



FUTURE TECHNOLOGIES ACTIVITY (FTA)

Enhancing the competitiveness of transformative Moldovan sectors, advancing the digital and creative economy, and improving integration with Western markets.

CHALLENGES

Set in a global context of new consumer trends and digitization that are reshaping markets and firms, USAID Moldova's Future Technologies Activity (FTA) aims to enhance competitiveness and expand global market integration of transformative economic sectors in Moldova — information and communication technology, engineering, light manufacturing, creative industries, and digital media. FTA will help to build a digitally skilled, future-ready, and adaptive workforce, strengthening the link between education and the private sector.

SOLUTIONS

FTA drives firm-level adoption of productivity-enhancing future technologies and deployment of innovations underpinning Moldova's digital economy, harnessing creativity, know-how, and equipment for sustainable growth. FTA helps firms transition towards circular and sustainable business models, and apply green practices and technologies to build a resilient Moldova.

KEY SECTORS AND GOALS

Information and Communication Technology: FTA sustains the exponential growth of Moldova's ICT sector and its role as catalyst and leader in innovation, digital job creation, digital economy, ecommerce, and digitalization across economic sectors. FTA will nurture a thriving and mature tech ecosystem, anchored by the Moldova IT Park, ATIC, Digital City, and other business associations and tech accelerators. FTA engages industry leaders in game-changing educational partnerships such as Future Classroom to bring disruptive technologies to schools and nurture STEAM skills for a digitally-ready workforce.

Engineering: FTA builds partnerships between FabLabs, R&D centers, Balti Free Economic Zone, associations, universities, and global technology partners to empower a vibrant culture for invention, innovation, and application of cutting-edge engineering technologies such as industrial IT, advanced robotics, 3D printing, production upgrades, Industry 4.0, automation, and digitalization. FTA brings together the technology, engineering, and traditional sectors to drive innovation in areas such as precision agriculture, smart home technology, virtual tourism, digital fashion, and wearables.

Light Industry: FTA works with the Light Industry Employers Association (APIUS), ZIPHouse fashion innovation hub, and other key industry players to strengthen the sector's position as a high value-added manufacturing partner for Western European firms with competitive factories that employ digitization, automation, and social compliance alongside circular economy concepts for global premium brands.

Creative Industries: With industry partners Creative Industries Association and centers of excellence Artcor and Mediacor, FTA will transform Moldova's design, architecture, publishing, arts, crafts, and games industries into internationally acclaimed producers of high-quality designs and creative products. FTA brings together creative skills and emerging technologies in the new CreaTech field, embracing the commercial and cultural possibilities of virtual reality (VR), virtual production, and other developing fields. FTA transforms Moldova's creative economy into a pivotal driver of the country's national image, social cohesion, and economic development.

Digital Media: FTA supports Moldova's budding digital media sector to become competitive regionally, supporting foreign productions and co-productions. FTA develops Mediacor as a convener for innovation, new generation media, and the latest digital media technologies. FTA will support emerging firms and supporting institutions across film, video production, motion capture, augmented reality (AR)/VR, animation, sound design, and social media to become regionally sought after for world-class talent, new technologies, high quality infrastructure and studios, and attractive investment opportunities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- 600 firms assisted to adopt new technologies, improve efficiency and embrace sustainability practices
- \$75 million in new private sector investment and finance
- 100 technology-driven innovations across economic sectors
- 15 high-value international markets accessed by Moldovan SMEs
- 15 business associations, Centers of Excellence in Technology and Innovation and other players forming vibrant industry ecosystems
- 45 policy initiatives supporting digital and creative economy
- 50 new industry-driven courses
- 15,000 individuals pursuing digitally enabled jobs

Program Duration

July 2021 – June 2026

Budget: \$52,000,000

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