

Consolidated Final Report on Programmes Implemented under the Moldova Towards Unity in Action Multi-Donor Trust Fund

Reporting period: January 2014 - DECEMBER 2021

UN Country Team in the Republic of Moldova

MOLDOVA TOWARD UNITY IN ACTION FUND
CONSOLIDATED FINAL PORGRAMME REPORT **2014-2021**

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List of abbreviations

AAPM Association of Advertising Agencies

AIDS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

API Association of Independent Press

ARV Anti-retroviral treatment

CALM Congress of Local Authorities

CCET Centre for Continuous Electoral Training

CCM TB/AIDS Country Coordination Mechanism on TB/AIDS

CEC Central Electoral Commission

CPD Centre Partnership for Development NGO

CSO Civil society organizations

DEC District Electoral Commission

EEF East-Europe Foundation NGO

EHRN Eurasian Harm Reduction Network

EMB Electoral Management Body

EU European Union

GEP Gender Equality Platform

GFATM The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria

HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus

IDU Injecting Drug Users

IEC Information, education, communication

IPC Infection Prevention and control

LPA Local Public Authority

MCH mother and child health

MHLSPF Ministry of Health, Labour, Social Protection and Family

MP Member of Parliament

MPTF Multi-Partner Trust Fund

MSM Men who have sex with men

NAPH - National Agency of Public Health

NCD - Noncommunicable diseases

NGO Non-governmental organization

NHRIs National Human Rights Institutions

NTP National TB Program

OST Opioid Substitution Treatment

PHC - Primary Health Centre

PCIO Parliamentary Constituency and Information Offices

PEB Precinct Electoral Bureau

PMTCT Prevention of mother to child transmission

PTM Pharmacotherapy with methadone

PWD People with disabilities

PWID People who Inject Drugs

RM Republic of Moldova

SDG Sustainable Development Goals

SOP Standard Operating Procedures

SW Sex Workers

TB Tuberculosis

ToT Training of Trainers

TSM Temporary Special Measures

UCIMP Unit of Programme Coordination, Implementation and Monitoring

UN Women United National Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UNPF United Nations Republic of Moldova Partnership Framework

WEM Women in Electoral Management

WiP Women in Politics

YFHC - Youth-friendly health care services

# Summary

This Final Consolidated Report on Programmes Implemented under the Towards Unity in Action Multi- Donor Trust Fund (henceforth ‘the Fund’) covers the period from January 2014 to December 2021 and reports on the implementation of programmes approved for funding under the Fund for the whole period. As per the provisions in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Fund and Participating United Nations Organizations (PUNOs), and the Terms of Reference of the Fund, the Annual Consolidated Progress Report is compiled based on information and data submitted in PUNOs’ individual Annual Narrative Programme Reports. As of March 2021, eleven PUNOs were parties to the Fund: FAO, ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, OHCHR, UN Women, and WHO.

The “Towards Unity in Action Multi-Donor Trust Fund” has been established for a period of five years covering the 2013-2017 UNPF. On the request of the UN Country Team, the fund was first extended to December 2019 in order to accommodate the duration of the programmes under the fund. Subsequently, due to COVID-19 pandemic and a request from two PUNOs- UNDP and WHO the Fund was extended a second time, until **31 December 2021** to accommodate the programmes. For the whole duration of the Fund, five joint programmes under two of the Fund’s three windows (Governance & Human Rights and Social Inclusion) where supported and implemented, including work on human rights in Transnistria region, healthcare, prevention of AID/HIV, human rights institutional support and economic and political empowerment of women.

Under the Governance, Justice & Human Rights portfolio window the Fund supported initiatives and programmes that contributed to strengthening human rights aspects and decisively advance on the path of effective promotion and protection of human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination, with particular attention to the marginalized and the vulnerable in Moldova, including in the Transnistrian region. It responded to the main needs and challenges and achieved the most important results on the targeted areas in the of Republic of Moldova and augmentation the cooperation between the main thematic actors both within the region and cross-river.

To improve the gender equality in the country, the Fund helped create an enabling environment and improving the capacities at local and national levels for increased representation and participation of women in politics. In this sense significant progress had been made towards promoting women’s political empowerment through adopting and reforming several important laws and policies.

Under the Social Inclusion portfolio window, the Fund supported several initiatives that succeeded to approximate perinatal care in the Transnistria region to international standards and to improve the access to and quality of MCH services at primary and secondary levels, thus cutting the divide in the quality and availability of care between the two banks of the Dniester River. To support vulnerable and marginalized groups, such as HIV/AIDS/drug addicted the Fund supported programmes that improved dialogue and collaboration of responsible authorities from different sectors (health, social, prison and civil sector) on both banks and promotion of an integrated service approach in the region; improved knowledge of decision-makers and health professional to use human rights principles and commitments and international standards.

According to the TOR of the Fund, it complements other resources available to the country and is designed specifically to support the activities agreed by the Government and the UN as outlined in Pillar 1, Outcome 1.3 of the Partnership Framework – “Support the effective promotion and protection of human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination, with particular attention to marginalized and vulnerable groups”. Initially, the MDTF was articulated around this thematic window, then it was extended to cover the window of “Democratic governance, justice, equality and human rights” under Pillar 1 of the UNSDPF at the request of several agencies.

The establishment and operation of the “Towards Unity in Action” MDTF was the first pooled fund established by Moldova UNCT to directly support the implementation of the UNSDPF 2013-2017, as a result of voluntary selection as a pilot country to implement the “Delivery as One” concept.

The Fund received deposits in the amount of total amount of $ 10,057,465 and USD 9,970,578 were transferred to the PUNOs. The contributions were received from Sweden, Switzerland, Netherlands and Norway.

Figure 1. Contributions to the Fund by Partners

| **Contributor/Partner** | **Contributions** |
| --- | --- |
| Sweden | $ 4,952,767 |
| Switzerland | $ 3,637,815 |
| Norway | $ 1,422,554 |
| Netherlands | $ 44,329 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Total** | **$ 10,057,465** |

The evidence proves the Fund succeeded to accomplish its goal and objectives- piloting of new financing instruments for the Partnership Framework accelerated implementation and reduce the implementation and administrative costs for joint UN action in Moldova.

# Programmatic windows, implemented joint programmes and Key Results achieved under the Fund

# Democratic Governance, Justice and Human Rights

Three joint programmes were implemented under this pillar of the Fund, specifically - “Joint Action to Strengthen Human Rights in the Transnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova” implemented by UNDP, UNAIDS, UNODC, OHCHR, “Supporting National Human Rights Institutions as per International Treaty Bodies and UPR Recommendations” implemented by OHCHR and UNDP and “Enhancing Women’s Political Representation through improved capacity and enhanced support in Moldova” project implemented by UN Women and UNDP.

## “Joint Action to Strengthen Human Rights in the Transnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova” programme. UNDP, UNAIDS, UNODC, OHCHR

The joint project was developed as a management response to the recommendations developed by the Senior UN Expert on Human Rights, Thomas Hammarberg, who undertook a complex human rights assessment mission in Transnistrian region of Moldova in February 2013. Following the recommendations of the expert, the UN Agencies identified three key areas where de facto authorities of Transnistrian region of Moldova have expressed openness and which were considered feasible for implementation and with strong potential to expand cross river networks, particularly: work on people with disabilities; gender/domestic violence and HIV/AIDS. Each of the HR areas represents a distinct project component and is coordinated, respectively by: OHCHR, UNDP and UNADS/UNODC

**Key Results and Impact**

The project operated in a complex, sensible and sometime unpredictable context, but proved flexibility during the implementation and encouraged three scale partnerships among state and non-state actors at the: local level, national (cross-river) and international. Although each component had its own distinct portfolio of interventions, the common approaches included: consistent capacity development actions, initiatives on awareness raising and de facto policy and normative framework review (component I and III). Altogether, the project managed to reach majority of its targets, if judging through existing set of indicators. In majority of the cases the project significantly contributed to: 1) Augmentation of the local, national and international partnerships between the key actors; 2) Strengthening the competencies of existing duty bearers and rights holders; 3) Institutionalisation of the new services and entities and 4) Increasing the visibility of the tackled human rights aspects.

Overall, the project contributed to strengthening human rights aspects on the targeted areas in the Transnistrian region of Republic of Moldova and augmentation the cooperation between the main thematic actors both within the region and cross-river.

The project represented a multi-stakeholder complex intervention and included both policy level initiatives and grass-roots level ones, as well as public awareness, e.g. service delivery by the local actors to final beneficiaries from TN region, as well as public awareness raising and capacity strengthening support of the key state and non-state actors and encouraging transferability of positive practice from the right bank and elsewhere.

It encouraged local, national (cross-river) and international cooperation, which involves several international, national and local actors such as: UN Agencies, line ministries and state actors of the Republic of Moldova, de facto authorities of the TN region of Moldova, media outlets and civil society organizations from both banks of the Nistru river in the targeted areas.

The project supported cooperation at three scales: 1) Local cooperation between the civil society representatives – (de facto) public authorities; 2) National (cross- river) cooperation and encouraging confidence building between the thematic actors from the both banks of the river as well as and 3) International cooperation between the visited entities of the European countries and the participants of the study visits.

The elements of HRBA were mainstreamed and both dimensions duty bearers and right holders were targeted. Thus, the project targeted capacity strengthening interventions of both duty bearers, such as: representatives of ministries and state actors from Moldova and de facto authorities from TN region of Moldova dealing with the public health, social protection, internal affairs and penitentiary system to fulfil their obligations and of the right holders, such as: people with disabilities, victims of domestic/gender-based violence, PLWH etc. to claim their rights.

*Key results and figures:*

* Over 316 women and men (incl. 141 PwDs and 62 duty bearers) have an increased awareness on human rights standards and sustainable development after trainings organized.
* The cross-river Platform for Sustainable Community Development served as a cooperation framework during seven meetings organized, a good result being the partnership agreement signed by 22 NGOs and initiative groups (16-from the left bank).
* Assessment of the existing social services for the PwDs in the Transnistrian region has been conducted.
* Assessment of the existing regulatory framework relevant to the situation of PwDs in the Transnistrian region has been conducted.
* Implementation of the initiatives for the creation of community-based services for PwDs started in 4 localities in May 2018.
* The visit of Thomas Hammarberg to TN region during 28 May – 1st June 2018 was organized, resulting in an assessment of the progress in Human Rights issues in the region, to be reflected in a report to follow.
* The functional temporary shelter for DV victims providing support services, both outpatient and in residential regime (it can concomitantly host at least five victims with their children). A permanent Shelter is being established with EU and Swedish financing.
* Two regional hubs in Slobozia and Grigoriopol providing referral services and direct assistance to victims, reaching remote areas, informing the population and authorities, etc.
* Cumulative number of beneficiaries for both, the shelter and hubs include: 1270 people (1088 women, 143 children and 39 perpetrators) have received one or more services: psychological counselling; legal support. 209 women are socially integrated, after the intervention of specialists of created services.
* A road map on sustainable development of HIV response in Transnistrian region by 2020 has been developed involving other 30 stakeholders.
* An assessment of about 50 policy documents from Transnistrian region realized to understand how HIV policies are aligned to international human rights standards.
* First ever assessment of HIV and TB services on the left bank in prisons was conducted, the final report includes 13 recommendations.
* First-ever joint document between local police on the left bank, and the civil society organizations was signed on December 1st, 2017 (WAD – World Aids Day). A Memorandum of collaboration was signed with 6 Non-Governmental organizations providing services in this field.
* Up to 82% of participants to an opinion poll are in favor of alternatives to punishment, following a national raising awareness campaign on alternatives to punishment for people who use drugs organized under the leadership of UNDOC.
* Stigma Index research conducted, indicating that discriminatory treatments are faced quite often by the PLHIV.

*A final evaluation of the project was carried out during June-August 2018, with the following conclusions:*

* The project is consistent with the national priorities of Moldova and priorities of the de facto authorities from Transnistrian region of Moldova. The project is also consistent with the SDGs and has the HRBA and confidence building elements mainstreamed.
* The project operated in complex, sensible and sometime unpredictable context, but proved flexibility during the implementation and encouraged three scale partnerships among state and non-state actors at the: local level, national (cross-river) and international.
* Although each component has its own distinct portfolio of interventions, the common approaches included: consistent capacity development actions, initiatives on awareness raising and de facto policy and normative framework review (component I and III).
* Altogether, the project managed to reach majority of its targets (with some exceptions), if judging through existing set of indicators. In majority of the cases the project significantly contributed to: 1) Augmentation of the local, national and international partnerships between the key actors; 2) Strengthening the competencies of existing duty bearers and rights holders; 3) Institutionalisation of the new services and entities and 4) Increasing the visibility of the tackled human rights aspects.
* Some of the initiatives did not generated expected results, despite the efforts of the partners, which delivered all planned activities (e.g. review and adjustment of the de facto policy and normative framework), while one initiative (work in TN prisons) was blocked, although at the initial stage it was promising in terms of effectiveness.
* The project was and remained mostly cost-efficient during the delivery, but was affected by the so called elections in TN region. This factor determined changes among TN decision makers and represented a serious bottleneck, which caused substantive delays, especially in the initiatives based on the involvement of de facto authorities.
* The sustainability prospects of the results achieved, so far, are generally weak, although there are some isolated positive examples achieved within each of the three components of the project. Those sustainability achievements are far not enough to ensure a continuity in the case of ceasing of the development support. Therefore, it is not the case to advance the idea for an exit strategy, even on the step-by-step approach; on contrary - it is necessary to consolidate the efforts for maximizing the effects achieved, adjusting the approach, reaching in-depth results and generating long-lasting changes, incl. in the cases of “unfinished businesses”, which proved to be sensible and resistant to change.

*The key lessons/challenges drawn from the implementation of the Joint Actions include:*

* Political processes affect development work in the Transnistrian region to a greater extent than in the rest of the country, and constant communication with the main stakeholders is constantly needed, leading to potential delays in activities. Issues related to domestic violence, HIV prevention methodology, etc. are politically controversial and need to be approached with care;
* To ensure effective change and full institutional commitment, involvement of senior management and high-level officials is required. At the same time, every activity needs to be considered carefully and the involvement of senior administrative staff from de facto authorities balanced with political risks due to the sensitivity of the subject matter;
* Care should be exercised in the selection of the location for exposing staff from the Transnistrian region to international standards and best practices.
* Joint activities, such as study visits, trainings, and exchanges involving stakeholders from both banks of the Nistru river create bridges for confidence building;
* The most successful activities are the ones based on priorities and development needs of both sides of the Nistru river, that are not imposed but closely coordinated with them. As soon as this crucial ingredient goes sideways, project work tends to stumble. It is of paramount importance to carefully inform the stakeholders and not to try cutting corners, that lead to the opposite– lack of trust. Projects that people understand, that are transparent, lead to reducing pre-conceptions and “opening-up” the region for more.
* The cases that the domestic violence services established through the project are typically the most complex, where public institutions cannot achieve results. The reasons for this are different: from bureaucratic constraints to the lack of relevant professional knowledge and skills in public institutions;
* Law enforcement agencies often do not take proper measures to respond to calls from citizens about domestic violence. The partner NGOs need to work to establish contacts, to familiarize law enforcement officers with programs to help women in crisis situations and discuss possible prospects for cooperation.
* An in-depth knowledge and understanding of the operating environment is constantly needed, as this helps determine what is possible and what not at any given stage. Even though the programme itself is not political, it depends on the political environment and is sensitive to changes within that environment. Careful management is required; lack of it may unravel the program.
* It is of paramount importance to enhance the capacity of organizations from both sides for joint project work, as it is quite limited. Both implementing capacity - to “deliver” large joint projects need support, as well as local capacities for peace – i.e. to approach arising conflicts in a constructive, positive manner, and the capacities that would enable partnerships across the divide to last.

## “Supporting National Human Rights Institutions as per International Treaty Bodies and UPR Recommendations”. OHCHR, UNDP

The overall goal of the project was to contribute to the effective protection and promotion of human rights, equality and non-discrimination in the Republic of Moldova with particular attention to women, minorities, marginalized and vulnerable groups. The project sought to catalyze the emergence of the strongest possible independent national human rights institutions for Moldova – Ombudsperson Office and Equality Council – and to increase their focus around core strategic human rights goals to maximize their impact. The project aimed to build the capacities, independence and empowerment of the two institutions to maximize their impact in mainstreaming human rights and equality, including gender equality, in acting on strategic issues and for the resolution of individual cases.

**Key Results and Impact**

Overall, the program succeeded to decisively advance on the path of effective promotion and protection of human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination, with particular attention to the marginalized and the vulnerable in Moldova. It responded to the main needs and challenges as identified at the stage of project design and achieved the most important results planned.

The two NHRIs have appropriate knowledge, institutional tools and methodologies, outreach instruments, skills and capacities to effectively change the human rights situation in the country. They are actively engaged in the main processes pertaining to human rights promotion and protection, monitoring and reporting. This engagement is informed by relevant evidence and expertise, and the NHRIs has advanced considerably in their recognition as premiere human rights actors in the country. They are more sustainable as institutions and their capacities correspond to a great degree to their mandate as defined by law and the international standards that apply to them.

The project resulted in the development of permanent strong partnerships between the NHRIs, the Government, civil society and the UN, as shown by the creation of new platforms for promoting Moldova’s participation in the UPR process, for the purpose of protecting and promoting the human rights in Moldova. At the same time, the project allowed the NHRIs to strengthen their independence and autonomy as institutions serving all the people in Moldova, particularly the most vulnerable, regardless to the political and societal instabilities. The project also managed to change the attitudes among the general public on human rights and discrimination issues, through strategic public awareness campaigns, as well as to increase the transparency, accountability and visibility of the NHRIs through public relations interventions.

*Key results and figures:*

Strengthened environment for the NHRIs:

* NHRIs contributed substantially to producing new data and updating the existing one on the de facto situation of human rights and discrimination in the country, including people’s perceptions, especially those from the most vulnerable and marginalized groups.
* The first ever “Study on Equality Attitudes and Perceptions in the Republic of Moldova”3 elaborated and publicly discussed and widely disseminated to the national stakeholders (230 copies, out of which 150 - Romanian, 50 - Russian and 30 - English).
* The first ever “Study on Perceptions of Human Rights in the Republic of Moldova” 6 elaborated and publicly discussed and widely disseminated to the national stakeholders (400 copies, out of which: 270 - Romanian, 70 - Russian and 60 - English).
* The Annual Report on Human Rights for 2015 of the Ombudsman was publicly discussed with participation of 41 representatives from central and local public institutions (28 women and 13 men), 11 representatives of international organizations and embassies (8 women and 3 men), 17 civil society and human rights activists (7 women and 10 men), and actively covered by about 18 mass-media representatives. 500 copies of the report were printed in Romanian, Russian and English and disseminated to relevant national actors.
* The Equality Council General Report on the situation in preventing and combating discrimination in the Republic of Moldova for the year 2015 was publicly discussed, with participation of about 50 representatives (17 men and 33 women) from central and local public institutions, international organizations and embassies, civil society and human rights activists

Strengthened organisational capacities and sustainability of the NHRIs:

* A clear delimitation of the role, functions and mandate of the subdivisions of the Ombudsperson’s Office that avoids overlaps and ensures fair distribution of tasks;
* Development, standardization and integration of operational planning tools for different levels - Ombudsperson’s Office, subdivisions and individual staff - based on a mixed model combining Management by Objectives and Results-Based Management, and with the use of performance indicators;
* Ensuring the organizational transparency with regards to administrative documents, standardizing internal working processes and documents;
* Strengthening the managerial capacities of the top and middle management through the use of managerial tools for operational planning, organization and coordination of work, performance assessment and staff motivation;
* Strengthening the internal human resources management system through the standardization and implementation of instruments in the fields of recruitment, staff training needs assessment and job satisfaction assessment;
* Developing a results-oriented organizational culture, with a participatory leadership by promoting a system of key performance indicators at all level, managerial coaching and management training;
* Promoting and integrating diversity and human rights principles in the internal organizational management policies/procedures: job descriptions, vacancies, etc.
* The Equality Council has developed an internal procedure for drafting their Annual General Report on the situation in preventing and combating discrimination;
* Council subdivisions’ Activity Reports have become more analytical and less formal and an internal procedure on planning is put into place;
* The Action Plans targets and indicators have become more realistic;
* Staff, were actively involved in the planning exercises and have reported strengthening their planning skills;
* An internal mechanism for developing internal working regulations and guides, which serves as guidance and standardization manual and allows optimization of developing procedures, internal instructions on specific operational processes has been put in place;
* Diversity and human rights principles were integrated in the internal organizational management policies/procedures: job descriptions, vacancies, etc.
* The Equality Council and Ombudsperson Office updated their institutional Communication Strategies and Action Plans, underwent rebranding and developed and implemented multi-dimensional public awareness campaigns on human rights and equality in line with the new institutional image;
* The websites of the two NHRIs have been upgraded to become more accessible/user friendly and a new webpage was developed for the Children’s Ombudsperson. The improved webpages are expected to increase the accessibility, transparency, accountability and visibility of the NHRIs.
* Strengthened capacities of the Press-officer of the Equality Council who benefited from in-depth training and coaching by a National Consultant (woman)

The project underwent a Gender Audit in 2016 and, based on the results, an improvement action plan has been developed and implemented.40 Based on the improvement plan, additional attention was paid to the improvement of management, diversity and gender balance in the National Human Rights Institutions of Moldova, to better mainstream gender balance into the employment rules and regulations. In order to achieve better gender equality results, the methodology for the analysis of policies and laws on human rights and equality compliance by NHRIs and other relevant state authorities was reviewed to include gender impact assessment.

Instable political and economic situation in the country were a constant challenge for the project implementation. The need of stronger Government engagement in implementing recommendations of the first UPR cycle made it hard for the NHRIs to make full use of their expertise in promoting international human rights standards in Moldova. Despite the efforts made to organize the hearings of the NHRIs annual reports in the plenary session of the Parliament and thus engage the MPs in constructive debate on human rights issues, this did not happen, mainly due to the political instability in the country when human rights were not the main priority in the agenda. Precarious financial situation of the state delayed the implementation of important reforms, precluded staff recruitment, renovation and reasonable accommodation of facilities, putting limits on some of the project results.

Among the key lessons learned and best practices:

* Involvement of the two NHRIs (Ombudsperson’s Office and Equality Council) into joint activities, joint submissions and communication significantly improves the commitment to the action and the resulting achievements;
* It is important to make the project products available to other state actors as well, including the Government and Civil Society. For example, Government agencies involved in policy development and review can benefit with the methodology for the human rights and equality impact assessment of policies;
* In order for public information / awareness raising campaigns to genuinely influence attitudes and behaviours, they should always be based on thorough research and solid evidence;
* Joint public awareness campaigning proved to be effective and relatively cheap using online social networks and other communication channels;
* In order to achieve maximum results, comprehensive needs assessment exercises should precede all training/capacity building activities;
* The project activities should be systematically reviewed and adjusted to reflect new realities/priorities and consider new developments.

## “Enhancing Women’s Political Representation through improved capacity and enhanced support in Moldova” programme. UN Women, UNDP.

The overall goal of the Women in Politics Programme was to support the increased participation of women in politics and in the decision-making process by creating an environment conducive to their meaningful participation, and to support capacity development of women before, during and after the elections at the central and local levels. The programme also sought to promote increased public aware- ness of women’s contribution to political leadership and supports the realization of women’s rights and commitments undertaken by the Government of Moldova.

**Key Results and Impact**

The programme achieved the overall goal by creating an enabling environment and improving the capacities at local and national levels for increased representation and participation of women in politics, as response to the recommendations issued by the UPR Working Group and CEDAW Committee. The programme continued the long-term engagement of the UN to support national and local stakeholders in Moldova in strengthening democratic governance and advancing women’s rights through initiatives aimed at reforming the electoral system and decentralization of government.

Significant progress had been made towards promoting women’s political empowerment through adopting and reforming several important laws and policies. In this context, the programme supported actions for the reform and adoption of the National Strategy on Gender Equality for 2017-2021 and its Action Plan, the Law no. 71 on amending and supplementing specific legal acts in the area of gender equality and others. Following adoption of the laws, the programme raised awareness of the new provisions among different groups, both duty bearers and rights holders, and towards the implementation of the specific provisions in the area of sexist advertising. In this regard, the draft Regulation for establishment and functioning of the Experts’ Council in the field of advertising, with a special focus on sexism in advertising, was improved based on international expert review and consultations with representatives of state institutions and advertising agencies. The draft Regulation was viewed by the pertinent institutions, and subsequently to undergo a public consultation process and Government adoption.

The programme supported creation and activity of the Gender Equality Platform (30 NGOs and individuals) and their Gender Equality Agenda for Actions which served as a baseline for advancing women during previous Parliamentary and local elections and which will be undertaken during the future ones to be undertaken during future parliamentary and local elections.

As a result of the programme initiatives, for the first time in the history of Moldova, Roma women (seven in total) were registered on electoral lists of political parties and as independent candidates in the local elections and two Romani women were elected.

Women’s leadership skills have been enhanced and they have taken a more active role towards solving pressing community problems and advancing gender equality, particularly at the local level. Over 2300 women have been involved in different capacity building activities during 2014 -2017 that enabled them to become more effective leaders. In this context, capacities of elected women parliamentarians and Councillors to perform the elected official’s duties developed and strengthened. All women MPs (those in their first term but also in consecutive terms) have received both training and individual coaching. 429 women and 35 men first-time councillors from 23 districts/rayons, 1 municipality (Balti) and the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia enhanced their capacities in areas of local council functioning, fostering gender equality in local development agenda, finance, fundraising, communication and advocacy.

*Key results and figures:*

* Pursuant to sustained and joint advocacy, the Legislative package 180 (Law modified 15 legislative acts to ensure better respect of gender equality) was adopted on 14 April 2016 under the title Law no. 71 on modification and supplementing of some legal acts.
* During 2014-2017, all political parties received information/ methods to nominate more women on electoral lists, as well as to promote more women in decision making positions. In particular, they received 5 resolutions voicing the needs of different groups of women representing different social and professional groups and 7 position papers submit-ted by CSOs promoting gender equality.
* Over 10 organizations supporting women candidates and demanding women’s equal participation within political party nominations have been receiving capacity development support (5 political clubs established in 5 districts, 3 women’s organizations of 3 political parties, Romani Women and Girls Network, Gender Equality Platform consisting of 27 organizations).
* Total of 949 women received knowledge and tools to be nominated and run for the elections in the framework of the Programme. In 2016, over 1,000 women received capacity building on leadership and political participation aimed at enhancing their skills to serve as mayors, as elected or appointed officials at the local level, as well to run as candidates for future elections.
* Increase in the placement of women in top 20% of party lists as follows: Parliamentary elections: 2010 - top 20 – 17.4% (places 1-10 – 14.8%; places 11-20 – 20.0%32); 2014 - top 20 – 21.15% (places 1-10 - 24%; places 11-20 – 18.3%33); Election of local councils: 2011 - top 20 – 5.85% (places 1-10 – 3.7%; places 11-20 - 8%34), 2015 - top 20 - 23% (places 1-10 – 18.3%' places 11 -20 – 27.7%35).
* Two women have been included in the 2016 CEC composition, both voted in leadership positions- i.e. chair and deputy chair.
* Over 30 media outlets undertook internal monitoring of the gender sensitivity of their products on a regular basis.
* 15 regional parliamentary forums brought together 650 citizens, including 542 women, particularly from marginalized groups located in 41 administrative units of Moldova, including Gagauzia and Transnistria, in direct dialogue with 26 Members of Parliament (12 women and 14 men) and local decision makers around issues important to women.
* All women MPs (those in their first term but also in consecutive terms) have received both training and individual coaching. Other Parliamentary structures received training as well.
* 429 women and 35 men first-time councillors from 23 districts/rayons, 1 municipality (Balti) and the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia enhanced their capacities in areas of local council functioning, fostering gender equality in local development agenda, finance, fundraising, communication and advocacy.
* 27 women first time councillors from different districts benefited from a pioneering mentorship program.
* 39 women with disabilities learned how to run for elections and to demand for their rights
* Women from underrepresented groups implemented individual action plans and exceeded the set targets.
* 21 Women from 7 communities with zero representation passed through a complex Mentorship program and implemented community initiatives.

# Human Development and Social Inclusion

Under this pillar of the UNPF and the Fund two joint projects were funded and implemented – “Mother and Child Health- in 2 phases” as a component of the Confidence Building Measures programme, implemented by WHO, UNICEF and UNDP and “The Human Rights and HIV/AIDS in Transnistria” programme implemented by UNAIDS, UNODC, WHO and UNDP.

## “Mother and Child Health (phase I &II) - Contribution to the Confidence Building Measures Program in Transnistria” programme. WHO, UNICEF, UNDP.

The overarching goal of this project was to improve the health status of the population of Moldova, including in Transnistria region, together with financial protection, equitable access to and satisfaction with health services. The programme also saught to support the population of the Transnistria region to benefit from comprehensive quality health services, with specific focus on Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and immunizations. The joint project has been framed around the new 2030 agenda for sustainable development (SDGs) and its targets, priority WHO regional strategies – most importantly the European Policy for Health and Wellbeing Health 2020 – and aligned with the Government’s key health priorities and ongoing health sector reform agenda, aiming at reaching universal health coverage with quality services.

**Key Results and Impact**

The Project has been primarily focusing on mother and child health (MCH), including immunizations, as a good opportunity for building trust across borders, building upon many activities started during phase I and which required additional efforts and/or investments. It succeeded to approximate perinatal care in the Transnistria region to international standards and to improve the access to and quality of MCH services at primary and secondary levels, thus cutting the divide in the quality and availability of care between the two banks of the Dniester River. Whole-of-country approach has been used whenever possible, i.e. targeting the population from both banks of the Dniester River (e.g., breastfeeding and immunizations), while strengthening some activities that have been started before on the right bank of the River.

The program succeeded in expanding qualitative integrated perinatal services, including nutrition of new-borns and mothers from the Transnistria region. The vaccine coverage and immunization rates for traditional and new or underutilized vaccines were improved on both banks of the Dniester River and the population on both banks of the Dniester River has increased their MCH-related health literacy related to infant feeding and awareness about availability of MCH services and their right to access them.

On the immunization’s component, the joint programme succeeded to increase the availability of comprehensive quality immunization services for children in the region. This result was achieved by improving the capacities of relevant health professionals to have necessary knowledge and guidelines about vaccine contraindications, adverse events following immunizations, and effective vaccine management. Also, the public authorities were equipped with the tools to plan, budget and implement / scale up immunization activities.

To increase the positive impact and reach out on the benefits, the programme worked at increasing the population’s health literacy related to MCH and its awareness about availability of services and their right to access them. The awareness components were implemented by developing and disseminating information materials to health professionals and communities regarding the services available to women, new-borns and children at all health care levels, raising the awareness of population on selected health topics (e.g., exclusive breastfeeding ) and sharing information on the legal provisions related to the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, securing enabling environment and support groups to maintain and promote breastfeeding and building the capacity for health professionals involved in vaccination, and using innovative approaches in vaccination to help parents and family members be well informed about the vaccination schedule, proper timing and key information about vaccines and the diseases they prevent.

*Key results and figures:*

***Infection prevention and control measures and capacity building activities for Primary Health Care***

* 6 trainings on infection prevention and control (IPC/PPE) for 387 connecting points;
* 12 trainings on Mother and Child Healthcare (MCH) and Adolescent health in the context of COVID-19 for 1376 connecting points;
* 4 trainings on NCD during COVID-19 for 701 connecting points;
* 2 trainings on home care for elderly people during COVID-19 – 500 connecting points;
* 1 training on pharmacovigilance of the drugs used in treatment of COVID-19 (based on provisional protocol approved at national level) 62 connecting points; as well a live stream on medicines used in COVID-19 treatment for general population was organized (22000 vies).
* 11 online-trainings on clinical case management based on the guidelines for COVID-19 clinical management at all levels were conducted by the local experts, due this the training was assured for 1055 connecting points (meaning that at one device could be more than one person), among those:
* 3 training on IPC for Rehabilitation services in the context of COVID-19;
* 3 training on revised clinical PHC protocol;
* 3 trainings on updated hospital care approach to patients with different level of disease severity;
* 2 training on drug abuse and adolescent health in the context of COVID-19;
* 9 live streams with general population as total, from the current project were covered only two (2):
* Breastfeeding during the pandemic – 26000 views;
* Risks for adolescent health during the pandemic – 33100 views;
* 15 online trainings on childcare and health for health care workers from primary and hospital care levels:
* 3 trainings on Child health and care during pandemic – 392 connecting points;
* 2 trainings on standards vaccination during pandemic – 389 connecting points;
* 2 trainings on Supportive care during pandemic for other acute respiratory infections – 287 connecting points;
* 2 trainings on Nutrition hydric support for children, including during the COVID-19 pandemic – 304 connecting points;
* 2 trainings on Frequently ill child and pandemic (including digestive issues in children) – 241 connecting points;
* 2 trainings on Mental health and emotional issues in children and adolescents during the pandemic – 204 connecting points;
* 2 trainings on Autoimmune diseases in children and pandemic – 177 connecting points.

***Development of the Mental health and psychological support for health workers due and after the outbreak***

To support of the mental wellbeing of the health care workers (HCWs) and general population during the acute pandemic phase the following activities were promoted:

* 6 trainings on MH support to HCWs during COVID-19 - 527 connecting points;
* 4 trainings for psy-professionals from CMHCs, YFHCs, psychologies from MIA system on psychological support practices to prevent the burn-out syndrome in colleagues and to offer the psychological support to general population directly/indirectly affected by COVID-19;
* 18 trainings for HCWs from all hospitals involved into COVID response specifically dedicated to prevention of the burn-out syndrome. During the trainings was worked with all six phases of the burn-out syndrome development.

***Communication campaign on COVID-19 prevention and recovery***

* An awareness campaigns with the messages “***Stay home! Take care! Stay safe!***” were implemented and repeated at different stages of epidemic. The visuals for social media, infographics, printed posters with messages and health advices were produced
* Printing of the information posters and flyers on protection behaviors for the kindergartens, educational staff and other staff, parents from the Chisinau Municipally
* 3 video spots were produced and aired to reinforce messages on personal hygiene, hand wash, cough etiquette and safe winter’s holidays celebration.
* An awareness campaign "Support for physical and psychological rehabilitation after COVID-19 related illness was launched " into support the rapid and effective recovery of patients.

***Continued need assessment for COVID-19 during outbreak and post-outbreak response***

* The first estimations of needs for COVID-19 response were performed based on the WHO Commodity package for COVID-19, WHO COVID-19 PATIENT KITs for PPE, Devices, Drugs, and consumables, also, was tacking in to account the capacities of the health system as of December 2019
* Estimations were improved by using WHO COVID-19 Essential Supplies Forecasting Tool (COVID-ESFT) v2.0 PLUS, tacking in to account the stocks for items available (public procurements, institutions' own procurement, donations, etc.) collected at MoHLSP.

***Development of the post-outbreak measures at national level***

* At the beginning of the pandemic several scenarios were developed in order to estimate the COVID-19 outbreak epidemiological evolution and health system necessities.
* The health system need assessment for COVID-19 during outbreak were repeatedly conducted based on the WHO standardized electronic tool. The assessment allowed to identify and update the list of COVID-19 associated items and needed resources and the assessment tool was presented to the MoHLSP to be further institutionalized.
* An inter-sectoral Intra Action Review was conducted to identify the performance made with regards to nine COVID-19 pandemic preparedness and response activities.
* To ensure effective communication, promotion and collaboration of all relevant actors, medical community, development partners, a COVID-19 e-newsletter was produced. More than 30 issues have been reached 5.000 subscribers weekly.
* At least 3 clinical case management COVID-19 guidelines, algorithms for all care levels and different scenarios were printed and distributed through the official channels of the responsible entities. All proposed materials were web-designed.

## “The Human Rights and HIV/AIDS in Transnistria” programme. UNAIDS, UNODC, WHO and UNDP

The Human Rights and HIV/AIDS in Transnistria programme was implemented in response to the UN Senior Human Rights Advisor Thomas Hammarberg’s recommendations regarding human rights in the Transnistrian region, based on the first ever report on the situation in the region, delivered in early 2014. The report concluded that, of all regions of the Republic of Moldova, the Transnistrian region (TN) is facing a number of most pressing health care issues. It has the worst epidemiologic profile in terms of HIV and TB in the country, as corroborated by latest National AIDS Program data (2013): HIV incidence was 46.91 per 100 thousand people in TN vs. 13.68 in the rest of the country, while HIV prevalence was 463.25 in TN vs. 129.89 per 100 thousand elsewhere.

The main goal of the project was to provide support to ensure universal equitable access to quality, integrated and rights-based HIV prevention, treatment and care services for most at risk populations in the civilian and prison sectors of the Transnistrian region.

**Key Results and Impact**

The project succeeded to address these difficult issues from several perspectives: improved dialogue and collaboration of responsible authorities from different sectors (health, social, prison and civil sector) on both banks and promotion of an integrated service approach in the region; improved knowledge of decision-makers and health professional to use human rights principles and commitments and international standards. It addressed stigma and discrimination towards most HIV-affected and vulnerable populations, covering thousands of people and built knowledge and competencies of 147 health, prison, civil society personnel on integrated HIV/TB/drug addiction through trainings, site visits and through providing access to international standards and best practices. Also, a platform of cooperation between Moldova and its Transnistrian region and Belarus was established to advocate and implement best existing practices in Belarus related to people who inject drugs. Due to its proximity to the context of the Transnistrian region, Belarus was a good option to advocate for methadone intervention, especially considering the efficiency of the programme in the country and the integrity to address in the best way the needs of PWIDs despite the political aspects.

The implemented activities enhanced the collaboration between the both banks of the Nistru river, allowed the specialists from both regions to know each other, to work together and to improve their knowledges and capacities. As a result, for the first time in five years, the NGOs from TN reported that the de facto authorities had allowed them to enter the prisons to provide peer to peer prevention, care and support services to PWID and PLWH. For the first time, SW and MSM were addressed by de facto health authorities and received services beginning with 2015. The National Action Plan 2016-2020, developed in 2015, with the project support, includes Transnistrian needs related to prevention, treatment, care and support services. Thus, the needs of stakeholders from the Transnistria region were integrated into the national policy, covering the full territory of Moldova, also contributing to confidence building between both banks of the Nistru river.

Overall, the project achieved the intended results at the outcome and output level. Most of the planned results have been overachieved, without any budget extensions or expenses.

The cooperation between implementing agencies was very good and constructive. Most of the key advocacy messages were delivered through joint UN communication. Some activities were organized jointly by implementing partners, which contributed a lot to improve communication and coordination between agencies and have a better focus on the results. It ensured no duplication, mutual support and efficient implementation of the program. Good partnerships were leveraged with national health, justice specialists, NGOs from both banks of the river, as well as Global Fund Principal Recipients ensuring added value, complementarity and efficiency related to the results achieved and changes produced.

*Key results and figures:*

**Improved legal and policy framework**

* Three strategic documents were developed in 2015, ensuring they align to the international standards and embed integrated care approach to make the services friendly, close and human-rights based. The policies targeted the people most affected by HIV – people who inject drugs (PWID), sex workers (SW) and MSM (men having sex with men), SW and MSM being firstly addressed in the Transnistrian region.
* Report on assessment of legal and normative framework of human rights integration into the Transnistrian region’s HIV response developed.
* National AIDS control and prophylaxis programme for the period 2016-2020, including interventions for the Transnistrian region development and presented
* Road map on the provision of a comprehensive package of services to PWID developed and presented

**Knowledge and competencies of key stakeholders to provide TB treatment**

* Workshop on “Improving the Quality of Pharmacotherapy of Opioid Dependence and HIV Prevention in Moldova: an Integrated Approach at the Vilnius Center for Addictive Disorders (VPLC)” in Vilnius, Lithuania, on 3-5 August 2015 organized, under the aegis of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Harm Reduction.
* The workshop helped participants update their knowledge about harm reduction specific activities and comprehensive rehabilitation options for substance abuse, including PTM, outlining key advantages and disadvantages of each. It also showed how different HIV, TB and PWID integrated care services works in practice, including the roles of mobile clinics, non-state actors and other service providers, and interaction of those. Various health system dimensions related to harm reduction and sustainability were raised, such as stewardship, financing, staffing and equipment, or service provision

**Improved capacitates to provide integrated care services on HIV/TB, especially prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT)**

* 61 health specialists from both banks of the Nistru river able to provide more qualitative and friendly services to people infected and affected with HIV, after they were trained on integrated care services on HIV/TB, during a set of three trainings organized.
* A platform between Moldova, including the Transnistrian region, and Belarus was created especially with the goal to reap mutual benefits from both countries’ experience of ensuring access of PWID to a comprehensive package of services, including OST (which is not yet accessible in the Transnistrian region)
* 20 medical professionals specialized in drug dependency treatment and communicable diseases from both banks of the Nistru river participated in trainings on complex approaches to treatment of drug dependency and associated comorbidities, and made proposals on how to address this issue.

**Tolerant attitudes towards most in risk populations and HIV persons developed**

* Stigma and discrimination was addressed through two major communication and social campaigns.

# Conclusions

Establishing the MDTF by the UNCT Moldova was the country’s first experience in setting-up and running programmes funded by a pooled funds mechanism. The Fund was designed to pilot test the pooled mechanism and also complements other resources available to the country and was designed specifically to support the activities agreed by the Government and the UN as outlined in Pillar 1, Outcome 1.3 of the Partnership Framework. Initially, the MDTF was articulated around this thematic window, and it was expanded later to additional thematic windows to accommodate the interest from more PUNOs.

The MDTF conformed to the principles of governing a multi-donor pass-through arrangement, with the aim to reduce the administrative costs for (joint) UN action. It was administered by UNDP, through its Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office). The MPTF Office acted as Administrative Agent, on behalf of the Participating UN Organisations, and administered the fund in accordance with its Regulations and Rules.

The work of the Fund and the programmes implemented with its financing brought significant impact to the development of Moldova and implementation of the UNPF 2013-2017 and beyond. The Fund significantly contributed to advance the democratic governance, human rights and justice in Moldova, as well as, brought important improvements in the healthcare and healthy living of citizens from Moldova. Several initiatives concentrated their efforts in these areas in the Transnistria region of the country, which is defacto not under the administration of the Moldovan Government. In this context, the Fund contributed to strengthening of human rights aspects on the targeted areas in the Transnistrian region of Moldova and augmentation of the cooperation between the main thematic actors both within the region and cross-river, created an enabling environment and improved the capacities at local and national levels for an increased representation and participation of women in politics, expanded qualitative integrated perinatal services, including nutrition of new-borns and mothers from the Transnistria region. The vaccine coverage and immunization rates for traditional and new or underutilized vaccines were improved on both banks and the population has increased their MCH-related health literacy related to infant feeding and awareness. The Fund’s support addressed stigma and discrimination towards most HIV-affected and vulnerable populations, covering thousands of people and built knowledge and competencies of healthcare, prison, civil society personnel on integrated HIV/TB/drug addiction.

The jointly delivered programmes have created stronger synergies among the stakeholders, reduced the transaction costs, incentivized establishment of partnerships with other similar initiatives, and ensured quick implementation of the activities.

Although being a success in most of areas of operation, there are some aspects of the work of the MDTF in Moldova that could be further improved, as the UNCT put forward for discussion several lessons learnt, as follows:

* The MDPT delivered only a small fraction of the UNPF funding (less than 5%), this pointing to unused potential in joint programming and resource mobilization;
* Donors and partners still do not (fully) understand the MPFT- processes, benefits etc.
* The MDTF received contributions only from traditional partners - foreign governments, no private or local government contributions;
* UN Agencies use it in many cases only as a funding vehicle and not as a programming tool.
* Government is not enough involved in decision making as 100% of contributions are earmarked- under specific outcomes (and joint projects)

The “Towards Unity in Action Multi-Donor Trust Fund” was extended to 2019 to cover the on-going projects. However, to the utility and benefits brought by the fund to the UN Country Team, to further strengthen the joint efforts of the UN family in Moldova a new mechanism for attracting resources from multiple partners for joint initiatives was established. The new “Moldova 2030 SDGs Partnership Fund” is covering the period of 2019-2022 and will focus on the four priority areas of the United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018-2022 that focuses on (i) Democracy, good governance, human rights and gender equality; (ii) Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth; (iii) Environmental sustainability and resilience; and (iv) Inclusive and equitable social development.

# Annexes-

Joint projects Indicators Based Performance Assessments

**Programme: The Human Rights and HIV/AIDS in Transnistria programme**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Achieved indicator targets** | **Reasons for variance with planned target (if any)** |
| **Outcome 1** Four policy documents on integrated care developed**Indicator:** Number of documents on integrated care developed**Baseline:** 0**Planned Target:** 4 | Three documents developed | Work involving the Transnistrian region requires extensive and time consuming coordination, which poses challenges to the timely implementation of activities. However, one of the documents (the road map) was updated and revised, which had not been originally planned. |
| **Output 1.1.1** Needs assessed**Indicator 1.1.1** Number of reports presented**Baseline:** 1**Planned Target:** 0 | None/a new activity was proposed: Improvement of prison health infrastructure (achieved) | It was agreed with the donor (the Government of Sweden) that an additional needs assessment would not give added value since the Hammarberg report already provides relevant information. In order to improve health conditions of prisoners and indirectly strengthen the dialogue between the *de facto* prison sector and NGOs (which implemented the activity), it was decided to revise the output to *improvement of prison health infrastructure* (achieved). |
| **Output 1.1.2** Knowledge and competencies of key stakeholders to provide TB treatment and care consolidated**Indicator 1.1.2:** Number of staff participating in study visit**Baseline:** 0**Planned Target:** 7**Output 1.1.3:** Knowledge and competencies of key stakeholders to provide integrated HIV/TB/drug addiction treatment consolidated**Indicator 1.1.3:** Number of staff participating in study visit**Baseline:** 0**Planned Target:** 7 | Indicator 1.1.2: 7 staff participatedIndicator 1.1.3: 7 staff participated |  |
| **Output 1.1.4** Health staff trained to provide integrated care services on HIV/TB, especially PMTCT **Indicator:** Number of staff trained**Baseline**: 0**Planned Target:** 60 | 61 staff trained |  |
| **Outcome 2** The twinning platform between Moldova/Transnistria and Belarus created and consolidated**Indicator:** The twinning platform between | Platform functional |  |
|  |  |  |

**Programme: Enhancing Women’s Political Representation through improved capacity and enhanced sup- port in Moldova**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Indicator based performance assessment***  | **Achieved indicator targets** | **Reasons for variance with planned target (if any)** | **Source of verification**  |
| **Outcome 1.** Legal frameworks and policies to advance women’s right to participate in decision making at national and local levels are reformed/adopted and/or implemented **Indicator:** Adoption and implementation of appropriate Temporary Special Measures (TSMs)  | Pursuant to sustained and joint advocacy, the Legislative package 180 was adopted on 14 April 2016 under the title Law no. 71 on modification and supplementing of some legal acts.  |  | http://lex.jus-tice.md/md/365019/  |
| **Output 1.1.** Capacity at national and sub-national levels to develop and implement legal frameworks and policies to advance women’s right to participate in decision making enhanced **Indicator 1.1.1** Legislative amendments on promoting women in decision making drafted and submitted to the Parliament **Baseline:** Relevant draft amendments to Electoral Code, Party Code, Parliament Law, the Law on Government and Gender Equality Law are developed to promote women in politics and decision making. No initiatives undertaken to develop the secondary legislation to ensure alignment with all other relevant law **Planned Target:** Amendments to Law on Government, and relevant other laws and by-laws drafted in a participatory and transparent manner **Indicator 1.1.2** Political parties receive information/meth-ods to nominate more women **Baseline:** None **Planned Target:** At least all Parliamentary parties receive information on the nomination of more women.  | 1.***Target reached***: The Programme has supported advocacy efforts and worked to ensure that legislative Package 180 moves forward in the legislative process.Further support on implementation of legal pro-visions related to sexism in advertising was pro-vided to MLSPF and draft Regulation for establishment and functioning of Experts’ Council in the field of advertising was prepared.2.***Target reached:*** During 2014-2017, all political par-ties received information/ methods to nominate more women on electoral lists, as well as to promote more women in decision making positions. In particular, they received 5 resolutions voicing the needs of different groups of women representing different social and professional groups and 7 position papers submit-ted by CSOs promoting gender equality. During2016, all political parties received information/ methods about the need to adopt gender equality quota to ensure equitable representation of women in politics,such as 2 flash-mobs, a brief opinion policy note, three position papers, 2 infographics. One infographic developed on main provisions adopted by Law no. 71.3.3 videos were produced and broadcasted on the main provisions of the LAW 71 on national Tv chan. |  | Parliament website – Report from session of Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights and Inter-Ethnic Relations; Official gazette publications – official legal web page Resolutions prepared by women from different groups; CSO (CPD and EEF) websites and quarterly reports; Position papers issued and shared by CSOs (CPD, EEF, Gender Equality Platform |

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| **Output 1.2** Capacities at all levels to promote women’s participation in electoral processes both as candidates and voters enhanced**Indicator 1.2.1** Number of Organizations supporting women candidates and demanding women’s equal participation within political party nominations received capacity development support**Baseline:** None**Planned Target:** At least 10 organizations at the central and local level**Indicator 1.2.3** Percentage of women candidates nominated and running**Baseline:** Parliament = 27%, Mayors = 17%, Councils = 32%**Planned Target:** increase of 10 pp.**Indicator 1.2.4** Average rank of women candidates de- creased in party lists for parliamentary election31**Baseline:** 60%**Planned Target:** Decrease by 10pp | 1. ***Target exceeded:*** Over 10 organizations supporting women candidates and demanding women’s equal participation within political party nominations have been receiving capacity development support (5 political clubs established in 5 districts, 3 women’s organizations of 3 political parties, Romani Women and Girls Network, Gender Equality Platform consisting of 27 organizations).
2. ***Target reached:*** Total of 949 women received knowledge and tools to be nominated and run for the elections in the framework of the Programme. In 2016, over 1,000 women received capacity building on leadership and political participation aimed at enhancing their skills to serve as mayors, as elected or appointed officials at the local level, as well to run as candidates for future elections.
3. ***Slight progress towards target:*** % of women candidates in Parliament (2014 elections) – 30.30%; Mayor (2015 elections) - 19.3 %; Local Councils (2015 elections) – 34.9%.
4. Increase in the placement of women in top 20% of party lists as follows: Parliamentary elections: 2010

- top 20 – 17.4% (places 1-10 – 14.8%; places 11-20– 20.0%32); 2014 - top 20 – 21.15% (places 1-10 -24%; places 11-20 – 18.3%33); Election of local coun-cils: 2011 - top 20 – 5.85% (places 1-10 – 3.7%;places 11-20 - 8%34), 2015 - top 20 - 23% (places 1-10 – 18.3%' places 11 -20 – 27.7%35). |  | Reports of partnering and target organizations;Report of CSOs and public opinion studies;CPD analysis of political party lists and ranking (Political party Monitoring report);CEC Gender analysis of 2014 and 2015 elections36 |
| **Output 1.3.** Capacities of the Election Management Bodies on gender responsive electoral management enhanced**Indicator 1.3.1** Percentage of women members of the CEC and of rayon and precinct level electoral commissions**Baseline:** 1 woman CEC member, 36% women Heads of electoral commissions at rayon level | 1. ***Target achieved:*** Two women have been included in the 2016 CEC composition, both voted in leadership positions- i.e. chair and deputy chair; For 2014 parliamentary elections, women constituted 34.3% among Heads of Electoral Commission at District/rayon Level (DEC) which constitutes an increase of 17% from 2010 elections when women’s share was of 28.6%; for 2015 local elections share of women as Heads of Level II DEC was of 29% - a decrease from |  | CEC Annual Report; Voter education materials;Voter turnout sex disaggregated data;CEC Gender analysis of 2014 and 2015 elections37; |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Planned Target:** At least 1 person increase in the number of women among CEC members and 10 % increase among the Heads of electoral commissions at rayon level **Indicator 1.3.2** CEC voter registration and education campaign has a particular focus on women, youth, and on vulnerable groups**Baseline:** No particular focus on women, youth and vulnerable groups in the previous voter registration and education campaigns**Planned Target:** CEC voter registration and education campaign with a particular focus on women, youth, and on vulnerable groups designed and implemented in the general and local elections | 36% in 2011. However, progress has been achieved at the levels of women vice-presidents of Level DEC in 2015 – 49% women vice-presidents in 2015 com- pared to 44% in 2011 - which represents a 11.4% in- crease.2. ***Target achieved:*** 8 CSO-ran voter education campaigns were conducted prior to 2014 parliamentary and 2015 local elections reached a total of 442,096 people including ethnic minority women, women with disabilities, first-time voters, etc. have been encouraged and informed to cast meaningful vote. |  | CEC website (composition of CEC membership);CSO reports on voter education campaigns 2014, 2015;Articles/stories on voter education campaigns on UN portals and in media. |
| **Outcome 2.** Gender equality advocates influence legal frameworks and policies to increase women’s leadership and political participation**Indicator:** Agreed women’s agenda/manifesto on joint plat- forms amongst Women from communities, community groups, CSOs, think tank organizations and political parties calling for women’s increased participation in politics **Baseline:** not defined**Planned Target:** not defined |  |  | Public Opinion survey; Organization’s reports; Media reports. |
| **Output 2.1.** Capacities of the media on gender responsive coverage of political issues enhanced**Indicator 2.1.1.** Number of media organizations undertaking internal monitoring of gender sensitivity of their product on regular basis before, during and after elections**Baseline:** 17 print and online media organizations**Planned Target:** At least another 20 print, online, audio- visual media | 1. ***Target achieved:*** Total of 30 media outlets undertook internal monitoring of the gender sensitivity of their products on a regular basis.
2. *During 2017* ***37 Media outlets passed through an external evaluation*** *that identified that that not all the commitments undertaken by media outlets were respected.*
 |  | Media monitoring results;Media Association surveys/re- ports;List of media with signed commitments. |
| **Output 2.2.** Capacity of gender equality advocates to pro- mote women’s leadership and political participation strengthened**Indicator 2.2.1** Number of initiatives undertaken by women and women’s groups, NGOs and media to demand inclusion of women’s needs and priorities in the political party agenda at central and local level**Baseline:** none | 1. ***Target exceeded:*** Diverse range of initiatives have been undertaken to demand inclusion of women’s needs at both national and local levels.

These include:* + Gender Equality Platform
	+ 5 Platforms of women representing women from different groups
	+ 7 women’s political clubs
 |  | CSO reports; Media report |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Planned Target:** at least 30 initiatives in communities and rayon levels undertaken to identify women’s common needs and interest and demand political parties’ response in their agenda before and after election. The identified needs of women are brought to the central level for the attention of political leaders | * Power mapping and needs assessment in 15 localities with predominant Roma population
* 3 regional workshops for business women
* 5 NGOs conducted women’s empowerment campaigns at local level
* 24 small community initiatives undertaken by women local councilors at first mandate
* 10 peer-to-peer learning visits in 15 communities (12 headed by women mayors and 3 by men mayors) for women mayors,
* 3 regional initiatives launched by young Roma women and men
* 16 Days Campaign on ending violence against women, including those led by women MPs and women mayors placing the survivors at the center
* One of the two Roma women local councilors organized an initiative to encourage Romani women to participate in local council meetings
* GirlsGoIT (Programme contribution to other partners’ initiative)
* Forum “Partnership for an Inclusive and Prosperous Moldova” (Programme contribution to UN Women initiative)
* 86 first time women mayors were trained on gen- der equality and good governance principles
* 39 women with disabilities learned how to run for elections and to demand for their rights
* Women from underrepresented groups imple- mented individual action plans and exceeded the set targets.
* 21 Women from 7 communities with zero repre- sentation passed through a complex Mentorship program and implemented community initia- tives.
 |  |  |
| Output 2.3. Capacities of elected women parliamentarians and councillors to perform the elected official’s duties developed and strengthenedIndicator 2.3.1 Number of meetings between MPs and women from rural and urban areas organizedBaseline: no separate meetings of MPs with women and their organizations. Meetings between MPs and women are held as part of usual routine community meetings that are rarely organizedPlanned Target: 15 rayons will be visited and meetings will be held by MPs with womenIndicator 2.3.2 Number of newly elected women MPs received initial trainingBaseline: NonePlanned Target: All newly elected Women MPs trainedIndicator 2.3.3 Number of Women Councillors trainedBaseline: NonePlanned Target: Women councillors in 10 target rayons trained | 1. Target achieved: 15 regional parliamentary forums brought together 650 citizens, including 542 women, particularly from marginalized groups located in 41 administrative units of Moldova, including Gagauzia and Transnistria, in direct dialogue with 26 Members of Parliament (12 women and 14 men) and local decision makers around issues important to women.
2. Target exceeded: All women MPs (those in their first term but also in consecutive terms) have received both training and individual coaching. Other Parliamentary structures received training as well (see Table below)
3. Target exceeded: 429 women and 35 men first-time councilors from 23 districts/rayons, 1 municipality (Balti) and the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Ga- gauzia enhanced their capacities in areas of local council functioning, fostering gender equality in local development agenda, finance, fundraising, communication and advocacy.

4. Target exceeded: 27 women first time councilors from different districts benefited from a pioneering mentorship program. |  | Media reporting; Annual program report;Contractors/service providers’ reports on various capacity building activities for women parliamentarians, Secretariat staffers and women councillors;Parliament web-site/ newsletters;Interactive Map on regional fo- rums – coverage, issues raised. |

**Programme: Supporting National Human Rights Institutions as per International Treaty Bodies and UPR Recommendations**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Planned Indicator Targets** | **Achieved Indicator Targets** | **Reasons for Variance with planned Target (if any)** | **Source of Verification** |
| **Outcome - UNPF Outcome 1.3** State bodies and other actors effectively promote and protect human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination, with particular attention to the marginalized and the vulnerable |
| **Output 1: Enabling environment for the National Human Rights Institutions supported Indicators:**I1: Identification of gaps in the NHRIs legislation in-line with the international standards and recommendations;I2: Updates to the data on public perceptions on human rights, attitudes giving rise to discrimination and conformity of implementation of law in the relevant areas.**Baselines:**B1: No clarity to what extent the relevant NHRIs’ legislation is in compliance with international standards and recommendations;B2: Data on the public perceptions on human rights and attitudes giving rise to discrimination is outdated or otherwise insufficient; adequacy and conformity of judicial or quasi-judicial decisions vis-à-vis international law requirements inadequately known.**Targets:**T1: Gaps in the NHRIs legislation in-line with the international standards and recommendations identified;T2: Data on public perceptions on human rights, attitudes giving rise to discrimination is updated and publicly available. |
| 1. a) Analysis of the relevant NHRIs legislation done; b) Recommendations on the NHRIs legislation are promoted in the government and Parliament; | * An opinion on Law 52/2014 on People’s Advocate elaborated and provided to NHRIs and national stakeholders.
* A comprehensive legal analysis of the decisions of the Equality Council and of the domestic courts on discrimination issues elaborated and recommendations provided to NHRIs and national stakeholders.
 | 2016 was a challenging year for the anti-discrimination laws in Moldova, as provisions for abrogation of Law No 121 on Ensuring Equality were put forward for adoption by some MPs. Therefore, was not the right moment and time to promote any legislative amendments so far. Furthermore, both NHRIs preferred to receive the finding and recommendations from all analyses, so working groups could be created at the beginning of 2017 with the aim of drafting the proposals for laws amendments. | Public job announcements and consultancy contracts;The opinion analysis report;Draft analyses of Law 121/2012 on Ensuring Equality;Missions agenda of the International Consultant;Agenda of the public discussion;List of participants;Written communications with NHRIs and consultants; |
| 2. a) Ombudsperson Office application for A-status NHRI elaborated; b) | * A-Status application package translated into Romanian and relevant expert guidance on the application offered to
 | With reference to the findings and recommendations provided in the above-mentioned analyses, and in the | A-Status application package translated;Trainings agenda; |
| Ombudsperson Office application for A-status NHRI submitted and examined by the Sub Committee on Accreditation of the International Coordinating Committee for NHRI; | NHRIs.* One two-days training on UN guiding principles for NHRIs’ mandate, especially Paris Principles and Belgrade Principles, was conducted for NHRIs staff.
* One-day training on “The role of NHRIs in monitoring of the implementation by the state of UN Recommendations” was conducted for NHRIs staff.
* In addition, one Guidelines Methodology for Moldova’s NHRIs on the Monitoring of Implementation of Recommendations from UN Mechanisms was developed and provided in both, Romanian and English languages.
 | process of mentoring the NHRIs for Status application, the Ombudsman Office acknowledged that due to the on-going institutional reform, the institution still needs to build/strengthen its capacities in order to be ready for a request to GANHRI for accreditation with A-Status in the upcoming years. While the Equality Council decided to apply to the GANHRI for accreditation for the first time. | List of participants;Feedback forms from participants;Trainings materials;Photos from trainings;Field mission’s information on the OHCHR Geneva staff (travel costs, DSAs, etc);Communications with NHRIs. |
| 3. a) Regulation on the NHRIs annual reports hearings in the Parliament drafted; b) Annual reports of both NHRIs are heard in the Parliament; | * The Annual Report on Human Rights for 2015 of the Ombudsman was publicly discussed and the report disseminated to relevant national actors. The same report was further publicly heard during the meeting of the Parliamentary Committee for Human Rights and Interethnic Relations.
* The Equality Council General Report for the year 2015 was publicly discussed and disseminated to relevant national actors. In addition, 2400 copies of infographics were printed-out and disseminated at the event.
 | There was no need to draft a separate regulation on the NHRIs annual report hearings in the Parliament due to the fact that the Parliament elaborated general regulations on hearings (including NHRIs reports).Equality Council General Report for the year 2015 was not heard in the Parliament because the Parliamentary Committee for Human Rights and Interethnic Relations had not took a decision on this in spite of Equality Council’s and project’s communication with the Committee on this issue. | Agendas of the events;List of participants;Press-releases;The annual Reports;Photos from the events;Mass-media coverage. |
| 4. a) Studies on human rights attitudes and compliance with international human rights law are elaborated; b) Study on attitudes giving rise to discrimination is elaborated. | * The first ever “*Study on Equality Attitudes and Perceptions in the Republic of Moldova (2015)”* elaborated and widely disseminated.
* The first ever *“Study on Perceptions of Human Rights in the Republic of Moldova (2016)”* was elaborated, publicly discussed and widely disseminated to the national stakeholders. 4 infographics were elaborated and widely disseminated on 2 languages, Romanian and Russian
 |  | Tender’s documents, contracts;Tools for data collection;Draft analysis of data collected;The final studies, power point presentation and infographics; |
|  |  |  | List of participants and mass- media at the public discussions;Press-releases;Photos and other relevant documentations;Report of the on-line campaign on infographics. |
| **Output 2: Organizational capacities and sustainability of NHRIs strengthened Indicators:**I1. Number of EqC decisions accessible for linguistic minorities;I2. Decrease in the backlog of the EqC’s cases.**Baseline:**B1. Only 2 EqC ecisions are accessible for linguistic minorities; B2. EqC has a backlog of 46 cases.**Targets:**T1. At least 40 EqC decisions are accessible for linguistic minorities; T2. EqC’s backlog 50% proportionately decreased. |
| 1. Qualification of at least 20 NHRIs’ staff raised through the exposure to the international experience and ToT; | * Qualification of 23 members of the staff of the two institutions (11 of the Equality Council and 12 of the Ombudsperson’s Office; 18 women and 5 men) raised through first-hand international expertise in various areas of their mandates.
* Capacities of 21 NHRIs staff (18 women, 3 men) on dealing with specialised human rights issues improved through comprehensive human rights training programme.
* 10 persons (7 women, 3 men) trained as human rights trainers and have the knowledge and capacities to conduct human rights trainings with other stakeholders.
 |  | Training reportsLists of participantsBack to office reportsAgendas |
| 2. EqC is becoming a member of the Equinet; | Equinet explained that only equality bodies from EU Member States or candidate countries can be members of Equinet. Therefore, this activity was cancelled. |
| 3. a) Diversity mainstreamed into the employment rules and regulations of the NHRIs;b) Diversity mainstreamed within new vacancy announcements and processes, both NHRIs are accessible for people with disabilities; | * Both institutions have a diversity statement incorporated into their employment processes, into their job descriptions and vacancies, thus encouraging persons coming from underrepresented and vulnerable groups to apply for the jobs.
 |  | Reports of the consultants and deliverables submitted;Equality Council and Ombudsperson Office reports;Web-sites; Announcements of job vacancies by both NHRIs; internal regulation documents (soft and hard copies). |
| 4. a) EqC’s case management improved using specialised software and strengthening staff skills; b) The proportion of the backlog of EqC’s cases decreasing; | * Management Information System of the Equality Council (case management software) in place and expected to increase the efficiency of processing, monitoring and managing complaints;
* Staff skills improved in using advanced legal technics, analysis, argumentation and decision drafting skills, through expert assistance.
* The backlog of cases in mid-December 2016 was 30 or 19,61% out of 153 complaints received during the year (to compare, the backlog of cases in 204 was 46 or 30,46% out of the 151 complaints received during the year) thus decreasing with 34,78%.
 | * The decrease in the backlog of cases, against the set targets, was not fully reached because of the fact that the case management software is put in operation at the end of the project implementation (this is due to technical issues in the process of development of the system and additional time necessary for the consultations processes for its development).
 | Report of the software development company;Transfer act signed by the software development company and the Equality Council. |
| 5. At least 40 EqC cases are translated into Ru; | * 56 decisions translated to Russian and are available on the EqC website;
* About 24 decisions of the Equality Council and about 13 decisions of the domestic courts were translated into English and provided to the Equality Council for being uploaded to the institution’s webpage for further public access.
 |  | The Equality Council’s website: [www.egalitate.md](http://www.egalitate.md/) |
| 6) a) EqC’s decisions implementation methods and Push Strategy drafted and tested; b) EqC’s decisions implementation tracking methods and Push tracking Strategy are implemented. | The activity was cancelled due to NOK-USD exchange rates fluctuation and therefore loss of financial resources and re- evaluation of priorities upon a request from the Equality Council. |
| **Output 3: The power of the Ombudsperson Institution and Equality Council maximized to act as Moldova’s premiere national human rights institutions****Indicators:**I1. Number of strategic human rights and equality issues NHRIs are working on; I2. Number of entities submitting alternative reports to UPR 2nd circle on Moldova **Baseline**:B1. NHRIs are not visible/lacking focus on working on strategic human rights and equality issues; B2. 12 national NGOs are involved into submissions to 2011 UPR.**Targets:**T1. Each NHRI is working on at least 3 strategic human rights and equality issues; T2. At least 24 stakeholders make submissions to the UPR 2nd circle on Moldova. |
| 1. NHRIs monitor implementation of UPR recommendation and act on them; | * Both NHRIs were engaged in the monitoring of the implementation of the UPR recommendations in preparation of their stakeholders’ reports within the second UPR cycle;
* One National pre-UPR Conference successfully organized;
* One discussion on the NHRIs UPR alternative reports with the development partners, embassies and civil society was held;
* One press-club with local journalists from all over the country held;
* One public event on the on-line webcasting of the UPR Session on Moldova held;
* One International post-UPR Conference successfully organized;
 |  | Agendas of the events;Lists of participants and mass- media;Press-releases;Photos;Relevant materials printed- out;Mass-media coverage;Field mission’s information on the international speakers (travel costs, DSAs, etc);Easy-reading version of the UPR Recommendations. |
|  | * One study-visit to Georgia on UPR mainstreaming in national strategies and plans, their implementation and monitoring successfully held;
* UPR Recommendations easy-reading version disseminated.
 |  |  |
| 2. a) Training for NHRIs’ participation in the 2nd UPR submission organized and completed; b) NHRIs take part in the 2nd UPR circle on Moldova; | * 18 NHRIs representatives (13 women and

5 men) increased their knowledge and capacities to monitor the implementation of UPR recommendations and draft stakeholder reports for the 2nd UPR cycle;* Both NHRIs submitted stakeholders’ reports within the second UPR cycle, participated at the UPR Pre-session on Moldova during 3-7 October 2016, and held additional advocacy actions in Geneva toward promoting the recommendations made in their UPR report.
 |  |  |
| 3. a) NHRIs identify strategic human rights and equality issues and act on 2 of them; b) NHRIs act on 2 other strategic human rights and equality issues; | * NHRIs has identified and acted on 6 strategic human rights and equality issues as follows:
* *Documentation of discrimination cases*: 23 cases were documented and in 8 cases the victims were supported to file complaints to EqC; the EqC ruled on 4 of the cases;
* *Roma discrimination in mass media*: the issue of Roma discrimination in mass media was identified jointly with the EqC, thus a strategic work with the Audiovisual Council is done in form of capacity building for journalists (1 human rights coffee with journalists, participation in 2 regional trainings);
* *Right to health:* Ombudsperson office is working on monitoring of the right to
 | The Consultancy for the Constitutional Court to the Ombudsperson Office was not offered due to 2 reasons: the Consultant hired ceased the collaboration in short time due to family related reasons, and on the other hand the institution has had already the support of the Council of Europe in this regards. |  |
|  | health and access to health services as one major strategic human rights issue (a national monitoring and evaluation mechanism is being established); A national campaign is being implemented on the right to health;* *Trainings for legal professionals* on anti- discrimination issues, conducted in cooperation with NHRIs;
* *HIV: equality and awareness raising* – Equality Council and Ombudsperson Office supported a public national wide awareness campaign on the rights of people living with HIV and combating their marginalization;
* *Non-discrimination and Equality of Roma, LGBT, women, and persons with disabilities* – Equality Council led a national wide #OameniBuni campaign, which addressed equality and non- discrimination as well as promoted the necessity of the Law Nr. 121.
 |  | services;Agendas of the trainings and workshop, list of participants;Mass-media coverage, press- releases, photos;Reports on the implementation of awareness raising campaigns. |
| 4. Communication strategy of the Ombudsperson Office is updated and communication strategy for the EqC designed; | * Communication strategies for both institutions designed and are being implemented.
 |  | Communication Strategies;Consultant’s reports. |
| 5. a) NPM is set up and trained; b) NPM is active and functional; | * Regulation of the NPM was elaborated and adopted, NPM members were selected at the end of 2016.
 | * Taking the NPM members were selected at the end of 2016 it was not possible to organise their training. In addition to this, it was decided that the Council of Europe will train NPM members.
 | NPM RegulationNews on NPM members selection |
| 6. NHRIs’ websites are made accessible for persons with disabilities and linguistic minorities. | * The websites of the two NHRIs are under upgrade to become more accessible and user friendly and a new webpage is under development for the Children’s
 |  | The webpages: [www.egalitate.md,](http://www.egalitate.md/)  [www.ombudsman.md](http://www.ombudsman.md/) and copil.ombudsman.md |
|  | Ombudsperson (to be functional by the end of 2016). |  |  |
| 7. 100% increase in stakeholders’ submissions to the UPR 2nd circle on Moldova. | * The number of national NGOs involved into UPR submissions increased from 12 in 2011 (1st cycle on Moldova) to 62 in 2016 (2nd cycle on Moldova), i.e. 416% increase;
* The overall number of stakeholders UPR submissions increased from 15 (11 individual and 4 joint) in 2011 to 34 (15 individual stakeholder’s submissions and 19 joint) in 2016, i.e. 126% increase.
 |  |  |
| **Output 4: Effective Project management ensured Overall targets:*** Ensure at 100% delivery rate;
* Timely implementation of planned activities;
* Timely development and submission of work plans and progress reports;
* Compliance with UNDP rules and regulations
 |
| 1. Ensure at 100% delivery rate | * 100% delivery rate was achieved.
 |  |  |
| 2. Timely implementation of planned activities; | * Activities were implemented in a timely manner as planned, following the AWP. Where activities had to be amended or changed, this was collaborated with the project partners and is reflected in the report.
 |  |  |
| 3. Timely development and submission of work plans and progress reports; | * Progress narrative and financial reports were drafted and submitted to the Project Board and the Donor
 |  |  |
| 4. Compliance with UNDP rules and regulations. | * All contracting and procurement processes followed UNDP rules and regulations.
 |  |  |