

Center for Strategic Studies and Reforms (CISR)

**Testing of the Unified Application Form
and Exclusion Error of
the Nominative Targeted Compensations Program**

**Findings of the Targeted Survey
of the Cucuruzeni Rural Community Population,
Orhei District**

Presented by LIESAP on 1 July 2003



*English version
Chisinau, April 2003*

LIESAP / Counterpart International, Inc.
Center for Strategic Studies and Reforms (CISR)

**Testing of the Unified Application Form
and Exclusion Error of
the Nominative Targeted Compensations Program**

**Findings of the Targeted Survey
of the Cucuruzeni Rural Community Population,
Orhei District**

The study was carried out with financial support of USAID/Low Income Energy and Social Assistance Project. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the USAID or the Government.

Chisinau, April 2003

Table of Contents

Abstract	3
Introduction	3
1. Logics of Transformation of Moldova's Social Assistance System: Mass Privileges – NTC to Certain Categories – Social Assistance Based on Needs	4
2. Object for Testing the Unified Application Form: Population of the Cucuruzeni Rural Community, Orhei District.....	8
3. Socio-demographic Structure of the Community.....	10
3.1. Composition of Households	10
3.2. Economic Activity.....	11
3.3. Vulnerable Categories of the Community Population	11
4. Dwelling of the Population and Property	12
4.1. Property and Dwelling Type.....	12
4.2. Availability of Dwelling for Population	13
4.3. Dwelling Quality	14
4.4. Household Appliances	18
5. Sources and Amount of Cash Income of the Community Households.....	19
5.1. Amount of Cash Income	19
5.2. Salary, Pension and Social Benefits	20
5.3. Income from Land Ownership	21
6. Expenditures of Households	22
6.1. Structure and Amount of Expenditures. Main Groups of Expenditures.....	22
6.2. Average Monthly Expenditures of Households during the Year	25
7. Evaluation of the NTC Exclusion Error.....	25
7.1. Monetary Incomes of the NTC Beneficiaries	25
7.2. Distribution of Total Cash Income of the NTC Beneficiaries	26
7.3. Preliminary Conclusions	27
Conclusions. Proposals on UAF improvement	28
Annex A: Unified Application Form (official)	33
Annex B: Unified Application Form (proposed).....	37

Abstract

Transformation of the social assistance to targeted population in Moldova is gradually advancing along the correct direction: from *privileges*, which almost one quarter of the population enjoyed before 2000, to *Nominative Targeted Compensations* (NTC) for some categories of the population (2000-2003) and, finally, to the third, the most difficult stage – transition to social assistance *based on needs*.

The last step is yet to be taken. With a view to prepare its realization, on the initiative of the National House of Social Insurance (NHSI), Counterpart International, Inc./ LIESAP and local authorities there is being undertaken approbation of the “*Cerere pentru protecție socială*” – *Unified Application Form* (UAF). The UAF is used as a data collection instrument to reveal real needs of households.

For the first time in Moldova it was decided to choose the *whole population of a rural community* – Cucuruzeni (8 villages with 4755 inhabitants) – as social totality of this research. Evaluation of the level and different aspects of their welfare, incomes and expenditures, including NTC beneficiaries has been carried out. NTC exclusion error has been discovered. There have been established groups of persons who applied for Social Assistance (SA) program (NTC) and of those who could, but did not apply for other types of SA. Proposals on UAF improvement have been made in order to increase its contribution to revealing real poverty.

Introduction

The present work was carried out on the initiative of the National House of Social Insurance (*Tamara P. Shumskaiia*) with support of the Counterpart International, Inc.’s Low-Income Energy and Social Assistance Project (*Terry T. Campo*). The Unified Application Form is being considered by the NHSI after being developed through close cooperation between the MoLSP (as the Ministry highly regards its input in development of the UAF) and LIESAP in consultation with several of the NHSI’s Territorial Offices and the State Department of Statistics and Sociology, with substantial input from other international donors such as the British DFID and EC Food Security Program. It is hoped that the UAF will help reduce exclusion error present in the category-based targeting of nominative compensations and other forms of social assistance. Further, that the data collected in the UAF can be loaded into a database used for targeting all forms of social assistance, possibly including a mechanism to reduce inclusion error.

Executor of the research – nongovernmental organization Center for Strategic Studies and Reforms (CISR) – had to prepare Survey of a large social group based on a single rural community situated in Orhei district and on utilization of the UAF as a data collection instrument. Pros for that are as follows.

First, at the moment this form is used for application for SA and FSSP programs in Orhei and the data is stocked in a standardized way in a database, which allows future comparison of the information collected from the survey and from the daily activity of SA and FSSP offices. As part of the Ministry of Labor’s evaluation of the UAF, a version of it is used to apply for programs administered by the Department of Social Assistance (in Chisinau and Orhei) and the Fund for Social Support of the Population (Orhei district). Second, this will allow

introducing this information into the UAD/VHDb, increasing share of population covered by the pilot project in Orhei. Third, as the information collected covered all types of households, comparison with vulnerable households is possible. The welfare information collected using UAF corresponds partially to the HHBS making possible interpolating results if the survey with the HHBS.

The *object of the research* included the whole population of the Cucuruzeni community consisting of 8 villages where 4,7 thou people live.

The *goals* were to evaluate welfare and social status of the community population in order to provide analytical information on NTC targeting efficiency and to assess whether there is a substantial difference between those who “self-select” by applying for various forms of SA and the general population. Besides that, there were set particular tasks: to obtain information related to the NTC exclusion error in rural areas of the central part of Moldova making possible future interpolation over the whole Moldova’s territory; to reveal persons who applied for SA program (NTC) and those who could, but did not apply for other types of SA; to obtain information related to welfare of the sample, including social status of households, main income sources and expenditures articles; to elaborate proposals on the UAF improvement.

Work organization. The research was performed by the CISR working group in close collaboration with the Counterpart/ LIESAP team. Moreover, contacts were kept with the Ministry of Labor and Social protection, National House of Social Insurance, Department of Statistics and Sociology, as well as with other projects oriented at social protection of the population during the transitional period and poverty alleviation.

The Survey was carried out by: a) CISR working team, assigned to work out methodology of the research; b) unit of fieldwork coordinators and on-field operators-interviewers (31); c) programming and data processing group and d) creative teamwork for preparation of preliminary and final versions of the paper.

The research was done during *March – April 2003*. Authors of the paper are as follows: Anatol Gudim, Anatol Bucatca, Andrei Tsurcan (CISR), Valentin Tsurcan and Ion Jigau (State University of Moldova).

1. Logics of Transformation of Moldova’s Social Assistance System: Mass Privileges – NTC to Certain Categories – Social Assistance Based on Needs

By the end of the first decade of the transition in the Republic of Moldova there has been cancelled system of privileges (heritage of socialism) since state budget was not capable anymore to bear the load of rendering social assistance – in one or another form – to every fourth inhabitant of the country.

The Parliament approved *Strategy of Social Assistance System Reform* (May 1999) and oriented it towards “coherence and more complete satisfaction of wants of needy individuals and families that are not able to provide themselves for; creating a sound, in the terms of taxation, system that shall be oriented towards people’s needs with due consideration of the state resources”. The following items were considered to be main ideas of the reform of social

assistance system: clear targeting of granting both cash and non-pecuniary benefits through testing mechanisms for this purpose; decentralizing the social assistance system, increasing the importance of local authorities in allocation of social assistance; strengthening capabilities of central and territory structures of the system of social assistance by development of information technologies, implementing systems of identification of social assistance beneficiaries (individuals and families), increasing a level of organization of rendering social assistance considering the procedure of its granting, making out documents and benefit payment; monitoring of efficiency of various types of social assistance and reallocation of resources among them; etc. (see: Parliament Decision # 416-XIV of May 28, 1999).

Starting such fundamental reformation of the social aid system, the Parliament had to act in real conditions: low income of majority of the population, limited financial resources and institutional capacities. Taking all this into account, search for compromises between *coverage* (share of poor who get allowances), *targets* (share of funds allocated for allowances that are received by poor citizens) and *efficiency* (share of allowances as compared to average expenses of households) was inevitable.

The state is forced to implement reformation of the social protection system in such conditions, when the population still remembers the former socialist system, which provided for a high-level protection, that the population wants to enjoy at present as well, in spite of economic depression, reduction of employment and limited state budget resources for social assistance.

Nonetheless, the Parliament and Government decided to make fundamental changes – to give up the system of benefits introduced during the soviet era. In the Republic of Moldova at the beginning of 2000 there were 447540 persons entitled for benefits (circa 12% of the population) in 37 categories. Total cost of benefits was estimated to be 36755 mil MDL (30 mil USD)¹, only 207 mil MDL of which (17 mil USD) were provided for by the state budget. Large part of these means was directed to benefits in the area of public utilities.

Unlike other regions of the world, in post-Soviet countries, including Moldova, where large investments were made in the infrastructure in the past, the poor have full-scale access to utility services. Thus, in Moldova (2001) almost 100% of households are connected to electricity supply system; natural gas or gas-cylinders are available to 71,8%; telephones to approximately 60%; and central heating, hot water and running water to – 30,0%-33,0% of households. At the same time, multiple increase of tariffs that took place during the 90's at the time of reduction of income of the majority of the population created serious problems for the population.

Being aware of that the situation is unstable, the Government and Parliament made several actions for its stabilization. Based on experience of 1997 – 1999 of rationalization of social assistance in this area, the Parliament approved targeted compensations scheme and revoked benefits introduced by previous laws and decisions of the Government in April 2000.

In their stead, *Law on Special Social Protection of Some Categories of the Population # 933-XIV of April 14, 2000*, stipulated granting of targeted compensations for public utilities payment (electric energy, natural gas used for heating, liquefied natural gas in cylinders used for cooking, coal and firewood), which are considered to be the most difficult to pay for.

¹ *Making Transition Work for Everyone: Poverty and Inequality in Europe and Central Asia. World Bank, 2000, Chapter 9.*

Targeted compensations program, which since the second half of 2000 covered more than 250,0 thou persons of 9 categories at first and later - 11, meant to strengthen efficiency of social protection of the population of scanty means in the field of payment for public utilities and energy resources based on the following criteria: importance of compensations for payment for public utilities and electric energy; timeliness and completeness of compensations received; accessibility to the system of compensations.

Law of the Republic of Moldova on Special Social Protection of Some Categories of the Population # 933-XIV of April 14, 2000, is still in effect (with amendments introduced by the Law # 477-XV of September 28, 2001.

It should be mentioned that the given Law defines targeted compensations as a pecuniary payment that is made instead of the previously set benefits for public utilities payment. It is the first act to provide for a distinct definition of a single pensioner – a person who lives in an apartment alone and has no children, or has children under the age of majority or children that belong to a category of persons entitled to compensations under the given Law.

In accordance with the *Government Decision # 761 as of July 31, 2000*, compensations are paid to the following categories of the population:

1. Disabled of groups I and II regardless of the reason of their disability;
2. The following categories of disabled of III-rd group with a disability group established without time-limit;
 - a) labor veterans;
 - b) individuals recognized as disabled as a result of severe injuries, traumas or wounds, occurred during execution of military duties;
 - c) participants of the military actions for defending the integrity and independence of the Republic of Moldova;
 - d) victims of political repressions during the period of 1917-1990;
 - e) former prisoners of concentration campuses and ghettos;
3. disabled children under 16 years;
4. disabled from childhood;
5. participants of WWII and their spouses, depending on circumstances;
6. persons whose status is equal to that of the veterans of WWII;
7. families (parents, or spouses, who did not get married for the second time, or their children until the age of adolescence) of individuals who were lost on execution of service duties and deceased as a result of participation in the liquidation of Chernobyl Atomic Power Station consequences;
8. single pensioners;
9. families with four or more children under 18;
10. persons that worked in the back areas during the WW2;
11. persons that were in Leningrad during its blockade.

Targeted compensations are being set depending on normative cost of monthly consumption:

- at the rate of 50%: invalids of groups I and II (except invalids of group II due to general or occupational disease, labor injury); invalids since childhood of groups I and II; persons listed under paragraphs from 3) to 8);
- at the rate of 25%: invalids of group II due to general or occupational disease, labor injury; invalids since childhood of group III; persons listed under paragraphs 2) and 9).

Targeted compensations are paid directly to beneficiaries from the state budget through the National House of Social Insurance. 212909,0 thou MDL were provided for these goals in 2002, which makes up 54,3% of the total amount of means transferred from the state budget

to the National House of Social Insurance for payment of pensions, allowances and compensations.

Almost three-year experience of the NTC SA program functioning revealed both positive and negative aspects. Positive ones include fivefold reduction of the number of beneficiaries, reduction of the burden upon the state budget of social insurance, decentralization of the SA system, simplification of procedure of setting, formalizing of papers and payment of benefits. Besides these undisputable advantages, there also became apparent deficits of the NTC program and possibilities of its further improvement.

Primarily, these are deficits inherent to any targeted compensations system based on the principle of categories, when social aid is rendered to citizens according to their formal affiliation with one or another social group without taking into account their needs.

First of all, it was discovered² that there is a rather considerable inclusion error and insufficient aiming of SA at those in real need.

Thus, collations and calculations carried out on the basis of the database of Surveys of Budgets of Households for year 2001 show that the families that receive compensations for payment of public utilities and electric power do not necessarily belong to those in extreme need in the country. Moreover, they have a higher rate of disposable income than the average for the aggregate of the country household. In urban area in those families the available average disposable per capita income made up 335.30 MDL (25.6 USD) per month in year 2001 that exceeds the average income for the aggregate of urban households by 13.7%. In villages beneficiaries of compensations the monetary income of 213.17 MDL (16.3 USD) which is by 1.6% higher than it was on average for all the rural households. Amount of compensations is highly differentiated by quintiles of arranged incomes. The amount of compensations per one member of the most well-to-do households out of Y quintile, makes 2.63 MDL which is by 8.8 times more than it is of members of poor households out of I quintile group – 0.30 MDL.

The main conclusion drawn from this analysis is that there are significant and unjustified in respect to social justice differences in the quintile distribution of volumes of compensations for payments of public utilities and electric carriers: 20% of the poorest households dispose of 4.5% of the total value of compensations while 39.2% of all the compensations fall on 20% of the most well-off households.

Simple comparison of the above-mentioned data with parameters of the real poverty zone in Moldova leads to the conclusion that selection of composition of the NTC beneficiaries' categories is not necessarily linked to determination of real financial status of persons and families enjoying compensations and other types of assistance. On the one hand, the NTC beneficiaries now include persons who are in zone of extreme poverty permanently (single pensioners and families consisting of the disabled). On the other, as in other post-soviet countries, current practice does not lack political tinge, which is evident from setting of social aid to some categories of citizens without taking into account financial status of their families (compensations to victims of political repressions during 1917-1990, participants of military operations for protection of territorial unity and independence of the country and some other). Without calling in question moral motives of assistance to persons that suffered during historical process, nonetheless, by virtue of limited financial resources assistance to such persons should be made conditional upon their real financial situation.

² *Evaluation of the Social Assistance to Targeted Population through the NTC Program. LIESAP/ CISR, Chisinau, 2002.*

Taking into account the above mentioned important circumstances the Ministry of Labor and Social protection, National House of Social Insurance in collaboration with the USAID project – Low-Income Energy and Social Assistance Project (Counterpart/ LIESAP) – took the initiative to elaborate methodology of gradual transition to the new system of targeted compensations, which would be based on the principle of application and be determined in dependence on family's income.

With this point in view the Unified Application Form has been worked out (*See: Annex*) that is being tested in territorial NHSI bodies of the Orhei district. At the same time the CISR's task was to prepare Survey of the focus group (one rural community) situated in Orhei district using the UAF as a data collection instrument.

On suggestion of the NHSI and Orhei district prefecture Cucuruzeni community uniting 8 villages of different size with the total population of 5 thou people as an object typical for the central region of Moldova.

2. Object for Testing the Unified Application Form: Population of the Cucuruzeni Rural Community, Orhei District

Selection of the Cucuruzeni rural community, Orhei district, for testing the Unified Application Form was conditioned by the following circumstances:

- a) the community is a typical rural community of the central region of Moldova as regards both population and number of households and employment structure, education, incomes and poverty rate. NTC beneficiaries within its population account for 7.66% (December 2002), which is practically identical to the average indicator in rural areas of Moldova – 7.4%;
- b) the community is situated in the rural “depth” outside the zone of impact of urbanized territories or intensive transport flows and includes villages of different population number and different economic activity rate;
- c) the community includes a village (Cucuruzeni) that belongs to the group of 45 villages where since 1997 the Department of Statistics and Sociology has been routinely examining households budgets. This circumstance presents an additional possibility to assess “capacity for work” of the Unified Application Form.

Social totality for testing the UAF covered the whole population of the Cucuruzeni community – 4755 persons united in 1,870 households. Examination carried out by CISR with participation of the NHSI territorial unit in March – April 2003 managed to cover 94.0% of population (4,461 persons) and 81.0% of households (1515 households), which is a quite representative sample. While the number of refusals to answer was minimal, the predominant cause of inability to receive information was absence of any inhabitants in houses, mainly due to departure of main household members abroad for work.

The most generalized characteristics of the community population revealed by means of the UAF are as follows:

- 56.7% of households are families consisting of three and more persons. At the same time, as compared to the previous period share of households where 1-2 persons live increased (up to 43.3%), which is a quite alarming signal that villages become depopulated. Single persons make up 37% (!) of the community population;

- 2/3 of households are headed by men and 1/3 – by women;
- educational level of population is rather high: higher education – 7.8%, specialized secondary education – 17.4%, general secondary education – 50.0%, primary – 24.3%;
- nature of employment reflects transformation processes that take place in Moldovan villages after the land privatization of 1998-2000. Before that time there were 2 sovkhozes, 1 kolkhoz and 1 state agricultural college (Cucuruzenii de Sus) on the community's territory. Now the predominant form of entrepreneurship on the basis of private property is farmers' enterprises (1,268 units), associations of farmers' enterprises and limited liability companies;
- population of the community disposes of 7,87 thou ha of agricultural land, including arable field – 4,16 thou ha, orchards – 889 ha, vineyards – 228 ha. Technical equipment – 48 tractors (including 5 new ones), 9 combine-harvesters and 15 trucks;
- incomes of the population result from agricultural activity on privatized land plots (1,7 ha on the average), from leasing out land, employed work (26% of the population), as well as from wages of single members of households (mainly those 24-45 years old) working abroad. There are 400 of those working abroad in the community, or 1/4 of the total number of those able for work;
- living conditions of the majority of the population are characterized by availability of private houses (85.4% households) or state apartments (4.9%), TV sets (72.4%), refrigerators (47.5%), clothes-washers (33.3%), automobiles and motorcycles (16.1%). 75% of households are provided with gas, including 13.8% - by means of gas pipes and 61.2% - gas-cylinders. 18.0% of the poorest households do not have gas. Running water is available only to 8.5% households. The heating is mostly stove-based (92.6% households). Only 5.7% dispose of gas heating;
- rural entrepreneurship within the community is underdeveloped. The causes are: lack of sufficient financial resources (including difficulties of getting credits at commercial banks), of necessary infrastructure (transport, agricultural chemistry, veterinary services, seed-farming, etc.) and information. Grain is mainly sold to intermediary firms, milk – to Chisinau (*S.A. Lapte*) and Braviceni (to the private cheese dairy factory), fruits and vegetables – to the Orhei canning and winemaking factory. Realization of meat is still unregulated. Prices are being dictated by buyers to the prejudice of farmers' enterprises.

Contacts of the community population with social institutions and organizations (their frequency and composition) reflect social needs of the people quite representatively. According to the UAF the largest number of addresses falls at post-offices (85.5% households), polyclinic (49.3%) or hospital (16.4%), followed by school – primary and secondary - (15.6%) and very seldom – cultural institutions: libraries (9.5%), clubs, cinemas (1.3%). One third of households (36.0%) addressed local authority bodies – village or community mayor's office, which is quite often.

Using UAF as an examination instrument allowed both obtaining information on different aspects of living of households and establishing that lower incomes contingent (poverty zone) is much larger than the NTC beneficiaries contingent, i.e. revealing the exclusion error. Besides, there were obtained quite “unexpected” data related to a series of aspects of life of the modern Moldovan village: about 10% households (153) – mainly young families – do not own land; families of those working abroad have the highest welfare rate; as rural healthcare system was destroyed self-treatment is widely practiced – share of expenditures for medicines is considerable within the households expenditures structure; 8.8% households (134) do not spend anything for electric power, etc.

It was discovered that one of the most serious impediments to socio-economic development of Moldovan villages (including development of non-rural employment in the SME sector) is

underdevelopment of land market. Leasing out privatized land is one of the main sources of incomes for rural inhabitants. In majority (!) of cases this leasing out is not formalized due to different causes (verbal agreement based leasing out) and therefore it does harm both to peasants-lessors and the state due to under-collection of taxes. Thus, such situation can not be considered successful.

In Moldova over 2/3 of agricultural lands are now privatized. As long as the size of the land share is not very large (1,5 – 3,0 ha in different districts), it is evidently insufficient for the effective farming. The issue on the agenda now is consolidation of land use. Due to different causes such types of land transactions as sale/purchase, exchange, donation or hypothecation in Moldova are still not widespread. Leasing out prevails. This can be explained by Bassarabian peasants' love for land. The rural residents having become again land share owners after 50 years of waiting will not give it up soon both due to economic and psychological motifs. In these conditions the state should assume the responsibility for creation of the lease-favorable surroundings: legal basis, credit and tax relations, services structures. All this makes the socio-economic relations in the rural area more civilized and acceptable both for peasants and for the state as a whole.

3. Socio-demographic Structure of the Community

3.1. Composition of Households

Households of the community are characterized by *three* forms of social organization: *zero*, *binary* and *group*.

Table 1

**Distribution of the Cucuruzeni community population
by number of household members**

	Number of households	%	Number of family members living in a household	%
One person	330	21.8	330	7.4
Two persons	328	21.7	656	14.7
Three persons	253	16.7	759	17.0
Four persons	375	24.8	1500	33.6
Five persons	165	10.9	825	18.5
Six persons	52	3.4	312	7.0
Seven persons	9	0.6	63	1.4
Eight persons	2	0.1	16	0.3
No answer	1	0.1	-	0.1
Total	1515	100.0	4461	100.0

The *zero group*, i.e. the one that lacks any social structure, consists of *a single* household member. There are 21.8% of such households in the community. Binary form of social organization includes households consisting of *two* members. There are 21.7% of such households. This form cannot be considered group from of social organization since social relationships existing within them are underdeveloped and unstable.

Zero and binary forms of social relationships in households do not contribute to stability of their socio-economic life. It is the fact that there are 43.5% of them, which is evidence of the crisis nature of their social development.

56.9% of community households belong to the *group* form of social organization, which is a little more than a half of their total number. This fact can be assessed as quite positive, in particular, taking into account that 16.7% of these households are at the border of binary and group forms. Only 39.8% of households relate to the developed and stable social organization form. These are households where there are 4 and more members.

3.2. Economic Activity

As regards form of economic activity the community population is divided into those economically active and those economically inactive.

Table 2

	<i>Persons</i>	<i>%</i>
Total population	4463	100.0
including:		
<i>Economically active population</i>	<i>1266</i>	<i>28.4</i>
Employed population	932	20.9
Unemployed	334	7.5
Including registered unemployed	19	0.4
<i>Economically inactive population</i>	<i>3197</i>	<i>71.6</i>

Economically active population of the community accounts for 28.4% of the total population. Inactive population accounts for 71.6%. As compared to annual data on the whole country, share of economically active community population is lower and share of those economically inactive is higher.

The unemployed in correlation with the economically active persons make up 26.4%. Hidden unemployment is of 7.8%. Thus, general share of the unemployed within the economically active population of the community is no less than 26.5%.

3.3. Vulnerable Categories of the Community Population

Analysis of these categories was done by each of them irrespective of their share within the community population.

a) *Vulnerable categories of population*

Unemployed – 334 persons.

Students younger than 23. This category accounts for 155 persons. 61.7% of them (95 persons) study at the government expense and education of 38.9% (59) is student-paid.

Pregnant women – 8 persons.

Children. 100 of children can be considered vulnerable. 16 of them live with their single mothers. Parents of 38 children are divorced. 50 have only one parent. 2 are orphans and 4 are in ward.

The elderly. 13 persons enjoy social pension. 653 are pensioners and 72 are single pensioners. In all this category of the community population includes 738 persons.

Those living abroad are 247 persons. 227 of them work, 17 are students, 1 person went away for treatment and 2 for other causes.

Category of *other vulnerable persons* includes 73 persons. 11 of them are persons equated with the WWII participant. 61 are in the state of extreme poverty. And there is one person unemployed due to illness before incapacity for work.

b) Disabled

There are 163 of such persons in the community. 18 of them are children under 16, 32 are persons above 16 disabled since childhood, 97 are disabled, 4 are disabled veterans and 2 are those who suffered from the Chernobyl accident.

Table 3

Invalids by groups	
1 st group	21
2 nd group	98
3 rd group	44
Total	163

Table 4

3 rd group termless and 2 nd group	57
Including:	
3 rd group, labor	9
3 rd group, injuries	20
3 rd group, Transnistria military conflict participants	2
2 nd group, excluding those disabled due to illness	26

c) Persons that do not belong to any of the above mentioned categories – 887.

4. Dwelling of the Population and Property

4.1. Property and Dwelling Type

For the most part the community population possesses dwelling where private type of ownership prevails over the other ones: 1355 households or 89.5% out of their total number. Next follows state ownership – 3.1% and departmental ownership – 1.8%.

Table 5

Distribution of Households by Type of Ownership (number, %)

Type of Ownership	Number	%
State	47	3, 1
Departmental	28	1, 8
Cooperative	1	0, 1
Private	1355	89, 4
Rent	28	1, 8
Other	56	3, 8
	1515	100, 0

Rent of dwelling (1.8%) is not considerable at all in rural area. The reason of it is of ethno-cultural characteristics – to build a house for a rural Moldovan is a chief aim of his life. Possession of a piece of land for building a house allowed almost every villager to make this dream come true.

A separate group makes a group of households which type of ownership on dwelling could not be defined by the respondents. As a rule, these are the households where type of ownership is either transitional or has not been set yet. The households with dwelling during the process of privatization can be referred to this group.

There the following situation can occur: two families dwell in one house possessed by one house-owner by the right of ownership and the other does not formally possess this right.

The most widely spread type of dwelling in the community is the following: a detached house – 82.0%. Traditionally, every family in Moldova has had a possibility to get a plot of land for a self-dependent building of a house. On the other hand, an orientation to separate habitation of a mono- generation family has recently prevailed: a young family separates from the parents' family, builds their own house thus becoming independent owners of housing.

Table 6

Distribution of Households by Type of Dwelling (%)

Dwelling Type	Number	%
Separate apartment	15	1, 0
Hostel	3	0, 2
Detached house	1242	82, 0
Part of a house	226	14, 9
Other	18	1, 2
No answer	11	0, 7
Total	1515	100, 0

The studies prove that there a process of division of houses and division of households into two takes place. 14.9% of households live in this type of dwelling.

Separate apartments (1.0%) and hostels (0.2%) are not typical for rural settlements of Moldova. As a rule families of young specialists live in such dwelling.

4.2. Availability of Dwelling for Population

The need in dwelling is one of the main need of man. The level of availability of dwelling for the population witnesses to the way of his life. Since by definition a household should possess dwelling space then the ratio of total and living space is of a great importance in the households.

Table 7

Distribution of Households depending upon Total Dwelling Area (%)

Total Area, (m²)	Number of Households	%
Less than 20 m ²	41	2, 7
21 - 50	410	27, 1
51 - 80	573	37, 8
81 - 120	79	5, 2
Over 120	79	5, 2
Total	1515	100, 0

As we can see, the greater part of households (70.2%) has total living area of more than 50 m², this total living area corresponds at the minimum with a 3-room apartment in town.

Division of total living area into four quintiles results into equal, proportional division of households into five groups. Comparison of the first and fifth groups make it possible to assess an extent of difference in availability of total living area of community household.

Table 8

M ²	10722, 50	14848, 10	19963, 20	28209, 0	33443, 6	107186, 4
%%	10, 1	13, 8	18, 6	26, 3	31, 2	100, 0

As we see in the Group Five of households the size of total living area is three times higher than in Group One. On average there are 33.3 m² of total living area per one household in Group One and in Group Five – 120.3 m².

Table 9

Distribution of Households depending upon the size of living area, (%)

Living area (m ²)	Number of Households	%%
Less than 6	12	0, 2
7-12	83	5, 5
13-20	161	10, 6
21-40	541	35, 7
41-80	637	42, 0
81-120	74	4, 9
Over 120	7	0, 5
Total	1515	100, 0

Availability of living area in the households of the community seems to be rather safe: 46.3% of them possess living area that is comparable with a two-room apartment in town and 47.4% - with a three- and more rooms apartment.

At the same time there are 0.2% of the households where living area is less than 6 m², and 5% of households - from 7 to 12 m².

Table 10

Division of living area into 4 quintiles results in the following grouping of households

M ²	5158, 9	8599, 3	11908, 8	16226, 8	23647, 1	65540, 9
%	7, 9	13, 1	18, 2	24, 7	36, 1	100, 0
Average size m ²						
M ²	16, 3	29, 0	40, 2	53, 9	78, 6	43, 3

As can be seen, if on average per one village in the community there are 43.3 m² then in Group One there are only 16.3 m², and in Group Five – 78.6 m². The number of living area in households Group Five is by 4.6 times higher than in Group One.

4.3. Dwelling Quality

A. Number of Habitable Rooms in Household

Dispersion of the number of habitable rooms in households in the community is from 1 up to 8 rooms. At that, if 10.1% of population dwell in one-room households, only 0.1% live in 8-room households. The most widely met number of rooms in the households is 2 (32.1%) and 3 habitable rooms (29.9%).

Table 11

Distribution of Households by Number of Habitable rooms, (%)

Number of Rooms	Number of Households	%
1	153	10, 1
2	487	32, 1
3	453	29, 9
4	265	17, 5
5	87	5, 7
6	30	2, 0
7	4	0, 3
8	2	0, 1
No answer	34	2, 2
Total	1515	100, 0

Thus, 2-3 rooms households in the community prevail over the other – 62%. Availability in a household of 2-3 habitable rooms in general corresponds to a living space rate that has set in the country. This number of habitable rooms all in all corresponds both to a family type and to the number of members in the family. Availability of 4 and more habitable rooms reflects higher requirements of the owners towards dwelling and proves a higher than average well-being of the household. It should be noted that in this community 25.6% of the population live in households with 4-8 rooms in the houses, which in a number of cases is rather a sign of former than present time well-being.

It should be also taken into account that there is a custom in Moldovan rural area culture to furnish one more room as habitable but not to live in it. This is so called “casa mare” that serves as a symbol of culture and wealth of the family.

B. Ownership of Extra Dwelling and Garages, %

A part of households (3.9%) besides the basic dwelling possess an ownership of another type of dwelling. Extra property is subdivided into two types: house/apartment or a part of a house - 2.9% and a summer or winter cottage - 0.8%. It is obvious that the owners of extra dwelling refer to rather well-to-do part of the inhabitants of the community. The cost of dwelling in rural area, although lower than in town, is rather high in comparison with other types of property.

Table 12

Availability of Ownership of Extra Dwelling

Dwelling Type	Number	%
Separate apartment	17	1, 1
Detached house	22	1, 5
Part of house	5	0, 3
Cottage (winter)	8	0, 5
Cottage (summer)	4	0, 3
Other	4	0, 3
Do not possess	1444	91, 4
No answer	71	4, 7
Total	1515	100, 0

A part of households – 15.4% also own garages or lease them from other owners – 0.7%. 84.0% of households either do not possess garages or did not provide an answer to this question.

Table 14

Availability of Garage for House-owners

	Number	%
Private Use	233	15, 4
Lease	10	0, 7
Do not possess	1207	79, 7
No answer	65	4, 3
Total	1515	100, 0

C. Availability of Public Utilities in Households

Drinking Water. Drinking water needs in the households of the community is mainly satisfied by a traditional way: obtaining it from wells. 80.5% of households in the community get the water by this method. At the same time water in wells of Moldova is quite polluted with the after-products (pesticides etc.) Only 8.5% of households have running water, as a rule these are many-storied buildings.

Table 15

Availability of Drinking Water in Households and Type of Water Consumption

Type of Water Use	Number	%
Running Water	129	8, 5
Spring	121	8, 0
Well	1220	80, 5
Other	30	2, 0
No answer	15	1, 0
	1515	100, 0

Water of a bit better quality than the one from a well can be obtained from springs of natural origin. In Cucuruzeni community, 8.6% households supply themselves with water by this way.

On the whole, the problem with drinking water supply in Cucuruzeni community can be considered as safe: 97.0% of households have drinking water supply all the year round, 3% of households experience a difficulty in water supply (remoteness from wells and springs). Well development is an expensive issue (about \$300) which is not affordable for young families that build houses far from the existing wells.

Heating. Heating period in the central part of Moldova, where Cucuruzeni community is situated, lasts approximately 170 days.

Table 16

Type of Household Heating

Type of Heating	Number	%
Central	3	0, 2
Autonomous	5	0, 3
Stove heating (gas)	87	5, 7
Stove heating (wood, coal, diesel oil)	1403	92, 6
No answer	17	1, 2
	1515	100, 0

Houses mainly are heated by stove heating (92.6% of households). Wood, coal and diesel oil are used as heating material. 0.5% have central/autonomous heating, and 5.7% of households have gas heating.

Gas Supply. Most of households of Cucuruzeni community use gas for cooking, heating water, and other daily wants: 13.8% of them are connected up to the central gas-pipeline, and 61.2% use gas cylinders. A quarter of the households does not use gas at all – 18.0%, or use it so rarely that it was difficult for them to estimate the extent of gas use – 7.0%.

Table 17

Availability of Gas in Households

Gas Consumption Type	Number	%
Central	209	13, 8
Gas Cylinders	928	61, 2
No gas	272	18, 0
No answer	106	7, 0
Total	1515	100, 0

Hot Water Supply. In any household including the households in villages, it is impossible to do without hot water. 89.5% of households use hot water. At the same time one tenth of households does not use hot water for daily wants.

Table 18

Hot Water for Households

	Number	%
Hot water from public utility	4	0, 3
Heating up water with gas or electricity	123	8, 1
Heating up water with wood or coal	1228	81, 1
Do not have hot water	121	8, 0
No answer	39	2, 5
Total	1515	100, 0

Availability of public utilities in households (electric power, telephone, sewerage, baths, and electric ranges). Main types of public utilities used by the community households can be conditionally divided into two groups. The first group includes availability of electricity and telephone (96.7% and 42.0% of households respectively) the second covers availability of bath, sewerage and electric ranges (6.9%, 6.1% and 0% respectively).

Table 19

Availability of Public Utilities in Households, (%)

	Electricity	Telephone	Bath	Sewerage	Electric Range	Hot Water
Yes	96, 7	42, 0	6, 9	6, 1	-	89, 4
No	3, 0	54, 9	88, 4	89, 3	94, 3	8, 0
No answer	0, 3	3, 1	4, 7	4, 6	5, 7	2, 6
Total	100, 0	100, 0	100, 0	100, 0	100, 0	100, 0

Electricity. Sufficient availability of electricity for the households shows that this is the main and the only type of public utilities that the community villagers use. The more needy households of the community do not have electricity supply.

Telephone. Availability of telephone is also quite high – 42.0%; the expenses for telephone conversations are also huge.

Sewerage, Baths. There is minimum of baths and sewerage system available for households of the community and the part of households that have them is insignificant. Only 6.9% of households have baths. This can be explained by very high cost of power sources for water heating. Lack of sewerage can be explained by low consumption of water for daily wants in rural area.

Electric Ranges. Lack of electric ranges in the households can be explained both by that it is not traditional to use them in rural areas and by high cost of electricity. In addition, the tariff rate for electricity used for electric ranges in towns is lower than the rate charged for other forms of electric consumption, while no such special rate exists in the rural areas.

4.4. Household Appliances

Table 20

Age of Assets (number/years)

Item	Number	%	Age (years, %)							
			Up to 10 year-old	%	11-20	%	21 - 30	%	31 - 40	%
TV sets	1097	72, 4	448	47, 1	439	46, 1	191	20, 1	19	1, 2
Refrigerators	719	47, 5	142	19, 7	323	44, 9	232	32, 3	22	3, 1
Laundry washers	504	33, 3	181	39, 9	210	46, 3	99	21, 8	14	3, 1
Cars	143	9, 4	140	97, 9	1	0, 7	2	1, 4	-	-

Among main types of household appliances that are in households property TV sets prevail they are met in 72.4% of households. Next are refrigerators – in 47.6% of households. One third of households possess laundry washers – 33.3% and few households have cars – in 9.4% of households; though, 16.1% of households showed that they have garages.

Table 21

Term of service of household appliances owned by households

	Up to 10 years	11-20 years	21-30 years	31-40 years	Total
TV set	40, 8	40, 0	17, 4	1, 8	100
Refrigerator	19, 7	47, 6	32, 1	3, 4	100
Laundry washer	35, 9	41, 7	19, 6	2, 8	100
Car	97, 9	2, 1	-	-	100
Agricultural vehicles	100	-	-	-	100

As it can be seen, the household appliances that were bought in Soviet times 59.2% of TV sets 80% of refrigerators and about 65% of laundry washers have been in operation for more than ten years. Nowadays most of households do not have funds to purchase new and more effective household appliances. At the same time in comparison with the past in Cucuruzeni community and in rural areas of Moldova on the whole the number of cars, mainly secondhand models, drastically increased.

5. Sources and Amount of Cash Income of the Community Households

5.1. Amount of Cash Income

The problem of cash income in rural communities of the Republic of Moldova is a topical one. As a result of economic crisis that struck agriculture as well, the possibilities for rural population to gain cash income have become quite limited. The reason of this is weak economy activity after the land privatization and high level of both hidden and evident unemployment in rural areas.

The study that was carried out with the help of UAF showed that for 1104 households of Cucuruzeni community, which gave information about received cash income, the total amount of incomes made up 449558 MDL (32.6 thou USD) in January 2003. A quarter of households (27.1% or 411) did not show any data about received cash income. Taking this into account, analysis is carried out with respect of 1104 households that make up 72.9% out of their total number in the community which is representative enough for the assessment of situation with cash income in all the aggregate of the community households.

An average monthly cash income per household is 407.2 MDL (29.5 USD) with quite a big range of differences – from 12 MDL (0.9 USD) up to 16635 MDL (1205 USD).

Median divides the number of households into two equal parts by 552 households, incomes in one of the parts are less than the median and amount to 81784 MDL (5.9 thou USD); and in the other part they are higher as come up to 363137 MDL (26.7 thou USD). The income of the latter part of households is by 4.4 times higher than of the first one.

Mode (the most frequently met value in the sample) is represented by several groups. Among them the most significant are the following: 200 MDL (frequency 34), 300 (frequency of values 25), 120 –140 MDL (frequency of values 22).

Table 22

Division of 1104 households into five quintiles of households

%	5, 0	8, 5	11, 4	17, 3	57, 7	100, 0
MDL	22, 438	38, 396	51, 432	78, 001	259, 289	449, 558
Average Income						
MDL	101, 6	173, 5	232, 9	353, 3	1174, 3	407, 2

As we can see the difference between Group One and Group Five is quite considerable. Group Five receives incomes by 11.6 times more than Group One. In percentage terms the cash incomes of Group Five amount to 57.7% (259289MDL) out of total income, and the income of Group One is 5.0% (22438MDL).

The average income in Group Five of households is 11743 MDL (851 USD) and in Group One – 101.6MDL (7.4 USD).

Table 23

Distribution of Households by Cash Income per One Member of Household, %

Cash Income per One Member of Household, MDL	Number of Households	%
Less than 40	167	15, 2
41-100	273	24, 8
101-200	525	47, 6
201 - 500	119	10, 8
Over 500	18	1, 6
	1102	100, 0

As we see 40% of households have monthly cash income that does not exceed 100 MDL (7.3 USD) and only 1.6% of households have cash income over 500 MDL (36.3 USD). Certainly that 15.2% of households (every eighth) which income is lower than 40 MDL (2.9 USD) are in poverty zone.

5.2. Salary, Pension and Social Benefits

The findings show that the total amount for three above-mentioned types of cash income for January 2003 came up to 360159 MDL (26.1 thou USD).

On recalculating it per every inhabitants of the community this makes up 80.7 MDL (5.85 USD). Salary prevails in the structure of cash income – 55.2%, next are pensions – 40.5% and various social benefits – 3.9%.

It is indicative that the sum of incomes in salaries is just slightly higher (by 51.5 thousand MDL) than the sum of incomes received from pension payments. This is explained both by that in social-demographic structure of the community - there is a significant weigh of persons of pension age - and by that that till now business in rural area has not been developed enough and opportunities to earn money are limited.

Salary. The total number of employees that worked for salaries in the community was 580 persons or 45.8% of active population of the community.

The total amount of salary received for one month made up 198923 MDL. On recalculating this per inhabitant the income comes up to 44.6 MDL (3.2 USD). Amplitude of variation between the minimal and maximal salaries is great: 3 MDL and 5200 MDL.

Median shows that equal number – 50% - receives salary in the following relation 20.0% and 79.0%. The average salary is 343 MDL (24.9 USD).

Table 24

Distribution of Salary by Five Groups

Quintiles				
1	2	3	4	5
4, 9	10, 0	13, 5	21, 2	50.4

It may be seen that 50.4% of the received salaries account for Group Five, while only 4.9% fall on Group One, the gap is rather significant. Group Five received salaries in total sum by 10.3 time more than Group One.

Pension Payments. The total sum of pension payments for the community is 147421 MDL, the average size of pensions is 150 MDL (10.86 USD). The total number of pensioners is 982.

Table 25

Distribution of Pension Payments by Five Groups

Quintiles				
1	2	3	4	5
11, 4	17, 3	19, 8	22, 0	29, 5

There are by 2.6 times more payments that fall on Group Five of pensioners than on Group One. At that, differences in volume of cash payments between Group One and Group Five are lower than it is in the case of salaries.

Social Benefits. The total sum of social benefits for the community is 13815 MDL, they are received by 275 persons; on average there are 50.2 MDL/month per beneficiary (3.64 USD). Distribution of cash benefits by five groups of proportional observations is the following:

Table 26

Distribution of Cash Benefits by 5 Groups

Quintiles				
1	2	3	4	5
5, 7	7, 2	8, 5	16, 5	62, 1

We see that social benefits also dispersed quite non-uniformly. Group Five receives the sum of social benefits that by 11 time exceeds the social benefits sum of Group One. Median divide the group of those who receive social benefits into two equal parts by the number of observations. 2274 MDL (16.5%) of social benefits fall on the first part and 11541 MDL (83.5%) onto the second.

5.3. Income from Land Ownership

The land in rural area of the country is of the greatest value for the population. Availability of land, its quantity and quality reflects the level of well-being of households. Land gives a possibility for villagers to gain income and food products as a result of its cultivation or leasing. As finding of the study show 90% of households of the community own arable field and 89.9% - a small plot adjacent to the house. At the same time it brings to notice appearance of households that do not possess land: 10.0% of them do not own any plough-land and 10.1% do not have adjacent plot of land. It is evident that the process of dispossession of land of households in the community will continue including on the basis of selling the land by the needy layers of the population and consolidation of large areas in the hands of more well-to-do persons. Although the majority of households (58.9%) possess 1-3 Hectares of land, almost one third of households (31.1%) have more than 3 Hectare.

Table 27

Distribution of Households by Availability of Arable Land

Number of Households	Size of Land Property, ha	%%
209	Less than 1	13, 8
684	From 1, 01 to 3	45, 1
471	Over 3	31, 1
151	-	10, 0
1515		100,0

The category of households that do not own land for agriculture (10.0%) includes village intelligentsia, part of which has not been granted with land ownership and young families that separated from their parents who owned the land then and still own it at present. Traditionally important in rural area is property of land adjacent to the house; it provides the household with agricultural products of day-to-day consumption.

Table 28

Distribution of Households by Availability of Small Plots Adjacent to the House

Number of Households	Size of Plot, acre	%%
173	Less than 6	11, 4
1071	7 – 30	70, 7
118	Over 30	7, 8
153	No land	10,1
1515	100, 0	

It can be seen that about 11% of households do not possess adjacent plots and, as a result, do not have an additional source of income. It is evident that these households experience difficulties with domestic animal and poultry farming. This category mainly includes owners of privatized apartments, those who lease or hire rooms etc. At the same time more than 70% of households have rather large adjacent plots of land and 7.8% of households own plots that are over 30 acres in size

Cattle and poultry is an important support for survival of households. In the Cucuruzeni community 51.5% of households have cattle, 48.1% - pigs, 24.4% - goats and sheep and 12.9% - horses. 86.0% of households keep poultry. The products of stock-raising is mostly used for household consumption. Marketability of stock-raising is small unlike the grain production or wine-growing. It is limited both by lack of development of a correspondent infrastructure for purchase of milk, meat, leather, wool etc. and by lack of SMEs on site in villages.

6. Expenditures of Households

6.1. Structure and Amount of Expenditures. Main Groups of Expenditures

Total sum of expenditures of all households of the Cucuruzeni community for domestic needs, medical services and education, as well as for payment of taxes in January 2003 accounted for 987774 MDL (71.6 thou USD).

Table 29

Number of households	Types of expenditures	Total	Minimal expenditures	Maximal expenditures	Average sum per one household
1473	Food	334516	10	4000	227,0
1110	Healthcare	225307	5,0	7000	203,0
450	Education	72192	5,0	2,500	330,0
653	Phone	32997	0,6	926,0	50,5
1381	Electric power	67347	0,7	16056	48,8
450	Gas supply	52992	1,0	500,0	116,9
78	Water supply	2187	0,5	355,0	28,0
419	Heating	121498	2,0	3250,0	290,0
84	Private transport	19505	9,90	1200,0	232,2
1111	Public transport	56258	5,0	640,0	50,6
19	Taxes	2975	30,0	319,0	156,6

Food. Expenditures for food made up 334516 MDL or 33.9% of the total expenditures per month. Only 2.8% households indicated no monetary expenditures for food. These expenditures are in the lead as regards both total expenditures and number of households – 97.2%.

Expenditures of households differ. And this difference can be quite considerable. Although on average every household spent 227 MDL (16.5 USD), the minimal expenditures formed 10 and the maximal – 4000 MDL.

Division into five quintiles shows how big is the difference between the first and the fifth groups of households as regards expenditures for food.

Table 30

Groups	Expenditures, MDL	Expenditures, %	Average value, MDL
1	16848	4.9	55,9
2	32552	9.7	110,5
3	51013	15.2	173,2
4	71801	21.5	243,7
5	162666	48.6	552,1
Total	334516	10.0	227,1

As we can see, difference in expenditures between the first and the fifth quintiles is 146182 MDL. The fifth quintile spends 10 times more money for food than the first one.

Electric power. Expenditures for electric power were 67347 MDL (4.9 thou USD). This is the second type – after food – in dependence on the number of households – 1381. At the same time, only 6.8% of the total expenditures fall at electric power.

Differences by quintiles are essential. Thus, the fifth group of households spends for electric power 17 times more money than the first one. Data on expenditures of five groups of households are shown below.

Table 31

Groups	Expenditures, MDL	Expenditures, %	Average value, MDL
1	2386,05	3.5	8,6
2	5017,19	7.4	18,2
3	7985,80	11.8	28,9
4	11284,80	16.7	40,8
5	40672,92	60.4	147,2

Healthcare. Expenditures for healthcare (medicines, polyclinic, hospital) turned to be unexpectedly great – 225307 MDL or 16.3 thou USD (22.8% of the total expenditures); they were noted by 1111 households (73.3%).

Division of households into quintiles demonstrates amount of means spent for healthcare in five groups similar in number.

Table 32

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
%	1.8	4.3	7.9	10.9	75.1
MDL	4059	9732	17758	24644	169114

As we can see, only 1.8% of healthcare expenditures fall at the first – the poorest – group of households, while 75.1% fall at the fifth one. The fifth group of households spends for healthcare 42 (!) times more money than the first group.

Phone. 653 households spent for phone talks 32997 MDL. Fluctuations of expenditures are very significant: from several MDL to 926 MDL per month (in more well-off families).

Education. Expenditures for education have about 30% households; it is the fourth group by amount of means spent - 72192 MDL.

Distribution of expenditures for education by five quintiles is shown below.

Table 33

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
%	1.7	3.3	7.2	17.9	69.9
MDL	1218	2365	5170	12953	50486

Expenditures for education of the fifth group make up sum that is 41,1 times bigger than those of the first group. The first group on average spends for education during the last month 14,5 MDL, the second group – 28,2 MDL, the third one – 61,7 MDL, the fourth one – 154,6 MDL and the fifth one – 602,4 MDL.

Heating. Expenditures for heating are the third by amount – 121498 MDL or 12.3% of the total expenditures of households per month.

Table 34

	Quintiles					Total
	1	2	3	4	5	
%	7.1	11.5	16.5	17.4	47.5	100.0
MDL	835	13996	20042	21198	57877	121498
Average, MDL	100,0	167,0	239,2	252,9	690,6	290,0

The fifth group of households spent during the month by 4,1 times more money than the first one. Expenditures of the first group were three times less than the average by households.

Gas. Expenditures for gas last month made up 52992 MDL or 5.4% of the total expenditures. This is somewhat less than expenditures for electric power, but it should be taken into account that unlike electric power gas was used only by 29.7% of households.

Transport. Expenditures of households for this kind of transport accounted for 56258 MDL. It was used by 1111 households, i.e. by 73.3%. On average, last month each of them spent for public transport services circa 50 MDL, while for private transport (84 households) – more – 232 MDL.

Thus, amount and structure of expenditures of the Cucuruzeni community population are rather “modest”. They reflect current state of Moldovan villages quite well. One third of monetary expenditures (33.9%) is spent for food (and we talk about rural areas here!) and 24.5% - for payment for energy resources (gas, coal and firewood, electric power). In conditions of the healthcare state system self-destruction population incurs increased expenses both for self-treatment (purchase of medicines) and payment for services of polyclinics and hospitals. Well-off families spend relatively large amounts of money to pay for their

children's education at higher education institutions based on contract. Besides that, many households indicated monetary expenditures related to primary and secondary education that they bear at present already. Unfortunately, expenditures for cultural goals are brought almost to nothing.

6.2. Average Monthly Expenditures of Households during the Year

Unified Application Form stipulates for discovering *average monthly* expenditures of households during the year. It is understandable that respondents had certain difficulties while evaluating this indicator. Nonetheless, 1504 households have presented such information. According to this information average monthly expenditures per one household of the Cucuruzeni community accounted for 754 MDL (55 USD) ranging from 152,3 MDL (11.0 USD) in the first quintile to 2086,0 MDL (150 USD) in the fifth one – the most well-off stratum of the community's population. We suppose, though, that this self-evaluation of households' yearly expenditures should be treated with caution, since there is no tradition in Moldova – unlike several other countries – to record daily, monthly or yearly family's incomes and expenditures.

7. Evaluation of the NTC Exclusion Error

In all in the Cucuruzeni community there are 202 household members who enjoy targeted compensations, which is 4.5% of the total number of inhabitants. Households, where targeted compensations beneficiaries live, account for 12.7% of the total number of the community's households.

7.1. Monetary Incomes of the NTC Beneficiaries

Households of the community can be divided into three groups:

- Households whose average monetary income is bigger than average income of households enjoying targeted compensations;
- Households whose average monetary income is smaller than average income of households enjoying targeted compensations;
- All households enjoying targeted compensations.

Table 35

Average monetary income of three groups of households (MDL, %)

Groups of households		%	Average income per one household	%	Overall monetary income	%
NTC beneficiaries	192	17.4	307,6		57531,6	12.8
Average monetary income is bigger than average income of households enjoying targeted compensations	218	19.7	1269,1		276644,4	61.5
Average monetary income is smaller than average income of households enjoying targeted compensations	694	62.9	166,2		115382,0	25.7
Total	1104	100.0	407,2		449558	100.0

According to the survey's data 694 (62.9%!) households dispose of average income per one household of 166,2 MDL (12.0 USD), which is 1,5 times less than income of a household belonging to the NTC beneficiaries group.

Average income of the NTC beneficiaries is by 99.6 MDL (7.2 USD) lower than on average by the community's households. At the same time, the group with lower average income than the NTC beneficiaries has average income 241 MDL (17.5 USD) lower than average income by all households.

7.2. Distribution of Total Cash Income of the NTC Beneficiaries

Table 36

Overall monetary income of households enjoying NTC, by quintiles

MDL	3169,4	6185,6	8077,4	12384,2	27715,0	57531,6
%	5.5	10.7	14.1	21.5	48.2	100
Average income	84,7	165,4	216,0	331,1	741,0	307,6

The table shows that incomes of the first, the second and the third quintiles of households is smaller than average income by the group and is smaller than average income by all households. At the same time average income of households of the fifth quintile are almost two times bigger than average income by all households.

As we can see the group of the NTC beneficiaries is quite dissimilar as regards monetary income. Income of the fifth group of households is 8,7 times more than income of the first group, 4,5 times more than income of the second one, 3 times more than income of the third group and more than twice as much as the fourth group's income. 48.2% of monetary income falls at the fifth group of households out of all incomes that the NTC beneficiaries' group gets.

Further on, we will consider distribution of the total monetary income by quintiles within the group of households, whose incomes are lower than the average income of the households enjoying NTCs.

Table 37

Distribution of cash income of households, whose incomes are lower than the average income of households enjoying NTCs, by five quintiles

MDL	11907	17727,2	21490,8	26599,0	37658,0	115382,0
%	10.3	15.4	18.6	23.1	32.6	100.0
Average income	85,8	127,7	154,8	191,6	271,3	143,2

As we can see, average incomes by quintiles of this group of the population differ far less considerably than within the NTC beneficiaries' group (see: Table 36). By all quintiles, excluding the first one, average income of the NTC beneficiaries' households is more than in the given group of households that do not enjoy NTCs.

Sum of the average income in groups that are being compared – NTC beneficiaries and non-NTC with incomes lower than those of the NTC beneficiaries – will also differ as regards number of members of a household.

The way the monetary income per one member of household varies in both group is shown below.

Table 38

Income per one member of household enjoying NTCs, by quintiles

MDL	1265,2	3018,0	4849,1	6360,3	9785,7	25278
%	5.0	11.9	19.2	25.2	38.7	100.0
Average income	33,3	79,4	126,6	167,4	257,5	133,0

**Income per one member of household,
which income is lower than the average of households enjoying NTCs, by quintiles**

MDL	3335,8	7106,8	13128,8	18920,0	23645,0	66136,6
%	5.0	10.7	19.8	28.6	35.7	100.0
Average income	24,0	51,2	94,6	136,3	170,3	95,3

As we can see, it is also the case when income per one member of a household enjoying NTCs is 1,5 times higher than in the households having lower incomes than NTC beneficiaries. By all quintiles average income of members of NTC beneficiaries' households is also higher.

7.3. Preliminary Conclusions

Starting from the results of the research, utilization of the UAF for obtaining additional information on welfare rate of its population allows considerable improvement of the process of rendering social compensations to the most indigent strata of the population. Using UAF gives possibility to determine groups of the population that are in the state of acute poverty and render them social compensations based on their needs, unlike formal affiliation to a certain category of citizens.

Thus, the study demonstrates that NTC beneficiaries of the given community – Cucuruzeni – do not belong to the poorest part of the population as regards monetary income they get:

- average monetary income of 17.4% of households that receive NTC is 1,8 times bigger than average monetary income of 62.9% of households that do not receive NTC;
- average monetary income per one family member of 17.4% of households receiving NTC is 1,4 higher than average monetary income per one family member of 62.9% of those households that do not get NTC.

Thus, a conclusion is obvious: category-based system of NTC rendering that has been existing in the Republic of Moldova since 2000 needs to be improved further and targeted better at social groups that really require state assistance.

Conclusions. Proposals on UAF improvement

The Republic of Moldova accumulated over three years – after July 1, 2000 – experience of the Nominative Targeted Compensations system functioning based on principle of categories. State social assistance is rendered to about 250 thou citizens of 11 categories stipulated by the *Law on Special Social Protection of Some Categories of the Population* #933-XIV of April 14, 2000 and *Government Decision* #761 of July 31, 2000 (disabled, single pensioners, WW2 participants, families with four and more children under 18, etc.).

On the whole, the population's attitude to this system was positive. It was understandable and provided for a considerable saving of means as compared to the soviet-type system of privileges.

Besides that, practical work of the National House of Social Insurance, as well as a series of studies (see: LIESAP – CISR studies, September – December 2002) discovered that the existing system requires improvement as regards its better targeting at needs of concrete households and persons.

The present study was carried out on the initiative of the National House of Social Insurance (*Tamara P. Shumskaia*) with support of the Counterpart International, Inc.'s Low-Income Energy and Social Assistance Project (*Terry T. Campo*). They have worked out *Unified Application Form*, which is being approved by territorial NHI bodies with a view to discover the real need of households/ families in state social support. Executor of the research – nongovernmental organization Center for Strategic Studies and Reforms (CISR) – had to prepare Survey based on a single rural community situated in Orhei district, Moldova's central region, and on utilization of the UAF as a data collection instrument.

For the first time in the Republic of Moldova it was decided to choose the *whole population of a rural community* – Cucuruzeni (8 villages with 4755 inhabitants) – *as object* of this research. Evaluation of the level and different aspects of their welfare, incomes and expenditures, including NTC beneficiaries has been carried out. NTC exclusion error has been discovered. There have been established groups of persons who applied for Social Assistance program (NTC) and of those who could, but did not apply for other types of SA. Proposals on UAF improvement have been made in order to increase its contribution to revealing real poverty.

Selection of the Cucuruzeni rural community for testing the Unified Application Form was conditioned by the following circumstances:

- the community is a typical rural community of the central region of Moldova as regards both population and number of households, employment structure, education, incomes and poverty rate. *NTC beneficiaries within its population account for 7.66% (December 2002), which is practically identical to the average indicator in rural areas of Moldova – 7.4%;*
- the community is situated in the rural “depth” outside the zone of impact of urbanized territories or intensive transport flows and includes 8 villages of different population size and different economic activity rate;

- the community includes a village (Cucuruzeni where 1890 people live, as of January 1, 2003) that belongs to the group of 45 villages where since 1997 the Department of Statistics and Sociology has been routinely examining households budgets. This circumstance presents an additional possibility to assess “capacity for work” of the Unified Application Form.

The object for testing the UAF covered the whole population of the Cucuruzeni community – 4755 persons united in 1,870 households. Examination carried out by CISR with participation of the NHSI territorial unit (Orhei) in March – April 2003 managed to cover 94.0% of population (4,461 persons) and 81.0% of households (1515 households), which is a quite representative sample. While the number of refusals to answer was minimal, the predominant cause of inability to receive information was absence of any inhabitants in houses, mainly due to departure of main household members abroad for work.

The most generalized characteristics of the community population revealed by means of the UAF are as follows:

- a) 56.7% of households are *families* consisting of three and more persons. At the same time, as compared to the previous period share of households where 1-2 persons live increased (up to 43.3%), which is a quite alarming signal that villages become depopulated. Single persons make up 37% (!) of the community population. 2/3 of households are headed by men and 1/3 – by women;
- b) *educational level* of population is rather high: higher education – 7.8%, specialized secondary education – 17.4%, general secondary education – 50.0%;
- c) nature of *employment* reflects transformation processes that take place in Moldovan villages after the land privatization of 1998-2000. Before that time there were 2 sovkhoses, 1 kolkhoz and 1 state agricultural college (Cucuruzeni de Sus) on the community's territory. Now the predominant form of entrepreneurship on the basis of private property is farmers' enterprises (1,268 units), associations of farmers' enterprises and limited liability companies. Population of the community disposes of 7,87 thou ha of agricultural land, including arable field – 4,16 thou ha, orchards – 889 ha, vineyards – 228 ha. Technical equipment – 48 tractors (including 5 new ones), 9 combine-harvesters and 15 trucks;
- d) *incomes* of the population result from agricultural activity on privatized land plots (1,7 ha on the average), from leasing out land, employed work (26% of the population), as well as from wages of single members of households (mainly those 24-45 years old) working abroad. There are 400 of those working abroad in the community, or 1/4 of the total number of those able for work. A rather essential part of monetary incomes of the population includes pensions, benefits and social compensations. Differentiation of households by monetary incomes level is rather considerable. Given the average income per one household of 407,2 MDL (29.5 USD) a month, average income in the first quintile is 101,6 MDL (7.3 USD) and in the fifth it is 1174,3 MDL (85.1 USD). Income of the fifth quintile makes up 57.7% of the total income of all households, while income of the first quintile makes up only 5.0%. The fifth quintile of households receives 11,6 times more monetary incomes than the first one;
- e) *expenditures*: population of the community spent 987774 MDL (71.6 thou USD) last month for 11 types of communal services, medical treatment, food, education, etc.

Expenditures for food take the lead – 334516 MDL – followed by 121498 MDL (8.8 thou USD) spent on energy resources. Expenditures for electric power accounted for 67347 MDL (4.9 thou USD) and differ considerably by quintiles of households. So, the fifth quintile of households spent on electric power 17 times more money than the first one. A part of households consumes less than 15kWh. Monthly income of this group of electric power consumers in the first quintile is less than 124 MDL (9.0 USD), in the second – 125 – 148 MDL, in the third – 149 – 177,4 MDL and in the fourth and fifth correspondingly – 170,8 – 300 and more than 300 MDL (21.7 USD). Thus, monthly income of this group makes up a value smaller than on the average by the community's households (407,2 MDL or 29.5 USD);

- f) *living conditions* of the majority of the population are characterized by availability of private houses (85.4% households) or state apartments (4.9%), TV sets (72.4%), refrigerators (47.5%), clothes-washers (33.3%), automobiles and motorcycles (16.1%). 75% of households are provided with gas, including 13.8% - by means of gas pipes and 61.2% - gas-cylinders. 18.0% of the poorest households do not have gas. Water-supply is available only to 8.5% households. The heating is mostly stove-based (92.6% households). Only 5.7% dispose of gas heating;
- g) rural *entrepreneurship* within the community is underdeveloped. The causes are: lack of sufficient financial resources (including difficulties of getting credits at commercial banks), of necessary infrastructure (transport, agricultural chemistry, veterinary services, seed-farming, etc.) and information. Grain is mainly sold to intermediary firms, milk – to Chisinau (*S.A. Lapte*) and Braviceni (to the private cheese dairy factory), fruits and vegetables – to the Orhei canning and winemaking factory. Realization of meat is still unregulated. Prices are being dictated by buyers to the prejudice of farmers' enterprises;
- h) *contacts* of the community population *with social institutions* and organizations (their frequency and composition) reflect social needs of the people quite representatively. According to the UAF the largest number of addresses falls at post-offices (85.5% households), polyclinic (49.3%) or hospital (16.4%), followed by school – primary and secondary - (15.6%) and very seldom – cultural institutions: libraries (9.5%), clubs, cinemas (1.3%). One third of households (36.0%) addressed local authority bodies – village or community mayor's office, which is quite often. At the same time, there is a group of households in the community that contacts "the outside world" only occasionally; such social exclusion may also be evidence of their poverty.

Examination of different aspects of the community's living revealed that not all targeted compensations beneficiaries belong to the poorest strata of the community's population. Monetary income of 17.4% of households enjoying targeted compensations is 1,8 times bigger than monetary income of 62.9% of those households that do not receive targeted compensations. This means that 2/3 of households have smaller monetary income than NTC beneficiaries have. The conclusion resulting from this data is as follows: it is necessary to start from a wider range of data characterizing economic situation of applicants for targeted compensations. One should take into account – besides the category stipulated by the Law – monetary and other types of incomes obtained by applicants or households where they live as well.

Targeted compensations make up the main part of monetary means received in form of social benefits, which accounts for 13815 MDL (1.0 thou USD) in the Cucuruzeni community. Although as regards their total amount NTCs are inferior to incomes from salaries and

pensions, they are very important as an aid to the indigent. This type of social benefits is especially important in rural areas where obtaining income in monetary form is extremely difficult due to underdevelopment of economic relations. On the other hand, targeted compensations are the only source of means for communal services, electric power, fuel and medicines for a considerable part of the NTC beneficiaries owing to their old age, poor health, etc.

Using UAF as an examination instrument allowed both obtaining information on different aspects of households living and establishing that contingent with lower incomes (the poverty zone) is much larger than the NTC beneficiaries' contingent, i.e. it allowed revealing the exclusion error. Besides, there were gathered quite "unexpected" data related to a series of aspects of life of the modern Moldovan village.

Assessment of the Unified Application Form efficiency as the data collection instrument:

1. Information gathered using UAF is quite thorough. It covers almost all – both socio-demographic and material and financial – data on households necessary to decide whether social assistance should be granted. Obtained information is integral and thorough, which increases its quality and completeness significantly;
2. Introduction of 80 variables into the UAF allows both getting practically all characteristics of examined households and obtaining extremely rich information through construction of correlation ties between independent and dependent variables;
3. Obtained information is fixed in the UAF based on 33 papers presented by respondents that confirm the data they indicate, which increases their trustworthiness considerably;
4. The questionnaire (Cerere pentru protectie sociala) commands the people trust; they hope for future aid. Therefore respondents do not fear to present information of both objective and subjective nature. This design lowers considerably respondents' distrust and increases veracity of the gathered information;
5. The questionnaire allows getting data on the applicant for social assistance, as well as on material and financial situation of environment and family where he or she lives. Such data are very important since material situation of the respondent depends both on his/hers incomes and the family where he/she lives (if applicable);
6. The questionnaire allows obtaining needed and important information on social processes, in which respondents are involved, and first of all on their contacts with formal and informal social and cultural institutions.
7. Amendments into the UAF, in our opinion, should be as follows:
 - Part II, (9) – variant "other" should be made more accurate, since during interviewing it gets too many answers (8 to 10%) that are difficult to identify in the future;
 - Part VII – area of agricultural lands and lands attached to the house should be noted in hectares instead of square meters, since there is no such practice in the country;

- Part XI – indicator “global income” should be made more precise through indicating the period, on which the information should be given – within a month, a year or a quarter? Due to the current formulation it is trustworthiness of this indicators that gives rise to doubts;
- Part VIII, (i) – should be formulated as “the nearest public telephone”;
- There were certain methodological problems during the data processing based on the SPSS standard, which should be eradicated. In this connection it would be expedient to add several new clauses: (i) Total number of family members, including head of the family; (ii) Number of children under 18; (iii) Number of students over 18; (iv) Number of the NTC beneficiaries; (v) Number of employed family members; (vi) Number of pensioners; (vii) Number of those able for work; and redesign the first page of the questionnaire in the following way (*see: Annex B*).

Annex A: Unified Application Form (official)

File No. _____; Date _____

I. Personal data:

- ✓ Last name: _____ First name: _____ Patronymic: _____ No. of electric counter: _____
- ✓ Registration address: county _____ town (village) _____ str. _____ block(house) No. _____ ap. No. _____ Postal Code: _____ tel.(home/contact): _____ / _____
- ✓ Living address: county _____ town (village) _____ str. _____ block(house) No. _____ ap. No. _____ Postal Code: _____ tel.(home/contact): _____ / _____
- ✓ Personal code or old passport number: _____ Social Insurance code: _____ Pension cert. No. _____ Disability cert. No. _____

II. Household data:

Family Members and Other Householders			Date of birth (day, month, year)	Sex (1 - male, 2 - female)	Civil status (look classifier B)	Relationship (look classifier C)	Education (look classifier D)	Currently employed (look classifier E)	Salary, lei (last month)	Pension category (look classifier F)	Pension, lei (last month)	Type of social payments (look classifier G) (last month)	Social payments, lei (last month)	III. Category of vulnerability:														
Last Name	First Name	Patronymic												1 - registered at the EO; 2 - not registered at the EO	Student under 23: 1 - State scholarship; 2 - Contract	Pregnant woman (20 or more weeks) 1 - yes 2 - no	2 - divorced parents; 3 - semi orphan (one parent);	16; 2 - Disabled since childhood over 16; 3 - Disabled;	Degree or orisandy: 1 - 1 st degree; 2 - 2 nd degree; 3 - 3 rd degree	and 2nd group (look classifier)	Old person: 1 - social pensioner; 2 - pensioner; 3 - single pensioner;	Person abroad: 1 - to work; 2 - to study; 3 - for medical purposes; 4 - other	Another categ. of vulner. (look classifier J)	any of these cat. Chapt.III:				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25				
			/ /																									
			/ /																									
			/ /																									
			/ /																									
			/ /																									
			/ /																									
			/ /																									
			/ /																									
			/ /																									
			/ /																									

Information so that we can assess whether you should receive other types of social assistance:

IV. Dwelling, Facilities

(look the classifier):

a. Owner of the house(apt): _____ (class. J)

b. Kind of accommodations: _____ (class. K)

c. Number of habitable rooms: _____

d. Total size: _____ m²

e. Habitable area: _____ m²

f. Have you got: (class. L)

water: _____

heating: _____

gas: _____

hot water _____

electricity (1-yes; 2-no) _____

telephone (1-da; 2-nu) _____

bath / shower (1-da; 2-nu) _____

sewerage system (1-da; 2-nu) _____

floor standing electric range (1-yes; 2-no) _____

g. Do you have other house: _____ (class. M)

h. Do you have a garage: _____ (class. N)

V. Last month expenses:

a. Dwelling:

✗ gas _____ lei;

✗ electricity _____ lei;

✗ telephone _____ lei;

✗ heating _____ lei;

✗ water _____ lei.

b. Food: _____ lei;

c. Medicine: _____ lei;

d. Education: _____ lei;

e. Transport:

✗ vehicle _____ lei;

✗ public _____ lei;

f. Taxes: _____ lei.

VI. Age of assets, years:

TV: _____ refrigerator: _____

washing machine: _____

vehicle (registration number: _____): _____

agricultural equipment (registration number: _____): _____

VII. Other assets:

□ arable land: _____ m²

□ land around the house: _____ m²

□ domestic animals:

✗ cow nr. _____;

✗ horse nr. _____;

✗ goat nr. _____;

✗ poultry nr. _____;

✗ hog nr. _____;

✗ others nr. _____;

VIII. How often have you visited the following

(during last three months):

a. Outpatient's clinic: _____

b. Hospital: _____

c. Library/Club-house: _____

d. Cinema/Theater: _____

e. Post Office: _____

f. Local govern. Institutions: _____

g. Elementary School: _____

h. Secondary School: _____

i. The nearest Telephone: _____

IX. Does the family own a private business?

✗ farm _____ □

✗ individual firm _____ □

✗ patent _____ □

✗ SA _____ □

✗ SRL _____ □

✗ cooperative _____ □

X. Family's average monthly expenses:

_____ lei.

XI. The need for social assistance is:

Extreme _____ □

Relative _____ □

GLOBAL INCOME: _____

Material aid, lei: _____

For additional explanations use the space on the back of the page

Refused to answer (applicant's signature): _____

(if the person refuses to answer to the Information for assessing whether he/she should receive other types of social assistance)

DECISION:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Specialist (last name, first name) _____

Specialist's Code _____ Specialist's signature _____

Applicant's signature _____

MAYOR'S SIGNATURE _____

MAYOR'S STAMP: _____

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED BY APPLICANT

1. ☐ - ID (passport, birth certificate)
2. ☐ - birth certificate of child (F-3, F-3A)
3. ☐ - medical birth certificates of children
4. ☐ - certificate issued by the civil status office, confirming the reasons for including data about the father in child's birth certificate
5. ☐ - pension certificate
6. ☐ - divorce certificate
7. ☐ - marriage certificate
8. ☐ - work record
9. ☐ - certificate from education institution
10. ☐ - death certificate
11. ☐ - certificate from medical inst. confirming health state of the applicant and the need to pay for medical services
12. ☐ - certificate confirming the need to purchase medication or prostheses
13. ☐ - document from the employment office (registered at the EO)
14. ☐ - family members
15. ☐ - certificate confirming that the mother lives together with child
16. ☐ - extract from the maternity leave order
17. ☐ - document confirming family income (certificate of salary, of income from land lots from which insurance contributions are calculated) for the trimester prior to the application month
18. ☐ - certificate issued by social assistance authorities confirming that the child does not receive other indemnities
19. ☐ - in case both parents are unemployed
20. ☐ - owners of arable land, including those who rent it out, or of any other forms of farmers' associations, entrepreneurs must present registration certificate and document confirming payment of contributions
21. ☐ - certificate issued by municipal living fund administrator or mayoralty, by private home building cooperatives, by companies that own homes and hostels, with the indication of the heating method and of all services used by the beneficiary
22. ☐ - extract from personal account or real-estate record
23. ☐ - certificate of participant in defending territorial integrity of Moldova
24. ☐ - certificate of WW2 participant
25. ☐ - certificate confirming the person's presence in Leningrad during the blockade
26. ☐ - military record
27. ☐ - testimony of 2 witnesses (neighbors) that the pensioner has no children
28. ☐ - certificate confirming that the applicant is a child of a person deceased because of the Chernobyl catastrophe
29. ☐ - certificate confirming that the applicant was a victim of political repressions in 1917-1990
30. ☐ - certificate of assimilate of WW2 participant
31. ☐ - certificate of alimony
32. ☐ - extract from the decision of the local public authority on the assignment of a legal guardian
33. ☐ - certificate from police Commissariat confirming the fact that the child's father is missing

Refused to answer (applicant's signature): _____

(if the person refuses to answer to the Information for assessing whether he/she should receive other types of social assistance)

DECISION:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Specialist (last name, first name) _____

Specialist's Code _____ Specialist's signature _____

Applicant's signature _____

MAYOR'S SIGNATURE _____

MAYOR'S STAMP: _____

Documents justifying the need for material assistance:

- ☐ - request
- ☐ - ID (passport)
- ☐ - birth certificates of children
- ☐ - in case of illness, certificate shall be enclosed, which is issued free of charge by medical institutions, confirming health state of the applicant and the need to pay for medical services
- ☐ - certificate confirming the need to purchase medication or prostheses
- ☐ - pension certificate
- ☐ - other identification documents of applying person (family).
If necessary:
- ☐ - beneficiary of material aid must present additional documents, at the request of the local fund executive department.

Documents needed to apply for nominative compensations

- ☐ - request
- ☐ - passport, ID or birth certificate
- ☐ - medical certificate of birth
- ☐ - certificate issued by municipal living fund administrator or mayoralty, by private home building cooperatives, by companies that own homes and hostels, with the indication of the heating method and of all services used by the beneficiary
- ☐ - family members
- ☐ - certificate and ID confirming person's registration as compensation beneficiary
- ☐ - certificate confirming grounds for certain categories of citizens
- ☐ - extract from personal account or real-estate record
- ☐ - testimony of two witnesses that the person has no children

Documents needed to apply for indemnities:

- ☐ - request
- ☐ - birth certificate of child
- ☐ - medical birth certificate of child
- ☐ - certificate issued by the civil status office, confirming the reasons for including data about the father in child's birth certificate
- ☐ - family members and certificate confirming that the mother lives together with child
- ☐ - extract from the maternity leave order
- ☐ - document confirming family income (certificate of salary, of income from land lots from which insurance contributions are calculated) for the trimester prior to the application month
- ☐ - document confirming that the mother is unemployed (work record issued by local public administration or employment office)
- ☐ - If necessary, certificate from education institutions,
- ☐ - If necessary: divorce certificate,
- ☐ - If necessary: extract from the decision of the local public authority
- ☐ - certificate issued by social assistance authorities confirming that the child does not receive other indemnities
- ☐ - in case both parents are unemployed
- ☐ - owners of arable land, including those who rent it out, or of any other forms of farmers' associations, entrepreneurs must present registration certificate and document confirming payment of contributions

Classifier to the Social Protection Application Form Var.II

A. “Application for” section:

1. Nominal Targeted Compensations
2. One-time benefit at child birth, for insured persons
3. Benefits for children up to 1,5 years old, for insured persons
4. Benefits for children, mothers with many children and single mothers with children from 1,5 to 16 years old, insured persons
5. Child birth benefit, for non-insured- persons
6. Benefits for children up to 1,5 years old, for non-insured persons
7. Benefits for children, mothers with many children and single mothers with children from 1,5 to 16 (18) years old, non-insured persons
8. Social insurance indemnity
9. Assistance to children instead of alimony
10. Allocation for child support
11. Assistance in case of death
12. Compensations for transport services
13. Other type of compensations (Chernobyl)
14. Material aid for food and industrial goods
15. Material aid for medical services and purchasing medication or prostheses
16. Other purposes (funerals)
17. Sanatoriums

B. “Household data” section.

“Civil status”:

- Not married – 1
- Married – 2
- Spouse live separately – 3
- Widow(er) – 4
- Divorced – 5

C. “Household data” section.

“Relationship”:

- Head of household – 1
- Husband/Wife – 2
- Son/Daughter (incl. adopted) – 3
- Brother/Sister – 4

- Parents – 5
- Grandson/Granddaughter – 6
- Other relatives – 7
- No relation – 8

D. “Household data” section.

“Education”:

- Higher – 1
- Uncompleted higher – 2
- Specialized secondary – 3
- General secondary – 4
- Uncompleted – 5
- Elementary – 6
- Lack of elementary – 7
- Illiterate – 8

E. “Household data” section.

“Currently employed”:

- Working – 1
- On leave – 2
- Considered to be working, but the company did not function – 3
- Looking for a job – 4
- House wife/husband – 5
- Studying – 6
- Attending professional training courses – 7
- Unable to work for health reasons – 8
- Unable to work for age reasons – 9
- Others – 10

F. “Household data” section.

“Pension category”:

- 1 - Age pension
- 2 - Disability pension
- 3 - Work experience pension
- 4 - Social allocation / Social pension
- 5 - Survivor's pension
- 6 - Other pension – for public officials, deputies, prosecutors, military personnel, judges, government members, mayors, customs officers
- 7 - Monthly state allocations to persons with war disabilities, WW2 participants and their families

G. “Household data” section.

“Type of social payments”:

- 1 – Assistance in case of death
- 2 – Allocations for care
- 3 – Nominative compensations

- 4 – Compensations for transport services transport
- 5 – Other compensations (Chernobyl)
- 6 – Financial aid to the population by the FSSP
- 7 – One-time payments (companies, unions, charity and religious organizations)
- 8 – Stipends
- 9 – Child birth benefit
- 10 – Benefits for children under 1,5 years old
- 11 – Benefits for children, mothers with many children and single mothers with children from 1,5 to 16 (18) years old
- 12 - Social insurance benefits
- 13 - Sanatoriums
- 14 - Public transport
- 15 – Indemnity to guardians / adoptive parents

H. „Category of vulnerability” section.

3rd group with a disability degree without a time limit and 2nd group

- 1 – 3rd group, work disability;
- 2 – 3rd group, disability due to mutilation, trauma / injury during military service;
- 3 – 3rd group, participants in defending territorial integrity and independence of Moldova;
- 4 – 3rd group, victims of political repressions in 1917 – 1990;
- 5 – 3rd group, ex-prisoners of concentration camps and ghettos;
- 6 – 2nd group, disability due to professional illness or injury

I. „Other cat-s of vulnerability” section

- 1 – Assimilates of WW2 participants
- 2 – Parents, unmarried wives, children under 18 of persons deceased on the front or as a result of participating in the liquidation of Chernobyl consequences
- 3 - Persons working behind the front during WW2
- 4 – Persons present in Leningrad during the blockade
- 5 – Extreme poverty
- 6 - Unemployed for reasons of long illness, but not disabled

J. “Dwelling, Facilities” section.

“Owner of the house”:

- State – 1
- Establishment – 2
- Cooperative – 3
- Private – 4
- Rent from citizens – 5
- Other – 6

K. “Dwelling, Facilities” section.

“Kind of accommodations”:

- Separate apartment – 1
- Hostel – 2
- Detached house – 3
- Part of a house – 4
- Other – 5

L. “Dwelling, Facilities” section.

“Have you got”:

Water: running water – 1, spring – 2, well 3, others – 4

Heating: central – 1, local – 2, fireplace working on natural gas -3; fireplace working on wood, coal, gasoline -4 electric heater – 5; no – 6

Gas: central – 1, gas-cylinders – 2, no – 3

Hot water: public network – 1, water heating on gas, electricity – 2, water heating on coal, wood – 3, no - 4

Electricity: yes – 1, no - 2

Telephone: yes – 1, no - 2

Bath/shower: yes – 1, no - 2

Sewerage system: yes – 1, no - 2

Floor standing electric range: yes – 1, no - 2

M. “Dwelling, Facilities” section.

“Do you have other house”:

- separate apartment - 1
- detached house - 2
- part of a house - 3
- other - 4
- winter-type cottage - 5
- summer-type cottage - 6
- I don't - 7

N. “Dwelling, Facilities” section.

“Do you have a garage”:

- Yes, I have my own – 1
- I rent it – 2
- No – 3

Annex B: Unified Application Form (proposed)

File No. _____; Date _____

I. Personal data:

- ✓ Last name: _____ First name: _____ Patronymic: _____ No. of electric counter: _____
 ✓ Registration address: county _____ town (village) _____ str. _____ block(house) No. _____ ap. No. _____ Postal Code: _____ tel.(home/contact): _____ / _____
 ✓ Living address: county _____ town (village) _____ str. _____ block(house) No. _____ ap. No. _____ Postal Code: _____ tel.(home/contact): _____ / _____
 ✓ Personal code or old passport number: _____ Social Insurance code: _____ Pension cert. No. _____ Disability cert. No. _____

Household data:

Total number of family members, including head of the family		Number of children under 18		Number of children under 18		Number of students over 18	
Number of the NTC beneficiaries		Number of employed family members		Number of pensioners		Number of those able for work	

Information so that we can assess whether you should receive other types of social assistance:

IV. Dwelling, Facilities

(look the classifier):

- a. Owner of the house(apt): _____ (class. J)
 b. Kind of accommodations: _____ (class. K)
 c. Number of habitable rooms: _____
 d. Total size: _____ m²
 e. Habitable area: _____ m²
 f. Have you got: (class. L)
 water: _____
 heating: _____
 gas: _____
 hot water _____
 electricity (1-yes; 2-no) _____
 telephone (1-da; 2-nu) _____
 bath / shower (1-da; 2-nu) _____
 sewerage system (1-da; 2-nu) _____
 floor standing electric range (1-yes; 2-no) _____
 g. Do you have other house: _____ (class. M)
 h. Do you have a garage: _____ (class. N)

V. Last month expenses:

a. Dwelling:

- ✗ gas _____ lei;
 ✗ electricity _____ lei;
 ✗ telephone _____ lei;
 ✗ heating _____ lei;
 ✗ water _____ lei.

b. Food: _____ lei;

c. Medicine: _____ lei;

d. Education: _____ lei;

e. Transport:

- ✗ vehicle _____ lei;
 ✗ public _____ lei;

f. Taxes: _____ lei.

VI. Age of assets, years:

- TV: _____ refrigerator: _____
 washing machine: _____
 vehicle (registration number: _____):
 agricultural equipment (registration number: _____):

VII. Other assets:

- ☐ arable land: _____ m²
☐ land around the house: _____ m²
☐ domestic animals:
 ✗ cow nr.____;
 ✗ horse nr.____;
 ✗ goat nr.____;
 ✗ poultry nr.____;
 ✗ hog nr.____;
 ✗ others nr.____;

VIII. How often have you visited the following

(during last three months):

- a. Outpatient's clinic: _____
 b. Hospital: _____
 c. Library/Club-house: _____
 d. Cinema/Theater: _____
 e. Post Office: _____
 f. Local govern. Institutions: _____
 g. Elementary School: _____
 h. Secondary School: _____
 i. The nearest Telephone: _____

IX. Does the family own a private business?

- ✗ farm ☐
 ✗ individual firm ☐
 ✗ patent ☐ ✗ SRL ☐
 ✗ SA ☐ ✗ cooperative ☐

X. Family's average monthly expenses:

_____ lei.

XI. The need for social assistance is:

Extreme ☐

Relative ☐

GLOBAL INCOME: _____

Material aid, lei: _____

For additional explanations use the space on the back of the page

Family Members and Other Householders			Date of birth (day, month, year)	Sex (1 - male, 2 - female)	Civil status (look classifier B)	Relationship (look classifier C)	Education (look classifier D)	Currently employed (look classifier E)	Salary, lei (last month)	Pension category (look classifier F)	Pension, lei (last month)	Type of social payments (look classifier G) (last month)	Social payments, lei (last month)	III. Category of vulnerability:										
Last Name	First Name	Patronymic												1 – registered at the EO; 2 – not registered at the EO	Student under 23: 1 – State scholarship; 2 – Contract.	Pregnant woman (20 or more weeks) 1-yes 2 – divorced parents; 3 – semi orphan (one parent); 4 – other	16; 2 – Disabled since childhood over 16; 3 – Disabled; 4 – other	degree or disability: 1 – 1 st degree; 2 – 2 nd degree; 3 – 3 rd degree; 4 – other	and 2nd group (look classifier F)	Old person: 1 – social pensioner; 2 – pensioner; 3 – single pensioner; 4 – other	Person abroad: 1 – to work; 2 – to study; 3 – for medical purposes; 4 – other	Person not belonging to any of these cat.III: 1-yes		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	25	
			/ /																					
			/ /																					
			/ /																					
			/ /																					
			/ /																					
			/ /																					
			/ /																					
			/ /																					
			/ /																					