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Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	FRUIT GARDEN OF MOLDOVA II
Project Number:	2025-0068
Country:	Republic of Moldova
Project Description:	Loan to the Republic of Moldova for the upgrading of agricultural value chains.
EIA required:	EIA may be required for selected investments

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise[1]: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

The operation supports the modernisation of the Moldovan agriculture. The proceeds of the EIB loan will be used (i) through local financial intermediaries (FIs) to to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and Mid-caps operating in agricultural value chains, providing them with affordable financing; and (ii) to support public investments that foster the development of the agricultural and food sectors. At least 25% of the overall portfolio will be earmarked for sub-projects contributing to climate action and environmental sustainability.

Environmental Assessment

Some sub-projects financed by the FIs in the agribusiness sector may require an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). For any investment subject to an ESIA, either in accordance with national legislation or based on the application of the EIB's Environmental and Social (E&S) Standards, the FI will need to ensure that the assessment is carried out in line with EIB requirements, including proper public consultation, and that the EIB receives a copy of the ESIA for publication on its website.

In the case an EIA is required, the condition is included that no EIB funds would be allocated to sub-projects until the EIA has been submitted to the satisfaction of the Bank.

Environmental impacts of the project:

Given the nature of the investments, the operation is expected to deliver environmental benefits by supporting sustainable agricultural practices and improving resource efficiency. Investments in modern farming equipment and infrastructure are likely to enhance climate change resilience, and water efficiency, while also contributing to reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation

The operation is in line with the EIB's Climate Bank Roadmap (CBR). The investments supported are expected to contribute to climate change mitigation through energy efficiency improvements, deployment of renewable energy systems, and the replacement of obsolete farming and processing equipment with more efficient technologies. The operation will also support climate adaptation measures which are expected to enhance the resilience of

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agricultural production, reduce the sector's sensitivity to climate risks, and safeguard rural livelihoods.

Social Assessment

The operation is expected to generate significant social benefits, particularly in rural areas. By improving access to finance for SMEs and Mid-caps, it will foster economic development, support job creation, and enhance income opportunities for local communities. The project will also strengthen technical and managerial capacities in the agricultural sector, contributing to skills development and knowledge transfer.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Bank will require the Promoter and intermediary institutions to take all the requisite measures to ensure that the final beneficiaries implement and operate the sub-projects receiving Bank's financing in line with the requirements of the applicable national legislation and the relevant EIB's Environmental and Social Standards as well as international treaties and conventions signed and ratified by or otherwise applicable and binding in the country.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Undertakings

- Financial intermediaries shall maintain an adequate ESMS during the life of the operation and ensure that adequate financial and human resources required for the implementation of the ESMS are made available.

- No funds will be disbursed to Final Beneficiaries for projects requiring an EIA until the EIA is submitted to the satisfaction of the Bank.

With the above-mentioned conditions to be included in the financial contract, the operation is acceptable to the EIB in environmental and social terms.