

# Economic, Social and Environmental Resilience Programme for the Republic of Moldova

November 2022



The Republic of Moldova is affected by the war in Ukraine in multiple ways, political, economic, social, and environmental. In addition to an unprecedented influx of refugees—close to 700,000 refugees, mainly women, crossed the border into the country since February 24th, with about 95,000 remaining and 40,000 more expected during the winter period—, the country is facing a compound crisis of energy and food security, curtailed economic growth, limited institutional capacities and divisions in the society which threaten its resilience to external challenges.

The consequences on the Moldovan population are far-reaching, with particularly adverse effects on already vulnerable and poor segments of the population. Based on a recent simulation exercise, UNDP estimates that the number of people living in poverty due to the impact of the war, including high inflation, could more than triple to about 35% of the total population.

A new Energy Vulnerability Fund developed by UNDP and implemented by the Government of Moldova is expected to positively mitigate this trend, supporting energy poor households through short-term compensations and longer-term energy efficiency and awareness-raising interventions.

These complex humanitarian, development and peace challenges underscore the importance of programming that responds to the multiple dimensions of the crisis and strengthens the resilience of institutions and society to cope with multiple and mutually reinforcing shocks and uncertainties.

To that end, UNDP is working closely with several development partners, UN sister entities, funds and programmes at the national, regional and global levels, in addition to co-leading with the Government the inter-agency Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group.

## COUNTRY NEEDS AND CHALLENGES



**INCREASED POVERTY**



**UNPRECEDENTED REFUGEE  
INFLUX AND RETURN MIGRATION**



**STRAINED PUBLIC SERVICES**



**DEEP ENERGY CRISIS**



**UNFOLDING FOOD SECURITY  
CRISIS**



**ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION**

## UNDP STRENGTHS AND STRATEGY



**EXTENSIVE NATIONWIDE  
PRESENCE**



**TRUSTED PARTNERSHIPS AT ALL  
LEVELS, INCLUDING IN THE  
TRANSNISTRIAN REGION AND  
GAGAUZIA**



**STRONG PRIVATE SECTOR AND  
CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORKS**



**MULTIDIMENSIONAL AND  
SYSTEMS APPROACH TO  
COMPOUND CRISIS**



**TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL  
EXPERTISE**



**LEAD ON CLIMATE CHANGE,  
DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND  
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT**

# UNDP's Economic, Social and Environmental Resilience Programme provides technical assistance and support to the Republic of Moldova in 4 critical areas:

1

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESILIENCE

- Strengthen capacities at national and local levels for evidence-based and participative policy formulation and build socioeconomic resilience
- Support the design and implementation of social and economic reforms to tackle key socioeconomic vulnerabilities generated by the compounded crisis
- Enhance the productive capacities and competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), while promoting formal and decent work, as well as a transition towards a more digital and greener economy

2

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION AND SOCIAL COHESION

- Assist local public authorities and affected host communities in facing the consequences of the refugee influx
- Strengthen the socioeconomic inclusion of refugees, return migrants and affected host communities through increased access to livelihoods and decent work opportunities
- Promote social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees, return migrants and affected host communities

3

## ENERGY, FOOD SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE

- Enhance capacities to tackle the current energy crisis and energy poverty, while addressing systemic elements in the energy sector to cope with potential future shocks
- Promote sustainable agriculture-related livelihoods through improved food production, food security and income opportunities
- Promote green solutions and practices in key sustainable development sectors of Moldova

4

## GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND ANTI-CORRUPTION

- Strengthen capacities to deliver core government functions, develop and implement evidence-based policies, focusing on the needs of the most vulnerable groups
- Enhance rule of law, access to justice and human security, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable
- Promote transparency and participatory processes for public finance management at central and local levels

**UNDP is helping increase the resilience of the Republic of Moldova and mitigate further shocks in the region by acting now.**