



Moldova



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30,281

children and youth benefited from our activities and services in 2023

765

professionals were trained in 2023 to provide improved child protection services

64

communities in all regions of Moldova were reached with our interventions in 2023

Context

Due to the troublesome economic and social context in Moldova, many children live in poverty or have to cope for themselves because their parents work abroad. Child abuse is widely prevalent and insufficiently addressed by the society. Children from marginalized communities often face discrimination. Offending behaviour among children and youth is as well a major concern. A growing number of young people move abroad in search of better opportunities.

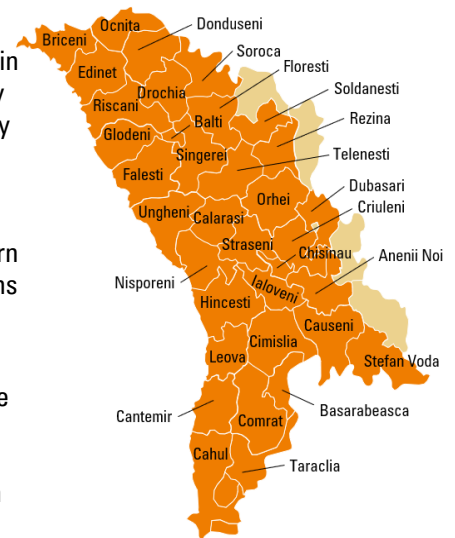
Since the beginning of the full-scale war in Ukraine in February 2022 until July 2024, approx. 1,520,000 displaced persons from Ukraine have crossed the border into Moldova. Of them, more than 123,000 have chosen to stay in the country, with almost half being children.

Moldova has also been heavily affected by high inflation, security threats, and other challenges fuelled by the war in Ukraine.

General overview

Terre des hommes (TdH) has been active in Moldova since 2004, working consistently on ensuring that all children in the country benefit from a system that can guarantee their protection, development and involvement in the social, educational, cultural and health processes that concern them. Starting 2018, TdH Moldova also runs projects for youth empowerment.

In 2023, we have implemented projects in 64 communities covering all regions of the country, except the Transnistrian region. Each year, thousands of children, parents and professionals are engaged in TdH projects in Moldova.



Our thematic priorities



We reduce the vulnerability, strengthen the resilience and improve the protection of **children and young people affected by migration**, with a focus on children left behind due to parents' labour migration.



We work towards ensuring that all children and young people have **access to their rights when in contact with the justice system** by promoting a child-friendly, inclusive and restorative approach.



To **protect children against any form of abuse**, we strengthen the capacity of institutions and professionals in the field of child protection, as well as build the resilience of children and young people.



Our **support for refugee children and families from Ukraine** ranges from responding to their urgent needs and providing psychosocial support to facilitating their long-term integration.

Our impact in 2023

Children and young people on the move

- A comprehensive assessment of police officers' needs has been carried out. The results of the assessment were used for the development of a training programme.

Access to justice for children and young people

- Tdh Moldova, with the support of UNICEF and in partnership with the General Police Inspectorate, has conducted and presented the research "Profile of children in conflict with the law in Moldova", which identifies individual characteristics of families and communities of these children and presents a mapping of existing support services.

Child protection

- Continuous interventions aiming at reducing violence among and towards children, gender-based violence and bullying are developed each year by Tdh Moldova, supporting children, parents, teachers and professionals.
- A network of 170 children aged 11-18 years old became local agents of change in preventing violence, promoting gender equality, tolerance and participation.

Youth empowerment

- In recent years, we have been actively involved in actions to empower teenagers and young people.
- In 2023, our highlight youth projects were JOBOTECA, YouCreate, MYCS – Moldova Youth Civil Society. In YouCreate, 385 young people developed and implemented 17 community initiatives.

Support for Ukrainian refugees

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine in 2022, we have been supporting refugee children and their families through information services, psychosocial activities, summer camps, humanitarian aid, individual protection assistance, child-friendly spaces and mother and baby corners. During 2023, we provided assistance to 11,713 refugees (7,495 children and 4,218 adults).

"After the horror the children and I came out of, the workers who welcomed us here gave us some hope. I just didn't expect such a warm attitude. My children smile as they play with the animators in the child-friendly spaces. I'm happy to see them smiling."

Tatiana, mother of 5 from the city of Nikolaev, southern Ukraine.

Outlook

In 2024, we focus on youth empowerment and participation, ongoing support for Ukrainian refugees and their integration in the local communities, capacity building for schools to prevent bullying, support for the justice system through training of professionals and evaluation of existing prevention programmes in order to ensure a child-friendly justice system.

Advocacy

In 2023, Tdh Moldova has provided technical support to the Ministry of Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova to develop an intersectoral mechanism for protection and support of children in conflict with the law.

Main partners and donors

Partners: The Republic of Moldova's Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior; Partnership for Development Centre, Foundation for Civil Society Development (Romania), Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj Napoca (Romania), Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Ukrainian Institute for Social Research "Oleksandr Yaremenco", Association of Community Mediators, local public authorities of the Republic of Moldova, local schools and Youth Centres.

Donors: European Union, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Swiss Cooperation in Moldova, UNICEF, KfW, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), OSCE, the Crisis and Support Center of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, Disaster Emergency Committee of UK, Z Zurich Foundation, Fondation Philanthropique NEXT, Childhood Foundation, Norway Active Citizens Fund, Swiss Solidarity, City of Zurich, SOS Kinderdoerfer Weltweit.



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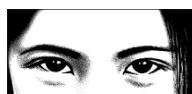
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As the leading Swiss child rights organisation, created in 1960, Terre des hommes stands together with children to uphold their rights, protect their lives and improve their well-being. In 2023, we supported over 5.2 million children and members of their communities in more than 30 countries.



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