of the project is to improve the ecological status, restore and conserve biodiversity in the Lower Dniester basin through: establishment of new protected areas including in the lower reaches of the Yahorlyk and Trostyanets rivers, development of management plans for them and marking their boundaries, including within water protection zones; expanding the area of the Lower Dniester National Nature Park at the expense of state-owned lands in the Dniester Delta and the Dniester floodplains, in cooperation with local communities, administrations of Ukrainian protected areas and relevant government agencies; and scientific justification for the establishment of a transboundary Ukrainian-Moldovan nature reserve in the Dniester Delta. It will be important to identify and understand how male and female members of these communities' access and use forest resources, such as firewood, edible plants, etc., as well how can the access be regulated so as to serve both the purpose of fulfilling the needs of the community and that of biodiversity conservation.

? Development and implementation of mitigation measures for the construction of the Yampil-Koseuts bridge in Yampil TG, Mohyliv-Podilskyi rayon, Vinnytsia oblast: In accordance with the agreement signed between Ukraine and Moldova, it is planned to build a transborder bridge crossing over the Dniester River near the settlements of Yampil on the Ukrainian side and Cos?uc on the Moldovan side. The total length of the bridge should be over 1400 meters. The Yampil bridge may prove to be an alternative to the crossing at the Yampil-Koseutz border crossing, and will also provide an alternative to the Mohyliv-Podilskyi-Otaci international border crossing. Actions to be planned within this activity are: improving the river depth and width variability by changing the river morphology with increasing flow forms, widening the river channel to slow the flow velocity, and creating a close to natural/optimised slope of the water surface and banks; vegetation management by mechanical removal of aquatic vegetation, trees, and rooted bushes in the riverbed; restoration of the river channel by improving important habitats, creating riffles and rapids and mechanical excavation of the substrate; and monitoring of surface water parameters during construction and operation (mainly oil products).

Activity 3.1.2.2: Reviewing demonstration projects to evaluate methodological guidelines

Results and lessons learned from the implementation of demonstration projects will be collected and analysed to summarise, first, how critical ecological problems have been solved and second, to establish how successfully the methodological guidelines prepared within the Output 3.1.1 have been used in the implementation of the projects. Based on this analysis, the methodological guidelines will be revised.

Component 4: Adaptation to climate change and increasing preparedness for and resilience to naturally induced disasters

Component 4 will build on conclusions from and further develop the ?Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester Basin? agreed on by the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, and efforts to operationalize this Strategy, based on its Implementation Plan. Floods and droughts are common in the basin and there is a risk stressed in the SAP that as a result of climate change such events may be registered with increasing frequency and amplitude. The project will address climate risks in this and other project components.

The objectives of this component are to increase the resilience of the water ecosystem, enhance the provision of ecosystem services in spite of the climate change impacts, and reduce flood risk through improved river basin management. The component will be focused on demonstrating how the damage caused by climate change on the sectors of the economy most vulnerable to climate change in the Dniester basin can be reduced. Main activities are oriented to:

- ? Increased resilience of aquatic ecosystems;
- ? Provision of ecosystem services despite the impact of climate change;
- ? Reducing the risk of floods by improving structural and non-structural measures in watershed management;
- ? Reducing vulnerability to drought;
- ? Combating desertification;
- ? Reduction of damage from excess water;
- ? Reducing damages from water shortages;
- ? Reducing damage from water quality deterioration
- ? Increasing cross-border collaboration in the field of protection against floods and draughts

Output 4.1.1 Update of the "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River basin" and of its Implementation Plan, and implementation of selected adaptation actions

Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverables from Output 4.1.1 are:

- ? "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River basin" and its Implementation Plan updated, approved and published
- ? Adaptation measures implemented

Output 4.1.1. is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods

The costs for Output 4.1.1: GEF Grant USD 1,440,000

This Output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 2.1.1: Draft of new laws and regulations in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as a basis for implementation of SAP
- ? Output 3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River basin
- ? Output 5.2.4: IW Experience Notes and other IW:LEARN related products and services.

The basin-wide Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River basin was developed in 2015 and agreed on jointly by the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. However, it is necessary to revise this document and update the measures needed to adapt to climate change as Ukraine has updated its legal framework since then, and as the EU's decision to grant Ukraine EU membership in 2022 has accelerated the reform of legislation in terms of its harmonisation with European law.

It is clear that with regard to the adaptation to climate change at the basin level, the most important problems are directly associated with the aquatic environment and the change in the flow regime of the rivers. For these reasons, two adaptation measures are proposed for Ukraine:

- ? Enhancing the resilience of the Dniester Delta reed-bed area to the effects of climate change. This measure will include developing technical documentation and design for improving water exchange between the reed bed and the Dniester River and actual pilot physical improvement of water exchange and connectivity between the Dniester River and its reed bed (for example, through clearing and restoring the selected canals and/or reconstructing the culvert/s);
- ? Development and implementation of further measures for the revitalization of the Yavorlyk River section. This includes the development of an action plan for the revitalization of the Yavorlyk River and its tributaries and its implementation for the priority areas.

The update of the Strategic Framework as well as implementation of selected measures will strengthen the capacities to adapt to climate change.

The Output 4.1.1 is comprised of the following activities:

? Activity 4.1.1.1 Compiling relevant studies and analyses of new legal acts, plans and implemented measures to inform any updates of the ?Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River basin? and of its Implementation Plan

? Activity 4.1.1.2 Facilitating gender and socially inclusive public consultations with relevant stakeholders to update the ?Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River basin? and of its Implementation Plan

? Activity 4.1.1.3: Preparing the draft Update of the "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin" and of its Implementation Plan

? Activity 4.1.1.4: Preparing the Updated "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin" and its Implementation Plan for adoption

? Activity 4.1.1.5: Implementing the Water Balance Sheet in the sustainable management of water resources (Moldova and Ukraine)

? Activity 4.1.1.6: Developing and implementing pilot physical improvements to the Dniester delta reed-bed area (Ukraine with involvement of Moldova for non-physical activities)

? Activity 4.1.1.7: Developing and implementing further measures for the revitalization of the Yahorlyk River section (Ukraine with involvement of Moldova for non-physical activities)

? Activity 4.1.1.8: Developing and implementing actions to increase the flow of small rivers to eliminate the main sources of evaporation (Moldova)

? Activity 4.1.1.9: Restoring a sector of the Dniester old bed (Blind or Old Dniester) ? (Moldova)

? Activity 4.1.1.10: Planting riparian buffers on both banks of the Dniester River (Moldova with some planting in Ukraine)

The implementation of the actions will be carried out with the help of the partners in both countries including the. ministries of the environment, water agencies, environment agencies, state hydrometeorological services, scientific institutions, local authorities and environmental NGOs. The PCU will provide logistical support.

Activity 4.1.1.1 Compiling relevant studies and analyses of new legal acts, plans and implemented measures to inform any updates of the ?Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin? and of its Implementation Plan

During 2015 ? 2023, many new legal acts were developed both in Moldova and Ukraine in the process of the approximation of the national legislation to the EU requirements. At the same time, new developments were made worldwide as well. Here it is worth mentioning the recent IPCC Sixth

Assessment Report (AR6) Synthesis Report Climate Change 2023, which summarises the state of knowledge of climate change, its widespread impacts and risks, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The goal of this activity is to summarise relevant new developments for the further update of the Strategic framework.

Activity 4.1.1.2 Facilitating gender and socially inclusive public consultations with relevant stakeholders to update the "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin" and of its Implementation Plan

The update of the "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River basin" is a logical continuation of the previous cross-border Dniester projects. In the first year, a series of consultations will be carried out with the relevant institutions in Moldova and Ukraine. They will be aimed at the following:

- ? to identify the necessary steps for Moldova and Ukraine to take in fulfilling its international commitments and national programs and plans related to climate change and adaptation, and their links to transboundary adaptation in the Dniester basin;
- ? to assess relevance and identify gaps in the implementation of the Strategic Framework, current success stories and emerging issues relevant to adaptation to climate change in the Dniester River basin;
- ? to determine the scope and priority sections for updating the Strategic Framework.

Activity 4.1.1.3: Preparing the draft Update of the "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River basin" and of its Implementation Plan

Under the general supervision of the PCU and UNECE, a working group will be established involving experts from both countries. The task of the group will be to develop a draft Update of the Strategic Framework. The group will take into consideration comments and suggestions given during the public consultation process. The draft will be coordinated and approved with the national authorities responsible for water management in Moldova and Ukraine. Any issue that might arise between the two countries' authorities and between different stakeholders will be resolved in a conciliatory manner.

The final draft should be presented and discussed with the relevant stakeholders to incorporate their comments into the final version.

Activity 4.1.1.4: Preparing the Updated "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin" and its Implementation Plan for adoption

The Updated Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River basin and its Implementation Plan will be approved by the Dniester Commission, adopted by relevant authorities in both countries, printed and distributed. Further, this document should be integrated into national climate policy documents, including Nationally Determined Contributions, adaptation strategies, and other documents through consultations, submission of relevant proposals to the responsible agencies, and close cooperation with agencies responsible for national climate policy.

Activity 4.1.1.5: Implementing the Water Balance Sheet in the sustainable management of water resources (Moldova and Ukraine)

The essence of the action is the application of the water management balance, as a tool, in the sustainable management of water resources in the Dniester basin to ensure a balanced distribution of available water resources for various sectors during both wet and dry years under a changing climate. The coverage area is for the whole basin. The main beneficiaries are the central public administration bodies, institutions skilled in design (hyrotechnical, transport, communications, agricultural, regional development and of course water supply and sewage, etc.), and enterprises that use water resources. The major benefit of implementing the water management balance lies in the assessment and management of available water resources with the aim to better adapt to climate change. The application of this technology will primarily favour the protection of water resources through their rational use, especially in the conditions of arid climate, during periods of drought, summer lows, when there is very little water available. Those conditions become more frequent and more intense under the changing climate. Duration of the activity will be 2 years (24 months). The following will be carried out:

- ? Identifying and procuring the software (or developing native software)
- ? Creating the database, organizing the data flow and calibrating the software
- ? Approval of procedural instructions
- ? Revision of reporting forms
- ? Staff training and/or retraining

? Training in the field of computer software

This activity will be based on the previous work on water balance performed with support of ADA, EU and GEF:

? In Ukraine, the Procedure for Developing Water Management Balances was approved by Order of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine No. 26 of January 26, 2017. According to this procedure, water balances must be reviewed every 6 years.

? The current water balance for the Dniester basin is available on the website of the State Agency of Water Resources at https://davr.gov.ua/fls18/balans_dnister.pdf and was approved on March 5, 2020. One of the expected results of this activity may be a revision of the current balance.

? Methodology for calculating water balance and its approval on the example of the Dniester River basin is also developed. This document is available on the website of the Dniester Commission - <https://dniester-commission.com/bassejn-reki-dnestr/vodoxozyajstvennyj-balans/>

Activity 4.1.1.6: Developing and implementing pilot physical improvements to the Dniester delta reed-bed area (Ukraine with involvement of Moldova for non-physical activities)

The Dniester Delta, shared by the Odesa Region of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, is of a very high conservation value for flora and fauna, including ecosystems with national and international conservation status and industrial fish species. Two key problems which adversely affect the status of the Dniester Delta ecosystems are the disruption of water exchange between the river and the floodplain, and the impacts of climate change. This activity will aim to make the reed-bed ecosystem more resilient to the effects of climate change by improving water exchange between the Dniester River and its Delta reed bed. To achieve this objective, the following actions will be conducted:

? Field surveys and the elaboration of a Dniester Reed Bed Rehabilitation Plan to make it more resilient to climate change;

? Developing technical documentation and design for improving water exchange between the reed bed and the Dniester River;

? Environmental impact assessment and public hearings for large development projects, if needed;

? Pilot physical improvement of water exchange and connectivity between the Dniester River and its reed bed (for example, through clearing and restoring the selected canals and/or reconstructing the culvert/s);

? Monitoring and evaluation of impacts and results.

Activity 4.1.1.7: Developing and implementing further measures for the revitalization of the Yahorlyk River section (Ukraine with involvement of Moldova for non-physical activities)

The measure will concern the Yahorlyk River basin located in the most vulnerable part of the Dniester basin namely in Odesa oblast in Ukraine. It will aim to make it more resilient to climate change through rehabilitation of its flow, improving water quality as well as preserving and restoring its ecosystem and biodiversity to enhance livelihood opportunities for local population. In addition, this work should eliminate the negative impact of waterlogging and reed overgrowth in the riverbed and floodplain within the project area, which will dramatically improve its sanitary and hygienic indicators and increase its attractiveness for recreation and tourism thus generating further options for local stakeholders. This experience should be extended to other small rivers as an adaptation measure to preserve their flow, which is very important in the context of climate change.

To achieve the output, the following measures are necessary:

? Evaluation of the results of the ecological restoration of the Yahorlyk River section from Dovzhanka village to Rozivka village, which was carried out in 2021 as part of the UNDP/OSCE/UNECE project "Promoting Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin";

? Development and implementation of further measures to revitalise the 8 km long section of the Yahorlyk River from Dovzhanka village to Rozivka village;

? Development of an Action Plan for the revitalization of the Yahorlyk River and its tributaries in priority areas to make it more resilient to climate change. The Action Plan is developed based on a hydro morphological assessment of the Yahorlyk River and its tributaries, as well as the results of discussions with local communities bearing in mind climate change impacts;

? Carry out revitalization works on the Yahorlyk River and its tributaries in the priority areas in accordance with the developed Action Plan.

Partners for this activity in Ukraine are representatives of the Ukrainian delegation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, the State Water Agency, the State Emergency Service, the Centre of Regional Studies, the Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Center, the National Academy of Sciences, the Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Institute, the relevant local authorities involved in the implementation of the adaptation measures. Linkages with international projects of relevance operating in Ukraine, and actions of NGOs will be sought.

Activity 4.1.1.8: Developing and implementing actions to increase the flow of small rivers to eliminate the main sources of evaporation (Moldova)

The purpose of the activity is to reduce surface runoff losses by eliminating the surpluses of non-functional reservoirs and restoring the natural flow volume of small rivers throughout the territory of the Republic of Moldova. The flow in small rivers is reducing under climate change impacts especially during dry periods. Thus, this measure will make the ecosystem of small rivers more resilient to climate change in hydrology the notion is the reduction of surface runoff losses. A pilot action will be launched focusing on a catchment basin or sub-basin from an administrative district or development region. Then the activities will expand throughout the country. Normative acts will be developed for the possibility of application throughout the country. Duration of the activity will be 4 years (48 months). The following will be carried out:

- ? Identification of the responsible institution. Training of collaborators
- ? Development and implementation of verification and control procedures
- ? Testing and implementing the lake identification methodology
- ? Elaboration of recommendations regarding land use after liquidation of the lakes
- ? Liquidation of the identified lakes
- ? Land utilisation after liquidation of the lakes
- ? Evaluation of the change in runoff after liquidation of the lakes

All the actions and activities described can be found in the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change, the Management Plan of DBHN, the National Development Strategy Moldova 2030.

Activity 4.1.1.9 Restoring a sector of the Dniester old bed (Blind or Old Dniester)

The sector of the Dniester old bed (Blind or Old Dniester) proposed to be cleaned and restored is situated near the Gr?dina Turceasca Reserve and constitutes a particularly valuable territory for the biodiversity of the northern part of the "Lower Dniester" National Park, the Republic of Moldova. Main activities are related to development of diagnostic study of the area, technical documentation and restoration of the sector of the Dniester old bed. River bed restoration would allow expansion of fish amount and biodiversity. Here a large concentration of species of animals, birds, fish, trees can be observed, which is valuable for the entire region and maintenance of the ecological balance. This measure will make the Dniester old bed more resilient to climate change by accumulating more water resources and reducing the impact of floods on the Dniester in its lower part as well as increasing the ecosystem functioning by enlarging the number of species of fauna and flora specific to the river and wetland. Coordination with the national project will be ensured. During the Inception phase it will be discussed whether there is further support needed for this activity for the Republic of Moldova.

Activity 4.1.1.10 Planting riparian buffers on both banks of the Dniester River

The main aim of the project is planting and restoring riparian buffers on both banks of the Dniester River to make them more resilient to climate change through increasing their biodiversity and sustainability as well as better accumulation of water. Restoration of riparian buffers of the Dniester River will present a positive example for extension of such activities in the other parts of the basin in both countries. The main plan is to plant 5 ha of trees on both banks of the Dniester in Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova near Soroca region (Ramsar Wetland Area of International Importance "Unguri Holo?ni?a") and in Ukraine. In the same way, in the C?u?eni and ?tefan Vod? districts of the "Lower Dniester" National Park, 25 ha are to be planted on both banks in two countries.

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This activity will include:

- ? Development of a research report and preparation of the documents for riparian buffers restoration.
- ? Restoration of riparian buffers on both banks of the Dniester River, a total of 60 ha

Output 4.1.2: Maps, hydrological models, early warning and response systems for flood

Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverables from Output 4.1.2 are:

- ? Flood Risk Management Plans for 3 localities in the Ukrainian part of the Dniester basin;
- ? Modernized and expanded forecasting and early warning and response system in case of disasters;
- ? Hydrological and hydrodynamic models for simulating the processes of formation and propagation of floods and floods

Output 4.1.2 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods

The costs for output 4.1.2: GEF Grant USD 150 000

This output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 1.1.1: Fully operational Dniester Commission
- ? Output 2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity in state authorities to implement the SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD
- ? Output 4.1.1: Update of the "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin and of its Implementation Plan", and implementation of selected adaptation actions
- ? Output 5.1.1: Awareness raising campaigns and activities to empower stakeholders

The draft Dniester Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) was prepared within the framework of the GEF/UNDP/OSCE/UNECE project "Promoting Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin", which was used as the basis for the CMU Resolution No. 895-r of October 8, 2022 "On Approval of Flood Risk Management Plans for Certain Territories within River Basin Areas". According to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated April 4, 2018 No. 247 On Approval of the Procedure for Developing a Flood Risk Management Plan, the FRMP was developed based on the results of a preliminary flood risk assessment, flood hazard maps and flood risk maps.

The FRMPs approved in October 2022 contain only the first part - a preliminary assessment of flood risks in the areas within the Dniester River basin, along with a list of areas with potentially significant flood risks. Flood hazard maps and flood risk maps have not been developed. Such maps should be developed for each area with potentially significant flood risks, and 103 such areas have been identified in the Dniester basin (Ukrainian part).

Within the framework of the above-mentioned project, flood hazard and risk maps were developed for 6 areas:

- ? Opir River (Lviv oblast);
- ? the Bystrytsia-Solotvynska River (Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast);
- ? the Bystrytsia-Nadvirna river (Ivano-Frankivsk oblast);
- ? Bystrytsia River (Ivano-Frankivsk region);
- ? Kuchurhan River (Odesa region);
- ? the Dniester River delta (Odesa region) from the state border to the mouth.

The purpose of the activities of the current Project is to develop FRMPs for the following locations:

- ? city of Ivano-Frankivsk and settlements on the Opir River from the village of Oporets to the confluence with the Stryi River near the village of Verkhne Syniovydne;

? the Dniester Delta in the area adjacent to the river in the upper reaches from the state border to the mouth (along the Turunchuk River);

? settlements on the Kuchurhan River from the village of Marianivka to the confluence with the Kuchurhan Reservoir near the village of Kuchurhan.

The FRMP will include a list of measures aimed at achieving the objectives of flood risk management in accordance with the CMU Resolution of 04.04. 2018 No. 247 "On Approval of the Procedure for Developing a Flood Risk Management Plan"; Directive 2007/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of October 23, 2007 on the assessment and management of flood risks as well as other national pieces of legislation.

The Output 4.1.2 will comprise of the following activities:

? Activity 4.1.2.1 Developing the FRMPs for select territories (cities)

? Activity 4.1.2.2 Supporting the development of flood early warning and response systems.

? Activity 4.1.2.3 Supporting mapping and modelling of floods for other settlements within the Dniester basin

Activity 4.1.2.1 Developing the FRMPs for select territories (cities)

FRMP should be based on the flood hazard and risk maps developed under the GEF/UNDP/OSCE/UNECE project "Promoting Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin", using the Uzhhorod FRMP developed under the EU International Technical Assistance Project "Joint Disaster Prevention Measures in the Transboundary Uzh River Basin" as an example of developing a FRMP for a particular city.

Activity 4.1.2.2 Supporting the development of flood early warning and response systems

Measures to create or improve a flood forecasting or warning system may include the development and improvement of flood forecasting software, expansion of the hydro meteorological observation network,

improvement of the system of prompt public warning, etc. The system should be easy to understand and followed by men and women in different communities depending upon their educational level, comprehension, taking into account disability. Routes to safety areas and evacuation plans should be clearly communicated. Method used for communication should be appropriate for different age groups, for example, radio, TV, SMS.

Integration with AIMS Prykarpattia <http://aivs-pr.dpbuvr.gov.ua/map> should be ensured.

Activity 4.1.2.3 Supporting mapping and modelling of floods for other settlements within the Dniester basin

This activity concerns other settlements within the Dniester basin that have been identified as areas with potentially significant flood risks based on the results of a preliminary flood risk assessment (<https://dsns.gov.ua/upload/1/2/9/0/1/prognoz-weekly-directivazatoplenya-baseini-dnister.pdf>).

According to the CMU Order No. 895-r dated October 8, 2022, on Approval of Flood Risk Management Plans for Certain Territories within River Basin Districts, it is envisaged to update the FRMPs for certain territories within the Dniester River basin for 2031-2036 in November 2030. The actions performed under this activity should become part of the updated RBMP in 2030. It is worth mentioning that amendments of the already adopted FRMPs is envisaged by the current legislation.

The developed FRMPs should be coordinated with the Dniester RBMP and ensure that the proposed measures in the FRMPs do not deteriorate or harm surface water bodies and do not impede further improvements; identify opportunities to achieve environmental objectives and improve the ecological status of the river basin and to reduce the potential negative impact of flooding on human life, environment, cultural heritage and economic activities at the same time.

The competent public authorities and partners in the implementation of this activity, as well as those responsible for the implementation of the FRMP and Directive 2007/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 on flood risk assessment and management, are the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the State Emergency Service, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine, ministry responsible for the welfare of women and children, the State Water Agency, the Ministry of Regional Development, and local authorities.

Output 4.1.3: Drought management plan and selected actions

Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverable from Output 4.1.3 is:

Development of the Drought management plan and its integration in the Dniester RBMP

Output 4.1.3 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods

The costs for output 4.1.3: GEF Grant USD 100,000

This Output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 1.1.1: Fully operational Dniester Commission
- ? Output 2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity of state authorities to implement the SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD
- ? Output 4.1.1: Update of the "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin and of its Implementation Plan", and implementation of selected adaptation actions (a max. no. of 2 adaptation actions per country)
- ? Output 5.1.1: Awareness raising campaigns and activities to empower stakeholders (at least 2 awareness raising actions)

This output will help riparian countries to manage droughts within and between seasons. It should be noted that Ukraine, as a candidate for EU accession, has to prepare a Drought Management Plan in accordance with the WFD. The WFD provides the legal framework for the development of such plans, which aim to reduce the impacts of droughts in the affected areas and increase resilience to droughts. The Drought Management Plan is a supplementary planning document developed as part of the planning cycles in accordance with Article 13.5 of the WFD. The Drought Management Plan should be integrated into the Dniester RBMP. Drought is identified as one of the significant water management issues (SWMI) in the climate change part of the RBMP.

The development of the drought policy and the Drought Management Plan shall be consistent also with the policy documents approved by the European Commission and other technical and methodological documents developed and adopted within the Joint Implementation Strategy process for the implementation of the WFD. There should be a link between the Drought Management Plan and national/local development plans/programs/strategies.

This output will support the timely development of the Drought Management Plan as part of the implementation of the Dniester RBMP. Adaptation measures to the impacts and consequences of the floods will be part of the Drought risk management plans.

A key factor for the organisation of effective and integrated drought management is to ensure the participation of key sectors, decision-makers; professionals, stakeholders from drought-affected sectors and the public in the process of developing and implementing the Drought Management Plan.

The Output 4.1.3 will comprise the following activity:

? Activity 4.1.3.1 Developing a national drought policy based on risk assessment

Activity 4.1.3.1 Development of national drought policy based on risk assessment

This activity includes the development of the drought management plan for the Dniester basin according to the structure outlined in the Guidelines for the preparation of Drought Management Plans and further support for its adoption by a governmental decision as a part of the Dniester RBMP. It will also take in consideration the results achieved under Output 4.1.2.

Component 5: Public awareness and engagement projects to empower and raise the capacity of stakeholders, project communications and outreach

This component will build on the public awareness initiatives made during the foundational project and cooperation established with NGOs in the Republic of Moldova (including Transdnistria) and Ukraine. There will be a particular focus on raising the awareness of SAP and facilitating engagement and empowering stakeholders at all levels for SAP implementation.

The component will also ensure that the lessons and experiences acquired during project implementation at national and transboundary levels (including with regards to the climate change) are disseminated widely, and that project monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is implemented with results reported. In implementing activities of this component, coordination and synergies with other ongoing projects in the participating countries will be sought with a view to make the best use of financial resources, avoid duplications and maximise benefits.

Output 5.1.1: Awareness raising campaigns and activities to empower stakeholders

Summary of deliverables, outcomes, and budget estimations

The expected deliverables from Output 5.1.1 are:

Communication and awareness raising products

Output 5.1.1 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Improved capacity of experts and stakeholders to develop and participate in activities in support of water management and water cooperation

The costs for Output 5.1.1: GEF Grant USD 480,000

This Output links to the following outputs:

? Output 2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity of state authorities to implement SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD

- ? Output 5.2.1: Project website within existing Dniester Commission website
- ? Output 5.2.2: Communication, stakeholder and gender strategies documented, implemented and shared across the Dniester River basin
- ? Output 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF /IW:LEARN activities
- ? Output 5.3.1: Monitoring and evaluation developed and implemented to ensure adaptive project management
- ? Output 6.1.1: Networking meetings for the scientific community focusing on applied research in the Dniester basin
- ? Output 6.1.2: Applied research as prioritised in SAP on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring

As part of the SEP and GAP, stakeholders' interests in the project and the ways in which these stakeholders may influence the project's outcomes need to be duly assessed. The stakeholders should be grouped based on the area of operation and nature of the potential engagement. The SEP should be implemented based on the estimated level of involvement and awareness determined during the GEF-funded project 'Enabling transboundary co-operation and integrated water resources management in the Dniester River Basin'.

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This output will develop and support various initiatives that will help to broaden the awareness, understanding and engagement in SAP implementation among all stakeholders and the public at large. The successful implementation of the SAP, in light of the threats exposed in the TDA and the impacts caused by the war against Ukraine, requires that stakeholders from all segments of society, including women and men of different ages, and those differently-abled, are active and empowered to take responsibility for and influence on water management.

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- ? Activity 5.1.1.1 Supporting select awareness raising campaigns
- ? Activity 5.1.1.2 Facilitating a stakeholder platform including for marginalised and vulnerable groups

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Partners in the implementation of this output will be a wide range of stakeholder groups identified in SEP. They will be actively involved in the preparation and implementation of the public awareness and

communication events. The PCU will assist with logistical support and transfer of experiences from other similar projects.

Activity 5.1.1.1 Supporting select awareness raising campaigns

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The project will support at least two awareness raising actions, to be chosen from the following:

- ? Regular Dniester Days ?one-day outdoor activity aimed at raising awareness of the history and status of the river and its inhabitants and culture of the riparian population;
- ? Basin-wide contest of creativity ?Colours of the Dniester? targeting children and youth ? every year the contest gathers over 700 young artists who advocated for the preservation of the river through artworks;
- ? Dniester Summer School ? a weekly camp for kids and youth supported by the local CSOs;
- ? Start-up Climathon 2021 in Moldova ? an initiative to design and present tangible sustainable solutions, projects, and potential start-ups that address climate challenges in the Dniester River basin;
- ? Recreational ?Eco-route? to demonstrate best practice solutions for efficient and sustainable restoration measures for small rivers. The route can be used for on-sight presentation of the demo projects, research and studies conducted under outputs 6.1.1 and 6.1.2;
- ? ?Back to the Sources? campaign focused on river restoration and targeted at national and local authorities as well as local communities. Its part can be related to the Eco-route but more focused on the education and awareness raising for the kids and youth leaving in the Dniester basin area;
- ? Rebuild Ukraine Conferences to be leveraged by the project to advocate for the Dniester River basin development and preservation;
- ? A school for young leaders;
- ? Dniester expedition involving researchers from both riparian countries.

Activity 5.1.1.2 Facilitating a stakeholder platform including for marginalised and vulnerable groups

This activity will support the establishment of the platform for involvement of the public to assist the project to remain a relevant and thriving environment of learning and understanding for both internal and external stakeholders. The principal goal of the initiative is to represent the perspectives of various stakeholders' groups, including vulnerable or disadvantaged groups, women networks, refugees, and internally displaced people, in the project's governance. The platform can serve as a core focal point in organising all awareness, educational, and gender and socially inclusive public consultation events.

This activity also foresees support to the Dniester Basin Management Authority in Ukraine in establishing and managing the inter-sectoral working group on implementation of the River Basin Management Plan. This working group will work on integration of the River Basin Management Plan measures into sectoral and development programs on the basin level as well as activities of the relevant sectoral agencies. The group will also aim to improve communication and coordination between responsible agencies which activities are related to the River Basin. Management Plan.

Output 5.2.1: Project website within existing Dniester Commission website

Summary of deliverables, outcomes, and budget estimations

The expected deliverables from Output 5.2.1 are:

? A new subpage for the project 'Advancing transboundary co-operation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin through implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP)' is created at dnister-comission.com.

? The website dnister-comission.com is translated into Ukrainian and Romanian.

? The project subpage is regularly updated throughout the project cycle and passed over for further maintenance to the Dniester Commission team.

? The mobile version of the website is created.

? The website dnister-comission.com is linked to the existing social media channels of Moldova's and Ukraine's governments.

Output 5.2.1 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Enabled stakeholders? awareness and actions through effective project information sharing

The costs for Output 5.2.1: GEF Grant USD 80,000

This Output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 5.1.1: Awareness raising campaigns and activities to empower stakeholders
- ? Output 5.2.2: Communication, stakeholder and gender strategies documented, implemented and shared across the Dniester River basin
- ? Output 5.3.1: Monitoring and evaluation developed and implemented to ensure adaptive project management

This website was designed in 2018 to provide all stakeholders with up-to-date information on the status of the Dniester River basin, work of joint basin management bodies, and progress of the Global Environment Facility's project "Enabling transboundary co-operation and integrated water resources management in the Dniester River Basin". Over the period of 2019-2021, it was maintained by the communications expert and assistant of the foundational GEF Dniester project. In May 2021, the management of the website was handed over to the Dniester Commission team. Since then, there have been updates only in the news section of the website. In order to maintain the website as key source of the up-to-date information on the project's progress and facilitate an inclusive access to information, the web site has to be updated and expanded by including all relevant information, including gender mainstreaming related information. In addition, the new project's subpage will be designed and made functional to gather project relevant information items and make them available to all relevant stakeholders as well as to the wider public.

The Output 5.2.1 will comprise the following activities:

- ? Activity 5.2.1.1 Providing technical support for the Dniester Commission website
- ? Activity 5.2.1.2 Providing content management and editorial support for the Dniester Commission website

? Activity 5.2.1.3 Developing Search Engine Optimization (SEO) and promotion of the Dniester Commission website

Activity 5.2.1.1 Providing technical support for the Dniester Commission website

The activity will include:

- ? Engagement of the external IT developer to create a subpage for the website, assist in uploading and structuring the information;
- ? Creating two additional language versions of the website with the support of external translator;
- ? Embedding social media channels;
- ? Creating a mobile version of the website.

Activity 5.2.1.2 Providing content management and editorial support for the Dniester Commission website

The activity will include:

- ? Creative editing and drafting of news release, introduction paragraphs for each new subsection;
- ? Proofreading of all new information to be uploaded on the new subpage.

Activity 5.2.1.3 Developing Search Engine Optimization (SEO) and promotion of the Dniester Commission website

The activity will include:

- ? Development of Search Engine Optimization strategy which is the process of organising a website's content by topic to improve the likelihood of appearing in search results;

? Design of social media plan to promote the launch of the project leveraging the channels of key stakeholders, i.e., Ukraine's and Moldova's governments, state water management agencies, CSOs, and media.

Output 5.2.2: Communication, stakeholder and gender strategies documented, implemented and shared across the Dniester River basin

Summary of deliverables, outcomes, and budget estimations

The expected deliverables from Output 5.2.2 are:

? Updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Communication Strategy and Gender Action Plan (GAP) adopted and implemented

? Communications products disseminated among all relevant stakeholders' groups

Output 5.2.2 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Enabled stakeholders' awareness and actions through effective project information sharing

The costs for Output 5.2.2: GEF Grant USD 310,000

This Output links to the following outputs:

? Output 5.2.1: Project website within existing Dniester Commission website

? Output 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF /IW:LEARN activities

? Output 5.3.1: Monitoring and evaluation developed and implemented to ensure adaptive project Management

? Output 6.1.1: Networking meetings for the scientific community focusing on applied research in

Draft Communications Strategy, Stakeholder Engagement Plan (reflecting any likely COVID-19 and security restrictions and means to continue engagement minimising travel and contacts) and the Gender Action Plan developed within the framework of the foundational project or during the PPG phase (including M&E indicators and targets) will be revisited during the inception phase and approved at the inception workshop/first PSC meeting. These inclusive strategies will define the work of the project in dealing with different stakeholder groups, integrating inclusive participatory approaches, and ensuring that the project adopts an active role in encouraging the involvement of girls and women in ecosystem management within the basin. The Aarhus Centres in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine will be actively engaged in the development of this output.

The SEP implementation will take into consideration stakeholders' interests in the project and the ways in which these stakeholders may guide the project's outcomes. It will be conducted considering the recommendations developed within the foundation GEF-funded project 'Enabling transboundary co-operation and integrated water resources management in the Dniester River Basin'.

Communication Strategy will have communications objectives, messages, tools, and respective action plans developed and implemented, while the GAP will ensure gender aspects being mainstreamed in all project's activities.

Hence the fact that the foundational project has successfully facilitated the inter-governmental dialogue between Moldova and Ukraine's interested parties over the period of 2017-2021, the activities under the Output 5.2.2 aim to strengthen the current dialogue, expand the knowledge base, and update the project archive and have it accessible to all interested parties.

The Output 5.2.2 will comprise of the following activities:

? Activity 5.2.2.1 Implementing the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Communication Strategy and Gender Action Plan (GAP)

? Activity 5.2.2.2 Documenting Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Communication Strategy and Gender Strategy

? Activity 5.2.2.3 Undertaking knowledge-sharing campaign

Activity 5.2.2.1 Implementing the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Communication Strategy and Gender Action Plan (GAP)

The following will be implemented:

- ? The experts will update and implement strategies leveraging the opportunities offered by Project Steering Committees, inception meetings, technical consultation meetings, thematic workshops, field visits, other events supported by GEF and IW:LEARN; and
- ? All intermediate results will be documented on the project's subpage on the Dniester Commission website and shared with the relevant stakeholders' groups and public at large through digital channels.

Activity 5.2.2.2 Documenting Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Communication Strategy and Gender Strategy

The following will be implemented:

- ? Development of quarterly reports to assess the progress of the strategies' implementation, identify challenges, and track potential reputational risks; and
- ? Document all interim results on the project's subpage on the Dniester Commission website.

Activity 5.2.2.3 Undertaking knowledge-sharing campaign

The following will be implemented:

- ? Development of the flyer 'Project Updates' to be distributed during all types of the high-level meetings and consultations, published on social media, and disseminated upon request.
- ? Leveraging the capacity of the public involvement platform to assist the project to remain a relevant knowledge sharing platform for both internal and external stakeholders. The initiative should engage field representatives to make sure information is disseminated in a timely and inclusive manner through various awareness, educational, and gender and socially inclusive public consultation events.

? Deployment of the Dniester Green Alert platform as a tool to ensure inclusive access to project information among relevant stakeholders, provide technical guidance on information sources and relevant experts.

? This activity involves, but is not limited to targeted events (technical consultation meetings, thematic workshops, field visits, and other events supported by GEF and IW:LEARN) and will produce various communications products such as updates on the Dniester Commission website, presentations, digests, flyers, brief reports, booklets, press releases, social media posts, surveys, and newsletters.

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Output 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF /IW:LEARN activities

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Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverables from Output 5.2.3 are:

- ? Strategic alliance with IW:LEARN developed and implemented
- ? Participation at IW:LEARN events

Output 5.2.3 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Enabled stakeholders? awareness and actions through effective project information sharing

The costs for Output 5.2.3: GEF Grant USD 80,000

This Output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 5.2.1: Project website within existing Dniester Commission website

? Output 5.2.2: Communication, stakeholder and gender strategies documented, implemented and shared across the Dniester River basin

? Output 5.2.4: IW Experience Notes and other IW:LEARN related products and services

The project will actively engage (in-person and remotely) with the GEF IW:LEARN project to support and participate in regional and global IW project exchanges, activities of the UN Water Convention and other information sharing events hosted by the OSCE. In addition, the project will participate in 2 GEF IW Conferences with the participation of national representatives from riparian countries and project staff, as well as in IW:LEARN organised freshwater related workshops and twinning events.

The Output 5.2.3 will comprise of the following activities:

? Activity 5.2.3.1 Establishing strategic alliance with IW:LEARN

? Activity 5.2.3.2 Participating at International waters Conference and other water related events supported by IW:LEARN

Partners in the implementation of this activity will be the IW:LEARN Secretariat, experts from Moldova and Ukraine involved in implementation of the project's activities and other relevant stakeholders. The PCU will establish direct contact with the IW:LEARN Secretariat and provide technical and logistical support.

Activity 5.2.3.1 Establishing strategic alliance with IW:LEARN

Strategic Alliance with IW:LEARN will be developed and implemented with a view to contributing to piloting innovative approaches within (and beyond) the IW Portfolio and providing means for its replication (e.g., data & information management, use of Remote Sensing, integrated environmental & socio-economic assessments, SAP implementation progress tracking, etc. Details will be further fine-tuned/prioritized and adaptively managed during project Inception/implementation phase.

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Activity 5.2.3.2 Participating at International Waters Conference and other water related events supported by IW:LEARN

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As per the established practice for GEF IW projects, the PCU and relevant/selected project partners/stakeholders will actively participate in the regular/core GEF IW:LEARN learning exchange events that will take place during the project implementation period, primarily the International Waters Conference. Subject to the availability of adequate funding, participation in other relevant water related events and activities such as the World Water Week, will also be pursued, with the aim of fostering knowledge exchange and increased/maximised global environmental benefits from the project's intervention through the dissemination of best practices.

Other GEF IW:LEARN events where active participation of the project is anticipated are tailored IW:LEARN twinning exchanges, regional workshops and (caucus) meetings, etc.

In coordination with the IW:LEARN team and other partners, the project will exercise a contributor and/or, where requested and feasible, a lead role in supporting, developing and implementing distinct elements of IW:LEARN event programmes/agendas, e.g. in such areas where the project is seen as exercising a global leadership role, or where the project is acknowledged as fostering innovation and best practice.

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Output 5.2.4: IW Experience Notes and other IW:LEARN related products and services

Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverables from Output 5.2.4 are:

IW Experience Notes

Output 5.2.4 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Enabled stakeholders? awareness and actions through effective project information sharing

The costs for Output 5.2.4: GEF Grant USD 50,000

This Output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 5.2.1: Project website within existing Dniester Commission website
- ? Output 5.2.2: Communication, stakeholder and gender strategies documented, implemented and shared across the Dniester River basin
- ? Output 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF /IW:LEARN activities

Following IW best practices, the project will prepare at least three GEF Experience Notes related to, *inter alia*, involvement of the hydro-energy sector, approximation to the EU, etc. In addition, the project will engage with IW:LEARN to prepare other relevant material as required on the activities of the project to ensure that lessons are shared widely throughout the GEF IW community of projects.

The Output 5.2.4 will comprise of the following activities:

- ? Activity 5.2.4.1 Producing at least three Experience Notes for sharing with IW:LEARN, at least one related to gender
- ? Activity 5.2.4.2 Producing at least three IW:LEARN website/newsletter contributions, at least one related to gender

Partners in the implementation of this activity will be the IW:LEARN Secretariat, experts from Moldova and Ukraine involved in implementation of the project's activities and other relevant stakeholders. The PCU will establish direct contact with the IW:LEARN Secretariat and provide technical and logistical support.

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Activity 5.2.4.1 Producing at least three Experience Notes for sharing with IW:LEARN, at least one related to gender

Production of written experience notes allows to capture and share best practices and lessons learned from GEF IW Projects as they advance through their execution. In line with this established practice, and while keeping an eye on possible innovations in terms of the formatting and dissemination of content, the project will seek to capture and disseminate at least 3 experience notes presenting the best/good practice examples from the work conducted under the different project components.

Activity 5.2.4.2 Producing at least three IW:LEARN website/newsletter contributions

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The project will contribute regularly to the IW:LEARN newsletters and website news section by providing short summaries of the current work with emphasis on innovative practices, stakeholder engagement and gender mainstreaming.

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Component 6: Enhancing research for governance in the Dniester River basin as identified in the SAP

One of the most important activities to improve knowledge about the natural and socio-economic environment in the Dniester River basin is to organise and conduct scientific research. The results of these activities will be materialised in scientific publications, which are widely discussed at various scientific events: forums, conferences, round tables, workshops, training, but the most important and valuable are the international symposia.

This component will build on the needs identified in the SAP for further development of the understanding of the Dniester River basin, and promote the engagement of research institutes and researchers. It is of critical importance that institutions and scientists from both participating countries cooperate in the development of new scientific knowledge that will contribute to improving the governance of the Dniester River basin.

In the SAP, scientific research is integrated in an indirect way in all its components. However, it specifically targets research in the Specific objective 7.2: Ensuring research activities. There, it proposes focusing on the following actions:

- ? Carrying out research activities and developing special studies;
- ? Development and dissemination of specialised guidelines;
- ? Enhancing scientific collaboration;
- ? Strengthening the capacities of scientific centres; and
- ? Organisation and conduct of scientific events.

This component will support all of the above lines of scientific research as needed.

Output 6.1.1: Networking meetings for the scientific community focusing on applied research in the Dniester basin

Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverables from Output 6.1.1 are:

- ? Conference dedicated to sustainable cross-border management and protection of the Dniester River
- ? Publication of the conference proceedings
- ? Upload of the conference results on the organiser's web page and on the project's web page

Output 6.1.1 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Deepened, joint scientific understanding for decision making in the Dniester River basin

The costs for output: GEF Grant USD 110,000

This output links to the following outputs:

- ? Output 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF / IW: LEARN activities
- ? Output 5.2.4: IW Experience Notes and other IW: LEARN related products and services
- ? Output 6.1.2: Applied research as prioritised in SAP on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring

Over many years, a tradition of organising international symposia dedicated to the protection of the Dniester River has emerged. These meetings have been organised and guided by the "Dniester River Keepers". The cooperation of the academic environment, the beneficiaries, the civil society in the identification of scientific problems, the proposals for their implementation in practice (transboundary basin management), the involvement of young specialists (who are in great deficit in both countries) and gender represent a special target of the activity. This output will aim to facilitate the networking and cooperation of research institutes and researchers in riparian countries and also with a broader community of international researchers.

This output will comprise of the following activities:

- ? Activity 6.1.1.1 Supporting events in the area of science and research as relevant to the Dniester basin
- ? Activity 6.1.1.2: Publishing results of the conference proceedings

Partners in the implementation of this output will be scientific and management organisations and institutions in both countries, respective national and regional administrations as well as environmental NGOs. The PCU will offer the logistical and technical support in particular related to creating an international recognizance of the events as well as securing adequate international representation at these events.

Activity 6.1.1.1 Supporting events in the area of science and research as relevant on the Dniester basin

The main objectives of these events are:

? Promoting the importance of cross-border management of the Dniester River basin: The management and protection of the Dniester River basin is more effective to be achieved jointly with both countries participating.

? Identification of new methods and procedures aimed at adaptation to climate changes in the basin: Science is constantly one step ahead of practice, and technologies develop so quickly that it is very difficult to keep up with them. The published research results will serve as support in the application of new methods and procedures to adapt to climate change.

? Attracting young researchers to scientific activity: The socio-economic situation in the region is not favourable for the involvement of young specialists in scientific research. The crisis of young personnel is acute in both countries. The proposed events will serve, among other, as a support for the affirmation of young scientists by publishing the results of their research presented at these events.

One of the main deliverables of this activity will be the organisation of two biannual Ukraine-Moldova conferences on the results of the current project and cross-cutting projects in a hybrid format. The major objective of the conference dedicated will be to promote the importance of transboundary management of the river basin to protect the environment and sustainable use of water and other resources in the basin and to analyse the results of the realisation of the first management plan of the Dniester district, including the joint implementation of the SAP. The process and impact of EU integration for river basin cooperation and management will also be the focus of the conference.

The organising team will collect the scientific articles, evaluate them, prepare the publication layout, take care of the logistics of the event, identify the location, etc.

Other events in this activity will include:

? trainings and/or seminars for scientists of both countries on the main trends in the development of modern fundamental and applied science and where questions will be raised about the implementation of advanced/modern methods that need to be introduced into scientific research practice (including

participation of scientists in the international conferences/workshops/trainings beyond Moldova and Ukraine to make them more familiar with the international standards and community; and

? virtual and face-to-face meetings of research groups of scientists.

Activity 6.1.1.2: Publishing results of the conference proceedings

Publication of results (online and on paper) does not have the desired effect without dedicated dissemination. Thus, the publications of the results of the conferences will be done not only through the national and regional libraries of both countries, but also through all the institutions and organisations involved in the development of this project. The access link to the online information will also be indicated on their web pages.

Output 6.1.2: Applied research as prioritised in SAP on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring

Summary of deliverables, outcomes and budget

The expected deliverables from Output 6.1.2 are:

- ? Joint/coordinated scientific projects and research
- ? Publications, databases and visual materials as a result of the joint/coordinated research

Output 6.1.2 is expected to contribute to the following outcome:

Deepened, joint scientific understanding for decision making in the Dniester River basin

The costs for output: GEF Grant USD 340,000

This output closely links outputs:

- ? Output 1.1.1. Fully operational Dniester Commission and
- ? Output 2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity in state authorities to implement the SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD
- ? Output 3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River basin
- ? Output 4.1.1 Update of the ?Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin? and of its Implementation Plan, and implementation of selected adaptation actions
- ? Output 5.1.1. Awareness raising campaigns and activities to empower stakeholders

This output foresees support to planning and conducting applied joint and/or coordinated research including desk studies, field visits, laboratory sampling and analysis in three main areas, namely: impacts of hydropower facilities located in the Dniester basin; protected areas; and invasive species. In addition, the output will support development and dissemination of publications and visual materials based on the research results. Finally, this output may also support joint sampling and interlaboratory comparison measurements between Moldovan and Ukrainian laboratories according to the new Regulation on cooperation in monitoring and exchange of information in the Dniester River basin within the above-mentioned thematic areas of research.

Research activities will support the Dniester Commission by providing up-to-date information necessary for decision making. Research institutions involved into this output will also benefit from better information exchange by using the possibilities of the Dniester Commission including its working groups and website. Ultimately, research activities will benefit wider stakeholders? groups, including decision making bodies at the national and local levels.

This output comprises of the following activities:

? Activity 6.1.2.1 Conducting analysis of impacts of hydropower facilities located in the Dniester River Basin and developing recommendations to address these impacts

? Activity 6.1.2.2 Developing methodology for prospective reserving and ecological network corridors, and renewing select reconstruction plans

? Activity 6.1.2.3. Developing registry for the current status of invasive species in the Dniester River Basin

? Activity 6.1.2.4 Publishing visual materials on results of the joint/coordinated research

Partners in the implementation of this output will be environment ministries and water authorities, scientific and management organisations and institutions in both countries, respective national and regional administrations, basin councils/committees, basin authorities, laboratories as well as environmental NGOs. The PCU will offer the logistical and technical support in particular related to creating an international recognizance of the events as well as securing adequate international representation at these events.

Activity 6.1.2.1 Conducting analysis of impacts of hydropower facilities located in the Dniester River basin and developing recommendations to address these impacts

This activity foresees elaboration of the study of the socio-economic and ecological impact of all hydropower facilities located in the Dniester basin. This study should include a comprehensive economic analysis of both negative and positive aspects of such an impact on the water ecosystem, the population, energy development potential, industry, agriculture, transport infrastructure, etc.

In addition, this activity includes development of an ecological flow assessment methodology. Assessment of ecological flow and its application in practice should be based on existing basin and world experience, biological indicators of flow efficiency, and assessment of quantitative relationships between ecological indicators of the state of spawning grounds and ecosystems in the Lower Dniester and hydrological parameters of flow. The work of experts from Moldova and Ukraine to evaluate the

proposed performance indicators, and the work of independent experts to obtain a more objective picture based on the methods of quantitative evaluation of the indicators of the flow efficiency will be taken into account.

Coordination with the national project will be ensured as the national project will take the lead on this activity in Moldova. The GEF project will continue to provide support to Ukraine, as needed, and to the Republic of Moldova, if and as required.

Activity 6.1.2.2 Developing methodology for prospective reserving and ecological network corridors, and renewing select reconstruction plans

This activity foresees a study on prospective reserving based on the Dniester reference conditions in Ukraine. The WFD defines the reference conditions for an ecological system as the conditions that prevail in the absence or near absence of human disturbance. The aim is to determine attractive localities for prospective reserving, in particular, places of the river basin that are defined as reference ones. Special attention could be dedicated to maintaining the protected regime of existing protected areas and protection of biodiversity, including prevention of the spread of invasive species.

In addition, this activity foresees revision of management and reconstruction plan of the Yahorlyk nature reserve in Moldova. The previous plan was developed in 2011. Since then, restoration actions were implemented aimed to eliminate invasive species. Because of ecosystem and climate changes there is a need to revise the plan.

It is also planned to perform initial research on developing measures to connect Moldovan and Ukrainian ecological network corridors including through creation of joint transboundary nature protected areas (transboundary Ramsar sites, national parks, biosphere reserves) in Dniester River basin.

Activity 6.1.2.3. Developing registry for the current status of invasive species in the Dniester River basin

Based on TDA, one of the priorities and recently identified issues is invasive species. However, complex studies have not been carried out but are extremely necessary. In particular, it is very important to develop the register of invasive species as well as measures to reduce their number.

Activity 6.1.2.4. Publishing visual materials on results of the joint/coordinated research

This activity foresees development of two publications and the relevant information materials namely:

- ? Assessment and zoning of current agro-climate and its acceleration under future climate change in the Moldavian part of the Dniester River basin (incl. maps and databases); and
- ? Monograph ?Protoparasite fishes of the Dniester River?.

4) Alignment with GEF focal area strategies

The project is aligned with Objective 3 of GEF 7 International Waters Programming Directions: *Enhance water security in freshwater ecosystems*. The focus of the project is IW 3-6 Enhanced cooperation on shared freshwater basins. The demonstration projects in Output 3.1.2 are also aligned with IW 3-7 Investments in water/food/energy/environment security and Component 4 with IW 3-5 info exchange/early warning. The project will further provide benefits to the GEF Biodiversity and Climate change focal areas This will be achieved by implementation of the 6 components included in the project outline.

5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline

The GEF grant (GEFTF) of \$6,000,000 is leveraging a co-financing contribution of approximately \$31,625,000 that will collectively contribute to the implementation of the agreed-on SAP for the Dniester River Basin.

In the framework of implementing the SAP and coordinated RBMPs, the GEF funding will enable the consolidation of country and transboundary efforts to reduce transboundary degradation of the Dniester River Basin. This will strengthen the implementation of IWRM and enhance water security at the national and transboundary levels, and encourage ecosystem-based management. The GEF project is the only planned initiative aiming to deepen the transboundary water cooperation, contributing thus to good neighbourly relations between countries, and focusing on SAP implementation. Activities are building on the extensive baseline of completed and on-going national and regional actions and, the institutional capacity that the participating countries will provide as a resource to this project. The GEF resources will support incremental activities including:

Component 1 will develop Moldovan-Ukrainian cooperation in the field of water resources management by further strengthening the Dniester Commission and its Working Groups. The framework for cooperation is in place but additional steps are needed for a sustained constructive cooperation.

Component 2 will strengthen the regulatory framework and national capacities to implement SAP, country commitments under the UNECE Water Convention and the EU WFD in the Dniester basin. New water legislation and regulations are being drafted and adopted in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine but additional efforts are needed. Raising capacity of institutions and officials to manage the improvement of water management is also important.

Component 3 aims to directly reduce anthropogenic impact to improve ecological status of water bodies. This includes application of directed policy efforts as well as preparations for investments. Stress

reduction efforts will be accompanied where needed by associated governance mechanisms as developed in other components.

Component 4 focuses on the adaptation to climate change and the need for increasing preparedness for and resilience to naturally induced disasters. Floods and droughts are common in the basin and, as a result of climate change, such events may be registered with increasing frequency and amplitude.

In Component 5 Public awareness and involvement and empowerment of stakeholders are in the centre of the attention. Project communications and outreach are also part of this component.

Component 6 supports research for governance in the Dniester River basin as identified in the SAP. It is a key aspect that institutions and scientists from the different Riparians cooperate in the development of new knowledge.

Without the GEF increment the Dniester River Basin will continue to be impacted by:

? Uncoordinated and uneven development of water-dependent sectors at the national and transboundary levels, due to lack of effective resource governance, shifting political and economic development priorities.

? National water management authorities, associated agencies and stakeholders that may not develop the capacity needed to fully implement the agreed-on SAP. There are challenges to the full implementation of directives such as the EU WFD and the articles of the UNECE Water Convention.

? Development planning and decisions not based on the needed information.

? Insufficient water coordination and cooperation with Transdnistria (left bank)

? Challenges to meet the commitments to the bilateral Treaty, including potentially through the suspension of activities of the Dniester River Basin Commission.

6) Global environmental benefits

The proposed project is expected to lead to improvements in transboundary water management through both national and transboundary activities. In the longer term, as the SAP is implemented, improvements in the environmental and water resource status in the Dniester River Basin should be clearly identifiable.

The project will enable the countries to build confidence at the national and transboundary levels for improved water management and strengthened regional cooperation. There will be opportunities for developing shared solutions and exchanging lessons learned. The full application of the Treaty and the institute of the Dniester River Basin Commission will help the countries to meet their commitments and goals, even under the challenge of climate change.

The proposed project will ensure capacity development based on the same principles in both countries, and promote the sense of local ownership of both national and transboundary solutions. This will increase confidence within and between states, and build lasting linkages for long-term sustainable development.

Through the multiple outputs from this project the Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs) will be a long-term positive contribution to the achievement of an improved environmental situation in the Dniester

River Basin including with regard to the main priorities of GEF 7 IW focal area: Integrated land and water management, such as through advancing the nexus approach in watersheds and basins, and prevention of nutrient pollution.

The project will contribute to improving adaptation capacity to climate change and enhancing preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods. The activities proposed include a review of the situation in the basin with regard to adaptation to climate change taking into account the basin-wide Strategic Framework agreed on by the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

The project will contribute to addressing some of the serious ecological challenges within the Dniester River Basin including the loss of biodiversity. It will increase the area of restored land through implementation of pilot demonstration projects aimed at addressing critical issues along the Dniester River banks. Through demonstration projects the project will contribute to improved practices of landscape management, in particular by implementing climate change adaptation activities. The project will contribute, through applied research as prioritised in SAP, on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring.

7) Innovativeness, Sustainability and Potential for Scaling Up

Innovation: The project will build on the approaches gained from the previous GEF and other donor initiatives in the Dniester River basin. The project's innovation will include the establishment of synergies between the GEF IW process and the application of EU legislation in both countries. The close involvement of the hydro-energy sector in basin-wide cooperation is another innovation for GEF IW that contributes to the GEF priority nexus approach. The introduction of robust modelling hydrological models is new for the basin in the development of flood protection. Involvement of professional mediators and communications experts will boost the efficacy of the project interventions.

Sustainability: The actions under this project will be designed with sustainability as a core component. Sustainability of the actions will be supported by:

? The long-term engagement for cooperation of the two countries under the bilateral Treaty and the Dniester Commission will be further strengthened by project activities;

? A close cooperation with NGOs in both countries engaged in transboundary water cooperation;

? Involvement of stakeholders across all levels, in the Republic of Moldova (including Transnistria) and Ukraine;

? Training of experts and stakeholders in the basin will contribute to the establishment of sufficient national capacity;

? Support to the application in the two countries of the UN Water Convention, EU WFD and other EU Directives. The Association Agreements with the EU signed by the two countries are a particularly important driver of policy change. These agreements prescribe duties and schemes for the integrated management of natural resources that, to a large degree, coincides with GEF objectives and approaches, and

? The beneficiary countries have submitted official letters requesting support for the implementation of the SAP and further development of IWRM with the understanding that the new project should involve relevant stakeholders in the basin. This provides a good basis for the sustainability and accomplishment of project plans. At the same time, the countries are willing to take steps in support of SAP implementation also in the longer perspective. If individual measures of the SAP would not be entirely supported or implemented within the project, it is likely that the countries find means to provide their own support.

Potential for scaling-up: The key elements appropriate for upscaling to other river basins include:

? The experience of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to find synergies between the GEF IW process with the application of EU legislation;

? Demonstration projects, including in cooperation with IFIs, as for example on alternative sewage treatment etc. can be scaled up for use in other parts of the basin;

? The experience of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine on addressing climate change related challenges at basin-wide level;

? Involvement of professional mediators and communication experts;

? The experience of NGO representatives being part of the Dniester Commission, and

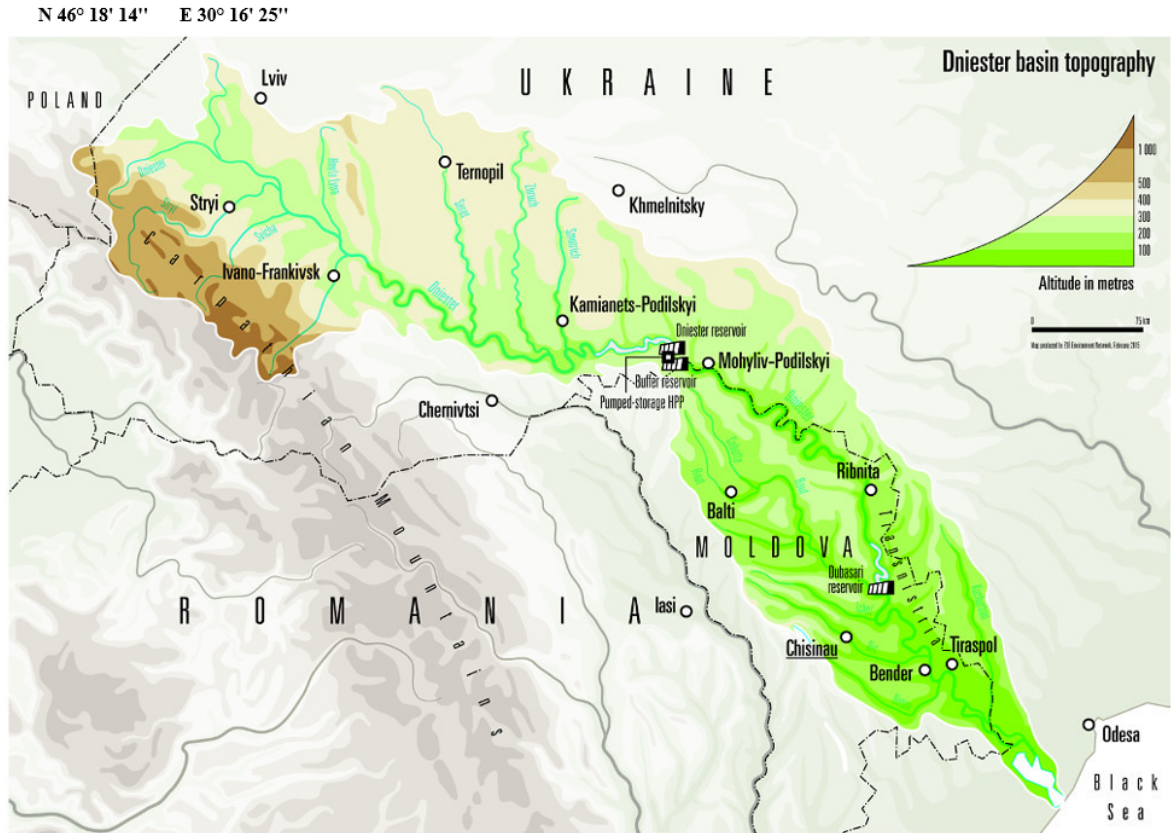
? The close involvement of organizations and representatives of the hydro-energy sector in basin-wide cooperation.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.

The Dniester basin is located in the territory of three countries ? the Republic of Moldova, Poland, and Ukraine. The total length of the Dniester is 1,362 km. The upper and mouth reaches of the Dniester River flow within Ukraine over the total length of 705 km, a 220 km river section is shared between Ukraine and Moldova, and 437 km of its length lie within the borders of Moldova. Only a very small upper part of the Strviash River (a left tributary of the Dniester) lies within the territory of Poland

The georeferences information for the project area is : N 46° 18' 14" E 30° 16' 25"



1c. Child Project?

If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Yes

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

During the design phase, the following stakeholders were consulted:

Moldova

1) The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova ? all activities

- 2) State Agency "Apele Moldovei"? all activities
- 3) Environmental Protection Agency ? water quality, sewage treatment
- 4) National Office for Regional and Local Development ? sewage treatment and investments
- 5) Eco-TIRAS ? suggestions on fish conservation, applied research and awareness raising activities
- 6) BIOTICA ? suggestions for demonstration projects and adaptation measures on wetland restoration, reforestation and others
- 7) Institute of Ecology and Geography ? flood management, river basin management
- 8) OSCE Mission to Moldova
Ukraine

- 9) The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine ? all activities
 - 10) State Water Agency of Ukraine ? all activities
 - 11) State Agency of Emergency Situations ? flood management
 - 12) The Dniester Basin Management Authority (Ukraine) ? all activities
 - 13) The Basin Management Authority of the Western Bug and Syan ? suggestions on reservoir restoration
 - 14) The Dniester Basin Council (Ukraine) ? overall suggestions for project implementation
 - 15) The Centre of Regional Studies ? suggestions for the adaptation measures such as restoration of the Yagorlyk river and the Dniester delta and for the demonstration project on improvement of protected areas network
 - 16) The Basin Management Authority of the Black Sea Rivers and the Lower Danube ? suggestions for restoration of the Yagorlyk river
 - 17) Ukrainian Hydropower Company "Ukrhydroenergo"? suggestions on ecological release
 - 18) Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Institute ? flood modelling, preventing accidental pollution
 - 19) Institute of Marine Biology ? development of scientific community
 - 20) Lower Dniester National Nature Park ? restoration of the Dniester delta
 - 21) Galytskyi National Nature Park ? restoration in the upper part of the Dniester
 - 22) NGO "Agrikola" and Black Sea Women Club ? communication activities
 - 23) OSCE Support Programme for Ukraine
- Stakeholders informed about the ongoing PPG phase

- 1) UNDP Country Office in the Republic of Moldova
- 2) UNDP Country Office in Ukraine
- 3) Dniester River Basin Council in Ukraine
- 4) Co-organizers of the "Colours of the Dniester" art contest: the State Agency "Apele Moldovei"; Dniester River Basin Council in Ukraine; Eco-TIRAS International Environmental Association of River Keepers; All-Ukrainian Environmental Non-Governmental Organization "MAMA-86; school teachers from Moldova and Ukraine, etc.

The above-mentioned stakeholders were engaged and consulted in the project design phase either through one or more of the following means:

- Through constant and direct communication between the project development team and the respective stakeholders. The national authorities in particular (Ministry of Environment of the

Republic of Moldova and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine as well as the State Water Agencies in the two countries), have been updated regularly on each of the milestone developments and invited to submit comments and suggested to the developed project documentation, as follows:

- o Information about the start of the PPG phase with a focus on next steps ? 01 October 2023;

- o Sharing of the zero draft project document ? 09 October 2023;

- o Updated draft of the project document with request for submitting comments and suggestions ? 17 October 2023;

- o Response to the suggestions proposed ? 24 October 2023;

- o Sharing of updated project document ? 06 November 2023;

- o Sharing of information about the project document and next steps in the process ? 17 November 2023;

- o Further to the above, the team of consultants who were providing technical expertise to the project have been in touch with various national stakeholders, collecting input, as required;

- During the Dniester Basin Council Meeting (Ukraine, on 22 September 2023);

- During a coordination phone call with UNDP Country Office Moldova (31 October 2023) and follow-up exchange of correspondence;

- During the 4th Meeting of the Commission for Sustainable Use and Protection of the Dniester River Basin (Ukraine, 22 November 2023).

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

The Stakeholders Engagement Plan has been prepared and attached to the UNDP project document.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Table. Stakeholders? Engagement Plan

Stakeholder group	Engagement method	Materials to be used	Responsible organization, person	Frequency
Stakeholders to be affected, directly or indirectly, by the outcomes of the Project implementation	<p>Events</p> <p>Project Steering Committee Meetings; Dniester Commission meetings; High-level conferences; Launches of demo projects; Awareness/ educational events</p> <p>Tactics:</p> <p>Inform on the project implementation status</p> <p>Collect opinions and concerns</p> <p>Consultations</p> <p>Holding targeted group meetings, as necessary</p> <p>Inform on the internal Project development issues, success and difficulties</p>	<p>Presentations</p> <p>Booklets, Brochures and progress leaflets</p> <p>Website posting</p> <p>OSCE social media</p> <p>GEF agencies reports</p>	<p>Project coordinator</p> <p>Communications officer</p>	Annually

Stakeholder group	Engagement method	Materials to be used	Responsible organization, person	Frequency
Stakeholders that participate in the project directly or indirectly	<p>Events</p> <p>Project Steering Committee</p> <p>Consultation meetings</p> <p>Workshops</p> <p>Field visits</p> <p>Eco-tours</p> <p>Press tours</p> <p>Awareness forums/educational webinars</p> <p>Tactics</p> <p>Inform via direct meetings and reporting</p>	<p>Updates on the Dniester Commission website</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Booklets</p> <p>Flyers</p> <p>Reports</p> <p>Press releases</p> <p>Summaries of the meetings</p> <p>Social media posts</p> <p>Brief reports</p>	Project coordinator	Ad-hoc Quarterly
Stakeholders who are able to influence and decide the outcomes and make decisions based on the outputs of the project	<p>Events</p> <p>Project steering committee</p> <p>Governmental meetings</p> <p>Donor meetings</p> <p>Tactics</p> <p>Inform on the project implementation status</p> <p>Consultation meetings</p> <p>Holding targeted group meetings</p>	<p>Surveys</p> <p>Leaflets</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Newsletters</p> <p>Project website posting</p> <p>Project reports</p>	Project coordinator Training Specialist Communication Officer	Annually Ad-hoc

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Awareness raising components: individual activities, campaigns and empowerment tools

1. Updated Dniester Commission website ? a key knowledge-exchange and info storage platform for the project and beyond; translation into Ukrainian and Romanian is strongly recommended; Introduction of the QR-code to be leveraged in all communications products designed by the project.
2. Regular reporting with highlights in the format of leaflets (two-pagers) to be distributed during the meetings (or through QR code).
3. Regular Dniester Days ?one-day outdoor activity aimed at raising awareness of the history of the river and culture of the population living close to the river shores;
4. Basin-wide contest of creativity ?Colours of the Dniester? targeting children and youth ? every year the contest joined over 700 young artists who advocated for the preservation of the river through artworks. Suggested timeline ? annually. Dniester Summer School ? a weekly camp for kids and youth supported by the local CSOs.
5. Startup Climathon 2021 in Moldova ? an initiative to design and present tangible sustainable solutions, projects, and potential startups that address climate challenges in the Dniester river basin.
6. Dniester Conference ? the key annual knowledge exchange platform for the scientists, researchers, public and private sector participants who join efforts to boost development of the Dniester River basin.
7. Demo projects along the shores of the Dniester River to advocate for the restoration of smaller rivers .At least two demo projects can be united by the recreational ?Eco-route? to demonstrate best practice solutions for efficient and sustainable restoration measures for such rivers. The efforts aim to raise awareness of the natural degradation issue, increase knowledge of the Dniester River basin, and attract tourists to fuel local economy and help households.
8. Campaign ?Back to the Sources? which can be part of the Eco-route but more focused on the education and awareness raising for the kids and youth leaving in the Dniester basin area.
9. Dniester Parliament to assist the project to remain a relevant and thriving environment of learning and understanding for both internal and external stakeholders. The principal goal of the initiative is to represent the perspectives of various stakeholders? groups, including vulnerable or disadvantaged groups, female communities, refugees, and internally displaced people, in the project?s decision making. Dniester Parliament can serve a core focal point in organizing all awareness, educational, public consultation events.
10. Rebuild Ukraine Conferences to be leveraged by the project to advocate for the Dniester River basin development and preservation as one of the ways to address ecological footprint of Russia?s invasion of Ukraine.

Knowledge-sharing tools

? Distribution of workshop materials to participants, including agenda, project documents, presentations, questionnaires and discussion topics: These can be distributed online to participants.

? Discussion, feedback collection and sharing: Participants can be organized and assigned to different topic groups, teams or virtual round-tables provided they agree to this.

? Group, team and table discussions can be organized through social media means, such as webex, skype or zoom, or through written feedback in the form of an electronic questionnaire or feedback forms that can be emailed back.

? In situations where off-line interaction is challenging, information can be disseminated through digital platform (where available) like Instagram, Project website, and traditional means of communications (phone calls and mails with clear description of mechanisms for providing feedback via mail and / or dedicated telephone lines). All channels of communication need to clearly specify how stakeholders can provide their feedback and suggestions.

The project may at times be undertaken in especially challenging environments, such as areas experiencing armed conflict. The project team will ask whether planned meetings and consultations could put stakeholders at risk, and if so, undertake measures to avoid and minimize them. Stakeholder engagement specialist with up-to-date familiarity of local contexts will devise and help manage engagement processes in such contexts. Decentralized, targeted meetings with specific stakeholder groups may be necessary.

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Disclosure of information

The project will endeavour to make information available to the public on the dniester-comission.com to allow stakeholders to get to know and understand both the environmental and social impacts associated with the project, as well as opportunities provided by the project. This will enable them to utilise the project results and outputs to make informed decision in areas associated with trans-boundary water management.

On an ongoing basis, the project will have consultation on the new emerging issues of the project. The disclosures will be done to all stakeholders through project reports or technical annual/biannual meetings and conferences.

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Monitoring and reporting

Monitoring is an integral component of project management as it tracks and assesses progress towards achieving tangible development results associated with the project being implemented. It helps to

detect problems earlier and coming up with appropriate measures to address them. Therefore, monitoring usually provides data used for analysis and synthesis prior to reporting for decision making.

Table 5: Reporting Format

	Parameter	Monitoring and reporting responsibility	Reporting period
1	Number of government agencies, transboundary water commissions, civil society organizations, private sector companies, indigenous groups and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase	OSCE (as represented by its Secretariat)	Annual basis
2	Number of persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase	OSCE (as represented by its Secretariat)	Annual basis
3	Number of engagement (e.g. meeting, workshops, consultations, conferences) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase	OSCE (as represented by its Secretariat)	Annual basis
4	Percentage of stakeholders who rate as satisfactory the quality of the services they receive	Externally hired consultant	Biannual basis

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier;

Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body; Yes

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan

1. Introduction

The gender strategy and action plan for the project "Advancing transboundary cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin through implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP)" is guided by the GEF Gender Policy and Guidance to Advance Gender Equality, the UNDP Gender Equality Strategy 2022-2025 and the UNESCO WWAP's Gender and Water Toolkit which is a part of the IW:LEARN sub-component on gender.

In alignment with the GEF 7 programming directions, the strategy and action plan address the three gender gaps relevant to the context of the results framework for the proposed project: (1) unequal access to natural resources, particularly water, in lack of/ or despite norms and laws in favor of women; (2) inequality in participation and decision-making in water management planning and governance; (3) unequal access to socio-economic benefits and services for income generation.

The gender strategy and action plan build upon the Gender Survey and Gender Mainstreaming Strategy prepared for the previous GEF project "Facilitation of transboundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the Dniester River Basin" and carries forward the gender mainstreaming results of that project.

2. Background: Gender and transboundary water governance

National water governance frameworks are the key building blocks for transboundary water governance processes. The extent to which national water governance frameworks recognize and address gender equality influences the way the transboundary management governance is set up. Women's pivotal role in water management was recognized in 1992 through the Dublin principles but women remain under-represented in water governance processes in local, national, and transboundary settings. Not only is this human rights issue, but it also reduces the effectiveness of governance processes. Different stakeholders contribute a variety of perspectives, knowledge, and solutions to water governance challenges, making it imperative to include all stakeholders in water management. Creating opportunities to involve both women and men in transboundary water management institutions and systems will make the governance more inclusive, technically sound and ensure benefits from shared water resources to all stakeholders.

Transboundary water governance is multi-layered, from local water management entities to the national, basin and transboundary level. Formal mechanisms in transboundary water governance are set up as state-to-state matters, often overlooking basin level cooperation processes in which women have a role to play. Informal multistakeholder transboundary governance processes provide spaces for women's contributions to build pathways to formalized institutions and benefit-sharing measures that are more inclusive and gender-equal.

Women play a prominent role in the productive use and management of land and water resources through agriculture, forestry, fishery within and across national boundaries. Women are key holders of knowledge on water use and sharing. They play a major role in knowledge dissemination and awareness raising through their networks and by educating the next generation.

Actions for improving gender equality in transboundary water governance and management include:

- ? Combine the implementation of SDG 6 and SDG 5
- ? Address stereotypes and cultural norms about the roles of women that impede their meaningful participation in water governance systems
- ? Transform land and resource tenure and inheritance laws that restrict or prohibit women's access to resources including water, and curtail their productive opportunities
- ? Allocate resources to facilitate effective participation and provide equal opportunities in all levels of decision-making related to resource management
- ? Work with women's organization and use affirmative action by setting quotas for women's participation in decision-making

- ? Emphasize explicitly the value of women's knowledge, competencies, and knowledge dissemination capacities
- ? Build capacity and provide vocational training to women in all aspects of water management
- ? Support women's networks
- ? Create job opportunities for women in national and transboundary river basin authorities, local water management entities and water-related businesses
- ? Recognise the value of women's traditional and indigenous knowledge, and make use of it alongside 'modern' knowledge in policies and projects
- ? Seek commitment from national government stakeholders to ensure that all water resources management and WASH investments, including transboundary governance initiatives, undertake gender analysis and planning from the outset to inform program development and allocate sufficient resources to meet gender equality objectives.

3. Mechanisms for promoting gender equality in Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova

At the political level, both countries are party to relevant international conventions and have adopted the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030. At national levels, reforms and legal provisions are in place to provide gender equal rights to productive assets such as land, and multiple projects and initiatives are in place to promote gender equality.

The Republic of Moldova has the Gender Equality Coordination Council to mainstream gender in policy. The Strategy on Ensuring Equality between Women and Men for 2017-2021 and its Action Plan espouses an integrated approach to the promotion of gender equality, outlining ten areas for intervention (women's participation indecision-making; gender gaps in the labour market and wages; social protection and family policies; health; education; climate change; the institutional mechanism; stereotypes and non-violent communication; gender equality in the security and defense sector; and gender responsive budgeting). The National Human Rights Action Plan for the period 2018-2022 aims to strengthen human rights protection, including in gender equality.

Within the government, three bodies have mandates that cover gender equality: (i) the Commission on Gender Equality, which has the lead coordinating role in gender mainstreaming of public policies and programmes; (ii) a special division of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection on Gender Equality Policies; and (iii) a system of Gender Coordination Groups located within the policymaking subdivisions

of line ministries and other central administrative authorities. The head of each relevant public institution coordinates the activities of its Gender Coordination Group, which carry out gender mainstreaming and gender impact analyses. Affirmative action in 2015 called for 30 % women in the Parliament, 40 % in the local councils and 25% in the district councils and mayor's offices.

In Ukraine, the Government Commissioner for Gender Equality Policy is responsible for coordinating the work of ministries and other central and local bodies on equal rights and opportunities, monitoring the implementation of state policy and assisting in developing state programmes on gender equality, working with international organizations and civil society. The Ministry of Social Policy is the authorized executive body for equal rights and opportunities for women and men and is the main coordination body for the government. The Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights has a department dedicated to monitoring equal rights and freedoms, under which is a subdivision on discrimination that includes a section dedicated to gender equality.

4. Gender analysis of access to land and water[1]

Sex-disaggregated data is not available in the Republic of Moldova and in Ukraine, related to access to water, neither for drinking nor for productive purposes. The national level data and information does not consider intersectionality such as location, gender status, minority status, people with special needs.

Given below is information accessed from FAO and UNDP documents.

? The Republic of Moldova

Data in the state registry in 2014 indicated that women owned 41 percent of land plots. The Agricultural Census of 2011 indicated that just over a third of the agricultural holdings were owned or managed by women. A large majority of agricultural holdings are small holdings that do not have the legal status as farms, these holdings are not registered as farms. Women generally own unregistered farms, and own or control 19 percent of the total agricultural land holdings, half of which consists of plots around the house and small gardens. Customary practices act as barriers to land ownership by women. Men are favored as owners, managers and inheritors of land and property. Since women own small parcels of land, they often face difficulties in procuring finance and other inputs, a consequence which acts as a barrier to investing in or procuring larger parcels of land.

There are clear divisions of labour in agriculture along gender lines. Women's tasks are largely unmechanized such as sowing seeds, planting seedlings, weeding, harvesting in greenhouses, hand-spraying small plots with pesticides and chemicals, and some selling of agricultural produce in open-air markets. Men perform labour that depends upon mechanization, spraying large plots with pesticides and chemicals, irrigation, and operating farm equipment, as well as transport, processing, marketing, selling and export of plant products. Men are the main decision makers on agricultural inputs, production practices, financing and marketing or sale of produce. Crop production places women lower down the value chain, whereas in horticulture value chains, there is a more equitable distribution of roles for men and women. Women and men take on different tasks in livestock production. Women are typically responsible for animal care, such as providing feed and water, as well as milking, processing. Men are generally involved in herding, cutting branches for feeding livestock and administering medicine, and for transport and marketing.

Gender gaps are seen in access to agricultural machinery and equipment including for irrigation. The agriculture census found that 92 percent of the farm holdings that had irrigation machinery were headed by men. Although women have smaller and fragmented plots, they still require irrigation. Climate change and recent droughts in the Republic of Moldova have demonstrated a critical need for small-scale irrigation for small farms. Improved access to irrigation will improve agricultural production and incomes for women.

? **Ukraine**

Rural household data show that the average land area belonging to female-headed households (0.96 hectares) is smaller than the average for male-headed households (1.46 hectares). 90.7 % of agricultural land belonging to male-headed households is arable, whereas 86.7 percent of agricultural land belonging to female-headed is arable. (State Statistics Service of Ukraine, 2020)

Although Ukraine has adequate water resources for industry, agriculture and household use, ensuring water supply to rural households is problematic, and disparities in access can be found between urban and rural areas. According to a national report, in 2015, over 90 percent of cities and towns were served by a centralized water supply, while only 22 percent of rural settlements had access to centralized water supply. (UNDP in Ukraine, 2015). As of 2018, around two-thirds of rural households still relied on other water sources for drinking and cooking, such as a well or standpipe located near the house. Rural households that do not have access to water through wells, standpipes or open water sources rely on water delivered by truck and seldom purchase water. Insufficient safe drinking water affects the lives of all household members in terms of health and personal hygiene, but the situation also impacts on women and men differently. Women are the major users of household water.

Climate change threatens food security and poses several potential risks to Ukraine's agricultural sector, by increasing vulnerability of crops to changes in precipitation and temperature. Rising temperatures in some parts of the country could benefit crop yields, but more fertile regions may be harmed if rainfall decreases. Climate change increases the risk of droughts and floods, and forest fires. (USAID, 2016). Ukraine has recognized the need to build the resilience of socially vulnerable populations and reduce their exposure to climate-related events, extreme weather, environmental shocks and natural disasters.

Gender inequalities, and in particular the specific roles that women and men play, as well as their unique needs, vulnerabilities, and sources of livelihoods, require different responses in terms of adaptation and mitigation strategies. Women and men experience climate change differently, and gender inequalities (which can encompass economic disparities, differences in access to productive resources, different levels of education and cultural norms, for instance) affect their abilities to adapt. Differences in gender roles such as women's greater responsibility for gathering food, fuel and water, equip them with a unique understanding about what is needed to adapt to changes in the environment and can offer innovative solutions. When gender is not effectively integrated into efforts around climate change, opportunities to take advantage of women as change agents can be missed.

5. Expected gender outcomes

The gender outcomes expected from the project address the gender gaps in (1) unequal access to natural resources, particularly water, in lack of/ or despite norms and laws in favor of women; (2) inequality in participation and decision-making in water management planning and governance; (3) unequal access to socio-economic benefits and services for income generation.

The following expected gender outcomes are to be achieved within the project area for the total number of female and male beneficiaries identified for the project.

All social data will be disaggregated by sex, from the level of the Commission to the local beneficiary level. Beneficiary data will be further disaggregated by age, location, social group and identity, special needs, and gender orientation.

1. Access to water resources improved equally for women and men beneficiaries in the project area
2. Equal participation and decision making in water management planning and governance

3. Equal access to socio-economic benefits and services resulting from project activities for women and men beneficiaries

Project outcomes that align with gender outcomes

Gender outcomes	Project outcomes
<p>Access to water resources improved equally for women and men beneficiaries in the project area</p>	<p>Outcome 1.1: Riparians have strengthened political commitment and capacity to implement the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin</p> <p>Outcome 2.1: Countries have strengthened the legal framework and capacity to implement the SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD</p> <p>Outcome 4.1: Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods</p> <p>Outcome 5.2: Enabled stakeholders? awareness and actions through effective project information sharing</p> <p>Outcome 6.1: Deepened, joint scientific understanding for decision making in the Dniester River Basin</p> <p>Outcome M&E: M&E strategy guiding project management to achieve delivery of project outputs</p>
<p>Equal participation and decision making in water management planning and governance</p>	<p>Outcome 1.1: Riparians have strengthened political commitment and capacity to implement the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin</p> <p>Outcome 5.1: Improved capacity of experts and stakeholders to develop and participate in activities in support of water management and water cooperation</p> <p>Outcome 5.2: Enabled stakeholders? awareness and actions through effective project information sharing</p> <p>Outcome 6.1: Deepened, joint scientific understanding of decision making in the Dniester River Basin</p> <p>Outcome M&E: M&E strategy guiding project management to achieve delivery of project outputs</p>

<p>Equal access to socio-economic benefits and services resulting from project activities for women and men beneficiaries</p>	<p>Outcome 1.1: Riparians have strengthened political commitment and capacity to implement the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin</p> <p>Outcome 2.1: Countries have strengthened the legal framework and capacity to implement the SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD</p> <p>Outcome 3.1: Improved ecological status in the Dniester River basin</p> <p>Outcome 4.1: Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods</p> <p>Outcome 6.1: Deepened, joint scientific understanding for decision making in the Dniester River Basin</p> <p>Outcome M&E: M&E strategy guiding project management to achieve delivery of project outputs</p>
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6. Gender Action Plan

<p>Component 1: Strengthening Moldovan-Ukrainian cooperation in the field of water resources management</p>				
<p>Outcome 1.1: Riparians have strengthened political commitment and capacity to implement the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin</p>				
Output	Gender target and description	Indicators	Sources of information	Means of verification

<p>Output 1.1.1: Fully operational Dniester Commission</p>	<p>There is no gender target for political appointees as these are related to the positions they hold in their respective ministries. Most senior positions in the water related ministries are held by men.</p> <p>The project will ensure that both male and female members of the Commission and professional staff are involved in the decision-making processes.</p> <p>The gender target for technical and professional staff in the Commission is 50% for male and female staff.</p> <p>Qualified women officials, scientists will be identified for technical positions and for appointment</p>	<p>Number and percentage of women and men in decision-making positions in the Commission</p> <p>Number of decisions that addressed specific gender issues related to water management and access to water resources</p> <p>Number and percentage of women and men in the stakeholder groups involved in the activities of the Commission</p> <p>Number and percentage of women and men in the national basin committees and councils</p> <p>Number of women's organisations consulted by the Commission</p> <p>Number of meetings with</p>	<p>Organisational chart of the Commission</p> <p>Records of meetings showing attendance and number of interventions made by women and men in the meetings</p> <p>Records of meetings with different stakeholders and women's organisations and the issues discussed</p> <p>Records of meetings with ministries with a gender mandate</p>	<p>Interviews with male and female staff and members of the Commission</p> <p>Interviews with stakeholders, women's organisations, ministries</p> <p>Discussions with female and male staff to find out if their contributions or interventions were addressed/integrated into the decisions taken in the meetings</p>
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	<p>to the different working groups</p> <p>To avoid working in silos, the Commission will support collaboration at the national level with other ministries in both countries that have a gender mandate such as the Gender Coordination Group in the Republic of Moldova and the Ministry of Social Policy in Ukraine.</p> <p>Women's organisations will be identified for collaboration in both countries</p>	<p>stakeholder groups and women's organisations and issues discussed</p> <p>Evidence of collaboration with ministries with a gender mandate</p>		
<p>Component 2: Strengthening the regulatory framework and national capacities to implement the SAP, country commitments under the UN Water Convention and the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD) in the Dniester River basin</p>				
<p>Outcome 2.1: Countries have strengthened the legal framework and capacity to implement the SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD</p>				
Output	Gender target and description	Indicators	Sources of information	Means of verification

<p>Output 2.1.1: Draft of new laws and regulations in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as a basis for implementation of SAP (a max. no. of 2 draft laws/ regulations per country) and the EU WFD (approx. 2 trainings)</p>	<p>Sex-disaggregated data collected and analysed as necessary, depending on the subject of the law or regulation</p> <p>Female and male members of stakeholder groups consulted</p> <p>Female and male members of social groups/water users in the local communities consulted as found necessary</p> <p>Specific needs of female and male water users identified and addressed</p>	<p>Integration of gender concerns in the laws and regulations (needs of women and men water users)</p>	<p>Reports of consultations with stakeholder groups</p> <p>Drafts of laws and regulations</p>	<p>Interviews with officials, staff, scientists, professionals involved in drafting the laws and regulations</p> <p>Interviews with female and male stakeholders</p>
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Output 2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity in state authorities to implement the SAP, the UN Water Convention	50% of trainees are women Training materials are gender sensitive Gender sensitivity training modules included as found necessary	Number and percentage of women and men officials and staff trained	Lists of trainees Training materials Training reports	Interviews with trainers and trainees
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Component 3: Reducing anthropogenic impact to improve ecological status in the Dniester River basin as defined in the SAP

Outcome 3.1: Improved ecological status in the Dniester River basin

Output	Gender target and description	Indicators	Sources of information	Means of verification
Output 3.1.1: Methodological guidelines and facilitated investment opportunities to improve the ecological status in the Dniester River basin (a max. no. of 2 methodological guidelines and 2 investment plans)	Safeguards for protecting against negative impacts of local women and men integrated			
Output 3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River basin (a max. no. of 2 demonstration projects per country)	Equal number of female and male stakeholders involved in the demonstration projects			

Component 4: Adaptation to climate change and increasing preparedness for and resilience to natural disasters

Outcome 4.1: Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods

Output	Gender target and description	Indicators	Sources of information	Means of verification
Output 4.1.1: Update of the Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin and of its Implementation Plan?, and implementation of selected adaptation actions (a max. no. of 2 adaptation actions per country)	Gender concerns integrated			

<p>Output 4.1.2: Maps, hydrological models, early warning and response systems for floods</p>	<p>Early warning systems should address the needs of female and male members of the local communities. Method of conveying the early warning should take into account the female and male members of different ages, education level, special needs in the local communities</p> <p>Consultations with ministries that have a gender mandate</p> <p>Flood response systems should be designed with the needs of women and children and people with special needs in mind</p>	<p>Early warning systems easily accessed and understood by female and male members of local communities with different needs</p> <p>Evidence that flood response addresses the needs of women and children and people with special needs</p>	<p>Methods used to convey the early warning</p> <p>Early warning systems, text of the messages and method of conveying them (loudspeaker, SMS, radio, television). Each method has gender implications</p> <p>Flood response systems such as rescue, and evacuation designed for vulnerable communities</p>	<p>Interviews with female and male members of the local communities</p> <p>Interviews with professionals/officials who prepare and convey the early warning and design flood response</p>
<p>Output 4.1.3: Drought management plan and implementation of selected actions</p>	<p>Female and male stakeholders should be consulted while making drought management plans, particularly where water scarcity directly affects the lives and livelihoods of local communities</p>	<p>Number of consultations with female and male members of local communities</p> <p>Evidence that their concerns and needs were taken into account</p>	<p>Drought management plan and method of implementation</p> <p>Records of consultations with stakeholders and local community</p>	<p>Interviews with planners and implementors</p> <p>Interviews with stakeholders and community members</p>

Component 5: Public awareness and involvement projects to empower and raise the capacity of stakeholders, project communications and outreach

Outcome 5.1: Improved capacity of experts and stakeholders to develop and participate in activities in support of water management and water cooperation

Output	Gender target and description	Indicators	Sources of information	Means of verification
Output 5.1.1: Awareness raising campaigns and activities to empower stakeholders (at least 2 awareness raising actions)	<p>Awareness raising methods and materials are gender responsive, and challenge stereotypes.</p> <p>Female and male stakeholders actively engaged in supporting and contributing to project outcomes.</p> <p>For example, educate female and male farmers in improved agricultural practices to mitigate pollution, educate female and male household members to segregate waste, involve them in mitigating plastic pollution</p>	<p>Evidence that the text in the messages, types of visuals used, and methods of communication are gender responsive</p> <p>Evidence that campaigns reach out to female and male audiences from different social groups</p>	<p>Records of campaigns, messages, and methods used</p> <p>Records of number of female and male participants in the activities</p>	<p>Interviews with participants to gauge the effectiveness of the campaigns and activities</p> <p>Professionals who managed to campaigns and activities</p>

Outcome 5.2: Enabled stakeholders? awareness and actions through effective project information sharing

Output	Gender target and description	Indicators	Sources of information	Means of verification
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Output 5.2.1: Project website within the existing Dniester Commission website	Gender outcomes highlighted	Dedicated gender page Progress towards gender outcomes updated	Website	Interviews with professionals managing content for the website
Output 5.2.2: Communication, stakeholder and gender strategies documented, implemented and shared across the Dniester River basin	Communication and stakeholder strategies aligned with gender strategy and action plan	Evidence of gender integration in Communication and Stakeholder strategy Evidence that inputs from female and male stakeholders are included	Strategy documents Reports of meetings with stakeholders	Strategy documents and discussion with relevant professionals
Output 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF /IW:LEARN activities	Gender outcomes integrated	Number of activities that included reports on gender outcomes	Reports of IW:LEARN activities	Discussions with relevant professionals
Output 5.2.4: IW Experience Notes and other IW:LEARN related products and services.	Gender outcomes integrated	Number of notes and products that highlighted gender concerns and progress towards gender outcomes	Experience notes and IW:LEARN products	Discussions with relevant professionals
Component 6: Enhancing research for governance in the Dniester River basin as Identified in the SAP				
Outcome 6.1: Deepened, joint scientific understanding for decision making in the Dniester River Basin				
Output	Gender target and description	Indicators	Sources of information	Means of verification

Output 6.1.1: Networking GET meetings for the scientific community focusing on applied research in the Dniester basin (at least 2 meetings)				
Output 6.1.2: Applied research as prioritised in SAP on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring				
M&E: M & E strategy guiding project management to achieve delivery of project outputs				
Output	Gender target and description	Indicators	Sources of information	Means of verification
Output M&E : Monitoring and evaluation developed and implemented to ensure adaptive project management	Gender results included and monitored in project M&E Project team has gender expertise	Evidence of gender expertise in the project team Inputs from gender expert integrated into implementation activities and project management	M&E reports Reports of gender expert	Discussions with implementing professionals and evaluators, including gender evaluator

6. Gender Results Framework

Gender outcome	Objective and outcome indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of project target	Assumptions
<p>Access to water resources improved equally for women and men beneficiaries in the project area</p>	<p>To promote equal access to water resources for women and men in all social groups in the project area</p> <p>Indicator: 50% of total beneficiaries of project activities are women</p>	<p>Number and percentage of female and male beneficiaries from different social groups in the project area, and identified for project activities will be the baseline</p> <p>Data of beneficiaries identified for the project outputs and activities will be disaggregated by sex, social group, location, special needs.</p>	<p>This will be synchronized with the project activities.</p> <p>Progress in achieving the target will be tracked and reasons for not achieving the target will be reviewed</p>	<p>50% female and male beneficiaries</p>	<p>Female and male member of local communities are willing to participate in the project activities.</p> <p>Cultural barriers are addressed so that female members of the communities and social groups can participate in project activities</p> <p>Project staff can facilitate the participation of female and male members of the communities</p>

Gender outcome	Objective and outcome indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of project target	Assumptions
<p>Equal participation and decision making in water management planning and governance</p>	<p>To facilitate and ensure quantitative and qualitative participation of men and women in all decision-making processes at all levels of decision making from local to international</p>	<p>Same as above for the beneficiary level</p> <p>Number and percentage of female and male professionals, officials, scientists, and technicians identified and appointed to working groups, committees and staff involved in decision-making will be another baseline</p> <p>It may not be possible to get equal numbers of female and male professionals because appointments will depend upon qualifications and the needs of the jobs. This will be explained in the report</p>	<p>This will be synchronized with the project activities.</p> <p>Progress in achieving the target will be tracked and reasons for not achieving the target will be reviewed</p>	<p>50% female and male participants in participatory processes</p>	<p>Female and male participants are motivated and willing to contribute to decision-making processes</p> <p>Project staff can facilitate the qualitative participation of female and male participants, encouraging them to voice their opinions and contribute to discussions</p>

Gender outcome	Objective and outcome indicator	Baseline	Mid-term target	End of project target	Assumptions
Equal access to socio-economic benefits and services resulting from project activities for women and men beneficiaries	To ensure that project outputs and activities create opportunities for female and male beneficiaries from all social groups to derive socio-economic benefits	Number of female and male beneficiaries from different social groups in the project area, and identified for project activities will be the baseline Data of beneficiaries identified for the project outputs and activities will be disaggregated by sex, social group, location, special needs	This will be synchronized with the project activities. Progress in achieving the target will be tracked and reasons for not achieving the target will be reviewed Benefits from projects activities and interventions may or may not be evident in the mid-term	50% female and male beneficiaries	Female and male beneficiaries are able to accept and take advantage of project interventions, for example, acceptance of drought adaptive measures in agriculture

[1] Information for this section is taken from FAO's Country Gender Assessments for The Republic of Moldova and Ukraine

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment?

Yes

Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes

Does the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.

Private sector engagement is important for the project as some sectors with private interests use the water and water-related ecosystems. Significant efforts will be made to communicate with private sector stakeholders and engage them in a dialogue with the objective to improve management in the Dniester River Basin. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan identified private sector as one of the main stakeholder groups and is proposing to involve them in important activities of the project. There have already been discussions with Ukrnafta Co, a company extracting oil and gas in Ukraine, with regards to cooperation on the management of the tailing management facilities, e.g. cooperation with the national and local authorities on improvement of the national legislation, updated vision of the use of the ecological fund, sharing experience of planned pilot activities of the Ukrnafta Co with other companies in this domain. Within the framework of the foundational project, the project team has been developing a dialogue with the agricultural sector of Ukraine, particularly, on potential pilot projects to use sewage water for irrigation, to be implemented as a private-public partnership with the sewerage management authorities. These intentions are described in the Component 3

In the context of the geo-political situation on the ground, and of the rapidly changing environment in the region, it is rather difficult to accurately predict the extent of the private sector engagement's during the project implementation. Such engagement could be better assessed/ defined during the Inception Phase of the project, closer to the time of the project start.

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):

Risk	Mitigation measures
<p>There is a risk that the war against Ukraine will continue</p>	<p>Neither of the entities involved in the project planning and implementation will be able to impact the further development of the war.</p> <p>The OSCE (as represented by its Secretariat) will constantly monitor the situation, including the potential impact and mitigation measures required to ensure safety and security of any project staff in affected areas, and ability of stakeholders to maintain engagement.</p> <p>It is important to organise project activities so that dangers and bottlenecks due to the war against Ukraine Is minimised.</p>
<p>There is a risk of political instability in the beneficiary countries</p>	<p>Continuous engagement with local officials and preparedness to present project achievements for any new officials that assume positions after elections, particularly in Moldova.</p>
<p>There is a risk that there is a lack of appropriate participation in the project of representatives from Transdnestria</p>	<p>Contacts in this part of the basin have been developed during the baseline project and this network will be used in the new project. Co-operation with the Working Groups, which are part of the Transdnestria Settlement Process, on environmental issues as a platform will be used by the project. The project will also work closely with the civil society and its Transdnestria representatives that are involved into local, national and international actions on the Dniester.</p> <p>The project will work to engage representatives from Transdnestria in the meetings of the Dniester Commission</p>
<p>The project may not sufficiently involve all concerned stakeholders due to lack of resources and capacity, and may leave potentially affected stakeholders being out of the decision-making process</p>	<p>A stakeholder engagement plan is developed for the new project and will help to minimize the risk</p>
<p>There is a risk that tensions may arise due to grievances regarding the proposed water management interventions</p>	<p>The project will establish procedures to facilitate decision-making that take into account views of different sectors and stakeholders</p>

Risk	Mitigation measures
There is a risk that project activities related to construction of sewage treatment plants or sewage systems, tailing management facilities, or improvement of irrigation create community and occupational health, and safety risks	All activities promoted by the project ? i.e. project pipelines and demonstration projects will be screened by the PMU during the implementation to make sure that they do not cause emissions and effluent risks
Project activities may adversely impact habitats, including protected areas	Water-management/biodiversity/protected areas interventions proposed by the project shall be screened in order to identify, assess, mitigate, and manage any potentially significant adverse impacts to natural resources, biodiversity, ecosystem services that may arise
There is a risk that project activities will be sensitive to climate change which may exacerbate the increasing risks of serious floods or droughts	The project shall avoid or minimize the exacerbation of impacts caused by natural or human-made hazards, such as landslides or floods that could result from land use changes due to project activities with a particular focus on marginalized and disadvantaged groups and individuals. To address this, the project includes a full component dedicated to minimize climate change related impacts

6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

Implementing Partner/ GEF Agency: The GEF Implementing Agency for this project is the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with substantive technical oversight provided by the Regional Technical Advisor (RTA) on Water and Oceans from the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub. The UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub will serve as the Principal Project Resident Representative (PPRR) for this project. The UNDP Country Office in Kiev and Chisinau will also play an important role in project implementation.

Implementing Partner: The Implementing Partner for this project is the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE, as represented by its Secretariat). Figure 1 below provides an illustration of project management arrangements.

The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.

The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

? Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems.

? Overseeing the management of project risks as included in this project document and new risks that may emerge during project implementation.

? Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.

? Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.

? Approving and signing the multiyear workplan.

? Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and

? Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

The project will be executed by the **Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**, as represented by its Secretariat. The OSCE is the world's largest regional security organization under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter. The OSCE comprises 57 participating States in North America, Europe and part of Asia (*Participating States | OSCE*) as well as 6 Mediterranean and 5 Asian Partners for Co-operation (*Partners for Co-operation | OSCE*).

Working in partnership with many international organizations, including the UNDP and UNECE, national governments, local administrations, academia and civil society organizations, the OSCE is active in a wide spectrum of areas related to the environment. The main areas of OSCE projects and programmes include water management, disaster risk reduction, hazardous waste management, climate change and good environmental governance. Since water is a strategic resource and an essential element of national and regional security and given the fact that over 150 rivers and lakes in the OSCE region are transboundary water bodies, promoting transboundary co-operation in such basins is a priority area of action for the OSCE. To date, the OSCE has supported transboundary water co-operation in all of the four sub-regions listed above through various projects in close co-operation with its partners.

Summary of the OSCE's overall capabilities relevant to the GEF Dniester project:

? Given OSCE's mandate and experience as a regional security organization, and the political significance of some envisioned project activities (e.g. continued support for the work of the Dniester River Basin Commission, implementation of the SAP) in the context of bilateral relations between Moldova and Ukraine, the OSCE (Secretariat and the OSCE Mission to Moldova) will have an important role in facilitating close collaboration with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of both countries, further to the line Ministries and Agencies. The OSCE's experience and mandate in the context of the Transdnestrrian settlement process,

through the OSCE Mission to Moldova, will also be relevant in ensuring the interaction and engagement with relevant structures in Transdnistria.

? The OSCE has the necessary programmatic, managerial and administrative experience and capacity of implementing multi-stakeholder and multi-sectorial projects. The OSCE experience in the development, endorsement and implementation of the transboundary climate change adaptation strategy for the Dniester Basin is a good example of such. Further examples include the support provided to the countries in the process of establishing the Dniester River Basin Commission or in the development and endorsement of the Strategic Action Programme, during the previous GEF funded project.

? The OSCE has a dedicated team deployed both on the ground and at headquarters. In the OSCE Mission to Moldova, staff members are closely familiar with OSCE projects related to the Dniester and, more generally, confidence-building efforts between Moldova and Transdnistria. The OSCE Secretariat's Support Programme for Ukraine builds on the experience of the former OSCE project Co-ordinator in Ukraine that had been helping the government of Ukraine to perform various activities on the ground for almost 30 years. Finally, the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) in Vienna has first-hand experience on the Dniester and long institutional memory as well as support capabilities in terms of project management, gender mainstreaming, financial management, administrative support, communication, M&E and specialized technical expertise related to human aspects, politico-military, economic and environmental issues. The team is fully equipped with comprehensive knowledge and experience of the Dniester Basin co-operation process, including its history and stakeholders, from the very beginning of this co-operation.

Responsible Parties/Project Partners:

The implementing partner may enter into a written agreement with other organizations, known as responsible parties, to provide goods and/or services to the Project, carry out Project activities and/or produce outputs using the Project budget. Implementing partners use responsible parties to take advantage of their specialized skills, to mitigate risk and to relieve administrative burdens. Responsible parties are directly accountable to the implementing partner in accordance with the terms of their agreement or contract with the implementing partner. Any organization that is legally constituted and duly registered may become a responsible party. This includes government agencies, intergovernmental organizations, private firms, other UN agencies, or civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, advocacy groups, state-owned enterprises and academia. The same policies and procedures for selecting civil society organizations as Responsible Parties are used for private and non-governmental academic institutions and foundations (notwithstanding their form of ownership, i.e., public or private) and state-owned enterprises. For further guidance see the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures ? Select Responsible Parties and Grantees

<https://popp.undp.org/SitePages/POPPSubject.aspx?SRJID=469&Menu=BusinessUnit&Beta=0>

It is foreseen that the **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)** will provide technical support for certain Project Activities, as a **Responsible Party/ Project Partner**, through an agreement to be concluded between OSCE (Secretariat), as the Implementing Partner and the UNECE.

The UN Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) aims to protect and ensure the quantity, quality and sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation. It provides an intergovernmental platform for the day-to-day development and advancement of transboundary water cooperation. The UNECE Secretariat of the Convention has a broad experience of working with countries to facilitate the development of transboundary water cooperation including with Moldova and Ukraine in the Dniester basin.

Based on the experiences of the UNECE from other regions and basins in implementing GEF funded projects in partnership with other organizations, and due to its close cooperation with the project beneficiary countries, the UNECE will provide technical assistance through substantive contributions and facilitating technical and political bilateral discussions contributing to the agreed outputs and activities in line with the agreed project work plans and budget. It can fully or partially contribute to such thematic areas as improving transboundary cooperation, for example, strengthening joint bodies, regulatory frameworks and financing; adaptation to climate change incl. ecosystem-based adaptation; and preventing accidental pollution. Following the afore-mentioned areas, and on the basis of the contribution agreement, the UNECE will provide overall support for the implementation of activities in the component 4 on *Adaptation to climate change and increasing preparedness for and resilience to natural disasters* and will be in charge of updating the 'Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin' and its Implementation Plan. In addition, UNECE will contribute to the demonstration project on *Enhancing capacity in emergency preparedness and prevention of accidental pollution by tailings storage facilities* as well as to the implementation of the following areas of activities:

? Strengthening capacity of state authorities to implement SAP, the Water Convention and the EU WFD;

? Support of professional mediators and other experts;

? Twinning and experience sharing with other transboundary basins;

? Analysis of opportunities for investments in cooperation with IFIs and local authorities;

A detailed Terms of Reference for the work to be undertaken by UNECE will be developed based on the project work plan and will be elaborated during the inception phase of the project.

Project stakeholders and target groups:

Multiple groups from 'Community to Cabinet' have a stake in the management and use of resources in the Dniester River basin. During the PPG phase, many of these stakeholder groups have been directly involved in the formulation of the full Project Document or have been informed about the developments during the development of the project documentation. In Moldova, *the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova, the State Agency 'Apele Moldovei', the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Office for Regional and Local Development, Eco-TIRAS International Environmental Association of River Keepers, BIOTICA, the Institute of Ecology and Geography and the OSCE Mission to Moldova* have been involved to various degrees in the development of the project activities. In Ukraine, *the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine, the State Water Agency of Ukraine, the State Agency of Emergency Situations, the Dniester Basin Management Authority, the Basin Management Authority of the*

Western Bug and Svan, the Dniester Basin Council, the Centre of Regional Studies, the Basin Management Authority of the Black Sea Rivers and the Lower Danube, the Ukrainian Hydropower Company ?Ukrhydroenergo?, the Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Institute, the Institute of Marine Biology, the Lower Dniester National Nature Park, the Galytskyi National Nature Park, the NGO ?Agrikola? and Black Sea Women Club have participated in the development of the Project Document.

In addition, throughout the development process, further stakeholders were closely informed about the milestones reached. These included the *UNDP Country Office in the Republic of Moldova, the UNDP Country Office in Ukraine, the Dniester River basin Council in Ukraine* as well as the *co-organizers of the ?Colours of the Dniester? art contest: the State Agency ?Apele Moldovei?, Dniester River basin Council in Ukraine; Eco-TIRAS International Environmental Association of River Keepers; All-Ukrainian Environmental Non-Governmental Organization ?MAMA-86; school teachers from Moldova and Ukraine, etc.*

The majority of these stakeholders will continue to be closely involved throughout project implementation, including in the consultation and/or decision-making process given their role as direct project beneficiaries. To the extent possible, they will be included in the Project Steering Committee Advisory and Guidance Panel (AGP). For further information about the AGP, please refer to the Composition of the PSC further below, as well as to Figure 2. Project Governance Arrangements.

In addition, Ukraine is party to the Bucharest Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution; as the outcomes of this project will impact the environment of the Black Sea, interest and participation of the International Commission for the Protection of the Black Sea will be sought. The Danube Commission (ICPDR) has undertaken similar work as this project on the Danube and the Tisza sub-basin involving Moldova and Ukraine in the identification of procedures to govern and effectively manage the Danube; hence the ICPDR will be an important provider of information and experiences to the project.

Furthermore, based on the already established work practice from the previous foundational GEF Dniester project implemented in the Dniester River basin, representatives from Transnistria will also be invited to participate in the project. Contacts in this region have been developed during the long-term engagement of the OSCE in the region, in particular through the Dniester River basin project. Representatives of relevant organizations from Transnistria took part in the activities of the bilateral health and water working group (WG), fisheries WG, and monitoring WG and contributed to development of the Dniester basin atlas, GIS system, and activities on adaptation to climate change. Cooperation with the working group between Chisinau and Tiraspol on environmental issues will be used as a platform by the project. The project will also work closely with the civil society and its Transnistria representatives that are involved in local, national and international actions in relation to the Dniester River basin.

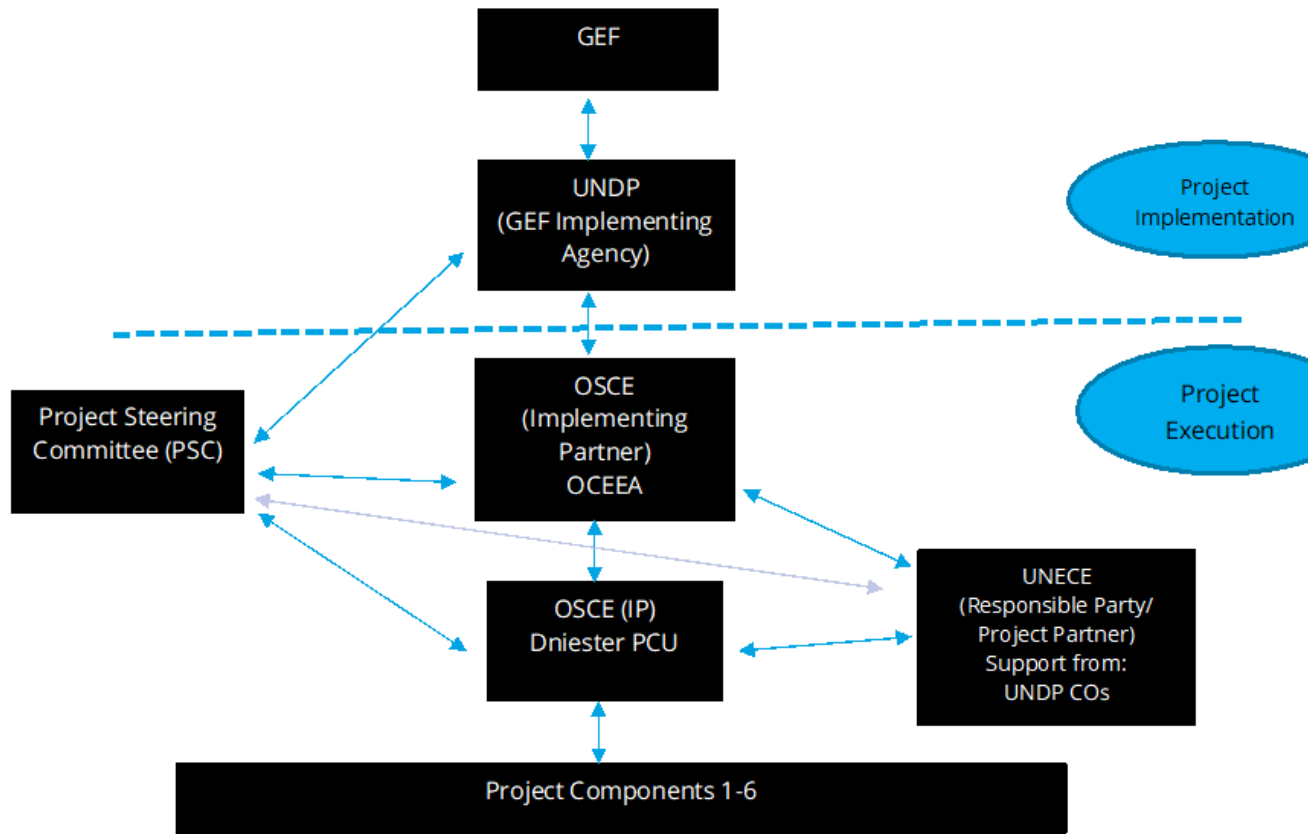
Through Eco-TIRAS, a series of International Dniester River basin conferences were organized in 2004, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2013, 2017, as well as overlapping with the implementation of the previous GEF-funded project, in 2019 and 2020 (supported through the previous foundational GEF Dniester project) to gather stakeholders for discussions on the challenges and solutions in the Dniester River basin. These conferences provided a platform for all stakeholders to be informed about the latest developments in the basin, as well as to voice their opinions, views and concerns.

Further to this, the project will continue to make use of the website established during the previous foundational GEF Dniester project: Save the Dniester river together (www.dniester-commission.com) that will continue to act as an information platform for all interested parties, supporting thus access to information and facilitating an informed view on the most recent developments in the project. A specific project page will reflect project activities and outputs.

UNDP: UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes overseeing project execution undertaken by the Implementing Partner to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with UNDP and GEF policies and procedures and the standards and provisions outlined in the Delegation of Authority (DOA) letter for this project. **The UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator, in consultation with UNDP Bureaus and the Implementing Partner, retains the right to revoke the project DOA, suspend or cancel this GEF project.** UNDP is responsible for the Project Assurance function in the project governance structure and presents to the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and attends PSC meetings as a non-voting member.

There may be links to a GEF project in the Black Sea: "Implementing Ecosystem Based Management approaches in the Black Sea LME". The project will work closely with IW:LEARN and the UNECE to participate in relevant regional and global workshops to ensure that the results of this project are available to the wider IW community of projects.

The overall management arrangement of the project is presented in the figure below.



7. Consistency with National Priorities

Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions from below:

NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

The project will support national priorities and plans within the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine through its contributions to:

? The objectives of the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River

? Support of objectives of the Association Agreements between EU and the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (specifically directives related to water management)

? Implementation of the obligations under the UNECE Water Convention

? SDG 6 goals, targets and reporting

? Aligning with national strategies and policies with gender mainstreaming through responsible ministries

? National implementation of the Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context (Espoo)

? National implementation of the Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters (Aarhus)

? National implementation of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar)

? National implementation of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern)

? National implementation of the Framework Convention on the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians (Kiev)

? National implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio-de-Janeiro)

? National implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change

It is also worth mentioning that the principal role of the Ministries of Environment of both the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine is to develop policy and long-term strategy in the environment and water sectors. On the execution level, the national water authorities of the two riparian states are subordinated to the Ministries of Environment and, thus, execute these strategies and policies. In the foundational project, the OSCE has worked closely both with the ministries and the water authorities of the two countries throughout project implementation, through regular contact between the project team on both substantive and administrative issues related to the project. Furthermore, the respective authorities have been actively participating in the project events, provided technical expertise to the project and provided national views on various issues, which have been carefully considered and addressed. The same is envisioned in the follow-up project execution, including the pilot activities.

8. Knowledge Management

Elaborate the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, including a budget, key deliverables and a timeline, and explain how it will contribute to the project's overall impact.

Knowledge Management and Learning (KM&L) is a critical element of the project and it has been incorporated into the project design. Component 5 will implement, among other, an IW:LEARN compliant website, which will also be a subpage of the Dniester Commission's website. Multiple capacity development activities will be implemented in collaboration with IW:LEARN.

The project will update the current communications and knowledge management strategies (developed under a previous foundational GEF Dniester project). During the PPG phase the Gender Action Plan and the Stakeholders Engagement Plan will also be updated.

The project will benefit from many lessons learned and experiences derived from earlier regional projects in the Dniester River basin and will also gather appropriate lessons from on-going projects through the coordination mechanisms delivered in Component 5.

The project will rely on the management, dissemination, and scaling up of knowledge, experience and results in order to achieve the overall project objective and ensure sustainable management of the Dniester River basin that will also facilitate up-scaling where possible and needed.

The KM&L will include the following stakeholders:

? National authorities to ensure information on management approaches and identified solutions for transboundary cooperation;

? Private sector: information will be collected and distributed as relevant to the different needs of the private sector partners and other stakeholders;

? Civil society will be provided with information to inform communities that are depending on Dniester River basin and its management;

? Academia will be providing scientific support to the project activities;

? International community involved in parallel activities in the Dniester River basin;

? GEF IW community of projects: results from the project will be disseminated through the GEF IW:LEARN projects. The project has allocated more than 1% of the total GEF project financing for a suite of IW:LEARN activities to share lessons learned and results from the project to the broader GEF IW community, as well as actively participate in IW:LEARN capacity building workshops, forums and biannual GEF IW conferences. The project's website will meet the specifications suggested by the IW:LEARN for IW projects. International and cross-regional events organized by the OSCE, in particular events organized

by the OCEEA, the OSCE Secretariat's Special Programme for Ukraine or the OSCE Mission to Moldova, or events relevant to the thematic area covered by the project in which the OSCE, particularly from the structures indicated above, will be invited to participate will be an important platform for communication. The involvement of UN Water Convention Secretariat in project execution will provide good opportunities to distribute important information globally. The project will, when possible, be present at other international fora within the region and beyond to share project results and other knowledge gained with the international community as well as gain important insights from the others relevant for the project.

Activities covering all different stages of the KM&L, already being part of the project design, are allocated among the three stages of the project:

? **Inception phase:** The identity of the project is reinforced through enhanced visual identity as well as clear presentation of issues at stake and rationale for the project (messages, positions, objectives are prepared to introduce the project and facilitate participation). Stakeholder engagement plan is being refined. Specific action plans for communications, awareness raising and capacity building activities are prepared. The indicators to monitor the stakeholders engagement and knowledge approach, already defined in SEP, are further refined. The Inception workshop will be an opportunity to inform all the stakeholders on the project and the role they will be playing in its implementation.

? **Implementation:** Activities are executed, and project results are packaged and shared with the intended beneficiaries using appropriate channels and means. Emphasis is given to documentation and sharing of lessons learned in line with the project KM&L timeline including, for example, the preparation of knowledge products such as publicly accessible summaries of technical reports; guides and toolkits; fact sheets etc. which are particularly relevant to capture and share findings and results under Component 5. Agreements on protocols and data management are reached to pave the way for scientific collaboration and information sharing; Stakeholders, data analysts and web designers are involved to improve the DniesterGIS, the project website and the other IT tools foreseen by the project. Data and information are captured, visualized and translated through the various systems and knowledge exchanges described in the KM&L timeline. Communications about the project are fully operational. The mid-term evaluation represents an important moment to assess the impact of the KM&L approach. As KM&L will be still an evolving exercise within the GEF portfolio, the innovation and progress made by the project on knowledge-sharing efforts can benefit from other experiences within the portfolio (for example, through learning exchanges facilitated by IW:LEARN) and offer valuable insights on how this KM&L approach has accelerated transboundary cooperation in the Dniester River Basin.

? **Closing and sustainability:** The end-phase of the project focuses on harvesting results, preserving legacy and increasing dissemination of lessons learned and replicability and upscaling options. A specific package of closing deliverables is suggested by IW:LEARN so that continuous outreach and sharing of knowledge generated by the project can continue beyond the project life. Possible final deliverables could include: a standard ppt with full script in both languages; short movies with sub-titles (suitable for use in ppt, social media, short screening, exhibits, etc.); printable outreach

		Inception	Implementation																Closing
		Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4					
Output	Description of Activity	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
	Developing registry for the current status of invasive species in the Dniester River Basin																		
	Publishing visual materials on results of the joint/coordinated research																		

Budget allocated to KM&L activities through project components and outputs is given in table below.

Component	Budget
1	40,000
2	125,000
3	130,000
4	350,000
5	520,000
6	450,000
Total	1,615,000

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

The project results, corresponding indicators and mid-term and end-of-project targets in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation. If baseline data for some of the results indicators is not yet available, it will be collected during the first year of project implementation. **Budgeted M&E Plan is in the table below.**

Budgeted M&E Plan

Monitoring Activity			
	Frequency/Timeframe	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)
Inception Workshop and Report	Inception Workshop within 2 months of the First Disbursement	As per above description	UNDP, OSCE (Secretariat), PCU
Track results progress (see above table for details)	Annually and at mid-point and closure	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.	PCU, evaluators
Monitor and Manage Risk	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	PCU
Monitor	ongoing	Gender Action Plan	PCU
Supervision Missions	Annually	Project management problems, if identified, will be addressed and solved	UNDP, OSCE(Secretariat), PCU
Learning and Learning Missions	As needed	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.	PCU, IW:LEARN
Annual Project Quality Assurance	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	OSCE(Secretariat), PCU
Review and Make Course Corrections	At least annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the Lack of adequate capacity to integrate Project Steering Committee and used to make course corrections.	PSC, PCU

Monitoring Activity			
	Frequency/Timeframe	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)
Annual GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)	Annually typically between June-September	Mandatory contribution by Project Team, CO and RTA. Strengths and weaknesses will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance	PCU, UNDP
Project Review (Project Steering Committee)	Annually	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the Project Steering Committee and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	PSC, UNDP, OSCE(Secretariat), PCU

Monitoring plan

Monitoring Activity							
	Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification
Track results progress	Project objective from the results framework To advance Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River basin contributing to sustainable	Indicator 1 Area of land restored (hectares)	Mid-Term: 2,000 End-of-Project: 4,050	Areas of demonstration projects to be directly affected	Mid-term, closure	PCU	Reports on implementation of demonstration projects
		Indicator 2 Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas)(Hectares)	Mid-Term: 100 End-of-Project: 210	Areas directly affected by adaptation actions	Mid-term, closure	PCU	Reports on implementation of demonstration projects

Monitoring Activity							
	Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification
	development by supporting the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme priority actions	Indicator 3 Number of shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management	Strategic Actions Programme implemented and Dniester Commission regularly meeting	There is one water body: Dniester River Basin. Dniester Commission is the highest body to ensure transboundary management of the basin.	Annually (reported in Development Objective (DO) progress section of the GEF PIR), mid-term, closure	PCU	Reports of the Strategic Action Programme Implementation and of Dniester Commission meetings and its working groups
		Indicator 4 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	Mid-Term: 18,000 (7,860 men; 10,140 women) End-of-Project: 38,000 (17,860 men; 20,140 women)	The figures relate to inhabitants of Novy Rozdol (Sirka Tailing Management Facility (TMF), inhabitants of Stebnik town (Polimineral TMF) and farmers and their families in the Lower Dniester where the irrigation system will be improved by EBRD. Further specifications will be provided during the projected implementation stage.	Mid-term, closure	PCU	Reports on implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Gender Action Plan, investment plans and demonstration projects

Monitoring Activity							
	Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification
	Project Outcome 1.1 Riparians have strengthened political commitment and capacity to implement the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin	Indicator 5 Countries capacitated and participating actively in exchanging knowledge and experience	<u>Mid-Term:</u> One partnership established with another river basin <u>End-of-Project:</u> Two partnerships established with other river basins	Partnership with other river basins which will facilitate the knowledge exchange and increase the capacity of basin's experts to effectively manage it.	Mid-term, closure	PCU	Partnership agreements Report on actions jointly implemented with other basins and lessons learned for the implementation of the project
		Indicator 6 DniesterGIS Platform	<u>Mid-Term:</u> DniesterGIS established <u>End-of-Project:</u> DniesterGIS established and functioning	The platform that contains geospatial information, which is important for modelling the natural events.	Mid-term, closure	PCU	Reports on the DniesterGIS at the website of the Dniester River Commission
	Project Outcome 2.1: Countries have strengthened the legal framework and capacity to implement the SAP, the UN	Indicator 7 New regulation for SAP implementation drafted	<u>Mid-Term:</u> Each country will draft one regulation (total of 2) <u>End-of-Project:</u> Each country will draft 2 regulations (total of 4)	Legal documents needed to regulate specific issues following SAP recommendations. Targets commensurate with countries' capacities.	Mid-Term, closure	PCU	Records of public consultation for draft documents review.

Monitoring Activity							
	Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification
	Water Convention and the EU WFD	Indicator 8 Capacity enhanced to strengthen implementation of new regulation	<u>End-of-Project:</u> One training course in each country (the total of two) and exchange visits conducted	Capacity to be increased through training courses.	Closure	PCU	Training and exchange visits reports.
	Project Outcome 3.1 Improved ecological status in the Dniester River basin	Indicator 9 # of methodological guidelines and investment pre-feasibility studies	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 1 methodological guideline 1 pre-feasibility study <u>End-of-Project:</u> 2 methodological guidelines 2 pre-feasibility studies	Indicator will show improved technical capacity to deal with negative anthropogenic impacts	Mid-Term, closure	PCU	Methodological guidelines Pre-feasibility studies
		Indicator 10 # of demonstration projects implemented	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 4 projects started <u>End-of-Project:</u> 4 projects started	Demonstration projects will be a proof of efforts to minimise negative anthropogenic impacts	Annually, Mid-Term, closure	PCU National project teams	Progress reports on implementation of demonstration projects

Monitoring Activity							
	Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification
	Project Outcome 4.1 Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods	Indicator 11 # of adaptation measures implemented	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 2 adaptation measures implemented <u>End-of-Project:</u> 6 adaptation measures implemented	Indicator targets critical climate change issues to be reduced through implementation of respective measures	Annually, Mid-Term, closure	PCU	Progress reports on implementation of demonstration projects
		Indicator 12 Floods Early Warning and Response System (EWRS) installed	<u>Mid-Term:</u> Development of EWRS started <u>End-of-Project:</u> EWRS developed and functioning	Indicator refers to the critical element for climate change adaptation	Mid-Term, closure	PCU	Progress reports
	Project Outcome 5.1 Improved capacity of experts and stakeholders to develop and participate in activities in support of water management and water cooperation	Indicator 13 # of awareness raising campaigns	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 1 awareness raising campaign <u>End-of-Project:</u> 2 awareness raising campaigns	Indicator will show strengthening of awareness; it will build upon current efforts	Annually, Mid-term, closure	PCU Stakeholders (NGOs)	Awareness raising campaigns programmes Progress reports
		Indicator 14 # of stakeholder empowerment campaigns	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 1 stakeholder empowerment campaign <u>End-of-Project:</u> 1 stakeholder empowerment campaign	Indicator will show establishment of Dniester Parliament as an important stakeholder forum	Mid-Term, closure	PCU Stakeholders (NGOs)	Record of Dniester Parliament meetings

Monitoring Activity							
	Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification
	Outcome 5.2 Enabled stakeholders ? awareness and actions through effective project information sharing	Indicator 15 Knowledge sharing campaign	<u>Mid-Term:</u> Project Update Flyer produced and distributed at events <u>End-of-Project:</u> Project Update Flyer produced and distributed at events Dniester Green Alert	Indicator will show extent of knowledge sharing campaign and increased knowledge on the project	Mid-Term, closure	PCU	Record of Project Updates distributed
		Indicator 16 # of IW:LEARN Experience Notes	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 1 Experience Note 1 IW:LEARN Newsletter contribution <u>End-of-Project:</u> 3 Experience Note 3 IW:LEARN Newsletter contribution	Project lessons learned and experiences disseminated to other river basins	Annually, Mid-Term, closure	PCU IW-LEARN	Reports from participants in the international events Record of IW:LEARN and project websites visits
	Project Outcome 6.1 Deepened, joint scientific understandi	Indicator 17 # of biannual Ukraine ? Moldova conferences	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 1 biannual conference <u>End-of-Project:</u> 2 biannual conferences	Biannual Conference organised to show progress on management of Dniester River Basin	Mid-Term, closure	PCU Conference organisers	Conference report

Monitoring Activity							
	Results Monitoring	Indicators	Targets	Description of indicators and targets	Frequency	Responsible for data collection	Means of verification
	ng for decision making in the Dniester River Basin	Indicator 18 # of research studies	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 1 study completed <u>End-of-Project:</u> 3 studies completed	Indicators shows level of networking among scientists in the region supported by international scientists, contributing to increase of knowledge on the basin	Mid-Term, Closure	PCU	Record of visits, number of research studies and publications
	Outcome M&E: M &E strategy guiding project management to achieve delivery of project outputs	Indicator 19 Inception Workshop	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 1 Inception Workshop	Inception workshop is held	First Year	PCU	Inception Workshop Report
		Indicator 20 Project Steering Committee	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 1 Steering Committee <u>End-of-Project:</u> 2 Steering Committees 1 Validation Workshop	Annual Steering Committee meetings and Final Validation Workshop held	Annually	PCU	Steering Committee Meetings and Validation Workshop Reports
		Indicator 21 Independent Mid-Term Review	<u>Mid-Term:</u> 1 Independent Mid-Term Review	Independent Mid-Term Review performed	Mid-Term	PCU Evaluation Consultant	Mid-Term Review Report
		Indicator 22 Terminal Evaluation	<u>End-of-Project:</u> 1 Terminal Evaluation	Terminal Evaluation performed	Closure	PCU Evaluation Consultant	Terminal Evaluation Report

10. Benefits

Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCE/SCCF)?

The socioeconomic benefits of the project contribute to water security and better utilisation of Dniester River Basin's natural resources. The project will develop capacities to foster cooperation with the economic sectors, private or public. The project envisages support to partnerships with the private sectors, which may result in significant socio economic benefits in a long term. The project will also seek to identify the investment opportunities, in particular those that could be integrated in the Strategic Action Programme. Awareness, knowledge and capacities of civil society, government institutions and the private sector will also increase as a consequence of the different communication, knowledge generation and management instruments of the project.

Among the prerequisite co-benefits (local benefits that must be achieved to realize the mandated GEF GEBs and ensure their durability), the following can be mentioned:

- ? A raised capacity and broad willingness for cooperation on water management among experts and administrations in the two countries (Outcome 1.1)
- ? Raised capacity of experts and decision makers on water management according to EU Directives and international conventions (Outcome 2.1)
- ? Cooperation between international organizations and local water-responsible organizations to discuss and agree on possible investments on waste-water treatment (Outcome 3.1)
- ? Capacity building and cooperation at the local level to implement demonstration projects, emergency preparedness and prevention of accidental pollution as well as a network of nature reserve sites (Outcome 3.1)
- ? Local cooperation on reduction of flood and drought risks (Outcome 4.1)
- ? Willingness of stakeholders at the central and local level to raise capacity and participate in project activities (Outcome 5.1)
- ? A willingness and capacity of the scientific community to engage more broadly on issues related to environmental protection and sustainable development (Outcome 6.1)

Incidental co-benefits (environmental and socio-economic benefits outside of GEF's mandate) help to increase the overall impact of GEF project. In this project the following incidental co-benefits include:

- ? Improved relations leading to strengthened bilateral cooperation beyond the work of the Dniester Commission (Outcome 1.1)
- ? Raised capacity for legal approximation to the EU (Outcome 2.1)

? Improved health as a result of improved ecological status of the Dniester river basin (Outcome 3.1)

? Improved understanding on the theory and practice of adaptation to climate change (Outcome 4.1)

? Improved networks and capacity of experts, the administration and stakeholders to support water management beyond the Dniester basin (Outcomes 4.1 and 4.2)

? Improved links between the scientific community and environmental administration that may have an impact beyond the Dniester river basin (Outcome 6.1)

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Medium/Moderate	High or Substantial		

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and any measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Advancing transboundary co-operation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin through implementation of the Strategic Action Programme
2. Project Number (i.e. Quantum project ID, PIMS+)	UNDP PIMS ID number: 6643
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Moldova, Ukraine

4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design
5. Date	2 November 2023

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach

Clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realization of all human rights and the project's main focus is to protect the water resources and contribute to a sustainable management in the Dniester River Basin. These water resources are crucial for large parts of the population in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (8.5 million people live in the basin and outside the basin itself another 3.5 million people use water from the river). Central components of the project will deal with the involvement of stakeholders and the public in discussion and decision-making, responding also to other aspects of human rights. Furthermore, the Aarhus Centres in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine will be actively engaged in the implementation of several project activities, thus contributing to the overall implementation of the principles of the UNECE (Aarhus) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, which links environmental and human rights.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment

The Project will benefit from gender experts and gender analysis and will apply a meaningful participatory process for engaging women's voices. The Gender Strategy and Gender Action Plan of the present project include M&E indicators and targets. The results framework of the project includes indicators to address gender inequality issues following IW: LEARN's guidance. Women's groups will be involved to the extent possible in project activities. Moreover, participation in project workshops, meetings and other activities will be documented in sex-disaggregated reports.

The Project Team will seek to achieve gender balanced PCU.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience

The Project Objective is ?To advance Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River basin contributing to sustainable development by supporting the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme priority actions? thus directly aiming to improve sustainability.

The project will achieve this through strengthening of legislation and institutions, capacity development of key stakeholder groups and by improving access and availability of environmental information. The project has been formulated in close co-operation with experts from the region and representatives of the Dniester River Basin Commission.

The project will actively seek co-operation with communities, governments, academia, the business sector and other key stakeholders who will participate in the project?s activities and capacity building activities as relevant.

The close cooperation of the project with national authorities and the Dniester Commission to strengthen national legislation and institutions and to identify sustainable approaches for the implementation of the bilateral Dniester Treaty will be an important contribution to resilience and sustainability of the basin management. The close cooperation with the EU approximation process, an important driver of policy, is a positive factor. Cooperation with NGOs and stakeholders in the basin will further strengthen sustainability. NGOs have historically been important drivers for the improvement of the management of water in the basin.

The project will also contribute to countries progress towards achieving a number of SDGs, in particular SDG 6, but also 5, 13, 15, 16 and 17.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders

Facilitating the involvement and empowerment of stakeholders and the public is an important aim of the project. This aspect is important in the whole project but the component 5 is specifically aiming to achieve this. The project will contribute to strengthening the accountability in relation to stakeholders.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

<p>QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <i>Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.</i></p>	<p>QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 5</i></p>			<p>QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High</p>
<p><i>Risk Description</i> <i>(broken down by event, cause, impact)</i></p>	<p><i>Impact and Likelihood</i> <i>(1-5)</i></p>	<p><i>Significance</i> <i>(Low, Moderate Substantial, High)</i></p>	<p><i>Comments (optional)</i></p>	<p><i>Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High</i></p>

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<p>Risk 1:</p> <p>The project aims to improve management of water resources in relatively poor transitional countries where duty bearers may not have resources to fully take on their responsibilities. One key issue is whether the two countries involved will be able to fully implement ambitious EU Directives relevant for water management.</p> <p>The on-going war in Ukraine adds to this risk.</p> <p>Principle 1: Human Rights - P1.2 low capacity of duty bearers</p>	<p>I = 3</p> <p>L = 3</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Particularly important for activities related to outputs 2.1.1 and 3.1.1.</p> <p>The EU Association Agreement is a very strong political driver in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine and opens opportunities for international support. This contributes to decreasing the risk.</p> <p>In spite of very critical situations in the course of the war in Ukraine, the administration has held up very well even on issues such as environmental protection and transboundary water management.</p>	<p>The risk that duty bearers or holders will not devote sufficient resources to address existing challenges will be counteracted by designing appropriate awareness raising and capacity building activities during project implementation. One component of the proposed project addressing this risk is the facilitation of investment support to SAP implementation. Cooperation with other projects and actors will also be important to provide coordinated support.</p> <p>This can be estimated as a moderate risk. From the project perspective, a close cooperation with authorities in both countries will make it possible to support where possible the authorities in difficult situations.</p>

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				The risk related to ongoing conflict in Ukraine is beyond the control of the project.

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<p>Risk 2:</p> <p>The project may not sufficiently involve all concerned stakeholders due to lack of resources and capacity, and may leave potentially affected stakeholders being out of the decision-making process.</p> <p>Principle 4: Accountability - P4.13 potential exclusion of affected stakeholders</p>	<p>I=3 L=3</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Particularly important for activities related to outputs 2.1.1, 3.1.1, 3.1.2 and 4.1.3.</p> <p>As the decisions on for example River Basin Management Plans are taken by authorities there is a limitation to the influence that the project can have on stakeholder participation in decision-making. This may particularly be a problem for the authorities and stakeholders in the Transdnister part of the basin.</p> <p>During the foundational project, stakeholder engagement and involvement has not been identified as a significant problem for project implementation. It is expected that stakeholder participation at all levels will be ensured</p>	<p>P13: A stakeholder engagement plan is developed for the new project and will help to minimize the risk. The stakeholder engagement plan will be further refined during the Inception Phase in order to fully identify the expected beneficiaries as well as potentially affected stakeholders (NB: the public concerned ? Aarhus Convention Art 2.5) that need to be informed and provided with early and appropriate opportunities to provide comments when all options are open and effective public participation can take place (NB: AC Art. 6.4).</p> <p>In order for this risk to be prevented and mitigated, a comprehensive and detailed understanding on this issue during project implementation is required. Shall this, for external reasons not be fully achieved, there are various components of the project where the principle of accountability may not be applied fully. For example,</p>

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			<p>throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>decisions of authorities on River Basin Management Plans may not take into fully into account the views of certain stakeholders. It may be a challenge for the project to minimize to the extent possible such risks that are outside of the project control.</p> <p>Furthermore, the composition of the Dniester Commission ? with a broad and diverse participation, including civil society ? contributes to a transparent and inclusive decision-making process.</p> <p>To this end, the project?s stakeholder engagement arrangements will be regularly updated during the project implementation in order to:</p> <p>? identify the intended beneficiaries and any proposal-affected groups (incl. vulnerable or disadvantaged groups) in order to engage them in the</p>

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				<p>design of the proposed interventions,</p> <p>? provide all relevant stakeholders with information on proposal, its impacts/risks and mitigation measures in an appropriate, timely and accessible manner, language and form,</p> <p>? provide stakeholders with sufficient time and culturally appropriate and gender-sensitive opportunities to provide comments or participate effectively,</p> <p>? duly consider the views obtained in proposal design and implementation.</p> <p>? Based on the experience of the previous project, the project webpage on the website of the Dniester River Basin Commission will be used as an information board on all project activities and major deliverables, in order to make the project implementation transparent to all engaged stakeholders.</p>

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<p>Risk 3:</p> <p>The projects intervention related to climate change adaptation, nature reserve sites, or water protection zones may limit access to land, water or other environmental resources and cause economic displacement.</p> <p>Principle 1: Human Rights - P1.6 restrictions in access to resources or basic services</p> <p>Standard 1 on Biodiversity ? S1.3 adverse impact on livelihoods</p> <p>Standard 5 on displacement - S5.2 risks of economic displacement</p>	<p>I=3</p> <p>L=3</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Particularly important for activities related to outputs 2.1.1 and 3.1.1.</p> <p>The likelihood is low that this will be a significant risk and possible decisions made by authorities on protection is likely to have a positive effect in the medium term.</p>	<p>Each of the relevant activities shall be screened by the PCU during the implementation in order to anticipate and avoid, or, when avoidance is not possible, minimize adverse social and economic impacts from the proposed restrictions on the use of water resources</p>

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<p>Risk 4:</p> <p>The project may continue the current gender-based discrimination and provide women with limited access to opportunities and benefits that it aims to create.</p> <p>Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment - P2.9 adverse impacts on gender equality and P2.10 discrimination against women</p>	<p>I = 2</p> <p>L = 2</p>	<p>Low</p>		<p>The project shall promote meaningful and equitable participation of women and men in its proposed interventions.</p> <p>The gender strategy developed in the framework of the foundational project and updated during the PPG phase is an important tool to decrease this risk.</p>

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<p>Risk 5:</p> <p>Tensions may arise due to grievances regarding the proposed water management interventions and complicate project activities, and reaching project objectives.</p> <p>Principle 4: Accountability - P4.14 risks of grievances from potentially affected stakeholders</p>	<p>I = 3</p> <p>L = 2</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Particularly important for activities related to outputs 2.1.1, 3.1.1., and 3.1.2.</p> <p>An open debate in policy development and implementation ? if and as requested by the authorities of the riparian countries - is important and conflicting positions cannot and should not be fully avoided in project implementation.</p> <p>When issues are discussed, and decisions need to be balanced in a complex situation there may be concerns raised by groups of stakeholders. For example, there are strong views among different stakeholders for and against hydropower. If this and other debates are not managed properly this may be a cause of concern.</p>	<p>The project will establish procedures to facilitate decision-making that take into account views of different sectors and stakeholders. Precautions will be made to position the project activities in such a way that corresponding risks are limited to the extent possible. During the foundational project mediators have been engaged when issues that may lead to conflicts were debated. This approach will be applied also in the new project when needed.</p> <p>The project will also provide potentially affected or concerned stakeholders with access to effective grievance redress mechanisms or processes.</p>

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<p>Risk 6:</p> <p>Project activities related to construction of sewage treatment plants or sewage systems, tailing management facilities, or improvement of irrigation create community health and safety risks.</p> <p>Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management - S1.7 adverse impacts on soils</p> <p>Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security - S3.1 construction and/or infrastructure development risks, S3.2 emissions and effluent risks, S3.3 structural risks,</p>	<p>I = 3</p> <p>L = 5</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Particularly important for activities related to output 3.1.1. and 3.1.2.</p> <p>The very objective of these activities is to improve community health and safety and related risk can be managed through existing procedures; nevertheless, it should, be kept under control and scrutiny where possible.</p> <p>The release of pollutants is possible but an indirect risk, as the scope of the project does not include direct construction or rehabilitation work. For instance, project activities related to tailing management facilities will only deal with issues such as early warning and various exercises to decrease risks in case a real accident would take place. There will be no direct links between</p>	<p>All projects promoted by the project ? i.e. project pipelines and demonstration projects will be screened by the PCU during the implementation to make sure that they do not cause Standard 3- and Standard 8-relevant emissions and effluent risks. The screening will check that they:</p> <p>? Prevent, minimize and manage risks from construction and other interventions to communities and workers</p> <p>? Meet all applicable national environmental laws and standards, and applicable international agreements and standards, for avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating environmental and related public- and occupational-health risks associated with the potential release of pollutants, wastes, and hazardous materials due to routine or non-routine circumstances.</p>

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S3.4 risks of water/vector-borne diseases S7.6 occupational health and safety risks Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency - S8.1 release of pollutants			project activities and construction or rehabilitation of tailing management facilities. However, any co-financed or parallel activities included in project results will follow the Guidance on Application of UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards for Co-Financing (and Parallel Funding) and be consistent with the UNDP SES requirements.	? Adopt measures to prevent or minimize health risks and spread of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g., temporary breeding habitats) and communicable diseases. Last, the contractor(s) of any directly co-financed will be required to conduct orientation training addressing relevant environmental and operation health and safety issues prior commencement of works.
Risk 7: 4.1 Project activities might inadvertently harm Cultural Heritage sites with protected areas. Standard 4: Cultural Heritage - S4.1 risks for cultural heritage sites	I = 3 L = 2	Moderate	Particularly important for activities related to outputs 3.1.1 and 4.1.3. Cultural Heritage sites may be found in connection with protected areas.	The project's activities will be screened during the implementation by the PCU for Standard 4-related risks. This screening shall make sure that no supported action leads to significant damage of cultural heritage.

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<p>Risk 8:</p> <p>The project construction activity that will be indirectly supported by the project will involve risks occupational health and safety risks that need to be adequate managed</p> <p>Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions - S7.6 occupational health and safety risks</p>	<p>I = 3</p> <p>L = 5</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Particularly important for activities related to outputs 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 4.1.1 and 4.1.3</p> <p>The construction activities may take place outside the immediate scope of the project.</p> <p>However, any co-financed or parallel activities included in project results will follow the Guidance on Application of UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards for Co-Financing (and Parallel Funding) and be consistent with the UNDP SES requirements.</p>	<p>All activities promoted by the project ? i.e. project pipelines and demonstration projects will be screened by the PCU during the implementation to make sure that they do not cause occupational health and safety risks. The screening shall ensure that these activities:</p> <p>? respect relevant national labour laws and international commitments related to labour and working conditions.</p> <p>? meet all national requirements related to occupational health and safety risks.</p>

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<p>Risk 9:</p> <p>The project activities, if poorly designed or implemented, could adversely impact habitats, including protected areas.</p> <p>Standard 1 on Biodiversity -</p> <p>S1.1 adverse impacts to ecosystem,</p> <p>S1.2 adverse impacts to critical habitats, S1.4 risks to endangered species, S1.11 significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water, S1.14 transboundary environmental concerns</p>	<p>I = 3</p> <p>L = 3</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Particularly important for activities related to outputs 2.1.1, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 4.1.1, and 4.1.3.</p>	<p>The biodiversity activities planned in the project will aim to support biodiversity and the PCU will have the oversight to make sure that planning of all activities considers biodiversity aspects on an appropriate level.</p> <p>The selection of biodiversity activities supported by the project will be based on adequate analyses of the key biodiversity threats in the basin</p> <p>All other water-management interventions proposed by the project shall be screened in order to:</p> <p>? Identify, assess, mitigate, and manage any potentially significant adverse impacts (direct, indirect, cumulative, synergistic) to natural resources, biodiversity, ecosystem services that may arise through:</p>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? direct habitat and species loss ? habitat overexploitation, degradation, and fragmentation, ? invasive species, ? changes in hydrological regimes and nutrient loading, ? pollution and noise ? potential climate change impacts <p>Within this process, the project shall ensure that it will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? not have any measurable adverse impacts on biodiversity values/criteria that underpin designation of the relevant critical habitats, and ecological processes supporting these biodiversity values (determined on an ecologically relevant scale) ? not cause any reduction of any recognized Vulnerable, Endangered, or Critically Endangered species,

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <i>Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.</i>	QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 5</i>			QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High
<i>Risk Description</i> <i>(broken down by event, cause, impact)</i>	<i>Impact and Likelihood</i> <i>(1-5)</i>	<i>Significance</i> <i>(Low, Moderate, Substantial, High)</i>	<i>Comments (optional)</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High</i>
				<p>? avoid adverse impacts on endemic species, restricted-range species, and migratory species.</p> <p>? not introduce species known to be invasive into new environments, and</p> <p>? avoid significantly altering flow regimes in ways that prevent water resources from fulfilling their functions for upstream and downstream ecosystems and their services to local communities.</p> <p>Any relevant assessment processes that would identify potentially significant transboundary impacts will involve transboundary consultations that will broadly follow the Espoo Convention (for projects) and the SEA Protocol (for plans and programs) .</p>

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <i>Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.</i>	QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 5</i>			QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High
<i>Risk Description (broken down by event, cause, impact)</i>	<i>Impact and Likelihood (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, Substantial, High)</i>	<i>Comments (optional)</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High</i>
<p>Risk 10:</p> <p>Project activities will be sensitive to climate change which may exacerbate the increasing risks of serious floods or droughts.</p> <p>Standard 2 on Climate Change - S2.1 presence of DRR and CC risks, S2.2 sensitivity to climate change or disasters</p>	<p>I = 2</p> <p>L = 4</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Particularly important for activities related to outputs 3.1.2, 4.1.1, 4.1.2 and 4.1.3.</p> <p>The project also foresees support of the implementation of a few ecosystems-based adaptation measures as well as review and update of the "Strategic Framework for Climate Change Adaptation in the Dniester Basin" and its Implementation Plan. Those activities will increase adaptation capacity in the basin.</p>	<p>The project shall avoid or minimize the exacerbation of impacts caused by natural or human-made hazards, such as landslides or floods that could result from land use changes due to project activities with a particular focus on marginalized and disadvantaged groups and individuals. To address this, the project includes a full component dedicated to minimize climate change related impacts.</p> <p>To this end, the project shall screen interventions in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? review whether the proposed interventions are exposed and sensitive to the changing climatic conditions that may occur during the project lifetime under the SSP3-7.0 or SSP5-8.5 scenario and enhance their resilience to the expected risk of extreme weather or slow onset events, ? promote, where possible, ecosystem-based approaches and exploiting options that deliver co-benefits for

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <i>Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.</i>	QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 5</i>			QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High
Risk Description <i>(broken down by event, cause, impact)</i>	Impact and Likelihood <i>(1-5)</i>	Significance <i>(Low, Moderate, Substantial, High)</i>	Comments (optional)	Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High
				<p>climate change mitigation- or development of environmental conditions to deliver developmental benefits.</p> <p>? ensure that appropriate climate and disaster risk management plans are in place, including but not limited to emergency preparedness and response plans and ensure appropriate monitoring and, where necessary, adoption of corrective measures.</p> <p>? When doing so, it will consider factors or processes which increase the susceptibility and vulnerability of relevant communities to potential climate change impacts and hazards.</p> <p>? It will not increase exposure or exacerbate vulnerability of communities to climate change impacts or disasters (e.g., maladaptation) and avoid activities that may exacerbate such risks.</p>

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <i>Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.</i>		QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 5</i>		QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High	
Risk Description <i>(broken down by event, cause, impact)</i>		Impact and Likelihood <i>(1-5)</i>	Significance <i>(Low, Moderate, Substantial, High)</i>	Comments (optional)	
				Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High The highlighted risks will be considered in all relevant project activities and will be also taken into account when selecting the climate change adaptation activities to be supported by the project.	
QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?					
<i>Low Risk</i>		?			
<i>Moderate Risk</i>		?			
<i>Substantial Risk</i>		X			
<i>High Risk</i>		?			
QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)*					
Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects					
<i>Is assessment required?</i> <i>(check if ?yes?)</i>		?		<i>Status? (completed, planned)</i>	
<i>if yes, indicate overall type</i>			?	Targeted assessment(s)	

<p><i>and status</i></p>		X	<p>ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)</p>	<p>Additional activity specific screenings (that may be followed-up with scoped or full-fledged EISAs) will be conducted during the project implementation for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? investment methodological guidelines within Output 3.1.1, investments proposed in Output 3.1.2, and pre-feasibility studies for investments promoted within the project ? selected adaptation actions within Output 4.1.1 ? selected drought management actions in Output 4.1.3
		X	<p>SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)</p>	<p>Additional activity specific screenings (that may be followed-up with scoped or full-fledged SESAs) will be conducted during the project implementation for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? investment plans within Output 3.1.1. ? Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin and of its Implementation Plan within Output 4.1.1 ? Drought management plan in Output 4.1.3
<p><i>Are management plans required? (check if ?yes)</i></p>	?			
<p><i>If yes, indicate overall type</i></p>		X	<p>Targeted management plans (e.g. Gender Action Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Waste Management Plan, others)</p>	<p>The draft ESMF based on SES Roadmap approach was prepared for the ProDoc. It will be further developed before the project inception workshop and adjusted during the project implementation as and when needed.</p>

		?	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)
		?	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)
Based on identified risks, which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?			Comments (not required)
Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind			
Human Rights		?	
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		?	
Accountability		X	
1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		X	To be determined during further screenings during implementation
2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks		X	To be determined during further screenings during implementation
3. Community Health, Safety and Security		X	To be determined during further screenings during implementation
4. Cultural Heritage		?	
5. Displacement and Resettlement		X	To be determined during further screenings during implementation
6. Indigenous Peoples		?	
7. Labour and Working Conditions		X	To be determined during further screenings during implementation
8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		X	To be determined during further screenings during implementation

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
Annex 5 UNDP SESP	CEO Endorsement ESS	
PIMS 6643 Dniester pre- SESP_19March2021_final	Project PIF ESS	

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goal (s): 5, 6, 13, 15, 16, 17						
Intended Outcome as stated in the UNSDCF/Country [or Regional] Programme Results and Resource Framework: REGIONAL PROGRAMME OUTCOME #3: Resilience built to respond to systemic uncertainty and risk						
Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan: Output 3.4: Natural resources protected and managed to enhance sustainable productivity and livelihoods						
Project title and Quantum Project Number: Advancing transboundary co-operation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River basin through implementation of the Strategic Action Programme						
Objective and Outcome Indicators	Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
Project Objective:	To advance Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin contributing to sustainable development by supporting the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme priority actions					
	Mandatory Indicator 1: (GEF Core Indicator #3) Area of land restored (hectares)	Reports of the implementation of demonstration projects	0	2,000	4,050	Regular annual reports

Objective and Outcome Indicators	Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
<p>Mandatory Indicator 2: (GEF Core Indicator #4)</p> <p>Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas)(Hectares)</p>	<p>Reports of the implementation of demonstration projects</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>100</p>	<p>210</p>	<p>Regular annual reports</p>	<p>Risk: Continuation of the war against Ukraine.</p> <p>Lack of relevant expertise among the experts</p> <p>Assumptions: Government and public institutions have sufficient financing and human resource capacity to support the continuation of successful project interventions</p>

Objective and Outcome Indicators	Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
<p>Mandatory Indicator #7) (GEF Core Indicator #7)</p> <p>Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management</p>	<p>Reports of the Strategic Action Programme Implementation and of Dniester Commission meetings and its working groups</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Regular annual reports of the Dniester Commission</p>	<p><u>Risks:</u> Continuation of the war against Ukraine.</p> <p>Low regularity of Dniester Commission and its working groups meetings.</p> <p>Lack of appropriate participation in the project of Transdnestria .</p> <p>Political instability could affect the implementation of actions at country and bilateral levels.</p> <p><u>Assumptions:</u> There is sufficient willingness of countries to collaborate and to provide adequate resources.</p> <p>Transdnestria continue to take part in activities of some WGs, and contribute to various activities in</p>

Objective and Outcome Indicators	Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
						the Dniester River Basin.
	Mandatory Indicator #11 (GEF Core Indicator #11) Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	To be validated during the year one of the project implementation	To be validated during the year one of the project implementation	18,000 (7,860 men; 10,140 women)	38,000 (17,860 men; 20,140 women)	Reports on implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Gender Action Plan, investment plans and demonstration projects <u>Risk:</u> Not all local administrations and partners are willing to engage in project's activities <u>Assumption:</u> Project stakeholders will be expressly encouraged to utilize project's services at all levels of implementation and execution
Project component 1	Strengthening Moldovan-Ukrainian cooperation in the field of water resources management					

Objective and Outcome Indicators		Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
Outcome 1.1: Riparian countries have strengthened political commitment and capacity to implement the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin	Indicator 5: Number of partnered countries engaged, capacitated and actively participating in exchanging knowledge and experience to implement the Treaty on Cooperation for the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin	Reports on partnerships established and joint meetings with other river basins	0	1 partner country	2 partner countries	Analysis of actions jointly implemented with other river basins and lessons learned for the implementation of the project	<u>Risk:</u> Continuation of the war against Ukraine, which would restrict exchange visits. <u>Assumptions:</u> Recommendations from joint initiatives accepted by the Dniester Commission
	Indicator 6: Number of integrated geoportals actively functioning to monitor water resources management in Moldova and Ukraine	Web site of the Dniester Commission	0	1 integrated geoportal designed	1 integrated geoportal established and functioning	Analysis of the DniesterGIS geoportal at the website of the Dniester River Commission	<u>Risks:</u> Lack of capacity to adequately integrate and manipulate geospatial and other information <u>Assumption:</u> Countries are willing to provide information Web page within the Dniester Commission website functioning

Objective and Outcome Indicators	Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1	1.1.1: Fully operational Dniester Commission					
Project component 2	Strengthening the regulatory framework and national capacities to implement the SAP, country commitments under the UNECE Water Convention and the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD) in the Dniester					
Outcome 2.1: Countries have strengthened the legal framework and capacity to implement the SAP, the UN Water Convention and the EU WFD	Indicator 7: Number of new regulations drafted and adopted for SAP implementation	Records of public consultation for draft documents review	0	2	4	Drafting and public consultation process will be closely monitored by PCU <u>Risk:</u> Lack of relevant expertise in the countries <u>Assumptions:</u> Countries show willingness to draft new regulation and to adopt it
	Indicator 8: Number of public officials proficient in the use of new drafted and adopted regulations	Analysis during the first year of implementation shows that adequate capacities do not exist	0	0	2	Training and exchange visits reports <u>Risk:</u> Continuation of the war against Ukraine, which would restrict exchange visits. Lack of adequate expertise. Lack of participation in capacity building activities. <u>Assumptions:</u> Countries show willingness to collaborate, including in an online format if needed

Objective and Outcome Indicators	Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2.1	2.1.1: Draft of new laws and regulations in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as a basis for implementation of SAP (a max. no. of 2 draft laws/ regulations per country)					
	2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity in state authorities to implement the SAP, the UNECE Water Convention and the EU WFD (approx. 2 trainings)					
Project component 3	Reducing anthropogenic impact to improve ecological status in the Dniester River Basin as defined in the SAP					
Outcome 3.1: Improved ecological status in the Dniester River Basin	Indicator 9 : # of methodological guidelines and investment pre-feasibility studies designed and adopted	Methodological guidelines Pre-feasibility studies	0	1 methodological guideline 1 pre-feasibility study	2 methodological guidelines 2 pre-feasibility studies	Methodological guidelines Pre-feasibility studies <u>Risk</u> : Lack of relevant expertise among the experts <u>Assumptions</u> : Countries reach consensus on the guidelines and on the studies.
	Indicator 10 : # of demonstration projects implemented	List of proposed demonstration projects Detailed description and selection of demonstration projects to be made during the inception phase	0	4 projects started	4 projects completed	Progress reports on the implementation of the projects including the benefits achieved and assessment of the replication potential <u>Risk</u> : Continuation of the war against Ukraine. Lack of relevant expertise among the experts <u>Assumptions</u> : Government and public institutions have sufficient financing and human resource capacity to support the continuation of successful project interventions

Objective and Outcome Indicators	Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
Outputs to achieve Outcome 3.1	3.1.1: Methodological guidelines and facilitated investment opportunities to improve the ecological status in the Dniester River Basin (a max. no. of 2 methodological guidelines and 2 investment plans)					
	3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River Basin (a max. no. of 2 demonstration projects per country)					
Project component 4	Adaptation to climate change and increasing preparedness for and resilience to natural disasters					
Outcome 4.1 Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods	Indicator 11 : # of adaptation measures updated and implemented	Strategic Adaptation Framework Adaptation measures to be developed with more detail, together with implementation arrangements during the first year of the project	0	2 adaptation measures updated and implemented	6 adaptation measures updated and implemented	Progress reports on implementation of demonstration projects <u>Risk</u> : Lack of relevant expertise among the experts <u>Assumptions</u> : Strategic Framework has to be updated during the first year of the project implementation. Countries have to show willingness to implement measures and provide adequate co-financing
	Indicator 12 : Floods Early Warning and Response System (EWRS) installed	Maps Hydrological models	0	1 EWRS system designed	1 EWRS developed and functioning	Progress reports <u>Risk</u> : Lack of relevant expertise among the experts <u>Assumptions</u> : Countries willing to collaborate

Objective and Outcome Indicators	Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
Outputs to achieve Outcome 4.1	4.1.1: Update of the 'Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin and of its Implementation Plan', and implementation of selected adaptation actions (a max. no. of 2 adaptation actions per country) 4.1.2: Maps, hydrological models, early warning and response systems for floods 4.1.3: Drought management plan and implementation of selected actions					
Project component 5	Public awareness and involvement projects to empower and raise the capacity of stakeholders, project communications and outreach					
Outcome 5.1 Improved capacity of experts and stakeholders to develop and participate in activities in support of water management and water cooperation	Indicator 13: # of awareness raising campaigns	Detailed description of campaign to be prepared during the inception phase	A number of awareness raising initiatives already exist in both countries, but they have to be strengthened and more focused towards solutions	1 awareness raising campaign	2 awareness raising campaigns	Awareness raising campaigns programmes Progress reports <u>Risk:</u> Lack of interest of major stakeholders <u>Assumption:</u> Updated Communications Strategy
	Indicator 14: # of stakeholder platform	Detailed programme to establish the platform for involvement of the public to be prepared during the inception phase	There is no focal point to facilitate organisation of awareness, educational and gender and socially inclusive public consultation events	1 stakeholder platform	1 stakeholder platform	Record of public involvement in platform activities <u>Risk:</u> Lack of interest of major stakeholders <u>Assumption:</u> Updated SEP
Outputs to achieve Outcome 5.1	5.1.1: Awareness raising campaigns and activities to empower stakeholders (at least 2 awareness raising actions)					

Objective and Outcome Indicators		Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
Outcome 5.2 Enabled stakeholders? awareness and actions through effective project information sharing	Indicator 15 : Knowledge sharing campaign	Documentation on the implementation of SEP, GAP and Communications Strategy	SEP, GAP and Communications Strategy need to be updated during the inception phase of the project to be implemented through knowledge sharing campaigns	Project Update Flyer produced and distributed at events	Project Update Flyer produced and distributed at events Dniester Green Alert	Record of Project Updates distributed	<u>Risk</u> : Countries are not willing to exchange data <u>Assumption</u> : Web site has to be functioning
	Indicator 16 : # of IW:LEARN Experience Notes	Record of Experience Notes distributed or downloaded	Strategic alliance with IW:LEARN has yet to be established No Experience Notes produced	1 Experience Note 1 IW:LEARN Newsletter contribution	3 Experience Notes 3 IW:LEARN Newsletter contributions	Reports from participants in the international events	<u>Assumption</u> : Functioning website
Outputs to achieve Outcome 5.2	5.2.1: Project website within the existing Dniester Commission website 5.2.2: Communication, stakeholder and gender strategies documented, implemented and shared across the Dniester River Basin 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF /IW:LEARN activities 5.2.4: IW Experience Notes and other IW:LEARN related products and services.						
Component 6	Enhancing research for governance in the Dniester River Basin as identified in the SAP						
Outcome 6.1: Deepened, joint scientific understanding for decision making in the	Indicator 17 : # of biannual Ukraine ? Moldova conferences	Conference report	Only occasional conferences with this profile have been organised	1 biannual conference organised	2 biannual conferences organised	Progress report on the preparation of the conference	<u>Assumption</u> : Project's implementation advanced enough for results to be presented at the conference

Objective and Outcome Indicators		Data Source	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Data Collection Methods	Risks/Assumptions
Dniester River Basin	Indicator 18: # of research studies	Record of visits, number of research studies and publications	Networking between scientists in both countries is ongoing but should be strengthened.	1 study completed	3 studies completed	Progress report on the studies	<p><u>Risk:</u> Lack of relevant expertise among the experts</p> <p><u>Assumption:</u> Countries willing to cooperate</p>
Outputs to achieve Outcome 6.1	<p>6.1.1: Networking meetings for the scientific community focusing on applied research in the Dniester basin (at least 2 meetings)</p> <p>6.1.2: Applied research as prioritised in SAP on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring</p>						
M&E							
Outcome M&E: M & E strategy guiding project management to achieve delivery of project outputs	NA						
Outputs to achieve Outcome M&E	Monitoring and evaluation developed and implemented to ensure adaptive project management						

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

STAP guidelines for screening GEF projects

Part I: Project Information	Response	
GEF ID	10805	
Project Title	Advancing transboundary co-operation and integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin through implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP)	
Date of Screening	27 May 2021	
STAP member screener	Blake Ratner	
STAP secretariat screener	Virginia Gorsevski	
STAP Overall Assessment and Rating	<p>Minor.</p> <p>The proposed project is a follow-on investment to recent TDA and newly agreed SAP.</p> <p>A theory of change is presented in a graphic, which is a depiction of the stated barriers, outputs and outcomes. Assumptions and drivers are poorly developed. The only assumption noted refers to ?countries accept commitments?? This appears to disregard the incentives and behaviors of non-state actors.</p> <p>Statement of innovation potential indicates moderate ambition. Intention to engage ?professional mediators and communication experts? could yield lessons if it helps accelerate collaborative action.</p> <p>A separate climate risk screen was completed for this project that rates the risk as ?high.? A very useful visual characterization of possible impacts and adaptation capacity is provided to aid prioritization.</p> <p>KM section is not well articulated and mostly generic, indeed verbatim with GEF 10725 in parts.</p>	

Part I: Project Information	What STAP looks for	Response
B. Indicative Project Description Summary		
Project Objective	Is the objective clearly defined, and consistently related to the problem diagnosis?	<p>Yes. The stated objective is ?to advance Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River basin contributing to sustainable development by supporting the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme priority actions.?</p> <p>The objective is straightforward and broadly responds to the multitude of problems facing the shared body of water ? including high levels of pollution from multiple sources.</p> <p>Climate change is discussed throughout the project ? sometimes as a ?root cause? and other times as an exacerbating factor; there is a wide range of possible future scenarios and general uncertainty regarding impacts.</p>
Project components	A brief description of the planned activities. Do these support the project?s objectives?	Yes.
Outcomes	<p>A description of the expected short-term and medium-term effects of an intervention.</p> <p>Do the planned outcomes encompass important adaptation benefits?</p>	Yes, climate risks are prominent, and adaptation is woven through the project.
	Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits likely to be generated?	Good likelihood, following recent TDA and newly agreed SAP.

Outputs	<p>A description of the products and services which are expected to result from the project.</p> <p>Is the sum of the outputs likely to contribute to the outcomes?</p>	Structure is clear.
Part II: Project justification	A simple narrative explaining the project's logic, i.e. a theory of change.	
<p>1. Project description. Briefly describe:</p> <p>1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems,</p>	Is the problem statement well-defined?	Yes, the problems are very well described and understood.
<p>root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description)</p>		
	Are the barriers and threats well described, and substantiated by data and references?	Yes, based on recent analysis.
	For multiple focal area projects: does the problem statement and analysis identify the drivers of environmental degradation which need to be addressed through multiple focal areas; and is the objective welldefined, and can it only be supported by integrating two, or more focal areas objectives or programs?	n/a
<p>2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects</p>	Is the baseline identified clearly?	Yes.
	Does it provide a feasible basis for quantifying the project's benefits?	Yes regarding institutional context. Presumably TDA also has quantitative data on ecological trends.
	Is the baseline sufficiently robust to support the incremental (additional cost) reasoning for the project?	Yes.

	For multiple focal area projects:	
	are the multiple baseline analyses presented (supported by data and references), and the multiple benefits specified, including the proposed indicators;	n/a
	are the lessons learned from similar or related past GEF and non-GEF interventions described; and	n/a
	how did these lessons inform the design of this project?	n/a
3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project	What is the theory of change?	A theory of change is presented in a graphic, which is a depiction of the stated barriers, outputs and outcomes. Assumptions and drivers are poorly developed. The only assumption noted refers to ?countries accept commitments?? This appears to disregard the incentives and behaviors of non-state actors.
	What is the sequence of events (required or expected) that will lead to the desired outcomes?	Structure of components implies a logic of connections between strengthened cooperation,
		regulatory framework and capacities, public awareness, applied research and more local actions.
	What is the set of linked activities, outputs, and outcomes to address the project?s objectives?	Adequately described.
	Are the mechanisms of change plausible, and is there a well-informed identification of the underlying assumptions?	Plausible but assumptions are poorly developed.
	Is there a recognition of what adaptations may be required during project implementation to respond to changing conditions in pursuit of the targeted outcomes?	Yes, including M&E plan with regular reviews to adjust project implementation.

<p>5) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEF trust fund, LDCF, SCCF, and cofinancing</p>	<p>GEF trust fund: will the proposed incremental activities lead to the delivery of global environmental benefits?</p>	<p>Likely, given recent commitments; however, scale of benefits is difficult to anticipate.</p>
	<p>LDCF/SCCF: will the proposed incremental activities lead to adaptation which reduces vulnerability, builds adaptive capacity, and increases resilience to climate change?</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>6) global environmental benefits (GEF trust fund) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)</p>	<p>Are the benefits truly global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits, and are they measurable?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
	<p>Is the scale of projected benefits both plausible and compelling in relation to the proposed investment?</p>	<p>Adequate.</p>
	<p>Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits explicitly defined?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
	<p>Are indicators, or methodologies, provided to demonstrate how the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits will be measured and monitored during project implementation?</p>	<p>Needs further development.</p>
	<p>What activities will be implemented to increase the project's resilience to climate change?</p>	<p>Climate risk screening includes specific data and scenarios, suggesting basis for adaptation measures in further design stages.</p>
<p>7) innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up</p>	<p>Is the project innovative, for example, in its design, method of financing, technology, business model, policy, monitoring and evaluation, or learning?</p>	<p>Statement of innovation potential indicates moderate ambition. Developing synergies between the GEF IW process and EU legislation is useful and necessary, but not necessarily innovative. Similarly, robust hydrological models are interesting but not unique or game changing.</p>

		Intention to engage ?professional mediators and communication experts? could yield lessons if it helps accelerate collaborative action.
	Is there a clearly-articulated vision of how the innovation will be scaled-up, for example, over time, across geographies, among institutional actors?	Several suggestions are provided for how innovations could be scaled to other river basins; the most interesting concern stakeholder engagement, including NGO and hydro-energy sector representation.
	Will incremental adaptation be required, or more fundamental transformational change to achieve long term sustainability?	Fundamental transformational change will be necessary to achieve long lasting improvements in the Dniester River basin since this can only occur when actors in key sectors adhere to pollution control regulations and adopt new technologies or change existing practices. Incremental improvements will not be sufficient.
1b. Project Map and Coordinates. Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.		Provided.

<p>2. Stakeholders.</p> <p>Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase: Indigenous people and local communities; Civil society organizations; Private sector entities.</p> <p>If none of the above, please explain why. In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.</p>	<p>Have all the key relevant stakeholders been identified to cover the complexity of the problem, and project implementation barriers?</p>	<p>Good description of stakeholder engagement in PIF preparation. In future steps, more information is needed regarding the specific organizations and their roles in this effort and how their participation can help inform specific interventions and help achieve the ultimate objective of improved management of the river basin in order to achieve GEBs.</p>
	<p>What are the stakeholders? roles, and how will their combined roles contribute to robust project design, to achieving global environmental outcomes, and to lessons learned and knowledge?</p>	<p>See above</p>

<p>3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.</p> <p>Please briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis). Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes/no/tbd.</p> <p>If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality: access to and control over resources; participation and decisionmaking; and/or economic benefits or services. Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gendersensitive indicators? yes/no /tbd</p>	<p>Have gender differentiated risks and opportunities been identified, and were preliminary response measures described that would address these differences?</p>	<p>Basic information is provided. Importantly, there is recognition of the risk of conflict over water and its links to social conflict, including gender dimensions.</p> <p>The PIF states that it will promote a genderbalanced approach to water governance? however, it is not clear that inviting more women to participate in activities is sufficient or meaningful. A gender strategy is planned to be developed during PPG phase.</p>
	<p>Do gender considerations hinder full participation of an important stakeholder group (or groups)? If so, how will these obstacles be addressed?</p>	<p>Yes. Responses TBD.</p>
<p>5. Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and</p>	<p>Are the identified risks valid and comprehensive? Are the risks specifically for things outside the project's control?</p>	<p>Several risks are identified; however, most of them low and covered by the project components (i.e.</p>

<p>environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design</p>	<p>Are there social and environmental risks which could affect the project?</p> <p>For climate risk, and climate resilience measures:</p> <p>? How will the project's objectives or outputs be affected by climate risks over the period 2020 to 2050, and have the impact of these risks been addressed adequately?</p> <p>? Has the sensitivity to climate change, and its impacts, been assessed?</p> <p>? Have resilience practices and measures to address projected climate risks and impacts been considered? How will these be dealt with?</p> <p>? What technical and institutional capacity, and information, will be needed to address climate risks and resilience enhancement measures?</p>	<p>coordination with other projects, between national authorities, etc.)</p> <p>A separate climate risk screen was completed for this project that rates the risk as "high." A very useful visual characterization of possible impacts and adaptation capacity is provided to aid prioritization.</p> <p>The moderate scenario A1B indicates that by 2050, temperatures may rise by 1.0 to 1.2 degrees C and precipitation will not change significantly. Other scenarios are presented using different models.</p> <p>The problem of land-based sources of pollution appears to be most pressing ? it would be useful to know more about how climate variability will relate to this issue, including the sectors that are responsible for the most pollution (i.e. agriculture).</p>
<p>6. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other related initiatives</p>	<p>Are the project proponents tapping into relevant knowledge and learning generated by other projects, including GEF projects?</p>	<p>The PIF identifies the the many regional activities underway and mostly non-GEF projects and initiatives.</p>
	<p>Is there adequate recognition of previous projects and the learning derived from them?</p>	<p>No</p>
	<p>Have specific lessons learned from previous projects been cited?</p>	<p>No</p>
	<p>How have these lessons informed the project's formulation?</p>	<p>n/a</p>

	Is there an adequate mechanism to feed the lessons learned from earlier projects into this project, and to share lessons learned from it into future projects?	A project steering committee (PSC) will be established and appears to be the main mechanism for gathering project partners and sharing lessons, in addition to IW:LEARN.
8. Knowledge management. Outline the ?Knowledge Management Approach? for the project, and how it will contribute to the project?s overall impact, including plans to learn	What overall approach will be taken, and what knowledge management indicators and metrics will be used?	KM section is not well articulated and mostly generic, indeed verbatim with GEF 10725 in parts, e.g.: ?Information will be collected and distributed as relevant to the different needs of the various private sector partners? Civil society will be provided with information to inform communities??
from relevant projects, initiatives and evaluations.		Knowledge management is mainly addressed in Component 5 that seeks to engage stakeholders and develop communications and outreach strategies. IW:LEARN features prominently.
	What plans are proposed for sharing, disseminating and scaling-up results, lessons and experience?	Component 6 usefully outlines plans for scientific networking and applied research.

Notes

STAP advisory response	Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed
1. Concur	STAP acknowledges that on scientific or technical grounds the concept has merit. The proponent is invited to approach STAP for advice at any time during the development of the project brief prior to submission for CEO endorsement.

	* In cases where the STAP acknowledges the project has merit on scientific and technical grounds, the STAP will recognize this in the screen by stating that <i>?STAP is satisfied with the scientific and technical quality of the proposal and encourages the proponent to develop it with same rigor. At any time during the development of the project, the proponent is invited to approach STAP to consult on the design.?</i>
2. Minor issues to be considered during project design	STAP has identified specific scientific /technical suggestions or opportunities that should be discussed with the project proponent as early as possible during development of the project brief. The proponent may wish to:
	(i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised;
	(ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development, and possibly agreeing to terms of reference for an independent expert to be appointed to conduct this review.
	The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.
3. Major issues to be considered during project design	STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical methodological issues, barriers, or omissions in the project concept. If STAP provides this advisory response, a full explanation would also be provided. The proponent is strongly encouraged to:
	(i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised; (ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development including an independent expert as required. The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.

ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG).

(Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: USD 150,000	
<i>Project Preparation Activities</i>	<i>GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)</i>

<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent (disbursed) To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed (contracted)</i>	<i>Amount Unspent</i>
Component A: Technical Studies	30,000	0	10,000	20,000
Component B: Formulation of the ProDoc	119,000	20,530.09	65,858.50	32,611.41
Component C: Validation workshop	1,000	552.12	149.80	298.08
Total	150,000	21,082.21	76,008.30	52,909.49

If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue to undertake exclusively preparation activities up to one year of CEO Endorsement/approval date. No later than one year from CEO endorsement/approval date. Agencies should report closing of PPG to Trustee in its Quarterly Report.

Under Component A: Technical Studies costs related to the development of the Environmental Social Management Framework (ESMF) and other SES Frameworks/Plans

Under Component B: Formulation of the ProDoc costs related to the international and national consultants, providing technical expertise on the various components of the project proposal have been included;

Under Component C: Validation Workshop, costs related to interpretation during discussions have been included. Discussions, which were held in the framework of the 4th Meeting of the Commission for Sustainable Use and Protection of the Dniester River Basin, have been held in a virtual format. A report of the validation workshop has been shared for consideration.

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.



GEO LOCATION INFORMATION

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. These IDs are available on the [GeoNames? geographical database](#) containing millions of placenames and allowing to freely record new ones. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap](#) or [GeoNames](#) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](#).

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID	Location & Activity Description
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ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Total Budget and Work Plan			
Quantum Business Unit	UNDP-IRH		
Quantum Project ID:	00XXXXXX	Quantum Project Title:	<i>Advancing transboundary co-operation and Integrated Water Res the Dniester River Basin through implementation of the Strategic</i>
Quantum Award ID:	XXXXXXX	Quantum Award Title:	<i>Advancing transboundary co-operation and Integrated Water Res the Dniester River Basin through implementation of the Strategic (SAP)</i>
UNDP-GEF PIMS No.	6643		
Implementing Partner	OSCE		

Quantum Outcome (GEF Component)	Quantum Output (GEF Outcome)	Quantum Activity (GEF Output)	Quantum Responsible Party (UNDP)	Quantum Fund ID	Quantum Donor ID	Quantum Budgetary Account	Quantum Budget Account Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount (USD)	
Component 1: Strengthening Moldovan-Ukrainian cooperation in the field of water resources management	Outcome 1.1: Riparians have strengthened political commitment and capacity to implement the Treaty on Cooperation on the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Dniester River Basin	Output 1.1.1: Fully operational Dniester Commission	OSCE	62000	10003	71200	International Consultants	10,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	
				62000		71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	15,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	
				62000		71600	Travel	15,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	
				62000		72100	Contractual Services - Companies		5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
				62000		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
				Total OSCE				50,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	
				Total Output 1.1.1				50,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	
Total Outcome 1.1				50,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00					
Total Component 1								50,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	
Component 2: Strengthening the regulatory framework and national capacities to implement the SAP, country commitments under the UNECE Water Convention and the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD) in the Dniester River basin	Outcome 2.1: Countries have strengthened the legal framework and capacity to implement the SAP, the UNECE Water Convention and the EU WFD	Output 2.1.1: Draft of new laws and regulations in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine as a basis for implementation of SAP (a max. no. of 2 draft laws/regulations per country)	OSCE	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	-	50,000.00	-	-	
				62000		71600	Travel	-	-	5,000.00		
				62000		72100	Contractual Services - Companies	-	-	15,000.00		
				Total OSCE				-	50,000.00	20,000.00		
				Total Output 2.1.1				-	50,000.00	20,000.00		
		Output 2.1.2: Trainings to strengthen capacity in state authorities to implement the SAP, the UNECE Water Convention and the EU WFD (approx. 2 trainings)	OSCE	10003	62000	71200	International Consultants	-	-	20,000.00		
					62000	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	-	-	5,000.00		
					62000	71600	Travel	-	-	30,000.00		
					62000	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	-	-	5,000.00		
					Total OSCE				-	-	60,000.00	
Total Output 2.1.2				-	-	60,000.00						
Total Outcome 2.1				-	50,000.00	80,000.00						
Total Component 2								-	50,000.00	80,000.00	80,000.00	
Component 3: Reducing anthropogenic impact to improve ecological status in the Dniester River basin as defined in the SAP	Outcome 3.1: Improved ecological status in the Dniester river basin	Output 3.1.1: Methodological guidelines and facilitated investment opportunities to improve the ecological status in the Dniester River basin (a max. no. of 2 methodological guidelines and 2 investment plans)	OSCE	10003	62000	71200	International Consultants	-	40,000.00	40,000.00	20,000.00	
					62000	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	-	10,000.00	30,000.00		
					62000	71600	Travel	-	5,000.00	5,000.00		
					62000	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	-	-	10,000.00		
					Total OSCE				-	55,000.00	85,000.00	
		Total Output 3.1.1				-	55,000.00	85,000.00				
		Output 3.1.2: Demonstration projects to improve the ecological status of the Dniester River basin (a max. no. of 2 demonstration projects per country)	OSCE	10003	62000	71200	International Consultants	30,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00		
					62000	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	10,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00		
					62000	71600	Travel	5,000.00	55,000.00	55,000.00		
					62000	72100	Contractual Services - Companies	50,000.00	270,000.00	300,000.00		
					Total OSCE				95,000.00	625,000.00	655,000.00	
		Total Output 3.1.2				95,000.00	625,000.00	655,000.00				
		Total Outcome 3.1				95,000.00	680,000.00	740,000.00				

Total Component 3								95,000.00	680,000.00	740,000.00	33	
Component 4: Adaptation to climate change and increasing preparedness for and resilience to natural disasters	Outcome 4.1: Improved adaptation to climate change and enhanced preparedness and resilience for floods and drought periods	Output 4.1.1: Update of the "Strategic Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Dniester River Basin and of its Implementation Plan", and implementation of selected adaptation actions (a max. no. of 2 adaptation actions per country)	OSCE	62000	10003	71200	International Consultants	30,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	3	
				62000		71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	15,000.00	80,000.00	80,000.00	3	
				62000		71600	Travel	5,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	2	
				62000		72100	Contractual Services - Companies	100,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	14	
			Total OSCE							150,000.00	510,000.00	510,000.00
		Total Output 4.1.1							150,000.00	510,000.00	510,000.00	27
		Output 4.1.2: Maps, hydrological models, early warning and response systems for floods	OSCE	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	-	65,000.00	60,000.00	-	-
				62000		71600	Travel	-	10,000.00	5,000.00	-	-
				62000		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	-	10,000.00	-	-	-
			Total OSCE							-	85,000.00	65,000.00
		Total Output 4.1.2							-	85,000.00	65,000.00	-
		Output 4.1.3: Drought management plan and implementation of selected actions	OSCE	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	-	45,000.00	45,000.00	-	-
				62000		71600	Travel	-	5,000.00	5,000.00	-	-
			Total OSCE							-	50,000.00	50,000.00
Total Output 4.1.3							-	50,000.00	50,000.00	-		
Total Outcome 4.1							150,000.00	645,000.00	625,000.00	27		
Total Component 4								150,000.00	645,000.00	625,000.00	27	
Component 5: Public awareness and involvement projects to empower and raise the capacity of stakeholders, project communications, outreach and M&E	Outcome 5.1: Improved capacity of experts and stakeholders to develop and participate in activities in support of water management and water cooperation	Output 5.1.1: Awareness raising campaigns and activities to empower stakeholders (at least 2 awareness raising actions)	OSCE	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	30,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	10	
				62000		71600	Travel	20,000.00	30,000.00	20,000.00	2	
				62000		72400	Communic & Audio Visual Equip	-	20,000.00	20,000.00	2	
			Total OSCE							50,000.00	150,000.00	140,000.00
		Total Output 5.1.1							50,000.00	150,000.00	140,000.00	14
	Total Outcome 5.1							50,000.00	150,000.00	140,000.00	14	
	Outcome 5.2 Enabled stakeholders' awareness and actions through effective project information sharing	Output 5.2.1: Project website within the existing Dniester Commission website	OSCE	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	3	
				62000		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	2	
			Total OSCE							20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
		Total Output 5.2.1							20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	2
		Output 5.2.2: Communication, stakeholder and gender strategies documented, implemented and shared across the Dniester River basin	OSCE	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	20,000.00	50,000.00	70,000.00	5	
				62000		71600	Travel	10,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	2	
			62000	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	10,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	2			
		Total OSCE							40,000.00	85,000.00	105,000.00	9
Total Output 5.2.2							40,000.00	85,000.00	105,000.00	9		
Output 5.2.3: Participation in regional and global GEF /IW:LEARN activities	OSCE	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	10,000.00	-	-	-	-		
		62000		71600	Travel	10,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	2			
	Total OSCE							20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	2	
Total Output 5.2.3							20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	2		

		Output 5.2.4: IW Experience Notes and other IW:LEARN related products and services.	OSCE	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	-	10,000.00	10,000.00			
				62000		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	-	2,000.00	3,000.00			
			Total OSCE					-	12,000.00	13,000.00			
		Total Output 5.2.4						-	12,000.00	13,000.00			
		Total Outcome 5.2						80,000.00	137,000.00	158,000.00			
Total Component 5									130,000.00	287,000.00	298,000.00		
Component 6: Enhancing research for governance in the Dniester River basin as identified in the SAP	Outcome 6.1: Deepened, joint scientific understanding for decision making in the Dniester River Basin	Output 6.1.1: Networking meetings for the scientific community focusing on applied research in the Dniester basin (at least 2 meetings)	OSCE	62000	10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	-	10,000.00	20,000.00			
				62000		71600	Travel	-	10,000.00	20,000.00			
				62000		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	-	5,000.00	-			
				Total OSCE				-	25,000.00	40,000.00			
		Total Output 6.1.1								-	25,000.00	40,000.00	
		Output 6.1.2: Applied research as prioritised in SAP on issues such as biodiversity, including invasive species, protected areas, wetlands and monitoring	OSCE	10003	62000	71200	International Consultants	-	20,000.00	-			
					62000	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	-	90,000.00	90,000.00			
					62000	71600	Travel	-	10,000.00	10,000.00			
					62000	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	-	-	10,000.00			
		Total OSCE						-	120,000.00	110,000.00			
Total Output 6.1.2								-	120,000.00	110,000.00			
Total Outcome 6.1								-	145,000.00	150,000.00			
Total Component 6									-	145,000.00	150,000.00		
Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)	Outcome M&E: M & E strategy guiding project management to achieve delivery of project outputs	Output M&E: Monitoring and evaluation developed and implemented to ensure adaptive project management	OSCE	62000	10003	71200	International Consultants	-	-	35,000.00			
				62000		71600	Travel	30,000.00	10,000.00	15,000.00			
				62000		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00			
				Total OSCE				35,000.00	15,000.00	55,000.00			
Total Output 6.1.1								35,000.00	15,000.00	55,000.00			
Total Outcome 6.1								35,000.00	15,000.00	55,000.00			
Total M&E									35,000.00	15,000.00	55,000.00		
Project Management Cost (PMC)	PMC	PMC	OSCE	62000	10003	71200	International Consultants	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00			
						71400	Contr. Services-Individuals	12,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00			
				62000		71300	Local Consultants	29,400.00	29,400.00	29,400.00			
				62000		71600	Travel	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00			
				62000		72500	Supplies	1,850.00	1,850.00	1,850.00			
				62000		74100	Professional Services		5,000.00	5,000.00			
				Total OSCE				68,250.00	72,250.00	72,250.00			
Total Project Management Cost									68,250.00	72,250.00	72,250.00		
TOTAL PROJECT GRANT									528,250.00	1,994,250.00	2,120,250.00	1.35	

Budget Notes #	Project Output (Description)
1	International consultants to assist Dniester Commission for capacity building and for mediation and consultation in water management = \$60,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
2	National consultants to develop and make functional DniesterGIS = \$70,000. National consultants to assist Dniester Commission = \$ 35,000
3	Travel for international consultants, national experts to attend training course, and travel to exchange knowledge and experience with other river basin commissions.
4	Companies contracted to collect water monitoring samples = \$ 15,000.
5	Interpretation and provision of audio-visual equipment for interpretation and presentations = \$ 40,000
6	National consultants contracted in both countries = \$ 50,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
7	Travel inside the countries to organize public consultations = \$ 5,000
8	Companies contracted to organize public consultations = \$ 15,000
9	International consultants to prepare and carry out training for the implementation of SAP = \$ 40,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
10	National consultants to be engaged in implementation of training on implementation of SAP = \$ 10,000

11	Travel for training and exchange visits = \$ 65,000
12	Provision of interpretation services for trainings = \$ 10,000
13	International consultants to guide preparation of methodological guidelines, investment opportunities analysis and pre-feasibility study = \$ 100,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
14	National consultants to assist development of methodological guidelines, investment opportunities analysis and pre-feasibility study = \$ 70,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
15	Travel for international consultants = \$ 10,000
16	Interpretation and translation services = \$ 20,000
17	International consultants to provide assistance to demonstration projects = \$ 206,000. UNECE consultants = \$ 94,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff). Technical assistance provide by PMU = \$ 100,000
18	National consultants contracted as individuals to assist implementation of 4 demo projects = \$ 400,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
19	Travel of international and national consultants to demonstration sites = \$ 150,000
20	National companies to undertake work on demonstration sites = \$ 700,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
21	International consultants to assist in implementation of activities = \$ 300,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
22	National consultants contracted as individuals to assist implementation of demo projects = \$ 205,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
23	Travel of international and national consultants = \$ 90,000
24	Companies contracted to do the work on demo sites = \$ 845,000
25	National consultants to prepare and conduct awareness campaign = \$ 330,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff) National consultants to develop and maintain web site = \$ 60,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff) National consultants to implement SEP, GAP and Communications Strategy = \$ 190,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff) National consultant to prepare the programme for collaboration with IW:LEARN = \$ 10,000 N+C:National consultants to prepare IW:LEARN material = \$ 40,000
26	Travel of national consultants = \$ 15,000
27	Interpretation services = \$ 10,000
28	National consultants to develop national drought policy = \$ 90,000
29	Travel of national consultants = \$ 10,000
30	National consultants to prepare and conduct awareness campaign = \$ 330,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
31	Travel for national consultants = \$ 90,000
32	Audio visual equipment for awareness campaign = \$ 60,000
33	National consultants to develop and maintain web site = \$ 60,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
34	Translation services for web site = \$ 20,000
35	National consultants to implement SEP, GAP and Communications Strategy = \$ 190,000 (Part-time technical action by PCU staff)
36	Travel for national consultants for SEP, GAP, Communications Strategy and knowledge sharing exchange = \$ 70,000
37	Translation services = \$ 10,000 and Publications=\$ 40,000

38	National consultant to prepare the programme for collaboration with IW:LEARN = \$ 10,000
39	Travel to IW:LEARN organized events = \$ 70,000
40	National consultants to prepare IW:LEARN material = \$ 40,000
41	Translation services = \$ 10,000
42	Preparation of biannual Dniester Conference = \$ 50,000
43	Travel to Biannual Dniester Conference = \$ 50,000
44	Preparation of conference publication = \$ 10,000
45	International consultant to prepare analysis of impacts of hydropower facilities = \$ 20,000
46	National consultants involved in research activities = \$ 270,000
47	Travel of national and international experts = \$30,000
48	Translation services = \$ 20,000
49	International consultants to conduct MTR and Terminal Evaluation (\$ 35,000 each) = \$ 70,000
50	Travel of international consultant to conduct MTR and TE (\$ 10,000), travel to PSC and Inception workshop (\$ 80,000) = \$ 90,000
51	Translation services for PSC and Inception Workshop = \$ 20,000
52	Project Coordinator will be International Consultant. PC will provide strong technical advice and guidance to the implementation of all project components and most of his/her time will be budgeted to the components budget. The costs of PC budgeted to the PMU = \$40,000
52a	To assist the Project coordinator, Assistant Project Officer, Financial Assistant and Admin Assistant will be engaged to provide technical and admin support if and as needed. Part of the costs will be also budgeted to the components budget. The costs budgeted to the PMU: Assistant Project Officer = \$23,000; Financial Assistant: = \$11,000; Administrative Assistant: = \$11,000
53	National consultants will be stationed in the region. For each country, one consultant will be responsible for Social and Environmental Safeguards Procedure. For Ukraine, 2 national consultants are envisaged and for Moldova, 1.5 on average (the rest will be covered by other projects). Part of the salary will be covered from the PMC, while for the rest the National Consultants will be involved in direct implementation of specific project activities and that part of the salary will be budgeted from those activities.
54	Travel for the PCU staff
55	Office supplies and equipment
56	Cost of Audit

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

Instructions. Please submit an finalized termsheet in this section. The NGI Program Call for Proposals provided a template in Annex A of the Call for Proposals that can be used by the Agency. Agencies can use their own termsheets but must add sections on Currency Risk, Co-financing Ratio and Financial Additionality as defined in the template provided in Annex A of the Call for proposals. Termsheets submitted at CEO endorsement stage should include final terms and conditions of the financing.

ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agency is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

ANNEX H: (For NGI only) Agency Capacity to generate reflows

Instructions. The GEF Agency submitting the CEO endorsement request is required to respond to any questions raised as part of the PIF review process that required clarifications on the Agency Capacity to manage reflows. This Annex seeks to demonstrate Agencies' capacity and eligibility to administer NGI resources as established in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy, GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01, June 9, 2017 (Annex 5).