

Coronavirus Disease - COVID 19

Situation Report No. 19 (11 June 2020)



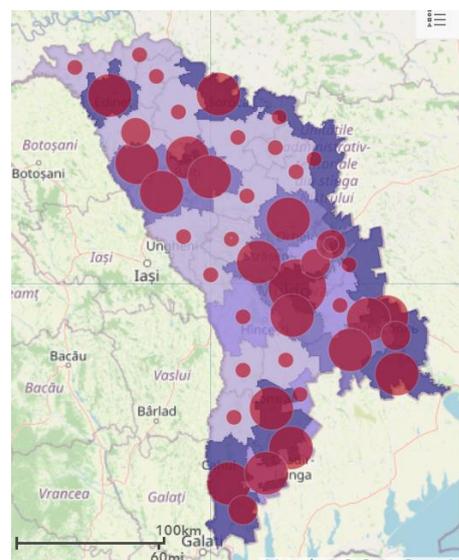
COVID-19
RESPONSE



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

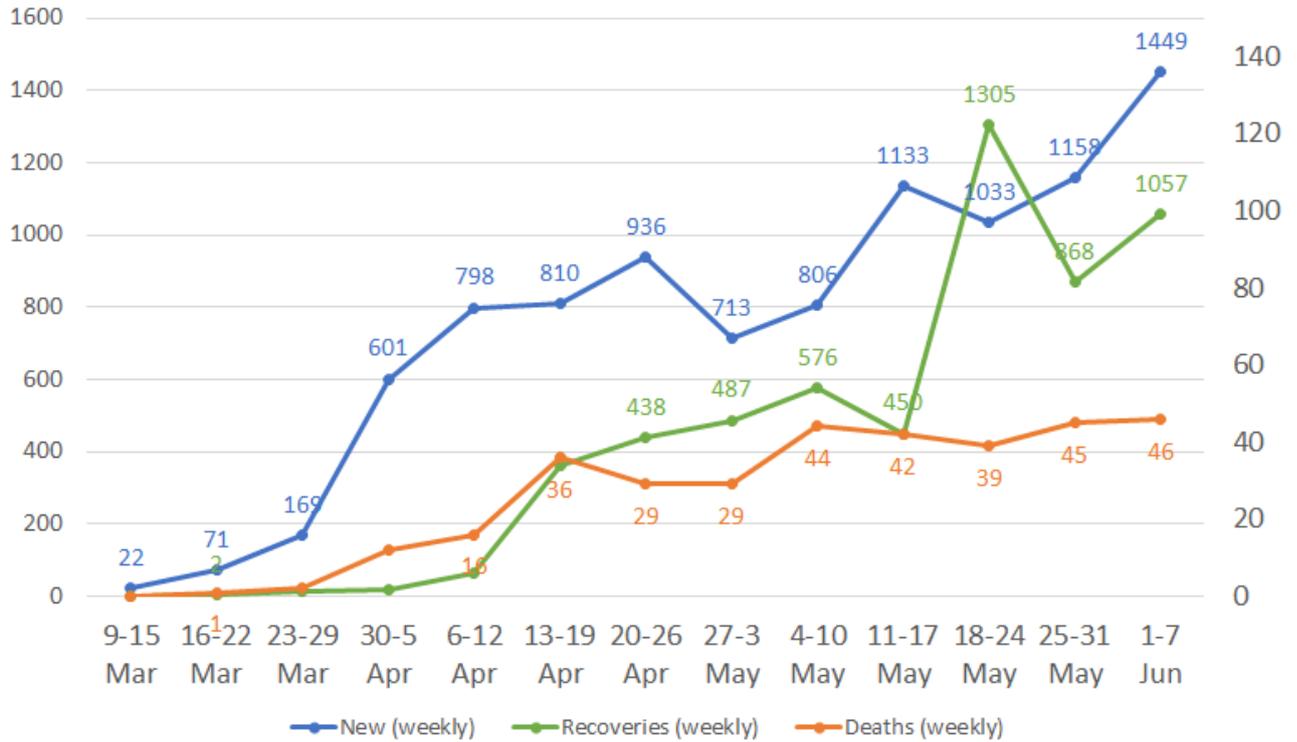
Highlights – data as reported by national authorities*

- The number of new cases and deaths continued to grow, with a record high number of new cases - **406** - being reported today and a record high number of deaths - 12 - being reported on Monday and Tuesday of this week. Another 6 deaths were reported yesterday and 4 today, bringing this week's total to 34. Overall, 10,727 cases have been confirmed since the beginning of the outbreak, and 375 people have died from the disease. The case fatality rate currently stands at 3.5%.
- Weekly numbers also show an increase in cases and deaths. Last week saw the highest number of cases and deaths registered over the course of a week since the beginning of the outbreak. The number of recoveries also increased compared to the previous week, but continued to trail the weekly number of new cases.
- The total number of recoveries reached 6,072 today, which represents 57% of the total number of cases.
- After hovering around the 250 mark for a few weeks, the number of patients in serious condition has consistently remained over 300 since the end of last week.
- The share of health care workers continued to decrease gradually in the total number of cases. Currently, approximately 17% of confirmed cases are healthcare workers. A total of 1,847 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 10% of all cases. ATU Gagauzia, Balti, Cahul, and Soroca follow in the list of most affected areas, accounting for 5-8% 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, Balti, ATU Gagauzia, Taraclia, Stefan Voda, Cahul, and Chisinau, in the order listed, have been most affected by the disease.
- 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 60-69, 40-49, 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 8% of all confirmed cases are people older than 70, two in five deaths from the disease have occurred in this age group. Also, nearly four in five 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 66.4.
- More women continue to be infected with the virus than men, 59% vs. 41%. However, the percentage of women and men who have died from the disease is the same, and the case fatality rate among men is higher than among women, 4.3% vs. 3.0%.

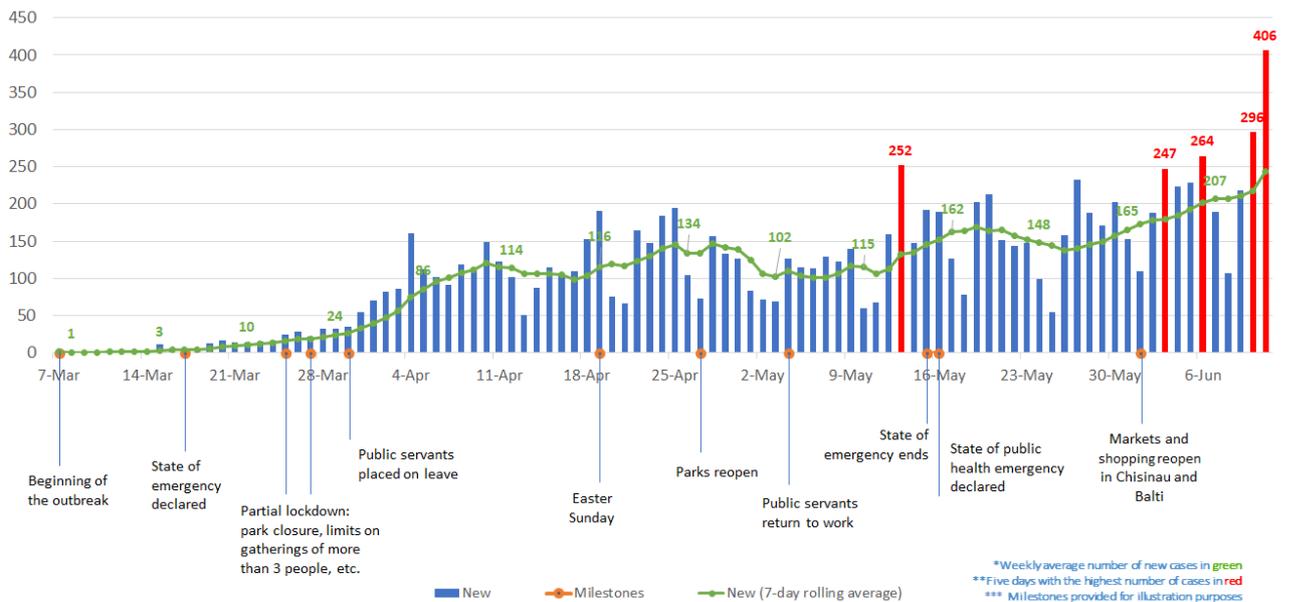


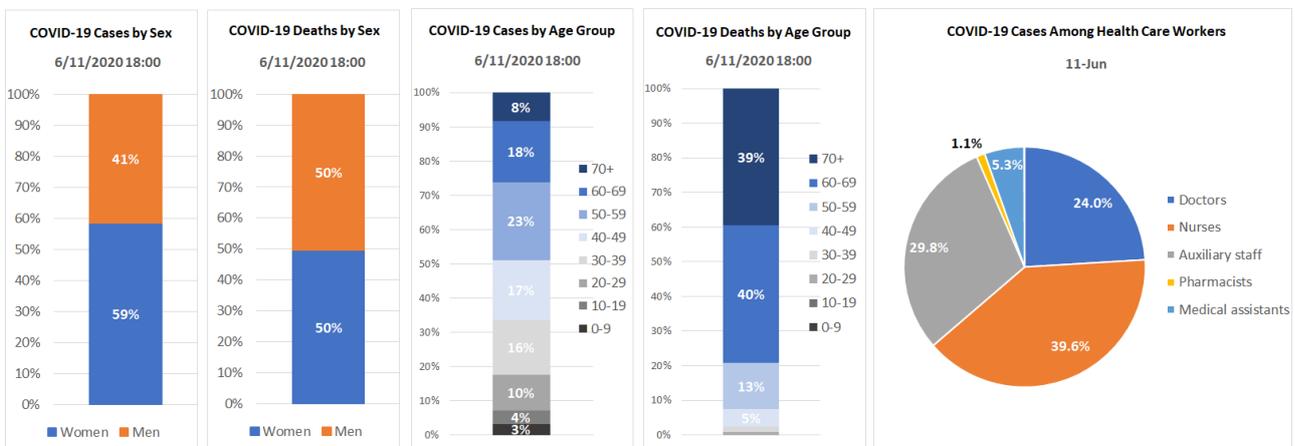
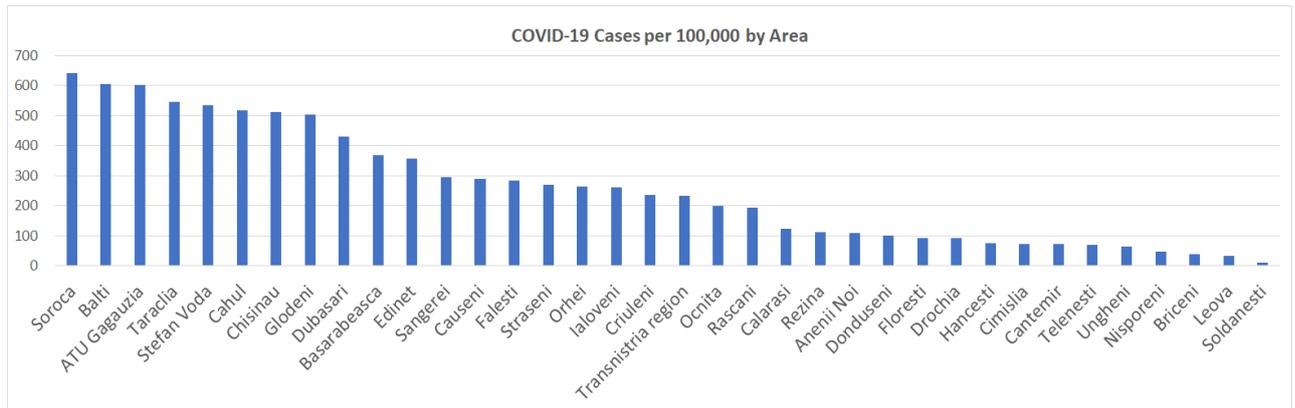
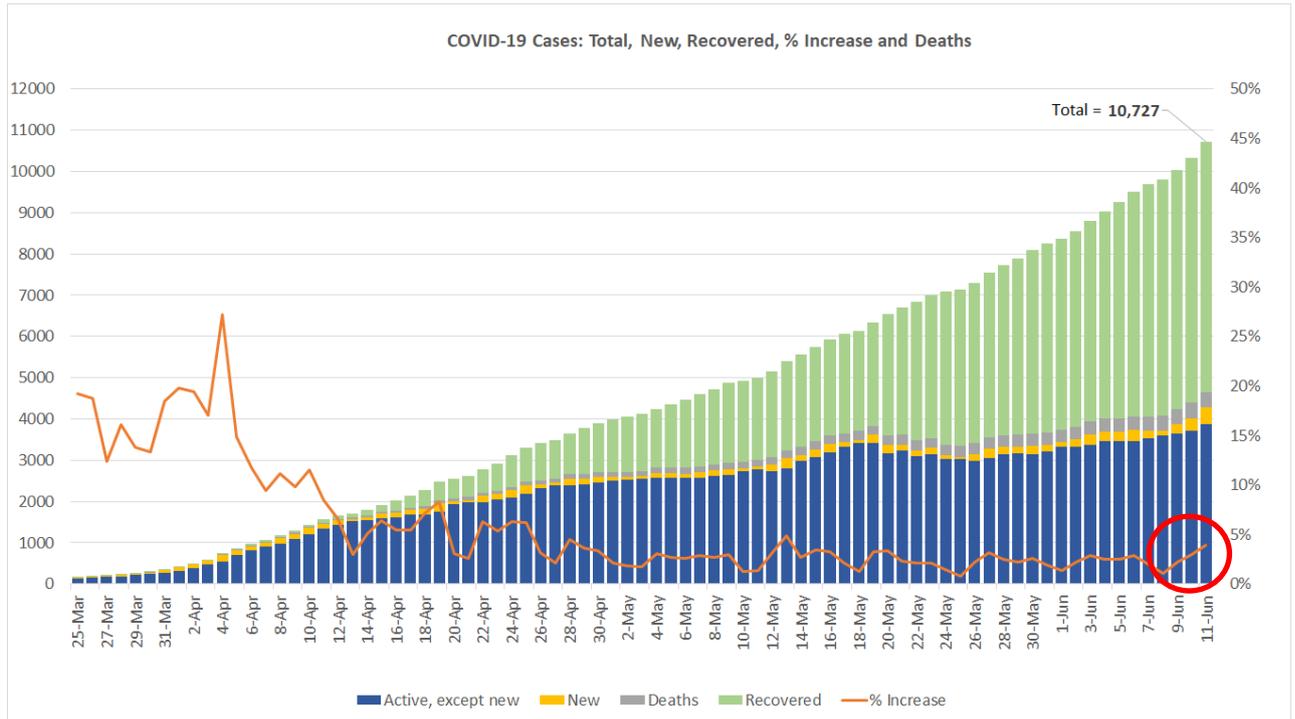
- Real time figures and graphs can be accessed [here](#) in Romanian and in Russian [here](#). This site has reached more than 1.66 million views to date. All partners are encourage to post links to this real time monitoring site to their websites and social media accounts.

Weekly Data: New Cases, Recoveries and Deaths



New Cases, 7-Day Rolling Average and Milestones





Overview of Key Decisions & Announcements

- The pandemic remains, regardless of the relaxation of movements restrictions in the Republic of Moldova. The country remains in a state of Red Alert and is in a National Public Health Emergency. All precautions personal and public hygiene protocols remain valid, be vigilant, careful and safe. Social distance and hygiene remain incredibly important as much as anytime since the first case on March 7th.
- The UN wishes to remind partners that the UN House remains closed and that the UN continues to operate and manage our programmes through a remote posture. The UN does not intend to resume a physical presence in our offices for the foreseeable future. This will be reviewed on a weekly basis as the epidemiological situations allows.
- While non-Covid-19 related, it is important to note that the Government approved the national development strategy “Moldova 2030” on 11 June, this will now go to Parliament. Additionally, the Voluntary National Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be submitted to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on 12 June. Both documents were supported by the United Nations.

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**

- NTR

Political Situation

- On Tuesday, one more Democratic Party Deputy, Anghel Aghache, left the party for the Pro Moldova party. That leaves the Democratic Party with only 14 out of its 30 formerly elected members. Over the past three months, the Democrats have lost 14 MPs to the Pro Moldova group and two to the Shor Party. Presently, the governing coalition of Democrats and Socialists has 51 MPs in the 101-member Parliament, which is a minimum required for the adoption of laws.
- Following a technical visit to the Transnistria region in early May, the WHO produced a list of recommendations, which were shared with the Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) for Reintegration. Yesterday, during a press conference the DPM stated that she had sent the recommendations to the de facto authorities. She further stated that Chisinau is ready to cooperate with Tiraspol to implement the recommendations and hopes Tiraspol will engage in negotiations on health care to identify solutions for citizens on the left shore of the Nistru and to respect human rights. The de facto authorities, for their part, have unfortunately already expressed their displeasure at the recommendations coming through the Moldovan government, as opposed to directly from WHO. The de facto authorities have indicated that they are not interested in cooperating at all with the Moldovan Government on the issue of Covid. It is sincerely hoped that the sides will move beyond this posturing and rhetoric and focus instead on cooperating on the actual Covid crisis.
- A local public health commission announced on 10 June that Civil servants in the Autonomous Territorial Unit (ATU) of Gagauzia will telecommute between 10 and 15 June, due to the deteriorating epidemiological situation in the ATU.
- Parliament’s Permanent Bureau has approved the legislative agenda for the next couple of weeks, including sessions today and tomorrow (11-12 June) and 18-19 June. The agenda includes about 30 draft laws proposed by permanent legislative committees, including laws on NGOs, canceling exams for technical training programs in 2019-2020, and ratifying an agreement with the EIB on a solid waste project.
- The government has approved the Moldova 2030 National Development Strategy, which includes four durable development pillars and ten corresponding long-term objectives: an inclusive and durable economy focusing on increasing revenues from durable sources and attenuating economic inequalities;

increasing access to physical infrastructure, public utilities, and living conditions; improving work conditions; reducing informal work; robust human and social capital; non-corrupt and efficient institutions; and a healthy environment. The document's stated goal is to "increase the quality of life on Moldova's entire territory and create conditions meant to reduce the exodus of the population." The strategy was developed with the support of the UN and other key development partners.

Security:

- NTR

Transnistria Region:

- Local media sources from the left bank reported that as of 9 June in the TN region, a total number of 1,042 cases of COVID-19 infections and 39 deaths were reported. 716 persons have recovered.
- As per the decision of the de facto Operational Headquarter on COVID-19, starting from 9 June, non-food markets, parks, and other public areas, including the Botanical Garden are open for visitors.
- The Bureau for Reintegration Policies has announced that Tiraspol has lifted some restrictions on movement for the residents of the villages of Varnita, Copanca, Molovata Noua, Cocieri, Pohrebea, Dorotcaia, Cosnita, and Pirita. The residents can now cross the land border through a number of checkpoints. All other Moldovan citizens are still restricted from entering the Transnistria region.
- On 10 June, a Working Group on Education took place by videoconference format. The experts discussed the movement of teachers from the Moldovan Government-administered Latin-script schools (LSS) across the internal boundary line, which has been complicated due to restrictions imposed by Tiraspol in response to the pandemic. During the meeting, the experts also exchanged views on the return of the LSS building, "Evrika" Theoretical Lyceum in Ribnita. The experts from the working group confirmed the apostilization of the Transnistrian region university diplomas continues to function and the Moldovan Ministry of Justice has issued more than 370 apostilles to date.

Economic Update:

- The World Bank released an updated [Global Economic Prospects](#) report as of June 2020 (comprising five thematic reports) which confirmed that COVID-19 has produced the deepest global recession since World War II and the broadest collapse in per capita incomes since 1870. The baseline forecast envisions a 5.2 percent contraction in global GDP in 2020. Per capita incomes in the vast majority of emerging market and developing economies (EMDEs) are expected to shrink this year (for the first time in at least 60 years) while many people will slip into poverty. The global recession can be deeper if bringing the pandemic under control takes longer than expected, or if financial stress triggers cascading defaults. Those EMDEs that have weak health systems, or those heavily relying on global trade, tourism, or remittances from abroad; as well as those that depend on commodity exports will be particularly hard-hit. Beyond its short-term impact, deep recessions triggered by the pandemic are likely to produce lasting impacts through multiple channels, including lower investment; erosion of the human capital of the unemployed; and disintegration of global trade and supply linkages. These effects may well lower potential output and labor productivity in the longer term. The report also suggests that COVID-19 pandemic will take an especially heavy humanitarian and economic toll on EMDEs with large informal sectors. Informal workers are often not registered with the government and hence have no access to government benefits and are likely to be the most affected. Therefore, the urgent need for health and economic policy action to cushion its consequences, protect vulnerable populations, and improve countries' capacity to prevent and cope with similar.

Aid Coordination

- First contribution to the MLD 2030 COVID-19 Window is in progress. The RCO, in close collaboration with ILO, OHCHR and UNW, is at an advanced stage of negotiation with Austrian Development Agency (ADA) of a contribution to the Moldova 2030 SDG TF-COVID-19 Window. The joint project will be implemented

by UN Women and ILO with two components: distribution of PPEs and food items and support in job finding for vulnerable people with a total budget of EUR 300,000.

Development Partners who are supporting the Covid-19 response are invited to share information about their bilateral support with the Center asistenta.covid19@gov.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

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, with funds from Global Partnership for Education (GPE), distributed educational kits to 500 children with special needs through the psycho pedagogical assistance services.
- UNICEF, from USAID funds, started the delivery of WASH supplies to 11 child protection institutions, with institutions located in Chisinau to receive the supplies Friday, 12 June, and the ones in Hincesti, Balti, Donduseni, Orhei and Ungheni early next week.
- Over 4,000 women from underrepresented groups (women with low or no income, single mothers, Romani women, women with disabilities, sex workers, women living with HIV etc.), including from Transnistrian region, will benefit of food, hygienic and protection supplies offered by UN Women under the Joint UN Programme “*Strengthening the Republic of Moldova’s National Response to the COVID-19 Crisis,*” funded by UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund. Starting with 5 June, the supplies are delivered to the beneficiaries across the country.
- UNDP Health Unit Copenhagen has managed to source a limited stock of 2 different sizes of Oxygen concentrators (specifications shared with OMT and WHO). Both models have been reviewed and approved by the QA Team.
- UNDP: Mobile ICU Ventilators for critical care (10 pcs) currently booked for arrival in KIV on 15 June.

Assessment and Data

- So far six assessments were concluded (some of them rapid ones):
 - Needs Assessment of the Health System in Moldova to respond to the Covid-19 crisis (RCO, WHO) - completed in March 2020 and ongoing
 - Rapid assessment of front-line workers needs in non-health related public agencies (police, border police, penitentiaries, Transnistria Region) (RCO, IOM, UNODC, WHO) - completed in April 2020 and ongoing
 - Rapid assessment for organizations supporting vulnerable people - NGO Task Force on Human Rights and COVID-19 (OHCHR) - completed in April 2020
 - Moldova's economic vulnerabilities to the consequences to the coronavirus pandemic (RCO) two reviews - completed in May 2020
 - Assessment of the Covid- 19 crisis on women (UN Women) – June 2020
 - Rapid diaspora survey on the impact of COVID-19 on plans and socio-economic situation of the Moldovan migrants abroad (conducted in 10 destination countries in April-May, IOM)
- UNDP is in partnership with a myriad of private sector companies developed a COVID-19 dashboard with the core 6 services to evaluate human mobility and COVID-19 spread in major areas of interest.

Health

- UNICEF, from USAID funds, procured hygiene supplies and sanitizers for 1,300 primary health care facilities in rural areas. In total 21,450 l of hand sanitizers, 1,300 l of disinfectants, 14,300 l of soap; 195,000 waste bags, 5,200 gloves were distributed.

Socio-Economic Support

- The Socio-Economic Task force was held on Wednesday, 10 June with presentations from the Bureau for Diaspora Relations and UN Women. The Bureau highlighted the challenges, issues and opportunities with the Diaspora during COVID-19 crisis and beyond, while UN Women presented the outcomes of a rapid impact assessment on women.

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 "[Perfectionism - spider web: no one is perfect?](#)" and "Face to face: how do I learn to communicate assertively?"
- In order to further support MECR in planning the school reopening, UNICEF further followed up the guidance for safe reopening of schools that were issued globally by UNESCO, UNICEF, WFP and World Bank.
- UNICEF, in partnership with TEKEDU, started the [UPSHIFT digital edition](#), a virtual social innovation program to build social entrepreneurship skills in adolescents and young people.

Gender

- Within the EU project, UN Women developed a one-page flyer containing information about the services available for the victims of domestic violence and the local emergency phone numbers to call for help and support in such instances were produced. The information is distributed to 1,000 women victims of domestic violence, neighbors and extended family members of the women from the risk group residing from 70 localities of Cahul and Ungheni districts.
- The findings of the gender rapid assessment were presented on 9 June to the members of GTG, UN staff, CSOs, including UN Women Civil Society Advisory Group. The event was attended by 28 participants. On 10 June, the findings of the assessment were presented to the UN Socio-Economic Task Force.
- Up to 25 women with disabilities benefited of other 3 informative online sessions on Preventing discrimination of people with disabilities.
- During COVID and post-COVID time (3 June); on Needs to stay informed during COVID time (5 June) and Pandemic's impact on emotional intelligence (6 June), delivered by UN Women through Association "Motivatie" of Moldova. Other 3 sessions are planned to take place on 10 June (Maintaining a healthy lifestyle during a pandemic), on 12 June (The impact of suspension of professional activity on psychological and emotional balance) and on 13 June (Depression in crisis situations. Exercises for managing depression).
- UN Women in partnership with IFIS NGO continue a series of live discussions with psychologists on the concerns and emotions people leave during the pandemic. As well, the discussions aim to raise problems and signs of gender-based violence and abusive behaviour. The third live session "[How to distinguish conflicts from abuse?](#)" will be held on 11 June on the UN Women Moldova Facebook page. The previous live session had 67 live viewers and reached more than 2,000 viewers.
- [UN Women and the Government of Japan gearing up to empower women affected by COVID-19 in the Republic of Moldova](#). 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. The one-year project implemented by UN Women in the Republic of Moldova 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.

Communications

- UNICEF and WHO, with USAID funds, supported the RCCG to produce the information materials for the campaign focusing on the next phase of the covid-19 pandemic, under the slogan #AiGrijă (Take care) following the relaxation of the restrictions. A series of video spots ([one](#), [two](#), [three](#), [four](#), [five](#), [six](#)) were already produced, in coordination with all stakeholders. A series of 11 [posters](#), with a total number of 40K will be printed and available for distribution next week, as well as 12K stickers for stores, public transportation and barbershops.
- UN Women has shared a new story: ["The woman who managed to survive domestic violence is now the shoulder to lean on of many women from the Republic of Moldova"](#).
- UNFPA further promoted the PPE donation to the staff of the National Bureau of Statistics through a [video](#) material posted in [social media](#) and in the [news](#).
- UNFPA released a new video under 'My Choice is to be Ok' mental health programme. [How to improve communication with my family?](#) The psychologist Daniela Terzi-Barbarosie answers the question and provides useful techniques.
- UNDP published a press-release on launching an ethnographic research of individual experiences during the COVID-19 crisis, to contribute to the socio-economic impact assessment on the most vulnerable people and communities.