

Agricultural Irrigation Assessment in Moldova

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT SUMMARY

The U.S. Agency for International Development/Moldova needed to know if improved irrigation would substantially contribute to improved Moldovan farm incomes. After analyzing and assessing the institutional and financial situation of Moldova's irrigated agriculture, Riverside Technology, inc. suggested specific institutional and organizational steps to develop the irrigated agriculture sector.

LOCATION
Moldova

PERIOD
2004

PROJECT DETAILS

Agriculture accounts for 25 percent of Moldova's gross domestic product and employs over 40 percent of the national workforce. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is supporting a new market-oriented Moldovan agriculture sector, where private enterprise growth creates jobs and generates incomes.

Working under a contract with PA Consulting Group, Riverside Technology, inc. (Riverside) helped to conduct an in-depth assessment of Moldova's irrigated agriculture sector. This assessment provided USAID with needed data and analysis in the decision to help develop Moldova's irrigation potential. The assessment concluded that lack of irrigation in Moldova is a major constraint to the productivity and financial sustainability of small to medium sized farms.



Riverside conducted an institutional assessment of irrigated agriculture, and discovered that there are pockets, or islands, of institutional entrepreneurship existing in rural Moldova, largely self-supporting, with little or no outside assistance. After extensive travel and meetings throughout Moldova, Riverside suggested both national and field level strategies for institutional strengthening and developing local Water Users Associations (WUAs), including:

- An appropriate WUA policy and legal framework
- A structured dialogue with appropriate government institutions and other donors
- The development of a national WUA establishment and development program
- An efficient and effective WUA training and information delivery program
- Strengthening the capacity of local groups non-government organizations (NGOs) to conduct institutional development activities for Moldovan WUAs
- Implementing the WUA establishment and development program in the field
- Planning and implementing WUA-to-WUA training
- Establishing a national federation of WUAs
- Linking WUA establishment and development activities with processing and marketing efforts

RELATED PROJECTS

Agricultural Sector Review and Planning in Uzbekistan

Chhattisgarh Irrigation Development

Water Users Association Development for Romania

RIVERSIDE



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