



Strengthening the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Mechanisms in the Republic of Moldova

Combating and preventing corruption

General context

In the past decade, the Republic of Moldova has demonstrated a proactive commitment to combating corruption through legislative amendments and the reorganization of state institutions. Despite these efforts, challenges persist due to the fragmented nature of anti-corruption agencies and ambiguity in their authority. The fight against corruption is hindered by systemic issues, including ineffective measures against high-level corruption, deeply entrenched vested interests, and a lack of independence among judges and prosecutors. Corruption is prevalent in vital sectors such as education and health, with local public authorities often lacking the capacity and political will to ensure transparency.

Recognizing the imperative for a comprehensive strategy, Moldova has integrated anti-corruption efforts into its EU integration plans, committing to reforms. More recently, the EU has initiated accession negotiations with Moldova. The European Commission's decision to open accession negotiations underscores the country's significant progress, especially in justice reform, anti-corruption measures, de-oligarchization, and enhanced civil society participation.

Project name	Strengthening the rule of law & anti-corruption mechanisms in the Republic of Moldova
Partner Country	The Republic of Moldova
Volume	12,45 Mio. EUR (7,8 Mio. EUR of EU; 3,8 Mio. EUR BMZ; 0,85 Mio. EUR FCDO)
Duration	April 2020 to March 2025
Implementing Partner	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Beneficiaries	Leadership and employees of specialized anti-corruption bodies of Moldova and Civil Society Organisations; citizens of Moldova, officers from selected Local Public Authorities (LPAs), including Local Transparency Councils, Local Citizen Committees (LCCs); media and individual journalists.
Main stakeholders	National Anti-Corruption Centre (NAC), National Integrity Authority (NIA), General Prosecutor's Office (GPO), Specialised Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office (APO), Specialised Prosecutor's Office on Organised Crime and Special Causes (PCCOCS), Office for Prevention and Fight against Money Laundering (FIU), Criminal Asset Recovery Agency (CARA) under the NAC; Ministry of Internal Affairs, General Police Inspectorate, Ministry of Justice; Mayor's and councils of LPAs; CSO; Civil Engagement Groups such as Local Citizens Committees and grass-roots organisations; regional development agencies and councils.

Implemented by

In the context of EU integration, Moldova has made significant strides in aligning with European standards, focusing on stable institutions, democracy, the rule of law, human rights, and minority protection. The 2023 Enlargement Package by the European Commission underscores Moldova's progress, emphasizing fundamental reforms and outlining priorities for further advancement. Moldova's commitment is evident in the comprehensive justice reform, anti-corruption initiatives, and the adoption of a de-oligarchization action plan. Notably, the country has increased investigations and convictions related to corruption cases, introduced legislation for a confiscation mechanism against organized crime, and actively engaged civil society in decision-making processes. Moldova's dedication to systemic improvements positions it favorably as it seeks EU integration, showcasing a commitment to a transparent, accountable, and democratic future.



21st EPAC/EACN Conference and General Assembly
23-24 November 2022
Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova

Project objectives

In support of the Moldovan government's commitments to enhance the effectiveness of state and civil society measures against corruption, GIZ is implementing the "Strengthening the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Mechanisms in the Republic of Moldova" project (ACT Project). This technical cooperation project receives joint financing from the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The project's objective is to contribute to the prevention and fight against corruption in Moldova. This is achieved

through various approaches: engaging civil society in corruption prevention; strengthening the institutional and operational capacities of specialized investigative authorities and public prosecutor's offices; ensuring efficient corruption and money laundering prevention; the fight against illegal asset recovery and repatriation; the declaration of assets and conflicts of interest; enhancing the communication and cooperation skills of partner institutions to improve efficiency in the anti-corruption process chain. The project aligns both with the priorities of the current Moldovan government and supports Moldova's path towards becoming a member of the EU, specifically in the area of anti-corruption and judicial reform.

Expected results

The level of citizens activity, especially at local level, in the prevention and fight against corruption, and the awareness of citizens on the harms of corruption and on the ways to fight corruption have increased.

The institutional and operational capacities of the existing specialised investigation and prosecutors' bodies have increased in order to assure an efficient and effective prevention and fight against corruption and money laundering.

The national criminal asset recovery system is fully in place and has a progressive track record for identification, freezing, management and confiscation of criminal assets.

Effective systems of declaration of assets and conflict of interests are fully implemented.

Measures for the effective prevention of corruption risks, (which were identified in three high-risk sectors), are strengthened based on the results of the Sectorial Action Plans.

Framework conditions for external and internal communication and cooperation, fostering effective collaboration among key stakeholders for sustained success in anti-corruption efforts improved.

Published by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova
73/1 Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Blvd., NBC – National Business Center, 9th floor

Project Strengthening the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Mechanisms in the Republic of Moldova
27 Banulescu Bodoni Street, MD-2005, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/105752.html>

Contact Janine Baudach, janine.baudach@giz.de

Design/Layout Eugeniu Scortescu

Photo credits Adobe Stock, Serghei Bucico

The programme is co-funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).
GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication

As at January 2024, Chisinau