## FINAL NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

# Programme Title: One UN Joint Action to Strengthen Human Rights in the Transnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova

Implementing Agencies: IOM, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNDP and UNODC

Project Period: July 2019 - June 2022

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## **CONTENTS**

I	Executive summary	5
II.	Background and General Context	8
	Project Background	8
	Operational Context	9
III.	Progress Update	10
	Component 1: Increased capacities of vulnerable rights holders to exercise their human rights	10
	Component 2: Increased capacities of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations	22
	Component 3: Enhanced human rights culture in the Transnistrian region	28
IV.	Challenges, lessons learned and risks	42
V.	Next steps	45
	Component 1: Increased capacities of vulnerable rights holders to exercise their human rights	45
	Component 2: Increased capacities of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations	46
	Component 3: Enhanced human rights culture in the Transnistrian region	48
VI.	Financial Status	51

VII. ANNEXES 52

## **ACRONYMS**

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ARV	Anti-retroviral treatment
СВМ	Confidence Building Measures
CCM TB/AIDS	Country Coordination Mechanism on TB/AIDS
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CSOs	Civil society organizations
FB	Facebook
GFATM	The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria
GNP+	Global Network of People living with HIV
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRBA	Human Rights based Approach
HR	Human Rights
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LEA	Law-Enforcement Authority
LPAs	Local Public Authorities
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
MSM	Men who have sex with men
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PCA	Partnership and Cooperation Agreement
PLWH	People living with HIV
PrEP	Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis
PwDs	People with disabilities
PWUDs	People who use drugs
RAF	Results Assessment Framework

SCDP	Sustainable (Community) Development Platform
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SoPs	Standard operating procedures
SW	Sex Workers
ТВ	Tuberculosis
TN	Transnistrian
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Fund for Children
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNPF /UNDAF	United Nations - Republic of Moldova Partnership Framework
UORN	Harm reduction and drug users' rehabilitation in the North
WHO	World Health Organization
WUD	Women who use drugs

### I. Executive summary

The Transnistrian region remains isolated, leading to a steady decrease in living standards there. Heavily affected by migration, a worsening economic and currency crisis, political uncertainty and a degrading of the quality of basic services, the decline in the region has led to a gradual erosion of local capacities for development and has impacted on social cohesion and possible reconciliation.

The fulfilment of human rights in unrecognized territories is a huge challenge in any part of the world and Moldova makes no exception. The realization of human rights in this region is trapped between the de facto Transnistrian structures' will and a void effect on this territory of any commitments of Moldova to the international human rights instruments.

The information related to the human rights situation in the region are stemming mostly from the reports of the independent experts and after the visits of various high-level representatives of the international organizations, mostly UN.

In May 2018 the Senior UN Expert on Human Rights, Thomas Hammarberg, had a follow-up visit to his 2013 Report on human rights in the Transnistrian region. After the 2018 visit of the Senior UN Expert on Human Rights to Tiraspol the de facto structures expressed their assurances of constructive relations with civil society entities and pledged to consider Mr. Hammarberg's proposal to develop a plan for human rights implementation based on his 2013 and 2019 report as useful instruments in this endeavour. The One UN Joint Action to Strengthen Human Rights in the Transnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova (Phase 3) is grounded in the United Nations human rights-based norms and standards and pursues strengthening of the effective exercise of human rights by people residing in the Transnistrian region through fostering improvement of institutional frameworks concerning disability, Roma community, gender based violence and HIV, PWIDs and people in prisons, as well as children in contact with the law. The joint action builds upon previous work in the aforementioned areas, carried out during 2015-2019.

The project is funded by the Government of Sweden, is implemented through the UN Multi-Donor Trust Fund "Towards Unity in Action" and is framed around three inter-linked outputs. These are aiming to advance Moldova's progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), 10 (Reduced Inequalities), 5 (Gender Equality), 4 (Quality Education), 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing) and 1 (No Poverty).

During the reporting period the activities of the Programme were carried out in a significantly revised manner, due to the restrictions imposed on both banks of the Nistru River, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. For more than a year the activities were transferred to the online space, with very few exceptions, which created a new dynamic in the interaction of the Programme with both its partners and beneficiaries.

The interaction with the Sustainable (Community) Development Platform (SCDP) was intensified, while its membership was expanded. The institutional capacity of the SCDP and its members was strengthened through 38 webinars and online workshops, as well as individual coaching sessions. A total of 5 phases of webinars and practical workshops were organized.

In the reported period, the capacities of rights holders were developed in two directions: 1) institutional capacities and 2) thematic knowledge. Thus, over 74 representatives of NGOs from 13 localities from the left bank have strengthened their capacities and learned how to develop and operate an effective and sustainable human-rights-oriented organization, as well as to communicate in an HRBA compliant manner about their activities and beneficiaries. Participants included representatives of PwDs, Roma community, organizations working with PLWH, PWUDs, or victims of domestic violence, as well as media. Among them there were: 63 women and 11 men, including 10 people with disabilities and 5 representatives of the Roma community.

The awareness of the population on both banks of the Nistru River, especially the vulnerable groups, was increased on the subjects related to the rights of PwDs, Roma community, people living with HIV/AIDS and

victims of domestic violence. This was achieved through organization of 3 events, production of 7 press releases, 8 newsletters, 6 interviews, 9 video success stories, 58 video materials in the frame of 28 online awareness campaigns. Over 1000 Facebook posts have been published on the Platform's FB page, UN, on 6 FB pages of the Programme's partner agencies and shared in Transnistrian FB groups.

90 media professionals, journalists, bloggers from de-facto media, independent media and CSOs as well as students of journalism faculties increased their knowledge on human rights compliant terminology, inclusive and non-discriminatory messages with a focus on vulnerable groups, how to prevent hate speeches and promote human rights for youth in media. In the framework of two editions of Human Rights Media Academy 42 media professionals from both bank of Nistru river with a focus on participants from the Transnistrian region increased their knowledge on basic concepts and principles of human rights and human rights mechanisms, human rights at risk in the context of the pandemic, gender sensitive communications, and inclusive and nondiscriminatory terminology when discussing different vulnerable groups. Human Rights Media Academies resulted in the production of 20 human rights compliant media products (2 media materials were prepared jointly by journalists from both banks) on various topics related particularly to the right on information, right to legal remedies, rights of persons with disabilities and older persons, prevention of early marriages in Roma communities, prevention of sexual harassment of minors and women's empowerment to apply for services in cases of domestic violence, youth empowerment and inclusive education for children with low vision, and child rights. In the reporting period, more than 1582 articles related to human rights were published in the left bank media. As a result, the total organic engagement on Transnistrian mass-media (5 Tv and 3 online portals) was 1 700 000 people.

Moreover, 30 human rights activists, members of civil society organizations and representatives of four underrepresented groups representing 16 left-bank CSOs developed their knowledge and capacities in the area of human rights and specific rights of the vulnerable groups, local and international human rights frameworks. Out of the 30 above-mentioned participants, 22 human rights activists successfully completed the Program following a final testing and were awarded with diplomas of completion. As a result, four advocacy papers and one video animation product were developed and submitted to duty bearers by human rights activists and CSOs staff working with and for four underrepresented groups on human rights issues. In addition, more than 60 small-scale advocacy initiatives to promote and to advocate for the rights of vulnerable right holders (PwD, survivors of domestic violence, Roma, PLWH).

Following the commitment of the de-facto structures to support the Roma community mediators' institution, 642 Roma received 691 consultations and services from 6 Roma community mediators and improved their access to education, social assistance, labour, documentation, and health. Furthermore, the Programme contributed to establishing collaboration and partnerships with Roma mediators and local public institutions (school and pre-school institutions, outpatient services, employment centres, hospitals, offices for documentation of the population, social benefits offices, de-facto local administrations and other) in dealing with inequalities faced by Roma. Before programme intervention, Roma mediators experienced challenges in accessing public institutions (especially educational institutions) and resolving issues relevant to the Roma population.

Awareness of human rights was increased for children and youth from both banks through the participation at the 3rd edition of the Creation Contest 'Human rights are yours and mine' carried out between September-December 2021.

In line with the Programme's output of increasing the capacities of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations, the first draft of the Human rights framework is being finalised and will be sent for the review and further adoption to the de-facto authorities by the end of June 2022.

Also, as a result of the Programme's interventions, the capacities of the members and partners of the Sustainable (Community) Development Platform to work together and plan joint actions was further increased through implementation of 22 joint initiatives (grants) by organizations from the left and right banks of the Nistru River.

Additionally, in the reported period representatives of vulnerable groups have improved access to community services. 597 persons have had complex support in relation to PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) on HIV, while 337 were uniquely enrolled in the service (78 on the left bank and 259 on the right bank). Over 400 police officers from both banks have been trained in friendly interaction with people from vulnerable groups, safety and security and the workplace, including mental health aspects. For 3 years, over 800 PWUD, SW and homeless people, tested for HIV, TB, STDs and viral hepatitis, were referred by police from both banks to services provided by CSOs and medical institutions. Due to this activity the dialogue and the trust between law enforcement authorities, the civil society organization and communities has considerably improved, while police is translating in practice the communitarian policing approach. Also, through the calls received at the "Trust Line 0800 99800" for victims of domestic violence, supported by the Programme, 88 SOS-cases of women and 5 SOS-cases of men, 1 SOS case of girl victims of domestic violence were opened and at the "Hotline 0800 88888" for prevention trafficking in human beings and illegal migration 107 SOS-cases of women and 15 SOScases of men were opened. Those cases were referred to or managed together with specialized NGOs from Transnistrian region. Around 136 persons (50 women in 2020 (a double of the target) and 37 women in 2021 and 49 women and men in 2022) infected or affected by HIV from both banks are better equipped to recognize the signs of GBV, discrimination and have strengthened abilities on topics related to self-knowledge, toxic relationships, identification of abusive behaviours, including how to access essential services and COVID-19preventive measures through mentoring programme.

Three crisis rooms have become operational in Ribnita, Bălţi and Anenii Noi, the rooms equipped to offer a safe provisional shelter for women who use drugs, their children, but have also hosted refugees and internally displaced people. All in all, 39 WUD and 15 children and 26 refugees/IDPs and 13 refugee children/IDPs have been accommodated and provided support in the crisis rooms.

87 people released from prisons have been supported in a pilot approach to assisting former offenders with social reintegration and resocialization. 14 women and 73 men have benefited from a complex package of 6 services, including accommodation, food support, family reintegration, employment, medical and social services and deviant behaviour prevention. A halfway house in Ribnita and a Training Centre for former prisoners have been established in Ribnita and in Chisinau.

Additionally, the awareness and knowledge of the duty-bearers has been increased by developing, editing, printing, and disseminating 10,000 booklets on HIV and LEAs and guiding procedures for police officers in Russian and Romanian languages. The poster, in Romanian and in Russian, explains safety and security at the workplace and the booklet addresses the aspects of referring vulnerable people to the existing medicosocial services.

In line with the Programme's output of increasing the capacities of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations, 5 de facto regulatory acts with implications on the life of PLWH were adopted by the de facto structures on the left bank and 1 - has been adjusted and discussed with all stakeholders and is waiting for approval from the de-facto authorities, thus removing the discriminatory limitation in the area of HIV prevention in key population, enrolment into the armed forces and the de facto HIV prophylaxis and control normative act. Additionally, the regional programme on hepatitis C treatment, as well as all required documentation for the implementation were developed and approved. Among the normative acts, the following can be listed: the service provision algorithms and organization, treatment protocol, the M&E procedures etc. - the main developer and implementer of the programme is AIDS Centre from Tiraspol.

The findings of the Report on the de-facto normative framework in the Transnistrian region on justice for children in contact and conflict with the law led to the development of the draft amendments to the normative framework in the region, which were submitted to the de-facto structures for approval with the aim to further adjust the de facto Transnistrian "Criminal Code" and "Criminal Procedure Code". The recommendations of the Report have been incorporated in a wider, policy-level document - the "Roadmap for child rights in the Transnistrian region", validated with the de-facto structures on 30 June 2022.

Based on the Assessment of the existing training programmes for pre-service and in-service professionals that work with children in contact with the law, three curricula modules and courses support materials for pre-service training of professionals have been developed and submitted to the local universities. A pool of professionals improved their theoretical knowledge and practical skills to deliver in-service training to professionals that work with and for children, victims of violence, and child-offenders through two specialized training packages.

In order to ensure observance of the rights of children in public custody, namely children placed in A. S. "Makarenko" institution, adjustments to the Internal Regulation and a new Code of Conduct have been developed and submitted for approval. A.S "Makarenko" staff have been trained on positive interaction with children and on implementing the "Preparation for release" programme, which gives children offenders a real chance of social reintegration. The physical infrastructure and safety of children placed in A.S "Makarenko" was improved following renovation and equipment of the training room with Programme's funds. Additional improvements related to WASH facilities, internet connection, roof renovation, and setting-up a modern fire protection system were carried out by using UNICEF and local structures' financial resources.

To enhance mass-media capacities from both banks of the Nistru river to report actively and ethically on child rights, two training packages were developed and a pool of journalists increased their knowledge and skills in applying a child-friendly approach in drafting media products, including as a precondition for complying with journalism ethics. Press clubs for journalists from both banks of the Nistru river have been organized on a regular basis and quarterly media monitoring of products related to child rights was performed throughout the last two years of Programme's implementation. With a view to elevate public discourse around children's rights, 8 media products have been developed and shared via media outlets from both banks of the Nistru river.

### **II. Background and General Context**

#### **Project Background**

The Transnistrian region is a territory located along the Eastern border of Moldova with Ukraine, mostly on the left bank of the Nistru/Dniester River. De jure a part of Moldova, it has had de facto independence since the early 1990s. After violent clashes and a ceasefire agreement in 1992, the status of the region remained undetermined, subject to a negotiation process on-going ever since (in the "5+2" format since 2005). The population is approximately half a million, with 32% being Moldovan, 29% Ukrainian, 30% Russian, and 9% other ethnic minorities.

During the November 2011 mission to Moldova of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, a broad range of parties, including the Moldovan Government, de facto structures from the Transnistrian region, as well as civil society representatives emphasized the need for further attention to the human rights situation in the region. The UN High Commissioner stressed the overarching goal of promoting human rights for all. This visit provided the opening for in-depth follow-up, including acceptance of the need to increase the information available about human rights in the region, also shown by the new de facto leadership that entered power in December 2011.

In February 2013, Thomas Hammarberg, in his position as Senior UN expert on human rights, produced a report with 38 recommendations, based on four missions to the Transnistrian region. The Hammarberg Report established that 20 years of isolation had left significant weaknesses in knowledge of human rights among actors in the region. Its first recommendation was that the region should develop a human rights action plan, using the process to continue engaging people after Hammarberg's missions. The de facto structures undertook this as an internal exercise across departments, which resulted in a plan requiring investments. Gradually, greater understanding was being built on what the human-rights based approach entails, as requests for support from the region are increasingly about accessing knowledge and experiences.

Following Hammarberg's 2018 visit and the recommendations of the 2019 report, UN Agencies identified additional areas where de-facto structures have expressed openness, and which were considered feasible for implementation. In addition to the work on people with disabilities, HIV/AIDS and gender, the rights of Roma community and those of children in contact with the law were considered with strong potential both to expand networks across the Nistru River.

The project is grounded in the United Nations human rights-based norms and standards and pursues strengthening of the effective exercise of human rights by people residing in the Transnistrian region through fostering improvement of the regulatory and institutional frameworks in the area of disability, gender-based violence and HIV, PWUDs, Roma and children in contact with law.

The action is implemented through the UN Multi-Donor Trust Fund being framed around three inter-linked components/outputs (increased capacities of rights holders to exercise their rights (Output 1), increased capacities of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations (Output 2) and enhanced human rights culture in the Transnistrian region (Output 3), which are led by IOM, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNDP and UNODC. These components have been identified following the assessment of the results of the previous phases of joint action in the region, the 2019 follow-up report of the UN Senior Expert Thomas Hammarberg and discussion with key stakeholders and the region's de-facto structures. The proposed three components are also based on the comparative advantages of respective UN agencies, as a result of normative and operational capacities, ready-to-go expertise available as a result of competencies of UNCT Moldova. In addition, the identified components are selected outside any political process, consistent with the mandates of the respective UN agencies. They are aiming to advance Moldova's progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 1 (No Poverty), 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality), 10 (Reduced Inequalities) and 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). The result of the Programme are in line with UNDAF Outcome 1 (The people of Moldova, in particular the most vulnerable, demand and benefit from democratic, transparent and accountable governance, gender-sensitive, human rights and evidencebased public policies, equitable services, and efficient, effective and responsive public institutions) and Outcome 4 (The people of Moldova, in particular the most vulnerable, demand and benefit from gendersensitive and human rights-based, inclusive, effective and equitable quality education, health and social policies and services).

#### **Operational Context**

As the project unfolded in mid-2019, it was capitalizing on the progresses achieved in the previous phase of the joint action, specifically the declaration of year 2018 "Year of Equal Opportunities", commitment to implement the provisions of the CRPD in the region, as well as some progresses in the area of violence against women, HIV/AIDS, access of prisoners to services etc. However, there was limited progress in the "5+2" negotiation format, as Chisinau and Tiraspol did not present a proactive approach towards reaching a negotiated settlement. Moreover, the general perception was that the relations between Chisinau and Tiraspol have worsened, characterized by mutual accusations related to violation of the previously reached agreements, especially ones from the "Berlin plus" package. In this context, UN interventions remained one of the few lifelines of communication, cooperation and rapprochement at community level between the two banks of the Nistru River.

The ability of vulnerable groups from the region, such as inter alia persons with disabilities, Roma, people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, children in contact with the law, vulnerable women, prisoners and people who use drugs, to effectively exercise their rights is impaired by the human rights knowledge, capacity and authority gaps they face. The still underdeveloped civil society environment with limited opportunities to influence the policy-making process and to reach out to the most vulnerable ones, and low human rights awareness of the CSOs, professionals and the population at large are hindering the realisation of human rights in the region. All of these have a direct impact on Programme's activities, providing an additional development challenge.

The introduction since the mid-March 2020 of various travel and meetings restrictions because of the COVID-19 pandemic caused delays and prompted rethinking of the Programme's activities. Most of them have been either transferred to the on-line format or postponed for a later period. In most of the Programme's components a COVID-19 reference, as related to the human rights situation, has been introduced, either as an additional training module or as an awareness raising activity. Reallocation of some of the Programme's resources have been proposed and approved by the Programme's Steering Committee to respond to additional COVID related challenges.

The military conflict in Ukraine, which started on 24 February 2, has affected the Programme, as the coverage of beneficiaries needed to also include refugees, mostly women and children and taking into consideration the events on the left bank also internally displaced people, who have crossed to the right bank. Increased security risks appeared at the second half of April 2022 led to postponed implementation of some programmatic activities, which were finally implemented on the last month of the Programme (June 2022). Thus, the results of these intervention will be more visible at the end of the Programme's implementation period or even after it.

### **III. Progress Update**

#### Component 1: Increased capacities of vulnerable rights holders to exercise their human rights

Throughout the reporting period the Programme continued the cooperation with the Sustainable (Community) Development Platform, in both identifying the synergies with UN implementing agencies in human rights mainstreaming to activities and projects conducted by Platform's members and developing the capacities of its members.

The Programme has continued to consolidate the SCDP's institutional capacity, focusing on the online webinars, given the COVID-19 restrictions in place on both banks of the Nistru River. A third phase of institutional capacity building webinars were organized consisting of 38 online events. As a result, over 74 representatives of NGOs have developed their capacities in various fields. Most of the participants (over 80%) were women; other major groups were PwDs, Roma, people living with HIV and victims of domestic violence. The topics covered during the reported period included social services, social entrepreneurship, positive practices in employment for PwDs, Monitoring and Evaluation, Advocacy and partnership, Mainstreaming gender and environment approach into NGO activity, Result-Based Management or practical examples of legal approximation in the framework of HRBA. Result-Based Management.

The conducted assessment of the institutional capacity building activities has shown that most of the expectations of NGO representatives towards the organized webinars have been met. In this regard, the representatives of SDCP indicate that the webinar curriculum was practical, so that the knowledge acquired during the webinars can be applied in practice for the development and consolidation of the organization's potential. Phase III of trainings / webinars was highlighted by the participation of several experts from the right bank, who at the request of the members of the Platform shared their experience in implementing joint initiatives with organizations on the left bank, in the structure of social services at district level, in managing social enterprises and in the specific tools for employment of people with disabilities. A total of 5 phases of webinars and practical workshops were carried out.

It should be mentioned that the realization of 22 joint initiatives (grants) by organizations from the left and right banks of the Nistru River has obviously contributed to the consolidation of the institutional capacities of the members of the Platform as well. The 4 phases of the Grants Program were implemented by consortiums of NGOs on both banks of the Nistru river and aim to promote rights and develop services for young people and women in the Roma community, people with disabilities, victims of gender-based violence. Following the 1st and 2nd calls for community mobilization were implemented initiatives to promote social and economic participation of vulnerable groups on the left bank of the Nistru. The 3rd and 4th calls resulted in implementation

of 8 joint initiatives (grants): 5 small grants for community mobilization and 3 grants for creating accessibility for people with disabilities.

Some initiatives implemented under the grants have laid the groundwork for sustainable services and interventions with major impact for the region. Here, it could be mentioned the promotion of the "Personal assistant" service, acquisition and introduction for the first time on the left bank of the "ADOS-2 Methodology", "Independent living skills for youth with disabilities", "Grandmothers-online", "E-screening for monitoring services provided by organizations working with people living with HIV" and others. Our contribution has led to obtaining a further grant from another donor for piloting the "Personal assistant" service in Parcani village, in close cooperation with the local structures in the area of social assistance.



Trainings in computer literacy for elderly women, including with disabilities, and for Roma women, within the project "Grandmothers-online", @photocredit UNDP

As a result of the implemented grants specialized services were provided to 17 victims of domestic violence and 7 aggressors; 22 children victims of violence; 20 children with autism spectrum disorder. Additionally, 19 elderly women, including those with disabilities, trained in computer literacy; 18 young people with disabilities prepared to access the labour market; 15 young people with disabilities trained in independent living skills; 6 Roma women trained in computer literacy; 10 representatives of the People Living with HIV community were trained as para-legal specialists, while 532 persons from vulnerable groups questioned through the e-screening mechanism on discrimination cases. More than 1000 vulnerable people benefited from psychological and legal consultation.

Partnerships established through project consortiums can be considered as added value of the grants' implementation. Thus, sustainable cooperation relations of SCDP's members with CSOs on the right bank were established, among which: "Center for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities", "SOS Autism", "Institute for Human Rights", "Positive Initiative", "Federation of Families from Moldova", "Union for HIV prevention and risk reduction" (UORN), "Women's Law Center" and others.

Through the implementation of the small grants programme, the foundations were laid for initiatives with a major impact on the realization of the rights of vulnerable groups. Prior to the implementation of the first grant, which aimed to promote the idea of introducing the Personal Assistant service, the subject was almost non-existent on the agenda of relevant decision makers as well as of SCDP members. At the moment, there is a wide initiative to promote at a high level the approval of this service, while the consortium of 2 organizations from

both banks just started implementing a 3rd grant in this regard, this time aimed at piloting the service. Many other grants are one-of-a-kind initiatives, including Grandmothers online, Young Roma bloggers, acquisition and piloting of the ADOS methodology, independent life skills for young people with disabilities and others.

Innovations and transfer of knowledge and good practices has been largely practiced among the NGOs, members of SCDP. Thus, during April-June 2022, the groups of 8-10 people, representatives of different NGOs participated in 6 internships on the right bank of Nistru river. Such areas as inclusive education, community services for people with psycho-social disabilities, social entrepreneurship, Roma community social inclusion, assistance to victims of domestic violence and labour inclusion of people with disabilities were thoroughly studied on the spot. The internships had a major impact on the participants. During the visits participants were given the possibility to discuss with both beneficiaries and service providers as well as with representatives of local and regional related state structures. This has contributed significantly to strengthening organizational capacity and service development of the NGOs, members of SCDP. Most of the positive practices that the participants learned about are of great interest to SCDP members. Of special interest were the services that are not developed and, respectively, not institutionalized in the Transnistrian region. As a result of the visit to the Falesti and Orhei districts, SCDP members proposed to develop a new direction of work for the following years - the inclusion of people with psycho-social disabilities. In this sense, they will collaborate with partners from the right bank, among them Keystone Moldova and the Department of Social Assistance of the Falesti district. At the same time, relations were established with the Psych-pedagogical Assistance Service from Balti and the "Pro Success" lyceum from Chisinau to develop support services for inclusive education. Overall, 42 representatives of NGOs - members of the SCDP participated in the internships.











Members of SCDP at internships on inclusive education and employment of PwDs, @photocredit UNDP

In the current phase of the Programme, the thematic working groups had an intense activity, which resulted in actions of impact on the rights of vulnerable groups on the left bank of the Nistru river. At the same time, the participation of SCDP members in the activity of the groups strengthened the institutional capacities of the NGOs. Thus, the thematic group "Advocacy" developed 3 advocacy campaigns, of which: ban on parking at ramps and sidewalks, promotion of a personal assistant service, an increase in employed PWD on the left bank. Following the implementation of the first campaign, there have been modifications in the Traffic regulations on the left bank, aimed at ensuring the access of people in wheelchairs to the ramps and sidewalks (through imposing a ban on parking in front of these places). "Social Services" thematic working group, through its activity

paved the way for piloting and further applying the Personal Assistant Service on the left bank of Nistru. Particularly, an algorithm for the implementation of the Personal Assistant service has been developed, including the regulation of the service as well as the budgeting mechanism. It should be mentioned that, following the development of this social service and the process of knowledge transfer, sustainable relations were established between the NGOs on both banks, including relations with the Social Assistance Department from the Anenii Noi district. "Analysis of Legislation" working group identified gaps in the legislation of the Transnistrian region, which must be filled by amending the legislation. In total, 26 unique participants were involved in 37 meetings of working groups.

The working groups recorded increased intensity and measurable results, especially during the second half of 2021 - June 2022. This can be explained by the involvement of non-SCDP experts and the allocation of a minimum budget for logistics and organizational moments. Thus, the initiatives launched in the working groups materialized in advocacy campaigns completed with changes in the regulatory framework, as well as with concrete mechanisms for budgeting and implementation of social services at the regional level.

The Innovation component included: i.) elaboration of a database, based on 1C programme, which will include all the beneficiaries, range of services, case management and to be linked to the reports and ii.) elaboration and providing a set of tests for vocational and career guidance, addressed to people with psychosocial, sensory and locomotor disabilities. The database has proven to be very requested and popular with NGOs-members of the SCDP. By operating such a database, NGOs are exempted from a series of stocks of data on beneficiaries and the type of services. Now all the information is concentrated in one place and can be accessed even by specialists working in the field. The set of tests for vocational and career guidance, addressed to people with psychosocial, sensory and locomotor disabilities were presented to NGOs working with people with disabilities and to the representatives of Employment services from Ribnita, Bender, Slobozia and Grigoriopol. Further, in their daily activity the representatives of Employment service will follow the recommendations of the guide in facilitating the access to the labor market to people with disabilities.

To increase the synergy of human rights initiatives conducted by SDCP's members and rights holders especially from vulnerable groups in the Transnistrian region, the Programme successfully delivered an 18-months lasting Human Rights Capacity Building Program for representatives of underrepresented groups (PwDs, Roma, people living with HIV and victims of domestic violence). Thus, based on a needs assessment among 40 human rights activists and CSOs staff working with and for underrepresented groups, 30 human rights activists, members of civil society organisations and representatives of four underrepresented groups (22 women and 8 men) representing 16 left-bank CSOs developed their knowledge and capacities in the area of human rights and specific rights of the vulnerable groups, local and international human rights frameworks. 11 ToT webinars, 17 small thematic group webinars and 4 face-to-face study visits to experienced right-bank CSOs and municipal institutions were organised for the participants. Lively discussions and crucial topics presented in practical exercises, home and group work gave additional insights on human rights to participants. During the second and third phases of the Human rights capacity building program (March-June 2021), participants, who were divided into four thematic groups (disability rights, rights of Roma, gender-based violence, rights of persons living with HIV) received human rights knowledge and skills on the human rights standards for each particular vulnerable group, learned to identify the list of human rights issues particularly affecting the groups on the left bank of Nistru river, received an experience of right-bank institutions and CSOs from different localities in establishing services for vulnerable groups (Chisinau Municipial Center for Personal Assistants, Association of Roma community mediators in Mingir village, NGO Women's Law Center in Chisinau and NGO Union of organizations working in the field of HIV prevention and harm reduction in Balti) and developed advocacy actions based on received knowledge and skills as part of the capacity building programme. Best practices obtained during thematic groups study visits increased synergies in designing and implementing new project ideas supported by partner UN agencies (paralegals services for PLHIV; personal assistants for children; standardization of services for women survivors of domestic violence).

Human rights activists participated in the 18-months lasting Human Rights Capacity Building Programme. They have discussed and identified in the thematic groups issues, faced by vulnerable groups in the Transnistrian

region (PwD, PLHIV, Roma, survivors of domestic violence). The discussions on human right compliance regulatory framework and existed practices continued at the meetings of Sustainable (Community) Development Platform together with other CSOs-members. Thus, resulted to the submission of statements, advocacy papers and bringing up the agenda of human rights of vulnerable groups to the attention of duty bearers.



Study visit for the thematic group on advocacy of people living with HIV to NGO Union of organizations working in the field of HIV prevention and harm reduction in Balti, 15 July 2021 @photocredit: OHCHR

During the fourth phase of the training programme, 22 participants gained knowledge and skills of interactive tools and techniques in teaching human rights through their participation in a ToT. Followed by which, participants started to act as trainers and managed to organise and conduct human rights awareness raising trainings and informational sessions for the representatives of vulnerable groups living in communities. During the period April-May 2022, 19 trainings targeting more than 287 participants (triple increase in comparison with initially planned indicator) were organised for persons with disabilities and their relatives, Roma community, community of people living with HIV, and women who had experienced gender-based violence with participation of de-facto authorities. 18 trainers, alumni of the Human Rights Capacity Building Programme (6 PwD, 2 PLHIV, 8 Roma and 2 survivors of domestic violence), received practical experience in conducting trainings on human rights, applying "peer-to-peer" approach. Representatives of vulnerable groups benefited from knowledge and practical application of human-rights-based approach, as well as recent amendments and advancement in the regulatory framework for increased compliance with international standards and human rights obligations for vulnerable groups (PwD, PLHIV, Roma, survivors of domestic violence), achieved with the Programme's contributions.

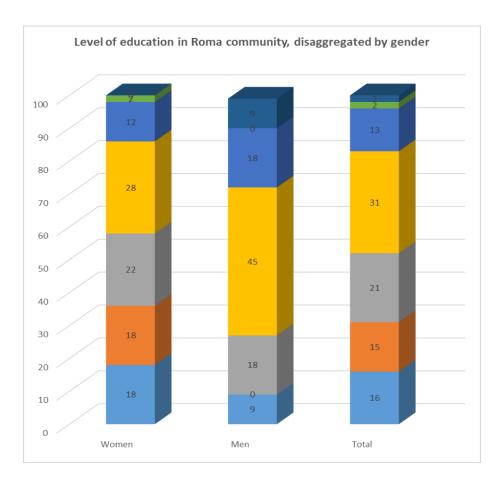


Training organised by human rights defenders with the community members to discuss assisted employment and international standards in the field, Tiraspol, 16 April 2022 @photocredit: OHCHR

Out of the 30 above-mentioned participants, 22 (7 men and 15 women) human rights activists successfully completed the programme, following a final testing and were awarded with diplomas of completion. Through a comparative analysis of a pre-programme test and final knowledge test, an increase in substantial human rights knowledge was established among participants: the overall increase in human rights understanding was marked at 30%, considerable improvement was tracked in such thematic questions as accessibility (increase of 44%), discrimination (increase of 38%), human rights-based approach (increase of 30%), access to information (increase of 25%), freedom of associations (increase of 19%). 88% and 12% of the programme's participants graded their participation in the programme as highly effective and quite effective, respectively. Four advocacy papers and one video material were produced by human rights activists and CSOs staff working with and for four underrepresented groups on human rights issues - alumni of the programme claiming the human rights of vulnerable groups - which were submitted to duty bearers:

- on the compliance of PwD terminology with the local regulatory framework in line with CRPD;
- on the proposal to establish a referral mechanism for Roma who are lacking civic registration documents (birth certificates, marriage and divorce certificates, death certificate and others) from civic status registration offices to Roma community mediators;
- on promotion of Roma culture and history among youth and children in the education institutions;
- on multifunctional approach in dealing with cases of domestic violence;
- one media material on prevention of discrimination among health professionals towards persons living with HIV.

As a result of the increased knowledge and capacity, programme's alumni conducted more than 60 small-scale independent advocacy initiatives to promote and to advocate for the rights of vulnerable right holders (PwD, survivors of domestic violence, Roma, people living with HIV). Advocacy actions included participants conducting counselling on the access to specific human rights, submission of advocacy papers to duty bearers, drafting of collective claims on integrating CRPD provisions into the local de facto regulatory framework, production of media publications and conduct of informational sessions for the right holders.



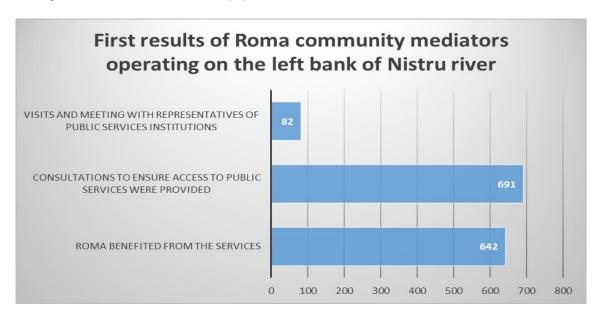
Needs assessment in Roma community: the level of education, disaggregated by gender, 2021

In line with the Programme's objective on support of the Roma community mediators' institution in the Transnistrian region, similar to that existing on the right bank, a Roadmap and an Action plan with specific objectives and indicators on establishing of the Roma community mediators' institution as effective mechanism to empower Roma was widely discussed and presented at the round table in April 2021. Main data, conclusions and recommendations from the survey conducted in the mid of 2020 among 70 Roma communities' members and leaders in Transnistrian region in 17 localities (8 towns and 9 villages) of the left bank of Nistru river were presented and widely discussed. 40 participants (33 women and 7 men) representing activists of Roma community, Roma CSO, de-facto authorities of regional and local level, and international development partners attended the event. Activists from Roma communities shared their human stories to support the data received during the survey, raised human rights issues and described inequalities they faced in their access to labour, education, health and documentation. As a result, de-facto authorities from local and regional level expressed their commitment to support the Roma community mediators' institution and to respond to issues and concerns faced by Roma ethnic group during the meeting. In addition, the Programme contributed to establishing of the first contacts among Roma CSOs and de-facto authorities as a result of the needs' assessment conducted in September 2020, thanks to which a dialogue between the Roma CSO and de-facto structures was initiated to improve the human rights situation and eliminate the discrimination, faced by Roma in education, social protection and access to labour market.



Roma mediators capacity building program, July 2021 @photocredit: OHCHR

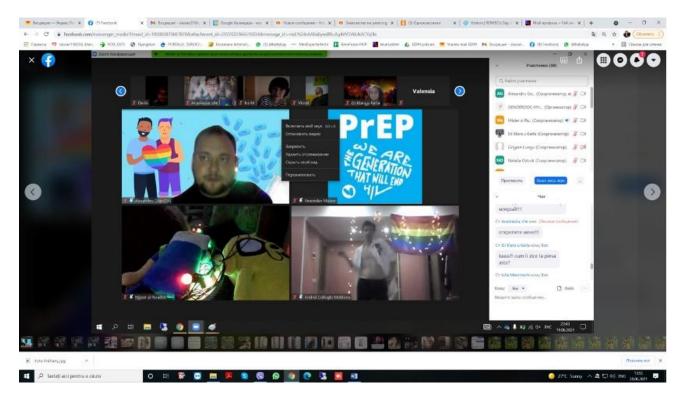
Following the multi-stakeholder consultations on the Roadmap and Action plan, the recruitment of Roma mediators was announced and widely disseminated in the locations densely populated by Roma on the left bank of Nistru river, which resulted in the submission of 12 applications from candidates to the position of Roma mediators, out of which 7 mediators from and for 6 localities (increasing more than double from the project document indicators) were recruited and trained during the Roma mediators' capacity building program. 7 Roma mediators developed an action plan on empowering the Roma community and ensuring access to human rights and started to provide services from Septembers 2021. 642 Roma received 691 consultations and services of Roma community mediators and improved their access to education, social assistance, labour, documentation and health. Furthermore, the Programme contributed to establishing collaboration and partnerships with Roma mediators and local public institutions (school and pre-school institutions, outpatient services, employment centres, hospitals, offices for documentation of the population, social benefits offices, de-facto local administrations and others) in dealing with inequalities faced by Roma. The collaboration with Roma mediators at local level was established after in November 2022 de-facto authorities agreed to disseminate information about the functioning of Roma community mediators in the localities densely populated by Roma. Before that, Roma mediators experienced challenges in accessing public institutions (especially educational institutions) and resolving issues relevant to the Roma population.



The impact of Roma community mediators' institution in the region was highly appreciated and recognized as an effective instrument in empowerment of Roma community by the participants of the follow-up round table in June 2022. Roma activists from both banks of Nistru river, Roma community mediators from the Transnistrian region, duty bearers from educational, social protection institutions, employments centres and de-facto local structures shared their views on additional opportunities to be considered by Roma in overcoming inequalities and on further sustainability of the institution. Representatives of the de-facto structures from local and regional level expressed their commitment to collaborate and to provide support to the Roma community mediators' institution, as well as to respond on issues and concerns, faced by Roma ethnic group during the meeting.

Additionally, to ensure the sustainability of the Roma mediators' institution, an analysis of the defacto regulatory framework on the left bank of Nistru river, relevant to the rights of Roma and setting up of the system of Roma community mediators was developed and respective recommendations were incorporated into an Action plan on establishing of the Roma community mediators' institution.

In line with the Programme's objective on social inclusion of persons with disabilities, 98 PwDs and their relatives both from rural and urban region received community-based services in Slobozia district on the left bank of the Nistru River. This consisted of 161 consultations provided by peer-to-peer consultants and coach-experts in the area of legal support, psychological counselling and assisted employment, which contributed to the increased access to services for PwD in the region. Long-term consultations to beneficiaries were supplemented by the development of beneficiary's individual plan of support which led to achieving more sustainable results for the beneficiary. Counselling support for persons with disabilities contributed to the submission of 12 applications for social support benefits, 6 beneficiaries were registered in municipal employment centres, as "seeking a job", 7 beneficiaries started actively to search for a job and placed their CVs on local websites, and 2 beneficiaries passed vocational courses.

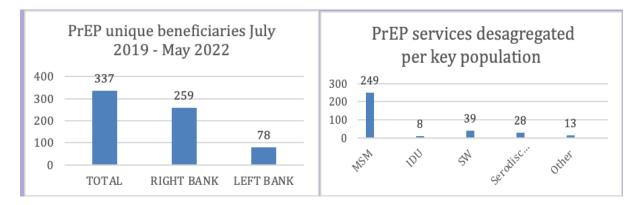


PrEP Party @photocredit: GenderDoc-M

In line with the Programme's target of developing communitarian pre-exposure prophylaxis service for men who have sex with men (MSM), sex workers (SW), people who use drugs (PWUD) partners of persons living with HIV (sero-discordant couples), transgender (TG) - 597 persons had access to PrEP in the period July 1st, 2019 - June 30th, 2022:

- 60 in the period July-December 2019 (56 on the Right Bank and 4 on the Left Bank)
- 192 in 2020 (167 on the right bank and 35 on the left bank)
- 225 in 2021(150 on the right bank and 75 on the left bank)
- 120 in the period January-May 2022 (100 on the right bank and 20 on the left bank).

Out of 597 persons who received services in this period, only 337 were uniquely enrolled in the service (78 on the left bank and 259 on the right bank).



Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the seven communication events "PrEParty - be prepared for your party" took place in the virtual space through the ZOOM platform. During the events, about 400 persons raised their awareness on what is PrEP and how, where, when PrEP services can be accessed. Through the chat the participants had the opportunity to ask questions.

Also, about 125 participants from both banks, involving health specialists and the ones from civil society organizations developed the necessary skills and capacities for the efficient achievement of the Community PrEP through participation in seven national workshops. This contributed to the enrolment of the two new NGOs from Transnistrian region in PrEP delivery, which led to the beneficiaries boost into the programme.

Community PrEP services became part of National HIV Programme 2022-2025 approved by the Government, being one of its priorities, and are part of the National Application to the GFATM 2021-2023, which allowed mobilization of additional resources and will ensure the sustainability of community PrEP in Moldova. Also, the National Clinical Protocol on PrEP has been updated in 2021 according to the latest WHO recommendations (initially approved in 2018).

A Monitoring and Evaluation template of Community PrEP, including routine indicators was developed within the project and recommended to the National HIV Program Coordination Unit to be implemented, as part of National M&E Electronic Soft 1C of monitoring services and beneficiaries.

Community PrEP developed in Moldova is a unique model of HIV prevention service provision towards those most at risk to HIV infection in the European region. It is designed, since the beginning, in the way to ensure it is close to the beneficiary, person-cantered and answers to such needs as confidentiality, trust and psychological comfort.

The Moldova model was shared on unaids.org portal and was presented as good practice at UNAIDS Quarterly Programme Branch Meeting on October 7th, 2020 (Geneva), with 25 NGOs working in HIV in Kazakhstan, and during the second National Conference on PrEP in Ukraine on June 10th, 2021.

The development and piloting of CSOs gender specific services for women who use drugs, on both banks of the Nistru River was initiated by a capacity building exercise conducted in 2020. 25 service providers, 22 women and 3 men, representing CSOs, health specialists, social services, and women leaders in HIV from both banks successfully graduated from the Gender Academy, co-organised by UNODC and UNAIDS. Based on Eurasian

Harm Reduction modules, an international expert and 3 national gender experts, representing both banks of Nistru River.

The existing community and maternal centres where women can get help in difficult situations violence or human trafficking do not accept woman in active drug use. Under the Programme's component on gender sensitive services, "crisis rooms for women who use drugs and their children" were refurbished, equipped and piloted. In June 2021, 3 CSOs active in the field of harm reduction and drug users' rehabilitation in the North (UORN) and Centre (Positive Initiative) of the right bank and from the left bank (Triniti), were subcontracted to establish Crisis Rooms for women and their children and to further integrate these services into the community centres for PLWH. The proposed regions Chisinau, Balti and Ribnita also are known as having the highest burden of both HIV and drug consumption (IBBS, 2016). The crisis rooms and the services were developed based on a unique minimum standard, while considering the local context and UNODC HQ guidance. A technical working group, including service providers has been established to develop a minimum standard package of service, goods and accommodation for WUD and their children. All 3 rooms have been equipped and refurbished following these standards while considering all safety and security measures. As per regulation WUD and their children can be sheltered in the rooms for up to 10-day, a period in which WUD and her children will benefit from accommodation support (shelter, nutrition and hygiene) and will receive medical and psychosocial support services.

The 3 rooms have become operational in December 2021 and since then a total of 62 women, 2 men and 28 children have been hosted in Ribnita, Balti and Anenii Noi. Due to the war in Ukraine a big number of refugees have arrived in Moldova and the free crisis rooms have also accommodated and provided psycho-social support to refugee families, mostly women and children. 39 WUD and 15 children and 26 refugees/IDPs and 13 refugee children/IDPs have been accommodated and provided support in the crisis rooms. WUD, refugees, IDPs and their children were provided medical and psycho-social support, shelter for 10 days (longer in the case of refugees/IDPs), in addition to employment opportunities, support to their children who needed school and kindergarten enrolment.



Crisis rooms, Anenii Noi, Balti and Rabnita @photocredit: UNODC

In order to improve the service delivery of CSOs in the field of Domestic Violence (DV) related to identification, referral and direct assistance, in the reporting period the Programme supported the operationalization of the "Trust Line 0800 99800" for victims of domestic violence since the beginning of the project period and the "Hotline 0800 88888" for prevention of trafficking in human beings since March 2022. The operators of the Trust

Line, administrated by the NGO "Interaction", responded to 1,985 calls related to domestic violence including 1,162 SOS-related calls. This result can be attributed to the fact that women are less afraid to speak up and are more willing to address services thanks to mouth-to-mouth awareness that women are assisted and have positive changes in their lives. The largest number of calls to the Trust Line came from women (82.6%). The fact that DV is now more widely discussed in Transnistrian society including in social networks (Instagram. Facebook) can be attributed to increased awareness due to targeted campaigns like 16 Days Campaign of Activism against Gender-Based Violence and written on the base of real cases articles regularly published in Facebook., From the calls received and the requests registered by the Trust Line, 88 SOS cases of women and 5 SOS cases of men, 1 SOS case of a girl-victim of domestic violence were opened by the NGO. Since March 2022, the operators of the Hotline for prevention of trafficking in human beings, also administrated by the NGO "Interaction" responded to 700 calls, related to the issue of trafficking in human beings, the refugee crises and forced migration situations. The total number of calls included 293 SOS-related calls to identification and provision of direct assistance to 273 refugees (119 women and 27 men, 59 girls and 68 boys), 1 woman victim of trafficking, 2 women migrants in difficult situation, 1 man and 1 woman as prevention cases of trafficking in human beings. Out of 273 refugees, 6 adults and 4 children are people with disabilities. Majority of assisted SOS cases (87.7%) are women and children. Some of the above cases were referred to or managed together with specialists of other CSOs operating in the field of domestic violence and women's rights in the Transnistrian region ("Women's Initiatives", Centre for Psychological Support "Lada", Center "Together" and Centre "Resonance"). This close and coordinated cooperation contributed to an improved general protection service delivery of the main CSOs, operating in the field of domestic violence in the Transnistrian region. In the field of prevention, various methods including usage of internet platforms, various relevant networks and printed materials distribution were used to promote the services of the Trust Line and raise awareness on domestic violence in the Transnistrian region.

These efforts were also supported by capacity building activities for specialists of "Interaction" and partner NGOs. Notably, six events were held on the prevention of burnout syndrome among staff for 30 unique participants (27 women and 3 men) including on 29 November - 1 December 2019 for 14 women professionals, on 30 July 2020 for 7 women and 1 man professionals, on 20 November 2020 and 21 November 2020 for 13 women professionals and on 25-26 June 2021 for 11 women and 2 men professionals, 28-29 June 2022 for 10 women and 2 men from the NGO "Interaction" and other NGOs and institutions. The trainings focused on strengthening emotional intelligence and emotional competence, on child-parent relationship and personal development as an adult, as well as on prevention of economic violence in the family and the financial competence of social workers. The knowledge on financial management and exploring additional sources for vulnerable families is crucial. The social workers gained additional information and knowledge that they will be able to apply themselves and share with beneficiaries and thus will build resilience and strengthen the existing psycho-social and legal services.

The participants considered the trainings to be useful and requested they be held at least once in two years. Through the training, professionals fostered their knowledge, skills and habits to preserve and strengthen their psychological health, through mastering the ways of mental self-regulation and activation of personal resources, and through provision of information on the concept of emotional burnout syndrome, its causes, symptoms and consequences.

The efforts of the Programme are contributing to enhance human rights knowledge of the rights holders and CSOs in the field of domestic violence. If the vulnerable groups in the Transnistrian region have increased capacities to exercise their rights, the rights holders will have an enhanced capacity to participate in the decision-making processes affecting their lives, the sustainable civil society has a strengthened capacity to influence human rights policy-making, to reach out to the most vulnerable ones, providing accessible, available, acceptable and quality services for the vulnerable groups, especially in the field of domestic violence.

Those efforts are complementing and do not overlap with other projects currently implemented by IOM in the Transnistrian region on domestic violence, such as the project "Enhancing confidence building across the Nistru river through combating the domestic violence and gender-based violence phenomena in the Transnistrian

region of the Republic of Moldova" finalized in March 2020 and its current Phase II "Gender Based Violence Cooperation Across the Nistru river", funded by the UK Embassy/CSSF. This project reflects a logical continuation and builds upon the efforts of the previous projects to improve the prevention and response mechanisms to DV, as well as enhancing the protection of the rights of DV victims in line with the international obligations of the Republic of Moldova, and with the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Thus, there are not only cross-sectoral, but thematic synergies in place.

People detained in prisons from the left bank have access to evidence-evidence based HIV testing and counselling services, supported also by CSOs. As per Th. Hammarberg recommendation regarding the access to health services of prisoners a new procedure on HIV testing among prisoners regulate the responsibilities of prison medical services in HIV counselling and testing, while referring to the updated UN recommendation regarding HIV testing and providing an opportunity for Civil society organizations to enter prison on the left bank and work with prisoners on HIV prevention, HIV testing and psycho-social support services. As per procedure, CSOs are to assist HIV-infected people after their release from prisons by ensuring accompanying and referral and providing relevant information about the release from penitentiary institutions. A team of consultants were subcontracted to develop a standard operating procedure (SoPs) on HIV testing among prisoners for the left bank and therefore ensure the scaling of HIV testing among left bank prisoners. To pilot this intervention a technical working group was created at the level of de facto foreign affairs, prisons administration, AIDS Centre and CSOs. After 2,5 years of meetings and discussion in September 2021 the SoP was approved by de facto health, justice and foreign affairs authorities. One of the key components of this SoP is related to the testing via CSOs. Yet the implementation of the SoP has been pending despite considerable technical and diplomatic efforts to advance the document. The delay has been related to COVID-19 prevention measure and to the terrorist red code alert on the left bank.

Under the prison component, following Hammarberg recommendations there was a scope to pilot services of rehabilitation and social reintegration of prisoners upon their release. CSOs Triniti, Positive Initiative and CRPC/NDivetro have been subcontracted to pilot the package of services for prisoners after release. The services were developed and implemented based on UNODC 2018 specific guidance "Introductory Handbook on the Prevention of Recidivism and the Social Reintegration of Offenders". 87 people (including 14 women), from both banks, released from prisons have been covered with a package of 6 services within 6 months after release, including (1) 50% have been supported with job market re-entry assistance and vocational trainings; (2) 50% of all beneficiaries required lodging and 100% financial assistance (half-way or temporary accommodation, food support/parcels, basic hygiene packages, including women hygiene); (3) 80% of former offenders need accompanying and access to health care and social security; (4) 60% required mediation and family reintegration support; (5) 40% required substance abuse interventions; (6) all 87 prisoners benefited from offenders' monitoring and supervision. In Ribnita a half-way house, a transitional house from prison into the society for 12 people has been refurbished near a local factory providing for an employment opportunity and in Chisinau a Training centre for former prisoners has been set. The training curricula includes modules on employment seeking opportunities and changing the criminal mindset. Almost half of the beneficiaries have required and benefited from computer literacy classes. 8 project beneficiaries have benefited from ISO qualified Welder courses and have been immediately employed. After 6 months all 87 project beneficiaries remain in the community and have not returned to prison. 20% have become volunteers in the organizations. According to services providers support for women former prisoners is more complex and requires more services and especially with the psycho-emotional state, including family reintegration, yet when the psycho-emotional needs are met women show more responsibility and commitment employment and monitoring and supervision goals.



Former prisoners, trained to become ISO qualified welder @photocredit: UNODC



Training Centre for former prisoners from Chisinau, February 2022, Director of CRPC/Share, @photocredit: UNODC



Half-way home for former offenders from Ribnita, May 2022 @photocredit: UNODC

On mechanism of referral and social reintegration of services after release, on both banks desk review assessment of the existent services has been conducted. During the technical meeting Governmental and de facto authorities and CSOs have emphasized the need to better coordinate and integrate the existing services

to cover the full set of services provided by the UNODC guidance. Successful reintegration and resocialization of people after their release from prisons play a key role in reducing.

Significant efforts were made to ensure environmental sustainability of the Programme's interventions. Though the Programme has not envisaged direct creation of opportunities in the environmental sustainability field, indirectly it contributes to transformation of local enterprises into ones that are environment friendly. Specifically, the Programme raises the awareness of the public on the Sustainable Development Goals and their importance for the harmonious human development. Additionally, the Programme is encouraging local partners to reduce their waste by signing a specific annex related to environmental sustainability of the Programme activities, implemented by the local partners. Based on UNDP's "Greening the Blue" initiative, the Programme Manager has encouraged implementing UN agencies to sign similar agreements with their implementing partners. As a result, the providers of catering services, used during the Programme's events, were not using plastic bottles or cups. Additionally, the recommended menu was as environmentally friendly as possible, thus making them aware of the environmental impact caused by their activity.

The Programme has established working relations and identified synergies with other projects and programmes implemented in the Transnistrian region, mainly with projects in the area of confidence building, implemented by UNDP. This resulted in participation of projects' beneficiaries in Programme's activities and vice versa, as well as in provision by the Programme Manager of advice on HRBA and vulnerability aspects of the respective projects. Additionally, the Programme is actively cooperating with OSCE in the area of institutional and general capacity building for CSOs and duty-bearers and a working group was established in this respect, which meets on a regular basis. This ensured that there is no overlap in capacity building activities implemented by the respective international organisations.

#### Component 2: Increased capacities of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations

The implementation of this component required considerable efforts from the UN agencies. As a result of numerous meetings with the de-facto structures of the Transnistrian region, during which UN advocated for the drafting of a Human Rights Framework, commitments were made by the de-facto structures for their engagement in the drafting. After the establishment by the de-facto leader of an intersectoral working group for the drafting of the Human Rights Framework, consisting of 10 representatives of de-facto structures, a roadmap for the drafting of the framework in which CSOs played a crucial role, was endorsed by de-facto authorities in 2020, expressing their commitment to its implementation. Frequent consultations with de-facto authorities were conducted to reinforce the commitment of the de-facto authorities to follow the objectives proposed under the roadmap of drafting of a Human Rights Framework and to include CSOs in the process of its drafting and during the whole process of Programme implementation. Similarly, individual and group consultations with CSOs were organised, where members of the Platform were informed about the role of CSOs in decision-making from the perspective of international standards and best practices that exist on the right bank and in other countries. During the moderated group discussions CSOs expressed their views and mentioned that the optimal model was their inclusion in the process of drafting the Framework from the very beginning, not just to provide comments to the existing draft. Following this as well as numerous discussions with the UN, de-facto authorities announced an open call for expression of interest for CSOs to join the process of drafting a HR Framework. This resulted in the submission of applications from 13 representatives of CSOs from the Transnistria region, who were all included in the process.

As part of the drafting process, 12 representatives of the intersectoral working group for the drafting of the Human Rights Framework improved their knowledge on human rights and international human rights mechanisms, recommendations received from UN Treaty Bodies, UPR, Special Procedures and Hammarberg's reports, the role of civil society in the process of drafting frameworks, and the importance of organizing public consultations and monitoring of the implementation of the framework. In line with the roadmap a matrix of clustered recommendations of Thomas Hammarberg (2013 and 2019) and of UN human rights mechanisms by thematic areas was produced including affected groups, relevant SDGs, specific SDG targets and indicators. A model of a Human Rights Framework and examples of formulating actions for implementation of two

recommendations according to a results-based matrix were presented, and ultimately de-facto authorities and CSOs in a joint meeting in December 2021 agreed to work with it.



Introductory meeting on drafting Human Right Framework in the Transnistrian region for the CSOs representatives, January 2022 @photocredit: OHCHR

Several rounds of the thematic sub-working groups meetings with joint, inclusive and meaningful participation of CSOs and representatives of de-facto authorities were facilitated during the period January - April 2022 with an aim to contribute to drafting of the first Human Rights Framework in the Transnistrian region based on the mentioned matrix of clustered recommendations of Thomas Hammarberg and UN human rights mechanisms. 56 participants managed to review and substantially discuss 137 recommendations received from UN HR mechanisms and from Thomas Hammerberg reports in relation to the Transnistrian region of Moldova during 40 thematic sub-working group meetings. 48 proposals with inputs for the implementation of human rights recommendations were submitted by de-facto authorities and CSOs and jointly discussed during working meetings. A clear progress was observed from the start of the process when de facto authorities were in full or partially contesting recommendations and international human rights standards, especially in the field of reproductive rights, gender equality, and civic and political rights, to active discussions and proposals for potential activities on implementation of human rights recommendations at the end of the drafting process, thanks to the human rights expertise and best practices brought by the UN during the meetings. As a result, the first draft of the Human rights framework (results-based part) consisting of 6 thematic tables was finalised and will be sent for the review and further adoption to the de-facto structures.

During the whole duration of the Programme the UN has continued its interaction with the national institutionalised human rights institution and Ombudsperson Institution through engaging them in training activities organized by the Programme (human rights media branches, field mission visits on discussion about CRPD compliance). Capacity building activities specifically tailored for the representatives of the (de facto) Ombudsperson institutions from both banks were postponed till 2022, to await the appointment of the Ombudsperson for Moldova. As a result of the capacity building activities, 22 representatives of institutionalised human rights structures increased their knowledge and skills on human rights monitoring and reporting during two capacity building trainings. Participants received practical insights and methodology on design of research in the field of human rights, ways to collect data in closed institutions and in the community, drafting thematic human rights reports and formulate recommendations to advocate for the changes in the regulatory framework

to increase compliance with human rights international standards. In addition, participants actively interacted and shared the experience in conducting human rights monitoring activities according to the practices existed on both bank of Nistru river in two particular areas discussed on the trainings - residential institutions for children and women with disabilities experienced gender-based violence and the modus operandi for ombudsperson institutions and their role in ensuring respect, protection and fulfilment of human rights from both banks. To ensure further sustainability of the initiative, guidelines for human rights monitoring and reporting in the abovementioned areas in both languages were drafted and will be presented and validated by both (including de facto) ombudsperson institutions.



Capacity building trainings for institutionalised human rights structures, May-June 2022 @photocredit: OHCHR

The process of assessing the compliance of the local regulatory framework with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the development of recommendations for three specific areas started July 2021. The 3 areas include deinstitutionalization of persons with disabilities, disability determination system, and regulatory framework in the field of employment of persons with disabilities. The methodology was developed and a desk review of available documents relevant for three particular areas (primary and secondary normative documents) as well as data collection, including 8 meetings, interviews and discussions with relevant CSOs working with people with disabilities and de-facto authorities acting in the CRPD sphere were conducted in July-August 2021. A first draft of the report was prepared and is planned to be discussed with de-facto authorities and CSOs. The thematic group on the rights of PwD established under the HR Capacity Building Program for underrepresented groups will consider and base its advocacy actions for the future activities on recommendations provided in the assessment report, which creates a sustainable ground for the future phase of the Programme.

In order to support a human rights compliant HIV regulatory framework five important HIV-related normative policy documents were amended and approved by the de facto structures in the period 2020-2022 and one more has been developed and currently is waiting for approval by the de facto authorities:

1. The PLWH from Moldova, including the Transnistrian region, now have the right to adopt children. The amendments to the normative framework were approved in late 2020. Adjustments on the de facto normative

act related to adoption of children by HIV positive people have been approved by the facto structures from the health, social and justice sectors in the Transnistrian region.

- 2. De facto health structures have adopted a document abolishing compulsory HIV testing for those seeking employment and regular health check-ups. The document is fully in force, and it was registered with the de facto structures in the field of justice.
- 3. The following syntax was excluded from the legal norm in relation to blood donation: "the persons from the risk groups, such as homosexuals, drug users and prostitutes", allowing all persons to be able to donate blood.
- 4. Order Nr 466 "On the procedure for the surgery of artificial termination of pregnancy" testing for antibodies to HIV infection should be recommended prior to performing an induced abortion and should be carried out voluntarily, based on the informed consent of the woman, and be accompanied by mandatory pre-test and post-test counselling, which is not any more mandatory.
- 5. HIV prophylaxis standard for key populations was approved and adopted in TN region. The document was coordinated with the following de-facto structures in the area of healthcare, justice and internal affairs. It recognizes the work undertaken by the NGOs in the field of HIV and acknowledges their role in HIV prophylaxis. It is important to note that this document also mentions the target groups, which was quite a sensitive subject. It will also open the possibility for a potential accreditation of the provided services and their potential outsourcing, using the local finances for their procurement.

The sixth document which revision was initiated - the Law "On the Prevention of the Spread of HIV", which has not been revised since 1997. The draft of the adjusted document has been developed and presented to all stakeholders, including the de-facto Ministry of Health, at a meeting in December 2021. All the proposed changes have been discussed and agreed. The adjusted document has been sent for approval to the de-facto authorities to the higher level and is waiting for approval.

Also, upon request, it was supported the development of the regional programme on hepatitis C treatment, as well as all required documentation for the implementation: as the service provision algorithms and organization, treatment protocol, the M&E procedures etc. - the main developer and implementer of the programme is AIDS Centre from Tiraspol. In order to facilitate the process specialists from the Right and Left Bank which worked together on development of the methodology according to the best practices from the Right Bank were hired. Starting 2022, due to all policy and documents arrangements the hepatis C treatment is available in Transnistrian region.

As a result, the following documents have been developed and the hepatitis treatment programme is fully functional with a waiting list of 2000 persons at the beginning of January 2022:

- Methodological recommendations "Hepatitis C Infection in Adults" for Clinicians, Epidemiologists, Nurses.
- Clinical recommendations for the treatment of HBV and HCV, including medical examination of children born from positive mothers.
- Selection criteria for the treatment of viral hepatitis.
- Criteria for hospitalization of patients.
- The patient's file and informative materials were developed.
- The list of medicines for treatment of viral hepatitis has been established.
- The patient's database was also developed.

These changes represent a significant progress in HIV de-stigmatization process and are aimed at ensuring equal rights to all, regardless of their HIV status. This was possible due to the extensive multi-stakeholder policy dialogue and consultations, both formal and informal, involving local partners, de facto structures in the areas of health, justice, social affairs, interiors, AIDS center, specialized NGOs from the Transnistrian region. It ensured their active engagement and ownership of the process.

A Roadmap to Reduce Stigma and Discrimination for key affected population on both banks with detailed description of all indicators and responsible parts for the period 2021-2022 was developed in 2021, after the previous National HIV programme for the period 2016-2020 was assessed.

With a view to consolidating the friendly justice system for children in the Transnistrian region, two complex assessments were conducted in 2020: i) On the de-facto legal framework in the Transnistrian region on justice for children in contact and conflict with the law ii) On the existing training programmes for pre-service and inservice professionals that work with children in contact and conflict with the law. As a general conclusion, the de-facto legislation complies with the basic justice for children's international principles and is largely favorable for introducing a child-friendly and gender-sensitive practice in the Transnistrian region.

The findings of the Report on the de-facto legal framework in the Transnistrian region on justice for children in contact and conflict with the law led to the development of draft amendments to the normative framework in the region which were submitted to the de-facto authorities for approval with the aim to further adjust the Transnistrian Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code. (e.g. extension of criminal liability deadlines in case of sexual offences against children, provision of free legal aid for child victims of sexual offences; introducing the possibility to change legal representation in criminal proceedings in cases of conflict of the interest; reducing the time for investigation and trial in cases involving children).

The findings of the report also revealed that the de-facto legislation requires consistent improvements to ensure a sustainable justice system reform in the region by: (i) introducing prevention of re-victimization measures for children victims of crime during the criminal investigation and court trial such as: special conditions for hearing, prohibition of confrontation with the alleged perpetrator or crime scene reconstitution; (ii) introducing additional legal and procedural guarantees to children offenders such as: diversion measures, use preventive arrest as a measure of last resort; deprivation of liberty only by a means of court decision; (iii) specialization of justice sector professionals working with and for children, including on gender-sensitive and gender-transformative aspects.

These normative changes should be preceded and supported by the development of robust mechanisms for their implementation, assuming and sharing responsibilities among de-facto institutions and authorities as well as empowering stakeholders with knowledge and skills to act in the best interest of the child. The required actions have been incorporated in a wider, policy level document - the "Roadmap for child rights in the Transnistrian region". During the validation meeting in June 2022, the de-facto authorities pledged to approve this document and linked it with the Human Right Framework for TN region.

The Assessment of the existing pre-service and in-service training programmes for professionals working with children in contact and in conflict with the law pointed out to the insufficiency of specialized bodies and structures working with children and to the limited number of professionals specialized child rights. The findings pave the ground for the development of pre-service and in-service training programmes for professionals working with and/or for children in contact with the law, based on the specific needs of girls and boys, and puts the emphasis on the need for systematic and coordinated capacity-building activities.



Training for trainers, Friendly justice for children, January 2022, @photocredit: Centre "Resonance"

With a view to reinforce practical applicability and compliance with international standards, three pre-service curricula for professionals were developed and submitted for implementation by regional universities with the following focus: i) Children's Rights. The applicability of the best interest ii) International legal framework on Juvenile Justice iii) Interviewing children in the legal proceedings. Those curricula are accompanied by relevant course support materials.

Two training packages for law enforcement professionals have been developed to improve the capacity in working with 1) children, victims and witnesses of crime and 2) children-offenders. A pool of 41 professionals improved their theoretical knowledge and practical skills to enable them to deliver the training, both as offline training, as well as e-learning programmes. A total of 138 specialists working with and for children (e.g. psychologists, social workers, guardianship authorities, lawyers, law enforcement professionals, forensic doctors) have been trained to apply a child-friendly approach during 15 two-day trainings.

In order to ensure observance of the rights of children in public custody, namely children placed in A. S. "Makarenko" institution, adjustments to the Internal Regulation and a new Code of Conduct have been developed and submitted for approval. A comprehensive preparation for release programme for children placed in Makarenko, as well as the training package for "A.S. Makarenko" staff to apply child-friendly procedures, were developed to facilitate social rehabilitation and reintegration of children in custody. A.S "Makarenko" staff are capacitated on positive interaction with children (22 staff including management) and for applying the Preparation for release programme (18 professionals during 4 days of training). Children offenders have a real chance of social reintegration being included in the above-mentioned programme. The conditions of children placed in "A.S. Makarenko" were improved by renovating and equipping a training room using Programme's funds. Additional improvements related to WASH facilities, internet connection, roof renovation, and setting-up a modern fire protection system were carried out by using UNICEF and local structures' financial resources.





A.S. Makarenko staff trained to apply Preparation for release programme, @photocredits: Center "Resonance"

The training room for children placed in "A.S. Makarenko" after the renovation, @photocredits: Center "Resonance"

Based on the positive dialog which was established with police on both banks and results achieved during the previous Programme's phase in 2016-2018, activities related to the advancement of multidisciplinary-policing approach is focusing on further enhancement of cooperation between LEAs and CSOs on both banks and continues building the capacities of police officers.

In cooperation with NGO "UORN" from Balti, 10,000 Booklets and posters on HIV, TB, VHC for police officers in Russian and Romanian languages were developed. The user-friendly, Romanian and in Russian, booklets and posters should serve as an informative document for front line police officers explaining safety and security measures at the workplace, as when conducting body searches and the booklet addresses the aspects of referring vulnerable people to the existing medico-social services. The booklets and posters were adapted and distributed also on the left bank.

A total of 414 police officers, 22% of which women, from both banks (Chisinau, Balti, Cahul, Drochia, Glodeni, Rezina, Anenii Noi, Dubasari, Ribnita, Camenca, Tiraspol, Slobozia, Grigoriopol and Bender) have improved their awareness on TB, HIV and developed their capacities in referral of vulnerable groups to medical and psychosocial services. In the context of COVID-19 the info-sessions were provided in a mixed format online and off-line, as 5 days webinars. Up to 82% off all participants have significantly improved their knowledge during the trainings, as shown by the online Pre and Post training scoring, answering correctly to 3 out of 4 groups of questions related to safety and security at the workplace, referral mechanisms and interaction with the vulnerable groups. Up to 96% of all participants have reported the information provided during the training as very practical and useful for their daily work. Participants included police representatives from public order, drug control, patrol and public order, minors' affairs, human resources and traffic control structures from both banks. During the webinars/training the referral mechanism from police to CSOs and medical services was further developed. One CSO reports that during the training in Dubasari, police has reported to the CSO that there is a vulnerable woman working in a farm, in the same day when the training was over, they travelled as a joint team to the farm, tested the women and all of her 6 sexual partners and have refer her to the medical services.



Training for police. May 2021, Iurie Climasevschi, Chief of the National HIV programme @photocredit: UNODC

During 3 Program years, over 800 PWUD, SW and homeless people, from both banks were tested for HIV, TB, STDs and viral hepatitis, were referred by police from both banks to services provided by CSOs and medical institutions. The right bank started piloting referral schemes in Chisinau, Balti and Cahul as of September 2021, and by the end of the Program 184 people were referred by police to medico-social services. From September 2021 to June 2022, 27 joint visits police CSOs were organized to vulnerable communities and homes, a total of 98 PWUD, 37 SW, 3 MSM, 46 homeless were referred by police to CSOs and covered with a minimum of 3 essential services including HIV, TB and ITS screening. Screening shows a big concentration of communicable diseases in the vulnerable communities, including, 17 new VHC cases, 14 STDs cases, 9 new TB confirmed cases, 1 HIV positive person. Identifying these people and enrolling them into treatment and social assistance program was only possible due to police's participation. CSOs jointly with police as mapping vulnerable localities, such as abandoned buildings, stadiums, vulnerable houses and apartments and conduct joint visit with the scope of assisting these people. Due to this activity the dialogue and the trust between law enforcement authorities, the civil society organization and communities has considerably improved, while police is translating in practice the communitarian policing approach. The CSOs involved in referral police-CSOs schemes are: Triniti (Ribnita), Miloserdie (Bender) and Alians Zdoroviya (Tiraspol), UORN (Balti), Pas cu Pas (Cahul), Positive Initiative (Chisinau), AFI (Chisinau) and Genderdoc M (Chisinau).





Referral schemes implementation: 1) picture left, homeless people tested on HIV by CSO Positive Initiative at Hotel National, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022; 2) picture right, vulnerable person assisted in Balti, October 2021 @photocredit: UNODC

#### Component 3: Enhanced human rights culture in the Transnistrian region

Recognising the important role of the media in increasing the public awareness on human rights and in exposing the identified human rights violations to the general public, during three years of its activity the Programme has developed and organized a series of media products and communication campaigns.

**Media materials.** According to the Communication plan, mass media remains the key partner for spreading Programme's key messages through distribution of press releases, success stories, video materials, interviews, information materials. Also, to achieve an enhanced human rights culture in the Transnistrian region, journalists and ordinary people were engaged through various awareness campaigns, to encourage them to stand up for their rights, speak up and get involved.

Thus, during reporting period in the national and regional mass-media were produced and distributed:

- 7 press releases;
- 6 interviews;
- 15 video success stories;
- 58 video materials in the frame of 28 online awareness campaigns.

As a result of efficient communication and press materials produced during September 2019 - June 2022, 132 media articles, 57 of them - video reportages, were published by left bank media reflecting the Programme activities and campaigns. Their overall impact has been more than 500 K people in the Transnistrian region could get acquainted with the Programme activities and results.

Also has increased the interest of left bank media in covering subjects related to vulnerable groups rights and concerns. In the reporting period, more than 1582 articles related to human rights were published in the left bank media. As a result, the total organic engagement on Transnistrian mass-media (5 Tv and 3 online portals) was 1 700 000 people.

**Media events.** Within the Programme, during 2019-2022, 12 offline and online events on human rights promotion were organized.

1. The event "Handing of grant certificates for the human rights CSOs", summer call 2021, took place on 6 September 2021, in Tiraspol. The scope of the event was to raise the awareness of the general public and the NGOs' representatives on the results of the One UN JA, acknowledge the successes of the NGO partners and Sweden's/Programme's contribution to advancement of human rights in the Transnistrian region, to show the role of the funded social projects in strengthening the realization of the rights of vulnerable groups. The event was attended by the winners of small grants, representatives of the Sustainable (Community) Development Platform, UNDP, Programme experts and journalists from the left bank of the Nistru river. In order to promote the event, a press release in Russian, Romanian and English versions was distributed to the regional and national media, 8 SMM quote cards have been created and posted on SCDP FB page and group and shared on partners FB pages. The posts had 7,3 K organic reach, 532 shares and 719 interactions with the posts on the SCDP FB page. The event was reflected by regional media and social media in 14 publications, including 3 video reportages.











The event "Handing of grant certificates for the human rights CSOs", on 6 September 2021, in Tiraspol, @photocredit UNDP

- 2. The first edition of the Forum on the cooperation between civil society organizations from both banks of the Nistru river in the area of human rights took place on 29 October 2021, in online format. The event brought together 100 participants representatives of implementing UN entities in Moldova, experts and civil society organizations from both banks of the Nistru river, as well as mass-media.
- 3. To achieve a maximum visibility of the Forum, the event was broadcast live on 9 FB pages (Privesc.eu web and Facebook page, SCDP's Facebook Page and Group, the UN page and six FB pages of the partner agencies). The live streaming of the Forum has been viewed by 15265 users on www.privesc.eu and accumulated over 30 000 views on 8 FB pages of the partner agencies, which were broadcasted the event. After event, were distributed a press release and conducted a SMM campaign on the Forum results (12 quote cards, 4 posts and the video exhibition of HRs drawings of children from the Left bank). As results, over 70 publications on mass-media and social media reflecting the event. FB statistics showed that the SMM posts had 56K organic reach, 623 shares on the SCDP and UNDP FB pages.



The online Forum on the cooperation between civil society organizations from both banks of the Nistru river, @photocredit UNDP

- 4. A flash mob "Share the facts about drugs. Save lives!" was organised by UNODC Moldova, on 26 June 2021, in Balti city, in the context of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The action was conducted in cooperation with the representatives of non-governmental organizations, police, rehabilitation and treatment services, as well as former drug users.
- 5. 2022 World Drug Day to be celebrated in a joint police/CSO event, when showing the case and the effectiveness of the police-CSO referral schemes. Mass media is invited for "a coffee with police and CSOs" where questions about the referral schemes and the translation into practice of community policing are answered.
- 6. Two editions of Human Rights Media Academy, being a unique capacity building tool, and which were conceptualized and have been implemented by OHCHR since 2016, were delivered for 42 media professionals, journalists and communications specialists from both banks of Nistru river, including Gagauzia, with a focus on participants from the Transnistrian region. Media academy conceptual activities were designed to prepare new generations of Journalists Human Rights Defenders starting with introduction into basic Human Rights concepts and principles and ending with their practical application in the daily work of media specialists, so that ultimately, their media products are Human Rights compliant and reflect the HRBA principles. First Media Academy was organised in online format in 2020, while the other following the requests from the participants, was conducted fully in-person in 2021.



Human Rights Media Academy training, in October 2021. @photocredit: OHCHR

As a result of the Media Academies, 25 media professionals from both banks with mentoring support from media professionals produced and published 20 human rights compliant media products (2 media materials were prepared jointly by journalists from both banks, reflecting the human rights situations on both banks) on various topics related particularly to the right on information, right to legal remedies, rights of persons with disabilities and older persons, prevention of early marriages in Roma communities, prevention of sexual harassment of minors and women's empowerment to apply for services in cases of domestic violence, youth empowerment and inclusive education for children with low vision, and child rights.











An award ceremony for alumni of the Human Rights Media Academy took place on 22 March 2022, in Tiraspol. 15 journalists, media professionals and communicators from both banks of Nistru river, who succeeded to finalize all stages of the academy shared their experience of participation at the capacity building event. During the final event of the Media Academy the finalists mentioned both positive aspects such as a unique experience to work under the guidance of professional journalists and human rights experts and challenges faced during the drafting of human rights compliant media materials, i.e. access to official data and issues with finding relevant human stories of people who are not afraid or willing to make testimonials on the the topic of investigation. During the final event the finalists also emphasized the necessity to continue the work of the UN Human Rights Media Academy on both banks of Nistru river, including Gagauzia, in order to extend the network of journalists producing a human rights compliant media narrative. 3 media publications produced by independent media and a SMM campaign on the Media Academy results (9 posts with a link to alumni's media materials) was conducted and widely distributed.

7. An award ceremony for alumni of the Human Rights Capacity Building Program with a focus on underrepresented groups gathered 25 human rights activists and journalists from independent media in Tiraspol on 18 March 2022. The final event was followed by the ToT on human rights education for the alumni of the program (PwDs, Roma, people living with HIV and victims of domestic violence) For the purpose to raise awareness of the general public, right holders and duty bearers on the results of the One UN JA, 4 media publications about the alumni event for representatives of vulnerable groups were produced and published in the local media.











The ceremony for alumni of the Human Rights Capacity Building Program, on 22 March 2022, in Tiraspol.

@photocredit: OHCHR

8. Through 11 media awareness raising events on human rights issues, conducted in the Transnistrian region, more than 90 media professionals, journalists, bloggers from de-facto media, independent media and CSOs as well as students of journalism faculties increased their knowledge on human rights compliant terminology, inclusive and non-discriminatory messages with a focus on vulnerable groups; prevention of hate speech towards minorities in social, online, printed, TV and Radio media space; efficient mechanisms and initiatives to

ensure an open, transparent and inclusive participation of youth belonging to groups most vulnerable to human rights violations in decision making processes at national and community levels; and on the impact of COVID-19 on civic, political, social, economic and cultural human rights.

9. Six online press clubs were organized by UNICEF partners for journalists from both banks of the Nistru river with the participation of the Child Rights' Ombudsperson, experts, psychologists and representatives of public institutions and non-governmental organizations. During the debates, the results of thematic monitoring on media coverage of children in the Transnistrian region (4 reports) were presented and specific topics were addressed, such as media coverage of the situation of children vulnerable to poverty; mass-media interaction with civil society and authorities in the promotion of children's rights; the influence of COVID-19 pandemic on children's lives and rights; children in the media in the context of military actions; harassment, aggression and bullying among children covered in media.

The press clubs for journalists and the quarterly media monitoring reports related to child rights revealed a rather weak coverage of child related qualitative and ethical journalism in the Transnistrian region. To raise awareness and promote child rights in the region, journalists from the left bank have been supported in developing and publishing journalistic materials on child rights issues, with a focus on violence against children and GBV, children, victims and witnesses of crime, children-offenders, data collection and usage.

All the above-mentioned activities strengthened the capacities of mass-media outlets and their journalists on both banks of the Nistru River to report actively and ethically on child rights, including the capacities of 4 newsrooms on the left bank of Nistru, namely: LIK TV, Dnestr TV, "Novaia volna" TV company, "Novoie vremea" newspaper and several journalists from Tiraspol regional administration newspapers. To further enhance mass-media capacities, in reporting actively and ethically on child rights, two training packages on "Media and Children's Rights" were developed, translated into Russian and laid out. Based on those two training packages, e-learning courses have been developed and made available to journalists. Over 600 child rights activists including journalists received the "15 Basic Rules for Journalists Reporting on Children" brochure that was developed and distributed, including in the Transnistrian region. A pool of 25 journalists increased their knowledge and skills in applying a child-friendly approach to developing media products, including as a precondition for complying with journalism ethics during the complex four days training.

**Awareness and communication campaigns.** Due to COVID-related restrictions imposed during 2020-2021, the interaction with mass-media and large public was limited mostly to online space. Thereby, eight awareness and communication campaigns in the field of human rights, carried out within the Programme, were managed on online platforms. Seven online communication campaigns were conducted on social media, using the SCDP's Facebook Page and Group, the UN page and six FB pages of the partner agencies.

Thus, during the reporting period, 31 awareness campaigns were carried out, aimed to promoting the rights of vulnerable groups. More than 1000 posts and media statements, including 58 video materials, have been published on the Platform's FB page, UN, on 6 FB pages of the Programme partner agencies and shared in Transnistrian FB groups. All the tools, available by this social media - written posts, photographs, videos and infographics - have been used to promote human-rights-related messages, to ensure the visibility of the Swedish support to the Programme's activities and the partners involved.

**PWDs rights.** To promote the rights of persons with disabilities, during September 2019 - June 2022, in the Transnistrian region were conducted 3 media awareness raising campaigns on human rights issues, including COVID-19 aspects.

1. The SMM campaign "More equality for PWDs" (December 2021) was conducted to promote the opportunities of the Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights ratification for PWDs. The campaign contained 10 comments of CSOs representatives involved in work with PWDs and, which were published on SCDP FB page and group. The posts had 13,2 K organic reach, 395 shares.

2. The SMM campaign "#Autism: understand and accept" (March 2022), was conducted in the context of "World Autism Awareness Day". 8 FB cards and posts were elaborated. The campaign content was published on SCDP FB page and group. The posts had 6.4 K organic reach, 395 shares.

**Roma rights.** To break down the stereotypes associated to the Roma community and to combat discrimination of one of the most stigmatized and rejected social groups in Transnistrian region, in the frame of the Programme were conducted 3 awareness online campaigns:

- 1. "Proud to be Roma" campaign (April 2020) was included one video success story, one written success story, 12 online posters, 12 photos featuring Roma and their social involvement.
- 2. For the last two years of the One UN JA implementation (2021-2022), the Programme successfully conducted awareness raising campaigns on both banks of Nistru river in the context of the International Roma Day and to support the establishment of Roma community mediators' institution on the left bank. Two campaigns "Together for Roma Rights" and "Roma Rights today and always" with a focus on the Transnistrian region were organised in 2021 and 2022 respectively. More than 50 media products, including 13 videos with human stories from mediators and Roma community members who had experienced different inequalities from both banks from Nistru river were developed and published on Facebook, internet resources of local administrations and Youth Platform for Interethnic Solidarity, and at the UN Moldova webpage. The stories covered the right to education, right to documentation, child rights, right to work, right to social protection, right to health, right to adequate housing, prevention of hate speech, and concluded with a comprehensive video on the benefits of establishing Roma community mediators with reference to data from the left-bank survey. Over 64823 people were reached, and more than 1204 likes and 2547 shares were registered.



Video material to present the first results of Roma community mediators in the Transnistrian region of Moldova, developed as part of Roma media campaign in 2022, village Andryashevka, April 2022 @videocredit: OHCHR

A banner on social inclusion for Roma community was developed as a part of the campaign and widely used by Roma CSO on the left bank at the activities organised by the Programme thus ensuring good visibility of the Programme and promoting social inclusion language. The UN experienced for the first time that an NGO working in the field of minority rights on the right bank, namely Youth Platform for Interethnic Solidarity, expressed a great interest in the campaign by its own initiative and partnered to share all the products on its social media platforms.

Rights of people living with HIV/AIDS were promoted throat 7 media awareness raising campaigns, aiming at raising awareness to HIV/AIDS, encouraging HIV testing and reducing the level of stigma and discrimination towards people living with or affected by HIV were carried out on both banks of the river Nistru, involving all the stakeholders (governmental and non-governmental) in the field.



1. The social media campaign on the occasion of the World AIDS Day (November - December 2019). The aim of the campaign was to raise awareness about the impact discrimination and social stigma have on people living with HIV, and how these negative attitudes hamper efforts to stop the spread of the epidemic. This outstanding communication campaign resulted in the coverage of about 20,000 people, including about 7,000 in the Transnistrian region. Additionally, a series of posters "Know how to talk about HIV to avoid stigma" were disseminated via social media with Problematic versus Preferred word or phrase when talking about HIV and a series of 30 seconds-long videos sharing voices and stories, which can help end HIV stigma. Out of them a 2-minutes-long video was produced to start the campaign. Thus, 4 special banners with specific awareness raising messages were created and widely

promoted on the UN FB page, SCDP's FB page and UNAIDS FB page. The posts had 3,9 K organic reach, 19 shares. As a result of this national campaign, which involved 19 organizations from both banks 894 people living with HIV in the Republic of Moldova received ARV treatment at home. To ensure uninterrupted access to ART for migrants abroad, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, was analysed the needs of migrants abroad in the field of ART and identified and built partnerships with organizations providing services in the field of HIV in the countries where the migrants were. Thus, during the reported period, 125 PLHIV, of which 45 women and 80 men, migrants, abroad, received ARV treatment at home or at the offices of partner organizations. Migrants received ART in the following countries: the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, the United Kingdom, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Turkey, Slovenia and Ukraine.

2. The general public communication campaign on the occasion of World AIDS Day (December 2020) was organized on both banks. The campaigns involved 18 organizations, local national partners from the non-governmental sector; 25 offline activities carried out on the entire territory of the Republic of Moldova (including in the Transnistria region); 10 localities covered with the offline events during the campaign; 110 publications on social media reflecting the events of the campaigns, as well as info on HIV and COVID-19. 3 press conferences were held during the 2 campaigns with the participation of UCM, Minister of Health, Labour and Social Protection and Parliamentarians from the Commissions on Health, Social Protection and Human rights.



- 3. **The awareness-raising campaign "Patient's Law School"** (January-June 2021), aimed at increasing the level of knowledge in the field of human rights and legal literacy of the patient. The campaign included a series of 7 video lessons for people living with HIV, which were published on SCDP's FB page and on beneficiaries FB pages. The campaign had 4,2K organic reach, 376 shares.
- 4. The awareness-raising campaign Overcoming HIV-related stigma and discrimination (May-June 2021), was implemented by the NGO "Alliance for Public Health" in partnership with the Public Association "IDOM". Within the framework of the project were produced a series of 5 informational anime clips related HIV-stigma and discrimination, which were published on SCDP's FB page and on beneficiaries FB pages. The campaign had 2K organic reach, 216 shares. Also, were printed and distributed leaflets and magnets, which tell interesting stories about the lives of HIV-positive people.
- 5. The national awareness campaign "Undetectable = Untransmittable" (May-June 2021,) dedicated to AIDS Candlelight Memorial Day was organized on both banks and included: 4 art objects installed in 4 cities from both banks, 157 articles published on social media as part of the campaign, 3 TV shows organized, 27 events organized to inform the general population, 21 flash mobs (in all partner organizations) on social networks, 15,336 people (views) covered by flash mobs, 7100 informative materials were distributed to specialized organizations which subsequently distributed them to the general population, 400 "Safe boxes" were distributed, 18 video/audio clips were developed and released, 12 institutions, national partners in the government sector, involved in carrying out the campaign activities, 19 organizations, national partners at local level in the non-governmental sector were involved in carrying out the campaign activities, 136 533 persons were covered with campaigns' events.



N=N awareness campaign. @photocredit: A.O. Initiativa Pozitiva

6. The HIV awareness campaign, dedicated to World AIDS Day (December 2021) was conducted in the under the slogan "Just Test" and impressive results were achieved: around 530,000 people/visualizations on social media were covered/reached during the campaign on both banks of the Nistru river; 27 organizations, local national partners in the non-governmental sector, involved in carrying out the campaign activities; 7 institutions, national partners in the government sector, involved in carrying out the activities of the campaign; 20 video / audio clips were developed and released; 64 rapid tests for the civilian sector were carried out during the campaign. 3500 "Safe boxes" were distributed; 1630 information materials were distributed to specialized organizations which subsequently distributed them to the general population; 6 events for informing the general population; 3 TV shows; 80 articles published on social media as part of the campaign. The continuation of the campaign "Just Test" is conducted in the period 10 May - 10 June 2022 dedicated to AIDS Candlelight Memorial Day on both banks of the river Nistru. Many of the activities of the campaign have been already carried out, including the official press-conference for launching the campaign: https://www.facebook.com/initiativapozitiva/videos/700272044516249, others are still ongoing.

The continuation of the campaign "Just Test" is conducted in the period 10 May - 10 June 2022 dedicated to AIDS Candlelight Memorial Day on both banks of the river Nistru.



Banner developed for the "Just Test" campaign, @photocredit: A.O. "Initiativa Pozitiva"

7. **The SMM campaign "Children's voices on HIV/AIDS in drawings"** was carried out on the occasion of the International HIV/AIDS Day (December 2021) and included 8 drawings with messages from children. The drawings were provided by specialized civil society organizations from the left bank («Тринити», «Милосердие», «Альянс Общественного Здоровья»). The campaign content was published on SCDP FB page and group. The posts had 13,2 K organic reach, 395 shares.

Rights of domestic and gender-based violence survivors were promoted in 3 awareness raising campaigns.

1. The campaign "Beyond human stories" (September-October 2021), includes a series of five portraits of vulnerable groups representatives, who, despite stigma, overcame all difficulties and became successful people. They are beneficiaries of Sweden-funded projects under the One UN Joint Action "Cross-river support for human rights". In the framework of this campaign, 5 life stories with photo essays in Romanian, English and Russian versions, were produced and placed in social media (UNDP Medium and FB page as well on SCDP FB page and group) and in local media resources. The campaign had a total organic reach of 31K and over 350 shares. 9.200 times users interacted with the campaign on the Facebook post through feedback, comments, sharing, and clicks. During the campaign, 2 protagonists of the campaign received help from the people who read their stories and from charitable NGOs. The most visible and impactful stories were shared by UNDP Regional Hub on twitter.



Protagonists of the campaign "Beyond human stories", @photocredit: UNDP

2. The online awareness campaign for prevention and protection against domestic violence in Transnistrian region "5 friends from circle of trust" (October-November 2021) was carried out in partnership with IOM and CSO "Interaction", from Tiraspol. 5 friends were key specialists, institutions, NGOs, specialized organizations that can help people in cases of domestic violence, as well as a helpline for the Transnistrian region. The campaign contained a lot of informative materials, including a press release, 5 video consultations of key specialists in cases of domestic violence (psychologist, lawyer, social worker), five stories about domestic violence survivors, 8 statistics, 4 SMM posters with recommendations. The content was produced and placed on UN, UNDP FB pages as well on SCDP FB page and group, YouTube and twitter accounts, and in local media resources. The campaign had a total organic reach of 73K and over 200 shares.



Banner, quote and statistical cards of the awareness campaign "5 friends from circle of trust"

3. The awareness campaign "Say #NO to discrimination, support the change!" was developed on the occasion of the Zero Discrimination Day (February 2022). The campaign aimed to overcome the stereotypes that lead to the restriction of the rights of vulnerable groups. As part of the campaign, information materials on the most common types of discrimination were published, as well as the opinions on equality of the members of the Sustainable (Community) Development Platform. Also, through drawings, children showed how they

understand the phenomenon of discrimination. The campaign content was published on SCDP FB page and group. The posts had 3,2 K organic reach, 618 shares.

**Human rights as a core thematic.** For three years, within the Programme, 9 informational campaigns in the field of human rights on both banks of the Nistru river were carried out on physical and online platforms.

- 1. The Human Rights Awareness Raising Campaign "Recover Better Together: Human Rights For All" (October-December 2020) was targeting duty bearers and rights holders from both banks. The campaign included 3 video testimonials of people who explained what issues they faced in execution the right to social protection, freedom of religion and right to labour. The total organic reach amounted to 8K, over 290 shares and 460 impressions.
- 2. **The campaign "I have the right to..."** (December 2020) was to raise awareness on the importance of human rights through positive examples of vulnerable groups' representatives. The campaign pivoted on positive examples of claiming rights by people belonging to vulnerable groups. Six online posters were created featuring rights holders bringing a change by claiming their rights. The posters were shared on UN FB page as well on SCDP and UNDP FB pages. The posts had 5 K organic reach and 10 shares.
- 3. The campaign "If I Could Change..." on the occasion of World Day of Social Justice (February 2020), to raise awareness on the importance of equal opportunities for all and how social justice can improve the life of vulnerable groups. It was focused on educational opportunities for kids, disability rights, domestic violence and adequate healthcare as social justice issues. In the framework of the campaign was organised a brunch with journalists; 4 posters sharing voices of people from vulnerable groups facing social inequity were produced. As well 4 max. 1 min long videos sharing voices and stories on the importance of equal opportunities for all and how social justice can improve the life of vulnerable groups were filmed and distributed via social media.
- 4. Creation Contest "Human rights are yours and mine" (December 2021) which was widely disseminated among educational institutions from both banks. 1105 artworks were submitted by children and youth, aged between 10-18 years coming from 150 educational institutions from both banks of Nistru river, including institutions working with children in conflict with law targeted by UN partner agencies, in the period between 10 September 10 December 2021. The selection panel consisted of human rights experts and art professionals from both banks selected the 12 best art works which were included in the One UN calendar. The campaign contained 11 posts with presentation of 12 winner paintings and their authors, 3 media statements about the competition and the final event, a video exhibition of paintings. The campaign had a organic impact of circa 1,2K and 154 shares.
- 5. The campaign to promote the partnership of the Programme with 25 civil society organizations from both banks of Nistru, who have been awarded at the Forum on the cooperation between civil society organizations from both banks of the Nistru river in the area of human rights (December 2021). The campaign included a series of 8 photo essays with presentation of 14 CSOs and their projects under the Programme. The posts had 2,5K organic reach and 294 shares.
- 6. **The SMM campaign "Children rights in simple words"** (December 2021) was conducted on SCDP FB page and group, and included a series of 8 animes on children rights. The content was produced in collaboration with the young bloggers from Roma organization "Dniester-Infolex" (Bender). The posts had 2941 views.
- 7. **The SMM campaign "Our results in numbers: 2021 year"** (January 2022), was conducted to promote the Programme results in 2021, obtained in partnership with civil society organizations, members of the Platform for sustainable (community) development. The campaign included a series of 30 statistical cards about the Programme results and impressions of the beneficiaries about the collaboration with the Programme. The posts had 3,8K organic reach and 513 shares.
- 8. The SMM campaign "#Human rights unite the banks" (May-June 2022), was included 10 Facebook quotes cards with comments of SCDP members about work within the Programme, 6 video success stories

about the main results of the Programme, 7 video messages from the managers of the partner agencies on the Programme results and 5 short success stories about small grant projects. At the moment, the campaign had 17 K organic reach and 532 shares. The campaign was conducted in July 2022.

**Human rights awareness in the context of COVID-19 pandemic.** The beginning of the pandemic urged to change the communications plans and adopt a new approach of talking about human rights and promote the importance of claiming the rights. Right from the beginning of the pandemic, within the Programme, 5 campaigns were carried out related to the rights of vulnerable groups in the context of restrictions and quarantine.

- 1. **The communication campaign "#stai acasa/#stay home"** (May-June 2020) aimed to extend the information about COVID-19 in Transnistrian region. To better promote the message, 7 video and 30 testimonials sharing voices of prominent cultural figures, local doctors, journalists, as well as vulnerable groups' representatives, were created and shared on social media. Within the framework of the information campaign on reducing the level of stigma and discrimination against people affected by socially dangerous diseases: HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, COVID-19, etc., the life stories of people who have faced socially dangerous diseases (HIV/AIDS, TB, COVID-19) have been published. AIDS Candlelight Commemoration, in May 2020, was mostly organised on social media.
- 2. An infographic campaign to extend the information about COVID-19 in Transnistrian region and widespread the importance of human rights approach in addressing COVID-19-related issues was developed. FB statistics showed the posters campaign was deeply efficient. The posts had 29,2 K organic reach, 427 shares and 1300 clicks on the posters on the SCDP and UNDP FB pages.
- 3. In the period May-June 2020, due to the emergency public health situation related to COVID-19, which affected all people, especially those most vulnerable it was decided to support the national campaign "Mobilizing efforts for an effective national response in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic". The main objectives of the campaign were to create the conditions for an online communication of all the partners in the field in order to solve the existing priority objectives/problems; to increase awareness and availability of the NGO's collaborators to provide services in the field of HIV/AIDS, minimize the risks of infection and avoid service interruption and ensure uninterrupted access to TARV in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, including to migrants located abroad. Also, among objectives it was to ensure the access to veridic information from secure sources in the context of the pandemic of COVID-19 and conduct an information campaign on reducing the level of stigma and discrimination against people affected by socially dangerous diseases: HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, COVID-19, etc. As a result of this national campaign, which involved 19 organizations from both banks 894 people living with HIV in the Republic of Moldova received ARV treatment at home.
- 4. The media campaign on COVID-19 and impact on vulnerable groups in the Transnistrian region (September 2020) was conducted with a special focus on the Roma community, people with chronic diseases, older persons, and women victims of domestic violence. Aiming to promote the rights of different vulnerable groups through human stories, was showcased inequalities they faced during the pandemic through a human rights perspective as well as highlighted measures which should be taken by duty bearers to respect, protect and fulfil the right to health, the right to education, the right on social protection, and the right to be treated equally. The posters featured statements of 5 people belonging to different vulnerable groups saying how the measures taken in the context of COVID-19 influenced their life and their rights. 8 media products, including 5 posters, 2 comics, and 1 audio photo essay were produced and placed in social media (UN FB page as well on SCPD and OHCHR FB pages) and in local media resources. The campaign had a total organic reach of 21.000 and over 380 Shares. 1.700 times users interacted with the campaign on the Facebook post through feedback, comments, sharing, and clicks. The most visible and impactful campaign item was the comic on health with a total reach of 3.600 being followed by a poster featuring the rights of older persons with 3.200.
- 5. The SMM campaign about the Line of Goodness and volunteers from the left bank (September 2021), that are helping vulnerable groups from Transnistrian region in the pandemic with the support of the One UN Joint Action. The campaign included a series of 8 video materials and photo essays, which show how work volunteers

and Line of Goodness, and how people benefit of this project. The campaign content was published on UN and UNDP FB pages as well on SCDP FB page and group, on Twitter and YouTube accounts. Overall, the posts had 15 K organic reach, 450 shares.

6. Rights holders and duty bearers from both banks had their human rights awareness raised in the context of COVID-19, through the nine guidance notes developed on various human rights topics, which were selected based on the outcomes of the rapid needs assessment conducted among the members of the NGO Task Force: the right to health, right to work, rights of older persons, rights of persons with disabilities, right to social protection, ICCPR - restrictions and limitations, human rights compliant communications were among the topics addressed in the guidance notes. 6585 copies of four leaflets in an "easy-to-read, easy-to-understand" format and 500 copies of posters with human stories from the left bank of Nistru river on the impact of COVID-19 on human rights were distributed to members of the SCDP and OHCHR's NGO Task Force from both banks, as well as representatives of different vulnerable groups.

Communication campaigns to help refugees from Ukraine. Humanitarian action "Let's help as much as we can!" (March-May 2022) was conducted to help refugees from Ukraine. From the first days of the war in Ukraine, in the frame of humanitarian campaign, information about aid for refugees was provided by organizations, as well as announcements of humanitarian aid collections, are published. Among the beneficiaries are about 500 Roma people along with numerous Ukrainian women and children, as well as people with disabilities and older people. The campaign included 7 stories and 27 Facebook cards and posts, which were published on SCPD FB page and group. The posts had 11 K organic reach, 735 shares.

**Audience on social media platforms**. During 3 years of the Programme activity, we have created and developed several pages on social media: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Medium, Flickr. Our communication activities have had a significant increase the number of followers on SCDP's Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/platformadnestr/). The number of netizens who have liked it is 721 and 822 followers. SCDP's Facebook Group has 422 members (https://www.facebook.com/groups/platformadnestr). The information materials were disseminated through the Platform page and were reposted in the Group.

Additionally, to the FB, the Programme's activities were mediatised via UNDP and UN twitter accounts. About 100 tweets related to the Programme's activities were posted in the reporting period. Some of them were shared by UNDP Eurasia and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) on their international social media platforms.



Newsletter. Some external communications tools were developed, maintained and used order to ensure Programme's common voice for Human Riahts responsiveness to opportunities to communicate. Among them, a quarterly electronic newsletter largely distributed people/stakeholders, etc. via email that presents the joint action's results, lessons learned, events, people's stories, etc. 8 Programme newsletters (in RUS and ENG) were developed and published online in the reporting period:

### 1st Programme Newsletter, ENG and RUS versions:

- https://sway.office.com/3LuRcXyu1Lg3UGmu
- https://sway.office.com/wJ8aJN6jbQollIjZ

## **2nd Programme Newsletter, ENG and RUS versions:**

- https://sway.office.com/IHom58cdny7vgB24
- https://sway.office.com/3Fda0i1eiLAMvTeb

#### **3rd Programme Newsletter**, ENG and RUS versions:

- https://sway.office.com/3LuRcXyu1Lg3UGmu
- https://sway.office.com/wJ8aJN6jbQollIjZ

### 4th Programme Newsletter, ENG and RUS versions:

- https://sway.office.com/IHom58cdny7vgB24
- https://sway.office.com/3Fda0i1eiLAMvTeb

### 5th Programme Newsletter, ENG and RUS versions:

- <a href="https://mailchi.mp/6a96888327d1/cross-river-support-for-human-rights-newsletter-june-2021?e=[UNIQID]">https://mailchi.mp/6a96888327d1/cross-river-support-for-human-rights-newsletter-june-2021?e=[UNIQID]</a>
- <a href="https://mailchi.mp/e3ba67aee48d/2021?e=[UNIQID&fbclid=IwAR1NjYgEITZtXDFbKAGIEUbA00ZRIS-a0Wn2H84XhlA05ySSC3UDBHW4doA0">https://mailchi.mp/e3ba67aee48d/2021?e=[UNIQID&fbclid=IwAR1NjYgEITZtXDFbKAGIEUbA00ZRIS-a0Wn2H84XhlA05ySSC3UDBHW4doA0</a>

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Programme Newsletter, ENG and RUS versions:

- <a href="https://mailchi.mp/02df7ef85f50/newsletter-no-6-russian-version?fbclid=lwAR3hcvlmvigOk8O-hOTxdG9o63yEe1FbDR5NN2UMzNtqklCRFFvUihegNJM">https://mailchi.mp/02df7ef85f50/newsletter-no-6-russian-version?fbclid=lwAR3hcvlmvigOk8O-hOTxdG9o63yEe1FbDR5NN2UMzNtqklCRFFvUihegNJM</a>
- https://mailchi.mp/c648baf40808/cross-river-support-for-human-rights-newsletter-september-2021

### 7<sup>th</sup> Programme Newsletter, ENG and RUS versions:

- https://mailchi.mp/24f2058632c4/newsletter-no-6-russian-version-5251630
- <a href="https://mailchi.mp/8730aa3ccbee/cross-river-support-for-human-rights-newsletter-september-5252446">https://mailchi.mp/8730aa3ccbee/cross-river-support-for-human-rights-newsletter-september-5252446</a>

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Programme Newsletter, ENG and RUS versions:

- https://mailchi.mp/1d73ce98d619/newsletter-no-8-english-version-6769297?e=bd39471fd2
- https://mailchi.mp/a03d4ac11df9/newsletter-no-8-russian-version-6768985?fbclid=lwAR1RS\_mfg0-0BI\_IFloOorUno7mP84mLr22tEvwwBQtmgHKunRuAV53twjo

Also, in the reported period were organized 104 online meetings, conducted through the ZOOM communication platform during which the existing objectives/priority problems were discussed, agreed and solved. Also, an online library containing over 40 sources of information / training materials was available online. In order to ensure access to truthful information from reliable sources in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the media department analysed the media space daily and identified truthful information from reliable sources on COVID-19. These materials were adapted according to the specifics of the Republic of Moldova.

High political events at the Parliament - a policy dialogue on HIV response sustainability was organized on World AIDS Day 2020. The parliamentarian control tool and a technical group was created as result to further address social contracting.



High-level policy dialogue on HIV response sustainability, Parliament of the RM, 30 November 2020, @photocredit: A.O. "Initiativa Pozitiva"

Aiming to reduce self-stigma and to empower women living with HIV, a total number of 136 persons (around 50 women (a double of the target) in 2020, 37 women - in 2021 and 49 women and men in 2022) from both banks were empowered through a mentoring programme based on the concept developed in 2019. This was achieved through the awareness raising on human rights, decreasing self-stigma, increasing their self-esteem, and developing skills to recognize and correctly manage GBV and economic empowerment. Additional resources were mobilized from UN Women in 2020, which complemented the programme with services related to socioeconomic empowerment and gender-based violence management. As a result of these actions, a woman from Tiraspol decided to open publicly HIV status and talk about stigma, discrimination and domestic violence she faced during years. Her story was published on the UNAIDS global website.

During the lock-down the need for online meetings has increased. However, there were challenges related to IT skills of mentors and lack of IT devices and access to the internet for the most vulnerable women. Most of them were trained on how to use the computer and on-line meeting platforms.

In the first six months of 2022 it was decided to also include men in the mentoring programme and adapt the methodology according to the necessities (16 men were involved).

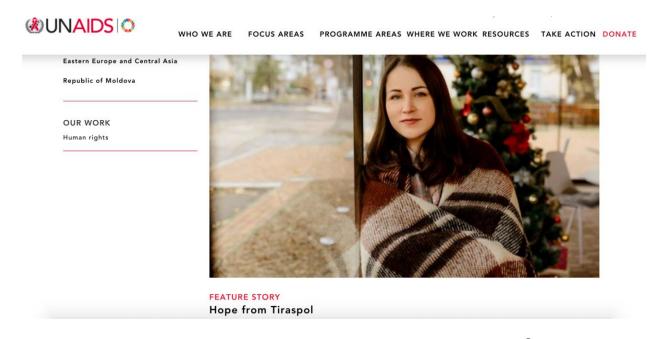
On June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Moldova's good experience of mentoring programme was shared with Kazakhstan counterparts, which are in the process of initiation of a similar programme.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, was organized a final event with HIV living women involved in mentoring programme during the period 2020-2022 - "**The new me**" an Art talk therapy event with HIV living women about the right to live in dignity.



The event "The new me", on 9th 2022, @photocredit: UNAIDS

The goal of the activity is to built on women mentees experience about the mentoring program and share "The new me" stories. A short video with one of the heroes of the mentoring programme was filmed and will be projected during the event and distributed later on social media.



The story of a women, living with HIV, from Tiraspol, featured on UNAIDS global website @photocredit: UNAIDS

The activity related to "Zero discrimination in health facilities" was conducted slightly different than initially planned. To ensure the institutionalization of zero stigma concept in health facilities, partnerships with State University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Nicolae Testemiteanu" (for doctor students), and College of Medicine "Raisa Pacalo" (for nurses and medium health staff) were developed. The aim of the partnership laid around the curricula revision through the lens of human rights and assertive and efficient interpersonal communication. The approach also ensures the sustainability of the intervention and is more strategic. As a result, two reports on the curricula evaluation were produced, with each institution. Conclusions and recommendations of necessary adjustments were developed. In the period January-June 2022 it continued the work on strengthening the curricula by adjusting and / or developing programmes, modules, methodical-didactic support, which was finalized for certain faculties in both institutions. At the end of June 2022, a two-day training entitled "Integrating Human Rights into health training programs" on the new curricula developed for the University of

Medicine was conducted. A total of 42 staff were trained on the new aspects of the curricula related to human rights.

A training course for the training of trainers (ToT) in effective communication was organized in the period 6-7, 13-14 and 23-24 December 2021 for the specialists from both banks.

Subsequently, the formed resource - 22 specialists will train colleagues from medical institutions in the country. The goal was to ensure 0 (zero) stigma in medical institutions, regardless of illness, age, gender or any other criteria.

The same training course was organized for the personnel from College of Medicine "Raisa Pacalo" (26 participants) on 6-7 May 2022 and for the personnel involved from State University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Nicolae Testemiteanu" in the period 2-3 June 2022 (22 participants).



Training for the personnel from College of Medicine "Raisa Pacalo", on 6-7 May 2022, @photocredit: UNAIDS

Stigma Index research was carried out in the reporting period. Data collection for the Stigma Index study has been done in the period October 2021 - February 2022. This was possible after several months of preparation which included meetings with the colleagues from GNP+ (global level) in order to be familiarized with the new approach of the study and adapt the methodology according to the needs and the realities of the Republic of Moldova, development and approval of the methodology, translation of the documents, obtaining approval from the Ethical Committee, the Ministry of Health and the de-facto authorities from the Left Bank, finalizing the sample according to the methodology - 868 persons living with HIV from both banks of Nistru, recruitment of interviewers, setting of the devices for data collection via RedCap application and 3 days training of interviewers on methodological, ethical, security aspects of the study according to the methodology and recommendations and on how to collect data via RedCap and send it to server.

By the end of the data collection period 868 questionnaires have been completed on both banks. According to the methodology at least 25% of the respondents are representatives of key populations: MSM, UDI, SW and TG. Currently, the second draft of the report has been developed and is planned to be translated and sent for consultation/adjustment and approval to the international partners. Presentation of the final report and its recommendations will be done during 2022.

Preliminary findings of the stigma index study 2022 documented experiences of stigma and discrimination among people living with HIV in the Republic of Moldova. Although, the trends in stigma and discrimination show that there have been improvements in key indicators, still it remains difficult for the beneficiaries to communicate with the staff of the medical institutions and to ensure the maintaining of confidentiality, which remains a serious obstacle to accessing the services. At the same time, there are higher values of reporting on mandatory / forced HIV testing and medical procedures and reported internalized stigma.



Word drug day 2021, Balti, UNODC, police and a drug user @photocredit: UNODC



World Drug Day 2022, organized jointly with police and CSO, @photocredit: UNODC

# IV. Challenges, lessons learned and risks

### The key lessons/challenges drawn from the implementation of the Joint Actions so far 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 needed, leading to potential delays in activities. Issues related to domestic violence, trafficking in human beings, refugees' rights, forced migration, child rights, HIV prevention methodology, etc. are politically controversial and need to be approached with care;
- The heated-up rhetoric about independence of the region has resulted in repeated requests to use the toponymic "Transnistrian" in Programme's documents by the de-facto structures.
- 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 structures balanced with political risks due to the sensitivity of the subject matter.
- Two crises occurred during the Programme implementation (COVD-19 pandemic with a total duration of more than 2 years, war in Ukraine and following refugee crisis in Moldova), which brought additional impediments and impact on delivery of Programme outputs. UN partner agencies had to adapt their activities to the current political, security, economic and social environment, where some of the activities were implemented with delays, awaiting better timings for interaction with national and de-facto authorities, CSOs;
- 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 and inspire thematic advocacy groups to propose new advocacy actions. However, SCDP members still face difficulties in working as equal consortia partners with NGOs on the right bank and, respectively, in ensuring the transfer of knowledge to promote and realize the rights of vulnerable groups. The process of organisation of 6 internships during April-June 2022, highlighted the fact that many SCDP members still do not have the necessary skills to act independently in this regard, without the support of the Programme.
- 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.
- 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 Programme.
- 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.
- According to an OHCHR survey 70% of the region's population rely on TV as their main source of information. Therefore, it is crucial that the Programme attracts media (especially TV) for any advocacy/awareness raising activities. UN and Embassy of Sweden may consider raising this issue in the discussions with the de-facto structures.

- There is a need for permanent mentoring of NGOs from the Transnistrian region and consultants involved in delivering Programme outputs, in conducting capacity building activities. The more efforts are paid to mentoring and coaching for CSOs and individual consultants the more they manage to conduct activities with a good impact (for OHCHR component it led to an increase of more than twice in relation to some Programme indicators). It is worth including some ToTs and coordination activities in the future or adjusting the current programmes. Even though few of these NGOs know about human rights conventions, their approach to them is very legalistic. A significant mentoring effort is required to effectively involve them as partners in the programme's activities.
- The Programme focuses its work with CSOs on the members of the SCDP, which has still a limited number of members with an enhanced organisational and individual capacity. This may lead to several developing partners targeting same organisations and individuals through the work in various thematic areas. This, in turn, has led to CSOs being overburdened and overloaded. It is therefore recommended to expand the list of individual experts and partner organizations from left bank of Nistru River and to enhance their capacity for the purpose of future strategic interventions.
- Exclusion of minorities is more common in the Transnistrian region, than on the right bank of the Nistru River, due to fewer information and interaction with representatives of the minorities. There is a tendency that the voice and needs of minorities and vulnerable groups are not taken into account by de facto structures (often not even acknowledging that there is a problem) in the decision-making process, especially during the pandemic. In this regard more focus should be paid on minorities and other vulnerable groups in bringing their needs to the attention of de facto structures through antidiscrimination media campaign, needs assessments etc.
- Due to global pandemic with COVID-19 all the activities had to be re-adapted to the current situation. Several activities, such as study visits or workshops with involvement of international experts, had to be postponed due to travel restrictions. Access to prisons has been banned as a control and prevention measure.
- Judges and prosecutors are reluctant to accept external support. Even if they did not participate in the capacity-building activities, thanks to the sensible topics of children in contact with the law, especially discussing child victims and witnesses of crime, judges, prosecutors, and criminal investigators have been involved in the consultation of the developed of analyses, adjustments to the normative amendments, and the validation of the child rights roadmap. The study visit for professionals working with and for children has been postponed, initially due to COVID-19 restrictions, and after that due to security issues in the region related to the war in Ukraine.
- One of the findings of the on-line capacity building activities is that they cannot completely replace the inperson trainings. Especially, when participatory approach is essential. Also, these events are lacking the networking and confidence building component, as they cannot ensure the direct interaction of the participants. This may ultimately lead to further delays in implementation. However, this approach allowed continuing the Programme's implementation, rather than completely stopping them or postponing them for a later date. This format will continue to be used, to the extent possible, as a stop gap measure.
- Stigma and discrimination towards women who inject drugs, sex workers and transgender people remain high in Moldova and this constitutes a serious barrier to access HIV prevention services. Women living with HIV also face severe stigma and discrimination, with evidence of gender-based discrimination and violence, particularly aggravated by the COVID-19 outbreak and isolation imposed by the quarantine measures.
- It was important to use the joint efforts of several agencies to achieve the envisaged goals. For example, to ensure the adjustments/changes in the defacto normative framework in the area of HIV, it was necessary to ensure partnership/cooperation of all stakeholders and involvement and support of other UN agencies, such as UNDP, OHCHR and UNODC.

- The need for re-adaptation of all the activities due to COVID-19 epidemiological situation and a wider mobilization of efforts and of resources outside of the Programme (for example UNAIDS collaboration with UN Women on mentoring programme to offer more for the beneficiaries of the Programme).
- A potential lack of continuity of initiated support may compromise the achieved results.

The war in Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the achievement of results in the case of prisoners. Despite a long-lasting process of the SoPs development and acceptance by de facto justice, health and foreign affairs structures (2,5) the implementation has been postponed during the entire program.

# V. Next steps

## Component 1: Increased capacities of vulnerable rights holders to exercise their human rights

The Programme will continue to support the SCDP institutional capacity development. Based on the assessment of the progress of the capacity building activities in this area there is a need for further strengthening of the SCDP and its individual members. The training activities will cover such topics as: providing social services based on minimum quality standards, the acquisition of services by local and regional authorities, techniques for motivating the beneficiaries of specialized services and other topics.

The activities in this area will be supported by exchange visits to the right bank in the area of inclusive education, assisted employment, combating GBV, social enterprises and social services for people with intellectual and psycho-social disabilities, and will be available for the members of the SCDP and their partners. Greater attention will be given to strengthening the relations established with NGOs and the right bank institutions, which provide and coordinate specialised social services. The development process of the Personal Assistant service demonstrated that the District and Municipal Departments of Social Assistance on the right bank, along with the CSOs, can contribute essentially to the transfer of knowledge and the development of specialised services on the left bank.

Programme will continue to support the SCDP's Working Groups. Between September 2021 and June 2022, the working groups had measurable results, especially the "Advocacy" and "Social Services" groups. In the context of the initiatives announced by SCDP's members regarding the development of new services and the consolidation of existing ones for the next period, the need for support for working groups becomes even more important. It is important to note that these activities are organised by the members of the SCDP and their partners for the members of the SCDP, thus applying the principle "nothing for us, without us".

The Programme will continue the implementation of human rights capacity building programme for the human rights activists and staff of CSOs through support of advocacy actions and drafting of media products to duty bearers and informing right holders about their rights and presenting the cases of discrimination of people from vulnerable groups. The study visits to right-bank CSOs and municipal institutions working for the rights of vulnerable groups (Roma, survivors of domestic violence, People living with HIV, people in prisons, prisoners after release, women who use drugs) will complement experience and knowledge for participants of the programme in developing thematic advocacy actions. Various advocacy actions proposed by human rights activities and staff of CSOs of this programme will continue to be supported in their implementation.

In continuation of actions on ensuring access for Roma community on the left bank of Nistru river to education, health, social security, identity documents, labour and place of residence, further supporting and strengthening of the newly established Roma community mediators' institution will be continued. This will be done by introducing capacity building trainings for Roma mediators, expanding the network of mediators to the localities inhabited by more than 100 Roma and by mobilising the Roma mediators' network to collect data, monitor the human rights situation of Roma and claim Roma rights in relations with duty bearers. To ensure sustainability

of the initiative on piloting Roma community mediators, the guide for Roma community mediators developed in 2019 for the network of Roma community mediators on the right bank of Nistru river with the support of Programme will be adapted to the regulations applicable to the left bank of Nistru river. The adapted guide for Roma community mediators will serve as a basis for the everyday work of Roma community mediators to facilitate the access of Roma to the right to health, education, social support, labour, documentation and housing and will be used during educational processes for newly selected mediators in the region. 6 community mediators will ensure access to mediators in 5 localities on the left bank of Nistru river and media campaigns on Roma rights and faced inequalities will contribute to awareness raising among Roma community, general population and duty-bearers on the left bank of the Nistru river, subsequently will increase ownership of the Roma community mediators' institution by de-facto structures.

The provision of services for the social inclusion of persons with disabilities in Slobozia district on the left bank will be continued till June 2022 and will create a sustainable model of service provision for and by persons with disabilities, which could be transferred to the de facto structures.

It is planned to continue the implementation of PrEP on both banks and booster this activity through involvement of additional partners, i.e. GIZ, and enhance the communication campaign in order to reach more beneficiaries and inform the population about this possibility. An additional training for representatives from the left bank of the Nistru River in order to share Genderdoc-M's right-bank experience and to enhance capacities of the CSOs' representatives on how to work with MSM and enrol them into PrEP will be organised.

The Programme will continue to operationalize the "Trust Line 0800 99800" for victims of domestic violence. NGO "Interaction" will continue to help and support to victims of domestic violence, trafficking in human beings, forced migration and the victims' families through identification, legal assistance, and psychological counselling, and humanitarian support.

The collaboration with NGOs and regional de facto structures will continue through guiding and referring victims in emergency situations to available services/institutions. In addition to the support of the existing services, it is proposed that the next phase should also focus on victims of sexual violence and creation of the framework for protection of their rights.

Particular attention will be paid to the analysis of work results, summing up, and fundraising opportunities that may help ensure sustainability of providing services after the end of the project.

During the 2019-2022 gender sensitive services for women, who use drugs, and their children were usefully initiated and piloted by 3 CSOs active in the field of drug users' support UNESC - Balti, Positive Initiative - Anenii Noi and Triniti - Ribnita. 3 Crisis rooms at the facilities of the CSOs were refurbished and equipped to permit temporary shelter for women who use drugs (WUD) and their children who are subjects to domestic violence and in the context of refugee crisis the rooms have hosted adult refugees and children. Women and children were provided medical and psycho-social support, shelter for 10 days, food, hygiene packages, basic clothing, in addition to employment opportunities, legal counselling, support to their children who needed school and kindergarten enrolment. The successful piloting of the gender specific services will be scaled in the upcoming program to cover more women and children in need of specific assistance. CSOs from both banks will continue to receive yearly grants.

In the upcoming phase, the Programme will continue with building capacities and enhancing the dialog between prisons, CSOs will and other relevant stakeholders. As per Th. Hammarberg's we have addressed the recommendation to develop services for people who are released from prisons therefore addressing many aspects of their vulnerability. 3 CSOs from both banks were subcontracted to pilot the package of services for prisoners after release. Under the guidance of UNODC, the CSOs Positive Initiative from Chisinau, Triniti from Ribnita and CRPC from Chisinau have developed and are piloting a package of 6 services former prisoners. In the new program these successful interventions shall be continued, grants will be offed to the CSOs to continue implementing the mechanism of referral and assistance of people released from prisons, capacity building of relevant stakeholders will be further built (including: prisons, CSOs, probation, police, occupational bureau,

businesses, social and health specialists), to broaden the skills and ensure the social corporate responsibility while providing re-socialization and reintegration of vulnerable people.

### Component 2: Increased capacities of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations

Under the component of the development of a Human Rights Framework, the Programme will follow the objectives foreseen in the Roadmap and will ensure full and meaningful participation of the CSOs in the process of its drafting and establishing implementation and monitoring mechanism of the framework together with representatives of multi-sectorial working group from de-facto structures. It is expected that finalisation and adoption of the Human Rights Framework through a local regulatory act will take place during the next phase of the Programme. Then, the Programme will support the establishing of a multi-stakeholder coordination unit comprised of representatives of CSOs and de facto structures, including de facto ombudsperson. This coordination unit will monitor the implementation and will conduct regular evaluation and reporting on the progress of implementation of the plan, among other activities. Best cross-river practices and positive experiences from other countries on tracking progress on human rights plans, on cooperation between civil society and authorities will be reviewed and integrated in the process of implementation.

The Programme will be able to provide the following support:

- Provide logistical and expert support for the working group meetings as well as any working sessions of the thematic sub-groups.
- Support the organization of public consultations, including civil society organisations, human rights defenders, and others.
- Provide expertise and advice on how to develop and implement the human rights framework, as well as comment on the draft human rights framework in accordance with international standards in the field.

To continue the work on implementing the roadmap to ensure the human rights HIV regulatory framework. Ensure effective communication and qualitative support for the de facto structure, in order to ensure approval of the documents, currently under revision.

Child-friendly justice in criminal proceedings seeks to protect child victims and witnesses from duress and secondary victimization and to efficiently gather and evaluate evidence in cases involving children. This should minimize the risk of harm while maximizing the chances of bringing perpetrators to justice. Girls continue to be more affected by crimes, including as victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. This points to the necessity for more gender-responsive interventions across the justice system for children.

Concurrently, boys more often infringe the law. A specialized and gender-responsive juvenile justice system, with dedicated authorities, trained personnel, child-oriented procedures and environments, would promote a child-friendly justice for children in contact with the law and would safeguard children's rights and dignity via resocialization and reintegration into productive roles in their communities.

To avoid and minimize the contact of children with the justice system, the child protection system plays an essential role by offering the primary and essential support to children, victims of violence. There are no available analyses in the Transnistrian region to assess the response of the child protection system to violence against children. Identifying the gaps and challenges, describing protection mechanisms as well as carrying out a comprehensive mapping of services for children at risk or experiencing violence would pave the ground to fundamentally improving systems.

All sectors, including but not limited to social, education, health, law enforcement and justice sectors, are responsible for strengthening an effective response to violence against children. The good practice from the right bank of the Nistru river on cross-sectorial mechanism of identification, referral, assistance and monitoring of children, victims of violence, may be adapted to the needs and realities on the left bank.

Based on the positive dialog which was established with police on both banks and results achieved during the previous program there is a need to further enhance cooperation between police and CSOs on both banks and

continue building the capacities of police officers. The new phase of the program will continue with building the capacities of police officers on both banks and will further scale the model of referring vulnerable people to psycho-social and medical services provided by CSOs and medical institutions.

# Component 3: Enhanced human rights culture in the Transnistrian region

According to the testimonials from finalists and participants from the current phase of capacity building events for media, there is a strong need to continue UN efforts to mainstream human rights into media on both banks of Nistru river in order to extend the network of journalists producing a human rights compliant media narrative. Capacity building events on human rights and the rights of the vulnerable groups for the representatives of independent media, media specialists from CSOs and journalists from de facto media outlets will be organised during the next phase of the Programme. Additionally, the capacity of journalists from the Transnistrian region will be developed in order to enable them to report efficiently and ethically on child rights related issues. The results of Stigma Index study and new SCORE results from both banks of Nistru river (which will be conducted by UNCT in 2022) will be presented and widely discussed with the interested stakeholders, including media specialists from different outlets.

### Programme's COVID-19 pandemic and Refugee crisis related revision or re-orientation

- Given the recently emerged Ukraine Refugee Crisis in Moldova, starting from February 25 several implementing UN agencies have done several monitoring visits to the reception and temporary accommodation centres for refugees, border crossing points on both banks of Nistru river with the purpose to identify people's needs and demands from the perspective of HRBA. OHCHR team observed that needs of refugees with special needs (PwD, older persons, women with small children) are not fully met with the services and assistive equipment provided at the borders, triage centres and refugee accommodation centres on both banks and refugee families placed at the refugee accommodation centres in the Transnistrian region are lacking some basic items and amenities. That was the reason for reshuffling some Programme activities and reason for submission of the request for reallocations from some budget savings, which appeared as a result of a positive fluctuation rate from SEK to USD. As a result, for the purpose to ensure basic needs and demands of refugees on the left bank of Nistru river, 100 pillows, 72 blankets, 200 sets of cotton bedding, 12 big electric kettles and 90 mattresses were delivered and distributed among refugee accommodation centres in the Transnistrian region. The Programme facilitated the delivery from abroad of 4 accessible bio toilets for persons with locomotor disability, wheelchairs and adult and children walkers at the refugee accommodations centres on both banks of Nistru river and Temporary Placement Centres under the Bureau of Migration and Asylum and CSOs focusing on services for refugees with disabilities.
- The COVID-19 pandemic affected all of the Programme's activities and beneficiaries. The meetings and capacity building activities, whenever possible, where moved to the virtual space, while the visits to the left bank were either drastically reduced or suspended, due to the travel restrictions imposed by the de facto structures.
- In line with the Programme goals, but using core funding, in response to COVID-19 pandemic, in early April 2020, OHCHR facilitated the establishment of the NGO Task Force on COVID-19 and Human rights. 52 NGOs, including 6 NGOs from the left bank, participated in the need assessment survey and meetings of the NGO Task Force. 12 working groups, comprising the representatives of CSOs from both banks, for the monitoring of human rights compliance during the pandemics were formed. Following the outcome of an assessment, it was made a contribution to the decision of two donors to direct their funding in the context of COVID-19 to NGOs working with vulnerable groups and their beneficiaries on the left bank. In addition, four informational leaflets to increase human rights awareness in the context of COVID-19 were drafted and distributed among vulnerable groups. Guided by the results of the rapid needs assessment, a media campaign on COVID-19 and impact on vulnerable groups in the Transnistrian region was designed and conducted, consisting of with five human

stories, with a special focus on the Roma community, people with chronic diseases, elderly persons, and women, victims of domestic violence, affected by the pandemic on the left bank of Nistru river.

- In-person group meetings were limited, while at the same time, de facto structures prefer that all meetings are conducted in-person. As a result, the interaction with them was limited. To the extent possible, meetings and capacity building events for and with representatives of vulnerable groups, and working groups meetings were conducted on-line, using safe on-line platforms.
- During the pandemic period PrEP has been delivered at home to all those who needs. Also, ARV drugs were delivered at home and was ensured the access to ARV treatment to those who live abroad and could not come to take the medicines from the clinics in Moldova in order to ensure uninterrupted access to treatment. Also, during the lockdown, in partnership a number of charitable organizations, such as CONCORDIA, OPTIMA FIDE and OGI, as well as with the support of UNAIDS and A.O. "Mamele pentru Viata", 38 women were provided with food products, detergents and disinfectants packages. Individual psychological consultations were conducted with each woman to relieve stress and increase the level of motivation in improving the quality of life.
- This Programme is an entry point to promote children's rights in the Transnistrian region, establishing synergies and complimenting other projects implemented by UNICEF. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, critical hygiene items for "A.S. Makarenko" institution and the Crisis Centre for women, survivors of gender-based violence, were procured and delivered. WASH facilities (4 sanitary blocks) at "A.S. Makarenko" institution were renovated. Additionally, as an immediate response to the refugee crisis, children and their families in the Transnistrian region have access to informational and legal support, psychological and social assistance, child-friendly spaces and basic supplies using UNICEF funds.
- The activity of the "Trust Line 0-800-99-800" on domestic violence continued in post-quarantine time and returned to its usual regime applying all necessary measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus infection. The beneficiaries came to the office for psychological, legal and social assistance. The staff visited beneficiaries when delivering humanitarian support. The staff of the NGO "Interaction" accompanied beneficiaries in public institutions in Transnistrian and other regions of Moldova. The duty trips to public institutions in other regions were organised only after obtaining permission from local authorities which was a required special procedure, this requirement was cancelled only in May 2021, though the quarantine measures are maintained until 15 September 2021.
- Under the quarantine period, beneficiaries survivors of domestic violence and representatives of vulnerable groups testified to the challenging financial situation and an increased stress in family relationships, as well as the inability to leave the house and find other housing. To partially respond to the beneficiaries' needs, the local implementing partner, NGO "Interaction", as a member of several thematic platforms, including the National Coalition for "Life without Violence", has identified additional resources to provide food packages, sanitary and hygiene products for 616 direct and 1826 indirect beneficiaries (members of the families). The categories of beneficiaries are victims of domestic violence and trafficking in human beings, socially vulnerable families, Roma, persons with disabilities, and lonely elderly people. Twice, first in December 2020-January 2021 and then in May-June 2021, the humanitarian assistance came in-kind from OHCHR, UNDP, UN Women, British Embassy and Austrian Development Agency. In response to COVID-19 situation in the region, the counsellors of the Trust Line on a voluntary basis helped to launch the helpline for volunteers "Line of Kindness 1165", who were supporting the vulnerable population in the region.
- Since March 2022 the "Hotline 080088888" for prevention of trafficking in human beings administrated by the NGO "Interaction" had been receiving calls from victims of trafficking in human beings, migrants in difficult situations as well as from refugees due to the Ukrainian crises. Successful fundraising steps ensured financial support from Lifting Hangs International (USA) for emergency and short-term support for refugees, as well as for partner NGOs and initiative groups operating in different regions the Republic of Moldova, including members of Platform for Sustainable development.

- Due to the crisis in Ukraine a high number of calls was received by the Call Centre and the Green Line of the Bureau of Migration and Asylum (BMA) of the Republic of Moldova. To meet the challenge some funds from the programme were reallocated as per the request of the State Secretary of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Moldova to provide expertise for improving the organization of the Call Centre of BMA and to strengthen the service with 7 more counsellors. The BMA Call Centre was promoted by the printed leaflets, distributed on various sites where Ukrainian refugees and third country nationals are met e.g., at the border crossing points and in the various centres, communities. From 25 February - 30 June 2022, the BMA Call Centre and the Green Line has been operating in 24/24 regime. The counsellors worked in shifts, on the principle of rotation. By 30 June 2022, 35,624 calls were recorded, received at both the phone numbers 080001527 and 022820007. Out of the total number of calls, 27,021 calls received directly from Ukrainian citizens who have taken refuge or displaced in the Republic of Moldova. Main requests were for the information on the right of residence/residence permit - 5,710 calls, the verification of conditions /duration of stay in the country - 3,510 calls, the asylum application - 2,557 calls, the conditions of transit to the EU states - 2,276 calls. The counsellors provided information in the context of the Provisions of the Commission for Emergency Situations of the Republic of Moldova, especially regarding those provisions that refer to the facilities granted to the citizens of Ukraine for employment (748), obtaining the state identification number - IDNP (756), the facilitated conditions of entry into the country with reference to the types of documents allowed for entry - 2,114 calls. The Call Centre and the Green Line recorded many calls on the issues related to the stay of foreigners and Ukrainian citizens in the country or that refer to the domain of other public authorities (5,047 calls). As a rule, these calls are answered within the BMA competence, or they are redirected to other institutions.
- The Call Centre's counsellors were trained for the principles of operation of a telephone counselling service and the minimum quality standards of the service. IOM and International Centre "La Strada" organized two such workshops for the Centre's employees, one on 13-15 April 2022 (BMA Provision no.5/3-11d), and the other on 4-6 May 2022 (BMA Order no.5/3-12d). Altogether, there were 25 participants including the Call Centre's counsellor, employees of the BMA directorates and employees of the Regional Services for the Documentation of Foreigners.
- At the request of the BMA, in order to ensure a good functionality of the Call Centre and to create working conditions for the counsellors of the Green Line, technical and support equipment was purchased and donated to the BMA including 3 computers, 1 multifunction printer, 6 headphones, 6 office chairs.

• The number of calls and the distribution by topics is as follows:

Frequently Asked Questions	Total by 30.06.2022
Asylum	2,557
Right of residence/residence permit	5,710
Enabling conditions for entry into the country	2,114
Conditions /duration of stay in the country	3,510
Conditions for crossing the state border for minors accompanied by relatives	920
Conditions for highlighting foreigners who entered the country through the segment of the Transnistrian region	623
Conditions for obtaining the citizenship of RM	456
Offers of assistance from volunteers / organizations	1,070
Accommodation and temporary placement	3,189
Search for relatives, Ukraine citizens arrived in the RM	191
Conditions of transit of the RM to the EU countries	2,276
Employment citizens of Ukraine	748
Social Package	2,401
IDNP	756
Organization of free shipping	896

One-off aid for the citizens of the Republic of Moldova	1,389
Financial aid for the citizens of Ukraine	1,771
Miscellaneous	5,047
TOTAL	35,624
Ukraine	27,021

- It is important note a number of observations, made during the pandemic period and the launch of the crises of refugees fleeing from Ukraine, in the area of services for survivors of gender-based violence:
  - 1. The Trust Line 080099800 can function even in a state of emergency, without compromising the quality of telephone services.
  - 2. The largest number of calls to the Trust Line 08009800 still comes from women.
  - 3. Women in the region steadily show more pro-active approach to secure their lives and to eliminate violence.
  - 4. The functioning of the psychological service, as well as the provision of social and legal services became difficult, due to the lack of direct contact with the beneficiaries, as well as due to restrictions on movement and accommodation in the crisis centre.
  - The functioning of a voluntary association is possible with the support of the local de facto structure.The de facto Transnistrian structures have acknowledged the value-added of the volunteer movement and have expressed interest in developing volunteerism.
  - 6. The de facto structures in the area of social protection and labour have appealed for the support of local NGOs to assist families with financial difficulties. The unresolved situations of those families confirm that the civil society organisations play their role in assisting the vulnerable and there is a space for an exchange of good practices in support of vulnerable population with the local de facto structures.
  - Elderly people, who were ignored by relatives and friends, have also appealed to the help line for assistance and are particularly in need of financial support and social services, especially in the time of crisis.
  - 8. The largest number of refugees coming from Ukraine are women, children, elderly, people with disabilities and representatives of other vulnerable groups.
  - 9. The increased civic activism and widespread volunteers' support facilitates meeting the challenges faced by refugees coming from Ukraine.
  - 10. At the same time, it was observed that vulnerable groups from the Transnistrian region are increasingly neglected as resources are being diverted to respond to the Ukraine response, and the resources that were committed by the de facto local authorities have been spent to cover the needs of Ukrainian refugees.

In order to support the refugee crisis accrued due to the war in Ukraine, 2 projects have been supported by UNAIDS - one on the right bank and one on the left bank. The aim of the projects was to provide assistance to refugees from the KAP community and to their relatives. On the right bank the project was implemented by A.O. "Initiativa Pozitiva" and the following results were achieved by the end of the project:

- 1793 refugees received assistance, primary counselling, and information, needed to address their urgent problems.
- 111 visits were organized to the refugee placement centres.
- 388 refugees were assisted in solving their problems, including 188 refugees from the KAP community received assistance in continuing treatment, psychological and social assistance, etc. (93 refugees were included in the ARV or received assistance in continuing treatment in other countries than the Republic of Moldova). More than 200 close relatives of refugees from the KAP community received the requested support.
- 365 refugees were tested for HIV, syphilis and hepatitis. Were tested positive for hepatitis C 1 refugee, for syphilis 2 refugees and both were included in treatment, for HIV 2 refugees, and only one was accompanied to SDMC, the second is in denial and does not come into contact.
- 300 refugees received vouchers in the amount of 350 MDL and 200 MDL for food and hygiene products.

On the left bank the project was implemented by the staff from "Alians Zdorovie" with provision of basic care and support interventions, including psychological support and referral to necessary services for the refugees from Ukraine, focusing on adolescent girls and young women from key and vulnerable populations. By the end of the project, 262 persons were covered with basic care and support interventions, including food/hygienic packages, HIV and TB screening, referral to other services, etc. Out of the total number 100 persons received additional professional psychological assistance.

## **VI. Financial Status**

UN Agency	Total as per Initial planned Budget	Total received budget (2019-2022)	Expenses (2019-2022)	Delivery rate % vs Initial planned Budget	Delivery rate % vs received Budget
ЮМ	362 956 USD	443 493 USD	420 000 USD	116 %	95 %
OHCHR	463 829 USD	565 412 USD	532 706 USD	115 %	94 %
UNAIDS	453 601 USD	554 154 USD	532 223 USD	117 %	96 %
UNICEF	322 072 USD	393 476 USD	380,323 USD	118 %	97 %
UNDP	639 110 USD	783 722 USD	595 484 USD*	93 %	76 %
UNODC	400 769 USD	491 420 USD	491 394 USD	123 %	100 %
Total	2 642 336 USD	3 231 677 USD	2 952 130 USD	112%	91 %

<sup>\*</sup> The funds planned for the Final evaluation of the Programme will be returned to the donor, as per mutual agreement. Same amount will used for the Final evaluation of the Phase I of the One UN JA, to be conducted in the first 6 months of the next phase of the Programme.

# **ANNEXES**

# **ANNEX 1 UPDATED RISK LOG**

#	Description	Туре	Impact & Probability	Counter measures / Mngt response
1	Volatile political and security environment, subject to	Political	P = 5 I = 4	The program will take into account the specific political setting that will exist in the region at the moment of implementation.
	unforeseen and sudden changes			The implementation of the activities will be planned and approached with caution, including the timing, visibility and presentation issues.
2	Activities may be delayed due to the regional context, and perception towards confidence building approach	Operation al	P = 3 I = 2	The program team will ensure that the local administration is informed on an on-going basis about the aims and the activities planned, including inviting them to the events. All activities have to remain non-political.  Formalization of Transnistrian organizations should be kept to a minimum in order to avoid potential problems and remain noncontentious. Importance of confidence building approach will be explained and all activities will be planned and implemented in an impartial manner, focusing on concrete improvements in people's lives.
3	Lack of engagement on behalf of TN stakeholders	Operation al	P = 3 I = 2	Prior consultations were in place to guarantee a buy-in on behalf of TN beneficiaries. Continuous engagement with key stakeholders will be ensured, as well as mobilization of local resources to promote the local ownership of the results of the implemented action.
4	Limited interest from de facto structures to implement joint confidence building activities	Operation al	Text P = 5 I = 3	When planned activities for joint cooperation cannot be implemented, then other collaborative opportunities will be explored, in full accordance with principles of responsiveness and flexibility.
5	Difficulties to working with CSOs in case the de facto structures will adopt the new initiative on "foreign agents"	Operation al	P = 3 I = 2	The current initiative, as is, is more targeted at organizations doing "political work". The project will highlight the non-political character of the work and ensure local buy-in through permanent consultations locally

6	Corruption risks during activity implementation	Operation al	P = 3 I = 2	The implementation team will manage all processes that could be affected by corruption in accordance with anti-corruption policies of the UN agencies involved, including with regards to procurement activities, as well as through monitoring and quality assurance of grants provided to NGOs, etc.
7	Different financial systems in the Transnistrian region	Operation al	P = 3 I = 2	Financial flows to Transnistrian banks for TN CSOs and social institutions have facilitated delivery of activities. UN Agencies will continue to further explore the issue of higher incurred costs for transfers and currency exchanges.
8	Limited capacity and expertise of TN CSOs to operate in the field of human rights, children's rights and affiliated areas	Organizat ional	There are just several NGOs in Tiraspol and neighbouring districts with expertise in promoting women's rights, preventing violence and substance misuse, and in strengthening the alternative care for children. The others are either service providers or inactive grass-root NGOs  P = 3  I = 3	Each program will include an institutional strengthening component.  Linkages may be created between the NGOs from both sides of the Nistru River.  Some programme's components may be delegated to NGOs from the right side of the river.
9	Justice and law enforcement professionals deny/resist the justice for children approaches	Operation al	Justice and law enforcement are the most closed and "untouchable" institutions in the region. The risk may seriously affect the program's objective of gradually changing the perceptions of professionals towards children-offenders and children, victims of crimes.  P = 4  I = 2	authority aiming to explain the soft nature of the intervention and to obtain de facto structures' commitment to support the intervention. The narrative was built around the UN CRC, which the de facto structures have pledged to respect.  Well-known international experts (from Armenia and Belarus) were contracted to conduct the assessment, develop/adjust

10	Unwillingness of de facto structures to change the approach and internal regulations applied to children in "A.S. Makarenko" institution	Operation al	"A.S. Makarenko" school is a closed and quasimilitarized institution, which is unlikely to be prone to external influencers and recommendations. The risk may have a moderate impact on the project, thus leaving the intervention with no results.  P = 3  I = 2	The intervention is informed by the discussions with the de facto leadership in the area of internal affairs, who showed openness and willingness to improve the situation of children and to bring changes for children.  The preparation-for-release program has a child-centred approach and has neither political nor intrusive connotations.
11	Tiraspol structures refuse to recognize/take over the experiences and promising models coming from the right bank of the river	Political	The risk is more relevant to justice and law enforcement areas, where no external practices are accepted, unless originating from pro-Russian countries. However, in child protection area, the resistance is less pronounced due to its social and societal nature. If occurred, the risk may have a significant impact on the project.  P = 2  I = 3	The previous two study visits to Chisinau of a group of technical level people from de facto structures in Tiraspol and neighbouring districts showed that there is interest in taking over the functional models on alternative care.  Since violence against children has also been recognized as a problem in the region, the proposed models to tackle the phenomena may also be of interest. To minimize the resistance, relevant cross-sectoral mechanisms from the right bank will be showcased.

12	De facto structures are not ready and not open to new prevention interventions (PrEP) in men who have sex with men, clients of key affected to HIV populations	Operation	P = 2 I=2	Building on the results already achieved, namely that since 2016 there are basic prevention services for sex workers, men who have sex with men in Transnistrian region, it is assumed that the risk is low.  There were prior preparations of the de facto structures, in the 2016-2018 phase of the project. Thus, in April 2018, 1 representative from AIDS centre (public servant) from Tiraspol and 1 representative of the CSO implementing prevention activities in key populations, were part of the delegation to the study visit in Paris, France on PrEP subject.  The new protocols, including one on PrEP adjusted to the latest WHO recommendations and to right bank policies are in the final phase of approval with the de facto structures.  It can be concluded that both de facto structures and CSOs are aware and open to implement the new most efficient HIV prevention policies in the region.
13	The COVID-19 pandemic related restrictions are maintained until the end of 2021, thus making the timely and efficient implementation of the Programme unrealistic.	Operation al	P = 3 I = 3	The Programme's activities, whenever possible, are reshaped and conducted online, using the available IT technologies.  Certain activities are postponed and are to be implemented in 2021.  In several cases, preparation of activities planned for a later stage have been initiated, in order to allow their speedier implementation upon the lifting of COVID-19-related restrictions.

# ANNEX 2. INDICATOR-BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

	Achieved Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
Output 1: Increased capacities of	UNDP  3 thematic working groups established by the SCDP:	Following the internal consultations by the SCDP, it was agreed that it is more efficient to establish working	Annual project report  Membership lists
vulnerable rights holders to	Legislation, Social Services and Advocacy	J	

exercise their human rights Indicator 1.1  Number of thematic working groups on human rights of different groups of rights holders established and functional  Baseline:  2 platforms (DV and PWD)  Planned Target:  At least 4 thematic working groups established and capacitated  Output 1  Indicator 1.2  Number of human rights initiatives, including policy	OHCHR Total: 36 Policy documents: 8	uneven representation of the groups in the SCDP. Thus, initially 4 groups were proposed, but only 3 were agreed to be established. The 4 <sup>th</sup> theme, Social enterprises, is currently supported by other donors and it was considered more efficient to redirect the resources to other activities.	Regulatory and policy documents, legal acts, reports from media campaigns, statements; reports; proposals
campaigns, and individual and collective rights claims and communications, inspired by crossriver exchanges and contacts via various thematic groups submitted/address ed to duty bearers and/or international human rights mechanisms  Baseline:  Total: 1  Policy documents: 0	and to establish a multisectoral working group; 1 Roadmap on drafting the HR Framework; 1 call for CSOs to join HR Framework process; 1 Concept note of delivering HR Capacity Building program; 1 concept note on Roma mediators institution to DFA; 1 Roadmap and 1 Action plan for establishing the first Roma community mediators' institution in the Transnistria region; 1 legal analysis of regulatory framework for establishing Roma community mediators  1 Standard Operating Procedure on HIV in Prisons  Advocacy campaigns: 6  media campaigns on the impact of COVID-19 on human rights of different vulnerable groups and		came from CSOs

Advocacy recovery programs based on human rights as a core; on Roma campaigns: 0 rights and community mediators; on human rights among youth and Joint claims and children; video animation on comms: 1 prevention discrimination of PLHIV among health professionals Planned Target: Joint claims and comms: 22 Total: 10 **Policy** 1 joint statement from Roma community to claim the rights of documents: 3 Roma especially focusing on vulnerabilities faced during the Advocacy pandemic; 4 advocacy papers campaigns: 1 from CSOs HR thematic groups representing vulnerable groups Joint claims and (PwD; Roma and DV); 1 claim on comms: 4 to leave residential inability psychoneurological institution in Tiraspol for PwD who have full legal capacities after lifting of the status of emergency; 1 statement to promote Roma mediators among educational institutions; 13 proposals from CSOs on implementing HR recommendations from UN HR mechanisms and T. Hammarberg reports UNICEF: Policy documents - 3 Draft amendments the to Transnistrian Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code improve the justice for children system in the region Draft of Roadmap for child rights in the Transnistrian region The adjustments to the Internal Regulation and a new Code of Conduct for A.S "Makarenko institution proposed for approval UNODC: SoP on HIV testing in prisons Field visit reports finalized and pending the final and assessments approval conducted in the Total: 18 context of UN high Policy documents: 7 level human rights Advocacy campaigns: 2 and UN human Joint claims and comms: 7 rights mechanisms visits

Output 1 Indicator 1.3  Number of vulnerable persons from both banks of the Nistru river benefiting from community-based services supported	OHCHR:  Total: 98  Left bank: 98 PwDs and their relatives from Slobozia district in the Transnistria region  Right bank: 0		Report from CSO, media reports
by the programme (disaggregated by vulnerable group and location)  Baseline:  Total: 0  Left bank: 0	UNAIDS: Total: 337 Left bank: 78 Right bank: 259	Enrolment in PrEP faced some challenges due to COVID-19 situation, but in 2021 the programme succeeded to escalate, and more beneficiaries were enrolled in PrEP on both banks.	Reports from SCOs  Statistics report of the National AIDS Coordination Unit, with Hospital of Communicable Diseases and Dermatovenerology.
Right bank: 0  Planned Target: Total: 130  Left bank: 107  Right bank: 23	UNODC:  Total: 967 Left bank: 663 PWUD, SW, homeless - 616 WUD and children - 12 Refugees/IDP and children - 8 Former prisoners - 27  Right bank: 304 PWUD, SW, homeless - 184 WUD and children - 39 Refugees/IDP and children - 21 Former prisoners - 60	Awareness of the new services needs to be developed among right holders, which takes time.	Field visit reports, reports from CSOs developing and implement-ting the services, and assessments conducted in the context of UN high level human rights and UN human rights mechanisms visits.  Routine reporting tables from CSOs and police. Meetings with the project beneficiaries.

	UNDP:	These are indirect results of the	Grantees' reports
	Left bank:	small grants provided by the Programme to consolidate the institutional capacities of the	
	- 17 victims of domestic violence and 7 aggressors assisted;	members and partners of the SCDP.	
	- 22 children victims of violence assisted;		
	- 20 children with autism spectrum disorder assisted;		
	- 19 elderly women, including those with disabilities, trained in computer literacy;		
	- 18 young people with disabilities prepared to access the labour market;		
	- 15 young people with disabilities trained in independent living skills;		
	- 6 Roma women trained in computer literacy;		
	- 10 representatives of the People Living with HIV community were trained as para-lawyers		
	- 532 persons from vulnerable groups questioned through the escreening mechanism on discrimination cases;		
	- 1032 vulnerable people benefited from psychological and legal consultations.		
	- 2052 vulnerable people benefited from the assistance of the "Line of Goodness" 1165 during COVID-19 pandemic		
Output 1	OHCHR:		Lists of participants to the trainings
Indicator 1.4	опопк.		to the trailings
Number of trained by the program different vulnerable groups from the Transnistrian region on human rights	Total: 4 groups (PwD, survivors of DV, Roma, people living with HIV)		Pre and post training evaluation forms, consultants' reports
Baseline:			

Total: 1 Planned Target: Total: 2			
Output 1	UNDP	Initial assessment of the number of organisations that expressed	OCAT questionnaire <sup>1</sup>
Indicator 1.5  Increased institutional capacity of at least 70% of 60 participating CSOs  Baseline:  30 CSOs: 7 - 0-0,5 pct. 4 - 1-1,5 8 - 2-2,5 6 - 3-3,5 4 - 4-4,5  Planned Target:  An increase of at least 0,5 points of institutional capacity increase for at least 20% of involved CSOs	27 NGOs (which constitutes 90% in relation to the baseline data) have increased the level of institutional capacities with at least 0,5 points, as follow:  • 17 organisations - increased capacities with 0,5 points  • 10 organisations - increased capacities with 1 point	interest in participation in Programme's activities was quite high. In practice circa 30 organisations have responded to the assessment exercise and have participated in the institutional capacity building process, thus the new baseline on the number of CSOs was established.	Evaluation report
Output 1	IOM	This increase may be due to:	Monitoring field
Indicator 1.6 Number of calls related to domestic violence answered by the Trust Line  Baseline: 310 calls in 2017 related to domestic violence Planned Target: At least 300 calls per year	From July 2019 to 15 May 2022, 1,985 calls related to domestic violence, including 1,162 SOS related calls.	-DV has wider coverage in the Transnistrian region mass-media and society including via social networks, targeted campaigns like 16 Days Campaign of Activism against Gender Based Violence.  -People-to-people awareness that women receive assistance, even though mainly from NGOs, women have more courage to speak up and turn to services.  - Preventive calls have increased compared to in 2019-2020, potentially because of the COVID-19 pandemic.	visits and communication, reports from the NGO implementing the service.

<sup>1</sup> Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool - excel based ranking scored questionnaire, consisted of categories and subcategories, including a category for each of the specific vulnerable group.

Indicator 1.7  Number of professionals trained with the support of the program who have increased knowledge on burnout prevention  Baseline: 15 participants in 2017  Planned Target: 24 professionals trained throughout the project	IOM  68 female and 5 male professionals trained (i.e. 30 unique participants trained, 27 women and 3 men)	The increase from the target was possible due to re-organizing training under COVID-19 circumstances (making the training shorter and more condense, thereby enabling additional trainings).	Agenda, list of participants and trainer's report
Increased capacities of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations Indicator 2.1.  Number of new regulatory documents or amendments to existing regulatory documents in the region, including documents on the rights of persons with disabilities and persons living with HIV, developed in line with international human rights standards  Baseline:  Total: 12  PWD: 2	de-facto authorities on implementing HR recommendations from UN HR mechanisms and T. Hammaberg reports  PwD: 8 - regulatory documents amended on ensuring access for PwD with severe and medium disability to labour market, to receive hearing aids for PwD with hearing impairment from de-facto authorities for free and to ensure accessibility for PwD to de-facto courts, extension without time limits the degree of disability with severe disabilities, on compensation for food to children with disabilities who did not attend schools; extension the right to social benefits to an unemployed		Regulatory documents amended or developed, legal acts, reports in official media, proposals on implementation HR recommendations came from de-facto authorities

HIV: 7 Planned Target: Total: 21 PwD: 3 HIV: 10	UNAIDS HIV: 7	5 new regulatory documents have been adopted, 1 is waiting to be approved and 1 additional is related to the hepatitis treatment programme and all its related documents	Regulatory documents amended or developed, information the de structures
Output 2 Indicator 2.2  Extent to which normative framework is compliant with international standards on child friendly justice  Baseline: Not compliant  Planned Target: Score 2: Partially compliant (Some (30%-60%) are compliant)	The Report on the de-facto legal framework in the Transnistrian region on justice for children in contact and conflict with the law revealed that the de-facto legislation complies with the basic justice for children's international principles and requires consistent improvements to ensure a sustainable justice system reform in the region. The first package of amendments (Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code) is pending approval by the de-facto structure from the Transnistrian region. A wider, policy level, document - the "Roadmap for child rights in the Transnistrian region" has been elaborated and consulted with de-facto authorities.	Additional support is needed to promote approval and successful implementation of the Roadmap for child rights.	Official information from de facto structures. Narrative reports and deliverables of international and national experts.
Output 2 Indicator 2.3  Extent to which the modus operandi of A. S. Makarenko institution is compliant with international standards on administration of justice for children  Baseline: Less compliant  Planned Target: Score 3: Mostly compliant The institution operates according to an improved/adjusted regulatory	UNICEF: 2  The adjustments to the Internal Regulation of "A.S Makarenko" and a new Code of Conduct are in the final stage of approval. The A.S "Makarenko" staff are capacitated on positive interaction with children in custody and for applying the new SoPs (22 specialists including management). Children placed in A.S "Makarenko" can be referred to a new, comprehensive preparation for release program, delivered by capacitated staff (18 professionals).	Even if the documents are still pending approval, the trained staff apply the new SoPs, Code of Conduct and Preparation for Release programme.	Internal regulatory framework. Narrative reports and deliverables of international and national experts

framework aligned with international standards; the preparation for release program is approved and institutionalized; the SOPs for work with social service providers are approved; staff applies child friendly and nonviolent approaches while working with children in custody)		
Output 2 Indicator 2.4  Number of protection, promotion and monitoring human rights initiatives of the institutionalized human rights structures in the region  Baseline: Total: 0  Planned Target: Total: 1	OHCHR  Total: 6  2 methodological documents for conducting human rights surveys are drafted by (de facto) ombuds institutions from both banks; 1 guidelines for human rights monitoring and reporting are drafted and used by the officers from institutionalised human rights structures  3 proposals to regulatory framework from left-bank ombudsperson institution (on regular monitoring of the residential and medical institutions by the commission comprised by individual experts and Ombudsperson; on payments for additional work experience; on transparency for calculation of	

### Output 2

#### Indicator 2.5

of Percentage iustice and law enforcement professionals able to apply child friendly procedures in cases involving children in conflict with law

Baseline: 0 %

Planned Target: 10%

Based on the Assessment of the existing training programmes for pre-service and in-service professionals that work children in contact with the law. training packages two for professionals that work with and for children, victims of violence, children-offenders and were developed. BA pool of 41 professionals (13 men and 28 women) empowered is with theoretical knowledge and practical skills to apply the abovementioned training packages. 138 professionals (ex. lawyers, psychologists, criminal investigators, prosecutors) were consequently trained to apply child-friendly justice for children.

The judges and prosecutors are reluctant to participate in the capacity building activities. More effort and different approaches (international expertise, focus groups, individual coaching) should be applied to involve this group of professionals.

Participants' list. Preand Postevaluation questionnaire. Narrative reports and deliverables of international and national experts.

### Output 2

### Indicator 2.6

Number of PWUD, PLHIV and people with TB referred to harm reduction services by police on both banks

### UNODC:

UNICEF:

At least 100 PWUD referred to harm reduction services, including 60 on the left bank and 40 on the right bank.

Reported: 800 (184 right bank)

Number of police officer trained in referral: 414

Left bank. started the implementation of referral schemes from 2017, covering 616 vulnerable people in total

right bank started the piloting of police CSO referral schemes in September 2021 number of people referred by police to COS 184. Vulnerable people included: people who use drugs, sex workers (including those that exchange sex for food, drinks or drugs), men who have sex with men, homeless people, women who used drugs and suffer from domestic violence, but also people who consume regularly alcohol were referred by police to CSO and medical services.

414 police officers from both banks were trained in referral schemes and safety and security at the workplace.

Referral form developed and implemented by CSOs on both banks, CSOs and police's routine reports. Routine reporting tables from CSOs police. and Meetings with the project beneficiaries.

Enhanced human rights culture in the Transnistrian region  Indicator 3.1  Number of media products employing a human rights-based approach published by the media representatives trained by the program  Baseline:23 media materials developed within the first phase  Planned Target: At least 30 materials published by left bank media outlets (yearly)	In reporting period, were produced 7 press releases, 6 interviews, 9 video success stories, 58 video materials in the framework of 28 online awareness campaigns, 8 newsletters, 3 media events. Therefore, more than 1582 articles related to human rights were published in the left bank media. As a result, the total organic engagement on Transnistrian mass-media (5 TV and 3 online portals) was 1 700 000 people.	As a result of efficient communication and press materials produced during September 2019 - June 2022, 132 media articles, 57 of them -video reportages, were published by left bank media6 reflecting the Programme activities and campaigns. Their overall impact has been more than 500 K people in the Transnistrian region could get acquainted with the Programme activities and results.	Monitoring of media space
Output 3  Indicator 3.2  Number of media outlets able to report actively and ethically on child rights  Baseline: 0  Planned Target: 2 media reports (yearly)	UNICEF - 4 media monitoring reports available.  To enhance mass-media capacities from both banks of the Nistru river to report actively and ethically on child rights, two training packages were developed and a pool of 25 journalists increased knowledge and skills in applying a child-friendly approach in developing media products. The press clubs for journalists from both banks of the Nistru river have been organised regularly. Quarterly media monitoring reports related to child rights were performed. The capacities of 4 newsrooms on the left bank of Nistru are improved (LIK TV, Dnestr TV, "Novaia volna" TV company, "Novoie vremea")		Monitoring of media space

Output 3	UNAIDS	More women were involved in the mentoring programme than	List of events, number of
Indicator 3.3	136 total	initially expected	participants, reports from NGOS
Number of PLWH covered by self-	50 in 2020		·
stigma reduction mentoring program	37 in 2021		
Baseline: 0	49 in 2022 (including 16 men)		
Planned Target: 25			
Output 3	UNAIDS		Campaigns reports
Indicator 3.4			
Number of persons reached by HIV behaviour change communication campaigns	Apr. 700000 persons		
Baseline: 60000			
Planned Target: 10000			

#### **ANNEX 3:**

The links to the most relevant media materials, related to the activities of the One UN Joint Action "Cross river support to Human Rights".

- 1.https://agora.md/stiri/64470/a-pus-rampe-de-acces-la-policlinica--teatru-si-galeria-de-arta--un-barbat-in-scaun-cu-rotile-are-grija-ca-toate-cladirile-noi-din-tiraspol-sa-fie-accesibile-foto?fbclid=IwAR0QV7ReMI5\_X8e8vo9EPyC8hJFccxSXyiPea81f13tv7FCNNOCu\_UiQBKw
- 2.http://www.realitatea.md/vitalii-slipcenco-din-tiraspol-transforma-mediul-in-care-traie-te-in-unul-accesibil-pentru-persoanel\_103249.html?fbclid=IwAR0uMkNaO57EWhz0RQzS1IB0F5U2XH09TNUVb0UYMk-oL73EcpebM7LjDvc
- 3. http://tvrmoldova.md/social/istorii-de-succes-tiraspoleanul-vitalii-slipcenco-transforma-mediul-in-care-traieste-in-unul-accesibil-persoanelor-cu-dizabilitati/?fbclid=lwAR3OfwWZ0BzMcmjMD0d-i0ySOJag5HoOIDRWNt9wtxDp-dK1Wiai1REDfCc
- 4.https://unica.md/monden/vitalii-slipcenco-din-tiraspol-prin-activismul-sau-civic-transforma-mediul-in-care-traieste-in-unul-accesibil-persoanelor-cu-dizabilitati/?fbclid=IwAR0fsU1XILe6qerx1Tx6bRHUwcl-B5XWupmNBool6ROZ4kqE5oJoKZ0L8f4
- https://liktv.org/media-akademija-oon-zashhite-prav-nadouchitsja/?fbclid=IwAR0mmZ58ywBilpIlnmJgiqKkArcssW-Bk0-firX83DdJqkI7XvJHDTqAsYA

- http://dnestr.tv/17279-11-zhurnalistov-s-dvuh-beregov-dnestra-stali-finalistami-media-akademiioon-po-pravam-cheloveka.html?fbclid=lwAR2-Z1Uq1ORivmsZBH8mfEWGFprokcc0k\_MbzfWSzk9OPS7otuiIrdRPULU
- 7. http://dnestr.tv/16686-rannie-braki-bremya-romskih-zhenschin.html
- 7. http://dnestrity/10000 fairnie brakt brennya fornskin zhensoniin.htm
- 8. http://dnestr.tv/17046-uslyshat-teh-kogo-nikto-ne-slyshit.html
- 9. http://dnestr.tv/17227-programma-po-naraschivaniyu-potenciala-v-oblasti-prodvizheniya-prav-cheloveka.html?fbclid=IwAR2GVGx4YvJObeiY8Ax-H0GI9ke2WgG\_P4k\_ODEBICQ-o6faT3cEJhjXJR4
- 10. https://www.facebook.com/Dnestr.tv
- 11. https://vk.com/dnestrtv
- 12. https://bas-tv.md/44987/;
- 13. https://bas-tv.md/dazhe-v-gane-luchshe-soblyudayutsya-li-prava-cheloveka-na-pravom-beregu-dnestra/
- 14. https://youth.md/interviu-cu-viorica-adascalita-abuzul-sexual-asupra-copiilor/
- 15. https://www.facebook.com/groups/440171616408376/posts/1340810843011111/;
- 16. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g6maBW2Sogo
- 17. https://resonancengo.org/domashnemu-nasiliyu-net-opravdaniya/
- 18. https://news.yam.md/ro/story/9838171
- https://stiri.md/article/social/onu-sustine-la-tiraspol-programe-in-sprijinul-persoanelor-cudizabilitati
- 20. https://www.moldpres.md/news/2019/12/03/19009818
- 21. http://moldova9.com/vitalii-slipcenco-din-tiraspol-prin-activismul-sau-civic-transforma-mediul-in-care-traieste-in-unul-accesibil-persoanelor-cu-dizabilitati/
- 22. https://dr-ecology.blogspot.com/2019/12/blog-post.html
- 23. http://newspmr.com/novosti-pmr/vesti-s-mest/14864
- 24. http://dnestr.tv/8806-gorodskaya-sreda-stanovitsya-bolee-dostupnoy-dlya-lyudey-s-ogranichennymi-vozmozhnostyami.html
- 25. http://ngointeraction.org/main/ru/component/content/article/1-latest-news/5097-2019-12-03-13-12-18
- 26. https://mediacenter.md/publikacii/1448-istoriya-uspeha.html
- 27. https://liktv.org/pomogi-sebe-sam-ljudi-s-ogranichennymi-vozmozhnostjami-dobivajutsja-dostupnoj-sredy/
- 28. https://diez.md/2019/12/24/evghenii-verbanov-un-tata-din-stanga-nistrului-a-creat-o-organizatie-prin-care-face-auzite-vocile-persoanelor-cu-dizabilitate-severa/
- 29. https://news.yam.md/ro/story/9918562
- 30. https://syfeed.com/ro/news-details/evghenii-verbanov-un-tata-din-stanga-nistrului-a-creat-o-organizatie-prin-care-face-auzite-vocile-persoanelor-cu-dizabilitate-severa\_26632381.htmlhttp://moldova9.com/din-conul-de-umbra-evghenii-verbanov-un-tata-din-stanga-nistrului-a-creat-o-organizatie-prin-care-face-auzite-vocile-persoanelor-cu-dizabilitate-severa-si-ale-ingrijitorilor-lor/
- 31. https://radiochisinau.md/evghenii-verbanov-un-tata-din-stanga-nistrului-a-creat-o-organizatie-prin-care-face-auzite-vocile-persoanelor-cu-dizabilitate-severa-si-ale-ingrijitorilor-lor---101090.html http://provincial.md/actual/evghenii-verbanov-un-tata-din-stanga-nistrului-care-a-creat-o-organizatie-prin-care-face-auzite-vocile-persoanelor-cu-dizabilitate-severa
- 32. https://www.realitatea.md/-foto--un-tata-din-stanga-nistrului-a-creat-o-organizatie-prin-care-face-auzite-vocile-persoanelor-cu-dizabilitate-severa-si-ale-ingrijitorilor-lor\_104037.html
- 33. https://publish.twitter.com/?query=https%3A%2F%2Ftwitter.com%2FUNDPMoldova%2Fstatus %2F1209446042728570884&widget=Tweet

# Annex 4. Human story

#### Crisis rooms

Oksana is 44 years old, she was homeless, drug and alcohol addicted, and in an extremely vulnerable and depressed state when she first asked for help from the NGO "Positive Initiative". Because of being sexually and physically abused by her previous partner, Oxana was anxious and emotionally unstable.

Oksana was provided with the primary services of the Crisis room service piloted by the NGO "Positive initiative". She benefited from the rapid testing on HIV, and unfortunately, the test came positive.

It was especially difficult to report her positive result, as she was already in a very vulnerable state. Oksana's first reaction to a positive result was complete denial, in her sparkling eyes, you could see at that moment that she is giving up.

However, the social assistant that informed Oksana about the results of the test shared with her that she is also HIV positive and that she is ready to provide her with the needed emotional support. Together they outlined a plan to increase and improve the quality of Oksana's life, after that you could see hope in her eyes.

Further, Oxana received access to life-saving medicines (ARVs). She was provided with safe housing and assistance in obtaining medical care. Soon, her problems related to health were noticeably stabilized and she was encouraged to look for some employment opportunities. At this stage, Oksana has become more open to communication, and more attentive to herself and her needs. Oxana says: "I am proud of myself that I got the courage to ask for help and thanks to the employment, I became more confident in myself".

#### Prisoners after release

"I don't want to talk about life before the imprisonment as well as I don't want to talk about the life inside the prison either. I only remember that when I was released, I got the feeling that I was in some other, unfamiliar world. No money, no housing, no job, no relatives - some died, some turned their backs on me," Ivan, a former prisoner, and beneficiary of the services provided by the NGO Trinity from Ribnita, begins his story.

The first days after his release from prison, he wandered around to some friends. From the district police officer, he heard about the support program. He turned to the organisation and they helped him with food and personal hygiene products. Also, they advised him to apply to the social insurance agency for further employment.

"The psychologist and social workers helped, supported, and inspired me. They helped me to re-establish communication with relatives. It seems that I still have a chance to live, get back on my feet and return to my family. Thanks for the hope and support!" - says Ivan.