

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002159/24
to the Commission
Mircea-Gheorghe Hava (PPE)
(18 October 2024)**

Subject: Funding for local authorities in the Republic of Moldova through the Growth Plan

The European Union took an essential step in supporting the development of the Republic of Moldova by approving an unprecedented financial package worth EUR 1.8 billion. The Growth Plan is part of a broad support project aimed at accelerating the process of Moldova's accession to the EU, strengthening its capacity to implement essential reforms and stimulating the national economy.

This financial aid, provided for 2025-2027, is the most significant economic support awarded by the EU since Moldova became independent. The Growth Plan for Moldova is built on three pillars: improving infrastructure and increasing financial assistance, aiding Moldova's integration into the EU single market, and supporting the implementation of fundamental socioeconomic reforms.

1. Could the Commission specify which non-reimbursable funding projects will be directed towards local communities, both urban and rural, in the Republic of Moldova, and for which projects local public administrations will be eligible applicants?
2. What is the estimated launch date of the public consultations for the upcoming funding projects?
3. Which institutions in the Republic of Moldova will be responsible for managing and monitoring the non-reimbursable funding provided by the EU for local administrations through the Growth Plan?

Submitted: 18.10.2024

**Answer given by Ms Kos on behalf of the European Commission
(27 January 2025)**

The Commission currently supports local authorities and local communities under the Neighbourhood Development and International Cooperation Instrument — Global Europe (NDICI-GE).

The project 'EU4Moldova: Local Communities', active from 2022 to 2025, helps local authorities improve governance and service delivery in rural areas, enhances local public services while empowering Local Action Groups and consolidating the National Leader Network to drive community-led development ⁽¹⁾.

The 'Edinet — Insights into Tomorrow Cities' project, running from 2021 to 2025, aims to strengthen local governance by enhancing urban development and public services through smart solutions ⁽²⁾.

The Commission's proposal for the Growth Plan ⁽³⁾ will provide opportunities to continue and potentially scale up such projects. The proposal on a Reform and Growth Facility for the Republic of Moldova ⁽⁴⁾ foresees EUR 285 million of non-repayable financial support funded under NDICI-GE.

The non-repayable financial support will cover support for projects approved under the Neighbourhood Investment Platform (NIP), support to civil society organisations as well as technical assistance to facilitate the implementation of reforms.

The support to the local dimension and to local authorities is mentioned as part of the Multiannual Indicative Programme (2021-2027) ⁽⁵⁾.

Further support to local authorities and local communities could therefore be envisaged for the years 2025-2027, notably through the technical assistance component. Future investments under the Growth Plan may also have a local dimension.

The financial assistance received by international donors is managed and monitored by the State Chancellery of the Government of the Republic of Moldova.

⁽¹⁾ Project description of 'EU4Moldova: Local Communities' available here: <https://eu4moldova.eu/projects/eu-project-page/?id=1651>

⁽²⁾ Project description of 'Edinet — Insights into tomorrow cities' available here: <https://eu4moldova.eu/projects/eu-project-page/?id=1556>

⁽³⁾ Communication on the Moldova Growth Plan, COM(2024) 470 final: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/ff73c5dd-3fd1-4dcd-ab7d-ad04760c538c_en?filename=Growth%20Plan%20for%20Moldova%20-%20Commission%20proposal.pdf

⁽⁴⁾ Proposal for a regulation on establishing the Reform and Growth Facility for the Republic of Moldova, COM(2024) 469 final: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/029c4a4c-1586-46e8-b94e-38a4a1f6ae07_en?filename=Growth%20Plan%20for%20Moldova%20-%20Regulation.pdf

⁽⁵⁾ Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021-2027 for the Republic of Moldova: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/ecfd53f7-c434-4b78-9d22-fce05e28b793_en