

Request number: (Allocated by the Czech Development Agency)

Initial Project Proposal

Title:

E-Population (Demographic data generation and management system) design and pilot realization

Partner country: Moldova	Region/town/locality: Chisinau
Expected Start Date of Implementation: 1 November 2016	Expected End Date: 31 December 2016
Estimated total financial allocation (EUR): 28,000	Expected Czech ODA financial contribution (EUR): 28,000

Applicant / Partner Institution:

Name, type, mail and web address of partner institution; name and position of responsible manager, phone, fax, e-mail.

Government of the Republic of Moldova

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Other key partners:

Name, type, mail and web address of partner institution(s); name and position of responsible manager, phone, fax, e-mail.

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CONTEXT AND RATIONALE

Development problem:

Problem analysis. Please explain current situation, identify major problems and their real causes (problem tree), stating the baseline for the intervention. Please include cross-cutting issues in the problem analysis (identify the major problems from the gender perspective, with regards to environment etc.)

The Republic of Moldova organized its population censuses in the years 2004 and 2014. Both censuses have become a very problematic events and their results have and will have low reliability. It is why official population balance is still derived from the last Soviet census being held in 1989 and from the first "independent" and mostly political Census provided in 2004. It is obvious that country's population significantly changed under the influence of natality, mortality and mass migration of population during past quarter of a century time. Even under the precise registration of population events (live births, deaths and migratory movements) it would be extremely difficult to keep population balance in required state. Therefore, is not surprising that current estimates of county's population size varies between

1.9 and 4.2 million inhabitants. Information about sex and age structure, particular in the case of some age groups have to be logically even less accurate. This information gap has principal impact on the efficiency of policy measures focused on population. Without knowing size, and population sex and age structure, it is not possible to analyse and forecast development and estimate needs of Moldovan population and so to build a corresponding evidence base for formulation of vast majority of public policies, and especially those depending on population size and/or requiring sensitive age and gender approach. It also makes very difficult to provide the country with any population targeted development aid.

The baseline for the intervention is represented by described current situation, existence of 14 potential sources of administrative data more or less relevant for realization of project and the *Concept of demographic data generation and management system (e-Population)* elaborated in the framework of *Comprehensive support of population statistics and demography developments in Moldova* (POSTDEMO) project in the year 2015.

Key stakeholders and beneficiaries:

Analysis of key stakeholders and beneficiaries. Please define stakeholders who have significant influence or importance for the solution of the problem given above. Also, specify groups (e.g. women, men, girls, boys of different age, education, economic status and other categories) who shall directly benefit from the intervention, and those who will benefit indirectly. Please provide gender disaggregated data on both the stakeholders and the beneficiaries, if relevant.

The key stakeholders of the proposed project are the Government of the Republic of Moldova represented by its e-Government Centre, and through it, then also selected administrative database administrators incl. CRIS - Centrul Resurselor Informaționale de Stat "Registru" and National Bureau of Statistics, and Charles University in Prague including their staffs preparing and executing the project.

Direct beneficiary of the project is the entire state administration, the Government of the Republic of Moldova and other executive bodies responsible for public policies and development, the Parliament of the RM, its committees as well as particular members, academic institutions responsible for population, social, economic and other related research, different NGO, potential donors and sponsors as well as investors, producers and providers of goods and service of mass consumption etc. Special beneficiary of the project results could be the National Bureau of Statistics which could use them in the process of 2014 Population Census results quality assessment and especially for preparation of the next, 2021 Population Census which should be organized with an extensive use of administrative data sources.

Indirect beneficiary are inhabitants of the RM addressed by efficient policy measures formulated on the basis of the project results and their use in policy oriented research.

Expected outcomes:

Analysis of objectives. Please describe the vision of an improved situation (including change of behaviour and attitudes), including key measurable and qualitative outcome indicators (disaggregated by sex if relevant), and their current value. Population and social policies in general are evidence based, they correspond to real needs and are much more efficient than nowadays. Future donors or sponsors have better idea about real needs of the country, investors, producers and serviced providers can better formulate their strategies and plans, and their decisions will be more efficient. The country can better, i.e. more frequently and less costly attain their development goals and objectives.

Expected outputs and/or required specific services, supplies or works:

Please describe the concrete outputs when required, including baseline and target indicators, and technical specifications if relevant.

Data set containing population by sex and single-year age groups, analytical report containing assessment of the estimation procedure adopted and the estimates per se as well as recommendations for further improvement and extension of the system and its practical application. Baseline is represented by the fact that this principal information does not currently exist even in required minimal quality in the case of Moldova. As a target indicators are proposed existence, completeness and quality of the data set (correspondence of collected data, and expert opinions on meeting all formal requirements and quality of obtained data), analytical report and recommendations.

Possible strategies:

Analysis of strategies. Please compare different options to address the given situation, and then chose the most relevant and feasible strategy according to clear criteria (incl. national development plans, time and economic limits, civil society and women/gender groups strategies etc.).

There is no other real option how to obtain required information in other way than through the proposed project before the end of the year 2023 when the final results of the 2021 Population Census in MD should be released. Population balance based on vital statistics and the 2014 Census performed by the state statistics are/will be providing insufficiently reliable information. Therefore, it is proposed to formulate necessary policy measures using more robust knowledge base built up with principal contribution of the project results and follow-up research. In other case, the policies will be based merely on a set of ad hoc proposed measures representing policymakers' subjective perceptions of particular problems.

Role of the applicant/partner organisation and roles of other key partners:

Please describe briefly the roles and responsibilities of key project stakeholders during project preparation, implementation and also their guaranties for ensuring sustainability of the benefits of the requested development intervention.

The Government of the RM will provide an administrative arrangement for proposed project in Moldova, Charles University, Prague (CUNI) will do the same on the Czech Republic side. Moreover, CUNI will provide experts in demography, population statistics and estimates based on incomplete data. E-Government Centre will provide local expertise regarding administrative data and programming as well as it will intermediate an access to the databases and contact with other partners — the databases administrators. Involvement of the e-Government Centre will also settle the problem of work with individual (primary) data since its experts are authorised to work with these data.

Complementarity:

Analysis of other relevant development interventions executed by the government (or) in co-operation with other donors, complementarity of the requested intervention with activities carried out so far.

The proposed project is complementary to the CzDA Project POSTDEMO and with recommendations of the International Advisory Panel on Population and Development of Moldova as well as with UNFPA Moldova activities. Its successful solution will be a first substantial step towards the use of administrative data in preparation and realization of next population census.

Date and Signature:

Place, date, name of authorised person within applicant institution and his/her signature, stamp.

Chisinau, 24 October 2016

Gheorghe Brega, Deputy Prime Minister for Social Affairs, Head of the National Commission for Population and Development