

PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



For survivors of gender-based violence in the Republic of Moldova, cash assistance is a lifeline, helping them carve out a new future. [Read Elena and Alina's story of hope and support through UNFPA Safe Spaces.](#)



UNFPA supports 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.



UNFPA provides expert support to 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.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (CONTINUED)

UNFPA set up 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:

11,325

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

 4285

participants recorded

Older persons Safe Spaces

 2733

participants recorded

Youth Safe Spaces

 4307

participants recorded in Lifeskills & info sessions

Mobile Safe Spaces

 31

reached districts

 469

dignity kits distributed

- **Safe Spaces for Women:** At least 4,285 participants were recorded in activities implemented by the Static and Mobile Safe Spaces targeting Women. Information sessions recorded more than 1,155 participants in total, and more than 886 referrals were made to available specialized and non-specialized GBV services. Psychological support, recreational and non-formal information activities recorded more than 1,703 participants. At least 1,224 individuals received first line-services at the Safe Spaces in the borders (Otaci and Palanca) and the railway station including 1,073 women, 58 girls, 79 men and 14 boy.

Safe Spaces for Youth: A new Safe Space for Youth was launched within the Community Service Center in Chisinau. Its aim is to provide informational sessions on gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health, life skills activities, menstruation management, and referrals to specialized mental health services for Ukrainian adolescents and young people.

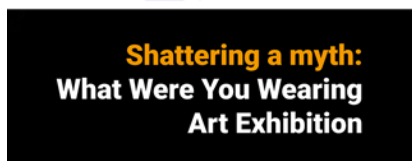
At least 4,307 participants were recorded in activities implemented by the static and mobile safe spaces targeting young people in informational sessions, life skills development programs that include basic knowledge on hygiene, mental health, building relationships, sexuality education, GBV prevention, Romanian language, IT sessions and recreational activities. Individual and group psychosocial support activities recorded 322 participations.

- **Safe Spaces for Older Persons:** At least 2,825 participants were recorded through the five 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.

What a woman or girl is wearing is never an excuse for sexual assault or abuse!

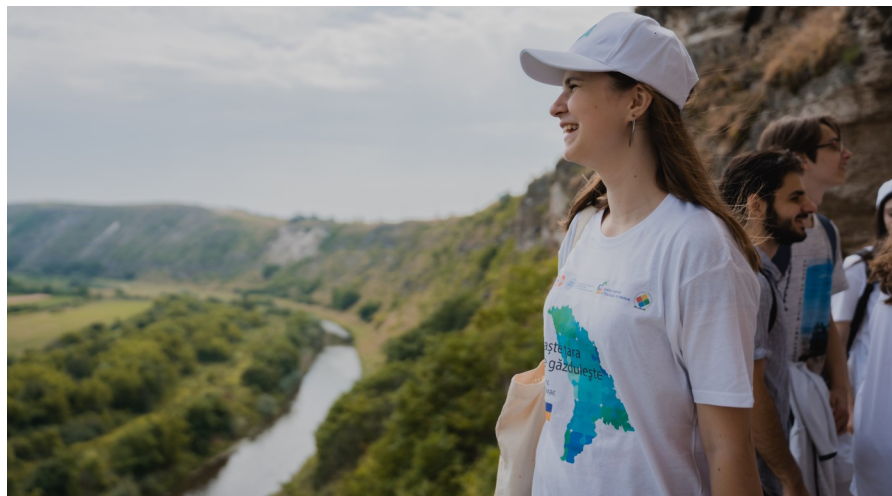
At the Women Deliver Conference 2023, UNFPA Moldova shattered this myth by sharing testimonies of survivors with clothes they wore when assaulted. [Explore their stories.](#)



YOUTH RESILIENCE

The "Know the country that hosts you!" program kicked off with great enthusiasm as a group of 25 young Ukrainian refugees and Moldovan volunteers embarked on an excursion to Orheiul Vechi.

The program's main objective is to connect the refugees with the local youth and services at Safe Spaces and Youth centers, enhance their resilience, empower them to develop and fulfill their potential even during challenging times. [Learn more](#)



ENSURING SAFE BIRTHS AND SAFEGUARDING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

- **Women refugees aged 18-55 with temporary protection status 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.**
- Postpartum hemorrhage management, cardiotocography utilization, and psychological aspects of obstetric practice, emphasizing empathetic care during emergencies, were the topics of UNFPA training course. The training aimed to enhance the capacities of obstetrician-gynecologists and midwives working in Level II Perinatal Centers. By equipping participants with updated knowledge and skills, the training aimed to better prepare them to handle obstetric emergencies and provide quality care to expectant mothers and newborns.
- UNFPA gathered three ministries involved in the comprehensive response to cases of sexual violence in the official inauguration of the newly renovated Forensic Center: the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova.

The Forensic Medicine Center in Chişinău underwent a comprehensive renovation, with UNFPA support, providing a state-of-the-art unit for medico-legal examination of sexual violence survivors. The unit now meets international standards, [offering a safe and dignified space with enhanced privacy and accessibility for individuals with disabilities.](#) UNFPA also delivered medical-legal kits and equipment for external examinations. The transformed unit includes dedicated spaces for examinations, psychological support, hearings, and waiting areas for Law Body representatives. This milestone contributes to UNFPA Moldova's broader initiative to improve the multisectoral response to sexual violence cases, ensuring survivors receive compassionate and high-quality care.



INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

- UNFPA co-leads the Interagency [Gender-based violence \(GBV\) Sub-Working Group \(SWG\)](#) with UN-HCR, 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 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](#).
- During the reporting period, GBV SWG conducted a training on Mainstreaming GBV Risk Mitigation. The objective of the training was to build the capacity of service providers to identify GBV risks and mainstream mitigation measures in their sectors and areas of work.



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.