

21 February — 20 March 2023

#12











"Break the Silence. We Stand by You" campaign went on a tour and visited the Northern, Southern and Central regions of Moldova reaching out to the local population and the refugees together with partner local organizations and service providers.

Women & youth centers, legal, psychosocial, medical service providers came to speak about rights, available support services & amplify the stories of the survivors of gender-based violence. This is a joint campaign of UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF and UN Women in partnership with Ministry of Labour and Social Protection under the Gender-based violence Subworking Group.



"The most affected people who arrive at the hospital every day are the survivors of various forms of violence. The hospital works 24/7, you must seek help within 72 hours. This is free and confidential!" Dr. Ala Condrea, Deputy Director of Balti Hospital.



"Advice to all women who have gone through any form of violence - don't be patient, don't be silent, speak up, shout out loud, ask for help!" Irina Covalenco, survivor of violence.



"Fear of condemnation force women to remain silent in the hope that the problem will resolve itself. But violence will not end if we do not act!" Mariana Zaporojan, Counseling Center for victims of domestic violence "Ariadna".



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GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- UNFPA continues to support 28 Safe Spaces across Moldova, including eight Mobile Safe Spaces to conduct outreach activities targeting the refugees and host communities. UNFPA supports Safe Spaces dedicated to women, youth and older persons.
- All of the Safe Spaces offer a minimum package of information on GBV and SRH, referral
 to specialized services and dignity kits. Both the static and mobile Safe Spaces are run by
 professional psychologists and social workers to provide services customized to the
 needs of the target groups.

More than 23,000 women, young & older refugees

received information, services and support on gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health at UNFPA Safe Spaces.

<u>During the reporting period</u>, <u>UNFPA partners reached 2,788 new individuals in 29 regions</u> all over Moldova through the Static and Mobile Safe Spaces, including women, youth and older persons:

Women Safe Spaces

Safe Space 2380

reached new people

Youth Safe Spaces

Safe Space 2564

participants reached w/ Lifeskills & info sessions **2,494**

people received dignity kits

- Safe Spaces for Women: At least 2380 new individuals were reached through the Static and Mobile Safe Spaces targeting Women. Information sessions recorded more than 1470 participants in total, and 1096 referrals were made to available specialized and non-specialized GBV services.
 1534 psychological support consultations were provided, and 910 individuals received first lineservices at the Safe Spaces in the borders (Otaci and Palanca) and the Railway station.
- Safe Spaces for Youth: At least 310 new individuals were reached through the Static and Mobile Safe Spaces targeting Youth. 2564 participants were recorded in informational sessions, life skills development programs that include basic knowledge on hygiene, mental health, building relationships, sexuality education, GBV prevention, Romanian language and recreational activities. The participants include 257 Roma beneficiaries. 140 adolescents participated in online school, using Safe Space digital infrastructure.
- Safe Spaces for Older Persons: At least 160 new individuals were reached through the 5 static Safe Spaces targeting Older Persons in Anenii Noi, Cojusna/Straseni, Saratenii Vechi/Telenesti, Popeasca/Ştefan Voda and Donduseni. The activities recorded more than 2905 participants in total, indicating that many individuals are participating in multiple sessions. Furthermore, the Safe Spaces teams including Ukrainian volunteers conducted outreach activities to share information on the available services in the safe spaces reaching more than 114 individuals.
- UNFPA continues to support the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection in developing the multi year National Program on Gender-based violence and ensuring a humanitarian-development perspective into the program.



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PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE

UNFPA is addressing the prevention and response to gender-based violence, with a specific focus on sexual violence, by strengthening the healthcare system's response.

- UNFPA has supported the launch and continues to support the operation of a 24/7 hotline (National Support Line: 080000008) for healthcare personnel on CMR. The hotline, based at the National Institute of Mother and Child, provides consultative-methodological support to doctors from healthcare facilities all over the country and Youth Friendly Health Centers on the clinical management of rape protocol, specifically on an algorithm of support for survivors of rape.
- In the reporting period, 125 professionals from hospitals' emergency departments, YFHCs, community mental health centers, and forensic medicine centers, including territorial subdivisions from district levels and Chisinau municipality, were further trained through six offline trainings on "Interdisciplinary Approach to Clinical Management of Rape: Questions and Answers." The trainings were held at the Institute of Mother and Child.
- UNFPA upgraded the Soroca gynecological offices with the delivery of the examination chairs adjustable to the needs of women with disabilities.

ENSURING SAFE BIRTHS

- In March, UNFPA completed the first phase of support to enhance Moldova's health systems, which aimed to provide safe deliveries and quality reproductive health services to all women, including refugees and host communities. The perinatal centers and SRH specialized hospitals were upgraded with state-of-the-art medical equipment for obstetrics and gynecology, such as fully equipped operating rooms and delivery rooms, including anesthesia equipment, resuscitation tables, and furniture for patient rooms. The ceremony was held at the municipal hospital in Chisinau to mark the successful completion of this project, which is part of UNFPA's ongoing efforts to ensure safe births for all in the Republic of Moldova.
- During the reporting period, UNFPA continued to provide essential items such as bed sets and linen for adults and newborns to perinatal centers across the country. These were delivered to hospitals in Drochia, Edinet, and Soroca.
- Furthermore, UNFPA distributed 900 maternity bags to maternity wards in Chisinau, Balti, Edinets, Soroca, Orhei, Floresti, Cahul, Ceadir-Lunga, Comrat and Causeni Perinatal Centers. These bags are travel packs that contain essential items for a mother and newborn, including a bag, thermos, blanket, and pouch scarf. They are intended for refugees and vulnerable women in Moldova. The distribution of these bags is part of UNFPA's efforts to improve maternal and newborn health, ensuring that every mother and baby has access to necessary resources for a healthy start in life.









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INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

- UNFPA co-leads the Interagency Gender-based violence (GBV) Sub-Working Group (SWG) with UNHCR, which brings over 60 national and international organizations, women led organizations, and government entities. The objective of the GBV SWG is to strengthen GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response and to facilitate the multi sectoral interagency action during humanitarian settings.
- During this period, the GBV SWG conducted a training session on Mainstreaming GBV Risk Mitigation Measure into programs reaching 19 participants representing the Alliance of Active NGOs in the field of Child and Family Social Protection (APSCF).
- The GBV SWG continues to run a joint campaign with UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF and UN
 Women to promote the available support services to survivors of GBV and groups at risk
 of GBV featured on the front page of this Snapshot.
- The GBV SWG continues to update six referral pathways mapping service providers in the Northern, Southern and Central regions, Chisinau, as well as two border areas Palanca and Otachi. The GBV referral pathways are disseminated to humanitarian actors and service providers to ensure timely support to survivors of GBV.
- The GBV SWG also continues to promote the GBV Pocket Guide on how non-GBV actors can support survivors of GBV, focusing on the Romanian and Russian versions. The GBV Pocket Guide can be accessed at the GBV Area of Responsibility website.







UNFPA thanks Australia, Kingdom of Denmark, European Commission, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the USA PRM, Ferring Company and Friends of UNFPA for their lifesaving contribution to the UNFPA Moldova humanitarian response.