



**ANNEX 2**

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2018 in favour of the Republic of Moldova

**Action Document for EU Support to Confidence Building Measures V (2019-2022)**

**INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL GRANT APPLICANTS**

**WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS**

This document constitutes the work programme for grants in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation and action programme/measure in the sense of Articles 2 and 3 of Regulation N° 236/2014.

<b>1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number</b>	<b>EU Support to Confidence Building Measures (CBM) V (2019-2022)</b> CRIS number: ENI/2018/041-309 financed under European Neighbourhood Instrument	
<b>2. Zone benefiting from the action/location</b>	Republic of Moldova The action shall be carried out at the following location: the whole territory of the Republic of Moldova	
<b>3. Programming document</b>	Multi-annual thematic document – Single Support framework (SSF) 2017-2020 for EU support to the Republic of Moldova	
<b>4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area</b>	Sector 2: Strengthening institutions and good governance, including the Rule of Law and Security	DEV. Aid: YES
<b>5. Amounts concerned</b>	Total estimated cost: EUR 10,600,000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 10,500,000 This action is co-financed in joint co-financing by: the German Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ) for an amount of EUR 100,000	
<b>6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation</b>	Project Modality (Direct management) Indirect management with an international organisation (United Nations Development Programme (UNDP))	

<b>modality(ies)</b>	Indirect management with a Member State organisation (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ))			
<b>7 a) DAC code(s)</b>	15220 - Civilian peace-building, conflict prevention and resolution			
<b>b) Main Delivery Channel</b>	41000 - United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN) 40000 – Multilateral Organisations 10000 – Public Sector Institutions 20000 – Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society 22000 – Donor country based NGO			
<b>8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)</b>	<b>General policy objective</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Main objective</b>
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	×
	Aid to environment	×	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	×	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	×	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	<input type="checkbox"/>	×	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>RIO Convention markers</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Main objective</b>
	Biological diversity	×	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	×	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	×	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	×	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships</b>	n/a			
<b>10. SDGs</b>	Goal 8) Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all  Goal 16) Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels			

## SUMMARY

The programme supports the Single Support Framework (SSF) Sector "*Strengthening institutions and good governance, including the Rule of Law and Security*" and its specific objective 5 "*to promote confidence-building initiatives in Moldova*" which stipulates as expected results "*Economic, social and sectoral rapprochement between the two banks of the Nistru River is ensured with a positive impact on the Transnistria settlement process*".

The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to the facilitation of the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict by increasing confidence between Chisinau and Tiraspol through joint initiatives

involving local authorities, civil society organisations and other stakeholders from both sides of the river.

The proposed programme primarily aims at improving the living conditions of the population on the both sides of the Nistru river through their mutual cooperation. Special emphasis is on ensuring the continuity and the sustainability of the cross-river connections, facilitated by the previous CBM in the following sectors/fields: economic development and entrepreneurship; community development and cross-river NGOs sectoral platforms; health sector modernisation; cultural development and historical heritage; support to media local content development.

The implementation of the programme is driven by the principle of “mirroring”, i.e. working similarly on both banks of the river Nistru, and by the principle of consensus between authorities of both banks for a technical and apolitical work.

## 1. CONTEXT

### 1.1 Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

Moldova is a lower middle-income country with a population of 3.55 million (estimated 2017)<sup>1</sup>. The population is distributed evenly between men (48.1%) and women (51.9%). In 2017, the National Bureau of Statistics estimated that 42.7% of the population were urban dwellers and 57.3% lived in the rural areas. Moldova ranks 107<sup>th</sup> out of 188 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI-0.699 - 2016 HDI Report). Moldova remains the poorest country in Europe with a GDP per capita of USD 2,311 according to the latest census results<sup>2</sup>, which is roughly half of average income per capita in the post-Soviet region of USD 5,079<sup>3</sup>. An ENPI-funded project on regional statistics concluded that in 2014 56.32% of GDP was generated in Chisinau. The private sector accounts for 56.6% of GDP.

Transnistria is a long stripe situated to the east of the Republic of Moldova in the area between the Nistru river and Ukraine. It includes as well the city of Bender and its surrounding localities on the west bank of the Nistru. The official population is 440 000 inhabitants but unofficial estimations consider the figure to be closer to 300,000 (migration is very high to the right bank and abroad). Transnistria is officially a region of the Republic of Moldova with a self-proclaimed independence. Since the end of the armed conflict in 1992, the region is controlled and administrated by a non-recognized de facto administration covering all sectors. It is one of the oldest post-soviet unresolved conflicts. In 2016, the Government of Moldova announced reintegration as one of its priorities with a view to fostering economic development and to increasing the population’s living standards by facilitating private sector activity and by upgrading the social services and infrastructure.

Sustained economic growth and reforms in the Republic of Moldova to the social protection system have helped to reduce poverty, but in 2014<sup>4</sup>, around 11% of the population were estimated as living

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<sup>1</sup> All data are derived from the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova ([www.statistica.md](http://www.statistica.md)) unless otherwise stated. This figure should be revised in the future taken into account the final results of the Census of 2014. The census’ preliminary projection estimates the population to 2.8 million people (without Bender municipality and Transnistria).

<sup>2</sup> World Bank, Economic update for Moldova, May, 2017 - <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/moldova/brief/moldova-economic-update>

<sup>3</sup> IMF Country Report No 17/102 <https://www.imf.org/external/country/mda/index.htm?type=42>

<sup>4</sup> This is the latest date for which reliable poverty data exists.

below the absolute poverty line. The average monthly wage in 2017 was estimated at EUR 228. Absolute and relative poverty is particularly acute amongst the rural population, the elderly living alone and larger (5+) households in the urban areas and while there is little appreciable difference between men and women on the majority of indicators, there is a substantial difference in share of gross national income<sup>5</sup>. Moldova scored 1.010 on the Gender Development Index and 0.248 (rank 50<sup>th</sup>) on the Gender Inequality Index.

The economy of the Republic of Moldova is dominated by the service sector (63.2% of GDP end 2015) and the manufacturing sector (20.7% of GDP) but remittances are also central, amounting to around one quarter of GDP. Agriculture accounts for 16.1% of GDP and 27.5% of the active labour population continue to derive their living from primary agriculture. There is a significant trade imbalance (-2,387 million USD estimated end 2017). The fiscal deficit was 3.1% in 2017. Total external debt now stands at 86% of GDP and public and publicly-guaranteed external debt is currently 40.5% of GDP. Inflation remained steady in 2012-2014 (4.6%-4.7%), rose to 9.6% in 2015, but has subsequently fallen back to 6.5% estimated at the end of 2017.

The official rate of unemployment at the end of 2017 was 4.2% (IMF estimated). However, this disguises the high levels of under employment and employment in the grey economy. Moldova has one of the lowest activity rates: the NBS reports that 35.8% of the population are economically active (1,273,000 persons); the gender differences in activity, employment and unemployment rates are narrow. Women are most active in food processing and textiles/clothing, while men are more likely to be employed in machinery, metals and chemicals. 33.7% of the population are employed in agriculture, 49.2% in services and the remainder (17.1%) in manufacturing and construction. On average, women earn 14.46% less per month than men.

### ***1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework***

The international community has adopted three mechanisms to guide efforts to arrive at a settlement of the Transnistria conflict:

(i) at political level, Chisinau and Tiraspol, assisted by three international mediators (the OSCE<sup>6</sup>, Russia and Ukraine - EU and USA as observers) have been discussing a possible settlement within the so-called "5+2 format". Under the German OSCE Chairmanship in Office, the "5+2" met in June 2016, after a long pause in official meetings. Further 5+2 meetings took place in November 2017 under the Austrian OSCE Chairmanship and in May 2018 under the Italian OSCE Chairmanship;

(ii) a technical process of post-conflict settlement and reconstruction is taking place in the framework of the expert Working Groups, aimed at increasing confidence between the two sides;

(iii) sectoral confidence building measures have been implemented which contribute to cross-river cooperation on the ground and, in turn, to the dialogue processes described above.

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<sup>5</sup> The number of women entrepreneurs in rural areas is significantly lower than in urban areas (14.9 % compared to 27.5%). Women in rural areas tend to have more children and due to the lack of sufficient social services have to resort to part-time work in the informal economy or unpaid care-work.

<sup>6</sup> Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

The Government of the Republic of Moldova has consistently maintained that the Transnistrian region remains an integral part of the Republic. In 2015 and in 2016, the Government announced that reintegration was one of its priorities.

In 2017, Transnistria's de facto administration, through the Coordinating Council on technical assistance, developed its first multi-annual and comprehensive programme for implementation of priority projects and social-economic development of Transnistrian region for the period 2018-2020. The elaboration of this programme is based on a basic analysis of the socio-economic situation and a short needs-assessment for investments in human resources, in particular in education and health, as a basis for long-term development. This comprehensive programme also includes a few flagship project(s) (e.g. restoration of the Bender Fortress; restoration of Chisinau's historical Circus arena).

In 2014, the Republic of Moldova signed an Association Agreement with the EU including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), which entered into force in July 2016. Given that constitutionally Transnistria remains an integral part of the Republic of Moldova, the AA/DCFTA applies to the Transnistrian region. Although the Transnistrian de facto administration has been reluctant to participate in all AA/DCFTA related actions initiated by the Government, Chisinau and Tiraspol have agreed to implement a number of activities linked to trade facilitation and to maintain Transnistria's preferential access to the EU market. Moldova was also granted visa liberalisation for citizens with a biometric passport in 2014.

The EU is committed to Moldova's territorial integrity and sovereignty and continues to work towards a peaceful resolution of the conflict. The EU is keen to ensure as far as possible that the implementation of the Association Agreement applies equally to both sides of the river. The Association Agenda between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova identifies the following medium-term priorities regarding the Transnistrian conflict:

- Maintain functionality of all existing dialogue platforms and negotiation formats, aimed at identifying viable solutions to the problems that people face on both banks of Nistru river and to comprehensively and peacefully settle the Transnistrian conflict based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognised borders with a special legal status for the Transnistrian region;
- Develop a vision on the Transnistrian conflict settlement as a basis for the engagement with the Transnistrian side;
- Maintain effective cooperation between the EU and the Republic of Moldova on settling the Transnistria conflict, and promoting confidence building measures, within agreed formats, including consultations on post-settlement arrangements;
- Strengthen dialogue, with the aim of explaining the benefits of the Association Agreement and ensuring its applicability in the entire territory of the Republic of Moldova, while taking measures to legalise the activity of economic operators from the left bank of the Nistru river;
- Continue constructive dialogue related to the situation at the central (Transnistrian) segment of the Republic of Moldova-Ukraine border with all relevant counterparts;
- Develop platforms of dialogue between representatives of civil society and media outlets from the right and left banks of the Nistru river.

The "Single Support Framework for EU support to Moldova (2017-2020)" reflects these priorities, notably under the sector "*Strengthening institutions and good governance, including the Rule of Law and Security*" and its specific objective 5 "*to promote confidence-building initiatives in Moldova*"

*which stipulates as expected results "Economic, social and sectoral rapprochement between the two banks of the Nistru River is ensured with a positive impact on the Transnistria settlement process".*

The EU has provided and continues to provide financial and technical assistance in support of these goals. This was underlined in the EU Joint analysis on Programming from September 2016 and the European Joint Development Cooperation Strategy (Joint Programming Document) for the Republic of Moldova published in February 2018.

As part of an agreement on the implementation of Integrated Border Management, Moldova and Ukraine have established during the summer 2017 a joint Moldovan-Ukrainian customs and border crossing point in Kuchurhan on the central segment of their border, which was controlled *de facto* by Transnistria. In November 2017, the bridge across the Nistru on M-14 highway (so-called Gura Bicului Bridge), which is a part of the 9th Pan-European Transport Corridor, was re-opened to traffic for the first time since 1992. During the "5+2" meeting organised at the end of November 2017 in Vienna, both sides signed additional protocols on apostilisation of educational documents issued in Transnistria, organization of interaction in the field of telecommunications, ensuring the functioning of the Moldova-administered Latin Script Schools, and the use of farmlands in Dubasari region. Those agreements concern issues that have been under discussion between the parties for years. It is regarded as a step forward even if the full implementation of these 5 protocols is still pending.

Since 2009, the EU and other donors have been running Confidence Building Measures (CBM) programmes and projects aiming at building ties and partnerships between communities, CSOs, businesses from both banks of Nistru river, and support infrastructural development in the region (mainly the Security Zone).

The EU launched a "Support for Confidence Building Measures (CBM)" programme in 2009, with an overall budget of EUR 1.7 million. EUR 6 million were allocated for the CBM II Programme, and EUR 13 million for CBM III (2012-2015). The overall committed budget for Transnistria under CBM IV (2015-2018) was EUR 23 million. Finally, more than EUR 19 million were spent to promote confidence-building initiatives with Transnistria for the period 2015-2018.

The new CBM Programme, presented in this Action Document, will extend and build upon the achievements, experience and knowledge gained over this ten-year period in order to provide immediate, visible and tangible outcomes. The preliminary allocation for this Programme (CBM V, 2019 – 2022) is EUR 10,6 million. The focus is exclusively on confidence-building initiatives in the Republic of Moldova between both banks of the Nistru river.

### ***1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis***

#### **Bureau for Reintegration of the Republic of Moldova**

The mandate of the Bureau for Reintegration is to promote the Government's policy of territorial, political, economic and social reintegration of the Republic of Moldova. The bureau has to conduct consultations and negotiations to resolve the Transnistrian conflict, to develop the legislative framework and to provide the necessary assistance to the Deputy Prime Minister responsible for reintegration.

#### **Ministry of Education, Culture and Research**

The Ministry is the only national authority responsible for the state policy in the field of cultural heritage. It has two executive agencies dealing with cultural heritage: (i) National Agency for

Archaeology to implement national policy in the field of protection and promotion of the archeological heritage; (ii) The Agency for Inspection and Restoration of Monuments (AIRM) to focus on the protection of the architectural heritage. The Ministry is also in charge of the EU cultural and audio-visual programme “Creative Europe”.

#### Other line-Ministries

Ministries of each of the relevant sectors of intervention are stakeholders or potential stakeholders, and more specifically the Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection.

#### Working groups

The thematic working groups within the negotiations aim to stimulate the settlement process and create additional leverage, which would allow the easing of tensions between the conflicting parties. Several working groups were established, starting in October 2007, to strengthen confidence and security between the two banks of the river Nistru, and generate solutions to technical issues at the level of experts from both banks.

#### De facto Authorities in Tiraspol

The de facto authorities in Tiraspol are responsible for the implementation of public policies and for governance in the region. Regular consultations and political dialogue are held with the de facto leadership in Tiraspol.

#### Coordination Council for Humanitarian and Technical Assistance or equivalent (Tiraspol)

In 2017, the de facto authorities in Tiraspol have professionalized the aid coordination structure under the Coordination Council for Humanitarian and Technical Assistance. This council is directly under the authority of the de facto Prime Minister. The two objectives of this Council are: (i) to attract the greatest number of donors willing to provide funds for the implementation of socio-economic and infrastructure projects; and (ii) to coordinate activities between donors and aid recipients in the region.

#### Municipalities and local administration

Local authorities/municipalities will benefit from the activities of the action and are regular partners for some activities related to local community development. The Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM) is an NGO, which represents local authorities and would also be a partner to municipalities on both banks.

#### Civil Society including business community and academia

Civil society will be represented by members of the platforms, which are composed of experts/sectorial NGO, as well as by other relevant organizations/structures. Academia would also be involved, to the extent possible when relevant; Business associations, including chambers of commerce, as well as businesses from both banks, will have an important role in the development and implementation of the activities in the economic sector. Social partners will also be involved and are potential beneficiaries.

#### Audio-visual Media

Existing public and private audio-visual media and audio-visual professionals are potential stakeholders. The concentration of media outlets has weakened independent media despite their unique potential of innovation and creativity, which is key for a real media market to emerge.

### **1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis**

Politicisation of economic, social and educational matters by both sides tends to complicate matters when it comes to delivering positive results in the confidence-building process and settlement of issues in these areas. Further centralised control over these processes and politicisation of confidence-building activities by Tiraspol create disincentives for donors, businesses, chambers of commerce, civil society organisations, etc. to participate in joint activities with representatives of Transnistria.

The programme is divided into 5 inter-connected components:

- **Component 1: Economic development and entrepreneurship**

Economic conditions in the Transnistrian region have been affected by the downturn of the global economy and regional instability. The impact of external factors, combined with the constraints of internal challenges, had a destabilizing effect on the dynamics of the basic macroeconomic indicators and economic development in general. Macroeconomic instability resulted in lower revenues to the budget and additional, ad-hoc spending of public funds had a negative impact on the dynamics of indicators in the social sphere. Real wages of workers (including in small businesses, but not in security forces and customs administrations) decreased by 4.4%. In the Transnistrian region, as in the whole Republic of Moldova, the demographic situation is critical, with a low birth rate, high migration and an aging population, which has led to a sharp decline in the population<sup>7</sup>. The business environment is characterised on both banks by regulatory uncertainty, restricted competition, a failure to apply legislation and regulations consistently and equitably, excessive regulation and controls, which lead to high transaction costs, and a poor climate for Foreign Direct Investment. This situation seriously undermines the performance of exporting enterprises and hampers the badly needed growth in capital investments.

The overall regional dynamic has worsened since 2014 following the outbreak of the conflict in neighbouring Ukraine. At the same time, Transnistria experienced a significant decrease in Russian subsidies. The region is currently affected by migration and a degrading quality of basic services. One of the major challenges lies in a growing disparity between both banks. The widening gap is also due to the fact that people in Transnistria are not fully benefitting from the opportunities provided by donors' assistance to institutions and citizens living in the territory controlled by Chisinau, due to administrative obstacles and to issues related to the unsettled status. This recent situation has impacted negatively on the process of building favourable conditions for moving forward on the rapprochement. In this context, the EU and its international development partners have agreed to step up efforts to support integration of Transnistrian residents and companies in the country's development process and hence reduce the development gap. This requires political dialogue, technical cooperation, development of investment projects in new sectors with good export potential, and the improvement of business climate. All this is supposed to contribute to more economic opportunities and new jobs.

- **Component 2: Community development and cross-river NGO sectoral platforms**

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<sup>7</sup> See. The Coordinating Council on the technical assistance for Transnistria, *Program summary for the implementation of priority projects and socio-economic development of Transnistria for the period 2018-2020 (practical part №2)*, Tiraspol, 2017, 67 p.



The community development and cross-river sectoral platforms already implemented under CBM IV are providing a positive synergetic effect. First, they are bringing much needed assistance to vulnerable communities and second, due to their reliance on joint efforts, they are contributing to rebuilding communication and cooperation channels at community level, creating an atmosphere conducive to reconciliation. Such a shared approach to development issues, delivering tangible benefits to the public on both banks, builds on previous important achievements, establishing a positive cooperative dynamic between the two sides. Support to cooperation platforms will continue in parallel with the promotion of community development through direct support to local development initiatives which foster cross-river cooperation.

- **Component 3: Cultural development and historical heritage**

Culture is imperative for the development of any society and an important development instrument. Since the collapse of the USSR, culture and heritage have long been undervalued and did not fare well in the list of government priorities. Most cultural institutions are chronically underfinanced. The Ministry of Culture rightly identifies in its strategy “Cultura 2020” three sectorial priorities which correspond to current gaps: (i) the formation of a functional system for the conservation and valorisation of the cultural heritage; (ii) the promotion of creativity and development of cultural industries; and (iii) strengthening the efficiency of cultural management.

The decades following independence have seen an alarming loss in the cultural sector, due to neglecting or to speculation. In the field of cultural heritage, the pace of destruction of protected buildings is slowing down due to increased awareness by the population, economic actors, local and national stakeholders. The registry of monuments currently includes 2,913 buildings from both banks of the river. Support to the cultural sector, with a focus on historical common heritage, constitutes an essential investment in the country’s future and a pre-condition to development and to conflict resolution.

- **Component 4: Health sector modernization**

The current model of health services delivery in Transnistrian region still retains many features of the Semashko system (I.e. the health care model under the Soviet Union), preserving outdated models of care and untimely application of available evidence to prevention and treatment. There is a prevailing lack of coordination across providers and settings, resulting in inefficiencies and ultimately in sub-optimal quality of care for the population. Hence, there is a need to continue improving health of the population in Moldova, particularly in the Transnistria region. Modernisation of health services would require upgrading medical education systems with a view to improving people-centeredness, quality, and integrated service delivery for citizens on both banks of Nistru river.

- **Component 5: Support to media local content development**

Creative industries, particularly audio-visual creation collapsed after Moldova's independence. A truly independent and objective mass-media is lacking on both banks of the Nistru. The environment of the media sector remains challenging on many issues: transparency of ownership, fair competition, advertising revenues, and supervision. The legal framework for the activity of journalists on the left bank is more limited than the one on the right bank. Finally, little media content is produced locally despite needs and competences available. Local audio-visual production is mainly limited to cheap, low quality, production with standardized information and limited creative material.

The obligations for channels to participate in the production of local audio-visual works are very limited. The media need to be closer to the everyday reality of people, to become a vector of openness, trust and more democratic society. Production of local media content should be a good instrument for creating working and social synergy with multiplier effects on both banks.

## 2. RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

<b>Risks</b>	<b>Risk level (H/M/L)</b>	<b>Mitigating measures</b>
Volatile political and security environment subject to unforeseen and sudden changes.	Political/ High	Activities planned and approached with caution, in a flexible fashion, and focusing primarily on non-political issues
Lack of engagement and/or opposition from local stakeholders.	Operational /Medium	Continuous engagement and transparency with key stakeholders ensured, as well as mobilisation of local resources to promote ownership.
Different legal and financial system in the Transnistrian region.	Operational /Medium	Different funding channels considered and proper dispositions agreed upon with the local administrations on a case by case basis
Low capacity of CSOs and local actors in Transnistria to implement and absorb the assistance.	Operational /High	Mixed approach towards implementation of activities including different capacity development activities and transfer of know-how.
Politicisation and centralised control over CBM projects	Political /High Operational /High	Policy dialogue to ensure a clear separation between political agenda and activities' implementation
<b>Assumptions</b> - Continued willingness of both banks to work to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Transnistrian conflict - Special attention is given to choose appropriate implementation modalities and to ensure coordination between the two sides - Cooperation is based on trust and mutual respect of the different stakeholders, taking into account specificities of each partner		

## 3. LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

### 3.1. Lessons learnt

Drawing upon the experience of the previous and on-going Confidence Building Measures (CBM) packages and upon the impact assessment of the CBM III, the main lessons learnt are as follows:

- to avoid a top-down approach and ensure that the decision makers on both banks continue to be fully-engaged in the design and implementation of the assistance;

- to ensure that the assistance is demand-driven, i.e. building on shared needs and priorities with ideas and projects not imposed but initiated, developed and coordinated jointly by both sides;
- to make sure projects' needs are practical, rather than theoretical. The applied nature of these projects is a crucial ingredient of success, since stakeholders are more interested in practical and useful activities. The idea is to support the sides in the identification of their development priorities, and then, suggest and offer creative implementation scenarios that would stay away from difficult political issues that lead to deadlocks;
- to build sound and open working relationships, based on trust, with both sides independently of the political discussion/issues and to maintain continuous effective communication;
- to develop and maintain a functional and sustainable coordination mechanism(s) with major stakeholders;
- to follow a "step by step" approach by ensuring that the assistance focuses primarily on non-politically sensitive topics, while progressively opening new fields for cooperation, including through EU major mainstream programmes for which the Republic of Moldova is eligible;
- to continue building the capacity of the national and local civil society organizations (CSOs), fostering cooperation and establishing sustainable partnerships between organizations as well as the media on both banks.

### **3.2. Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination**

It is of a paramount importance to develop and maintain functional cooperation and sustainable coordination mechanism(s) with both banks as well as with other donors, in order to ensure efficiency, complementarity and a high level of ownership without undermining the Moldovan statehood.

Only a limited number of donors are providing support to Transnistrian civil society, even if this number has increased in recent years. The main donors currently active in this sector are the EU as main donor with its main implementing partners (UNDP and other UN agencies), the OSCE, the World Bank, the Council of Europe, USAID, as well as some EU Member States Embassies or agencies (Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Swedish development agency SIDA, Germany, United Kingdom, France). The majority of the implemented projects focus on Civil Society support, social infrastructures, people to people contacts as well as economic and rural development.

Donor coordination meetings on Transnistria are organised twice a year and are chaired by the EU Delegation, but do not include local representatives. In addition, activities under the joint EU Confidence Building Measures project are discussed within a Project Board, including the main donors involved in the region. Regular consultations are held with the Moldovan Government and the de facto leadership in Tiraspol but are convened separately.

EU and Switzerland's donor coordination has also been strengthened through the recent joint programming exercise, including the EU Joint analysis on Programming of September 2016 and the European Joint Development Cooperation Strategy (Joint Programming Document) for the Republic of Moldova published in February 2018.

In Chisinau, the lack of comprehensive communication policy on behalf of the national authorities with regard to the country's reintegration can be considered as ambiguous. There is no common strategic vision on a political settlement for the Transnistrian conflict and/or reintegration. The Deputy Prime Minister for reintegration is responsible for the political negotiation and all issues related to the reintegration in the country. She/he has also a coordination role at governmental level and full responsibility for coordination. In this mandate, the Deputy Prime Minister is supported by the Bureau for Reintegration responsible for implementing policies for country reintegration.

In Transnistria, with the arrival in power of the new de-facto administration, after the elections of December 2016, Tiraspol shows willingness to tackle this shortcoming. Until now, there was competition and conflicting responsibilities assigned to the de facto Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Council on technical assistance/donors' support making aid coordination highly politicised and ineffective. The Council is now under the direct responsibility of the de facto Prime Minister and no longer under the de facto Ministry of Foreign Affairs. If this change was to be further confirmed as it seems, it might represent a new paradigm and create a window of opportunity for future better cooperation on the ground as well as better coordination between both banks of the river and international donors.

### **3.3. Cross-cutting issues**

When planning, implementing and monitoring the activities, the Programme will consider the following themes as integral, cross-cutting dimensions of the processes:

- (i) good governance;
- (ii) gender equality;
- (iii) human rights
- (iv) sustainable development;
- (v) climate change.

By nature, this Programme is one of the implementation instrument of the Security-Development nexus as stated in Council Conclusion on Security and Development of 20 November 2007, which stipulates that: *"In situations of fragility, political dialogue is especially important and should be further developed and reinforced. Where no such dialogue exists, confidence-building measures should be considered. The Council also believes that a dialogue should be pursued with civil society and local authorities"*. This programme takes into consideration this Security-Development nexus, as stated in the aforementioned Council Conclusion.

All the themes mentioned above will be promoted throughout the activities proposed within the new CBM package and mainstreamed as identified in the SSF.

More specifically, these cross-cutting issues are addressed through activities and projects which are implemented through components:

- Component 1, 2, 3, 4: Good governance, gender equality, sustainable development and climate change (small scale calls for proposals and small infrastructures projects, technical assistance in health);
- Component 5: Good governance, gender equality and human rights with participation to pluralism and freedom of media (support to media content development).

## **4. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION**

### **4.1. Objectives/results**

#### **4.1.1 Objectives:**

The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to the facilitation of the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict by increasing confidence between Chisinau and Tiraspol through joint initiatives involving local authorities, civil society organizations and other stakeholders from both sides of the river.

The specific objectives identified are the following:

- To contribute to economic and social development by ensuring a more equal access to the opportunities provided by the AA and its DCFTA, and integration between the two banks of the Nistru river;
- To tackle the growing disparity between the districts from the right bank of the Nistru River and the Transnistrian region by supporting local development and CSOs;
- To continue supporting the sectoral rapprochement in pilot sectors (i.e. Culture and Health) and to progressively include Transnistria in Moldovan-wide development initiatives in order to facilitate future reintegration, while limiting the development gap between both banks;
- To support the activities of media on both banks of Nistru river through common media production.

This programme is relevant for the Agenda 2030. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- Goal 8) Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all;
- Goal 16) Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

This programme also promotes progress towards the following SDGs goal(s):

- End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
- Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation
- Reduce inequality within and among countries.

This does not imply a commitment by the Republic of Moldova benefiting from this programme.

#### **4.1.2 Expected results:**

The expected results from the programme are:

- Living conditions have improved on the two sides of the Nistru River through increased economic opportunities and jobs creation;
- Community development mostly through capacity building is enhanced; joint existing platforms for cooperation between CSOs from both banks are further developed and supported to limit disparity;
- Health (as pilot sector) is modernised and Culture (another pilot sector) is used as a driver for development and confidence building; Transnistria is further and actively involved in Moldovan-wide sectoral initiatives to facilitate the future reintegration while limiting the development gap between both banks;
- Media outlets are capable to co-produce locally attractive, qualitative and professional content for the good of both banks' socio-economic development.

## **4.2. Main activities**

The main activities of the programme are divided into the following 5 components. The Programme is promoting socio-economic development (Component 1 and 2), sectoral support (Component 3 and 4) and transversal support (Component 5) as follows:

### ***4.2.1 Component 1: EU Economic development and entrepreneurship***

Economic development and entrepreneurship will be generated by expanding cross-river cooperation and joint development initiatives to improve economic situation, and by reducing the development gap between both banks, while contributing to an environment of trust and cooperation across both banks.

This should be achieved through a joint work to support job creation, opening of new economic opportunities, new sectors and export potential with a gender perspective. Key activities will include:

- supporting young men and women entrepreneurs and promote a culture of entrepreneurship;
- promoting business cooperation models;
- facilitating exports, trade and business community development.

This component will be coordinated and will interact closely with the others EU support initiatives related to the DCFTA implementation in the Republic of Moldova.

### ***4.2.2 Component 2: EU Community development and cross-river CSO' sectoral platforms***

Sectoral platforms are composed of experts/sector CSO active in their specific domain. Community development will be supported mainly by development projects initiated at the local level by CSO in order to develop rural areas/more vulnerable areas and to create jobs. Strengthening civil society will contribute greatly to better citizen participation in social and economic development of both banks. The projects should be bottom-up, inclusive, trans-sectoral and promote cross river community synergy and not only interaction. In close coordination, existing cooperation platforms will be supported and further developed. Small grants will be provided and small projects (including infrastructural ones) will be supported:

- to improve civil society capacities;
- to support the platform members in their collaboration;

- to implement joint initiatives of benefit to local communities on both banks and when relevant to support projects related to conflict resolution settlement related to success in negotiations (e.g. renovation of the Gura Bicului Bicioc bridge).

Supported activities will aim at improving the livelihood of local communities.

#### ***4.2.3 Component 3: EU Cultural and historical heritage***

Culture is essential for the development of any society. Culture may have a strong dynamic and transformative force for social transformation on both banks. The activities under this component will provide a support to the cultural sector with a focus on historical heritage with a view to investing in the country's future and facilitating development and conflict resolution. The cultural heritage sectors on which the activities will focus on (but not exclusively) are the Built Environment, i.e. Buildings, Townscapes, and Archaeological remains.

This component focuses on the conservation-restoration of historical monuments of national importance and on the conservation-restoration of smaller scaled historical heritage endangered which are considered to have a national historical interest for both banks (Confidence building measures dimension):

- a) Indicatively two Flagship conservation-restoration projects will be initiated:
  1. the conservation-restoration of the historical part of the Bender fortress;
  2. the conservation-restoration of the Circus of Chisinau in view to transform it into a national multi-modal show arena.

In case of operational deadlocks, the flagship conservation-restoration projects can be amended to ensure successful implementation of this component.

- b) Creation of the “EU fund for conservation-restoration of cultural heritage” of national interest, which will support the conservation-restoration of historical tangible heritage promoting the country national cohesion.

Prerequisite: public authority should officially commit that the to-be-renovated public buildings will not be privatised before the start of any works and will stay in the public sphere after renovation/restoration.

#### ***4.2.4 Component 4: EU Health sector modernisation***

This component aims at improving the health status of the population particularly in the Transnistrian region, through modernizing and strengthening health services integrated delivery so that health services become of high quality, people-centered and for all citizens on both banks of the Nistru River. In the current model of health services delivery in Transnistria, there is a prevailing lack of coordination across providers and settings, resulting in inefficiencies, poor performance and ultimately suboptimal quality of care for the population. However, nominal right to care for everybody, wide network of primary care facilities and system of annual check-ups offer important opportunities on which health service delivery transformation can be built upon in close cooperation between the two banks. Professionals from both banks of the Nistru river demonstrated strong commitment to ongoing modernization and reform initiatives and activities.

The activities will focus primary on Primary Health Care/Family Medicine modernization with a mix of practical support to modernization and reform through capacity building activities, support to systemic changes (Technical assistance) and improved infrastructure/equipment (in coordination with component 2 – small social infrastructure projects and small grants). The activities of this component are built on the experiences of the previous CBM health initiative but intend to be more oriented to a direct technical support through high quality expertise to the modernisation and reform in the sector.

#### **4.2.5 Component 5: EU support to cooperative media local content development**

The media will be supported to develop local qualitative content for various mass media. The main activity will be to support the local production (mainly by financial support to media production and diffusion through grants) of audio-visual work focusing on TV production demonstrating high creative value, and to increase the co-production and circulation of high-profile audio-visual local production while developing cooperation between operators from both banks. The media need to be closer to the daily reality of the people to be a vector of trust, confidence and a more democratic society. This component should be apolitical and focus on achieving a common understanding between both banks of the river Nistru.

Funding will be made available under the form of small grants for the production by local actors of audio-visual material. Audio-visual material will be mainly for TV but other audio-visual supports may be supported (Web, social-media, radio, Cinema/movies). It would cover the whole panel: studio broadcasts, coverages, fictions, discovery films, journalist investigations (list not exhaustive). In addition, technical support to production will be provided by active TV professionals used to collaborate with European public multicultural TV(s) to secure technical qualitative support (mainly in the realisation and production phase) and ensure the confidence-building dimension of the products developed.

#### **4.3. Intervention logic**

The main "raison d'être" of the programme is to facilitate the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict by increasing confidence between Chisinau and Tiraspol through joint initiatives involving local authorities, civil society organisations and other stakeholders from both sides of the river.

In 2015, and again in 2016, the Government of Moldova announced reintegration as one of its priorities. The reintegration of the Republic of Moldova should contribute to economic development and to improving the population's living standards by facilitating private sector activity and by upgrading the social services and infrastructure.

The challenges to development in Transnistrian region are:

- the limited understanding of Tiraspol de-facto authorities of the need to subscribe to the economic integration (DCFTA) that the Republic of Moldova is committed to reach with the EU.
- the politicisation and centralised control over CBM projects and, particularly, joint activities.

The programme should promote a clear operational distinction between political agenda/discussion and CBM programme implementation to tackle the growing disparity/development gap between Transnistria and the rest of the country by increasing the economic exchanges and sectoral cooperation initiatives.

The implementation of the programme will be driven by three main principles:

- first, by the principle of Mirroring, i.e. working similarly on both banks of the river Nistru,
- second, by the principle of consensus between authorities of both banks for a technical and apolitical work,
- Third, by the principle of achieving better mutual understanding.

The design of this programme reflects the following lessons learned: the programme is beneficiary and agreement driven; it provides a critical mass of support; and the interventions build on previous successes while targeting new areas of interventions.



Should one of the components or activities fail due to the volatile political context and /or other political reason(s) or equivalent, the funds can be reallocated to the other components and/or activities. Such reallocation would always constitute a non-substantial modification of the decision.

## **5. IMPLEMENTATION**

### **5.1 Financing Agreement**

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country.

### **5.2 Indicative implementation period**

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.2 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Action Document.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorising officer responsible by amending this decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this decision constitute technical amendments in the sense of point (i) of Article 2(3)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014.

### **5.3 Implementation modalities**

The envisaged assistance to the Republic of Moldova is deemed to follow the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU<sup>8</sup>.

#### ***5.3.1 Indirect management with an international organisation (UNDP)***

Components 1, 2, 3 and 5 of this action may be implemented in indirect management with UNDP. To recall, components 1, 2, 3 and 5 correspond to respectively the Economic development and entrepreneurship component, the Community development and cross-river NGO' sectoral platforms component; the Cultural and historical heritage component and the media component.

This implementation through UNDP is justified as the proposed action: 1) will use existing successful cooperation and implementation arrangements which will secure timely and qualitative implementation of the Action; 2) UNDP has developed since 2009 in Moldova exclusive competences in implementing projects in the framework of Confidence Building Measures; 3) UNDP has a clear added value in post conflict situation management being a UN agency and neutral as not involved in 5+2 negotiation.

The entrusted entity will carry out the following budget-implementation tasks: organising the public procurement and grant award procedures; concluding and managing the resulting contracts, including making of related payments.

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<sup>8</sup> [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/8442/consolidated-list-sanctions\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/8442/consolidated-list-sanctions_en)

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entrusted entity fail, that part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with GIZ (fall-back option). The alternative entrusted entity would implement the following: Economic development and entrepreneurship component, Community development and cross-river NGO' sectoral platforms component, Cultural and historical heritage component and Media component (Component 1, 2, 3 and 5). This implementation through GIZ as a fall back option is justified as the proposed action: 1) will use existing successful cooperation and implementation arrangements which will secure timely and qualitative implementation of the Action; 2) GIZ has developed in the Republic of Moldova competences in implementing complex projects; 3) GIZ has an added value in “reconciliation process” being a EU member state agency of one of the member state which has passed through a similar process of solving “re-integration” issues.

### ***5.3.2 Indirect management with Member State organisation (GIZ)***

Component 4 "EU Health sector modernisation" of this action may be implemented in indirect management with GIZ and part of the action will be co-delegated to the Czech Development Agency. This implementation entails EU support to Component 4: EU Health sector modernisation. This implementation is justified as the proposed action: 1) will use existing successful cooperation and implementation arrangements which will secure timely and qualitative implementation of the Action; 2) GIZ and the Czech Development Agency have already implemented successfully similar activities in the health sector on the right bank; 3) both entities have previous experience in implementing some activities on the left bank; 4) both EU Member State agency have ad hoc added value in “re/conciliation process”.

The entrusted entity will carry out the following budget-implementation tasks: organising the public procurement and grant award procedures; concluding and managing the resulting contracts, including making of related payments.

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entrusted entity fail, that part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with the World Health Organisation (WHO) (fall-back option). The alternative entrusted entity would implement the following: the modernization of the health services delivery and medical education systems aimed at improving people-centeredness, high quality, and integrated service delivery towards Universal Health Coverage for citizens with a focus on the Health system of the left bank of the Nistru river (component 4). This implementation through WHO would be justified as: 1) WHO is implementing health activities in Transnistria with Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) and has already implemented a similar EU programme under CBM IV; 3) WHO is the sectoral and unique specialized worldwide agency in charge of public health.

## **5.5 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants**

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply.

The Commission’s authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility in accordance with Article 9(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

## 5.6 Indicative budget<sup>9</sup>

	<b>EU contribution (amount in EUR)</b>	<b>Indicative third party contribution, in currency identified</b>
<b>5.6.1. – Component 1: EU Economic development and entrepreneurship</b> <b>Component 2: EU Community development and cross-river sectoral platforms</b> <b>Component 3: EU Cultural and historical heritage</b> <b>Component 5: EU support to cooperative media local content development</b> composed of		
– Indirect management with UNDP	9,400,000.00	EUR 0
<b>5.6.2. - Component 4: EU Health sector modernization</b> –composed of		
– Indirect management with GIZ	1,100,000.00	EUR 100,000.00
5.6.3 – Evaluation, 5.6.4 - Audit	0.00	N.A.
5.6.5 – Communication and visibility	N.A.	N.A.
Contingencies	0.00	N.A.
Total:	10,500,000.00	EUR 100,000.00

## 5.7 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

An Action Steering Committee (SC) will be established and will be chaired by the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova, which can decide to have co-chairmanship. The secretariat of the Steering Committee will be ensured by the organisation in charge of the implementation of Components 1, 2, 3 and 5 in close coordination with the organisation in charge of the implementation of Component 4. In addition, a Steering Committee at the level of each contract will be established.

The main counterparts of this action will be the Government of the Republic of Moldova (e.g. the Bureau of Reintegration, the State Chancellery, the representatives of Line Ministries as the Ministry of Education Culture and Research, Ministry of Economy and infrastructure) and the local authorities.

<sup>9</sup> The currency unit to be used for any agreement contracted in the framework of this Project fiche is EURO

In addition to the regular consultations held with the Tiraspol de facto leadership, the action will be coordinated as well with the counterparts responsible for coordination on the left bank.

The Steering Committee will supervise the implementation of the project. It shall review and guide the work of the action and shall supervise its overall implementation. The Steering Committee shall meet at least twice a year or more frequently if needed and/or decided.

Each individual activity with a specific contract will have its Steering Committee in addition to the overall Action Steering Committee aforementioned.

### **5.8 Performance monitoring and reporting**

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partners shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix (for project modality) or the list of result indicators (for budget support). The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

### **5.9 Evaluation**

Having regard to the nature of the action, a mid-term evaluation will be carried out for this action via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

It will be carried out for learning purposes, in particular with respect to the assessment, amongst others, of the efficiency and relevance of the action in view to support Confidence building activities not only through specific measures but also in the view to embed them fully in the future in the mainstreaming EU support activities, projects and programmes implemented in the country.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 2 months in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

The financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

### **5.10 Audit**

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

The financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing decision.

### **5.11 Communication and visibility**

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU. This action shall contain communication and visibility measures which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action. In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and/or delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Requirements for European Union External Action (2018) and any updated versions shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations. Additional Visibility Guidelines developed by the Commission (European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations) will be strictly adhered to.

Communication and visibility measures for the project activities under this Action Document will be reinforced, coordinated and implemented through the Action Document for Strategic communication and media support, which is part of the Annual Action Programme 2017 for the benefit of the Republic of Moldova.

Visibility and communication actions shall demonstrate how the intervention contributes to the agreed programme objectives. Actions shall be aimed at strengthening general public awareness of interventions financed by EU and the objectives pursued. The actions shall aim at highlighting to the relevant target audiences the added value and impact of the EU's interventions. Visibility actions should also promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

The implementing organisation shall report on its visibility and communication actions, as well as the results of the overall action to the relevant monitoring committees. This action will be communicated externally as part of a wider context of EU support to the country, and where relevant to the Eastern Partnership region in order to enhance the effectiveness of communication activities and to reduce fragmentation in the area of EU communication.

With regards to the Neighbourhood East, all EU-supported actions shall be aimed at increasing the awareness level of the target audiences on the connections, the outcome, and the final practical benefits for citizens of EU assistance provided in the framework of this action.

## APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX

	Results chain	Indicators	Baselines (incl. reference year)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to the facilitation of the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict by increasing confidence between Chisinau and Tiraspol through joint initiatives involving local authorities, civil society organizations and other stakeholders from both sides of the river.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress within the framework of the “5+2” format toward the conclusion of a cultural, political, economic and social resolution of the conflict</li> <li>- Gap in social and economic development on the two sides of the Nistru river diminished</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 Technical protocols on the 5 signed in November 2017 implemented by both side</li> <li>- Health and economic statistics for baseline year for both sides of the river</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 6 new protocols signed and solutions implemented</li> <li>- Health and economic statistics for target year for both sides of the river</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ENP Country Progress Report</li> <li>- OSCE reports</li> <li>- IO reviews and analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued engagement by all parties towards the peaceful settlement of the Transnistrian conflict.</li> <li>- Political, economic social and cultural cooperative environment remains stable to ensure full programme implementation.</li> </ul>
	<b>Specific objective/outcomes</b>					

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Specific objective(s): s Outcome(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To contribute to economic and social development by ensuring a more equal access to the opportunities provided by the AA and its DCFTA and integration between the two banks of the Nistru River;</li>   <li>▪ To tackle the growing disparity between the districts from the right bank of the Nistru River and the Transnistrian region by supporting local development and CSOs;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Level of increase of agricultural and industrial production in Transnistria</li>   <li>- Number of people benefitting from improved utility, social and health services disaggregated by sex and region</li>   <li>- Increase of export from Transnistria to EU (in value)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transnistrian region agricultural and industrial production in the national production of Moldova in % and in Value (2016)</li>   <li>- 0 people</li>   <li>- X € (2018)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transnistrian region agricultural and industrial production in the national production of Moldova in % and in Value (2022)</li>   <li>- At least 40,000 people 50 % women, 50 % men) from Transnistrian region benefitting from quality improved utility, social and health services</li>   <li>- X € (2022)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ENP Country Progress Report</li> <li>- Official data from official bodies Republic of Moldova (e.g. National Bank, Custom services, Statistics office, and from relevant I.O./ partners)</li> <li>- EUBAM's reports</li> <li>- OSCE Minutes and reports on the Working Groups activities</li> <li>- Projects narrative reports</li> <li>- Projects outputs</li> <li>- EU programmes' statistics (e.g. Erasmus +)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The two sides continue to express political willingness in pursuing dialogue on technical issues.</li> <li>- Economic exchanges between the two banks of the river have continued to be facilitated by authorities.</li> <li>-EU market continues to attractive and works as an incentive for more social economic and cultural exchanges.</li> <li>- International and Moldovan experts can work on specific projects in the Transnistrian and under reasonable conditions.</li> <li>- Flow of technical</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To continue to support the sectoral rapprochement in pilot sectors, i.e. Culture and Health and to progressively include Transnistria in Moldovan-wide development initiatives in order to facilitate the future reintegration while limiting the development gap between both banks;</li> <li>▪ To support the activities of media on both banks of Nistru river through common media production.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of individuals from Transnistria benefitting from activities of mainstreamed projects/programmes (i.e. not CBM related)</li> <li>-Number of co-productions realised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 17 individuals (through Erasmus + Higher education and Erasmus Youth)</li> <li>- 7 professional co-productions (short documentaries) through one small grant CBM IV project (2014-2018)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 500 individuals (at least 50% of women)</li> <li>- 30 professional co-productions (2019-2022)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>assistance and funding can reach Transnistria.</li> </ul>
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New jobs created and opening of new economic opportunities and support of new sectors and export potential achieved;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of full time equivalent jobs created for men and women</li> <li>- Number of business created as a result of the action activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 0 jobs</li> <li>- 0 businesses created</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 200 jobs (at least 40% for women and 50% in</li> <li>- 20 new businesses additionally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Projects narrative reports</li> <li>- External evaluation</li> <li>- Projects and activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appropriate Implementation modalities are chosen.</li> <li>- Capacity development activities and</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Local communities from both banks have created development partnerships;</li>   <li>▪ Transnistria is included actively in sectoral development initiatives from the right bank;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of local communities benefiting from new small infrastructure projects supported by the programme</li>   <li>- Number of local actors with improved capacity for implementing development projects</li>   <li>- Number of new joint collaborative infrastructure projects implemented</li>   <li>- Number of mainstreamed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 55 local communities benefiting from small infrastructure projects supported by CBM since 2009</li>   <li>- To be specified after the completion of the CBM IV</li>   <li>- To be specified after the completion of the CBM IV</li>   <li>- 4 projects (3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>created</li>   <li>- 10 new local communities benefiting from small infrastructure projects</li>   <li>- To be specified after the completion of the CBM IV</li>   <li>- To be specified after the completion of the CBM IV</li>   <li>- 25 projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attendance lists</li>   <li>- Official statistics</li>   <li>- Films produced</li>   <li>- Audience rating</li>   <li>- All other relevant means of verification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>transfer of know-how is foreseen.</li>   <li>- Political agenda/discussion does not interfere into the programme implementation.</li>   <li>- Special attention is given to coordination with both sides.</li>   <li>- Cooperation is based on trust and confidence taken into account specificities of each partners.</li>   <li>- Funds are fungible to overtake political blockage and avoid any unnecessary de-commitment.</li> </ul>
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	<p>▪ Culture and health sectors are pioneers in developing technical direct and sustainable cooperation between both banks;</p> <p>▪ Media are capable to co-produce locally attractive, qualitative and professional</p>	<p>projects (i.e. not CBM related) from which Transnistrian partners directly benefited</p> <p>-Number of medical professionals benefiting of training(s) provided by the programme</p> <p>- Number of common cultural public events held in, or related to historical cultural monuments renovated.</p> <p>- Number of individuals in the public for those common cultural events</p> <p>-Number of historical cultural heritage related projects realised under the EU cultural heritage funds</p> <p>- Number of co-productions produced</p>	<p>under Erasmus +; and 1 Twinning in culture)</p> <p>- No medical professionals trained with certification recognized on both banks</p> <p>- 0 public event</p> <p>- 0 individual</p> <p>- 0 project</p> <p>- 0 co-production produced (2014-2018)</p>	<p>- 50 medical professionals trained with certification recognized on both banks</p> <p>- 5 public events</p> <p>- 4000 individuals (disaggregated by gender)</p> <p>- 10 projects</p> <p>- 20 co-productions produced (2019-</p>		
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	content.	<p>-Number of co-productions broadcasted on prime time</p> <p>- % of the average total audience</p>	<p>- 0 co-productions/common media projects broadcasted</p> <p>- 0 diffusion on prime time of some supported media content</p>	<p>2021)</p> <p>- 10 co-productions/common media projects broadcasted</p> <p>- 8 diffusions on prime time of some supported media contents with at least 4 in Transnistria</p>		
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