# Land Registration and Property Valuation Project (P161238)

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#### **PROJECT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

IDA Credit 6306-MD

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Special purpose credit IDA6306-MD Land Registration and Property Valuation Project

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying Special purpose financial statements of the Land Registration and Property Valuation Project (hereinafter the "Project"), implemented by Public Institution "Public Services Agency", for the period ended 14 January 2019 - 31 December 2020 prepared in accordance with the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, comprising the balance sheet as at 31 December, the Summary of Sources and Uses of Funds, Statements of Designated Accounts for the years ended as at 31 December 2020 and as at 31 December 2019 and notes to the Special purpose financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying special purpose credit financial statements present fairly, in all material respect, program revenue, cost incurred and cash position for the reporting period in accordance with the Section II financial reporting provision of Financing Agreement 6306-MD signed between the Republic of Moldova and the International Development Association effective from 14 January 2019.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Land Registration and Property Valuation Project in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Republic of Moldova, and we have fulfilled out other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Emphasis of matter

We draw attention to Note 2 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared to assist the Public Institution "Public Services Agency" in complying with the financial reporting provisions of the Agreement referred to above. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Public Institution "Public Services Agency" and for the World Bank and should not be distributed to or use by parties other than the Public Institution "Public Services Agency" and the World Bank. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



#### Responsibilities of management for the Special Purpose Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2- Accounting Policies, this includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statement in the circumstances, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Public Institution "Public Services Agency" ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Public Institution "Public Services Agency" or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the Special Purpose Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial statement.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Public Institution "Public Services Agency" internal control.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Public Institution "Public Services Agency" ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statement or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Project of Public Institution "Public Services Agency" to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, if any, and related disclosures made by the management.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



In accordance with the World Bank Guidelines, we have also issued our reports on our consideration of the Public Institution "Public Services Agency" internal control and our test of its compliance with the grant agreement, relevant laws and regulations. Those reports are an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with the guidelines and should be read in conjunction with this independent Auditors' Report in considering the results of our audit.

Elena Panainte

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Auditor certificate AG no. 000278 as of 15 April 2011 For and on behalf of **Moore Stephens KSC SR** Andrei Stan, Administrator 28 June 2021 Chişinău, Republica Moldova

#### Land Registration and Property Valuation Project BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020 (all amounts are expressed in EUR, unless otherwise mentioned)

ASSETS	Notes	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
Cash and cash equivalents			
Designated account IDA Credit 6306-MD		29,275	25,780
Total cash and cash equivalents		29,275	25,780
Undisbursed balance			
Designated account IDA Credit 6306-MD		29,732,956	30,025,000
Total undisbursed balance		29,732,956	30,025,000
Cumulative project expenses			
Spent IDA Credit 6306-MD	4, 5	337,768	49,220
Total cumulative project expenses		337,768	49,220
TOTAL ASSETS		30,070,724	30,074,220
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
<b>Funding</b> Financing agreement IDA 6306-MD		292,044	75,000
Total funds		292,044	75,000
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		292,044	75,000

The financial statements attached were signed and approved on behalf of the Project's management on 28 June 2021 by:

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Angela MATCOV LRPVP Coordinator Chief of Cadastru Department, PSA

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Iuliana PALADE LRPVP Financial Management Specialist

Vladislav ZARA Director Public Institution "Public Services Institution"

Vitalie Antociuc LRPVP Manager "Public Services Institution"

#### Land Registration and Property Valuation Project SUMMARY OF SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (all amounts are expressed in EUR, unless otherwise mentioned)

	Notes	For the year ended 31 December 2019	For the year ended 31 December 2020	Cumulative to date
Opening cash balances				
Designated account IDA Credit 6306- MD			25,780	-
Total opening cash balances		-	25,780	
Add: Sources of funds				
IDA Credit 6306-MD		75,000	292,044	367,044
Total Sources of Funds		75,000	292,044	367,044
Less: Uses of Funds IDA Credit 6306-MD (1) Goods, works, non-consulting services, consultants' services, training and operating costs of the				
project	4, 5	49,220	288,548	337,768
TOTAL USES OF FUNDS		49,220	288,548	337,768
Closing cash balances				
Designated account IDA Credit 6306- MD		25,780	29,275	29,275
TOTAL CLOSING CASH BALANCES		25,780	29,275	29,275

The financial statements attached were signed and approved on behalf of the Project's management on 28 June 2021 by:

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Vladislav ZARA Director Public Institution "Public Services Institution"

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Vitalie Antociue LRPVP Manager "Public Services Institution"

Angela/MATCOV LRPVP Coordinator Chief of Cadastru Department, PSA

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Iuliana PALADE LRPVP Financial Management Specialist

### Land Registration and Property Valuation Project DESIGNATED ACCOUNT STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (all amounts are expressed in EUR, unless otherwise mentioned)

For the year ended:	31 December 2020
Account no.:	32616978151
Depository Bank: SWIFT code:	Ministry of Finance – State Treasury TREZMD2X

Source IDA Credit 6306-MD

	Notes	For the year ended 31 December 2019	For the year ended 31 December 2020
Opening balance - 01 January 2020			25,780
Add: Sources of funds (excluding direct payments)	3	75,000	289,877
Deduct: Uses of funds		49.220	286 381
Exchange rate difference Closing balance - 31 December 2020		25,780	

The financial statements attached were signed and approved on behalf of the Project's management on 28 June 2021 by:

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Vladislav ZARA Director Public Institution "Public Services Institution"

Vitalie Antociuc// LRPVP Manager "Public Services Institution"

Angela MATCOV LRPVP Coordinator Chief of Cadastru Department, PSA

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Iuliana PALADE LRPVP Financial Management Specialist

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Introduction

I.

The Government of the Republic of Moldova and International Development Association (IDA) signed a Financing Agreement (FA) which became effective on 14 January 2019 for the Land Registration and Property Valuation Project (hereinafter the Project). The Project aims to improve the quality of the land administration and property valuation systems and to enhance transparency of the property taxation system.

The project consists of four components: (A) First Property Registration; (B) Property Valuation; (C) Land Administration System Strengthening; and (D) Capacity Building and Project Management.

Component A – First Property Registration. This component will support the first registration of public and private land in Moldova and strengthen the data quality for records already in the land register. This component will also organize mandatory public displays and public awareness campaigns to ensure citizens are engaged and aware of the procedures, activities and benefits during first property registration. Additionally, a comprehensive Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be set up at Cadastru to monitor feedback received from beneficiaries and provide a formal avenue to appeal. The component consists of three subcomponents: (i) systematic registration of private land—including implementation of public displays, public awareness campaigns and a grievance mechanism; (ii) systematic registration of public land; and (iii) improvement of the quality and reliability of the cadastre data.

Component B – Property Valuation. This component will support extending mass valuation to incorporate those properties not currently included and to carry out selected revaluation of properties to help improve the transparency of the property market and keep the property valuation system current and usable through inter alia: (i) initial valuation of properties; (ii) revaluation of properties which have not been revalued since 2008; and (iii) setting up of a property valuation infrastructure and an independent appeals system to challenge valuations.

Component C – Land Administration System Strengthening. This component will support the strengthening of the land sector in Moldova by facilitating policy dialogue and conducting a review of the existing institutional and regulatory frameworks, proposing improvement where possible. It will also encourage a development of simplified business processes and modernization of cadastre services through use of ICT and support the development of NSDI. The component will support: (i) development of land sector and land sector sustainability polices covering governance, organizational systems, the roles of different process participants, notaries and private sector and registration and valuation processes and including, if applicable, the preparation of legal or regulatory reforms; (ii) strengthening information and communications technology capacities; and (iii) strengthening of the NSDI including preparation of a business plan, expansion of the geoportal and capacity building activities for agencies responsible for the provision of core reference datasets on data standards, maintenance of metadata and creation of interoperable datasets.

Component D – Capacity Building and Project Management. This component will support capacity building at stakeholder agencies and institutions to ensure the smooth implementation of project activities and support project sustainability, as well as provide support for project implementation through inter alia: (i) training and capacity building and equipping for LPA's staff as needed to support the systematic registration and valuation at the local level; (ii) training and capacity building activities at PSA's Cadastru to improve their client orientation and servicing skills; (iii) design and implementation of a comprehensive social assessment (including a social management plan) and three customer satisfaction surveys;

(iv) monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the Project; and (v) operation of Project Implementation Unit (PIU).

The implementing agency for the project is the Public Service Agency (PSA) through its Department of Cadastre (Cadastru).

#### **Project management**

#### World Bank

Task Team Leader – Olivera Jordanovic The World Bank, Serbia Office E-mail: <u>ojordanovic@worldbank.org</u>

#### **Project Fiduciary Unit**

Public Services Agency (PSA), Cadastru Department Project Coordinator – Angela Matcov Tel/fax + 373 22 881002 E-mail: <u>angela.matcov@asp.gov.md</u>

In accordance with the financing agreements, the Project expected closing date is 30 June 2024. Through Government Order, the Government of Moldova establishes, a multi-agency Project Council to provide general oversight and coordination to the project. The Project Council (PC) consists of 9 members, decision making representatives of the following entities:

- 1. The State Chancellery (Chair of the PC);
- 2. The Ministry of Finances;
- 3. The Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment;
- 4. The Ministry of Justice;
- 5. The Agency of Public Property;
- 6. The Agency of Land Relations and Cadastre ;
- 7. The Public Service Agency (two members);
- 8. The Congress of Local Authorities of Moldova.

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of accounting**

The Project Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principle and practices and relevant World Bank guidelines.

The cash basis of accounting was used in the preparation of these Project Financial Statements since the recording of cash receipts and payments is the primary interest. Under the cash basis system income (or expenditure) is recognized when cash is received (or paid) irrespective of when goods or services are received.

The amounts are expressed in EUR and financial statements are prepared for the period 14 January 2019 to 31 December 2020.

#### **Designated account**

The designated account (opened at National Bank of Moldova), is the account through which the replenishments are drawn. All payments for eligible expenses are made from these DAs and if the payment is in local currency it is made through transitory account.

#### Transitory accounts

The transitory accounts are held at State Treasury for the converted amount in MDL, since the payments within the country can be done only in the local currency (MDL).

#### Exchange rates

The Exchange rate used to convert the EUR amounts in MDL is the official exchange rate of National Bank of Moldova on the date of payment.

#### **Direct payments**

The direct payments are disbursements made by the World Bank from the loan account, at the borrower's request, directly to a third party (e.g., supplier, contractor, consultant) for eligible expenditures.

#### Sources of funds

The sources of funds are the amounts transferred by the World Bank from the loan account, to the Designated Account of the Project.

#### Uses of funds

The uses of funds are the amounts spent for covering eligible expenditures for the needs of the Project.

#### 3. WITHDRAWAL SCHEDULE IDA CREDIT 6306-MD

W/D Number	(1) Goods, works, non- consulting services, consultants' services, training and operating costs for the Project	(2) Matching Investment Grants	Advance recovery	Advance to Designate d Account	Total
1	-	-	-	75,000	75,000
2	-	-	49,220	49,220	49,220
3	2,167	-	-	-	2,167
4	-	-	-	44,531	44,531
5	-	-	55,511	55,511	55,511
6	-	-	68,494	68,494	68,494
7	-	-	72,120	72,120	72,120
Total	2,167	-	245,346	364,877	367,044

Out of which:

Payments in designated account: Direct payments: Refund of ineligible expenses 364,877 2,167

367,044

## 4. EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT ACTIVITY IDA CREDIT 6306-MD

IDA CREDIT 5095-MD	For the year ended 31 December 2019	For the year ended 31 December 2020	Cumulative to date
A. First Property Registration	12.690	76,511	89,201
<ul><li>A.1 Systematic Registration of private lands</li><li>A.2 Systematic Registration of public</li></ul>	12,690	76,511	89,201
lands A.3 Data Quality improvement	:	-	-
B. Valuation and Taxation	-	48,829	48,829
B.1 Initial mass valuation	-	10,901	10,901
B.2 Reevaluations	-	32,442	32,442
Appeals	-	5,486	5,486
C. Land Administration System Strengthening	-	64,404	64,404
C.1 Land Sector Policy Development and Sustainability	-	-	-
C.2 ICT System Strengthening	-	64,404	64,404
Data Infrastructure	-	-	-
D. Capacity Building and Project			
Management	36,530	98,804	135,335
D.1 Training and Capacity Building D.2 Customer Orientation and	-	-	-
D.3 Project Management	36,530	- 98,804	- 135,335
TOTAL	49,220	288,548	337,768

FOR THE YEA (all amounts are express	AR ENDED 31 sed in EUR, u	UECEMBER 21 nless otherwis	e mentione	d)		
ORTS USED AS THE BASIS F	FOR THE SUB	MISSION OF Q	UARTERLY	WITHDRA	WAL APPLICA	TIONS
Q4 201	4 2020 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	For the year ended 31 December 2020	Cumulative to date
	25,7	80 48,072	18,170	38,446	25,780	I S
	25,7	80 48,072	18,170	38,446	25,780	
75,(	000 51,3		100,043	140,614	367,044	367,044
75,( Designated Account	000 49,2	20 -	100,043	140,614	364,877	364,877
Direct Payments	- 2,1	67 -			2,167	2,167
75,(	000 51,3		100,043	140,614	367,044	367,044
7 Designated Account Direct Payments 7	<b>ີ ນ</b> (ບິ	5,000 49,2 - 2,10 5,000 51,3	<ul> <li>'5,000 49,220 -</li> <li>2,167 -</li> <li>5,000 51,387 -</li> </ul>	5,000     49,220     -     100,043       -     2,167     -     -       5,000     51,387     -     100,043	5,000     49,220     -     140,614       -     2,167     -     -       5,000     51,387     -     100,043     140,614	5,000     49,220     -     100,043     140,614     364,877       -     2,167     -     -     2,167       5,000     51,387     -     100,043     140,614     367,044

Land Regi NOTE FOR TI (all amounts are	stration and ES TO THE FIN HE YEAR END expressed in	Property V IANCIAL ST DED 31 DEC EUR, unles	/aluation P -ATEMENTS -EMBER 203 EMBER 203 s otherwise	roject S 20 mentioned			
SUMMARY OF SUMMARY REPORTS USED AS TH (continued)	e basis for	THE SUB	MISSION O	F QUARTE	rly with	DRAWAL APF	LICATIONS
5.1. PART I BY SOURCES (continued)	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	For the year ended 31 December	Cumulative to date
Less: Uses of Funds (by expenditure category in						2020 &2019	
accordance with Financing Agreement) IDA Credit 6306-MD	49,220	29,096	29,902	79,766	149,785	337,768	337,768

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(1) Goods, works, non-consulting services, consultants' services, training and operational costs for the Project

337,768

337,768

79,766 149,785

29,902

29,096

49,220

# For the year Cumulative SUMMARY OF SUMMARY REPORTS USED AS THE BASIS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF QUARTERLY WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS 5.1. PART I BY SOURCES (continued) Q4 <u>о</u>з **0**2 δ **Q4** <u></u>.

	2019	2020	2020	2020	2020	ended 31 December 2020	to date
Total uses	49,220	29,096	29,902	79,766	149,785	288,548	337,768
Closing Cash Balance(s) Designated Accounts							
Bank: EUR Account IDA Credit 6306-MD Bank MDL account IDA Credit 6306-MD	25,780 -	48,072 -	18,170 -	38,446 -	29,275 -	29,275 -	29,275 -
Total closing cash balance(s)	25,780	48,072	18,170	38,446	29,275	29,275	29,275

Land Registration and Property Valuation Project NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (all amounts are expressed in EUR, unless otherwise mentioned) SUMMARY OF SUMMARY REPORTS USED AS THE BASIS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF QUARTERLY WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS (continued) <sub>ີ</sub>ດ.

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Project Components/Activities	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	For the year ended 31 December 2020	Cumulative to date
IDA Credit 6306-MD A. First Property Registration	12,690	10,760	12,851	25,256	27,644	89,201	89,201
A.1 Systematic Registration of Private Land	12,690	10,760	12,851	25,256	27,644	89,201	89,201
A.2 Systematic Registration of Public Land	ı		•			•	
A.3 Data Quality Improvement	ı		ı		'	1	ı
B. Valuation and Taxation	ı		1,020	14,185	33,624	48,829	48,830
B.1 Initial Mass Valuation	•		,	10,901	•	10,901	10,901
B.2 Reevaluations	•		1,020	3,284	28,139	32,443	32,443
B.3 Valuation Infrastructure and Appeals	·	•	ı	•	5,485	5,485	5,485

Land Registration and Property Valuation Project NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (all amounts are expressed in EUR, unless otherwise mentioned) SUMMARY OF SUMMARY REPORTS USED AS THE BASIS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF QUARTERLY WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS 1 (continued) <sub>ີ</sub>ດ.

Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	For the year ended 31 December 2020	Cumulative to date
	3,994		12,855	47,555	64,404	64,404
	3,994		- 12,855	- 47,555	64,404	64,404
·	ı	•	·	ı		
36,530	14,342	16,030	27,470	40,962	135,334	135,334
- - 36,530	- - 14,343	- - 16,030	- - 27,470	- - 40,962	- - 135,334	- - 135,334
<b>36,530</b> 36,530		<b>3,994</b> 3,994 3,994 <b>14,342</b> -	<b>3,994</b>	3,994     -     12,855       -     -     12,855       -     -     -       3,994     -     12,855       3,994     -     12,855       -     -     -       14,342     16,030     27,470       14,343     16,030     27,470	3,994     -     12,855     47,555       -     -     -     -       -     -     -     -       3,994     -     12,855     47,555       3,994     -     12,855     47,555       3,994     -     12,855     47,555       14,342     16,030     27,470     40,962       14,343     16,030     27,470     40,962	December 2020       3,994     -     12,855     47,555     64,404       -     -     -     -     -       3,994     -     12,855     47,555     64,404       3,994     -     12,855     47,555     64,404       3,994     -     12,855     47,555     64,404       14,342     16,030     27,470     40,962     135,334       14,343     16,030     27,470     40,962     135,334

Total

337,768

337,768

149,785

79,766

29,901

29,096

49,220

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#### 6. COVID-19 Impact

In context of the COVID 19 pandemic, the Government of the Republic of Moldova, along with other governments of the world, has taken drastic measures to protect the health of the population and avoid the spread of contamination with the new coronavirus. On 17/03/2020 the Parliament of RM declared a State of Emergency in the country for a 60 days period, i.e. by 15/05/2020. As a result, the working schedule of many legal entities, including the state institutions has been adjusted to the situation which impacted the progress and executive works of the project.

Beginning with 16/05/2020 the authorities prolonged the restriction measures, so as to prevent the pandemic spread, by establishing the State of Emergency in Public Health until 15/07/2020.

The emergency status and the restrictions set by the authorities hampered to a large extent the implementation of the project activities, which resulted in the impossibility to execute the project budget as planned.

The contractors surveying works - Alion-Geocad SRL and Dincredmar-Cernea had to reduce the activities on site in Ocnita and Edinet districts because of travel and group work restrictions.

Consultants for initial data collection during the state of emergency have suspended all on-site activities. Tasks are performed remotely, from home.

The activities on the digitization of cadastral archives have been continuously carried out by the contactor, however in several cases the submission by the regional Cadastre offices of the documents to be scanned was delayed, fact which delayed the execution of digitization works.

#### 7. Events after the project closing date

No significant events were identified during 2021.