

VACCINATION SAVES LIVES

Supporting the deployment of COVID-19 vaccines and routine vaccination systems in the Eastern Partnership



A 3-year, €40 million project of the European Union and WHO Regional Office for Europe in six countries of the Eastern Partnership – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine

TRAINED



1800 vaccinators

2900 doctors and nurses

3000 nursing students

18 000 enrolments at the OpenWHO website

PROCURED



300 vaccine refrigerators, voltage stabilizers, temperature monitoring devices

122 vaccine carriers

102 computers, **79** printers, **79** UPS

Infection prevention and control

- 8 vaccination sites in 8 districts assessed and recommendations provided on infection prevention and control measures.

Supporting national vaccination systems and data management

- National Deployment and Vaccination Plan assessed and recommendations provided to address issues affecting the COVID-19 vaccination uptake.
- National working group established to develop action plan, including tailored interventions to reach unvaccinated older adults.
- 102 computers, 79 printers, 79 uninterruptible power systems (UPS), and software programs for real-time data management procured.
- Meetings between national and international health experts addressed the importance of collecting data to tailor COVID-19-related strategies, digitalizing the immunization

information system, and introducing new vaccines to the routine immunization schedule.

Providing health professionals with capacity-building opportunities

- 12-hour training course developed on COVID-19 vaccines with integrated adult learning principles.
- Training of Trainers courses conducted and 56 local trainers prepared to pass on knowledge regarding COVID-19 vaccination.
- 550 health-care workers (HCWs) from more than 20 districts trained on COVID-19 vaccines.
- 2900 HCWs trained on administering COVID-19 vaccines, including 1800 vaccinators from 63 regions (out of 68), representing 70% of all HCWs involved in the vaccination process.
- 1093 nurses, 513 doctors, and 80 people from various disciplinary backgrounds, completed courses on Basic and Advanced Life Support.

- 2000 folders distributed containing information on the OpenWHO platform, offering free training courses on COVID-19 vaccine-related topics.
- 18 000 enrolments of HCWs registered at the OpenWHO knowledge-transfer platform, supporting continued medical education across the country.
- 350 posters distributed across 218 vaccination sites with information on COVID-19 vaccines and QR code to download additional information.
- 200 posters on hand hygiene practices distributed widely, including in 5 conflict-affected regions.



Programme funded by the European Union



European Region

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PROJECT IMPACT:
FEBRUARY 2021 - FEBRUARY 2022



AZERBAIJAN

VOICES FROM THE GROUND



In the training, I gained knowledge about best vaccine storage and administration practices. I also developed my communication skills.
- Shafa Huseynova, Nurse



During the training, we gained knowledge on the preparation and use of vaccines approved by the World Health Organization.
- Gulnar Hajiyeva, Pediatrician

Risk communication and community engagement

- 2 rounds of behavioural insight surveys conducted to better understand people's attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccination.
- 10 focus group discussions with doctors, nurses, older adults and 10 in-depth interviews with people with underlying conditions conducted, to develop effective interventions for the uptake of COVID-19 vaccines among priority groups.
- 6000 copies of communication materials distributed to medical facilities covering COVID-19-related information on vaccination of older people, vaccine side effects, infection prevention and control measures, and pregnancy.

Strengthening vaccine cold-chain storage, transportation, and administration system

- 300 vaccine refrigerators, voltage stabilizers, temperature monitoring devices, and 622 vaccine carriers delivered to improve vaccine storage and transportation capacities.



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