

# Moldovan PM, World Bank Group's representatives discuss priority energy projects



Prime Minister Alexandru Munteanu today had a meeting with representatives of the World Bank Group, during which priority projects for strengthening the energy security of Moldova were discussed. The projects focus on interconnecting infrastructure, diversifying supply sources, as well as expanding renewable energy generation capacities and enhancing energy efficiency.

The World Bank is supporting the implementation of three major energy projects in Moldova, with a total value of 224.5 million dollars. They include the construction of the 400 kV Vulcanesti–Chisinau overhead power line, including modernization works at the 330 kV Chisinau power substation; the project for building two efficient cogeneration plants at Termoelectrica JSC and the Moldova Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund Project – MEERM.

For each project, the sides analyzed the current progress and identified the measures necessary to accelerate procedures and works in cases where delays were found, in order to ensure completion within the agreed deadlines. At the same time, the discussions covered a new project under preparation, which involves the construction of a high-efficiency cogeneration plant that is to replace, by 2030, the current capacities of Termoelectrica JSC.

Prime Minister Alexandru Munteanu thanked the World Bank for its support in enhancing the country's energy resilience. He noted that the government would continue close cooperation with the World Bank for the implementation of major energy projects, with an emphasis on efficiency, transparency and compliance with deadlines.

"Energy is one of the most important investments in the future of Moldova. Economic competitiveness, business development and the quality of public services all depend on it. Our priorities stay the development of interconnection with Romania, the expansion of energy storage capacities and investments in energy efficiency. It is equally important to reduce consumption wherever we can. More efficient use of energy means lower costs, a more competitive economy and more resources for development," said Prime Minister Munteanu.

In the context, Ulrich Schmitt, Country Manager of the World Bank Group for Moldova, and Stephanie Gil, Energy Practice Manager for the Europe and Central Asia Region at the World

Bank, reconfirmed their readiness to continue supporting Moldova in carrying out the investments needed for energy security, infrastructure's modernization and integration into the European Union energy market.

