

**Moldova Towards Unity in Action Trust Fund
MPTF OFFICE GENERIC FINAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE REPORT
REPORTING PERIOD: FROM August 2016 TO January 2019**

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| <p align="center">Programme Title & Project Number</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme Title: Joint Action to Strengthen Human Rights in the Transnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova • Programme Number (if applicable) • MPTF Office Project Reference Number:³ 00101589 | <p align="center">Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results²</p> <p><i>Country/Region</i> Republic of Moldova</p> <p><i>Priority area/ strategic results</i> Governance and Human Rights</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p align="center">Participating Organization(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP, UNAIDS, UNODC, OHCHR | <p align="center">Implementing Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National counterparts (government, private, NGOs & others) and other International Organizations | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p align="center">Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Total approved budget as per project document:</td> <td>USD 1,241,206</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MPTF /JP Contribution⁴:</td> <td>OHCHR: 407,856</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• by Agency (if applicable)</td> <td>UNDP: 405,652</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Agency Contribution</td> <td>UNAIDS/UNODC: 427,698</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• by Agency (if applicable)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Government Contribution (if applicable)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Contributions (donors) (if applicable)</td> <td>EU: USD 497,550</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL:</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | Total approved budget as per project document: | USD 1,241,206 | MPTF /JP Contribution ⁴ : | OHCHR: 407,856 | • by Agency (if applicable) | UNDP: 405,652 | Agency Contribution | UNAIDS/UNODC: 427,698 | • by Agency (if applicable) | | Government Contribution (if applicable) | | Other Contributions (donors) (if applicable) | EU: USD 497,550 | TOTAL: | | <p align="center">Programme Duration</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Overall Duration (<i>months</i>):</td> <td>24 months</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Start Date⁵ (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>):</td> <td>08.08.2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Actual End date⁶ (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>):</td> <td>31.01.2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Have agency(ies) operationally closed the Programme in its(their) system?</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expected Financial Closure date⁷:</td> <td>31.01.2020</td> </tr> </table> | Overall Duration (<i>months</i>): | 24 months | Start Date ⁵ (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>): | 08.08.2016 | Actual End date ⁶ (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>): | 31.01.2019 | Have agency(ies) operationally closed the Programme in its(their) system? | No | Expected Financial Closure date ⁷ : | 31.01.2020 |
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| <p align="center">Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</p> <p>Evaluation Completed Yes Date: 01.09.2018</p> <p>Evaluation Report - Attached Yes Date: 01.09.2018</p> | <p align="center">Report Submitted By</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Name: Oleseca Cazacu ○ Title: Programme Analyst, Inclusive Growth ○ Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP ○ Email address: olesea.cazacu@undp.org | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

¹ The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.
² Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;
³ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as “Project ID” on the project’s factsheet page on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).
⁴ The MPTF or JP Contribution, refers to the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations, which is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).
⁵ The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).
⁶ If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see [MPTF Office Closure Guidelines](#).
⁷ Financial Closure requires the return of unspent balances and submission of the [Certified Final Financial Statement and Report](#).

MAIN ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

HIV - HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS

AIDS - ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME

TB – TUBERCULOSIS

PWID – PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS

IDU – INJECTING DRUG USERS

UNPF - UNITED NATIONS - REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

MPTF – MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

OST – OPIOID SUBSTITUTION TREATMENT

SW – SEX WORKERS

MSM – MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

NTP - NATIONAL TB PROGRAM

CCM TB/AIDS - COUNTRY COORDINATION MECHANISM ON TB/AIDS

GFATM - THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TB AND MALARIA

UCIMP - UNIT OF PROGRAMME COORDINATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

EHRN - EURASIAN HARM REDUCTION NETWORK

PTM - PHARMACOTHERAPY WITH METHADONE

CSO - CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

PMTCT - PREVENTION OF MOTHER TO CHILD TRANSMISSION

IEC - INFORMATION, EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION

ARV - ANTI-RETROVIRAL TREATMENT

PWD – PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the support of OHCHR, over 370 women and men, from circa 57 localities, have an improved awareness about the rights of persons with disabilities (PwDs) and developed their capacities on advocacy and networking. Out of these, around 190 persons with disabilities have learned about their rights and had the chance to interact with peers and representatives of NGOs from the other bank of the Nistru River. In total 77 duty bearers, including service providers and in-field specialists, from the left bank of the Nistru River were capacitated on international standards related to the rights of PwDs and community-based services. The existing local services for PwDs and the main normative acts have been reviewed through a rights-based lens. Proposals were developed and piloting of the community-based services for PwDs in the Transnistrian region started in 5 localities. In total 7 meetings of the cross-river Platform for Sustainable Community Development were organized and a partnership agreement signed by 22 NGOs and initiative groups (16 NGOs and initiative groups from the left bank of the river Nistru). Advocacy and coordination of the stakeholders to promote the rights of PwDs and piloting of the community-based services led to the declaration of 2018 the Year of Equal Opportunities. A region-wide awareness-raising campaign is ongoing, in partnership with local mass-media. Assessment of the human rights situation in the region updated as a result of Thomas Hammarberg visit to TN region during 28 May – 1st June 2018, that will lead to a report on progresses in the area of human rights in the region.

UNDP, through its local partner NGO Resonance, provided continuous support to the victims of domestic violence through temporary shelter. During the reporting period, the temporary shelter assisted (in both, the residential and daily regimes) 259 persons, out of which 160 were women, 95 children and 4 perpetrators. Along with the temporary shelter, two local social services called Women's Safety & Prevention Services (or regional hubs) managed by local NGOs continued assisting victims of domestic violence. Besides providing direct assistance to victims, the specialists of Women's Safety & Prevention Services reach out to remote areas, inform the population and authorities about existing services, identify victims and offer consultations. Thanks to intervention of Mobile Units from these services, 760 women from 45 communities were informed about the phenomenon and consequences of domestic violence, as well as about existing services. According to data presented by the partner NGOs, from the total number of 454 assisted women, 209 of them can be considered socially integrated, after the intervention of the newly trained specialists. As the capacity building activities for specialists, the high degree of interest and impressive number of the applied participants (98 registered participants, out of which 28 participated at all trainings) which participated in six capacity building events, speaks about the existence of the considerable pool of specialists willing to promote the rights of victims of violence in the Transnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova, and their readiness to build on their capacity in the field.

The work undertaken by UNAIDS/UNODC in the reporting period focussed on engaging de facto authorities from Tiraspol and consolidating the dialogue with the stakeholders from the both banks. Awareness events organized in December 2016, May, June, December 2017, to reduce HIV related stigma and discrimination, reached important public and got strong social media coverage. They reached more than 60,000 persons, covered 35 localities, involved about 20 personalities, and 14 NGOs on both banks of the Nistru river. All the activities planned for the current project period have been implemented successfully – such as the revision of the normative framework for the left bank and proposed adjustments in line with international human rights standards and gender sensitivity; functional waste management equipment was installed in Balti and made available for all the harm reduction projects from the Northern part of the country; two Stigma Index reports developed for the both banks of the river Nistru informing on the most common forms of stigma and discrimination in health facilities, educational institutions, at working places etc; all members of NGOs from the region were capacitated to provide qualitative communitarian services related to testing, prevention, support and advocacy; working plans for the next years 2018-2020 developed. 19 specialists from public sector and nongovernmental organizations from both banks of Nistru river were exposed to best practices related to pre-exposure prophylaxis in Paris, France and to efficient and gender sensitive HIV control measures in Stockholm, Sweden in 2018.

I. Purpose

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

Project Objectives:

- An increased number of women and men, as well as children with disabilities, enjoying the range of community-based services for ensuring the effective exercise of their rights on an equal basis with others, as per the UN human rights standards;
- Enhanced protection to victims and potential victims of domestic violence and empowerment of individuals to prevent and address the problems at their roots in the region;
- Scaled up access to quality and integrated prevention, treatment and care services for people living with HIV, TB and people who inject drugs in the civilian and prison sectors of the region.

The project objectives and components are aligned with the priorities of the Moldovan government and de facto authorities of Transnistrian region of Moldova and were planned by the project team with sufficient justification, knowledge of the selected areas and the main stakeholders. The project is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (aiming to advance Moldova's progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), 5 (Gender Equality), and 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and reflects the commitments assumed in the UN – Republic of Moldova Partnership Framework 2013-2017 "Towards Unity in Action".

II. Assessment of Programme Results

- This section is the **most important in the Report** and particular attention should be given to reporting on **results / and changes** that have taken place rather than on activities. It has three parts to help capture this information in different ways (i. Narrative section; ii. Indicator based performance assessment; iii. Evaluation & Lessons learned; and iv. A specific story).

i) Narrative reporting on results:

From January to December 2013, respond to the guiding questions, indicated below to provide a narrative summary of the results achieved. The aim here is to tell the **story of change** that your Programme has achieved over its entire duration. Make reference to the implementation mechanism utilized and key partnerships.

- **Outcomes:**

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

- **Outputs:**

- 1. Component 1 - Non-discrimination and social inclusion of children and adult persons with disabilities**

Regarding the key achievements of the component, assessing the performance through the existing set of indicators, it can be concluded that 4 out of 5 targets were achieved, while the 5th one with the most transformative potential focused on *de facto* policy and normative which is long-term one focused on changing attitude at the society level as the result of raised awareness, which usually requires permanent, consistent and coherent interventions and goes beyond a singular action project or even program.

Final evaluation showed that the project achieved this output and contributed to sensitization and to increasing the competences of the de-facto authorities by transferring the knowledge and best practices sharing on international standards with regard to rights of PwDs. This represents an immediate positive effect and a starting point.

- **Over 316 women and men** (incl. 141 PwDs and 62 duty bearers) have an **increased awareness on human rights standards** and sustainable development after trainings organized.
- The **cross-river Platform for Sustainable Community Development** served as a cooperation framework during seven meetings organized, a good result being the partnership agreement signed by 22 NGOs and initiative groups (16-from the left bank).
- **Assessment of the existing social services for the PwDs** in the Transnistrian region has been conducted.
- **Assessment of the existing regulatory framework** relevant to the situation of PwDs in the Transnistrian region has been conducted.
- **Implementation of the initiatives for the creation of community-based services** for PwDs started in 4 localities in May 2018.
- **3 donor coordination** meetings on HR have been organized.
- **The visit of Thomas Hammarberg to TN region** during 28 May – 1st June 2018 was organized, resulting in an assessment of the progress in Human Rights issues in the region, to be reflected in a report to follow.

Component 2: Enhancing gender equality and combating violence against women

The key achievement of the component is the establishment of a new service for referring and assisting victims of Domestic Violence. Assessing the performance through the existing set of indicators, it can be concluded that 7 out of 11 targets were achieved; one is close to be achieved and three targets are not measurable, because the initial approach was changed and the targets were not reviewed, although the evaluation reflected the efforts put by the project. It worth mentioning, that the interventions within this component have been adjusted mainly due to the changed context during the project implementation, which shows the project flexibility. Thus, some activities under the objectives two and four related to the study visits for strengthening the capacities of local professionals and implementing an awareness campaign, were adjusted to better meet the local needs and the savings were redirected to construction works of the Shelter.

In addition to the establishment of the new service for referring and assisting main achievement were the following:

- **The functional temporary shelter for DV victims** providing support services, both outpatient and in residential regime (it can concomitantly host at least five victims with their children). A permanent Shelter is being established with EU and Swedish financing.
- **Two regional hubs in Slobozia and Grigoriopol** providing referral services and direct assistance to victims, reaching remote areas, informing the population and authorities, etc.
- **Cumulative number of beneficiaries** for both, the shelter and hubs include: **1270 people** (1088 women, 143 children and 39 perpetrators) have received one or more services: psychological counselling; legal support. **209 women** are socially integrated, after the intervention of specialists of created services

Component 3 - Improving prevention, treatment and care services for PLHIV, PWIDs and people in prisons

Assessing this output through the existing sets of indicators it can be concluded that it was mostly achieved even if it started with almost one-year delay due to the election of the de facto authorities.

Normative and policy changes-related results:

- A road map on **sustainable development of HIV response in Transnistrian region by 2020** has been developed involving other 30 stakeholders.
- An assessment of about 50 policy documents from Transnistrian region realized to **understand how HIV policies are aligned to international human rights standards**.
- First ever **assessment of HIV and TB services on the left bank** in prisons was conducted, the final report includes 13 recommendations.
- First-ever joint document between local police on the **left bank**, and the civil society organizations was signed on December 1st, 2017 (WAD – World Aids Day). A Memorandum of collaboration was signed with 6 Non-Governmental organizations providing services in this field.
- Up to 82% of participants to an opinion pool are **in favor of alternatives to punishment**, following a **national raising awareness campaign on alternatives** to punishment for people who use drugs organized under the leadership of UNDOC.
- Stigma Index research conducted, indicating that discriminatory treatments are faced quite often by the PLHIV.
- In the period December 2016 – December 2017, four **substantive awareness campaigns** were conducted on both banks of the Nistru River which covered more than 60000 women and men in about 35 rayons, involving around 14 NGOs and 6 line ministries.

Capacity building activities for medical and civil society representatives, de-facto Law enforcement authorities, drug dependency specialists educational and psychological staff, as well as exposure to best practice of communitarian approach in Austria, allowed to sensitize the de-facto authorities about Harm Reduction and referral services. As an outstanding result, in May 2018, 11 people who use drugs were referred by police to Harm Reduction services provided by the NGO in Ribnita.

- **Qualitative assessment**

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

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

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

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

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

ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

| | Achieved indicator targets | Reasons for variance with planned target (if any) | Source of verification |
|---|---|--|------------------------------|
| Component 1 - Non-discrimination and social inclusion of children and adult persons with disabilities | | | |
| Output 1.1 a) <i>De facto</i> authorities of central and local level, ombudsperson's office, other specialized de facto authorities and institutions trained and capacitated on international standards with regard to rights of persons with disabilities; b) <i>De facto</i> normative framework reviewed and adjusted – to the furthest possible extent – in line with the international standards with regard to rights of persons with disabilities (as amendments to de facto laws, regulations and/or as executive order, operational guides, etc.). | 104 responsible officers and professionals trained and capacitated in applying international standards with regard to rights of persons with disabilities and provision of social services for them. | The difference from the achieved results and target is due to inconsistent participation of the de-facto authorities representatives (confirmed participation, but did not come). Final disaggregated results will be presented at a later date. | Trainings participants lists |
| | Indicator 1.1.1 - No. of responsible officers and professionals (of which % of women) capacitated in applying international standards with regard to rights of persons with disabilities. Baseline: - 0 responsible officers and professionals (of which 0 women) capacitated in applying international standards with regard to rights of persons with disabilities. Planned Target: - At least 100 responsible officers and professionals (of which at least 60% - women) trained and capacitated in applying international standards with regard to rights of persons with disabilities. | 5 normative acts reviewed and proposals for amendments to comply with CRPD developed Law on CRPD ratification was passed by de facto Parliament in June 2018 Action Plan for the implementation of Year of Equal Opportunities developed in March 2018 | |
| Indicator 1.1.2 - Existence of policy and normative framework compliant with UN standards on persons with disabilities (to be measured through a study on this framework at the very first stage of project implementation); Baseline: - No policy, normative and institutional framework for implementation of rights of persons with disabilities compliant with UN standards on persons with disabilities; Planned Target: - Policy and normative framework in place – to the furthest possible extent – (at minimum soft – Strategy/roadmap and/or guidelines endorsed by the <i>de facto</i> authorities); | | | |
| Output 1.2 a) Organizations of women and men with disabilities empowered to take action in protection and advancement of non-discrimination and their fundamental human rights as per the international standards and establish close collaboration with the similar organizations from the right bank of the Nistru-river; b) Women and men, as well as children with disabilities from the pilot 1-2 communities have access to a range of inclusive CRPD-compliant community services | Representatives of 24 NGOs and initiative groups have been involved in the activities of the programme and are cooperating with their counterparts from both banks of the Nistru River. 1 NGO from the Transnistrian region have submitted an alternative report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. | | |
| | 22 representatives of NGOs and initiative groups, of which 16 from the left bank, have agreed to cooperate in | | MoU signed |

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| <p>Indicator 1.2.1 - No. of empowered organizations of women and men with disabilities; Baseline: - 1 empowered organization persons with disabilities (“World of Equal Opportunities” from Bender); Planned Target: - 5 empowered organization persons with disabilities (in addition to the “World of Equal Opportunities” from Bender);</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.2 - Establishment of the regional alliance of persons with disabilities; Baseline: - No regional alliance of persons with disabilities; Planned Target: - One regional alliance of persons with disabilities established;</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.3 - No. of community-based services for persons with disabilities developed; Baseline: - 1 community-based service/mechanism for persons with disabilities developed (Accessibility Review within the Bender City Constructions Approval Committee); Planned Target: - 5 community-based services/mechanisms for persons with disabilities developed (in addition to the Accessibility Review within the Bender City Constructions Approval Committee);</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.4 - No. of persons with disabilities (% of women and girls) enjoying the developed community-based services. Baseline: - 0 persons with disabilities (% of women and girls) enjoying the developed community-based services. Planned Target: - 50 persons with disabilities (of them 60% women and girls) enjoying the developed community-based services.</p> | <p>the framework of the Platform for Sustainable (Community) Development.</p> <p>Started development of 12 community-based services – 3 in Ribnita (psychological support, legal support and assisted employment); 1 in Dubasari (assisted employment); 2 in Tiraspol (psychological and legal support); 3 in Slobozia and 3 in Grigoriopol (psychological support, legal support and assisted employment)</p> <p>One PwDs included in the Tiraspol City Constructions Approval Committee.</p> <p>Over 70 PwDs (40 women) received support from community-based services</p> | | |
| <p>Output 1.3 a) Raised awareness among broader range of opinion and decision-makers (de facto MPs, local authorities, media, etc.) and wider society about the rights-based concept of disability</p> <p>Indicator 1.3.1 No. of region residents covered by awareness-raising activities. Baseline: 0 region residents covered by awareness-raising activities. Planned Target: At least 100,000 region residents covered by awareness-raising activities</p> | <p>More than 120,000 of region residents covered by TV materials produced, articles published in local newspapers and internet portals on the rights of PwDs and the programme’s activities</p> <p>368 persons follow the programme’s Facebook page</p> | | <p>Media outlets coverage information Facebook page</p> |
| <p>Component 2: Enhancing gender equality and combating violence against women</p> | | | |

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| <p>Output 1 The new created services help the women – victims of DV and/or HT and their children, to break the wheel of violence.</p> <p>Indicator: Victims of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking (HT) from Transnistrian region have improved access to complex social reintegration/rehabilitation service, including one shelter and two regional hubs</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The temporary shelter is functional and continues to provide assistance in most complicated cases of Domestic Violence from the Transnistrian region; 2. Two regional hubs in Slobozia and Grigoriopol were created at the end of 2016 and ensure outreach to local communities, identifying, assisting and referring cases of domestic violence. 3. A location for the future shelter has been identified, complying with the project requirements. The partner NGO Resonance obtained the right to manage the building for a period of 10 years. The reconstruction works of the new, permanent shelter have been conducted, with the financial support of the EU and of the Government of Sweden. 4. The continuity of the process of assistance to victims of DV has been ensured through signing amendments to the grant agreements with partner NGOs, covering the period November 2017- May 2018. 5. During the reported period, the temporary shelter offered assistance (in both, the residential and daily regimes) to 259 persons, out of which 160 were women, 95 children and 4 perpetrators. Depending on personal needs, all beneficiaries received psychological support, legal consultation, food supplies, medical examinations and professional orientation. Ninety-two women were helped to find a job. | <p>As in 2014 the local authorities from Transnistrian region found it difficult to identify a rent-free location to be used on a permanent basis as a shelter, the project team has elaborated an intermediary step, allowing to start work with survivors of Domestic Violence and to achieve the assumed outputs. The idea consisted in renting an adequate house from the private sector (which would become a “temporary” shelter, until the building for the permanent shelter was identified, retrofitted and finally commissioned to the local partners. Starting with February 2015, one house from the private sector and in very good condition was rented in Bender, for a period of 18 months. This house has the role of temporary shelter and allows assisting victims of domestic Violence and their children, in a residential regime.</p> | <p>Project reports and results of monitoring and evaluation activities.</p> |
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| <p>Baseline: 1 Lack of services (unities) for assisting victims of DV and HT</p> <p>Indicators: 1.1. Number of created services (unities) 1.2.Exact types of created services in the units 1.3. Number of partnerships with local NGOs for transfer of the management of the Shelter and regional hubs</p> <p>Planned Target: 1.1.1 1 effectively established, functional and capacitated Residential Women Centre (Shelter) & Women’s Safety & Prevention Services (non-residential) in Tiraspol with functioning regulations and rules for social reintegration services 1.2.1. 2 effectively established, functional and capacitated regional hubs Women’s Safety & Prevention Services (non-residential) in Grigoriopol and Rabnita 1.3.1. Partnerships created with 2 NGOs in order to transfer the management of the Shelter and the 2 hubs.</p> | <p>1.1.1.1. On track. The temporary shelter will work until the permanent shelter is established.</p> <p>1.2.1.1. Target reached. Two regional HUBs (one in Grigoriopol and one in Slobozia) have been established.</p> <p>1.3.1.1. Target is reached. Two Grant Agreements and two extensions have been signed.</p> | | |
| <p>Output 2 Increased number of professionals contribute to diminish the consequences of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking (HT) phenomena</p> <p>Indicator: The presence of professionals (in shelter, in two regional hubs, in services managed by other local NGOs) who can deliver qualitative services for victims of DV and HT</p> | <p>2 psychologists, 2 social assistants, and one lawyer have been recruited for the regional hubs. The mentioned left bank specialists took part in a two-week internship in the Drochia Maternal Centre and the Drochia Centre for assisting Perpetrators.</p> | | <p>Project reports and results of monitoring and evaluation activities.</p> |
| <p>Baseline: 2. Lack of trained specialists, specifically case managers, psychologists, social workers, lawyers, PR specialists from the shelter, regional hubs and other local NGOs to deliver qualitative services for victims of DV and HT.</p> <p>Indicators: 2.1. Number of specialists from service delivery institutions (shelter, regional hubs, other partner NGOs, representatives of de-facto ministry) trained;</p> <p>Targets:2.1.1. Capacities strengthened through trainings to 15 professionals from specialized services of the key service delivery partners.</p> | <p>2.1.1.1. Target is reached. 98 specialists (psychologists, social assistances, managers of services, lawyers, teachers, doctors, representatives of local institutions, policemen) representing 11 NGOs and 5 public institutions participated in 6 trainings. The number of trainees exceeded with 6.5 times the initial estimates.</p> | | |
| <p>Output 3 Created opportunities are in line with the victims needs and contributes to economic empowerment of the survivors/victims</p> <p>Indicator: Enhanced opportunities for, victims of DV and HT to attend the labour market</p> | <p>Six psychological software for VET and Labor Market activities were purchased and offered to the partner NGOs.</p> | | <p>Project reports and results of monitoring and evaluation activities.</p> |

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| <p>Baseline: 3. Lack of specialists (social workers, psychologists), who applies vocational counselling techniques and tests</p> <p>Indicators: 3.1. Number of psychologists trained to use vocational counseling techniques and psychological tests for career counselling and planning 3.2. Number (80) of victims professionally oriented 3.3. Number (20) of women who graduated VET courses 3.4. Number (40) of women employed</p> <p>Targets: 3.1.1. Capacity of partner NGOs developed to implement economically oriented programs for victims of DV and HT, including 5 trained psychologists 3.2.1. 80 victims professionally oriented 3.3.1. 20 women graduated vocational courses 3.4.1. 40 of women employed</p> | <p>All targets are achieved. Since July 2016, the psychologists from the temporary shelter and regional hubs oriented professionally 103 beneficiaries; 57 people were professionally trained; 92 people were employed.</p> | | |
| <p>Output 4 Public awareness raised to support prevention/disclosure of DV and HT cases</p> <p>Indicator: The information and public awareness campaign produced effects among the general public, and generated public debate</p> | <p>4. The target has been partially changed. The Informing population activity will be done through the regional hubs' mobile teams. A part of the financial resources is directed to the construction works of the permanent shelter.</p> | | <p>Project reports and results of monitoring and evaluation activities.</p> |
| <p>Baseline:4.1. Domestic Violence – a hidden social problem 4.2. Relatively high tolerance of Domestic Violence phenomena among society 4.3. Lack of public debates regarding Domestic Violence phenomena</p> <p>Indicators: 4.1.1. Number of awareness raising activities carried out 4.1.2. Number of NGOs, trained to develop local campaigns</p> <p>Targets: 4.1.1. Support the organization of awareness raising campaigns and joint events (involving the right bank) on DV and HT - 5 awareness raising activities carried out 4.2.1. Empower 5 NGOs to develop local mid-term plans to prevent DV 4.3.1. 5 NGOs trained to develop local campaigns</p> | <p>The modified target is reached. 1250 brochures, 500 flyers and 500 calendars were printed and disseminated.</p> | | |
| <p>Component 3 - Improving prevention, treatment and care services for PLHIV, PWIDs and people in prisons</p> | | | |

| | Achieved indicator targets | Reasons for variance with planned target (if any) | Source of verification |
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| <p>Output 1. Increased access to comprehensive package of services for PWIDs, including drug dependency in community</p> <p>Indicator 1.1 10 specialists participated at the working visit on HIV/OST to Minsk Baseline: Weak understanding of OST benefits among decision makers on both banks Planned Target: 10 Authorities and relevant specialists have increased knowledge on addressing public health policies on drug use</p> <p>Indicator 1.2 A report including normative document adjusted to incorporate OST is prepared Baseline: Lack of normative acts to incorporate OST on the left bank Planned Target: A clear normative health treatment related regulation/ordinance in place on the left bank to enable OST, including basic guidance for medical specialists (Clinical Protocol) implementation</p> <p>Indicator 1.3 Targeted capacity building of 7 drug dependency and infectious diseases specialists from both banks to ensure piloting and scaling up of drug dependency treatment on both banks. Baseline: Lack of knowledge and skills of health and NGO staff to provide OST on both banks of Nistru. Planned Target: All staff (at least 7 persons) skilled to provide OST in the new 4 OST sites (2 on left bank and 2 on right bank)</p> <p>Indicator 1.4 Ensure adequate functioning of the new 4 OST sites by providing equipment Baseline: No OST available on the left bank. OST in partly available on the right bank. Planned Target: 4 new sites (2 on left bank and 2 on right bank) available and including 4 medical personnel trained to provide OST in the new opened sites</p> | <p>Achieved</p> <p>1.1 11 specialist had their capacities enhanced during a in a study visit to Belarus, Minsk</p> <p>1.2 6000 Booklets and guiding procedures for police officers printed in Ru and Ro</p> <p>1.3 80 police officers had their capacities built during the 4 trainings in Balti in Chisinau</p> <p>1.4 3 OST sites on the right bank opened, including 1 in Rezina</p> | | <p>Photos, list of participants, list of tickets</p> |

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| <p>Output 2 Increased access to HIV services for 2000 prisoners</p> <p>Indicator 2.1 Assessment report shared with the prison authorities Baseline: Lack of needs assessment of HIV response in prisons Planned Target: Conduct the assessment in comprehensive package of services to HIV in TN prisons to identify major challenges and adjustments (including on the normative framework)</p> <p>Indicator 2.2 20 NGO and prison staff trained in comprehensive services to HIV in prisons Baseline: Weak integrated HIV and TB skills of prison and NGOs staff Planned Target: Improved the capacities of 20 Health and NGOs staff in providing qualitative integrated TB and HIV services for inmates</p> <p>Indicator 2.3 6 prison staff who participated at the working visit on comprehensive package of services in prisons to Switzerland Baseline: Limited knowledge of prison staff regarding the comprehensive of services Planned Target: Increased understanding of 6 decision making staff with regards to integrated services in prisons as a result to best practices exposure in Switzerland</p> | <p>2.1 Target achieved. Assessment conducted. Report in English and Russian submitted.</p> <p>2.2 Overachieved (25 participants)</p> <p>2.3 overachieved. 8 specialists had their capacities built during a study visit to Olaine prison. 9 specialists had their capacities built in alternatives to incarceration during the study visit to Bucharest, Romania</p> | | <p>Report, photos and list of participants</p> |
| <p>Outcome 3. Existent HIV programming policies are human rights based and gender sensitive, including M&E frameworks and budgets</p> <p>Output 3: Human rights and gender mainstreamed into HIV normative framework on both banks</p> <p>Indicator 3.1 Number of gender assessment performed and implemented Baseline: Lack of gender assessment of HIV policies on the left bank Planned Target: Nr (1) gender assessment of HIV response, present (baseline 1 – on the right bank) by end 2016</p> <p>Indicator 3.2 Number of specialists from NGOs and public sector able to develop gender and HR sensitive policies Baseline: Lack of competencies to develop gender sensitive policies in HIV response Planned Target: Nr (25) specialists from both banks of Nistru river able to develop HIV gender sensitive policies and integrate HR&gender base approach in HIV normative framework</p> | <p>3.1. Achieved. The report developed for the adjustments of the normative framework has fully integrated gender-sensitive issues and recommendations developed for the new legal acts are recognized as gender-sensitive.</p> <p>3.2. Achieved. 30 specialists from both banks trained to develop HIV gender sensitive policies and integrate HR&gender base approach in HIV normative framework.</p> | | <p>Conclusions of the OHCHR and UNAIDS Human Rights Adviser.</p> |

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| <p>Indicator 3.3 Number of HIV working plans for 2017-2018 on both banks of Nistru river gender sensitive Baseline: Lack of skills to provide HR and gender sensitive services on both banks Planned Target: Nr (10) specialists skilled to promote gender sensitive plans implementation as a result of the study visit</p> | <p>3.3 Achieved. 9 specialists skilled to promote gender sensitive plans implementation as well as achieving UNAIDS global goals 90-90-90 as a result of a study visit in Stockholm, Sweden, June 2018.</p> | | |
| <p>Outcome 4. Improved capacities of NGOs to provide HIV testing and normative framework ensured for the service</p> <p>Output 4: Increased access to communitarian testing of most at risk populations</p> <p>Indicator 4.1 Number of NGOs representatives able to provide qualitative HCT (HIV communitarian testing) Baseline: Weak knowledge and skills of NGO service providers to realize communitarian testing Planned Target: (30) NGOs representatives able to provide communitarian testing on both banks</p> <p>Indicator 4.2 Number of specialists exposed to best HCT practices Baseline: Weak abilities of NGO sector to ensure sustainability of communitarian testing Planned Target: Nr (8) specialists exposed to best HCT practices from the region through a study visit to Baltic states</p> <p>Indicator 4.3 Number of NGO personnel who are able to get funds from public resources Baseline: 0 Planned Target: (25) management staff of NGOs have fundraising skills</p> <p>Indicator 4.4 % of waste safely managed Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 100% of waste managed safely on the right bank</p> | <p>4.1 Overachieved. A number of 85 medical and civil society representatives able to provide qualitative HIV testing and treatment services as a result of four training on new HIV clinical protocols and testing guidelines.</p> <p>4.2 Overachieved. 10 specialists capacitated and able to provide qualitative HCT and PrEP treatment during a study visit in Paris, France.</p> <p>4.3 Achieved. 30 management staff of NGOs achieved fundraising skills as a result of three trainings. 2 NGOs have access to resources from domestic funds.4.3 Achieved. 30 specialists trained to access funds from public resources as a result of three trainings. Two NGOs already have access to domestic funds.</p> <p>1.4. Achieved. A modern waste management medical equipment procured and installed in Balti, at NGO UORN. Currently is functional.</p> | | |
| <p>Output 5 LEAs participate in referral process of vulnerable groups to harm reduction services</p> <p>Indicator 5.1 10 LEAs participated at working visit on Police Referral Services to Vienna, Austria</p> | <p>5.1 Achieved, 10 participants attended the study visit to Austria</p> | | <p>List of participants, photos, tickets</p> |

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| <p>Baseline: Lack of knowledge of LEAs related to comprehensive HIV/TB/ OST prevention package Planned Target: 10 LEAs are sensitized in the field of Harm Reduction and referral services as a result of exposure to best practice LEAs communitarian approach in Austria</p> <p>Indicator 5.2 25 police officers trained in Harm Reduction and personal security and safety Baseline: Lack of normative guidance for LEAs to address public health needs of PWID Planned Target: 20 LEAs are capacitated and have the necessary skills to ensure referral to Harm Reduction and personal safety and security while interacting with the vulnerable groups</p> <p>Indicator 5.3 Regulation developed and approved to incorporate safety and security at the work place and referral schemes to Harm Reduction for police officers Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 1 Normative document developed and approved to incorporate safety and security at the work place on the left bank and referral schemes to Harm Reduction for police officers</p> | <p>5.2 Over-achieved 50 police and 10 NGO specialists trained</p> <p>5.3 Memorandum between NGOs and police signed on the left bank. Consultants contracted. Regulation developed and approved.</p> | | |
| <p>Outcome 6: Stigma and discrimination of the PLWH decreased</p> <p>Output 6: HIV and drug dependency related stigma and discrimination reduced</p> <p>Indicator 6.1 Number of reports on stigma index Baseline: Lack of Stigma index research on the right bank Planned Target: Stigma Index conducted (2016)</p> <p>Indicator 6.2 Number of population covered by the campaign Baseline: High level of stigma and discrimination towards HIV on both banks which impede persons to exercise their rights Planned Target: At least 5,000 Persons covered by communication campaigns</p> <p>Indicator 6.3 Number of staff tolerant towards beneficiaries Baseline: High level stigma among health personnel providing services to HIV affected or infected persons</p> | <p>6.1 Achieved. Two reports developed for the both banks of the river Nistru. Clear conclusions and recommendations provided on the stigma and discrimination reduction.</p> <p>6.2 Achieved. More than 60000 persons covered during four large informative campaigns.</p> <p>6.3 Achieved. As a result of the campaigns, 200 health workers aligned to the campaigns.</p> | | |

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| Planned Target: 200 health personnel providing HIV prevention, treatment and care services tolerant to their beneficiaries | | | |
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iii) Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

A final evaluation of the project was carried out during June-August 2018, performed by an International contractor, with the following conclusions:

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

The key lessons/challenges drawn from the implementation of the Joint Actions 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 constantly needed, leading to potential delays in activities. Issues related to domestic violence, HIV prevention methodology, etc. are politically controversial and need to be approached with care;
- To ensure effective change and full institutional commitment, involvement of senior management and high-level officials is required. At the same time, every activity needs to be considered carefully and the involvement of senior administrative staff from de facto authorities balanced with political risks due to the sensitivity of the subject matter;
- Care should be exercised in the selection of the location for exposing staff from the Transnistrian region to international standards and best practices.
- Joint activities, such as study visits, trainings, and exchanges involving stakeholders from both banks of the Nistru river create bridges for confidence building;

- The most successful activities are the ones based on priorities and development needs of both sides of the Nistru river, that are not imposed but closely coordinated with them. As soon as this crucial ingredient goes sideways, project work tends to stumble. It is of paramount importance to carefully inform the stakeholders and not to try cutting corners, that lead to the opposite– lack of trust. Projects that people understand, that are transparent, lead to reducing pre-conceptions and “opening-up” the region for more.
- The cases that the domestic violence services established through the project are typically the most complex, where public institutions cannot achieve results. The reasons for this are different: from bureaucratic constraints to the lack of relevant professional knowledge and skills in public institutions;
- Law enforcement agencies often do not take proper measures to respond to calls from citizens about domestic violence. The partner NGOs need to work to establish contacts, to familiarize law enforcement officers with programs to help women in crisis situations and discuss possible prospects for cooperation.
- An in-depth knowledge and understanding of the operating environment is constantly needed, as this helps determine what is possible and what not at any given stage. Even though the programme itself is not political, it depends on the political environment and is sensitive to changes within that environment. Careful management is required; lack of it may unravel the program.
- It is of paramount importance to enhance the capacity of organizations from both sides for joint project work, as it is quite limited. Both implementing capacity - to “deliver” large joint projects need support, as well as local capacities for peace – i.e. to approach arising conflicts in a constructive, positive manner, and the capacities that would enable partnerships across the divide to last.