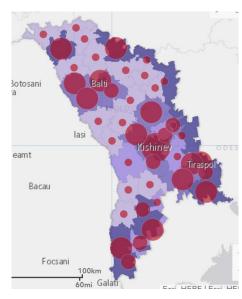


This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners.

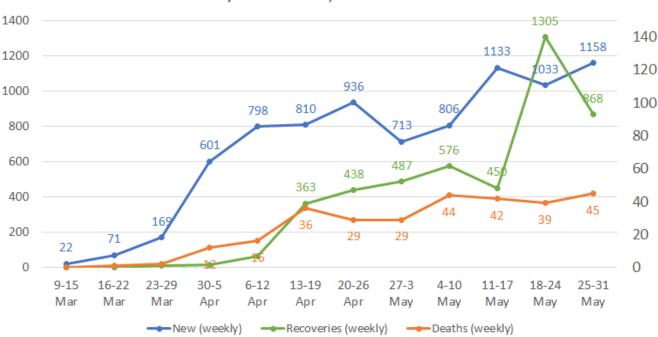
Highlights – data as reported by national authorities*

- The number of new cases and deaths continued to grow, with last week seeing the highest number of cases and deaths registered over the course of a week since the beginning of the outbreak. The contagion rate also increased and now stands at 1.18. At the same time, the number of recoveries decreased over the course of last week after registering a considerable increase the week prior.
- The total number of cases continued to grow over the past week, reaching 9,018 after the confirmation of another 223 cases today.
- The number of deaths now stands at 315, which translates into a case fatality rate of 3.5%.
- The number of recoveries reached 5,009, which represents 56% of the total number of cases. Although the number of recoveries continued to grow, the positive development observed for the week of 18-24 May reversed last week, with the weekly number of new cases exceeding again the weekly number of recoveries,
 - 1,158 vs. 868 (25-31 May). This negative development is likely to continue this week.
- The number of active cases currently stands at 3,694, and 265 patients are in serious condition.
- The share of health care workers continued to decrease gradually in the total number of cases. Currently, slightly fewer than one in five confirmed cases are healthcare workers. A total of 1,713 doctors, nurses, medical assistants and other staff from the health care sector have been infected with the virus since the beginning of the outbreak.
- In terms of geographical distribution, Chisinau, with more than 30% of all confirmed cases, remains the most affected area if the number of cases is considered. The Transnistria region accounts for another 11% of all cases. ATU Gagauzia, Soroca, Balti, and Cahul follow in the list of most affected areas, accounting for 5-6% of all cases each. Overall, nearly two in three cases are from the areas mentioned above. If the size of the population is considered, Soroca, Stefan Voda, Balti, Glodeni and Chisinau, in the order listed, have been most affected by the disease.
- The distribution of cases by age has remained largely unchanged. Individuals in the 50-59 age group continue to be most affected by the disease, accounting for approximately a quarter of all confirmed cases. Those in the 40-49, 60-69 and 30-39 age groups follow, accounting for 16%-18% of all cases each. If the number of deaths is considered, older adults are at a much higher risk of being seriously affected by the disease. While only 9% of all confirmed cases are people older than 70, slightly more than two in five deaths from the disease have occurred in this age group. Also, over 75% of all deaths have occurred in people over 60, and more than 90% of all deaths have been reported in patients 50 years of age and older. The average age of patients who have died from the disease is 66.5.

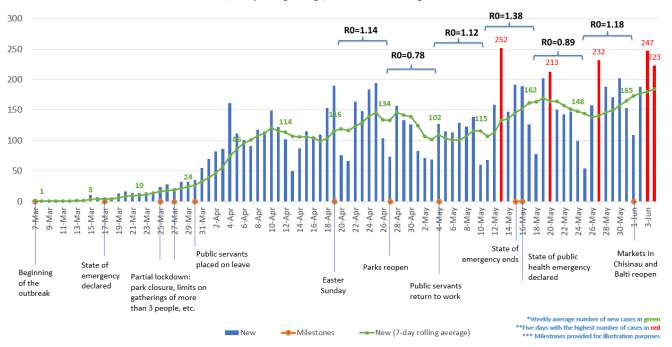


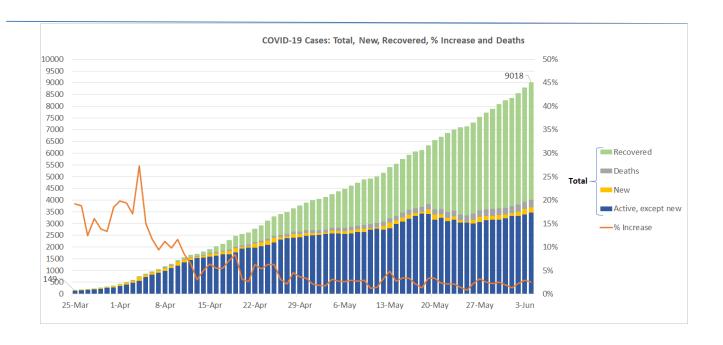
- More women continue to be infected with the virus than men, 59% vs. 41%. However, the percentage of men who have died from the disease is slightly higher than that for women, 51% vs. 49%. Furthermore, the case fatality rate among men is higher than among women, 4.3% vs. 2.9%.
- Real time figures and graphs can be accessed <u>here</u> in Romanian and in Russian <u>here</u>. This site has reached more than 1.6 million views to date.

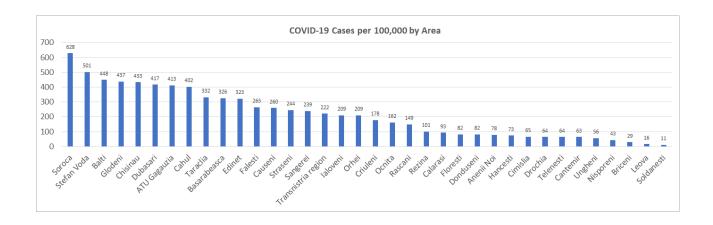
Weekly Data: New Cases, Recoveries and Deaths

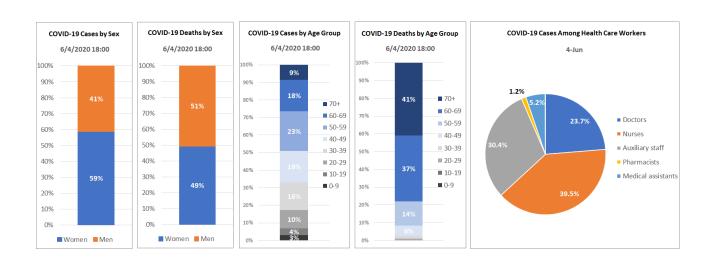


New Cases, 7-Day Rolling Average, Milestones and Contagion Rate









Overview of Key Decisions & Announcements

- Last week saw the highest number of new cases and the highest numbers of deaths in a one week period since the start of the crisis. While the government has eased some restrictions the public health situation is still very precarious. All partners are reminded to pay strict adherence to social distancing and hygiene guidance. We are still very much in the midst of a National Public Health Emergency and must remain extremely vigilant and careful.
- Today, a Development Partners' meeting was held, chaired, as per normal practice, by the World Bank and the UN RC. During the meeting, WHO provided an epidemiological update and IOM presented the result of a rapid survey of diaspora (for more information see below under the section assessment), followed by a Q&A session.
- The United Nations in Moldova will launch its Covid-19 Response and Recovery Plan for Moldova. Ass additional assessment data continue to come in this plan will be revised with government to ensure the most vulnerable are being targeting and that the UN support contributes to the overall government led social and economic recovery

Update on Restrictions*

*these are subject to changes and amendment and should be viewed as an overview and not as a definitive source for decision making

- With the continuing loosening of restrictions the MoHLSP continues to stress restrictions that are still in place:
 - being over 63 years of age, outside the home and in public spaces, without urgent need; using playgrounds, sports fields, leisure areas; organization and development of all cultural / sports activities / competitions, as well as other measures / events in enclosed spaces / buildings walking through parks, in a group of more than 3 people.

What is allowed:

- Carrying out trade activity in commercial markets throughout the country, in compliance with measures to prevent Covid-19 infection;
- Marketing of packaged and catering products through public catering establishments and through establishments selling pastries, bakeries and other food products for sale at the window;
- The sale of packaged food through the public catering units within the petroleum products marketing units, excluding the possibility of consuming them within the unit/territory; The itinerant trade will be carried out based on the location authorization issued by the local public authority, with the obligatory assurance of the observance of the norms for reducing the spread of COVID-19 infection and the location of the point of trade at a distance of 3 meters from each other.
- Organization of single mass meetings, with the participation of less than 50 people, compliance with public health measures and mandatory preparation by the organizers of the list of epidemiological evidence of the event
- Religious gatherings will take place strictly in the open air (courtyards of churches, monasteries, other holy places), with the obligatory observance of the social distance of at least 2 meters and with the obligatory conduct of all the participants of the masks of protection, and starting with 5 June, 2020, the religious meetings, the officiating of the religious services, are also allowed inside, respecting the organization requirements.

Political Situation

- The President said on Friday he would not promulgate the Law on Non-Profit Organizations. According to the President, the law would allow Non-Profit Organizations to support political parties and receive funding from abroad. However, supporters of the law say that the law would simplify the procedures for the registration of Non-Profit Organizations and their activities by introducing the best international practices on freedom of association. The adoption of the law is one of the conditions, the implementation of which is necessary to receive the next tranche of macro-financial assistance from the European Union. The Parliamentary Legal Commission on Law, Appointments and Immunity approved the draft law for adoption in the second reading.
- The President plans to visit Russia on 24 June to attend a postponed Victory Day Parade. The President mentioned in a recent interview that he plans to discuss with Russian President the possibility of restarting negotiations on a 200-million euro loan, which had previously been blocked by Moldova's Constitutional Court. Mr. Dodon said all costs are covered by Moscow, noting that an Emergency Committee decision allows for Moldovan citizens traveling for work purposes to avoid a 14-day quarantine upon return.
- Premier Ion Chicu attended an online meeting of CIS of heads of government to discuss the Covid-19 crisis and its economic impact. Mr. Chicu said that CIS countries can intensify trade cooperation using the CIS free trade agreement and noted that Chisinau wants to modernize road and energy infrastructure to encourage further investment and industrialization.
- A number of veterans represented by the Force of Veterans National Council held a rally in the Great National Assembly Square (PMAN) protesting the current government. The demonstrators asked for the resignation of the President and the government. They blocked part of the Stefan cel Mare boulevard between parliament and the presidency and then clashed with police after being banned from installing audio speakers in the square.
- Maia Sandu, chair of the Action and Solidarity party, says that her party could support DA Platform leader
 Andrei Nastase in the 1 November presidential election if he makes it to the second round. She also said
 that the Action and Solidarity party has not yet decided upon its candidate for the upcoming elections.
 However, it would be strange if PAS did not field Ms. Sandu as a candidate, as she appears to be the
 second most popular politician after President Dodon.
- The Central Electoral Commission (CEC) announced the beginning of a process to revise policies on the presidential election, scheduled for 1 November, 2020. CEC expects to change the appointment and registration standards and the activities of local electoral offices.
- The President met with the head of the Dubasari raion to discuss the challenges of freedom of movement in the villages of Molovata Nouaa, Vasilievca, Cocieri, and Roghi, all located on the left shore of the Nistru river but controlled by Chisinau. Residents have had to use a ferry over the Nistru since all roads have been closed by the de facto authorities during their state of emergency. Unfortunately, the demand for the ferry has been high, and some residents have had significant waiting periods. The President then raised the issue with the de facto leader and they have agreed to develop an alternate solution to improve the freedom of movement for these villages.
- The Deputy Prime Minister for Reintegration organized a videoconference with representatives from embassies and international organizations in Moldova to discuss the Transnistrian issue during the Covid-19 crisis. She shared that Chisinau has experienced challenges in its efforts to stop the spread of the virus, increase dialogue with Tiraspol on the matter, pharmaceutical and food imports, the repatriation of Moldovan citizens, and human rights.

Security:

NTR Covid-19 related

Human Rights:

• The draft law on non-profit organisations, mentioned in the political section, if adopted, would bring the existing legal framework more in line with international standards. The draft has been on the agenda of the parliament for over a year.

According to media reports new pockets of Covid-19 outbreaks were identified in a military unit, and in a
hospital of the Transnistria region. The number of infected persons in a residential institution of persons
with disabilities in Bendery region increased to 150 persons. The outbreak of Covid-19 in closed
institutions remains of great concern.

Transnistria Region:

- According to local media on the left bank, the de facto leader noted on 1 June that there was a decrease
 of new infections caused by the corona virus. The total number of cases is 989 cases with 38 registered
 deaths. 566 persons have recovered 113 persons have been fined for not respecting the imposed
 restrictions. Starting from 1 June, healthcare clinics and dentist offices are open. Sport complexes and
 other small businesses are also providing services to the public. All businesses must follow the imposed
 healthcare measures. Starting on 4 June hotels and restaurants and public transportation (except minibuses) will recommence their activities.
- In a recent statement, following a meeting with the head of office of the OSCE, the de facto leader lauded the resumption of technical talks in three of the working groups (Customs, Banking, and sub-working group on human rights), but added that the pandemic was an exam for relations between the sides that they failed. He stated that from his point of view, the Moldovan side was not being constructive in its approach and needed to focus more on fully implementing the Berlin+ package agreement.
- On 3 June, President Dodon and the de facto leader spoke by phone. They agreed to ease the restricted movement of people living in Varnita, Copanca and also certain villages of the Dubasari district. Previous to this agreement, the only transportation out of the villages was by a ferry across the river. This ferry was overloaded, leading to a restriction of movement from this area.

Economic Update:

- According to NBS, during Q1'20 the average gross monthly nominal earnings constituted 7,633.9 MDL, which increased by 10.3% compared to Q1'19 and decreased by 2.3% compared to Q4'19. The higher gross earnings in Q4'19 were stipulated primarily by payments of annual premiums and performance bonuses.
- The overall increase in average wages in Q1'20 versus Q4'19 was observed in education, art and leisure, public administration, social insurance and ICT.
- During Q1'20 the highest salaries were recorded in the ICT (17,786.3 MDL), followed by finance and insurance (13,728.5 MDL) and production and supply of energy, heating, hot water (11,820.7 MDL), while the lowest wages were recorded in the agriculture/silviculture/fishery (4,842.6 MDL), HORECA (5,152.2 MDL) and arts and leisure (5,587.4 MDL).
- In the public sector, average monthly salary in Q1 stood at 7,086.0 MDL (+3,6% versus Q1'19), while in the sector of economy the salary level reached 7,834.2 lei (+12,7% versus Q1'19).
- The index of real earnings in Q1'20 compared to Q1'19 was 103,7%, that is more with 3,7% compared to previous year.

Aid Coordination

- The Government of Japan will contribute USD 268,700 to UN Women in the Republic of Moldova in order to protect and empower women and girls, as well as address the challenges they face during COVID -19.
- Two donors have initially confirmed support though the MLD 2030 Trust Fund (Covid Window). Donors
 interested partnering with the UN agencies, can find more information in the <u>TOR of the Trust Fund</u> or
 send an email to *laura.fiorotto@un.org*

Preliminary mapping of support provided to the Health System in Moldova



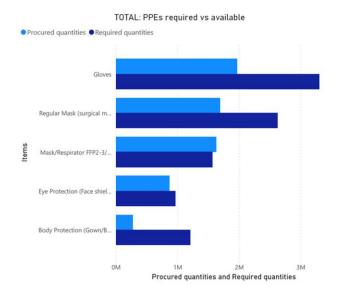


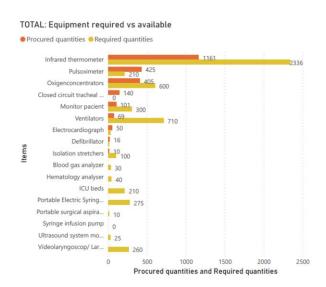
COVID-19 Response:

04 June 2020

Required and procured and distributed Items to fight the pandemic

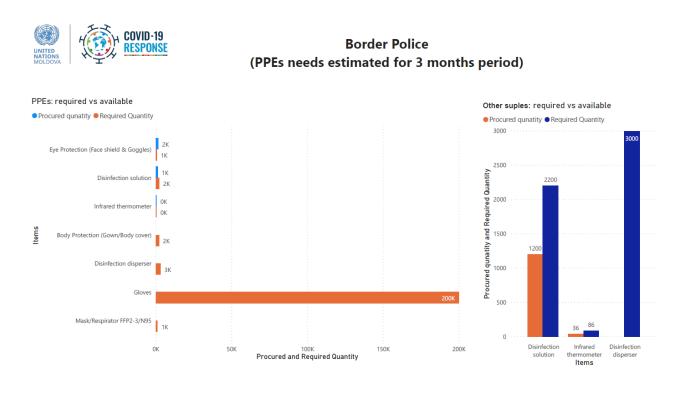
Totals for: Ministry of Health (COVID system), Police, Border Police and Penitentiaries (including TN region)

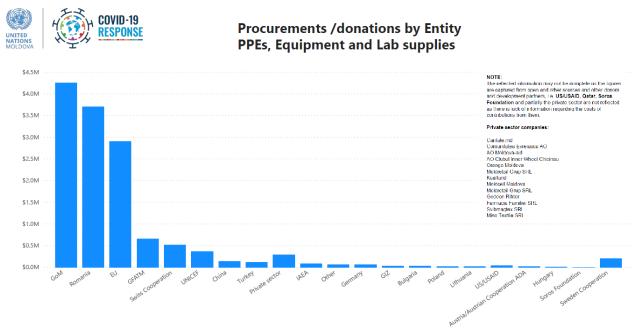




^{*}Delivery time depends on donor arrangements.

^{*}Needs beyond the already existing capacities were identified for 2-3 months depending on the institution and for scenario 4. Additional needs for equipment will be required after July/August 2020, e.g. need for PPEs for the continuation of the response and prevention of a second wave in fall-winter.





*The above table covers only contributions on PPEs and health equipment. The total estimated amount for this contribution is \$12,956,281.36. Other contributions, such as technical support, supplies for vulnerable families, etc are not included in the chart. Estimates of the costs were provided by MoHLSP. If you find any wrong number, please let us know.

Development Partners who are supporting the Covid-19 response are invited to share information about their bilateral support with the Center <u>asistenta.covid19@gov.md</u>. The UN will continue to work in close cooperation with the Center in order to avoid duplication of efforts. Focal person in RCO: laura.fiorotto@un.org

WHO Partnership Platform https://covid-19-response.org/ All partners are invited to participate so that contributions can be mapped and the requirements kept up to date.

Response of UN System in Moldova

Procurement support and equipment

- UNICEF initiated the procurement of WASH supplies (USAID funded) for 11 residential institutions, including schools for children with special needs, with the public call for offers closing on 5 June.
- As of the beginning of June, UNICEF with USAID support started the delivery of supplies to PHC institutions. All the country's 1,300 Primary Health Care facilities will be provided with essential supplies supporting the prevention of spreading infection. It is expected that the nationwide distribution to rayon, and then community level, will be completed by mid-June.
- UNICEF started the distribution of educational packages to 500 pre-primary and primary school children with disabilities through the district Psycho-pedagogical Assistance Services.
- UNFPA offered a lot of protective equipment and disinfectants for the employees of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), including the 36 territorial subdivisions. UNFPA made the donation in the context of preventing and combating the COVID-19 pandemic. Overall, there were donated six thousand masks, 12 000 gloves, two infrared thermometers, and 1,248 litres of disinfectants. This action is part of UNFPA commitment to support the Republic of Moldova, including national institutions, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to support the prevention of COVID-19 among the population.
- With support from the EU, the UN Women EVA project provided the second lot of PPEs in addition to the previous supplies that were distributed in the two project districts. The new beneficiaries include 95 personnel of the residential institutions from Cahul; 50 staff of the social protection departments of Cahul and Ungheni districts; 500 women from vulnerable families and victims of violence from Cahul and Ungheni districts; 56 staff of the territorial social insurance house from Cahul and Ungheni; 335 staff of Moldovan Post from Cahul and Ungheni districts; 100 police officers members of the operative intervention groups for emergency cases, including cases of domestic violence, 4 staff of the territorial units of the National Council for determining work disabilities in Cahul and Ungheni.
- The procurement process for equipment (inflatable tents, air heaters and mobile lavatory facilities) necessary to set up 2/3 triage centers in support to the Government during COVID-19 pandemic, and namely, the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (GIES) was launched. Funds for this equipment have been provided by the Government of Estonia.

Assessment and Data

- IOM conducted a rapid survey to understand the impact of COVID-19 in the Moldovan diaspora. The survey was undertaken between 17 April to 17 May covering migrants in 10 countries: Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Ireland, UK, Poland, Russian Federation, Israel (circa 80% of total diaspora). Collected responses from 1,186 on-line questionnaires and 59 in-depth interviews with diaspora leaders and focus groups (38% men; 62% women) resulted in the following findings:
 - o 83% reported being negatively affected by the COVID-19 crisis. *In what way?* 47% report already lost or had their job suspended; 62% report decreased income, of which 26% report no income; 23% report risk losing dwelling due to inability pay rent/mortgage
 - 80% report decrease of remittances sent home, of these, 19% reported a decrease of remittances by more than 70% and 41% report having stopped sending remittances altogether
 - 30% stated plans to return to Moldova; 67% of these plan to do so asap (circa 170K pax)

Health

UNFPA continued a series of webinars on sexual and reproductive health, the Webinar held on 2nd June 2020 being focused on accessibility of antenatal and postnatal care in the context of COVID 19 epidemic. The webinar was organized in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, other UN Agencies (WHO, UNAIDS & UNICEF) and Suntparinte.md media Platform and online Platforms Ask a Mom and Dear Women. Among the discussed issue were: what are the routine tests during pregnancy; when and under what conditions pregnant women should make visits to the family doctor during

- pregnancy in the context of COVID19; and when only remote communication / counselling by phone or
 other means of communication is sufficient; how to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV during
 pregnancy, labour, delivery and breastfeeding; vaccination of children; contraception etc. The Webinar,
 widely shared through social media by Suntparinte.md media Platform and online Platforms Ask a Mom
 and Dear Women, UN Agencies and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, could be
 accessed at the link here.
- With the EU/UNDP/CBM Programme, the PPEs provided, benefitted 15 medical institutions on the right bank and 13 medical institutions on the left bank distributed through the Health Platform. In addition, UNDP has facilitated temporary accommodation so far of 26 medical staff from the left bank in the localities on the right bank where they work in Floresti, Soldanesti, Rezina, Criuleni, Dubasari, Anenii Noi, Causeni.

Migration

- IOM is finalizing a rapid assessment on needs in the points of entry in order to initiate the procurement
 of sanitizers and needed equipment for improving the conditions in the borders. funded by SG's MPTF
 on COVID-19.
- IOM has conducted a rapid survey to understand the impact of COVID-19 in the Moldovan diaspora, please find more information above under the assessment section.

Socio-Economic Support

- UNDP is partnering with the European Space Agency and private sector to support the SEIA of COVID-19
 on agriculture and SMEs two pilots are launched to use EO data for assessing the impact of the crisis
 and drought on the agriculture, as well as air pollution and EO data for assessing the impact of the crisis
 on the economic activity and SMEs
- The Socio-Economic Task force was held on 3 June with the participation of the National Employment Agency, who shared Agency's position on the Covid-19 challenges and plans, and Chief Reengineering of the e-Governance Agency, who provided an overview of the eGovernment and digitization plans and issues.

Education and youth

- UNFPA, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, continues the implementation of the psychological assistance program for youth in the context of Covid-19 "My choice is to be OK". The programme is live-streamed two times per week on the Facebook page of the Ministry. Two new sessions were organized "What, how much, and to whom to say about me: How to control what others think about you?" and "Think before you act: how do you make the right decisions?"
- UNFPA expanded the "My choice is to be OK" programme on 2 online learning platform www.studii.md and www.educatie.online.md. Teachers from general schools and VET are applying sessions and summary videos as learning tools when providing such courses like "Health education", "Personal Development", "Education for society" and "Decisions for a Healthy Lifestyle".

Gender

• Over 80 women and men from Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior, including General Police Inspectorate and Carabineer Troops, members of National Army Women's Association, National Association of Women in Internal Affairs System, and Association of Women in Police, participated in the online roundtable "Women's participation in peacebuilding: the perspective of women military peacekeepers". The event was organized in the framework of the celebration of the International Day of Peacekeepers on 29 May 2020 and served as a platform for sharing of experience between women in the Army and women in Police about women's participation in peacekeeping missions. The event had 4,775 unique viewers on the UNW FB page and another 5,200 on the page of the Association of Women in Defense.

- UN Women in partnership with Association "Motivatie" of Moldova provided more than 25 women with disabilities informative sessions on application of online communication tools. The session was organized on 1 June 2020 and it's the first one of the series of 18 joint online sessions to be delivered for women with disabilities by UN Women. Two other sessions will be delivered on 3 and 5 June on Preventing discrimination of people with disabilities during COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 time and on needs to stay informed.
- UN Women, in partnership with IFIS NGO, launched a series of live discussions with psychologists on dealing with emotions during the pandemic. As well, the interactive session and discussions touched on key signs of gender-based violence and abusive behavior in families and relationships The first live session "How to deal with emotions we experience every day" took place on 28 May and had an audience of 138 live viewers. The video recording of this live session reached 3,284 viewers. The second live session "Indicators of the excessive control in the family" will be held on 4 June on the UN Women Moldova Facebook page.
- Through four NGOs, UN Women is offering support of psychological, legal and social counselling. To date, over 180 women from underrepresented groups, including women migrants have been reached with online essential services in the EVAW area.
- Under mentoring program for women living with HIV/AIDS supported by UN Women, four mentors were
 equipped with skills and knowledge within several on-line sessions and they will provide support for 38
 women living with HIV/AIDS from Balti, Tiraspol, Bender and Comrat to access available services and
 advocacy on the rights of PLHIV.
- On 4 June, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection with UN Women support held the first Interministerial Council on EVAW during COVID-19 crisis. The main discussions were focused towards the state response to the cases of gender-based violence, CSO's involvement in the process and how the international community supported the government efforts, including main challenges and next steps for system change. The meeting was attended by over 27 representatives of the MoHSP, Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), Ministry of Justice (MJ), General Police Inspectorate (GPI), CSO's, UN Agencies and international partners, including public service providers.
- UN Women Moldova as part of a Regional project financed by Japan will implement initiatives aimed at
 empowering women and girls facing challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. The <u>one-year project</u> in
 the amount of USD 268,700 will contribute to ensuring direct access for the most vulnerable women to
 livelihood support and essential services, including for survivors of gender-based violence, engaging
 women activists in decision-making on COVID-19 response as well as providing online trainings and
 mentoring programs on business knowledge and financial literacy for women and girls.

Human Rights

OHCHR finalized its 8th guidance note: Role of Social Protection in Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Communications

- UNICEF published on the eve of International Children's Day a mini series of digital animated posters with advice to parents to reduce stress and anxiety in young children.
- UNICEF, jointly with WHO, supported the national health authorities in the production and dissemination of <u>a series of posters</u> for different target groups on the preventive and protection measures during the period following the covid-19 closeout.
- UNFPA and Suntparinte.md media platform led the organization of a new <u>LIVE information event</u> for pregnant women and new mothers in the context of COVID response. The <u>Facebook</u> conversation was partnered with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection and other UN Agencies (WHO, UNAIDS & UNICEF). It was shared in social media by women Platforms Ask a Mom and Dear Woman, reaching a total number of 15 000 views.
- UNFPA released a <u>new video</u> under 'My Choice is to Ok' mental health support program for adolescents and young people. "How to browse safely on the internet" was the theme of the session discussed with psychologist Sergiu Toma, who provided <u>useful tips & techniques</u> for digital safeness.

- UNFPA offered protective equipment and disinfectants for the employees of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), including the 36 territorial subdivisions, in the context of preventing and combating the COVID-19 pandemic. Overall, there were donated 6 000 masks, 12 000 gloves, two infrared thermometers, and 1,248 litres of disinfectants. The press release can be accessed here.
- RCO, WHO and UNICEF have supported the national health authorities/MInistry of Health, Labour and Social Protection to develop the national campaign on COVID19 with the messages relevant for the transition phase #TakeCare, #Stop the spread of the virus, #Save lives. The campaign is funded by the USAID (through the UN agencies: UNICEF and WHO, see above) and Sweden (through RCO/UNMoldova). It includes several types of products and messages for different target groups. Sweden is supporting the printing and placement of billboards at national level.
- UNDP published an article on transformation of studii.md into a fully functional educational instrument
 that facilitates the lives of thousands of people. Despite the pandemic, the team used the crisis as an
 opportunity to test and incorporate new and necessary functionalities on the platform, ones that would
 support not only distance education, but also classroom education. Studii.md was developed by Simpals,
 in partnership with Tekwill and UNDP.