

EUROPEAN UNION CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

ENI/2021/428-914
(the "Agreement")

The **European Union**, represented by the European Commission, itself represented for the purposes of the signature of this contract by the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova, 12, M. Kogalniceanu Street, MD-2001, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova (the “**Contracting Authority**”), first counterparty,

and

Slovenská agentúra pre medzinárodnú rozvojovú spoluprácu
Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation
Pražská 7, 811 04 Bratislava
Slovenská Republika (Slovak Republic)
Registration number: 31819559
VAT number 2022359009

hereinafter the “**Organisation**”

second counterparty, (individually a "Party" and collectively the “Parties”) have agreed as follows:

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Article 1 - Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this Agreement is to provide a financial contribution to finance the implementation of the action “EU Support for Local Media Outlets in the Republic of Moldova” as described in Annex I (the “Action”). This Agreement establishes the rules for the implementation and for the payment of the EU Contribution, and defines the relations between the Organisation and the Contracting Authority.
- 1.2 The Action is fully financed by the EU Contribution.
- 1.3 In the performance of the activities, the Organisation shall:
 - a) apply its own accounting, internal control and audit systems which have been positively assessed in the ex-ante pillar assessment. In the event that the ex-ante pillar assessment has raised some reservations, the Organisation shall comply with the ad hoc measures stated in Article 7.
 - b) apply its own procurement procedures, as assessed in the ex-ante pillar assessment and its own rules for the award of Grants, as assessed in the ex-ante pillar assessment.

The Organisation is free to use any Regulations and Rules which have not been subject to an ex-ante pillar assessment to the extent that these Regulations and Rules are not in conflict with the provisions of this Agreement.
- 1.4 The Action is financed under the European Neighbourhood Instrument.
- 1.5 The Organisation shall provide a management declaration in accordance with Articles 3.10 of Annex II with every progress and final report.

Article 2 - Entry into Force and Implementation Period

Entry into Force

2.1 The Agreement shall enter into force on the date when the last Party signs.

Implementation Period

2.2 The implementation period of the Agreement (the "Implementation Period") shall commence on 01 March 2022.

2.3 The Implementation Period of the Agreement is 24 months.

Article 3 - Financing the Action

3.1 The total cost of the Action¹ is estimated at EUR ("Currency of the Agreement") 998,284.32 as set out in Annex III. The Contracting Authority undertakes to provide a contribution up to a maximum of EUR 998,284.32 (the "EU Contribution").

The final amount will be established in accordance with Articles 18 to 20 of Annex II.

Remuneration

3.2. The remuneration of the Organisation by the Contracting Authority for the implementation of the activities to be implemented under this Agreement shall be 7% of the final amount of eligible direct costs of the Action to be reimbursed by the Contracting Authority.

Interest on pre-financing

3.3 Interest generated on pre-financing shall not be due.

Article 4 - Payment Arrangements and Reporting

4.1 The pre-financing rate is 100%.

4.2 Payments shall be made in accordance with Article 19 of Annex II. The following amounts are applicable, all subject to the provisions of Annex II:

First pre-financing instalment:	237,085.73 EUR
Second pre-financing instalment:	761,198.59 EUR

These amounts are indicative and subject to modification in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of Annex II.

4.3 The Commission intends to progressively introduce an electronic exchange system for the e-management of contracts and agreements (the "System"). The Organisation will be required to register in and use the System to allow for the e-management of Contribution Agreements. The Commission will inform the Organisation in writing at least three months prior to the date of application of the individual components of the System.

As a first step, the information to be provided in accordance with Article 3.7 b) of Annex II has to be processed via the System for all reports. This part is now operational, i.e. the information to be provided in accordance with Article 3.7 b) of Annex II has to be processed via the System for all reports under this Agreement.

As a second step, all documents related to this Agreement (including reports, payment requests and formal amendments as per Article 11.1 of Annex II) will have to be processed via the System.

¹ This amount is introduced only for indicative purposes. It is an estimate and its evolution does not condition the EU Contribution.

Article 5 – Communication language and contacts

- 5.1 All communications to the Contracting Authority in connection with the Agreement, including reports referred to in Article 3 of Annex II, shall be in English.
- 5.2 Any communication relating to the Agreement shall be in writing, shall state the Contracting Authority's contract number and the title of the Action, and shall be dispatched to the addresses below.
- 5.3 Any communication relating to the Agreement, including payment requests and attached reports, and requests for changes to bank account arrangements shall be sent to:

For the Contracting Authority

Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova
For the attention of the Head of Finance, Contracts and Audit Section
12, M. Kogalniceanu Street, MD-2001, Chisinau, Moldova
Fax: (+373-22) 27 26 22
delegation-moldova-finance&contracts@eeas.europa.eu

Copies of the documents referred to above, and correspondence of any other nature, shall be sent to:

Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova
For the attention of the Project Manager
12, M. Kogalniceanu Street, MD-2001, Chisinau, Moldova
Fax: (+373-22) 27 26 22
Victoria.ONOFREICIUC@eeas.europa.eu
Delegation-Moldova-Operations@eeas.europa.eu

For the Organisation

Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation
Pražská 7, 811 04 Bratislava, Slovakia
tomas.bokor@slovakaid.sk

- 5.4 Ordinary mail shall be deemed to have been received on the date on which it is officially registered at the address referred to above.
- 5.5 The contact point within the Organisation, which shall have the appropriate powers to cooperate directly with the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) in order to facilitate the latter's operational activities shall be: Tomáš Bokor, tomas.bokor@slovakaid.sk
- 5.6 All exchanges concerning the Early Detection and Exclusion System shall take place between the Contracting Authority and the authorised person designated by the Organisation, which is:
Tomáš Bokor, tomas.bokor@slovakaid.sk

Article 6 - Annexes

- 6.1 The following documents are annexed to these Special Conditions and form an integral part of the Agreement:
- Annex I: Description of the Action (including the Logical Framework of the Action)
 - Annex II: General Conditions for Contribution Agreements
 - Annex III: Budget for the Action
 - Annex IV: Financial Identification Form

- Annex V: Standard Request for Payment
- Annex VI: Communication and Visibility Plan
- Annex VII: Management Declaration template

6.2 In the event of a conflict between these Special Conditions and any Annex thereto, the provisions of the Special Conditions shall take precedence. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of Annex II and those of the other Annexes, the provisions of Annex II shall take precedence.

Article 7 – Additional specific conditions applying to the Action

7.1 The following shall supplement Annex II:

7.1.1 Where the implementation of the Action requires the setting up or the use of one or more project offices, the Organisation may declare as eligible direct costs the capitalised and operating costs of the structure if all the following conditions are fulfilled:

- a) They comply with the cost eligibility criteria referred to in Article 18.1 of Annex II;
- b) They fall within one of the following categories:
 - i) costs of staff, including administration and management staff, directly assigned to the operations of the project office. The tasks listed in the Description of the Action (Annex I), undertaken by staff assigned to the project office will be directly attributable to the implementation of the Action.
 - ii) travel and subsistence costs for staff and other persons directly assigned to the operations of the project office;
 - iii) depreciation costs, rental costs or lease of equipment and assets composing the project office.
 - iv) costs of maintenance and repair contracts specifically awarded for the operations of the project office;
 - v) costs of consumables and supplies specifically purchased for the operations of the project office;
 - vi) costs of IT and telecommunication services specifically purchased for the operations of the project office;
 - vii) costs of energy and water specifically supplied for the operations of the project office;
 - viii) costs of facility management contracts including security fees and insurance costs specifically awarded for the operations of the project office;
- c) Where costs of the project office are declared as actual costs, the Organisation declares as eligible only the portion of the capitalised and operating costs of project office that corresponds to the duration of the Action and the rate of actual use of the project office for the purposes of the Action.
- d) Costs of the project office not declared as actual costs are only eligible if they have been ex ante-assessed by the European Commission.

Done in Chisinau in three originals in the English language, two for the Contracting Authority and one for the Organisation.

For the Organisation

Name Tomáš Bokor

Position Director of the Slovak Agency
for International Development
Cooperation

Signature

Date

For the Contracting Authority

Name Jānis MAŽEIKS

Position Head of European Union
Delegation to the Republic of
Moldova

Signature

Date