

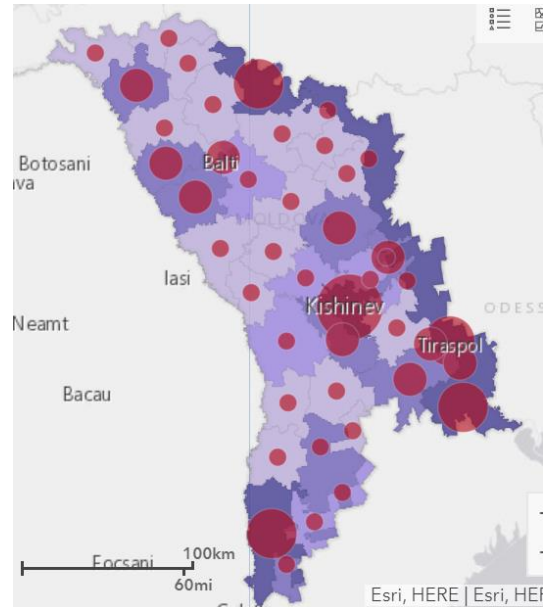
Coronavirus Disease – Covid 19 Situation Report No. 15 (14 May 2020)



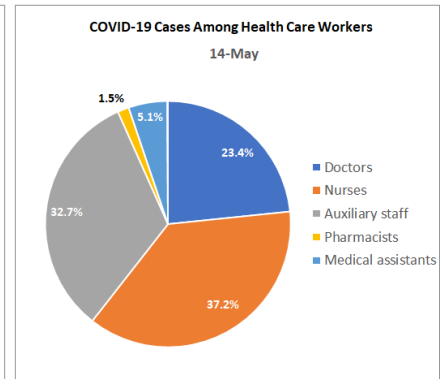
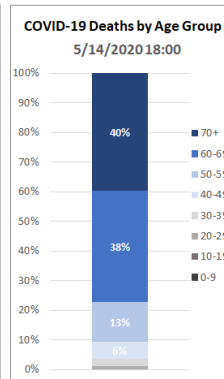
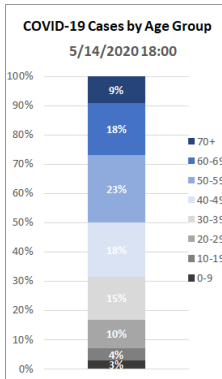
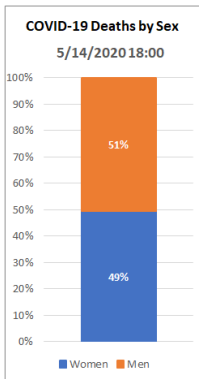
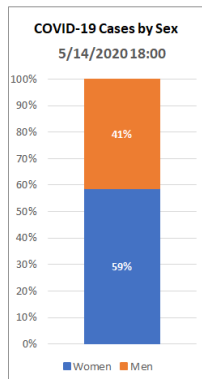
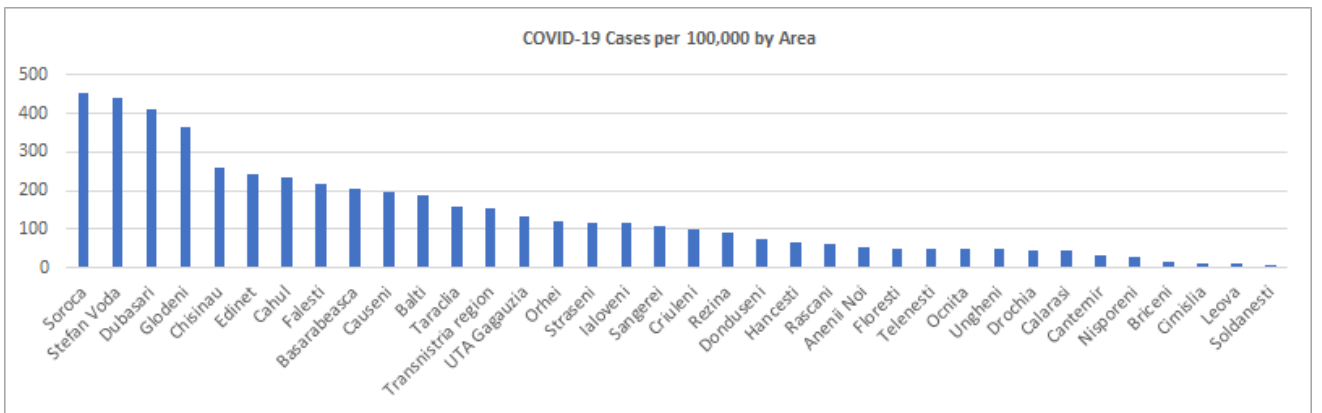
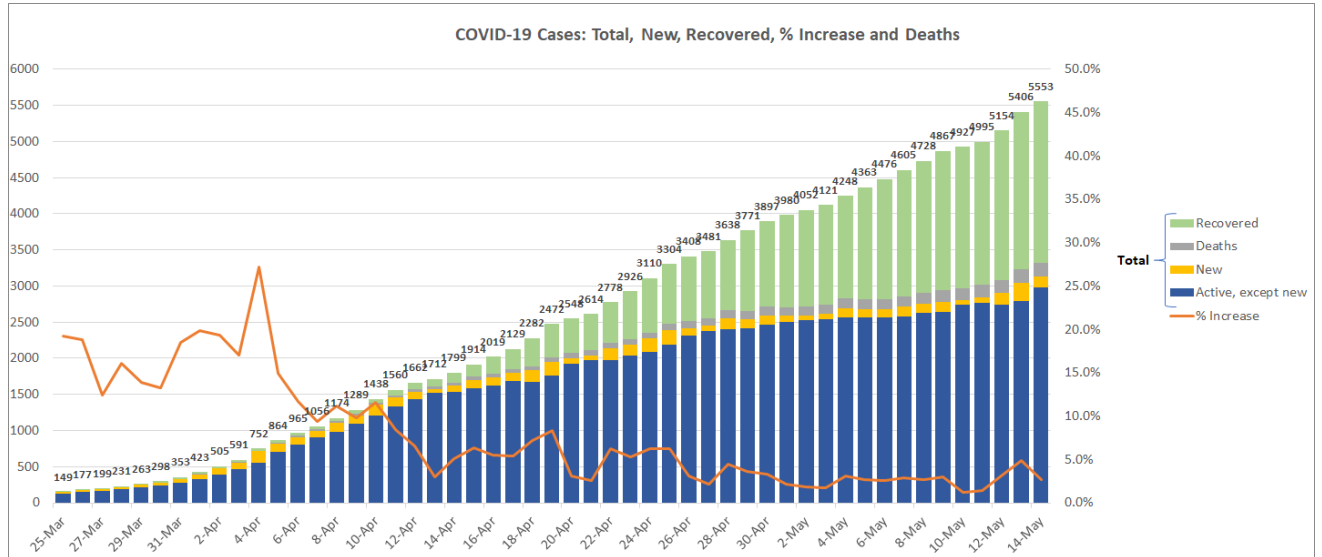
This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners.

Highlights – data as reported by national authorities*

- The total number of deaths continued to grow, reaching 194 today. The case fatality rate currently stands at 3.5%.
- After a record number of 252 cases reported yesterday, another 147 cases were confirmed today following the processing of 892 tests, bringing the total number of confirmed cases to 5,553, which represents a 2.7% increase compared to yesterday. The average daily growth rate over the past 7 days also stands at 2.7%.
- About one in four confirmed cases continue to be health care workers. Over 1,270 doctors, nurses, medical assistants and other staff from the health care sector have been infected with the virus since the beginning of the outbreak
- Out of the total number of confirmed cases, 2,228 patients have recovered, which represents about ⅓ of all cases. At the same time, 269 patients are in serious condition. The number of active cases currently stands at 3,131.
- 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 13% of all cases. Soroca, Stefan Voda and Cahul follow in the list of most affected areas, accounting for 4-6% of all cases each. Overall, nearly three in five cases are from the areas mentioned above. If the size of the population is considered, however, Soroca, Stefan Voda, Dubasari, 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 15%-18% of all cases each. If the number of deaths is considered, older adults remain at a much higher risk of being seriously affected by the disease. While only 9% of all confirmed cases are people older than 70, about 40% of deaths from the disease have occurred in this age group. Also, over 3 in 4 deaths have occurred in people over 60, and over 90% of all deaths have been reported in patients 50 years of age and older.



- 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 of women, 51% vs. 49%. The case fatality rate among men is also higher than among women, 4.3% vs. 2.9%.
- The number of suspected cases stands at 184, and over 38,000 people are quarantined at home.
- Real time figures and graphs can always be accessed [here](#) in Romanian and in Russian [here](#). This UN developed site has reached 1,455,618 page views to date.



Overview of Key Decisions & Announcements

- The WHO regional Director held a video conference with all Ministers of Health in the Region, WHO Representatives, and UN Resident Coordinators on 8 April. The purpose of the call was to share experiences on easing of restrictions.
- The MoHLSP has announced the development of a Procurement Platform [for transparency](https://www.tender.health/) <https://www.tender.health/>
- On 12 April the RC chaired a Development Partners meeting.
- The Ministry of Finance is starting a Working Group to discuss VAT Issues for procurement of emergency related items outside of the AMP registration process.
- COVID-19 is a stark reminder of the need for cooperation across borders, sectors and generations. The UN75 Survey is a way to engage. The UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, has said: *"Everything we do during and after this crisis must be with a strong focus on building more equal, inclusive and sustainable economies and societies that are more resilient in the face of pandemics, climate change and the many other global challenges we face."* **Your responses to this survey will inform global priorities now and going forward.** The survey in English, Romanian, or Russian. Please take the survey here <https://un75.online/>

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

- The State of Emergency will end on 15 May as initially planned. An Emergency Situations Meeting chaired by the Prime Minister is planned for 15 May.
- While some restrictive measures have been relaxed the importance of social distancing in public spaces and hygiene measures remain as important as they were prior to the restrictions being lifted. Lifting measures in no way means returning to normal, vigilance is still required as the pandemic is still very much with us.

Security:

- NTR

Transnistria Region:

- The de facto leader has extended the state of emergency in the Transnistria region to 1 June. He added that the emergency will end if no new Covid-19 cases are registered for two weeks. The initial emergency was imposed on 17 March and have included restrictions on travel and businesses.
- All the teachers from the Latin-script schools on the left bank withdrew their salaries for April from ATMs on the right bank. The teachers used special transportation to get to the right bank and representatives of both the Bureau for Reintegration Policies and the OSCE Mission to Moldova monitored the whole process.

Political Situation

- On 7 May, the Constitutional Court declared unconstitutional an agreement between the governments of Moldova and Russia on the €200m loan from Russia to the Moldovan state. After the original loan agreement was ratified by the parliament on 23 April, opposition MPs appealed to the court to evaluate the agreement against constitutional criteria. The court published its arguments for the decision. According to the court's argument, the article 7.2 of the agreement, which guarantees the repayment of loans taken by private Moldovan firms from Russian banks, is unconstitutional and contradicts the state's interests. The constitutional judges stated that the wording of the article 7, paragraph (2) of the agreement does not clearly stipulate the responsibility of Moldova in case of overdue loans and payment of related instalments,

interest and penalties. According to the court, the language of the loan article is complex, and it leaves space for different interpretations and does not allow to accurately establish the true intentions of the signatories. The government and president for their parts, stated, following the decision, that they have already begun negotiations with the Russian Government on a new loan.

- On 8 May, the government's majority was further reduced (now to 53 deputies) when four MPs of the Democratic Party announced that they were leaving the party. Previously, seven MPs left PDM shortly after the party formed a coalition government with the Socialist Party (PSRM) on 16 March. The former deputies from the Democratic Party joined either the new ProMoldova party (now ten deputies) or the Sor Party (now 9 Deputies). If deputies continue to migrate, there is a chance that snap elections would need to be called. This situation needs to be monitored carefully. On a related note, a deputy from the Socialist Party has also resigned as a deputy, but as he was selected from the party list, another candidate from the list will take his place and independent M.P. Ion Groza has officially joined the PAS contingent in Parliament.
- President Dodon has asked the government to investigate how foreign aid has been used since 2009 and to present a detailed report to parliament. Mr. Dodon stated that he felt it was important that the people knew how the money was spent and under what conditions the country received the money.
- On 11 May, President Igor Dodon proposed to set the date for the presidential elections at the next parliamentary session. He will put forward 1 November as the election date. Otherwise, elections can be held between 23 October and 23 November. Later, the Party of Socialists voiced the same proposal. On 13 May, the legislative legal, appointments, and immunities parliamentary committee approved 1 November as the date of the presidential election. Parliament will now need to discuss the matter.
- President Dodon has announced that the Supreme Security Council (CSS) will meet on 14 May to discuss the theft of a billion and the Chisinau international airport. The President stated that with regard to the airport, the government has blocked the accounts of Avia Invest accounts because they are not paying what they are required to pay to the state. The end goal, he said, is the return of the airport to state control.
- On 12 May, Air Moldova, the Moldovan flag carrier, announced that they have extended flight restrictions until 25 May, canceling all flights scheduled during the period 15-25 May. The company said flights will resume when the authorities in each of the destination cities/countries lift restrictions. Bus routes from Chisinau to Bucharest and Iasi will be reopened on 17 May.

Economic Update:

- NTR

Aid Coordination

- WHO in coordination with the UN System has developed a Supply Portal to allow coordinated requests and procurement of PPEs and medical equipment. Link to the portal [here](#). Government and UN Agencies can make use of it. *Focal person: garami@who.int (WHO) and laura.fiorotto@un.org (RCO)*
- *Development Partners who are supporting the Covid-19 response are invited to share information about their bilateral support with the Center asistent@coo.md. 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 and christine.petre@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 is procuring approximately 50 tons of WASH supplies to prevent infection and its spread in healthcare facilities, as part of an USAID funded project. The supplies (sanitizers, soap, hygiene and cleaning products) will be distributed to some 1,300 PHCs, serving all the country's children and adult population (except those in hospital care, residential institutions, and the Transnistrian region, covered by separate interventions).
- Essential hygiene and cleaning supplies for the National Penitentiary Authority have been purchased by UNICEF and will be distributed to all seven institutions with children and caregivers in residence, as part of an USAID funded project.
- Hygiene and cleaning supplies were procured by UNICEF and distributed to the "A.S. Makarenko" institution, and the placement center for women and children victims of violence, both in the Transnistrian Region, as part of an USAID funded project.
- Common One UN Covid-19 on-line procurement monitoring dashboard has been finalized.
- The order placed by UNDP for 10 units of ventilators for ICU critical care are ready for delivery and estimated to be in-country within 12 days (25 May 2020) on the route PEK-AMS-LEJ-KIV.
- UNDP: ENDAVA (Private Sector) has contributed 37k USD for procurement of critical medical equipment and PPEs in response to Covid-19 outbreak. Once the list of equipment to be procured is finalized, the order shall be placed with the Global Procurement Unit, tentatively by the end of the week.
- In the framework of the Strengthened Gender Action in Cahul and Ungheni Districts Programme, financed by the European Union, 155,000 EUR have been allocated through UN Women and UNICEF for Covid-19 response activities in 70 localities from Cahul and Ungheni districts. Out of this support were procured: 9,000 liters of sanitizers, 21,500 face masks, 1,100 reusable gloves, wet wipes and 50 infrared thermometers for the 550 members of the multidisciplinary teams dealing with preventing and combating domestic violence have been purchased and are ready for distribution to 70 mayoralties of Cahul and Ungheni as of this week.
- UNDP: Financing Agreement for the amount of 50k EUR with Estonian MFA has been signed. The contribution is expected to strengthen the capacities of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations to respond to the effects of COVID-19 in Moldova through provision of required PPEs and accessories aimed at proper functioning of Triage Centers throughout the country. As part of the UNDP Disaster Risk reduction project in partnership with ADA and Estonia, the latter will provide additional cost-sharing (50K) to support in the procurement of needed equipment in the fight of Covid-19.

Assessment and Data

- UNICEF initiated a Working Group with the main NGOs in child protection, together with MoHLSP in which were discussed main achievements and challenges regarding Covid-19 impact on children. Also, was agreed to develop specific instructions for a wide range of specialists at local level that works with children, regarding VAC protection, placement of children, access to services, etc.
- UN Women: The data for the Gender Rapid Assessment is currently being analyzed and the final report will be ready soon. A separate Rapid Assessment on GBV is in progress.
- UNDP Projects operating at the local level are undertaking needs assessment at the communities level to assess immediate needs and any additional adjustments needed to address the needs. The outcomes will be taken into account into the socio-economic impact assessment
- Seventeen Work Reports using Bigdata to monitor the risks and spread of Covid-19 were produced so far by UNDP in partnership with the private sector and the Cabinet of the Prime Minister. The latest edition of the work report showcases the growing mobility levels in almost all locations and areas of interest examined.

Socio-Economic Support

- As part of the Programme “Strengthened Gender Action in Cahul and Ungheni districts” financed by the European Delegation and UN Women, and implemented in cooperation with UNICEF, 63,000 USD (55,000 Euro) have been reprogrammed to support over 300 vulnerable families and families that previously have been subject to domestic/children violence with food and hygienic packages and over 1,000 children with books and educational materials.
- UNDP is a strategic partner of the Digital Impact component of the StartUp Moldova initiative by USAID/SIDA/UNDP, link is here: <https://startupmoldova.digital/digital-impact/>. UNDP will be supporting in running dialogues with PS on the emerging opportunities on the market during and post-Covid-19.
- The Socio-economic Impact Task Force took place on 13 May, chaired by UNDP, with the objective to update the development community on the progress with assessing the impact of Covid-19 crisis as well as measures to mitigate the impacts. The EU Covid-19 package of support at the Global, regional and country level was presented. ODIMM also presented their current and pipeline initiatives in support of SMEs during and after the Covid-19 crisis.

Education and youth

- UNFPA Moldova and UN Women are implementing the [“Men Engage campaign”](#) to raise awareness on the importance of the equal involvement of men in household responsibilities and childcare, especially in the context of Covid-19.
- UNICEF contributed to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research Preparedness and Response Plan on Covid-19, focusing on provision of IT equipment for distance learning, packages of educational materials for most disadvantaged children in preschool and primary education, training of teacher for child centered and accelerated learning and the work with parents with financial supported by the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), as well as on the provision of hygiene supplies and training on hygiene practices in residential and special schools with financial support by USAID. Furthermore guidance was shared linked to preparation of school for reopening, etc.
- The 8th weekly meeting of the UN Coordinated Education Task Force chaired by UNICEF on 30 April 2020 focused on the MECR draft Plan for preparedness and response to Covid-19; Guidance to Agencies on inputs for the completion of the Expression of Interest of the Republic of Moldova to apply for the Global Partnership for Education Multiplier Fund; the actions taken by UN Agencies and the WB to support the response to Covid-19 in the education sector.
- With UNICEF support, members of LearnIn national task force completed the needs assessments in the areas of pedagogy, policy and administration and education technologies of LearnIn to inform further action on teachers training, and advice to countries on policies and education technologies.
- UNICEF organized, via its U-partners platform connected to U-report, a live session with 10 doctors and experts from the Youth Friendly health Centers offering support and assistance to more than 500 young people.
- In partnership with TEKEDU, UNICEF launched digital UPSHIFT social innovation for engaging young people generating social innovations tackling youth issues related to Covid -19.
- UNFPA organized in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research a number of sessions for young people as part of “Youth Talks” campaign on topics related to youth participation in the virtual world, volunteering as a tool for personal and professional development, and public speaking. #Youth Talks is a virtual space for the personal and professional development of young people in Moldova which was established in the context of the Covid-19 crisis, when off-line interaction has become limited.
- UNFPA, in partnership with the MECR, continues implementation of the psychological assistance program for youth in the context of Covid-19 - [“My choice is to be OK”](#). Since 15 April, when the programme was launched, 8 live stream sessions were organized in Romanian and 1 in Russian. Young people were guided about techniques in coping with stress during the lockdown period, how to maintain good relations with friends and family members, addressing cyber-bullying and ensuring online safety, access to youth friendly health services, values clarification and other. 45 minutes’ sessions organized with professional

- psychologists twice a week are LIVE streamed on the [Facebook page of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research](#), being accessible for all those who wish to participate. Young people from general education and VET are actively engaged. During sessions, two students are intervening in LIVE by sharing their experience and addressing questions. The programme will run until 4 July 2020 and include 24 sessions overall. After each session, a short video with key messages is developed and disseminated via social media and used by teachers as learning material during 'Personal development' classes. 45 minutes' sessions and summary videos are disseminated through educational platform: www.studii.md (<https://cursuri.studii.md/ro/course/study/aleg-sa-ma-simt-bine>) and www.educatieonline.md (will be uploaded soon on "Psychologist's Advice" section <http://educatieonline.md/Class?16>).

Gender

- UN Women started to offer Direct psychological support for up to 50 women and girls with disabilities during a two-month period in the context of Covid-19, based on a contract signed with Association "MOTIVATIE" of Moldova. Informative materials (in audio and in easy-read format) in Romanian and Russian about maintaining mental health, developing harmonious relationships and overcoming tensions in families, especially during crisis situations, such as the pandemic situation of Covid-19 will be developed.
- UN Women Moldova shared the [experience of CSOs from Romania and the Republic of Moldova in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic: challenges and good practices](#) in the domain of the elimination of violence against women. A [publication on good practices](#) was issued.
- Gender Thematic Group meeting was organized on 14 May and were discussed the need to mainstream gender into the Socio-Economic Assessment that will be done under the leadership of UNDP; mainstream gender and human rights in all other assessments done by individual UN agencies, ensuring that the issues of refugees are considered; and to prepare for the discussions, during next meeting, on restructuring and enhancing the GTG work and revitalizing the Government gender coordination mechanism.

Communications

- UNICEF supported the RCCE in the development of targeted communication messages following the relaxation of the Covid-19 quarantine measures.
- UNICEF engaged [child vloggers](#) and [adolescents](#) in supporting the targeted key messages of the RCCE on wearing masks in spaces like shops and pharmacies, reaching out to ~140K and engaging 5.2K.
- Jointly with UN Women and with support from the EU, UNICEF distributed supplies, including educational materials, to vulnerable households from Cahul and Ungheni cities; the related [social media post](#) had a total organic reach of ~140K and a total engagement of 11.5K.
- UNICEF supported the ROCKIT digital international conference, specifically [the section on health, education and smart living](#).
- To ensure transparency and accountability, UNICEF is supporting the development of an interactive platform to monitor the distribution of WASH supplies to health centers, education institutions and child protection facilities, as part of the Covid-19 prevention and response USAID supported project.
- UNFPA and UN Women launched [MenEngage social media campaign](#) promoting positive [examples](#) of equal share of men and women of household work & child care responsibilities in the context of Covid-19.
- UNFPA launched a [feature story](#) in the context of International Nurses Day focusing on a young man, future nurse, studying at Medical College and challenging this job related gender stereotypes. The story was picked up in the [media](#) and reached around 17 K people online.
- UNFPA released [a new video](#) under "My Choice is to be OK" program, which addresses the mental health and wellbeing of adolescents and young people during Covid -19 times. The psychologist Daniela Terzi-Barbarosie explains the "Health Wheel" technique and encourages young people to access the Youth Clinic network.
- UNDP published on 8 May a [press-release](#) on donation of personal protective equipment for the health center and local administration of Chirsova village, Gagauz autonomy, where a project to prevent gender-based violence has been implemented for almost two years. The equipment will help doctors and members

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- of the local multidisciplinary team to protect themselves from the novel coronavirus, including when monitoring families at risk of violence.
 - UNDP published on 11 May a [press-release](#) on donation by Switzerland of personal protective equipment and sanitizers for the National Employment Agency and its 35 territorial employment offices.
 - UN Women issued a story on [Social workers are the invisible people that do a huge amount of work for the society, including for vulnerable people](#). 3,279 social workers and social assistants from 36 regions from the Republic of Moldova received PPEs thanks to UN Women Moldova and Sweden.
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