



**EU4MOLDOVA**  
REGIUNI CHEIE



Implemented by



# EU4MOLDOVA: FOCAL REGIONS

CAHUL AND UNGHENI



Programme funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP and UNICEF

# The "EU4Moldova: Focal Regions" Programme supports the development of smart, green, inclusive and sustainable regional growth in Ungheni and Cahul to bring a better quality of life to citizens.

## Expected results:

- Strengthened institutional capacity of local public authorities;
- Involving beneficiaries, partners and experts in planning and monitoring the implementation of the socio-economic development strategy;
- Accessible, efficient and quality public services and utilities for all citizens;
- Favourable conditions for attracting investments;
- Economic clusters developed;
- Improved social services (education, health, civic involvement of young people).

- **Duration:** 2019 – 2024
- **Budget:** €23 million
- **Donor:** European Union
- **Implementers:** UNDP and UNICEF
- **Coverage:** Municipalities of Cahul and Ungheni and neighbouring communities
- **Beneficiaries:** Citizens and communities of Ungheni and Cahul regions, local public authorities and civil society organisations
- **Intervention area:** Inclusive growth



**Jānis Mažeiks,  
Ambassador of the  
European Union to the  
Republic of Moldova**

*"The Focal Regions programme was designed as a model for the development of the regions of the Republic of Moldova. It combines all elements necessary for economic and social prosperity and for developing a thriving community. The results achieved in Cahul and Ungheni regions show clearly to everyone how much impact the EU's support can have on the ground with the active involvement of the local community. It demonstrates that together we can achieve tangible results."*



**Daniela Gasparikova  
Resident Representative  
of UNDP Moldova**

*"UNDP is proud to implement an impactful EU4Moldova: Focal Regions Programme in Cahul and Ungheni, financed by the EU, with the focus on green and digital development that increases resilience and quality of life of people and communities. The Programme is engaging local public authorities, private sector/entrepreneurs, civil society organizations towards expanding local economies, income-generating opportunities, and innovations."*



**Maha Damaj,  
UNICEF Country  
Representative in the  
Republic of Moldova**

*"With the help of the valuable support of the European Union, UNICEF managed to extend its coverage to children, young people and their families in the Cahul and Ungheni regions to facilitate access to essential social services. Starting in 2019, we offered inclusive education opportunities, modern health services tailored to their needs, development programs and a platform to make their voices heard in local decision-making processes."*



**Nicolae Dandiș,  
Mayor of Cahul  
municipality**

*"Thanks to the European Union's assistance, Cahul district is recognized as a focal region with great development potential. The Programme boosts the development of various fields and areas: infrastructure, economy, good governance, etc. It also implemented projects that have changed the lives of people from Cahul for the better."*



**Alexandru Ambros,  
Mayor of Ungheni  
municipality**

*"European Union assistance has boosted local efforts to increase the investment attractiveness of Ungheni municipality and of the region, strengthened local transparency and citizen participation in local governance processes. At the same time, citizens' access to quality public services has increased, which is good."*

# Strengthening the institutional capacities of local public authorities and engaging young people in the decision-making process



## LPA

- Over 100 LPA representatives were trained in the implementation of local strategies and plans;
- The Economic Cooperation Platform in Cahul and Ungheni was created to boost economic development;
- A Regional Territory Development Plan for Cahul and Ungheni was developed to identify the socio-economic potential, development directions, failures and advantages of the districts;
- Six NGOs, including Hometown Associations, were trained to engage in local decision-making and improve their role as watchdogs;
- Public service operators were supplied with equipment necessary for the provision of quality waste management services.



## SMART

- Establishing a One-Stop-Shop in Cahul and Ungheni municipalities;
- More than 1000 water meters with remote reading installed in Ungheni;
- Video monitoring at AVE Ungheni;
- 15 kindergartens in Cahul and Ungheni municipalities were provided with IT equipment;
- The SMART City platform currently in development will help LPAs to collect and analyse data from integrated sensors in the town to improve the quality of life and safety of citizens.



## EDUCATION

- The kindergarten "Tereza Sobolevski" from Ungheni municipality and kindergarten No 8 "Prichindel" in Cahul municipality were renovated;
- More than 60 educational institutions benefited from modern teaching and learning materials, including weather stations with digital sensors;
- The implementation of the Child Centred Methodology in kindergartens and schools was strengthened;
- More than 1,000 teachers developed their capacities and 18,500 children benefit from improved educational services.



## HEALTHCARE

- 10 Child Development Offices were set up and supplied with equipment and toys;
- More than 16,000 families received the "Child Development Diary";
- Around 100 family doctors trained in the supervision of health conditions and the development of children, adolescents and pregnant women;
- 350 medical kits for home-based monitoring of babies delivered to Health Centres;
- Support for the "Voinice" Early Intervention Centre for 16 families with young children with disabilities or developmental delays and another 80 families consulted online;
- Around 600 professionals were trained in early detection and early developmental support for children with mild disorders.



## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE

- 2550 young people were trained to work in teams and develop youth action plans;
- Student Councils from 30 schools actively engaged in decision-making processes;
- Young people and teenagers engaged in sports and cultural activities: EU4Cahul Marathon 2022 - Run for Peace, Youth Festival in Ungheni (2022), Youth Forum 2.0, Summer School, etc.



## Non-commercial organisations in Cahul and Ungheni provide support to vulnerable people

- Access to social and cultural services for approx. 2,700 people from the village of Zîrnești, Cahul district;
- New professional and entrepreneurial skills for women and vulnerable people in Moscova commune, Cahul district;
- Access ramps installed at administrative buildings in Cula sub-region, Ungheni district and improved access to administrative services for over 1,500 people;
- Professional integration of more than 250 members of vulnerable people from 10 rural communities of Ungheni district.



Access ramp installed at Cornova Mayoralty building, Cula sub-region, Ungheni district.

## Business environment development: existing companies, start-ups, social businesses, clusters and attracting new investments in Cahul and Ungheni



Maxim Rusnac's workshop in the village of Floreni, Ungheni district has been endowed with lathes and wood sanding equipment, thanks to a grant worth €25,000.

### Budget: €4.4 million

- 75 grants for entrepreneurs;
- 65 development projects in rural communities implemented by LAGs in Cahul and Ungheni;
- 41 investment profiles;
- 8 clusters;
- Targeted business infrastructure to attract new investments.
- Over 330 new permanent and seasonal jobs were created;
- Over 500 jobs were saved.



## Opinions of entrepreneurs from Cahul and Ungheni who benefited from grants



**Corina Țăranu,**  
founder of "Girofunny" brand,  
Ungheni municipality:

"Thanks to this grant I was able to start a new production line of children's clothes. I purchased an embroidery machine, a button-stitching machine and a digital programme that greatly speeds up our pattern production time."



**Maria Minciună,**  
founder of the gastronomic  
workshop "La Tanti Masha",  
Slobozia Mare, Cahul:

"With the support of the European Union, I purchased several pieces of equipment to endow my gastronomic workshop and registered the trademark "La Tanti Masha." I am proud to preserve Southern culinary traditions and I am happy to pass them on to the guests who visit me."



**Victor Voina,**  
founder of Voina farm,  
Roșu, Cahul:

"I entered the grant competition because it seemed like a good opportunity to launch a business. With financial support from the EU, I managed to buy a 1000 m<sup>2</sup> greenhouse where I grow vegetables for the local market."



**Zinaida Plămădeală,**  
representative of the fruit  
crops cluster from Ungheni  
region:

"Thanks to the support provided, the fruit crops cluster from Ungheni region will reduce electricity consumption in its production processes by using alternative energy from renewable sources. Thus, the grant obtained will contribute to the development of sustainable and environmentally friendly farming businesses."

## Modernization and revitalization of the urban centre of Cahul municipality

The revitalisation of the urban centre increases the attractiveness of Cahul municipality as a town - a "pillar of growth."



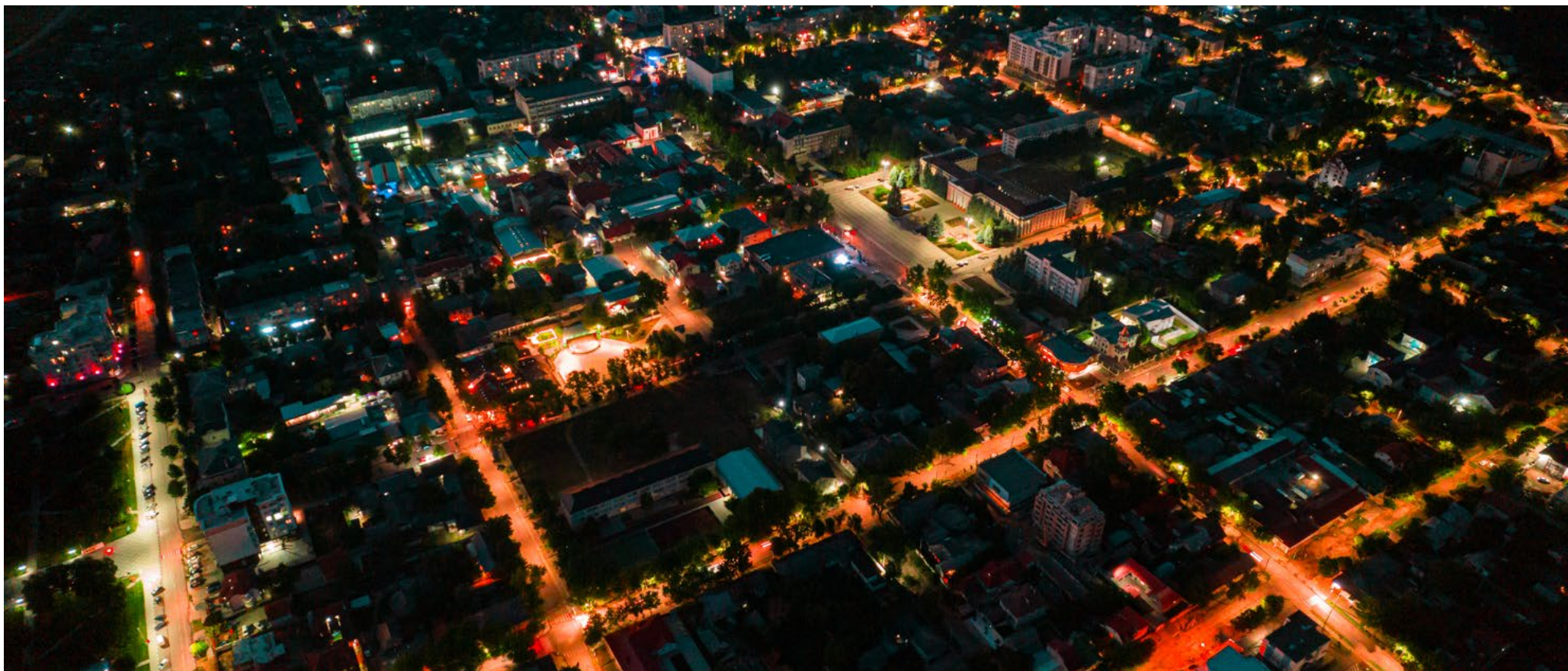
The rehabilitation of "Grigore Vieru" Central Park was a priority determined by the citizens of the municipality and the local public administration.

- Walkways were paved and cast iron posts and LED lighting fixtures were installed;
- Landscaped lawns, decorative shrubs and trees were planted and a directed irrigation system for green space was installed;
- Street furniture was installed;
- A pedestrian fountain with a light show and music was built;
- Two wall fountains were built.

**Budget: €668,000** (including LPA contribution).



## Renovation of the public lighting system in Cahul



Street lighting involved the installation of 926 lighting installations, classified into different classes of the lighting system: with dimming and remote control (838 lighting installations) and without dimming and remote control (88 lighting installations).

- Reducing CO2 emissions and operational costs;
- Comfort and safety for the inhabitants and visitors of Cahul municipality.

**Budget: €633,000** (including LPA contribution).

- The next step is to improve the access area to "Nufărul Alb" Sanatorium, by rehabilitating the roadway, providing car parks, sidewalks and bicycle paths, landscaping green areas and installing street furniture and street decoration. The alleys, parking areas and recreational areas in the area adjacent to the "Nicolae Botgros" Palace of Culture will be reconstructed.

## Modernisation and revitalisation of the urban centre of Ungheni municipality

The revitalisation of the urban centre increases the attractiveness of Ungheni as a town - a "pillar of growth."



The Independence Square in Ungheni municipality has become pedestrian; street furniture was installed and a dry-type music pavilion with light and music show was built.



Independence Square in Ungheni during the night.







- 1.2 km of sidewalks were reconstructed and extended starting from Haşdeu Street up to Ştefan cel Mare Street, with landscaped spaces for pedestrians and paths for bicycles, scooters, and rollerblades;
- Stairs and ramps to access the upper level were reconstructed;
- 153 street lighting posts were repaired on Naţională Street and the pedestrian zone was illuminated;
- Decorative trees were planted and concrete benches were installed.

The new aqueduct and sewage network on Naţională Street, in the perimeter of Vasile Lupu Street and Solidarity Street, at a length of over 1,600 meters provides drinking water to over 24,000 people.

**Total budget: €2.9 million** (including LPA contribution).

Naţională Street - paved, illuminated and with resistant road markings.



The aqueduct was built and is the main part of the drinking water route in Ungheni municipality, interconnecting the seven districts of the town.

## Economic development through upgraded local infrastructure in Cahul and Ungheni



European Union Ambassador, Jānis Mažeiks, and UNDP Resident Representative to the Republic of Moldova, Dima Al-Khatib, visiting the construction site in Slobozia Mare, Cahul district, 21 September 2022.

- 8 infrastructure and public service projects implemented;
- Service delivery and infrastructure issues addressed;

**Budget: €2.6 million** (including LPA contribution).



Construction and commissioning of a regional wastewater treatment plant in Sculeni, Ungheni.

**Investments: €250,000**



Upgraded and improved access to local road infrastructure for 12 economic operators in the agri-food sector in Mănoilești commune, Ungheni.

**Investments: €395 000**



Renovation of road infrastructure - access road to the Free Economic Zone (Boico Street, Ungheni municipality) which will offer alternative travel options and increase the interest of private local investors and those from abroad.

**Investments: €460 000**



Drinking water supply to the village of Buzduganii de Jos, Ungheni (construction of an 8 km long water pipe, a new artesian well, water disinfection station and construction of a water tower).

**Investments: €250 000**



Rehabilitation with asphalt coating of the 650 m long access road to Beleu Lake, Slobozia Mare, Cahul.

**Investments: €283 000**



Upgrading of the regional market "Cu drag de Colibași" in Colibași, Cahul by rehabilitating the hall, which will create adequate sanitary-hygienic conditions for trade.

**Investments: €315 000**



Upgrading of the Local Business Development Center in Crihana Veche, Cahul will create a favourable environment for the development of small businesses.

**Investments: €400 000**



Purchase of specialised equipment for the maintenance of roads, green spaces and garbage dumps, cleaning of rainwater drainage ditches in Zirnești, Cahul.

**Investments: €250 000**



## Brand of Cahul and Ungheni regions

The Brand of Cahul and Ungheni regions was created in 2021. The initiative is a premiere for the Republic of Moldova and a first step in the strategy to promote the regions.



### Where your heart beats



Sequence from trip of the journalist Sergiu Beznîchi to Cahul. Sergiu has ticked off several experiences: from gastronomy and crafts to new dream locations. All this became the cut-outs of a film about Cahul region.

### Where we connect



Sequence from the trip of vlogger Ludmila Adamciuc to Ungheni. Ludmila discovered several local curiosities. All this became the cut-outs of a sound film.

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