

ADAPTING THE 2030 AGENDA ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO THE CONTEXT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA





Government of the
Republic of Moldova



United Nations
MOLDOVA

Implementing partner:



ADAPTING THE 2030 AGENDA ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO THE CONTEXT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Results of the consultation process on adapting the 2030
Agenda to the context of the Republic of Moldova



March, 2017

This report was developed in the framework of the Project on Nationalization of the Sustainable Development Agenda to the context of the Republic of Moldova, implemented by UNDP, with the support of UN Country Team, including UNFPA, UNICEF, ILO and UN Women.

CONTENTS

- Executive Summary**5
- Introduction**7
- Chapter 1. Global Sustainable Development Agenda versus National Policy Agenda:**
- Common Ground and Differences** 10
 - Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere..... 11
 - Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture..... 14
 - Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages 17
 - Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all 20
 - Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls..... 23
 - Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all 26
 - Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all 29
 - Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all 30
 - Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation 34
 - Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries 36
 - Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable 39
 - Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns..... 41
 - Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts 43
 - Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development 45
 - Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss 47
 - 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 49
 - Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development 52
- Chapter 2. Recommendations to Close the Gaps between the Global Sustainable Development Agenda and National Policy Agenda** 54
 - Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere..... 55
 - Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture..... 58
 - Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages 60
 - Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all 64
 - Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls..... 68
 - Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all..... 71
 - Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all 73
 - Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all 74
 - Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation 77
 - Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries 80

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	82
Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.....	85
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	88
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the water resources.....	89
Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.....	91
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	93
Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development	96
Chapter 3. Conclusions and Ways Forward	100
Annex 1. Methodological note on establishing the importance of SDG targets.....	102
Annex 2. List of Policy Thematic Areas used for Classification of SDG targets.....	103
Annex 3. Correlation between the 2030 Agenda and the EU-RM Association Agreement.....	104

List of tables:

Table 1. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 1	55
Table 2. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 2	58
Table 3. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 3	61
Table 4. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 4	65
Table 5. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 5	68
Table 6. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 6	71
Table 7. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 7	73
Table 8. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 8	74
Table 9. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 9	78
Table 10. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 10	80
Table 11. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 11	83
Table 12. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 12	86
Table 13. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 13	89
Table 14. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 14	90
Table 15. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 15	91
Table 16. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 16	93
Table 17. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 17	97

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overall, the national policy agenda is only partially aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and one third of SDGs targets are not included in any of the national policy papers. A total number of 169 targets was analysed, and a special focus was put on 126 numeric targets of the Sustainable Development Goals¹. Thus, after mapping the national policy agenda and comparing it with the SDGs (Chapter 1), we find that only 11% of SDGs targets are aligned to the national policy papers, therefore, they do not require any adjustments to be taken over. In addition, most of SDGs targets (57%) are only partially aligned to the policy papers of the Republic of Moldova – only few components of these targets are included, therefore, the relevant national strategies need to be adjusted to better reflect the spirit and details of SDGs targets. At the same time, national policy papers do not reflect at all about one third of SDGs targets.

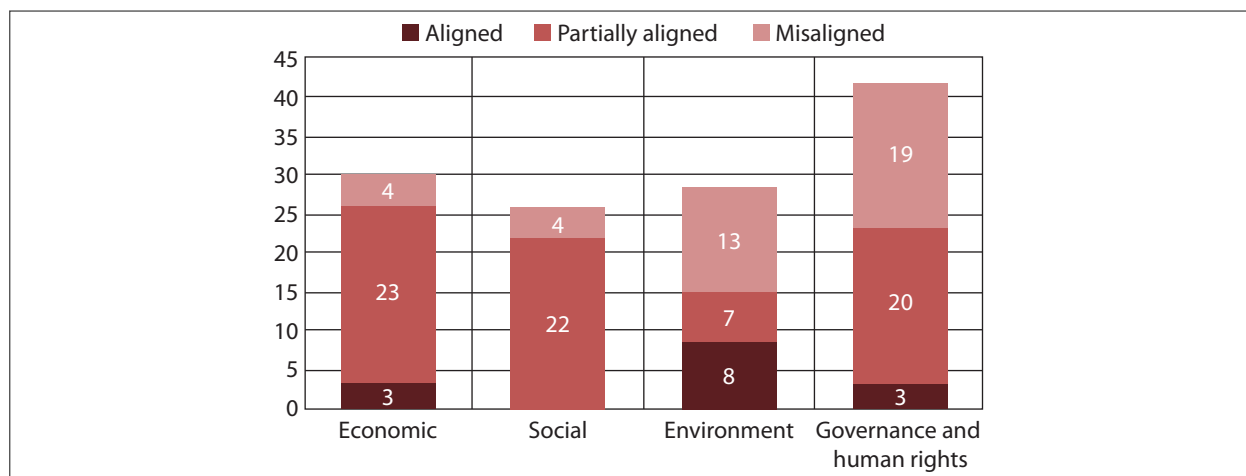


Figure 1. Statistics on the degree of alignment of SDGs targets to the strategic planning papers of the Republic of Moldova, according to SDG areas

Most of aligned targets relate to the “environment” sector, while most of misaligned ones - to “governance and human rights” sector. Authors divided the Sustainable Development Goals in 4 sectors: *economic* (SDGs 8, 9, 11 and 12), *social* (SDGs 1, 2, 3 and 4), *environmental* (SDGs 6, 7, 13, 14 and 15), and *governance and human rights* sector (SDGs 5, 10, 16 and 17). The analysis of national policy papers and their comparison with SDGs showed that the highest level of alignment relate to the “environmental” objectives: 8 out of 28 SDGs numeric targets are aligned to the relevant national strategies, and 7 are partially aligned; the number of misaligned targets is large (13), but 7 of them relate to the SDG 14 “Conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for a sustainable development”) that due to obvious reasons were not reflected in the domestic policy documents. Most of misaligned targets relate to “Governance and human rights” sector: similarly to the SDG 14, a large part of these targets are not reflected in the domestic policy documents as they concern developed states, which are net suppliers of external assistance and play an active role on the international arena (e.g. target 17.12 on the development of a multilateral trading system under the auspices of the World Trade Organization, or target 17.9 on increasing institutional support to enhance capacities in developing countries. Instead, most of the economic and social SDGs targets are only partially aligned to the national policy planning papers. Namely these areas need most of the efforts to plant the SDGs into the Moldovan soil (Figure 1).

¹ Besides numeric targets, SDGs include other 43 targets denoted with letters. They mostly concern the external assistance and/or countries that play an active global role in this field. This is why these targets were not included in the national policy agenda of the Republic of Moldova. However, considering that certain SDGs targets denoted with letters are important for the sustainable development of Moldova, they were adjusted selectively in Chapter 2.



The main differences between national policy agenda and SDG targets are caused mainly by the national specifics, lack of vision in some important areas reflected by SDGs, different optics of public policies and the different degree of disaggregation of the beneficiaries targeted by public policies. A large part of targets are irrelevant to the Republic of Moldova and, hence, are not aligned to the domestic policy documents. For example, SDG 14 targets that aim to protect seas and oceans, SDG 17 targets, which are specific to developed countries and or international organisations, SDG 3 targets that concern tropical diseases or SDG 5 targets that are related to phenomena/traditions not practiced in the Republic of Moldova (e.g. marriages with children, early and forced marriages, female genital mutilation etc.) and many other targets specific to other regions/countries are not reflected in the national policy papers due to objective reasons. Obviously, these gaps do not serve as grounds for nationalization. Instead, the lack of vision in many important areas reflected in SDGs serves as a well-founded ground to adjust national policy papers. For example, the analysis proved that the poverty issue is addressed slightly and fragmentarily in the national policy agenda, which is an important gap compared to SDG 1. There is also a fragmentarily approach of health policies, where there are diverse strategies to fight different diseases, while some SDG 3 targets address a set of diseases at a time (e.g. targets 3.3 and 3.4). Often, the gaps between SDGs and national policy agenda are caused by the different optics of public policies. For example, target 8.10 focuses on boosting access to financial services for all, while the relevant policy paper focuses on securing integrity and stability of the financial system, which is a triggering factor for target 8.10. Another common cause of these gaps is that strategic planning papers are not sufficiently disaggregated compared to SDGs. In particular, it relates to groups of population often considered vulnerable: old people, children, mothers with children, persons with disabilities etc. Thus, a large part of strategies needs to be detailed in terms of the beneficiaries of policies, fact which should be duly reflected in the monitoring and assessment indicators.

The gaps between national policy agenda and 2030 Agenda are not necessarily a deficiency, and the nationalization exercise does not intend to adjust mechanically the domestic policies for the sake of their alignment to SDGs. The nationalization exercise of SDG targets aimed to rather address the gaps that would boost the country's sustainable development. In this respect, following the consultations with relevant policy actors (about 200 people attended the 4 consultation workshops, about 60 commentaries were received from public institutions and CSOs), 99 targets were nationalized (integrated in different ways in the domestic policy papers). In addition, 7 targets that were marked with letters, which had the most common ground with the domestic policy framework, were also nationalized.

The successful implementation of SDGs depends on how flexible is the strategic planning framework, which is now quite problematic in Moldova. The Republic of Moldova has too many policy papers, which often overlap and contradict each other, are not properly monitored and assessed, and the responsibilities among implementing partners are not clearly shared and integrated into the budgetary planning processes.

Republic of Moldova needs a reformed strategic planning framework. First, it needs a long-term national vision on the document, which will include the priority targets of the global nationalized 2030 Agenda (i.e. National Strategy for Sustainable Development „Moldova 2030”). Second, the sectorial planning papers of the line ministries should be simplified and formulated under strict principles and requirements, focusing on securing the implementation of national agenda for sustainable development. They should be evidence-based and contain clear objectives, measurable and concrete progress and impact indicators, as well as reporting requirements. Third, the medium-term expenditure framework should be fully linked to the national strategy for sustainable development and sectorial planning papers to ensure that target achievement comports with the financial sustainability.



INTRODUCTION

On September 2015, the Republic of Moldova, along with other 192 members of the UN, committed to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by adopting the Declaration of the Summit on Sustainable Development, held in NYC. This Agenda is going to accomplish what has been initiated within the Millennium Development Goals, the main purpose being to eradicate the poverty by 2030 and ensure sustainable development all over the world. It provides a new approach on development, emphasizing on promotion of human rights, in all their dimensions. Hence, the people's interests are placed at the centre of the development process, which could be accomplished in a sustainable way only by empowering the people to participate, contribute and benefit of economic, cultural, social and political development, on a common ground where all human rights and liberties are respected.

The Sustainable Development Agenda is very complex, comprising 17 Goals and 169 specific targets, covering all key dimensions of development: (i) economic, (ii) social, and (iii) environment. In this way 2030, the Agenda was designed to cover the priorities and peculiarities of every country. Hence, after being embraced at the global level, it should be adapted to the country-specific context (nationalized), in order to make it meaningful, feasible and impactful at the country level.



In the Republic of Moldova, the adaptation of the 2030 Agenda started as a result of the collaboration among the Government, the UN Moldova as a key development partner of Moldova and the Expert-Grup that provided analytical support to the entire process. The exercise consisted of identification of relevant and priority targets for Moldova, as well as adjusting the targets in order to better meet the domestic peculiarities (without hampering the nature and spirit of SDG targets). Importantly, the process was very opened: all interested policy makers, development partners, private sector and CSO representatives and civil leaders were invited to consultations.

The adaptation process consisted of five major stages:

1. Technical analysis of the linkages between the SDG targets and domestic policies. The main objective of this stage was to understand the level of correlation between the 2030 Agenda and the domestic policy priorities. The results of this analysis are presented in the Chapter 1 of the report.
 - a. Mapping the national policy priorities against the SDGs and to assess the level of correlation between both. The experts compared the SDG targets with the provisions of the



relevant domestic policy documents (National Development Strategy “Moldova 2020”, sectorial strategies, programmes, action plans and roadmaps). The domestic policy documents were selected from a comprehensive list of documents that guides the policy-making, provided by the State Chancellery. This set of documents has been updated following the consultations with relevant stakeholders², including policy documents drafts. For each SDG target, the experts analysed whether it is *fully aligned* (the national policy document satisfies the following three criteria: 1. covers a similar area, 2. shares a similar outcome, and 3. has a similar level of disaggregation), *partially aligned* (at least one of the criteria making it fully aligned is not met), and *not aligned* (is not correlated in any way or is contradictory to the SDG target);

- b. Identify the gaps between the SDGs and national priorities, as well as the challenges related to the institutional framework for the implementation of the SDG agenda.
- c. The analysis of the level of correlation between SDG targets and the Association Agreement with EU, given its importance for the policy and reform processes within the country.

Note: During this phase, the experts analysed the level of *alignment* of SDG targets to the domestic policy agenda, whereas the judgements about their *relevance* were made after the consultations conducted in the next phase.

2. Consulting the policy makers, development partners, private sector and CSOs on the relevant and priority SDG targets. The main objective was to grasp the views of as many stakeholders as possible about what SDG targets should be embraced by Moldova and in what form (many targets needed adjustments). The results of this analysis are presented in the Chapter 2 of the report.
 - a. Conducting four consultation workshops involving around 200 stakeholders (relevant ministries, donor agencies, and CSOs).
 - b. Distributing questionnaires via online governmental portals in order to facilitate the participation of all interested stakeholders in setting the priority SDGs for Moldova.
3. Analysing the interlinkages among all SDG targets in order to identify multiplier targets –targets, implementation of which create the highest number of positive spillovers and, in this ways, speeds up the implementation of the entire 2030 Agenda. In this way, there were identified a set of “Central SDG targets” (see methodological notes in Annex 1), which should be treated by the government in the way that the allocation of resources for meeting these targets will facilitate the achievement of rest of the targets. Given their multiplier effects, these “Central SDGs” will be recommended to be incorporated into the National Development Strategy. The rest of the SDG targets, which by no means are less important, were recommended for the sectorial policy planning documents. The results of this analysis are presented in the Chapter 2 of the report.
4. Propose recommendations for integration of SDGs into the planning and policy making at all levels, in order to make the 2030 Agenda operational. The results of this analysis are presented in the Chapter 2 of the report.
 - a. Identify the list of adapted SDG targets, based on the feedback collected from policy stakeholders and the analysis of the interlinkages among all SDG targets.
 - b. Drafting recommendations for integration of the identified priority and relevant SDG targets into the domestic policy planning documents.

² The Association Agreement between the European Union and Republic of Moldova was not included directly into the mapping because this is not a regular policy planning document, deriving from some problem that the country wants to solve by addressing a set of specific objectives. It is rather a set of commitments that Moldova has to implement that are reflected (or will be reflected) into relevant policy planning documents – strategies, programmes, action plans, and roadmaps.



5. Defining data ecosystem for the SDGs, which was carried out in parallel with the nationalization of SDG targets during the phases described above (the results of these stage are presented in a separate document). A key condition for the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda is a robust and transparent monitoring and evaluation system, which could be done based on a set of SMART performance indicators assigned to each SDG target. Once the priority and relevant SDG targets have been identified, a laborious statistical work has been conducted in order to define proper indicators that will be used to measure the performance in meeting the specific targets.
 - a. Mapping national indicators against global SDGs indicators.
 - b. Identify the gaps in national data in order to enable proper national SDGs monitoring and reporting, and recommendations to meet identified gaps.
 - c. Collect feedback from data providers/holders/producers on mapping the data availability for SDGs.
 - d. Conducting six consultation workshops involving around 200 stakeholders (relevant ministries, donor agencies, and CSOs).
 - e. Propose additional national indicators for M&E of nationalized SDGs targets.
 - f. Compiling the database with SDG indicators.

The purpose of this report is to present the results of the entire adaptation process of 2030 Agenda to the domestic priorities (stages 1-4 above), as well as to contribute to raising the level of information and awareness among the policy makers and the society about the importance of SDGs and, especially, their effective implementation.

Based on the findings of this study, the relevant public authorities will have to initiate the process of adjustment of the policy planning documents, following the recommendations set out in Chapter 2. The Government undertook the commitment in this regard with in the meeting from March 16, 2016, of the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development, which was chaired by the Prime Minister Pavel Filip and UN Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative in Moldova Dafina Gercheva and where this report has been presented. Importantly, this process should be transparent, participatory and dynamic, in order to ensure that the SDGs are put into practice as effectively as possible.

The report is structured into three core sections. The first one presents, in a concise manner, the results of the correlation analysis between the national policy priorities and the 2030 Agenda. It depicts the common ground between both agendas, as well as the gaps that need to be covered, and, in this way, reveals the level of alignment of SDG targets to the national policy documents. This section also includes a brief analysis of the level of accordance of SDG targets with the Association Agreement with EU. The second section comprises the findings of the SDG adaptation process, specifying the targets that are found to be relevant for Moldova, their adjusted wording, as well as the recommendations for their integration into the domestic policy planning documents. It also includes the results of the analysis of interlinkages among SDG targets, by specifying the priority targets and their influence on other targets. The third section presents the final conclusions, recommendations and ways forward in order to nationalize and implement the 2030 Agenda. The report also contains three annexes: Annex 1 describes the methodology used for identification of central SDG targets; Annex 2 provides the list of policy areas used for the analysis of SDG targets; and Annex 3 synthetizes the common ground between the SDG targets and the Association Agreement with EU.



Chapter 1. GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA VERSUS NATIONAL POLICY AGENDA: COMMON GROUND AND DIFFERENCES

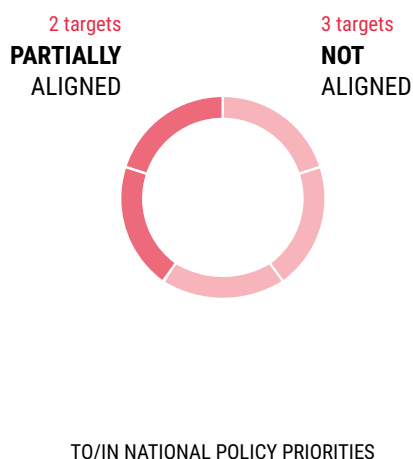
A preliminary stage of the nationalization process of 2030 Agenda is the assessment of existing compatibilities and differences between the current national policy priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals. The objective of this chapter is to provide a status quo analysis of the level of correlation between both agendas and, in this way, identify the common ground and differences. Hence, this chapter serves to estimate the baseline that will be used for defining policy recommendations and, in the future, for assessing the progress in adapting the 2030 Agenda to the national priorities. It provides a rather short summary of the main findings of the mapping exercise conducted for each SDG, more details being available in Annex A of this report. In this context, 138 targets of the global agenda (targets labeled with numbers for each SDG) were mapped in national policy documents in order to identify their presence on the national agenda and determine their alignment to the global targets. At the same time, the 31 targets - means of implementation from the global agenda (targets marked with letters for each SDG) refer to the global or regional context and imply mutual actions from all countries, or specifically from developed countries. Thus, these targets cannot be part of the national agenda at the current stage and they were excluded from the mapping stage. However, Chapter 2 recommends reformulation of 6 targets - means of implementation that can be adapted to the Moldovan context.



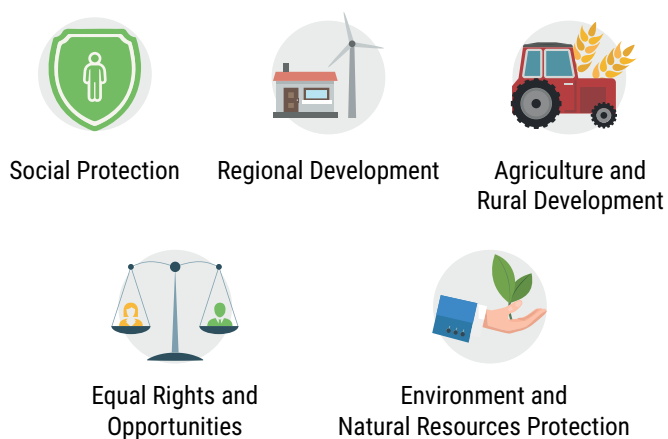


Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

5 SDG TARGETS



PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

- State Chancellery
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry
- Ministry of Construction and Regional Development
- Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Health

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- Strategy for the Development of Rural Extension Services 2012-2022
- National Strategy for Regional Development 2016-2020
- National Strategic Program on Demographic Security of the Republic of Moldova 2011-2025
- Strategy for Water Supply and Sanitation 2014-2028
- National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health 2016-2020
- Environmental Strategy 2014-2024
- National Strategy for Employment (exclude draft)

Common ground with the national policy priorities

SDG 1 aims at reducing poverty in all its dimensions. This focus on poverty is also present – albeit to a limited extent – in Moldova’s past two medium-term strategies (Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2004-2006 and National Development Strategy 2008-2011), given how strongly the country was affected by poverty in its early transition years. As the national poverty rate began to shrink, the latest national development strategy took a different focus: encouraging sustainable economic growth and relying on it to eventually diminish poverty. Thus, the long-term vision strategy „Moldova 2020” only partially covers the poverty issue, by making reference to retirees in the context of promoting an equitable and sustainable pension system.

Yet, while the elderly are among the most affected groups of population – with an average pension amounting to 68.7% of the cost of living as of 2015 – there are many other vulnerable groups (children, large rural families, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, etc.) whose needs are not directly addressed in Strategy Moldova 2020. Furthermore, while poverty reduction can be tackled through economic growth and job creation, on one hand, it also requires appropriate social policies as stated in target 1.3. Therefore, the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Fam-



ily should have an important role in promoting Goal 1 through its policies – both as a means to directly reducing poverty and ensuring long-term, sustainable economic growth.

At the same time, “poverty”, as featured in the global agenda does not only refer to the monetary poverty, but also to access to basic services, equal rights and opportunities and social inclusion. This is an important issue especially in the rural areas, where exclusion from services, markets and society, exists alongside poverty. As such, three of five global targets under SDG 1 are partially included in the sectoral policy documents of the following entities: Ministry of Construction and Regional Development (related to poverty rates in regions and access to public utilities), Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Health (related to access to water and sewage systems and resilience to vulnerable population to extreme weather phenomena), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry (related to poverty in rural areas) and Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (related to social inclusion and poverty of elderly).

Main differences identified

An important gap of the national policy agenda vis-à-vis the Global Sustainable Agenda is the superficial approach to the poverty issue, even though the perception of poverty is increasing among the population. Thus, only two targets are partially aligned in the national agenda and three targets are not aligned. The main reasons for the gaps are the following:

Lack of several global aspects in the national agenda. Thus, global target 1.1. regarding the eradication of extreme poverty is not part of national agenda. However, even though extreme poverty by national definition is close to zero, the international threshold is now much higher, since it was raised to 1.9\$ per day in 2015, and the situation may appear less favourable and may require special approach. At the same time, an important policy measure to achieve poverty reduction – target 1.3, regarding the implementation of a nationally appropriate social protection system – is almost missing in the national policy framework altogether. Even though the social protection legislation should be based on such a system, the target is not expressly stated in any policy document. Moreover, the situation in several areas (i.e. low coverage of poor households by social assistance, low benefit levels and unsustainability of the pension system, etc.) points to an ineffective and fragmented social protection system.

Superficial approach of some issues or inadequate disaggregation in the national agenda. The global target 1.2 regarding the reduction of poverty in all its dimension by national definitions is partially integrated in different sectoral policy documents which make reference to the reduction of absolute poverty rates for specific groups such as elderly, rural population. However, this has rendered efforts fragmented. Indeed there is currently no comprehensive approach to poverty reduction. Thus, Moldova 2020 aims at reducing absolute poverty rate for pensioners from 28.1% in 2010 to 23% in 2020. Also, National Strategy for Regional Development 2016-2020 and National Strategic Program on Demographic Security of the Republic of Moldova 2011-2025 aim at “reducing poverty rates in the regions” and “prevent and eradicate poverty”, with no reference at the type of poverty, levels desired levels of poverty and determinant factors (health status, corruption, residence area, etc.). Moreover, the level of the national absolute poverty line is unrealistically low. This results in a growing gap between the official absolute poverty rate and the overall perception of poverty among population in the last decade, and serves to explain high sensitivity of the poverty rate to small changes in poverty line. Therefore, the revision of the poverty calculation methodology might be appropriate, both for comparability and relevance purposes.

The content of target 1.4, on equal rights and opportunities and access to basic services, is mostly present in national documents, given that access to water, sewage systems and sanita-



tion are a significant problem in Moldova. These priorities are also in the sectoral strategies of the Ministry of Environment (Environmental Strategy 2014-2024 and Strategy for Water Supply and Sanitation 2014-2028) and the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development (National Regional Development Strategy 2016-2020), which also refers to „access to quality public utilities“. At the same time, the National Program for the Creation of the Real Estate Cadastre does not emphasize on “equal rights to ownership and control over land and other forms of property”, which is an issue for Moldova.

Different context and purpose of the identified national target compared to the global one. The national framework closest to a global target 1.5 is the provision of the Environmental Strategy 2014-2024 to „increase the awareness of vulnerable population regarding measures undertaken during extreme weather phenomena“. Differences remain, however; unlike the national target, the global target puts more emphasis on reducing exposure not only to climate-related events but also to economic, social and environmental shocks.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

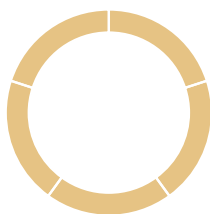
The SDG 1 targets partially correlate with the AA provisions. AA refers to poverty reduction in Chapter 4 (Employment, social policy and equal opportunities) and to implementation of appropriate social policies in Chapter 27 (Cooperation in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child) of Title IV covering thus four targets of the SDG 1. Meanwhile, Chapter 17 (Climate action) and Chapter 22 (Civil Protection) of Title IV partially cover aspects related to extreme climate events. Only the target 1.4 with respect to ensuring equal rights of vulnerable to property does not correlate with the AA.





Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

5 SDG TARGETS



5 targets

**PARTIALLY
ALIGNED**

TO NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Social Protection



Consumer Rights
and Food Safety



Agriculture and
Rural Development



Environment and
Natural Resources
Protection



Employment



Entrepreneurship
and SMEs



Domestic Trade
and Markets



Research,
Technological Development
and Innovation



Health

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry
National Food Safety Agency
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Economy
Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Finance

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development 2014 - 2020
- National Program for Monitoring the Pesticide Residues and Nitrate Content in Foods of Vegetal Origin 2015-2020
- National Program on Alimentation and Nutrition 2014-2020
- National Program for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2017-2021 (draft)
- Innovation Strategy of the Republic of Moldova "Innovation for Competitiveness" 2013-2020
- Strategy of Development of Rural Extension Services 2012-2020
- Strategy for the Development of Domestic Trade 2014-2020
- Program for Conservation and Increase of Soil Fertility (2011-2020)
- Program for Resettlement and Development of Viticulture and Winemaking 2002-2020
- Environmental Strategy 2014-2023
- Strategy for Biological Diversity of Moldova 2015-2020
- National Program for the Establishment of the National Ecological Network for 2011-2018
- National Program for Regeneration and Afforestation of the Forest Fund 2003-2020

Common ground with the national policy priorities

Moldova does not face hunger in its traditional definition. Therefore, neither the long-term vision strategy „Moldova 2020”, nor the sectoral strategies refer to ending hunger. However,



the global SDG 2 is very complex and the five targets link poverty to multiple aspects like food safety, malnutrition, productivity in agricultural sector, farm employment, sustainable food production systems, eco-friendly agriculture adapted to climate change, etc. Some of these issues are definitely relevant for Moldova.

Indeed, several policy documents of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry (Strategy for the Development of Rural Extension Services 2012-2020, National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development 2014-2020) and of the Ministry of Economy (Strategy for the Development of the Domestic Trade 2014-2020) contain parts of the global SDG 2 targets. Also, both Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry and Ministry of Environment are responsible for aspects related to climate change and extreme weather conditions and genetic diversity of seeds. However, none of the documents link the issued to ending poverty.

Also, the Ministry of Health is responsible for issues related to malnutrition, where the correlation with the global targets is tighter, given the issue is still present in Moldova.

Main differences identified

The global SDG 2 targets are very complex, referring to multiple aspects relevant in the context of Moldova. National policies are only marginally aligned to the global ones due to several reasons:

Global targets are very complex and refer simultaneously to multiple aspects / issues, some of them not relevant for Moldovan context. Thus, the target 1.3 refers both at hunger and food safety. Moldova may still have to deal with food safety issues. Only the National Program for Monitoring the Pesticide Residues and Nitrate Content in Foods of Vegetal Origin 2015-2020 of the National Food Safety Agency aims „to achieve the highest level of protection of human health and consumer interests in terms of safety of food”, though with no mention to access of poor and people in vulnerable situations, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food therefore, only partially aligned to global target 2.1. Also, global target 2.5 is approached in the Strategy for Biological Diversity of Moldova 2015-2020 aiming to “improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity”.

Insufficient disaggregation in the national policy documents. The target 2.2 for ending malnutrition - is incorporated the National Program on Alimentation and Nutrition 2014-2020 of the Ministry of Health. This document covers such targets as stunting for children under 5 years old, anaemia among children and women, including pregnant women and iodine deficiency. However, it does not provide the necessary disaggregation mentioned in the global target and therefore only partially aligned to global target.

Different perspectives in approaching the issues in the national vs global agenda. Ending hunger at the global scale means addressing important issues in agricultural sector as increased productivity in the sector, including in small scale-agriculture, resilient agricultural practices and sustainable food production and distribution systems. All these issues are relevant for Moldova too, but mostly intended to decrease poverty, rather than end hunger. Thus, the Strategy for the Development of Rural Extension Services 2012-2020 aims „to increase the productivity in agriculture”, the National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development 2014-2020 aims „to increase employment opportunities in non-agricultural sector” and the Strategy for the Development of the Domestic Trade 2014-2020 aims „to stimulate non-agricultural activities in rural areas”, priorities that are only partially aligned to global target 2.3.

Parts of complex global target 2.4 can be found in the policy documents of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry and Ministry of Environment, though with a different causality.



While the global targets aim to end hunger through these measures, the national strategies refer to „environmentally friendly agriculture”, „environmentally friendly technologies”, „mitigation of effects on climate change” or „rational use of agro-ecological resources” as means to increase the production, to preserve the environment and to comply with the provisions of international agreements Moldova has signed.

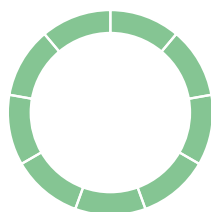
Accordance with the Association Agreement

SDG 2 targets are very comprehensive, but refer mainly to internal issues, so that the targets only partially correlate with the AA. Thus, issues related to agricultural activity covered by the targets 2.2 and 2.4 correlate marginally with the provisions of Chapter 12 (Agriculture and rural development) and Chapter 17 (Climate action) of Title IV. Issues related to malnutrition and functioning of local markets food and agriculture to limit extreme food price volatility are not covered in AA.



Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

9 SDG TARGETS



9 targets

**PARTIALLY
ALIGNED**

TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Health



Social Protection



Environment and
Natural Resources
Protection



Public Order



Disaster Management
and Civil Protection

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Health

Ministry of Environment

Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and
Family

Ministry of Transportation and Road
Infrastructure

Ministry of Internal Affairs

National Council for Road Traffic Safety

Ministry of Youth and Sports

Ministry of Finance

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- » Strategy for the Development of Health System 2007-2017
- » National Strategic Program for Demographic Security of the Republic of Moldova 2011-2025
- » National Immunization program for 2016-2020
- » National Program for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2017-2021 (draft)
- » National Strategy for Public Health 2014-2020
- » National Health Policy 2007-2021
- » National Program to combat hepatitis B, C and D 2017-2021 (draft)
- » National Program for Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS and STD 2016-2020
- » National Program for Control of Tuberculosis
- » National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health 2016-2025
- » National Program for Prevention and Control of Cardiovascular Diseases 2014-2020
- » National Strategy for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases 2012-2020
- » National Program for Mental Health 2012-2016
- » National Program on Alimentation and Nutrition 2014-2020
- » National Program for the Alcohol Control 2012-2020
- » National Program for Tobacco Control 2012-2016
- » National Anti-Drug Strategy 2011-2018
- » National Road Safety Strategy
- » Strategy for Transport and Logistics 2013-2022
- » State Policy in the Field of Medication
- » Strategy for Water Supply and Sanitation 2014-2028
- » National Program on Sustainable Management of Chemicals
- » Waste Management Strategy for Moldova 2013-2027
- » Cross-sectoral Strategy on Developing Parental Abilities and Competencies, 2016-2022
- » National Strategy for Youth Sector Development 2020
- » Environmental Strategy 2014-2023

Common ground with the national policy priorities

Health status of the population is a fundamental precondition for the achievement of the sustainable development goals. Actually, three out of eight MDGs were in the area of health, and



the SDG 3 contains 9 targets that are very comprehensive. Hence, SDG 3 targets refer both to specific issues as maternal or infant mortality, but also to very broad issues like epidemics of several communicable diseases, prevention of non-communicable diseases, universal access to healthcare services, promotion of mental health, healthy lifestyles, control of alcohol and drugs. These are issues that every society faces, regardless of the development status, and only the intensity of the problems may vary.

Indeed, the way the global targets are formulated (i.e. very comprehensive) make them all at some degree applicable for Moldova. While, the long-term development strategy „Moldova 2020” does not refer specifically to health issues, the high number of strategies and policy documents of the Ministry of Health address most of the issues at a certain extent. In this context, an important issue in the rational use of budgetary funding for the priority issues. Therefore, it is important to differentiate between output targets that can be measured as global targets 3.1 to 3.4 and policy measures that contribute to the achievement of the previously mentioned as global targets 3.5, 3.7 to 3.9.

While most actions refer to the areas of activity of the Ministry of Health (especially input targets), there are also specific targets that imply involvement of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Transport and Communication related to target 3.5 on substance abuse and 3.6 on road traffic accidents. Also, the contribution of the Ministry of Environment should be of particular importance for targets 3.9 and 3.3 related to mortality and morbidity due to polluting factors.

Main differences identified

Most of the SDG 3 targets are very complex and therefore cannot be found in the same formulation in just one policy document and, at the same time, part of each target is somehow incorporated in the national policies. The main reasons for the gaps between national and global agenda are determined by:

Multiple policy documents in the health sector that contain similar targets, but with different formulation. Two targets that can be considered aligned to the global agenda are 3.1 and 3.2. Although Moldova has already reached the numeric level of global target 3.1, it aims to further reduce maternal mortality rate in three strategies, but only the Strategy for the Development of Health System 2007-2017 setting the specific value to be reached as „reducing maternal mortality to 13 per 100,000 live births in 2017”. Also, target 3.2 is covered in six strategies, but only the Strategy for the Development of Health System 2007-2017 defines the numerical targets as „reducing infant mortality rate to 13 per 1000 live births in 2017” and „reducing mortality rate for children under 5 years of age to 15 per 1000 live births in 2017”. Cross-sectoral Strategy on Developing Parental Abilities and Competencies will also contribute to the decreasing of numbers of avoidable deaths among children under five years old through early identification of danger signs for most common child diseases, provision of the safe environment, correct feeding practices (exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding), health care seeking behaviours etc. Therefore, in many strategies the targets should be reformulated by including the numeric values to be reached in order to have full alignment and synergy of all policy documents in the health sector.

Target 3.7 is reflected in the previous Strategy on Reproductive Health 2005-2015 and is currently being fully reflected in the draft of the new National Programme on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2017-2021 as well as in the approved National Programme on health promotion 2016-2020. However, the lack of mandatory health (including sexual) education in schools that are covered by the target 3.7. Target 3.8 is also fragmented and included in several



strategies of the Ministry of Health: National Strategy for Public Health 2014-2020, , State Policy in the Field of Medication, National Health Policy 2007-2021, strategy for the Development of Health System 2008-2017. In fact, many of the priorities of these strategies overlap and are included in different formulation that can be misleading and an additional gap source for reporting and monitoring.

Global targets on health include reference to diseases not specific for Moldova. The main gaps in the targets 3.3 and 3.4 derive from their very broad approach. The target 3.3 refers to a set of diseases and Moldova has separate strategies for most of them. Thus, the target is partially integrated in 9 strategies, both general for the healthcare system but also specific for separate diseases, and include all diseases except malaria and neglected tropical diseases that do not affect our population at the moment. The same is partly valid for target 3.4, where separate strategies refer to specific non-communicable diseases, even though with no accent on the promotion of mental health and well-being.

Targets relevant for several policy areas are included in the policy documents of different ministries in different formulation. Though partially aligned to SDG targets due to slight differences in the formulation and final value to be reached, national priorities are very close to target 3.5, 3.6 and 3.9. They are included not only in the strategies of the Ministry of Health, but also the other stakeholders: Ministry of Internal Affairs in National Anti-Drug Strategy 2011-2018 for target 3.5 („reduce and stabilize consumption of all types of drugs and consequences associated to it that can affect the health of citizens and the development of society as a whole”), Ministry of Transportation and Road Infrastructure in Strategy for Transport and Logistics 2013-2022 and National Road Safety Strategy for target 3.6 („reduce the number of traffic accidents by 50% in 2020” and „gradual reduction of fatalities in road accidents”) and Ministry of Environment in three strategies for the implementation of target 3.9 (only related to water pollution, unsanitary conditions of landfills and negative effect of chemicals). Thus, a uniform approach of these targets in all relevant strategies is missing, making them only partially aligned in the national policy framework.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

Cooperation on health issues is only briefly included in AA, so that health targets only marginally correlated with the provisions of the agreement. AA correlates with targets 3.3 and 3.4 on non-communicable and communicable diseases and Chapter 21 (Public Health) of Title IV. The same chapter contains provisions on access to health services and on health system financing (target 3.8 and 3.c). Provisions relating to narcotic drugs (target 3.5) are found both in Chapter 21 (Public Health) of Title IV and Title III (Freedom, Security and Justice). Other targets related to specific indicators on morbidity and mortality do not correlate with the AA.



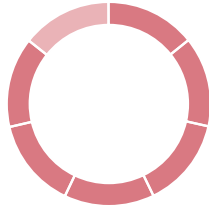


Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

7 SDG TARGETS

1 target
NOT
ALIGNED

6 targets
PARTIALLY
ALIGNED



TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Education



Social Protection



Employment



Youth



IT



Entrepreneurship
and SMEs



Human rights
and freedom



Environment and
Natural Resources
Protection



Equal rights
and opportunities

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Education
Ministry of Youth and Sports
Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Youth
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Justice

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020"
- National Strategy for Development of Youth Sector 2020
- National Employment Strategy
- Program for the Development of Inclusive Education in Moldova 2011-2020
- Environmental Strategy 2014-2023
- Strategy for the Development of Technical Vocational Education 2013-2020
- Strategy for equality between women and men 2016-2020 (draft)
- National Action Plan on Human Rights (draft)
- Program for the Development of Medical and Pharmaceutical Education for 2011-2020
- Strategy for the Development of Human Resources in Healthcare System for 2016-2025

Common ground with the national policy priorities

Education has an important place in the global sustainable agenda as it is an important input for the achievement of many other targets. Ultimately these cannot be reached without adequate human capital. This is also one of the most important issues for Moldova, included in the long-term development strategy „Moldova 2020” as an element that can change the development paradigm of the country and enhance the economic growth. While during the



transition period relatively high public investment in education ensured high enrolment rates at different levels of education, the quality of education has decreased and the link to the labour market needs has weakened. Therefore, the SDG4 targets are very important for Moldova in the context on continuously changing economic needs, new challenges and opportunities provided by the geographical proximity to EU as a knowledge-based economy and closer relation with EU since the signing of the Association Agreement. Obviously, most of the targets of SDG 4 refer to the Ministry of Education competences. The Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" is comprehensive and approaches almost all SDG 4 global targets, except SDG 4.7.

However, as education is expected to be linked to the economic trends it is important to have both Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family active in promoting quality and relevant education and encouraging lifelong learning, especially for target 4.4 on "relevant skills for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship". In fact, target 4.4 is very important on the national agenda, being part of the long-term development strategy Moldova 2020 as „Studies: relevant for career". Though in different formulation, the national agenda may be considered aligned to the global SDG 4.4. which is also included in several sectoral strategies (Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020", National Strategy for the Development of Youth Sector 2020, draft National Employment Strategy and Strategy for the Development of Technical Vocational Education 2013-2020, Program for the Development of Medical and Pharmaceutical Education in Moldova for 2011-2020) that aim to „contribute to the formation of knowledge, abilities, skills, attitudes and behaviours needed to integrate young people in society" and „provide education and better qualifications for increased employment opportunities". In this context, it is important to ensure cohesion of higher education with research, development and innovation activities, as stipulated in the National Strategy for Research and Development of the Republic of Moldova until 2020.

Moreover, sustainable development agenda also refer to knowledge and skills to promote sustainable development, including sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, etc. (in target 4.7), which imply tighter links and involvement of other institutions as Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration.

Main differences identified

While the strategies in the educational sector comprise most of the aspects on education from the global agenda, all targets are only partially aligned in the national agenda due to several reasons.

Lack of synergy between the strategies in educational sector and other national / sectoral policy documents. Thus, even though the target 4.4 is aligned to the global agenda in the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020", it is not present in the sectoral strategies in education. Therefore, further alignment is necessary.

In some cases the disaggregation proposed in the global agenda is not as relevant for Moldova, for example by gender in the context of education as the rate of enrolment for girls is higher compared to boys. Therefore, it is missing in targets 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.5. This disaggregation is rather relevant for the access to labour market and decent jobs. However, in this context more emphasis on vulnerable groups would be appropriate in case of Moldova, as problems of integrating the poor and persons with disabilities is still an issue to be solved.

Also, Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" sets a goal close to global target 4.2 - „ensure the increasing rate of enrolment in preschool children 3-6 years to 95% and 6-7 children years to 98% in 2020", while the global one national aims to ensure that



all children have access. However, in this respect the children under three years old are disregarded, and Moldova actually lacks a policy in childcare for this group.

Existence of complex and comprehensive global targets that need to be included in different sectoral policy documents. Global target 4.7 promotes knowledge and skills for sustainable development, including sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development. The national agenda is only partially in line with it with provisions in the Environmental Strategy 2014-2023 „to improve knowledge on environmental protection among students and employees“ and „incorporate environmental education into the formal education system and in non-formal and informal education“, in the National Programme on Health Promotion 2016-2020 as “change in attitudes and improve knowledge in health promotion”, in the draft Strategy for Health, Development and Wellbeing of Children and Adolescents (2015-2020) regarding „compulsory school curricula contains complex health education programs“, in the draft Strategy for Equality between Women and Men 2016-2020 by “promoting gender equality through media and advertising products” and in the draft Action Plan for Human Rights through “education and information on human rights”.

Only global target 4.6 aiming to ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy is missing from the national agenda.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

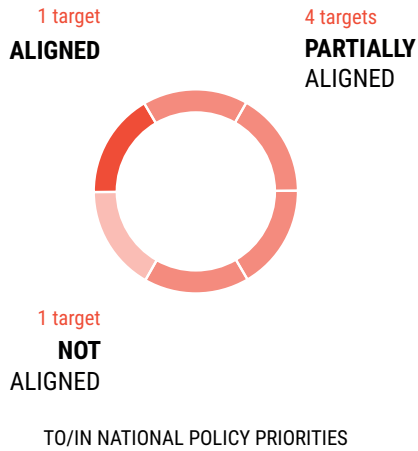
SDG 4 targets in education correlate strongly with the provisions of the AA. Although these provisions are very general, AA covers most of the issues related to access to education, quality of education, skills obtained in Chapter 23 (Cooperation on education, training, multilingualism, youth and sport) of Title IV. Target 4.7 which refers to knowledge and skills in various fields of sustainable development not only correlates with the provisions of Chapter 23, but also with those of Chapter 16 (Environment), Chapter 17 (Climate Action), Chapter 21 (Public Health) of Title IV and Title III (Freedom, security and justice). Only in the case of preschool education there is no correlation between the global development agenda and AA.





Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

6 SDG TARGETS



PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Education



Social protection, social integration and family



Public order



Employment Equal Rights and Opportunities



Public administration



Human rights and freedom



Equal rights and opportunities

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

- Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Economy
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Finance
- National Commission on Population and Development
- National Committee for Fighting Trafficking of Human Beings
- Council on the Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- Strategy to Ensure the Equality between Women and Men (2017-2021) (Draft)
- National action plan on human rights (intermediary 2016) (Draft)
- Strategy for SMEs sector development (2012-2020)
- Roadmap on mainstreaming ageing in policies and Action Plan on implementation of Roadmap on mainstreaming ageing in policies (2014-2016)
- National Strategy to Prevent and Stop Human Trafficking for 2017-2020 (draft)
- National Strategy on Employment (2017-2021) (Draft)
- Child Protection Strategy (2014-2020) and its Action Plan (2016-2020)
- National Programme on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2017-2021 (Draft)
- National Strategy to Prevent and Stop Violence Against Women and Family Violence for 2017-2022 (draft)

Common ground with the national policy priorities

The fifth SDG capture the essence of women key needs and priorities of physical security, integrity and freedom, of equal voice, participation and leadership in decision-making in all spheres, of equal choice and opportunities and of equal access and control over all resources and ownership of assets. In this regards, the targets tackle all forms of discrimination against women and girls; elimination of all forms of violence in both private and public spheres, trafficking, sexual and other types of exploitation; child, early and forced marriage; aiming to rec-



ognize and value unpaid care and domestic work, to ensure women's participation at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life, and to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health. The most important national policy document corresponding to the 5th SDG are the Strategy to Ensure the Equality between Women and Men (2017-2021) draft National Strategy to prevent and to stop violence against women and family violence for 2017-2022 (especially targets 5.1 and 5.2) and the draft National Programme on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for 2017-2021 (target 5.6). These are focused on empowerment of women and providing equal opportunities for women and men, by ensuring a complex approach on combating stereotypes in society and promoting nonviolent communication, on preventing phenomena of violence against women and family violence, consolidating institutional and legal mechanisms to promote women in decision-making process and to ensure equitable approach in social insurance policies, in social assistance and health services.

The most important correlation is between target 5.5. *"Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life"* and Strategy to Ensure the Equality between Women and Men (2017-2021), which contains a set of specific and relevant indicators close to global ones.

There are a number of sectorial policy documents which reflect commitment to promote gender equality in various sectors. Thus, Child Protection Strategy 2014-2020 and its Action Plan for 2016-2020 is looking at promoting equal roles of the parents in raising children. At the same time, Strategy for SMEs sector development (2012-2020) is in line with the fifth SDG as it is focused on facilitating access of women to trainings and informational resources regarding entrepreneurship, on promoting entrepreneurship among women and on facilitating the access of women entrepreneurs to financial resources. Alike, the draft National Strategy to prevent and to stop violence against women and family violence for 2017-2022 tackles discrimination against women as a related phenomenon to trafficking.

Even if it is being developed at the moment, the draft National Programme on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (2017-2021) seems to correspond to target 5.6 *"Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights"*. Also, the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family drafted Strategy to Prevent and Stop Violence Against Women and Family Violence for 2017-2022, which tackles the target 5.2 *"Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres"*. Nevertheless, it is highly recommended to integrate the part related to violence in the Strategy on equality between women and men. Violence is basically an effect of gender inequality, so it is necessary to have an integrated approach toward violence and gender equality in the same policy document.

There is no commitment regarding gender equality in National Development Strategy *"Moldova 2020"*, although gender is considered a cross-cutting issue.

Main differences identified

Even if there is a specific policy document covering almost fully the fifth SDG policy areas (Strategy to Ensure the Equality between Women and Men) and a range of other policy documents, most of SDG targets are partially aligned to the national policy agenda due to two reasons – (i) both national commitments and SDG targets are too broadly formulated and (ii) different approach toward the issue and maturity of policies.

Both national commitments and SDG targets are too broadly formulated. Under target 5.1. *"End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere"* some policy documents could be considered, which just tangentially tackle few aspects of girls and women discrimination. At the same time, Strategy to Ensure the Equality between Women and Men is mostly



focused on enhancing normative and institutional framework, rather than reduction of discrimination itself.

Different approach toward the issue and the maturity of policies. The fifth SDG is focused mainly on discrimination of girls and women, which was relevant for previous policy documents in this domain. But, at the moment, discussions advanced beyond just discrimination, looking at the equality between women and men in a more comprehensive manner.

Target 5.3. *Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation* is not aligned in national agenda, but there is no evidence that it is relevant for the Republic of Moldova. However, during national consultations an opinion was expressed that child and early marriages could still be a practice in Roma community, although the newly approved Action Plan to support Roma population (2016-2020) is not tackling this issue.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

SDG 5 is largely correlated with the provisions of article IV of the Association Agreement. Targets related to the elimination of discrimination against women and men and to gender equality are reflected in Chapter 4 (Employment, social policy and equal opportunities) of Title 4, by which the Republic of Moldova committed to implementing the principle of equal treatment among women and men regarding labor, access to and delivery of goods and services and social security. At the same time, the target which is focused on the elimination of violence against girls and women, as well as that which is focused on elimination of early and forced marriages with children, corresponds to the provisions of Article 4 (Domestic reform) of Title II, Article 12 (Rule of law) of Title III and Chapter 27 (Cooperation in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child) of Title IV. Only for one target, which is related to the universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, there is no correlation with the Association Agreement.





Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

6 SDG TARGETS

2 targets
NOT
ALIGNED



TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

4 targets
PARTIALLY
ALIGNED

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Natural resources and environment protection



Regional Development



Disasters management and civil protection



Water and sanitation



Waste management

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Environment
District-level and municipality-level local public authorities
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry
Ministry of Interior
Academy of Sciences of Moldova
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Health

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- ▶ National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- ▶ Strategy for water provision and sanitation for 2014-2028
- ▶ Environmental strategy for 2014-2023 and related Plan of Actions
- ▶ Waste management strategy for 2013-2027
- ▶ Program for development of water sector management and hydroamelioration in the Republic of Moldova for the years 2011-2020
- ▶ Strategy regarding biological diversity of Republic of Moldova for the years 2015-2020 and the related Plan of Actions
- ▶ National Regional Development Strategy 2016-2020

Common ground with the national policy priorities

The SDG 6 and its targets focus on the provision of safe and accessible water, sanitation, minimization of the water pollution from industrial processes, increasing the efficiency of the water use across all economic and social sectors, and enhancement of the protection of the water-related ecosystems. They also incorporate aspects related to sustainable management of the water resources, including through adequate international cooperation and involvement of the local and regional communities in the water management.

The initial version of the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020" did include seven development priorities but nothing related to the SDG 6. The amended version of the "Moldova 2020" includes the eighth development priority on agricultural and rural development, however, it only tangentially touches the SDG 6 by emphasizing the conservation of water reserves and resources purity.

A number of sector-level strategies, however, more directly tackle the SDG 6 targets. These strategies have differences in timeframes, but this aspect has a smaller negative impact compared to the uneven quality and relevance of the documents. The Strategy for water provision and sanitation for 2014-2028 foresees a gradually increased access to safe water and adequate



sanitation for all population and communities of the Republic of Moldova (target 6.1 and 6.2). It also includes a number of measurable and relevant progress indicators. The Strategy aims to implement the water safety plans and to ensure conformation to the quality requirements as provided by the Directive 98/83/CE on the water for human consumption. The Strategy assumes identifies active involvement and consultation of the local communities as a key pre-condition for coherent and feasible development of the infrastructure (target 6.b).

According to the Environmental Strategy for 2014-2023 and the related Plan of Actions, by 2023 as many as 80 percent of the population will have access to safe systems and services for water provision, while circa 65 percent of the population will be guaranteed access to sanitation systems and services. The Strategy also promises to improve the quality of at least 50 percent of surface water by implementing the hydrographic basins management system.

Opposite to previous sector strategies, these two development strategies strike a better (even though not perfect) balance between provision of the safe water per se and the provision of sanitation services in the economically the most efficient manner.

One of the goals of the Waste management strategy for 2013-2027 is to develop, by 2027, **an integrated and economically efficient waste management system** to ensure environment and health protection. However, there are no explicit references to improving the water quality by reducing pollution, dumping and release of hazardous materials (SDG 6.3).

The national Program for development of water sector management and hydro-amelioration in the Republic of Moldova for the years 2011-2020 is the closest to the spirit and aim of the target 6.4 on increasing water-use efficiency across all sectors. However, the Program emphasizes **the water use in agriculture only**. It only indirectly refers to implementing an efficient water management system in line with EU standards and norms regarding technological norms in the domains of the water sector management and of the sustainable management of surface and ground waters.

A key planning document is the Environmental Strategy for 2014-2023 and the related Plan of Actions. The Strategy aims to extend the protected natural areas and to ensure their sustainable management. In the same vein, the Strategy regarding biological diversity of Republic of Moldova for the years 2015-2020 and the related Plan of Actions foresees minimization of the degradation of the water resources and water-related biodiversity as well as defining protection measures by developing and approving two management plans for the aquatic basins districts. These provisions address the SDG targets 6.5 and 6.6.

Two sector Strategies also aim to ensure a wider involvement of the community in the management of the water resources. Improving and fostering governmental institutions capacities to coherently plan and program the development of water and sanitation infrastructure for all communities, based on well-defined and transparent criteria, including involvement of beneficiary communities is a specific objective of the Strategy for water provision and sanitation. At the same time, through the Program for development of water sector management and hydro-amelioration in the Republic of Moldova for the years 2011-2020 the Government wants to increase the number of water users' associations up to 32 units. As of 2011, there were no water users' associations registered.

The National Regional Development Strategy for 2016-2020 is another key document. Among other priorities, the Strategy envisages development and approval of a plan for decentralization and regionalization of the water and sanitation provision services and improving their efficiency, as well as increasing the efficiency of the solid waste management public service. The Regional Development Fund is the funding mechanism channelling important financial resources for the development of related infrastructure.



Main differences identified

Four of the six targets listed under the SDG 6 are partially aligned with national policy agenda. The main reasons of discrepancies are listed below:

Ambiguous and imprecise formulations of the national goals is one reason for lack of full alignment. One example is the target 6.1, which in the UN formulation reads quite explicitly, “By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all”. The national target identified in the Strategy for water provision and sanitation diverges significantly by “gradually ensuring access to safe water and adequate sanitation for all population and communities of the Republic of Moldova.” The term “gradually” used in the Strategy is ambiguous and imprecise.

Another drawback is the lack of consistency in formulation of policy goals and targets across strategies and, indeed, the overlapping of different strategies. Compare the above-mentioned rather general goal stated in the Strategy for water provision and sanitation with the more specific goals in the Environmental Strategy of ensuring, by 2030, access of 80 percent of the population to water and of 65 percent of population to sanitation services. Even though the Ministry of Environment is in both cases the main responsible agency, which strategy would prevail for the monitoring of the progress is not entirely clear.

Partial coverage is another drawback. For instance, the target 6.4 related to the increase of the water use efficiency across all sectors is completely missing from the national agenda, as the relevant sector-level Program concentrates mainly on the agricultural sector.

Lack of alignment in the main planning document. Except the rather general reference to the need to conserve water resources other targets, the “Moldova 2020” does not envisage any other target from the SDG 6.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

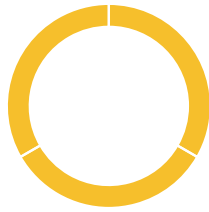
The SDG 6 is well covered by the Association Agreement. A key chapter of the Agreement is Chapter 16 on Environment (Title IV), which horizontally covers practically all targets of the SDG6. The Chapter 20 on the Regional development, cross-border and regional cooperation in the Title IV also includes relevant provisions, particularly related to achieving universal and equitable access to water and sanitation systems. The SDG 6.6 on protection and restoration of ecosystems is well reflected in the Chapter 13 on Trade and Sustainable Development (Title V).





Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

3 SDG TARGETS



3 targets
ALIGNED

TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Industrial policy



Renewable
energy sources



Energy efficiency

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Economy
Energy Efficiency Agency
Ministry of Finance

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- Energy strategy of Moldova for up to 2030
- National Program for Energy Efficiency for 2011-2020

Common ground with the national policy priorities

The SDG 7 sets out a small number of rather precise and focused development priorities in the area of energy. Its main focus is on the sustainable production and use of energy, as well as on equitable access to energy. One of the priorities stated in the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020" is "Energy: delivered safely, used efficiently". According to this document, the Government of Moldova aims to create by 2020 a competitive and efficient energy sector that will provide consumers with quality energy resources, on affordable and reliable terms, will respond to the challenges of energy price increases, dependency on imports of energy resources, and energy sector impact on climate change. The strategic vision will be accomplished based on the principle of competitiveness and liberalized energy market.

The Energy strategy of Moldova for up to 2030 and the National Program for Energy Efficiency for 2011-2020 are the main planning documents. The Energy Strategy has many goals. Among others, it aims to ensure the natural gas supply safety, by diversifying the supply routes and sources, of carrier types (conventional, non-conventional gas, LNG) and of storage facilities, together with strengthening Moldova's role of natural gas transmission corridor. It also foresees to strengthen Moldova's role of power transmission corridor, by building new interconnectors, connected to the ENTSO-E system, and by consolidating the internal power transmission network. The Strategy also aims to create a strong power and heat generation platform, through retrofitting, efficient district heating and advanced marketing. There is also strong emphasis on the development of legal, institutional and operational framework for a real competition, on effectively opening the market, setting up energy prices in a transparent and fair way, and on integrating the Moldovan energy market into the EU internal market. The strategy also aims to provide a modern and competitive institutional framework for the energy industry development. All these specific goals ensure a full alignment of the national agenda with the 7.1 tar-



get of ensuring, by 2030, universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services. Pertaining to the target 7.2 “By 2030, increasing substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix”, Moldova also has a high degree of alignment with the global agenda. According to the Energy Strategy, the national priority is to ensure an enhanced use of renewable sources, while the National Program for Energy Efficiency also gives a specific target for 2020 (20%). The SDG target 7.3 aims “By 2030, [to] double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency”. The Energy Strategy also aims to improve energy efficiency, among other, through introduction of the intelligent electricity networks. The National Program also gives some specific figures (20%) increase in the energy efficiency and identifies the priority sectors such as the energy sector per se, manufacturing industry, constructions and transport sector. The EU-Moldova Association Agreement includes a whole Chapter 14 on the energy cooperation between the two parties, which inter alia envisages promotion of energy efficiency and energy savings and development of environmentally-friendly renewable energy sources.

Main differences identified

In general, national development agenda in this area boasts a very high degree of correlation with the SDG 7. This refers to both concepts and semantics.

One dissonance found is the fact that the SDG 7 target 7.1 highlights the *importance of financial affordability of the energy, as well as of sustainable production and consumption*, while the national agenda emphasizes more the development of the technical capacities and infrastructure.

Different wording of the targeted changes in the performance levels. In case of the target 7.3, the national formulation refers to a specific level of energy efficiency to be achieved, whereas the global one, by calling for ‘doubling the rate of improvement in energy efficiency’ rather reflects an acceleration. However, these divergences reflect fully the strategic priorities of the country in order to ensure its energy security.

Another issue is, again, related to *differences in planning horizons*. The Energy Strategy has been updated and refers to the year 2030, whereas the National Program for Energy Efficiency has been adopted only for the period up to 2020.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

While encompassing only 3 distinct targets, the SDG 7 is well reflected in at least 5 chapters of the Association Agreement. Chapter 14 on Energy cooperation (Title IV), Chapter 16 on Environment (Title IV) and Chapter 11 on Trade-related energy (Title V) reflect a number of EU’s and Moldova’s commitments pertaining to the SDG 7.1 on ensuring access to energy. Joint commitments on rising the share of renewables in the energy mix and on the related measures (SDG 7.2) are regulated by the Chapter 14. Energy cooperation (Title IV) and Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development (Title V). The latter two chapters, complemented by the Chapter 10. Industrial and enterprise policy (Title IV) also regulate a number of actions meant to increase the overall energy efficiency (SDG 7.3).



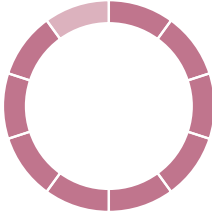


Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all

10 SDG TARGETS

1 targets
**NOT
ALIGNED**

9 targets
**PARTIALLY
ALIGNED**



TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Macroeconomic
and fiscal policies



Employment



Social protection,
social integration and family



Equal Rights
and Opportunities

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Economy
Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Education
Tourism Agency of Moldova
National Bank of Moldova

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- Competitiveness Enhancement Roadmap of the Republic of Moldova
- SME Sector Development Strategy for 2012-2020
- Business Regulatory Reform Strategy for 2013-2020
- Innovation Strategy for 2013-2020 "Innovations for Competitiveness"
- Environmental Strategy for 2014-2023
- National Employment Strategy for 2017-2021 (draft)
- Youth Sector National Development Strategy 2020
- Inclusive Education National Development Program for 2011-2020
- VET Development Strategy for 2013-2020
- National Plan for Prevention and Counteraction of Human Trafficking
- Child Protection Strategy for 2014-2020
- Tourism Development Strategy "Tourism 2020"

Common ground with the national policy priorities

The eighth SDG is focused on promoting sustainable economic growth by raising productivity and efficiency in using natural resources, expanding the access to decent jobs for all, encouraging innovations, promoting tourism and facilitating the access to capital for all. This vision is broadly shared by the domestic key policy priorities. Thus, the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020" puts a major emphasis on setting the economic growth model on a sustainable path that would imply higher productivity, more exports, as well as more and better jobs (targets 8.2 and 8.3). The same strategy focusses on a better alignment of the educational sector to the economy's needs, improvement of business climate, increase in energy efficiency and reduction of financing costs (8.6).



A relatively large common ground can also be found between the eight SDG and sector-specific development strategies. Thus, Competitiveness Enhancement Roadmap focuses on developing relevant labor skills for the national economy in order to ensure higher productivity and competitiveness. It also contains the priority of ensuring stable financial system that would lead to larger access to finances.

Similarly, a series of relevant national strategies also have elements that correlate with the eight SDG. Thus, the Strategy for Developing the SME Sector for 2012-2020 focusses on enhancing the business climate, expanding the SMEs' access to financing, promotion of entrepreneurial culture and stimulation of innovations in the SME sector (target 8.3). The Environment Strategy for 2014-2023 is largely in line with the eight SDG due to its comprehensive objective related to the integration of principles of environment protection, sustainable development, green economy and adjustment to climate change in all sectors of the national economy (target 8.4). Due to the same reason, the Tourism Development Strategy „Tourism 2020“ is well aligned with the eight SDG, being oriented towards stimulation of the development of tourism activities in the Republic of Moldova through the development of inbound and outbound tourism (target 8.9).

Main differences identified

Most of the targets listed under the eight SDG are partially correlated with national policy agenda. The most frequent reasons of discrepancies are related to insufficient disaggregation, different focus of policy priorities (depending on the country peculiarities) and lack of reflection in the domestic policy agenda.

Insufficient disaggregation. Some targets put special emphasis on gender equality and empowerment of the people with disabilities, youth and/or migrants (targets 8.5, 8.6, 8.7 and/or 8.8), whereas the domestic policies tend to remain at a more aggregated level, with few prioritization of particular groups of the population. A relevant example in this case is the Vocational Education and Training Development Strategy 2013-2020, whose one of the objectives is to increase the attractiveness and access to vocational education and training, so that the number of enrolled students will grow by 10% until 2020, without any mentioning about the age, gender or other profiles of the students.

Different focus of policy priorities. For example, while the 8.10 target is focused on the *result* of a given policy (*Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all*), the Competitiveness Enhancing Roadmap of the Republic of Moldova puts the emphasis on the *trigger factor* (*Ensuring the integrity and stability of the financial system of Moldova*). Another example a different policy focus is related to the 8.6, (...) *substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training*, which is also a result of a policy, while the Strategy for development of the youth sector 2020 is oriented towards the economic and entrepreneurial empowerment of youth, which is the trigger for the necessary social and economic changes. It is worth mentioning, though, that despite these differences in the policy focus, the mentioned targets are, overall, consistent with the domestic policy. The only difference is that, very often, the SDGs a focussing on the end results of a given policy (or set of policies), whereas the domestic policy documents are focussed on the tools to reach the objectives stated by SDGs.

Lack of reflection in the domestic policy agenda. The 8.8 target is not reflected in the national policy agenda: *Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment*. This target is only marginally reflected into the National Employment Strategy for



2017-2021: one of its actions is related to the improvement of the legal and institutional setting for Occupational safety and health (OSH) management systems (action 3.3.3) despite its relevance and importance for Moldova, as evidenced by the national consultations. However, there is a lack of a clear policy document about OSH implementation in Moldova.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

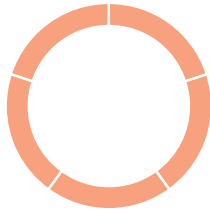
The eighth SDG is correlated very well with the Association Agreement. Thus, 9 out of 10 nationalized SDG targets are correlated, in one way or another, with the Agreement, namely with the following parts: Title IV, chapter 4 (Employment, social policy and equal opportunities), Title V, chapter 5, Section 5, Sub-section 6 (Financial services), Title IV, chapter 10 (Industrial and enterprise policy), Title IV, chapter 16 (Environment), Title IV, chapter 19 (Tourism), Title IV, chapter 23 (Cooperation on education, training, multilingualism, youth and sport) and Title IV, chapter 24 (Cooperation in research, technological development and demonstration). The SDG 8.1 related to sustaining per capita economic growth is not directly reflected in the Association Agreement because it is rather an effect of some reforms and not the policy per se (Annex 3).





Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

5 SDG TARGETS



5 targets
**PARTIALLY
ALIGNED**

TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Industrial policy



Environment and
natural resources protection



Research, technological
development and innovation



Regional
development

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Economy
Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Transport and Road
Infrastructure
Ministry of Finance
Academy of Sciences
Ministry of Information Technology and
Communications

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- Investment Attraction and Export Promotion Strategy for 2016-2020
- SME Sector Development Strategy for 2012-2020
- Research and Development Strategy until 2020
- Innovation Strategy for 2013-2020 "Innovations for Competitiveness"
- Environmental Strategy for 2014-2023
- Concept for Cluster Development of the Industrial Sector of the Republic of Moldova
- National Strategy for the development of information society „Digital Moldova 2020"

Common ground with the national policy priorities

Overall, this ninth SDG shares a large common ground with the national policy agenda, as infrastructure, industry and innovations are recognized among the key policy priorities in Moldova. The National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020" prioritizes in favor of developing national and local road infrastructure in order to reduce the transportation costs; it also stresses the priority of reducing the financial costs that would facilitate the access of SMEs and other enterprises, and implicitly contribute to the realization of the ninth SDG.

This goal is also partially reflected in relevant sectorial strategies. Particularly, development of the industrial, transport and business infrastructure states as goal in the Investment Attraction and Export Promotion Strategy for 2016-2020, as well as in the Transport and Logistics Strategy for 2013-2022. The overall development of the industrial sector is a goal stated in the Concept for Cluster Development of the Industrial Sector of the Republic of Moldova. The objectives related to sustainable industrial development and efficiency of resources' allocation are reflected in the Environment Strategy for 2014-2023. The objectives related to the development of the innovations' sector are included in two paralleling strategies: (i) Innovation Strategy for 2013-2020 "Innovations for Competitiveness", and (ii) Research and Development Strategy until 2020.



Last, but not least, the targets related to the development of small-scale enterprises, facilitation of their access to finances and their integration into value chains and markets correlates with the Strategy for Developing the SME Sector for 2012-2020, which has similar objectives.

Main differences identified

Despite the correlation between the priorities of the ninth SDG and the national policies at the strategic level, there appears a number of differences if we go into more details. The main reasons of discrepancies are related to the fact that some SDG targets are too ambitious in comparison with the financial capacities of Moldova, as well as broad and very complex formulation of many SDG targets.

Some SDG targets are too ambitious in comparison with the financial capacities of Moldova. A relevant example is the target 9.1, "Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure (...), with a focus on **affordable and equitable access for all**". This goal is hardly achievable for Moldova, at least in the next 5-7 years – the horizon of the key policy planning documents in this area. Hence, the Moldovan government adopted a more feasible approach, focusing on the economic, rather than social components. Thus, the Investment Attraction and Export Promotion Strategy for 2016-2020 aims at increasing the quality of the critical industrial, transport and trade facilitation infrastructure servicing export-oriented sectors. The Transport and Logistics Strategy for 2013-2022 also treats the transportation infrastructure primarily for economic purposes (labor mobility and trade), having the objective to achieve an efficient transport and logistics system that supports citizens' needs for mobility and which facilitates trade in domestic and international markets, with a strong view of the role the Republic of Moldova can play as a link between EU and CIS countries. A similar case is the 9.5 target, which aims at "(...) substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending". The Innovation Strategy for 2013-2020 „Innovations for competitiveness" puts primarily the emphasis on the increasing the firms' capacities to innovate and absorb innovations, with low focus on increasing the public investments into this area. Overall, because of financial constraints, many national strategies are less interventionist from the government perspective, being focused on empowering the private firms to contribute to economic development.

Broad and very complex formulation of many SDG targets. It is mainly related to the targets that contain both trigger factors and desired outcomes in the same sentence, which differs from the way how the domestic priorities are formulated. For example, the SDG target 9.2 starts with an outcome – "Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization (...)", and ends with the input/trigger factors – "(...), by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries". At the same time, the relevant policy planning document, the Concept for Cluster Development of the Industrial Sector of the Republic of Moldova, focusses on a more strategic/macro level – "Intensification of the development of industrial sector and its growth in the national economy, by consolidating the managerial and organizational efforts, supporting innovations, and increasing the competitiveness of the large industries, as well as of the SMEs.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

The ninth SDG shares a large common ground with the Association Agreement. This is mainly related to the Title IV, chapter 10 (Industrial and enterprise policy), chapter 15 (Transport), chapter 18 (Information society) and chapter 24 (Cooperation in research, technological development and demonstration), as well as to the Title V, chapter 6, section 5, subsection 5 (Electronic Communication Networks and Services) and chapter 8 (Public procurement).



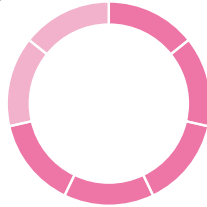


Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

7 SDG TARGETS

2 targets
**NOT
ALIGNED**

5 targets
**PARTIALLY
ALIGNED**



TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Equal rights
and opportunities



Human rights
and freedom



Employment



Education



Regional development



Public finance
and budget



Social protection,
social integration and family



Agriculture and
rural development



Macroeconomic and
financial policy



Public administration

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family

Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry

Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions

Ministry of Informational Technologies and Communications

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Youth and Sports

Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Finance

Ministry of Interior

Bureau for Relations with Diaspora

Ministry of Health

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- Road map for Competitiveness Improvement (2014-2021)
- Strategy to Develop Rural Extension Services (2012-2022)
- National Strategy on Agriculture and Rural Development (2014-2020)
- National Strategy for Regional Development 2016-2020
- National Strategy for Informational Society Development „Digital Moldova 2020”
- National Program for Improving the Quality of Romanian Learning Process in Educational Institutions with Instruction in Minority Languages and Action Plan for its implementation (2016-2020)
- Inclusive Education Development Program (2011-2020)
- National Strategy for the Development of Youth Sector 2020
- Strategy to Ensure the Equality between Women and Men (2017-2021) (Draft)
- Road map on Mainstreaming Ageing in Policies and Action Plan on Implementation of Road map on Mainstreaming Ageing in Policies (2014-2016)
- National Strategy on Migration and Asylum (2011-2020) and Plan (2016-2020)
- National Strategic Program in Demographic Security Domain (2011-2025)
- National Strategy “Diaspora 2025” and Action Plan for 2016-2018 for its implementation
- Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 “Education 2020”
- Action Plan to Support Roma Population (2016-2020)
- National Action Plan on Human Rights (intermediary 2016) (Draft)

Common ground with the national policy priorities

Tenth SDG has in general common ground with the national policy agenda, as the Government is traditionally tending to be focused on social issues, “reducing inequality” and “integration of



specific segments of population” being at the core of many policy documents. That is why so many policy documents and institutions are considered relevant under this SDG. Largely, the Goal is in line with the general objective of the National Development Strategy “Moldova 2020” - *Ensuring qualitative economic development and, implicitly, poverty reduction.*

At the same time, the Goal is partially reflected in a plenty of sectorial strategies, which touch upon reducing inequality among regions of the country as well as among different categories of population. Thus, National Strategy for Regional Development (2016-2020) and National Strategy on agriculture and rural development (2014-2020) are focused on improving living standards in rural areas and on ensuring balanced and sustainable development in all development regions.

Regarding inequalities among different categories of population, there are many policy documents partially aligned in terms of professional inclusion of different categories on labour market. Under target 10.2 there are 11 policy documents on inclusion of people based on origin (*National Strategy on agriculture and rural development 2014-2020 and National Strategy for Regional Development 2016-2020*), on ethnicity (*National programme for improving the quality of Romanian learning process in educational institutions with instruction in minority languages 2016-2020 and Action Plan to Support Roma Population 2016-2020*), on age (*National Strategy for the Development of Youth Sector 2020, Road map on mainstreaming ageing in policies and Action Plan on implementation of Road map on mainstreaming ageing in policies 2014-2016*), on sex (*National to Ensure the Equality between Women and Men 2017-2021*), on disability (*Inclusive Education Development Programme 2011-2020*) and on economic status (*Road map for competitiveness improvement 2014-2021 and Strategy for the Development of Health System 2008-2017*).

Main differences identified

Although there are some similarities between tenth SDG targets and national policy strategic framework, there are some differences if details are analysed, main reasons being that (i) SDG target is too ambitious on the state of play and financial capacities of Moldova; (ii) level of target desegregation and envisaged outputs and (iii) slight contradiction in formulation between SDG target and national priorities.

SDG target is too ambitious on the state of play and financial capacities of Moldova. For example, the target 10.1 “*By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average*”. National agenda envisages mainly to increase income of population in rural areas (where is the poorest part of population), to a narrow part of population (beneficiaries of extension services) and at a lower rate. Particularly, the Strategy to develop rural extension services (2012-2022) states the objective to increase the income of rural extension services beneficiaries by 15% annually. Other documents relevant for this target contain too broad goals, which will not necessarily create enough conditions to achieve the global target: “create attractive jobs and increase efficiency of labor” and “increase employment opportunities in non-agricultural sector and increase the incomes of population in rural areas”.

Level of target desegregation and envisaged outputs. A relevant example is target 10.2. “*By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status*”. Even if there are 11 national policy documents which are considered relevant for this target, these are not covering the entire range of statuses and even do not fully tackle all issues inside one particular category. For example, there is a national objective of sociolinguistic integration of alolingual pupils by studying school subjects in Romanian, but no other objectives to promote and empower mi-



norities. Also, there is an objective to promote inclusive education for children with disabilities, but no other objective to generally tackle integration of people with disabilities and not just in education.

Slight contradiction in formulation between SDG target and national priorities, even if the intended impact seems to be similar. For example, target 10.7. "Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies" seems to be opposite to "Counteracting and reducing brain drain, emigration of young people, women... ", as it is stated in the National Strategy on migration and asylum (2011-2020) or to "Set policy priorities to stimulate natality, to reduce mortality, morbidity and migration in order to reduce demographic decline", as it is stated in the National strategic program in demographic security domain (2011-2025).

Target 10.3 "Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard" and target 10.4 „Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality" are not aligned to the national policy framework even if are relevant for the Republic of Moldova..

Target 10.5. "Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations" and target 10.6. "Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions" are not reflected and most probably are not relevant for national agenda as they refer to developed countries and international institutions.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

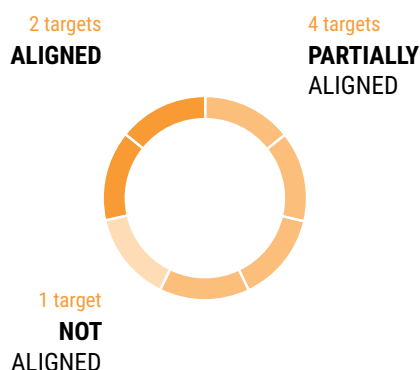
SDG 10 targets correlates largely with the Article IV of the Association Agreement, especially with the Chapter 4 (Employment, social policy and equal opportunities). At the same time, the targets which refers to the growth of population income is correlated with Chapter 12 (Agriculture and rural development) of Title IV, which aims to promote economic prosperity in rural communities, and the target which aims to the adoption of policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality are reflected in Chapter 8 (Taxation) of the same Article IV. Besides Chapter 4, the target which aims to ensure legal, equitable, well-informed hiring process of migrants is reflected at the same time in Article III, in Article 14 (Cooperation on migration, asylum and border management).





Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

7 SDG TARGETS



TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Constructions and urbanism



Environment and natural resources protection



Transport



Regional development

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Construction and Regional Development

Tourism Agency

Ministry of Environment

Ministry of Finance

Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- Regional Development Strategy 2016-2020
- Transport and Logistics Strategy for 2013-2022
- Strategy for Tourism Development "Tourism 2020"
- Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023

Common ground with the national policy priorities

Part of the targets of the eleventh SDG are closely correlated with the domestic policy priorities. The target 11.2, which is focused on provision of safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems, is partly reflected in the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020" – "Increasing public investment in the national and local road infrastructure, in order to reduce transportation costs and increase the speed of access". The same target is partly integrated into the Transport and Logistics Strategy for 2013-2022, which has the objective to "Ensure an appropriate road infrastructure and provide quality and safe road transport services". The main difference is related to the fact that the SDG 11.2 puts a special emphasis on "the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons", whereas the domestic policy documents do not explicitly mention these categories of the population. Therefore, there is a large room for enhancing the synergy between the 2030 Agenda and domestic policies in this area.

Another correlation is found between the target 11.6, which is focused on air quality and waste management, and the Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023, which contains two distinct relevant targets: (i) Creation of an integrated air quality management system, reduction of pollutants emissions into the atmosphere by 30% by 2023 and greenhouse gases emis-



sions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to the baseline scenario; and (ii) Creation of integrated waste and chemicals management systems that would contribute to a 30% reduction in the amount of landfilled waste and a 20% increase in recycling rate until 2023.

Main differences identified

The differences between the eleventh SDG and the national policy agenda are determined by three key reasons: (i) some SDG targets go in contradiction with the national policy priorities; (ii) some SDG targets are too ambitious in terms of needed financial resources; and (iii) most relevant policy documents lack a specific focus on disaggregation according to various groups of the population.

Contradictions between the SDG targets and the national policy priorities. The first source of differences lays in the target 11.3, which focusses on urbanization. This is a tricky policy objective for Moldova, because in the National Development Strategy “Moldova 2020”, one of the main eight country development priorities is the sustainable **rural** development. Hence, it goes in a slight contradiction with the 11.3 SDG target. At the same time, the domestic strategic planning framework is a bit inconsistent about this policy area, because contrary to the National Development Strategy, the Regional Development Strategy 2016-2020 appears to be in line with 11.3 target. This, it has the following objective: “Consolidation of the urban centers’ network, through: 1) Continuous identification of pillars of urban growth, including the determination of potential and territorial extension of the impact of cities; and 2) Creation of mechanisms for cities’ consolidation, depending on the selected growth poles.”

Financial constraints. The second key source of differences is related to the fact that due to financial constraints, many SDG targets have not been properly reflected yet in the national policy planning documents. The most relevant examples are the target 11.1, which is focused on the access to housing to all, the target 11.5, which is focused on reduction of human costs as a result of natural disasters (besides financial constraints, another reason is related to the relatively low probability of massively destructive natural disasters in Moldova), and the target 11.7, which is focused on the provision of universal access to green and public spaces.

Disaggregation constraints. The third key source of differences is related to the insufficient disaggregation in the domestic policy planning documents according to gender, age, income or health conditions of policy beneficiaries. For example, the targets 11.2, 11.5 and 11.7, focus on women, children, older persons, poor and persons with disabilities. Neither of the analysed national strategies specifies policy priorities at such levels of disaggregation.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

All targets of the eleventh SDG correlate with the Association Agreement. The most tangencies can be observed in the following chapters of Title IV of the Agreement: chapter 4 (Employment, social policy and equal opportunities), chapter 15 (Transport), chapter 16 (Environment), chapter 19 (Tourism), chapter 20 (Regional development, cross-border and regional cooperation) and chapter 25 (Cooperation on culture, audio-visual policy and media).





Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

8 SDG TARGETS

1 target
ALIGNED

5 targets
**PARTIALLY
ALIGNED**



2 targets
**NOT
ALIGNED**

TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Public finance
and budget



Environment and natural
resources protection

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Economy

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023
- National Waste Management Strategy of the Republic of Moldova for 2013-2027
- National Action Plan for the Implementation of Sustainable Public Procurements in the Republic of Moldova

Common ground with the national policy priorities

The most important similarity between the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020" and the 12th SDG is due to its focus on the reconciliation between the need for accelerated economic development and environmental protection in conformity with European standards. This objective is in line with the target 12.1, which at the strategic level focusses on the promotion of sustainable consumption and production policies.

At the sectorial level, the most relevant policy-planning document is the Environmental Strategy for 2014-2023. It has at least four policy priorities that correlate very well with the 12th SDG. Namely, its focus on ensuring rational use, protection and conservation of natural resources is in line with target 12.2, which is also about ensuring sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources. The strategy's objective to ensure sustainable management of chemical substances is largely in line with the target 12.4, which states the same objective in a more elaborate way, by mentioning the international frameworks, as well as the desired outcomes – a common element of many SDG targets – "(...) significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment". Another relevant objective of the Strategy is the creation of an integrated waste management system, which correlates with the target 12.5 about the reduction of waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse. This SDG target correlates also with the National Waste Management Strategy of the Republic of Moldova for 2013-2027, which focuses mainly on the improvement of municipal waste management practices, which are considered to be the critical point in the field of environment protection. Last, but not



least, both the Strategy and the 12th SDG recognize the need of rising knowledge and awareness about the environment protection, as well as integration of these principles into the lifestyles of all human beings.

It is worth mentioning the National Action Plan for the Implementation of Sustainable Public Procurements in the Republic of Moldova, that correlates with the target 12.7 (Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities). Particularly, the Plan is aimed at ensuring by 2020 that at least 15% of all public procurements will be green.

Merită menționat și Planul de acțiuni în vederea implementării achizițiilor publice durabile în Republica Moldova adoptat în 2014, care corelează cu prevederile țintei 12.7 (Promovarea practicilor durabile de achiziții publice, în conformitate cu politicile și prioritățile naționale). În particular, conform Planului până în anul 2020, cel puțin 15% din totalul achizițiilor urmează să fie achiziții verzi.

Main differences identified

Main factors causes discrepancies between the SDG 12 and the national policy agenda are as follows:

Budgetary constraints. While the SDG priorities related to improving the governance and efficiency in the area of environment protection are reflected relatively well in the domestic policy planning documents, those requiring more investments are less reflected at the domestic level. For example, the target 12.1 that is about promotion of sustainable consumption and production is not directly reflected into the Environmental Strategy for 2014-2023.

Insufficient focus awareness raising activities at the domestic level. Some discrepancies are observed in the area of promotion of information and knowledge among the population about the environmental implications of their day-to-day life. For example, while the National Waste Management Strategy of the Republic of Moldova for 2013-2027 focuses on institutional and management aspects of municipal waste, less attention is allocated to the educating the population in this area (according to SDG target 12.8, by 2030, the people everywhere should have relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature).

Different level of policies' sophistication at domestic and global levels. Another reason of the differences between the 12th SDG and the domestic policy planning documents is related to different levels of policy maturity. The point is that, due to high poverty rate, financial limitations and fundamental development constraints, the Moldovan government has been focusing before on basic relevant objectives (e.g. waste management, downsizing pollution, promotion of population awareness etc.), whereas some SDG targets tend to be relevant for more developed countries. This is particularly the case of target 12.3 about halving the global food waste and reducing food losses and target 12.6 about encouraging firms to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle. Despite the fact that these targets are lacking from the domestic policy planning documents, at least partly they will have to be integrated in the near future, as they still have many relevant elements for Moldova.

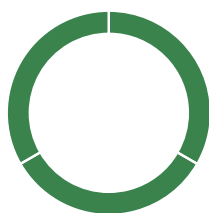
Accordance with the Association Agreement

Most of the targets of the SDG 12 correlate with the chapter 16 (Environment) of Title IV of the Association Agreement. Only the SDG 12.3 that is related to the reduction of food losses along production and supply chains is not directly reflected in the Agreement.



Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

3 SDG TARGETS



3 targets
ALIGNED

TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Climate change



Energy



Disasters management
and civil protection



Transport



Agriculture

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Economy
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the Republic of Moldova until 2020

Common ground with the national policy priorities

The SDG 7 main focus is on adaptability and fostering resilience to the climate change. At the sector level, the most relevant policy-planning document is the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the Republic of Moldova until 2020. The Strategy has been conceived to ensure the development of resilience to climate through reducing by at least 50 percent the climate change related risks by 2020 and facilitation of adaptation in 6 priority sectors. Integrating climate-change adaptation policies in sector-level policies in the national economy is another priority of the Strategy. Additionally, the Strategy aims to develop the institutional framework in the climate change domain and to raise awareness of all stakeholders, including the population, regarding climate change related risks and adaptation measures.

Main differences identified

At the sector level, the SDG 7 is fully in line with the national development agenda. The SDG target 13.2 calling for integration of the climate change measures into the national policies, strategies and planning, as defined in the national framework is practically identical to global agenda. In case of the SDG target 13.3, the national formulation emphasizes the consolidation of the institutional framework related to the climate change.

For the SDG target 13.1 on strengthening resilience and adaptive capacities, the national framework identifies 6 priority sectors in which facilitation of the adaptation process is the most urgent agricultural sector, water resources sector, health sector, forestry, energy and



transport and roads sector. *However only 3 sector-level strategies* – on agriculture and rural development, on water and on forestry – include relevant measures and targets for adaptation to the climate changes.

An important drawback is the complete absence of the *climate change-related challenges in the main development strategy of the country*, the “Moldova 2020”.

Another important issue is differences in planning horizons. The national Climate Change Adaptation Strategy expires in 2020, whereas SDGs target the horizon of the year 2030. However, this is the case with most of the sector-level policy documents adopted in the Republic of Moldova.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

An entire chapter in the Association Agreement – number 17 from the Title IV – is allocated to policies and measures to prevent and diminish the negative impact of the climate changes and to increase the resilience of the society to the climate change induced risks. A number of resilience-building measures can be identified in the Chapter 22. Civil protection of (Title IV). As expected, a number of commitments regarding the minimization of the impact on the climate are included in the Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development of the Title V.

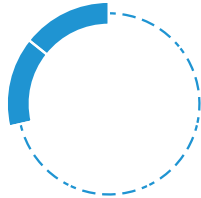




Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

7 SDG TARGETS

2 targets
**NOT
ALIGNED**



5 targets
**NOT
COUNTRY
RELEVANT**

TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Agriculture and
rural development



Environment and
natural resources
protection



Waste
management

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Environment
Fishery Service (subordinates to the Ministry of Environment)
Ministry of Finance

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- ▶ National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- ▶ Strategy regarding biological diversity of Republic of Moldova for the years 2015-2020 and the related Plan of Actions
- ▶ Environmental strategy for 2014-2023 and related Plan of Actions

Common ground with the national policy priorities

Considering its focus on sustainable use of marine and oceanic resources, the SDG 14 is, in most of its aspects, less relevant for the land-locked Republic of Moldova. At the same time, it is obviously highly important to reduce pollution of the cross-border and small rivers, by eliminating the sources of pollution, including by reducing or eliminating the release of untreated or insufficiently untreated industrial and waste waters, liquidation of unauthorized waste disposal sites, and stopping polluting agricultural practices in the rivers protection areas. In case of the Republic of Moldova, the SDG 14 is therefore highly in line with the SDG6 targets.

Main differences identified

Irrelevance. According to the experts' opinion expressed during the public consultations, only 2 out of the 7 targets of the SDG 14 are relevant but should be adapted to meet Moldova's geographic realities and development priorities.

Firstly, Moldova should aim to prevent and significantly reduce the pollution of its surface waters, including rivers. The Nistru river flows directly into the Black Sea, while the Prut river confluence with the Danube river. The Strategy regarding biological diversity of Republic of Moldova for the years 2015-2020 envisages two very specific goals in this regard: 1) recovery of the river and water basins protective forest strips and 2) developing a study on the anthropic impact on the biodiversity caused by alteration of the water flows courses. *Because of the narrow coverage, this would, however, provide only a partial alignment of the national agenda with the SDG target 14.1 which reads "By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce*



marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution”.

Secondly, according to the experts, Moldova should aim to prevent the overfishing and eradicate the illegal and undeclared. In this regard, again, there is again only a partial alignment of the national agenda to the global agenda. The global target 14.4 calls “By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics”. The national Strategy regarding biological diversity of Republic of Moldova for the years 2015-2020 *does not expressly state the reduction of the overfishing and prevention of unregulated fishing as a specific target*, even though it foresees a significant increase in the volume of fines to be incurred for the unregulated fishing.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

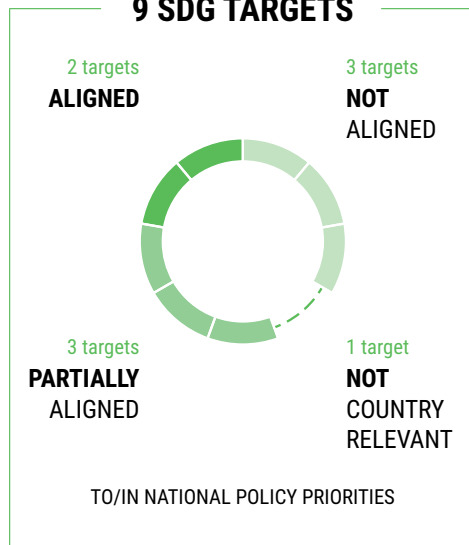
Three chapters of the Association Agreement are relevant when it comes to SDG 14. Targets related to conservation, rehabilitation and protection of water-related ecosystems are adequately reflected in the Chapter 16. Environment (Title IV) and Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development (Title V). Besides, the target 14.4 on the regulated fishing is reflected in the Chapter 13. Fishing and fishery policy.





Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

9 SDG TARGETS



PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Environment
 Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry
 Moldsilva Agency
 Ministry of Finance

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- ▶ National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"
- ▶ Environmental strategy for 2014-2023 and related Plan of Actions
- ▶ Strategy regarding biological diversity of Republic of Moldova for the years 2015-2020 and the related Plan of Actions
- ▶ National Program for extension of the areas covered with forest vegetation for the years 2014-2018
- ▶ Program for soils conservation and increasing soils fertility for the years 2011-2020

Common ground with the national policy priorities

The SDG 15 emphasizes the sustainable use of land resources and prevention of land degradation phenomena, protection of water ecosystems, conservation and rehabilitation of the forests, conservation of the biodiversity, ending the poaching and integration of the biodiversity and ecosystems values in policies at all levels.

There is a rich domain of sector level development strategies pertaining to SDG 15 in Moldova. Environmental strategy for 2014-2023 and related Plan of Actions envisages extension of the afforested land up to 15 percent of the country's territory, of the protected areas up to 8 percent of the territory and ensure effective and sustainable management of the natural ecosystems.

The Strategy regarding biological diversity of Republic of Moldova for the years 2015-2020 and the related Plan of Actions also cover the SDG 15 by aiming to define a mechanism for management, sustainable use, protection and conservation of the biological diversity and ecosystems of the Republic of Moldova to contribute to stopping the losses of fauna and flora species and the degradation of their habitats, as well as their conservation for the future generations. At a more specific level, the Strategy assumes that by 2020, there will be a significant reduction in the pressure on the biodiversity, which is going to be achieved through a number of measures, such as: a) ensuring measures to extend the protected areas up to 8 percent of the country territory, creation of national environmental network and development of 44 management plans for protected areas; b) ensuring measures to protect rare, vulnerable and threatened



species by restoring habitats of 5 threatened plant species and 5 threatened animal species and; c) ensuring measures for biological security by developing 2 procedures for assessment of risks following introduction of genetically modified organisms and by creating a consultancy center. The Strategy also aims to Ensure measures to reduce the impact of invasive species by developing a study, a program and a guide on practices to combat invasive species. The Strategy also states integration of the international treaties in national policies in the domain of biodiversity as one of its specific goals.

The National Program for extension of the areas covered with forest vegetation for the years 2014-2018 is a very specific and technical-oriented document, which, inter alia, has been conceived to slow down the soils degradation processes by extending the areas covered with forest vegetation. It also provides regionally-disaggregated indicators regarding the areas to be recovered.

The Program for soils conservation and increasing soils fertility for the years 2011-2020 envisages two important goals to be achieved by 2020: stopping active forms of soils degradation on an area of 877 thousand ha and applying measures for soils conservation and for increasing soils fertility on an area of 1.7 million ha.

Main differences identified

Lack of alignment in the main national planning document. Environmental- and resources- related development priorities are completely absent in the National Development Strategy “Moldova 2020”, which is a key gap of the national development framework when it comes to the SDG 15.

Some differences in the planning horizons. In case of target 15.1 and target 15.2, the global agenda sets out the horizon of 2020, while in case of Moldovan national priorities the horizon is 3-4 years later. This is, however, only a minor difference, and these two targets have been assessed as fully aligned to the global agenda.

Irrelevance. The target 15.4 calls to ensure, by 2030, the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development. This target is not relevant for Moldova as the country does not have mountains.

Differences in formulation and in the degree of ambition are the main cause why targets 15.5, 15.6, and 15.9 have been assessed as partially aligned with the national framework. This gap can be easily remedied through a revision and a more coherent enlisting of the national strategies.

The target 15.7 which calls for ending the poaching and trafficking with endangered species is *completely missing from the national and sector-level strategies*. The same goes for the target 15.8, which only tangentially mentioned in the strategies.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

The SDG 15 targets are fully in line with the provisions of the Association Agreement. In line of the development objectives undertaken as part of the SDG 15, the Chapter 16. Environment (Title IV) and the Chapter 16. Trade and sustainable development, are probably the core parts of the Agreement, as their provisions are, explicitly or implicitly, relevant for each target in the SDG 15. The provisions of the Chapter 12. Agriculture and rural development (Title IV) are particularly pertinent to the target 15.3 on combating desertification and achieving a land degradation-neutral world. To some extent, the provision of the Chapter 1. Public administration reform (Title IV) are relevant for the target 15.9 calling for integration of the environmental values and principles into all other development policies and programs.



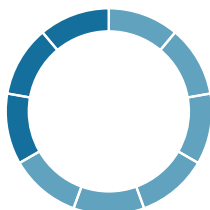


Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

10 SDG TARGETS

2 targets
ALIGNED

7 targets
**PARTIALLY
ALIGNED**



1 target
**NOT
ALIGNED**

TO/IN NATIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



Human rights
and freedom



Public order



Justice and
prevention of corruption



IT



Public finance
and budget



Equal rights
and opportunities



Social protection,
social integration and family

KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Interior
Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
Ministry of Education
Ministry of Justice
National Anticorruption Centre
State Chancellery
Ministry of Youth and Sport
Ministry of Informational Technologies and Communications
Ministry of Finance
Bureau for Interethnic Relations
Ministry of Health

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- ▶ National Action Plan on Human Rights (intermediary 2016) (Draft)
- ▶ Strategy for Child Protection (2014-2020) and its Action Plan for 2016-2020
- ▶ National Plan for Prevention and Fighting the Human Trafficking (2014-2016)
- ▶ Strategy of Justice Sector Reform (2011-2016)
- ▶ National Strategy to Prevent and Combat Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (2013-2017)
- ▶ National Strategy to Prevent and Combat Organized Crime (2011-2016)
- ▶ National Anticorruption Strategy for 2017-2020 (draft)
- ▶ Public Administration Reform Strategy (2016-2020)
- ▶ Action Plan to Support Roma Population (2016-2020)
- ▶ National Strategy for the Development of Youth Sector 2020
- ▶ National Strategy for Informational Society Development „Digital Moldova 2020“

Common ground with the national policy priorities

A large part of the sixteenth SDG targets are correlated with the national policy priorities, as justice, corruption and public administration are among the biggest challenges and, at the same time, priorities of the Government. As the Goal is reflecting a large range of issues, like



violence, access to justice, corruption, arms flows, decision making process, access to information, policy areas, responsible authorities and policy documents are diverse.

Only one target - 16.5. *“Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms”* - is partially aligned to the National Development Strategy “Moldova 2020”, which is committed to “responsible and incorruptible justice”. At the same time, this target is reflected in the National Anticorruption Strategy (2017-2020).

Three targets are fully aligned to national priorities – 16.5. *“Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms”*, 16.6. *“Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels”* and 16.7. *“Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels”*. The reason is that the Public Administration Reform Strategy (2016-2020) was drafted based on the best EU practices, targeting both central and local level reform and with a special focus on making administration accountable and transparent and on inclusive decision-making process. At the same time, objectives included in the National Anticorruption Strategy for 2017-2020 have been correlated while drafted with mentioned targets, especially with target 16.5.

Important correlations are in the areas where there is a specific policy document for the issue. For example, target 16.2. *“End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children”* is well reflected by the Strategy for child protection (2014-2020); target 16.3. *“Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all”* and the Strategy of justice sector reform (2011-2016); target 16.5. In addition, the National Strategy for the Development of Youth Sector 2020 aims at consolidation of local youth councils by increasing by 30% the number of young people involved and at least 80% of territorial representation, which partially correspond to target 16.7. *“Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels”*.

Main differences identified

The main difference between the sixteenth SDG target and national policy agenda have two reasons: (i) SDG targets are too broad and (ii) SDG targets are only partially reflected by national policy documents.

SDG target is too broad. This reason is reflected by the target 16.1. *“Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere”*. It is partially aligned with the draft National action plan on human rights, which tackles only domestic violence, with the Strategy for child protection (2014-2020), which is reflecting violence against children but not adults, and National Plan for Prevention and Fighting the Human Trafficking (2014-2016), which is tackling domestic violence as a related phenomenon to trafficking. But, these documents do not systematically cover all types of victims and all possible forms of violence and do not define vulnerable areas where violence mostly takes place.

SDG targets are only partially reflected by national policy documents. The second reason is reflected by the target 16.4. *“By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime”*. National priorities are focused on preventing and combating money laundering and financing of terrorism, but there is nothing in national agenda on reduction of arms flow and strengthening the recovery and return of stolen assets, even if these are actual and acute problems. Also, target 16.9. *“By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration”* is reflected only by Action plan to support Roma population (2016-2020), although during national consultations it was confirmed that provision of legal identity for people residing on the left bank of Nistru also should be a national priority.



Target 16.8. *“Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance”* is not reflected in national agenda, but actually it is not really depending on national authorities of developing countries.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

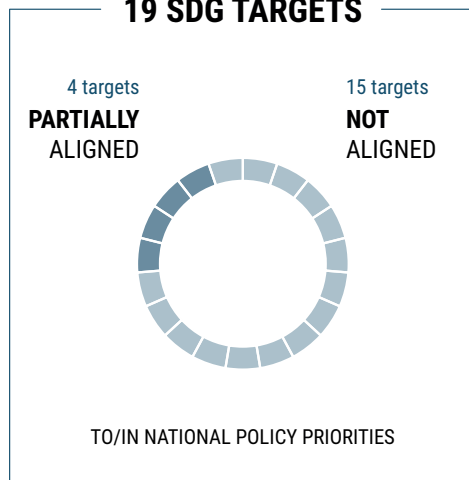
Given the broadness of the areas covered by the ODD 16, this correlates with 13 chapters / articles from three titles of the Association Agreement. The most important relevance there is with the Article 4 (Domestic reform) of Title II and Article 12 (Rule of law), as they include rule of law, human rights, justice, public administration and fight against corruption. However, based on their peculiarities, ODD 16 targets are also reflected in Article 10 (Small arms and light weapons and conventional arms exports control) of Title II; Article 16 (Preventing and combating organized crime, corruption and other illegal activities), Article 18 (Money laundering and terrorism financing) and Article 19 (Combating terrorism) under Title III; Chapter 1 (Public administration reform), Chapter 7 (Management of public finances: budget policy, internal control, financial inspection and external audit), Chapter 8 (Taxation), Chapter 16 (Environment), Chapter 18 (Information society), Chapter 20 (Regional development, cross-border and regional level cooperation), Chapter 27 (Cooperation in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child) and Chapter 25 (Cooperation on culture, audio-visual policy and media) of Title IV.





Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

19 SDG TARGETS



PRIORITY POLICY AREAS



KEY RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Finance
National Bureau of Statistics
State Chancellery

RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

- Strategy on public finance management development (2013-2020)
- Strategy to develop national statistics system (2016-2020) (Draft)
- Strategy on Civil Society Development 2017-2020 (draft)

Common ground with the national policy priorities

Given the specifics of seventeenth SDG, scarcely only four targets were identified as partially aligned to the national agenda. Thus, target 17.1. „Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection” is reflected by the objective „Increase revenues mobilization by enhancing the capacity of authorities for their administration, to collect planned fiscal and custom revenues”, as stated in the Strategy on public finance management development (2013-2020). Target 17.17 “Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships” corresponds to the objectives of the Strategy on Civil Society Development 2012-2015, which is under revision for the next period, 2017-2020. Target 17.18. „By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts” and target 17.19 “By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries” correspond to the commitment to improve the level of desegregation of social and economic indicators (national indicators to report on SDG, gender statistics and regional statistics), to diversify, develop and consolidate statistical products and services, to monitor and report on the 2030 Agenda, as included in the draft Strategy to develop national statistics system (2016-2020).



Main differences identified

Considering the focus of the seventeenth SDG on strengthening global partnership to promote sustainable development that generally involves developed countries and international organisations, 15 out of 19 targets are not aligned with the national agenda of the Republic of Moldova.

Accordance with the Association Agreement

Although only four SDG 17 targets are aligned and relevant for the Republic of Moldova, their domains are well reflected in the Association Agreement, namely in Title IV. The target which is aiming at improving domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection can be found in Chapter 7 (Management of public finances: budget policy, internal control, financial inspection and external audit) and in Chapter 8 (Taxation). As provisions on creation and strengthening of partnerships are reflected in several sectoral and cross-sectoral chapters of the Association Agreement, that target correlates with Chapter 4 (Employment, social policy and equal opportunities), Chapter 5 (Consumer protection), Chapter 10 (Industrial and enterprise policy), Chapter 26 (Civil society cooperation) and Chapter 20 (Regional development, cross-border and regional level cooperation). Two targets that relate to increase significantly the availability of high-quality data and to build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development are reflected in Chapter 5 (Statistics).



Chapter 2. RECOMMENDATIONS TO CLOSE THE GAPS BETWEEN THE GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND NATIONAL POLICY AGENDA

Chapter 2 presents the list of nationalized SDG targets based on the results of the intensive consultations with the relevant policy makers, academia, development partners and civil society, validated by the involved groups of experts, as well on the analysis conducted in the national policy areas corresponding to 17 SDGs. It also provides details on the policy documents needed to be amended and institutions responsible for the implementation of the nationalized SDG targets. Moreover, the analysis concludes over a comprehensive set of targets with multiple and mutual linkages that can be achieved only by acting at different levels and areas in a proper consequence: either simultaneously or consecutively. In this context, the priority targets within each SDG were identified. These are represented by the targets with the most direct influences over the entire set of SDGs and, therefore, they are very important in order to achieve the sustainable development. Nevertheless, all the remaining targets remain relevant and need to be properly integrated into the domestic policy documents.

Whether the proper definition of the national targets is more intuitive, the integration of the new national targets into the national agenda might be more complex. As an immediate solution for the nationalization of the global sustainable development agenda we considered the amendment of current sectorial strategies as proposed in the tables under each of the 17 goals, following the discussions during the consultation process. The tables present (i) the nationalized version of the global target, (ii) the main relevant policy document(s) that need to be adapted, (iii) reason(s) for adjustment(s) and (iv) key and partner institutions that need to ensure the implementation of the target. However, this approach can only ensure that the sustainable development targets are on the national agenda to some extent, while it does not guarantee the progress towards their implementation if no budgetary sources are allocated and no reporting requirements are agreed.

However, both, the consultation workshops and the mapping of the planning documents conducted for Chapter 1 have revealed that the national strategic planning framework is not fully suitable for an efficient implementation of the agenda for sustainable development. Firstly, the National Development Strategy “Moldova 2020” is structured in eight priorities – defined as solutions to economic growth and poverty reduction - and, therefore, sets artificial limits to include additional targets considered national priorities during the consultation process. Moreover, sectorial strategies vary as time-frame, approach, range, degree of details, monitoring indicators of impact and progress (sometimes these are fully missing). Many of them lack the reporting framework and financial coverage, especially budgetary allocations per separate targets. Most policy documents are not drafted using evidence or human rights-based approach. At the same time, the sustainable development agenda incorporates a set of interconnected targets that need to be integrated in a common framework in order to ensure its achievement. The successful integration of SDGs into the domestic policies, and their further implementation, is conditional upon the elimination of the mentioned deficiencies of the policy planning framework and its comprehensive review.





Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

All five global targets of first SDG aiming to end poverty, with an additional target-mean of implementation, were considered by the policy stakeholders as relevant for the Republic of Moldova and need to be integrated into the domestic policy agenda as currently only two of them (SDG 1.2 and 1.5) are partially aligned to the global agenda. Moreover, targets SDG 1.1 and 1.2 on extreme and multidimensional poverty should be incorporated in the most important policy document of the country “Moldova 2020”.

The key institution responsible for reducing poverty (SDG 1.1 and 1.2) as well as promotion and implementation of relevant social policies (SDG1.3) should be Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family. However, it is impossible to tackle poverty without the implication of other relevant stakeholders, especially Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Ministry of Construction and Regional Development, Ministry of Health (given the spread of multidimensional poverty especially in rural areas and in the regions and among persons with poor health status), but also Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Finance and National Office for Social Insurance (that should ensure sustainable long-term economic growth and social policies). At the same time, Ministry of Environment should have an active role in ensuring the implementation of SDG target 1.5 on reducing the negative impact of climate-related extreme events as droughts and floods on vulnerable population. As most of the strategies that need to be amended have a shorter time span than the proposed 2030 agenda, the initial amendments might include the intermediary numeric value targets to be achieved at the due dates, while their successors might include the final numeric value targets relevant for Moldova.

Table 1. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 1

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.9 a day	1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty measured as people living on less than \$1.9 a day	- While at the national extreme poverty line the poverty rate is close to 0%, the international poverty line is higher the national one and the extreme poverty rate may be higher - For international comparability reasons	National Development Strategy (The current National Development Strategy “Moldova 2020” does not allow for its substantial amendment, nevertheless poverty reduction should be a priority in the next National Development Strategy) How: Firstly, new methodology for calculation of extreme poverty based in international line of people living on less than 1.9 USD a day should be applied. In the current national development strategy “Moldova 2020” only a numeric target on extreme poverty may be introduce among the general performance indicators for the strategy with corresponding disaggregation by the most affected groups (by age, employment status and area of residence).	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy National Office for Social Insurance of Moldova Ministry of Finance Ministry of Health
1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions	1.2 By 2030, reduce by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in absolute and multidimensional poverty	- The dynamics of the absolute poverty rate diverges from the general perception of the population - For international comparability	National Development Strategy (The current National Development Strategy “Moldova 2020” does not allow for its substantial amendment, nevertheless poverty reduction should be a priority in the next National Development Strategy.) How: Firstly, new methodology on calculation of absolute poverty line should be applied.	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy National Office for Social Insurance of Moldova



1	2	3	4	5
according to national definitions	according to national definitions and international measure of people living on less than 4.3 \$ a day	- The unfavourable international position of Moldova	Also, the methodology for multidimensional poverty should be elaborated. Due to the limitations of the current national development strategy, only numeric targets for absolute national, multidimensional and international poverty rates should be included among the general performance indicators of "Moldova 2020" disaggregated by gender, age and area of residence National Strategy for Regional Development How: Apply new definitions of absolute poverty after change in methodology and set numeric values for absolute and multidimensional poverty by area of residence. National Strategic Program on Demographic Security of the Republic of Moldova 2011-2025 or the new draft strategy planned to be elaborated How: Apply new definitions of absolute poverty after change in methodology and set numeric values for absolute and multidimensional poverty by age.	Ministry of Finance Ministry of Construction and Regional Development Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry Ministry of Health
1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable	1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection system, including social protection floors, to achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable by 2030	- High inequality - Pressures from the society and international partners	National Strategic Program on Demographic Security 2011-2025 or the new draft strategy planned to be elaborated How: - Introduce the new target in the strategy (section on priorities of demographic policies). Also, in the section on Strategic orientation of sectoral demographic policies include a new section on social policies with appropriate measures for different groups of poor or vulnerable population. Include measurable indicators for each group	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance Ministry of Economy National Bureau of Statistics
1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance	1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance and other resources.	- The target is very complex and should be disaggregated in access to basic services, access to finance and access to property. As other SDG targets (in SDG3, SDG4, SDG6, SDG 7) focus on access to basic services (access to water, sanitation and gas and access to basic education and healthcare), or access to finance (SDG 10), these are analysed later in the report at the corresponding target, while the current target was reduced only to the access to ownership. - At the same time there is a problem with the registration of the property, especially in rural areas and for the poor that might generate problems and increase vulnerabilities in the future	National Program for the Creation of Real Estate Cadastre How: -Include as new measure in the "Main measures for the implementation of the program" and the timeframe. Define the roles of the state and local public authorities that should ensure all rights over land and other properties are registered and evaluated.	Key institution: Agency for Land Relations and Cadastre Partner institutions: Local Public Authorities Ministry of Finance Ministry of Economy



1	2	3	4	5
1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events, including droughts and floods	- Vulnerability of population engaged in subsistent agricultural activities - Frequency of droughts and floods in Moldova - Issues related to economic and social disasters are partially reflected in other SDG targets	Strategy for Rural and Agricultural Development How: -Introduce new specific target under the general objective 2 “Ensure the sustainable management of the natural resources in agriculture”. Include performance indicators: the number of people affected by national disasters (draughts, floods, landslides). The performance indicators may refer to the total number of persons affected and number of people that fall under poverty line due to such events. Environmental Strategy 2014-2023 How: In the specific objective 2 of the strategy on “integrating the principles of environmental protection, sustainable development and green economic development, adaptation to climate change in all sectors of national economy.”, add a new direction for action as stated in the nationalized target and above mentioned recommendations for the Strategy of Rural and Agricultural Development.	Key institution: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry Partner institutions: Ministry of Environment Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Affairs Ministry of Internal Affairs Ministry of Health
1.b Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions	1.b Create sound policy frameworks at the national levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support investment in poverty eradication actions	- Lack of a comprehensive vision regarding poverty eradication at the national level - The dynamics of the absolute poverty rate diverges from the general perception of the population - Risk factors for falling under poverty line may vary by gender	National Development Strategy (The current National Development Strategy “Moldova 2020” does not allow for its substantial amendment, nevertheless poverty reduction should be a priority in the next National Development Strategy.) How: May be included as specific objective or action for the realization of general objective proposed for target SDG 1.2	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Affairs Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy National Office for Social Insurance of Moldova Ministry of Finance Ministry of Construction and Regional Development Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry

Priority SDG 1 targets

Within the group of SDG 1, there are three priority targets, which positively influence a large number of other targets and, therefore, efforts towards their achievement are important for a large share of SDGs set. However we will mention only two of them because the target 1.1 about extreme poverty is part of the target 1.2 on multilateral poverty (meeting the target 1.2 implicitly means that target 1.1 will be also met):

- **Targets 1.2** - *By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions and international measure of people living on less than 4.3 \$ a day*, with influence on 14 targets. As part of a broader goal to share prosperity and reduce inequalities it establishes important links within the SDGs set and influences other aspects related to the health of the population (SDG 3.3 and 3.8), access to education (SDG 4.1, 4.3 and 4.5), access to basic utilities (SDG 6.1, 6.2 and 7.1), but also important issues like eradication of work exportation (SDG 8.7) and children exploitation (SDG 16.2).



- **Target 1.3** - *Implement nationally appropriate social protection system to achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable by 2030, with influence on other 15 targets adapted for the national framework.* While sustainable poverty reduction may occur only with economic growth generating decent jobs, social policies remain essential to tackle poverty in the short-run and to address the imminent effects of various shocks on the most socially vulnerable groups of population. Thus, the role of social policies in Moldova is even higher in this respect, as it registered a jobless recovery, and many persons are still employed in subsistent activities. Therefore, social appropriate policies are critical to reduce poverty and achieve SDG targets 1.1 and 1.2, but may also have a positive effect on other SDGs as access to education (SDG 4.1 and 4.2) and healthcare services (SDG 3.7 and 3.8), or access to utilities (SDG 7.1), but also promotion of social inclusion (SDG 10.2) and decrease the inequalities (SDG 10.4), etc.



Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

While Moldova does not monitor hunger in its traditional definition, there are still many aspects connected with hunger that are still relevant for our country as malnutrition, low productivity in agriculture, food safety etc. The very broad formulation of the global targets of SDG 2 made it possible to find parts of all five targets in several national policy documents that determined their partial alignment to the global agenda. However, the link is very weak in many cases and the desired effect of ending poverty is missing most of the time. Therefore, only three targets of the SDG 2 and one additional target-mean of implementation, were considered relevant for Moldova after the consultation process that were directly linked to the general framework of the development goal (targets 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4). At the same time, all three targets should be adjusted to the national context, as the global versions refer to multiple actions, some of them relevant at global scale, other only for certain countries.

As these targets refer to very different aspects, also different institutions are expected to ensure their achievement. Thus, the key institution responsible for target 2.2 for ending all forms of malnutrition should be the Ministry of Health. Obviously, in this case the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family should be a reliable partner. At the same time SDG targets 2.3 and 2.4 deal with low productivity in agriculture and vulnerability of agricultural production to climate-related events, which affect food supplies for the poor and ultimately increase their risk of extreme poverty and deficit of nutrients. Their achievement should be the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, in the main policy document National Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development.

Table 2. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 2

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year around	Not relevant	- Moldova does not monitor hunger in its traditional definition. However, low extreme poverty rate suggests that it is not an immediate priority	-	-



1	2	3	4	5
2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons	2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons	- There is still malnutrition registered in Moldova, mostly among children.	National Strategy for Public Health 2016-2020 How: - Possible disaggregation within the specific objective "ensure health protection by improving control of behavioural and environmental risk factors", with reference to the proposed nationalized target. -Include the target in the planned Strategy for Health, Development and Wellbeing of Children and Adolescents	Key institution: Ministry of Health Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment	2.3 Increase agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers through secure and equal access to productive resources, inputs, knowledge, financial services and markets.	- Low agricultural productivity and outdated technologies or their lack due to lack of resources and knowledge are important reasons for the vulnerability of poor engaged in agricultural activities who are either in poverty or at risk of poverty fall under the poverty line	National Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development How: - Set specific objective (as defined in the nationalized target) under the general objective 3 of the strategy (Increase the standards of living in rural areas) . Set numeric targets to measure average incomes of the small-scale agricultural producers	Key institution: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy
2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality	2.4 By 2030, implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity, help maintain ecosystems and strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather as drought, flooding and other disasters	- Low agricultural productivity at different levels (large, medium and small-scale agriculture) -Vulnerability to extreme weather events as floods and droughts at the national level that might undermine the food security of the state after such disasters	National Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development How: - Set a new specific target under the general objective 2 (Ensure sustainable management of natural resources in agriculture). Develop proper indicators for sustainable and productive agriculture and introduce the numeric values as performance indicators in the strategy.	Key institution: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry Partner institutions: Local Public Authorities Ministry of Finance Ministry of Economy
2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and ensure access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed	Not relevant	- Due to overlap with SDG 15, the relevant parts for Moldova were analysed in a more disaggregated way in SDG 15 targets.	-	-



1	2	3	4	5
2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility	2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility	- Limited access of small agricultural producers to food markets	Strategy for the Development of Domestic Trade of the Republic of Moldova for 2014-2020 How: To be included in actions for the implementation of the strategic direction 2 (Strengthen resources for qualitative, affordable and mostly local commodities)	Key institution: Ministry of Economy Partner institutions: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry

Priority SDG 2 targets

Within the group of SDG 2 two targets have important positive effects on the rest of the set as follows:

- **Target 2.3** - *Increase agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers through secure and equal access to productive resources, inputs, knowledge, financial services and markets.*, influences only 7 targets in the set, including reduction (targets 1.1 and 1.2), sustained economic growth (target 8.1) and shared prosperity (target 10.1). However, its importance is highlighted by the large number of links generated in the system and also by the value of the targets directly influenced mentioned above.
- **Target 2.4** – *By 2030, implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity, help maintain ecosystems and strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather as drought, flooding and other disasters*, with influence on other 14 targets. Large share of population engaged in subsistent agricultural activities, vulnerable to climate related extreme events increase the vulnerability of this group in many aspects. Therefore, efforts toward this target may lead to poverty reduction (targets 1.1 and 1.2), increase of agricultural productivity (target 2.3), improve in water quality (target 6.3) and contribute to the climate-resilience (target 13.1).



Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

As all nine targets within SDG 3 are very comprehensive and refer to various aspects that each society faces, regardless its level of development, they have been considered relevant for the context of the Republic of Moldova too with an additional one target-mean of implementation. However, their adaptation implies (i) changes in formulation to include common diseases for Moldova, (ii) changes in the targeted numeric values as some of those stated in the global targets have been already achieved and (iii) breakdown in several targets due to the complexity of global target, which would ensure their inclusion in the most relevant policy document.

Ministry of Health is the key institution that should be responsible for the implementation of all ten targets. As currently the Ministry of Health owns a large number of strategies, policies and programs that often repeat various parts of the targets, many of the policy documents should be amended to ensure that the final nationalized target has the same formulation and numeric value in each of these documents. The Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family should be an important partner in the implementation of SDG 3 targets, especially those that affect mostly the vulnerable population (targets 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.7 and 3.8) as well as the Ministry of Education should contribute to information and education on health issues. Addi-



tionally, Ministry of Internal Affairs also should be responsible in achieving the targets on drug and alcohol consumption control (target 3.5) and deaths in traffic accidents (target 3.6) and Ministry of Environment in the minimization of impact of pollution on health (target 3.9).

Table 3. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 3

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births	3.1 By 2030, reduce the maternal mortality ratio to less than 13.3 per 100,000 live births	- Maternal mortality rate is already under the global target value, but still fluctuant; - Reducing maternal mortality rate is still important at any level	Strategy for the Development of Health System 2008-2017 How: Only the numeric target should be adjusted in the Strategy	Key institution: Ministry of Health Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of new-borns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births	3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of new-borns and children under 5 years of age and reduce neonatal mortality rate to 6 per 1000 live births and preventable deaths of under 5 mortality to 10 per 1000 live births	Reducing maternal mortality rate is still important at any level	Strategy for the Development of Health System 2008-2017 How: Only the numeric targets should be adjusted	Key institution: Ministry of Health Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases	3.3.1 By 2030, reduce transmission of HIV and sexually transmitted infections, especially in key populations and mortality associated with HIV.	-Slow progress in fighting the infections	National Program for Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS and STD 2016-2020 How: Already adjusted. Numeric targets to be added with the appropriate disaggregation (sex, age, key populations). National Strategy for Public Health 2014-2020 How: Introduce value targets for the reporting framework of the strategy	Key institution: Ministry of Health
	3.3.2 By 2030, reduce the burden of tuberculosis and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases	- Low progress in combating the diseases	National Strategy for Public Health 2016-2020 How: Introduce the new target with numeric values for the progress indicators (incidence of the diseases) National Program to combat hepatitis B, C and D 2017-2021 (draft) How: Already adjusted. Only numeric values (for the incidence of hepatitis) with the appropriate disaggregation should be included (sex, social status) National Program to Combat Tuberculosis 2016-2020 How: Already adjusted.	Key institution: Ministry of Health Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family



1	2	3	4	5
			<p>Only numeric values (for the incidence of tuberculosis) with the appropriate disaggregation should be included (sex, social status)</p> <p>National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in R. Moldova 2016-2025</p> <p>How: Already adjusted. Numeric values for the incidence of water-born diseases should be included (preferably, by 5 types of diseases)</p>	
3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being	3.4.1 By 2030, reduce by 30% premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment.	- International agreements -High mortality for some non-communicable diseases	<p>National Strategy for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases 2012-2020</p> <p>How: Change the formulation of the general objective 4, including the aimed reduction of 17% by 2020 (that may be set as an intermediate target) to 30% by 2030 for the next strategy.</p>	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Health</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance Ministry of Economy Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry Ministry of Internal Affairs Ministry of Education</p>
	3.4.2. Promote mental health and well-being of the population		<p>National Program for Mental Health</p> <p>How: Include suicide rate among performance indicators</p>	
3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol	3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and use of alcohol	-Increasing number of drug consumers -Increasing number of consumers of alcohol in excess, especially in rural areas - Bad international standing	<p>National Strategy for Public Health 2014-2020</p> <p>How: Include the target with the indicators on alcohol consumption and harmful alcohol consumption by age and area of residence and drug consumers by age, sex and social status.</p> <p>National Program for the Alcohol Control 2012-2020</p> <p>How: Include among the specific objectives the target "Strengthen the prevention and treatment of use of alcohol". Include the indicators on alcohol consumption and harmful alcohol consumption by age and area of residence</p> <p>National Anti-Drug Strategy 2011-2018</p> <p>How: -Introduce among general objectives the target "Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse". Include the indicators on drug consumers by age, sex and social status.</p>	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Health</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Internal Affairs Ministry of Education Ministry of Economy Ministry of Youth and Sports Ministry of Finance</p>
3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents	3.6 By 2020, reduce by 50% the number of deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents	- Part of national commitments to guarantee a life free of violence and traumas - It would provide high cost-benefits for the healthcare system - Bad international standing, particularly in Europe	<p>National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020"</p> <p>How: The goal should be to reduce both deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents by 50%, while the strategy refers only to deaths.</p> <p>National Road Safety Strategy</p> <p>How: Introduce the performance indicator for Objective 6 of the strategy (Reduce the severity and consequences of road traffic accidents)</p>	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Health</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Internal Affairs Ministry of Transportation and Road Infrastructure</p>



1	2	3	4	5
3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programs	3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning and to sexual and reproductive information and education	-Limited access of adolescents to quality sexual and reproductive healthcare services, especially for pre-adolescents - High rates of adolescent birth, especially in rural areas -Highest rates of STIs among adolescent in the region - Lack of health personnel and social workers skilled in sexual and reproductive health and counselling especially of vulnerable populations; - Lack of sexual education in schools	National Programme for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2017-2021 (draft) How: Include the target with the performance indicators of adolescent birth rates by age groups and area of residence and proportion of women with satisfied needs for family planning by age, area of residence, socio-economic status- National Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" How: -Introduce new specific objective for strategic direction 2. (ensure relevance of studies for life, active citizenship and success in carrier) defined as SDG 4.7 (see later), that includes access to sexual and reproductive education.	Key institution: Ministry of Health Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Ministry of Education Ministry of Youth and Sports
3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all	3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all	-Necessary to ensure epidemiologic wellbeing of the country -Decreasing rates of immunization	National Health Policy 2007-2021 How: Should be included as a general principle for the healthcare policy. National Strategy for Public Health 2014-2020 How: Include among actions for section 5 (prevention and early diagnosis of diseases) with the relevant indicators mentioned above. State Policy in the Field of Medication How: Include among main tasks of the policy "Achieve access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines for all" with relevant indicators on essential medicine coverage National Program for Immunization 2016-2020 How: Include among specific objectives of the Programme "Achieve access to safe, effective, quality and affordable vaccines for all.	Key institution: Ministry of Health Partner institutions: National Health Insurance Company Medicines and Medical Devices Agency Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Ministry of Finance
3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination	3.9 By 2030, reduce mortality and morbidity from hazardous chemicals and air and water pollution'	-Low access to and quality of drinking water -Increasing air pollution in Moldova	National Health Policy How: Include a new specific object in the policy with relevant performance indicators on mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, to inside air pollution, and poisoning with hazardous chemicals National Program for the Implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health 2016-2025 How: Introduce new specific objective in the Program "Reduce mortality and morbidity due to water pollution". Include the relevant numeric indicators.	Key institution: Ministry of Health Partner institutions: Ministry of Environment



1	2	3	4	5
3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States	3.c Increase financing and efficiency of spending in the health system and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce	- Low level of health financing per capita - Deficit of medical staff and continuous emigration of healthcare personnel.	Strategy for the Development of Health System 2008-2017 How: Increase of financing is already included in the goal on "Financing the healthcare system and payment mechanisms for healthcare services" Include the stipulation regarding the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce within the general goal "Management of resources" National Health Policy (2007-2021) How: Reformulate according to the nationalized target the principles and methods for the achievement of the goal "Sustainable financing and generation of resources".	

Priority SDG 3 targets

All targets in SDG 3 do not have many direct influences on the entire set, while the indirect influences as increased productivity and free financial resources that may be directed to productive investments are obvious in this case. Within the group, four priority targets are identified:

- **Target 3.4.1** - *By 2030, reduce by 30% premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment*, as it indirectly influences many of the sustainable development agenda targets due to the impact of the health status of the population on the economy (both productivity levels and public expenditures).
- **Target 3.5** - *Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and use of alcohol*, with direct influence on 8 targets in the set, including reduction of healthrelated problems (targets 3.3 and 3.4), fighting over different forms of violence (targets 5.2, 16.2 and 16.3), but also poverty reduction (targets 1.1 and 1.2).
- **Target 3.7** – *By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning and to sexual and reproductive information and education*. This target has an influence on most of the targets under the Goal 3. The opportunities to make informed choices in respect of one's own sexual and reproductive health are a prerequisite for the fulfilment of human potential and necessary for full participation in social and community life, economic sphere with increased productivity, particularly by those who are otherwise, socially or economically, at a disadvantage. The scope of actions under this health target also relate to standards and measures of performance for health providers, facilities and policies governing the access to and delivery of such services, both medical and ethical.
- **Target 3.8** – *Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all*, with influence on other 7 targets, all from SDG 3 group. However, as mentioned before, the indirect influences of this target are strong, determining its important role in the group and in entire SDG set.



Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

Six out of seven targets of SDG 4 on quality education are already partly integrated into national policy documents. The only global target totally missing from the national agenda



is target 4.6 aiming to ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy that was also considered not relevant for Republic of Moldova during the national consultations. While five targets were considered relevant to be included in the sectoral strategies of the Ministry of Education, target 4.4 aiming to provide relevant skills for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship should also remain a priority, as it currently is, in the national development strategy „Moldova 2020”. Moreover, it should go behind 2020 and integrated in the updated or successor national development strategy due to low progress on in increasing the relevance of studies for the future career. An additional target-mean of implementation relevant for Moldovan context was proposed for nationalization.

The key responsible institution for the implementation of the six nationalized targets is the Ministry of Education, but certainly with the help of many other stakeholders. Thus, for the target 4.4 on relevant skills, which is also part of the national Development Strategy, the implication of the Ministry of Economy is crucial. Also, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family should be an important partner for ensuring equal access of vulnerable population to all levels of education and therefore should be involved in implementation of SDG targets 4.1 - 4.5. At the same time, the SDG target 4.7, which seems to be very general and broad aims at changing mentality of population on very important issues for the development and wellbeing form very different fields, most of them relevant for Moldova. Therefore, there are many institutions that should be involved in its implementation in order to inform the population, increase the level of understanding and promote these values in the society.

Table 4. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 4

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes	4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes	- Increasing number of school dropouts - Wide gap between rural and urban; - Poor learning outcomes and results at international and national assessments	Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" How: Include in specific objective 1.2 of the strategy "free, equitable and quality" education. Also, introduce performance indicators disaggregated by area of residence and socio-economic status	Key institution: Ministry of Education Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education	4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to early childhood development care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education	- Low enrolment rate in child care and pre-primary education - Lack of early child care facilities (under 3 years of age) in many localities	Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" How: Complete specific objective 1.1 of the strategy with "to quality child care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education". Also, introduce performance indicators disaggregated by area of residence and socio-economic status	Key institution: Ministry of Education Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university	4.3 By 2030, increase enrolment in affordable and quality vocational and higher education	- The perception of low quality of education - The choice between vocational and higher education often depends on the social status of the family	Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" How: Change specific objectives 1.3 and 1.4 of the strategy, by including "enrolment in affordable and quality" education. Also, introduce	Key institution: Ministry of Education Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family



1	2	3	4	5
			performance indicators disaggregated by, gender, area of residence and socio-economic status	
4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship	4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills for the labour market	- Negative perception of employers on the competences and skills of graduates in many surveys	National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020" How: The priority "Study – relevant for career" may not be adjusted. A new performance indicator on proportion of youth and adults with ICT skills should be added. Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" How: Introduce new specific objective under general objective 2 of the strategy (Ensure relevance of studies for life, active citizenship and success in career) as defined in the nationalized target. Introduce performance indicators. National Employment Strategy How: Include as specific object under the Priority 2 (development of human capital for increased employment opportunities)	Key institution: Ministry of Education Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, National Employment Agency, Ministry of Health
4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations	4.5 By 2030, ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities and children in vulnerable situations	- Existing barriers in educational system for vulnerable groups of population	Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" How: Possible reformulation of objective 1.6 with relevant progress indicators for each level of education and vulnerable group of population (rural, poor, with disabilities, ethnic minorities) Program for the Development of Inclusive Education in Moldova 2011-2020 How: Include among the general objectives of the program. with relevant progress indicators for each level of education and vulnerable group of population (rural, poor, with disabilities, ethnic minorities)	Key institution: Ministry of Education Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Local Public Authorities
4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy	Not relevant	Already achieved	--	--
4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, environmental protection, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development	4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, environmental protection, gender equality, culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development	- The target promotes values important at global level and included in many international conventions -Low level of information in the society regarding several issues -Low level of tolerance in the society regarding several aspects	Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" How: Introduce new specific objective under the strategic direction 2 (ensure relevance of studies for life, active citizenship and success in career) Environmental Strategy (already includes the relevant part of the target) Strategy for equality between women and men 2016-2020 (draft) How: Include additional specific object under general objective 1 - Education: "Ensure all learners at each level of education acquire knowledge on gender equality" National Action Plan on Human Rights (draft) How: Include new action under section XIII - Education and information on human rights: "Include in school curricula modules on human rights, culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity"	Key institution: Ministry of Education Partner institutions: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration



1	2	3	4	5
4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all	4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all	- Existent infrastructural barriers in many educational institutions for several vulnerable groups of population -Existent evidence on deviations from safety measures in educational institutions (food, transportation)	Strategy for the Development of Education for 2014-2020 "Education 2020" How: To elaborate the actions intended for specific goal 1.6 on inclusive education Program on the Development of Inclusive Education of the Republic of Moldova (2011-2020) How: Include the nationalized target among the general goals of the program, with relevant progress indicators for each level of education and vulnerable group of population.	Key institution: Ministry of Education Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Local Public Authorities

Priority SDG 4 targets

As human capital is crucial for the progress of a society and education is a key factor for the development of human capital, several SDG 4 targets are very important and should be set as priorities within the entire set of SDG targets. The most important ones in the system are the following:

- **Target 4.1** - *By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.* This target influences directly 7 SDG targets, most of them within the education group. However, given the importance of basic education, working towards this target is the basis for ensuring sustainable development of the person and continuation of education, be it in technical education or university. It is also the basis for country economic and sustainable development for the
- **Target 4.3** – *By 2030, increase enrolment in affordable and quality vocational and higher education, with influence on other 17 targets, mostly repeating the links of the target 4.4.*
- **Target 4.4** – *By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills for the labour market, with influence on other 17 targets.* This is one of the most important targets that influences SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth (it influences seven out of nine nationalized targets in this group). Also, it has a direct influence on another central SDG target on shared prosperity (target 10.1).
- **Target 4.5** - *By 2030, ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities and children in vulnerable situations.* The target has 10 direct influences in the SDG set. The number of children with disabilities outside education is still high and many are still in special schools. Additionally, more other vulnerable groups are excluded from education, like Roma ethnics or persons from poor families. Therefore, it may also contribute to poverty reduction (targets 1.1 and 1.2) and reduced inequalities (targets 10.1).
- **Target 4.7** - *Promote sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development,* has a direct influence on 33 targets in the set, thus being the most influential in the list. Though the effects might be either marginal for some of the links or without an expected financial outcome it aims to change the perception of the population that in long-term may have an impact on people choices and ultimately on the development of the country and wellbeing of the population. Including the mentioned values in school curricula and their active promotion through different means may change the perceptions of the population in medium and long-term who may become more responsible when the advantages are understood. The target aims to



impact the health of the population (targets 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6 and 3.9), sustains gender equality (targets 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3), encourage decent work (targets 8.7 and 8.8), contribute to the reduction of inequalities (target 10.2), promote sustainable consumption and production (targets 12.1-12.6) and sustainable communities (targets 11.3-11.6) and positively affects most of the environmental issues in SDG 6, 7, 13, 14 and 15.



Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

All six global targets of fifth SDG aiming to achieve gender equality and to empower all women and girls were considered important by policy stakeholders, requiring to be integrated into national policy agenda as only one is currently aligned (target 5.5). There is a range of policy documents approaching different narrow aspects of gender equality and one specific policy document covering almost fully fifth SDG areas (Strategy to ensure equality between women and men 2017-2021). Almost all targets are already reflected by the draft Strategy, except target 5.3. It is recommended to align the text of the strategy, including objectives and indicators, to the adapted targets for national SDG agenda. In general, it is advisable to streamline in one single comprehensive policy document all issues relevant to gender equality. At the same time, it should be reflected as a cross-cutting issue in the updated version of the National Development Strategy „Moldova 2030“. The Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, according to its mandate, should be the key institution for first five targets of the fifth SDG. Ministry of Health is key institution for target 5.6 due to its specific, but Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family should be an important partner as it is dealing with gender issues and, respectively, is part of gender equality policies.

Table 5. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 5

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
5.1. End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere	5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are commitments to ensure rights and equal opportunity at international level; - The wage of men is by 12.4% higher than the average wage of women; - Employment rate of women is lower than employment rate of men (37% vs 42%) even if the share in total population is the same; - Only 5% of men benefit of allowances for raising children, compared to 94% of women; - 78% of teachers are women; - Commitments according to the Chapter 4 of the Association Agreement to implements de principle of equal treatment among women and men. 	<p>National Development Strategy.</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include a distinct section in the Strategy, showing interlinkages with all sectors and value added on economic growth and poverty reduction. - Add intermediary and final targets. - Add performance indicators specific to target 5.1. <p>Strategy to ensure equality between women and men 2017-2021 (draft); Draft Strategy on Ending Violence Against Women (to be drafted)</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reflect and develop on all possible forms and range of discrimination and related phenomenon, like human trafficking; - Ensure a more comprehensive approach, including all relevant sectors and policy instruments, not focusing mainly to change of normative framework or to capacity building; - Add performance and impact indicators specific to target 5.1. 	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Education; Council on the Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality</p>



1	2	3	4	5
5.2. Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation	5.2 Prevention and elimination of violence against girls and women, including trafficking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two out of three women above 15 years old have experienced at least one type of violence in her lifetime, and one - in over the last 12 months⁴; - It is necessary to fight stereotypes in the society and to promote non-violent communication, as well as to reduce the factor which influence human trafficking; - There are international commitments according to CEDAW, to which Moldova is part. 	<p>Strategy to ensure equality between women and men 2017-2021</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extend the scope of objectives related to violence beyond only communication. - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on violence; - Add performance indicators specific to target 5.2. <p>National Strategy to Prevent and Stop Violence Against Women and Family Violence for 2017-2022 (draft)</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reveal, based on evidences, the main causes of violence to argue and to focus the interventions; - Develop measurable objectives and actions; - Add performance indicators specific to target 5.2. 	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Education</p>
5.3. Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation	5.3 Eliminate early and forced marriages with children	There are still some practices of early and forced marriages in Roma communities	<p>Child Protection Strategy (2014-2020) and its Action Plan (2016-2020)</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on child and early marriages, as at the moment is lacking in policy framework; - Add performance indicators specific to target 5.3. 	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Education; Ombudsman Office</p>
5.4. Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate	5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment rate of women is lower that employment rate of men (37% vs 42%) even if the share in total population is the same; - Employment rate is lowering when women have children (57,8% - no children, 51,4% - one child, 47,6% - 3 and more children); - 27% of women are involved in informal jobs; - It is necessary to improve the policy framework for families which have children in order to ensure involvement of parents in raising children 	<p>Strategy to ensure equality between women and men 2017-2021</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on this issue (at the moment they are lacking); - Enhance the sections on labour market and social protection, which is superficially tackling this issue; - Add performance indicators specific to target 5.4. 	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance</p>
5.5. Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life	5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Millennium Development Goals were not achieved, even closely; - Share of women involved in political life is lower than MDG objective for 2015 (20% in Parliament instead of 30%; 35% in local councils instead of 40%; 18% in rayon councils instead of 25%); - Only two out of ten women in public functions have managing position; - Less than 26% of managers in business are women; - Commitments according to CEDAW 	This target is aligned in the Strategy to ensure equality between women and men 2017-2021	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family</p> <p>Partner institutions: Central Electoral Commission.</p>

⁴ Study „Violence against women in the family”, conducted in 2011 by the National Bureau of Statistics.



1	2	3	4	5
5.6. Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences	5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning and to sexual and reproductive information and education	-Limited access of adolescents to quality sexual and reproductive healthcare services, especially for pre-adolescents - High rates of adolescent birth, especially in rural areas -Highest rates of STIs among adolescent in the region - Lack of health personnel and social workers skilled in sexual and reproductive health and counselling especially of vulnerable populations; - Lack of sexual education in schools	National Programme for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2017-2021 (draft) How: Include the target with the performance indicators of adolescent birth rates by age groups and area of residence and proportion of women with satisfied needs for family planning by age, area of residence, socio-economic status	Key institution: Ministry of Health Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Youth and Sport; Ombudsman Office.

Key SDG 5 targets

As gender equality and empowering women has a direct influence on the development of the society and economic growth, there are three evident priority target having a direct influence on other targets:

- **Target 5.1** – *End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls*, has positive effect on other 13 targets of fifth SDGs, covering social, economic and justice areas. Thus, ending discrimination against women and girls seems to be one the important cross-cutting issues in SDG implementation that will positively influence almost all range of issues. First of all, it will accelerate the achievement of two targets in its group: target 5.2 (end family violence) and target 5.3 (end children forced marriages). As well, it has an impact on target 1.1 (eradicate extreme poverty), target 1.2 (reduce multi-lateral poverty), target 3.7 (access to reproductive health services), target 3.8 (universal health coverage), target 4.3 (increase enrolment in professional education), target 8.1 (sustained economic growth), SDG 8.5 (full and productive employment), target 8.6 (increase youth employment/enrolment), target 10.1 (shared prosperity), target 16.1 (reduction of violence) and target 16.2 (end children abuse).
- **Target 5.2** - *Prevention and elimination of violence against girls and women, including trafficking*, considering its implications on other SDGs targets and based on its economic impact on social, health and judiciary system. This target has direct influences on other seven targets in from four SDGs: target 3.1 (reduce maternal mortality), target 3.2 (reduce infant mortality), target 3.4 (reduce non-communicable diseases), target 4.5 (access of vulnerable to education), target 8.7 (eradicate work exploitation), target 16.1 (reduction of violence), target 16.2 (end children abuse).
- **Target 5.6** - *Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning and to sexual and reproductive information and education*. This target relates to a broader range of measures and safeguards in the social, cultural, economic, civil and political sectors necessary for individuals, especially women and adolescent girls, to exercise their fundamental human rights to make free, informed and responsible decisions concerning sexual and reproductive matters without discrimination, coercion or violence, in line with existing international human rights standards and international and regional agreements.





Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

With various degrees of alignment to the Global Agenda 2030, the six targets are already part of the national development framework of the Republic of Moldova. It is nonetheless recommended that the Government extends until 2030 the implementation periods for the Environment strategy for 2012-2023, Water Provision and Sanitation Strategy for 2014-2028 and Waste Management Strategy for 2013-2027 and amends the documents to incorporate the nationalized SDG 6 targets. The Ministry of Environment is the institution most capable to play the role of the key enabler and promoter of these changes in the national policy framework, as well as to actively conduct the implementation process. It is important to note that in their current reading the national strategies are somewhat more precautionary compared to the Global Agenda 2030. While the national framework foresees that by 2023, around 80 percent of the population will have access to water and 65 percent to sanitation services, the Global Agenda underlines the importance of ensuring universal access by 2030. The proposed national versions of the targets 6.1 and 6.2 incorporate 2023 as intermediary target and 2030 as final target of reaching universal coverage. Considering the level of importance and urgency, the water- and sanitation-provision services as well as the quality of water are also proposed to be included in the updated version of the “Moldova 2020” or rather in the new National Development Strategy (“Moldova 2030”). At the same time, the target 6.b should be given due attention, as active participation of the local communities is an important precondition for achieving relevant and high-quality quantitative results in the area of the water and sanitation provision. It is equally important to achieve a balanced allocation of investment from territorial and regional point of view, so that the rural inhabitants do not get discriminated to the benefit of the urban dwellers.

Table 6. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 6

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	6.1 By 2023, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for 80 percent of the population and communities and, by 2030, for all.	The national environment strategy foresees achieving 80 percent coverage by 2023.	National Development Strategy; The Environment Strategy for 2012-2023 and the Water Provision Strategy for 2014-2028. How: - amend to reflect the universal coverage (including institutions), equitable access and affordability; - include relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Regional Development and Construction
6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	6.2 By 2023, achieve universal access to adequate and equitable sanitation for 65 percent of population and communities and by 2030, for all, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	The national environment strategy foresees achieving 65 percent coverage by 2023. The open defecation is not encountered in the Republic of Moldova and has been eliminated from the proposed national target.	National Development Strategy; The Environment Strategy for 2012-2023 and the Water Provision Strategy for 2014-2028. How: - amend to reflect the universal coverage (including institutions), equitable access and affordability;; - include relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Regional Development and Construction



1	2	3	4	5
6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally	6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, reducing the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse	The word “globally” has been eliminated to render the target a national wording.	The National Development Strategy; The Environment Strategy for 2012-2023, the Water Provision and Sanitation Strategy for 2014-2028 and the Waste Management Strategy for 2013-2027. How: - incorporate the nationalized target as proposed; - include relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Local public authorities
6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity	6.4. By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater	Target 6.1 already addresses the issue of water scarcity and therefore has been eliminated from the national wording.	The National Development Strategy; The Environment Strategy for 2012-2023, the Water Provision and Sanitation Strategy for 2014-2028. How: - include the nationalized target as proposed; - include relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: “Apele Moldovei” State Agency
6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate	6.5. By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels,	Transboundary cooperation is indispensable in Moldovan case and does not require explicit statement	Hydrographic Basins Management Plans (currently being developed)	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: “Apele Moldovei” State Agency
6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes	6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes	No change	Environment Strategy for 2012-2023; - Include the target in the Strategy; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment;
6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management	6.b. Plan and program for a coherent and gradual development of an improved water and sanitation infrastructure for all communities based on well-defined and transparent selection criteria, including involvement of the beneficiary communities.	The Water Provision and Sanitation Strategy 2014-2028 includes this target among the goals for consolidation of the institutional capacities of the governmental institutions.	No need to amend planning documents	Key institution: Ministry of Environment; Partner institutions: local public authorities.

Priority SDG 6 targets

The targets 6.2 (access to sanitation) and 6.3 (quality of the water) play the most important role while considering their direct linkages with other 21 and, accordingly, 20 targets in the SDG network.

- **Target 6.2 - Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation.** The undertaken network analysis and consultations have shown that it is especially important to improve sanitation conditions in public institutions, with an emphasis on kindergartens, schools and health protection institutions. This has direct material implications for achieving health outcomes (SDG 3) as well as for improving urban sustainability and standards of living (SDG 11).
- **Target 6.3 - Improve water quality.** The progress with the quality of the potable water promises rather immediate benefits for a number of other SDG targets, especially those in the SDG 2 (food security and agricultural productivity), SDG 3 (health) and SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure).





Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

The SDG 7 includes only three global targets referring to access, efficiency and sustainability of the energy use. The targets are already part of the national strategic framework. Energy is a central pillar of the “Moldova 2020” National Development Strategy, and the targets are well positioned in the Energy Strategy, Energy Efficiency Program 2011-2020, National plan of actions in the area of energy efficiency for the period 2016-2018 and National plan of actions in the area of renewable energy 2013-2020. As policy promoter, the Ministry of Economy is expected to continue playing the main role by defining energy policies, whereas the Energy Efficiency Agency should be the main authority implementing state policy in the area of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Table 7. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 7

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	No change	The National Development Strategy; How: - include the nationalized target as proposed;	Key institution: Ministry Economy Partner institutions: Energy Efficiency Agency
7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix	7.2 By 2020, increase up to 20%* the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix	The national is more specific and binding, as per the Law no.10 of 26/02/2016 on promotion of the use of energy from renewable energy sources.	No need to amend planning documents	Key institution: Ministry Economy Partner institutions: Energy Efficiency Agency
7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency	7.3 By 2020, increase by 20%* the efficiency of the energy consumption	The national is more specific and binding, as per National plan of actions in the area of energy efficiency for the period 2016-2018	No need to amend planning documents	Key institution: Ministry Economy Partner institutions: Energy Efficiency Agency

Priority SDG 7 targets

- **Target 7.3 – Energy efficiency.** As number of direct linkages, the targets 7.2 (increase the share of renewables in the energy mix) and 7.3 (enhance energy efficiency) play equal roles. However, while considering the importance in the overall network, the target 7.3 play a more central role compared to the other two targets of the SDG 7. Energy efficiency influences directly 14 other targets spanning more than half of the SDGs, especially those in the SDG 6 (water and sanitation), SDG 8 (inclusive and sustainable economic growth), SGG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure) and SDG 12 (green economy). It also exerts influence on the target 13.1 (adaptation to climate change).





Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

All ten targets of the eighth SDG have been considered by the policy stakeholders as relevant for the country and, hence, necessary to be properly integrated into the domestic policy agenda. Out of ten relevant targets, three (8.2, 8.3 and 8.10) are recommended to be incorporated without any adjustment, the other seven being necessary to be adapted depending on the domestic development peculiarities. In most cases, the adjustments are relatively minor, focusing on Moldova's most relevant and pressing priorities. The implementation of these 10 targets should be the primary responsibility of a relatively large number of institutions (Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Tourism Agency of Moldova, National Bank of Moldova and National Commission of Financial Markets), reflecting the complex nature of the eight SDG.

Table 8. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 8

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries	8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth and, in particular, a GDP growth of at least 3% per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moldova has the lowest GDP per capita in Europe. Hence, it needs to grow fast in order to catch up with the neighboring countries and ensure a dynamic economic and social development. - According to the estimations of the Ministry of Economy, Moldova's GDP growth potential for the upcoming 3-4 years is around 3%. 	National Development Strategy. How: - The target should be integrated into the development priorities section, as a strategic priority, before going into more specific development priorities. - The numeric target should be included into the Strategy as a key progress indicator.	Key institution: Ministry of Economy. Partner institutions: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions, Ministry of ITC, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Finance.
8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors	8.2 Stimulate the growth of economic productivity at higher rate compared to the real wage growth, through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors, defined as top-priority sectors by the Investment Attraction and Export Promotion Strategy 2016-2020 ((1) agriculture and food industry; (2) automotive industry; (3) business services especially Business Process Outsourcing (BPO); (4) clothing and footwear industry; (5) electronics industry; (6) Information and Communication Technologies; and (7) production of machinery and its parts).	Moldova has limited resources and, hence, the only source for increasing the competitiveness, quality of jobs and population's wellbeing is the labour productivity, which can be increased by means of investments in innovations and technologies.	Competitiveness Enhancing Roadmap of the Republic of Moldova How: - Adjust accordingly the second objective of the Roadmap, in order to put more emphasis on innovations and technological upgrading and diversification.	Key institution: Ministry of Economy. Partner institutions: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Ministry of ITC, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Finance, Academy of Sciences, State Agency for Intellectual Property.



1	2	3	4	5
8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services	8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Given that this target has an important multiplier effect (influences many other targets), it should be well-integrated into the general scope of the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2020" and the relevant sectorial strategies. - The private sector is considered to be the main engine of economic development. Hence, the policies should empower enterprises to be productive, create decent jobs, innovative, a special focus being placed on the SMEs, which are the most flexible and numerous. 	<p>National Development Strategy</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Strategy should clearly define the term "development-oriented policies"; its vision should be focused on development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation. - Strategy for Developing the SME Sector for 2012-2020. <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The vision of the Strategy should be similar to the one of the National Development Strategy. - One of the Strategy's specific objectives should encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises. 	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Economy and the Organization for SME Development.</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Ministry of ITC, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Finance, Academy of Sciences, State Agency for Intellectual Property, Ministry of Health.</p>
8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead	8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, resource efficiency in consumption and production to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moldova is highly vulnerable to climate change, mainly through its economic and social dependency on the agrifood sector (agrifood exports represent over 40% of total exports of goods, while over 30% of employment is absorbed by agriculture). - Moldova faces the problem of limited natural resources and the degradation of the available ones (e.g. soil, water, air). 	<p>Environment Strategy for 2014-2023</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adjusting the general objective of the Strategy, in order to reflect principle of decoupling of economic growth from the environmental degradation. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target. 	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Environment.</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Ministry of Finance.</p>
8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value	8.5 By 2030, align the employment rate to the average value in Central and Eastern Europe, and stimulate productive employment, decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and ensure equal pay for work of equal value.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment is a key source for poverty eradication and rising living standards. Nevertheless, currently, the employment rate in Moldova is one of the lowest in the region. - Need to stress the disaggregation by gender, age, incomes, physical condition etc. - Need to eliminate any form of discriminatory practices in employment. 	<p>National Employment Strategy for 2017-2021</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A clearer stipulation of non-discriminatory principles in the "Direction of Actions" section of the Priority #1 of the Strategy, by adding specific actions on eliminating employment discrimination by gender, age, physical abilities and ensuring the enforcement of the principle already embedded into the Moldovan legislation "equal pay for work of equal value". 	<p>Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family</p> <p>Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy.</p>



1	2	3	4	5
8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training	8.6 By 2030, align the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training, to the average value in Central and Eastern Europe, in conditions of sustainable and inclusive development.	- Enhancing the work, education and training inclusiveness for all eligible ages, should be a long-term sustainable target. It means that achieving this target derives from structural improvements in the jobs' market, education and training system, without undermining the macro-economic equilibrium (e.g. raising budgetary deficit).	Strategy for development of the youth sector 2020 How: - The specific priority related to the economic empowerment of youth should be complemented with the empowerment of youth in the field of education and training. - The Strategy should expand its intervention in order to cover the NEETs challenges. Primarily, it should seek that good quality jobs are available for discouraged youth and youth prone to migration, in rural areas in particular, family reconciliation is promoted to target NEETs women, and that education and training is aligned to market needs. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Education. Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family; Ministry of Youth and Sports.
8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms	8.7 Eradicate forced labour, child labour and end human trafficking.	- The issue of recruitment and use of child soldiers is not relevant for Moldova. - Forced labour, child labour and human trafficking are acute problems Moldova is facing, due to high poverty rates, scarce economic opportunities and narrow access to information, especially in the rural areas.	National Plan for Prevention and Fighting the Human Trafficking How: - Extend the policy area in order to cover the issues of forced labour and child labour. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target. Child Protection Strategy 2014-2020. How: - Add a specific objective related to addressing the problem of child labour (consistent with the National Plan for Prevention and Fighting the Human Trafficking). - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institutions: Ministry of Interior Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family.
8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment	8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers.	- The issue of labour rights protection, covering all types of employees, is very important, but, unfortunately, it is not sufficiently emphasized by the state authorities. Additionally, most of the trade unions are very weak (according to the assessment conducted in 2013 by the National Confederation of Employers of Moldova, in only about 13% of companies, there are trade unions).	National Employment Strategy for 2017-2021 How: - The specific objective 3.3 should incorporate more details about the OSH system reform. - The Strategy's vision should be complemented with the dimension of labour rights protection. New document needed on the implementation of OSH How: - The document should incorporate fully the 8.8 SDG target, by in line with the National Employment Strategy and set up a detailed action plan for implementation.	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family. Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Bureau for Migration and Asylum of the Republic of Moldova.
8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products	8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism, that encourages the implementation of public-private partnerships,	- Moldova has a large and yet unexplored touristic potential, that could be a decent source of jobs, revenue taxes for the local government and, hence, a driver of regional development.	Tourism Development Strategy "Tourism 2020" How: - Integration of the principle of private-public partnerships into the Strategy's vision and specific objectives, as a horizontal measure, and specific measures of implementation into the Action Plan.	Key institution: Tourism Agency of Moldova Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Culture; Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions.



1	2	3	4	5
	develops the capacities of the local government in this field and, respectively, creates jobs and promotes local culture and products	- Given the scarce financial resources at the local level, it is necessary to stimulate the creation of private-public partnerships in unleashing Moldova's touristic potential.	- Add a specific objective on the development of capacities of the local governments in the area of sustainable tourism. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	
8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all	8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all	- The financial sector in Moldova is relatively weak in fulfilling its core function of channelling the savings into investments (the share of domestic credit to GDP, in 2015, in Moldova represented 34% - much lower compared to Central Europe and Baltics (49%)). According to the IMF's Financial System Assessment Program (conducted in 2014), the insurance sector is small and is almost entirely restricted to motor insurance. The same document points that the overall nonbank financial institutions and markets are still small and underdeveloped.	It is necessary to speed up the process of adoption of the Strategy of development of the financial non-banking sector.	Key institution: National Bank of Moldova; National Commission of Financial Markets; Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finances.

Priority SDG 8 targets

Out of ten SDG targets, the most important one is considered to be:

- Target 8.3 - *Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.* It is explained by its very complex and comprehensive nature, incorporating the entire concept of development-oriented policies, with the focus on empowering the private sector as the key source of decent jobs, innovation and long-term development. According to our estimation, the meeting this target, will generate an important chain of spillover effects over many other targets from the eighth SDG (all targets except for 8.4 - Environmentally-decoupled growth, and 8.9 – Sustainable tourism), as well as from other SDGs (1.1 – Eradicate extreme poverty; 1.2 - Reduce multi-lateral poverty; 2.3 - Increase agricultural productivity; 3.7 - Access to reproductive health services; 3.8 - Universal health coverage; 5.1 - End gender discrimination, 9.2 - Promote sustainable industrialization; 9.3 - SMEs access to finance; 9.4 - Cleaner industrial processes, 10.1 - Shared prosperity; 10.2 - Promote inclusion; 10.4 - Achieve greater equality; 12.6 - Socially responsible companies; 16.4 - Reduce organized crime and arms trafficking; and 16.5 - Reduction of corruption.



Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

It is recommended to integrate into the domestic policy planning all five targets of the ninth SDG. All targets need to be slightly adapted, with no visionary divergences between the national and global priorities. The main discrepancy could be noted for the target 9.5: whereas the original target includes many quantitative aspects, which also pose, implicitly, some



budgetary commitments in relation to the R&D sector, the adapted version puts more emphasis on the outcomes of this sector (e.g. impact on economic competitiveness). All targets can be integrated into the existing policy planning documents, most of them needing to be updated in order to properly reflect the ninth SDG. The Ministry of Economy is the key institution responsible for the implementation of most of the targets, being also supported by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure.

Table 9. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 9

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all	9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient physical and business infrastructure in the regions in order to support economic growth, development and the wellbeing of the population, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.	Weak infrastructure represents one of the key constraints of Moldova's competitiveness. According to the Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017, Moldova is ranked 110 th out of 138 countries according to the quality of overall transport infrastructure, 138 th out of 138 countries (last place) according to the state of cluster development, 128 th and 113 th out of 138 countries according to the local supplier quantity and, respectively, quality.	National Development Strategy How: - Integrate the SDG target into a specific development priority of Moldova, given its multiple spillover effects.	Key institution: Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance; National Agency for Cadastre and Land Registration
9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries	9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization in order to increase, by 2030, the employment and industry's share in GDP close to the average level in Central and Eastern Europe.	Moldova has a large untapped potential in its industrial sector, which is a key source of exports, jobs and sustainable development for the country.	National Development Strategy How: - Define the concept of "sustainable industrialisation" and integrate it into the Strategy's action plan. Concept for Cluster Development of the Industrial Sector of the Republic of Moldova How: - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Economy Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance.
9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets	9.3 Increase the access of SMEs to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets	The fact that SMEs in Moldova represent the largest majority of companies (97% of total number of firms), and, at the same time, only 31% of total sales revenue of companies (in 2015), reveal that they are exposed the most to the existing constraints of the Moldovan business climate.	Strategy for Developing the SME Sector for 2012-2020 How: - Integrating the objective of export development of SMEs and, respectively, adding relevant performance indicator; - Include a broader concept of access to financial services (not only to finances).	Key institution: Ministry of Economy and the Organization for SME Development. Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance; National Bank of Moldova; National Commission of Financial Markets



1	2	3	4	5
9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities	9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, taking action in accordance with the respective capabilities	Resource-use efficiency and environmentally sustainable development of the industrial sector should be a major priority for Moldova, given its scarce natural resources and high vulnerability to climate-related shocks. This priority complements the target 9.2, as Moldova not only needs a stronger and larger industrial sector, but also a modern and sustainable one, that would not hamper the environment and the natural resources.	Environment Strategy for 2014-2023 How: - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target. Concept for Cluster Development of the Industrial Sector of the Republic of Moldova How: - Integrate into the general objective of the document the concept of environment sustainability, so that the policies would not pursue the objective of industrialization for the sake of industrialization, but would rather take into account sustainability principles and the environmental impact. - Add a specific objective about increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Economy Partner institutions: Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Finance; National Agency for Cadastre and Land Registration
9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending	9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors, as well as encouraging innovation in order to boost economic competitiveness and the wellbeing of the population	This policy priority is one of the most important for the country, given the limited natural resources and the need to boost the efficiency and productivity, which can not be achieved without a comprehensive upgrading of technological capabilities of industrial sectors.	Innovation Strategy for 2013-2020 "Innovations for competitiveness" How: - Increasing the focus on the industrial sector, and, respectively, adding relevant performance indicator.	Key institutions: Ministry of Economy; Academy of Sciences Partner institutions: Ministry of Finances;
9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020	9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet by 2020	The target is vitally important for the country, both from the economic (stimulates the competitiveness) and social (stimulates the interconnection among the population, as well as leads to the modernization and inclusion of public services) points of view.	National development strategy "Digital Moldova 2020" How: Pillar I of the strategy should be complemented with an additional specific objective related to the facilitation of the access of the population, especially from rural areas, to mobile telephony services.	Key institutions: Ministry of Information Technology and Communications; Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; NRAECIT

Priority SDG 9 targets

The analysis revealed one mostly evident priority target:

- **Target 9.1** - *Develop physical and business infrastructure in the regions in order to support economic growth and the wellbeing of the population.* The quality of infrastructure in Moldova is one of the poorest in the region. According to the Global Competitiveness Report



2016-2017, Moldova is ranked 118th out of 138 countries according to the quality of transport infrastructure, last place (138th out of 138 countries) according to the state of cluster development, 128th and 113rd places out of 138 countries according to the Local supplier quantity and, respectively, Local supplier quality. Therefore, even minor improvements in this area could lead to important spillover effects over the private sector development. Thus, according to our analysis, this target, if achieved, can lead to meeting the target 9.2 (Promote sustainable industrialization) and target 9.3 (SMEs access to finance) from within the ninth SDG, as well as other targets from other SDGs: target 1.5 (Enhance resilience to disasters), target 2.3 (Increase agricultural productivity), target 4.1 (Access to basic education), target 4.2 (Access to pre-school education), target 6.1 (Access to drinking water), target 6.2 (Access to sanitation), target 6.3 (Improve water quality), target 6.5 (Integrated water management), target 7.1 (Access to energy), target 8.1 (Sustained economic growth), target 8.5 (Full and productive employment), target 8.6 (Increase youth employment / enrolment), target 8.9 (Promote sustainable tourism), target 11.2 (Access to transport system), target 11.3 (Regions sustainable development), target 11.5 (Build resilience to disasters) and target 14.1 (Reduce water pollution).



Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

Five of seven targets are reflected partially by national policy documents, which, fragmentarily and narrowly, include various parts and aspects of the targets. For example, target 10.2 is reflected in 11 policy documents, which still do not fully cover the target. That is why a more comprehensive and inclusive approach is needed. Taking into account this reason, as well as the fact that many targets are referring to income of citizens and poverty reduction, which in fact is the result (impact) of implementation of many national policy documents, it is advisable to reflect all targets in a policy document on economic growth, which is in this case National Development Strategy. At the same time, different category of people could be tackled more detailed in sector policy document on business, regional and rural development, social protection, gender, labour (targets 10.1, SDG 10.2, SDG 10.7). A prominent role in implementing all targets has Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, taking into consideration its leading role and mandate in promoting inclusion and labour market policies. At the same time, key partner institutions are Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Finance. Two targets are not relevant (targets 10.5 and SDG 10.6).

Table 10. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 10

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
10.1. By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average	10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average	Statistical data reflect a reduced rate of income from salary, especially for vulnerable groups, which is insufficient to cover current spending	National Development Strategy. National Strategy on agriculture and rural development (2014-2020) How: - Define, desegregate and explore more on target group of population; - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on income in different regions and economic sectors; - Include objective on rural services extension in the National Strategy on agriculture and rural development (2014-2020)	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry;



1	2	3	4	5
			- Add performance indicators specific to target 10.1.	Ministry of Regional Development and Construction
10.2. By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status	10.2. By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status	- There are still persistent problems in promoting social and economic inclusion, due to stereotypes and normative framework; - There are regional disparities, especially among weak South and more developed Centre and North	- National Development Strategy. - National action plan on human rights (draft). How: - Define, desegregate and explore more on the target group of population; - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions for each target group; - Add performance indicators specific to target 10.2.	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry; Ministry of Regional Development and Construction; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Youth and Sport.
10.3. Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard	10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard	- This target is influencing a range of targets from many SDGs; - Current situation; - Pressures from the society and international partners	- National Development Strategy. - National action plan on human rights (draft). How: - Analyse and define existent discriminatory laws, policies and practices; - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on this issue; - Add performance indicators specific to target 10.3.	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Justice
10.4. Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality	10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality	This dimension is still under-explored in Moldova	National Development Strategy. Road map for competitiveness improvement (2014-2021) How: - Analyse and define existent discriminatory laws, policies and practices; - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on this issue; - Add performance indicators specific to target 10.4.	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry; Ministry of Regional Development and Construction
10.5. Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations	Not relevant	-	-	-
10.6. Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions	Not relevant	-	-	-



1	2	3	4	5
10.7. Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies	10.7 Ensure a legal, equitable, well-informed hiring process of migrants	- Moldova is deeply influenced negatively by massive migration of labor; - it is vitally important for the country to organize migration processes in a predictable manner, to open and take out from grey zone the labor markets of the states where Moldovan citizens migrate, to organize and facilitate circular migration.	- Employment Strategy (draft). How: - Integrate the labor of migrants in the national Employment Strategy, as to insure a consolidated approach on labor of Moldovan citizens, regardless the place of work. - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on this issue; - Add performance indicators specific to target 10.7.	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family Partner institutions: State Chancellery; Ministry of Domestic Affairs; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Youth and Sport; Ministry of Health

Priority SDG 10 targets

Due to its broadness and focus on vulnerable people, one target has prominent positive effects on a large number of other targets as follows:

- **Target 10.3** – *Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard* is an important cross-cutting issue which positively influences the whole range of SDG sectors. At the same time, it implies changes of primary layer of policy instruments – legislation, which can be implemented in relatively short period as a background for other targets. It has influence on other 23 targets, covering a range of areas: target 1.1 (eradicate extreme poverty), target 1.2 (reduce multi-lateral poverty), target 3.3 (end the epidemics of communicable diseases), target 3.4 (reduce non-communicable diseases), target 3.8 (universal health coverage), target 4.1 (access to basic education), target 4.2 (access to pre-school education), target 4.3 (increase enrolment in professional education), target 4.5 (access of vulnerable to education), target 5.1 (end gender discrimination), target 5.2 (end family violence), target 5.3 (end children forced marriages), target 5.5 (promote women in decision making), target 6.1 (access to drinking water), target 6.2 (access to sanitation), target 7.1 (access to energy), target 8.1 (sustained economic growth), target 10.1 (shared prosperity), target 10.4 (achieve greater equality), target 11.2 (access to transport system), target 16.1 (reduction of violence), target 16.2 (end children abuse) and target 16.5 (reduction of corruption).

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

All seven targets of the eleventh SDG are recommended to be integrated into the domestic policy planning. All targets were adapted to the domestic context, but with minor changes. In most cases, the adapted targets are recommended to be integrated into the existing Strategies and action plans, except for the target 11.1, which needs to be addressed by a new strategy. The implementation of this SDG falls on the responsibility of many institutions (Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure, Ministry Regional Development and Constructions, Tourism Agency of Moldova and Ministry of Environment), which reflects the complexity of this SDG.



Table 11. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 11

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums	11.1 By 2030, ensure access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services for all socially vulnerable people and young families.	Moldova faces the issue of high poverty rate and social exclusion, especially outside the municipalities.	- Elaborate a new Strategy on development of social services, with the focus on meeting the target 11.1. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family; Partner institutions: Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions.
11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons	11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport.	Moldova has among the worst roads in the region, if not the entire world (According to the Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017, Moldova is ranked 132 nd out of 138 countries according to the quality of roads). This problem is especially acute at the local level and often undermines the road safety and leads to social inclusion of the most vulnerable social groups.	Transport and Logistics Strategy for 2013-2022 How: - Integration of the principles of road safety into the vision of the document. - Prioritise the extension of the public transport network in order to prevent the social and economic exclusion due to the transport and road infrastructure. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target	Key institution: Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance; Local Public Administration.
11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries	11.3 Supporting the sustainable development of the regions and ensuring a polycentric urban system	Moldova faces important disparities in terms of regional development, with the main economic, administrative and social life being highly concentrated in the capital city. Hence, it needs a more balanced development in terms of geography.	Regional Development Strategy 2016-2020 How: - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry Regional Development and Constructions. Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance; Local Public Administration.
11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage	11.4 Strengthen efforts and ensure the financial support to conserve and safeguard the cultural and natural heritage of the Republic of Moldova	Moldova's cultural potential remains unexplored, given the lack of proper institutional instruments and of the lack of financial coverage for implementing policies for conservation/ protection of the cultural patrimony.	Strategy for culture development "Culture 2020" How: - It is necessary to prioritize the creation of the National Institute for Historical Monuments – institution responsible for the implementation of specific objectives 1.1 and 1.2 of the Strategy; - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Culture Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Tourism Agency of Moldova; Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions; Ministry of Finance.
11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters,	11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the direct economic losses caused by disasters.	Moldova is highly exposed to various climate-related shocks, primarily due to its high reliance on the agrifood sector (According to the National Strategy on Agricultural and Rural Development 2014-2020, the decline in agricultural production as a result of natural calamities causes losses	National Security Strategy of the Republic of Moldova How: - The strategy should define what type of disasters are the most relevant for Moldova and prioritize, respectively, the resources. - Add a specific objective on reduction of direct economic losses caused by disasters;	Key institution: Ministry of Internal Affairs Partner institutions: State Weather Service, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Health.



1	2	3	4	5
with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations		of about 3.5%-7.0% of GDP. The high level of exposure is also determined by the poor development of the insurance sector (Financial System Assessment Program, conducted in 2014). Thus, the share of insurance premiums against natural calamities represent only 8-9% of total insurance premiums.	- Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	
11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management	11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management	The poor waste management threatens the environment, including the air quality, which needs proper and long-term policy response.	Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023 How: - The Strategy is aligned. It is necessary to add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance.
11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities	11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to sufficient, safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces.	According to the Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023, the areas of green public spaces are rapidly shrinking due to their massive conversion into construction sites. Lately, many green public spaces have been eroded close to water basins, neighbourhood squares and municipal parks.	Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023 How: - Add a specific objective and clear measures into the Action Plan on extension of universal access to sufficient, safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target National Strategy of Regional Development for 2016-2020 How: - Add a specific objective on enhancing the capacities of the local governments in the extension of universal access to sufficient, safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target	Key institution: Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance.
11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning	11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning	The target is adopted without adjustments.	National strategy for regional development 2016-2020 How: - The third specific objective of the Strategy should be complemented with an additional measure related to fostering the urban and regional planning. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target	Key institution: Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy.



Priority SDG 11 targets

The analysis revealed two priority targets:

- **Target 11.2** – *By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.* While Moldova has the poorest Transport infrastructure in the region (it is ranked 118th out of 138 countries according to the quality of transport infrastructure, according to the Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017), it desperately needs a proper transport system. The reason lies in the high fragmentation of its administrative units, which need to be interlinked through a well-established transport system in order to allow the people and firms to benefit of public and private services (e.g. traveling to the closest hospital or school; accessing the closest market or supplier etc.). Therefore, achieving this target will serve as a trigger for a range of other targets from the eleventh SDG (influences the 11.3 target - Regions sustainable development, and 11.5 target - Build resilience to disasters), as well as from other SDGs (influences the target 1.5 - Enhance resilience to disasters, target 2.3 - Increase agricultural productivity, target 3.6 - Halve road accidents victims, target 3.8 - Universal health coverage; target 4.1 - Access to basic education, target 4.2 - Access to pre-school education, target 4.5 - Access of vulnerable to education, target 8.2 - Higher economic productivity, target 8.9 - Promote sustainable tourism, target 10.2 - Promote inclusion, target 10.3 - Eliminate discriminatory practices).
- **Target 11.6** - *By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.* It influences the target 11.3 - Regions sustainable development, as well as many targets from other SDGs (target 3.3 - End the epidemics of communicable diseases, target 3.9 - Reduce hazards-related mortality and morbidity, target 6.3 - Improve water quality, target 6.4 - Increase water-use efficiency, target 6.6 - Restore water-related ecosystems, target 7.3 - Increase energy efficiency, target 8.4 - Environmentally-decoupled growth, target 13.1 - Ensure climate-resilience, target 14.1 - Reduce water pollution, target 15.1 - Protect water ecosystems, target 15.2 - Sustainable forests management, and target 15.5 - Halt biodiversity losses).

Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

All eight targets of the 12th SDG are recommended to be integrated into the domestic policy planning, as they are found to be very important for Moldova. The 12th SDG is mainly concerned with integrating the green economy principles into the policy and procurement planning. Therefore, there are three key institutions responsible for its implementation: (i) Ministry of Environment, (ii) Ministry of Economy and (iii) Ministry of Finance. The close coordination among these institutions is essential to make the concept of green economy work in Moldova, because the planned policy interventions are directly related to the business climate, energy sector, as well as the public finances and even tax policy. Currently, the most relevant policy-planning document is the Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023. However, it needs to be amended in order to extend its vision and focus at the level of economic and fiscal incentives and sustainability principles from the perspective of firms. Importantly, this document should not be the document of the Ministry of Environment only, but rather a result of inter-institutional coordination and consolidated vision among the mentioned Ministries.



Table 12. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 12

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
12.1 Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries	12.1 Integrate and implement the principles of sustainable consumption and production into relevant national policy	The principles of "green economy", "sustainable consumption" or "sustainable production", are almost absent in the country's policy planning framework, which leads to the ignorance by policymakers of this issue and underinvestment in this areas (according to the Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023).	Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023 How: - The Strategy should define the notions of "sustainable consumption" and "sustainable production". - The second specific objective of the Strategy should include more details about the "sustainable consumption" and "sustainable production". It should comprise two specific objectives related to ensuring sustainable consumption and production into the private and public sectors. - Specify in the Action Plan, clear fiscal and non-fiscal incentives to stimulate the sustainable production and consumption. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry. Partner institutions: State Environmental Inspectorate.
12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources	12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources	Sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources is a key precondition for ensuring a sustainable economic development.	Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023 How: - The Strategy is aligned with the SDG target. However, it lacks a prioritization. Thus, the Strategy should be complemented with the types of natural resources to which priority should be given in achieving their sustainable management and use. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance Partner institutions: State Environmental Inspectorate.
12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses	12.3 By 2030, significantly reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.	The Moldovan economy is highly exposed to the agrifood sector, which accounts for about 40% total exports of goods and 30% of total employment. At the same time, this sector suffers from under-investments and poorly developed supply chains (National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development 2014-2020). Although, there are no estimations for Moldova about food losses, most likely this is an important problem, given the mentioned structural issues in the agrifood sector.	National Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development 2014-2020 How: - The specific objective 1.1 of the Strategy, related to the modernization of the value-chains of the agrifood sector, needs to be complemented with measures aimed at downsizing the food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry; Partner institutions: Minister of Economy.



1	2	3	4	5
12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment	12.4 Creation of integrated waste and chemicals management systems that would contribute to a 30% reduction in the amount of landfilled waste and a 20% increase in recycling rate until 2023	According to the Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023, in Moldova there is a lack of integrated waste and chemicals management systems, in accordance with international requirements.	Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023 How: - The strategy is well-aligned to the respective SDG. It needs to be complemented with relevant performance indicators.	Key institution: Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance Partner institutions: State Environmental Inspectorate.
12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse	12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse, especially at the municipal level.	According to the Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023, there is a lack of responsibility of local public authorities to address waste management problems at the local level. Another major problem is related to the storage/disposal of waste in inappropriate places, non-compliance with environmental requirements, large number of unauthorized storages and landfills that do not meet the criteria.	Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023 How: - The Strategy's eight specific objective needs to be complemented with more specific actions aimed at prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse, especially at the municipal level. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target. National Waste Management Strategy of the Republic of Moldova for 2013-2027 How: - The strategy is well-aligned to the respective SDG. It needs to be complemented with relevant performance indicators.	Key institution: Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance Partner institutions: State Environmental Inspectorate; Local Public Administration.
12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle	12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle	Ensuring sustainable consumption and production is not only the responsibility of governments, but also of companies, which should be stimulated in this regard.	Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023 How: - The Strategy should define the terms "sustainable practices" and "sustainability information." - Integration of specific incentives for companies to adopt and implement sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target..	Key institution: Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance Partner institutions: State Environmental Inspectorate.
12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities	12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities	Public procurement should be one of the most important signs of the Government's commitment to support sustainable development, which should serve as example for the private sector.	Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023 How: - Add a specific objective on promoting sustainable public procurement practices. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target.	Key institution: Ministry of Finance Partner institutions: Ministry of Environment; Public Procurement Agency.



1	2	3	4	5
12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature	12.8 By 2030, ensure that people, both in rural and urban areas, have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature	There is a low understanding and awareness among the population in Moldova about the importance of sustainable development. Nevertheless, this is one of the most cost-efficient measures of building a resilient green economy.	Environmental Strategy for the years 2014-2023 How: - Add into the action plan of the Strategy a comprehensive communication campaign about sustainable development. - Add performance indicators, consistent with the SDG target. National Waste Management Strategy of the Republic of Moldova for 2013-2027 How: - The Strategy will be complemented with an additional specific objective related to the education of the population about rational waste management.	Key institution: Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Finance Partner institutions: State Environmental Inspectorate.

Priority SDG 12 targets

The analysis revealed two priority targets, the first one is related to the public policies, and the second one to the contribution of the private sector:

- **Target 12.1** - *Integrate sustainable consumption and production into relevant national policy.* Although, its effects will be visible in long-term, it has important positive spillovers on people's health (target 3.9), water quality (target 6.3), water-use efficiency (target 6.4), energy efficiency (target 7.3), economic productivity (target 8.2), environmentally-decoupled growth (target 8.4), reduction of urban waste (target 11.6), sustainable management of natural resources (target 12.2), water recycling (target 12.5), private sector (target 12.6), sustainable public procurement (target 12.7), water pollution (target 14.1), water ecosystems (target 15.1), combat soil degradation (target 15.3), halt biodiversity losses (target 15.5).
- **Target 12.6** - *Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle.* Meeting this target could facilitate the implementation of sustainable agriculture (target 2.4), increase water-use efficiency (target 6.4), increase energy efficiency (target 7.3), environmentally-decoupled growth (target 8.4), protect labor rights (target 8.8), develop cleaner industrial processes (target 9.4), access to transport system (target 11.2), reduction of urban waste (target 11.6), sustainable management of natural resources (target 12.2), sound management of hazardous chemicals and wastes (target 12.4), waste recycling (target 12.5), reduction of water pollution (target 14.1), sustainable forests management (target 15.2), combating soil degradation (target 15.3), halting biodiversity losses (target 15.5).

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

The SDG 13 includes only three global targets calling for strengthening the adaptive capacities (target 13.1), integrating climate-change measures in the national policy (target 13.2) and raising the level of social and policy awareness about climate change (target 13.3). They are already included in the National strategy for adaptation to the climate change until 2020. Considering its mandate, the Ministry of Environment should play the key role in the implementation of the SDG 13. However, significant support will be necessary from many partner institutions, including Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education and



State Chancellery. The latter two institutions will be central in building the climate-change awareness and in horizontal integration of climate-change measures across many policies.

Table 13. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 13

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
13.1. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries	13.1. By 2020, ensure the climate-resilience by reducing by 50 percent climate-related risks and by facilitating the adaptation in 6 priority sectors – agriculture, water, health, forestry, energy and transport	Emphasizes the need to target priority sectors	Strategy for logistics and transport, National Health Policy, and Energy Strategy have to be amended in order to include relevant climate-change adaptation goals and targets.	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture
13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning	No change	No need to amend planning documents	Key institution: State Chancellery Partner institutions: Ministry of Environment
13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning	13.3 Consolidating the institutional framework related to climate change and raise awareness on climate change risks and adaptation measures of all relevant stakeholders, including population	National target is more specific	No need to amend planning documents	Key institution: Ministry Economy Partner institutions: State Chancellery, Ministry of Education.

Priority SDG 13 targets

- **Target 13.1** - *Ensure the climate-resilience by reducing climate-related risks and by facilitating the adaptation in 6 priority sectors.* This is the most important of the SDG 13 and its influence goes across majority of other SDGs. Building up the climate resilience and adopting relevant measures will reduce vulnerability of the poor to extreme climate events (target 1.5), improve the agricultural productivity and food security (targets 2.3 and 2.4), will help achieving greater efficiency in the use of water (6.4) and reduce the losses caused by disasters (target 11.5). The target is also expected to directly help reaching five of the eight nationally relevant targets covered by SDG 15 (Live on land).



Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the water resources

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

The SDG 14 name has been adapted to reflect the Moldovan geographic realities (no direct access to oceans and seas). For the same reason, with significant changes, only two targets have been found to remain relevant for Moldova. Target 14.1 foresees prevention and significant reduction of the surface water pollution from land-based activities and currently is not included in the national framework. The target 14.4 has been renamed to specify elimination of illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing. The national Environment Strategy needs to be amended in order to incorporate in a much bolder formulation both targets. The Ministry of Environment has best institutional clout to play the role of key responsible for the target 14.1 (reduction of the water pollution), with the adequate support from the Environmental State Inspection. In case of the elimination of the illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, the Fishery Service has been identified as the key responsible institution.



Table 14. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 14

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution	14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce surface water pollution, in particular from land-based activities	Reflects Republic of Moldova's geography	The Environment Strategy for 2012-2023 How: - incorporate more specifically and bolder the nationalized target. - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: Environmental State Inspection
14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans	Not relevant	–	–	–
14.3 Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels	Not relevant	–	–	–
14.4 By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics	14.4 By 2020, eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing	Reflects Republic of Moldova's access to water resources	The Strategy regarding biological diversity of Republic of Moldova for the years 2015-2020 and the related Plan of Actions How: - incorporate the proposed nationalized target; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Fishery Service Partner institutions: Environmental State Inspection
14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information	Not relevant	–	–	–
14.6 By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation	Not relevant	–	–	–
14.7 By 2030, increase the economic benefits to Small Island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism	Not relevant	–	–	–



Priority SDG 14 targets

- **Target 14.1** – *Reduction of the water pollution, including from land-based activities.* This is a relatively important target with a set of more immediate impacts than the other one (target 14.4). Its direct linkages go to targets 1.5 (resilience of the poor against climate-related hazards), 2.4 (more resilient agricultural practices), 3.9 (reduce hazards-related mortality and morbidity) and 6.6 (protection of the water-related eco-systems).



Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

As defined by the Global Agenda 2013, the SDG 15 includes 9 targets, out of which one has been found irrelevant for the Republic of Moldova (target 15.4 on the protection of the mounts-related ecosystems). Considering the institutional mandate, the Ministry of Environment will inevitably remain the key institution expected to act for the amendment of the national strategies, as well as for the achievement of the targets set out. The Environmental State Inspection and the “Moldsilva” State Agency will be the Ministry’s key partners in the implementation process. The Biodiversity Strategy for 2015-2020 is main policy document necessary to amend. The Ministry of Agriculture will be main authority responsible for the target 15.3 dealing with prevention of soil degradation. A cross-cutting precondition for achieving the SDG 15 targets is for the Government and local public authorities to mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use the biodiversity and domestic ecosystems (target 15.a). Increase in the financial envelope should be obviously accompanied with due transparency and efficiency in the financial management of individual projects and of the policy as a whole.

Table 15. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 15

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements	15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests and wetlands.	Reflect better the geographic conditions of the Republic of Moldova and policy priorities	The Biodiversity Strategy for 2015-2020. How: - adopt the nationalized target as proposed; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: Environmental State Inspection “Moldsilva” State Agency. Academy of Science of Moldova Ministry of Finance
15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally	15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation.	The word “globally” has been removed.	The Biodiversity Strategy for 2015-2020. How: adopt the nationalized target as proposed; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: “Moldsilva” State Agency. Academy of Science of Moldova Ministry of Finance



1	2	3	4	5
15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world	15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world	No change	Program for soils conservation and increasing soils fertility for the years 2011-2020 How: - amend the program by adopting the nationalized target, with ensuing indicators; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Agriculture / Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: State Hydro-meteorological Service, Academy of Science of Moldova, Agency for Cadastre
15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development	Not relevant	-	-	-
15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species	15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species	No change	The Biodiversity Strategy for 2015-2020. How: - adopt the nationalized target as proposed; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: "Moldsilva" State Agency, Ministry of Education
15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed	15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed	No change	The Environment Strategy for 2012-2023 How: - incorporate more specifically and bolder the nationalized target; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institutions: Academy of Sciences of Moldova
15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products	15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products	No change	The Biodiversity Strategy for 2015-2020. How: - include the proposed nationalized target as it is; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment
15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species	15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species	No change	The Biodiversity Strategy for 2015-2020. How: - include the proposed nationalized target as it is; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment
15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts	15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts and territory improvement plans	The words "and territory improvement plans" have been added	The Biodiversity Strategy for 2015-2020. How: - include the proposed nationalized target as it is; - include the relevant indicators;	Key institution: Ministry of Environment Partner institution: Ministry of Regional Development and Constructions



Priority SDG 15 targets

Out of the eight relevant nationalized targets, two stand out as the most prominent in terms of systemic impact.

- **Target 15.3** - *Combating the soils degradation*. The target 15.3 has six direct linkages but plays a more important role in the overall network, considering the fact that it has immediate impact on the capacities of the poor to withstand the climate-change challenges (target 1.5) and on the overall agricultural productivity (target 2.3) and sustainability (target 2.4).
- **Target 15.9** - *Integrate biodiversity values in the policy*. The target has direct positive implications on eight other targets, but all recipients are in the SDG 14 and 15 and therefore its long-term impact is intermediated by other secondary targets.



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

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

Given that SDG 16 targets are very comprehensive and refer to the efficiency of public administration which is crucial to implement the rest of SDGs, almost all are considered relevant for the Republic of Moldova as they are globally formulated. However, their adaptation implies as well developing more on different categories of population and including performance indicators. Due to the heterogeneity of targets, these cannot be reflected in one single policy document and more institutions play key role. Also, it is advisable to adapt only sector related policy documents in a comprehensive manner, to avoid overlapping and fragmentation. Target 16.1 and a part of target 16.4 should be reflected in policy document on public order, Ministry of Interior being the key institution. The target 16.2 should be reflected in policy document on child protection, for which the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family is responsible. The target 16.3 and target 16.9 could be included in policy document on justice, Ministry of Justice being leading institution. A part of target 16.4 and target 16.5 should be reflected in anticorruption policy document and key role should be played by the National Anticorruption Centre. The target 16.4 should be split in two targets, as it is tackling two different issues (money laundering and organized crime) which are under two different institutions. The targets 16.6, 16.7 and 16.10 are already included in the Public Administration Reform Strategy 2016–2020, which was recently approved, but, nevertheless, these targets should be taken into consideration for the next strategy on public administration.

Table 16. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 16

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
16.1. Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	16.1 Continuous and dynamic reduction of all forms of violence, especially family violence and sexual violence,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It has a high social importance to contemporary society in order to secure fundamental human rights and freedoms; - Sexual violence phenomenon is increasing; - There are international commitments and it is relevant at the global level; 	National action plan on human rights (Draft) How: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analyse the magnitude and define all possible forms of violence; - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on this issue; 	Key institution: Ministry of Interior Partner institutions: Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family;



1	2	3	4	5
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unfavourable international position of Moldova; - Pressures from the society and international partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Add performance indicators specific to target 16.1. 	Ministry of Health
16.2. End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	16.2 End abuse, neglect, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Every second child was subject to violence at least once in lifetime; - Annually more than 200 cases of sexual abuse of children are registered; - In the 2014-2015 school year over 13,000 cases of violence or child abuse were reported; - There is lack of services for children which were subject of violence or trafficking 	<p>Strategy for child protection (2014-2020)</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analyse and define the magnitude of abuse, neglect, exploitation, trafficking, violence and torture against children; - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on this issue; - Add performance indicators specific to target 16.2. 	<p>Key institution:</p> <p>Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family</p> <p>Partner institutions:</p> <p>Ministry of Interior; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Health; Nation Council for Children Right Protection; Ombudsperson on child rights</p>
16.3. Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all	16.3 Promoting the rule of law and ensuring equal access to justice for all women, men and children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public confidence in justice system is continuously decreasing; - Moldovan government is frequently condemned by the ECHR; - Justice system is not adapted to the needs of children in contact with law; - Justice is at the core of the domestic reforms committed by EU-RM Association Agreement, according to Chapter 4 	<p>New Strategy on Justice Sector Reform (as present one is ending in 2016)</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on equal access to justice; - Add performance indicators specific to target 16.3. 	<p>Key institution:</p> <p>Ministry of Justice</p> <p>Partner institutions:</p> <p>General Prosecutor Office; Ministry of Interior; Ombudsman Office; Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family; Nation Council for Children Right Protection; Ombudsperson on child rights; National Legal Aid Council; National Anticorruption Center</p>
16.4. By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime	16.4.1. Significant reduction of illicit financial flows, improve recovery and return of illicit goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is a challenge and risk to society and state, endangering stability, economic and social security of the state, as well it is an international challenge; - Recent fraud in the banking system; - Reduction of corruption is at the core of the domestic reforms committed by Association Agreement, according to Chapter 4 	<p>National Anticorruption Strategy 2017-2020 (draft)</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions to reduce, to prevent all forms of corruption, which a special focus on principles and methods to recover stolen assets; - Add performance indicators specific to target 16.4. 	<p>Key institution:</p> <p>National Anticorruption Centre</p> <p>Partner institutions:</p> <p>Ministry of Interior; General Prosecutor Office, Information and Security Service</p>
	16.4.2 Combat all forms of organized crime and arms trafficking	<p>It is a challenge and risk to society and state, endangering stability, economic and social security of the state, as well it is an international challenge</p>	<p>New strategy on public order and on prevention and combating organized crime (as present one is ending in 2016)</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions to reduce organized crimes and arms trafficking; - Add performance indicators specific to target 16.4. 	<p>Key institution:</p> <p>Ministry Interior</p> <p>Partner institutions:</p> <p>General Prosecutor Office, Information and Security Service</p>
16.5. Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms	16.5 Significant reduction of corruption and bribery in all its forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resonance cases of high level corruption in public administration; - Current situation is critical and requires immediate intervention; - Dynamics in recent years in Moldova is worrying. 	<p>National Anticorruption Strategy 2017-2020 (draft)</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions to reduce, to prevent all forms of corruption; - Add performance indicators specific to target 16.5. 	<p>Key institution:</p> <p>National Anticorruption Centre</p> <p>Partner institutions:</p> <p>Ministry of Interior; Ministry of Justice; State Chancellery; Court of Accounts</p>



1	2	3	4	5
16.6. Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels	16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels	- Overlapping functions and uncovered areas of responsibilities; - Current situation is critical and requires immediate intervention; - Declining trust in public institutions; - Commitments according to the UE-RM Association Agreement to prepare institutions for European integration processes.	Already included in Public administration reform strategy 2016-2020; it could be included in the next strategy on public administration after 2020	Key institution: State Chancellery Partner institutions: Parliament; Ministry of Finance; Court of Accounts; National Anticorruption Centre; Ombudsman Office.
16.7. Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels	16.7. Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels	- Decision making process is not evidence based and there is not legal requirement to consult and to measure the impact of policy proposals on different categories of population or vulnerable groups; - Commitments according to the UE-RM Association Agreement to prepare institutions for European integration processes.	Already included in Public administration reform strategy 2016-2020; it could be included in the next strategy on public administration after 2020	Key institution: State Chancellery Partner institutions: Parliament; Ministry of Finance; National Anticorruption Center
16.8. Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance	Not relevant	-	-	-
16.9. By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration	16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration	There are still problems in the mechanism which should ensure the right of children to be registered at birth, especially in Roma community and children of migrants	New Strategy on Justice Sector Reform (as present one is ending in 2016) How: - Include all risk groups; - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on providing legal identity to all citizens, as a key factor to insure equal access to the justice; - Add performance indicators specific to target 16.9.	Key institution: Ministry of Justice Partner institutions: Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family; Nation Council for Children Right Protection
16.10. Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements	16.10 Ensure equal access to information for all citizens	- There is not clear definition in the normative framework about what is public interest data, how to access different categories of public information and how public data is managed; - Pressures from the society and international partners; - Commitments according to the EU-RM Association Agreement to prepare institutions for European integration processes.	Already included in Public administration reform strategy 2016-2020; it could be included in the next strategy on public administration after 2020	Key institution: State Chancellery Partner institutions: Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Information Technology and Communications; Agency for Land Relations and Cadastre; National Anticorruption Center; Ombudsman Office

Priority SDG 16 targets

Due to crucial impact of corruption, justice and administration on all SDGs, there could be emphasized three important targets with significant influence on SDG targets:

- **Target 16.3** – *Promote the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice for all women, men and children*, with influence on other 18 targets of seven SDGs. Equal access for all to incorruptible justice is a key indicator of society development and its lack is one of major constraints on economic growth, as the result of reduced trust of population, business, including FDI, in the policies promoted by the government. To ensure justice and rule of law is



important for the implementation of target 5.1 (end gender discrimination), target 5.2 (end family violence), target 8.1 (sustained economic growth), target 8.2 (higher economic productivity), target 8.7 (eradicate work exploitation), target 8.8 (protect labour rights), target 10.2 (promote inclusion), target 10.3 (eliminate discriminatory practices), target 11.2 (access to transport system), target 11.4 (preserve heritage), target 14.4 (eliminate illegal fishing), target 15.7 (end poaching), target 16.1 (reduction of violence), target 16.2 (end children abuse), target 16.4 (reduce organized crime and arms trafficking), target 16.5 (reduction of corruption), target 16.6 (open institutions), target 16.10 (access to public information).

- **Target 16.5** - *Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms*, with direct influence on 27 targets of 12 SDGs. Corruption in fact is endangering the result and the impact of any initiated reform in any sector and, most important, is decreasing needed trust of population in public administration, which in turn also leads to corruption or unfaithful practices. That is why, the reduction of corruption is a priority cross-cutting target that positively influence the implementation of almost all SDGs. To reduce corruption is the key action to ensure the implementation of target 1.3 (implement social protection), target 3.8 (universal health coverage), target 6.3 (improve water quality), target 6.6 (restore water-related ecosystem), target 7.1 (access to energy), target 7.2 (increase access to RES), target 8.1 (sustained economic growth), target 8.8 (protect labour rights), target 9.1 (develop regional infrastructure), target 9.3 (SMEs access to finance), target 10.2 (promote inclusion), target 11.6 (reduce urban waste), target 12.2 (sustainable management of natural resources), target 12.4 (sound management of hazardous chemicals and wastes), target 12.5 (waste recycling), target 12.7 (sustainable public procurement), target 14.1 (reduce water pollution), target 14.4 (eliminate illegal fishing), target 15.1 (protect water ecosystem), target 15.2 (sustainable forest management), target 15.7 (end poaching), target 16.1 (reduction of violence), target 16.2 (end children abuse), target 16.3 (rule of law), target 16.4 (reduce organized crime and arms trafficking), target 16.6 (open institutions) and target 16.10 (access to public information).
- **Target 16.6** - *Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels*, has positive effect on 17 targets of eight SDGs. In general, effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all level is the background for any reform in any sector. Judging on the indicators proposed globally for this target, its scope was narrowed to efficient budgeting according to priorities. Thus it is directly influencing target 1.3 (implement social protection), target 3.8 (universal health coverage), target 8.3 (formal and modern economy), target 8.9 (promote sustainable tourism), target 9.1 (develop regional infrastructure), target 9.3 (SMEs access to finance), target 10.2 (promote inclusion), target 11.1 (access to housing), target 11.2 (access to transport system), target 11.3 (regions sustainable development), target 11.4 (preserve heritage), target 15.1 (protect water ecosystems), target 16.2 (end children abuse), target 16.3 (rule of law), target 16.4 (reduce organized crime and arms trafficking), target 16.5 (reduction of corruption), target 16.6 (open institutions) and target 16.9 (legal identity for all).



Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Recommendations for adapting the domestic policies

Given the specific of seventeenth SDG, as it refers to mean of implementation for the rest of SDGs, which most often could be implemented beyond national boundaries as a result of international cooperation, only four targets were identified as partially aligned to the national agenda and which, taking into account their importance to insure the implementation



of SDGs, should be adapted to the national policy documents. Thus, target 17.1. is focusing on mobilization financial resources, as the basic condition to implements SDGs; target 17.17 is referring to creation of partnerships and participation of business and civil society to decision making process so to ensure that policies and, respectively, public resources are planned, developed and implemented in an evidence-based, transparent, efficient, effective and responsible manner; target 17.18 is one of the basic target for defining, formulating, measuring, monitoring end evaluation all SDGs.

Table 17. Recommendations for adaptation of the SDG 17

SDG target	Recommended adaptation for the domestic policy agenda	Main reason(s) for adaptation of the SDG target	The policy planning document(s) needed to be amended	Key institution(s) responsible for the implementation of the SDG target
1	2	3	4	5
17.1. Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection	17.1. Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through external support, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection	Is focusing on mobilization financial resources, as the basic condition to implements SDGs	Strategy on public finance management development (2013-2020) How: - Extend the scope of the strategy to comprise external support as part of domestically available resources; - Develop evidence-based specific objectives and actions on this issue; - Add performance indicators specific to target 17.1.	Key institution: Ministry of Finance Partner institutions: Ministry of Economy; State Chancellery
17.2. Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.3. Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.4. Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.5. Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.6. Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism	Not relevant	-	-	-



1	2	3	4	5
17.7. Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.8. Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.9. Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.10. Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.11. Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.12. Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.13. Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.14. Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.15. Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.16. Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries	Not relevant	-	-	-
17.17. Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships	17.17. Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships,	Is referring to basic pre-condition to create partnerships and ensure participation of business and civil society to decision making	Strategy on Civil Society Development 2012-2015 (under revision to be extended for the next period)	Key institution: State Chancellery Partner institutions: Parliament



1	2	3	4	5
	building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships	process so to ensure that policies and, respectively, public resources are planned, developed and implemented in an evidence-based, transparent, efficient, effective and responsible manner	<p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft the strategy based on the results of recent evaluation of the previous strategy; - Link the strategy objectives and actions with the public administration reform engagements on transparent a participatory decision making process; - Add performance indicators specific to target 17.17. 	
17.18. By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts	17.18. By 2020, increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts	Is the basic pre-condition for defining, formulating, measuring, monitoring and evaluation all SDGs	<p>Strategy on development of national system of statistics (2016-2020)</p> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include actions needed to create a platform to collect, process and disseminate indicators related to SDG targets; - Make data producers responsible for timely monitoring SDG indicators, by including specific actions, with respective financing in their working plans; - Add performance indicators specific to target 17.18. 	<p>Key institution: National Bureau of Statistics</p> <p>Partner institutions: Producers of statistical data</p>
17.19. By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries	17.19. By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building.			

Priority SDG 17 targets

Considering the focus of the seventh SDG on strengthening means of implementation and partnerships to promote sustainable development, all four targets proposed to be adapted to the national are equally important to be integrated in the national policy framework as pre-conditions to ensure the implementation of SDGs and, broadly, of any national priority and policy.



Chapter 3. CONCLUSIONS AND WAYS FORWARD

Overall, the policy-planning framework of the Republic of Moldova can be considered as partially correlated with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development: out of total of 126 SDG numeric targets, 14 were found as fully aligned⁵, 40 targets – not aligned, while 72 - partially aligned. In many cases, the policy planning documents were considered partially aligned due to a very complex formulation of some SDGs targets, compared to the domestic policy documents. The remaining SDG targets marked with letters were analyzed as well; however, because they are relevant rather for developed countries and international organizations, these targets were not reflected in domestic policy documents.

There are many reasons explaining the gaps between the national policy documents SDGs, ranging from the lack of relevance for the context of Moldova (e.g. SDG 14 targets that are related to protection of seas and oceans), to the lack of a clear and unified vision at the national level about many vitally important issues (e.g. poverty eradication or fighting many diseases). Another reason is related to the different optics of the domestic policy context (e.g. often many SDG targets focus on effects of some policy actions (e.g. increasing the access to financial services), whereas a similar objective is pursued by policy documents targeting the root causes (e.g. governance and integrity within the financial sector).

Taking into account the reasons of identified gaps between the SDG targets and domestic policy documents, we conclude that the existence of these differences is not necessarily a bad thing. Hence, the objective of the nationalization exercise was to address only those gaps that would foster the sustainable development of the country, rather than amending the domestic policies for the sake of uniformity with the 2030 Agenda. In this respect, 99 numeric targets were proposed to be nationalized (proposed to be integrated, in one form or another, into the domestic policy documents), following the consultations with relevant policy stakeholders. The remaining 27 numeric targets were found not relevant for Moldova, mainly due to country peculiarities (e.g. as Moldova does not have access to sea, most of the targets of the fortieth SDG were not recommended for nationalization) and development constraints of the country (e.g. due to the lack of financial resources, most targets of the seventeenth SDGs were not recommended for nationalization). Another 7 SDG targets marked with letters were recommended for nationalization, due to their tangency with Moldova's policy context.

An important aspect of the targets that were recommended for nationalization is related to their levels of detail. For most of the nationalized 99 targets, additional country specific adjustments were defined (e.g. focus on agrifood sector, rural areas etc.), in order to make them more meaningful and less abstract. On the other hand, it was impossible, at this stage, to provide too many details, as this report should not be confused with a policy-planning document. For example, while the target 11.5 is focused on the reduction of direct economic losses caused by disasters, it does not specify what kind of disasters, as this should be the case of a thorough analysis by the relevant policy makers. Alternatively, setting too many details at this stage could mislead the policy-planning framework. In fact, the purpose of this report was not to provide clear instructions on amending the relevant strategies and action plans, but to provide guidance about the policy areas and priorities that need to be incorporated/amended, while the details being subject to specific consultations inside policy circles and with policy stakeholders.

⁵ The target was considered aligned based on 3 criteria: 1. definition / indicator in the national target is in line with global target, 2. the expected trend in the national target is in line with the global target, 3. The disaggregation in the national target is similar to the one in the global target. If neither of these criteria were met, the target was considered not aligned. If at least one of these criteria was not met, the target was considered partially aligned.



Next steps

Based on the recommendations from this report, the Government should initiate the de jure nationalisation of 2030 Agenda. Thus, during 2017-2018, it should implement a comprehensive process of adjusting the entire domestic framework for policy planning in order to integrate all relevant SDGs into the strategies. A special attention should be paid to the central SDG targets that should be integrated into the National Development Strategy.

In order to ensure an effective nationalisation and implementation of SDGs, the Parliament and the civil society should be connected to this process from its onset. Hence, the process of nationalisation should start with the signature of a memorandum between the Government and the Parliament that will ensure, on the one hand, the prioritization of their activities for the nationalisation and implementation of 2030 Agenda and, on the other hand, will motivate the members of Parliament to engage more actively in the process of parliamentary control. The civil society representatives should be also involved into this process, by inviting them to participate in consultations on adjusting the policy planning documents, as well as by ensuring full transparency of the implementation of 2030 Agenda.

The success of the nationalization of SDGs depends on the reliability of the policy planning framework, which is currently flawed. The mapping exercise of existing strategies, roadmaps and action plans revealed that in Moldova there are too many policy documents, which often overlap and contradict among each other, lack proper monitoring and evaluation frameworks and clear division of responsibilities among implementing partners, and are not integrated into the budgetary planning processes. These findings corroborate with the SIGMA Baseline Measurement Report on Moldovan Public Administration, issued in March 2016. According to this assessment, steering of policy content is not fully ensured and the central planning system is not fully developed; the quality of evidence-based policy development through assessment of impacts is not fully consistent, as the analysis is still weak; sectoral strategies are not formulated under uniform rules, costing of reforms is limited to indicating additional resource needs and no alignment with the medium-term budgetary framework (MTBF) is ensured; the monitoring system to provide regular information about the work of the Government is not fully in place; there are general requirements for monitoring and reporting for all policy documents, including strategies, but detailed rules about the form, timeframe and publication requirements of these reports are not developed; sector strategy reports does not provide information about achievements against set objectives, only about outputs and activities; although the reports are prepared, an integrated and clear reporting system for sectoral strategies is missing, as there is no evidence that reports on implementation were provided to the Government or Parliament.

Hence, for an effective implementation of the 2030 sustainable development agenda, Moldova needs a different strategic planning framework, based on three elements. Firstly, a long-term national vision setting document incorporating priority targets of nationalized global 2030 agenda is crucial (i.e. National Sustainable Development Strategy “Moldova 2030”). Secondly, sectoral planning documents of the line ministries should be streamlined and formulated according to strict principles and requirements, focusing on ensuring the achievement of the national sustainable development agenda targets. They should be evidence-based and should have clear objectives, concrete measurable progress and impact indicators and reporting requirements. Thirdly, the mid-term expenditure framework should be fully linked to the national sustainable development strategy and sectorial planning documents in order to ensure that the achievement of targets is financially sustainable. Nevertheless, this might be a longer process and an immediate action of amending the existing mid-term relevant strategies might be optimal. Further, in a new strategic framework, the sustainable development targets should be incorporated in the new sectorial planning document.



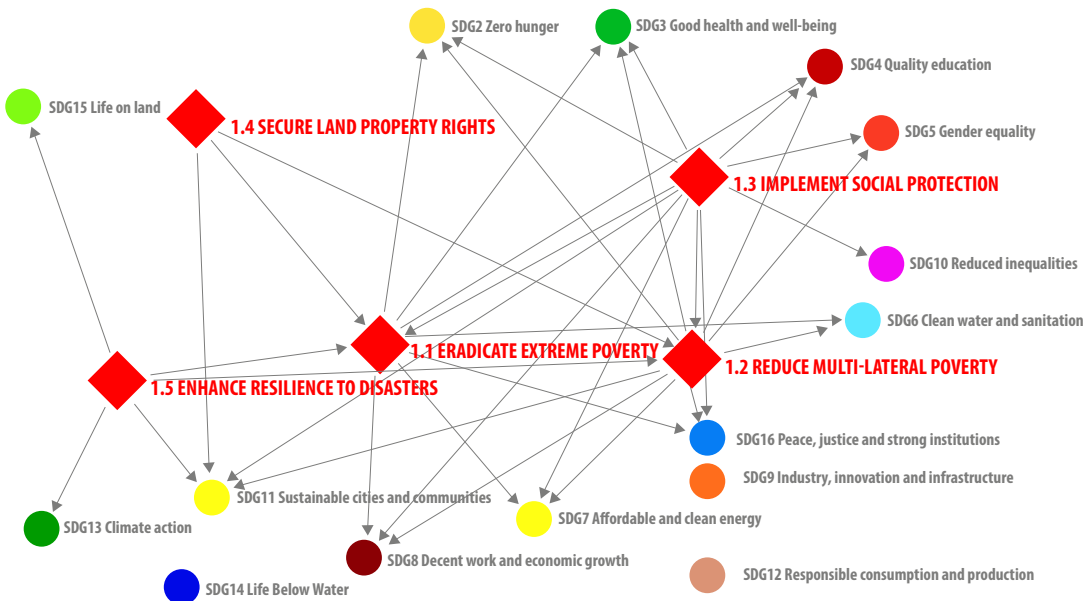
Annex 1. Methodological note on establishing the importance of SDG targets

SDGs include a very large number of development and policy-related targets. For the reasons of policy planning, it is necessary to understand how important different targets and how strongly they influence each other are. This may help a resource scarce country adopt optimal strategic sequencing of development targets by starting with those promising highest systemic gains.

In order to identify important targets, we have approached them not individually but rather as a system of interdependent elements which are part of a directed finite graph. At the first step, we have built the (0,1) adjacency matrix establishing absence or presence of positive immediate influences from each target to the other targets in the set. Absence / presence of first-round positive influences has been determined using collective expertise of the people involved in the development of the Report and the few analyses available for Moldova. At the second step, out-degree centrality measure of each target has been calculated as the total number of targets positively influenced by the former. The targets have been ranked by their out-degrees within each SDG and for the entire set. The targets having the highest out-degrees have been defined as the most important in each SDG.

The out-degree centrality measure has the benefit of being simple and conveying clear messages, but it ignores the higher-order impacts. The higher-order impact could be better captured by other centrality measures used in networks analysis, such as closeness, betweenness or eigenvector centrality. However, using these more advanced measures is meaningful only to the extent that information and data are available to establish a finer structure of mutual inter-dependencies of the SDG targets, including intensity of mutual influences and considering negative connections. Considering the balance of benefits and costs, establishing the importance of the SDG targets based on the out-degree centrality measure has been considered as a reasonable option. It could serve as a starting point for more detailed analyses which are contingent on collection of more evidences and data on the inter-dependency of the SDG development and policy-related targets.

The concept of centrality can be easier understood by visualizing the figure below. It shows that among all targets of SDG 1, the targets 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are the most central because they directly and positively influence most of the other targets in the entire SDG set.



Annex 2. List of Policy Thematic Areas used for Classification of SDG targets

Nº	Thematic area
1	Agriculture and rural development
2	Banks and financial markets
3	Competition and anti-monopoly policy
4	Constructions and urbanism
5	Consumers rights and food security
6	Culture and audiovisual policy
7	Customs policy and trade facilitation
8	Defense and security
9	Disaster management and civil protection
10	Domestic trade and markets
11	Education
12	Employment
13	Energy
14	Entrepreneurship and SMEs
15	Environment and natural resources protection
16	Equal rights and opportunities
17	Foreign policy
18	Foreign trade
19	Health
20	Human rights and freedoms
21	Humanitarian aid
22	Industrial policy
23	IT
24	Justice and prevention of corruption
25	Macroeconomic and financial policy
26	Public administration
27	Public finance and budget
28	Public order
29	Regional development
30	Research, technological development and innovation
31	Social protection, social integration and family
32	Sports
33	Statistics
34	Tax
35	Telecommunications
36	Transport
37	Youth



Annex 3. Correlation between the 2030 Agenda and the EU-RM Association Agreement

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT (parts that correlate with the specific SDG)
1	2
Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere	
1.1. By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty measured as people living on less than \$1.9 a day	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities Title IV. Chapter 27. Cooperation in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child
1.2. By 2030, reduce by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in absolute and multidimensional poverty according to national definitions and international measure of people living on less than 4.3 \$ a day	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities Title IV. Chapter 27. Cooperation in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child
1.3. Implement nationally appropriate social protection system, including social protection floors, to achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable by 2030	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities Title IV. Chapter 27. Cooperation in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child
1.4. By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance and other resources.	Lack of direct correlation
1.5. By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events, including droughts and floods	Title IV. Chapter 17. Climate action Title IV. Chapter 22. Civil protection
1.b. Create sound policy frameworks at the national levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support investment in poverty eradication actions	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities
Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	
2.2. By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons	Lack of direct correlation
2.3. Increase agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers through secure and equal access to productive resources, inputs, knowledge, financial services and markets.	Title IV. Chapter 12. Agriculture and rural development
2.4. By 2030, implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity, help maintain ecosystems and strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather as drought, flooding and other disasters	Title IV. Chapter 17. Climate action
2.c. Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility	Lack of direct correlation
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	
3.1. By 2030, reduce the maternal mortality ratio to less than 13.3 per 100,000 live births	Lack of direct correlation
3.2. By 2030, end preventable deaths of new-borns and children under 5 years of age and reduce neonatal mortality rate to 6 per 1000 live births and preventable deaths of under 5 mortality to 10 per 1000 live births	Lack of direct correlation
3.3. By 2030, reduce transmission of HIV and sexually transmitted infections, especially in key populations and mortality associated with HIV	Title IV. Chapter 21. Public health
3.3. By 2030, reduce the burden of tuberculosis and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases	Title IV. Chapter 21. Public health
3.4.1. By 2030, reduce by 30% premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment.	Title IV. Chapter 21. Public health
3.4.2. Promote mental health and well-being of the population	Lack of direct correlation
3.5. Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and use of alcohol	Title III. Freedom, Security and Justice Title IV. Chapter 21. Public health
3.6. By 2020, reduce by 50% the number of deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents	Lack of direct correlation



1	2
3.7. By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning and to sexual and reproductive information and education	Lack of direct correlation
3.8. Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all	Title IV. Chapter 21. Public health
3.9. By 2030, reduce mortality and morbidity from hazardous chemicals and air and water pollution'	Lack of direct correlation
3.c. Increase financing and efficiency of spending in the health system and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce	Title IV. Chapter 21. Public health
Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	
4.1. By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes	Title IV. Chapter 23. Cooperation on education, training, multilingualism, youth and sport
4.2. By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to early childhood development care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education	Lack of direct correlation
4.3. By 2030, increase enrolment in affordable and quality vocational and higher education	Title IV. Chapter 23. Cooperation on education, training, multilingualism, youth and sport
4.4. By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills for the labour market	Title IV. Chapter 23. Cooperation on education, training, multilingualism, youth and sport
4.5. By 2030, ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities and children in vulnerable situations	Title IV. Chapter 23. Cooperation on education, training, multilingualism, youth and sport
4.7. By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, environmental protection, gender equality, culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development	Title IV. Chapter 23. Cooperation on education, training, multilingualism, youth and sport Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title IV. Chapter 17. Climate action Title IV. Chapter 21. Public health Title III. Freedom, Security and Justice
4.a. Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all	Title IV. Chapter 23. Cooperation on education, training, multilingualism, youth and sport
Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	
5.1. End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities
5.2. Prevention and elimination of violence against girls and women, including trafficking	Title II. Article 4. Domestic reform Title III. Article 12. Rule of law Title IV. Chapter 27. Cooperation in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child.
5.3. Eliminate early and forced marriages with children	Title II. Article 4. Domestic reform Title IV. Chapter 27. Cooperation in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child
5.4. Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities.
5.5. Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities.
5.6. Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning and to sexual and reproductive information and education	Lack of direct correlation.
Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all	
6.1 By 2023, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for 80 percent of the population and communities and, by 2030, for all.	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title IV. Chapter 20. Regional development, cross-border and regional cooperation
6.2 By 2023, achieve universal access to adequate and equitable sanitation for 65 percent of population and communities and by 2030, for all, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title IV. Chapter 20. Regional development, cross-border and regional cooperation



1	2
6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, reducing the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
6.4. By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
6.5. By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title IV. Chapter 20. Regional development, cross-border and regional cooperation
6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title IV. Chapter 20. Regional development, cross-border and regional cooperation Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	
7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	Title IV. Chapter 14. Energy cooperation Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 11. Trade-related energy
7.2 By 2020, increase up to 20%* the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix	Title IV. Chapter 14. Energy cooperation Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
7.3 By 2020, increase by 20%* the efficiency of the primary energy consumption	Title VI. Chapter 10. Industrial and enterprise policy Title VI. Chapter 14. Energy cooperation Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all	
8.1. Sustain per capita economic growth and, in particular, a GDP growth of at least 3% per year	Lack of direct correlation
8.2. Stimulate the growth of economic productivity at higher rate compared to the real wage growth, through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors, defined as top-priority sectors by the Investment Attraction and Export Promotion Strategy 2016-2020 ((1) agriculture and food industry; (2) automotive industry; (3) business services especially Business Process Outsourcing (BPO); (4) clothing and footwear industry; (5) electronics industry; (6) Information and Communication Technologies; and (7) production of machinery and its parts)	Title IV. Chapter 24. Cooperation in research, technological development and demonstration
8.3. Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities Title IV. Chapter 10. Industrial and enterprise policy Title V. Chapter 5. Section 5. Sub-section 6. Financial services
8.4. Improve progressively, through 2030, resource efficiency in consumption and production to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
8.5. By 2030, align the employment rate to the average value in Central and Eastern Europe, and stimulate productive employment, decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and ensure equal pay for work of equal value	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities
8.6. By 2030, align the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training, to the average value in Central and Eastern Europe, in conditions of sustainable and inclusive development	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities Title IV. Chapter 23. Cooperation on education, training, multilingualism, youth and sport
8.7. Eradicate forced labour, child labour and end human trafficking	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities
8.8. Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities
8.9. By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism, that encourages the implementation of public-private partnerships, develops the capacities of the local government in this field and, respectively, creates jobs and promotes local culture and products	Title IV. Chapter 19. Tourism



1	2
8.10. Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all	Title V. Chapter 5. Section 5. Sub-section 6. Financial services
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	
9.1. Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient physical and business infrastructure in the regions in order to support economic growth, development and the wellbeing of the population, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all	Title IV. Chapter 15. Transport. Article 81 Title V. Chapter 8. Public procurement. Article 271
9.2. Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization in order to increase, by 2030, the employment and industry's share in GDP close to the average level in Central and Eastern Europe	Title IV. Chapter 10. Industrial and enterprise policy
9.3. Increase the access of SMEs to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets	Title IV. Chapter 10. Industrial and enterprise policy
9.4. By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, taking action in accordance with the respective capabilities	Title IV. Chapter 15. Transport. Article 81 Title V. Chapter 8. Public procurement. Article 271 Title IV. Chapter 10. Industrial and enterprise policy
9.5. Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors, as well as encouraging innovation in order to boost economic competitiveness and the wellbeing of the population	Title IV. Chapter 24. Cooperation in research, technological development and demonstration
9.c. Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet by 2020	Title V. Chapter 6. Section 5. Subsection 5. Electronic Communication Networks and Services Title IV. Chapter 18. Information society
Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries	
10.1. By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities Title IV. Chapter 12. Agriculture and rural development
10.2. By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities
10.3. Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities
10.4. Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities Title IV. Chapter 8. Taxation
10.7. Ensure a legal, equitable, well-informed hiring process of migrants	Title III. Article 14. Cooperation on migration, asylum and border management Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	
11.1. By 2030, ensure access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services for all socially vulnerable people and young families	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities
11.2. By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport	Title IV. Chapter 15. Transport. Article 81
11.3. Supporting the sustainable development of the regions and ensuring a polycentric urban system	Title IV. Chapter 20. Regional development, cross-border and regional cooperation
11.4. Strengthen efforts and ensure the financial support to conserve and safeguard the cultural and natural heritage of the Republic of Moldova	Title IV. Chapter 19. Tourism Title IV. Chapter 25. Cooperation on culture, audio-visual policy and media
11.5. By 2030, significantly reduce the direct economic losses caused by disasters	Title IV. Chapter 22. Civil protection
11.6. By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
11.7. By 2030, provide universal access to sufficient, safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment



1	2
11.a. Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title IV. Chapter 20. Regional development, cross-border and regional cooperation
Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	
12.1. Integrate and implement the principles of sustainable consumption and production into relevant national policy	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
12.2. By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
12.3. By 2030, significantly reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses	Lack of direct correlation
12.4. Creation of integrated waste and chemicals management systems that would contribute to a 30% reduction in the amount of landfilled waste and a 20% increase in recycling rate until 2023	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
12.5. By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse, especially at the municipal level	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
12.6. Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
12.7. Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 8. Public procurement
12.8. By 2030, ensure that people, both in rural and urban areas, have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	
13.1. Ensure the climate-resilience by reducing by 50 percent climate-related risks and by facilitating the adaptation in 6 priority sectors – agriculture, water, health, forestry, energy and transport by 2020	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title IV. Chapter 17. Climate action Title IV. Chapter 22. Civil protection
13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning	Title IV. Chapter 17. Climate action Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
13.3 Consolidating the institutional framework related to climate change and raise awareness on climate change risks and adaptation measures of all relevant stakeholders, including population	Title IV. Chapter 17. Climate action
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the water resources	
14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce surface water pollution, in particular from land-based activities	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
14.4 By 2020, eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing	Title IV. Chapter 13. Fishery and fishery policy Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss	
15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests and wetlands.	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation.	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world	Title IV. Chapter 12. Agriculture and rural development Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development
15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development



1	2
15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts and territory improvement plans	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title V. Chapter 13. Trade and sustainable development Title IV. Chapter 1. Public administration reform
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	
16.1. Continuous and dynamic reduction of all forms of violence, especially family violence and sexual violence	Title II. Article 4. Domestic reform Title III. Article 12. Rule of law.
16.2. End abuse, neglect, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	Title IV. Chapter 27. Cooperation in the protection and promotion of the rights of the child.
16.3 Promoting the rule of law and ensuring equal access to justice for all women, men and children	Title II. Article 4. Domestic reform Title III. Article 12. Rule of law
16.4.1. Significant reduction of illicit financial flows, improve recovery and return of illicit goods	Title III. Article 16. Preventing and combating organized crime, corruption and other illegal activities Title III. Article 18. Money laundering and terrorism financing Title IV. Chapter 7. Management of public finances: budget policy, internal control, financial inspection and external audit Title IV. Chapter 8. Taxation
16.4.2. Combat all forms of organized crime and arms trafficking	Title II. Article 10. Small arms and light weapons and conventional arms exports control Title III. Article 16. Preventing and combating organized crime, corruption and other illegal activities Title III. Article 19. Combating terrorism.
16.5. Significant reduction of corruption and bribery in all its forms	Title III. Article 16. Preventing and combating organized crime, corruption and other illegal activities Title II. Article 4. Domestic reform Title IV. Chapter 7. Management of public finances: budget policy, internal control, financial inspection and external audit
16.6. Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels	Title II. Article 4. Domestic reform Title IV. Chapter 1. Public administration reform Title IV. Chapter 7. Management of public finances: budget policy, internal control, financial inspection and external audit Title IV. Chapter 18. Information society Title IV. Chapter 20. Regional development, cross-border and regional level cooperation
16.7. Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels	Title IV. Chapter 1. Public administration reform Title IV. Chapter 18. Information society
16.9. By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration	Title II. Article 4. Domestic reform
16.10. Ensure equal access to information for all citizens	Title IV. Chapter 16. Environment Title IV. Chapter 18. Information society Title IV. Chapter 25. Cooperation on culture, audio-visual policy and media
Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development	
17.1. Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through external support, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection	Title IV. Chapter 7. Management of public finances: budget policy, internal control, financial inspection and external audit Title IV. Chapter 8. Taxation
17.17. Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships	Title IV. Chapter 4. Employment, social policy and equal opportunities Title IV. Chapter 5. Consumer protection Title IV. Chapter 10. Industrial and enterprise policy Title IV. Chapter 26. Civil society cooperation Title IV. Chapter 20. Regional development, cross-border and regional level cooperation
17.18. By 2020, increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts	Title IV. Chapter 6. Statistics
17.19. By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries	Title IV. Chapter 6. Statistics

