GCFWATCH

46th Board Meeting of the Green Climate Fund

October 26-29, 2026, Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea

GCF Observer Network of Civil Society, Indigenous Peoples, and Local Communities

Intervention on

FP321: Moldova Green Shield: Enhancing Resilience through Ecosystem-based Adaptation

Access the document: https://www.greenclimate.fund/board-document/gcf-b46-02-add14

We welcome the intent of this funding proposal to present an integrated, landscape-scale ecosystem-based approach aimed at strengthening the resilience of ecosystems and rural livelihoods in the Southern Development Region of Moldova, particularly since the identified project site is characterized by semi-arid conditions, degraded soils, fragmented shelterbelts, limited forest cover, and declining water retention capacity amid threats of rainfall variability, temperature increase, drought, and flooding.

We want to underscore key concerns that merit attention:

Taking into account that the Government of Moldova expressed commitment to enter into a sovereign loan agreement with the World Bank for the co-financing amount of USD 10 Million, the beneficiary country should receive the most concessional rate possible. Grant-based financing should remain a priority for increasingly indebted developing countries undermining investments in climate resilience with debt service.

We hope the inconsistencies raised by the ITAP on the watershed interventions are fully addressed, as there seems to be no budget provision allocated for the floodplain restoration, where natural or managed aquifer recharge is likely to occur..

We do want to see strengthened coordination and engagement with ongoing measures that the Project will complement, such as the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) and the other World Bank project in the country titled: *Strengthening Moldova's Disaster Risk Management and Resilience (SMORE) Project*.

We appreciated the AE's written response to an inquiry noting their intention to involve the community, particularly in the development of the Community Stewardship Plan (CSP). Beyond consultations, involvement should also be grounded in ensuring that the communities' expertise in the field is incorporated from the plan development to the implementation.

In the same manner, we look forward to seeing the results of this project reap benefits for Moldova's adaptation, especially for the communities situated in the region.