

MOLDELECTRICA



MOLDOVA–ROMANIA POWER SYSTEMS INTERCONNECTION

Document title:

Task 7: SEP – Stakeholders Engagement Plan

July 2017

Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 1
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	--------------

Document title:

Task 7: Stakeholders Engagement Plan - SEP

Issue date: July 2017

Specialty	Chapter	Responsibility - Name / Signature		
		Elaborated by	Checked by	Approved by
		Gloria POPESCU, Dipl.eng.	Claudia TOMESCU, Ph.D.(Eng.)	Anca POPESCU, Ph.D.(Eng.)
		Mathias GUSTAVSSON, Ph.D. (Social Science)		
		Anja KARLSSON		

The document evolution:

Re	No.	Modification sheet code	Date	RevNo.	Modification sheet code	Date

CONTENT

1. INTRODUCTION	5
1.1. SEP purpose and scope	5
1.2. SEP approach	6
2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION	8
2.1. Brief description of the project	8
2.2. Geographical area covered by the project; Population structure	11
2.3. Potential social and environmental issues	13
3. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK and REQUIREMENTS	14
3.1. Legislation in Republic of Moldova	14
3.2. European Directives	15
3.3. International Policies' Requirements	16
3.4. International conventions	18
4. IDENTIFICATION and ANALYSIS of PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS	19
4.1. Defining stakeholders	19
4.2. Project stakeholders' analysis - prioritisation	24
5. PROGRAM of STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION	27
5.1. Review of stakeholder engagement to date	28
5.2. Key issues raised during the scoping stage and initial public consultation meetings	32
5.3. Planned and future stakeholder engagement activities	37
5.4. Communication tools and Timeframe	39
5.5. Disclosure of information	41
6. GRIEVANCE MECHANISM	44
6.1. Objectives and procedure	44
7. MONITORING and REPORTING	46
8. CONTACT DETAILS for the TARGET PUBLIC	47
9. REFERENCES	48
ANNEX 1 – Stakeholders data base	49
ANNEX 2 – Scoping onsite mission brief report	53
ANNEX 3 – Scoping onsite mission information materials	55
ANNEX 4 – Scoping onsite mission informal interviews	56
ANNEX 5 – Initial public consultation	65
ANNEX 6 – Public grievance form	71

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1 – Five-Step Approach.....	7
Figure 2.1– OHL route alternatives vs. protected areas.....	10
Figure 2.2– OHL 400kV Vulcănești-Chișinău final route	11
Figure 4.1– Targeted stakeholders groups.....	19
Figure 5.1– Scoping onsite mission map.....	30
Figure 5.2– SEP program	38
Figure 6.1 – Grievance procedure	44

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1– Population in the Project area	12
Table 4.1– Stakeholders identification and planning.....	22
Table 5.1– Scoping meetings in local communities, governmental and non-governmental organisations.....	29
Table 5.2– Initial public consultation meetings	31



Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 3
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	--------------

Table 5.3– Scoping meetings – key issues and recommendations32
Table 5.4 – Initial public consultation meetings – key issues and recommendations 36
Table 5.3– Communication tools and timeframe40

List of Acronyms

ATUG	Autonomous Territorial Units of Găgăuzia
ATUT	Administrative-territorial Unit from Transnistria
CLO	Community Liaison Officer
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
EGO	Emergency Government Ordinance
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMU	Environmental Management Unit
ENSTO-E	European Network of Transmission System Operators
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMS	Environmental and Social Management System
ESMMP	Environmental and Social Management and Monitoring Plan
EU	European Union
FAO	Food Agriculture Organization
FS	Feasibility Study
GD	Government Decision
IBA	International Birds Areas
IFI	International Financing Institutions
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IPPC	Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
kV	kiloVolt
LACF	Land Acquisition and Compensation Framework
LCP	Large Combustion Plant
MD	Republic of Moldova
MO	Ministerial Order
MW	Megawatt
NGO	Non- Governmental Organization
NTS	Non-technical Summary
OHL	OverHead Line
PA	Protected Area
PIA	Project Impact Area
PIP	Public Information Policy
PR	Performance Requirements
RO	Romania
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SCI	Sites of Community Importance
SPA	Special Protected Area
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
WB	World Bank

1. INTRODUCTION

One of the main objectives of the Energy Community Treaty is to create an integrated energy market allowing for cross-border electricity trade and integration with the EU market through connections with the European grid (“ENTSO-E”).

For Republic of Moldova (MD), as contracting party of this Treaty, extending the EU internal energy policy to South East Europe and Black Sea region is a must, considering its dependency on imports. The asynchronous interconnection of Moldova and Romania electricity grids represent an important step forward towards the integration of the European single electricity market, thus allowing the participation to the European electricity market via “ENTSO-E”, with positive impact on increasing security of supply and diversifying MD’s power sources.

To this aim, according to the national electricity grid development plan, MOLDELECTRICA started, in December 2015, “MOLDOVA-ROMANIA INTERCONNECTION” Project having as main goal the accomplishment of the necessary Feasibility Studies, as background for the future investment projects.

The general objectives of “MOLDOVA-ROMANIA INTERCONNECTION Project” (in this document also referred as ‘MD-RO’ Project) are:

- developing feasibility studies covering the technical, economic, commercial, social and environmental analyses;
- drawing-out the operational adequacy study for the Republic of Moldova Power System;
- preparing the necessary documentation for Republic of Moldova to approve 3 major investments (Back to Back substations and OHL).

1.1. SEP purpose and scope

The purpose of the Stakeholders’ Engagement Plan (SEP) is to provide a basis for a constructive relationship between MOLDELECTRICA and the affected stakeholders over time. The SEP will cover the whole life of the project, including construction and operation. The nature of and frequency of engagement is defined by the risks and impacts that the project will have. The SEP will be an instrument for MOLDELECTRICA in describing its strategy and program for engaging with stakeholders, through the various stages of ‘MD-RO’ Project (Planning - studies and consulting; Implementing – procurement process, engineering & design, permitting, land acquisition, construction (including working site preparation, tests and commissioning); Operation & Maintenance; Decommissioning), by ensuring relevant and understandable information and by providing, to all the project’s targeted public, opportunities to express their views and receive responses. The SEP also stipulates for stakeholders how their concerns are to be considered in the different phases of the project. ‘MD-RO’ Project current stage of development is the Feasibility Study phase (see **Chapter 2 - Project description**).

According to EBRD Environmental and Social Policy (2014) Project is classified in Category A “Construction of high voltage overhead electrical power lines”, that are likely to have adverse environmental or social impacts and issues during mainly the construction and operation phase. This Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been developed considering the nature and scale of the risks, impacts and development stage of the project.

The SEP is a living document which is to be periodically reviewed and adapted to new developments as the project progresses and to cultural specificity. The SEP should include information or presentation of methods to handle the following items:

- description of the regulatory framework requirements for consultation and disclosure;
- identification and prioritisation of key stakeholder groups;
- development of strategy and timetable for sharing information, engaging and consulting with each of these groups;
- definition and identification of resources and responsibilities for implementing stakeholder engagement activities;
- description of how stakeholder engagement activities will be incorporated into the existing environmental and social management system (ESMS) of the company
- references and links to the grievance mechanism.

In order to develop an effective SEP, the EBRD, EIB and WB underline the following key principles to be observed:

1. Providing meaningful information in a format and language that is readily understandable and tailored to the needs of the target stakeholder group(s);
2. Providing information in advance of consultation activities and decision-making;
3. Providing information in ways and locations that make it easy for stakeholders to access it and that are culturally appropriate;
4. Respect for local traditions, languages, timeframes, and decision-making processes;
5. Ensuring a two-way dialogue that gives both sides the opportunity to exchange views and information, to listen, and to have their issues heard and addressed;
6. Inclusiveness in representation of views, including ages, women and men, vulnerable and/or minority groups;
7. Processes free of intimidation or coercion or incentivisation;
8. Clear mechanisms for responding to people's concerns, suggestions, and grievances; and
9. Incorporating, where appropriate and feasible, feedback into project or program design, and reporting back to stakeholders.

An effective implementation of SEP generates mutual trust, respect and transparency between MOLDELECTRICA and identified stakeholders aiming to: improve performance and corporate policy, reduce costs and risks, avoid conflict and, in the end, reach stakeholder's expectations.

1.2. SEP approach

SEP is defined as the project's stakeholder engagement strategy and implementation guide. In Figure 1.1 is described a five steps approach based both on the 'MD-RO' Project development stages and SEP evolution.

Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 7
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	--------------

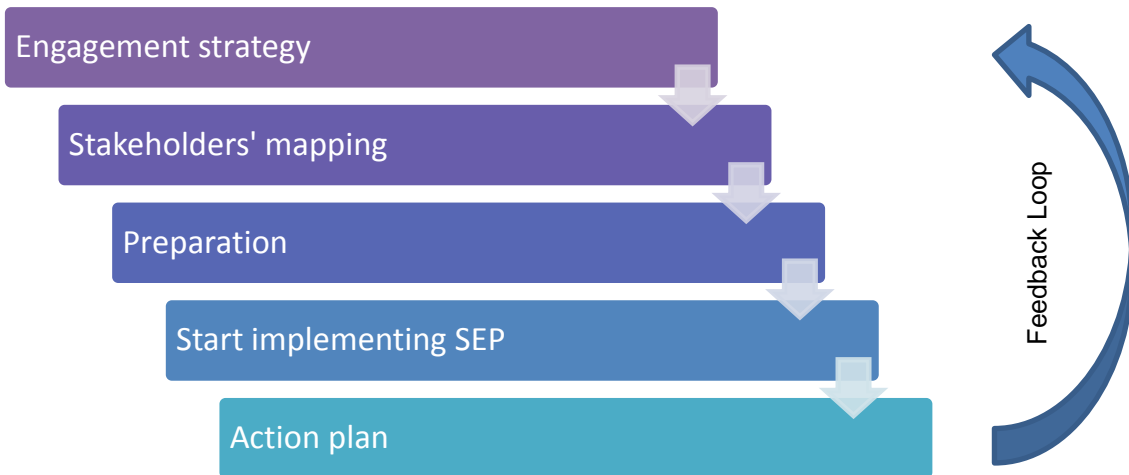


Figure 1.1 – Five-Step Approach

Source: BSR (Business for Social Responsibility), 2012

SEP program will be focused on short and long term goals (based on the development stages of the Project), which will determine necessary resources for the engagement and set the rules for considering the feedback from key stakeholders.

MOLDELECTRICA will conduct the engagement process, ensuring balanced stakeholder contribution, and will try to mitigate tension while remaining focused on the issues generated by the impact of 'MD-RO' Project.

A key function of the SEP is to ensure that issues raised by stakeholder as part of the implementation of the SEP is fed back to the project organisation to generate corrective actions, revising the objectives and planning next steps (the feedback loop). The project ESIA team of the consultant developed these functions together with MOLDELECTRICA to ensure that SEP Program is operational also during the construction and operation stages of the OHL and substations. To this aim, along with public consultation process feedback, SEP will be updated also with relevant environmental and social information, provided by the Public Communication Program rolled out during implementation and O&M Project stages, will being included.

Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 8
----------------	-------------------------	-------------	-------

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1. Brief description of the project

Project title:

“Moldova-Romania Power Systems Interconnection Project”

Project developer:

MOLDELECTRICA State Enterprise

International lenders:

EBRD, EIB, WB

Project category and estimated duration:

Category “A” project¹

- Planning stage: 20-24 months
 - Feasibility assessment and ESIA of the 1st Priority Project (subject for this document)
- Implementation stage; 4 years
 - 12-15 months – Procurement process, Engineering & Design, Permitting, Land acquisition
 - 27 months – Construction, including working site preparation, tests and commissioning
- Operation & Maintenance stage: 30-40 years
- Decommissioning stage: 3-10 months

Project scope of work:

Part 1: Feasibility assessment and ESIA of the 1st Priority Project

A: Back to back (BtB) sub[±] at Vulcănești and OHL (overhead lines) 400 kV Vulcănești-Chișinău

Part 2: Feasibility assessment and Development Plan of the two second Priority Projects

B: Back to Back substation and OHL 330/400 kV Romania - Ungheni-Strășeni

C: Back to Back substation and OHL 400 kV Bălți-Suceava

Project description:

The 1st Priority Project (Part 1) includes:

- a power system study;
- feasibility studies and environmental & socio-economic impact assessment;
- basic technical specifications for:
 - **400 kV OHL** connecting Vulcănești and Chișinău substations, having a length of about 158 km and counting 511 towers (suspension, angle (tension) and terminal type);
 - **400 kV Back-to-Back new substation**, which will be further constructed on the premises of the existing Vulcănești substation or an alternative site;

¹ According to EBRD Environmental and Social Policy (EBRD, 2014), the Project is category A, included in Annex 2, item 21 “Construction of high voltage overhead electrical power lines” and must address all EBRDs Performance Requirements, as well as meeting the requirements of EU EIA Directive, and EIB and WB standards.

Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 9
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	--------------

- **330/110/35 kV Chişinău substation retrofitting and adaptation**, including the extension of the existing 330 kV substation with a transformer bay and construction of new substation of 400 kV with a transformer and OHL bay.

The 400 kV Vulcăneşti - Chişinău OHL route starts from the new BtB400 kV Vulcăneşti substation, which is West of Vulcăneşti city in the South of Republic of Moldova in the proximity of the Ukrainian border, and will end in the retrofitted and upgraded 400/330/110/35 kV Chişinău substation.

In order to develop the 400 kV OHL Vulcăneşti - Chişinău investment, definitive land areas, as well as temporary land areas, are needed. The land areas occupied definitively are designated for:

- OHL towers' foundations, according to the type and length of the towers

The land areas occupied temporarily are needed for working site preparation and construction period and include:

- service platforms for assembling and mounting the towers;
- service platforms for phase conductors;
- conductors' service corridor (access area).

During the Scoping and ESIA processes two alternatives were analysed:

1. "Do nothing"
2. "Three route options"

The „Do nothing” alternative considers that 'MD-RO' Project will not be developed, which means that all potential environmental and social impacts, occurred during the implementation, O&M and decommissioning stages would be avoided. But considering the rational and benefits of developing in the future 'MD-RO' Project, this alternative will prolong the current situation of the power system in Moldova, with dependency on imports and reduced security of electricity supply.

The second alternative investigated three route options (Figure 2.1), in order to choose the optimal route for the future 400kV OHL:

- Option 1, located West and crossing the forest in the narrowest area (red);
- Option 2, the central option (blue);
- Option 3, mainly along the Ukrainian border (green).

Based on a multi-criteria analysis - option 1 was decided as the preferred route for Vulcăneşti – Chişinău 400 kV OHL. The multi-criteria analysis took into consideration technical, socio-economic, cultural and environmental aspects as follows:

- Technical (e.g. OHL length; towers' number, including foundations and soil geological structure; existing polluting or aggressive areas on the route; co-existence with other investment objectives as roads, railways, water streams, OHL, telecommunication lines, pipes, etc.; route accessibility / level of difficulty; investment costs etc.)
- Socio-economic (e.g. access to land; deforestations; landownership when crossing built areas / communities and different productive farm lands, vineyards; resettlements or compensations; temporary impact on air quality (dust and particulate matter), noise due to increased intensity and volume of the traffic during site preparation and construction etc.)

- Environment (e.g. crossing protected areas, IBA, forests, ravines, rivers and lakes; electromagnetic fields' impact; ecological systems' impact; visual impact etc.)
- Cultural heritage (e.g. impacts on cultural buildings, monuments or areas; by-passing archaeological sites etc.)

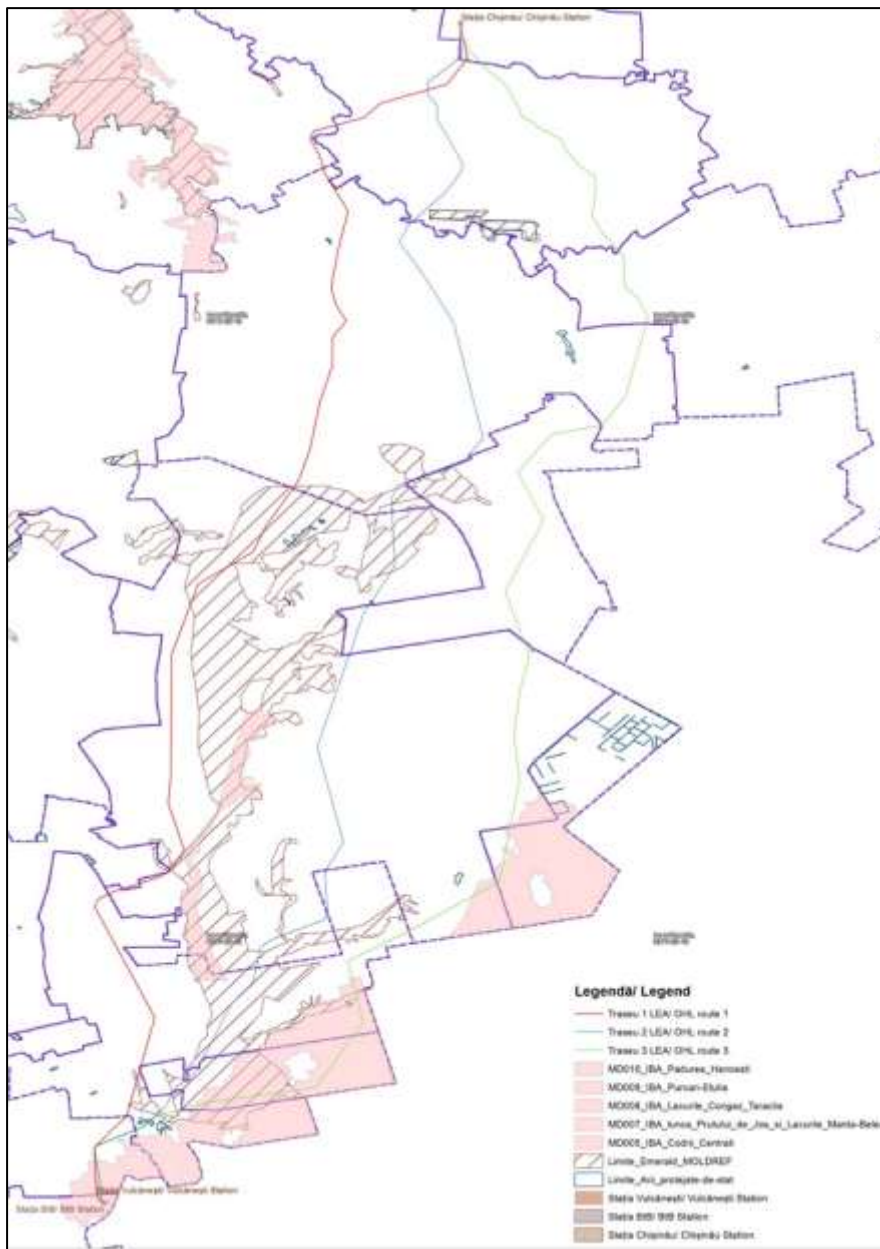


Figure 2.1– OHL route alternatives vs. protected areas

After ESIA Scoping process and initial public consultation meetings, additional key environmental and socio-economic issues were identified, thus changes being performed to optimise the preferred routing, resulting a final 400 kV OHL route presented in Figure 2.2.

The rationale for choosing the present option was minimization of all potential impacts generated by the project (e.g. land clearance and deforestations; impacts on cultural heritage and monuments; resettlement and/or compensation; loss of assets and economic displacement).

As the project progresses into the engineering and detailed design stage, minor deviations from the presented OHL route might be needed, in order to ensure that impacts associated with land acquisition and current land uses will be minimized as far as possible.

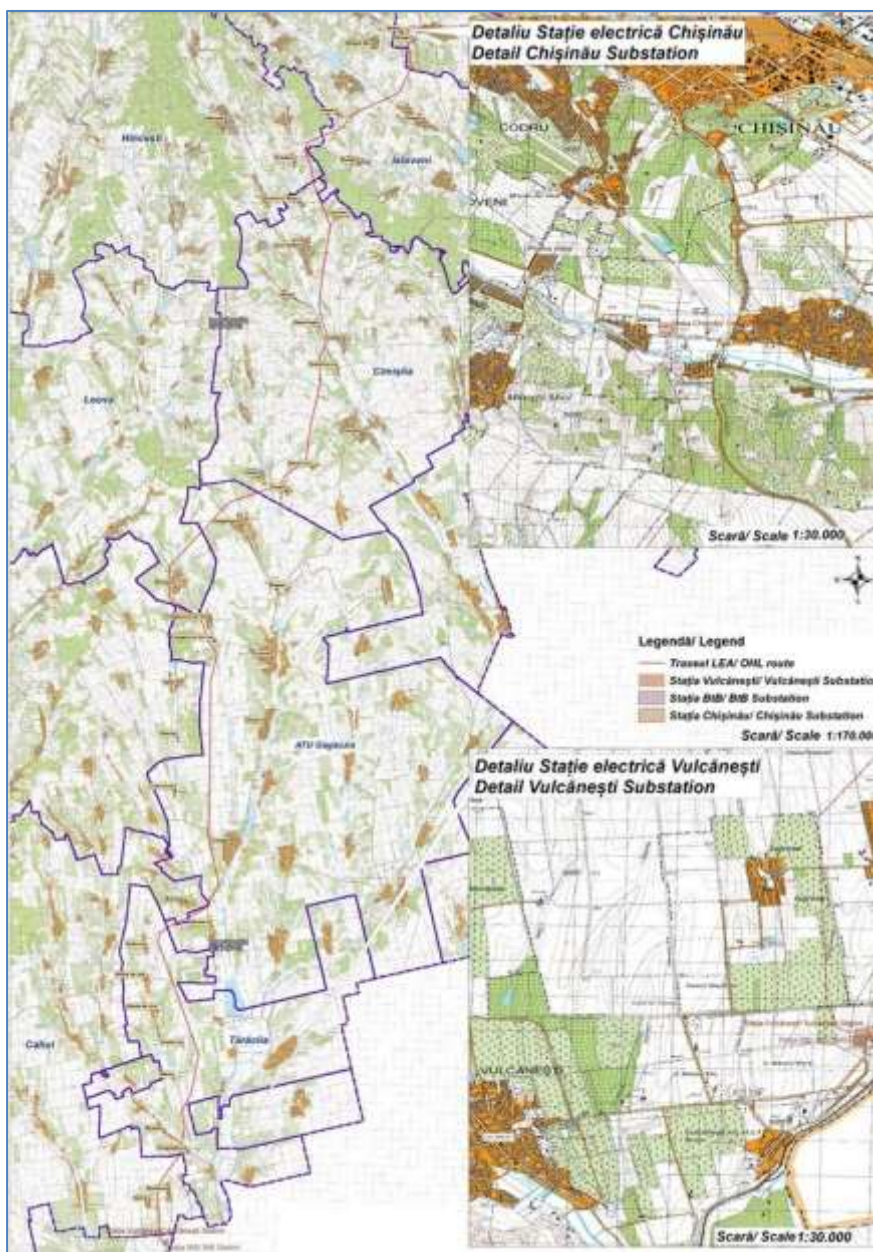


Figure 2.2– OHL 400kV Vulcănești-Chișinău final route

2.2. Geographical area covered by the project; Population structure

Republic of Moldova (MD), with an area of 33,700 km², is located in South-Eastern Europe between Romania and Ukraine. Throughout the country prevails a temperate continental climate with hot and sunny summers and cold winters, a bit milder in the South part.

The total population has mainly a rural structure of 57.5% (42.5% urban), summing up 3,553,100 inhabitants (01/01/2016) according to the National Bureau of Statistics, not including the population in the Transnistrian region estimated at around 520,000 inhabitants. The recent

communicated data related to the 2014 official census presents 2,998,235 inhabitants, with 38.2% urban and 61.8 rural.

Moldova is administratively divided into 32 districts, 5 municipalities (Chişinău, Bălţi, Bender, Comrat and Tiraspol) and two autonomous territorial units: Găgăuzia (A.T.U.G.) and administrative-territorial units from Transnistria (A.T.U.T.).

Furthermore, within the larger administrative organizations, the Republic of Moldova has a total of 1533 localities of which 55 localities have the status of city and 846 are communes. These localities have their own mayor and local council. Another 632 villages are not large enough to have a separate administration, and are part of either cities or communes².

The final proposed OHL route is within the boundaries of the following municipalities/districts/regions (from South to North), passing also very near Cantemir District border (see **Annex 1 – ‘MD-RO’ Project’s geographic area of impact**):

- Autonomous Territorial Unit of Găgăuzia
- Cahul District
- Taraclia District
- Leova District
- Cimişlia District
- Hînceşti District
- Ialoveni District
- Chişinău Municipality

Two areas of impact are covered by the proposed OHL line. The primary impact area is the cities, communes and villages, including potential neighbouring vulnerable groups, which are inside the OHL safety corridor. The secondary impact area is the neighbouring municipalities, cities and villages administratively subordinated to the above listed districts.

The structure of the stable population³ in the Project area of interest is presented in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1– Population in the Project area

Name of District / Municipality	Number of inhabitants (people)	of which rural / urban (%)		of which men / women (%)		Urban of which men/women (%)		Rural of which men/women (%)	
Autonomous Territorial Unit of Găgăuzia	134,535	64	36	48	52	47	52	49	51
Cahul	105,324	73	27	48	52	46	54	49	51
Taraclia	37,357	52	48	49	51	48	52	50	50
Leova	44,702	75	25	50	50	49	51	50	50
Cimişlia	49,299	79	21	49	51	48	52	50	50
Hînceşti	103,784	88	13	49	51	47	53	50	50
Ialoveni	93,154	87	13	49	51	48	52	50	50

² Administrativ-teritorial division of the Republic of Moldova, 2014 official census

³ 2014 official census

Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 13
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	---------------

Name of District / Municipality	Number of inhabitants (people)	of which rural / urban (%)		of which men / women (%)		Urban of which men/women (%)		Rural of which men/women (%)	
Chişinău*	662,836	11	89	47	53	47	53	49	51

* The substation is found in the very South of Chişinău Municipality and will not directly affect people in Chişinău town.

Source: population official census, 2014 - National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, 2016

In terms of ethnicity the Moldovans are the largest ethnic group in the Republic of Moldova as a whole (75.1%). Moreover, several other ethnic groups exist, where about 7.0% are Romanian, 6.6 % are Ukrainians, 4.1% are Russian, 4.6% are Găgăuzians, 1.9% are Bulgarian, 0.3% are Roma and 0.5% belong to other nationalities. However, the districts in which the proposed OHL route is suggested to pass are not homogenous when it comes to ethnicity composition⁴.

Among the employed population in the Republic of Moldova (35 % of the total population), 31.7 % work in the agricultural sector. Out of these, 40 % (or 13 % of total employed population) are persons engaged in the production of agricultural products exclusively for their own consumption. Furthermore, 12.3 % of the employed population works in industry while 5.4 % works in construction. However, the largest share of the employed population (50.5%) works in the service sector (including public administration)⁵.

Considering the topographic maps on “option one” OHL proposed route for the interconnection of the electrical substations Chişinău – Vulcăneşti, including data on land ownership structure and land use destination in the surrounding areas, we can conclude that the population in the area of interest is predominantly rural, having as main economic activity – agriculture (e.g. cereals, sunflower, vineyards, fruits, etc.).

Additional information related to the local communities included in the ‘MD-RO’ Project targeted group and the existence or not of vulnerable groups or individuals are presented in **Chapter 5 - Program of stakeholders consultation** and **Annex 5 - Scoping onsite mission informal interviews**.

2.3. Potential social and environmental issues

Based on the preliminary and final environmental and socio-economic analyses performed during ESIA scoping and ESIA processes, the following sensitive aspects were identified and assessed in terms of potential impact and mitigation measures, in the neighbouring areas of the existing electrical substations near Chişinău municipality and Vulcăneşti city and along the final 400 kV OHL route (Figure 2.2):

- **Protected areas** – environmental reserves, flora and fauna (e.g. forests, ravines, rivers, lakes, outcrops, birds, etc.) in ATU of Găgăuzia, Cahul, Taraclia, Leova, Cimişlia, Hînceşti and Ialoveni Districts;
- **Social issues** – the construction and operation of the OHL will affect people along the OHL in different ways. Access to land, resettlements or compensations for land acquisition

⁴ Population Official Census 2014

⁵ Labour Force Statistics 2015

and landownership in this predominant rural structure of the districts with small residential areas, including crossing different productive cropland and vineyards represent some of the major concerns. Additional details are presented in LACF Report (Land Acquisition and Compensation Framework). Minor local and temporary impact on air quality (dust and particulate matter), noise due to increased intensity and volume of the traffic could be issues generated during site preparation and construction. Magnetic field, “corona” noise, ozone are generated from the operation of the OHL and will affect the possibility to live close to the installations;

- **Cultural heritage** – there are a few cultural heritage objectives in proximity to the proposed route for the OHL. Impacts on cultural buildings or areas, as well as archaeological sites, will be avoided as much as possible.

Where potential impacts occur, mitigation measures are proposed in compliance with the policy requirements and standards at national and IFIs level.

3. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK and REQUIREMENTS

3.1. Legislation in Republic of Moldova

The legal context of ‘MD-RO’ Project, in terms of public consultation and information disclosure, is governed, directly or indirectly, by the following national laws and documents:

- Republic of Moldova **Constitution** / 1994 - Republished. Amended and completed, in 2016
- Law no.982 / 2000 on **Access to Information**, as amended in 2003-2011-2015
- Law no.86 / 2014 on **Environmental Impact Assessment**
- Law no.488-XIV / 1999 on **Expropriation/dispossession for Public Utility**
- **Land Code** no.828-XII / 1991, as amendment in 1999
- Law no.218 / 2010 on **Protection of Archaeological Heritage**
- Law no.64 / 2010 on **Freedom of Expression**, as amended in 2012-2013-2015
- Law no.239 / 2008 on **Transparency in Decision Making**

The MD Constitution acknowledges that the access to information is one of the fundamental human rights and stipulates it in Article 34. **Law no. 982 / 2000** provide that information of public interest should be made available free and compulsory to applicants. No authority for controlling this law enforcement, but there is the possibility to appeal to the Ombudsman.

According to **Law no. 86 / 2014** Annexe 1, point 21, *Lines of transportation of electrical power with the tension of minimum 220 kV and a length more than 15 km* shall undergo the EIA procedure. This Law establishes, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, the Law on Environmental Protection and with other legislative acts in force, the purposes, tasks and principles of rolling out an Environmental Impact Assessment study (EIA).

In terms of public consultation and disclosure the EIA procedure (Chapter VI, Law no. 86 / 2014) is stipulating in Articles 19, 21 and 22 the exact rules and requirements to be observed. To this aim MOLDELECTRICA – the initiator has to deliver a “Program for carrying out the EIA” and to ensure that the targeted public (potential Project affected people) is informed:

- the initiator will publish the information disclosure package in at least one national and local newspaper and will upload it on its website, together with feedback details (where, to whom to address complains/concerns and until when). All comments and complains are registered by the initiator, one copy being sent to the competent authority, here the Ministry of Environment;
- the information disclosure package will be also uploaded on their websites by the competent authority - Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Economy (authority in the field of interest) and first level - local public administration in the Project area of interest (cities/municipalities and villages/communes); additionally, the local communities' representatives will be able to consult the printed version of the documents in a public accessible area;
- feedback from interested stakeholders are welcomed, in writing, for a period defined by the law (30 days or 60 days depending on the nature of the information disclosure package);
- in parallel the initiator is obliged to consider public opinion through public consultations, events which will be organised in compliance with Art.22 requirements;
- after gathering all feedbacks both in writing and from public debates the initiator has to prepare a Report regarding the public involvement.

According to **Law no. 488-XIV / 1999** if land expropriations will occur during the implementation and development of 'MD-RO' Project, MOLDELECTRICA has to start the expropriation and compensation procedure, no later than 10 days since the definition of the Project as a "public utility" was published.

3.2. European Directives

The **European legislative background** to be considered includes the following:

Environmental Impact Assessment

- **European Commission** requirements for stakeholders' involvement in the EIA process are specified in **Directive 85/337/EEC on Environmental Assessment (EIA Directive)**, which has been amended three times, in 1997, 2003 and 2009, and should have been transposed at the latest in March 1999:
 - **Directive 97/11/EC**: brought the Directive in line with the UN ECE Espoo Convention on EIA in a Transboundary Context. The Directive of 1997 widened the scope of the EIA Directive by increasing the types of projects covered, and the number of projects requiring mandatory environmental impact assessment and also provided for new screening arrangements, and established minimum information requirements;
 - **Directive 2003/35/EC**: aligned the provisions on public participation with the Aarhus Convention on public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters;
 - **Directive 2009/31/EC**: amended the Annexes I and II of the EIA Directive, by adding projects related to the capture, transport and storage of carbon dioxide (CO₂).

EIA DIRECTIVE

The EIA procedure ensures that environmental consequences of projects are identified and assessed before authorization is given. The public can give its opinion and all results are taken into account in the authorization procedure of the project. The Directive outlines which project categories shall be made subject to an EIA, which procedure shall be followed and the content of the assessment.

- **European Parliament and Council issued the Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects on the environment by certain plans and programs (SEA Directive),** which should have been transposed by July 2004.

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DIRECTIVE

The purpose of the Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is to ensure that environmental consequences of certain plans and programs are identified and assessed during their preparation and before their adoption. The public and environmental authorities can give their opinion and all results are integrated and taken into account in the course of the planning procedure. After the adoption of the plan or program the public is informed about the decision and the way in which it was made. In the case of likely transboundary significant effects the affected Member State and its public are informed and have the possibility to make comments which are also integrated into the national decision-making process.

SEA will contribute to more transparent planning by involving the public and by integrating environmental considerations. This will help to achieve the goal of sustainable development.

3.3. International Policies' Requirements

International lenders, including EBRD, EIB, WB and IFC, require that projects they finance be in compliance with national standards, as well as environmental and social policies and guidelines adopted by the banks. Briefly the international policies-requirements to be considered include:

- **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development - EBRD's** requirements for stakeholder engagement are outlined in
 - EBRD's Environmental and Social Policy (2014);
 - Performance Requirement 1 (PR1): Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Impacts and Issues, which underlines the client's responsibilities in the process of assessing the potential environmental and social impacts associated with project proposed for financing and developing and implementing procedures for managing and monitoring these impacts and issues
 - Performance Requirement 10 (PR10): Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement, which outlines that stakeholder engagement, a key element for the successful management of the project's environmental and social issues, is an on-going process involving public disclosure of appropriate information, meaningful consultation with stakeholders and procedure or mechanism for people's comments or complains;

- Public Information Policy (2014)

EBRD considers stakeholder engagement an on-going process, to be started at the earliest stage of the ESIA process and to be continued throughout the entire life of the EBRD financed project.

Principles and procedures adopted by EBRD

Since its establishment, the EBRD has endeavoured to promote environmentally sound and sustainable development. Public consultations and information disclosure is the responsibility of the project sponsor, and will be reviewed by the Bank in line with its Policy commitments. Projects classified as Category A could result in potentially significant and diverse adverse future environmental and/or social impacts that cannot be readily identified - assessed and mitigated and therefore require a formalised and participatory assessment process. Disclosure and consultation requirements are built into each stage of this process. Informed participation involves organised and iterative consultation. Vulnerable people may need special attention and could require resources to understand the impacts and to allow meaningful input. To this aim, for 'MD-RO' Project which involves an ESIA, disclosure and consultation shall be carried out in accordance with EBRD Policies. The consultation process must meet the timing requirements detailed in the Bank's Public Information Policy (PIP), as well as any applicable requirements under national EIA law and other relevant laws. The EIA/SIA must stay in the public domain throughout the life of the project, but can be amended, from time to time, with additional information.

The 'MD-RO' interconnection project, being rated as Category A, will observe the IFIs rules detailed in **Chapter 5 - Program of stakeholders' consultation**.

- **European Investment Bank (EIB)** - Environmental and Social Handbook (2013), which represents the Bank statement/policy on Environmental and Social Principles and Standards including the Environmental and Social Standard - ESS 10: Stakeholders Engagement, that outlines a systematic approach to stakeholder engagement that the promoter is expected to build and maintain by way of constructive relationship with relevant stakeholders; stakeholder engagement is a iterative process that involves stakeholder analysis and engagement planning, time disclosure and dissemination of/access to information, public consultation and stakeholder participation, and a mechanism ensuring access to grievance and remedy
- **World Bank (WB)** - Environmental and Social Framework (revision 2016, to go into effect in early 2018), which underlines the Bank policy on Environmental and Social Principles including the Environmental and Social Standard – ESS 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure, which reflects the Bank commitment to transparency, accountability and good governance, including the information disclosure obligations mechanisms for addressing concerns and grievances arising in connection with the project; Effective stakeholder engagement will improve the environmental and social sustainability of projects, enhancing project acceptance, and making a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation.

- Policies and requirements regarding public consultation and disclosure published by **IFC – The International Financing Corporation**, to ensure that projects in which it could invests are implemented in an environmental and socially responsible manner

Additionally 'MD-RO' Project development will observe also the financing risk management framework **Equator Principles**, mainly those related to Stakeholders Engagement and Grievance Mechanism (Principles 5 and 6) requiring to the developer, for A project category, to implement a SEP focused on risk and impacts, project stages, decision-making process etc. and establish a functional grievance mechanism.

3.4. International conventions

The UN Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (**Espoo Convention**) brings together all stakeholders to prevent environmental damage before it occurs.

- **Espoo Convention** was adopted by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems of the Economic Commission for Europe at their fourth session held in Espoo, Finland, from 25 February to 1 March 1991

Romania signed the Espoo Convention in 1991 and in 2001 ratified it; MD accessed the Convention in 1994, in order to approve/ratified it.

At this stage of 'MD-RO' Project development, we consider that no significant adverse environmental impact across boundaries will be generated, MOLDELECTRICA working closely with EBRD, in any case, in order to ensure that Espoo requirements are met.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (**Aarhus Convention**) establishes a number of rights of the public (individuals and their associations) with regard to the environment.

- **Aarhus Convention** was signed in Denmark in 1998 by the European Commission and governments of 36 countries, has as main goal to protect people's rights to a healthy environment:
 - the right of everyone to receive environmental information that is held by public authorities
 - the right to participate in environmental decision-making
 - the right to review procedures to challenge public decisions that have been made without respecting the two aforementioned rights or environmental law in general

4. IDENTIFICATION and ANALYSIS of PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS

4.1. Defining stakeholders

The IFC’s Handbook on Stakeholder Engagement (2007) defines stakeholders as “persons or groups who are directly or indirectly affected by a project, as well as those who may have interests in a project and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively.” According to EBRD’s Performance Requirement (PR10) both internal and external stakeholders are to be identified by the SEP.

The categories and list of identified stakeholders will evolve together with ‘MD-RO’ Project. At the present stage the general stakeholder groups, as presented in Figure 4.1, has been identified. All stakeholders are at present found in Moldova, being possible that extension of stakeholder groups to include also Romanian groups if needed in the future.

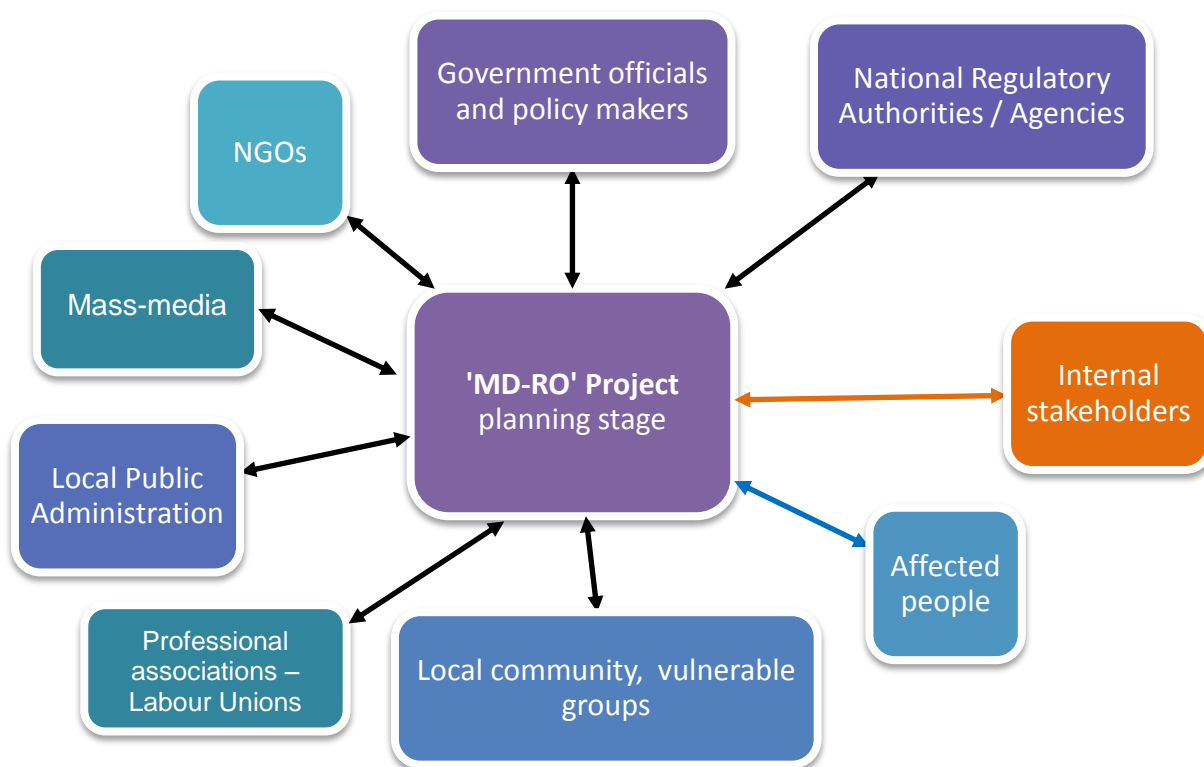


Figure 4.1– Targeted stakeholders groups

External stakeholders

This category of stakeholders is represented by the public resident in the most probably affected areas and the public that called itself "concerned/interested public" if it can be determined that it is likely to be affected by the ‘MD-RO’ Project.

The main stakeholders’ groups, considering ‘MD-RO’ Project geographic area of impact, are:

People affected directly by the construction and/or operation of the OHL

People and households affected directly during the construction and/or the operation of the OHL, including impacts from: pylons and construction roads on farming land (resulting in compensation

measures); noise generated from construction and later operation of OHL. The directly affected people will constitute a very important stakeholder group. Special concern is to ensure that their rights are respected in the process and that the process including any compensation measure is transparent and made understandable to the affected person(s).

In order to identify directly affected people a further investigation will be made during the scoping stage, different corridors around the OHL being used.

Local community and vulnerable groups

Local community groups as well as vulnerable groups affected in different ways by the Project, upon which impact may occur:

- Groups in the communities affected by the project, for which could be aspects such as access to public land and access to roads or water.
- Vulnerable groups (minority ethnic groups, religious groups, elderly, youth, unemployed etc), for which similar negative impact may occur or job opportunities may appear

Local Public Administration

Two areas of impact are covered:

- the primary impact area (land owners, land leasers, communes and villages, including groups of people using the land for grazing or other informal activities, inside the safety and protection area of the OHL, 60 m), and
- secondary impact area (regional development agencies, districts, municipalities and cities) including neighbouring municipalities and cities administratively subordinated to the following districts:
 - Autonomous Territorial Unit of Găgăuzia: Comrat Municipality and Vulcănești city and some of the surrounding communes
 - Cahul District
 - Taraclia District
 - Leova District
 - Cimișlia District
 - Hâncești District
 - Ialoveni District
 - Chișinău Municipality and some of the surrounding communes

Government officials and policy makers

- Ministry of Economy - General Division for Energy Efficiency and Security
- Ministry of Economy - Energy Efficiency Agency
- Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure
- Ministry of Regional Development and Construction
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Culture
- MD Parliament "Committee on Public Administration, Regional Development, Environment and Climate Change"

National Regulatory Authorities/Agencies

- National Energy Regulatory Authority – ANRE
- State Ecological Inspectorate
- Ecologic Agencies in A.T.U. of Găgăuzia, in Cahul, Taraclia, Leova, Cimișlia, Hîncești and Ialoveni Districts and Chișinău Municipality
- State Inspectorate of Geodesic - Technical Supervision and Land Regime
- National Agency for Land Management and Cadastral Survey
- National Archaeological Agency
- MOLDSILVA Agency (forestry and hunting)
- Water Management State Enterprise
- Moldova Waters Agency

Academic and RDI environment

- Universities, the Science Academy and RDI Institutes (e.g. Ecology and Geography, Energy, Zoology etc.)

Professional organisations; Labour Unions

- Farmers associations
- Federation of the Forests and Environmental Protection Union
- Federation of the Republic of Moldova "SINDENERGO" - Energy Industry Union

Civil society - NGO's

- Environmental groups
- Conservations groups
- Community interest groups / citizen groups

Mass media

During the public consultation period a press-release will be prepared and published, according to the national legislation - Law no.86 / 2014 on Environmental Impact Assessment, further analysing if press-conferences will be appropriate to be organised during the development stages of the Project.

- Printed and on-line newspapers
- Printed and on-line specialised magazines

In the development stage of the Project stakeholders' groups will expand/change and might include:

The business environment

- DSO – Electricity Distribution Operators
- Energy companies / producers
- Sub-contractors (e.g. consulting & engineering services providers or installations/equipment suppliers)
- Project developers and investors

International financing bodies

- WB – World Bank
- IFC – International Financing Corporation
- EIB – European Investment Bank etc.

Internal stakeholders

This category is represented by:

- MOLDELECTRICA managing staff and its employees with focus on the ‘MD-RO’ Project team;

The company will need to enhance their Community Relations Unit to manage stakeholder consultation, address grievances and implement, if necessary, community development programmes to minimize any potential impacts identified in the ESIA study. This Unit needs to be involved and participate in the public consultation and engagement processes.

Other stakeholders related to the internal public:

- Consultants’ consortium – in the planning stage of the Project;
- General contractor – in the implementation stage;
- The Bank (the lender) - EBRD

In Table 4.1, considering the major stakeholders’ categories, communication tools, tactics, barriers and expected results were summarised, such information justifying an early development of a well-managed communication campaign, which will help coping with potential upcoming issues.

Table 4.1– Stakeholders identification and planning

Stakeholder category	Interest <i>Want to know about</i>	Communication Tools	Expected results	Barriers* <i>to overcome</i>
People affected directly by the construction and/or operation of the OHL	Impacts on their livelihood and possible compensation for experienced impacts Land acquisition process and entitlements Safety zones and restrictions Health and safety issues	Periodic meetings / presentations at the city hall / school / church	Good relation with the group Possible reduced delays in the land acquisition process	Heterogenic group and difficult land ownership arrangement. Possible reluctance to release and receive information about the Project Expropriation for projects of Public Utility Nuisance impacts (noise, dust, visual, etc.) during construction and operating phase Environmental and economic impact on cropland and vineyards Low level of involvement

Stakeholder category	Interest <i>Want to know about</i>	Communication Tools	Expected results	Barriers* <i>to overcome</i>
Government officials and policy makers	Compliance with national laws and regulations, standards	Periodic presentations Reports issuing as required	Informed authorities Reduced delays in the permitting process	Possible administrative issues creating delays
National Regulatory Authorities / Agencies	Compliance with national laws and regulations, standards	Periodic presentations Reports issuing as required	Informed authorities Reduced delays in the permitting	Strong influence on permits issuing
Local Public Administration – impacted communities	Sharing information related to the Project benefits vs. risks and impact on the local community	Periodic presentations and City Hall meetings	Better cooperation with the entire community Reduced delays in the permitting process Grievance process well managed	Compliance with all permits issuing requirements
Academic and RDI environment	Sharing information related to the Project benefits vs. risks and impact New technologies used Opportunities associated to the project	Knowledge sharing events	A good partner in promoting the Project Contribution to the decision-making process Valuable input for the Reports	-
Civil society - NGO's	Usually proactive group who want to listen and to be heard	Presentations and meetings on request	Good relations with the civil society Grievance process well managed	Resistance Possible negative influence on the local neighbouring community
Local community – vulnerable groups	Risks and impact of the Project Grievance procedure Existing of additional support to allow them to participate	Periodic meetings / presentations at the city hall / school / church Small focus groups to be handled carefully	Good relations with the local community and vulnerable groups Grievance process well managed	Possible reluctance to release and receive information about the Project Low level of involvement
Mass media	Sharing information related to the Project benefits vs. risks	Periodic Press releases Quarterly press-conferences if needed	Good relations with the local community and vulnerable groups Grievance process well managed	Resistance for covering good news Unreasonably critical approach
Professional	Sharing information	Periodic	Better cooperation	Expropriation for

Stakeholder category	Interest <i>Want to know about</i>	Communication Tools	Expected results	Barriers* <i>to overcome</i>
organisations; Labour Unions	related to the Project	presentations and meetings	Reduced delays Conflicts avoided	projects of Public Utility Environmental and economic impact on cropland and vineyards Labour conditions during implementation stage
Internal stakeholders	Additional benefits HR policy Additional responsibilities QEHS procedures Risks	Annual business plan Monthly reports Notification of events Special analysis upon request Periodic internal Project meetings	Informed employees Conflicts avoided Contribution to the decision-making process Valuable input for the Reports Improved performance Reduced costs and risks related to the Project Reduced delays of the Project implementation schedule	Transparency of the decision-making process Enhancement of the communication process inside the company

*) Information gathered after the scoping onsite visit performed all along the OHL route

MOLDELECTRICA will manage and update periodically the stakeholders' data base (**Annex 2 – Stakeholders data base**).

Stakeholders that were not identified during this process should contact the Community Liaison Officer from MOLDELECTRICA (**Chapter 8 - Contact details for the targeted public**) or other members of the local authorities to request their addition to the list.

4.2. Project stakeholders' analysis - prioritisation

During the Feasibility Study, the analysis started by revealing the most directly affected public by 'MD-RO' Project, whether from the use of land all along the project site or the impacts on human health, air and water or even the socio-economic effects of job creation throughout the entire project chain (planning, implementation, operation & maintenance, decommissioning).

A stakeholders' mapping process all along the impact zones was performed, followed by a prioritisation of the main identified groups (**Annex 1 – 'MD-RO' Project's geographic area of impact**).

In MD the safety and protection area near a 300-400 kV OHL has, according to the Governmental Decision no.514/2002, a minimum distance of 30 m, right and left from the line starting from the outer conductors, with no occupied buildings in this corridor. For 'MD-RO' Project this, further on called, safety corridor was established at 75 m (30 m + 15 m + 30 m) in compliance with the towers type.

The OHL line will be a construction in the landscape that will result in land being occupied for the towers, but also it can impose certain restriction in terms of possibility to perform certain activities, as well as possibility to use the land beneath or in the vicinity of the OHL and towers. However, according to the national legislation there are no restrictions on presence of people below the line (e.g. to undertake normal agriculture activities within a restricted period of time).

During the implementation stage of the Project, further impacts on the land use will be seen, as transportation and construction work will be performed. These items are presented in more details in the ESIA and LACF Reports.

At community and local administration level – first (communes and villages, including vulnerable groups) and second area (regional development agencies, districts, municipalities and cities) of influence were analysed and detailed in **Annex 2 – Stakeholders data base**.

Discussions were held with relevant personnel from several governmental institutions involved in or connected to the Project development in order to identify vulnerable groups (see **Chapter 5 - Program of stakeholders' consultation**).

Same prioritisation process was performed for the other targeted groups (e.g. NGOs and local administration representatives) considering mainly the structure of the population in the area of influence, the agriculture oriented economic development and the land ownership categories.

The fields of activity covered directly or indirectly by the project – energy, agriculture, transport, environment – health – safety and culture focused our analysis on the appropriate governmental representatives, labour unions, professional associations and academics (see **Chapter 5 - Program of stakeholders' consultation**).

The methodology applied in the selection of sites in which face-to-face interviews have been held during scoping stage and future consultation and disclosure meetings will be organised, was based on environmental, social and other important criteria:

- Social criteria for settlement selection: close proximity to the OHL proposed route "option one" within an analysis corridor of 500 m both sides of the transmission line; a high number of land parcels to be expropriated;
- Environmental criteria for settlement selection: presence of environmentally sensitive areas; presence of archaeological or culturally significant sites; sites of river crossings or major geological formations in close proximity to the OHL; sites where temporary short-term impacts such as dust, noise and traffic may occur, during construction; sites where visual impacts may be experienced;
- General criteria for settlement selection: geographical spread of meeting sites along the OHL proposed route; accessibility for logistical reasons.

During the public consultation process and the development of the project (from planning up to the implementation stage) the structure of the targeted stakeholders is possible to evolve/change.

The identified stakeholders constitute a heterogeneous group. In order to ensure that information on the project and activities that are part in design, construction and operation of the OHL and back-to-back substation, will reach the stakeholders, a range of methods will be used including meetings, information on the web as well as making the information available on local notice boards or local offices of MOLDELECTRICA.

The languages usually spoken in the Republic of Moldova follows, to a large degree, the ethnicity composition in the country (see **Chapter 2 - Project description**). Main language⁶ used is Moldovan and Romanian (virtually the same language) spoken by 78.6 % of the population (54.6 % Moldovan and 24.0 % Romanian). Other languages usually used are Russian (14.5 %), Ukrainian (2.7 %), Găgăuz (2.7 %), Bulgarian 1.0 %, Romani 0.2 % and other/unspecified 0.3 %. In most districts potentially affected by the proposed OHL route, main language used is Moldovan. In A.T.U. Găgăuzia, the official language is Găgăuză, which is spoken by most population belonging to the Găgăuz ethnic group. However, a large part of the population in this region also speaks very well Russian. The conclusion drawn-out, after the scoping meetings and interviews with local administration representatives, was that key information, as “MD-RO project in brief” 2 pages brochure, NTS and SEP will be published also in Russian language.

⁶ Official census 2014

5. PROGRAM of STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION

Public disclosure of information linked to the 'MD-RO' Project will represent any non-confidential communication of interest for the targeted public, made available from 'MD-RO' Project, in compliance with the policy requirements and standards at national and IFIs level. Relevant information from 'MD-RO' Project will help both external stakeholders to better understand the risks, impacts and benefits, and MOLDELECTRICA to take actions to improve and mitigate the project impact during planning, implementation, operation & maintenance and decommissioning of the 400 kV OHL and back-to-back substation. SEP will also prepare a grievance procedure for interested public to receiving feedbacks from MOLDELECTRICA to their concerns/complains or comments.

'MD-RO' Project's Information Package was prepared and will be disclosed in compliance with the national legislation (Law no.86/2014⁷), EBRD policies (PIP 2014) and requirements (PR1 and PR10), being observed also EIB and WB standards.

The current version of the SEP, together with other public documents (ESIA Report, Environmental and Social Management and Monitoring Plan (ESMMP), Land Acquisition and Compensation Framework (LACF) and Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of 'MD-RO' Project), as part of the information disclosure package, will be available, during all 'MD-RO Project' stages of development, at the following links and addresses:

- MOLDELECTRICA (www.moldelectrica.md) headquarter and local MOLDELECTRICA offices within their regional branches:
 - Filiala "RETI Centru" (Central region)
 - Filiala "RETI Sud" (South region)
- Final and current versions of the documents will also be available at the administrative buildings of the existing electrical substations, near Chişinău and Vulcăneşti
- EBRD - Chişinău Resident Office (63 Vlaicu Pârcălab Str. Sky Tower building, 10th floor, Chişinău MD-2012, Moldova) and EBRD website (www.ebrd.com/work-with-us/project-finance/project-summary-documents.html)

Further places for display of documents were agreed upon, including administrative buildings / mayoralities of the following communities:

- Vulcăneşti city
- Cahul District - Iujnoe village
- Taraclia District - Musaitu village
- ATU Găgăuzia - Congaz village
- ATU Găgăuzia - Congazcic commune
- Cimişlia District - Topală village
- Cimişlia District - Ecaterinovca commune
- Hânceşti District - Fîrlădeni village
- Ialoveni District - Hanşca village

⁷ Law no.86 / 2014 on Environmental Impact Assessment

- Chişinău Municipality - Băcioi commune
- Chişinău Municipality

Related to the final consultation meetings locations and timing will be commonly decided between the Ministry of Environment, MOLDELECTRICA and the consultant, within the EIA procedure according to the Moldavian Law no. 86/2014.

Responsible for ensuring the disclosure activities will be:

- during the planning stage of the Project - the consultant, together with MOLDELECTRICA;
- during the other stages (implementation; operation & maintenance; decommissioning) – MOLDELECTRICA.

Additional details related to Project information access and disclosure mechanism see in **Chapter 5.5 – Disclosure of information** and **Chapter 8 – Contact details for the targeted public**.

5.1. Review of stakeholder engagement to date

Up to date scoping meetings and initial public consultation meetings have been performed and internal stakeholders have been consulted and engaged in the project planning, keeping them informed also during the future implementation stage.

According to SEP Program, detailed in Figure 5.2, the following engagement activities were performed so far:

During PRE-ESIA Analysis and stakeholders' identification stage (April-May 2016):

- MOLDELECTRICA staff, as well as EBRD, has been consulted in the process of establishing the most favourable route of the OHL between Vulcăneşti substation and Chişinău substation;
- Onsite visits to the areas that are located near the existing substations as well as where the proposed "option one" OHL route will pass have been implemented and the experiences from these on-site missions have been used to update the future activities and plans presented in the first draft version of SEP.

During ESIA Scoping stage (June-July 2016):

- Face to face interviews with local communities' representatives along the OHL proposed route;
- Meetings with national NGOs (introductory);
- Meetings with governmental officials (introductory).

The objectives of the scoping phase were to verify:

- the range of social and environmental impacts and issues (risks and opportunities) relevant to the 'MD-RO' Project; and
- stakeholders relevant to the 'MD-RO' Project and vulnerable groups

Scoping meetings took place between 28th of June and 1st of July 2016 according to the **"Scoping onsite mission" brief report – Annex 3**.

Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 29
----------------	-------------------------	-------------	--------

Table 5.1– Scoping meetings in local communities, governmental and non-governmental organisations

Date	Communities Governmental organisation NGOs	Persons met / Position
28.06.2016	Chişinău Municipality - Băcioi locality	Mr. Ilie LEAHU, vice-mayor Mr. Dumitru STANILA, engineer Ms. Valentina BALTATESCU, accounting
	Ialoveni District - Hanşca locality	Ms. Svetlana BOSTANICA, accounting Ms. Silvia ARHIRII, secretary
	Hânceşti District - Fîrlădeni locality	Mr Pavel BARBOS, Mayor
	Cimişlia District - Ecaterinovca locality	Mr. Efim STROGOTEANU, Mayor
	Cimişlia District - Topală locality	Ms. Nadejda COSTAS, Mayor Mr. Constantin Gherea, engineer Ms. Raisa COMERZAN, social assistant Ms. Mirea RACILA, accounting Ms. Mariana CERNEI, secretary
29.06.2016	ATU Găgăuzia - Congazcic locality	Mr. Dimitrii IKIZLI, Mayor Mr. Grigori IKIZLI, engineer
	ATU Găgăuzia - Congaz locality	Mr. Mihail ESIR, Mayor
	Taraclia District - Musaitu locality	Ms. Raisa TASNICENCO, Mayor
	Cahul District - Iujnoe locality	Mr. Ghenadie FOCSA, Mayor
30.06.2016	Ministry of Regional Development and Construction	Mr. Anatolie ZOLOTCOV, vice minister Ms. Elena BEJENARU, Head of Architecture, Construction and Dwellings General Division Mr. Serghei MUNTEANU, Head of Architecture, design, urbanism and land use planning Division Ms. Victoria JARDAN, expert in the same Division
	Ministry of Environment	Ms. Maria NAGORNÎI, Head of Policy Analysis, Monitoring and Assessment Department Ms. Veronica JOSU, Deputy Head of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Department Mr. Vitalie GRIMALSCHI, Head of Protected areas, biodiversity and biosecurity Unit
	Ministry of Culture	Mr Gheorghe POSTICA, vice minister Ms. Emilia RISTIC, Capital investments Service
	AgroInform Farmers Association	Mr. Iurie HURMUZACHI, Deputy Director

Date	Internal stakeholders	Persons met / Position
01.07.2016	MOLDELECTRICA	Mr. Veaceslav ZASTAVNEȚCHI, Deputy General Director - Head of the Central Dispatcher Mr. Iurie CAZACU, Head of Electricity Regimes and Forecasts Division Mr. Dmitri POPOV, Head of Forecasts Dpt. Ms. Nelli MELNICENCO, Deputy Head of Environmental Dpt. Mr. Dmitri SUHAZEV, Head of OHL Division Mr. Vitalie BITCA, Head of Electrical Substations Division

The purpose of all of these interviews was to understand the potential project area of influence and the potentially impacted stakeholders, to gather local level insights and a clear picture of the perceptions of the potential impacts of the project and main affected stakeholders, as perceived by the stakeholders themselves. Interview notes were taken and the format of the interviews was informal, guided by a query focused on potential issues related to the following fields of interest: economic development; environmental infrastructure; social challenges; and logistics.

The selection of sites in which face-to-face meetings were performed, during the scoping onsite mission, was based on environmental, social and other (e.g. geographical spread logistics etc.) criteria for settlement selection – see Figure 5.1.

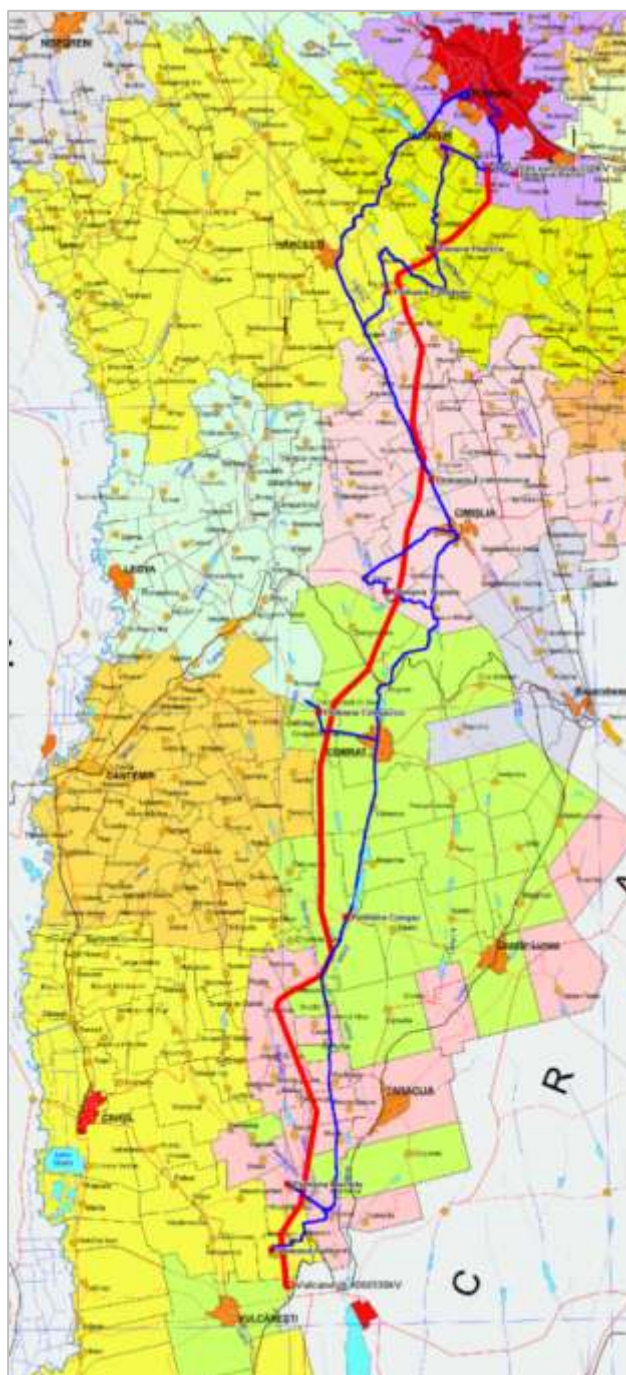


Figure 5.1– Scoping onsite mission map

— OHL route – version one, approved; — Driving road; ■ Stops – villages/communes' local administration

The scope of this onsite mission was:

- to identify key issues and concerns, by consulting the affected public (people living along “option one” OHL proposed route, land owners), vulnerable groups and interested stakeholders, through their representatives (see Table 5.1), on ‘MD-RO’ Project and taking their comments into account
- to inform the potentially affected public, through their representatives, about the planning period of ‘MD-RO’ Project, in order to provide continuous engagement
- to identify additional stakeholders’ groups

Information materials about the Project were prepared, in Moldovan/Romanian and Russian languages, and offered to stakeholders’ representatives: include ‘MD-RO’ Project in brief and bloc-notes (**Annex 4 – Scoping onsite mission information materials**).

During ESIA preparation stage (November 2016 – March 2017):

- Information disclosure events (ESIA Scoping Report; SEP Report; ‘MD-RO’ Project in brief; Feedback form) were organised in / addressed to:
 - Chişinău Municipality, Moldelectrica headquarter (Table 5.2)
 - ✓ Central governmental authorities’ active in the field of interest (morning session);
 - ✓ Professional associations, NGOs and mass-media (afternoon session).
 - Comrat Municipality, ATU Găgăuzia - at the city hall
 - Ecaterinovca Commune, Cimişlia District - at the Culture House
 - ✓ Local and neighbouring community representatives, citizens and vulnerable groups

Scopes of this initial public consultation were to:

- Promote and disclose ‘MD-RO’ Project’s information, mainly ESIA Scoping Report;
- Check for additional potential socio-economic and environmental impacts and key issues relevant to the ‘MD-RO’ Project – by receiving Feedback forms filled in;
- Identify additional stakeholders relevant to the ‘MD-RO’ Project and vulnerable groups.

Initial public consultation meetings took place on 8th and 9th of November 2016, 2 sessions per day, according to the “**Initial Public Consultation**” – **Annex 6**.

Table 5.2– Initial public consultation meetings

Date	Central Governmental Authorities
	Professional associations, NGOs and mass-media
08.11.2016	Ministry of Regional Development and Construction
	National Energy Regulatory Authority
	Energy Institute, Academy of Sciences of Moldova
	Ministry of Economy
	Ministry of Environment
	Energetic State Inspectorate
	National Agency for Land Management and Cadastral Survey
	Technical University of Moldova

Date	Central Governmental Authorities Professional associations, NGOs and mass-media
	National newspaper of Moldova Unions' National Confederation in Moldova
09.11.2016	No posters or 'MD-RO' Project's information disclosure package were displayed on the information boards and besides representatives from Moldelectrica South regional branch – "Filiala RETI Sud" in Comrat or representatives from Ecaterinovca mayoralty, no one attended the initial public consultation meeting.

5.2. Key issues raised during the scoping stage and initial public consultation meetings

Information of interest proposed to be discussed during the informal scoping interviews (June 2016) were related to:

- economic development:
 - predominant income opportunities (e.g. agriculture, industry, etc.)
 - new projects, barriers (infrastructure – roads/power and heat/water and sewage/natural gas, irrigations, telecommunication, etc.)
- environment and cultural heritage
 - natural resources (land, minerals, forests etc.)
 - sensitive / protected areas
 - presence of archaeological or culturally significant sites
 - river crossings or major geological formations in close proximity to the OHL
 - sites where visual impacts may be experienced
 - extreme weather
- social issues
 - vulnerable groups
 - unemployment and migration, agriculture equipment, land, new infrastructure projects
 - communication channels, procedures / mechanisms
- existing logistics (e.g. large meeting rooms)

Summarising all notes related to the informal interviews (**ANNEX 5 – Scoping onsite mission informal interviews**) during the scoping meetings, underlined comments and recommendations have been gathered in the table below, in order to define the updated input for the ESIA Scoping Report and future ESIA Final Report.

Table 5.3– Scoping meetings – key issues and recommendations

MEETINGS DURING ESIA SCOPING PHASE	
Target stakeholders audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - local communities' representatives' along the OHL proposed route - NGOs (Farmer Association)

MEETINGS DURING ESIA SCOPING PHASE	
Positive aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They mainly consider that ‘MD-RO’ Project brings No major impacts on their livelihood - Diverse ethnic origins of the population in the affected areas, but No vulnerable groups reported, just some individuals or families (e.g. in need of social assistance) - No reluctance in releasing and receiving information about the Project - Opened for Public Utility Projects of national interest – mainly in the field of road infrastructure, security of energy supply - Willing to be involved - Protected areas (NATURA 2000 type) and archaeological sites have been identified and will be protected / bypassed - Positive evolution of the productivity and of the modern technology acquisitions in agriculture - Few new industries are developed in the area (e.g. biogas installations, lavenders’ cosmetics) - Willingness to develop local tourism, including related activities, and to submit project proposals for financing
Negative aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The population is aging; young people go abroad in search of better paid jobs - Major concerns are for local infrastructure - water / sewage; schools; roads; irrigation - Mainly low income, limited to those derived from agriculture; no natural resources exploitations - Diverse land ownership arrangement (individual private ownership in majority, but also farmers associations and state owned) - Agriculture land divided into several smaller land plots, which are in majority private ownership - Especially concerned about environmental impact on cropland and vineyards, and less about health impact due to the electromagnetic fields - Relative high interest in possible compensation for experienced impacts, specially expropriation
RECOMMENDATIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - important comments and inputs related to environmental impact on cropland and vineyards to be considered and submitted to the technical team of the Project (e.g. Congazcic Mayors’ recommendations) - provide additional information about ‘MD-RO’ Project that can be displayed on the information boards - keep online connection with this stakeholders - ensure that stakeholders are receiving information about the Project prior to future consultation meetings in order to be reviewed - constantly engage them in the ‘MD-RO’ Project promotion and preparation 	

MEETINGS DURING ESIA SCOPING PHASE
<p>during its planning phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consult them during ESIA process September – October 2016 - choose future location for ‘consultation meetings’ in familiar areas/environment - provide small refreshments available at the meetings - provide feedback forms and mechanism, and insists in receiving feedbacks - keep in contact with the Farmers Association – good connections at national level; a good communication channel considering their 4500 members, the association newspaper and their national assemblies each two month

MEETINGS DURING ESIA SCOPING PHASE	
Target stakeholders audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Governmental representatives
Positive aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No reluctance in releasing and receiving information related to strategic projects of national interest - Easy to reach, opened for communication and cooperation - Willing to be involved and help the Project to be developed in compliance with national laws, regulations and standards - Appreciation and positive approach of our informal dialog, considering our early stakeholders engagement process enrolled during pre-ESIA and scoping stage prior to the implementation phase of the Project, and even to the Feasibility Study phase
Negative aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We had to point out repeatedly that ‘MD-RO’ Project is, for the moment, only at the Feasibility stage of development - Unfortunately, there are projects that are trying to circumvent the law and the regulatory framework

RECOMMENDATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - include in our stakeholders data base the National Archaeological Agency and the Cadastral Institute, if missing - finalise the identification of the land ownership along the OHL route “option one” - observe the design and engineering requirements, standards and environmental - social legislation in force for 330-400 kV OHL (e.g. Law no. 86 / 2014 on EIA, GD no.651/2016 on birds migration, Law no.218/2010 on archaeological heritage etc.) - keep in touch for further events during the public consultation phase, for a smooth pass way during permitting process - prepare a time-line of the permitting process, including documents to submit, deadlines, responsibilities etc.

MEETINGS DURING ESIA SCOPING PHASE	
Target stakeholders' audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - internal stakeholders – Moldelectrica employees
Positive aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Several management systems and rules are already implemented, as: employees' requests / complains registration and solving; crisis cell generation and functioning; internal procedure for prevention of accidents at work; internal documents' and information management system; internal regulations for the company's working environment, functionality and operation, including a Code of ethics (also anti-corruption) - Internal regulations are shared to all subcontractors - Own policies related to quality assurance, environmental protection and occupational health and safety in compliance with national laws and regulations - The employees have their own labour union, including a commission to mediate labour conflicts - An existing collective labour agreement drawn out by the union - Internal trainings: for entry level; periodic - annually related to the ethical code and monthly for the occupational health and safety issues "Safety day" - Easy to reach, opened for communication and cooperation both at internal and external level - New website recently launched - Appreciation and positive approach of our informal dialog, considering our early stakeholders engagement process enrolled during pre-ESIA and scoping stage prior to the implementation phase of the Project, and even to the Feasibility Study phase
Negative aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional responsibilities and risks related to the new technology 400kV BtB substation – no working experience (O&M) - Internal communication only at the level of two "information boards" and "opened doors" system; no online internal communication system implemented (e.g. INTRANET) - Aware that they have a monopoly on the market, they do not insist on decision making process transparency – limited strictly to the requirements of the legislation in force - No QEHS management system implemented yet
RECOMMENDATIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - training sessions to be considered for the future employees responsible for the future 400kV BtB substation 	

MEETINGS DURING ESIA SCOPING PHASE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - periodic internal technical meetings to be organised related to the latest technological developments at international level - diversify the internal communication channels - a future INTRANET development to be considered for enhancing and optimise the internal communication - notification of public events on MOLDELECTRICA website - enhancement of the communication process inside the company - additionally, to the periodic internal Project meetings – information about the evolution of the ‘MD-RO’ Project to be provided at internal level to all employees - more transparency of the decision-making process - future implementation of QEHS standards

Initial public consultation meetings (November 2016)

Summarising all relevant debates during the initial public consultation meetings, comments and recommendations have been gathered in the table below, in order to draw out the future ESIA Report.

Table 5.4 – Initial public consultation meetings – key issues and recommendations

INITIAL PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETINGS	
Audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government and Policy Makers - Regulatory Authorities - R&D Institutes and Academic Environment - Local Authorities - Unions Federation and the local press
Debated topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ‘MD-RO’ Project is of national strategic interest - given Republic of Moldova function of energy resources transit, according to the Energy Strategy 2020, it appears the necessity for Moldova to enhance energy security, and ‘MD-RO’ Project is developing these transit capacities - reducing dependence on energy imports from Russia vs. increasing losses in the electricity transmission networks; it is a phenomenon that occurs in any import hub (knot) - Institute of Energy is open for collaboration and joint research in topics related to type of circuit and poles; a research direction of interest is to develop a new type of compact transmission lines, thus increasing transport capacity - ‘MD-RO’ Project is a substantial financial effort for Moldova, due to high investment, generated by the modernization of the "BtoB" electrical substation - final consumer affordability, due to Project impact on the electricity transmission tariff - analysis scenarios in which the feasibility of the Project is

INITIAL PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETINGS	
	<p>demonstrated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - impact of the electromagnetic field on the environment and neighboring communities (human health and radio transmissions) - land expropriation estimated at around 300-400 ha will generate a long approval procedure
RECOMMENDATIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'MD-RO Project is of national strategic interest and needs to be declared as project of public utility - the Academy of Sciences suggest, as a future vision, to include also Ukraine in the analyses based on the existence of a Treaty Energy - transparency in presenting the financial & commercial data of the project e.g. proposed financing scheme, return of investment, etc.; construction & execution duration; main equipment lifetime - electricity tariffs affordability analysis to be performed - the need to interconnect with the EU, to open the electricity market and generate competitiveness among players (electricity Distribution System Operators), thus cutting tariffs monopole 	

5.3. Planned and future stakeholder engagement activities

The future planned activities will be structured, as detailed in Figure 5.2, and will be focussed on the final consultation meetings enrolled during ESIA process, and will include:

Consultation - along the “option one” OHL proposed route:

- Public consultation meetings in local communities (local citizens, NGOs, vulnerable groups, informal leaders)
- Possible to also include individual consultations. Depends on findings in ESIA study and technical specifications
- Press-releases to the printed and online media

Stakeholder consultations may create actions and reactions among the stakeholders and this will be considered in the planning and deciding on the proposed future action in the SEP. For example, there could be stakeholders taking actions to optimise compensation linked to the construction and operation of the OHL.

Time	Activity	Report		
Stakeholders identification & PRE-ESIA analysis				
First draft SEP + Scoping ESIA report submitted for review by MOLDELECTRICA				
Planning stage of the project	ESIA scoping and preparation process (second half of June-October 2016; November 2016-April 2017)	Preparing Scoping meetings	Ongoing dialogue and face-to-face meetings	
		Preparing the draft ESIA Report		
		Unrolling Scoping meetings		
		Assess results		
		Identification of key issues – input to scoping report		Submit Final ESIA scoping Report and updated SEP to MOLDELECTRICA
Disclosure of the Draft ESIA, ESMMP, LACF, NTS and updated SEP				
Planning stage of the project	ESIA consultation and disclosure process (March-September 2017)	Preparing ESIA consultation process	Ongoing dialogue and face-to-face meetings	
		Unrolling public consultations program		
		Assess results		Reviewing all documents
		Disclosure of the reviewed versions of ESIA Report, ESMMP, LACF, NTS, and SEP		
		Commenting and suggestions for improvement		
		Finalise ESIA, ESMMP & SEP		Submit Final ESIA, ESMMP and SEP
Implementation and operation stages of the project	Ongoing Consultation Process	Procurement process, Engineering & design, Permitting, Land acquisition Construction (including working site preparation and commissioning) Operation and maintenance Decommissioning	Updates of SEP along with the construction and operation of the project – responsibility of MOLDELECTRICA	

Figure 5.2– SEP program

As a Category A project, ‘MD-RO’ could potentially result in significant adverse environmental and/or social impacts and thus MOLDELECTRICA will engage affected stakeholders at every stage of the project and their feedback will be considered in the relevant project documents. The ESIA and other relevant project documents will be publicly disclosed for comments and regular updates will be provided for all relevant stakeholders at least once a year.

A public consultation meeting will be organised for presenting and discussing the draft ESIA documentation. The public consultation meeting will take place during the ESIA public consultation period.

The disclosure information package, including SEP, ESIA, its Non-Technical Summary (NTS), LACF – Land Acquisition and Compensation Framework and ESMMP - Environmental and Social

Management and Monitoring Plan, will be prepared for public comments. Any presentation materials will need to be prepared both in local language and in English and, if needed, an enquiry form could be issued to encourage the public to present their views.

The planned future activities will provide data recorded, such as:

- Type of information disclosed, date and form of disclosure and distribution channels
- Minutes of meetings, lists of participants and locations of any meetings organised with affected people
- Individuals, groups, organisations and institutions that have been consulted
- Key issues and concerns discussed and raised by affected people
- Response mechanism, follow-up actions

The information about stakeholder engagement activities will be updated on an on-going basis, all public consultation details related to the Project and relevant environmental and social data, provided by the Public Communication Program during implementation and O&M Project stages, being included.

In the SEP document further details on responsibilities and resources will be defined. It is essential that responsibilities linking to actions on input from the grievance mechanism for example is well defined, understood and shared with MOLDELECTRICA ones the SEP becomes their responsibly.

The required public comment period will conform to national legislation and IFI's policies, standards and requirements. The Bank requires at a minimum a 120-day comment period between the publication of the final ESIA and Board consideration for public projects (public utility). MOLDELECTRICA will need to make the ESIA publicly available for comments, both online on its website and at or near the 'MD-RO' Project site, and is expected to keep ESIA-related documentation in the public domain at least until the Project' completion.

Anyone can comment on the documentation enclosed in the disclosure information package, during the disclosure period. Comments can either be sent/emailed to MOLDELECTRICA directly to the CLO: melnicenco@moldelectrica.md or by surface mail to MOLDELECTRICA (78 V. Alecsandri str. Chişinău).

5.4. Communication tools and Timeframe

In the upcoming steps of the Project (basic and detail design, implementation – construction, operation & maintenance and decommissioning) the SEP will further be developed to include approaches to ensure that stakeholder' interests, concerns, and positions are fully considered. The responsibilities of MOLDELECTRICA will also be further explored. MOLDELECTRICA will, in future stage of the Project - construction and operation of OHL, **INFORM, COMMUNICATE with, and ENGAGE** its key stakeholders, on a continuous basis:

- **Inform** describes stakeholders who seek information instead of a conversation.

- **Communicate** describes stakeholders with a high willingness to engage or a high level of expertise but who have not yet participated in dialogue; Communicating more with these stakeholders will help them value engagement.
- **Engage** describes stakeholders with whom engagement is necessary;

In order to put in practice SEP program presented in Figure 5.3, for the planning, implementation, operation & maintenance and decommissioning stages of 'MD-RO' Project, a summary of the communication tools/tactics, information to be disclosed to each stakeholders' categories, including a timeframe proposal are presented in Table 5.3.

Table 5.5– Communication tools and timeframe

Stakeholder category	Communication Tools	Information to be disclosed	Timeframe			
			Planning stage of the Project			Implementation stage of the Project
			ESIA scoping process June-October 2016	ESIA preparation process November 2016 -April 2017	ESIA consultation & disclosure process July 2017 – November 2017	Ongoing Consultation Process
People affected directly by the future construction and/or operation of the OHL	Meetings Information board at the City Hall	NTS, ESIA, ESMMP, LACF, SEP and Grievance Form		X	X	X
Government officials and policy makers	Formal emails / fax	NTS, ESIA, ESMMP, LACF, SEP and	X	X	X	X
National Regulatory Authorities / Agencies	Reports issuing as required Meetings	compliance with national legislation and permits issuing requirements			X	X
Local Public Administration – impacted communities	Meetings Internet, Information board at the City Hall	NTS, ESIA, ESMMP, LACF and SEP, Grievance Form	X	X	X	X
Academic and RDI environment	Internet, Newspaper	NTS, other information on request			X	X
Civil society - NGO's	Internet, Telephone, Newspaper Presentations and meetings on request	NTS, other detailed information on request	X	X	X	X

Stakeholder category	Communication Tools	Information to be disclosed	Timeframe			
			Planning stage of the Project			Implementation stage of the Project
			ESIA scoping process June-October 2016	ESIA preparation process November 2016 -April 2017	ESIA consultation & disclosure process July 2017 – November 2017	Ongoing Consultation Process
Local community – vulnerable individuals	Information board at the City Hall / school / church Small focus groups to be handled carefully Face-to face interviews	NTS, ESIA, ESMMP, LACF, Grievance Form and SEP			X	X
Mass-media	Periodic Press releases	NTS, other detailed information on request			X	X
Professional organisations; Labour Unions	Periodic presentations and meetings	NTS, ESIA, SEP	X		X	X
Internal stakeholders	Annual business plan Monthly reports Notification of events Special analysis upon request Periodic internal Project meetings	Detailed information on the Project, QEHS requirements, NTS, vacancies, Grievance Form, ESIA, ESMMP, LACF and SEP	X	X	X	X

Quarterly updates of the information disclosure package are available for each category of stakeholders.

5.5. Disclosure of information

The objective of the disclosure process is to solicit feedback from project affected settlements/stakeholders, vulnerable groups and interested stakeholders on 'MD-RO' Project impacts and proposed mitigation actions and where required make the necessary changes to the ESIA to reflect comments received. Within the ESIA process period, a formal public consultation campaign

will be conducted along the OHL route, carried out by MOLDELECTRICA Project team working alongside the consultants' consortium, including information disclosure and stakeholders' events.

The main steps of the disclosure process will be:

- preparation and distribution of disclosure materials (disclosure information package);
- announcements and engagement of the media (press release);
- disclosure meetings;
- collection and incorporation of comments and feedback.

The types of information disclosed and the specific methods of communication to be undertaken by the local authorities for this project are summarised in Table 5.1 – Communication tools and timeframe. The objectives of external communications are to provide continuous engagement with affected people and other relevant stakeholders and to inform them about the activities, performance, planning, development and implementation of the project. The information to be disclosed publicly is governed by EBRD's Public Information Policy, PR 1 "Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Impacts and Issues", PR 10 "Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement" and Republic of Moldova national legislation, observing in the same time related EIB and WB Environmental and Social Standards (ESS 10).

The SEP will be revised and updated on a regular basis, by MOLDELECTRICA, to reflect the changes in stakeholder engagement due to project developments and changes in the stakeholder groups. The information that is required to be disclosed may change if there are changes in the Project design, schedule or area of influence.

Electronic versions of the information disclosure package (NTS, ESIA, ESMMP and SEP), will be made available online, on MOLDELECTRICA, Ministry of Environment (MoE) and EBRD websites⁸, in Moldovan/Romanian and English languages prior to the disclosure period to the targeted groups (number of contacts is based on present draft stakeholder database):

- Officials from the governmental authorities and parliament – about 33 contacts;
- Representatives from the local and regional administration, including potentially affected settlements – about 20 contacts;
- Academics and RDI – about 6 contacts;
- National and local NGOs, interest groups – about 12 contacts;
- National media – about 7 contacts;
- International financing bodies – about 5 contacts;
- Internal public of the Project – about 12 contacts.

Special attention will receive people that live along the OHL (a corridor approach to identify these people will be applied) and land owners directly affected, in order to ensure that they have understand their rights in terms of relaying opinions on the construction and operation of the OHL. To this aim hard copies of the disclosure package will be made available to level 1 local public authorities (list of 400 kV OHL neighbouring communities approved by MoE according to Law no. 86/2014), in Moldovan/Romanian and Russian, and key information, as "MD-RO project in brief"

⁸ www.moldelectrica.md; www.mediu.gov.md/index.php/transparenta-in-procesul-decizional/consultari-publice; www.ebrd.com/work-with-us/project-finance/project-summary-documents.html

brochure will be printed also in Găgăuz language in the area of interest – local administration potentially affected from ATU Găgăuzia.

This approach will be developed in more detail during the next steps of the project (Implementation stage – procurement process, engineering & design, permitting, land acquisition, construction (including working site preparation, tests and commissioning); Operation & Maintenance; Decommissioning).

All disclosure documentation will be distributed to the relevant stakeholders at least one week prior to the commencement of the official disclosure period, and at least two weeks prior to the disclosure meetings thus ensuring to stakeholders time to review the documentation prior to the meetings. The required public comment period must conform to national legislation (Law no. 86/2014) and EBRD's requirements. In 'MD-RO' Project case, the Bank will require at a minimum a 120-day comment period between the publication of the final ESIA and Board consideration. MOLDELECTRICA will keep ESIA-related documentation in the public domain until 'MD-RO' Project will be completed.

6. GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

6.1. Objectives and procedure

A grievance mechanism will be implemented to ensure that MOLDELECTRICA is responsive to any concerns and complaints particularly from affected stakeholders and communities. Designated staff at MOLDELECTRICA will be trained for the management of the grievance mechanism. This grievance mechanism covers both internal public (employees) and external public (i.e. affected people and other relevant stakeholders).

A schematic flow for the grievance mechanism is presented in Figure 6.1 below. Both verbal and written complaints are to be registered and documented. Any comments or concerns can be brought to the attention of the company verbally (by phone) or in writing (by post or e-mail) or by filling in a grievance form (**Annex 6 – Public grievance form**). The grievance form will be made available in the mayor’s office, community centres and other public places that are easily accessible for all relevant stakeholders, alongside a description of the grievance mechanism. Grievance forms can then be submitted to the contact details provided in **Chapter 8 - Contact details for the targeted public**.

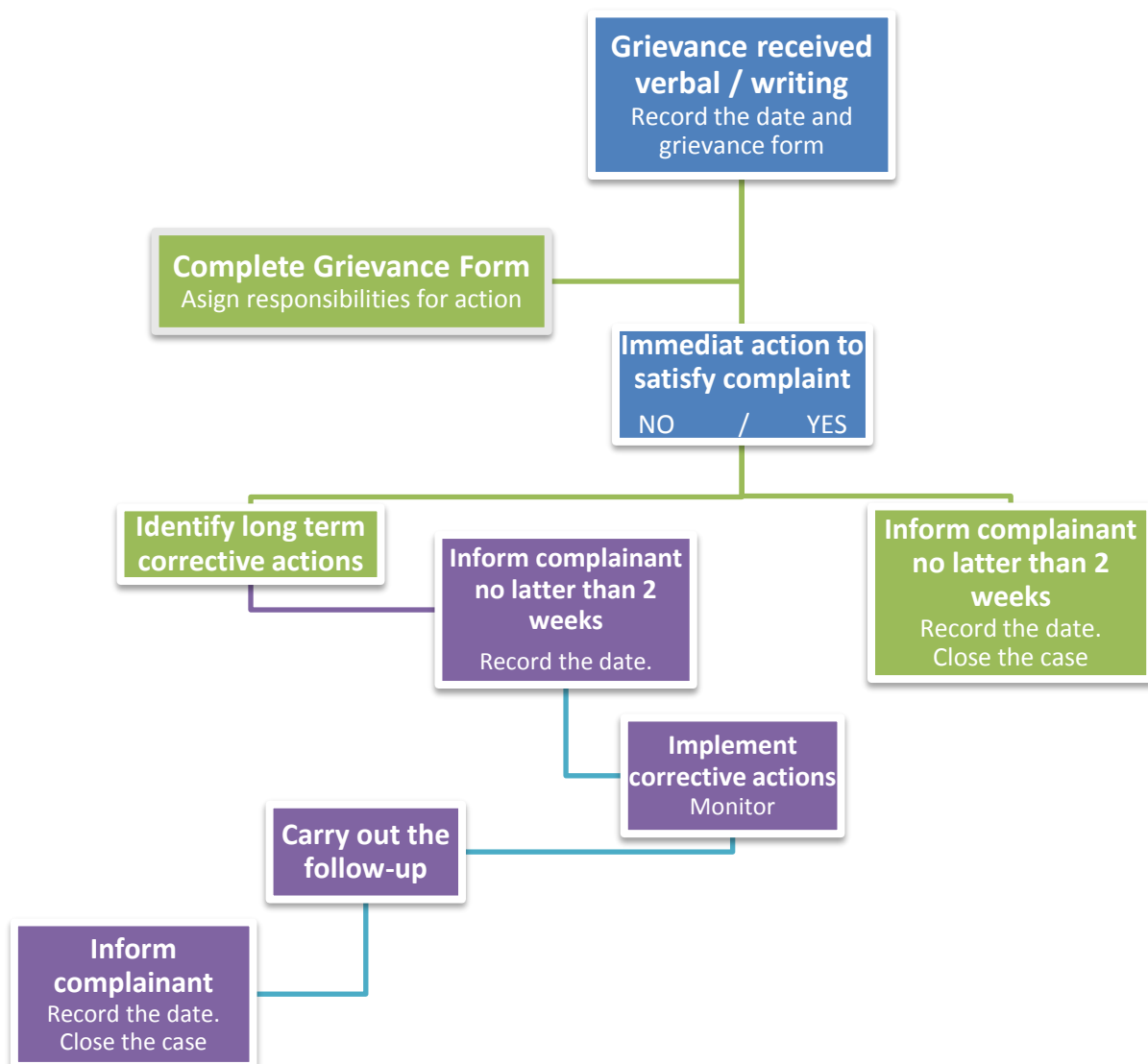


Figure 6.1 – Grievance procedure



Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 45
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	---------------

When receiving a complaint all employees shall refer the complainant to the Community Liaison Officer (CLO). CLO shall ensure that the Corrective Action Form is completed, registered and that all actions will be made to close out the complaint.

7. MONITORING and REPORTING

ESIA monitoring group will need to have a balanced and neutral (without favour) structure focussed on environmental and social potential future issues generated along to the 'MD-RO' Project development stages: Planning; Implementing (procurement process, engineering & design, permitting, land acquisition, construction including - working site preparation, tests and commissioning); Operation & Maintenance; Decommissioning). Environmental protection experts (inspectors and regulators) will monitor and report all related impacts, according to the national legal framework in force and IFIs policies & requirements.

The responsibility of ensuring environmental and social safeguards of the Project rests with the developer – MOLDELECTRICA.

Environmental and social issues will be covered as follows:

- during Project planning stage the CLO will manage both the grievance mechanism and the monitoring & reporting process;
- during the Project implementation stage, a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will be set up inside MOLDELECTRICA.

A consultancy company will be selected to undertake such work and implement the ESMMP, analysing in the same time the contractors' Environmental and Safety Management Systems to ensure that no adverse environmental and social impact will result from the implementation stage. Additionally, as part of the construction supervision scope, a day-to-day audit will be undertaken, thus the Contractor providing self-monitoring report on both the environmental and social aspects. Consultation records and minutes of meetings will be maintained by MOLDELECTRICA CLO and social impact responsible representative from the consultancy company. Periodic (every six months) reports will be performed, summarising the activities (environmental/social recapitulation) and key emerging themes raised.

An Annual Progress Report will be also prepared by MOLDELECTRICA CLO, summarising SEP results, based on which updated information will be delivered back to the community / stakeholders targeted group, including also work progress of 'MD-RO' Project development stages.

MOLDELECTRICA will act consequently – activate feedback loop and implement corrective measures, both in the environmental and social field.

Main issues to be monitored will include:

- land use, resettlement, acquisition and compensation;
- infrastructure and services to be developed horizontally in the future;
- pollution prevention and risk assessment;
- health and safety;
- forests, prairie areas, river crossings;
- archaeology, local heritage and culture;
- future construction camps (working sites) and community relations;
- future employments and recruitment.

8. CONTACT DETAILS for the TARGET PUBLIC

We welcome all comments on the draft materials listed below. Tell us what you think through visiting our web site at www.moldelectrica.md.

The following materials will be developed as the EIA progresses and will be made available to interested parties during the consultation process:

- 'MD-RO' Project 2 pages brochure
- Non-Technical Summary (NTS)
- SEP – Stakeholders' Engagement Plan (this document), outlining the approach for stakeholder consultation process
- ESIA Scoping Report
- ESIA Report
- ESMMP
- LACF

For further information please contact MOLDELECTRICA:

Community Liaison Officer and ESIA and SEP Manager

First name: **Nelly**

Last name: **Melnicenco**

Telephone: **+373 22 253396**

Email: **melnicenco@moldelectrica.md**

Postal address: **Moldelectrica, 78 V. Alecsandri str. Municipiul Chişinău**

9. REFERENCES

- EBRD Public Information Policy, 2008
- UN ESOOP Convention - Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, adopted in 1991 (amended in 2001)
- Moldova in Figures, National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, 2016
- Moldova Population Official Census, 2014
- Stakeholder Engagement: A Good Practice Handbook for Companies Doing Business in Emerging Markets, IFC 2007
- EBRD Environmental and Social Policy, 2014
- EBRD Guidance note for category A projects
- European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Handbook, 2013
- WB Environmental and Social Framework, 2017
- The World Bank Operations Manual, 2013
- Population census 2004, Republic of Moldova

websites

- www.mediu.gov.md/
- www.mapl.gov.md/
- www.statistica.md/
- <http://geoportal.md/>
- www.unece.org/
- www.anpm.ro/
- www.un.org/
- www.insse.ro/
- www.mmediu.ro/
- <http://europeandcis.undp.org/>
- www.icpa.ro/
- www.icas.ro/
- www.ebrd.com/moldova.html
- www.ebrd.com/
- <http://www.eib.org/>
- <https://policies.worldbank.org/>
- <http://www.worldbank.org/>

ANNEX 1 – Stakeholders data base

Version 2017-05-21

primary area of impact; secondary area of impact; additional stakeholders; internal stakeholder group

Company / Institution	Name	Position
ATU of Găgăuzia (Gagauz -Yeri)	Irina Vlah	Governor (Başcan)
EBRD	Alexandra Antsugai	
EBRD	Pierre Biedermann	
EBRD	Evelin Lehis	
Ecologic Agency in Chişinău	Ustim Sfircea	Head of Division
Ecologic Agency in ATU of Găgăuzia	Eugen Şevcenco	Head of Division
Ecologic Agency in Cahul	Galina Macriţchi	Head of Division
Ecologic Agency in Leova	Pavel Ciobanu	Head of Division
Ecologic Agency in Cimişlia	Petru Leancă	Head of Division
Ecologic Agency in Hînceşti	Albert Darie	Head of Division
Ecologic Agency in Ialoveni	Ion Ionaş	Head of Division
Ecologic Agency in Taraclia	Andrei Baltacov	Head of Division
ENERGOPROIECT	Sergiu Carmanschi	Chief Engineer
ENERGOPROIECT	Iurie Ghies	General Director
ISPE	Anca Popescu	Project Manager
ISPE	Claudia Tomescu	Department Head
ISPE	Gloria Popescu	Communication and knowledge sharing
ISPE	Carmen Gujba	Project manager Assistant
IVL	Mathias Gustavsson	
IVL	Anja Karlsson	
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry	Eduard Grama	Minister
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry	Doni Veaceslav	Head of State Property and Land Management Division
Ministry of Culture	Monica Babuc	Minister
Ministry of Economy	Octavian Calmîc	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy
Ministry of Economy	Mariana Botezatu	Head of General Division for Energy Efficiency and Security
Ministry of Economy	Valentin Lesnic	Head of Energy Infrastructure Division
Ministry of Economy	Valeriu Triboi	Vice-minister
Ministry of Economy - Energy Efficiency Agency - AEE	Mihail Stratan	Director
Ministry of Environment	Valeriu Munteanu	Minister
Ministry of Environment	Alexandru Bostan	Minister Counsellor
Ministry of Environment	Maria Nagornii	Head of Analysis, Monitoring and Policies Assessment Department

Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 50
----------------	-------------------------	-------------	--------

Company / Institution	Name	Position
Ministry of Environment	Ala Rotaru	Head of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Division
Ministry of Regional Development and Construction	Vasile Bîta	Minister
Ministry of Regional Development and Construction	Alexandru BEȘLIU	Ministers' counsellor
Regional Development Agency	Eduard Ungureanu	Interim Director Central Regional Development Agency
Regional Development Agency	Maria Culeșov	Director South Regional Development Agency
Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure	Iurie Chirinciuc	Minister
MOLDELECTRICA	Ghennadi Dimov	General Director
MOLDELECTRICA	Moldovan Valeriu	Head of Electricity Transmission Division
MOLDELECTRICA	Octavian Ciobirca	Prospective Development Department
Public Administration Municipality of Chisinau	Dorin Chirtoaca	Mayor
Public Administration Municipality of Comrat	Victor Volcov	Mayor
Public Administration Vulcanesti City	Vasil Shishku	Mayor
Public Administration Cantemir City	Roman Ciubaciuc	Mayor
Public Administration Communes near the Project site CHIȘINĂU - IALOVENI District	Brăila Hanșca	Local administration representatives Potentially affected community groups
Public Administration Communes near the Project site HÎNCEȘTI District	Fârlădeni	Local administration representatives Potentially affected community groups
Public Administration Communes near the Project site CIMIȘLIA District	Gura Gălberiei Valea Perjei Ecaterinovca (Topală)	Local administration representatives Potentially affected community groups
Public Administration Communes near the Project site LEOVA District	Borogani	Local administration representatives Potentially affected community groups
Public Administration Communes near the Project site CAHUL District	Iujnoe Burlăceni	Local administration representatives Potentially affected


Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 51
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	---------------

Company / Institution	Name	Position
		community groups
Public Administration Communes near the Project site TARACLIA District	Borceag (Orehovca) Musaitu Vinogradovca	Local administration representatives Potentially affected community groups
Public Administration Communes near the Project site ATU of GĂGĂUZIA	Dezghingea Congazcicul de Jos Congaz Alexeevca	Local administration representatives Potentially affected community groups
National Agency for Land Management and Cadastral Survey	Anatolie Ghilaș	General Director
National Archaeological Agency	Vlad Vornic	General Director
National Energy Regulatory Authority – ANRE	Sergiu Ciobanu	Director
ONG - Academia de Guvernare a Mediului din Moldova	Alexandr Ișcenco	President
ONG - Asociația Jurnaliștilor de Mediu și Turism Ecologic	Serghei Lazo	President
ONG - Centrul National de Mediu	Ina Coseru	President
ONG - National Agency for Energy Conservation	Vlad Răileanu Șef,	President
ONG - National Institute of Ecology	Valeriu Moșanu	President
ONG - Regional Environmental Centre (REC) Moldova	Tudor Cozari	President
Science Academy of Moldova	Gheorghe Duca	President
Science Academy of Moldova Ecology and Geography Institute	Maria Nedeaľcov	Director
Science Academy of Moldova Energy Institute	Tîrșu Mihai Ștefan	Director
Science Academy of Moldova Zoology Institute	TODERAȘ Ion	Director
State Ecological Inspectorate	Igor Talmazan	Chief Inspector
State Inspectorate of Geodesic - Technical Supervision and Land Regime	...	Chief Inspector
State Energetic Inspectorate	Iacob TIMCIUC	Chief Inspector
Technical University	VIOREL BOSTAN	Rector, Dr.habil.
University of the Science Academy of Moldova	Maria Duca	Academician, prof. univ., dr. hab., rector
MOLDSILVA Agency (forestry and hunting)	Ion Cebanu	General Director
Water Management State Enterprise	Pavel Taran	Administrator
Moldova Waters Agency	Igor Hincu	Deputy Director
Farmers' Association - Moldova Fruct	Vitalie Gorincioi	Președinte
Farmers' Association - AGROinform	Aurelia Bondari	Director Executiv
Farmers' Association - UniAgroProtect	Alexandru Slusari	Președinte
National Farmers Association	Valeriu Cosarciuc	Președinte

Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 52
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	---------------

Company / Institution	Name	Position
National Farmers Association - Cahul	Postu Gheorghe	Persoana de contact:
National Employer's Confederation	Leonid Cerescu	Președinte
Unions' National Confederation in Moldova	Oleg BUDZA	Președinte
Workers Union Federation – in the fields of forests and environmental protection	Valeriu VIDAICO	Președinte
Unions' Federation – in the fields of energy and industry	Veaceslav RUFALA	Președinte
Republic of Moldova Unions' Federation – in the field of energy "SINDENERGO"	Victoria Niță	Președinte
National Unions' Federation – in the field of agriculture and food industry „Agroindsind” from Republic of Moldova	Sergiu BERNEVEC	Președinte
Parliament Committee "Public administration, regional development, environment and climate change"	Violeta Ivanov	Deputat Presedintele comisiei
Mass-media/newspapper Timpul de dimineață	Constantin Tănase	Chief Editor
Mass-media/newspapper Ziarul de garda	Aneta Grosu	Chief Editor
Mass-media/newspapper Komsomolskaia Pravda	...	Chief Editor
INFO-PRIM NEO is a Chisinau-based news agency with primary focus on community issues	Valeriu Vasilica	Chief Editor
The State News Agency Moldpres	Valeriu Renita	Chief Editor
Mass-media / online Panorama	...	Chief Editor
Mass-media/newspapper Timpul de dimineață	Constantin Tănase	Chief Editor

ANNEX 2 – Scoping Onsite mission brief report



**Moldova's joining ENTSO-E
SCOPING ONSITE MISSION**
27 June – 01 July 2016, Republic of Moldova

"MOLDOVA-ROMANIA INTERCONNECTION PROJECT" - Feasibility Study / Part 1
Onsite mission planning – Brief report

Background
This Stakeholder Scoping Onsite Mission was addressing the First Priority Project "Part 1: Feasibility assessment and ESIA for A: Back to back (BIB) station at Vulcănești and OIE 330kV Vulcănești-Chișinău"; "option one" OHL proposed route. The selection of sites in which face-to-face meetings were performed was based on environmental, social and other (e.g. geographical spread, logistics etc.) criteria for settlement selection.

Scope of work

1. Identify key issues and concerns, by consulting the affected public (people living along "option one" OHL proposed route, land owners), vulnerable groups and interested stakeholders on "MD-RO" Project and taking their comments into account
2. Inform them about the planning period of "MD-RO" Project in order to provide continuous engagement

Information of interest proposed to be discussed during the informal scoping interviews:


- economic development:
 - predominant income opportunities (e.g. agriculture, industry, etc.)
 - new projects, barriers (infrastructure – roads/power and heat/water and sewage/natural gas, irrigation, telecommunication, etc.)
- environment and cultural heritage
 - natural resources (land, minerals, forests etc.)
 - sensitive / protected areas
 - presence of archaeological or culturally significant sites
 - river crossings or major geological forms
 - sites where visual impacts may be expected
 - extreme weather
- social issues
 - vulnerable groups
 - unemployment, agriculture equipment
 - communication channels, procedures /
- existing logistics (e.g. large meeting rooms)

Target audience in close proximity to the OHL:

- Public groups, focused mainly on the locality (Bacloii locality); Central area analysed districts: South area analysed districts: Cimigăla (Ecate) (Iujnoe locality) and UTA Găgluzia (Congaz locality)
- Government representatives:
 - Ministry of Environment
 - Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure
 - Ministry of Culture
- NGOs - Sector organisations

Project delegation: consultant team:

- Dr. Claudia Tomescu and Ms. Gloria Popescu
- Mr. Sergiu Carmanachi, CPT ENERGOPROIECT
- Dr. Mathias Gustavsson and Ms. Anja Karlsson
- Ms. Nelly Melencoro, Mr. Alexandru Proscum





**Moldova's joining ENTSO-E
SCOPING ONSITE MISSION**
27 June – 01 July 2016, Republic of Moldova

AGENDA

27.06.2016 DAY 1 – MONDAY

- ISPE and IVL delegations arrival in Chișinău; accommodation
- Internal meeting ISPE and IVL

28.06.2016 DAY 2 – TUESDAY

- ROUTE = Chișinău – Topală, Cimigăla District, with stops in Hâncești and Ialoveni districts
- SCOPING MEETINGS in the following localities:
 - **Chișinău Municipality - Bacloii locality**
Mr. Andrei ȘAHU, vice-mayor; Mr. Dumitru ȘTANĂ, engineer; Ms. Valentina BĂLĂTESCU, accounting
 - **Ialoveni - Hansca locality**
Ms. Svetlana BOSTANCA, accounting; Ms. Silvia ARHIBI, secretary
 - **Hâncești - Fărlăcești locality**
Mr. Pavel BARBOȘ, Mayor
 - **Cimigăla - Ecaterinovca locality**
Mr. Eim STROGOTEANU, Mayor
 - **Cimigăla - Topală locality**
Ms. Nadjeuta COSTAS, Mayor; Mr. Constantin Gherea, engineer; Ms. Ruxa COMERZAN, social assistant; Ms. Mircea RAČIĂ, accounting; Ms. Mariana CERNEI, secretary

29.06.2016 DAY 3 – WEDNESDAY

- ROUTE = Chișinău – , with stops in Cahul, Taraclia districts and UTA Găgluzia
- SCOPING MEETINGS in the following localities:
 - **UTA Găgluzia - Congaz locality**
Mr. Dumitru KUZLI, Mayor; Grigori KUZLI, engineer
 - **UTA Găgluzia - Congaz locality**
Mr. Mihail EȘR, Mayor
 - **Taraclia - Musatca locality**
Ms. Ruxa TAȘCENCO, Mayor
 - **Cahul - Iujnoe locality**
Mr. Ghendăe FOCSA, Mayor

30.06.2016 DAY 4 – THURSDAY

- STAYING in Chișinău
- SCOPING MEETINGS with the governmental and NGOs representatives:
 - **MORNING SESSION – Government representatives:**
 - **Ministry of Regional Development and Construction:**
Mr. Anatolie ZOLTOCOV, vice minister; Ms. Elena BEENARU, Head of Architecture, Construction and Dwellings General Division; Mr. Sergheț MĂNTEANU, Head of Architecture, design, urbanism and land use planning Division; Ms. Victoria IARDAȘ, expert in the same Division
 - **Ministry of Environment:**
Ms. Maria NAĞORNĂ, Head of Analysis, Monitoring and Policies Assessment Department; Ms. Veronica JOȘU and Mr. Vitalie GĂMĂLĂȘCHI, Natural Resources and Biodiversity Division.
 - **Ministry of Culture:**
Mr. Georgește POSTICA, vice minister; Ms. Emilia RISTIC, Capital investments Service







**Moldova's joining ENTSO-E
SCOPING ONSITE MISSION**
27 June – 01 July 2016, Republic of Moldova

- AFTERNOON SESSION - NGOs

- NGOs – Agriform Farmers Association
Mr. Iurie ALVIAUZACHI, Deputy Director
- internal wrap-up meeting: ISPE, ivl, and Energoproect

03.07.2016 DAYS - FRIDAY

- internal presentation of 'MO-RO' Project addressed to MOLDELECTRICA employees
Mr. Viorel ZASTAVNEȚCHI, Deputy General Director - Head of the Central Dispatch
Mr. Iurie CAZACU, Head of Electricity Regimes and Forecasts Division
Mr. Dmitri POPOV, Head of Forecasts Dept.
Ms. Nela MELNICENCO, Deputy Head of Environmental Dept.
Mr. Dmitri SUHAZEV, Head of OHL Division
Mr. Vasile BITCA, Head of Electrical Substations Division

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Information materials about the Project: 'MO-RO' Project in brief; informal query.
Official language: Romanian, Russian and English














Disclaimer:
This project has been funded with support from the ERDF. The content of this communication reflects the opinions of individual partners and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ERDF.





**Moldova's joining ENTSO-E
SCOPING ONSITE MISSION**
27 June – 01 July 2016, Republic of Moldova



ONSITE MISSION MAP

- OHL route – version 0.06, approved
- Drinking road
- Stop1 – state gov't construction' local administrative





ANNEX 3 – Scoping onsite mission information materials



ANNEX 4 – Scoping onsite mission informal interviews

Date	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
28.06.2016	Chişinău Municipality - Băcioi Commune	Mr. Ilie LEAHU, vice-mayor Mr. Dumitru STANILA, engineer Ms. Valentina BALTATESCU, accounting Ph.+373 (0)22-383236 primaria.bacioi2011@mail.ru

10618 inhabitants (2004 official census)

Economic development

- Mainly agriculture (cereals, fruit trees) – private and state owned land
- No major industrial facilities
- Rock pit in insolvency; oil reservoirs serving Chişinău international airport
- Ongoing water and sewerage system development
- Future road infrastructure – Chişinău ring
- Interested in their electricity supply independency

Environment and cultural heritage

- Flood hazard areas; 3 big ponds
- Negative environmental impact related to Chişinău international airport
- Major issues related to the domestic waste management system
- Few concerns related to possible explosions of the oil reservoirs
- No concerns related to OHL health impact, due to the electromagnetic field
- No protected areas, museums – historical buildings or archaeological sites
- Forests area, even if it's private owned, are management by the state forestry administration

Social challenges

- Interested in receiving compensations or tax breaks related to the negative impact of the airport; in developing their own construction works; in the education system and infrastructure (the kindergarten was refurbished)
- Women are working along with men
- No vulnerable groups, just few “low income” families monitored by the social services
- Employment opportunities in agriculture, transport industry/airport and local administration

Communication and logistic

- Internet connection; local newspaper; information board; written requests at the mayoralty secretariat; local council's general assembly gathering each three months according to the legislation in force
- No spacious conference halls



Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
28.06.2016	Ialoveni District - Hanșca Village	Ms. Svetlana BOSTANICA, accounting Ms. Silvia ARHIRII, secretary Ph.+373 (0) 268-56236 hanscaprimaria@gmail.com

1080 inhabitants (2004 official census)

Economic development

- Mainly agriculture (cereals, vineyards) – private and state owned land
- No industrial facilities
- Two projects win national funds: drinking water system development and kindergarten refurbishment; budget covered by the Ecological National Fund / Ministry of Environment and the Investment Fund / Ministry of Regional Development and Construction
- No sewage system implemented

Environment and cultural heritage

- No flood or landslides hazard areas
- No concerns related to OHL health impact, due to the electromagnetic field
- No protected areas, or archaeological sites
- The church is an historical building
- Forests area, even if it's private owned, are management by the state forestry administration

Social challenges

- Interested in receiving compensations related to the land expropriation
- Women are working along with men
- No vulnerable groups, just "low income" families (15%) monitored by the social services
- Employment opportunities in agriculture, transport industry/airport and local administration

Communication and logistic

- Information board; oral announcement in the village; written requests at the mayoralty secretariat; local council's general assembly gathering each three months according to the legislation in force, or by request if needed
- Young generation more involved and pro-active in comparison with the eldest
- No spacious conference halls



Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
28.06.2016	Hâncești District – Fîrlădeni Village	Mr Pavel BARBOS, Mayor Ph. +373 (0) 269-30236 primaria.firladeni@mail.ru

Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
------	-------------	----------------------------------

1010 inhabitants (2004 official census)

Economic development

- Mainly agriculture (cereals, vineyards) – private and state owned land
- Local agro-industrial facilities recently developed: Biogas and Bioethanol Plant (5000 cattle heads at the animal farm) which produces also flour, pasta and medicinal alcohol
- New project under implementation – cosmetic oils factory
- Cold rooms for storing grapes
- Four SME active in agriculture
- Road infrastructure – under rehabilitation
- Drinking water system implemented; generous drinking water source capable to supply also neighbouring localities
- No sewage system implemented – possible a future WB project

Environment and cultural heritage

- Issues related to the by-product from the Biogas Plant (odour and storage)
- Some flood hazard areas
- In the neighbouring areas there is an archaeological site – a Dacian dava
- The church is an historical building
- No protected areas known
- Forests area, even if it's private owned, are management by the state forestry administration
- Japanese funds for trees' trimming

Social challenges

- Lot of job created and workers needed due to the agro-industrial development of the village and people leaving for foreign countries with better paid jobs (manly youngest one)
- Various ethnic origins (Moldavian, Russian, Ukrainian) with No related issues

Communication and logistic

- They've created their own flag (Galbenita River, the sheep and hay)
- Information board; complains / suggestion box and written requests at the mayoralty secretariat; each Friday the librarian lady update the information boards with news from the Mayors' office; local council's general assembly gathering each three months according to the legislation in force
- Low involved due to an aging population
- No spacious conference halls



Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
28.06.2016	Cimișlia District - Ecaterinovca Village	Mr. Efim STROGOTEANU, Mayor Ph. +373 (0) 241-31236 ecatprim@mail.ru

1130 inhabitants (2004 official census)

Economic development

- Mainly agriculture (vineyards) – private owned land; they will not agree the OHL to overpass their vineyards (even if it will be a strategic project of national importance)
- Very few people employed in services

Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 59
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	---------------

Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
------	-------------	----------------------------------

- Natural gas supplying, drinking water, water treatment plant (National Ecological Fund) and sewage systems implemented
- Refurbished education infrastructure
- Future project will be developed in the field of national roads infrastructure (including also EBRD funds)
- High interest in developing a touristic project in a PPP system, in connection with neighbouring localities

Environment and cultural heritage

- Recent flood hazard events – Cogîlnic meadow
- Cogîlnic River is used for irrigations when needed
- Existing protected areas – Buceag steppe
- Archaeological sites – Valul lui Traian and Movila Triplă
- Concerns related to OHL impact on human health and wine production, due to the electromagnetic field (e.g. they use only wood pillars for the vineyards)

Social challenges

- Interested in receiving compensations related to the land expropriation and natural disasters (e.g. flood – only through insurance)
- No vulnerable groups, just “low income” families monitored by the social services
- Aging population not so pro-active and 30% of the inhabitants are working abroad
- Divers ethnic (former German village) and religious structure well integrated

Communication and logistic

- Information board; online information; written requests at the mayoralty secretariat if needed; local council’s general assembly opened for any citizen (by request or each three months according to the legislation in force)
- The village is split in seven decision areas and periodically they gathered for collecting requests/needs/complains
- Mayors’ door always opened
- Website in progress
- No spacious conference halls



Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
28.06.2016	Cimișlia District - Topală Village	Ms. Nadejda COSTAS, Mayor Mr. Constantin Gherea, engineer Ms. Raisa COMERZAN, social assistant Ms. Mirea RACILA, accounting Ms. Mariana CERNEI, secretary Ph. +373 (0) 241-74236 contabilitateatopala@mail.ru

896 inhabitants (2004 official census)

Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
------	-------------	----------------------------------

Economic development

- Mainly agriculture (cereals, sun flower, vineyards) – private owned land; No SMEs or farmers associations, just individuals
- No irrigations
- Drinking water system under development and modernisation (
- No sewage system implemented – possible a future project
- No natural resources
- Interested in upgrading and refurbishing the kindergarten (National Investment Fund)



Environment and cultural heritage

- No flood or landslides hazard areas
- No archaeological sites or historical buildings
- Protected areas – Buceag steppe
- Forests area, even if it's private owned, are management by the state forestry administration



Social challenges

- Aging population not so pro-active and the youngest are working abroad – mainly women
- Existing “low income” young families with lots of children, monitored by the social services
- Interested in receiving compensations related to the land expropriation

Communication and logistic

- Complains / suggestion via information board; phone calls; written requests at the secretariat; local council's general assembly each three months according to the legislation in force, or by request if needed
- Low involvement due to an aging population
- Spacious conference halls where they organise citizens' assemblies



Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
29.06.2016	ATU Găgăuzia - Congazcic Commune	Mr. Dimitrii IKIZLI, Mayor Mr. Grigori IKIZLI, engineer Ph. +373 (0) 298-73236 primaria.congazcik@gagauzia.md

1970 inhabitants (2004 official census)

Congazcic Commune includes the following villages:

Congazcicul de Sus (1652 inh.), Congazcicul de Jos (273 inh.) and Dudulești (45 inh.)

Economic development

- Mainly agriculture (water melon) – private owned land; the major producer at national level covering 50% of the market request; they will not agree the OHL to overpass their vineyards (even if it will be a strategic project of national importance); they recommend that the OHL to pass on the West side of the commune
- Natural gas supplying 88%

Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
------	-------------	----------------------------------

- Future project will be developed in the field of water management system (drinking water supply, treatment, sewage)
- Two major interests: public lighting and the road infrastructure
- Until 2016 the National Investment Development Fund was not available for UTA Găgăuzia

Environment and cultural heritage

- No flood or landslide hazard events
- Existing protected areas – Buceag steppe
- No archaeological sites
- Concerns related to OHL impact on agriculture production, due also to the electromagnetic field
- Forests area, even if it's private owned, are management by the state forestry administration

Social challenges

- Interested in receiving compensations related to the land expropriation and natural disasters (e.g. flood – only through insurance)
- No vulnerable groups, just “low income” families monitored by the social services
- Comparing with the national average the young generation did not immigrate abroad
- Citizens have a pro-active attitude
- Divers ethnic and religious structure well integrated

Communication and logistic

- Internet connection 78%
- Information board; online and oral communication of requests/complains; written requests at the mayoralty secretariat if needed; local council's general assembly opened for any citizen (by request or according to the legislation in force – periodically - each three months)
- Website in progress
- No spacious conference halls
- 'MD-RO' Project information in Russian language



Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
29.06.2016	ATU Găgăuzia - Congaz Village	Mr. Mihail ESIR, Mayor Ph. +373 (0) 298-68236 primaria.congaz@yandex.com

12327 inhabitants (2004 official census)

Economic development

- The biggest village in Europe
- Mainly agriculture (cereals, tobacco, fruits trees, vineyards) – private owned land
- Cattles and pigs farms
- They recommend that the OHL to pass on state owned land / grassland or meadow
- Local small industries developed (e.g. construction materials, textiles, cold storage for fruits)
- Natural gas supplying 100%
- Drinking water supply system developed 100% - to be extended



Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
------	-------------	----------------------------------

- Sewage system under refurbishment
- Environment and cultural heritage
- No flood or landslide hazard events
 - Existing protected areas – Buceag steppe
 - Two neighbouring archaeological sites (e.g. bronze age village)
 - Historical building – local Hospital
 - Concerns related to OHL impact on agriculture production
 - Forests area, even if it's private owned, are management by the state forestry administration



- Social challenges
- Certainly they will be interested in receiving compensations related to the land expropriation; land owners may generate conflicts
 - No vulnerable groups, just “low income” families monitored by the social services
 - Aging population not so pro-active and 30% of the inhabitants are working abroad
 - Divers ethnic and religious structure well integrated

- Communication and logistic
- Internet connection - fibre optic
 - Existing local TV station
 - Information board; online information; written and oral requests at the mayoraty secretariat if needed; local council's general assembly opened for any citizen (by request or each three months)
 - Website in progress
 - Existing conference hall (Culture House – 1000 attendees)
 - 'MD-RO' Project information in Russian language



Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
29.06.2016	Taraclia District - Musaitu Village	Ms. Raisa TASNICENCO, Mayor Ph. +373 (0) 294-52236 musaitu1@mail.ru

- 1081 inhabitants** (2004 official census)
- Economic development
- Mainly agriculture (cereals, vineyards) – private owned land
 - Small farmers associations
 - Salcia Mare River and a lake but No irrigations system implemented
 - Drinking water supply system to be developed through the National Investment Fund
 - Drillings performed for domestic water not drinkable
 - Sewage system to be considered as a future project
 - No natural resources



- Environment and cultural heritage
- Floods only when the drains on the hills get clogged
 - No landslide hazard events
 - Existing protected areas – Buceag steppe
 - Forests area, even if it's private owned, are management by the state forestry administration

Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
------	-------------	----------------------------------

- No archaeological sites or historical buildings
- This is an old Ukrainian village and they preserve their traditions and still has school classes in Ukrainian language

Social challenges

- No vulnerable groups, just “low income” families monitored by the social services
- Seasonal unemployment
- Even if they are not an aging population they are not so pro-active and 10% of the inhabitants are working abroad
- ‘MD-RO’ Project will be supported if it is of national strategic interest
- Diverse ethnic and religious structure well integrated

Communication and logistic

- Internet connection 100% - fibre optic
- Communication via Facebook
- Several information boards; online information; written and oral requests at the city hall secretariat if needed; local council’s general assembly opened for any citizen (by request or each three months according to legislation in force)
- Periodic Mayors’ visits in the village
- Existing conference hall (Culture House – 350 attendees)
- ‘MD-RO’ Project information in Russian language



Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
29.06.2016	Cahul District - Iujnoe locality	Mr. Ghenadie FOCSA, Mayor Ph. +373 (0) 293-52236 primaria_iujnoe@mail.md

764 inhabitants (2004 official census)

Economic development

- Mainly agriculture (cereals, fruit trees, vineyards) – private owned land
- Irrigation system implemented for the fruit trees
- Drinking water supply system 100%; future extension, including sewage, and upgrading project in cooperation with USAID and the Czech Republic bilateral program
- They’ve submitted several projects proposals to the National Investment Fund but with no positive feedback
- Natural gas supply 100%
- No natural resources

Environment and cultural heritage

- No floods
- Landslide hazard events in the past which were solved
- Existing protected areas – Buceag steppe
- Forests areas, private owned, were destroyed / cut
- No archaeological sites or historical buildings

Social challenges

- No vulnerable groups, just “low income” families monitored by the social services
- Unemployment issues – searching for jobs in neighbouring villages
- Aging population not so pro-active and 30-40% of the inhabitants are working abroad



Document code:	8389/2015-7-S0096363-K3	Revision: 0	Pg. 64
----------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	---------------

Data	Communities	Persons met / Position / Contact
------	-------------	----------------------------------

- Problems with the education infrastructure – the local school closed and children are learning elsewhere (around 2 hours, one away, from home)
- 'MD-RO' Project will be supported if it is of national strategic interest
- Diverse ethnic and religious structure well integrated

Communication and logistic

- Several information boards; face to face informal meetings; written and oral requests at the mayoralty secretariat if needed; local council's general assembly opened for any citizen (by request or each three months according to legislation in force)
- No existing conference hall
- 'MD-RO' Project information also in Russian language



ANNEX 5 – Initial public consultation

MOLDELECTRICA website announcement – Moldovan/Romanian, Russian and English



languages

<http://moldelectrica.md/ro/about/news;>

[http://moldelectrica.md/ro/finances/mold rom project](http://moldelectrica.md/ro/finances/mold_rom_project)

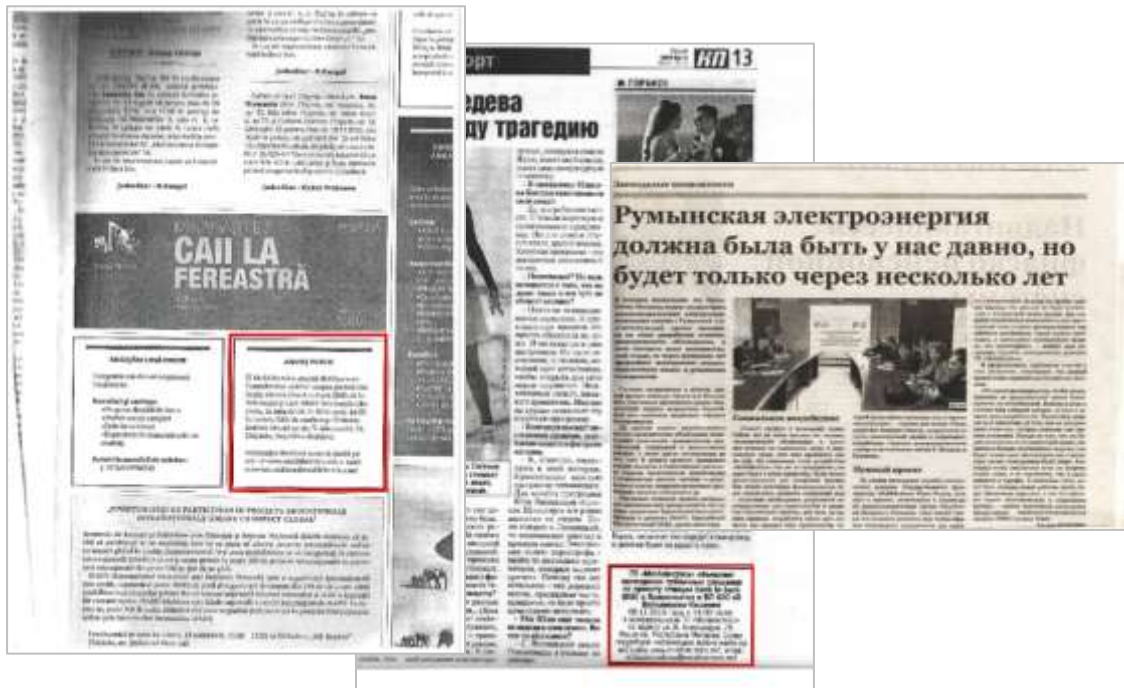
[http://moldelectrica.md/ru/finances/mold rom project](http://moldelectrica.md/ru/finances/mold_rom_project)

[http://moldelectrica.md/ro/pages/mold rom project en](http://moldelectrica.md/ro/pages/mold_rom_project_en)

Information package uploaded and disseminated

- SEP – Stakeholders Engagement Plan (Preliminary Report)
- ESIA scoping report
- ESIA scoping report (Appendix A) – Map with protected areas
- Key stakeholders consultation meeting - Feedback form

Local press announcement



Press announcement were performed both in Romanian and Russian newspapers and press release after the second public consultation meeting organised on November 8, 2016

Organised public consultation meetings

Chişinău Municipality morning and afternoon sessions

MOLDELECTRICA "INTERCONECTAREA SISTEMELOR ELECTROENERGETICE MOLDOVA-ROMANIA"

CONSULTARE PUBLICĂ

Partea 1: Evaluarea fezabilităţii şi a impactului asupra mediului, social şi economic (EIMS)

№. Nota electronica către la tabel (PDF) în la link-ul: [http://www.ivl.ro/84-403V/valoare/CA/1000](#)

Lista participanţilor - Chişinău, sesiunea 1

NUM	NUME/TE/COMPANIE	e-mail	Telefon
1	A. Mădăraş	A.M@EPC	0733 20 10 10
2	T. Căbeş	T.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
3	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
4	A. Tăbăc	A.T@EPC	0733 20 10 10
5	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
6	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
7	E. Căbeş	E.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
8	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
9	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
10	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
11	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
12	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
13	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
14	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
15	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
16	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
17	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
18	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
19	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
20	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
21	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
22	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
23	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
24	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
25	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
26	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
27	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
28	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
29	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
30	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
31	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
32	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
33	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
34	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
35	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
36	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
37	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
38	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
39	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
40	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
41	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
42	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
43	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
44	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
45	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
46	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
47	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
48	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10
49	R. Apu	R.A@EPC	0733 20 10 10
50	V. Căbeş	V.C@EPC	0733 20 10 10

REGISTRUL S. CONSULT



City of Comrat, ATU Găgăuzia and Ecaterinovca Commune, Cimişlia District sessions

Unfortunately no representatives of the local community have expressed interest in the project or in the public consultation meetings.

Invitation (08.11.2016 sessions); Posters; Information materials – hard copies distributed, power-point presented











Republica Moldova, sesiunea 2016



Moldelectrica post event information activities (prior to the final public consultation meetings)

Residential areas / Communities located inside 500 m total width corridor, along 400kV OHL route, from South to North		Project in brief leaflet and feedback form available at the mayoralty secretary and displayed on the information boards	
Lujnoe Village	Cahul District		
Burlăceni Commune	Cahul District		
Vinogradovca Commune	Taracليا District		
Musaitu Village	Taracليا District		
Svetlii Commune	UTAG		
Borceag Village	Cahul District		

Residential areas / Communities located inside 500 m total width corridor, along 400kV OHL route, from South to North		Project in brief leaflet and feedback form available at the mayoralty secretary and displayed on the information boards	
Congaz Village	UTAG		
Congazcic Commune	UTAG		
Dezghingea Village	UTAG		
Topală Village	Cimișlia District		
Ecaterinovca Commune	Cimișlia District		
Valea Rerjei Village	Cimișlia District		

Residential areas / Communities located inside 500 m total width corridor, along 400kV OHL route, from South to North		Project in brief leaflet and feedback form available at the mayoralty secretary and displayed on the information boards	
Gura Galbenei Village	Cimișlia District		
Fîrlădeni Village	Hîncești District		
Hansca Village	Ialoveni District		
Băcioi Commune	Chișinău Municipality		

Until now (March 2017) Moldelectrica through its ESIA and SEP Manager, covering also the role of the Community Liaison Officer, has not received any Feedback form filled-in or any email / phone request for additional information about the MD-RO project.

ANNEX 6 – Public grievance form

Reference No: *(to be completed by Moldelectrica)*

Received by: _____

Solved by: _____

Date of initial response: _____

Full Name:

(to be completed by the person lodging the complaint)

Note:

you can remain anonymous if you prefer or request not to disclose your identity to the third parties without your consent

My first name: _____

My last name: _____

Company / position in the company: _____

- I wish to raise my grievance anonymously
 I request not to disclose my identity without my consent

Contact Information:

(to be completed by the person lodging the complaint)

Please mark how you wish to be contacted (mail, telephone, e-mail).

By Post: Please provide mailing address:

By Telephone: _____

By E-mail: _____

Preferred Language for Communication:

(to be completed by the person lodging the complaint)

- Moldovan/Romanian
 Russian

Would you like to receive information on the Project development?

(to be completed by the person lodging the complaint)

- Yes
 No

Description of Grievance:

(to be completed by the person lodging the complaint)

What happened? Where and How did it happen? What are the results / consequence / impact of this issue?

Date of Grievance: *(to be completed by the person lodging the complaint)*

- One time grievance (date _____ DD.MM.YYYY)
 Happened more than once (how many times? _____)
 On-going (currently experiencing problem) _____

What would you like to see happening in order to solve this issue?

