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Intergovernmental coordination for a sustainable development of entrepreneurial activity in the Republic of Moldova

Olesea Plotnic¹, Lucia Popescu², Noemia Bessa Vilela³, Žan Jan Oplotnik^{4,*}¹ Jean Monnet, Faculty of Law, State University of Moldova, MD-2009 Chişinău, Moldova² Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, MD-2005 Chişinău, Moldova³ OPHIZ Institute, 2000 Maribor, Slovenia⁴ Faculty of Economics and Business Maribor, University of Maribor, 2000 Maribor, Slovenia* **Corresponding author:** Žan Jan Oplotnik, zan.oplotnik@um.si

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Abstract: This article scrutinizes the multifaceted challenges inherent in intergovernmental coordination across various sectors, with a particular emphasis on sustainable development and entrepreneurial activity within the Republic of Moldova. It argues that despite the existence of intergovernmental cooperation, it often manifests as deficient, contradictory, incomplete, and inefficient. Through a meticulous analysis, this study delineates the roles of pertinent authorities and institutions in fostering the sustainable development of entrepreneurial activities, identifying critical inter-institutional coordination issues and challenges. The discourse extends to examining institutional processes and the extent to which policies, laws, and international standards are implemented to nurture and sustain business activities. Moreover, the paper explores various strategies to cultivate responsible, transparent, and effective dialogue between institutions, thereby promoting innovative practices, expanding cooperation, and fostering partnerships with national and civil society organizations, including international bodies.

Keywords: sustainable development; intergovernmental cooperation; entrepreneurial activity

1. Introduction

The examination of intergovernmental coordination is a noteworthy topic at the national level, not solely pertaining to the sustainable development of entrepreneurial activities. This relevance is amplified by the ongoing evolution of state policies and the numerous reforms within state institutions, necessitating efficient coordination for the successful implementation of varied policies. In the Republic of Moldova, numerous coordination mechanisms exist at the governmental level, many of which are initiated by international organizations to unify stances and streamline reporting across specific policy areas.

This paper addresses intergovernmental coordination from two angles: firstly, focusing on the sustainable development goals, and secondly, on matters related to entrepreneurial activity. We specifically assess how coordination is managed between relevant local agencies, the Government, and Parliament, both vertically and horizontally. Additionally, the role of cooperation with international organizations is considered. The sustainable development policy, often framed as a governmental effort to balance economic, social, and environmental dimensions, is widely adopted by various actors, including governmental and non-governmental organizations at all levels (Brandt, 2011, p. 7). On one hand, the sustainable development policy is recognized as a complex construct that integrates several regulations and necessitates

detailed planning through strategies and action plans. This complexity leads to new forms of governance and inter-institutional collaboration, potentially giving rise to resistance and challenges. On the other hand, sustainable development possesses an international dimension, actively promoted by the UN, OECD, and EU, which have established a comprehensive agenda and set forth recommendations for sustainable development to be implemented by governments.

Sustainable development is relatively nascent within the policymaking landscape of Moldova. By joining 189 other nations in endorsing the Millennium Summit's Declaration in 2000, Moldova pledged to diligently pursue inclusive and sustainable growth. This commitment was further solidified in 2012 with the adoption of the "Moldova 2020" National Development Strategy, which predominantly focused on economic dimensions. This strategy introduced new institutional duties, including annual planning, reporting by pertinent institutions, and mid-term evaluations of the strategy's execution by the State Chancellery. Fast forward to 2022, the Parliament enacted Law no. 315 on 19 November 2022, endorsing the "Moldova 2030" National Development Strategy. This new strategy offers a more holistic framework than its predecessor, addressing social, economic, environmental, and additional objectives, thereby endowing state institutions with specific competences and a legal structure to oversee the strategy's implementation. The law redefines sustainable development as a collective obligation, monitored by a newly established government body, anticipating enhanced coordination and cooperation among relevant authorities, ultimately fostering more effective strategy implementation and reporting.

This paper delves into the dynamics of cooperation and coordination among authorities concerning the sustainable development of entrepreneurial activity in Moldova, organized into three main sections. The first section provides an overview of Moldova's institutional frameworks and competencies, including interactions with international organizations such as the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), the OECD Annual Meeting of Sustainable Development Experts (AMSDE), and the EU's Sustainable Development Strategy (EU SDS) discussions. The second section examines the institutional processes and the extent of policy, law, and regulation implementation, highlighting existing challenges in inter-institutional coordination. The third section proposes several strategies to foster responsible, transparent, and efficient dialogue among institutions, promoting innovation, good practices, and successful models, alongside enhancing collaborations and partnerships with national entities, civil society organizations, and international bodies. Additionally, a sub-chapter presents a case study of Slovenia—an EU, EMU, and OECD member—that exemplifies how to achieve goals similar to those Moldova has prioritized in the realm of sustainable development and entrepreneurial activity.

2. Methods used

The methodological underpinning of this article is rooted in a comprehensive approach, employing logical (both inductive and deductive), systemic, and historical methods to dissect the phenomena under study. Logical reasoning facilitates the analysis of doctrinal opinions alongside the synthesis of pertinent international and national regulations. The systemic method enables an exhaustive examination of

diverse international and national regulations governing intergovernmental coordination concerning sustainable entrepreneurial activities. Furthermore, the historical method offers insights into the genesis and evolution of regulations pertinent to sustainable entrepreneurial activity and the coordination between authorities on international and national fronts.

The normative foundation of this research is constituted by an array of national regulations and legislation, providing a robust framework for the inquiry.

Several methods of analysis and research were used in the preparation of this article, such as:

- 1) the logical method (inductive and deductive), by using logical reasoning methods with reference to the analysis of doctrinal opinions, as well as the synthesis of relevant international and national regulations;
- 2) the systemic method manifested through the analysis of various international and national regulations that provide for intergovernmental coordination regarding sustainable entrepreneurial activity;
- 3) the historical method, includes the research of the way in which the regulation of sustainable entrepreneurial activity appeared and developed, as well as the coordination between authorities on both the international and the national agenda.
- 4) At the same time, the normative basis of the research is the national regulations, as well as the national legislation.

3. The role of authorities in sustainable development

3.1. General overview on the intergovernmental arrangements

The foundational aspects of the authority structure and competences within the Republic of Moldova are governed by both the Constitution and various specific laws. These dimensions have been extensively explored by previous scholars, thus, our paper will concentrate on the pivotal and most pertinent aspects of institutional roles concerning intergovernmental coordination for the sustainable development of entrepreneurial activities in Moldova.

The responsibility for sustainable development in entrepreneurial ventures is distributed among various institutions, varying by the field of focus (environment, economy, or social policy) and the level of responsibility (legislative or government level, agencies under the government, or public administration authorities). Hence, to analyze the role of each institution effectively, it's crucial to identify these competent bodies and their respective involvement levels.

Moldova's state power structure is theoretically segmented into legislative, executive, and judicial branches. The legislative power, or Parliament, is tasked with adopting policy documents and laws, and exercising parliamentary oversight (Law No. 797 of 02-04-1996 for the adoption of the Parliament Regulation). Notably, Parliament endorsed the "European Moldova 2030" National Strategy on sustainable development, with Parliamentary Commissions overseeing its implementation. Concurrently, the executive branch, embodied by the Government and its State Chancellery along with various ministries/public administrations, is charged with law implementation and accountability to Parliament (Law No. 136 of 07.07.2017

regarding the Government). The State Chancellery plays a pivotal role in supervising the “European Moldova 2030” strategy’s execution, with ministries and public administrations involved in its implementation and reporting. The judicial branch, including the Court system and Prosecution service, delivers justice and annually reports to Parliament or the President. Generally, collaboration and coordination across these powers regarding sustainable entrepreneurial activities do not encounter significant obstacles, except in dealings with the Transnistria region.

Challenges primarily emerge concerning the division of responsibilities by field under the Government regarding sustainable entrepreneurial activities (Murphy and Ghencea, 2023, p. 109). This division is twofold: on one hand, intergovernmental coordination through public policies and legislation focuses on sustainable development objectives, as seen in the “European Moldova 2030” strategy (Law 315 of 17.11.2020). On the other hand, intergovernmental collaboration pertains to company activities, exemplified by the Strategy for the development of the small and medium enterprises sector (Governmental Decision no. 685 of 13.09.2012). While these areas are distinct, intersections occur both in terms of objectives and at the institutional implementation level, necessitating the identification of responsible institutions and their roles. Understanding the concept of “sustainable business” is key to addressing these intersections.

The UN Global Compact outlines that sustainable businesses begin by acting responsibly, embedding the UN Global Compact’s Ten Principles broadly into their strategies and operations, acknowledging that positive practices in one area cannot compensate for harm in another (“UN Global Compact,” 2024).

These Ten Principles are inspired by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labour Organization’s Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, encompassing human rights, labor standards, environmental preservation, and anti-corruption measures. Principles are as follows:

- businesses should support and respect internationally proclaimed human rights;
 - make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.
 - businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
 - the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;
 - the effective abolition of child labour; and
 - the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.
 - environment
 - businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
 - undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
 - encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
 - businesses should work against corruption in all its forms.
- (“UN Global Compact,” 2024).

As we can see, the principles are multiple and involve a complex implementation process, where most ministries (and several agencies under ministries) within a Government shall be involved. In particular, the Moldovan Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of

Environment, Prosecution service would be competent in this area. Furthermore, the environment is in the responsibility of many institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Environment. In the next chapter, the specific competences of the key entities for the sustainable entrepreneurial activity will be analysed.

3.2. Competences of authorities in coordination the sustainable entrepreneurial activity

Considering that the field under discussion is a very broad one and covers a multitude of aspects, this chapter will generally refer to the basic competencies of the authorities involved, but will mainly focus on the competencies related to sustainable entrepreneurial activity only from the perspective of environmental protection. In this context, the key Ministries are the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Economy.

So that, according to the point 6 of the Regulation regarding the organization and operation of the Ministry of the Environment (Government Decision No. 145 of 25.08.2021), the Ministry performs the functions in the following areas: 1) environmental protection; 2) climate change; 3) sustainable management of natural resources. At the same time, the Ministry of the Environment collaborates during the activity with various interested actors, including with the business environment, especially in the following fields:

- elaboration of analyses, policy documents, drafts of normative acts in the fields provided above, including those for ensuring the execution of normative acts and decrees of the President of the Republic of Moldova, after their publication in the Official Monitor of the Republic of Moldova;
- monitoring the perception of public policies, normative acts and state activity in the Ministry's specific fields of activity and developing proposals for its improvement;
- monitoring the quality of public policies and normative acts in the fields of activity specific to the Ministry;
- examination and approval of draft normative acts developed by other public administration authorities and submitted for examination etc.

Furthermore, the Ministry of the Environment has the right to create advisory councils, specialized commissions, working groups with the participation of various interested actors, including the business environment. In addition, a college is established within the Ministry, composed of the minister, as well as other representatives of the Ministry and other persons, among which representatives of the business environment. This collegium examines in its meetings, among other things, matters regarding the organization of the Ministry's activity in order to promote the policy in the field of activity managed, the solution of urgent problems, etc. (Regulation regarding the organization and operation of the Ministry of the Environment (Government Decision No. 145 of 25.08.2021). Analysing the competences of the Ministry, it is clear that there is an interest in collaborating with the private sector, since such collaboration can facilitate sustainable economic development.

On the other side, the Ministry of Economy carries out its functions in many fields, including in regulating the business environment and small and medium-sized

enterprises (Government Decision No. 143 of 25.08.2021 regarding the organization and functioning of the Ministry of Economy). The basic functions are similar to the Ministry of Environment, but for its specific field.

Both Ministries collaborate with each other in the field of approving normative acts relevant to their activity. The approval process is officially regulated and does not raise any major questions. It is, however, essential to mention that this collaboration takes place in general terms, but it can also take place in certain policy areas in the form of strategies, where the specific process of collaboration is provided for in Government decisions, as for example in the case of the National Strategy on sustainable development “European Moldova 2030”, the Government adopted the Decision no. 912 of 25.07.2016 regarding the establishment of the National Coordinating Council for Sustainable Development and the Decision no. 953 of 12.28.2022 regarding the approval of the national framework for monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. According to the Decision no. 953 of 12.28.2022, the State Chancellery, the National Bureau of Statistics, the ministries, other central administrative authorities and public institutions are responsible for monitoring the implementation and reporting on the agenda. The coordination was entrusted to the National Council for the Coordination of Sustainable Development, specially created for this purpose.

At first glance, the legislation is clear and provides the process of coordination on the implementation of the Agenda 2030. At the same time, the major collaboration difficulties appear not at the level of the central administration, but especially at the level of the specialized agencies subordinated to the Ministry of the Environment and the local administration.

In this context, the doctrine specifies that the benefits of the sustainable development have not only a global dimension, but also a local one, since each economic activity that has an impact on natural resources has to be subject to innovative environmental valuation, including social and ethical considerations. These innovations are the result of collective and ancestral experiences of communities in their relationship with their local biodiversity. At the same time, they are adapted to local needs, cultures and environment, and transmitted from generation to generation. (The Role of Public Administration in Sustainable Development, Fernanda Caroline Caldato, Sandro Cesar Bortoluzzi and Edson Pinheiro de Lima, *International Business, Trade and Institutional Sustainability*, pag. 805).

So that, there is the Environment Agency which has the mission of ensuring the implementation of the environmental protection policy, that includes, among others, the regulation and authorization of activities with an impact on the quality of the environment, issuing to legal entities permissive acts for the practice of entrepreneurial activities with an impact on the environment (Government Decision No. 549 of 13/06/2018 regarding the establishment, organization and operation of the Environment Agency). These kind of permissive acts are provided as necessary according to the Law (No. 160 of 22.07.2011) related to the regulation of authorization of entrepreneurial activity. In this context, any economic agent that wants to carry out an activity must obtain a permissive opinion from the Environment Agency. This notice must be attached to the file for requesting the town planning certificate from the town hall.

On the other side, there is the Environmental Protection Inspectorate, under the Ministry of the Environment. According to Government Decision No. 548 of 13.06.2018 related to the organization and operation of the Environmental Protection Inspectorate, the environmental protection inspector is responsible for carrying out state supervision and control in the field of environmental protection and the use of natural resources, and in violation of the rules legal to apply sanctions, including by paying fines or suspending the entrepreneurial activity.

Considering that the economic agents carry out their activity in a certain region/territory, the local public administration plays a determining role from the perspective of the authorizations granted to the economic agents. Thus, the town halls are responsible according to law No. 436 of 28.12.2006 related to the local public administration, to administer the goods from the public or private domain belonging to the state, which includes, among others, the release of various authorizations to legal entities, e.g. the municipalities are the ones that offer planning authorizations for the design, when an economic agent is established in a certain place/territory. Upon its release by the municipality, an ecological expertise shall be issued.

Analysing the relevant competences, it is observed that the coordination at the local level between the agencies subordinate to the Ministry of the Environment and the local administration must be very intense, transparent and uniform in relation to the entrepreneurial activity that could possibly have an impact on the environment. Thus, any entrepreneurial activity, before it is started, involves a complex process of authorization of the local public administration and environmental agencies in the segment related to environmental protection. This process, however, involves several challenges that will be addressed in the next subchapter.

3.3. Issues in intergovernmental coordination on sustainable entrepreneurial activity

The specialized literature underlines that in general local government should focus on integrating sustainability into strategic planning processes in order to advance sustainability as a reform in local government (Ghencea, 2022, p. 10). Public management scholars and local government professionals are urged to develop partnerships to support evidence-based decision-making in local government in order to investigate propositions about sustainability management (Xhindi and Vilela, 2022, p. 68).

In many developed countries, some businesses choose to be sustainable in order to prevent government intervention or policies that might restrict their operations. They use sustainability measures to forestall legislation or to avoid persecution and litigation (e.g. polluting industries or factories with poor working conditions). Fearing external restrictions, many businesses prefer to be pioneers of reform; innovators, rather than dragging their feet until being shamed into compliance either by public boycotts of their products or by being forced by governmental regulation. On the other hand, businesses sometimes welcome legislation that levels the playing field by preventing their competitors from less cost-intensive but more unsustainable practices that were at least perceived as necessary to maintain competitiveness (Kopnina and Blewitt, 2015, p. 33).

Following a cross cutting analysis of the functions and collaboration between the relevant institutions and the local public administration, it becomes clear that such a complex approach is missing in the local public administration system in the Republic of Moldova, and the measures aimed at the sustainability of economic activities are confused, in some places non-transparent or even can be questioned by acts of corruption.

In this context, one and the biggest problem at the local level is the lack of a mechanism to correlate the actions of the Environmental Agency and the Environmental Protection Inspectorate with those of the local public administration in terms of the sustainability of the entrepreneurial activity. Namely, although the legislation stipulates the need to obtain various authorizations or ecological approvals by entrepreneurs, they are not requested. On the other hand, the local administration issues activity permits without taking into account the lack of relevant environmental protection documents. At the same time, although the Environmental Protection Inspectorate imposes sanctions, they are executed, after which the entrepreneur continues its activity unhindered. In addition, even if the town halls are autonomous entities according to the legislation, the Government is responsible for controlling the activity of the town halls. And so, it turns out that this control is executed with major deficiencies. More than that, the role of the legal bodies to investigate and punish acts of corruption that may take place in this authorization process is a deficient one.

4. Suggestions to encourage responsible, transparent and efficient dialog

As specified in the doctrine, the sustainable entrepreneurial activity shall create, deliver and capture value that benefits the company and its stakeholders (e.g. investors, customers, suppliers), in concert with the environment and society (Boons and Lüdeke-Freund, 2013). This is because the interests of all stakeholder groups are aligned, considering explicitly the environment and society as key stakeholders (Bocken et al., 2014). Intergovernmental coordination solutions regarding entrepreneurial activity emerge from the challenges and problems specified in the previous chapter, and could be stated as follows:

- Within the framework of monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the institutions accredited for monitoring and coordination must have a bottom-up approach to central and local public administration and not the other way around. Or, sometimes the reports and documents issued to the central bodies for information/control can create an appearance that the problems are not major, but in reality there are a multitude of issues at the basis of the legal obligations of economic agents in relation to the public administration, which require a complex cross-cutting approach.
- Enhance the control exercised by the Government, through the State Chancellery, over the activity carried out by the local public administration regarding economic activities with an impact on the environment;
- Intensification of the collaboration between the local public administration and the agencies subordinate to the Ministry of the Environment and, at the same time, drawing up common strategies at the local level for monitoring the sustainability

of economic activities and taking common measures to prevent economic activities with a negative impact on the environment.

- Including the aspect of the sustainability of economic activities as a key objective in the policies that govern commercial relations with the so-called Transnistria. The detailed analysis of each solution will be carried out at a later stage.

5. Sustainable development in Slovenia—Case study from, EU, EMU and OECD

Slovenia is an example of small developed and open economy, that has been fully integrated in EU, EMU and OECD for more than a decade and at the same time it can serve as a good model for Moldova, due to similarities in area, population, position and history. As part of former SFRJ (Socialistic federal republic of Yugoslavia) and with only 2 million of inhabitants and little over 20,000 km² of area, Slovenia had to struggle to get its independence and digging its way to the economic prosperity and membership between most developed countries. The process took more than two decades, but it played a crucial role in shaping the country's economic and political landscape. These integrations have provided Slovenia with numerous opportunities for growth, stability, and cooperation on both regional and global scales. Nowadays, Slovenia's commitment to sustainable development goes hand in hand with fostering entrepreneurial activity. The country recognizes that sustainable entrepreneurship plays a crucial role in achieving long-term economic growth, environmental protection, and social well-being. Slovenia has adopted a collaborative approach to promote sustainable entrepreneurship, involving various authorities, institutions, and stakeholders. The government, local municipalities, business associations, and academic institutions work together to create an enabling environment that nurtures innovation, supports startups, and encourages sustainable business practices.

At the national level, Slovenia adopted few strategic documents that foster all levels of government to implement green, sustainable and modern agenda through their activities. The main document is Slovenian Development Strategy 2030 (Government of RS, 2017) with primary objective "High Quality of Life for All", which indicate that modern society turns away from classic economic doctrine that GDP growth is the only valid indicator of development and rather turns into the quality over quantity. This can be achieved through balanced economic, social and environmental development which takes account of the planet's limitations and creates conditions and opportunities for present and future generations. At the level of the individual, a high quality of life is manifested in good opportunities for employment, education and creativity, in a dignified, safe and active life, a healthy and clean environment and inclusion in democratic decision-making and participation in social management. The state's strategic orientations for achieving a high quality of life are: an inclusive, healthy, safe and responsible society, learning for and through life, a highly productive economy that creates added value for all, well-preserved natural environment and high level of cooperation, competence and governance efficiency (Slovenian Development Strategy, 2017). The five strategic orientations for achieving the primary objective are implemented through operations in various interconnected and interdependent areas, which are reflected in the Strategy's 12 development goals;

Healthy and active life, Knowledge and skills for a high quality of life and work, Decent life for all, Culture and language as main factors of national identity, Economic stability, Competitive and socially responsible entrepreneurial and research sector, Inclusive labour market and high-quality jobs, Low-carbon circular economy, Sustainable natural resource management, Trustworthy legal system, Safe and globally responsible Slovenia and Effective governance and high-quality public service.

The goals constitute a basis for designing the priority tasks and measures to be implemented by the Slovenian government, regional development stakeholders, local communities and other stakeholders.

Next to the main strategic document at the national level, Slovenia also adopted many other documents and actions of the same nature, supporting implementation of main strategy. Due to limitation of this article, we can mention few, that are related to sustainable development and entrepreneurial activity, for example; The Green Scheme of Slovenian Tourism (GSST) and The national brand “I feel Slovenia. The GSST is a national-level tool and certification program that aims to promote sustainable development in tourism in Slovenia (Hojnik et al., 2020), b) The national brand “I feel Slovenia” emphasizes the green orientation of the country and its implementation in everyday life (Hojnik et al., 2020). It serves as a platform to promote sustainable practices and raise awareness about Slovenia’s commitment to sustainability.

Responsibility for the implementation of the strategic goals is equally distributed between national and local authorities, agencies, governmental and non-governmental institutions and the private sector. For example, at the local level, local communities and authorities play a crucial role in actively participating in sustainable rural development. They contribute to the competitiveness of rural tourism, which is an essential factor for rural development. The friendliness of residents towards visitors, easy communication, quality of infrastructure, and health facilities are competences that contribute to the competitiveness of rural tourism (Petrovic et al., 2017). Next to that intermunicipal cooperation plays a significant role in promoting sustainable development and entrepreneurial activity. Institutionalizing cooperation among municipalities has become increasingly important.

For example, Closer cooperation among municipalities in specific areas, such as nature parks and development partnerships, has shown positive results (Rus et al., 2018). Path-dependent development, where municipalities that were formerly part of the same municipality cooperate closely, also contributes to sustainable development (Rus et al., 2018). Intergovernmental cooperation and coordination have also been observed in the context of national parks in Slovenia. The establishment of national parks aims to protect nature, but it also has social consequences for neighboring communities. The success of conservation objectives relies on the social and economic vitality of these communities, highlighting the importance of strong park-community relations.

Slovenia’s success in promoting sustainable entrepreneurship is a result of the strong cooperation and coordination between authorities at various levels. Through government initiatives, local municipality support, business associations, academic institutions, and public-private partnerships, Slovenia has created an environment that fosters innovation, supports startups, and encourages sustainable business practices.

By working together, these stakeholders ensure that sustainable development and entrepreneurial activity go hand in hand, leading to a prosperous and resilient future for Slovenia.

6. Conclusions

In this article, we have undertaken an in-depth examination of the intricacies involved in intergovernmental coordination within the Republic of Moldova, placing a lens on the pivotal area of sustainable development and entrepreneurial activity. The research delineates that, while frameworks for cooperation are in place, a series of challenges marred by inefficiencies, contradictions, and deficiencies remain prevalent. Through comprehensive analysis, this study has highlighted the critical roles played by various authorities and institutions in Moldova, pinpointing substantial inter-institutional coordination issues and the extent to which policies, laws, and adherence to international standards are realized to support sustainable business practices.

Moldova's commitment to international sustainability agendas—evidenced by its ratification of declarations like the Millennium Summit's Declaration and the adoption of the "Moldova 2030" National Development Strategy—signals a significant leap towards integrating inclusive and sustainable growth mechanisms. These strategic frameworks propose a holistic methodology, embracing social, economic, and environmental objectives, with an enhanced allocation of competences to state institutions for efficacious strategy implementation and monitoring.

However, the study reveals that the landscape of intergovernmental coordination faces notable hurdles, particularly when aligning the sustainable development goals with entrepreneurial initiatives. The dissected division of responsibilities across various governmental domains underscores an imperative need for a unified strategy that can seamlessly bridge sustainable development with entrepreneurial pursuits.

Further, the discourse proposes methodologies for refining coordination mechanisms. Advocating for an ethos of responsibility, transparency, and efficiency in institutional dialogues, the article calls for innovative collaborations that transcend the traditional boundaries of national entities, civil society, and international organizations. Such a concerted effort is deemed essential for navigating the complexities of sustainable development.

The exemplification of Slovenia as a case study provides a practical reference point for Moldova. Slovenia's adeptness in marrying sustainable development with entrepreneurial dynamism, propelled by government-led initiatives, local empowerment, and synergistic public-private partnerships, offers actionable insights. This model underscores the transformative power of cohesive policy implementation and the strategic alignment of goals across different levels of governance.

Conclusively, while acknowledging the strides Moldova has made towards fulfilling its sustainability and entrepreneurial goals within the international framework, this article accentuates the pressing need for more robust intergovernmental coordination. The outlined challenges and proposed solutions offer a roadmap for Moldova to enhance its policy implementation mechanisms. Drawing inspiration from Slovenia's success story, Moldova can aspire to bolster its intergovernmental coordination efforts, paving the way for a more sustainable and

economically vibrant future. The findings and recommendations of this research not only contribute to the academic discourse on sustainable development and entrepreneurship but also offer pragmatic guidelines for policymakers in Moldova and similar transitional economies striving for sustainable growth.

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