

## **Concept Note**

### **The Moldova Agrifood Partnership Platform**

#### **Agrifood Partnership Investment Forum**

**5 March 2026**

#### **Background:**

The Moldova Agrifood Partnership Platform (APP), launched in October 2023 by the Republic of Moldova and seven EU member states with FAO support, aims to build a sustainable, inclusive agrifood system and advance Moldova's integration into the EU. The platform operates under two main pillars, namely an enhanced framework of continuous political and technical dialogue with EU member states' ministries of agriculture and EU relevant institutions and an economic cooperation mechanism to attract EU investments in the agrifood sector and contribute to increasing the exports of Moldovan agrifood products.

Since its launch, the APP has convened two high-level meetings and one investment forum, held in January 2024 within the framework of the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin. The first APP investment forum brought together German companies interested in investing in Moldova's fruit, wine, and sugar sectors. These companies were invited to engage directly with Moldovan producers to explore potential investment opportunities.

In parallel, the Republic of Moldova has advanced its EU accession process by launching the screening of the agriculture and food safety chapters and securing 1.9 billion Euros in EU financial support (Euros 1.9 billion) through Moldova Growth Plan. This plan provides a comprehensive reform agenda and investment roadmap with agriculture as a core focus, including administrative modernizing agricultural administration infrastructure upgrades (i.e. irrigation, logistics); improving access to knowledge, markets and finance; strengthening food safety systems; and expanding rural development through the EU LEADER approach.

While these reforms improve the investment environment, their success depends on translating priorities into well-designed, bankable projects. This will require sustained dialogue, close coordination, sound technical design alignment with market opportunities and financing, while ensuring economically viable alongside social and environmental benefits.

#### **Objectives and target audience of the APP Moldova Investment Forum**

In this context, and to consolidate and build on recent progress, the APP is organizing an Agrifood Partnership Investment Forum in Chisinau to raise awareness on investment opportunities in agrifood sector, discuss renewed technical and financial support from the EU countries, attract

new private and public investments which would contribute to the sustainable, competitive, inclusive, and climate-resilient transformation of the agrifood system in the Republic of Moldova.

It will serve as a structured platform for ministries' officials, public and private dialogue, fostering consensus around investment priorities and required actions, and the policy, technical, partnership and financing measures needed to move from reform commitments to implementable investments.

The major objectives of the forum are as follows:

- (i) Identify and promote investment opportunities in the agrifood sector as well as in specific value chains;
- (ii) Continue the APP dialogue between high level officials on ongoing and potential support for the agrifood sector of the Republic of Moldova in the context of new investment perspectives;
- (iii) Strengthen dialogue with private companies and public institutions from EU member states, in line with the country's EU integration agenda;
- (iv) Mobilize financial resources and investments for the agrifood sector, including targeted projects and value chains;
- (v) Establish new partnerships to support both investment attraction and export promotion;
- (vi) Design technical and financing measures to translate reform commitments into well-structured, bankable investments.

### **Structure of the Event**

The event will consist of plenary sessions, targeted workshops and marketplace featuring local agrifood products will be set up within the forum premises. Participants will be encouraged to visit the stands throughout the day and engage with producers to explore investment and export opportunities.

### **Logistics:**

- **Date:** March 5, 2026
- **Venue:** Radisson Blu hotel, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova
- **Working languages:** Romanian – English (simultaneous interpretation)
- **Participants:** Government of the Republic of Moldova, Ministers of Agriculture from EU Member States, EU institutions, international and national financial institutions, private sector, producer organizations, investors, business associations, civil society, and development partners.

### Tentative Agenda

09:00 – 09.30	Registration and coffee
09:30 – 10:00	<b>Opening Session: Setting the Scene</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome remarks</li> </ul> <p><b>HE Alexandru Munteanu, Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova</b></p> <p><b>HE Ludmila Catlabuga, Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry</b></p> <p><b>HE Iwona Piórko, Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova</b></p> <p><b>HE Raimund Jehle, FAO Representative in the Republic of Moldova</b></p>
10:00 – 11:00	<b>Plenary Session 1: Strategic priorities in the agrifood sector contextualized with EU accession processes and investment opportunities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statements by ministers and heads of delegations (3 min each) – the session will be chaired by HE Minister Catlabuga</li> <li>Strategic vision of the Government of the Republic of Moldova in attracting foreign investments</li> </ul> <p>Speaker: <b><i>Eugeniu Osmochescu, Deputy Prime-minister, Minister of Economy, Development and Digitalization; Moldova Invest Agency</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic priorities of the Government in the agrifood sector</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Ludmila Catlabuga, Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry</i></b></p>
11:00 – 11.30	Coffee break



11:30 – 12:30	<b>Plenary Session 2: The national investment programs and projects in the Agrifood sector</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of key investment priorities in agriculture under the Moldova Growth Plan; financial and institutional capacities needs</li> <li>• Public-private infrastructure projects for increasing business opportunities in the agrifood sector</li> </ul>
12:30 – 13.00	<b>Q&amp;A session</b>
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 16:30	<b>Parallel thematic and technical sessions</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Investing in production technologies, storage, post-harvest and marketing infrastructure for fruits, table grapes and vegetable producers;</li> <li>2. Developing a sustainable and competitive livestock sector through continuous public and private investments;</li> <li>3. Wine of Moldova – Investing in Quality, Celebrating Excellence</li> </ol> <p>Note: Each session should be structured around:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policy and regulatory readiness</li> <li>2. Investment gaps and financing instruments</li> <li>3. Bankable projects</li> <li>4. Partnerships and next steps</li> </ol> <p>The sessions will also feature discussions structured around three cross-sectoral accelerators: digitalization, sustainable natural resource management, and organic production.</p>
16:30 – 17:00	<b>Closing Session: Towards a Shared Investment Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of the technical sessions</li> <li>• Next steps for building stronger partnerships and accessing new finances</li> </ul>
18.00 – 20.00	<b>Reception &amp; wine tasting</b> (Cricova Winery)