

Be Ready Local Action Plan to Prevent and Mitigate Urban Heat Island Risks and Vulnerabilities 2026-2028

Chişinău City

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Chişinău Urban Heat Island Action Plan represents a strategic response to one of the most pressing environmental and public health challenges facing the capital city of the Republic of Moldova.

Developed within the framework of the Be Ready project, specifically under Activity 3.2, this Action Plan addresses the escalating Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect through a comprehensive suite of targeted green, blue, and white adaptation measures.

The Be Ready project recognizes that urban heat is not merely an environmental inconvenience but a multifaceted crisis with profound implications for public health, economic productivity, social equity, and infrastructure resilience. By developing this Action Plan, Chişinău demonstrates its commitment to proactive climate adaptation and its determination to protect its citizens—particularly the most vulnerable—from the escalating dangers of extreme heat.

The Action Plan has been meticulously crafted to translate the methodologies developed and pilot results achieved through the Be Ready project into concrete, implementable actions with clearly defined responsibilities, realistic timelines, and robust monitoring mechanisms. This operationalization of project outputs ensures that the knowledge generated through research and demonstration activities translates into lasting improvements in urban climate resilience.

The Action Plan covers an implementation period extending from June 2026 through June 2028, with the expectation that each partner city will initiate implementation of at least one measure before the conclusion of the Be Ready project itself.

This timeline reflects a pragmatic recognition that meaningful climate adaptation requires sustained effort beyond project cycles, with the foundational actions established during the project period serving as the beginning of a longer-term transformation in urban climate management.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 City context and approach to Urban Heat Islands

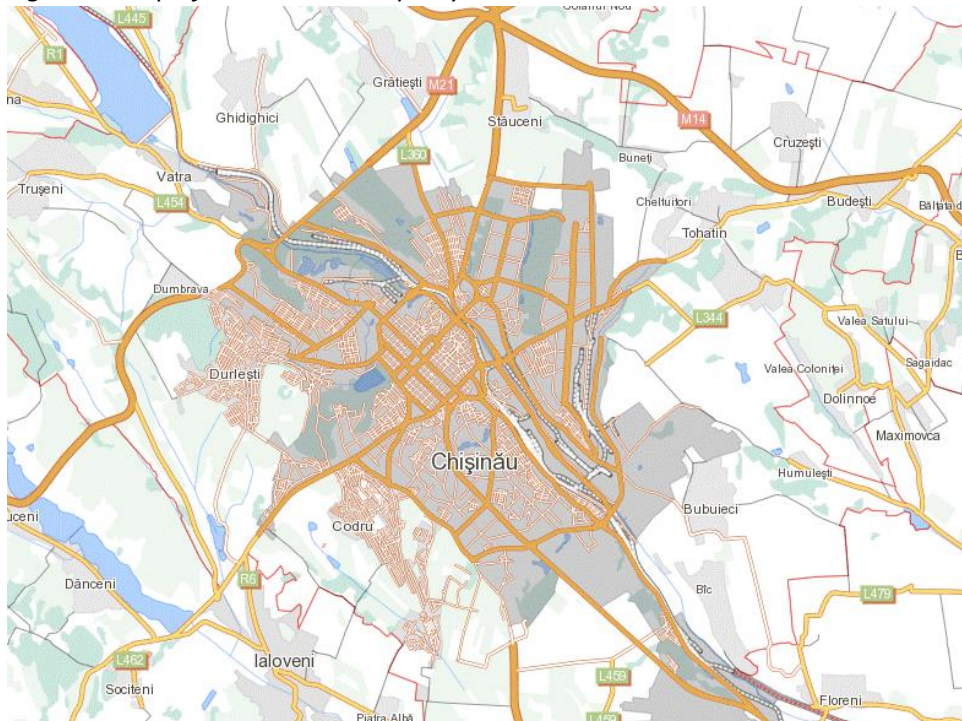
Socio-economic profile

Chişinău is an administrative-territorial unit of the Republic of Moldova, a city with a special status of a municipality, which is an urban-type settlement that plays a special role in the economic, socio-cultural, scientific, political and administrative life of the country and has important industrial and commercial structures, educational, health and cultural institutions.

Chişinău is the capital and largest city of the Republic of Moldova. It is the administrative, socio-political, economic, scientific and cultural centre of the country. The first mention of Chişinău dates back to 1436. The city status was obtained in 1818, and the status of a municipality Chişinău - in 1995.

Chişinău is a higher-level administrative-territorial unit, along with districts. Chişinău is located in the central region of Moldova at an altitude of 85 m above sea level, in the East European Plain. The city is located on seven hills and is crossed by the Bîc River, a right tributary of the Dniester River. The part of Chişinău on the right bank of the Bîc River occupies terraces above the floodplain.

Figure 1: Map of Chisinau Municipality



Source: https://www.chisinau.md/ro/harta-orasului-chisinau-pe-pagina-oficiala-a-primariei-20292_238522

The town is located on the edge of the south-eastern slope of the Central Plateau of Moldova, in the forest-steppe zone. The predominant soil is black soil (cernoziom), ideal for agricultural development. Among minerals, limestone is widespread, rich in well-preserved fossils. In Chişinău there is the Ghidighici reservoir, the largest, and 23 other lakes.

The Chisinau Municipality spans a total administrative surface area of 571.64 km². However, the urban core (the city itself) is concentrated within 123 km², representing roughly 21% of the total municipal territory. This concentration results in a high-density urban environment, with a population density of 5,576 inhabitants per km², reflecting a compact and bustling capital city.

With an urban population of 597 335 as of 2025 (according to the National Bureau of Statistics of Moldova¹), it serves as the political, economic, and cultural heart of the country.

The economic landscape of the municipality shows a city in transition. The GDP per capita stands at €6,319, indicating its status as the country's primary economic engine, though it remains lower than many Western European capital averages.

From a social sustainability and labor perspective:

- Minimum Wage (2024): The monthly minimum wage is set at €258.3.
- Annual Earnings: This equates to an annual minimum income of €3,100.

The data highlights a significant disparity between the overall economic output (GDP per capita) and the baseline cost of labor. With the annual minimum wage sitting at approximately 49% of the GDP per capita, the municipality faces specific challenges regarding income inequality and housing affordability for its lower-income residents

Urban climate

Chişinău is located in a temperate continental climate zone. Winter is mild and short; summer is warm and long. Meteorological observations are made regularly (every 3 hours) at the Chişinău Hydrometeorological Centre.

The first meteorological observations were made in 1844, and systematic observations were made only in 1886–1940 at the Real High School and in 1885–1923 at the Winemaking School. Intensive research in the field of climate began in the post-war years at the weather stations in Rîşcani (1944–1959) and Revaca (from 1959), as well as at the Chişinău Hydrometeorological Centre.

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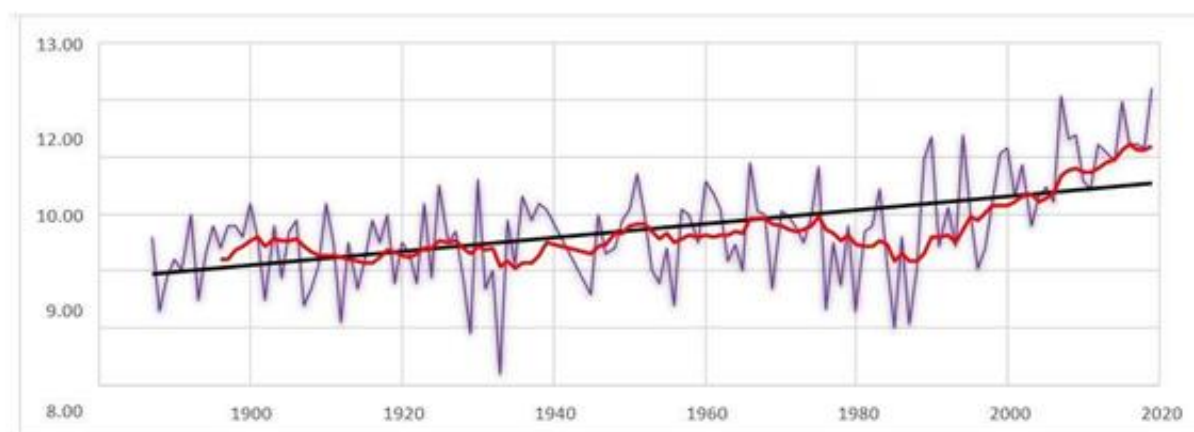
https://statbank.statistica.md/PxWeb/pxweb/ro/20%20Populatia%20si%20procesele%20demografice/20%20Populatia%20si%20procesele%20demografice_POP010_POPro/POP010400rcleg.px/table/tableViewLayout2/?rxid=9a62a0d7-86c4-45da-b7e4-fecc26003802

The annual sunlight is 2215 hours, the strongest and longest being recorded in July (329 hours), and the shortest – in December (54 hours). There are 71 days without sun (with 100% cloud cover) per year, most of which occur in winter (40 days). In June and September, one day without sun is recorded, while in July–August such days are almost completely absent. Winds from the north and northeast directions predominate, in winter they can also blow from the southeast. The average annual wind speed ranges between 2.5 and 4.5 m/s, the strongest being recorded in February–March, and the weakest in September–October.

Climate trends

Regarding historical climate change trends, over the past 133 years, Moldova has experienced changes in average temperature and precipitation. The climate in the country has become warmer, with an average temperature increase of 1.2°C, while the increase in average precipitation volumes has been only about 51.3 mm.

Figure 2: Trends in change in average annual air temperature (°C) for the years 1887-2019: purple line (current trend), solid black line (linear trend over a century) and red line (10-year moving average trend) at the oldest meteorological station in the Republic of Moldova located in Chişinău, in the central part of the country.



Source: https://www.meteo.md/images/uploads/gis/meteo/Tendinta%20schimb_temp.pdf

Thus, the changes observed in the climate of the Republic of Moldova over the past century are in line with global and regional trends associated with climate change caused by human activities. In the coming centuries, an upward trend in these changes is forecast.

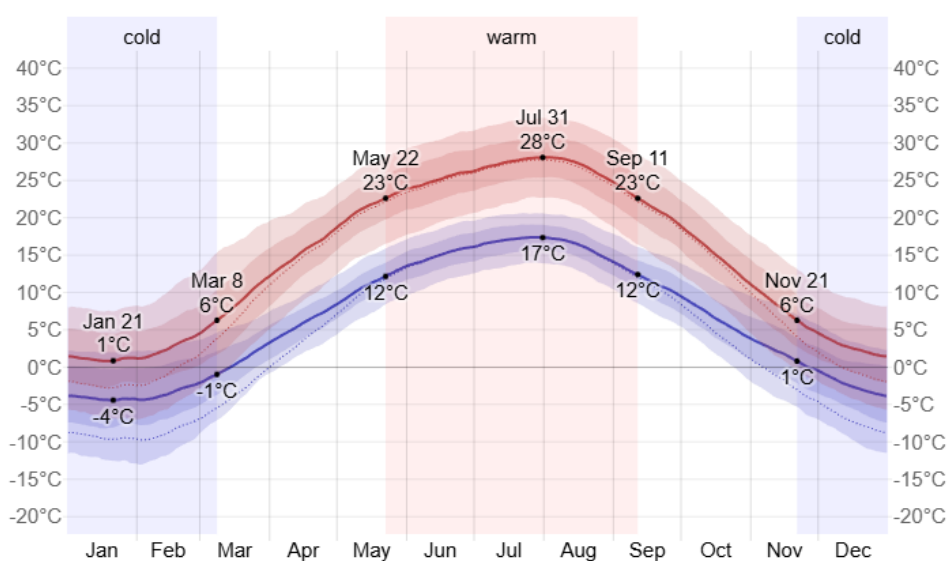
In the urban environment, climate change is having negative effects on human health and infrastructure. High temperatures, including heat waves, have intensified in cities, generating cases of air pollution and limited functioning of key infrastructure. Urban infrastructure, including transport, water supply, sanitation and energy systems, are affected by extreme events, causing economic losses, disruptions in service provision and impacts on the well-being of the population.

Over the past century, Chişinău has witnessed a significant rise in average temperatures, the average temperature is 20.5 °C, and the absolute maximum is 43 °C, in July and August. The end of autumn is determined by the temperature dropping below 0 °C, which lasts approx. 2 months, and long-term atmospheric precipitation. The average temperature in autumn is almost 10 °C (9.9(6)°C).

Winter lasts about 78 days, with unstable temperatures: on average, -2.3 °C. The minimum temperature, -31.5 °C, was recorded in 1937. Spring lasts about 70 days, during which the average temperature is 9.3 °C. Summer begins in mid-May and ends around September 20.

Higher air temperature in certain regions of the city is caused by the activity of industrial enterprises, transport, heating of asphalt caused by solar radiation, high albedo and other effects. On average, the temperature inside the city of Chişinău is 0.7 °C higher than outside it.

Figure 3: Average High and Low Temperature in Chisinau



Source: <https://weatherspark.com>

Heatwaves have become a major concern, with frequency and intensity escalating. For instance, the summer of 2021 saw record-breaking heat in Moldova, including Chişinău, where temperatures exceeded 40°C for several days, marking one of the hottest periods on record.

Urban infrastructure vulnerabilities amplify these climate threats. Chişinău's water supply system, built largely during the Soviet era, consists of outdated pipes and reservoirs that are

susceptible to leaks, contamination, and reduced capacity during droughts. The city's reliance on the Dniester River and local aquifers means that prolonged dry spells—now more common due to shifting precipitation patterns—can lead to water shortages, as seen in the 2020 severe drought that affected Moldova².

Additionally, the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect is pronounced in Chişinău, where dense concrete developments and limited green spaces can raise temperatures by 5-10°C compared to surrounding rural areas, according to a 2022 study by the European Environment Agency. This intensifies heatwaves, increases energy consumption for cooling, and has caused power grid failures during peak demand, as reported in Moldova's Third Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC (2021)³.

The findings underscore the urgent need for sustainable urban planning and green infrastructure initiatives to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and enhance the resilience of Moldova and Chişinău's urban climate.

² https://ibn.idsi.md/sites/default/files/imag_file/pesd2025192022_compressed.pdf

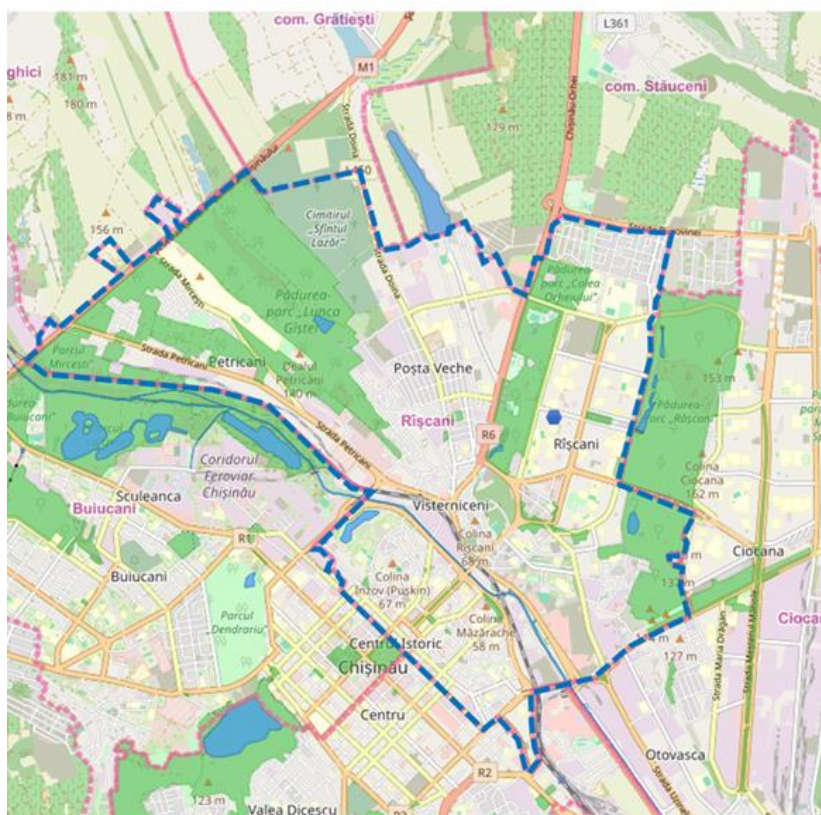
³ <https://moldova.un.org/en/168867-third-biennial-update-report-republic-moldova>

2.2 Assessment of vulnerability and risks related to Urban Heat Islands

The Be Ready vulnerability assessment (WP2)⁴ within the *Urban heat islands vulnerability and risk assessment* evaluated Chişinău's exposure to the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect, focusing on four core elements: exposure, sensitivity, preparedness, and adaptive capacity.

Conducted primarily in the Rîşcani Sector — a densely populated area selected for detailed analysis — the study highlights how urban morphology, building density, green space distribution, and socio-economic factors contribute to heat retention and vulnerability.

Figure 4: Delimited map of the Rîşcani Sector



Source: www.gislocal.md

Key findings underscore the city's challenges in mitigating UHI impacts, particularly in a context of limited data availability and seasonal assessment constraints (conducted during colder months, potentially underestimating summer heat effects). Below, we summarize the critical insights related to identified heat hotspots, areas exposed to UHI, sensitive populations, and public spaces and infrastructure at risk.

⁴ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1evIB311QxQqMKadz2xoTrntPzEAdOeW7/view>

Identified heat hotspots

Heat hotspots in Chişinău are areas where surface temperatures are elevated due to factors like high building density, low vegetation cover, impermeable surfaces, and intense human activities. The assessment identifies several vulnerable zones based on albedo (reflectivity), thermal conductivity, heat capacity, and surface temperature data. Notably, surface temperatures vary across the municipality, with warmer areas in the east and cooler ones in the northwest and southeast, as shown in radar maps.

Key hotspots include:

City Centre: The downtown area, including areas around Ştefan cel Mare Boulevard, experiences higher temperatures due to excessive concrete and traffic. It is characterized also by high commercial activity, dense buildings, and limited green spaces, leading to significantly higher temperatures.

Buiucani sector: Rapid urbanization with apartment blocks and minimal vegetation exacerbates heat retention.

Rîşcani Sector: High building density and low vegetation cover make it prone to UHI effects, with a Building Coverage Ratio (BCR) of 0.192 and Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of 1.027 indicating moderate to high urban density.

Industrial Zones: Areas with industrial activity, such as parts of Strada Uzinelor, act as heat sinks. Economic activities and dense infrastructure contribute to additional heat generation.

Botanica Sector: Despite some green spaces, heat-retaining materials and building density amplify UHI impacts.

Major Traffic Arteries: High-traffic corridors are significant hot spots, including:

- Main Boulevard Ştefan cel Mare şi Sfânt - The central spine of the city, runs through downtown Chişinău;
- Dacia Boulevard - Major east–west artery, connects the city center with Botanica district and Chişinău International Airport;
- Moscova Boulevard - Main road in Rîşcani district, connects northern residential areas with the city center;
- Calea Ieşilor Street - Main western exit of the city, connects Chişinău with Ungheni and România;
- Ismail Street - Important north–south connector, links central areas with southern neighborhoods;
- Alba Iulia Street - Major road in the Buiucani district, important westbound corridor.

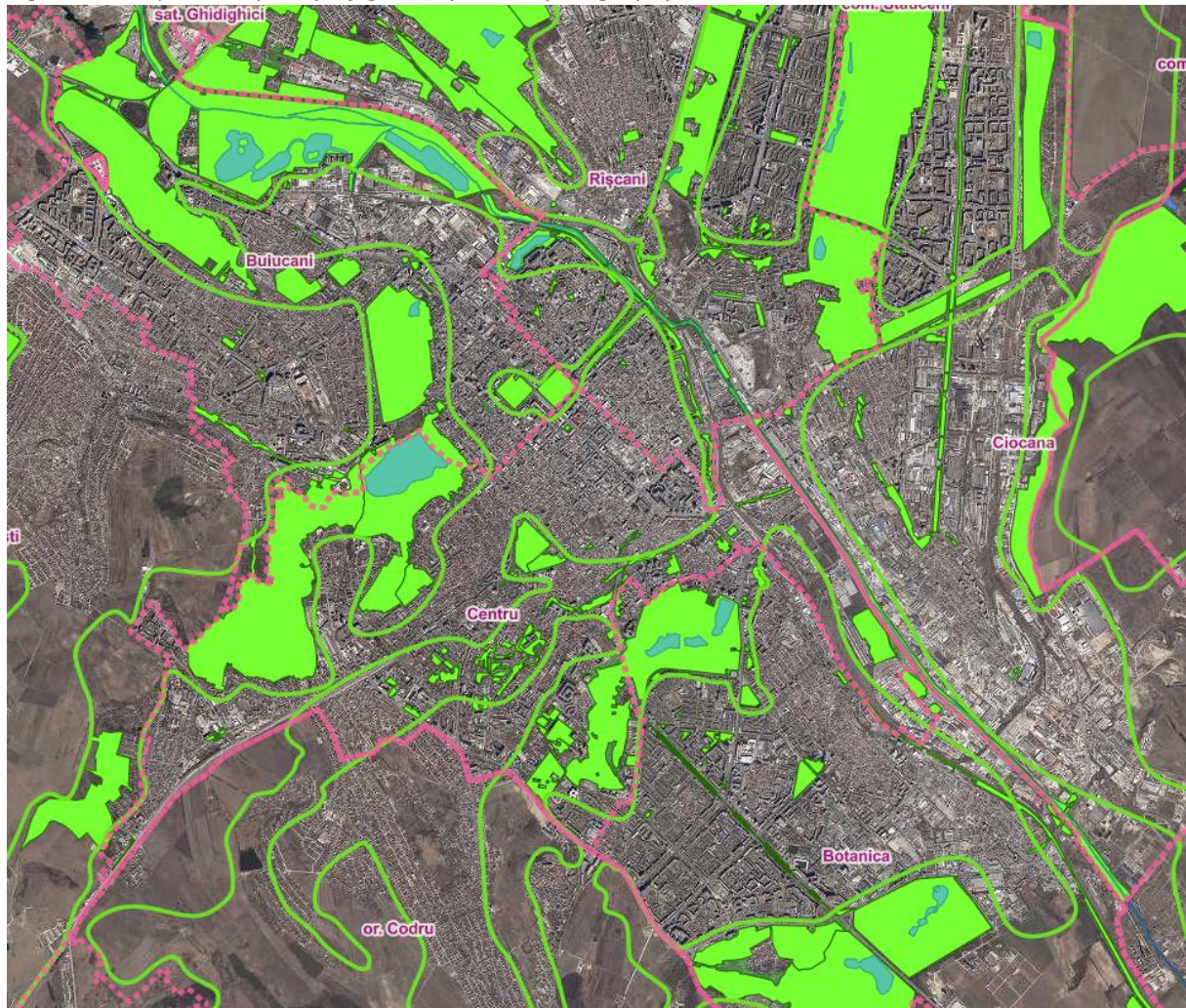
Infrastructure heavy areas: Zones with high amounts of concrete and older, dense residential buildings (typical of the Soviet-era structure) tend to elevate surface temperatures by 15-20°C compared to greener areas.

These hotspots are driven by materials like concrete and asphalt, which have low albedo (around 0.20-0.25) and high thermal conductivity, trapping heat during the day and releasing it at night. The assessment notes data limitations, such as the absence of Copernicus or CORINE Land Cover datasets, restricting precise emissivity and vegetative cover analyses.

Priority areas exposed to UHI

Priority areas for UHI exposure are those with compounded risks from urban form, land use, and environmental factors.

Figure 5: Chişinău City Map of green spaces, hydrography and eco corridors



Source: <https://gislocal.md/?locale=ro#/viewer/14>

Key exposures include the areas on the map colored in grey:

High Building Density and Impermeable Surfaces: In different sectors of the city, but namely Rîșcani sector as the study area BCR and FAR metrics reveal moderate density, with buildings occupying 19.2% of plot area but extending vertically.

Impermeable surfaces (e.g., asphalt and concrete, 0-5% permeability) dominate roads and rooftops, promoting rapid stormwater runoff and flooding risks while hindering heat dissipation.

Low Green Cover: Chișinău's green spaces total 1,971.52 hectares (15-25% of the area), but losses since 1990 (from 4,141 hectares to 3,656.9 hectares) have reduced cooling effects. Parks like Valea Morilor and Dendrarium provide some relief, but industrial zones and peripheral areas lack access, exacerbating UHI in dense neighborhoods.

Urban Morphology and Land Use: The city's polycentric structure, with natural separators like rivers and forests, influences heat distribution. High-density residential blocks, industrial zones, and transport networks (e.g., railways) create barriers to development and amplify heat retention. The high density of 5,576 inhabitants/km² and an urban population exceeding 597,000 significantly increase vulnerability to the UHI effect within the city's compact core.

Sensitive populations

Vulnerable groups in Chișinău face heightened risks from UHI due to socio-economic, health, and demographic factors, with limited adaptive resources. The assessment focused on Rîșcani's selected neighborhood, home to diverse at-risk populations, and draws from broader municipal data:

Elderly (65+ Years): Comprising 13% of the population (84,900 in 2022⁵), with a higher share among women (15 per 100 women), they are susceptible to heat-related illnesses due to pre-existing conditions and reduced mobility. In Rîșcani's old five-story blocks, aging infrastructure lacks cooling systems, compounding risks.

Young Children (Under 5 Years): Representing 23% of the youth demographic, they are concentrated in areas like Rîșcani's kindergartens (Nos. 5, 100, and 137), where heat can cause dehydration and developmental issues, exacerbated by limited green spaces.

Youth and Low-Income Residents: Young adults (15-34 years) have declined from 26.6% to 23.4% of the population (2014-2024) due to migration, with many in student dormitories near the Technological College and Technical University. Low-income groups face poverty

⁵ All data according to the National Bureau of Statistics of Moldova:

<https://statbank.statistica.md/PxWeb/pxweb/ro/20%20Populatia%20si%20procesele%20demografice/?rxid=9a62a0d7-86c4-45da-b7e4-fecc26003802>

rates of 10.9% (2023), unemployment at 4.2%, and limited access to air conditioning, increasing vulnerability during heatwaves.

Other Groups: Pensioners (127,500 in 2024), those with disabilities, and socially disadvantaged individuals (e.g., without medical insurance) are at risk, with health policies addressing heat impacts but data gaps hindering comprehensive assessments. Migration and emigration intentions further strain support systems.

Overall, Chişinău's demographic shifts—aging population, youth exodus, and economic inequalities—amplify sensitivity, particularly in dense, underserved neighborhoods.

Public spaces and infrastructure at risk

Public spaces and infrastructure in Chişinău are vulnerable to UHI due to inadequate green coverage, aging systems, and high energy demands, with risks including heat accumulation, flooding, and health hazards:

Green Spaces and Parks: Losses of 485 hectares since 1990 threaten cooling functions. Key sites like Valea Morilor Park (330 hectares) and Dendrarium provide recreation but are insufficient; industrial areas reduce access, and low permeability (from impermeable pavements) worsens runoff and heat retention.

Infrastructure: Hospitals (12 in Chişinău, with 2,575 beds) and healthcare facilities are energy-intensive and at risk of overheating, especially during peaks. Schools, kindergartens, and transport networks (e.g., electric buses at 20% of fleet) face similar issues, with dense roads contributing to heat. Aging five-story blocks in Rîşcani lack modern amenities, increasing flood and heat risks.

Broader Systems: Low green cover (15-25%) and high imperviousness exacerbate UHI, while policies like the 2024-2030 Resilience Strategy aim to mitigate, but implementation lags. Energy consumers (e.g., industrial zones) and vulnerable sites highlight the need for adaptive measures.

In conclusion, the assessment revealed Chişinău's UHI vulnerabilities stem from rapid urbanization, data deficiencies, and socio-economic disparities. While institutional frameworks (e.g., National Climate Commission) and adaptive capacities (e.g., technological innovations like smart sensors) offer pathways forward, enhancing green infrastructure, community education, and data collection is essential to build resilience against escalating heat risks. Future studies should incorporate summer data for a fuller picture.

2.3 Integration with local strategic framework

The Action Plan of Chisinau for managing Urban Heat Islands has been developed in alignment with existing development, planning, and sectoral documents of the City of Chisinau. These documents constitute the key institutional framework for integrating climate adaptation measures and enhancing the resilience of the urban system to extreme temperatures.

In particular, the Action Plan is aligned with the following documents:

Integration with **Chişinău Municipality Resilience Strategy (2024-2030)**⁶: The AP supports this strategy's focus on minimizing heat impacts through municipal programs like the "Program for the Implementation of Complex Measures to Minimize the Impact of Hot Temperatures on the Health of the Population." For instance, AP proposals such as expanding green cover and enhancing public spaces, directly contribute to the strategy's goals of improving air quality, managing water sources, and protecting vulnerable groups like the elderly and children.

Existing urban planning documentation, such as the **General Urban Plan of Chisinau Municipality** (approved in 2007 and expired, but updates and ongoing extensions run through 2025 and beyond, including the General Regulation Plan), which provides the basis for spatial integration of measures such as expanding green areas, introducing tree-lined streets, improving microclimatic conditions in public spaces, and reducing the negative effects of impermeable surfaces.

The **Green City Action Plan (GCAP)**⁷ and other relevant environmental protection documents, including Moldova's National Environmental Action Plan and local initiatives addressing greening, air quality improvement, public health protection, and climate risk management, such as efforts to enhance urban biodiversity and mitigate heat-related health risks.

The Action Plan operationalizes **the National Climate Adaptation Program until 2030**⁸ by integrating nature-based solutions and institutional training into the city's long-term urban development framework. By establishing climate-resilient standards and proactive health monitoring for vulnerable groups, the plan transitions the municipality from emergency response to sustainable, evidence-based climate resilience. This strategic alignment ensures that Chisinau's urban growth directly contributes to Moldova's national targets for public health protection and environmental security.

⁶https://www.chisinau.md/ro/strategia-de-rezilienta-a-municipiului-chisinau-pentru-perioada-2024-2030-20935_277948.html

⁷ https://ebrdgreencities.com/assets/Uploads/PDF/GCAP_Chisinau-ENG.pdf

⁸ https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=140163&lang=ro

The Action Plan is conceived as an operational and thematic complementary framework to existing strategic and planning documents, enabling the systematic integration of UHI risk assessment results, and recommended measures into existing city policies, programs, and projects. This approach ensures the long-term sustainability of proposed interventions, their institutional recognition, and their gradual implementation through regular planning and governance mechanisms of the City of Chisinau.

3. GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR AP DEVELOPMENT

The Be Ready Action Plan (AP) for mitigating the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect in Chișinău City is grounded in a set of core principles that ensure its effectiveness, inclusivity, and alignment with broader environmental and societal goals.

Below, each principle is briefly described with reference to how it informs the AP's design and implementation, drawing from the vulnerability assessment and strategic alignments.

Sustainability and climate resilience

The plan moves beyond one-time interventions by establishing annual, recurring cycles (such as the 2026–2028 timeline) for tree planting and infrastructure maintenance. By focusing on long-term cooling—rather than just temporary relief—it ensures the city can withstand the projected increase in global temperatures over the coming decades.

Evidence-based planning

Actions are directed by data and risk assessment. The identification of "UHI zones" (Urban Heat Islands) and the use of the BeReady virtual training program ensure that interventions are not random but are targeted at the areas and populations most physically and physiologically vulnerable to heat stress.

Nature-based solutions (NbS)

A cornerstone of Goal 1 is the use of natural ecosystems to provide municipal services. Instead of relying solely on energy-intensive air conditioning, the plan prioritizes urban green infrastructure (planting 5,000+ trees) to provide natural shading and cooling through evapotranspiration, which simultaneously improves air quality and biodiversity.

Cross-departmental cooperation

The plan breaks down administrative "silos" by assigning shared responsibilities. For example, the General Directorate for Medical Assistance works alongside the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations and "Spații Verzi" (Green Spaces). This ensures that health alerts are synchronized with physical infrastructure deployment and emergency response.

Stakeholder participation

The framework involves a wide array of actors beyond city hall, including NGOs, utility companies (Apă-Canal Chişinău), and academic institutions. By including diverse supporting actors in the Key Actions table, the plan leverages external expertise and community resources to reach more residents.

Transparency and inclusiveness

The plan prioritizes the most vulnerable groups who are often overlooked—the elderly, children in placement centers, and low-income commuters. Transparency is maintained through Goal 3, which mandates real-time dissemination of alerts and large-scale public awareness campaigns, ensuring that vital safety information is accessible to every citizen regardless of their social or economic status.

The Action Plan is aligned with EU climate priorities and national legislation, in particular the SEA/EIA, ensuring that environmental objectives are embedded into the planning process, consultations, the implementation and monitoring phase.

The Action Plan also embraces New European Bauhaus principles by combining sustainable, climate-resilient interventions with aesthetic, inclusive, and innovative urban design, creating public spaces that cool the city, enhance well-being, and inspire community engagement.

4. VISION & KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

VISION

By 2028, Chisinau will be a climate-resilient capital defined by a proactive "culture of care" and sustainable urban cooling. Through the integration of green infrastructure, specialized municipal training, and targeted support for vulnerable groups like the elderly and children, the city aims to eliminate preventable heat-related health crises and provide a thermally comfortable environment for all citizens.

Goal 1 — Reduce heat exposure in critical UHI zones

Vision for Goal 1: Transform high-traffic urban corridors and vulnerable neighborhoods into "cool zones" through nature-based solutions and emergency hydration infrastructure.

Implementation Strategies:

- **Expansion of Shading:** Increasing the urban canopy by prioritizing tree planting along main boulevards and streets to block direct solar radiation.
- **Emergency Hydration & First Aid:** Maintaining a network of mobile "anti-heat" points and permanent public fountains to provide immediate physiological relief during extreme temperature spikes.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

- **Tree Canopy Growth:** 3,000+ trees and shrubs planted annually during the autumn cycles (2026–2028).
 - **First-Aid Readiness:** 5+ fully operational mobile cooling tents deployed during every Code Yellow/Orange heat alert in every sector of the city.
 - **Public Water Access:** 100% functionality of the street-level drinking water network before the onset of the hot season.
-

Goal 2 — Strengthen institutional capacities for climate adaptation

Vision for Goal 2: Build and enhance a municipal response system where staff are digitally trained, and health monitoring is standardized across all public childcare and medical territorial institutions.

Implementation Strategies:

- **Digital & Virtual Training:** Leveraging modern programs like "BeReady" to upskill municipal planners and architects in climate-resilient urban design.
- **Direct Vulnerability Monitoring:** Establishing rigorous daily health checks in daycare centers and a dedicated monitoring/aid program for seniors.
- **Sanitary Oversight:** Maintaining strict epidemiological control over children's summer institutions to prevent secondary health risks.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

- **Trained Personnel:** Successful completion of the BeReady virtual training program by key staff from the Directorate for Architecture and other municipal authorities.
 - **Elderly Support:** Systematic tracking of the aided people through Territorial Medical Association monitoring and aid programs.
 - **Institutional Safety:** Zero unreported heat-exhaustion cases in municipal placement and daycare centers through daily thermometry.
-

Goal 3 — Increase public awareness and behavioral adaptation

Vision for Goal 3: Foster a well-informed citizenry that responds instinctively to heat alerts, practices safe hydration, and avoids high-risk behaviors during summer peaks.

Implementation Strategies:

- **Digital Alerting Systems:** Using City Hall channels to relay real-time meteorological alerts and specific "heat protection" advice.
- **Youth Education:** Integrating heat-wave risk management and water safety (prevention of drowning in unauthorized basins) into the curriculum of summer camps.
- **Mass Media Outreach:** Large-scale campaigns via social media and local TV to normalize sun-protection behaviors.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

- **Public Engagement:** Achieving a verified digital reach of at least 300,000 citizens per summer season.
- **Youth Awareness:** 100% coverage of summer camp attendees by targeted information sessions and educational workshops.
- **Alert Transparency:** Consistent publication of State Hydrometeorological Service (SHS) alerts across all official municipal web and social platforms.

5. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Key Action	Responsible Department	Supporting Actors	Budget	Timeline	KPIs	Sources of verification
G1 - Reduce heat exposure in critical UHI zones						
Installation and maintenance of mobile "anti-heat" first-aid points in high-traffic and UHI zones	General Directorate for Medical and Social Assistance	General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (GIES); Red Cross	Municipal Budget	July – August (Annual)	5+ tents operational during code yellow/orange alerts	Activity reports; Field monitoring photos
Systematic expansion of urban green infrastructure and tree planting along main streets and boulevards to increase shading	"Spații Verzi" Municipal Association	Chisinau Praetors' Offices	Municipal Budget / Environmental Fund	Oct – Nov (Annual)	3,000+ trees and shrubs planted	Planting registers
Optimization of the street-level drinking water network (installation / repair of public fountains)	S.A. "Apă-Canal Chișinău"	General Directorate for Public Utilities	Enterprise Budget	2026–27	Public fountains functional before summer hot season	Technical maintenance logs; Inventory lists
G2 - Strengthen institutional capacities for climate adaptation						
Training of at least 3 employees of municipality through the BeReady virtual training programme	General Directorate for Architecture, Urban Planning and Land Relations	Communication Specialist	TBD	by May 2026	Number of trained staff	Certificates
Monitoring and reporting of sanitary-epidemiological	Chisinau Public Health Center	General Directorate of Education,	TBD	June – August (Annual)	Institutions inspected regularly	Sanitary inspection reports; Non-

conditions in children's summer camps and institutions		Youth, and Sport				compliance notices
Implementation of daily health checks (thermometry) for children in placement and daycare centers	Directorate for the Protection of Children's Rights	Medical cabinets in institutions	TBD	Hot Season (Annual)	0 unreported heat-exhaustion cases in centers	Daily observation logs; Medical records
Implementation of a monitoring and aid program for elderly persons	Territorial Medical Associations	General Directorate for Medical and Social Assistance	TBD	Hot Season (Annual)	Number of seniors aided	Reports on medical interventions
Integration of a "Climate-Resilient Urban Design" chapter into the Chisinau General Urban Plan (PUG)	General Directorate for Architecture, Urban Planning and Land Relations	Municipal Design Institute "Chişinău-Proiect"; International Consultants	Municipal Budget	2026 – 2027	Adoption of mandatory local planning norms for albedo (cool roofs) and green-to-built ratios	PUG document; Approved local urban regulations
G3 - Increase public awareness and behavioral adaptation						
Large-scale public awareness campaigns on sun protection and hydration behaviors via social and local media	Chisinau City Hall; General Directorate for Medical and Social Assistance	Local TV/Radio; NGO partners	Municipal Budget	Hot Season (Annual)	Reach of at least 300,000 citizens through digital channels	Media analytics; Campaign materials archive
Targeted education programs for children in summer camps regarding the	General Directorate of Education, Youth, and Sport	Directorate for the Protection of Children's Rights	Operating Budgets	Summer Season (Annual)	Camp attendees reached by informati	Activity reports; Social media posts

risks of heat-waves and swimming in unauthorized basins					on sessions	
Real-time dissemination of meteorological alerts and "heat protection" recommendations to the general public	Chisinau City Hall; General Directorate for Medical and Social Assistance	State Hydrometeorological Service (SHS)	Institutional Resources	On-demand (2026-2028)	Publication of SHS alerts	Official website logs; Social media timestamps

6. MONITORING, EVALUATION & REVIEW

Progress Tracking and Reporting Implementation of the Action Plan will be monitored through regular Progress Reports. These reports will be compiled on a semi-annual or annual basis, depending on the specific reporting requirements of the Be Ready project consortium. The tracking will focus on the physical and operational delivery of the Key Actions defined under the three Strategic Goals.

For Goal 1 (Reducing heat exposure), progress will be monitored through planting registers (verifying the 3,000+ trees/shrubs target), activity reports and field monitoring photographs (verifying the deployment of mobile cooling tents), and technical maintenance logs (verifying the functionality of public fountains).

For Goal 2 (Strengthening institutional capacities), monitoring will verify the completion of staff training via certificates, the regularity of sanitary inspections in children's institutions via inspection reports, and the implementation of elderly support programs via medical intervention reports.

For Goal 3 (Public awareness), the effectiveness of campaigns will be assessed using media analytics to verify the reach of at least 300,000 citizens, and website/social media logs will confirm the timely dissemination of State Hydrometeorological Service alerts.

Mid-term Review A Mid-term Review is scheduled for 2027. This review acts as a critical checkpoint to evaluate the effectiveness of the measures implemented during the first year. It allows implementing departments to assess whether the chosen strategies are yielding the expected results against the defined Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

The Mid-term Review provides an opportunity to identify challenges, share lessons learned, and make necessary adjustments to the implementation timeline, budget allocation, or operational procedures to ensure the city remains on track to meet its 2028 targets.

Final Evaluation The process culminates in a Final Evaluation in 2028. This evaluation will measure the overall outcomes and impact of the Action Plan against the overarching Vision for 2028—transforming Chişinău into a climate-resilient capital.

The Final Evaluation will assess the degree to which the UHI effect has been mitigated, institutional capacities have been strengthened, and public behavioral changes have been achieved. The findings will contribute to the city's long-term strategic planning and inform future climate adaptation financing and policy development.