

Management Response and Action Plan

Name of Evaluation Report:	External Evaluation of the Joint EU/CoE Project “Support to the Justice Reform in the Republic of Moldova”		
Date of Evaluation Report:	31 December 2025	Date of Action Plan:	6 February 2025

Overall management response to the evaluation: The project welcomes the findings and recommendations of the external evaluation and appreciates the constructive assessment of the project’s relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and added value. The team agrees with the evaluation’s overall conclusion that the project is highly relevant and has delivered meaningful results, particularly in the areas of judicial and prosecutorial self-governance, judicial training and support to the Constitutional Court, while recognising that results under Component 1 were constrained by contextual factors related to the accelerated EU accession process and elections, shifting national priorities and limited institutional absorption capacity of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ).

The evaluation provides timely and practical guidance for the remaining implementation period. The team will refocus certain activities on high-leverage priorities, strengthen results-oriented monitoring and communication, further systematise gender equality integration to the extent relevant to the project scope and activities at stake, and prioritise consolidation and uptake of results, including regarding activities already implemented. The recommendations are considered realistic and aligned with the project’s scope, resources and remaining implementation timeframe.

[FOR DECENTRALISED EVALUATIONS] Dissemination plan for the evaluation: please briefly explain how the report will be shared (internally, other CoE entities, donors, beneficiaries etc.), methods (email, events, website etc.), resources, timeframe and person responsible.

The evaluation report was shared with the donor in the framework of the evaluation exercise. It was also shared with the DIO.

The evaluation report will be disseminated to ensure learning, accountability and informed decision-making to project beneficiaries: MoJ, Superior Council of Magistracy, Superior Council of Prosecutors, National Institute of Justice, and the Constitutional Court.

Methods: Circulation by email; presentation and discussion in the Project’s 6th Steering Committee, scheduled to take place end of May 2026 (PSC).

Timeframe: Within four months following the finalisation of the evaluation report.

Responsible: Project team.

Management Decision ¹	Entity in Charge	Planned Actions ² (determined by Entity)	Justification ³ for Non-Acceptance	Target Date for Action	Person Responsible for Action
Recommendation 1: Refocus Component 1 on a limited set of high-leverage priorities and strengthen uptake of analytical outputs					
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	DG I	Following consultations with the MoJ and the donor, Component 1 will prioritise activities related to the development of the new strategy of the justice sector. This focus reflects a major priority, the forthcoming strategy will be a key document for guiding justice sector reforms in the medium term and a central instrument for aligning national reform priorities with the EU <i>acquis</i>, including the EU rule of law benchmarks. Targeted support in this area is considered critical to ensuring coherence, ownership and sustainability of reforms, and to continue directly supporting the Republic of Moldova's EU integration process. As to strengthening the uptake of already produced analytical documents, following up with the MoJ on those will be ensured.		Mar-Nov 2026	Project team

¹ The management decision is in relation to the Recommendation (Accepted, Partially accepted, Rejected).

² For implementing accepted recommendations.

³ For recommendations that are partially accepted or rejected.

Management Decision ¹	Entity in Charge	Planned Actions ² (determined by Entity)	Justification ³ for Non-Acceptance	Target Date for Action	Person Responsible for Action
Recommendation 2: Strengthen results-oriented monitoring and vertical coherence of the M&E system.					
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	DG I	The logframe will be revised to streamline and refine indicators towards a more qualitative assessment, including those where priorities have shifted, with a stronger focus on outcome-level changes and lasting impact. The revision will clarify and reinforce the causal links between outcomes, activities, outputs and outcomes. In parallel, the use of monitoring and evaluation data will be strengthened to better inform strategic steering and decision-making, as well as to help identifying best practices and lessons learned, throughout the remaining implementation period.		Mar-May 2026 (before the PSC meeting)	Project team
Recommendation 3: Systematise the integration of gender equality across all components and outputs.					
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	DGI	This will be pursued to the extent possible and in line with the scope of the project and its activities. Several possible measures will be undertaken to strengthen the integration of gender equality considerations across all components, for example introduction of simple gender-related prompts in experts' Terms of Reference, the		Till the completion of the project in Nov 2026	Project team

Management Decision ¹	Entity in Charge	Planned Actions ² (determined by Entity)	Justification ³ for Non-Acceptance	Target Date for Action	Person Responsible for Action
		requirement to reflect gender considerations in key analytical and technical outputs, if relevant to the assignment, and more consistent monitoring of gender integration throughout implementation and reporting.			
Recommendation 4: Consider a short no-cost extension to consolidate results.					
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	DG I	A no-cost extension will be discussed with the donor and DPC, if accepted, the team will ensure all the necessary administrative steps in due time.		Decision by mid-2026	Project team
Recommendation 5: Strengthen strategic communication and visibility of project outputs					
☒ Accepted ☐ Partially accepted ☐ Rejected	DG I	Reports and analytical products will be systematically shared with civil society organisations and relevant partners active in the area of justice sector reform. All final/approved reports and analytical documents will be published on the project website/CoE Office, as well as on beneficiaries' websites as appropriate, to enhance transparency, visibility, accessibility and uptake.		Till the end of the project.	Project team