



Luxembourg, 26/05/2025

## Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)<sup>1</sup>

### Overview

<b>Project Name:</b>	UNGHENI-CHISINAU GAS PIPELINE
<b>Project Number:</b>	2013-0294
<b>Country:</b>	Republic of Moldova
<b>Project Description:</b>	Construction of a 120 km natural gas pipeline from Ungheni on the Moldova-Romania border to Chisinau

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

**EIB notes the following Environmental and Social performance and key outcomes at Project Completion.**

The project consisted of 120 km of high-pressure gas transmission pipeline and the related above ground installations, including Block Valve Stations, Gas Pressure Regulation Stations and Pigging Stations. An ESIA was carried out by an international consultant taking into consideration the requirements of the local legislation and the international financial institutions involved in the project.

The impacts caused by the project were mainly temporary by their nature and related to construction works (clearing of rights of way, erosion of the soil, losses of productivity and pollution of the soil, noise, dust, increased traffic, temporary access restrictions, construction camps and lay-down areas, waste disposal, crossing of highways, rails and water ways). These impacts have been effectively managed by appropriate measures during construction to avoid unacceptable nuisance to environment, other parties and the public. The construction of the pipeline was a linear work process and therefore, the project areas were affected only locally and temporarily in the different sections (a few weeks per section). No section was affected for the entire duration of the construction period, which significantly reduced the negative impacts of the construction phase.

The selected pipeline route did not cross any natural reserve, however, it crossed the protective buffer of the Plaiul Fagului Reserve in Nisporeni. The exact routing of the pipeline was determined during the detailed design phase, considering the results of completed preconstruction surveys. A large portion of the project's area is cultivated agricultural land. Besides ephemeral crops like vegetables and cereals, perennial agricultural plants are cultivated in the area, namely orchards and vineyards. The project caused certain permanent and temporary losses of land and crops. Vegetation with short roots, like vegetables, cereals and pastures have been replanted after the construction works were finished. Landowners affected by project have been identified and compensated according to the national law and international requirements.

The project does not serve incremental gas demand; it only provides diversification of gas supply routes and sources. Therefore, no changes in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are associated with the project.

The project did not impact buildings and did not cause involuntary resettlement.

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<sup>1</sup> The template is for ILs and FLs



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Local population was involved in construction works as workforce, which is considered as a positive social impact of the project. The improved access to gas, the security of supply and the improved competition in the gas market are long term positive socio-economic impacts of the project.

Within the ESIA process studies were undertaken to evaluate the environmental and biodiversity aspects of the project and measures to prevent or minimize potential impacts have been identified. An environmental management plan was developed accompanied with management plans including mitigation measures, management actions and KPIs for specific areas as biodiversity, community health, safety and security, handling of hazardous materials, HSE for construction; labour and working conditions; soil management, spill prevention, traffic, waste handling, water crossings and water resources.

Based on the monitoring reports provided by the Promoter the implementation of the project was carried out without significant environmental issues. The environmental risks have been properly identified, managed and mitigated. No occupational health incidents were reported by the Promoter. The experienced Promoter, the well-established quality and environmental management system and procedures ensured sufficient capacity and capability to deal with environmental and social issues.

Based on the relevant information received during the monitoring activities the applicable E&S conditions and undertakings specified by the Bank at the project appraisal phase have been met during project implementation.

**Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:**

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the Promoter and inputs provided by Lenders' Supervisor during Construction that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.