GEF GRANT NUMBER TF0C9321

Global Environment Facility
Grant Agreement

(Restoring Ecosystems for Marine Pollution Prevention Project)

between

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

and

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

acting as an Implementing Agency of the Global Environment Facility

GEF GRANT NUMBER TF0C9321

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
GRANT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT dated as of the Signature Date between REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ("Recipient") and INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT ("Bank"), acting as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility ("GEF"). The Recipient and the Bank hereby agree as follows:

Article I
Standard Conditions; Definitions

1.01. The Standard 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 Standard Conditions or in the Appendix this Agreement.

Article II
The Project

2.01. The Recipient declares its commitment to the objective of the project described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement ("Project"). To this end, the Recipient, through its Ministry of Environment ("MOE"), shall carry out the Project in accordance with the provisions of Article II of the Standard Conditions and Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

Article III
The Grant

3.01. The Bank agrees to extend to the Recipient a grant in an amount not to exceed seven million nine hundred three thousand nine hundred seventy-five United States Dollars ($7,903,975) ("Grant") to assist in financing the Project.

3.02. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Grant in accordance with Section III of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

3.03. The Grant is funded out of the abovementioned trust fund for which the Bank receives periodic contributions from the donors to the trust fund. In accordance with Section

3.02 of the Standard Conditions, the Bank's payment obligations in connection with this Agreement are limited to the amount of funds made available to it by the donors under the abovementioned trust fund, and the Recipient's right to withdraw the Grant proceeds is subject to the availability of such funds.

Article IV
Effectiveness; Termination

4.01. This Agreement shall not become effective until evidence satisfactory to the Bank has been furnished to the Bank that the conditions specified below have been satisfied:

(a) the execution and delivery of this Agreement on behalf of the Recipient have been duly authorized or ratified by all necessary governmental action; and

(b) the Project Operations Manual has been adopted by the Recipient, through MOE, in form and substance acceptable to the Bank.

4.02. As part of the evidence to be furnished pursuant to Section 4.01 (a), the Recipient shall furnish to the Bank an opinion or opinions satisfactory to the Bank of counsel acceptable to the Bank or, if the Bank so requests, a certificate satisfactory, to the Bank of a competent official of the Recipient, confirming on behalf of the Recipient, that:

(a) the MOE has the legal capacity under the laws of the Recipient to accept this Grant and the terms of this Agreement, and to carry out the Recipient's obligations herein, all for the benefit of the Recipient; and

(b) this Agreement has been duly authorized or ratified by, and executed and delivered on behalf of the Recipient and is legally binding upon the Recipient in accordance with its terms.

4.03. Except as the Recipient and the Bank shall otherwise agree, this Agreement shall enter into effect on the date upon which the Bank dispatches to the Recipient notice of its acceptance of the evidence required pursuant to Section 4.01 ("Effective Date"). If, before the Effective Date, any event has occurred which would have entitled the Bank to suspend the right of the Recipient to make withdrawals from the Grant Account if this Agreement had been effective, the Bank may postpone the dispatch of the notice referred to in this Section until such event (or events) has (or have) ceased to exist.

4.04. *Termination for Failure to Become Effective*. This Agreement and all obligations of the parties under it shall terminate if it has not entered into effect by the date one hundred twenty (120) days after the Signature Date, unless the Bank, after

consideration of the reasons for the delay, establishes a later date for the purpose of this Section. The Bank shall promptly notify the Recipient of such later date.

Article V
Recipient's Representative; Addresses

5.01. The Recipient's Representative referred to in Section 7.02 of the Standard Conditions is its Minister of Environment.

5.02. For purposes of Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions:

(a) the Recipient's address is:

Ministry of Environment
Stefan cel Mare si Sfant,162MD-2004 Chisinau
Republic of Moldova; and

(b) the Recipient's Electronic Address is:

Telephone:	Email:
(+373 22) 204587	cancelaria@mediu.gov.md

5.03. For purposes of Section 7.01 of the Standard 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)	202-477-6391	moldova_contact@worldbank.org

AGREED as of the Signature Date.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

By

Minister Sergiu Lazarencu

Authorized Representative

Name: Minister Sergiu Lazarencu

Title: Minister of Environment

Date: 20-Oct-2025

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
acting as an Implementing Agency of the Global Environment Facility

By



Authorized Representative

Name: Ulrich Schmitt

Title: Word Bank Group Country Manager Moldova

Date: 17-Oct-2025

SCHEDULE 1

Project Description

The objective of the Project is to increase the area under sustainable landscape management practices in Targeted Areas within the Dniester River Basin in Moldova.

The Project consists of the following parts:

Part 1. Institutional Capacity Development and Community Engagement

1.1. *Policy Harmonization and Capacity Development*. Developing and harmonizing policy framework and enforcement mechanisms for effective nutrient pollution prevention in Dniester River Basin through nature-based solutions, through:

(a) analyzing and reviewing existing policies and legal frameworks on marine pollution, ecosystem restoration, afforestation, reforestation, and watershed management to ensure alignment with European Union standards and the Recipient's international obligations, including Nationally Determined Contributions ("NDC") commitments; and

(b) improving institutional capacity with advanced technology, system and staff skills related to marine pollution management, nature-based solutions, landscape restoration, watershed management, forest and wetland conservation.

1.2. *Community Benefits and Engagement*

Implementing restoration activities that aim at improving marine pollution management through nature-based solutions in the Dniester River Basin including:

(a) engaging Target Communities in the design and implementation of river restoration activities; and

(b) providing materials to promote the adoption of improved agricultural practices by the Target Communities.

1.3. *Supporting the Establishment of the Centre of Excellence for Climate Resilience and Nature-based Solutions*

Carrying out technical assistance activities for the operation of the Centre of Excellence for Climate Resilience through: (a) developing training

materials, governance structure, and management system; and (b) building capacity for the selection of the first two batches of trainees.

Part 2. Landscape Restoration and Watershed Management

2.1. *Improved Forest Ecosystem Condition*

Carrying out silvicultural interventions on Public Lands based on the principles of nature-based solutions, including: (a) forest treatment and regeneration along water and wetland bodies; (b) forest rehabilitation through species substitution; (c) reforestation; and (d) afforestation of new forests or shelterbelts.

2.2. *Riverbed and Wetland Protection*

Carrying out Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects through a program of activities, including: (a) identification of the sites in Public Lands; (b) delineation of boundaries of wetland-type habitats; (c) design of the wetland to be restored or revegetated, considering the habitat requirements of the targeted biodiversity; (d) revision of the water supply and sources of pollution; (e) ecological reconstruction, including cleaning-up works and species repopulation; (f) monitoring of the biodiversity recovery in the restored ecosystems, and (g) measuring of the wetlands' restoration, including carbon sequestration.

2.3. *Promoting Silvopastoral Agroforestry Systems*

Demonstration by local stakeholders of integrated nutrient management and implementation of landscape restoration strategies focusing on agroforestry and silvopastoral practices and other innovative nature-based solutions for nutrient pollution prevention, through activities including: (a) selection of Target Communities to participate in silvopastoral management planning process; (b) carrying out stakeholder engagement in the local areas of Target Communities; (c) development of silvopastoral management plans for selected Target Communities; and (d) piloting the implementation of silvopastoral management planning in selected Target Communities by focusing on demonstrational restoration of degraded ecosystems.

Part 3. Project Management, Monitoring, and Communication

Technical and operational support for: (a) project management and coordination, including financial management, independent audits, procurement, environmental and social risk and impact management, stakeholder engagement, grievance redress mechanisms, monitoring, reporting and evaluation; and (b) communication activities for the Project, through policy consultation, dissemination of information, and outreach activities on marine pollution management through applying nature-based solutions in the Dniester River Basin.

SCHEDULE 2

Project Execution

Section I. Institutional and Other Arrangements

A. Institutional Arrangements.

1. The Recipient shall:

   (a) through MOE, by no later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the Effective Date, establish, and thereafter maintain throughout the Project implementation, a Project Steering Committee chaired by Minister of Environment or a designate appointed by the Minister, and including representatives from MOE, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education and Research, State Forestry Services, Public Institutional National Administration Apele Moldovei, and other relevant stakeholders, which shall be responsible for: (i) overseeing and providing strategic guidance for the Project implementation; (ii) providing recommendations to enhance coordination among relevant stakeholders; and (iii) reviewing and endorsing Project Reports and Annual Work Plans, as further detailed in the Project Operations Manual; and to this end, the Project Steering Committee shall meet at least once annually during the Project implementation; and

   (b) through MOE, by no later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date, establish, and thereafter maintain throughout the Project implementation, a Project Implementation Unit within National Office for Environmental Project Implementation ("NOEPI") with composition, powers, functions, staffing, facilities, and other resources satisfactory to the Bank, which shall be responsible for: (i) planning and managing the implementation of the Project, including, *among others*, processing procurement, financial management, and implementation of the environmental and social instruments; and (ii) monitoring and reporting on the Project.

2. The Recipient, through MOE, shall ensure that: (a) all expenditures financed under this Agreement are directly incurred on account of the implementation, management, and monitoring of the Project; and (b) in the event that the goods, works, consulting services, and non-consulting services are shared with other projects or events, such expenditures are properly prorated to the respective budgets of the relevant projects and/or events.

B. Environmental and Social Standards.

1. The Recipient 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 Recipient shall 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 Recipient 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 Recipient 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 Recipient 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 Recipient 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.

C. Project Manuals

1. *Project Operations Manual*. The Recipient, through MOE, shall prepare, and adopt the POM in accordance with this Agreement and thereafter, shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the arrangements and procedures set out in the POM, including, *inter alia*:

   (a) detailed description of all activities under the Project and institutional arrangements for day-to-day execution of the Project;

   (b) disbursement, financial management, and procurement procedures and requirements for the Project;

   (c) environmental and social risks and impacts management;

   (d) Project monitoring and evaluation, reporting, and communications;

   (e) grievance redress mechanism;

   (f) eligibility criteria and screening procedures for selection of Target Communities to participate in implementing activities under Parts 1 and 2 of the Project; and

   (g) detailed criteria for the identification and selection of Public Lands on which activities under Part 2.1 and the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects under Part 2.2 of the Project will be carried out.

2. *Subproject Manual*. For the implementation of Part 2.2 of the Project, the Recipient, through MOE, shall prepare and adopt the Subproject Manual in

accordance with this Agreement and thereafter, ensure that Part 2.2 of the Project is carried out in accordance with the arrangements and procedures set out in the Subproject Manual, including, *inter alia*:

(a) eligibility criteria and screening procedures for the financing of Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects;

(b) detailed description of all activities under the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects;

(c) institutional arrangements, disbursement, financial management and procurement procedures and requirements, and environmental and social risk and impact management for the implementation of Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects; and

(d) template of Subproject Agreement.

3. The Recipient shall not amend, abrogate, or waive any provision of the POM and the Subproject Manual unless the Bank has agreed otherwise in writing. In the event of any conflict between the arrangements and procedures set out in the POM or the Subproject Manual and the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

D. Annual Work Plan.

1. The Recipient, through MOE, shall prepare and furnish to the Bank not later than November 30 each calendar year, for the Bank's consideration, a draft work plan of activities proposed for inclusion in the Project for the following fiscal year, containing all Project activities and expenditures proposed to be included in the Project in the following fiscal year of the Recipient, including a specification of the sources of financing for all expenditures, and environmental and social risk and impact management measures taken or planned to be taken in accordance with the provisions of Section I.B of this Schedule.

2. The Recipient, through MOE, shall afford the Bank a reasonable opportunity to review each such proposed plan and budget, and thereafter ensure that the Project is implemented with due diligence and efficiency in accordance with such work plan as shall have been approved by the Bank ("Annual Work Plan").

E. Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects

1. For purposes of carrying out Part 2.2 of the Project, the Recipient, through MOE, shall select Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects in accordance with the condition and criteria acceptable to the Bank, as set forth below and further

detailed in the Subproject Manual unless otherwise approved by the Bank in writing and thereafter set forth in the Subproject Manual:

(a) lands selected for the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects shall be publicly owned and managed by either the Target Communities, the Public Institutional National Administration Apele Moldovei, or State Forestry Services;

(b) lands selected for the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects shall demonstrate significance in reducing nutrient pollution from adjacent agricultural lands;

(c) lands selected for the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects shall contribute to landscape functionality and ecological connectivity;

(d) lands selected for the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects shall demonstrate the potential for long-term sustainability of the proposed investments;

(e) the financing for each Subproject shall not exceed one hundred fifty thousand Dollars ($150,000); and

(f) the proposed Target Communities shall have demonstrated adequate capacity to carry out the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects.

2. Upon approval of a Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subproject to be supported under Part 2.2 of the Project, the Recipient, through MOE, shall enter into a Subproject Agreement with an Eligible Local Public Authority on terms and conditions acceptable to the Bank, including the following provisions:

(a) the MOE, through NOEPI, shall obtain rights adequate to protect its interests and those of the Bank, including the right to suspend or terminate the right of the Eligible Local Public Authority to use the goods, works, and services financed from the proceeds of the Grant upon the Eligible Local Public Authority's failure to perform any of its obligations under the Subproject Agreement; and

(b) the MOE, through NOEPI, shall require each the obligations of each Eligible Local Public Authority to:

(A) carry out the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subproject with due diligence and efficiency and in accordance with sound technical, economic, financial, managerial, environmental and social standards and practices satisfactory to the Bank, including in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, the POM,

the Subproject Manual, the ESCP, and the Anti-Corruption Guidelines applicable to recipients of Grant proceeds other than the Recipient;

(B) provide, promptly as needed, the resources required for the purpose set forth in sub-paragraph (A) above;

(C) maintain policies and procedures adequate to enable it to monitor and evaluate in accordance with indicators acceptable to the Bank, the progress of the activities to be financed out of the Grant and the achievement of their objectives;

(D) submit all relevant documents related to the implementation of Subproject activities prior to the Closing Date;

(E) enable the Recipient and the Bank to inspect the activities to be carried under the Subproject and any relevant records and documents; and

(F) prepare and furnish to the Recipient and the Bank all such information as the Recipient or the Bank shall reasonably request relating to the foregoing.

3. The Recipient, through MOE, shall exercise its rights under each Subproject Agreement in such manner as to protect the interests of the Recipient and the Bank and to accomplish the purposes of the Grant. Except as the Bank shall otherwise agree, the Recipient, through MOE, shall not assign, amend, abrogate or waive any Subproject Agreement or any of its provisions.

Section II. Project Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

A. Project Reports

The Recipient shall ensure that each Project Report is furnished to the Bank not later than one (1) month after the end of each calendar semester, covering the calendar semester.

Section III. Withdrawal of Grant Proceeds

A. General

1. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Grant in accordance with the provisions of: (a) Article III of the Standard Conditions; and (b) this Section; 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 Grant Allocated (expressed in USD)	Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (inclusive of Taxes)
(1) Goods, works, non-consulting services, consulting services, Operating Costs, and Training under the Project (excluding Parts 1.3 and 2.2 of the Project)	6,873,975	100%
(2) Goods, non-consulting services, consulting services, Operating Costs, and Training under Part 1.3 of the Project	100,000	100%
(3) Goods, works, non-consulting services, consulting services, Operating Costs, and Training under Part 2.2 of the Project	930,000	100%
TOTAL AMOUNT	**7,903,975**	

B. Withdrawal Conditions; Withdrawal Period

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part A of this Section no withdrawal shall be made:

   (a) for payments made prior to the Signature Date;

   (b) under Category (2) unless and until the Centre of Excellence for Climate Resilience has been established by the Recipient with composition and functions satisfactory to the Bank; or

   (c) under Category (3) unless and until the Bank has received satisfactory evidence that the Subproject Manual has been adopted by the MOE in form and substance acceptable to the Bank.

2. The Closing Date is December 31, 2030.

APPENDIX

Definitions

1. "Annual Work Plan" means the plan acceptable to the Bank and adopted by the MOE pursuant to Section I.D of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

2. "Anti-Corruption Guidelines" means, for purposes of paragraph 2 of the Appendix to the Standard 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.

3. "Category" means a category set forth in the table in Section III.A of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

4. "Centre of Excellence for Climate Resilience" means a centre established within the State University of Moldova to enhance climate resilience and promote nature-based solutions within the country.

5. "Dniester River Basin" means the portion of the transboundary river basin of the Dniester River that lies within the Recipient's territory.

6. "Eligible Local Public Authority" means a local government authority established under the laws of the Recipient, which serves as the local authority in a Targeted Area where a Target Community has been selected to participate in the implementation of the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subproject.

7. "Environmental and Social Commitment Plan" or "ESCP" means the environmental and social commitment plan for the Project, dated August 11, 2025, 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 Recipient 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.

8. "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.

9. "Ministry of Education and Research" means the Recipient's ministry of the same name, or any other legal successor thereto acceptable to the Bank for the purpose of this Project.

10. "Ministry of Environment" or "MOE" means the Recipient's governmental entity established pursuant to Government Decree No. 145/2021 dated August 25, 2021,or any other legal successor thereto acceptable to the Bank for the purpose of this Project.

11. "Ministry of Finance" or "MOF" means the Recipient's ministry of the same name; or any other legal successor thereto acceptable to the Bank for the purpose of this Project.

12. "Public Institutional National Administration Apele Moldovei" means the Recipient's agency of the same name; or any other legal successor thereto acceptable to the Bank for the purpose of this Project.

13. "Nationally Determined Contributions" or "NDC" means a set of actions agreed by the countries under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, December 2015.

14. "National Office for Environmental Project Implementation" or "NOEPI" means the Recipient's governmental entity established under the Ministry of Environment and operating in accordance with the Recipient's Governmental Decision No. 1249 dated December 19, 2018, or any legal successors thereto acceptable to the Bank for the purpose of this Project.

15. "Operating Costs" means the reasonable incremental costs incurred by the Recipient on account of the implementation, management, and monitoring of the Project based on an Annual Work Plan and agreed by the Bank for the following: office rental, office and equipment maintenance and repair, office supplies, printing, utilities, communications, vehicle rental and transportation, advertisement, translation and interpretation, and other miscellaneous expenditures directly associated with the Project as may be agreed by the Bank, excluding consulting services and salaries of officials of the Recipient's civil service.

16. "Procurement Regulations" means, for purposes of paragraph 20 of the Appendix to the Standard Conditions, the "World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers", dated February 2025.

17. "Project Manuals" means, collectively, the Project Operations Manual and the Subproject Manual.

18. "Project Operations Manual" means the manual adopted by the Recipient, through MOE for the Project acceptable to the Bank, referred to in Section I.C.1 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement as the same may be amended from time to time with the prior written approval of the Bank.

19. "Project Implementation Unit" means the unit established and maintained by MOE within NOEPI as referred to in Section I.A.1(b) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

20. "Project Steering Committee" means the committee established and maintained by MOE as referred to in Section I.A.1(a) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement

21. "Public Lands" means publicly owned lands managed by the Recipient's central governmental authorities or Local Public Authorities, which shall exclude all privately owned lands and any lands in protected areas, as identified by the Recipient in accordance with the Land Code of 1991 and the selection criteria and conditions set forth in the Project Operations Manual and Subproject Manual as acceptable to the Bank.

22. "Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subproject" means a set of activities for the protection of riverbed landscapes that harbor aquatic and wetland habitats implemented under Part 2.2 of the Project; and "Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects" means collectively all such subprojects.

23. "Signature Date" means the later of the two dates on which the Recipient and the Bank signed this Agreement and such definition applies to all references to "the date of the Grant Agreement" in the Standard Conditions.

24. "Standard Conditions" means the "International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and International Development Association Standard Conditions for Grant Financing Made by the Bank out of Trust Funds", dated February 25, 2019.

25. "State Forestry Services" means the Recipient's governmental entity of the same name; or any other legal successor thereto acceptable to the Bank for the purpose of this Project.

26. "Subproject Agreement" means the agreement entered into by and between the NOEPI, on behalf of MOE, and an Eligible Local Public Authority setting out the terms and condition for the carrying out of a Riverbed and Wetland Protection

Subproject under Part 2.2 of the Project as referred to in Section I.E of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

27. "Subproject Manual" means the manual adopted by the Recipient, through MOE for the implementation of the Riverbed and Wetland Protection Subprojects acceptable to the Bank as referred to in Section I.C.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement; as the same may be amended from time to time with the prior written approval of the Bank.

28. "Targeted Areas" means, collectively, the sites in the districts of Ocnita, Donduseni, Drochia, Soroca, Floresti, Soldanesti, Rezina, Telenesti, Orhei, Criuleni, Ialoveni, Anenii-Noi, Dubasari, Causeni and Stefan Voda, which have been selected by the Recipient for forest or wetland improvement and for the promotion of agroforestry or silvopasture as acceptable to the Bank and in accordance with the conditions and criteria set forth in the Project Operations Manual.

29. "Target Communities" means the communities in the Targeted Areas selected by the Recipient to participate in the implementation of Parts 1 and 2 of the Project in accordance with the criteria and conditions set forth in the Project Manuals.

30. "Training" means expenditures (other than those for consulting services) incurred in connection with study tours, training courses, seminars, workshops and other training activities, not included under goods or service providers' contracts, including costs of training materials, space and equipment rental, travel, *per diem* costs for trainees and trainers and trainers' fees (as applicable), all based on an annual budget satisfactory to the Bank.