

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

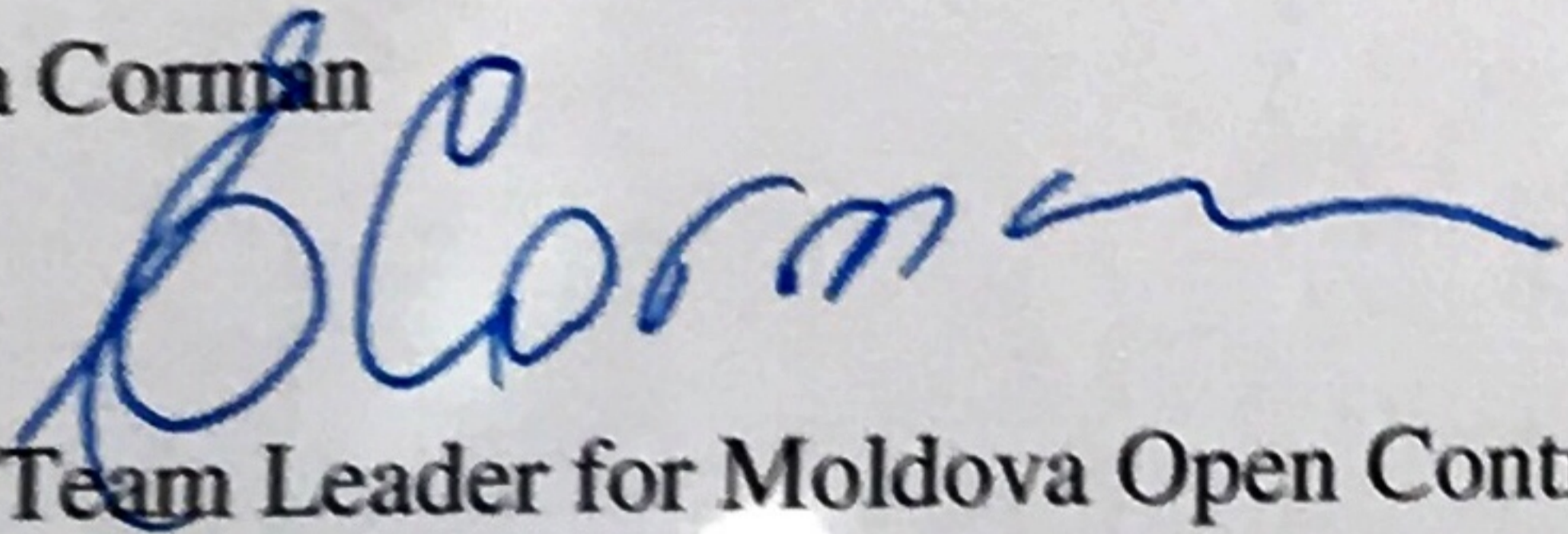
As part of the Open Contracting Project (OC Project) implemented by the World Bank in Moldova (completed in June 2017), the Institute for Development and Social Initiatives (IDIS) "Viitorul" has been selected by the Bank to implement a sub-project in the area.

The OC Project intended to contribute to the improvement of the effectiveness of public contracting through increasing the levels of disclosure of information and data at all the stages of public contracting (from planning to implementation and final delivery), enhancing the capacities of government and civil society to engage constructively, and creating more and better opportunities for the participation of non-government stakeholders (civil society, media, private sector, academia) in public procurement. One of the key activities of the project was to provide funding support ("sub-grants" or small value contracts) to non-state groups for various open contracting related activities.

The sub-project implemented by IDIS Viitorul, entitled "Developing Open Contracting in Moldova through informing and capacity building activities for participants in public procurement process, has been one of the success activities under the OC Project. The activities of this sub-project aimed to strengthen capacities of government and non-government institutions on using contracting data for decision-making. The key output of the work was a comprehensive policy paper sourced from government and non-government perspectives on the data portal, as well as needs on the area of transparency. The activity also created awareness on open contracting by publicizing its benefits through news articles, workshops and public presentations. As a direct result of the work, the policy recommendations were presented by IDIS Viitorul in the final stakeholder workshop which was attended by various Government institutions, including the Moldova Public Procurement Agency, and other decision-makers.

I would highly recommend IDIS Viitorul for a project in their area of expertise. The organization has strong technical capacities as their outputs under our project were highly appreciated by various parties. We also appreciated the responsiveness and readiness of IDIS Viitorul to develop the technical proposal of the sub-project and further implement it under an extremely tight schedule. Overall our cooperation was a success.

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