

PROJECT DOCUMENT

**Project Title:** Strengthening the Parliament's role in enhancing gender equality and addressing the needs of vulnerable groups in the Republic of Moldova

**Project Number:**

**Implementing Partner:**

**Start Date:**

**End Date:**

**PAC Meeting date:**

**Brief Description**

The overall objective of the Project is to support fostering cooperation and dialogue among women MPs, members of the caucus for gender responsive legislation, representation and oversight. The project will provide support to the Women's Caucus in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova for boosting its role in executing the legislative, oversight and representative functions of the institution with the focus on gender mainstreaming in law, policy and budgetary process through fostering dialogue with CSOs and grass roots organizations in line with the principle of leaving no one behind. A particular focus will be paid to the enhancement of consultations processes of women MPs with CSOs working on women's rights, rights of the child, youth's and other vulnerable groups'. The Project will enhance capacities of the Women's Caucus and women MPs enabling them to initiate and draft laws in a participatory and inclusive manner, to oversee the implementation of the legal provisions, and to assess their impact, strengthening gender and human rights dimensions in the formal political processes. The project will contribute to strengthening women MPs' image as the role models for other women and adolescent girls to motivate them to engage in politics and decision-making. Assistance will be provided to women MPs in establishing and strengthening the mechanisms for collaboration with the civil society organizations and with men, women and youth constituencies for better addressing their needs through the decision-making and oversight process.

Contributing Outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD or GPD):

Outcome 1. Democratic, transparent, and accountable governance, evidence based public policies, and efficient, effective, and responsive public institutions.

Indicative Output(s) with gender marker: 3

OUTPUT 1.3. National institutions have capacities to develop, implement, and monitor legislation, policies and budgets to advance integrity, gender equality and human rights commitments in inclusive and participatory way.

**Total resources required:**

USD 300 000

**Total resources allocated:**

**UNDP:** 20,000 USD

**UNFPA:** 15,000 USD

**UNICEF:** 20,000 USD

**UN Women:** 20,000 USD

**Donor:**

**In-Kind:**

**Unfunded:**

225,000 USD

Agreed by :

Executive UN Agencies	Implementing Partner
<p>UNDP: <u>Dima Al-Khatib</u>  <small>DocuSigned by:</small>            Dima Al-Khatib, Resident Representative</p> <p>UNFPA: <u>Nigina Abaszade</u>  <small>DocuSigned by:</small>            Nigina Abaszade, Resident Representative</p> <p>UNICEF: <u>Maha Damaj</u>  <small>DocuSigned by:</small>            Maha Damaj, Resident Representative</p> <p>UN Women: <u>Dominika Stojanoska</u>  <small>DocuSigned by:</small>            Dominika Stojanoska, Resident Representative</p>	<p>Parliament: <u>Mihail Popșoi</u>            Mihail Popșoi, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova</p>
Date: 06/08/2022	Date:

## I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

The United Nations is committed to working with the Government of the Republic of Moldova to support the sustainable contribution to human rights and national development priorities and to further improve the living conditions of all people in the country, especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, in line with the Partnership Framework Republic of Moldova - United Nations for Sustainable Development (PFSD) for 2018 – 2022 that is compliant with the national priorities established in the Association Agreement with the EU signed in 2014, and the nationalized SDGs. Under Priority Area 1 “Governance, Human Rights and Gender Equality” of the PFSD the United Nations aims to ensure that “the people of Moldova, especially the most vulnerable, demand and benefit from democratic, transparent and accountable governance, gender-sensitive, public policies based on human rights and evidence, fair services and efficient, effective and responsive public institutions”. Under the Output 1.3: “National institutions have capacities to develop, implement, and monitor legislation, policies and budgets to advance integrity, gender equality and human rights commitments in an inclusive and participatory way”, UN agencies are making concerted efforts to increase women’s, men’s, and youth’s capacity to participate in democratic governance.

Gender equality in political representation is fundamental for an inclusive and representative governance. While the Republic of Moldova has achieved a certain progress in the fulfilment of the national and international commitments to strengthen the participation and representation of women in decision-making, there is still a long way ahead to achieve the suggested numerical targets and to ensure that women and adolescent girls are effectively influencing the key decisions affecting their lives.

The outcomes of the 65th session of the Commission on the Status of Women and the agreed conclusions, endorsed by all Member States “Women’s full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls” on 26 March 2021<sup>1</sup> create proper context for initiation of a project which will contribute to the goal of 50/50 gender balance at all levels of elected positions.

In the recent years the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova (PRM) adopted important legislation that ensures the 40% gender quota in the political parties governing bodies, on the parties’ candidates lists and in the Government Cabinet (Law 71 from 2016), and the gender placement provision imposing at least 4 candidates of either sex out of each 10 on the political parties’ lists (Law 113 from 2019). These provisions shall dramatically change the gender balance in the elected bodies and ensure women indeed make at least 40% in those.

However, the role of the elected and appointed women is often limited, due to the male-dominated party leadership and traditional stereotypes of the gender roles including disproportional load of unpaid work provided by girls and women which remains largely unrecognized and undervalued.<sup>2</sup> The Parliament is the institution that has the powers to achieve a transformative change with regards to gender equality, but to reach this stance, the institution itself shall transform into an entity that implements gender equality principles and norms.

With UNDP support, the Parliament has taken many important steps towards becoming an efficient, modernized, and transparent institution, genuinely representing men’s and women’s interests. An important direction of UNDP’s work with the Parliament was mainstreaming of gender and human rights across its legislative, oversight and representation functions, so the institution takes into consideration particular needs of women and men, boys and girls, as well as marginalized and

<sup>1</sup> CSW65 (2021) | Commission on the Status of Women | UN Women – Headquarters

<sup>2</sup> 13 United Nations Development Programme, Progress at Risk: Inequalities and Human Development in Eastern Europe, Turkey and Central Asia, Regional Human Development Report, 2016. Available from: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/regional-human-development-report-2016-easterneurope-turkey-and-central-asia> Countries studied include Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, the Kyrgyz Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

vulnerable groups, to leave no one behind along the reform pathway. UNDP assisted in assessing the Parliament's gender responsiveness from the operational and institutional perspectives, as well as in building the knowledge and raising awareness of MPs and staffers on gender equality matters and enhancing the skills necessary for conducting the gender analysis of the legislation.

In 2015, the first ever Gender Audit of the Parliament was carried out to analyze the internal policies, regulations, standards, capacities, and practice from a gender perspective and identify critical gaps and challenges. Based on this analysis, the Parliament had adopted the Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) for 2017 – 2021, aiming at achieving higher standards of gender equality and gender responsiveness.

As a result of an increased gender knowledge and awareness, women MPs from all 5 political Factions established in 2015 a Women's Caucus, called the Common Dialogue Platform for Women MPs of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova. UNDP and UN Women supported the creation of the platform's Coordination Council, in formulating the mission and vision, as well as a Roadmap of activities. The Women's Caucus, with the UN Women's support, played an important role in advancing the gender equality in the legislation, in particular to be mentioned the adoption of the Law 71 introducing a 40% gender quota for political parties and for nominated ministers, 14-day paternity leave paid by the State, prohibition of the sexist language in mass-media and in advertisements, etc.; amendments to the Law 196 on domestic violence; and amendments to the Law 294 on political parties. These advancements demonstrated that women MPs can achieve transformative changes on the gender equality agenda if they join the forces.

The Republic of Moldova has visibly advanced on the path of increasing the representation of women in decision making in the recent years. The representation of women in the Parliament has considerably increased in the last decade achieving 40% in 2021. A woman was elected as President in 2020, while 2021 brought a woman in the position of prime minister. In Parliament there is striking imbalance in the representation of women in decision-making positions: out of 13 members of the Permanent Bureau, 4 are women; no woman has been elected as a Deputy Speaker after December 2020.

In the 2019 local elections, 45.8% of candidates running for the positions of members of local councils were women and 43.1% of those running for district/municipal councils were women. There was an increase of women in the local councils by 6.5%, and in the district (rayon) councils by 8.6% after the local elections of Autumn 2019, compared to 2015. In the case of mayors, where the elections are based on the majoritarian system and the quota is not applied, an increase of elected female mayors was only 1% in 2019 elections compared to 2015<sup>3</sup>.

These results visibly demonstrate that the measures taken for enhancing the role of women in politics and decision making are not sufficient for achieving the equal representation of women. The proposed project will support the transformation of women Members of Parliament into agents of change, who will support the development and approval of coherent national legislation and policies in a conscious and responsible manner leading to promotion of gender parity, empowerment of women and girls, and equal inclusion of women and representatives of vulnerable and marginalized groups on the agenda of governance priorities.

The goal is to empower women MPs to help build inclusive and open societies for disadvantaged groups as agents of change. The objectives are interconnected, intersectoral and involve a process of mutual collaboration. The project aims to support the Women Caucus, to offer more content and viable instruments for enhancing women's role in politics, as well as to support the creation of new models for the performance of women in politics.

The overall **Objective** of the project is to strengthen the role of the Women's Caucus in ensuring that interests of both men and women are reflected in the legislation through an inclusive,

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<sup>3</sup> [https://a.cec.md/storage/ckfinder/files/LocalGeneralElections2019RO\\_.pdf](https://a.cec.md/storage/ckfinder/files/LocalGeneralElections2019RO_.pdf)

participatory and gender responsive law making and oversight process by enhancing capacities of women MPs for boosting their role in executing the functions of the institution with the focus on gender mainstreaming and challenging the social norms and stereotypes that affect the fulfillment of rights for all in particular women, children and youth belonging to underrepresented groups in line with the SDGs principle to Leave No One Behind. The project will also contribute to strengthening women MPs' image as the role models for other women and adolescent girls to motivate them to engage in politics and decision-making at central and local levels.

The specific objectives are dedicated to developing the capacity of the Women Caucus and are focused on the primary needs of empowering women MPs to properly perform key functions and encourage collaboration for national objectives of major importance, another objective proposes generating a sustainable and inclusive development framework for the vulnerable groups, and the inclusion of needs and expectations in public policies and the legal framework.

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## II. STRATEGY

UN agencies have a history of success in the field of gender equality and women's political empowerment, both globally and in the Republic of Moldova. The project is based on the synergy of current programs developed by UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF.

The project continues the joint effort of UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA, and UNICEF which decided to contribute their skills and experience in the field of women's participation in politics and increase the capacity of women MPs to support the re-establishment of the Women's Caucus in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova. Support for strengthening the Women's Caucus capacity in the legislative, parliamentary oversight and representative process will create an environment in which men and women and boys and girls, especially from disadvantaged groups, will be able to participate in decision-making and become valuable members of the society.

Before starting off the activities and building on the achievements of the initiation phase of the Project, the documents elaborated during the Project Initiation Phase will be consulted with women MPS as follows:

- (i) The Regulations of the Women Caucus elaborated in line with the best internationally recommended practice and guidance and in collaboration with women deputies. The Regulations include clear rules governing the leadership, coordination, decision-making, distribution of tasks and prioritization of actions within the Caucus and will allow for the effective organization of the Women's Caucus activity.
- (ii) The 3-year Women's Caucus Action Plan was developed, a document that includes legislative priorities, oversight, and communication actions. The actions included in the Plan were identified by women MPs through consultations with representatives of the local administration, non-governmental organizations, and UN Agencies.
- (iii) Capacity Development Programme for the members of the Women's Caucus elaborated based on a thorough assessment of the common needs of women MPs in the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova for boosting the Women's Caucus' activity and for enhancing its impact on disadvantaged groups. The assessment was carried out through interviews with women deputies, representatives of UN agencies and CSOs in the country, and took into account the relevant experience accumulated abroad.
- (iv) The Communication Strategy of the Women's Caucus, which sets the objectives of the Women's Caucus engagement with the various groups of stakeholders, as well as the means of engagement. The Strategy also provides for increasing the visibility of the Women's Caucus and for promoting women MPs as positive role models for enhancing women's participation at different levels of decision-making.

The availability of these documents will allow the Women's Caucus to start work without delay and with maximum efficiency. They, along with the previous experience of the re-elected women MPs with the Women's Caucus will form the solid basis for the new project to build on.

In the initial phase of the project the activities will target a wider circle of MPs interested in gender related issues. A solid capacity building programme for MPs and PRM staffers will be provided covering gender and gender related issues. The capacity building and awareness rising activities will aim at supporting the Parliament to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through adequately-financed implementation of legislation and stronger oversight, while preventing and ensuring protection from gender-based discrimination and violence. It will help the legislature transform its structures and ways of working to become more gender-responsive, including through gender mainstreaming and gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) processes.

The Project will identify opportunities for widening the scope of the traditional Women's Caucus role and will focus the attention on issues beyond gender equality, such as poverty reduction, improved social and medical services, measures for better inclusion of marginalized groups, effective post-COVID-19 recovery measures, *at al.* It will offer the expertise in the field of women's participation in political life and for strengthening capacities of women MPs to act jointly using the platform of the Women's Caucus and to address the interests and concerns of vulnerable groups in the legislative and oversight process.

Advocacy efforts under this project will focus on providing information on various special measures, such as gender-sensitive measures, on highlighting the wider social benefits that men and women shall enjoy, as well as will combat the traditional gender stereotypes that are still dominating in the Moldovan society. The Project will seek to engage men as experts, promoters, champions, and advocates of gender equality. The project will encourage and support the Women Caucus in drafting laws that reflect the needs and/or interests of women and men, in exercising oversight and in putting vital issues on the public agenda, which will improve gender equality in the social, economic, decision-making and the address of the groups most affected by the pandemic and its consequences.

The Project will facilitate the communication and collaboration of the Women's Caucus with the Civil Society organizations, in particular those working towards gender equality, such as the Gender Equality Platform, the Coalition Life without Violence and the ones representing people from vulnerable groups and youth. The Project will offer the space for the dialogue between the CSOs and the Women MPs and for CSOs' advocacy on priority policy and oversight issues. Partnerships with civil society, business associations will be strengthened to address harmful gender stereotypes and promote family friendly policies at national level and in the private sector to expand choices for women and men. The Women's Caucus shall play an important role in challenging gender stereotypes in constituencies where politicians can serve as role models to promote gender equality, nonsexist speech, and awareness.

In addition, there is a need to enhance the cooperation between women MPs and women in the senior positions in the Government, particularly for strengthening the gender sensitive policymaking (on the Government side) and the law-making and oversight (on the Parliament side). It is also important to establish collaboration and exchange with the women elected to the local-level decision-making bodies as well as women appointed in different positions within the Executive bodies at central levels for getting feedback about the policy implementation at the local level and the information about men's and women's needs.

The project will contribute to the achievement of SDGs 1, 5, 10, as well as the national development priorities.

**The Theory of Change of the project is that**

**if**

- a) If women and men MPs have strong gender awareness and capacities combined with leadership, advocacy and law-making skills and men MPs are more aware on existing gender inequalities and gaps and act as role models promoting positive social norms
- b) the Women Caucus is established and pro-active
- c) and the law making, and oversight process is inclusive, participatory, gender transformative and transformative
- d) and the Civil Society pro-actively advocate on priority policy and oversight issues
- e) and women's, children's, youth's and vulnerable groups' needs are effectively protected
- f) and the women MPs' act as the role models for other women to motivate them to engage in politics and decision-making are achieved

**then**

the Parliament will execute its legislative and oversight functions in a gender-responsive and human rights-based manner addressing also the needs of vulnerable, marginalised or underrepresented groups in line with the nationalised SDGs

**because**

the Women's Caucus will use enhanced capacities and strong partnerships to influence the legislative and oversight agenda of the Parliament in general and of political factions in particular to promote gender equality, human rights, poverty reduction, better social and medical services, and inclusion of vulnerable, marginalised or underrepresented groups.

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### **III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS**

#### ***Expected Results***

The project will enhance the capacities of the MPs and members of the Women's Caucus that will lead to a more efficient and effective exercise of their powers as of MPs in gender responsive law-making, in the approval of the budget and in monitoring of its execution, in the oversight in policy implementation by the Government and by independent institutions, and in representation, with a focus on vulnerable, disadvantaged, and marginalized groups. This will also mean an increased role of women deputies and the importance they attach to vulnerable groups for achieving SDGs and the development priorities of the country.

The project will contribute to a reduction of the inequality and injustice in the society by ensuring that interests of both men and women are reflected in the legislation through an inclusive, participatory and gender responsive law making and oversight process, as it will enhance capacities of women MPs for boosting their role in executing the functions of the institution with the focus on gender equality, women's, children's, youth's and vulnerable groups needs in line with the SDGs targets.

The project will also support the establishment of effective communication mechanisms that will ensure that the policy framework is sensitive and responsive to the needs of women and underrepresented groups through the facilitation of a viable mechanism for the Women's Caucus engagement with the CSOs and persons from underrepresented groups.

The project, addressing the strategic objectives, will contribute to the creation of an inclusive environment, a participatory and gender-sensitive governance in the Parliament, as well as to a significant increase of the decision-makers' attention to addressing the needs of marginalized and vulnerable groups.

The project will offer to women MPs a specialized expertise to promote the legislation aiming at the reduction of the negative effect of the pandemic on the vulnerable groups, particularly women, which has been shown to be extraordinarily strong.

The Project will aim at achieving the following results:

1. Women MPs have enhanced skills and expertise to effectively represent their constituents and to embrace feminist leadership for transformative changes.
2. Law-making and post-legislative scrutiny is carried out applying gender-based analysis principles and using sex-disaggregated data.
3. Advocacy networks between women MPs, elected women in the local level decision-making bodies and CSOs established and successfully promote legal acts ensuring equal opportunities for women and men in political, economic and social life.
4. Women MPs have increased knowledge and skills to promote and advocate gender-responsive policy initiatives on issues related to the empowerment and wellbeing of women and girls, excessive family/social care burden and dual (work/family) responsibilities for women and girls, masculine and feminine ideals and expectations, behavior and social change communication that influences shifts in gender norms, family relations, active ageing, demography and sexual and reproductive health and rights.
5. Informal knowledge sharing networks established by the Women Caucus of the Parliament of Moldova with peers in the region.

The above results will be achieved through the following Outputs:

#### **Output 1. Women's Caucus of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova formalized and operational**

The Project will offer induction training on gender related issues to men and women MPs and will support the general engagement of the Parliament in the promotion of gender priorities of the country. Women MPs will benefit from a tailored capacity development programme that would enhance their professional knowledge and skills and will facilitate learning from other countries' successful Women's Caucuses experience.

The Women's Caucus is a cross-faction body that is established by women MPs mainly for strengthening the role of women parliamentarians and for promoting gender equality through the legislative and oversight process. Moreover, women MPs tend to address also the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups standing for inclusion, non-discrimination and human rights. As the international experience suggests, women MPs are more effective if they establish a good organization and management structure and agree on the joint objectives, strategy, a plan of actions, and a good internal communication.<sup>4</sup> The establishment of this body strengthens the impact of women MPs on the Parliament's work, facilitating the collaboration between the political factions and between the majority and the opposition in the Parliament on non-political issues and ensuring an increased role and visibility of women MPs in the political factions, Standing Committees and in the Parliament in general. Members of the Women's Caucus will lobby the joint initiatives within the political factions breaking existing stereotypes, making the women's voice heard and mobilizing the support of men peers. To be successful in these initiatives, women MPs need enhanced capacities in the field of legal drafting and exercise of parliamentary oversight, leadership, analytical, negotiation, and communication skills, and ability to establish and maintain partnerships with CSOs and international partners.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.iknowpolitics.org/en/discuss/e-discussions/womens-parliamentary-caucuses>

**Activities:**

- 1.1. Provide capacity building on gender related issues to MPs and the specialized group as well as deliver individual capacity development opportunities to the Women's Caucus' members necessary for effectively and efficiently carrying out the lawmaking and oversight functions in the following areas:
  - (i) gender-responsive governance, international gender equality norms and standards, fundamental skills in leadership, negotiations, communication, networking, use of social media, partnerships (including with the CSOs), sustainable gender sensitive and inclusive development, etc.
  - (ii) professional skills for effective engagement in gender responsive legislation drafting, budgeting and oversight, accountability and transparency; etc.
  - (iii) mentoring and peer-to-peer support schemes including by men mentors to create sustainable knowledge sharing avenues that will span beyond the timeline of the proposed project.
- 1.2. Gender-responsive policymaking and advocacy on issues related to family, children, active ageing, demography and sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- 1.3. Facilitate the approval of the Women's Caucus Multi-Year and Annual Action Plans
- 1.4. Facilitate peer to peer visits and participation in regional and international events and coalitions to learn and share the best practices of other national parliaments
- 1.5. Establish a pool of national gender experts on priorities jointly identified which can be engaged by the Women's Caucus to advise on lawmaking and oversight.

**Output 2. Cooperation between the Women's Caucus and the Government for efficient gender sensitive law making and enhanced oversight**

The Women's Caucus is not simply a forum for coordination and alliances between women MPs within the legislature but is expected to develop relationships and collaboration with other women, in particular in the leadership positions, in the Government or any other public office, as well as with the women elected local officials, to channel their demands and proposals. These alliances will help women MPs to mobilize the critical mass of support for their initiatives, as well as to use the resources (such as data and evidence) hosted by the public institutions or locally, to substantiate their initiatives. The Women's Caucus might also use these networks to synchronize its actions with the Government legislative plan and to support the legal initiatives submitted to the Parliament by the Government or other mandated public offices (like Ombudsman's Office, for example) that are in line with the Caucus's objectives, and to advocate for them in the political factions and in Standing Committees. The project will support building and maintaining these networks and the joint actions initiated by the Women's Caucus, in particular those that would aim at changing the attitude and approach towards disadvantaged groups, facilitating acceptance of gender mainstreaming in legislation, and eliminating existing discriminatory stereotypes towards disadvantaged women and girls, and other vulnerable groups.

**Activities:**

- 2.1 Establish and formalize a procedure for elaborating a joint legislative action plan by the Women's Caucus to address gender inequalities including in family-related issues, sexual and reproductive health through legislative initiatives, including by the Government legislative plan
- 2.2 Develop strategic partnerships and linkages between the Women's Caucus and the Government to address gender equality issues in the -COVID-19 response and recovery context in establishing a gender-responsive protocol for crisis management and response
- 2.3 Create a mechanism for the Women's Caucus engagement with women in leadership positions in the Government and other public office for joint actions towards tracking the adoption of gender related or other legal initiatives benefitting the needs of the vulnerable and under-represented groups and for ensuring the relevant post-legislative scrutiny



- 2.4 Offer expert support to women MPs to co-author legislative initiatives addressing gender equality in access to education, retention and learning, teaching and education system, quality maternal care and gender equality in community health systems, prevention, and response to gender-based violence against boys and girls gender inequalities, including family and demographic policies related to ageing, depopulation, fertility, family-based care work, etc.
- 2.5 Enhance the engagement of members of the Women's Caucus with gender coordination groups and focal points at the ministerial level and with the NBS for the collection and analysis of evidence and gender disaggregated data necessary for efficient law making and oversight and facilitate women MPs' collaboration with these bodies

**Output 3. The Women's Caucus actively engages and consults with women, men and youth (girls and boys) to better understand and address their needs.**

Communication, both internal and external, is essential for the Women's Caucus. The inside communication shall be clear and inclusive, so the ideas and opinions flow freely and produce consensus on the joint action despite the political affiliation of the MPs. Outside of the Parliament, the Caucus needs to communicate with civil society, private sector and with the general public to discuss specific problems and recommend viable solutions. These both directions of communication are reflected in the Communication Strategy produced with the support of the previous project. The Strategy contains various tools for effective communication – meetings with constituencies, CSOs, local administration, building issue-based networks and maintaining engagement with them, advocacy actions, public awareness events, field visits and public hearings. Engagement with mass-media via press-conferences and briefings on issues of importance to the Caucus, interviews, and speeches to publicize their work is important for raising the visibility of specific issues and forging advocacy alliances.<sup>5</sup> Public events, Websites and social networks and participation in radio and TV programmes are effective ways to increase visibility, to heighten public awareness about policy issues and to galvanize support for an initiative. The Women's Caucus has also an important role in building bridges between the Parliament, women's movements and civil society in general, and in engaging citizens - men and women - in parliamentary affairs and in legislative activities. The Women's Caucus shall also communicate with other parliamentarians and other Parliaments to learn and share the best practice.

**Activities:**

- 3.1 Update and approve the Women's Caucus's Communication and Outreach Strategy in line with its mission and vision and support its implementation
- 3.2 Facilitate the Women's Caucus engagement with mass-media, the civil society and youth as part of joint advocacy on legal initiatives aiming, but not limited to, gender equality
- 3.3 Support the organization of the Women's Caucus regional public consultations and public hearings to as a regular mechanism for learning the needs of the target groups, raising awareness on the issues that the Caucus is dealing with and informing the constituents and partners about the results achieved and the changes produced
- 3.4 Establish a regular consultation platform with locally elected women
- 3.5 Support the engagement of the Women's Caucus with particular target (youth, women) and vulnerable groups (elderly, men and women with disabilities, those living with HIV/AIDS, poor, unemployed youth) and CSOs representing them (for example, women and youth organizations/associations) to get the feedback for policymaking and to promote certain behaviors based on Let's Talk model
- 3.6 Organize a Regional Conference with the participation of the Women's Caucus, Government and the Civil Society and representatives of the Women's Caucuses from other Parliaments to discuss current priorities in the region, including gender backlash trends, gender-aware crisis response strategy, and to exchange best practice

<sup>5</sup> <http://archive.ipu.org/PDF/publications/caucus-e.pdf>

### ***Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results***

There is a genuine openness on the part of women MPs and civil society partners to work together in response to the growing expectations of the people and a clear demand for efficiency. However, the Women's Caucus has limited resources and changes may not always be what society and development partners expect. The platform is a parliamentary entity, and the parliament is an intrinsic institution, dependent on political, economic, social, and cultural contexts. This situation strengthens the demand for long-term support of the collaboration with the Women Caucus for sustained and sustainable results. The executing project UN Agencies will jointly mobilize the required resources from Donors and eventually will contribute its own resources. They will also offer specific technical expertise for capacity development, research and analysis, support in legal drafting and will provide technical expertise for thematic public consultations, hearings or oversight activities as the in-kind contributions. In addition, short-term and / or long-term consultants will be hired by the Project to provide specialized expertise in the implementation of certain activities within the project objectives.

### ***Partnerships***

A reliable and open relationship with the Women Caucus and development partners is a prerequisite for the successful implementation of the project. This project will further strengthen the long-standing partnership between the Executing the Project UN agencies and the Parliament and will generate new partnerships, in particular with the civil society, national and international experts and women MPs. Partnerships will also be established with Standing parliamentary committees, local elected officials, and Women's Caucuses of other Parliaments. The Project will aim at establishing partnerships and working together with other international organizations or bi-lateral Donors that have ongoing projects or intend to initiate new programs to support gender equality and address the needs of disadvantaged groups. Such close collaboration would lead to the adoption of a common framework of results and resources. The project will also facilitate exchanges of experience and good practice between the Women Caucus and women's networks in politics, as well as similar Caucuses in other Parliaments in order to establish strong partnerships and ensure long-term collaboration.

### ***Risks and Assumptions***

The Project results depend on the assumptions that:

- The Parliament stays for the entire mandate.
- Women MPs continuously demonstrate the interest and commitment to the joint work and participate actively in the activities of the Women's Caucus.
- The leadership of the Parliament supports the Women's Caucus.
- The leadership of the political factions supports the participation of women MPs in the activities of the Women's Caucus
- Men MPs support the legal initiatives and oversight activities initiated by the Women's Caucus

The main risks are:

- Political tensions between the factions prevent women MPs from working jointly
- Lack of support from the leadership of the Parliament
- Barriers to the participation in the Women's Caucus activities established by the leadership of the political factions
- Lack of support from men MPs

The detailed **Risk Log** is in the Annex III

### ***Stakeholder Engagement***

The project will be implemented with the full involvement of main stakeholders, the leadership of the Parliament and women MPs. The stakeholders (women MPs, UN Agencies, relevant CSOs) had been widely consulted during the Project design phase, both in person and through a survey, to determine their interests and needs. Consultations also took place with the Parliament's Secretariat. Men and women and girls and boys from disadvantaged groups (the elderly, ethnic minorities, the poor, people with disabilities, single-parent families or those with many children) are the final beneficiaries of the project.

In addition, the Project will make use of existing networks and the experience of other programs and initiatives supported and promoted by development partners, CSOs in the Republic of Moldova, Women Caucuses from the region.

### ***South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSC/TrC)***

The project will promote the exchange of experience and good practices between the Women's Caucus and similar platforms in the Parliaments in the region and beyond. Thematic seminars and capacity building workshops organized by the project will facilitate the presentation of international experiences, good practices and lessons learned and will promote SSC and TrC opportunities.

### ***Knowledge***

The project will develop a series of promotional materials and analysis. The materials produced and / or used by the project, will be presented in regular project reports, on UN Agencies' local, regional and global websites, as well as on the Parliament's website and in newsletters. The lessons learned from the implementation of this project will be communicated through the partner agencies' publications and through the networks established by the Women's Caucus. The project will support the organization of events, information campaigns, public debates, and the participation of the Women's Caucus members at the relevant regional and global level events, as opportunities that will generate additional visibility to the project results.

### ***Sustainability and Scaling Up***

The Project has been designed upon the request and in close coordination with the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, women MPs and other partners. These attest for a strong ownership of the national partners over Project objectives. The Project has been designed according to a best-researched, evidence-based approach and is in line with national development priorities. Thus, the institutional support to the Project and the political will in terms of its success and sustainability is safeguarded from the outset. As the Project aims to invest into institutional and individual capacity and changed behaviors, the investment will be transformed into skills for more active engagement of women MPs in addressing the needs of the target groups, thus being sustainable. The Project will also build on the synergies with other relevant development assistance interventions in order to achieve stronger results and ensure cost-efficiency.

## **IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

### ***Cost Efficiency and Effectiveness***

As explained in previous sections, the project aims to be cost-effective and achieve maximum results with available resources by building synergies with other projects implemented by UN agencies and development partners. The project will use regional and global expertise in project development and implementation; using global tools and other knowledge products developed by the Executing UN Agencies and accessing information on the implementation of similar projects to achieve a greater impact.

### ***Project Management***

UNDP, as the Lead Agency in executing the Project, will provide programmatic, quality assurance, procurement and financial management support, while these direct project costs incurred will be charged to the Project budget. The Project Team will regularly update the Executing UN Agencies on the progress achieved and will seek opinions of the Project Focal Points designated by the Executing Agencies on the implementation of activities, as necessary. The Project Team will look for synergies with other Projects that might allow for joint activities and for cost-sharing of the activities to achieve higher value for money.

### ***Execution of the Project***

UNDP, as the Project Lead Agency, shall be responsible for the overall management and administration of the Project, primarily regarding the responsibility for the achievement of the outputs and the stated outcome. The Project activities will be implemented by the Project Team. UNDP will be accountable to the Project Steering Committee for the use of Project resources. UNDP will ensure that communication, consultations and review discussions with other Executing Agencies are held on an ongoing basis. During the Project implementation, synergies and linkages with other ongoing projects, in the areas of democratic governance, gender and human rights implemented by UN agencies will be maintained and strengthened.

The Project Team will monitor the progress towards the Project's objectives and will report to UN Agencies and to the Donors accordingly. UNDP will delegate the managerial duties for the day-to-day running of the Project to the Project Manager, selected through a competitive and transparent selection process by a selection panel composed by representatives of the Executing Agencies. The Project Manager has the authority to run the Project on a day-to-day basis on behalf and within the constraints laid down by the Project Steering Committee. The Project Manager is responsible for day-to-day management and decision-making for the Project. The Project Manager's prime responsibility is to ensure that the Project produces the results specified in the Project Document within the specified constraints of time and cost. The Project Manager will be in charge of preparing progress and final reports to be submitted to the Steering Committee and to the Donor/s. The Project Manager is responsible for the implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation framework. The Project Manager will report directly to the UNDP Effective Governance Cluster Lead.

Organizational, administrative, procurement, financial and other related issues will be provided by UNDP Moldova through Project Associate, as well as by the relevant Units (Operations, Human Resources, Procurement, IT, Finance) at the UNDP Country Office.

Detailed descriptions of duties of the Project Manager and the Project Associate shall be reflected in their Terms of References.

### ***Project Quality Assurance***

The Project quality assurance is provided by UNDP Effective Governance Cluster Led and the Programme Associate. Quality assurance on implementing a Project is conducted to achieve Project outputs as defined in the Project Document/Annual Work Plan through implementation and monitoring. The Project Team will support the Cluster Lead and the Programme Associate by carrying out objective and independent Project oversight and monitoring functions. The Project Team ensures appropriate Project management milestones are managed and completed. The Project Team conducts meetings with stakeholders and targeted institutions to ensure the Project is on track, in line with strategic priorities and takes into account emerging needs.

### ***Audit arrangements***

The Project is subject to the standard UNDP audit arrangements. Being a subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly and fully a part of the United Nations, UNDP enjoys a special status deriving from the UN Charter, the general legal framework of the UN, including the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the organization pursuant to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the UN adopted by the General Assembly in 1946. In accordance with this status, audits of UNDP are guided by the 'single audit' principle. Under that principle, any review by any external authority, including any governmental authority, is precluded under regulation 7.6 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, which provides that "the Board of Auditors shall be completely independent and solely responsible for the conduct of audit." This principle was reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/272: "The General Assembly [...] 11. Reaffirms the role of the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit as external oversight bodies, and, in this regard, affirms that any external review, audit, inspection, monitoring, evaluation or investigation of the Office can be undertaken only by such bodies or those mandated to do so by the General Assembly".

### ***Financial management***

Financial management of the project will be conducted under UNDP Financial Regulation and Rules (FRR). FRR are regulations that govern the financial management of the United Nations Development Programme and shall apply to all resources administered by UNDP and to all the Funds and Programmes administered by the Administrator. They ensure acceptable levels of controls, as well as separation of duties. The new FRR are issued effective 1 January 2012 and govern the broad financial management of UNDP and the funds administered by UNDP, including the budgeting and accounting of resources. They have been updated to reflect the adoption of IPSAS and its terminology; and the revised harmonized cost classifications of the Joint report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF on the road map to an integrated budget. Financial reporting mechanisms for the Project will follow UNDP rules and procedures and will comply with the reporting requirements of the Donor.

### ***Anti-corruption***

UNDP applies the UN Convention against Corruption and strictly follows the UNDP Policy of Fraud and Other Corrupt Practices at the country level. UNDP will provide mandatory capacity building for project staff and personnel to ensure compliance with the UNDP M&E Rules and Regulations, including on anti-corruption. The last internal audit of UNDP Country Office in Moldova (2018), has been satisfactory and there were no corruption cases identified at UNDP Moldova.

All Project staff will undertake the UNDP mandatory training courses on anti-corruption and on ethics during the project inception phase.

Accountability of managers at the country level is prescribed in UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) and the Internal Control Framework (ICF).

***Intellectual property rights and use of logo***

Project materials, publications, print or digital deliverables will be branded by the relevant partner agencies logo and typography (subject to corporate brand-book) and donors logo. All intellectual products produced under the Project will be equipped with a standard UN intellectual property right disclaimer and, at discretion and agreement with donors may be placed into creative commons.

## V. RESULTS FRAMEWORK

<p><b>Intended Outcome as stated in the UNDAF Programme Results and Resource Framework:</b> Outcome 1: Democratic, transparent, and accountable governance, evidence based public policies, and efficient, effective, and responsive public institutions.</p> <p><b>OUTPUT 1.3.</b> National institutions have capacities to develop, implement, and monitor legislation, policies and budgets to advance integrity, gender equality and human rights commitments in inclusive and participatory way.</p>			
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Proportion of women and men elected or appointed in the Parliament, local public authorities and Government cabinet</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> Government: 25%; Parliament: 25%; Local Public Administration: mayor 21,8%, LPA District Councillors 36,5%, local councillors 27,1%</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Parliament Women: 40% Men: 60%; Local public authorities Mayors Women: 30% Men: 70%; Local public authorities Local Councillors Women: 40% Men: 60%;</p> <p>LPA District Councillors Women: 40% Men: 60%; Government Cabinet Women: 40% Men: 60%</p>			
<p><b>Project title and Atlas Project Number:</b> Strengthening the Parliament's role in enhancing gender equality in the Republic of Moldova; Project ID:</p>			
INTENDED OUTPUTS	INDICATIVE INTERVENTIONS	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	INPUTS
<p><b>Output 1</b></p> <p><b>Women's Caucus of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova formalized and operational</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 1.1:</b> Number of women MPs trained, number of trainings</p> <p><b>Baseline 1.1:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Target 1.3:</b> 26, 10</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 1.1:</b> Training programmes, Lists of participants, Project Reports</p>	<p><b>1.1</b> Provide specialized group and individual capacity development opportunities to the Women's Caucus' members necessary for effectively and efficiently carrying out the lawmaking and oversight functions</p>	<p>UN Agencies<sup>6</sup></p> <p>Women's Caucus</p> <p>Secretariat of Parliament</p>	<p>National Consultants, Contractual Services/Companies</p> <p>, Training, Travel, Direct Project Costs, Project Management costs</p> <p>USD</p>

<sup>6</sup> Here and throughout the text under the UN Agencies are included UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women as the Executing Agencies

<p><b>Indicator 1.2:</b> Multi-Year and Annual Action Plans of the Women's Caucus are elaborated</p> <p><b>Baseline 1.2:</b> Draft of the 3-year Action Plan</p> <p><b>Target 1.2:</b> Annual Action Plans developed and approved by the Women's Caucus</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 1.2:</b> minutes of the working meeting of Women's Caucus, web page of the Parliament</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.3:</b> Number of regional and international events, number of Parliaments with which collaboration is established</p> <p><b>Baseline 1.3:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Target 1.3:</b> Established collaborations with women's caucuses from Parliaments in the region and with women MEPs</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 1.3:</b> information on the Parliament website, Media Reports, lists of participants</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.4:</b> A pool of national experts to support the activities of the Women's Caucus established</p> <p><b>Baseline 1.4:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Target 1.4:</b> 20</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 1.4:</b> Number of draft bills, number of oversight meeting, lists of participants, Project Reports</p> <p><b>Output 2</b>  <b>Cooperation between Women's Caucus and the Government for efficient gender sensitive law making and enhanced oversight</b></p>	<p><b>1.2</b> Facilitate the update and approval of the Women's Caucus Multi-Year and Annual Action Plans</p> <p><b>1.4</b> Facilitate peer to peer visits and participation in regional and international events and coalitions to learn and share the best practices of other national parliaments</p> <p><b>1.5</b> Establish a pool of national gender experts on priorities jointly identified which can be engaged by the Women's Caucus to advise on lawmaking and oversight.</p>	<p>UNDP  UNFPA  UN Women  UNICEF  Government</p>	<p>International Consultants,  National Consultants,</p>
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<p><b>Indicator 2.1:</b> Number of dialogue meetings with ministries and other central government agencies</p> <p><b>Baseline 2.1:</b> 0 <b>Target 2.1:</b> 20</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 2.1:</b> Agendas, Lists of participants, Project Reports</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.2:</b> Procedure is elaborated</p> <p><b>Baseline 2.2:</b> No</p> <p><b>Target 2.2</b> 3 dialogue meetings</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 2.2:</b> Parliament Annual Reports, Project Reports, Parliament website</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.3:</b> Mechanism is elaborated</p> <p><b>Baseline 2.3:</b> No</p> <p><b>Target 2.3</b> Institutionalized mechanism in Women's Caucus adopted document(s)</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 2.3:</b> Parliament Annual Reports, Project Reports, Parliament website</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.4:</b> Number of legal initiatives formulated and promoted</p> <p><b>Baseline 2.4:</b> 0 <b>Target 2.4:</b> 10</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 2.4:</b> Project Reports, Parliament website</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.5:</b> Number of joint events</p> <p><b>Baseline 2.5:</b> 0</p>	<p>2.1 Establish and formalize a procedure for elaborating a joint legislative action plan by the Women's Caucus to address gender inequalities in family-related issues through legislative initiatives, including by the Government legislative plan</p> <p>2.2 Develop strategic partnerships and linkages between the Women's Caucus and the Government to address gender equality issues in the -COVID-19 response and recovery context in establishing a gender-responsive protocol for crisis management and response</p> <p>2.3 Create a mechanism for the Women's Caucus engagement with women in leadership positions in the Government and other public office for joint actions towards tracking the adoption of gender related or other legal initiatives benefitting the needs of the vulnerable and under-represented groups and for ensuring the relevant post-legislative scrutiny.</p> <p>2.4 Offer expert support to women MPs to co-author legislative initiatives addressing gender equality in access to education, retention and learning, teaching and education system, quality maternal care and gender equality in community health systems, prevention, and response to gender-based violence against boys and girls gender inequalities, including family and demographic policies related to</p>	<p>CSO Women Caucus</p> <p>Contractual Services/ Companies, Training, Travel, Direct Project Costs, Project management costs USD</p>
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<p><b>Target 2.5: 10 Means of Verification 2.5:</b> Events' Agenda, Lists of participants, Project Reports</p>	<p>ageing, depopulation, fertility, family-based care work, etc.</p> <p><b>2.5</b> Enhance the engagement of members of the Women's Caucus with gender coordination groups and focal points at the ministerial level and the NBS for the collection and analysis of evidence and gender disaggregated data necessary for efficient law making and oversight and facilitate women MPs' collaboration with these bodies.</p>		
<p><b>Output 3. Women's Caucus actively engages and consults with women, men and youth (girls and boys) to better understand and address their needs.</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 3.1:</b> Number of public awareness raising activities implemented</p> <p><b>Baseline 3.1:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Target 3.1:</b> 10 public outreach campaigns implemented; landing page of Women's Caucus created</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 3.1:</b> Mass-media reports, Parliament Annual Reports; website of the Parliament</p>	<p><b>3.1</b> Update and approve the Women's Caucus's Communication and Outreach Strategy in line with its mission and vision and support its implementation</p>	<p>UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UN Women Women Caucus Secretariat of Parliament CSO</p>	<p>International Consultants, National Consultants, Contractual Services/ Companies, Training, Travel, Direct Project Costs, Project management costs USD</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.2:</b> Number of public outreach activities and number of beneficiaries reached out</p> <p><b>Baseline 3.2:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Target 3.2:</b> 50 public outreach activities implemented reaching out to 15,000 men and women</p> <p><b>Means of Verification 3.2:</b> Mass-media reports, Parliament Annual Reports</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.3:</b> Number of public consultations, number of participants reached out</p>	<p><b>3.2</b> Facilitate Women's Caucus engagement with mass-media, the civil society and youth as part of joint advocacy on legal initiatives aiming, but not limited to, gender equality</p> <p><b>3.3</b> Support the organization of the Women's Caucus regional public consultations and public</p>		

<p><b>Baseline 3.3: 0</b>  <b>Target 3.3:</b> 24 public consultations reaching out to 1200 men and women  <b>Means of Verification 3.3:</b> Mass-media reports, Parliament Annual Reports</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.4:</b> Number of public consultations with the locally elected women, number of participants reached out</p> <p><b>Baseline 3.4: 4</b>  <b>Target 3.4:</b> 6 public consultations reaching out to 60% of women local elected officials and at least 10 youth organizations/associations  <b>Means of Verification 3.4:</b> Mass-media reports, Parliament Annual Reports</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.5:</b> Number of meetings, number of participants reached out</p> <p><b>Baseline 3.5: 0</b>  <b>Target 3.5:</b> 21 meetings reaching out to 400 of women and men from vulnerable groups  <b>Means of Verification 3.5:</b> Mass-media reports, Parliament Annual Reports</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.6:</b> Regional Conference is organized</p> <p><b>Baseline 3.6: 1</b>  <b>Target 3.6:</b> 1 Regional Conference organized  <b>Means of Verification 3.6:</b> Lists of participants, Project Reports, Parliament website.</p> <p><b>General management costs (8%)</b></p>	<p>hearings to as a regular mechanism for learning the needs of the target groups, raising awareness on the issues that the Caucus is dealing with and informing the constituents and partners about the results achieved and the changes produced</p> <p><b>3.4</b> Establish a regular consultation platform with locally elected</p> <p><b>3.5</b> Support the engagement of Women's Caucus with particular target (youth, women) and vulnerable groups (elderly, men and women with disabilities, those living with HIV/AIDS, poor, unemployed youth) and CSOs representing them (for example women and youth organizations/associations) to get feedback for policy-making and to promote certain behaviors based on Let's Talk model</p> <p><b>3.6</b> Organize a Regional Conference with the participation of the Women's Caucus, Government and the Civil Society and representatives of the Women's Caucuses from other Parliaments to discuss current priorities in the region, including gender backlash trends, gender-aware crisis response strategy, and to exchange best practice.</p>	<p>USD</p>
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## VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans: [Note: *monitoring and evaluation plans should be adapted to project context, as needed*]

### Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
<b>Track results progress</b>	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Quarterly, or in the frequency required for each indicator.	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.	UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UN Women	Project Management and Quality Assurance costs
<b>Monitor and Manage Risk</b>	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial 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.	UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UN Women	Project Management and Quality Assurance costs
<b>Learn</b>	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.	UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UN Women	Project Management and Quality Assurance costs
<b>Annual Project Quality Assurance</b>	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UN Women	Project Management and Quality Assurance costs

<b>Review and Make Course Corrections</b>	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.	UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UN Women	Project Management and Quality Assurance costs Project Management and Quality Assurance costs
<b>Project Report</b>	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)	The Reports will present the analysis of the progress achieved against the agreed indicators and any deviations from the agreed Work Plans.	UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UN Women	Project Management and Quality Assurance costs
<b>Project Review (Project Board)</b>	The project's governance mechanism (project board) will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	At least two times per year	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UN Women	Project Management and Quality Assurance costs

## VII. MULTI-YEAR WORK PLAN

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year			RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET	
		Y1	Y2	Y3		Funding Source	Budget Description
<b>Output 1:</b>  <i>Gender marker.</i>	1.1 Training programmes	x	x	x	UNDP		
	1.2 Multi-Year and Annual Action Plans	x	x	x	Women's Caucus		
	1.3 Facilitate peer to peer visits and participation in regional and international events and coalitions	x	x	x	Women's Caucus UNDP		
	1.4 Establish a pool of national gender experts		x	x	Women's Caucus UNDP		
	MONITORING						
	<b>Sub-Total for Output 1</b>						
	2.1 Establish and formalize a procedure for elaborating a joint legislative action plan	x			Women's Caucus UNDP		
<b>Output 2:</b>	2.2 Develop strategic partnerships and linkages between the Women's Caucus and the Government		x	x			

<b>Gender marker:</b>	2.3 Mechanism to track adoption of gender related or other legal initiatives benefitting the needs of the vulnerable and under-represented groups and for ensuring the relevant post-legislative scrutiny				X	Women's Caucus UNDP			
	2.4 Expert support	X		X		UNDP UNFPA UN Women UNICEF			
	2.5 Ministerial level Focal Points			X		Women's Caucus Government			
	MONITORING								
	<b>Sub-Total for Output 2</b>								
<b>3.1 Update and approve the Women's Caucus's Communication and Outreach strategy</b>									
<b>Output 3:</b>	3.2 Engagement with mass-media, the civil society and youth	X		X		Women's Caucus UNDP			
	3.3 Regional public consultations and public hearings	X		X		Women's Caucus UNDP			
	3.4 A regular consultation platform with locally elected	X		X		Women's Caucus UNDP			

	3.5 Feedback for policymaking and promote behaviors based on Let's Talk model	x	x	x	Women's Caucus			
	3.6 Regional Conference			x	Women's Caucus UNDP			
	<b>MONITORING</b>							
	<b>Sub-Total for Output 3</b>							
<hr/>								
	<b>General Management Support</b>							
	<b>TOTAL</b>							



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## VIII. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

As UNDP is the Lead Agency in the implementation of the Project, the Project will be implemented in line with UNDP project management rules and regulations. UNDP Moldova will be responsible for the Project administration, including: organizing implementation of Project activities, procurement of goods and services, recruitment of Project personnel and national and international consultants, connecting to national and international expertise and knowledge networks, and the quality assurance, ensuring the timely and expedient implementation of Project activities, including the provision of continuous feedback and information sharing among stakeholders.

A Steering Committee shall be set up and function as an overall management structure for the Project to oversee transparency, accountability and efficiency of the Project operations as well as assess opportunities, risks and political challenges and link the project to other relevant Parliament's and development partners' initiatives. Most importantly, the Steering Committee will approve the Annual Work Plans, the Progress and the Final Reports prepared by the Project and will take decisions on mid-year changes in Project activities or financial allocations, if any.

**The Project Steering Committee** shall be made up of:

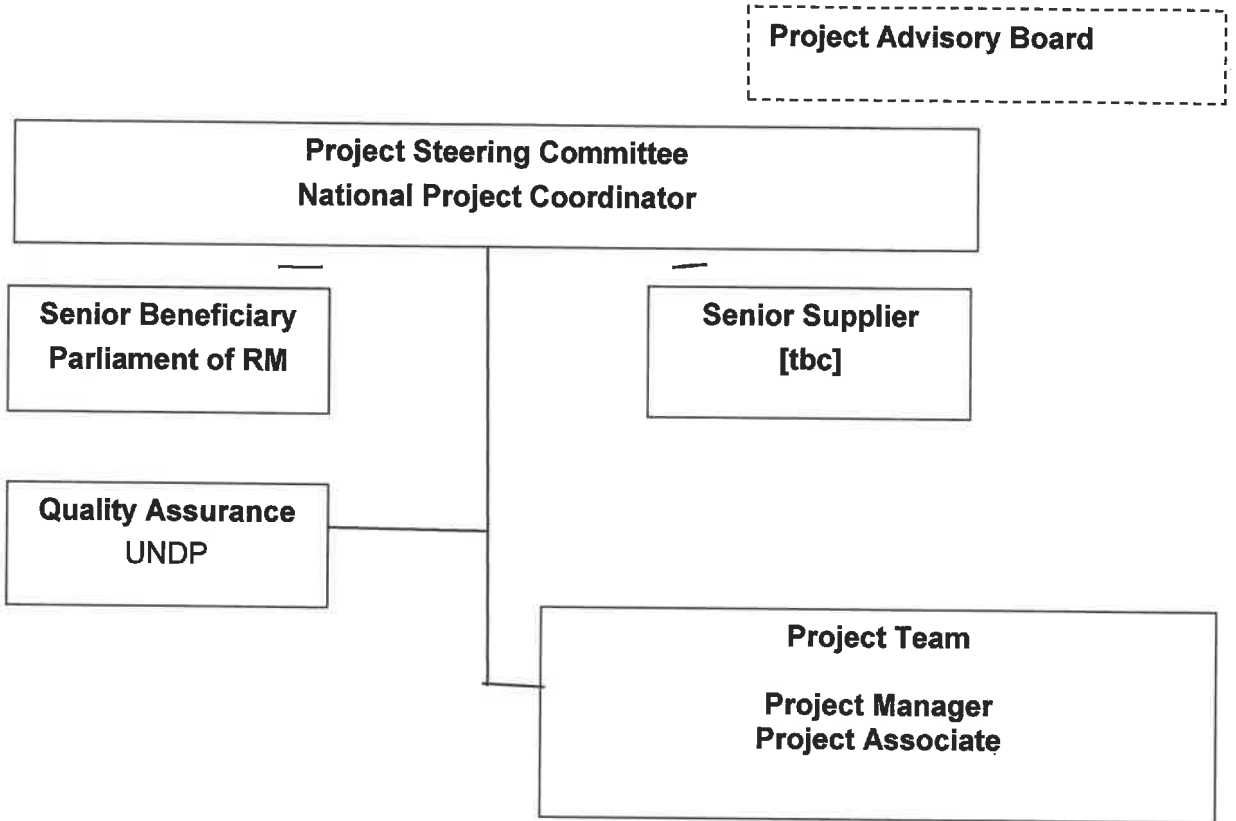
Members (with a voting power):

- The Coordination Council of the Women Caucus
- UNDP;
- UN Women,
- UNFPA
- UNICEF
- Platform of Gender NGOs
- Project Donors;

The Project Steering Committee will hold meetings on a semi-annual basis, or more frequently if deemed necessary. The Committee will monitor the Project progress, will decide on strategic decisions to ensure continued coherence between the implementation and the goals and objectives, will decide on the annual work plans and budgets, will revise and adjust the annual plans and budgets, as necessary. Amendments to the budget, including use of contingencies, will be subject to the approval of the Project Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee will be chaired by the National Project Coordinator that will be appointed by the Parliament. The National Project Coordinator will be responsible for convening the Project Steering Committee meetings, signing the Project Annual Work Plans and Budgets approved by the Steering Committee, the Quarterly and Annual Project Combined Delivery Reports generated by UNDP financial systems, and the Budget Revisions, as necessary.

A Project Advisory Board formed from the senior representatives of the Parliament, the Executing UN Agencies and the Project Donors will be established to discuss the overall progress in the Project implementation and to serve as a platform for the policy dialogue.



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## IX. LEGAL CONTEXT

This Project Document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and UNDP, signed on October 1, 1992 and the Amendment of the same of July 5, 1997.

Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA, the responsibility for the safety and security of the executing agency and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in the implementing agency's custody, rests with the implementing agency.

UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of this agreement.

The implementing partner shall:

- a) put in place and maintain an appropriate security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;
- b) assume all risks and liabilities related to the implementing partner's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

The implementing partner agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document".

The implementing partner agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document".

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## X.

1. **Project Quality Assurance Report – in UNDP on-line QA system**
2. **Social and Environmental Screening Template**
3. **Risk Analysis.**
4. **Capacity Assessment**
5. **Project Board Terms of Reference and TORs of key management positions**

### Certificate Of Completion

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Subject: Please DocuSign: Women's Caucus ProDoc\_June\_2022\_Clean.docx  
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Document Pages: 27 Signatures: 4  
Certificate Pages: 5 Initials: 0  
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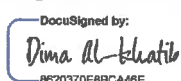
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United Nations Development Program  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

### Signature

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Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style  
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Dominika Stojanoska  
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UN Women Country Representative  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

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Viewed: 6/9/2022 7:19:27 AM  
Signed: 6/9/2022 7:38:29 AM

**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Accepted: 6/8/2022 7:23:59 AM  
ID: 7a0fd3de-e14a-4bd6-81eb-172977302fed

Maha Damaj  
mdamaj@unicef.org  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

DocuSigned by:  
  
80463688A46A454...

Signature Adoption: Uploaded Signature Image  
Signed by link sent to mdamaj@unicef.org  
Using IP Address: 77.89.212.70

Sent: 6/8/2022 7:15:02 AM  
Viewed: 6/8/2022 11:45:11 PM  
Signed: 6/8/2022 11:45:24 PM

**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Accepted: 6/8/2022 11:45:11 PM  
ID: 10166a33-13fe-4a72-991c-b6d3dec942b6

**Signer Events**

Nigina Abaszade  
abaszade@unfpa.org  
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication  
(None)

**Signature**



Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style  
Signed by link sent to abaszade@unfpa.org  
Using IP Address: 178.168.118.138  
Signed using mobile

**Timestamp**

Sent: 6/8/2022 7:15:03 AM  
Viewed: 6/8/2022 8:55:09 PM  
Signed: 6/8/2022 8:55:24 PM

**Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:**  
Accepted: 6/8/2022 8:55:09 PM  
ID: e5b6a456-1172-41b2-8c17-3d8a2155989a

<b>In Person Signer Events</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
<b>Editor Delivery Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
<b>Agent Delivery Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
<b>Intermediary Delivery Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
<b>Certified Delivery Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
<b>Carbon Copy Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
<b>Witness Events</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
<b>Notary Events</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Timestamp</b>
<b>Envelope Summary Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	6/8/2022 7:15:03 AM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	6/8/2022 8:55:09 PM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	6/8/2022 8:55:24 PM
Completed	Security Checked	6/9/2022 7:38:29 AM
<b>Payment Events</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Timestamps</b>
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