



Transforming Education Summit 2022

National Commitments

Both strategic and operational aspects of reimagining education have been set out in the policy document "**Education 2030**" and the Program for its implementation, respectively. Elaborated by experts, both documents were validated through a wide deliberative process, involving children, adolescents, parents, local and central public authorities, civil society organizations, business, United Nations, European Union and the World Bank organization and representatives.

These cornerstone documents are at the final stage of official approval by the Government of the Republic of Moldova (GRM).

Based on these policy documents, the Republic of Moldova commits to respect the following:

I. For COVID-19 learning recovery

We are committed to recover learning losses caused by COVID-19 as well as to build on the lessons learned during the pandemic.

The key lesson learned - and the solution to recovery and leap forward - is the articulation of face-to-face with online teaching. We will further build upon the intensive teacher training initiated by the GRM during the pandemic to:

- **increase the students' engagement** in the learning process, across all social and economic status;
- improve, for all, the **delivery of quality content** through broad availability of online educational content, **performant connectivity** for all and **possession of modern devices**;
- focus on **raising the level of less performant children**;
- improve infrastructure.

II. For Transforming education

We will strive to make our educational institutions performant, inclusive, equitable, safe, welcoming and healthy.

The Republic of Moldova implemented the Program for the development of inclusive education in 2011-2020. As a result, almost all children from residential institutions were transferred to general educational institutions. These institutions were equipped with resource centers, and teachers followed professional trainings on inclusive education. Local and central psycho-pedagogical assistance services were set up and mechanisms for financing inclusive education were implemented. ***We will seize the opportunities offered by digital technologies to ensure fair and equitable participation in learning.*** To ensure digital transformation of the education sector, the Government envisages to increase the level of endowment of educational institutions, offering computers and Internet packages to disadvantaged families, implement assistive digital technologies, and re-conceptualize the training programs.

We now plan to implement a new Inclusive Education Program, 2022-2030. This Program will focus on the modernization of psycho-pedagogical assistance services, application of inclusive education practices at general education level and technical vocational and higher education levels. We plan to develop integrated service packages for groups of children with hearing, visual, intellectual impairments, autism spectrum disorders and others. We also envisage a multifocal intervention through coordination of the education, health, and social services.

*Training of teachers is the single most important factor in achieving **a dynamic learning environment**. A complete reconceptualization of the initial and in-service teacher training is currently in progress, with the expected result of radically increased teacher quality and new entries into the system. We will increase the prestige of the teaching profession and strengthen the status of teacher in the society.*

To attract young people into the system and increase the motivation of teachers, we plan to improve the quality of initial and continuous training programs, to increase salaries, to expand the insertion programs and professional support throughout the teaching career. We will develop a guidance system for the teaching career by stimulating the academic performance of pupils and students from pedagogical institutions.

Moreover, we will improve the quality of infrastructure as well as increase the quality of the food delivered in schools, with the goal to make school a more **welcoming environment**, both physically and intellectually.

The e-Transformation Strategy, which includes a component on digital literacy of the population, will be finalized and approved.

III. For Financing education as a common good

We are committed to finance the education sector to ensure its sustainable development and make education a societal dynamic and cohesive factor in the society.

Although in absolute size, the public expenditures on education have steadily increased, we will continue this trend, with the goal to also expand Life Long Learning opportunities. In particular, we will expand the programs for validation of previously acquired competencies and digital literacy of adults.

Considering the current situation, macroeconomic forecasts, and demographic trends in Moldova, we intend to ensure an increase in specific expenditures by 4% in 2022-2024 and by 10% in 2025-2030, additionally to the increase of the Consumer Price Index.

IV. Next steps

Following the Summit, the GRM will start implementing the following policy documents: Education Strategy 2030, its Implementation Programme, and Inclusive Education Programme 2030, so as to bring to the classroom all programmatic documents.

We know that the events in the world and adjacent countries are evolving very rapidly. In this context, we will update the policy documents mentioned above considering pandemic developments, the influx of refugees, the energy crisis and the hyperinflation caused by the war in Ukraine.

Chisinau, 15 August 2022