

21 March - 20 April 2023

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On 8 April — International Roma Day, UNFPA celebrates diversity, inclusion and equal opportunities for young Roma worldwide.

UNFPA Safe Spaces offer education on sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence and life skills to Roma refugees as they play a vital role in making positive changes in their communities. Read a story. Watch video.







#### **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**



UNFPA is supporting the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection in developing the National Program for Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence 2023-2027 and the National Program for Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities and ensuring a humanitarian-development perspective into the program.



UNFPA continues to support the strengthening of GBV case management services to survivors of GBV and individuals at risk of GBV including facilitating access to CASH support to meet their protection needs and connecting them to available services following a survivor centered approach.



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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.

During the reporting period:

11,805

# women, young & older refugees

recorded in sessions providing information, services and support on gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health at UNFPA Safe Spaces.

**Women Safe Spaces** 

6175
participants recorded

**Mobile Safe Spaces** 

30 reached districts

**Older persons Safe Spaces** 

3453

participants recorded

**Youth Safe Spaces** 

2195
participants recorded in Lifeskills & info sessions

1939 dignity kits distributed

- Safe Spaces for Women: At least 6175 participants were recorded in activities implemented by the
  Static and Mobile Safe Spaces targeting Women. Information sessions recorded more than
  2407 participants in total, and more than 1552 referrals were made to available specialized and
  non-specialized GBV services. Psychological support, recreational and non-formal information activities recorded more than 600 participants. At least 1067 individuals received first line-services at
  the Safe Spaces at the Otaci and Palanca borders and the Chisinau Railway station including 915
  women, 67 girls, 77 men and 8 boys.
- Safe Spaces for Youth: At least 2195 participants were recorded in activities implemented by the static and mobile safe spaces targeting young people. This includes 1934 participants 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. Individual and group psychosocial support activities recorded 261 participants.
- Safe Spaces for Older Persons: At least 3453 participants were recorded through the 5 static Safe Spaces targeting Older Persons in Anenii Noi, Cojusna/Straseni, Saratenii Vechi/Telenesti, Popeasca/Ştefan Voda and Donduseni. Within these static Safe Spaces for Older Persons, the activities include information sessions on Temporary Protection, GBV, legal support, health services, and digital literacy, recreational activities including culture and tradition activities as well as individual PSS services. Furthermore, the Safe Spaces teams, including Ukrainian volunteers, received training on basic GBV concepts, safe referrals, and humanitarian principles. The Safe Spaces team continues to conduct outreach activities to share information on the available services in the safe spaces.



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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, more than 100 professionals across Moldova were trained on "Interdisciplinary Approach to Clinical Management of Rape: Questions and Answers." The interdisciplinary teams and professionals came from hospitals' emergency departments, YFHCs, community mental health centers, and forensic medicine centers, including territorial subdivisions from district levels and Chisinau municipality, The trainings were held at the Institute of Mother and Child.
- UNFPA upgraded the emergency gynecological offices in Nisporeni, Singerei, Calarasi, Cantemir, Ungheni, Floresti with the delivery of the examination chairs adjustable to the needs of women with disabilities.









\*Images of old gynecological chairs that have been replaced with new ones.

#### **ENSURING SAFE BIRTHS**

- Women refugees aged 18-55 continue to receive free medical and surgical emergency care, including sexual and reproductive health services, under the partnership between the UNFPA and the National Health Insurance Company.
- 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 Cantemir, Cimislia, Floresti, Riscani, Singerei, Cantemir, Calarasi, Nisporeni, Ungheni, Singerei. In the spring months, UNFPA offered perinatal centers heating convectors to provide another source of heating in case of possible difficult situations with thermal agents.
- Over 300 primary medical care service providers received methodological-consultative support
  for cervical screening through a series of online meetings with colposcopy offices and cytology
  laboratories. The meetings aimed to facilitate monitoring and reporting of cervical screening
  cases using the Cervical Screening Registry. The sessions were a part of an effort to improve
  the quality and accessibility of cervical screening services.



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### **ENSURING SAFE BIRTHS**

On 7 April — World Health Day, UNFPA celebrated the doctors, nurses, and midwives who provide critical physical and psychological care to women throughout their pregnancy and childbirth journey. Even in times of crisis.

UNFPA honors these healthcare professionals for their significant contribution in delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted and every childbirth birth is safe.

#Healthforall #SănătatePentruToți









## INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

- UNFPA co-leads the Interagency <u>Gender-based violence (GBV) Sub-Working Group (SWG)</u> 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 multisectoral interagency action during humanitarian settings.
- The GBV SWG continues to run a joint campaign with UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF and UN
  Women and Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova to promote the available support services to survivors of GBV and groups at risk of GBV.
- 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 <u>GBV Area of Responsibility website</u>.

UNFPA thanks Australia, Kingdom of Denmark, the European Union, 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.