



MOLDOVA ENERGY SECURITY ACTIVITY (MESA)

Moldova relies heavily on neighboring countries for energy, which has led to natural gas and power supply challenges and forced Moldovans to pay high prices for imported energy, while domestic clean energy resources remain underutilized. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is supporting Moldova to unlock its energy potential and help people power their lives more efficiently and affordably.

CHALLENGES

The USAID Moldova Energy Security Activity (MESA) aims to strengthen Moldova's energy security by connecting Moldova with European energy systems, attracting investment in local clean energy production, diversifying natural gas supply, and boosting energy efficiency in buildings and across industries. Through MESA, USAID will work with local institutions to advance policy and regulation, sector planning, European Union-oriented energy markets, and an enabling environment to accelerate renewable energy generation and private sector engagement, underpinned by an Energy Security Fund.

SOLUTIONS

The MESA Energy Security Fund deploys new technologies and best practices to spur innovation and commercialization of equipment, software, or in-kind services. The fund will support:

- Targeted hardware and software for primary energy sector institutions to improve operational performance and advance market development and system integration.
- Enrolling industries into the Workforce Gender Equality Accelerated Program: a leadership program that develops skills of and provides tools for mid to senior-level managers to increase gender equality, diversity, and inclusion in the workplace.
- Young Professional Internship Program: an initiative to attract young professionals to explore careers in Moldova's primary energy sector institutions with the intent to improve capacity and skills in Moldova's energy sector.
- Energy efficiency demonstration projects and development of small-scale renewable energy initiatives.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Connect Moldova's power grid and natural gas networks with Europe.
 - Improving physical and market integration with Europe will unlock regional electricity trade and support fair and competitive procurement of cleaner energy.

- MESA will enhance Moldova’s grid flexibility to maintain system stability, facilitate future renewable energy integration, and promote alignment of legal and regulatory frameworks with European Union requirements.
- Harness Moldova’s renewable energy resources, like solar and wind.
 - Supporting Moldova’s efforts to develop and implement long-term energy sector plans and strategies will accelerate progress toward energy security and reliability and help achieve national climate and environment goals.
 - MESA is supporting Moldovan utilities and policymakers in setting ambitious—yet realistic—energy transition targets that maximize domestic resources.
- Attract investment in domestic power generation and energy efficiency.
 - Increasing investment in domestic power generation and energy efficiency helps diversify supply, reduce reliance on malign actors, and power sustainable economic development.
 - MESA is working to catalyze the private sector, identify barriers to financing, improve the legal and regulatory environment to facilitate investment, and introduce financial instruments to fund energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

MAIN RESULTS

- Developed energy legislation to enhance the country’s resiliency, security, and alignment with EU directives. Parliament has approved MESA-drafted amendments throughout 2022-2024 on the following:
 - Law on Electricity
 - Law on Natural Gas
 - Natural Gas Tariff Methodology
 - Law on Energy Efficiency in Buildings
- Delivered 53 emergency generators with a total generation capacity of 4 megawatts to 22 municipal and regional hospitals and to companies providing customers with heat, electricity, and water (Termoelectrica, CET-Nord, Moldelectrica, and Apa-Canal).
- Equipped the National Centre for Sustainable Energy of Moldova, Moldelectrica, Energocom, and the Technical University of Moldova with the latest technology to replace aged and/or non-operational equipment for energy auditors.
- Developed the Capacity Building Plan and implemented activities for energy sector institutions.
- Installed numerous solar photovoltaic (PV) systems including at Centers of Excellence and the Presidential Complex.
- Developed the National Energy Strategy as well as the analytic portions of the National Energy and Climate Plan and supported the Ministry of Energy to establish priorities in the energy sector through 2050.
- “Powering Moldova’s Future,” the inaugural Young Professional Internship Program, has supported 50 interns—up to 70% of whom have been placed in both private and public energy sector institutions following participation in the program.
- Moldelectrica, Premier Energy, and ANRE have been enrolled into USAID’s Gender Equality Accelerated Training Program.

- Identified solutions to increase gas transmission capacity and reduce congestion for the Ministry of Energy as well as an analysis of natural gas scenarios to improve resiliency ahead of the winter heating season.

Program Duration

March 2022—September 2026

Budget: \$144,785,130

Chief of Party: Armen Arzumanyan

63, Vlaicu Parcalab Street, MD-2012, office B, 4th floor,

Chisinau, R. of Moldova

E-mail: MESA@tetrattech.com