WHO Romania
Monthly Newsletter

WHO Romania would like to wish all partners, colleagues and friends a happy new year. May 2024 bring health, happiness and achievement for you and your loved ones.

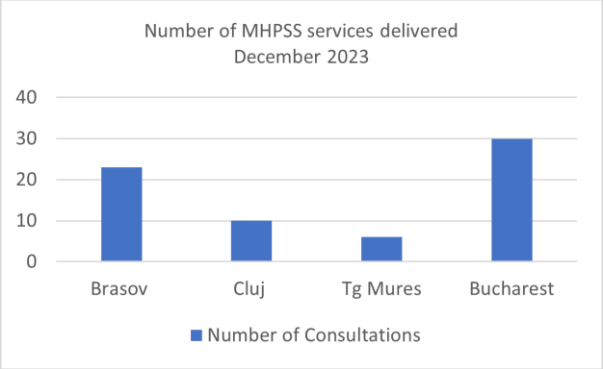
December 2023 Highlights

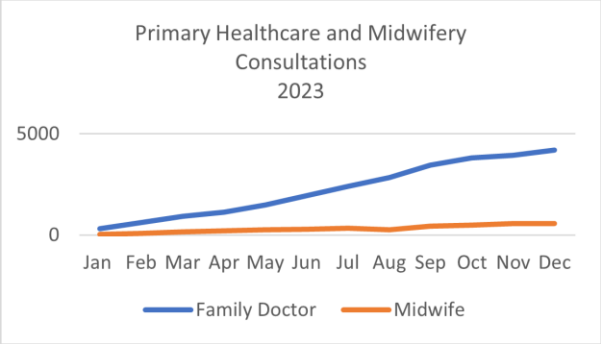
- WHO and MoH launched the event "NRRP: A Huge Leap for Healthcare in Romania" to mark 1.5 years of joint technical collaboration.
- WHO delivered a high-level workshop on biosafety and biosecurity regulatory frameworks to bolster national capacities and mitigate risks of biological emergencies
- Following the declaration of a measles epidemic in Romania, WHO and UNICEF jointly launched a social media campaign on the importance of measles vaccination.

Emergency Response

Monthly Data Insights

- WHO cultural mediators delivered 69 psychosocial support sessions for Ukrainian refugees.
- WHO supported family doctors in Bucharest, Galati, Suceava, and Brasov provided 244 consultations to Ukrainians.
- WHO midwives in Galati, Constanta and Bucharest delivered 18 midwifery consultations for Ukrainian women.





GBV Training of Trainers

Refugee women are particularly vulnerable to gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual assault and supporting survivors has been a core pillar of WHO's Ukrainian response.

In line with WHO's continued commitment to strengthen existing systems, the country office launched a 'GBV Training of Trainers'.

During December, two pilot sessions were delivered to Romanian health facility managers and family doctors. The training introduced core principles in responding to and preventing GBV, key indicators, policies and protocols that should be in place and guidelines for staff to adequately respond to and support survivors.

2024 Emergency Response

WHO participated in the UNHCR event “Refugee Support Coordination Network” and the following operational priorities for 2024 were identified in cooperation with the Constanta Prefect:

1. Strengthened collaboration with the Prefect's office and public authorities.
2. Increased counselling for asylum seekers and refugees.
3. Increased information on rights, access to health, education and child protection.
4. Increased efforts on community capacity building and economic inclusion.
5. Continued support for GBV and human trafficking survivors.

WHO will continue to work closely with UNHCR and national partners to realise these objectives.

HCR
Fiecare dintre noi poate contribui
MINISTERUL AFACERILOR INTERNE
INSTITUȚIA PREFECTULUI JUDEȚUL CONSTANȚA
ROMÂNIA
JUDEȚUL CONSTANȚA
Mun. Constanța, Bd. Tomis, nr. 51

National Recovery & Resilience Plan (NRRP)

NRRP Event 15 December

The Ministry of Health and WHO Romania celebrated their joint achievements with the event *"NRRP: A Huge Leap for Healthcare in Romania".*

Over 180 participants attended, including government representatives, national stakeholders, health managers, local authorities, NGOs, and journalists.

The event allowed the Health Minister to hand over certificates of excellence to selected high achieving partners and Prof Rafila also thanked WHO for the technical assistance over the past 1.5 years.

Health Service Management

The sixth and final Health Service Management ToT session was conducted in December 2023.

The training, delivered by WHO Romania experts with support from Prof. Federico Lega from the Milano University, provided participants with insights into the latest concepts and strategies and in "Leadership and Change Management".

Electronic HWF Registry

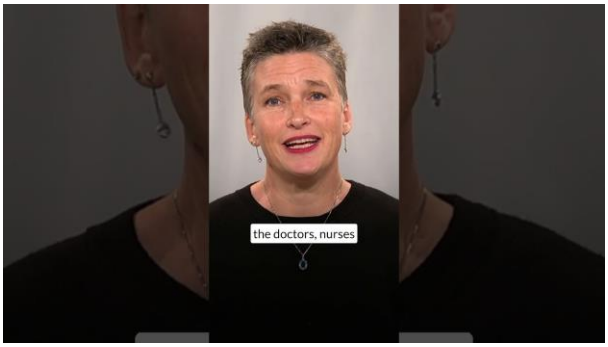
WHO EURO, WHO Romania and Ministry of Health representatives convened in Denmark between 6 - 9 December to discuss the development of an electronic registry of the Romanian healthcare workforce (HWF).

Country Office Events & Communications

16 Days of Activism

1 in 4 women experience physical violence from their partner at some point. Whilst GBV support is increasingly available, stigma and fear of reprisal prevents many survivors from speaking out or seeking support.

WHO Representative Dr. Clarinval shared her experience of domestic abuse and the path she took as part of the WHO global awareness campaign “16 Days of Activism against GBV”.



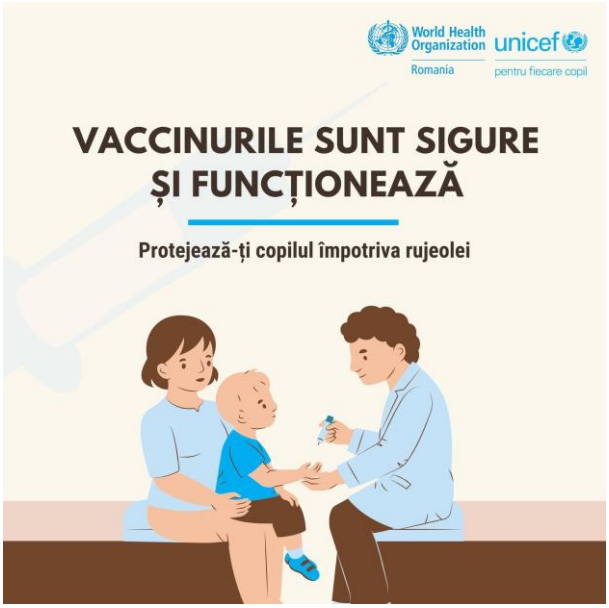
Biosafety and Biosecurity Workshop

Laboratory biosafety and biosecurity are an important part of WHO's mandate of mitigating the threat of health emergencies.

WHO's workshop in December marked the inaugural event in a series designed to tackle global health and security issues by fostering national capacities in biosafety and biosecurity, enhancing inter-sector cooperation, and establishing a national BS&S commission responsible for biological safety and security issues. The high-level event was attended by Minister of Health Prof Rafila and representatives from DSU, MoD, MIA and Ministry of Agriculture.

Measles Awareness Campaign

Following the government's declaration of a measles epidemic on 5 December, WHO and UNICEF launched a joined social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram to improve awareness on the importance of measles vaccination for protection. All materials were translated into Ukrainian and shared on Telegram and other Ukrainian social groups in Romania.



Further Country Office Activities

- WHO attended the TB Screening Project Closing Conference which marked the culmination of the nationwide EU-funded TB screening program on 6 December.
- WHO participated in the event "Increasing Access to Prevention Services for Vulnerable Populations and Building Healthy Resilient Communities", organised by the Belgian Embassy and delivered an address upon WHO's continued commitment to strengthening preventative services in Romania.

Keep in Touch

World Health Organization Country Office in Romania

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