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

**PROJECT IMPACT:**
FEBRUARY 2021 - FEBRUARY 2022

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**TRAINED**
- 3000 health-care workers
- 2000 teachers and school nurses

**DISTRIBUTED**
- 6000 posters
- 25 billboards
- 4 myth-busting videos

**PROCURED**
- 30 medical refrigerators
- 4 freezers and 1 refrigerated truck
- 1000 anaphylaxis kits

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**Supporting national vaccination systems and data management**
- National Deployment and Vaccination Plan developed and updated.
- Technical guidelines and education materials developed for capacity-building activities on detection, investigation, and management of adverse events following immunization (AEFI).
- Multi-sectoral immunization coordination boards set up at provincial level.
- Digital COVID-19 vaccination platform set up, including data management and visualization dashboards for public health centres and hospitals for AEFI management.
- Five regional National Immunization Programme hubs equipped with IT items, including computers, printers, and screens.

**Providing health professionals with capacity-building opportunities**
- Education and information materials developed and distributed to health-care workers (HCW) on efficacy, effectiveness, and safety of COVID-19 vaccines available nationally.
- Around 3000 HCWs trained in effective communication on COVID-19 vaccination, addressing vaccine safety, effectiveness, and benefits of vaccination.
- 6000 posters on COVID-19 vaccines printed and distributed in primary health-care facilities across the country.
- Infection prevention and control (IPC) measures for COVID-19 vaccination settings translated and distributed to national stakeholders.

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Risk communication and community engagement
• Qualitative research conducted to understand possible barriers to COVID-19 vaccination and inform interventions and activities to promote uptake.
• 25 billboards set up across the country promoting vaccination among older adults.
• 4 videos on myths and facts related to COVID-19 vaccination developed.
• Over 2000 teachers and school nurses trained in ~ 1500 schools on vaccine safety and effectiveness as well as vaccines’ key role in preventing and reducing the impact of communicable diseases.
• Social media campaign initiated with the participation of various influencers and well-known doctors.

Strengthening vaccine cold-chain storage, transportation, and administration system
• 30 medical refrigerators, 4 freezers, and 1 refrigerated truck provided to support distribution from national vaccine warehouses to regional centres and health-care facilities.
• 1000 anaphylaxis kits delivered to HCWs to manage adverse reactions.

I followed my doctor’s advice and got the shot despite initial hesitancy. I recommend others to get vaccinated and be protected against COVID-19 as well.
— Amalia, 79-year-old former teacher

It is necessary to get vaccinated to protect yourself from the disease or in case of getting infected, to recover quickly. In my case, it turned out exactly that way.
— Julieta Mirzoyan, 75-year-old woman