

APPLICATION FORM
JSDF¹ - GPSA JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO UNDERPIN THE SELECTION OF IMPLEMENTING AGENCY
(NGO)
IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
APRIL 17 – MAY 15, 2019

Project Title: <i>“Moldova: Improving access to justice for the vulnerable, with a focus on families affected by domestic violence (DV) and gender-based violence (GBV)”²</i>
Project budget: US\$3.2 million
Applicant organization name [Name of lead applicant responsible for signing grant agreement]
East Europe Foundation
Proposal duration [Minimum duration 3 years/Maximum duration 5 years]
4 years
Legal status [Describe type of legal status as a not-for-profit civil society organization/NGO IN MOLDOVA where the proposed activities will be implemented. For more information, see the Application Guidelines and attached concept brief for the project]
Not-for-profit civil society organization (foundation)
Indicate share of project budget as a % of the organizations’ average total budget in the last three years [For more information see the Application Guidelines]
35%
Organization’s average total budget in the last three years in US Dollars
2,300,253 USD per year
Proven track record: <i>please describe the organization’s experience (at least 5 years) and provide evidence in (a) provision of DV & GBV services, (b) design and implementation of education interventions, including behavioral change, (c) including past and ongoing community driven projects, and (d) social accountability tools, mechanisms and processes. Include references to funding sources [development partners engaged] and website links if available. Please add any relevant information on your track record within the relevant thematic field. You may provide supporting documentation as attachments in the application email.</i>
<p>The project proposal is submitted by a consortium of 4 organizations: East Europe Foundation (EEF) as lead applicant and International Centre for Women’s Rights Protection and Promotion “La Strada” (La Strada), Women Law Center (WLC) and Expert Grup (EG) as partners. The consortium members represent lead organizations working in the field of combatting violence in Moldova, while NGO Expert Grup brings its great experience in leading projects on ensuring social accountability, including from World Bank funds during previous GPSA calls.</p> <p>East Europe Foundation has been a lead civil society support foundation in Moldova from 2010, inheriting the systems and institutional memory of its predecessor, Eurasia Foundation Washington DC, operating in Moldova for a long time. Among other critical subjects for the country, where interventions were needed, EEF supported many interventions linked to DV and GBV. More, EEF has been active in advocating for gender equality, women’ quota in party lists during elections, decreasing pay gaps and promoting an</p>

¹ Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF): The Government of Japan and the World Bank established JSDF in June 2000, with the goal of providing grants to support community-driven development and poverty reduction projects that empower and directly improve the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable groups not reached by other programs. A unique and valued feature of the JSDF program is that it provides a platform for cooperation with non-governmental agencies and other local stakeholders in the development process.

² Please make sure to read the JSDF-GPSA Project Concept Note included in the webpage before completing this application.

equitable involvement of men and women in all political, economic and social processes in the country. For more than a year EEF has a partnership agreement with Oak Foundation, one of the lead donors supporting civil society initiatives related to DV, GBV and violence against children in Moldova. EEF is currently in charge of supporting technically and financially local NGOs working in a number of related fields: offering services for victims of domestic violence; economic empowerment of victims and potential victims. In the same time EEF is supporting from sources offered by Oak Foundation the capacity building of the members of the Coalition Life without Violence, including a needs assessment of member organization, with subsequent support in organizational development for some of the members. EEF contributed to the creation and support of Gender Equality Platform³, a key tool for advocacy and awareness raising about gender equality.

In January 2019 a National Social and Behavior Change Strategy to address domestic violence in Moldova was validated by relevant stakeholders, EEF being in charge with the implementation of the strategy, in close cooperation with civil society organizations, authorities and media. EEF is ensuring the secretariat of the Working Group to implement the National Social and Behavior Change Strategy to address domestic violence in Moldova.



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EEF is also a lead organization organizing community mobilization activities and supporting community mobilization initiatives, using participatory needs assessment and participation as a key tool in creating change. On annual basis, EEF supports more than 100 NGOs and initiatives and is offering technical support to various stakeholders, including authorities, to engage citizens and empower communities. EEF has also in house experience in developing and implementing social and behavior change strategies on various subjects, being involved lately in the development and implementation of the Social Change Strategy to Address Domestic Violence.

EEF is supported by Swedish Government, European Union, Swiss Development Cooperation, Oak Foundation.

Within this project, EEF will cooperate with 2 lead organizations with extensive capacities to counter domestic violence and a partner responsible for the GPSA part of the project:

The International Center “La Strada” was founded in 2001 in the framework of the “La Strada” Program Prevention of Trafficking in Central and Eastern Europe”. “La Strada” Moldova started exclusively with an anti-trafficking project comprising 6 staff and an annual budget of USD \$30 000. Today, La Strada Moldova is a team of over 50 staff (personnel and active volunteers), running two complex Programs tackling severe forms of violence against women and children and is strongly committed to continue to promote and defend the rights of women and children to stay free from violence. Therefore, La Strada launched The National Trust-Line for Women⁴ and put together a women-safeguarding team of lawyers and social care staff. The organization went to schools to reach out to youngsters with a specially tailored course about building harmonious relationships and preventing early signs of violence⁵. Lawyers and psychologists are co-trainers in the national training programs targeting front-line police and social workers on effective protection of women affected by domestic violence. More recently, La Strada joint the national expert group called out by the Government to develop the Strategy for Prevention and Fight of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and related Action Plan.

³ <https://egalitadedegen.md/>

⁴ http://lastrada.md/files/resources/4/Raport_TI_ANUAL_2017_f.pdf

⁵ http://lastrada.md/files/resources/4/14_09_LaStrada_SUMAR_final.pdf



The Women's Law Centre is a non-governmental organization registered in 2009. The key strategic objectives of the WLC are: a) prevention of domestic violence and violence against women through changing the behaviour, attitude and perception of domestic violence amongst target population by advocacy and lobbying, awareness raising, capacity building and networking efforts; b) effective prosecution of domestic violence so that legislation is consistently applied with survivors benefiting from adequate legal remedies and protection and aggressors receiving appropriate sentencing; c) protection and direct assistance to women and children, survivors and potential domestic violence victims so that they feel empowered and proactive and seek adequate assistance and support; d) policy changes through WLC contributions to the domestic violence legislation, strategy, other research and analyses; e) the WLC is an agent of change and becomes and organisational role model for other organisations in the field. During 2012-2019, the WLC has trained more than 3000 police officers, 300 judges and prosecutors, 250 members of multidisciplinary commissions and 60 forensic experts on effective response to cases of DV. The WLC has developed numerous training and working tools, such as curriculum and guidelines for specialists (judges, prosecutors, social assistants, lawyers, police authorities, staff of women centers and shelters). In 2018, the WLC provided direct assistance to 411 victims of domestic and gender-based violence. The WLC has a holistic approach to services to victims of gender-based violence and provides, in addition, to legal services, psychological counselling and social assistance, as well as ensures economic empowerment of victims. WLC has established partnerships with Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, General Police Inspectorate, National Institute of Justice, National Employment Agency, local public authorities. Its activities are supported by UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP, US Embassy, Embassy of Sweden, Oak Foundation.

NGO Expert-Grup will be key implemented responsible for the GPSA part of this project proposal. Expert-Grup is a think-tank specialized in economic researches and public policy analyses. Expert-Grup was established in 1998 and started its research activity in 2006. The mission of the organisation is to promote the public interest and to come up with efficient and innovative solutions for the development of the Republic of Moldova. Expert-Grup is collaborating with the most active donors and development partners in Moldova, namely: World Bank, European Delegation, UN Agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO, ILO and OIM), US Embassy, Dutch Embassy, Swedish Embassy, KAS and FES Foundations, and others. Overall, the aspects related to social accountability are often an integrated part of most of its projects. During 2017, Expert-Grup has published 86 analytical materials (monitoring reports, policy studies, position notes, commentaries, infographics and videographics), which were accessed online around 223,000 times; it has organized 73 public events (27 events at the national level and 46 events at local level), which were attended by about 4000 people (representatives of central and local public authorities, diplomatic missions, donor community, academia, experts and citizens). These activities got a lot of media coverage, with about 811 media references (TV and Radio shows, interviews, journalistic articles etc.). For more details, please consult the organization's activity report for 2018⁶.

The organization implemented the project "Social Accountability for the Education Reform in Moldova", financed by World Bank (December 2013 – December 2018). The strategic goal of this initiative is to empower Moldovan citizens to engage local, regional and national authorities in evidence-based policy and budget dialogue regarding educational reform, quality of services, and development priorities of primary, secondary general and upper secondary schools and to enable an environment in which social accountability initiatives thrive and develop.

⁶ http://bit.ly/Expert-Grup_2018_Activity_Report

References: please provide three contact persons/organizations that can provide references about your organization's experience.

Reference 1:

Name: Virginia Bilici
Position: Program Officer
Organization: Embassy of Sweden in Moldova
Email: Virginia.bilici@gov.se

Reference 2:

Name: Fiona Morrell
Position: Program Officer
Organization: Oak Foundation
Email: Fiona.Morrell@oakfnd.ch

Reference 3: She may provide reference for partners – La Strada and WLC

Name: Tatiana Lungu
Position: Program Manager
Organization: US Embassy in Moldova
Email: LunguT@state.gov

Proposal's partners. Include partner CSOs' names and any other types of partners

International Centre for Women's Rights Protection and Promotion "La Strada" (La Strada)
Women Law Center (WLC)
Expert-Grup (EG)
Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection
General Police Inspectorate
National Institute of Justice
National Employment Agency

Applicant contact information. Contact Name, Position, Email and Phone Number (with country code).

Sorin Mereacre
President
Sorin.mereacre@eef.md
+373 69173487

SECTION 2. APPLICATION CONTENT.

1. Project Development Objective (PDO): Please provide comments to the proposed PDO (defined at the Seed Fund stage)

PDO: The overall objective of the engagement is to increase (a) participation in DV & GBV prevention programming through targeted livelihood interventions for families affected by DV & GBV as well as for those at risk, and (b) development and utilization of innovative multi-sectoral response services for survivors of DV & GBV and those at risk in select rural and urban communities in the North, South and Central of Moldova.

This will be achieved through:

- (a) Development and testing of pilot interventions, including strengthening of public sector-civil society collaboration, to strengthen engagement with marginalized groups, in particular families affected by DV & GBV and those at risk. The pilot interventions aim to address factors of vulnerability of affected families and those at risk in selected rural and urban communities in Moldova (to be determined during preparation) through a combination of activities addressing violence prevention, social norms and pursuing change in acceptance of DV & GBV as well as developing and testing new ways for survivors to exit economic empowerment.

- (b) Mitigation of negative consequences of DV & GBV by providing holistic response services for survivors of DV & GBV and their families as well as including the uptake in such services. The pilot interventions aim to address key gaps in local-level service provisions through raising awareness among local-level and front-line service providers for the impact and consequences of DV & GBV for families as well as communities, and capacity building activities to increase institutional responsiveness.

Comments:

Based on existing researches, the place women and men have in the society is strongly induced and perpetuated. The manner in which the men and women exercise presently their masculinity and femininity creates important social pressure and widespread violence and inequity.

According to the present general schema that determines the social norms related to gender, the ideals of masculinity and femininity are based on clear man dominance. The man is head of the family, the provider and his dominance is based on his sex. Women, on the other hand, are defined as "peace keepers". At the same time, the objective roles are sometimes switched, especially taking into consideration massive migration of women: women are the main providers and men are taking care of home and children. Thus, the cognitive dissonance between the role exertion and the existing gender norms is increasing the frustration in both men and women and contribute to an increased level of psychological, verbal, physical and sexual violence in the family.

In this specific case of complex and rooted gender norms, the present strategy proposes an integrated approach in order to change empirical and normative expectations by showing the "human" face of fathers (engaging in various activities with their children) and engaging everybody – men and women – without blaming anyone or the tradition and culture, towards a better future for all.

Considering the power patterns, which hinders the progress towards a new equilibrium, we propose to **advance a superordinate goal**, which will help men and women or the whole family to team together in order to achieve a better life.

Strengthening the engagement with marginalized groups, in particular families affected by DV & GBV and those at risk is one of the key goals of the intervention. Use of participatory tools in needs assessment, development of interventions, implementation, monitoring and evaluation is the main principle in project implementation.

Additionally, the project will ensure that:

- Social norms linked to domestic violence and power relations in the family will be addressed using innovative tools, social media, community mobilization and interpersonal communication.
- Innovative services are developed, piloted and scaled-up to help families at risk or victims to break the circle of violence.
- Local Public Authorities create favorable conditions for gender based budgeting (including DV and GBV) to take place under transparent conditions, budget documents are accessible and easy to understand for the general public and elaborated and discussed in a representative, inclusive, collaborative and participative framework;
- The budget debates are organized and functional in which non-governmental organizations, journalists and other active parties of society are involved and are able to advocate greater responsibility for spending public money on DV&GBV related issues based on openness and broad media coverage DV&GBV related issues;
- Citizens and representatives of civil society have a tool of referral for offering feedback, as well as information on development of services, budgetary allocations and expenditures at local and central levels for DV&GBV related issues;
- Victims of domestic violence understand their economic rights and are offered opportunities to escape the economic dependency.
- Victims of domestic violence and those at risk are empowered through vocational orientation, capacity building, and facilitation of employment.

2. **Key Expected Results Indicators.** Please provide comments on the proposed anticipated indicators (to be adjusted during project preparation)

Anticipated indicators may include:

- Increase in share of survivors and those at risk of DV & GBV and their families who report to be informed about their rights and services available (increase in percentage compared to baseline);
- Increase in share of survivors who report improved access to financial and welfare resources after participating in livelihood activities (increase in percentage compared to baseline);
- Increase in share of survivors of DV & GBV and their families who receive at least two multi-disciplinary services (e.g. psychosocial, legal, economic);
- Number of families participating in DV & GBV prevention activities (total number);
- Decrease in share of those accepting DV & GBV in targeted rural/urban communities (decrease in percentage compared to baseline);
- Half or more of the pilot services provided are considered of good quality or better by recipients (survivors of DV & GBV and their families as well as those at risk) (total number).

Comments or additional suggested indicators:

The above indicators are outcome indicators to be used during project implementation. However, a number of new indicators with baseline data will be identified during the baseline study to be conducted at the initial stage of the project. The donor will be submitted with the results matrix after this exercise and the progress towards those indicators will be measured during project implementation and at the end.

3. **Briefly describe the country context and the institutional and sector contexts relevant to the proposal's objectives.** Which public sector institutions/development partners on the ground will use the project's feedback? If you have already engaged with these public sector institutions/development partners, please explain. How are you planning to engage with public sector institutions/development partners during the project?

Data reveal that physical violence is present in almost 50 percent and sexual violence in over 3 percent of families of origin of men who participated in the study "IMAGES – men and gender equality in the Republic of Moldova"⁷. Women revealed various forms of physical violence applied by their husbands/partners. Following the use of physical violence, 21.9% of women reported that they had bruises and pain, 2.5% had injuries and contortions as a result of physical violence, etc. The research data reveal that the prevalence of physical but also psychological violence increases with age. At the same time, violence is more common in rural areas, in families where men have lower education and lower incomes. The number of women who reported the use of violence more than once on behalf of their husband/partner is several times higher compared to the number of men who admitted this fact. The fact that women mentioned acts of violence more often than men reveals that some men do not perceive actions of slapping, pushing, etc. as acts of violence.

The survey revealed that men discuss with their sons or with other boys who are in their care about violence against women only in 45.3% of cases. The main causes of domestic violence include: alcohol, jealousy, lack of a job, infidelity, lack of education, inability to peacefully resolve conflicts. Research data reveal, however, that in cases of violence some partners blame each other. Thus, 1/3 of men indicated the

⁷ http://cdf.md/files/resources/96/IMAGES%20Moldova_English.pdf

following causes of domestic violence: consumption of alcohol by women, infidelity of women and over 2/3 of women indicated - consumption of alcohol by men and jealousy.

In the opinion of 51.8% of women and 42.1% of men, the migration phenomenon which has grown in the Republic of Moldova contributed to the increase in the number of women who do not accept domestic violence. On the other hand, according to 35.6% of women and 33.9% of men, migration contributes to the increase of domestic violence (total agreement).

Social norms related to gender are shaping to an exceptionally large extent the way the Moldovan society evolves. The place women and men have in the society is induced and perpetuated. The way the men and women exercise presently their masculinity and femininity creates important social pressure, and widespread violence and inequity.

A large percentage of men who perpetrate violence against women are fathers who continue to live with or have visitation with their children. According to the KAP Study on ECD, conducted by UNICEF Moldova in 2010⁸, half of children witness violence in the family and only every fifth rural child is not afraid of his parents. Some 41.5 per cent of caregivers punish children by beating them, and an alarming 16.4 per cent of parents beat their children who are under one year of age. More than half (57.3 per cent) of children aged 6-7 years are punished by physical force.

It is well documented that exposure to violence can result in significant psychological difficulties and negative outcomes for children⁹. Additionally, children living in homes with violent parents are at significant risk for child maltreatment.

Certain studies have documented overlap between IPV and child maltreatment with co-occurrence rates approximated at close to 40%¹⁰, they found that parenting stress was not related to partner abuse, but that increased partner abuse was associated with lower feelings of parental competence. Fathers were aware of the impact of their abuse on their children and thus felt less competent as parents. In addition, 70% of the men in the sample felt they had no one to turn to for advice or questions related to parenting. With all this being said, the researches show a clear link between violence and fatherhood and father-child interventions are developed lately to decrease the violence in the family, but also to ensure a better cognitive and affective development of the child.

In order to establish a legal framework in the field of prevention and combating domestic violence, on 1 March 2007, the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova adopted the Law No. 45 on prevention and combating of domestic violence, which is a framework law in the field. By adopting this law, the Republic of Moldova showed its commitment to align its national legal and regulatory framework with the provisions of international treaties and conventions and to ensure respect for human rights. Throughout ten years, the legal framework has been amended four times. Some amendments did not involve substantial adjustments. Conceptual changes were made, in particular, through amendments recommended by the Women's Law Centre in 2013 and adopted in 2016. These included, in particular, the expansion of the list of subjects of domestic violence, establishment of the right of victims of domestic violence to state-guaranteed legal aid, establishment of an emergency barring order, etc.

However, there are gaps in both the conceptual approach within the legal framework of domestic violence and the practical application of legal provisions. All of these undermine the impact of amendments made, while many victims remain unprotected. Despite all the efforts made, authorities with competencies in the field of prevention and combating of domestic violence do not share a common vision to respond effectively to cases of domestic violence. This was proved through relevant studies and analyses.

Thus, the estimation of costs of domestic violence revealed that the efforts made by authorities are focused on mitigating the effects of violence and not on preventing them. The highest costs are borne by the health sector, particularly for the hospital treatment of victims. The second highest spending is that of the justice sector. It should be noted that in 2012-2016 more than EUR 81,450 or about MDL 1,550,970.90

⁸ https://www.unicef.org/moldova/2010_007_ECD_KAP_Study_ENG.pdf

⁹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12699028>

¹⁰ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17951591>

have been paid in reparations by the Moldovan Government to victims of violence based on the European Court of Human Rights judgments.

The figures clearly show that the private funding covers what the government fails to cover in terms of services. Thus, 60% of social services are covered by non-governmental organizations. It should be noted that the victims' contribution to covering attorney services exceeds four times the state's contribution. In this context, victims also bear a great share of the health expenses; consequently, the costs borne by victims exceed 1.5 times the state's contribution. Over 30% of the services that are listed as essential in the international standards do not exist in Moldova or are not efficient. The main gaps in the general service provision in Moldova include gaps in provision of: 1) social assistance and especially social aid for victims of domestic violence, economic empowerment and social housing; 2) mental health and psychosocial long-term support; and 3) access to state-funded legal counselling and representation. The Report on monitoring of court proceedings highlighted that in most cases victims continue to be subject to discrimination and re-victimization in their interaction with the justice system. Victims are not provided with the minimum safety conditions in the courts. Lack of respect for victims, expressed through delays and frequent postponement of court hearings, as well as review of cases beyond the statutory deadline, is a common practice. In most cases, victims of domestic violence do not benefit from qualified legal assistance in the courts, while judges are not used to informing them about their right to state guaranteed legal aid.

The impunity of aggressors and the state's primary concern for their rights are still a problem that endangers the safety and life of victims of domestic violence. Therefore, during court proceedings, the victim often witnesses a discriminatory attitude as compared to the treatment of the aggressor, non-observance of procedural rights, inability of the system to provide the victim with effective remedies against intimidation and discrimination. This situation is largely due to the preconceived and stereotypical approaches of professionals resulting from the misunderstanding or the reluctance to accept the specific character of these facts, which are clearly different from others by the incomparable vulnerability of the victim, also due to the inequality between the aggressor's position and that of the victim. Successful interventions in cases of domestic violence are not based only on the legislative reform. Changes in perceptions, attitudes and stereotypes about gender equality and gender-based violence are key to preventing and eliminating this phenomenon. Thus, according to the Gender Equality Index for 2017, the level of equality between men and women reached 58 points, compared to 57 in 2009. Thus, no major improvements were made in ensuring gender equality in Moldova. In this context, a survey conducted in 2017, revealed alarming trends in prevailing stereotypes that underlie gender inequality. 65% of respondents believe that men's responsibility is to earn money, while women's responsibility is to take care of the family and of the household. The same survey revealed that 20.5% of respondents are not dominated by stereotypes.

At national level, the latest survey on the incidence of domestic violence and the profile of victims of domestic violence were collected in 2011, and there is no consolidated system for collection of statistical data at national level. The national authorities are at an incipient phase in terms of establishing a GBV and DV data collection system and need strong support to this end.

Financial control of victims of gender-based and domestic violence is a strong tactic making victims to remain with their violent intimate partners. Women seeking to leave abusive partners often report economic concerns as a major barrier. Low socioeconomic status is determined by multiple causes such as, poverty, low educational attainment or even absence of education, which make them more influenced by stereotypes and general beliefs, the absence of their own houses, low incomes, disability or having children with disabilities. In addition, the state fails to provide long-term support, social and economic, or this support is not sufficient to cover primary needs of women who survived domestic violence.

4. **Beneficiaries:** Intended project beneficiaries are survivors of DV & GBV and their families. Around 1,000 families are expected to be targeted in selected rural and urban communities in a minimum of 6 rayons across Moldova, i.e. a minimum of two per Moldova's development regions (North, Center, South). In addition, one district in Chisinau and one satellite municipal community of

Chisinau will be targeted. Preference will be given to those proposals that also consider pilot interventions including the eastern rayons from the left bank of the Nistru River.

Include in the description:

- (a) A description of these beneficiaries (e.g. families affected by or at risk from DV & GBV, vulnerable women and adolescent girls at risk of GBV, as well as survivors of GBV in the proposed targeted areas (please name them).
- (b) For Component 3 activities, please describe any additional primary and secondary beneficiaries, and explain how you will link the project's activities at the sub-national level with national level social accountability activities.

Intended project beneficiaries are survivors and DV & GBV and their families as well as those at risk as Moldova continues to be one of the highest-ranking countries in Europe and Central Asia (ECA) for prevalence of physical and sexual violence by an intimate partner. Also, Moldova is a small economically challenged country with a governance deficit; persisting gender discrepancies put further stress on existing

economic and governance challenges.

Around 1,000 families will be targeted in select rural and urban communities (6 rayons across Moldova, two per Moldova's development regions (North, Center, South), one in Transnistria). In addition, one district in Chisinau and one village in Chisinau municipality will be targeted.

Pilot interventions will be implemented in Transnistrian region, one pilot site being selected at the initial phase of the project. EEF has long-standing experience in Transnistria, supporting in total about 100 NGOs, including community initiatives on countering violence against children.

As Moldova's three development regions face different economic and governance struggles, rural and urban communities face different challenges in terms of access to information, resources and services, at the beginning of the project an extensive baseline study will be conducted. Its goal is to identify main gaps in service provision, inequities in access to services, in order to be able to see what are the most marginalized categories and groups and where they reside. A large part of the study will include a research on social norms based on the principle of vignettes¹¹. After compiling results, the most challenging vulnerability indicators will be identified and will be used to select pilot communities. Collected data will serve as baseline, monitoring mechanisms will be put in place and the change will be measured after interventions. All these will be used to calculate the project's exist strategy.

The project will target:

- local public administration in 8 target localities
- local service providers (police, health workers, teachers and educators, social assistants, CSOs);
- Ministry of Health, Social Protection and Family
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Interior
- National Institute of Justice
- General Police Inspectorate
- Local/rayon departments for education
- CSOs and initiative groups
- Journalists and media, social media influencers

The project will have as main beneficiaries:

¹¹ <https://journals.openedition.org/oeconomia/2980>

- Families
- Women and men
- School students
- Victims of DV and GBV
- Persons at risk of DV

5. **Project Components & Activities.** Please review the components below and provide comments for each one, building on the Project Concept. For the GPSA Component, please provide a indicative list of key activities, drawing from the collaborative social accountability approach proposed in the project concept. All GPSA projects also include Knowledge & Learning activities. *[See the Application Guidelines]*

Component Description:

The below described cross cutting intervention will be as a key to ensure community participation and engagement of all in countering DV and GBV and changing social norms.

Community mobilization activities

Support to local CSOs will be provided to mobilize targeted communities around DV and GDV. CSOs will organized participatory needs assessment, will ensure active engagement of all stakeholders and will act as an agent of change in respective localities. To achieve this, organizations will be identified in targeted communities and will be supported to implement all project activities. Guidelines for CSOs agents of change in DV and GBV will be developed and participatory needs assessment tools will be implemented, ensuring afterwards participatory intervention design at local level, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Component 1 (JSDF): To strengthen engagement with marginalized groups, in particular families affected by DV & GBV and those at risk, this component will focus on designing and testing pilot interventions that will address factors of vulnerability in select rural and urban communities across Moldova through a combination of activities addressing violence prevention, social norms and testing new ways to improve the livelihood of survivors. Sub-components may include, but not necessarily be limited to: (a) community-based awareness and outreach campaigns, including positive role-modeling and story-telling in schools and education centers; (b) nation-wide awareness and outreach campaigns via TV trailers and telenovelas; (c) information material developed and distributed, to address violence prevention and existing social norms; and (d) testing new ways of livelihood improvements to address social and economic issues faced by survivors of DV & GBV.

Comments:

To ensure the impact and results of the intervention, a number of key activities are planned within this component. This being a concept, details will be provided if pre-selected.

Community-based awareness and outreach campaigns

An **Informational Caravan** will be organized in all 8 localities, ensuring outreach to communities and villages particularly to remote areas by a team of experiences lawyers, psychologists and counselors. The Caravan will serve as an occasion for a community gathering, meetings and discussions with local population will be held, including families, men and women as well as LPA. The meetings will seek to increase awareness about various forms of DV as well as SV, encourage discussions about social norms and roles and alternative behaviors and relationships/key role distributions in a family, strengthen education about women’s rights and deliver information about support and assistance services and ways to access it. The meetings will engage community leaders and LPA, will make possible empowering community leaders (teacher/ farming leader/mayor/etc.) act as local contact point to facilitate, refer victims/affected families to relevant services. Continuous communication with community leaders after the caravan will be maintained for data and information multiplication/circulation as well as collection. Media representative/journalists will join

the caravan to collect stories/cases, reproduce in special publication to reflect various aspects of the DV and SV, targeting media for continuous awareness raising as well as for decision makers to raise the issue higher on the Governmental agenda. The meetings with community and families – men and women - will also provide for partnering and further communication and empowerment of community leaders and local public administration in what regards their capacity to early identify, facilitate access to and/or refer persons at risk or suffering from DV and SV to relevant assistance and protection but also encourage 0-tolerance to DV in the community by engaging in awareness campaigns, setting cooperation with service providers and partnering with justice sector. The caravan will reach out to at least 15% of each pilot rayons' settlements.

Monthly awareness raising sessions will be also organized through the network of libraries across Moldova and in pilot districts to inform various target groups (survivors of DV and GBV, potential victims of DV and GBV, youth, elderly, persons with disabilities) about the causes and consequences of DV and GBV, legal remedies and specialized services available. The project intends to organized 36 awareness raising sessions providing target groups with access to information on causes and consequences of DV and GBV, discussing myths and stereotypes and remedies available, distribution of information materials etc.

Community members from the pilot districts will be also empowered to organize independently awareness raising events. It is expected that 3 awareness raising events will be organized by community members in every community to address zero tolerance to DV and GBV and local public administration involved in organizing the events. This will be done in cooperation with CSOs Agents of Change which will be supported in the respective communities.

School course "Harmonious family relationships"

The course was developed and endorsed by the Ministry of Education in 2015. The course is targeting lyceum age adolescents, it was piloted during the school year 2016-2017 in 22 schools from various rayons of the country with classes for boys and girls of age 16+. The comparative (pre-post course) study indicated important (positive) changes at the level of perceptions, stereotypes and attitudes with the students who attended the course http://lastrada.md/files/resources/4/14_09_LaStrada_SUMAR_final.pdf.

The final conference attended by teachers and students highly recommended that the course is accessible for girls and boys at an earlier stage. Follow up discussions with the Ministry of Education brought the agreement to adjust the course and introduce it at the gymnasium level. Parents of the students also responded positive to the course and applauded the schools for taking up this subject.

The project will make possible to adjust the course for gymnasium and deliver the course to gymnasium students for two school years in a row in the schools of pilot rayons. Methodological materials for both teachers and students will be prepared and engaged teachers will be trained and mentored during the entire process.

A final conference to discuss and evaluate the results will be organized under the aegis of the Ministry of Education to propose the course for all schools/education departments. The course will be available in at least 1 gymnasium of each pilot rayon and/or reach out to at least 500 children (to be read also as "500 families"). When selecting institutions, voluntary participation of teachers and school management will be considered/encouraged, preference will be given to settlements where "Scoala Mea" project has been implemented and informational caravan will reach out to so that the message gets across population of all ages while increasing role of schools and school administration in DV prevention which is seen as quite innovative for this region.

The course effectiveness will be measured by means of a pre-post course comparative analysis involving all schools that have participated in the course implementation.

To implement this component, the project will partner with:

- Ministry of Education
- Local/rayon departments for education
- Prodidactica Institute (continuous training for teachers)

Project partner La Strada has signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Ministry of Education, the course targeting lyceum has been officially endorsed by the ME (it has received recognition and approval), the feedback will be used to promote and justify formalization of the course targeting gymnasium level.

Nation-wide awareness and outreach campaigns via TV trailers and telenovelas

A national wide awareness campaign will be organized and unfolded in partnership with major TV stations with national coverage. The campaign will address at least one form of DV and/or invisible/sensible/ aspect of DV, the topic will be selected by qualitative analysis of the La Strada Trust-Line calls as well as legal cases analysis. The campaign will communicate the final beneficiary about the Trust-Line for accessing information, counseling and support.

The campaign will make use of several communication tools including video-trailer(s), outdoor information materials, social media and thematic/TV/radio events/programs, distributive printed materials; priority will be given to tools with high penetration into households;

- the campaign message will be also integrated into the information caravan;
- the campaign will reach out to at least 500 000 households/families;
- the campaign is expected to generate a 25% increase in the number of calls to the Trust-Line reflecting the campaign message.

Information materials developed and distributed

Printed materials will be produced for adolescents, girls and boys, focusing in particular on interpretation of masculinity. Materials will be distributed on various occasions while priority will be given to schools that implement the “Harmonious Family Relationship” course, settlements reached out by informational caravan and events organized as part of the national awareness campaign. Materials will be also distributed via and available for adolescents via Friendly Youth Clinics in pilot rayons.

At least 1000 copies of materials will be produced and distributed primarily as part of the HFR course and is applicable within the info caravan; feedback on the material content will be sought with the ultimate beneficiary.

The project will develop and distribute information materials preventing violence and challenging the currently prevailing social norms (brochures and leaflets describing myths related to DV, signs of DV, contact information of specialized services which can provide support to victims of DV; materials will be distributed during the information sessions and awareness raising events, as well as during the mobile team visits)

In the same time, a guide will be produced to support people who know someone who is in an abusive relationship (the guide will encourage third parties to report acts of domestic violence, highlight their rights and contact information of authorities and support services).

Testing new ways of livelihood improvements to address social and economic issues faced by survivors of DV & GBV

The approach will aim to increase the safety of domestic violence victims. It builds their self-confidence and independence along with developing their financial and employment opportunities knowledge. The

approach will focus on several stages: 1) vocational orientation and psychological counselling and testing; 2) direct training and/or employment of victims of gender-based and domestic violence; 3) capacity building and support in self-employment and 4) impact assessment.

The project will organize one-day workshops for victims of gender-based and domestic violence to raise their awareness about their economic rights and possibilities for employment and professional development. The workshops will target women identified from among the WLC beneficiaries based on the eligibility questionnaire. The WLC vocational orientation specialist, psychologist and an expert in handicraft will work to prepare the participants for the upcoming economic empowerment initiative by applying psychological tests and tools, psychological counselling and vocational training.

The project team proposes to empower these vulnerable persons with knowledge and awareness about human and legal rights so that they can emerge with strong leadership qualities and tackle the phenomenon of violence and discrimination against them. Psychological counselling will be one of the tools used to raise their self-esteem and to eliminate violence and/or to get the support to start a life where they are economically empowered, self-confident and free of violence.

The project team will create economic choices through a combination of efforts to build assets and skills for the victims and help them diversify their income generating activities. Their key needs and interests in terms of education and employment will be identified. The target group will get training in one of the areas of interest (business administration, technology, cooking, haircutting, pizza making, etc.) and/or will be provided the possibility to get education. The target group will be further assisted in employment. The group will be also trained in preparing a CV and performing at an employment interview. To ensure economic empowerment of project beneficiaries, the WLC will provide them with the necessary tools/equipment they might need to pursue specific training programs or get employed.

All activities in improving livelihood and wellbeing of victims of DV and GBV will be conducted jointly and in coordination with the local public authorities and local employment agencies. The project will also partner with other organizations to ensure holistic approach to economic empowerment of victims:

- National Employment Agency and territorial employment agencies will be involved to support WLC in providing training and employment to the target group and to ensure employment mediation.
- Institute for Families and Social Initiatives - will assist the WLC in psychological counselling and testing of the target group representatives.
- Business support organizations.

A strong focus will be made also on developing capacities of victims and potential victims and supporting them with the initial investment in a small business and with further coaching to ensure its sustainability. In this sense, through existing Business Support Hubs created by EEF within a different project, a special capacity building program and a fund will be created to support victims of DV and GDV and those at risk. Thus, in all 8 target communities, at least 5 victims of domestic violence will be awarded a small grant to support his/her self-employment or to help in developing a small business. At the end of the project, at least 40 small businesses or individual entrepreneurs will operate. To achieve this, at least 15 persons in each localities will undergo the capacity development program to build his/her building business capacities.

Component 2 (JSDF): To mitigate the negative consequences of DV & GBV as experienced by families affected by DV & GBV, this component will focus on providing a holistic response service and encouraging an uptake in such services as key gaps in local-level service provisions are addressed and long-term, sustainable solutions are introduced through a combination of activities addressing reoccurrence of violence, social norms and pursuing change in acceptance of DV & GBV. Sub-components may include, but not necessarily be limited to: (a) mobile consultations in settlements with limited legal assistance services; (b) development of social media tools as point of first contact; (c) expanding services for aggressors in the

Southern region of Moldova; (d) sensitization of judges and prosecutors towards the (long-term) impact of violence in families and avoidance of re-victimization; (e) development of a guide for victims of violence to maneuver the institutional procedures; (f) training of lawyers offering state-guaranteed legal aid; (g) statistical and reporting support under the National Strategy for the Prevention of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence; and (h) conducting a series of policy roundtables involving high-level policy makers to encourage change.

Comments:

To implement this component, a number of specific activities will be conducted.

Services for victims and families

As follow up of the Informational Caravan, consultations will be organized with the communities in response to anticipated informational and legal needs raised by the community members via communication with the community leaders. Apart from phone consultations, via Trust-Line, a specialized women safeguarding team, to include lawyers and counselors, will travel to provide need-tailored consultations on DV, including Sexual Violence (SV) related matters. The services of the women safeguarding team will be also extended to victims of SV including intimate partner sexual violence who will request legal counseling and representation in criminal proceedings throughout the country, particularly where specialized lawyers (sexual assault cases) are missing and/or the case is endangered because of corrupted/unprofessional approach of the law enforcement and/or judiciary. All requests on cases of SV from all/any rayon/settlement and all requests on cases of DV in the radius of 100 km from Chisinau will be served by the mobile safeguarding team.

The project partners will also create mobile teams to consult victims of DV and GBV in remote regions with limited or no access to services (around 60 mobile team interventions are planned; the teams will consist of the lawyer, psychologist and social worker). The mobile teams will travel to remote regions and will provide support to victims of DV and GBV and will cooperate, to this end, with local public administration (mayor, police officer, social worker from the community).

Additionally, the partners will provide holistic services for victims of DV and GBV based on their needs and strengths to ensure a change that lasts, including the pilot districts:

- telephone legal counselling of victims of gender-based violence and domestic violence;
- primary legal aid;
- qualified legal aid;
- social assistance, including economic empowerment of survivors of domestic violence;
- psychological counselling.

The annual number of victims supported by Women Law Center is over 400. The WLC coordinator of specialized support service will provide primary legal aid on the phone and during private consultations in the WLC office; the WLC defense lawyer will be responsible for primary and qualified legal aid of victims and will represent their interests in court; the WLC social worker will provide social assistance to victims, including in mobile teams, along with an economic empowerment program involving selected WLC beneficiaries. Psychologists contracted by WLC will work to restore the emotional balance and psychological wellbeing of victims through individual psychological counselling and therapy through art activities. In addition, the WLC beneficiaries will be involved in creative workshops helping them learn new hand-made techniques and overcome anxiety.

ICT and social media tools

The project will explore the possibilities to develop and use ICT and social media tools to address needs of victims, families and those at risk. To implement this, a desk review and analysis of existing innovative ICT and social media tools will be conducted. The main issues to research will be the applicability of ICT and social media tools in Moldova. A behavioral experiment will be conducted to see what are the main perceptions and behaviors of victims and their families.

After the desk research, a hackathon will be organized bringing together professionals in DV and GBV, developers, and IT specialists, to identify solutions to solve several issues: use of anonymous tools, behavior change tools and possibility to organize mass campaigns. A competition on technological solutions will be organized during the hackathon and a number of solutions will be tested. As a possibility, creation of a specialized chat-bot could be considered as an innovative tool.

Services for aggressors

Building on existing experience in country, services for aggressors will be developed in one of the localities in the South of the country. This will be done through a sub-grant to a CSO working in the field, in cooperation with local authorities and other stakeholders. The services will be referred to by police, court, probation and other specialized services coming into contact and having an influence on aggressors.

Training courses for judges and prosecutors

In 2017 a specialized training course for prosecutors and judges on victim-centered approach to investigating violence crimes (against women and girls) including intimate partner sexual violence, was developed based on good international practices and piloted; the course pays special attention to the treatment of the victim during all criminal and court proceedings; the tested course was institutionalized by the NIJ and is part of the its formal curricula as of school year 2017-2018. The year 2018-2019 is the second school year of the course, the course is very popular - application to the course closes within 2 weeks after opening.

The project will make possible to continue support course delivery to interested prosecutors and judges across the country with the potential to be accessed by criminal investigators due to the agreements recently signed between the General Police Inspectorate and NIJ, priority will be given to law enforcement and judiciary from the pilot rayons.

Training judges and prosecutors will be introduced also to the women safeguarding team in order to strengthen the response to individual cases and avoid victimization. The course will be supported within the NIJ at least 2 school years in a row enabling training at least 100 prosecutors and judges throughout the country.

The project partner WLC conducted transformative thinking trainings for judges and prosecutors, as well as judicial assistants, at the National Institute of Justice since 2015. In total, WLC organized 26 two-day training sessions where participants discuss the connection between DV and gender equality, forms of violence, myths about DV, cycle of violence, psychological and social profile of victims and perpetrators, and practical application of DV legislation. The WLC will continue to support the National Institute of Justice in conducting DV trainings in the years to follow.

Communication with the specialized department from the General Prosecutors' Office will be maintained for monitoring of the progress on investigating, prosecuting and judging cases of DV in communities with trained specialists.

If the Parliament passes the new Law on Sexual Violence (the draft law is on the table of the Ministry of Justice in compliance with the international standards) in proximate terms, the project will enable immediately adjusting the course and enriching it with specialized legal Guidelines for course participants.

Training of front-line law enforcement

As frontline police are the first to respond to the request/complaints of the victims, the quality of their response is imperative; no trainings for the frontline police on SV including intimate (sexual) partner violence has ever been conducted and no SOPs exist in support of these police; currently, La Strada is piloting seminars in Chisinau jointly with the General Police Inspectorate. The project will enable deliver specialized seminars for frontline police and emergency units (patrolling) to effectively respond to incidents of SV including intimate (sexual) partner violence complaints in order to avoid re-victimization. The project will secure that after the training seminar, there is at least 1 specially trained police in each police sector under the Police Inspectorates of all pilot rayons; the training seminars will be delivered by trainers also participating in the trainings for judges and prosecutors thus securing the logic link between the actions of all relevant specialists. Each trained police officer will receive a pocket guide on effective immediate response to cases of SV and intimate partner violence.

Project partner La Strada has long standing cooperation and partnership with these agencies on capacity building and operational framework development. Proposed activities will be organized and conducted under the aegis of these institutions and feedback used to promote and institutional trainings and SOPs developed;

Guides for victims

Special materials for victims of sexual violence and domestic violence will be developed to “take the fear away” by reflecting on the FAQ, reluctances and reserves recorded by the Trust-line counselors and women safeguarding team while working with the victims. Materials will be distributed primarily via local police, health cabinets and forensic medical services. At least 3000 copies of materials will be made available in pilot rayons as well as in other rayons throughout the country;

A Survivor’s Handbook for persons experiencing domestic violence will be developed. The handbook will include stories of DV and GBV survivors and their experience of interaction with public institutions, describe the rights of victims of DV and GBV, legal remedies available to protect them, the obligations of public authorities, etc..

Training of lawyers

The US Embassy expressed earlier its commitment to support through the WLC the training of defense lawyers (including state-guaranteed legal aid lawyers). The trainings will be conducted via the Lawyers Training Centre. Specialized trainings will be organized also within the project on specific issues identified during baseline study, involving especially the lawyers operating in the target localities. Women Law Center will be responsible of this activity.

Statistical and reporting support under the National Strategy for the Prevention of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

WLC, with support from the UNFPA, analyzed GBV indicators in the health system. Based on this analysis the project will advocate for the collection and presentation by the health system of GBV data. MHLSP works currently on identifying ways to and collect DV statistical information from social workers. There is a strong need for a new research on DV based on this newly collected data.

The project will also contribute to the development of tools to measure:

- share of survivors and those at risk of DV & GBV and their families who report to be informed about their rights and services available

- share of survivors who report improved access to financial and welfare resources after participating in livelihood activities
- share of survivors of DV & GBV and their families who receive at least two multi-disciplinary services
- share of those accepting DV & GBV in targeted rural/urban communities
- assessment of quality of pilot services.

This will be done within existing data collecting instruments, like statistical data collection by health system, police and social assistance. Specific indicators will be measured during opinion polls to be conducted within the project.

Policy roundtables involving high-level policy makers to encourage change

Round tables with central public authorities and policy makers – Government and Parliamentary - primarily to increase attention and advocate for changes will be organized. The round tables will particularly seek to promote the draft Law on sexual violence, introduce adjustments to the Strategy on DV and its Action Plan related to actions to end sexual violence against women and girls (which currently are seriously underdressed by this political document), but also some other issues related to DV and GBV.

Feedback from communities about implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan collected when meeting with people and local public administration as well as when delivering support and counseling via Trust-Line and women safeguarding team will be put on the agenda of the round tables. Opportunity for thematic meetings within the project with high-level decision makers representing the crisis/emergency intervention (112 Service under the State Chancellery, police patrols and health sectors) to strengthen holistic approach will be discussed.

The following institutions will act as partners within the project:

- Ministry of Health, Social Protection and Family
- Ministry of Justice
- State Chancellery
- Ministry of Interior
- MPs

The project will also create effective referral system among professionals and to specialized support services in pilot districts. The system is aimed at fostering cooperation between professionals and involving CSOs. WLC piloted new regulations for social workers and doctors on intervention in cases of DV, which will be applied during current project. New guidelines will be developed on intersectoral approach to cases of DV, the approach will be tested in the pilot regions and the professionals will be trained on a coordinated response to cases of DV.

Roundtables with decision makers will be organized to promote amendments to legislation and regulations. The WLC developed an analysis of compatibility of national legislation with the provisions of Istanbul Convention and presented a number of recommendations to amend the DV legislation in order to improve the response to cases of DV. Roundtables with decision makers will focus on discussion of the proposed amendments, developing the draft law and further advocating for it.

Training police officers, doctors and social workers

Police officers, doctors and social workers will be trained in coordinated response to cases of domestic violence in pilot districts. The trainings are required to implement the coordinated response to cases of DV. Around 10 two-day training sessions will be conducted. The trainings will focus on promoting:

- Safety of victims – they should be protected from re-victimization and educated on how to decrease the likelihood of re-victimization without making them feel responsible for the incident.
- Support – providing accurate referral information about available victim services.

- Information – providing victims with information about their rights, the resources available to them.
- Continuity - collaboration with victim service providers and other professionals is necessary to ensure that victims receive consistent information and support
- Voice - empowering victims by encouraging them to ask questions and listening to their concerns.
- Justice - victims need to feel that professionals are doing the best they can for them, working in victims' best interests, and holding offenders accountable.

Component 3 (GPSA): To strengthen public sector-civil society collaborative engagement for reducing DV & GBV, this component will focus on designing and implementing collaborative social accountability processes that bring together state and non-state actors to address DV & GBV specific challenges. Sub-components may include, but not necessarily be limited to: (a) assessing and addressing gaps in actions and services provided by local public authorities and other public sector stakeholders at the local level to improve coordination, collaboration and sustainability across efforts; (b) raising awareness among local authorities for the scope and impact of DV & GBV and partner with them to strengthen the quality and efficiency of service delivery, for example by developing toolkits for survivors of DV & GBV (e.g. economic empowerment) or preventive educational activities in collaboration with local schools; and (c) establishing participatory feedback mechanisms to effectively monitor the implementation and success of activities by local authorities and other public sector stakeholders. This component will also aim to generate learning about the use of collaborative social accountability to improve DV & GBV service delivery in Moldova. The approaches developed and implemented during the project should be replicable by other government entities and have the potential to be transferable to other comparable project situations.

Comments on implementation plan and potential sub-activities:

During first phase of project implementation, an assessment of the coordinated response to cases of domestic violence will be conducted (the analysis will highlight gaps in the coordination of actions in the response to DV cases and will serve as a baseline for activities planned to ensure coordinated response to DV cases).

Participatory feedback mechanisms will be instituted to effectively monitor the implementation and success of activities by local authorities and other public sector stakeholders. The approaches developed and implemented during the project will be replicable by other government entities and have the potential to be transferable to other comparable project situations.

Three key objectives of the intervention:

- Local Public Authorities create favorable conditions for gender based budgeting (including DV and GBV) to take place under transparent conditions, budget documents are accessible and easy to understand for the general public and elaborated and discussed in a representative, inclusive, collaborative and participative framework;
- The budget debates are organized and functional in which non-governmental organizations, journalists and other active parties of society are involved and are able to advocate greater responsibility for spending public money on DV&GBV related issues based on openness and broad media coverage DV&GBV related issues;
- Citizens and representatives of civil society have a tool of referral for offering feedback, as well as information on development of services, budgetary allocations and expenditures at local and central levels for DV&GBV related issues.

This project workstream will aim at increasing the accountability of the key relevant stakeholders (central and local governments, representatives of health and social assistance systems and police) for preventing and combating DV and GBV at the local level. It will be done by means of a series of social accountability (SA) tools that focus on the collaborative engagement between the public sector and civil society, which also proved functional during the previous GPSA project (Scoala Mea - Social Accountability for the

Education Reform in Moldova), successfully implemented during 2014-2018 by Expert-Grup (the leading project partner of this component of the project). Namely, the project will implement 3 SA tools, which will be closely interlinked: (i) Independent Budgets' Analyses; (ii) Stakeholders' Report Cards; and (iii) Public Hearings.

Independent Budget Analyses will focus on the analysis of budgetary formation and execution at the central and local levels, through the lens of gender-based budgeting, including DV and GBV. The aim of this tool is two-fold. First, to conduct a gap analysis of the budgetary process at the central and local level in order to estimate to which extent the budgets are responsive to the issues of DV and GBV, especially those revealed by Stakeholders' Report Cards. Based on these findings, proper recommendations and assistance can be provided in order to address the identified gaps and ensure that DV and GBV are properly integrated into the budgetary process. Second, it will serve as an important source of information for the non-state actors that are involved in one way or another in dealing with DV and GBV, as well as for anyone interested, about the way how the central and local budgets are spent to address DV and GBV. Consequently, it will increase the accountability of the central and local governments and will enforce the relevant stakeholders to engage more constructively with the policy makers in consultations and advocacy activities aimed at fighting DV and GBV.

(i) Independent Budget Analysis at the central level

It is often the case that the leadership in promoting sensitive subjects in the society pertains to the Central Public Authorities, LPAs being more reluctant and invoking the perpetual lack of funding to either develop services or promote "uncomfortable" policy changes. As demonstrated by the 2014 reform of local public finances, without a strong drive and commitment from the part of the CPA, the financing of social services will be "overlooked" in favor of "political visible" actions or services, such as repair of roads, financing of cultural activities etc. Also proven by the last reform was the fact that LPAs tend to match the central government allocations for this subjects. That doesn't exclude the part when there is no understanding whatsoever on both central and local levels on the financing needs, infrastructure and institutional effort that need to be made to generate change in DV&GBV related issues.

This is why an annual review of the budgetary allocations, would have a two-fold effect: i) monitoring the budgetary process through the gender lenses (including DV and GBV) at the local level to promote change and help beneficiaries to promote their interest from the planning to the execution and monitoring phase; ii) have a clear image of what public resources are involved in the DV & GBV related services, actions as well as mapping out the financial flows and the actor involved. Last, but not least, these evaluations will give us a glimpse of the main problems that are often overlooked in the official reports.

The analyses will be written in a simple language, in order to facilitate the wide understanding of the relevant stakeholders and mass media.

ii) Inclusion in the Citizens Budget of a gender indicators and inequalities- "special subject"

Based on the extensive working experience with the Ministry of Finance of Moldova, an institution that has been supported since 2015 by Expert-Grup in creating the Citizens Budget, another product that could contribute to the acknowledgement of the problem DV&GBV could be the incorporation of gender indicators in this document. The Citizens Budget is one the most popular documents of the Ministry of Finance, describing in a visual and comprehensive way how the public resources will be used to ensure the public services and the welfare of the general population, and it is widely published and promoted in the media. It is also used by parliamentarians and other public agencies to explain, or ask budget-related questions, or provide answers to most pressing issues. That's why, we will advocate for the inclusion of a Special Subject in the Citizens Budget to describe how the National Public Budget addresses inequalities and

the social consequences of these inequalities (here included the GV&GBV), combining gender budget with impact assessments and the evaluation of the welfare of the annual budget through gender lenses.

(iii) Independent Budget Analyses at the local level and development of Local Citizens Budgets

There will be conducted annual reviews of the local budgets of beneficiary LPAs from the point of view of integration of DV and GBV issues. The analyses will identify the existing gaps in the budgetary process (formation and distribution) that impede more efficient prevention and combating of DV and GBV. Based on these findings, proper recommendations will be drafted.

The products will be designed to show how different actors can influence the budget cycle to promote gender budgeting at its different stages at the local level. The goal is to help stakeholders develop strategies, to think through the actions they need to take in each stage of the budget process. In this respect, as mentioned above, we will firstly rely on assessing the degree of implementation of national and international gender equality commitments by integrating BSG into national and local planning and budgeting systems, strengthening the capacities of central and local authorities to use sensitive budgeting tools gender mainstreaming in planning and budgeting processes as well as capacity building of non-governmental government accountability actors on gender commitments, using gender-sensitive budgeting (BSG) as a core tool.

It should be noted that there are some GB methodologies developed at national and international level, the appropriate one will be identified keeping in mind the local context and the beneficiaries. The most important approaches used in the various gender budgeting focus around:

- integrating gender perspectives into the entire public finance management process;
- integrating gender perspectives into performance-based and program-based budgeting;
- classification of budget programs and gender analysis requirements;
- evaluating the link between gender budgeting and participatory budgeting;
- tracking financial allocations to promote women's rights and gender equality;
- applying standard gender budgeting tools, such as gender awareness and budget assessment, gender disaggregated public spending analysis and income incidence analysis, as well as gender needs assessments;
- the welfare of the gender budget;
- combining gender budget with impact assessments.

A combination of the approaches will be used and adapted to the local context.

Stakeholders' Report Cards represent a specific SAc tool that helps to get feedback from relevant stakeholders about the quality of services related to preventing and combating DV and GBV. These cards represent well-structured questionnaires, which can be filled anonymously online and offline by victims of DV and GBV, vulnerable groups and any other person exposed to this issue. The result from Stakeholders' Report Cards will be integrated into a policy document, presenting the statistics and its interpretation, along with conclusions and policy recommendations. These findings will feed into the other two SAcc tools mentioned below: Independent Budget Analyses and Public hearings.

The **Scorecard** in the case of our project is a tool to evaluate how well the principles of "gender based budgeting" are implemented within the local budgets. It also provides LPAs and national agencies, partners and beneficiaries with indications how to implement (evaluates necessities, it offers a framework for adaptation and revision of national policies, and offers direct feed-back to the policies in place from the main stakeholders). For the purpose of this project, the **Scorecard** will provide an informal framework for assessing how well the beneficiaries and partners are integrating the principles of GBV and DV in the public budgets. First, the Scorecard is intended as an assessment and evaluation tool. The Scorecard encompasses a simple set of indicators that evaluate how well or how well LPAs (and partners) are implementing the „good budgeting" principles (IMF, OXFAM, UNWomen). The indicators are not intended to be

comprehensive. Rather, they seek to identify a limited set of critical indicators and benchmarks that provide a picture of a country's progress toward meeting the objectives. At the institutional policy and practice level, the Scorecard measures whether gender is institutionalized and mainstreamed, and whether gender perspectives are integrated in all phases of budgetary operations (i.e. planning, execution, and evaluations). In addition, the Scorecard identifies indicators that demonstrate whether all barriers to the active and meaningful participation of women in all aspects of social-economic activities and operations have been eliminated. It also measures how the society deals with gender-based and sexual violence within. Finally, the Scorecard examines whether monitoring and accountability mechanisms are in place and to what extent sex-disaggregated data is collected and lessons learned captured. The second objective of the Scorecard is to function as an educational tool that allows the LPAs and national authorities from the experiences of other nations but also the local experience on dealing with DV&GBV related issues. Lastly, the Scorecard facilitates standardization across the project in training, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of operation and adapting and learning for a successful completion of the project.

Public hearings will serve as platforms of dialogue and consultations between government and non-government actors, based on the findings of the previous two SAcc tools. Namely, the results of Stakeholders' Report Cards and the Independent Budget Analyses will provide the necessary evidence and analytical basis for a constructive engagement of non-governmental actors (e.g. CSOs, experts, community leaders etc.) with the LPAs on issues related to preventing and combating DV and GBV. In this way, the project will facilitate the integration of SAcc tools into the public-private dialogue on DV and GBV.

The methodology for implementing the mentioned 3 SAcc tools (Stakeholders' Report Cards, Independent Budget Analyses and Public Hearings) will be based on similar tools applied by Expert-Grup under the previous GPSA project (Scoala Mea - Social Accountability for the Education Reform in Moldova) during 2014-2018, which provided a rich practical experience and lessons learned that will be useful for this project <http://scoalamea.md/mini-ghid-analize-independente-ale-bugetelor/>, <http://scoalamea.md/mini-ghid-audieri-publice/>.

Applying SAcc Tools to Empower Local and Regional Stakeholders to Increase Policy Accountability.

This component aims at empowering local and regional authorities to increase accountability for implemented policies and decisions. As results of implemented activities, by the end of the project we should have (i) stakeholders from 8 local authorities discussed the budget with more knowledge on the regulations, roles and ways to improve situation. The LPAs will apply (ii) LPA Score Cards as well, consulting the opinion of the main beneficiaries on its performances, issues and suggestions. The data and reports will be fully (iii) uploaded on the knowledge sharing platform of the project.

Integrating SAcc with Policy and Budget Dialogue.

This component is meant to promote integration of SAcc tools results in fostering policy and budget dialogue. To correlate beneficiaries' opinions with the fund's allocation on DV&GBV related issues and services, yearly, all LPAs involved in the project will conduct (i) independent budget analyses or citizen's budgets. The results were disseminated during (ii) public hearings, conducted once per year by each beneficiary LPA to strengthen the LPAs capacity in data collection and analysis, as well as results integration in LPAs development plans, the EG will conduct (iii) yearly workshops with the LPAs managers, councilmen on budget planning and use.

The Score Card reports previously developed in other projects will be adapted to include specific subjects related to Gender Budgeting, DV&GBV budgeting, to measure the needs for training/infrastructure and readiness the community to deal with DV&GBV and c) report cards will be used to obtain opinions and

feedback on the DV&GBV prevention programs and readiness of communities to provide services for children/women/elderly affected by DV&GBV.

Capacity building and creating participatory frameworks at local and central level concerning the DV&GBV related issues

Assessing the role of stakeholders and establishing partnerships

This activity consists of a typical mapping of stakeholders, their roles at different levels of actors at all levels, in identifying partners, champions of change and developing counter-measures to potential opponents of the proposed changes. As a result of this analysis, we will identify all the key actors that can influence positively or negatively the process and results of developing an inclusive participatory and collaborative approach to DV&GBV issues. Based on this analysis, partnerships with collaboration partners will be established and local coalitions created (or consolidated, if necessary). The local coalitions will be created following the “Scoala Mea” model, by including no less than 9 members of the LPAs, regional authorities, school headmasters, social workers, police representative, activists and other notable members of the community, in an inclusive and representative way. Also, in the case of identifying hostile actors, changes will be made to counteract their influence. The creation of local coalitions has proven important towards ensuring the projects sustainability, as proven by the results of “Scoala Mea”. The coalitions will not only serve as mediators and contact points for the project, but by informing and capacitating them, it allows for the creation of local communication, collaboration, and knowledge mobilization in the relevant communities and let them explore how focused dialogue, information sharing, and engagement can encourage better collaboration and partnership, building both awareness about DV&GBV related issues, but also serve as a common problem-solving problem, adapted to the local context. More importantly, no matter of the political or administrative changes, such a structure de-monopolizes the information related to expenditure and policy, usually reserved to members of administration

As a starting point the project will capitalize on the coalitions that were already created under other/previous projects, namely 100 local coalitions from 30 out of 35 rayons from Moldova, established in the project „Școala Mea” (2014 – 2018), that involved representatives of the school board, parents, pupils, public servants at local and regional levels, community members, local entrepreneurs. This would help primarily in identifying in a safe environment how the DV&GBV are affecting children, and how the school can offer support but also implement prevention programs. It will also serve as support under the Component 1&2. Also, the Rayonal Participation Councils established under the Joint Equal Opportunity Initiative – Phase II project (2017 – 2021) could take over or complement the specific activities of the project. The Projects scope is to improve livelihoods of Moldovan population including most vulnerable men and women through more inclusive policies, and has established 3 Rayonal Participation Councils that seeks to facilitate citizen participation in public decision making. These councils have adapted the SAcc tools (public hearings, independent budget analysis, scorecards) to monitor the quality of social services.

The Local Public Authorities to be involved in this project are the mayors and the local councilmen/councilwomen. We also aim at involving the rayonal authorities, especially the relevant public servants dealing with cross sectoral and multi-level interventions on DV&GBV related issues (including social insurance, healthcare, public order).

The partnership with the Ministry of Finance will allow for a better understanding and obtaining of financial data on expenditures on both central and local levels, as well as for the sectoral expenditure strategies, and main budget documents. Also, it will allow to enforce the participatory budgetary framework, offer a peer – review on participatory budgetary framework proposed in the project, and why not, sharing the project experience in other LPAs.

The partnership with the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection will allow for rapid obtaining of information related to the management and prevention of the DV&GBV related issues. Previous experience

has shown that having a formal understanding with all the actors involved will contribute to a better implementation of the project, this is why Memoranda of Understanding will be signed with all the relevant stakeholders.

A very important role in the implementation of the project is its partnership with the media, whose collaboration will ensure the visibility and the communication tool with the society related to the transparency, the efficiency of the use of public resources to prevent and/or mitigate the domestic violence, gender based violence and human rights, the interests and the actors involved. To this end, establishing informal relationships with local journalists, investigative journalists, and promoting the topic in existing partnerships will lead to raising public awareness and creating public pressure on decision-makers.

Mentorship and training on gender-based budgeting. In addition to the mentioned SAcc tools, the project will provide mentorship and trainings to beneficiary LPAs on integrating gender balance priorities, including DV and GBV, into the budgetary process.

Adapting the existing SAcc tools to the project context and sharing knowledge outside the project scope

The methodology for implementing the mentioned 3 SAcc tools (Stakeholders' Report Cards, Independent Budget Analyses and Public Hearings) will be based on similar tools applied by Expert-Grup under the previous GPSA project (Scoala Mea - Social Accountability for the Education Reform in Moldova) during 2014-2018, which provided a rich practical experience and lessons learned that will be useful for this project. The guides and mini-guides will be adapted to the subject and beneficiaries needs and publishes on the EG website and the projects website.

Training of local coalitions, training of LPAs

The activities in this direction are continually focused on the influence of several actors, in order to create enough public pressure to raise the level of awareness of the problem. It will take place throughout the project, but focusing also on regular activities, such as 1) trainings (once a year) about the SAcc tools, their implementation, ways to building awareness in the community about "sensitive" subjects, 2) trainings for the LPAs on integrating DV&GBV issues in the budget, gender based budgeting, creating Citizens' Budgets, organizing meaningful public hearings, communicating budget related information to the members of community, inclusion of vulnerable groups in the budgetary and decisional process 3) trainings about preparing independent budget analyses for the local coalitions – this activities will serve as foundation for meaningful, informed and fact-based budgetary discussions during the public hearings etc.

Interest groups, mayors and other active parties outside the project (other regions, including Transnistria), will be invited to all the training activities, and training toolkits shared with them.

Training of interest groups, journalists and activists

In order to multiply the information effect, another activity will involve the organization at the beginning of each year of the project implementation one DV&GBV trainings for journalists, opinion makers, members of organizations dealing with the human rights protection, protection of women and children at the local and regional levels. This involves organizing informal information activities with journalists and local activists, press clubs, and will have a double effect a) to test the level of awareness of the subject in the media, to adapt the media to the realms of the information space and b) to become a technical, methodological contact point for them in the project area for written topics. Last but not least, we hope that through this activity we can facilitate the communication and collaboration between the project partners and the local media.

Mentorship and Evaluation, Feedback -mechanisms

The activities in this direction are focused on evaluating the progress made at local levels by the relevant actors, and actions that will consolidate the acquired knowledge. Mentorship activities will take place throughout the project, by the project managers and implementation partners. In order to be able to evaluate the progress made, we will use questionnaires testing the level of understanding of the DV&GBV related issues at the beginning of the project, that will be repeated at the end of the implementation period. We will also return with another questionnaire at least once a year, in the next two years to test the degree of implementation of the SAcc tools, find out about new problems that could arise at the local level. Also, we aim at connecting the stakeholders to the regional organisations that could further support them in dealing DV&GBV related issues. Since the DV&GBV issues and policy efforts are mainly donor driven, by mapping out all the actors in the project and sharing that information with the authorities and participating in the donors' dialogue mechanism in Moldova, we should be able to advertise the existing networks at local level but also avoid duplication of actions in this field.

To ensure that proper feed-back is offered to the implementing parties, but also authorities, we will create an informal Consultative Council consisting of all relevant parties at the national level: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Public Services Agency, The Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova and others, that will consult us on better ways to interact at the policy and decisional levels, approaches and avoid duplication of actions, but contribute to the existing policy actions in the field. Previous experience has shown that working with state-secretaries responsible for the subject (usually they are the champions of change at the national level), and meeting twice a year should be enough to adapt and correct the project implementation, but also promote change in the sector.

Sustainability

This component aims at disseminating social accountability results but also the lessons learned of both implementation and monitoring. This is also a space where all the prepared analytical and methodological support will be published: guidance notes on how to apply the social accountability methodology and tools; materials and developed by journalists and partners, case studies on Project results and lessons learned, learning materials etc, notes on budgetary spending, overview of the regional and local context etc. Our previous experience in the project "Scoala Mea", has showed that beside the role of information, this type of platforms contributes to the sustainability of the project, outside the allotted timeframe. In the last case, the website continues to have great interaction with 10.000 unique users in the first five months of 2019, and schools that continue to implement the SAcc tools independently, based on the methodological support presented on the website.

The specificity of working with LPAs is that all SAcc tools mentioned above are already institutionalized in the national regulatory framework. Thus the Law on budgetary and fiscal accountability. The Law on the local administration expressly states that budgets should be discussed in an inclusive and participatory manner. The problem here is the lack of capacity in the local administrations to plan and administer local budgets, but also the lack of understanding on the uses of being transparent and inclusive, especially with regards to such sensitive subjects as the DV&GBV related issues. It is also difficult for them to coordinate such a cross sectorial subject, and raise awareness at the local, regional and national levels. By training and supporting the LPAs and local councilmen and councilwoman we aim at ensuring sustainability no matter the political changes. By sharing their experience in the relevant representative structures, such as Congress of Local Authorities of Moldova, we also strive to share knowledge and encourage the experience-sharing among the participants and non-participants in the project.

Ensuring a meaningful partnership with the Ministry of Finance, will also help the LPAs advocate for better funding of this services in the national context.

Planned deliverables:

Taking into account that the project will cover 6 rayons (3 localities per rayon), Chisinau and 1 suburb of Chisinau, we estimate that the Stakeholder' Report Cards will be implemented in 20 places per year. In total, there will be 60 exercises of implementation of Stakeholder' Report Cards during 3 years of project implementation. Similarly, there will be conducted 20 Independent Budget Analyses at the local level and 1 Independent Budget Analyses at the central level per year (60 Independent Budget Analyses at the local level and 3 Independent Budget Analyses at the central level during 3 years of project implementation); and 20 public hearing per year and 60 public hearings during the project implementation). Also, for all 20 beneficiary localities, there will be conducted a series of trainings on gender-based budgeting, including on DV and GBV budgeting.

6. Participatory Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E). Please describe the intended system for collecting M&E information during the project.

The management team of EEF, in close collaboration with its partner will ensure regular monitoring based on performance indicators and routing necessary data. The project will also be subject to the normal auditing procedures. One of the proposed program innovations will be wide involvement of the direct project beneficiaries and stakeholders in all program activities, including monitoring and evaluation, at all stages of the project execution through a variety of forms and tools; for example, community organizing techniques, questioning, focus-groups, and interviews. The resulting information will be analyzed by the partners for implementation as necessary during the project and will be part of the overall evaluation. Monitoring is a continuous function designed to provide with early indications of the quality, quantity and timeliness of progress towards delivering intended results. An annual detailed work-plan will be developed containing the information on the schedule of outputs, timeframes, and estimated detailed costs of the actions.

EEF will develop a detailed monitoring plan and employ a comprehensive, results-oriented evaluation strategy to produce timely information about project and grant activities and assess the impact made by projects. This strategy will allow EEF to demonstrate program impact and results and to identify issues or concerns that arise during implementation so that they can be addressed. EEF has strong institutional capacities in monitoring and evaluation, including program staff with extensive experience in programmatic and financial monitoring; a proprietary electronic database, the Grants Management System, which we use to track all activities related to sub-grants. GMS records all financial and programmatic events and tracks impact according to a variety of indicators.

EEF developed also strict grant and monitoring policies and procedures designed to ensure that grant making is transparent, fair and efficient, while working to improve both the effectiveness and measurability of EEF's initiatives.

EEF will conduct rigorous impact planning prior to all project components, regardless of size. Considerations will include the impact on both program beneficiaries and external stakeholders such as ethnic minority groups, women and men, the elderly, youth and people with disabilities as well as potential impact on the environment. Program officers are required to identify output, outcome and impact indicators, frequency of data collection and data collection methodology, which is a requisite component of EEF's codified program approval process.

For each project component, EEF will identify specific outcome indicators that reflect overall program results. These will include a mix of quantitative and qualitative indicators and will be compiled to create a composite picture of program impact across each outcome. For each identified outcome EEF will also track a wider range of output indicators, typically quantitative measurements that capture immediate results, help to monitor program activities, and provide near real-time feedback on the program's effectiveness. EEF will report against outcome and output indicators in its narrative reports.

Prior to all major program initiatives, EEF will collect baseline data and undertake needs assessments in order to determine the demands and gaps in infrastructure and services that can be met through

programmatic activity. Whether to explore new geographic or programmatic areas, needs assessments will allow EEF to design targeted, effective, and appropriate programs that respond to local needs. Evaluations will be conducted by external evaluators or by EEF program staff. EEF will conduct a number of assessments and evaluations throughout the lifecycle of its programs to evaluate progress and impact. Before launching the program, EEF will seek to conduct needs assessments to provide data on the gaps, achievements, challenges and prospects for future work. EEF will strive to collect baseline data in order to compare the initial situation with the situation after the intervention.

Program and financial staff will report quarterly on the main developments, restrictions and changes in the policy context.

At the final stage of the program EEF will contract a team of independent evaluators to assess the impact made by the program.

Special attention is paid to program process and outcome monitoring that allows for timely evaluation and possible modifications of various program components. A set of objectively verifiable indicators will be designed, based on the assessments, and tracked systematically to evaluate project results. The recommendations and conclusions of implementing partners are continuously analyzed and integrated into EEF's work. Program progress will be regularly assessed and detailed program planning may well be amended depending on results.

EEF is committed to fully complying with donor requirements and contractual obligations when implementing projects, including auditing requirements. EEF will coordinate the internal monitoring of the project focusing on the following areas of program implementation: (a) relevance and quality of design, (b) efficiency and implementation of project outputs and activities, (c) effectiveness and (d) programme sustainability.

All project partners have complementary strengths, which will ensure efficient implementation of this project. As the executing agency, EEF and other project partners will plan, coordinate, and implement activities defined in this proposal with the relevant project partners. This will include overall project management and monitoring of its implementation, as well as providing expertise in the field of civil society establishment and development.

Whereas EEF would provide technical guidance for all civil society related activities, including community mobilization and participatory processes, La Strada and Women Law Center will provide technical support in the field of prevention DV and GBV and will offer services to victims and those at risk. Exper-Grup will bring a large experience in use of social accountability tools.

The action implies a real participatory approach involving all partners and local actors. It is integrating a needs-based and participatory approach in dealing with CSOs and community engagement. It seeks to empower the communities enabling them to advocate for better services for victims and those at risk and gain better access to diverse community services. It empowers CSOs to mobilise local society's opinions and resources while acting as catalysts for change. It promotes innovative forms of interactions between CSOs and LPA in community service delivery, capacity building, coaching and mentoring, avoiding the creation of parallel structures, hampering and overlapping with existing interventions, according to local contexts. It approaches the capacity concern faced by CSOs notably in responsiveness to citizens' needs (planning, management, financial management, service delivery). It is designed to ensure replicability of the innovative and inclusive methodologies to entire country by linking CSOs from target communities to the national community of professionals. It creates innovative tools to support the participatory needs assessment, development of the needs-based services and monitoring and evaluation of their delivery.

The action mainstreams gender and promotes equity through all the means and during all interventions. Alternative education is one of the main vehicles throughout the project.

- 7. Innovation.** Please briefly outline how the project focuses on innovation, adapting and testing interventions that address critical gaps in programming for vulnerable communities and GBV survivors in Moldova.

The project will focus on promoting coordinated response to cases of gender-based and domestic violence, which is a new approach in the national context to be developed and tested. The approach will involve representatives of public administration, police officers, social workers, doctors and specialized CSOs. The idea is to create a positive feedback loop, which will increase reporting of cases of gender-based and domestic violence.

The project implementation will imply innovative solutions, such as storytelling, community engagement, culture of engagement and youth education, as well as use of technologies to ensure the safety of victims and promote zero tolerance to gender-based and domestic violence.

The project will capitalize on the previous experience in implementing the social accountability (SA) tools, having tailored the instruments to the national context. Altogether, it is the first time when the SA tools will be utilized to measure the readiness and understand the needs from 2 perspectives: the school as a safe environment from domestic violence and gender based violence, both as provider of services but also beneficiary in the multi-agency framework Mitigation of negative consequences of DV & GBV by providing holistic response services for survivors of DV & GBV. Also, we hope to develop and pilot the DV&GBV prevention programs and test the beneficiaries' responses by utilizing the stakeholder report cards and behavioral experiments, so that by the end of the project, it would be tailored to respond to the requirements.

Another innovative part of the project is that addresses firsthand the capacity problem of the LPAs to engage in the public dialogue on DV&GBV related issues. The analysis of budgetary documents, their presentation in an intuitive and visual manner will help the beneficiary to engage in a representative and inclusive budgetary process and enable them to better monitor and hold accountable various institutions at local level.

The project will also strive to use advance technologies, ITC and social media to ensure better access to services for victims of violence and those at risk. Hackathons will be organized to identify best technological solutions. As one of idea to emerge from hackathon might be a chat-bot on social media offering support to victims in an anonymous way¹².

- 8. Sustainability.** This project envisions to address factors of vulnerability of survivors of DV & GBV and their families, which will be paired with a currently not existing holistic response service on the ground, moving away from the current approach where interventions regularly depend on donor support and funding. Further, the World Bank's Gender Action Plan for Moldova ensures that gender analysis and monitoring are consistently incorporated in existing and upcoming projects and that progress is systematically recorded. The project outputs will feed into this. The envisioned activities will also feed into the implementation of the National Strategy for the Prevention of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence under Moldova's Gender Equality Coordination Council, hence making sure that pilot findings are reflected also at the national level.

The project advocates for a clear exit strategy and the extent to which the modalities would be established for the proposed activities to be scaled up at completion through World Bank, Government or other development partner interventions. The aim is to ensure that aspects of project design would ensure continuity of prevention interventions and service delivery beyond the life of the project.

Within the above context, what mechanisms would be instituted to ensure the sustainability of the grant outcomes and benefits obtained by the vulnerable group?

Considering the fact that the project will target change on individual, community and system level, the sustainability will be ensured at all three dimensions. The project will target a change that lasts through provision of holistic services based on the needs and strengths of the victims and those at risk of gender-

¹² <https://thetempest.co/2018/10/25/now-beyond/artificial-intelligence-is-changing-the-way-we-help-domestic-violence-victims/>

based and domestic violence. Coordination of response to such cases among professionals and accountability mechanisms established along with public authorities' ownership will ensure continuity of the approaches to services after completion of the project. The project activities will be also aligned to the actions planned under the National Strategy to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence and its results will be reflected on the national level through amendment of the legislation, national policies and sectoral regulations.

The course on Harmonious Couple Relationship will be endorsed for the gymnasium level, based on previous analogical experience (accrediting course to lyceum) under the current Cooperation Agreement with the ME and long standing partnership.

The government committed to support the trust-line service as per action plan of the National Strategy in line with the Istanbul Convention. Training on efficient victim-centered investigations for judges, prosecutors was recently (already) institutionalized with the National Institute of Justice while the project will help publicize/promote the course so that the message is spread and demand is encouraged after the project ends.

The tested and piloted course for front-line police officers will be delivered to the General Police Inspectorate along with full package and trained/experienced trainers enabling in-house continuous training after project end including multiplication in other rayons.

The Book story developed within the project course within informational caravan will include ways to correctly reflect the issue in media, thus serve as guide for media after the project end; the book story will also serve as alternative baseline regarding local population degree of information and prospection about domestic violence and their rights as well as resistance factors for future possible/eventual studies/researches; the Book story can serve as alternative "situational" baseline in support of lobby and advocacy as well monitoring and evaluation of national effort's progress after the project end.

The informational caravan will be organized and monitored with direct participation of LPA/local community leaders and thus recommended and guided where necessary, to incorporate such/similar activities (meetings with community population for information and service access facilitation) into national plans of the multidisciplinary groups/teams (created as part of the Project component on social accountability mechanism).

9. **Risks.** Based on your experience in managing similar projects in Moldova, please identify and briefly describe the main risks to achieving the project's objectives. Risk types include but are not limited to: political/governance, macroeconomic, sector strategies and policies, technical design of project, institutional capacity for implementation and sustainability, fiduciary, environment and social, and stakeholders. Please describe all that apply. For each type of risk, please include 1-2 sentences with the measures proposed for mitigating it.

#	Category	Description	Impact	Risk management/ response measures	Probabili unlikely- certain
1	Operational	The authorities won't be fully opened and involved in project implementation.	Will lead to diminishing the level of public information and delays in the implementation of the project.	Use of legal provisions on access to information. Media coverage of cases of non-compliance with the law and notification of competent law enforcement bodies. Use of indirect information sources.	4
2	Operational	Authorities will not want to collaborate with the project team on the implementation of SAcc instruments at the local level	It is the most important risk of the project. Without the LPAs participation one of the three SAcc tools won't be applicable and the project won't generate change.	The main management tools consist in increasing the coverage of these cases and the involvement of partners in the process.	5

3	Operational	Schools will not want to collaborate with the project team on the implementation of SAcc instruments at the local level	Another important risk of the project. Without the School participation it won't be possible to pilot the prevention programs.	The main management tools consist in increasing the coverage of these cases and the involvement of partners in the process.	4
4	Operational	Central Authorities and Local Authorities will not want to collaborate with the project team on the topics of information on budgetary allocations on DV&GBV related issues and services	Delays in the project implementation	The main management tools consist in increasing the coverage of these cases and the involvement of partners in the process	4
5	Operational	Media partners will not be interested in promoting the project's results	It is possible to narrow the area of dissemination of project results to certain segments of the audiences	Attract more than one media partner on the same segment. If need be more intensive use of alternative information channels.	5
6	Operational	Taking into account that the project aims to solve complex and persistent problems, it is possible that some details and minor logistics issues are dropped in the operational planning of the project, but will not affect the project.	Implementation may require adjustments to project activities.	Operational adjustments will be coordinated with the donor, ensuring that they will not have any implications for the purpose and budget of the project.	2
7	Political	After the parliamentary elections in February 2019, which disrupted the normal work of the Government both at local and central levels, it is still unclear if the when the local elections will happen. It might be the case that local elections will take place somewhere in 2020, thus disturbing the activity of local authorities, Also, the election results may change the attitude of the new Government at local and central levels and diminish their willingness to be open and collaborate with civil society.	It is a major risk of achieving the goal of the project.	Increase mobilization and civil society involvement to open data on public finance and increase public participation.	5

10. Implementation arrangements and partnerships. Please explain the proposal's implementation scheme, including each partners' main roles and responsibilities. Provide 1-2 sentences about the partner(s) organization's experience. Please indicate how are you planning to engage with public sector institutions during project implementation, including collaboration/cooperation arrangements. For the GPSA component, describe if on-granting is envisioned to partners.

The project will be steered by a consultative body with multi-stakeholder representation, aimed at providing guidance to the project implementation (hereinafter Steering Committee). The Steering Committee will consist of representatives of the implementing partners, other donors working in the field, delegates from relevant CSOs and delegates from the LPA of 8 targeted communities. The steering committee will have the following functions: (i) providing strategic conceptual guidance to the project

implementation; (ii) ensure the overall monitoring and evaluation of project implementation, including efficiency, effectiveness of the project; analyze, approve and provide recommendations on project work plans and reports; (iii) ensure communication, exchange of information, networking and coordination between key stakeholder and other similar projects. The Steering Committee will gather at least once a year, but preferably twice a year.

Additionally, a Project Management Team, formed by projects managers from all partners involved in the project. The Team will have regular meetings to discuss project implementation issues.

The project aims to create a common platform for discussion and awareness among actors involved in the management DV&GBV (local authorities, economic agents, central government agencies) and citizens.

The Local Public Authorities to be involved in this project are the mayors and the local councilmen/councilwomen. We also aim at involving the rayonal authorities, especially the relevant public servants dealing with cross sectoral and multi-level interventions on DV&GBV related issues (social insurance, healthcare, public order etc.).

The partnership with the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection will allow for rapid obtaining of information related to the management and prevention of the DV&GBV related issues. In this sense, memoranda of collaboration will be signed with clear stipulations of their commitments.

The partnership with the Ministry of Finance will allow for a better understanding and obtaining of financial data on expenditures on both central and local levels, as well as for the sectoral expenditure strategies, and main budget documents. Also, it will allow to enforce the participatory budgetary framework, offer a peer – review on participatory budgetary framework proposed in the project, and why not, sharing the project experience in other LPAs.

As a starting point the project will capitalize on the coalitions that were already created under other/previous projects, namely 100 local coalitions from 30 out of 35 rayons from Moldova, established in the project „Școala Mea” (2014 – 2018), that involved representatives of the school board, parents, pupils, public servants at local and regional levels, community members, local entrepreneurs. This would help primarily in identifying in a safe environment how the DV&GBV are affecting the children, and how the school can offer support but also implement prevention programs. Also, the local and regional coalitions established under the Joint Equal Opportunity Initiative – Phase II project (2017 – 2021) would take over or complement the specific activities of the project. The Projects scope is to improve livelihoods of Moldovan population including most vulnerable men and women through more inclusive policies, and has established 3 regional collaborative coalitions that have adapted the SA tools (public hearings, independent budget analysis, report cards) to monitor the quality of social services.

A very important role in the implementation of the project is its partnership with the media, whose collaboration will ensure the visibility and the communication tool with the society related to the transparency, the efficiency of the use of public resources to prevent and/or mitigate the domestic violence, gender based violence and human rights, the interests and the actors involved. To this end, establishing informal relationships with local journalists, investigative journalists, and promoting the topic in existing partnerships will lead to raising public awareness and creating public pressure on decision-makers.

11. Budget. Describe the proposal’s main types of expenses, including estimated breakdown for each component by category and a brief explanation. If the proposal is pre-selected, you will be asked to prepare a detailed budget.

Costs	Costs (in USD)	Budget by categories		
		Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
EEF Personnel	267,704.00	117,920.00	117,920.00	31,864.00

Operating costs	43,321.00	18,276.00	18,276.00	6,769.00
Contracted services	50,000.00	50,000.00	-	-
Meetings project stakeholders	4,800.00	2,025.00	2,025.00	750.00
Support to local CSOs in 8 localities		300,000.00	180,000.00	-
Support services for aggressors in Southern of Moldova			150,000.00	
Small grants scheme for economic empowerment of victims and those at risk		200,000.00		
Support to find appropriate IT solutions			40,000.00	
Annual Audit	30,000.00	12,656.00	12,656.00	4,688.00
Partner implementation costs (personnel, operating and activities)				
La Strada	880,589.00	484,324.00	387,459.00	8,806.00
CDF	631,463.00	93,690.00	512,773.00	25,000.00
Expert Group	422,123.00			422,123.00
Total	3,200,000.00	1,278,891.00	1,421,109.00	500,000.00

Estimated costs for the proposal are based on the past experience of EEF and its partners in implementing projects with similar scope and duration as well as directions outlined in the Call for proposals. Main type of expenses of EEF include personnel costs, general operating costs, contractual services, meeting costs, sub-granting, annual audits and partner implementation costs.

EEF will charge personnel costs based on actual time devoted to the program by employees: management, direct project staff and project support staff (part time involvement in the project).

General operating costs include local transportation costs, office costs, equipment and project visibility materials.

Contractual services will cover costs for external expertise to conduct the baseline study, including opinion poll and final evaluation study of the project.

Meeting costs provide for a provision of coffee breaks and hall rent to facilitate meetings with all partners and sub-grantees involved in the project.

EEF will open 3 grant components and will award at least 19 sub-grants during 3 years. Detailed budget of each support to each sub-contractor will be determined when the need is identified, partners' proposals are developed and reviewed. Costs may include personnel, expertise, travel, meetings etc. EEF will ensure sub-grants management in close compliance with both GPSA requirements and EEF program handbook describing details on sub-grant management, responsibilities, evaluation, budgeting and reporting. A sub-grant may vary from 30,000 to 60,000 USD.

EEF will ensure that annual audits of the project are performed based on required GPSA ToR, if required. Partner implementation costs are divided between project components depending of their specific capacity and required expertise and include estimated costs for personnel, operating costs, contracted services/expertise and consultancy, travel costs, publications and media outreach, conferences/trainings/workshops and other direct costs.

12. Project Team. Based on your previous experience in managing similar projects, please provide a brief description of the project implementation team that your organization is planning to mobilize to implement the project activities. This is indicative only, as the complete project team will be determined during project preparation.

The management of the project will be done by several staff employed at EEF (no full time employment is envisaged for administrative staff). The following personnel will have a partial involvement in the project implementation:

President

Director of Programs

Director for Evaluation

Director of Finances

Project Coordinator

Grants Manager

Finance Analyst

Accountant

Project Assistant

Driver

IT Manger

Each of those 3 partners will dedicate a part of the time for the management of the project. Besides management and logistics personnel, specialized staff will be involved by all 3 partners. Services providers (lawyers, psychologists, social assistants), researchers, trainers, communications staff will contribute to the implementation of the project.