

Support to Simulation Centre of Moldova



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Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC
Agenția Elvețiană pentru
Dezvoltare și Cooperare



Project full name:

Support to the Mother and Child Health Department of the Medical University Simulation Centre of Moldova

Sector:

Mother and child health

Duration:

2013-2015

Budget:

CHF 1,200,000

Partners:

- State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Moldova "Nicolae Testemitanu"
- Ministry of Health of Moldova
- Delegation of the European Union to Moldova
- World Health Organization (WHO)

Project overview

Over the last eight years, SDC has supported the Ministry of Health of Moldova in its efforts to reform the mother and child health sector, providing technical assistance for the modernization and the regionalization of the healthcare services in perinatology, paediatric emergency and reproductive health.

SDC responded to the request of the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Moldova "Nicolae Testemitanu" to assist the process of institutionalization of innovative medical education based on simulation training in order to ensure the permanent enhancement of the quality of healthcare services provided to the population of Moldova.

The SDC project focuses on the development of the Mother and Child Health Training Department of the Simulation Centre that is to be created within the University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Nicolae Testemitanu". The project not only provides the simulation training equipment, but also supports the training of the teaching staff and the development of training curricula and methodological aids.

As a result, the undergraduate and postgraduate medical students, and the medical practitioners working in the hospital and the primary healthcare facilities across the country will be able to upgrade their professional skills and qualification by attending simulation training courses in obstetric, gynaecological, neonatal and paediatric emergencies.

This project is integral part of a broader initiative, supported by the European Union and WHO, which aims at creating a Simulation Centre with training departments in mother and child health, emergency medicine, anaesthesiology and intensive care, mini-invasive surgery, therapeutic disciplines and family medicine within the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Moldova.

Problems and potentials

The causes of neonatal and maternal mortality are often attributed to human factors such as knowledge and skill gaps in emergency situations. The evidence shows that the health facilities in small urban and rural areas face considerable problems in providing qualitative services in obstetric and neonatal emergencies due to the lack of qualified specialists.

Family doctors and the nurses, particularly from rural areas, who are responsible for the supervision of pregnant women and newborns, have fewer opportunities to acquire practical skills in managing obstetric and neonatal emergencies.

The major concern of the Moldovan medical education is that the existing undergraduate and postgraduate curricula are insufficient to meet the growing demands for improving the competence of medical practitioners. Particularly, the training for emergency situations requires more practical activities, direct access to clinical cases, which is difficult to carry out during the regular training hours.



In the present, amongst the priorities of the of the Moldovan healthcare system reform are the enhancement the patients' safety and ensuring the access to quality healthcare services for all, including for vulnerable and marginalized groups of population.

"In order to ensure an efficient health-care system, the medical training should be aligned to the latest standards in education and respond permanently to the health needs of the population."

*Ilon Ababii,
rector of the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy
of Moldova "Nicolae Testemitanu"*

Overall goal

Contribute to the improvement of the medical education and, in the long term, to the enhancement of the quality and safety of maternal and child health services in Moldova, particularly at the primary healthcare level in rural areas, by introducing modern training technologies in obstetric, gynecological, neonatal and pediatric emergencies.

Main activities

- Identify the training needs of the health specialists, including of those working at the primary healthcare level.
- Develop training modules based on medical simulation, and integrate them into the undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing education curricula.
- Support the training of the academic personnel at international centers of expertise.
- Organize local training-of-trainers courses for the trainers of the Simulation Centre.
- Develop the methodological support for training based on medical simulation and implement modern tools of the training process quality assessment.

For additional information:

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- Provide the Mother and Child Training Department of the Simulation Centre with the necessary simulation training equipment, including with low and high fidelity simulation manikins, and Virtual Patient programs.

Project beneficiaries

The 4th-6th year degree students, residents at family medicine, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics and neonatology; family doctors and medical specialists in primary medicine; the teaching staff of the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Moldova; policy makers; women and children of Moldova.

