Republic of Moldova

EVALUATION PERIOD: 2018-2022

COUNTRY PROFILE

Population: 2.62 million people (2020)
GDP per capita: $13,664 (2020)
HDI value: 0.750 (2020)
Unemployment: 4.71% (2020)
Women in politics: 39.6% in parliament (2021)
Climate change vulnerability: 4-5 severe droughts and 1-2 disastrous floods every 10 years

PROGRAMME OUTCOME AREAS

Total expenditure by programme outcome areas (2018-2021, US$ million)

- Climate change, environment and energy: 4.5
- Sustainable and inclusive growth: 22.4
- Governance, human rights and gender equality: 24.1
CONCLUSIONS

1. UNDP is strategically positioned to support development in Moldova, and is trusted by the Government and international partners.

2. UNDP successfully advanced technical and capacity-building solutions to promote good governance, but system-level reforms were constrained by the changing political landscape and limited commitment.

3. UNDP has played a significant role in confidence building in Transnistria. Some activities have considerable potential for broader scale-up and nationwide implementation.

4. UNDP is a key development partner in the areas of climate change and the environment. It contributed to improvements in environmental governance and has generated results that can support transformative change.

5. UNDP has made notable contributions to promoting and scaling-up gender equality and women’s empowerment. Positive solutions at the individual and system levels were seen in the areas of political engagement, economic empowerment, social inclusion and protection from gender-based violence.

6. UNDP has mainstreamed results-based management in its programming and operations. The consolidation of outcome-level changes at country level is inconsistent and needs to be strengthened.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNDP

1. UNDP should focus on exploring ways to advance governance reforms for greater accountability and participation, and address corruption and other systemic issues. It should build strong and broad coalitions with a range of partners to support the reform process.

2. UNDP should promote digital solutions at the system level across all outcomes and areas of involvement.

3. UNDP should provide strategic and practical policy advice to the Government, and better embed the use of innovations into its policy work to advance institutionalization and scale-up.

4. UNDP needs a consistent approach to supporting vulnerable groups. It should use a human rights-based approach and address the underlying causes of social exclusion, including inequality and marginalization.

5. UNDP should actively promote the green transformation agenda and concepts through its programmes, in line with the European Union Green Deal.

6. UNDP should strengthen the linkages between different levels of programming, ensuring that they are aligned with and contribute to the necessary changes identified.

ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE
By generating evaluative evidence, the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) supports UNDP to achieve greater accountability and facilitates improved learning from experience. The IEO enhances UNDP’s development effectiveness through its programmatic and thematic evaluations and contributes to organizational transparency.

ABOUT ICPEs
The IEO of UNDP conducts Independent Country Programme Evaluations (ICPEs) to assess UNDP’s performance at the country level. These evaluations support the formulation of a new UNDP country programme strategy in facilitating and leveraging national efforts to advance inclusive and sustainable development.