

Project Name	IForest – Integrated Digital Tool for Sustainable Forest Management
Start – End	January 2024 – June 2026
Project Value	769.400 EUR
Slovenian Funding	289.400 EUR
Recipient Country/ Donation Recipient	Public Institution “Environmental Projects National Implementation Office“, Project Management Unit/Moldova
Project Contractor	not selected yet.
CRS CODE	CRS CODE 31210
Project Description	<p>Moldova has a relatively low proportion of forested land compared to other European countries, with only 11.6% forest cover. Deforestation is driven by extensive agricultural activities and urbanisation, while poor forest management and climate change are further exacerbating forest conditions. To address these issues, Moldova has adopted the National Forest Expansion and Restoration Programme (NFERP) for the period 2023-2032. The main objective of this programme is to increase the country's forest cover by 4.5% over the next ten years. The programme aims to increase the country's resilience to climate change through the development of national forest resources, sustainable management practices, improved forest governance and public awareness of the importance of forest conservation for future generations. The project addresses several key challenges at the heart of the programme.</p> <p>The project will develop a digital tool called iForest. This database and implementation tool for more sustainable forest management will integrate processes such as identification, recording, planning, technological mapping and monitoring of reforested areas. The purpose of populating this database is to provide a detailed overview of each process, activity, service and stakeholder directly involved in the NFERP programme. This includes factors such as erosion levels, soil chemistry, forest species, climate and hydrological conditions, contractual relationships between landowners, ecosystem resilience, work and nursery planning based on a multi-year reforestation programme, the degree of mechanisation for specific areas, and various types of mapping. In addition to data collection, the project will include training and support in the use of the digital tool for forest engineers, managers, local government officials, and legal and private entities.</p>
Project Phase	The project is being implemented.