



MINISTERUL AGRICULTURII, DEZVOLTĂRII REGIONALE ȘI MEDIULUI AL RM
UNITATEA CONSOLIDATĂ PENTRU IMPLEMENTAREA ȘI MONITORIZAREA
PROGRAMULUI DE RESTRUCTURARE A SECTORULUI VITIVINICOL



ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2020

FINANCE CONTRACT NO. 83.887 SERAPIS N° 2014-0041



Chisinau, 2021

Date of submission to EIB: January 2021

“The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of Consolidated Unit for Implementing and Monitoring the Wine Sector Restructuring Project and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.”

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Abbreviations

CLD/OEAPM	Credit Line Directorate- Office for External Assistance Programs Management
EIB	The European Investment Bank
FC	Finance Contract signed between EIB and MoF on 31 July 2014
IP	Investment project
LLC	Limited Liability Company
LTEDFS	Laboratories, training, education and development of food security
MoARDE	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MDL	Moldovan Lei
MoF	Ministry of Finance
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
OM	Operations Manual of the Project
PB	Project Beneficiary
PFI	Participating Financial Institution
PIU	Consolidated Unit for Implementing and Monitoring of Wine sector restructuring Project and Fruit Garden Project
TUM	Technical University of Moldova
TA	Technical Assistance of the Fruit Garden Project

INTRODUCTION

The present Report was elaborated by the *Consolidated Unit for Implementing and Monitoring the Wine Sector Restructuring Project* (PIU), and reflects the activities implemented under **Fruit Garden Project** during 2016 - 2020.

The *Fruit Garden Project* (Project) is financed from a EUR 120 million loan offered by European Investment Bank (EIB) under Finance Contract (FC) signed with Government of the Republic of Moldova on the 31st of July, 2014.

The FC was declared effective by EIB on May 27, 2016 and was officially launched in July 2016.

Thus, from May 27, 2016 the Project is operational and will be as such 4 years from the effective date for the successful implementation of all Project components, as it is provided by the FC as well as by Amendments to it.

This Report has been prepared by the PIU in accordance with Article 12.04, Schedule A (Reporting), point 3 of the Finance Contract Serapis № 2014-0041, and reflects the evolution of Project's performance during the reporting year of 2020, as well as the short presentation of cumulative data.

The information contained herein in this report was sent to the EIB under the responsibility of:

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I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project aim is to address the structural weaknesses in the Moldovan horticulture sector, comprising almost exclusively small and medium enterprises, by achieving several **project objectives**, as follows:

1. developing holistically the entire horticulture value chain,
2. improving the quality of the fresh and processed horticulture products, from the nurseries to the final packaging and dispatch of products,
3. reducing the losses along the horticulture value chain by providing a safe and reliable environment for the produce, and
4. Diversifying the country's export markets by ensuring that large quantities of consistent quality produce are made available to the customers.

The Project aims to provide medium to long term finance to private and public sector operators along Moldova's horticultural value chain.

In order to achieve the Project's goals and objectives Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will act through **4 Project investment directions**:

1. Post-harvest infrastructure development, incl. warehousing, trading platforms, cooling, cold transportation, refrigeration units, grading and sorting units, and agrotourism related to the horticultural activity.
2. Planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries
3. Winemaking and wine grape vineyards.
4. Investments in for processing plants and related industries.
5. Investments in infrastructure: laboratories, education, training and development of food security.

The EIB loan funds under the Project are channelled through three "**windows - financial instruments**":

- **Term loans** – mainly for orchards, table grapes vineyards and associated nurseries development, regional and central trading platforms: to be intermediated through the local financial sector;
- **Leasing of plant and equipment** – mainly for the post-harvesting activities, including on-farm initial cooling, refrigerator trucks, cooling and storage units, grading and sorting equipment, processing equipment – through local independent/non captive leasing sector operators;
- **Investments in infrastructure**, e.g. testing laboratories, phytosanitary and quality controls, and the provision of human capital, comprising education and training facilities.

Summary information

Project Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technologization and mechanization of primary production processes of horticultural production by promoting intensive and super-intensive fruit production methods;; • Financing the acquisition of protections systems, i.e. irrigation and anti-hail systems to orchards and other horticulture plantations; • Modernization and technologization of post-harvesting processes and processing of horticultural production; • Development of the post-harvest infrastructure for fresh horticultural production; • Development of nurseries for the production of moldovan horticultural saplings and seedlings; • Development and modernization of the wine sector of Moldova and production of bottled wine; • Development of agro tourism related to horticultural business; • Cultivation of the horticultural production in greenhouses and in the open field; • Improvement of the official sanitary and phytosanitary control in conformity with EU standards for fresh fruit/nuts/berries and vegetables; • Diversification of the sale markets by ensuring the authenticity of the produced horticultural production; • Developing the horticultural innovation research system as an indispensable part of the horticultural sector in the Republic of Moldova.
Final availability date	27.05.2021
Allocation period	6 years, 27.05.2016-31.07.2022
Project amount	120,0 mln Euro

Financial conditions within Fruit Garden of Moldova

	<i>Financial Instruments</i>	<i>Max term of loa, year (max)</i>	<i>Grace period, year (max)</i>	<i>Min allocation amount per one PB, euro</i>	<i>Max allocation amount per one PB, euro</i>
1	Credit line,E	10	4	5,000.00 euro	5 mln. euro
3	Leasing operations,	5-7	3 months		
4	Investments in infrastructure	Non-reimbursable			

II. SUMMARY PROJECT FINANCIAL PROGRESS RESULTS

During the implementation period 2016-2020 PIU together with PBs and PFI succeeded to obtain EIB approval and Allocations for **189 sub-projects** submitted by **159 beneficiaries** in the total amount of **45,970,376.81 Euro** or 38, 31 % from the total amount of EIB loan amount of 120 million Euros.

Table 1. Summary information regarding the value of EIB loan allocated versus disbursed as of 31.12.2020, Euro

	Amount, euro	Weight, %
Total value of EIB loan	120.000.000,00	100,00%
Total value of allocated amount by EIB	45,970,376.81	38.31%
Remaning balance of EIB loan as of 31.12.2020	74,029,623.19	61.69%
Total disbursed amount by EIB	38,375,502.49	31.9 %
Undisbursed amount as of 31.12.2020	81,624,497.51	68.1 %

[See details in Annex 1. EIB allocated amount breakdoawn by years and horticultural sub-sector, cumulative data for period 2016- December 31, 2020\) and in Annex 2. EIB disbursed amount breakdoawn by years and horticultural sub-sector, cumulative data for period 2016- December 31, 2020](#)

From 2016 until now, within the Fruit garden Project, have been disbursed loans by the EIB for developing and restructuring of the entire value chain of the horticultural sector in the amount of 38,375,502.49 euro from allocated amount of 45,970,376.81 euro or 83,48%. The disbursed amount by EIB during reporting period is presented in the table below. The difference of 7,594,874.32 Euro (between allocated and disbursed amount) refers to few sub-projects which were approved already by EIB in 2020, the disbursement from EIB loan being planned during the 2021.

In order to analyze the major impact of the EIB funds in investments done during the reported period it is worth to mention that due to the provisions of the FC, all activities financed from the EIB loan are to be co-financed by Project Beneficiaries (min 50% of the sub-project cost) and thus taking into consideration this basic EIB eligibility criteria from the Program' start and till the end of 2020 within the Project were approved the investment sub-projects in total amount of 95,327,359.28 Euro in development of the Moldovan horticulture value chain. This amount includes 45,970,376.81 euro or 48,22% invested from EIB loan and 49,356,982.47 euro or 51,78% of investments done from Final Beneficiaries own contributions.

Table 2. Information regarding the total amount of investments made by beneficiaries within FGP, including EIB loan and BP own contribution, as of 31.12.2020, Euro

Sub-sector	Total amount of sub-project	Value of EIB allocations	Value of FB co financing	Weight, %
Investment in post-harvest infrastructure development	40,983,240.16	19,551,345.94	21,431,894.22	42.99%
Planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses	14,278,591.57	6,910,604.57	7,367,987.00	14.98%
Winemaking and wine grape vineyards	6,086,952.95	3,011,102.95	3,075,850.00	6.39%
Processing plants and related industries development, from which:	12,067,799.60	5,863,027.35	6,204,772.25	12.66%
<i>Processing plants</i>	<i>5,763,777.60</i>	<i>2,830,387.60</i>	<i>2,933,390.00</i>	<i>50%</i>
<i>related industries</i>	<i>6,304,022.00</i>	<i>3,032,639.75</i>	<i>3,271,382.25</i>	<i>50%</i>
Investment in Infrastructure (LTEDFS)	21,910,775.00	10,634,296.00	11,276,479.00	22.98%
Total	95,327,359.28	45,970,376.81	49,356,982.47	100.00%

At the end of 2020 the Fruit Garden Project were approved 189 sub-projects for 159 Project beneficiaries in amount of 95,327,359.28 Euro, from which of 45,970,376.81 Euro was allocated by EIB as presented in the table below:

As the result of activities performed from the Program' start in summer 2016 and till the end of 2020 under 189 sub-projects EIB were allocated the amount of 45,970,376.81 Euro from the total amount of EIB loan amount of 120 million Euros, which is reflected in the table No 5, from which the amount of 23,791,362 Euro was allocated by EIB in 2020, which is representing of 51.75% from the total amount allocated by EIB.

Table 3. Cumulative information regarding the value of EIB allocations, breakdown by i Project sub-sectors, Euro

Sub-sector distribution	Allocation amount					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Cumulative to date
Investment in post-harvest infrastructure development	969,358	2,880,689	3,035,476	3,023,229	9,642,594	19,551,345.94
Planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses	11,650	455,062	1,114,770	1,225,192	4,103,931	6,910,604.57
Winemaking and wine grape vineyards	-		310,400	737,646	1,963,057	3,011,102.95
Processing plants development and Related industries development	28,000	2,140,000	1,551,889	710,500	1,432,638	5,863,027.35

Investment in Infrastructure (Laboratories, education, training and development of food security)	-	-	3,985,154		6,649,142	10,634,296.00
Total	1,009,008	5,475,751	9,997,689	5,696,567	23,791,362	45,970,376.81

During 2016-2020 from the amount of 45,970,376.81 Euro allocated by the EIB based on Allocation letters issued, the PIU received from EIB loan the amount of 38,375,502.49 Euro within 16 installments and 3 UP-Front Disbursements:

- In 2016 the amount of 1,009,008.00 Euro (1 loan installment).
- In 2017 the amount of 5,323,160.59 Euro (2 loan installments).
- In 2018 the amount of 9,833,012.07 Euro (4 loan installments).
- In 2019 the amount of 5,519,951.00 Euro (4 loan installments).
- In 2020 the amount of 16,690,371.00 Euro (5 loan installments).

As the result of activities performed from the Program' start in summer 2016 and till the end of 2020 under 189 sub-projects EIB were disbursed the amount of 38,375,502.49 Euro from the total amount of EIB loan amount of 120 million Euros, which is reflected in the table No 6, from which the amount of 16,690,371 Euro was disbursed by EIB in 2020, which is representing 42,10% from the total disbursed amount and 83.48% from the total amount allocated by EIB.

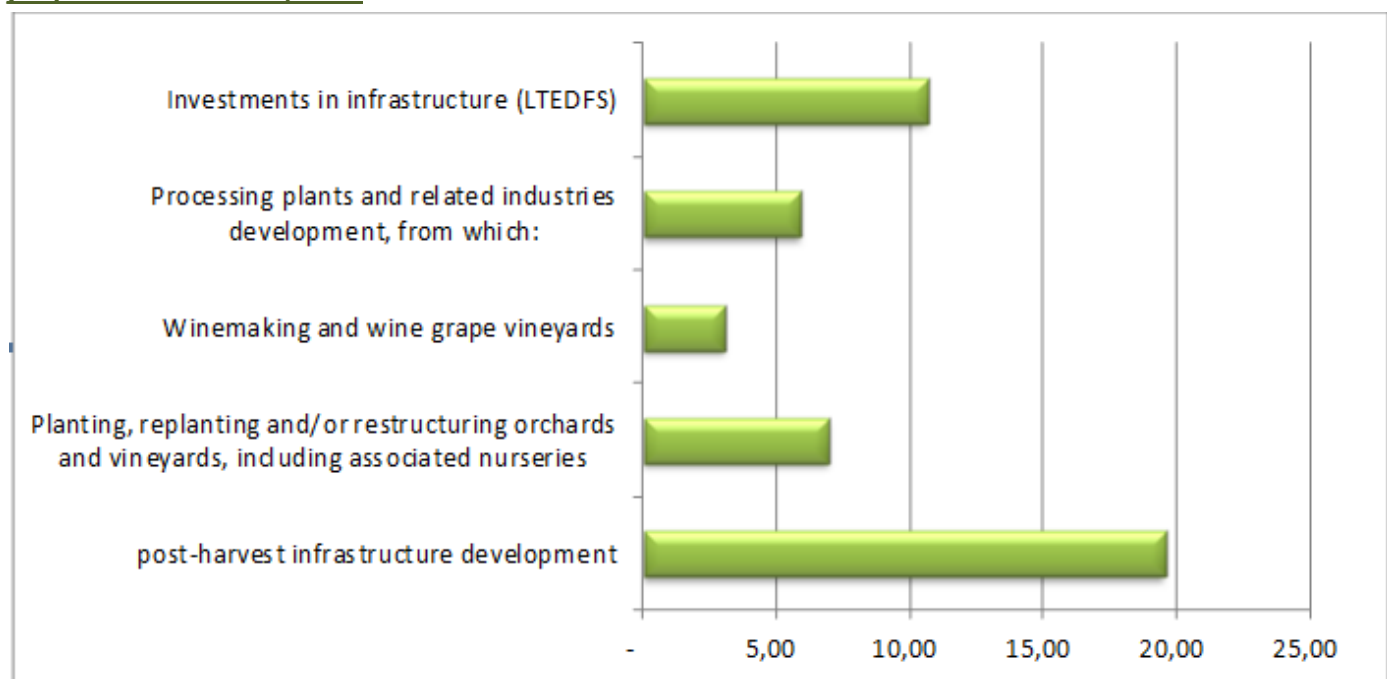
Table 4. Cummulative information regarding the EIB disbursements breakdown by implementation period and sub-sector, Euro

Sub-sector distribution	Disbursed amount					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Cumulative to date
Investment in post-harvest infrastructure development	969,358	2,728,099	2,870,799	3,161,355	9,532,623	19,262,233.70
Planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards	11,650	455,062	1,114,770	1,214,531	3,454,093	6,250,106.04
Winemaking and wine grape vineyards	-	-	310,400	738,565	1,963,057	3,012,022.00
Processing plants development and Related industries development	28,000	2,140,000	1,551,889	405,500	1,740,598	5,865,986.75
Investment in Infrastructure (Laboratories, education, training and development of food security)	-	-	3,985,154	-	-	3,985,154.00
Total	1,009,008	5,323,161	9,833,012	5,519,951	16,690,371	38,375,502.49

During 2020, the 4th year of implementation, the PIU continued through its activities to disseminate the information about the Project opportunities and to facilitate the access of new PBs to EIB funds allocated under the Fruit Garden Project and thus finally to contribute to the recovery of the horticultural sector, mainly by upgrading the equipment and facilities of the horticultural enterprises and of support industries enterprises, restructuring and revitalizing the orchards and table grape vineyards, as well as by mechanization of the agricultural processes.

During the implementing period of 2016-2020 reported period the total amount of investment projects related to all activities implemented under the Program represents 95,327,359.28 Euro thousands EUR, including 45,970,376.81 EUR amount approved for financing from the EIB loan (EIB Allocations), 49,356,982.47 EUR represents beneficiaries co-financing amount, as is presented in the table below:

Diagram 1. Cumulative information regarding the value of EIB allocations by sub-sector distribution for period 2016-2020, Euro

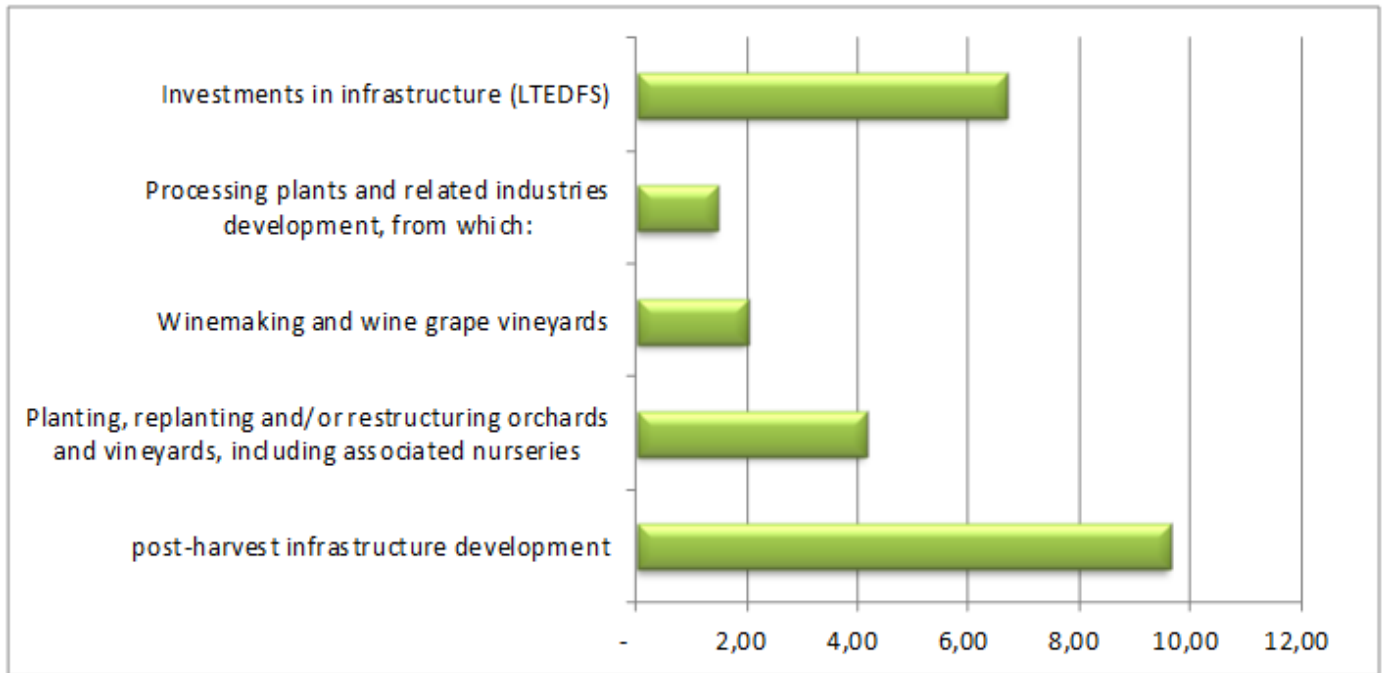


During 2016-2020 the largest share of cumulative amount of EIB allocation goes for post-harvest infrastructure development, including developing of agro tourism related to the horticultural activity in the amount of 19,551,345.94 Euro or 43%, followed by “Laboratories, training education and development of food safety” for which cumulative allocated amount is 10,634,296.00 Euro (23%), after that, 6,910,604.57 euro constituted investments in “Planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries” (15%), and 5,863,027.35 Euro (13%) was approved by EIB for making investments in “Processing plants development and Related industries development”.

As the result of activities performed by PIU during 2020 under 96 investment projects EIB were allocated the amount of 23,791,362.00 Euro or 51,75 % from the cumulative allocated by EIB of

45,970,376.81 Euros, from which the amount of 16,690,371.00 Euro was disbursed by EIB, representing 70,15 % from the allocated amount in 2020 by EIB.

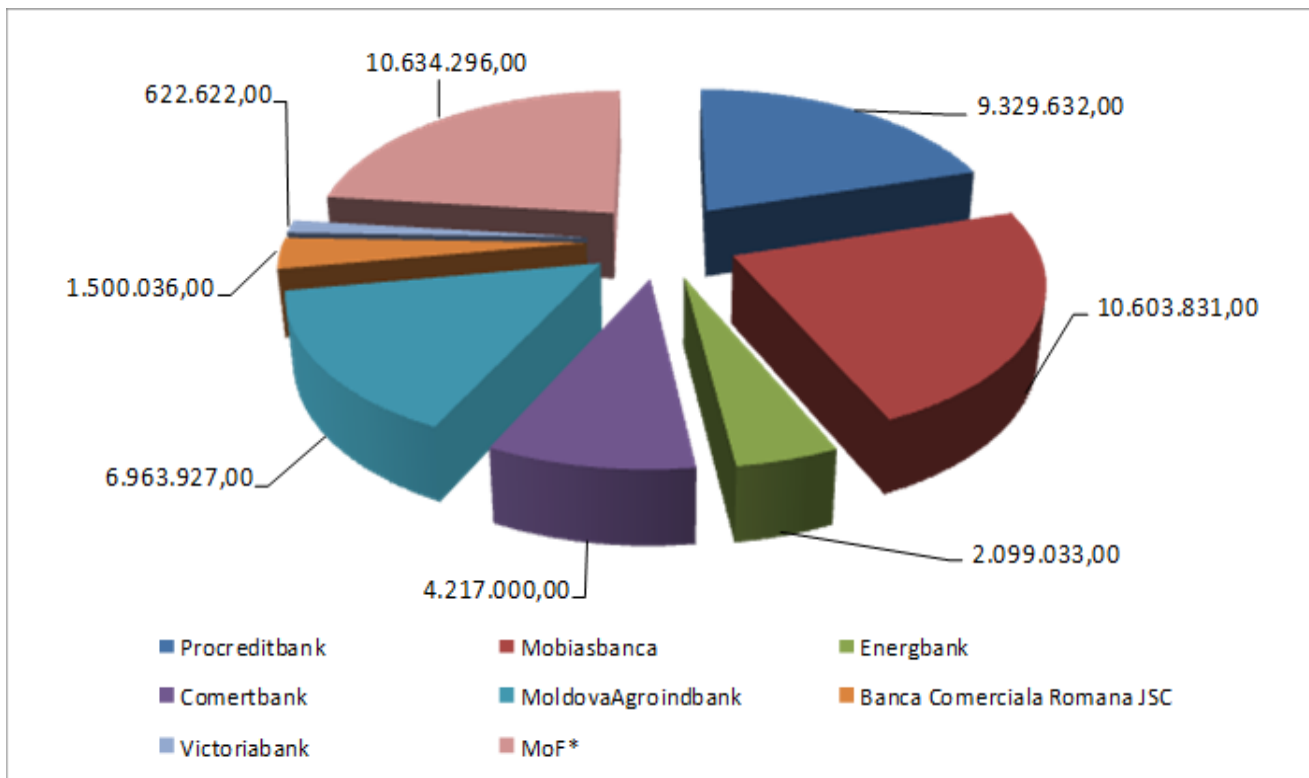
Diagram 2. Information regarding the value of EIB allocations by sub-sector distribution in 2020, Euro



The amount disbursed from EIB loan was totally allocated to the PFIs. During reported period, PIU has been collaborated with following Intermediary banks: Procreditbank, Mobiasbanca, Energbank, Comertbank, Banca Comerciala Romana, Victoriabank and Agroindbank.

The share of its PFI in the total amount allocated during the whole implementation period of FGM and particularly during 2020 is presented in the following diagram:

Diagram 3. Cummulative value of EIB allocated amount breakdown by PFI's, as of 31.12.2020, Euro



Thus, as it is presented in the diagram above through Mobiasbanca during 4 years of FGM implementation period was channelled the biggest amount of EIB funds (69 PB), the next one being the Procreditbank (43 beneficiaries or 23%) and, MoldovaAgroindbank with 35 beneficiaries.

The smaller banks as Comertbank with 16 beneficiaries and Energbank with 13 beneficiaries together have about 14 % of the total amount allocated under PFIs.

At the same time the biggest amount allocated by the EIB 10,634,296 euro is committed for implementing of Component 5: Investment in infrastructure (LTEDFS).

As it was mentioned already in this chapter, PIU activities in 2020 were focused on all financial instruments available under the Project:

- *Term loans under Credit Line instrument,*
- *Leasing of plant and equipment under Leasing Operations instrument through PFIs,*
- *Investments in infrastructure, as direct investments in the horticultural value chain by the Borrower).*

The below presented data reflects the output indicators per financial components achieved during the reported Project implementation period of 2020 and cumulative from the beginning of the Project.

Table 5. Cumulative value of EIB resources and beneficiaries' contribution by Program financial instruments during 2016-2020

<i>Financial instrument</i>	<i>Nr of investment projects</i>	<i>No of beneficiaries</i>	<i>Value of EIB allocations, EUR</i>	<i>Value of EIB disbursed amount, EUR</i>

	<i>2020</i>	<i>cumulative to date</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>cumulative to date</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>cumulative to date</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>cumulative to date</i>
Credit Line	89	177	74	147	16,997,561	34,040,922	16,012,180	33,095,190
Leasing	1	4	1	4	144,659	1,295,159	144,659	1,295,159
LTEDFS	6	8	6	8	6,649,142	10,634,296	0	3,985,154
Total	96	189	81	159	23,791,362	45,970,377	16,156,839	38,375,502

[See details in Annex 7 Summary EIB Allocations versus disbursements breakdown by financial instruments for period 2016-2020](#)

Analysing the data presented in the table above, we can observe that the biggest amount of funds of the Project was allocated through the Credit line instrument in total amount of 34,040,922 euro in the period 2016-2020, from which in 2020 in amount of 23,791,362 euro. The resources were mainly disbursed by EIB through Credit Line Component in amount of 33,095,190 euro, from which in 2020 in amount of 16,156,839 euro.

III. FGM PROJECT PERFORMANCE BY FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

1. Credit Line & Leasing

As it was mentioned already in this chapter, PIU activities in 2020 were focused on all financial instruments available under the Project, including **Term loans** under Credit Line instrument through PFIs (local Intermediary Banks acceptable to the EIB and MoF). During the reporting period of 2020, nevertheless the pandemic situation in the country PIU was permanently in contact with Beneficiaries in order to disseminate the information about the opportunities of the Project and steps to be done in accessing the EIB sources, as follows:

Due to the risks related to the Corona pandemics that started in the Q1 2020, the communication with Beneficiaries were switched mostly to distance consulting (e-mail, phone, etc.). Thus PIU performed the following activities in order to attract new beneficiaries:

- Informed by electronic mail potential beneficiaries from horticultural sector, professional associations and companies of related industries, informing all of them about the opportunity to access EIB funds within the **Fruit Garden project** and general eligibility criteria for investments planned by potential beneficiaries.
- Organized meetings with branches of PFIs from the Moldova regions in order to discuss the actual interest of the farmers to term loans and leasing instruments offered under the Fruit Garden Project and the difficulties they are facing in accessing funds.;
- Organized meetings with The Agency for Intervention and Payments in Agriculture AIPA by disseminating the information regarding the eligibility criteria applied within the Program, FGM financing opportunities.
- Provided support (as requested) to Potential Beneficiaries in the process of contracting funds from the PFIs under the FGM and their investment projects' implementation process (change of suppliers, tax exemptions, etc.)
- Reviewing procurement documentation of Credit Line Final Beneficiaries.

As a result of its activity during 2020 PIU registered:

1. **130 Participating Forms** were registered by the PIU from potential Beneficiaries.
2. 103 sub-projects were analyzed and **PIU Eligibility Notice** were issued.
3. **90 EIB Allocations** were obtained for the submitted sub-projects.
4. **535 Fiscal Exemptions Letters** in the amount of 23.931.742, 89 EUR were issued by the PIU.

The Summary of PIU Eligibility Notices issued in reported period 2020 can be found in Annex 4.

Table 6. PIU Eligibility notices issued during 2020 under Credit Line&Leasing operations

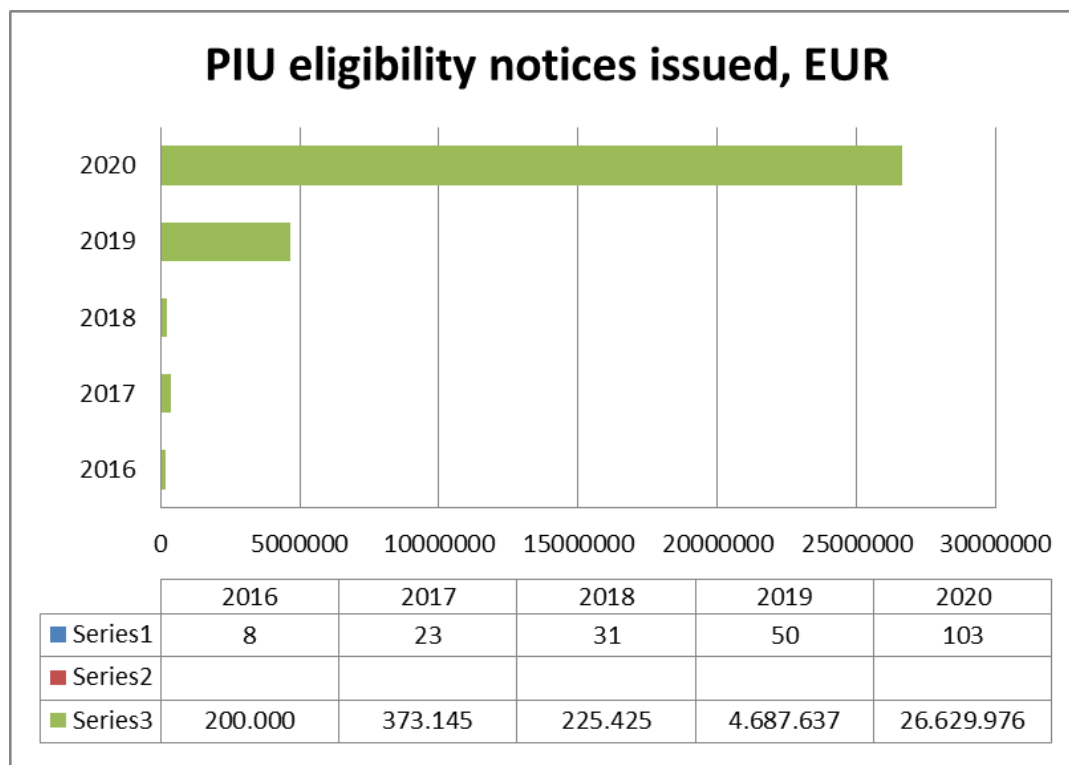
No.	Name of the beneficiary	No of the Notice	Date	Amount of EIB financing	Amount of own contribution	Amount of the sub-project
1	Curjos Octavian	116	10.01.2020	31.579,00	40.801,00	72.380,00
2	Eco Farm-Prod	117	14.01.2020	257.442,00	258.593,00	516.035,00
3	Gabrina Prim	118	14.01.2020	221.895,00	222.093,00	443.988,00

4	Largul Holdelor	119	27.01.2020	70.000,00	70.202,00	140.202,00
5	Scutaru Victor	120	30.01.2020	307.000,00	308.192,00	615.192,00
6	Scutaru Victor	121	30.01.2020	53.526,32	83.017,00	136.543
7	Plaiul Birladean	122	03.02.2020	736.637,00	749.265,00	1.485.902,00
8	Fetagrocom	123	07.02.2020	170.000,00	174.419,00	344.419,00
9	Pluviam Angro	124	10.02.2020	25.155,00	25.829,00	50.984,00
10	Boescu Tatiana Gheorghe	125	13.02.2020	9.474,00	10.869,00	20.343,00
11	Exclusiv Fruct	126	24.02.2020	19.890,00	20.000,00	39.890,00
12	Unitech Engineering Solutions	127	28.02.2020	300.918,00	320.359,00	621.277,00
13	Sandic Gheorghe Mihail	128	28.02.2020	305.263,16	311.310,00	616.573,16
14	Soragrovis	129	28.02.2020	316.739,00	316.994,00	633.733,00
15	Orchardtrucs	130	06.02.2020	254.896,00	255.059,00	509.955,00
16	Flexlabel	131	09.03.2020	143.000,00	143.662,00	286.662,00
17	Ivexus Agro	132	11.03.2020	11.186,00	11.787,00	22.973,00
18	Sermiprod	133	13.03.2020	28.341,00	29.831,00	58.172,00
19	Trimexpo	134	16.03.2020	66.842,00	80.207,00	147.049,00
20	Darjant	135	17.03.2020	45.150,00	45.671,00	90.821,00
21	Prodcar	136	17.03.2020	124.538,00	126.523,00	251.061,00
22	Popovici Viorel	137	20.03.2020	36.484,21	36.804,00	73.288,21
23	GDR Agro SV	138	24.03.2020	23.700,00	26.608,00	50.308,00
24	Agrofields	139	25.03.2020	123.272,00	123.446,00	246.718,00
25	Tridenal	140	25.03.2020	57.381,00	61.452,00	118.833,00
26	Burcovschi Liviu	141	26.03.2020	17.789,47	21.654,00	39.443,47
27	MC Cominvest	145	06.04.2020	126.483	127.483	253.966,00
28	Curjos Mihail	146	06.04.2020	10.616	12.183	22.799
29	Smart Exim	147	08.04.2020	38.013	42.724	80.737,00
30	Grigocris Com	148	09.04.2020	57.658	65.468	123.126
31	Codru ST	149	09.04.2020	257.702	258.774	516.476,00
32	Royal-Progres	150	10.04.2020	397.751	418.091	815.842,00
33	Nisvinex Grup	151	14.04.2020	1.010.953	1.014.664	2.025.617,00
34	Fruit Nurseries	152	14.04.2020	134.109	134.248	268.357,00
35	Bivol Parascovia	153	17.04.2020	18.169,00	18.294	36.463,00
36	Imexagro	154	24/04/2020	816.063,00	898.720	1.714.783,00
37	SADOECOSTRUG	155	27/04/2020	387.494,00	388.777	776.271,00
38	Asconi	156	27/04/2020	1.430.920,00	1.432.941	2.863.861,00
39	Damirvit	157	29.04.2020	250.113,68	257.212	507.325,68
40	Efcomagro	158	11.05.2020	40.861,00	42.333	83.194,00
41	Gojan Ion Alexei	159	12.05.2020	163.565,00	166.898	330.462,00
42	Vamilagro Top	160	15.05.2020	959.895,00	1.201.166	2.161.061,00
43	Nucprod	161	15.05.2020	540.141,00	624.058	1.164.199,00
44	Himici Lilia Alexei	162	18.05.2020	14.237,00	15.188	29.425,00
45	Cretpruttans	164	18.05.2020	16.943,00	22.278	39.221,00

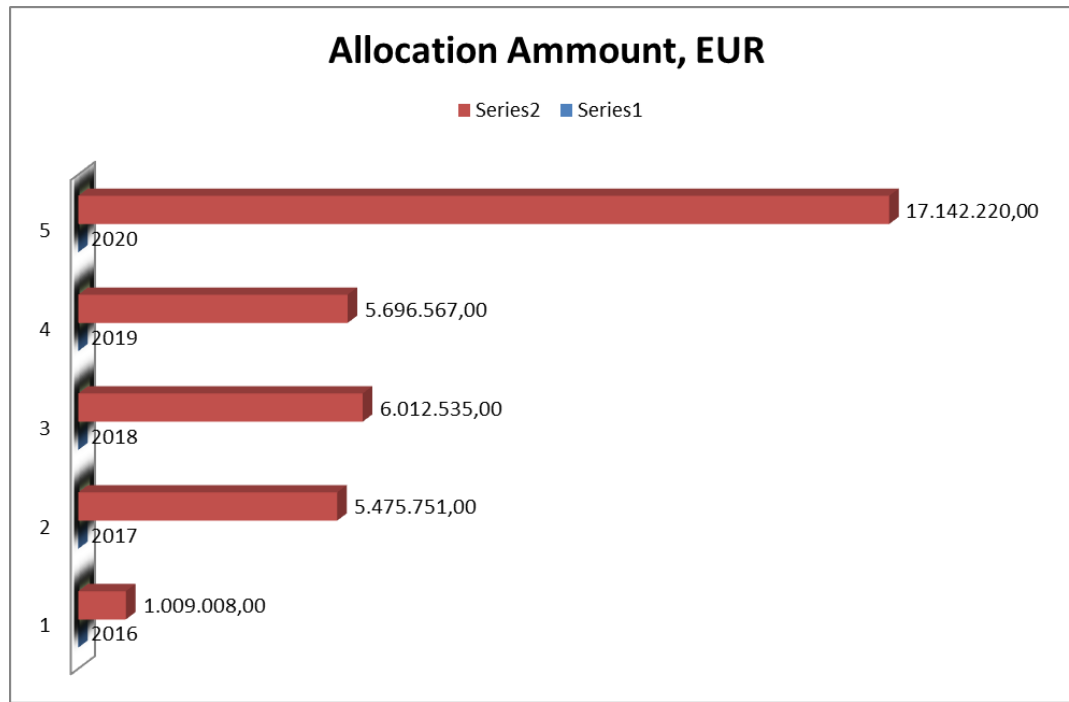
46	Dor Fruct	165	29.05.2020	103.358,00	106.462	209.820,00
47	Ghermes Agroservice	166	02.06.2020	352.627,00	370.392	723.019,00
48	Gigacom AG	167	01.06.2020	202.649,00	211.389,00	414.038,00
49	Dipp Fruct	168	05.06.2020	263.930,00	263.939,00	527.869,00
50	Oxana Sandic	169	10.06.2020	276.857,00	311.059,49	587.916,49
51	Fratii Vaipan	170	16.06.2020	49.500,00	54.242	103.742,00
52	Vaipan Liubomir	171	16.06.2020	87.000,00	90.995	177.995,00
53	Vinfoteca&Co	172	17.06.2020	100.000,00	110.499,00	210.499,00
54	FARM-PROD	173	17.06.2020	110.000,00	147.230,00	257.230,00
55	Almonds Company	174	22.06.2020	409.434,00	320.578	730.012,00
56	Hathor	175	26.06.2020	300.000,00	300.619	600.619,00
57	Speranta Agro	176	29.06.2020	105.263,16	106.461	211.724,16
58	Amelia Agrofruct	177	10.07.2020	39.234,37	43.106,00	82.340,37
59	Serebrian Svetlana	178	14.07.2020	39.474,00	67.174	106.648,00
60	Bucuria Saturn	179	17.07.2020	89.860,00	131.846	221.706,00
61	Maestro Fruits	180	17.07.2020	620.000,00	630.600	1.250.600,00
62	Naturvins	181	22.07.2020	132.137,00	143.206	275.343,00
63	Luxfruct	182	23.07.2020	310.613,00	435.434	746.047,00
64	Zam Zam Activ	183	27.07.2020	81.920,00	89.086	171.006,00
65	SC Exardiv-Com	184	30.07.2020	271.006,00	300.576	571.582,00
66	Casad-Agrofruct	185	03.08.2020	333.570,00	482556	816.126,00
67	Sirghi Iulia Miron s.Baltata	186	04.08.2020	6.288,00	6.707,00	12.995,00
68	Marmil	187	06.08.2020	226.052,00	257.453,00	483.505,00
69	Nordgrim Fruct	188	07.08.2020	485.409,00	517.988	1.003.397,00
70	FARM-PROD	189	10.08.2020	100.000,00	106.182,00	206.182,00
71	Espaco SMC	190	12.08.2020	26.500,00	27.426	53.926,00
72	Smarta AS	191	14.08.2020	49.368,00	50.969	100.337,00
73	Vieri Gheorghii Vladimir	192	14.08.2020	246.100,00	258.762	504.862,00
74	El-Agro-Grup	193	18.08.2020	128.938,00	140.204	269.142,00
75	Good Season	194	18.08.2020	300.000,00	305.504	605.504,00
76	Ungureanu Nicolae	195	26.08.2020	34.210,53	679, 070.00	1.329.070,00
77	Popovici Viorel Vladimir	196	26.08.2020	14.212,00	286.441	567.940,00
78	Joian Alina Vasile	197	08.09.2020	59.833,33	63.461	123.294,33
79	Lemirto	198	08.09.2020	62.996,00	63.115	126.111,00
80	Ygrick Group	199	09.09.2020	100.000,00	323.284	423.284,00
81	Natura Parc	200	17.09.2020	167.800,00	171.000	338.800,00
82	Lumea Agro	201	17.09.2020	24.686,84	24.938	49.624,53
83	Cretu Nicolai	202	21.09.2020	78.125,00	78.841	156.966,00
84	Popovici Ion	203	23.09.2020	236.842,11	239.945	476.787,11
85	SADOECOSTRUG	204	25.09.2020	18.637,00	20.333	38.970,00
86	PDG Fruct	205	29.09.2020	107.000,00	109.387	216.387,00
87	FARM-PROD	206	15.10.2020	50.600,00	53.854	104.454,00
88	Avalancha Technologies	207	22.10.2020	119.119,17	155.985	275.104,17

89	Delacos Grup	208	06.11.2020	491.114,00	510.910	1.002.024,00
90	Adam Mihail Gheorghe	209	09.11.2020	11.500,00	308.870	320.370,00
91	Floean Victoria	210	12.11.2020	16.250,00	17.406	33.656,05
92	Bioaromatica	211	18.11.2020	71.293,00	93.810	165.103,00
93	Stabil-Natur	212	20.11.2020	78.394,00	80.691	159.085,00
94	Muncel-Agro	213	24.11.2020	220.000,00	221.355	441.355,00
95	GDR Agro SV	214	25.11.2020	63.417,00	74.956	138.373,00
96	Miron Diana Ion, s. Gotesti	215	26.11.2020	5.857,67	8.020,00	13.877,67
97	Lidia Plus	216	27.11.2020	370.000,00	385.530	755.530,10
98	Quatro-Service	217	30.11.2020	51.813,47	154.123	205.936,47
99	Clever Group	218	01.12.2020	19.945,00	21.275	41.220,00
100	Co&Family	219	03.12.2020	97.687,00	102.798,00	200.485,00
101	Plaiul Birladean	220	04.12.2020	359.490,00	529.430	888.920,00
102	DADU FARM	221	29.12.2020	315.000,00	331.612	646.612,00
103	Bivol Parascovia Nicolae	222	29.12.2020	57.871,00	59.986	117.857,00
	Total 2020			22.086.566,48	24.402.661,33	48.051.373,29

Despite the global pandemic crisis that started in the first Q 2020 that affected entirely all the institutions and the sectors, PIU managed to issue 103 PIU Eligibility Notice for the submitted sub-projects in the total amount of 26.629.976 EUR. Compared to previous year 2019, PIU processed a double number of applications.



In the reported period 2020, 90 EIB Allocations were obtained for the submitted sub-projects.



The annual disbursement rate for the Credit Line component registered during the last 3 years was an average value of 5.5 million annual Eur. In the 2020, PIU managed to record disbursements amounting 17.1 million euro, through Triple annual disbursements, which shows an increased interest in Fruit Garden sources from the Beneficiaries in the Horticultural Sector.

This achievement is due to several factors:

1. Services of Business Development Support (BDS) are acknowledged by all three parties: potential beneficiaries, partner banks (PFIs) and PIU. In the reported period 2020, more than 80% of investment project dossiers were elaborated and submitted with the help of BDS providers partnering with the FGM credit.
2. The second factor was the acceptance of new PFI'S: Agroindbank, the most prominent bank for agricultural lending was included as an FGM partner bank in November 2019. In addition, Agroindbank has showed strong commitment to the FGM project and is doing very active marketing of the FGM loan. The Banca Comerciala Romana and Victoriabank were also included as an FGM partner banks in autumn 2019.
3. The third factor for the good loan uptake in spring 2020 has been the high price for the major fruits produced in Moldova as a direct consequence of a low 2019 harvest in Europe and Russia, but also of the Corona crisis. When lockdown started in Moldova on 15 March 2020 and in Russia, Moldova's most important market for apples, on 30 March 2020, apple prices exstorage increased to 13-14 MDL and kept at this level until the end of May. Also in Europe apple prices rose with the Corona crisis: To 700 EUR/t in March 2020 (compared to 570 EUR/t for a 5-year average), and even

to 800 EUR/t in May 2020 (compared to 610 EUR/t for a 5-year average, data source: BLE). Also cherry and plum prices were about 30% higher this year compared to 2019, and Moldovan producers managed to sell more stone fruits to well-paying markets² in Central Europe (Germany and Austria) than ever before.

4. The extreme drought in Moldova from September 2019 to September 2020 can be considered the fourth factor for increased loan-financed investments in horticulture. Producers understood that they will need drip irrigation in their orchards to maintain an economically sound yield level. While in previous years, applications for FGM financed investment loan were primarily for cold stores, they are increasingly for irrigation systems now: 37 projects have been financed so far for a total of 552 ha under drip irrigation. In a much viewed webinar at the end of May 2020, the TA to FGM explained the legal requirements for establishing an irrigation system and accessing irrigation water.
5. Decrease in commercial interest, from 6.5% to 2.8% for financing in euros.

Taking into account that the main scope of the EIB FGM loan is to provide medium to long term finance to private and public sector operators along Moldova’s horticultural value chain, it is worth to make a short review of the financial conditions offered to PFI as well as to Final beneficiaries under the Project.

Based on the data provided by the CLD (re-organised in summer 2020 in the Office for external assistance Programs management) the FGM interest rates offered to the PFI are lower than others provided by CLD under existing credit lines from external loans. At the same time, the average interest rate applied by the PFIs to PB during 2020 was 3,7 % for credit in EUR and 8,9 % for credits in MDL.

The data analysis provided by the CLD-OEAPM interest rate can be found in the Table below:

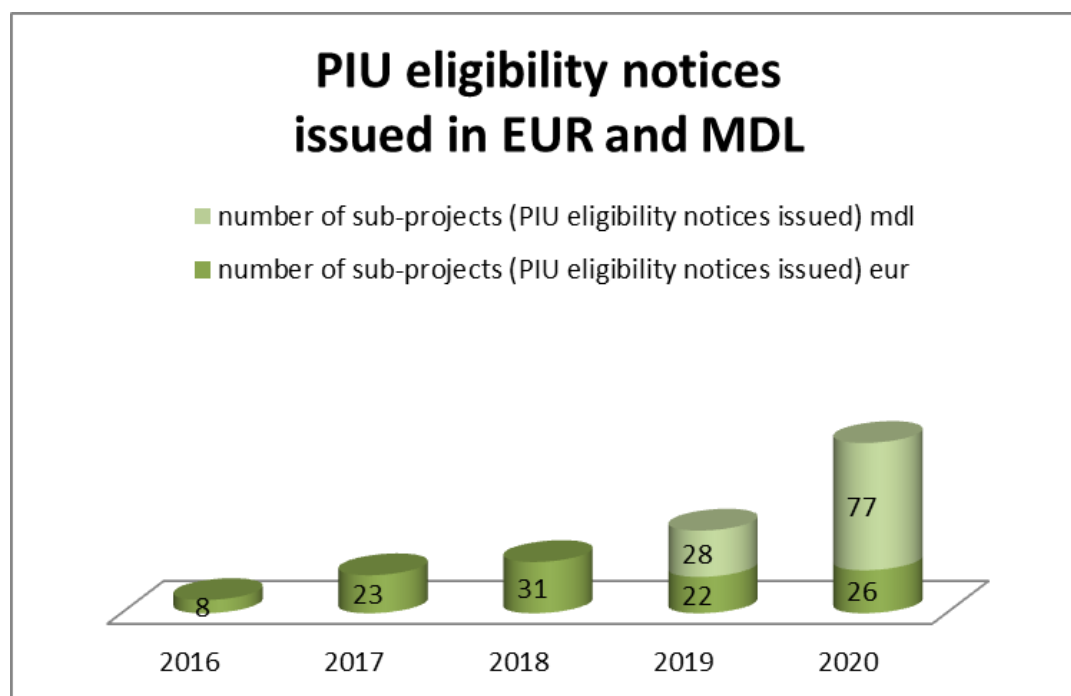
Tranches under FGM loan	Annual floating/fixed % rate	
	EUR	MDL
tranche 1 (floating rate for EUR)	0,60	
tranche 2 (floating rate for EUR)	0,60	
tranche 3 (floating rate for EUR)	0,60	
tranche 4 (floating rate for EUR)	0,60	
tranche 5 (floating rate for EUR)	0,60	
tranche 6 (floating rate for EUR)	0,60-0,655	
tranche 7 (floating rate for EUR)	0,60	
tranche 8 (floating rate for EUR)	0,600-0,701	5.57-3.253
tranche 9 (floating rate for EUR)	0,60	5.67-3,25
tranche 10 (fixed rate for EUR and floating for MDL)	0,610	5.57-3,25
tranche 11 (floating rate for EUR)	0,60	5.57-3,25
tranche 12 (fixed rate for EUR and floating for MDL)	0,917	6.3-3,25

tranche 13 (fixed rate for EUR and floating for MDL)	0,680	5.95-3,25
tranche 14 (fixed rate for EUR and floating for MDL)	0,600	4.36-3,25
tranche 15 (fixed rate for EUR and floating for MDL)	0,600	3,25
tranche 16 (fixed rate for EUR and floating for MDL)	0,600	3,25
Leasing, tranche 7	0,300	
Leasing, tranche 8	0,401	
Leasing ,tranche 14	0,300	

6. Availability of financing in National Currency, MDL.

Adding the MDL as a new currency available for the FGM Project loans and leasing products in 2019 has enriched the portfolio of financial opportunities to beneficiaries and the introduction of the MDL had a strong positive statistically proven effect on the absorption rate of EIB funds.

As it can be observed from the table below, in the reported period 2020 out of the number of applications submitted and approved by the PIU has increased significantly and have overcome the applications in Euro, that shows that the Beneficiaries prefer to mitigate the risks associated with the foreign currency.



Collaboration with BDS Platform

11 BDS companies are currently part of the platform of BDS providers partnering with FGM that are supported by AFC Technical Assistance of EIB. Since their first year of participation, BDS companies were benefitting from continuous training and coaching from PIU as well as from Technical Assistance.

In the reported period of 2020, more than 80% of investment project dossiers were elaborated and submitted with the help of BDS companies which shows great results of cooperation and an important tool of achievement of technical assistance objectives.

Collaboration with Agency for Intervention and Payments in Agriculture (AIPA)

PIU continuously collaborate with other stakeholders from the horticultural sector in order to disseminate information regarding the Program eligibility criteria and to attract potential beneficiaries to the available credit line.

During the reported period 2020, PIU started relationship building with all the Administrative-Territorial Units by disseminating the information regarding the eligibility criteria applied within the Program, FGM financing opportunities, discussions with representatives of the administrative Territorial Units, including with potential beneficiaries, explaining the eligibility of projects, advantages for beneficiaries, as well as the steps of applying for FGM financed loans. During the visits, at all the territorial units were installed the FGM informative stands with FGM and AIPA promotional materials and leaflets.

Collaboration with PFI Branches

PIU continuously collaborate and provide consultancy to the seven PFIs participating in the Project, in regard with direct information exchange regarding the Program eligibility criteria and the status of the applications within the project that stimulates the effective operation of the credit line.

In the reported period 2020, PIU together with TA Consultants started a campaign to inform and conduct refresher training to local branches of the partner banks on FGM eligibility and procedures. The Scope of the visit was to inform about the credit line, relationship building with all the seven PFIs by disseminating the information regarding the eligibility criteria applied within the Program, discussions with representatives of the PFIs regional branches, including credit experts, understanding of the eligibility of projects to be financed, advantages for beneficiaries, as well as the steps of applying for FGM financed loans.

PIU and/or with TA members in the mentioned period has performed 16 visits and 50 PFI regional branches were visited. In same period, PIU organized Informative visits for AIPA employees and dissemination of FGM promotion materials and 10 Administrative-Territorial Units were visited.

During 2020 PIU collaborated with only Mobiasbanca Societe Generale as a specialized Partner Institutions. The disbursed amount includes only 1 sub-project (Flex label LLC) approved for financing by EIB.

Table 7. Summary information regarding sub-projects financed through Credit line component within Fruit Garden Project, euro

<i>Financial instrument</i>	<i>Nr of investment projects</i>		<i>No of beneficiaries</i>		<i>Value of EIB allocations</i>		<i>Value of EIB disbursed amount</i>	
	<i>2020</i>	<i>cumulative to date</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>cumulative to date</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>cumulative to date</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>cumulative to date</i>
Credit Line	89	177	74	147	16,997,561	34,040,922	16,012,180	33,095,190
Leasing	1	4	1	4	144,659	1,295,159	144,659	1,295,159
<i>Total</i>	90	181	75	151	17 142 220	35 336 081	16 156 839	34 390 349

Analysing the data presented in the table above, we can observe that the 71, 10 % of the EIB loan was invested by PB applying the term loan through Credit Line Component of the Project, From the information presented in the table above, the financing of the horticultural sector through the component of leasing operations registered a decreasing trend, unfortunately as a result of the low demand from the economic agents from the horticultural sector of the Republic of Moldova.

2. Investments in infrastructure development

In line with the provisions of the FC, for this sub-sector EIB committed min 5% of the Loan or 6,000.0 thousand Euro. At the same time, Side-letter 28.10.2015 provides that the maximum amount which is permitted to allocate under this sub-sector is 10% of the Loan or 12,000.0 thousand Euro.

In the reporting period of the Project implementation, the PIU has informed, consulted and closely worked with 14 potential Beneficiaries of the Fruit Garden Project:

Table 8. List of Institutions which submitted the application form and signed the services contract

No.	Education institutions	Application Form (Nr, date)	Contract of services (Nr, date)
1	Technical University of Moldova	Nr. 35 of 01/02/2017	Nr. 5 of 29.01.2018
2	Agrarian State University of Moldova	Nr. 57 of 01/08/2017	Nr. 4 of 07.12.2017
3	State University of Comrat	Nr. 63 of 20/09/2017	Nr. 2 of 24.11.2017
4	Agroindustrial College Svetlii	Nr. 60 of 15/09/2017	Nr. 1 of 24.11.2017
5	Agroindustrial College Ungheni	Nr. 67 of 28/11/2017	Nr. 6 of 30.01.2018
6	Agroindustrial College Grinauti	Nr. 52 of 20/6/2017	Nr. 3 of 29.11.2017
7	Center of Excellence in Horticulture and Agricultural Technologies from Taul	Nr. 34 of 02/02/2017	Nr. 11 of 11.04.2019
8	Agroindustrial College Soroca	Nr. 64 of 20/10/2017	Nr. 7 of 22.02.2017
9	VET Leova	Nr. 59 of 15/09/17	Nr. 8 of 22.05.2018
10	Center of Excellence in Viticulture and Winemaking from Chisinau	Nr. 71 of 19/12/17	Nr. 13 of 15.07.2019
11	Practical Scientific Institute of Horticulture and Food Technologies	Nr. 96 of 25/06/2018	Nr. 9 of 26.06.2018
12	Agroindustrial College Riscani	Nr. 109 of 30/11/2018	Nr. 12 of 24.04.2019
13	VET Bubuieci	Nr. 132 of 11/03/2019	Nr. 10 of 22.03.2019
14	Institute of Genetics, Physiology and Plant Protection	Nr. 1... of2020	Nr. ... of2020

All of these institutions are preparing specialists for horticulture sector industries and all have submitted the application forms, showing their interest in the Project. However, the Contracts have been signed with the applicants who already started the work on performing a study on needed investments and preparing the respective investment projects.

The process of investment plan elaboration includes two main stages:

1. Identification of own contribution in line with EIB eligibility criteria and
2. Determination of their needs and the possibilities of the Project to address them.

During reported period of 2016-2020 were elaborated and approved 8 investment projects for public education and research institutions as presented in the table below:

Table 9. List of Institutions which were approved by EIB based on issued EIB allocation letter

No.	Name of beneficiary	PIU Eligibility Notice	EIB allocation letter	Allocated amount, euro
1	TUM	nr. 33 from 06.02.2018	Nr. 44 from 13.09.2018	1,989,542.00
2	ASUM	nr. 43 from 04.04.2018	Nr. 45 from 13.09.2018	1,995,612.00
3	Technical Agriculture College from Soroca	Nr. 104 from 18.10.2019	No. 104 from 13.03.2020	697,000.00
4	Technical-Agriculture College from Svetlii	No. 144 from 27.03.2020	No. 147 from 31.07.2020	1,163,420.00
5	Scientific-Practical Institute of Horticulture and Food Technologies (viticulural department)	No. 142 from 26.03.2020	No. nr. 148 from 31.07.2020	601,365.00
6	Center of Excellence in Viticulture and Winemaking from Chisinau (CEVVC)	No. 163 from 18.05.2020	No. nr. 149 from 31.07.2020	1,999,625.00
7	Center of Excellence in Horticulture and Agricultural Technologies from Taul	No. 78 from 26.05.2020	No. nr. 150 from 31.07.2020	1,408,732.00
8	Agro-Industrial College from Ungheni	Nr. 143 from 26.03.2020	No. nr. 172 from 15.09.2020	779,000.00
	TOTAL			10,634,296.00

Analysing the data presented in the table below, we can observe that the biggest amount of funds of the Project was allocated through the Investments in Infrastructure component in total amount of 10,634,296.00 euro during reporting period 2016-2020, from which in 2020 in amount of 6,649,142.00 euro. During the reported period, PIU in order to implement the Program Component "Investment in infrastructure-Laboratories, education, training and development of food security" has received from EIB 3,985,154.40 Euro for 2 project beneficiaries (TUM and ASUM).

Table 10. Information regarding the value of sub-projects under this component approved by EIB

Nr of IP	No of PB	Name of beneficiary	Total amount of sub-project, EUR	Value of EIB allocations, EUR	Value of FB co financing, EUR	Value of EIB disbursed amount, EUR
		2018	8,129,730.00	3,985,154.00	4,144,576.00	3,985,154.00
1	1	TUM	4,132,837.00	1,989,542.00	2,143,295.00	1,989,542
1	1	ASUM	3,996,893.00	1,995,612.00	2,001,281.00	1,995,612
		2020	13,781,045.00	6,649,142.00	7,131,903.00	-
1	1	Technical Agriculture College from Soroca	1,394,263.00	697,000.00	697,263.00	-
1	1	Technical-Agriculture College from Svetlii	2,413,708.00	1,163,420.00	1,250,288.00	-
1	1	Scientific-Practical Institute of Horticulture and Food Technologies (vicultural department)	1,283,028.00	601,365.00	681,663.00	-
1	1	Center of Excellence in Viticulture and Winemaking from Chisinau (CEVVC)	4,199,625.00	1,999,625.00	2,200,000.00	-
1	1	Center of Excellence in Horticulture and Agricultural Technologies from Taul	2,847,294.00	1,408,732.00	1,438,562.00	-
1	1	Agro-Industrial College from Ungheni	1,643,127.00	779,000.00	864,127.00	-
8	8	TOTAL	21,910,775.00	10,634,296.00	11,276,479.00	3,985,154.00

During the reported period (year 2020), PIU, in order to implement the Program Component Investments in Infrastructure (laboratories, education, training and development of food security) has undertaken multiple actions divided as follows:

- A.** Implementing approved investment projects of the education institutions by organizing procurement activities according to approved (by EIB) Procurement Plans;
- B.** Coordinating the process of accessing to EIB funds through Investments in Infrastructure Component for 6 education and research institutions (review and analysis of the received investment projects, provide preliminary opinion on eligibility of the received investment projects, submit the investment projects to MADRM Working Group and EIB for evaluation and approval, submit the procurement plans of each investment project to EIB for evaluation and approval, etc.) and start the implementation process of these investment projects according to approved (by EIB) Procurement Plans;

- C. Coordinating the process of access to EIB funds through Investments in Infrastructure Component for other potential beneficiaries (esp. own contribution and eligibility, compiling investment project documents, support in performing study on investment needs, liaise with MADRM/TA experts, identifying lists of to-be-procured goods, works, services; feasibility and necessity of proposed procurements, timeliness, cost estimates etc.).

A. Implementation of investment projects, approved by EIB and Ministry of Agriculture (MADRM) Working Group:

During year 2020 PIU continued the implementation of two previously approved (in 2018) investment projects: 1) ASUM Investment Project in amount of: EUR 1,995,612, 2) TUM Investment Project in amount of: EUR 1,989,542

The implementation of TUM and ASUM investment projects during 2020 has consisted in the following main activities:

For TUM investment project:

1. Finalizing the endowment of 9 horticulture laboratories with laboratory equipment.
2. Monitoring the works for the thermal insulation of the Food Technology Faculty building.
3. Elaboration of the architect design for refurbishment of the Auditorium (5-1) of the Food Technology Faculty as per PIU request and monitoring of – prepared by TA Consultant.
4. Elaboration of the architect design for refurbishment of the entrance hall of the Food Technology Faculty building as per PIU request and monitoring of – prepared by TA Consultant.

For ASUM investment project:

1. Finalising the endowment of 3 horticulture laboratories with laboratory equipment.
2. Elaboration of the architect design necessary for refurbishing of the Auditorium (H1) of Horticulture Faculty as per PIU request and monitoring of – prepared by TA Consultant.
3. Organising the tendering process for procurement of works on modernizing the Mechanization hall of Agriculture Engineering and Auto Transport Faculty and sign contract with selected, via International Competitive Bidding, General Contractor.
4. Organising the tendering process for procurement of works on renovating the Auditorium (H1) of Horticulture Faculty and sign contract with selected, via International Competitive Bidding, General Contractor.
5. Monitoring the elaboration of the architect design for creation of the greenhouse, prepared by TA Consultant as per PIU request and monitoring of.
6. Monitored the elaboration of the architect design and building engineering expertise necessary for consolidating the floor of a lab room (within Horticulture Faculty) where the fruits fridge equipment will be further installed - as per ASUM request – deliverables financed by EIB contracted TA.

The following contracts were under implementation/ signed during year 2020:

TUM investment project:

Procurement Activity	Contract start date:	Contract signed with:	Signed Contract Amount (~converted in Eur)
Laboratory Equipment / reagents / accessories			
Endowment of horticulture laboratories (2 faculties, 9 laboratories overall) with lab equipment, glassware.	20-Nov-2019	(Lot 1) Nitech SRL	€ 562,241.00
	20-Nov-2019	(Lot 3) Technovolt SRL	€ 304,812.00
	12-May- 2020	(Lot 2) Nitech SRL	€ 337,325.00
Renovation of existing laboratories			
Works on Thermal Insulation of Food Technology Faculty building	16-Sep-2019	Sarco Engineering SRL	€ 435,000.00

ASUM investment project:

Procurement Activity	Contract start date:	Contract signed with:	Contract Amount (~converted in Eur)
Laboratory Equipment / reagents / accessories			
Endowment of horticulture laboratories (2 faculties, 9 laboratories overall) with lab equipment	20-Nov-2019	(Lot 4) Nitech SRL	€ 480,479.00
		(Lot 5) Lokmera SRL	€ 325,000.00
Renovation of existing laboratories			
Works on modernizing the Mechanization hall of Agriculture Engineering and Auto Transport Faculty	22- Sep- 2020	(Lot 1) Procomcon SRL	€ 248 956.00
Works on renovating the Auditorium of Horticulture Faculty	07- Sep- 2020	(Lot 2) Sarco Engineering SRL	€ 300 157.00

At the same time, a number of activities oriented towards implementing IP of TUM and ASUM, refer to PIU coordination of consultants hired by EIB contracted TA for FGM Project, as follows:

TUM investment project:

<i>Activities requested, and monitored by PIU on Renovation of existing laboratories</i>
Architect Supervision of thermal insulation works for Food Technology Faculty building.
Preparation of architecture design for refurbishing Auditorium (5-1, Food Technology Faculty)
Preparation of architecture design for refurbishing of the entrance hall of the Food Technology Faculty building

ASUM investment project:

<i>Activities requested, and monitored by PIU on Renovation of existing laboratories</i>
Preparation of architecture design for refurbishing Auditorium H1 (horticulture)
Preparation of architecture design for refurbishing 2 Labs: I.A.-4A (engineering); I(A)-405 (design)
Preparation of architecture design for a Greenhouse creation (incl. supervision)

B. Coordinating the process of accessing to EIB funds through Investments in Infrastructure Component for 6 education and research institutions and start the implementation process according to approved (by EIB) Procurement Plans

During the reported period PIU, jointly with consultancy support from EIB contracted TA for FGM Project experts, has assisted 6 education and research institutions in preparing their investment projects and submitting them to Ministry of Agriculture “Working Group responsible for reviewing and approving IPs under Investments in Infrastructure Component”, and obtaining EIB approval. The following investments projects were approved for EIB financing under Investments of Infrastructure Component of the FGM Project, by both MADRM Working Group and EIB, during year 2020:

No	Beneficiary institutions	EIB financing, EUR	Beneficiary own contribution, EUR	Total amount of the sub-project, EUR	PIU Eligibility Notice (for more information see Annex 5)
1.	Technical Agriculture College from Soroca*	697 000	697 263	1 394 263	Nr. 104 from 18.10.2019
2.	Practical Scientific Institute of Horticulture and Food Technologies / Viticulture and Winemaking Dept.	601 365	681 663	1 283 028	Nr. 142 from 26.03.2020
3.	Center of Excellence in Horticulture and Agricultural Technologies from Taul	1 408 732	1 438 562	2 847 294	Nr. 78 from 26.05.2020
4.	Center of Excellence in Viticulture and Winemaking from Chisinau	1 999 625	2 200 000	4 199 625	Nr. 163 from 18.05.2020
5.	Technical Agriculture College from Svetlii	1 163 420	1 250 288	2 413 708	Nr. 144 from 27.03.2020
6.	Agriculture-industrial College from Ungheni	779 000	864 127	1 643 127	Nr. 143 from 26.03.2020
	Total:	6 649 142	7 131 903	13 781 045	

**Note: The investment project of Soroca College was approved by The Ministry Working Group in December 2019 and by EIB in 2020.*

The PIU provided assistance to the above-mentioned public institutions in elaborating and further finalizing their investment projects, during the reported period (which led to development of full and comprehensive investment projects) which has consisted in the following activities:

Technical Agriculture College from Soroca

Following the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture Working Group (19/12/2019), the investment project of Soroca College was submitted for evaluation and approval to EIB (approval received on 13/03/2020).

The project of Soroca College contains the following investments from EIB funds:

No.	EIB financing per components	Estimated cost, EUR
1.	Construction of a technical-didactical Centre on Agriculture Mechanisation	560 000
2.	Endowment of the technical-didactical Centre on Agriculture Mechanisation	137 000
Total EIB financing		697 000

PIU began the implementation process by requesting (and further monitoring) TA support in hiring an architect responsible for preparing of the detailed architecture design for constructing the didactic centre. In this matter, it was obtained from the local state authorities the Urbanistic Certificate for elaboration of the architecture design (09/06/2020). During 2020, the contracted (by TA) architect for elaboration of the architecture design together with PIU, prepared a revised design of the didactic centre (as per Ministry of Culture request) and obtained by end of Q4 2020 - the Ministry of Culture approval on it – thus ensuring that the new building will integrate among other College’s buildings which are historic monuments. Based on this approval, TA contracted Architect began elaborating the detailed building design, estimated to be finalized during Q1 2021.

Practical Scientific Institute of Horticulture and Food Technologies (ISPHTA) / Viticulture and Winemaking Department

PIU has received the investment project proposal from ISPHTA in December 2019. During Q1 of 2020 PIU has analysed the proposed investment lines, cost estimates and own contribution and submitted the final version of the investment project for evaluation and approval to Ministry Working Group (on 27/03/2020). The Ministry of Agriculture Working Group meeting took place on 27/05/2020 and its decision was to approve the investment project for financing from EIB funds under “Fruit Garden” Project. Following the Ministry approval, the investment project was submitted to EIB (approval received on 31/07/2020).

The investment project main investment lines from EIB funds are:

No.	<i>EIB financing per components</i>	<i>Estimated cost, EUR</i>
1	Establishment of viticulture nursery of 20.44 ha	212 500
2	Creation of irrigation system for the nursery	60 170
3	Construction of protective fence with access gate and security system for the nursery	25 000
4	Renovation of the non-heated greenhouse for clones preservation	8 500
5	Construction of cold storage warehouse	198 774
6	Procurement of agriculture machinery and equipment	67 675
7	Procurement of laboratory equipment	28 746
Total EIB financing		601 365

For the implementation of the above-mentioned investment lines, PIU has undertaken the following actions during year 2020:

1. Request TA support in contracting an architect responsible for elaboration of the design concept and the estimative Bill of Quantities for construction of the cold storage warehouse.
2. The design concept was elaborated in line with ISPHTA's requirements and showed an increase in the total warehouse area (doubled) compared to the investment project data. Consequently, the estimative cost for construction significantly exceeds the budgeted in the investment project amount. PIU has addressed ISPHTA on this issue and proposed two possible solutions: to keep to original sized of the warehouse as per IP, or to reallocate funds from other investment lines with subsequent seeking approval from Ministry Working Group and EIB. In line with a joint meeting (Ministry/ISPHTA/PIU), it was agreed to elaborate the architecture design for the enlarged volume warehouse and further identify necessary resources. By end of 2020, the design was 95% ready but due to the necessity to obtain approval (pending) from Public Property Agency on land use, it is envisaged to finalize the design during Q1 2021.
3. Technical specifications for purchasing the necessary works/ goods/ services for establishing the vineyard – are being prepared by the Beneficiary together with a TA Consultant. First delivery of specifications was expected in Q4 2020 but not delivered by beneficiary. It is envisaged to obtain the specifications during Q1 2021.
4. Procurement of agriculture machinery and accessories – the procurement was organised by PIU and contract with the supplier signed; goods were fully delivered in Q4 2020.
5. Procurement of basic laboratory equipment – ISPHTA has presented links to certain models to be procured. Upon PIU request for more information on specs and market availability, ISPHTA refused to interact efficiently with PIU for providing more details – thus this activity is currently stalled.
6. As there is an estimate (from TA contracted Bills of Quantities expert) on insufficiency of funds issue with the construction of the cold storage warehouse – PIU has postponed the implementation of other minor investment lines (including lab equipment, green house basic renovation, basic ventilation system for ISPHTA lab, minibus procurement etc.) till a consensus will be reached – estimative during Q1 2021.

Centre of Excellence in Horticulture and Agricultural Technologies from Taul:

During the latest Ministry Working Group meeting in which the investment project of Taul College was evaluated (19/12/2019), it was decided to additionally visit Taul College and seek opportunities to optimize the costs regarding reconstruction of the old canteen by identifying other possible spaces.

The visit took place on 31/01/2020 with the participation of PIU staff (including the TA hired BoQs expert), Ministry representatives and TA. It was visited the old canteen building and two possible locations for the construction from scratch of a new horticulture products processing lab building. The visit concluded with the decision to elaborate a concept and an estimative bill of quantities for construction of a new building as to see which of the two options (construction of a new bldg. or renovation of the old canteen) is more cost efficient. In line with this decision, the following activities were performed:

1. Concept for construction of a new building (processing teaching facility that will also contain a student canteen) – prepared by PIU.
2. Estimated Bill of Quantities for the construction of the new building – prepared by PIU.
3. Final investment project was submitted for review and approval to Ministry Working Group (Working Group meeting took place on 27/05/2020). The Working Group decision was to approve the investment project for financing from EIB funds under “Fruit Garden” Project.
4. Following the Ministry Working Group approval, the investment project was submitted to EIB (and approval received on 31/07/2020).

The **Taul Centre of Excellence** investment project main investment lines from EIB funds are:

No.	<i>EIB financing per components</i>	<i>Estimated cost, EUR</i>
1.	Construction of the "Methodical-Didactic Training Center in Horticulture"	623 500
1.1	Endowment of the Training Centre	326 232
a)	<i>Laboratory equipment for „Fruits Processing“ lab. and „Physico-chemical analyzes of food products“ lab.</i>	<i>123 232</i>
b)	<i>Furniture, ICT and audio-video presentation equipment</i>	<i>203 000</i>
2.	Establishment and maintenance of 4,5 ha of orchard	404 000
a)	<i>Establishment of 4 ha of traditional apple, apricot and cherry orchard</i>	<i>40 000</i>
b)	<i>Establishment of 0,5 ha of intensive apple orchard</i>	<i>20 000</i>
b)	<i>Establishment of an irrigation system for the new orchard</i>	<i>50 250</i>
c)	<i>Grubbing up 39 ha of old orchard</i>	<i>39 000</i>
d)	<i>Procurement of agriculture machinery and construction of a hangar</i>	<i>254 750</i>
3.	Renovation of a cold store fruits warehouse	55 000
Total EIB financing		1 408 732

For the implementation of the above-mentioned investment lines, PIU has undertaken the following actions during 2020:

1. Architecture design for constructing the training centre which will also incorporate a new cold store (agreed solution with the Beneficiary – instead of renovating the existing cold store room, which is in a high degree of deterioration) – under preparation by TA Consultant as per PIU request and monitored by. Design is estimated to be submitted in Q1-Q2 of year 2021.
2. Architecture design for construction of a hangar for Agriculture Machinery - is being prepared by TA Architect as per PIU request and monitored by. Estimated to be submitted in Q2, 2021.
3. Orchard establishment design – is being prepared by PIU hired expert; the design was prepared and submitted in Q4, 2020.
4. Technical specifications for purchasing the seedlings for orchard establishment – specifications were prepared by TA expert jointly with PIU – and submitted in October 2020; tender was launched in November 2020, seedlings supplier selected and contracted in Q4 2020. Seedlings are envisaged to be delivered in batches throughout 2021-2022.
5. Technical specifications for purchasing the works for grubbing up – prepared by PIU jointly with TA Consultant; tender was launched in Q3 and contract signed in October 2020. Most of grubbing up works took place during Q4 2020. Due to wet weather conditions, certain works will be finalized during Q1 2020, as soon as the agriculture land becomes drier.
6. Technical specifications for procurement of agriculture machinery – were under continuous preparation by hired TA Consultant. Final version of specification - to be approved first by beneficiary – envisaged to be submitted to PIU and tender to be launched – by Q1 2021. Agriculture machinery to be delivered by end of Q3, 2021.

Center of Excellence in Viticulture and Winemaking from Chisinau (Stauceni):

During Q1-Q2, 2020, PIU has undertaken/ monitored the following actions which led to preparing the final investment project of Stauceni College:

1. Estimated Bill of Quantities for the construction of the "Didactic-experimental Station in Winemaking" –prepared by TA Consultant as per PIU request and being monitored by.
2. Engineering solution for endowing of micro winery laboratory (equipment list and cost estimates) with winemaking equipment– prepared by TA Consultant as per PIU request and monitored by.
3. Identifying the location of the future 2 ha of vineyard to be established and estimating the costs for its establishment - prepared by TA Consultant as per PIU request and monitored by.
4. Liaise with MADRM "Working Group on the investment project development" – defining the investment lines to be financed from EIB funds, optimizing the investment project cost.
5. Final investment project was submitted for review and approval to Ministry Working Group on 20/05/2020 (Working Group meeting took place on 27/05/2020). The Working Group decided to approve the investment project for financing from EIB funds under "Fruit Garden" Project.
6. Following the Ministry approval, the investment project was submitted to EIB (approval received on 31/07/2020).

The Stauceni Centre of Excellence investment project main investment lines from EIB funds are:

No.	EIB financing per components	Estimated cost, EUR
1.	Construction of the didactic station	943 000
2.	Endowment of the didactic station with:	899 925
2.1	<i>ICT equipment and furniture (for the organoleptic appreciation lab., vinothèque, conference room, hall, dressing room, technical rooms)</i>	300 000
2.2	<i>Wine processing equipment for micro-winery laboratory</i>	559 925
2.3	<i>Fruits processing equipment for horticulture processing laboratory</i>	40 000
3.	Establishment of new didactic-experimental plantation lots:	41 600
3.1	<i>2 ha of vineyard (technical varieties)</i>	26 600
3.2	<i>0,5 ha of fruit orchard including a protective fence</i>	5 000
3.3	<i>drip irrigation system for 2,5 ha to be established</i>	10 000
4.	Procurement of agriculture machinery and equipment	115 100
Total EIB financing		1 999 625

For the implementation of the above-mentioned investment lines, PIU has undertaken the following actions during year 2020:

1. Architecture design for construction of the "Didactic-experimental Station in Winemaking" – under preparation by TA Consultant. Estimated to be submitted in Q1 2021 as per PIU request and monitored by.
2. Technological scheme for the micro winery laboratory – under preparation by TA Consultant and submitted in Q4 2020.
3. Orchard and vineyard establishment design –was being prepared by Beneficiary hired Consultant as per PIU request and monitored by; The design was submitted in October 2020.
4. Technical specifications for purchasing the seedlings for orchard establishment – specifications were prepared by TA expert jointly with PIU – and submitted in October 2020; tender was launched in November 2020, supplier selected and contracted in Q4 2020. Seedlings are envisaged to be delivered in batches throughout 2021-2022.
5. Technical specifications for purchasing the works for grubbing up – prepared by PIU jointly with TA Consultant; tender was launched in Q3 and contract signed in October 2020. Most of grubbing up works took place during Q4 2020. Due to wet weather conditions, certain works will be finalized during Q1 2020, as soon as the agriculture land becomes drier.
6. Technical specifications for purchasing the works for grubbing up – prepared by PIU jointly with TA Consultant; tender was launched in Q3 and contract signed in October 2020. Grubbing up works were fully finalized during Q4 2020.

7. Technical specifications for procurement of agriculture machinery – were under continuous preparation by hired TA Consultant. Final version of specification - to be approved first by beneficiary – envisaged to be submitted to PIU and tender to be launched – by Q1 2021. Agriculture machinery to be delivered by end of Q3, 2021.

Agriculture-industrial College from Ungheni:

The final version of the Ungheni College investment project was submitted for evaluation and approval to the Ministry Working Group on 27/03/2020. The Working Group meeting took place on 27/05/2020 and the decision was to approve the investment project for financing from EIB funds under “Fruit Garden” Project. Following the Ministry approval, the investment project was submitted to EIB (approval received on 31/07/2020).

The Ungheni College investment project main investment lines from EIB funds are:

No.	EIB financing per components	Estimated cost, EUR
1.	Refurbishment of the study building first floor (around 720 m2) to create the “Horticulture products processing” lab. and the “Repair and maintenance of horticultural machinery and equipment” lab.	300 000
2.	Endowment of the “Horticulture products processing” lab.	113 000
3.	Endowment of the “Repair and maintenance of horticultural machinery and equipment” lab.	30 000
4.	Establishment of a didactic greenhouse of 320 m2	107 000
5.	Establishment of a total of 1,2 ha of intensive orchards and berries plantations	29 500
6.	Procurement of a meteo station	5 500
7.	Procurement of agriculture machinery and equipment	161 000
8.	Construction of a hangar for agriculture machinery storage	33 000
Total EIB financing		779 000

For the implementation of the above-mentioned investment lines, PIU has undertaken the following actions throughout 2020:

1. Architecture design for refurbishment of the study building first floor – under preparation by TA Consultant as per PIU request and monitored by. Estimated to be submitted by Q2 2021.
2. Orchard establishment design – is being prepared by PIU hired expert; the design was prepared and submitted in Q4, 2020.
3. Technical specifications for purchasing the seedlings for orchard establishment – specifications were prepared by TA expert jointly with PIU – and submitted in October 2020; tender was launched in November 2020, seedlings supplier selected and contracted in Q4 2020. Seedlings are envisaged to be delivered in batches throughout 2021-2022.

4. Technical specifications for procurement of agriculture machinery – were under continuous preparation by hired TA Consultant. Final version of specification - to be approved first by beneficiary – envisaged to be submitted to PIU and tender to be launched – by Q1 2021. Agriculture machinery to be delivered by end of Q3, 2021.
5. Architecture design for construction of the greenhouse (including connections to utilities and detailed BoQ) – during Q3-4 2020, PIU, jointly with Beneficiary – has prepared technical specifications for the greenhouse. It is estimated to launch the tender for supplier selection in Q1 2021 and have the greenhouse constructed by end of Q2 2021.

Technical Agriculture College from Svetlii:

The final version of the Svetlii College investment project was submitted for evaluation and approval to the Ministry of Agriculture Working Group on 27/03/2020. The Working Group meeting took place on 27/05/2020 and the decision was to approve the investment project for financing from EIB funds under “Fruit Garden” Project. Following the Ministry approval, the investment project was submitted to EIB (approval received on 31/07/2020).

The Svetlii College investment project main investment lines from EIB funds are:

No.	<i>EIB financing per components</i>	<i>Estimated cost, EUR</i>
1.	Construction of a Laboratory hall (aprox.812 m2) which will contain „Horticulture sorting and packaging lab.” and „Agriculture machinery repair and maintenance lab.”	650 000
2.	Endowment of the „Horticulture sorting and packaging lab.” with laboratory equipment and accessories	56 789
3.	Endowment of the „Agriculture machinery repair and maintenance lab.” with laboratory equipment and accessories	40 440
4.	Establishment of 3 ha of traditional fruits orchard	29 841
5.	Establishment of 2 ha of forest/green shelterbelts for the new orchard	2 000
6.	Procurement of a weather station	5 500
7.	Procurement of agriculture machinery and equipment	231 850
8.	Construction of a hangar for agriculture machinery storage	39 000
9.	Endowment of students dormitory with furniture and household appliances	108 000
Total EIB financing		1 163 420

For the implementation of the above-mentioned investment lines, PIU has undertaken the following activities during 2020:

1. Procurement of furniture and household appliances for the student dormitory – procurement organised and contract signed with selected supplier in September 2020. Furniture fully delivered and installed by mid Q4, 2020.
2. Architecture design for construction of the laboratory hall – under preparation by TA Consultant as per PIU request and monitored by. Estimated to be submitted in Q2 2021.
3. Architecture design for construction of the hangar for agriculture machinery - under preparation by TA hired architect as per PIU request and monitored by. Estimated to be submitted in Q2 2021.
4. Orchard and shelterbelt establishment design – was being prepared by Beneficiary hired Consultant as per PIU request and monitored by; the design was submitted in October 2020.
5. Technical specifications for purchasing the seedlings for orchard and shelterbelt establishment – specifications were prepared by TA expert jointly with PIU – and submitted in October 2020; tender was launched in November 2020, seedlings supplier selected and contracted in Q4 2020. Seedlings are envisaged to be delivered in batches throughout 2021-2022.
6. Technical specifications for procurement of agriculture machinery – were under continuous preparation by hired TA Consultant. Final version of specification - to be approved first by beneficiary – envisaged to be submitted to PIU and tender to be launched – by Q1 2021. Agriculture machinery to be delivered by end of Q3, 2021.

C. Coordinating the process of access to EIB funds through Investments in Infrastructure Component for other potential beneficiaries:

During Q1 of 2020 PIU has attended several meetings with the Ministry Working Group representatives and addressed several informative notes to the Minister regarding the available/remaining budget for financing under Investment in Infrastructure component and the exceeding demand for financing from potential applicant education and research institutions.

At the Ministry Working Group meeting for evaluation of five investment projects (ISPHTA, Taul Centre of Excellence, Stauceni Centre of Excellence, Ungheni College and Svetlii College), (on 27/05/2020), PIU informed the Working Group members on the existing lack of funds for financing of the active potential beneficiaries/applicants under Investment of Infrastructure component: Agroindustrial College from Riscani, Agroindustrial College from Grinauti, Professional School from Bubuieci, Institute of Genetics, Physiology and Plant Protection and ISPHTA/ Horticulture Department.

As a result, the Ministry Working Group representatives decided to prioritize the development of the following 3 investment projects: Practical Scientific Institute of Horticulture and Food Technologies (ISPHTA)/ Horticulture Department; Agro-industrial College from Riscani and Agro-industrial College from Grinauti. Thus, PIU has undertaken the following activities for supporting the above 3 institutions in developing their investment project:

Practical Scientific Institute of Horticulture and Food Technologies (ISPHTA)/ Horticulture Department

A general concept note regarding the to-be-developed further investment project was received by PIU from ISPHTA, on 27/12/19.

In order to develop a comprehensive and in line with best EU practices in the respective domain investment project, PIU jointly with EIB Technical Assistance decided to visit (jointly with ISPHTA and Ministry officials) several similar EU institutions.

The first 2 identified institutions were:

1. National Research and Development Institute for Biotechnologies in Horticulture in Stefanesti, Romania;
2. Research Institute for Fruit Growing in Pitesti, Romania.

The visit to these 2 institutions was promptly approved by the EIB but due to the 2020 COVID 19 pandemic situation – the visit took place on 05.-08.11.2020 and it was undertaken by PIU members only.

Also, a consultant from the Institute in Stefanesti was identified - Mr. Dorin Sumedrea, and the concept of the investment project elaborated by ISPHTA was consulted with him for preliminary review. Based on Mr. Sumedrea preliminary review, PIU has started to verify the cost estimates of the investment lines (laboratory building; laboratory equipment, furniture and accessories; greenhouses and technical equipment) contained in the investment project.

It was also approved by EIB a subsequent visit of Mr. Sumedrea to ISPHTA, Moldova to participate in a round table on the development of the investment project.

In addition, another visit is planned on the same subject – to Naktuinbow Centre in Netherlands. The visit is planned to take place in Q1 2021 if the COVID 19 pandemic situation will allow.

Agro-industrial College from Riscani:

Through their investment project, Riscani College intends to create a horticulture processing laboratory (oil plants processing). For supporting the College in developing the investment project, PIU has undertaken in 2020 the following activities:

1. Identifying the own contribution of the College.
2. Concept for an oil processing laboratory (sketch, list of equipment and cost estimates) - prepared by TA Consultant.
3. Pre-financing visit for identifying the appropriate locations for the oil processing lab. – undertaken by PIU staff on 02.10.2020.
4. Pre-financing visit for estimating the costs of the available possible locations for creation of the oil plants processing lab. (renovation of one of two existing buildings and construction of a new building) – undertaken by PIU and TA staff (including the TA contracted BoQ expert) on 24.11.2020.
5. BoQ for construction of a new laboratory building – under preparation by TA contracted BoQ expert - to be ready in January 2021.

The final version of the investment project is planned to be submitted for evaluation and approval to Ministry Working Group in Q1 2021.

Agro-industrial College from Grinauti:

Grinauti investment project has the main investment line - construction and endowment of a mechanization laboratory. For supporting the College in developing the investment project, PIU has undertaken in 2020 the following activities:

1. Identifying the own contribution of the College.
2. Pre-financing visit for identifying the appropriate location for construction of the mechanization lab. – undertaken by PIU and TA staff (including the TA contracted BoQ expert) on 24.11.2020.
3. BoQ for construction of the mechanization lab. – under preparation by TA contracted BoQ expert - to be ready in January 2021.
4. List of laboratory equipment for endowment of the mechanization lab. - under preparation by TA contracted expert - to be ready in January 2021.

The final version of the investment project is planned to be submitted for evaluation and approval to Ministry Working Group in Q1 2021.

Note: After estimating the total costs of the above-mentioned three investment project, PIU will address the Ministry for preliminary approval of the investment projects cost and investment lines.

3. Procurement activities

Purchasing activities under investments in infrastructure

Procurements organized and contracts signed for the new beneficiaries whose investment projects were approved in 2020:

1. Svetlii College investment project:

<i>Procurement Activity</i>	<i>Contract start date:</i>	<i>Contract signed with:</i>	<i>Signed Contract Amount (~converted in Eur)</i>
Endowment of student's dormitory with furniture and household appliances	22-Sep-2020	Proenergy Electric SRL	115 000
Procurement of seedlings for new fruit orchards	26-Nov-2020	Vitis Cojusna SRL	6 941
Weather station for practical lessons	27-Oct-2020	SC Nitech SRL	7 393
Total			129 334

2. ISPHTA investment project:

<i>Procurement Activity</i>	<i>Contract start date:</i>	<i>Contract signed with:</i>	<i>Signed Contract Amount (~converted in Eur)</i>
Procurement of agriculture machines and accessories	07-Oct-2020	Ozonteh Impex SRL	33 500

3. Stauceni Centre of Excellence investment project:

<i>Procurement Activity</i>	<i>Contract start date:</i>	<i>Contract signed with:</i>	<i>Signed Contract Amount (~converted in Eur)</i>
Procurement of seedlings for new fruit orchards and new vineyards	26-Nov-2020	Vitis Cojusna SRL	11 300
Grubbing up 5 ha of old orchard	29-Oct-2020	Tridimensional SRL	5 000
Total			16 300

4. Taul Centre of Excellence investment project:

<i>Procurement Activity</i>	<i>Contract start date:</i>	<i>Contract signed with:</i>	<i>Signed Contract Amount (~converted in Eur)</i>
Prepare design for the new plantation	25-Aug-2020	Pomiproconsult SRL	420
Grubbing up 39ha of old orchard	29-Oct-2020	Tridimensional SRL	39 000

Procurement of seedlings for new fruit orchards	26-Nov-2020	Vitis Cojusna SRL	14 500
Total			53 920

5. Ungheni College investment project:

<i>Procurement Activity</i>	<i>Contract start date:</i>	<i>Contract signed with:</i>	<i>Signed Contract Amount (~converted in Eur)</i>
Prepare design for the new plantation	25-Aug-2020	Pomiproconsult SRL	320
Weather station for practical lessons	27-Oct-2020	SC Nitech SRL	7 393
Procurement of seedlings for new fruit orchards	26-Nov-2020	Vitis Cojusna SRL	4 300
Total			12 013

Overall, after receiving EIB approval(s) on the 6 new investment projects (approval(s) were received by mid Q3 2020), PIU managed to sign contracts for a total committed amount of: **245 067 EUR**; Overall, regarding the previous years approved investment projects of ASUM and TUM, PIU managed to sign contracts during year 2020 for a total committed amount of: ASUM = **582 337 EUR**; TUM: **544 454 EUR**;

In addition, effective payments for selected suppliers, per signed contracts, performed by PIU during 2020, for all 8 approved investment *projects - totalled in amount of: EUR 2.587.237*;

Purchasing activities under Credit Line and Leasing Components

Under Credit Line and Leasing Components, PIU has provided the following support to private sector beneficiaries, during year 2020:

- Consultation and monitoring of Project beneficiaries on their own purchasing organizing;
- Review and approve the eligibility of goods / services / works proposed to be purchased under the investment projects in accordance with the Side Letter issued by the EIB;
- Offered continuous support, if so requested by beneficiaries, in consulting them on *diverse purchasing activities* in line with EIB eligibility requirements;

Reviewed purchasing documentation of the Credit Line potential beneficiaries and previously approved beneficiaries, reviewing and approving purchasing documents for obtaining EIB resources (intention/ final contracts, invoices, received price quotations (if any), evaluation reports (if any), etc), documentation pertaining to customs declarations, etc. for issuing eligibility notices for to-be-purchased goods and

services and analysed the eligibility of such purchasing (goods and services) under the investment projects of potential beneficiaries;

Reviewed and approved changes made by the Beneficiaries in the purchasing documentation, i.e Statements of Expenditures; issue of Eligibility Notices for new purchasing contracts, at the request/notification from Credit Line Directorate/PFI/Beneficiary;

The Summary of PIU Eligibility Notices issued in reported period 2020 can be found in Annex 4.

IV. MONITORING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

Hosticultural progress indicators

The role of financial services in increasing the competitiveness of the horticultural sector is very important because the modernization of the horticultural sector depends directly on the implemented financial services.

The target of the Project is to create favourable conditions for development of whole value chain of horticultural sector of Republic of Moldova. **The activities have been financed within the Project are**

1. *For the processing of horticultural products*
 - Purchase of equipment and machines for production, including laboratories;
 - Construction / renovation of production premises.
2. *For the growth of horticultural products*
3. *Restructuring and revitalization of unproductive plantations, planting new plantations*
 - Purchase of agricultural equipment, care and collection process
 - Weather forecast station, Metrologic systems
 - Irrigation systems and Basin (reservoir) for groundwater accumulation for irrigation purpose
 - Installing Anti-frost systems, Anti-hail systems
 - Support systems for vineyards plantations (PERGOLA System)
4. *Technological multifunctional equipment for horticultural sector*
 - Wine-making equipment
 - Horticultural machinery and installation
 - Combine for picking fruits
 - Installations for washing, sorting, calibrating, packing of fruits, apples, vegetables
 - Drying equipment of horticultural products
 - Oleaginous and aromatic (Spicy) plants harvesting machine
5. *Investment in post-harvest infrastructure development*
 - Construction/ renovation of production halls and processing capacities for horticultural products
 - Construction of wine production halls (wineries)
 - Construction of washing, sorting, packing halls of horticultural products and storage halls for agricultural machineries
 - Construction of refrigerated halls equipped with refrigerating equipment, cold storage rooms with pre-cooling capacity for horticultural products (refrigeration installations)
 - Construction of hall for fruits and berries dehydration and drying process

6. *For connected industries*

- Modernization of production processes of the machine for packaging / sorting / calibration accessories for the setting up of new plantations, etc

During the reported period, the Project beneficiaries invested amount of 95,327,359.28 Euro or around 1,992,341,808.90 MDL in restructuring and development of horticultural sector, including investment in:

- Technological multifunctional equipment for horticultural sector in amount of 2.042.881,026 Euro or 40.857.620,513 MDL;
- Development of post-harvest infrastructure in amount of 21.949.155,58 Euro or 438.983.111,57 MDL;
- Nuts plantations established horticultural plantations of nuts, fruit, berries, grapes and vegetables in amount of 4.376.144,61 Euro or 87.522.892,16 MDL;
- Acquisition of plantations protection and maintenance systems in amount of 1.507.118,12 Euro or 30.142.362,47 MDL;
- Investments in energy efficiency system for production of renewable energy purpose in amount of 100.000,00 Euro or 2.000.000,00 MDL;
- Investments in Horticultural machineries, autocar and other transportation units in amount of 2.709.118,64 Euro or 54.182.372,73 MDL;
- Investments in Technological multifunctional equipment for the related industry amount of 2.817.143,00 Euro or 56.342.860,00 MDL;

The horticultural progress indicators are presented in the tables below:

Table 10. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Investments in technological multifunctional equipment for horticultural sector

<i>List of performance indicators</i>	<i>Indicators (units)</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, EUR</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, MDL</i>
Technological multifunctional equipment for horticultural sector	15	2.042.881,026	40.857.620,513
<i>Lavender harvesting machine</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>13.500,00</i>	<i>270.000,00</i>
<i>Wine-making equipment</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>682.128,00</i>	<i>13.642.560,00</i>
<i>Combine for picking fruits</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>62.865,00</i>	<i>1.257.300,00</i>
<i>Installations for washing, sorting, calibrating, packing of fruits, apples, vegetables</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>1.055.080,03</i>	<i>21.101.600,51</i>
<i>Drying equipment of horticultural products</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>229.308,00</i>	<i>4.586.160,00</i>

Table 11. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Nuts plantations established

<i>List of performance indicators</i>	<i>Indicators, ha</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, EUR</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, MDL</i>
Nuts plantations established (ha), from which:	614,29	316.043,73	6.320.874,55
<i>walnuts</i>	<i>589,29</i>	<i>280.720,73</i>	<i>5.614.414,55</i>
<i>hazelnuts</i>	<i>25,00</i>	<i>35.323,00</i>	<i>706.460,00</i>
<i>almonds</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>0,00</i>	<i>0,00</i>
<i>chestnuts</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>0,00</i>	<i>0,00</i>

Table 12. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Orchards plantations established

<i>List of performance indicators</i>	<i>Indicators, ha</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, EUR</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, MDL</i>
Orchards established (ha), from which:	714,66	2.841.963,99	56.839.279,86
<i>plums</i>	<i>185,34</i>	<i>494.950,46</i>	<i>9.899.009,25</i>
<i>apples</i>	<i>218,60</i>	<i>890.015,89</i>	<i>17.800.317,85</i>
<i>quince</i>	<i>7,00</i>	<i>15.950,00</i>	<i>319.000,00</i>
<i>pears</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>0,00</i>	<i>0,00</i>
<i>cherries</i>	<i>203,98</i>	<i>1.221.854,04</i>	<i>24.437.080,86</i>
<i>sour cherries</i>	<i>65,06</i>	<i>110.699,13</i>	<i>2.213.982,67</i>
<i>apricots</i>	<i>31,60</i>	<i>105.574,46</i>	<i>2.111.489,23</i>
<i>peaches</i>	<i>3,08</i>	<i>2.920,00</i>	<i>58.400,00</i>

Table 13. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Berries plantations established

<i>List of performance indicators</i>	<i>Indicators, ha</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, EUR</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, MDL</i>
Berries plantations established (ha), from which:	55,94	470.173,08	9.403.461,68
<i>blackberries</i>	<i>9,01</i>	<i>181.689,15</i>	<i>3.633.782,95</i>
<i>raspberries</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>currants</i>	<i>37,93</i>	<i>249.933,85</i>	<i>4.998.676,97</i>
<i>gooseberries</i>	<i>3,00</i>	<i>3.420,09</i>	<i>68.401,77</i>
<i>sea buckthorn</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>goji</i>	<i>6,00</i>	<i>35.130,00</i>	<i>702.600,00</i>

Table 14. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Vineyards plantations established

List of performance indicators	Indicators, ha	Total amount of sub-project, EUR	Total amount of sub-project, MDL
Establish of vineyard plantations (ha), from which:	112,74	611.926,16	12.238.523,25
<i>table grapes</i>	<i>91,23</i>	<i>343.939,21</i>	<i>6.878.784,25</i>
<i>tehnical varieties grapes</i>	<i>21,51</i>	<i>267.986,95</i>	<i>5.359.739,00</i>

Table 15. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Vegetable plantations established

List of performance indicators	Indicators, ha	Total amount of sub-project, EUR	Total amount of sub-project, MDL
Vegetable plantations (peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, eggplants, etc.)	45,00	136.037,64	2.720.752,82

Table 16. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Investments in development of post-harvest infrastructure

List of performance indicators	Indicators (units)	Total amount of sub-project, EUR	Total amount of sub-project, MDL
Investments in development of post-harvest infrastructure, from which:	57	21.949.155,58	438.983.111,57
<i>Construction/ renovation of production halls and processing capacities for horticultural products</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>524.656,69</i>	<i>10.493.133,85</i>
<i>Construction of wine production halls (wineries)</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>253.720,00</i>	<i>5.074.400,00</i>
<i>Construction of washing, sorting, packing halls of horticultural products and storage halls for agricultural machineries</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>4.903.350,80</i>	<i>98.067.016,00</i>
<i>Construction of refrigerated halls equipped with refrigerating equipment, cold storage rooms with pre-cooling capacity for horticultural products (refrigeration installations)</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>16.097.163,09</i>	<i>321.943.261,73</i>
<i>Construction of hall for fruits and berries dehydration and drying process</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>170.265,00</i>	<i>3.405.300,00</i>

Table 18. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Investments in plantations protection and maintenance systems

<i>List of performance indicators</i>	<i>Indicators (units)</i>	<i>Indicators, ha</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, EUR</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, MDL</i>
Investments in horticultural plantations protection and maintenance systems, from which:	35	405,47	1.507.118,12	30.142.362,47
<i>Weather forecast station, Metrologic systems</i>	1	0,00	3.000,00	60.000,00
<i>Irrigation systems</i>	29	363,97	1.322.811,61	26.456.232,26
<i>Basin (reservoir) for groundwater accumulation for irrigation purpose</i>	3	0,00	72.060,15	1.441.203,03
<i>Water supply and filtration network, including electric water and diesel pumping station</i>	1	0,00	65.454,36	1.309.087,18
<i>Anti-frost systems</i>	1	41,50	43.792,00	875.840,00
<i>Anti-hail systems</i>	1	41,50	564.076,73	11.281.534,60
<i>Support systems for vineyards plantations (PERGOLA System)</i>	6	3,83	25.552,00	511.040,00

Table 19. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Investments in energy efficiency system for production of renewable energy purpose

<i>List of performance indicators</i>	<i>Indicators (units)</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, EUR</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, MDL</i>
Investments in energy efficiency system for production of renewable energy purpose:	1	100.000,00	2.000.000,00
<i>Wind turbine for the production of renewable electricity</i>	1	100.000,00	2.000.000,00

Table 20. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Investments in Technological multifunctional equipment for the related industry

<i>List of performance indicators</i>	<i>Indicators (units)</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, EUR</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, MDL</i>
Technological multifunctional equipment for the related industry	26	2.817.143,000	56.342.860,000
<i>Polygraphic and flexographic equipments</i>	24	2.009.753,00	40.195.060,00

<i>Equipments for producing packages and wrappings</i>	2	807.390,00	16.147.800,00
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Table 21. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Investments in Horticultural machineries, autocar and other transportation units

List of performance indicators	Indicators (units)	Total amount of sub-project, EUR	Total amount of sub-project, MDL
Horticultural machineries, autocar and other transportation units	151	2.709.118,64	54.182.372,73

Table 22. Horticultural sector Performance Indicators within Fruit Garden Project regarding Acquisition of working capital

List of performance indicators	Total amount of sub-project, EUR	Total amount of sub-project, MDL
Acquisition of working capital, from which:	1.437.855,152	28.757.103,048
<i>raw material: vegetables</i>	<i>25.447,28</i>	<i>508.945,64</i>
<i>raw material: technical varieties grapes</i>	<i>486.370,00</i>	<i>9.727.400,00</i>
<i>raw material: wine</i>	<i>180.618,05</i>	<i>3.612.361,00</i>
<i>wooden containers, cardboard, plastic crates, etc</i>	<i>745.419,82</i>	<i>14.908.396,41</i>

During the reported period in order to achieve the M&E objectives, PIU has organised the following activities:

- PIU performed pre-financing visits on a selected number of sites - connected with EIB investment project to verify eligibility for financing from EIB loan and seek eligibility for Beneficiary's own contribution.
- PIU monitored the implementation of investment projects: performing a number of monitoring visits at project sites and collecting information regarding sub-project implementation status, compile visits report and inspect sites where procured equipment will be/is installed. Inform EIB on major deviations occurred during sub-project implementations.
- PIU monitored the investment status of the beneficiaries' future cash contribution during the sub-project's implementation period, in order to maintain the ratio of co-financing of the sub-projects of 50 % to 50 %.
- Monitor a selected number of EIB financed investment projects during implementation, using various methods of monitoring, such as:
 - Visited a selected number of beneficiaries' business sites, in order to monitor the implementation of the investment project:
 - Monitor the implementation of supply contracts financed from EIB loan;

- Collected confirmative documents from a selected number of Beneficiaries regarding the project's implementation, i.e. invoices that confirm the procurements made, new purchase agreements, attachments and amendments to contracts, previous contracts implementation, customs declarations on import of goods and equipment;
- PIU performed post-financing visits.

Monitoring&Evaluation activities of the beneficiaries from Credit Line Component of the Program

During reported period PIU has scheduled and performed Monitoring visits, in order to get acknowledge of the contract implementation status and has collected information and pictures regarding the investments made by beneficiaries in conformity with their approved sub-projects as follows:

Evaluation activity under Credit Line/Leasing Component

<i>subject</i>	<i>scope</i>	<i>PB</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
Questionnaire for impact evaluation of the investments made by PB financed from EIB loan through the Fruit Garden Project. The questionnaire was submitted by mail to 93 beneficiaries have get EIB financing during 2017-2019	Performnce indicators Evaluating activity	93 approved beneficiaries	April-June	Chisinau, PIU office
The PIU has collected the questionnaires cpmpleted with the financial and non-financial data relevant to the economic and commercial activity of the beneficiaries who realised the investments during 2017-2019.	Performnce indicators Evaluating activity	37 beneficiaries	July-September	Chisinau, PIU office

Monitoring activity under Credit Line/Leasing Component (Post-Financing Monitoring the implementation of the sub-project visit on the place of business activity/presented documentes)

<i>Nr. d/o</i>	<i>PB</i>	<i>Sub-sector</i>	<i>Implementation periof of IP</i>	<i>Place</i>
1	Latisev Galina GT	Investments in post-harvest infrastructure development	04.2019-12.2019	s. Criscauti rl Donduseni
2	Ulinici Nicu GT	Investments in planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses	09.2019-12.2019	Nisporeni district, Valea-Trestieni village
3	Greek Fruit SRL	Investments in post-harvest infrastructure development	05.2019-09.2019	Călărași district, Vărzăreștii Noi village

4	Il Mistreanu Radu	Investments in planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses		s. Șercani, Orhei
5	Uerovit LLC	winemaking and wine grape vineyards	03.2019-11.2019	Criuleni, sat. Boșcana
6	Il Moisei Mariana	Investments in planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses	03.2019-11.2019	s. Pohrebeni, Orhei
7	Gt Perju Petru	Investments in planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses	02.2019-05.2020	sat. Cociulia, Cantemir
8	Ghermes Agroservice JV	Investments in post-harvest infrastructure development	02.2018-05.2020	s. Zaim, r. Căușeni
9	Vicagro LLC	Investments in post-harvest infrastructure development	03.2016-12.2018	sat. Șeptelici, Soroca
10	Basarabia Lwin Invest LLC	Winemaking and wine grape vineyards	03.2020-09.2020	sat. Abaclia, Basarabeasca
11	GT Burcovschii Liviu	Investments in planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses		satul. Sauca, Ocnîța
12	Trimexpo JV	Processing plants development and Related industries development	03.2020-09.2020	s. Blindești, Ungheni
13	Novac Natali GT	Investments in planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses	11.2019-08.2020	m. Comrat, str. Fedico, 45
14	GT Ceban Galina	Investments in post-harvest infrastructure development	11.2019-08.2020	sat. Vălcineț, Ocnîța,
15	Smart Exim LLC	Investments in planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses	03.2019-08.2020	sat. Colicăuți, Briceni
16	Fructmer LLC	winemaking and wine grape vineyards		
17	Kernel JV II	Investments in post-harvest infrastructure development	03.2017-11.2020	or. Soroca, Soroca,

18	Fratii Vaipan LLC	Investments in planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses	03.2019-11.2020	or. Căinari, Căușeni
19	PDG Fruct LLC II (68)	Investments in post-harvest infrastructure development	08.2019-12.2020	s. Nișcani, Călărași
20	MC Com Invest LLC III (92)	Processing plants development and Related industries development	06.2020-12.2020	Satul Românești, Strășeni; Satul Peresecina - r-l. Orhei; Satul Rădeni - r-l. Strășeni
21	MC Com Invest LLC II (80)	Processing plants development and Related industries development	08.2019-11.2020	Satul Românești, Strășeni; Satul Peresecina Orhei; Satul Rădeni Strășeni
22	Gloria Cop Agro LLC	Investments in post-harvest infrastructure development	12.2019-09.2020	s. Ustia, Dubăsari
23	Bioaromatica LLV (II)	Investments in planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries, as well as greenhouses	08.2019-11.2020	sat. Geamana, Anenii Noi
24	Fruit Nurceries LLC	Investments in post-harvest infrastructure development	04.2019-12.2020	sat. Bucovăț, Strășeni, Republica Moldova

V. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

In accordance with the Finance Contract signed with EIB on 31 July 2014, the PIU was established and operated by the Promoter under the finance contract between the Bank and the Borrower dated 23 November 2010 for the Filiere du Vin Upgrading Project is continue manage, monitor and evaluate all aspects of the implementation of the Fruit Garden of Moldova Project in parallel with the Filiere du Vin Project, as provided for in Article 6.08 of the FC.

Also it is provided that the entire management, coordination and responsibility for Project implementation lie within the following institutions:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (Promoter);
- Council of Observers for Consolidated Unit for Implementing and Monitoring the Wine Sector Restructuring Project;
- Consolidated Unit for Implementing and Monitoring the Wine Sector Restructuring Project (PIU);
- Credit Line Directorate - Office for External Assistance Programs Management under Ministry of Finance.

The MoARDE, being Promoter due to the provisions of the Finance Contract, has the overall responsibility for the Project implementation.

Council of Observers for Consolidated Unit for Implementing and Monitoring the Wine Sector Restructuring Project, established by the Government Decree and chaired by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, represents the body of approval of the overall Filiere du Vin and Fruit Garden Projects operations in the country.

The main responsibilities thereof are the follows:

- To approve Regulation of procedures for selection of beneficiaries;
- To attract additional resources to ensure the institution's activity;
- To establish the maximum number of credits to be granted without prior coordination with the Council.

The overall management of the Project lies within the responsibility of the PIU, established by the Government Decree, entrusted with the responsibility for the implementation activities, coordination, including financial management.

In 2020, the PIU was exercised its responsibilities in terms of:

- project implementation in technical and financial terms, as well as supervision of overall activities thereof;
- elaboration of the annual work plan and budgets with continuous improvement thereof;
- procurement under the project's components as per the 2020 working plan and budget;
- monitoring and evaluation of the Project's impact in compliance with Project performance indicators which will enable Project impact assessment;
- preparation of progress reports, with continuous improvement thereof;

- Providing assistance for final beneficiaries.

1. Reporting and Budgeting

During the reported period PIU prepared and submitted the following reports:

- Financial Reports due to deadlines and formats established by the national legislation to State Local Authorities (MoF, Fiscal Authority, social insurance authority, etc.);
- Annual Progress Report for 2020 addressed to EIB, and PIU' Council of Observers;
- According to the national legislation, PIU prepared for the MoAFI and MoF the several forecasts and plans.
- Project proposals for the State Budget Law 2021.

2. TA Project activities

Activities implemented within „Technical Assistance Component of the Fruit Garden Project” to Support the Implementation of The Fruit Garden of Moldova” Operation and the Beneficiary Small and Medium Enterprises during 2020 (January-October 2020).

The technical assistance operation is financed by the European Commission through the Neighborhood Investment Facility (NIF) and by the Eastern Partnership Technical Assistance Trust Fund (EPTATF) and is implemented by the AFC Agriculture & Finance Consultants GmbH (AFC). The TA operation aims to support the implementation of the sovereign loan operation “Fruit Garden of Moldova” between the Republic of Moldova and the EIB and the contract value is estimated to be up to a maximum amount of EUR 2,200,000.

For the Component “Support the upgrading of the country’s horticulture sector” via capacity building and access to information, the TA is focusing resources in identifying where innovation and horticultural best practice from other countries are likely to find an echo in Moldova and could be implemented without major obstacles and which would potentially lead to an additional demand for investment finance.

Technology to which entrepreneurs from horticultural sector were exposed included: Waste water treatment for large processors and wineries; solar energy and wind energy solutions for companies operating cold stores; safe production of plums with new varieties and new rootstocks; innovative product development on the basis of fruits, vegetables and medicinal and aromatic plants.

3. Marketing and visibility

Many of TA activities initiated by TA and PIU in the reported period were allocated to the visualization of the FGM Project and marketing the FGM financed loans. With regards to marketing of FGM loans, major achievements have been:

- Production of new leaflets and an A1 poster informing about the FGM credit line as well as updating the FGM leaflet about renewable investment opportunities;
- Putting up head-high information stands at the regional AIPA offices, and regular replenishing the now 106 head-high information stands throughout the country Presentations and presence with an own stand at the annual conferences of the National Association of Beekeepers (11.02.2020) and the Moldovan Berry Association (27.02.2020);
- Cooperation with the news portal www.agrobiznes.md which wrote 25 online articles in the reporting period, mostly on new technology in horticulture, investment opportunities and events organized by FGM;
- Operation of the telephone hot-line (100 900) for calls from farmers interested in applying for FGM financed loans as well as maintenance of the FGM Facebook site In the area of communication with the Moldovan and the European public;
- Production of the 74 signboards customized to the individual investment projects which TA started placing on the site.
- Production of 6 new short documentaries with testimonials of FGM beneficiaries shown on Agro TV (all with English subtitles) and subtitling of the 7 documentaries which were produced in 2019;
- Production of an English version with 12 stories about FGM beneficiaries who received financing in 2019 and 2020;
- Development of online articles in collaboration with the EU Delegation in Moldova (“EUMoldova Cooperation Newsletter”) and the European Commission.

The pandemic situation has curtailed a number of activities planned. Nevertheless, the TA managed to make progress in the following areas:

- Webinars on good practices, innovative technologies and investment opportunities;
 - Irrigation webinar 27.05.2020;
 - Photovoltaic energy production webinar 18.06.2020;
 - Plum drying webinar 01.07.2020;
 - Orchard establishment webinar 08.07.2020;
 - Small winery development webinar 23.09.2020;
- Waste water treatment consultancy for larger wineries;
- Consultancy for individual horticultural processing projects;
- Introduction of lemon verbena to support diversification strategies of growers;
- Promotion of Lucerne for composting and as a green manure crop in horticulture;

Technology & market access for SMEs.

- Topics: Horticultural processing (In March 2020, just before the lockdown, TA Consultant Olivier van Buynder came to Moldova to advise three companies which are active in the area of producing and processing medicinal and aromatic plants how to set up new production facilities: Molsalvia (Marian Supostat), Essential Oil COOM (Alexandru Badarau) and Trimexpo (Nicolae Granciuc)..
- Waste water treatment: Two larger wineries are being coached through the process of planning and building new FGM-financed waste water treatment facilities: Asconi and Basarabia Lwin. Asconi's project is in the process of execution after the TA organised a study trip to Germany from 08 to 11 March 2020 (just before Moldova went into lockdown) to demonstrate to Asconi the advantages of the Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) system suitable for food processing companies. The German TA Consultant Dr Peter Hartwig (AquaConsult) elaborated the concept for Asconi, made drawings to guide the civil works and assisted with evaluating offers of suppliers.

Loan brokerage for SME's.

- A platform of 11 partner Business Development Services companies has been trained and a cost-sharing scheme was established to be carried out by TA. Out of them, 8 active BDS companies have assisted over 141 enterprises to prepare loan application packages of which 81 have submitted loan applications to Livada Moldovei and were successfully completed. In addition, FGM makes the BDS companies known to the partner banks who then send them their clients. The BDS companies also feature in all FGM leaflets and on the livadamoldovei.md website.

Work with Banks.

- To increase visibility of FGM, head-high stands were distributed in all the banks and were assisted to advertise the Livada Moldovei loans with the help of video spots.
- To build capacities inside banks, the training of credit officers of participating banks will be continued by PIU and TA. The training developed by the TA introduced them to 24 economic models of horticultural production. In addition, TA is offering consultancy to participating banks to help them adapt their social and environmental standards to international practice when assessing loan applications. This horticultural literacy training by TA Consultant Adrian Cojocarui who had previously developed Excel-based economic models for 18 horticultural crops at different levels of intensity could not take place during the reporting period due to the Corona pandemics. During this reporting period he added economic models for 7 additional crops (walnuts, almonds, hazelnuts, lavender, potatoes, onions, and garlic) making it 25 horticultural crops for which these models are now available. They help credit officers to validate the figures provided by farmers in their credit applications.
- With the including in the program of two more participating Banks in November: Moldova Agroinbank and VictoriaBank; in order to build capacities inside banks, the training of credit officers of participating banks started and a series of informative seminars were organized in the period of aug - November 2020.

Work with Public institutions.

In the area of investments in public sector infrastructure, the TA had allocated an enormous attention. TA is supporting project implementation in the phases of concept development, expertise for project development, technical project development (i.e. detailed planning), tendering support as well as the supervision of contractors.

The Ministry of Agriculture who is the promoter of the FGM project and chairs the Council of Observers is regarded as the major partner of the TA. TA have been directly collaborating on the following issues:

1. Former State Secretary Vasile Luca had asked the TA to support the development of the wine sector strategy “Wine of Moldova 2030” under the National Development Strategy “Moldova 2030” and the TA thereupon contracted the lead expert for the development of this strategy (John Barker). The inclusive process leading to the strategy has now been successfully completed, and the final document has been accepted by the National Office for Vine and Wine and recently presented to the Ministry of Agriculture. The Romanian version can be downloaded here. The National Office is now elaborating the necessary budget for the implementation of the strategy before it gets finally endorsed.
2. At an initiative of the former Minister of Agriculture, Mrs. Georgeta Mincu, the cold store map developed by TA with 633 fruit cold stores and 53 sorting lines for fruits and vegetables will be transformed into an interactive website with an own URL. This project was delayed by the Corona lockdown, but is halfway through to completion now.
3. The current Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Ion Perju, had asked TA to support media communication training of senior staff at the Ministry. Such training could also help to increase the understanding among people in Moldova as to what the EU and the EIB are doing for them through projects like FGM. During the reporting period, trainers have been hired and a training plan elaborated. As soon as Corona-induced restrictions allow for a physical training in a closed room, the training will be carried out. Three trainers will prepare Ministry staff to formulate key messages which are attractive to public and media professionals. They will also practice video and radio interviews as well as making press releases.
4. In addition, TA contributed to the Ministry’s annual conferences for the agricultural education institutions (August every year), TA included a Ministry representative into the study tour team to France and Germany to visit wine-making schools, and TA sponsored the participation of the Ministry at the 42nd annual congress of the International Office of Vine and Wine OIV. The 43rd annual congress in 2020 was cancelled due to the Corona outbreak.

PR Project activities

In the 2020-year, Fruit Garden of Moldova Project continuously and widely disseminated and broadcasted info and data, through various media channels: national, regional and local mass media, promoting the Project Beneficiaries investment projects activities, achievements and performances under the Project and the EIB support in implementing investments projects in horticulture sectors. Please see details under the Marketing and visibility chapter above.

More details are in Annex. 6 Project promotion activities

Annex 1. EIB allocated amount breakdown by years and horticultural sub-sector, cumulative data for period 2016- December 31, 2020

<i>Sub-sector distribution</i>	<i>Max %</i>	<i>Max amount</i>	<i>Allocation amount in 2016</i>	<i>Allocation amount in 2017</i>	<i>Allocation amount in 2018</i>	<i>Allocation amount in 2019</i>	<i>Allocation amount in 2020</i>	<i>Cumulative to date</i>	<i>Remaining unallocated balance as of 31.12.2020</i>
Post-harvest infrastructure development, incl. warehousing, trading platforms, cooling, transportation, grading and sorting units, agro tourism related to the horticultural activity	up to 60%	72,000,000	969,358	2,880,689	3,035,476	3,023,229	9,642,594	19,551,345.94	52,448,654
Planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries	up to 35%	42,000,000	11,650	455,062	1,114,770	1,225,192	4,103,931	6,910,604.57	35,089,395
Winemaking and wine grape vineyards	up to 25%	30,000,000	-		310,400	737,646	1,963,057	3,011,102.95	26,988,897
Processing plants development and Related industries development	up to 10%	12,000,000	28,000	2,140,000	1,551,889	710,500	1,432,638	5,863,027.35	6,136,973
Investment in Infrastructure (Laboratories, education, training and development of food security)	up to 10%	12,000,000	-	-	3,985,154		6,649,142	10,634,296.00	1,365,704
Total		120,000,000	1,009,008	5,475,751	9,997,689	5,696,567	23,791,362	45,970,376.81	74,029,623.19

Annex 2. EIB disbursed amount breakdown by years and horticultrual sub-sector, cumulative data for period 2016- December 31, 2020

<i>Sub-sector distribution</i>	<i>Max, %</i>	<i>Max amount</i>	<i>Disbursed amount in 2016</i>	<i>Disbursed amount in 2017</i>	<i>Disbursed amount in 2018</i>	<i>Disbursed amount in 2019</i>	<i>Disbursed amount in 2020</i>	<i>Cumulative to date</i>	<i>Remaining undisbursed amoun as of 10.10.2020</i>
Post-harvest infrastructure development, incl. warehousing, trading platforms, cooling, trasnportation, grading and sorting units, agro tourism related to the horticultural activity	60%	72,000,000	969,358	2,728,099	2,870,799	3,161,355	9,532,623	19,262,233.70	52,737,766
Planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries	35%	42,000,000	11,650	455,062	1,114,770	1,214,531	3,454,093	6,250,106.04	35,749,894
Winemaking and wine grape vineyards	25%	30,000,000	-	-	310,400	738,565	1,963,057	3,012,022.00	26,987,978
Processing plants development and Related industries development	10%	12,000,000	28,000	2,140,000	1,551,889	405,500	1,740,598	5,865,986.75	6,134,013
Investment in Infrastructure (Laboratories, education, training and development of food security)	10%	12,000,000	-	-	3,985,154	-	-	3,985,154.00	8,014,846
Total		120,000,000	1,009,008	5,323,161	9,833,012	5,519,951	16,690,371	38,375,502.49	81,624,498

Annex 3. Detailed EIB Allocations versus disbursements breakdown by financial product and Beneficiaries for period 2016-2020

<i>Description of sub-project</i>	<i>No of FB</i>	<i>No of allocated Sub-Projects</i>	<i>Total amount of sub-project, EUR</i>	<i>Value of EIB allocations, EUR</i>	<i>Value of FB co financing, EUR</i>	<i>% of allocations by sector</i>	<i>Value of EIB disbursed amount, EUR</i>	<i>Disbursed amount by PIU to PFI, euro</i>
<i>Component 1: Investment in post-harvest infrastructure development</i>	65	77	40,983,240.16	19,551,345.94	21,431,894.22	43%	19,262,233.70	18,784,107.26
<i>Component 2: Planting, replanting and/or restructuring orchards and vineyards, including associated nurseries</i>	62	77	14,278,591.57	6,910,604.57	7,367,987.00	15%	6,250,106.04	6,642,230.06
<i>Component 3: Winemaking and wine grape vineyards</i>	10	11	6,086,952.95	3,011,102.95	3,075,850.00	7%	3,012,022.00	3,011,102.96
<i>Component 4: Processing plants and related industries development, from which:</i>	15	16	12,067,799.60	5,863,027.35	6,204,772.25	13%	5,865,986.75	5,863,027.35
<i>Investments in Processing plants development</i>	5	6	5,763,777.60	2,830,387.60	2,933,390.00		2,833,347.00	2,830,387.60
<i>Investments in related industry development</i>	10	10	6,304,022.00	3,032,639.75	3,271,382.25		3,032,639.75	3,032,639.75
<i>Component 5: Investment in Infrastructure (LTEDFS)</i>	8	8	21,910,775.00	10,634,296.00	11,276,479.00	23%	3,985,154.00	2,954,780.18
Total	160	189	95,327,359.28	45,970,376.81	49,356,982.47	100%	38,375,502.49	37,255,247.81

Annex 4. PIU Eligibility Notices issued during 2020 under Credit line&leasing

Annex 5. PIU eligibility notices issued during 2020, on Investments in Infrastructure Component.

Annex 6. Project promotion activities