
LOAN NUMBER 9535-MD

Loan Agreement

(Agriculture Governance, Growth and Resilience Investment Project)

between

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

and

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION
AND DEVELOPMENT

LOAN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT dated as of the Signature Date between REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ("Borrower") and INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT ("Bank"). The Borrower and the Bank hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I — GENERAL CONDITIONS; DEFINITIONS

- 1.01. The General Conditions (as defined in the Appendix to this Agreement) apply to and form part of this Agreement.
- 1.02. Unless the context requires otherwise, the capitalized terms used in this Agreement have the meanings ascribed to them in the General Conditions or in the Appendix to this Agreement.

ARTICLE II — LOAN

- 2.01. The Bank agrees to lend to the Borrower the amount of fifty million one hundred thousand EUR, (€ 50,100,000), as such amount may be converted from time to time through a Currency Conversion ("Loan"), to assist in financing the project described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement ("Project").
- 2.02. The Borrower may withdraw the proceeds of the Loan in accordance with Section III of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
- 2.03. The Front-end Fee is one quarter of one percent (0.25%) of the Loan amount.
- 2.04. The Commitment Charge is one quarter of one percent (0.25%) per annum on the Unwithdrawn Loan Balance.
- 2.05. The interest rate is the Reference Rate plus the Variable Spread or such rate as may apply following a Conversion; subject to Section 3.02(e) of the General Conditions.
- 2.06. The Payment Dates are March 15 and September 15 in each year.
- 2.07. The principal amount of the Loan shall be repaid in accordance with Schedule 3 to this Agreement.

ARTICLE III — PROJECT

- 3.01. The Borrower declares its commitment to the objectives of the Project. To this end, the Borrower, shall:

373-22262600 cancelaria@mf.gov.md

6.03. For purposes of Section 10.01 of the General Conditions:

(a) the Bank's address is:

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
United States of America; and

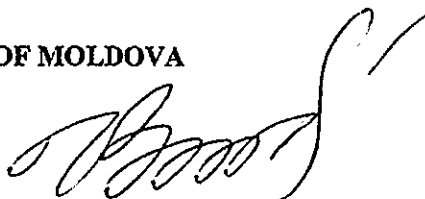
(b) the Bank's Electronic Address is:

Telex:	Facsimile:	E-mail:
248423(MCI) or 64145(MCI)	1-202-477-6391	abanerji@worldbank.org

AGREED as of the Signature Date.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

By



Authorized Representative

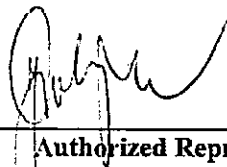
Name: Vladimir Bolea

Title: Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry

Date: June 5, 2023

**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT**

By



Authorized Representative

Name: Inguna Dobraja

Title: Country Manager

Date: June 5, 2023

SCHEDULE 1

Project Description

The objectives of the Project are to improve delivery of public agricultural services, foster market-oriented growth and increase resilience of targeted beneficiaries, and in case of an eligible crisis or emergency, respond promptly and effectively to it.

The Project consists of the following parts:

Part 1. Enhancing Sector Governance and Agriculture Knowledge Management

1. Enhancing AIPA's functionality

Enhancing the functionality of AIPA through, *inter alia*: (a) the provision of support to AIPA's alignment to the EU's fiduciary requirements, (b) the provision of technical assistance to identify solutions to current human resources weaknesses through reforms aimed at increasing AIPA's financial autonomy and ability to attract and retain qualified staff, (c) the upgrade of AIPA and its territorial offices' technical means necessary to provide an effective working environment, the facilitation of digitalization and the transportation means for improved field monitoring, (d) the carrying out of an assessment of business processes from a digital optimization perspective, and thereafter develop and implement specific e-transformation initiatives, and

2. Enhancing food quality and safety systems

Enhancing food quality and safety systems through, *inter alia*:

- (a) The provision of support on regulatory and institutional matters, including:
 - (i) the provision of technical assistance for the harmonization of the national frameworks with EU requirements, including on climate change matters, (ii) the provision of Training to MAFI and the NFSA, (iii) the implementation of the necessary institutional actions towards ISO17020 Accreditation, (iv) the carrying out of awareness campaigns of the emerging, EU-aligned food safety, animal health and welfare legislation and regulations, and (v) the carrying out of periodic reviews for specific product line elaborating the necessary action plans for achieving acceptance to the EU markets.
- (b) The implementation of technical enhancements for food safety management, including: (i) the operationalization of the State Veterinarian Network through the procurement of, office equipment, connectivity equipment, veterinary kits, and transportation means, (ii) the procurement of Testing Equipment for the Republican Center for Veterinary

Diagnostics for the accreditation in New Methods, (iii) finalizing the Borrower's phytosanitary registry, including data verification and updating, and (iv) the design and implementation of a system for online veterinary sanitary certification.

3. Enhancing access to agricultural knowledge

Enhancing access to agricultural knowledge through, *inter alia*:

- (a) Supporting agricultural knowledge management through: (i) supporting the establishment and operationalization of the ARAC through the provision of technical assistance, including an assessment of the existing agricultural knowledge gaps and the provision of recommendation, and the procurement of equipment, and (ii) implementing selected recommendations derived from the assessment, including on (A) legislative and regulatory updates for expanding and funding knowledge management for the ARAC and regional MAFI entities; (B) addressing training and capacity building needs through the development and delivery of coaching programs and the provision of training to trainers for entities involved in the delivery of advisory services; (C) development digital tools to promote access to essential knowledge, including a dedicated web- and mobile-based applications, text messaging and voicemail alert systems, on-line video courses, searchable consolidated databases, and informational kiosks; (D) development of an agricultural market information system; and (E) decentralization of agricultural knowledge management and delivery of advisory services to a network of regional centers of excellence.
- (b) Fostering excellence in veterinary services through, the establishment and operationalization of Centers of Veterinary Excellence which will (i) channel top-tier knowledge and best-practice services to animal farmers, including emerging climate adaptation practices, (ii) provide continuous education opportunities to practicing veterinarians (including for the State Veterinarian Network), including on climate change vulnerabilities, and (iii) provide access to knowledge on improved/high quality selection/artificial insemination services, improved herd management and productivity traits, analyses of nutrition regimen and proliferation of knowledge on specific feeding regimens, and other productivity maximizing and animal health and welfare enhancing tools.

Part 2. Fostering Growth in Underperforming Sub-Sectors

Promoting value chain development in the dairy, meat, horticultural production of vegetables and niche products in consistency with EU environmental and safety requirements, through:

1. The provision of Productive Matching Investment Grants to Eligible Beneficiaries.
2. The provision of capacity building and business development support to participating livestock and crop farmers in, among others: the preparation of Business Plans, establishing and expanding productive partnerships, consulting and Training on value chain integration and implementing climate adaptation and mitigation measures.

Part 3. Strengthening Resilience through irrigation services

1. Rehabilitation and assessment of irrigation infrastructure, including:
 - (a) Rehabilitation of the Tudora CIS including: the construction of an adduction pipeline, and the rehabilitation of its collection station, the existing water storage reservoir and the transit pumping station and the construction pipeline to the "Caplani" CIS, and the required technical designs.
 - (b) Carrying out studies for the Tetcani CIS, including (i) updating the feasibility studies and carrying out the technical design for the rehabilitation of the Tetcani CIS and its interconnection with the Corjeuti CIS, and (ii) feasibility and technical design studies for the rehabilitation of two pumping stations for intaking water.
 - (c) Carrying out of studies for the Etulia CIS, including the carrying out feasibility and technical design studies, for the rehabilitation of the existing pumping and repumping stations, lining of an existing channel with geomembrane, replacing an existing channel with a pipeline, and the construction of 2 new repumping stations and 2 storage reservoirs.
2. Provision of support for the enhancement of the environment for the rehabilitation of the Targeted CISs, including: (a) carrying out technical supervision, (b) providing Training for transparent and inclusive governance and efficient management, including to promote woman to managerial positions, (c) optimizing operation of the irrigation schemes, (d) improving linkages with agrometeorological services, and (e) disseminating knowledge on risk management practices, (f) advancing institutional and policy reforms on irrigation services, and (g) strengthen technical capacities in MAFI and the Water Agency and the National Agency for Land Improvement.

Part 4. Contingent Emergency Response

Provision of immediate response to an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, as needed.

Part 5. Project Management

Provision of support for Project management and implementation, including monitoring and evaluation, Project audits, and compliance with environmental and social, procurement, and financial management requirements of the Project.

SCHEDULE 2

Project Execution

Section I. Implementation Arrangements

A. Institutional Arrangements.

1. The Borrower shall vest the overall responsibility for the implementation of the Project in MAFI, as described in Article III of this Agreement. To this end, the Borrower shall, through MAFI:
 - (a) operate and maintain CAPMU, throughout Project implementation, to carry out fiduciary functions and support MAFI in the overall Project implementation, with structure, resources, functions and responsibilities, and staff, acceptable to the Bank, including a financial management specialist, a procurement specialist, an environmental specialist, and a social specialist, as further set forth in the Project Operations Manual;
 - (b) operate and maintain, throughout Project implementation, a Steering Committee vested with the responsibility to supervise, coordinate and provide strategic guidance throughout Project implementation, with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, including representatives from MAFI, MOE, MOF, the Ministry of Environment, the State Chancellery and civil society, as further described in the Project Operations Manual; and
 - (c) no later than one hundred and twenty (120) days after the Effective Date, for purposes of carrying out Part 2 of the Project, MAFI shall establish, and thereafter, operate and maintain throughout Project implementation, a Grant Evaluation Committee, vested with the responsibility of announcing competitive selection rounds, reviewing, and evaluating applications, and making award decisions, with functions and composition acceptable to the Bank, including representatives from MAFI, MOF, and the State Chancellery.

B. Productive Matching Investment Grants

1. For purposes of carrying out Agriculture Sub-projects under Part 2.1 of the Project, the Borrower, through AIPA, will provide Productive Matching Investment Grants of up to one million Dollars (US\$1,000,000), to each Eligible Beneficiary, as said amount may be revised from time to time by mutual agreement between the Borrower and the Bank and reflected in the Grants Operations Annex; all according to the terms, conditions, eligibility criteria and procedures set forth in the Grants Operations Annex.

2. To facilitate the carrying out of Part 2.1 of the Project, and prior to the provision of any Productive Matching Investment Grant to any Eligible Beneficiary, the Borrower, through AIPA, shall sign with said Eligible Beneficiary a Sub-project Agreement with terms and conditions acceptable to the Bank and as set forth in the Grants Operations Annex, including, *inter alia*:
 - (a) the obligation of the Borrower, through AIPA, to transfer part of the Loan proceeds to the Eligible Beneficiary on a grant basis;
 - (b) the Eligible Beneficiary's obligation to carry out the Agriculture Sub-project in accordance with the Anti-Corruption Guidelines, the relevant provisions of the Grants Operations Annex, the Procurement Regulations, the ESS, the ESCP, and all the pertinent provisions of this Agreement;
 - (c) the Eligible Beneficiary's obligation to contribute to the Agriculture Sub-project in an amount equivalent to the percentage of at least fifty percent (50%) as further set forth in the Grants Operations Annex;
 - (d) the Eligible Beneficiary's obligation to use the goods, works, and services to be financed out of the proceeds of the corresponding grant exclusively to carry out the Agriculture Sub-project activities;
 - (e) the right of the Borrower, through AIPA, to suspend and terminate the right of the Eligible Beneficiary to the use of the proceeds of the Productive Matching Investment Grant upon failure by the Eligible Beneficiary to perform any of its obligations under the Sub-project Agreement;
 - (f) the ability of the Borrower, through AIPA, to inspect, by itself or jointly with representatives of the Bank, if the Bank so requests, such goods and sites, works and construction included in the Agriculture Sub-project, the operation thereof, and any relevant records and documents;
 - (g) the obligation of the Eligible Beneficiary to provide all such information as the Bank or the Borrower, through AIPA, shall reasonably request related to the Agriculture Sub-project; and
 - (h) the obligation of the Eligible Beneficiary to prepare the additional environmental and social instruments required for each Agriculture Subproject in accordance with the ESCP and carry out the respective Agriculture Subproject in accordance with such environmental and social instruments.

3. The Borrower, through AIPA, shall exercise its rights under each Sub-project Agreement in such manner to protect the interests of the Borrower and the Bank and to accomplish the purposes of the Project.
4. Except as the Bank shall otherwise agree, the Borrower, through AIPA, shall not assign, amend, abrogate, waive, terminate or fail to enforce any Sub-project Agreement or any of their provisions.

C. Project Operations Manual

1. Without limitation upon the provisions of Article V of the General Conditions, the Borrower shall, through MAFI, carry out the Project in accordance with the Project Operations Manual, which shall include, *inter alia*: (a) a detailed description of the activities and institutional arrangements for the Project, including the technical, administrative and fiduciary functions of the relevant agencies; (b) the Project administrative, accounting, auditing, reporting, financial (including cash flow aspects in relation thereto), procurement and disbursement procedures; (c) the monitoring indicators for the Project; (d) the grievance mechanism; (e) the WUA Coordination Agreements model form; and (f) the Anti-Corruption Guidelines.
2. A Grants Operations Annex, will thereafter be included as an Annex to the Project Operations Manual, and shall include, *inter alia*: (a) procedures and rules for the implementation of Part 2.1 of the Project; (b) the eligibility criteria, requirements and procedures for the selection of the Eligible Beneficiaries under Part 2.1 of the Project; (c) the model form of Sub-Project Agreement;
3. Except as the Bank may otherwise agree in writing, the Borrower shall not abrogate, amend, suspend, waive or otherwise fail to enforce the Project Operations Manual, the Grants Operations Annex, or any provision thereof.
4. In case of any conflict between the terms of the Project Operations Manual or Grants Operations Annex, and this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

D. WUA Coordination Agreements

1. For purposes of carrying out Part 3 of the Project, and prior to implementing any of the investments detailed therein, the Borrower, through MAFI, shall enter into WUA Coordination Agreements with the corresponding WUA in charge of the operation and maintenance of each Targeted CIS, in terms and conditions acceptable to the Bank, and thereafter maintain said WUA Coordination Agreement throughout the implementation of Part 3 of the Project.

2. The Borrower shall ensure that WUA Coordination Agreements are entered into in accordance with the model form included in the Project Operations Manual, which shall include, *inter alia*:
 - (a) the responsibilities of the WUA to operate and maintain the investment implemented under Part 3 of the Project;
 - (b) the obligation of the WUA to provide the access to the infrastructure necessary to carry out the respective activities under Part 3 of the Project.
 - (c) the obligation of the WUA to provide any information on the operation and maintenance of the respective CIS, as requested by the Borrower, through MAFI and/or the Bank.
 - (d) the responsibility of the WUA to get involved and confirm MAFI its agreement with design documents and the acceptance of works;
 - (e) the obligation of the WUA to facilitate citizen engagement, gender activities and consultations at the local level;
 - (f) the right of MAFI and the Bank to inspect the CIS, as requested; and
 - (g) the commitment of the WUA to carry out its obligations under the WUA Coordination Agreement in accordance with this Agreement, the ESS and the ESCP, the Anti-Corruption Guidelines and the Project Operations Manual, as applicable.
3. The Borrower, through MAFI, shall exercise its rights under the WUA Coordination Agreements in such manner as to protect the interests of the Borrower and the Bank and to accomplish the purposes of the Loan.
4. Except as the Bank shall otherwise agree, the Borrower, through MAFI, shall not assign, amend, abrogate, waive, terminate or fail to enforce any WUA Coordination Agreements or any of their provisions.
5. In case of any conflict between the terms of any of the WUA Coordination Agreements and those of this Agreement, the terms of this Agreement shall prevail.

E. Environmental and Social Standards.

1. The Borrower, through MAFI, shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.
2. Without limitation upon paragraph 1 above, the Borrower, through MAFI, ensure that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan ("ESCP"), in a manner acceptable to the Bank. To this end, the Borrower, through MAFI, shall ensure that:
 - (a) the measures and actions specified in the ESCP are implemented with due diligence and efficiency, as provided in the ESCP;

- (b) sufficient funds are available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP;
 - (c) policies and procedures are maintained, and qualified and experienced staff in adequate numbers are retained to implement the ESCP, as provided in the ESCP; and
 - (d) the ESCP, or any provision thereof, is not amended, repealed, suspended or waived, except as the Bank shall otherwise agree in writing, as specified in the ESCP, and ensure that the revised ESCP is disclosed promptly thereafter.
- 3. In case of any inconsistencies between the ESCP and the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.
- 4. The Borrower, through MAFI, shall ensure that:
 - (a) all measures necessary are taken to collect, compile, and furnish to the Bank through regular reports, with the frequency specified in the ESCP, and promptly in a separate report or reports, if so requested by the Bank, information on the status of compliance with the ESCP and the environmental and social instruments referred to therein, all such reports in form and substance acceptable to the Bank, setting out, inter alia: (i) the status of implementation of the ESCP; (ii) conditions, if any, which interfere or threaten to interfere with the implementation of the ESCP; and (iii) corrective and preventive measures taken or required to be taken to address such conditions; and
 - (b) the Bank is promptly notified of any incident or accident related to or having an impact on the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers in accordance with the ESCP, the environmental and social instruments referenced therein and the Environmental and Social Standards.
- 5. The Borrower, through MAFI shall establish, publicize, maintain and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances of Project-affected people, and take all measures necessary and appropriate to resolve, or facilitate the resolution of, such concerns and grievances, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.
- 6. The Borrower, through MAFI, shall ensure that all bidding documents and contracts for civil works under the Project include the obligation of contractors, subcontractors and supervising entities to: (a) comply with the relevant aspects of ESCP and the environmental and social instruments referred to therein; and (b) adopt and enforce codes of conduct that should be provided to and signed by all

workers, detailing measures to address environmental, social, health and safety risks, and the risks of sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment and violence against children, all as applicable to such civil works commissioned or carried out pursuant to said contracts.

F. Contingent Emergency Response

1. In order to ensure the proper implementation of contingent emergency response activities under Part 4 of the Project ("Contingent Emergency Response Part"), the Borrower shall ensure that:
 - (a) a manual ("CERC Manual") is prepared and adopted in form and substance acceptable to the Bank, which shall set forth detailed implementation arrangements for the Contingent Emergency Response Part, including: (i) any structures or institutional arrangements for coordinating and implementing the Contingent Emergency Response Part; (ii) specific activities which may be included in the Contingent Emergency Response Part, Eligible Expenditures required therefor ("Emergency Expenditures"), and any procedures for such inclusion; (iii) financial management arrangements for the Contingent Emergency Response Part; (iv) procurement methods and procedures for the Contingent Emergency Response Part; (v) documentation required for withdrawals of Financing amounts to finance Emergency Expenditures; (vi) a description of the environmental and social assessment and management arrangements for the Contingent Emergency Response Part; and (vii) a template Emergency Action Plan;
 - (b) the Emergency Action Plan is prepared and adopted in form and substance acceptable to the Bank;
 - (c) the Emergency Response Part is carried out in accordance with the CERC Manual and the Emergency Action Plan; provided, however, that in the event of any inconsistency between the provisions of the CERC Manual or the Emergency Action Plan and this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail; and
 - (d) neither the CERC Manual or the Emergency Action Plan is amended, suspended, abrogated, repealed or waived without the prior written approval by the Bank.
2. The Borrower shall ensure that the structures and arrangements referred to in the CERC Manual are maintained throughout the implementation of the Contingent Emergency Response Part, with adequate staff and resources satisfactory to Bank.
3. The Borrower shall ensure that:

- (a) the environmental and social instruments required for the Contingent Emergency Response Part are prepared, disclosed and adopted in accordance with the CERC Manual and the ESCP, and in form and substance acceptable to the Bank; and
 - (b) the Contingent Emergency Response Part is carried out in accordance with the environmental and social instruments in a manner acceptable to the Bank.
4. Activities under the Contingency Emergency Response Part shall be undertaken only after an Eligible Crisis or Emergency has occurred.

Section II. Project Monitoring Reporting and Evaluation

The Borrower, through MAFI, shall furnish to the Bank each Project Report not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of each calendar quarter, covering the calendar quarter.

Section III. Withdrawal of Loan Proceeds

A. General.

Without limitation upon the provisions of Article II of the General Conditions and in accordance with the Disbursement and Financial Information Letter, the Borrower may withdraw the proceeds of the Loan to finance Eligible Expenditures in the amount allocated and, if applicable, up to the percentage set forth against each Category of the following table:

Category	Amount of the Loan Allocated (expressed in EUR)	Percentage of Expenditures to be financed (inclusive of Taxes except custom duties and VAT)
(1) Goods, works, non-consulting services, and consulting services, Training and Operating Costs for the Project	31,000,000	100%
(2) Productive Matching Investment Grants under Part 2.1 of the Project	19,100,000	100%

(3) Emergency Expenditures under Part 4 of the Project	0	100%
TOTAL AMOUNT	50,100,000	

B. Withdrawal Conditions; Withdrawal Period.

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part A above, no withdrawal shall be made:
 - (a) for payments made prior to the Signature Date; or
 - (b) under Category (2), unless the Grant Operations Annex referred to in Section I.C.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, has been prepared, adopted and incorporated to the Project Operations Manual in a manner acceptable to the Bank.
 - (c) for Emergency Expenditures under Category (3), unless and until:
 - (i) all of the following conditions have been met in respect of said expenditures:
 - (A) the Borrower has determined that an Eligible Crisis or Emergency has occurred, and has furnished to the Bank a request to withdraw Loan amounts under Category 3; and
 - (B) the Bank has agreed with such determination, accepted said request and notified the Borrower thereof; and
 - (ii) the Borrower has adopted the CERC Manual and Emergency Action Plan, in form and substance acceptable to the Bank.
2. The Closing Date is September 1, 2029.

SCHEDULE 3

The following table sets forth the Principal Payment Dates of the Loan and the percentage of the total principal amount of the Loan payable on each Principal Payment Date ("Installment Share").

Level Principal Repayments

Principal Payment Date	Installment Share
On each March 15 and September 15 Beginning September 15, 2028 through March 15, 2053	2%

APPENDIX

Definitions

1. "Agriculture Subproject" means any specific agriculture subproject, which complies with the eligibility criteria set forth in the Grant Operations Annex to receive a Productive Matching Investment Grant under Part 2.1 of the Project and has been selected by the Grant Evaluation Committee to receive the referred Productive Matching Investment Grant.
2. "AIPA" means the Borrower's Agency for Intervention and Payments in Agriculture established under the subordination of MAFI (hereinafter defined) according to Government Decision No. 20/2019 on the reorganization of the Public Institution "Agency for Intervention and Payments in Agriculture", published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova, 2019, No. 22-23 art.28 (as said Decision has been amended to the date of this Agreement), or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
3. "Anti-Corruption Guidelines" means, for purposes of paragraph 6 of the Appendix to the General Conditions, the "Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants", dated October 15, 2006 and revised in January 2011 and as of July 1, 2016.
4. "ARAC" means the Borrower's Center for Agriculture advisory, to be established within MAFI's structure, or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
5. "Business Plans" means business plans prepared to carry out agriculture subproject and submitted to the Grant Evaluation Committee to confirm their eligibility to be awarded a Productive Matching Investment Grant under Part 2.1 of the Project.
6. "CAPMU" means the Consolidated Agricultural Project Management Unit within MAFI established by the Borrower, as per CAPMU Legislation, for purposes of Project coordination and management, or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
7. "CAPMU Legislation" means the Borrower's Government Decision No. 878 dated September 29, 1999, which established CAPMU, as amended to the date of this Agreement.
8. "Category" means a category set forth in the table in Section III.A of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
9. "Centers of Veterinary Excellence" means the three veterinary centers to be established by MAFI to provide consistent delivery of veterinary training and services, as further detailed in the Project Operations Manual.

10. "CERC Manual" means the manual referred to in Section I.F.1(a) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, as such manual may be updated from time to time with the agreement of the Bank, and which is an integral part of the Project Operations Manual.
11. "CIS" means central irrigation system.
12. "Contingent Emergency Response Part" means any activity or activities to be carried out under Part 4 of the Project to respond to an Eligible Crisis or Emergency.
13. "Corjeuti CIS" means the CIS adjacent to the village of Corjeuti, Briceni District.
14. "Emergency Action Plan" means the plan referred to in Section I.F.1(b), detailing the activities, budget, implementation plan, and monitoring and evaluation arrangements, to respond to the Eligible Crisis or Emergency.
15. "Eligible Crisis or Emergency" means an event that has caused, or is likely to imminently cause, a major adverse economic and/or social impact to the Borrower, associated with a natural or man-made crisis or disaster.
16. "Eligible Beneficiary" means any private farmer or food processor eligible to receive a Productive Matching Investment Grant under Part 2.1 of the Project, which complies with the criteria set forth in the Grant Operations Annex.
17. "Emergency Expenditures" means any of the eligible expenditures set forth in the CERC Manual referred to in Section I.F.1(a) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement and required for the Contingent Emergency Response Part.
18. "Environmental and Social Commitment Plan" or "ESCP" means the environmental and social commitment plan for the Project, dated May 3, 2023, as the same may be amended from time to time in accordance with the provisions thereof, which sets out the material measures and actions that the Borrower shall carry out or cause to be carried out to address the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project, including the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and any environmental and social instruments to be prepared thereunder.
19. "Environmental and Social Standards" or "ESSs" means, collectively: (i) "Environmental and Social Standard 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts"; (ii) "Environmental and Social Standard 2: Labor and Working Conditions"; (iii) "Environmental and Social Standard 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management"; (iv) "Environmental and Social Standard 4: Community Health and Safety"; (v) "Environmental and Social Standard 5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land

Use and Involuntary Resettlement”; (vi) “Environmental and Social Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources”; (vii) “Environmental and Social Standard 7: Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities”; (viii) “Environmental and Social Standard 8: Cultural Heritage”; (ix) “Environmental and Social Standard 9: Financial Intermediaries”; and (x) “Environmental and Social Standard 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure”; effective on October 1, 2018, as published by the Bank.

20. “Etulia CIS” means the CIS adjacent to the village of Etulia, Cahul District.
21. “EU” means European Union.
22. “Food Safety Management Institutions” means the Borrower’s NFSA and its Republican Center for Veterinary Diagnostics, and any other as agreed by the Bank.
23. “NFSA” means the Borrower’s National Food Safety Agency, established pursuant to Law Nr. 113 of May 18, 2012, on the Principle of Food Safety, and Law No. 306, dated November 30, 2018, on Food Safety in the Republic of Moldova, and Government Decision Nr. 51, dated January 16, 2013, as abrogated and replaced by Government Decision No. 14, dated January 11, 2023, or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
24. “General Conditions” means the “International Bank for Reconstruction and Development General Conditions for IBRD Financing, Investment Project Financing”, dated December 14, 2018 (revised on August 1, 2020, December 21, 2020, April 1, 2021, and January 1, 2022).
25. “Grant Operations Annex” means an Annex to be incorporated to the Project Operations Manual, acceptable to the Bank, setting forth the eligibility, competitive selection criteria and mechanics of the Productive Matching Investment Grant scheme, as may be amended from time to time with the Bank’s prior approval.
26. “Grant Evaluation Committee” means the Borrower’s committee established to review eligibility of Business Plans and make awards for grant funding under Part 2.1 of the Project.
27. “ISO17020 Accreditation” means the standard of the International Organization for Standardization that specifies requirements for the competence of bodies performing inspection and for the impartiality and consistency of inspection activities, or any new denomination given to the standard with this concept, as accepted by the Bank.

28. "MAFI" means the Borrower's Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
29. "Ministry of Environment" means the Borrower's Ministry of Environment or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
30. "MOE" means the Borrower's Ministry of Economic Development and Digitalization, or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
31. "MOF" means the Borrower's Ministry of Finance, or any successor thereto, acceptable to the Bank.
32. "National Agency for Land Improvement" means the Borrower's national agency for land improvement to be established under MAFI, or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
33. "New Methods" means laboratory testing methods unaccredited in the Borrower's territory by January 1, 2023, including testing for residues, and any other as agreed by the Bank and set forth in the Project Operations Manual.
34. "Operating Costs" means the reasonable incremental costs incurred by CAPMU on account of management of Project implementation for office maintenance, office supplies, printing, utilities, communications, insurance, transportation, advertisement, translation, and such other expenditures as may be agreed by the Bank.
35. "Procurement Regulations" means, for purposes of paragraph 84 of the Appendix to the General Conditions, the "World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers", dated November 2020.
36. "Productive Matching Investment Grant" means a grant to be made to an Eligible Beneficiary to carry out an Agriculture Subproject, in accordance with the requirements set forth or referred to in the Grant Operations Annex.
37. "Project Operations Manual" means the manual for Project implementation referred to in Section I.C. of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
38. "Republican Center for Veterinary Diagnostics" means the Borrower's public institution founded by the FSA, which operates according to the Borrower's Government Decision No. 1211 dated December 5, 2018, or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
39. "State Chancellery" means the Borrower's public authority that ensures the organization of its activities to realize its internal and external policy, or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.

40. "Signature Date" means the later of the two dates on which the Borrower and the Bank signed this Agreement and such definition applies to all references to "the date of the Loan Agreement" in the General Conditions.
41. "State Veterinarian Network" means the network of accredited veterinarians employed by the FSA to provide public veterinary services.
42. "Steering Committee" means the steering committee referred to in Section I.1(b) of Schedule 2, established pursuant to Governmental Decision No. 878 dated September 9, 1999, as amended to the date of this Agreement.
43. "Subproject Agreement" means any of the Agreements to be entered into between AIPA and each Eligible Beneficiary, in terms and conditions acceptable to the Bank and referred to in Section I.B. of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
44. "Targeted CIS" means a CIS receiving support under the Project.
45. "Testing Equipment" means testing kits, microscopes, centrifuges, autoclaves, and any other as agreed by the Bank.
46. "Tetcani CIS" means the CIS adjacent to the village of Tetcani, Briceni District.
47. "Training" means reasonable expenditures acceptable to the Bank, incurred by the Borrower, related to training activities, study tours, seminars/workshops for Project implementation, including travel costs (transport, per diem, accommodation and other travel related costs) for the trainees, trainers and participants to the training, trainers fee, the rent of the rooms and the training equipment, materials used for the training, and consumables required for training purposes.
48. "Tudora CIS" means the CIS adjacent to the village of Tudora, Stefan Voda District.
49. "Water Agency" or *Agentia Apele Moldovei*, means the Borrower's administrative authority responsible for the implementation of government policies in water resource management, established pursuant to Government Decision No. 882 dated October 22, 2014, or any successor thereto acceptable to the Bank.
50. "WUA" or "Water User Association" means the association of users of water for irrigation, established pursuant to Law No. 171 dated July 9, 2010, in charge of operating and maintaining each of the Targeted CIS, namely: the Irig-Com WUA for the Tudora Cis investments, the Irigarc-Nord WUA for the Tetcani CIS investments, and Allin-Su for the Etulia CIS investments; or any successors thereto acceptable to the Bank.

51. **“WUA Coordination Agreement” means any of the agreements to be entered into between the Borrower, through MAFI, and the respective WUA, in terms and conditions acceptable to the Bank, for purposes of carrying out Part 3 of the Project and referred to in Section I.D. of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.**