



# RESULTS FOR CHILDREN



**Salvați Copiii**  
Save the Children Romania

## 2023 Annual Report



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# VISION

Save the Children's vision is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation.

# MISSION

Save the Children's mission is to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

# VALUES

Accountability, ambition, collaboration, creativity, integrity.

## Values we believe in

### **Accountability**

We take personal responsibility for using our resources efficiently, achieving measurable results, and being accountable to supporters, partners and, most of all, children.

### **Ambition**

We are demanding of ourselves and our colleagues, set high goals and are committed to improving the quality of everything we do for children.

### **Collaboration**

We respect and value each other, thrive on our diversity and work with partners to leverage our global strength in making a difference for children.

### **Creativity**

We are open to new ideas, embrace change and take disciplined risks to develop sustainable solutions for and with children.

### **Integrity**

We aspire to live to the highest standards of personal honesty and behaviour; we never compromise our reputation and always act in the best interests of children.

**Dear friends and supporters of the cause of children,**

Guided by a deep feeling of gratitude and honour, we turn to you at the end of a year that, through its challenges and achievements, has redefined the boundaries of what we can achieve together. The year 2023 was undoubtedly a milestone for our organization, marked by powerful moments of solidarity, empathy and, most importantly, actual steps made to the benefit of children in Romania and beyond its borders.

The year 2023 witnessed an unprecedented effort and commitment in the areas that most profoundly impact children's lives: education, health, protection of children against abuse and bullying, online safety, and child participation. Thus, we managed to bring significant changes in the lives of 444,500 children, many of them being part of the most vulnerable communities in Romania.

Generosity and our spirit of community have never been more prominent than during the 2023 Christmas Tree Festival, an emblematic event for Save the children, which has reached a new record, raising 1 million Euro. This achievement and the support provided by other donors and friends will allow us to expand our educational programs in the coming year, ensuring access to quality education and a happier childhood for at least 40,000 children.

We have further committed ourselves unreservedly to the protection and assistance to refugee children in Ukraine, providing both material and emotional support, and a refuge from adversity to 138,579 Ukrainian children and 128,868 members of their families. This effort was not only a testimony to our joint humanity, but also a strong commitment to the value of solidarity, a paramount principle in our work.

We were also proud to have received a special recognition from the President of Romania, Klaus Iohannis in the form of the "Merit for promoting Human Rights and Social engagement" order, in the rank of Commander, as well as the "Badge of honour" awarded by the Romanian Department for Emergency Response and the Diploma of Merit for the direct support given to Romanian patients and public healthcare facilities, awarded by the Ministry of Health.

All these achievements would not have been possible without the dedication, passion, and support of each of you. Every donation, every hour you volunteered, and every word of encouragement contributed to our shared success. Together, we have created a chain of good, and for that, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts on behalf of everyone you have helped.

Thanks to the Board members: **Liviu Sfrija, Camelia Şucu, Liviu Drăgan, Măriuța Simionescu, Daniel Badea, Ioana Atasiei and Iulian Trandafir.**

Much consideration to the branch presidents: **Dumitra Sima, Măriuța Simionescu, Carmen Andrei, Cornelia Pasăre, Ivona Viviana Brădescu-Bădulescu, Ioana Atasiei, Meda Neagoe, Eugen Simion and Vasile Mariciuc, and to the coordinators of local offices: Daniela Zoe, Loredana Turiceanu, Carmen Clinci, Daniela Cazan.**



Mihai Gafencu  
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mihai Gafencu'.



Gabriela Alexandrescu  
Executive President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gabriela Alexandrescu'.



Children we helped

**444,500**

**Lives saved - 72,000**

We equipped hospitals with state-of-the-art medical devices and equipment, providing information and support to mothers and pregnant women

**Education - 42,000**

We supported children and schools from disadvantaged areas, improved conditions at the start of the 2022-2023 school year, and provided information on the right to education

**Protection - 195,300**

We ensured protection against violence, protection of children with parents living in other countries and refugee children, online protection, healthcare, education on how to access protection

**Information and participation - 135,200**

We provided information on children's rights, both in real life and online, encouraging children's participation

**Specialists - 13,780**

**Parents - 191,800**

of whom: 128,868 parents from Ukraine

**Volunteers - 3,000**

Revenue (Euro):

**22,223,209**







## 5 key results in 2023

The **“Baby Box”** is a project initiated by Save the Children with the support of the OMV Petrom Foundation, which aims at reducing infant mortality and providing the necessary support to families immediately after the birth of a child. Inspired by the Finnish model, but adapted to local needs, the project helped **4,000 mothers** and newborns from 42 disadvantaged communities in 16 counties of Romania.

The box contains more than 40 vital products for baby’s first year of life, including clothes, diapers, and personal care items. The box also turns into a safe crib for the newborn.

Carrying on our nearly two decade-long efforts to support children with parents working abroad, the 2023 national study showed that, through the course of one year, more than **500,000 children** experience the absence of one or both parents, and that these children, of whom one third disapproving with their parents’ departure, have a significantly higher risk of developing difficult behaviours compared to other children, including consumption of alcohol (five times higher), ethnobotanical or banned substances (six times higher) and a tendency to conflicting behaviours (six times higher).

In the alarming context of Romania, where 1 out of 2 children are victims of bullying and 4 out of 5 witness it, the program **“Let’s be friends – Free of bullying”** is for a solution meant to tackle this phenomenon. The project was expanded into **69 kindergartens**, involving **643 specialists** trained to work with more than **9,500 children**, focusing on the fundamental values of tolerance, care, respect and courage. The materials and tools provided in the Suitcase full of resources, including the Friendly Bear – the mascot of the program, and various teaching materials, are specifically designed to foster these key values.

In 2023, Save the Children, with the support of Save the Children International, enhanced its efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to Ukrainian refugees. With **173,345** Ukrainian children as beneficiaries, the organization has provided key services, from material and psychosocial support to access to education and healthcare. We carried out our interventions both at the border crossing points and the accommodation centres in Romania, as well as in the 8 counselling and integrated services centres, spread across key localities, and we helped develop welfare and healthcare services for **2,500** refugee pregnant women and children, in Republic of Moldova.

In a continuous effort to set new standards of excellence, the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the **Christmas Tree Festival** set a new record, raising the remarkable amount of one million Euro. The amount raised from auctioning Christmas trees, selling raffle tickets and sponsorships will provide important resources to ensure the social and educational development of approximately **16,000 children**.

# LIVES SAVED

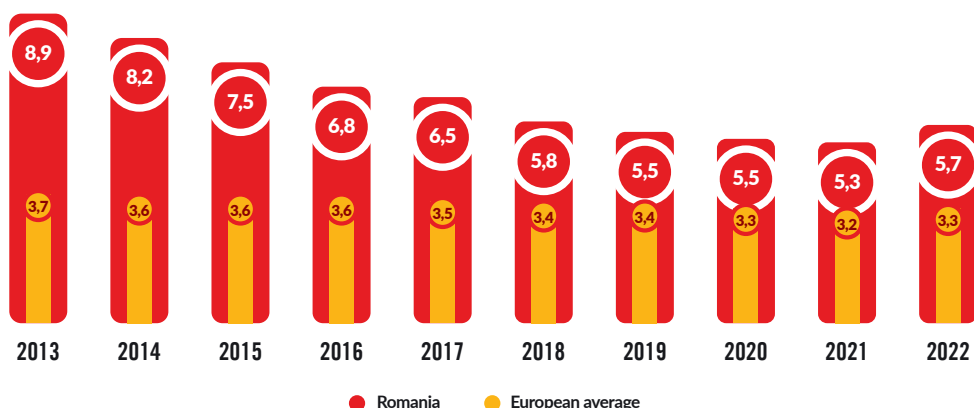


## EQUIPPING AND REVAMPING HEALTHCARE FACILITIES - MATERNITY CLINICS AND PAEDIATRIC WARDS

In 2023, 55 healthcare facilities in 29 counties were equipped with state-of-the-art medical devices and equipment worth 1,750,000 Euro, thus ensuring the healthcare and protection for more than 70,000 children.

Healthcare facilities supported: Aiud Municipal Hospital, Ineu City Hospital, Pitești Paediatric Hospital, Curtea de Argeș Municipal Hospital, Bacău Emergency County Hospital, "Dr. Pop Mircea" Marghita

Municipal Hospital, Dorohoi Municipal Hospital, Brăila County Emergency Clinical Hospital, Brașov Paediatric Hospital, Rupea City Hospital, INSMC, "Dr. I. Cantacuzino" Clinical Hospital, Filantropia Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinical Hospital, Grigore Alexandrescu Emergency Clinical Hospital for Children, Bucharest Emergency Hospital, Elias University Emergency Hospital, Negoiu City Hospital, Oltenița Municipal Hospital, Resița County Hospital, Caransebeș Municipal Emergency Hospital, Gherla Municipal Hospital, Moreni Municipal Hospital, "Profesor Dr. Irinel Popescu" Băilești Municipal Hospital, Segarcea City Hospital, Filantropia Hospital Craiova, Filiașanilor Hospital, "Așezămintele Brâncovenești" Dăbuleni City Hospital, Anton Cincu Tecuci Municipal Hospital, Tg. Bujor City Hospital, Gheorgheni Municipal Hospital, "Al. Simionescu" Municipal Hospital, Brad Municipal Hospital, Lupeni Municipal Hospital, Petroșani Municipal Hospital, Deva County Hospital, Hațeg City Hospital, Elena Doamna Obstetrics-Gynaecology



Save the Children's intervention in supporting healthcare facilities has been well received: over the past 12 years alone, the infant mortality rate has dropped from 10 per 1,000 live births to 5.7 per 1,000 live births in 2022 (definitive data as of 2022, NIS & Eurostat).

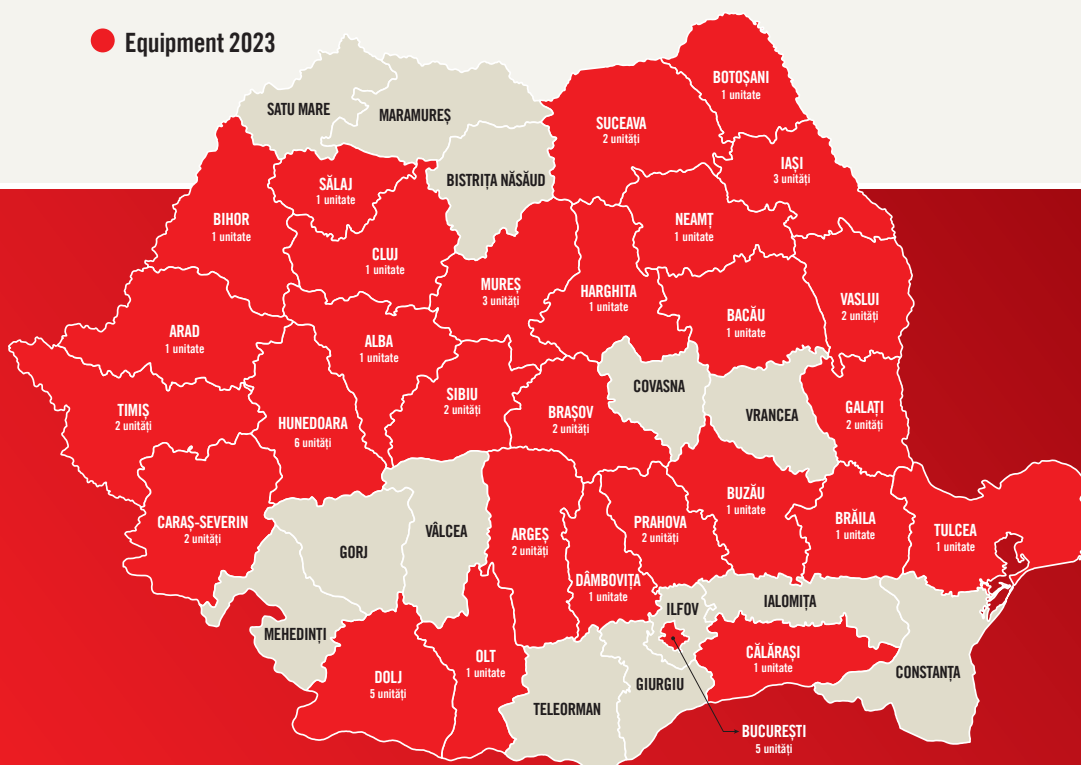




Clinical Hospital, Pașcani Municipal Emergency Hospital, Hârlău City Hospital, Emergency Institute for Cardiovascular Diseases and Transplant Tg. Mureș, Dr. Eugen Nicoadă Reghin Municipal Hospital, Sighișoara Municipal Hospital, Piatra Neamț Emergency County Hospital, Slatina County Emergency Hospital, Dr. Constantin Andreoiu Ploiești Emergency County Hospital, Câmpina Municipal Hospital, Zalău Emergency County Hospital, Sibiu Emergency County Hospital, Mediaș Municipal Hospital, Rădăuți Municipal Hospital, Fălticeni Municipal Hospital, Lugoj Municipal Hospital, Emergency Clinical Hospital for Children “Louis Țurcanu”, Tulcea County Emergency Hospital, “Elena Beldiman” Municipal Emergency Hospital and Dimitrie Castroian Huși Municipal Hospital.

In order to improve professional skills, 9 specialized courses were organized in the field of ultrasound (lung, heart, head and hip), ventilation and therapeutic hypothermia in newborn, attended by 180 neonatologists.

● **Equipment 2023**



**Partners/Sponsors:**  
 OMV Petrom Foundation  
 Medist Imaging  
 Fox Com  
 Libris.ro  
 Chiesi

**Institutional supporters and partners:** Ministry of Health, ASSMB



**Cutia Bebelusului:**  
împreună din prima zi

Partenerii sunt:  
**FUNDAȚIA**  
UNICEF România

Organizatorul este:  
**Salvati Copiii**



## INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SERVICES AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES IN MATERNITY CLINICS

In order to improve the health of mothers, pregnant women and children up to 5 years old, Save the Children develops integrated social-medical services in rural areas, with the help of healthcare staff and social workers. 9,000 people from 20 counties benefited from these services in 2023, including 3,500 children 0-5 years old, 3,500 mothers and pregnant women and 2,000 teenagers and parents. 170 health education activities were organized in rural areas, and pregnant women from the South-West Oltenia region benefited from free tests, ultrasounds and check-ups at the Screening Centre in Craiova, part of the Craiova S.C.J.U., as well as monitoring and counselling at home. Pregnant women from Mica Locality, Mureş County and Checea Locality, Timiș County benefited from free ultrasound scans, tests and gynaecological examinations within the Pregnancy Control Caravan, organised with the support of the Caravana cu medici Association.

38 family practices in 18 counties were equipped with 625 pieces of medical equipment to support the health of vulnerable children and pregnant women from disadvantaged areas and to provide emergency treatments at local level. 4,000 baby boxes were created and offered with a view to supporting the health of mothers and children from 16 counties, with the help of integrated teams and 100 family doctors, nurses, community nurses and health mediators. In the Republic of Moldova, our on-the-road activities continued to provide medical support, social and psychological assistance to 2,500 girls, women, pregnant women and vulnerable children and refugees from Ukraine.

In November, in partnership with “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Bucharest, we launched the **Review of the state of pregnant women in disadvantaged rural areas**, event at which doctors and representatives of the authorities participated, aimed at identifying solutions to improve the healthcare system and the protection of children and pregnant women.

20,000 mothers from 10 maternity clinics across the country had access to alternative means of medical education, delivered through educational videos shared via video communication systems that were installed in the wards.

**Partners/Sponsors:** MSD, OMV Petrom Foundation, Alliance Healthcare Romania, PENNY Romania, Caravana cu medici Association, Volvo Trucks Romania. The program was also supported through the European Social Fund through POCU 2014-2020.

**Institutional supporters and partners:** Ministry of Health, “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Bucharest, city halls.



## LOOKING AHEAD

**With the support of Essilor**, Save the Children continued to implement the national program which identified and supported school students with impaired vision and corrected the problems found, becoming the first national screening program for the identification and evaluation of the eye health of children between 5 and 17 years old.



## ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION

Over **1.5 million children in Romania** (41.5% of the total number of children) are at risk of poverty or social exclusion. The crisis which affected the cost of living has significantly impacted vulnerable social categories: the overwhelming majority (95%) of families whose children are integrated into the educational programs of Save the Children Romania are no longer able to cover basic needs such as medical treatments, food

and clothing for children. Thus, over the past year, 71% of vulnerable families have had to cut down clothing and footwear spending, while 24% have reduced their food expenses, according to data from a sociological survey conducted by Save the Children Romania. This is also reflected in the school attendance rate of children who, without immediate direct intervention, are at risk of dropping out of school.



In 2023, school dropout prevention activities reached **42,000 children**, parents, protection and education experts, being carried out in Bucharest and 18 counties. Of these, **12,000 children** benefited from direct services: additional school training and/or remedial education, emotional support and guidance, non-formal education activities and summer schools (**4,500 children**), early education within the Summer kindergarten program (**300 children**), school reintegration (**150 children**), as well as school supplies, social counselling and services to prevent school dropout (**7,050 children**).

Other **10,000 children** benefited from enhanced educational services due to the training of their teachers, and **20,000 children** benefited from an improved educational process, due to the newly equipped schools.

At the same time, **6,000 parents** received material support consisting of social vouchers, food and hygiene products and welfare services, while **150 experts** were trained to support children with special educational needs, and **20 specialists** participated in an experience-sharing program in Norway.

Throughout the year, 850 children participated in educational workshops on various themes organized at the **National Art Museum of Romania**, for many of them the visits and workshops being the first opportunity to get in touch with art.

As part of the partnership with DENT ESTET, 50 children benefited from dental prophylaxis and treatment services.

### **Impact:**

75% of the children who took part in our programs have achieved good and very good school progress.

In school subjects targeting the STEM (mathematics and science) area, the percentage of children with a good and very good level of knowledge increased from 37% when entering the program to 69% at the end of the school year. The percentage of children who had a good and very good level in the Romanian language subject increased from 33% when entering the program to 75% at the end of the school year.

65% of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade children who attended the educational programs obtained passing grades in the national evaluation.

**Partners/Sponsors:** Kaufland Romania, PEPCO Romania, Banca Transilvania, Lidl Romania, Catena pharmacies, PENNY Romania, BCR. The program was also supported by the Human Capital Operational Program, FRDS – EEA and Norwegian Grants.

**Institutional supporters and partners:** Ministry of Education, National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption, county school inspectorates, Bucharest School Inspectorate (ISMB), General Welfare and Child Protection Directorates (DGASPC), County Welfare Services, the National Art Museum of Romania, House of Experiments, school units.



# CHILDREN HOME ALONE

Children left at home after their parents went to work abroad have benefited from comprehensive psychological, educational and social support services to address the needs caused by the separation from their parents. Save the Children continued to promote legislative amendments that would enhance the protection of these children set out in 2022, by the efforts of Save the Children, in Law 272/2004 on the protection and promotion of the rights of the child.

Direct services - In 2023, **3,050 children and 1,838 parents and caregivers** benefited from the activities organised within the local programmes carried out in collaboration with 50 elementary schools/educational centres from Argeș, Brașov, Caraș-Severin, Constanța, Dâmbovița, Dolj, Galați, Hunedoara, Iași, Mureș, Neamț, Olt, Suceava, Timiș, Tulcea, Vaslui, Vâlcea, Vrancea counties and Bucharest. The interventions aimed at supporting children and their caregivers focused on providing psycho-social counselling, educational support, material support and on organising leisure and social activities.

Between June and August, 900 children participated in camps where they had the opportunity to hike mountains, to take part in outdoor educational activities, to visit various tourist attractions, for many children this being the first time going to summer camp.





**The campaign *Stay close to your child!*** – Raising awareness on the negative emotional, educational and social effects of parents going abroad to work can have on children left home alone. Information activities were carried out in partnership with the Romanian Border Police and the Bucharest Airports National Company, on land and air border points, complemented by information events delivered with the help of local authorities, and information caravans for over 5,604 people in 46 localities. In August, under the slogan “Together everything is better!”, we resumed the awareness campaign on the importance of spending quality time with children, where children, parents returning from abroad, grandparents or other relatives in whose care the children remained participated together in leisure and socializing activities. The guideline comprising activities and recommendations was shared with partner schools to stimulate the creation of the right framework for the organization of similar activities, and the campaign was also promoted in the media and online.

**The national research on the situation of children whose parents are working abroad** was launched **during a conference organized in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs** at the Palace of Parliament in May. The research revealed that during their childhood almost **a quarter of children in Romania** had one or both parents working abroad. After launching the nation-wide study, this partnership also kicked off a series of regional events, aimed at raising awareness on the state of the children whose parents left home to work abroad, from different regions of the country, and at finding solutions to improve their situation. **The Debate for the West Region** took place in Timisoara, in October, with further debates scheduled to be organized in other regions, throughout 2024.

Considering that the phenomenon of children left at home as a result of the economic migration abroad of their parents has impacted several countries in the area, Save the Children brought this topic to the attention of the European institutions to drive to a pan-European approach. Thus, on November 7, in Brussels, the **European Parliament** hosted the round table on **“Social consequences of European Mobility: Children left Home”** organized by MEP Victor Negrescu and Save the Children Romania.

**76% of the children in the programme improved their emotional, social and independent living skills. Over 18,500 unique visitors to the site [www.copiisinguriacasa.ro](http://www.copiisinguriacasa.ro).**

**Partners/Sponsors:** PEPCO Romania, Kaufland Romania, DIGI Romania. The programme was also supported by the European Social Fund through the POCU.

**Institutional supporters and partners:** Presidential Administration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities, National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption, Romanian Border Police, Bucharest Airports National Company, General Welfare and Child Protection Directorates (DGASPC), County Welfare Services, County School Inspectorates, County Centres of Educational Resources and Assistance, schools.



# PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AGAINST VIOLENCE

**50,260 children and parents have benefited from therapeutic counselling and parenting education since the opening of the Save the Children counselling centres.**

Through the 4 counselling centres located in Bucharest, Timișoara, Târgu Mureș and Iași, Save the Children continued to provide psychological support to children who experienced emotional and behavioural difficulties, to provide counselling to parents to help them overcome challenges that may threaten their children's development or that may create various risks and inform parents in order to strengthen skills and knowledge concerning the care and education of children, so as to address their needs.

## Intervention and protection

1,082 children and parents benefitted from individual and group therapeutic intervention in the form of counselling/psychotherapy and parenting education programmes, within 6,275 counselling sessions. 400 teachers received information on how to deal with challenging behaviours at school. Specific support materials were also developed/translated to address the needs of children and parents in order to maintain a balanced family climate and to ensure the harmonious development of children.

## Impact

95% of those who came to the counselling centres (adults and children) were happy with the services provided. 95% of the specialists who benefited from training sessions were happy with the scientific and practical insights received.

**Supporters and partners:** BCR, General Directorate of Welfare and Child Protection – 6<sup>th</sup> district, 6 district Police, Bucharest Police General Directorate, Ministry of Education, National Authority against Human Trafficking, “Al. Obregia” Psychiatry Hospital – Psychiatry Clinic for children and teenagers, Bucharest Centre of Educational Resources and Assistance (CMBRAE), Bucharest Archbishop – “Sfânta Sofia” Day Centre, Antidrug National Agency.



# PROTECTION OF SEXUALLY ABUSED CHILDREN

The matter of the protection of sexually abused children has been a constant focus for Save the Children. As part of this priority, the organization launched a nation-wide qualitative research assessing the services provided to children victims of sexual abuse and violence by the judiciary system, which included representatives of authorities interacting with children victims of abuse and violence. The research study was carried out within the *Cross-institutional cooperation and advocacy for the protection of children victims of sexual abuse and violence* project.

The Barnahus Centre in Bucharest created based on the Icelandic model of intervention in this field, the only one of its kind in the country, provided multidisciplinary services for 30 children and adolescents victims of sexual abuse and violence. They received integrated hearing services, psychological and medical evaluation, as well as protection, provided by a multidisciplinary team, all in one location, to avoid repeated traumatization





and revictimization by recounting the facts on multiple occasions and in different locations before the representatives of the various authorities with authority in assisting victims and investigating abuse. We also launched the platform [www.stopabuz.ro](http://www.stopabuz.ro), which allows people to report cases of violation of the rights of the child. At the same time, 470 children participated in information and awareness sessions on the rights of the child and how to tackle all forms of abuse, carried out in Bucharest, Iași and Timișoara.

# IMPROVING SCHOOL CLIMATE AND PREVENTING BULLYING

As part of the programme "Bullying free Schools", Save the Children organised educational and training sessions for **1,199 teachers, school principals and counsellors** and for **314 parents** from **140 schools**, teaching them to apply educational methods based on positive discipline and to implement anti-bullying methodological guidelines. **6,023 children** (1,881 of whom became anti-bullying ambassadors in their schools) were involved in these information and prevention activities. Thus, Save the Children helped with the creation and functioning of an anti-bullying action group in 80 partner schools. The action group is in the process of being created in other 58 schools.

We continued the series of events aimed at promoting functional models of anti-bullying programs, which were put to test across partner schools and kindergartens, by organizing two regional conferences in partnership with the Ministry of Education - "The right to a recess free of bullying – cooperation and good practices for safe educational communities," in Târgoviște and Iași. More than 400 participants from key areas of education and child protection, with responsibilities in preventing and mitigating bullying, have created the right context to initiate partnerships that would contribute to enhancing the safety of children in educational communities.

In 2023, we implemented the "**Let's be friends - Free of bullying**" methodology in 69 more kindergartens, to train 643 specialists working with more than **9,500 children and their parents** on how to integrate the values of the program - tolerance, care, respect and courage, in the education and care process applied in these educational establishments.

Between 2020 and 2023, the methodology "Let's be friends" was adopted in **100 kindergartens** in Bucharest and 11 counties, which were equipped with the specific materials of the program, with **1,042 specialists** benefiting from training and **14,150 children and parents** being supported by this anti-bullying approach. The **1,042 specialists** are part of the "Let's be friends" community and, as such, receive monthly guidance and access to new materials to ensure the successful implementation of the methodology.



## Impact

**243 educational units** have been supported through direct activities to improve their educational climate to make sure that over **32,800 preschoolers and school students** feel safe and grow up healthy, in terms of social, emotional and cognitive development. **2,641 specialists** were trained to recognize, understand and manage bullying situations. **12,340 parents** have been informed about the effects of bullying.

**Supporters and partners:** Save the Children Denmark, the Mary Foundation, Ministry of Education, OMV Petrom Foundation, Egger Romania, Kaufland Romania, Buzău County Centre of Educational Resources and Assistance (CJRAE Buzău), CJRAE Ilfov, Bucharest Centre of Educational Resources and Assistance (CMBRAE), School Safety Directorate, Dâmbovița, Iași, Teleorman and Buzău School Inspectorates, Marghiloman Cultural Centre and Buzău City Hall.





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# INTERNET SAFETY FOR CHILDREN

**The HELP LINE provided constant support to children, young people, parents and teachers in Romania, offering guidance and assistance to deal with problems encountered when browsing the Internet.**

**More than 1,000,000 children and 50,000 adults participated in 2023 in online safety awareness activities.**

**In 2023, 23,360 children and 2,650 adults (1,674 teachers, education specialists and 976 parents) were involved in educational activities focusing on the safe use of the Internet.**



Educational activities were organized both in schools and online throughout the year which addressed topics related to the online safety of children and adolescents. We also launched interactive peer education workshops in over 15 counties, with Save the Children volunteers working in 561 educational institutions across urban and rural areas. The community is made up of 311 young volunteers, Ambassadors of the Internet class program, always carrying out activities in schools.

The reporting line supported by Save the Children, **esc\_ABUSE** ([www.oradenet.ro](http://www.oradenet.ro)), aimed at encouraging the reporting of content that is harmful (both illegal and legal) to children and young people online, registered 3,415 such reports, of which 42.82% (1,254) were images of child sexual abuse (CSAM) or material displaying minors in sexualized poses and 653 of them was material generated by minors themselves. Since 2016 until the end of 2023, we received 33,281 notifications. The materials identified are sent by Save the Children experts to the IGPR, where they are being investigated with a view to removing the content from the internet, identifying and assisting the victim and investigating the perpetrators.

In 2023, the help line, mainly dedicated to children and teenagers dealing with issues in the digital space, registered 1,167 calls, and the most common topics were cyber-bullying, online identity and the need for media education.

### **The impact of Ora de Net (the Internet class) programme was marked by:**

The drafting of the findings report based on the sociological research **“The impact of cyberbullying on children and adolescents”** and the awareness campaign **“Don’t let the burden of cyberbullying crush you”**, meant to draw attention on the fact that cyberbullying experienced at young ages may have long-term psycho-social consequences, that may even impact the adult life.

The drafting of the findings report for the study **“Young people’s behaviour on social media”**, which revealed the following: The Internet has a significant influence on decisions made by 43% of children concerning their future, 15% of children say they have been asked online to provide images of sexual content, and 41% of the latter say that the sexual images were requested by an adult; TikTok is the social platform with the highest risk of exposing children to strangers on the internet.

The launch of the awareness campaign **“Discovering offline joy”**, aimed at encouraging children and adolescents to reconnect with the real world, by providing them with a wide range of exciting and interactive alternatives on how to spend the summer holiday.

The launch of the campaign **“Story of an abuse”**, promoting ways that all users may apply to help create a safe online environment for children by reporting harmful content on the internet.

The launch of the **“Guidelines to safely use the Internet”** for teachers, a material that may be adapted for both lower and upper secondary education, in order to address the particularities of the group of students and their psycho-educational needs.

**Partners/Sponsors:** European Commission, Insafe, Inhope, NEPI RockCastle, Endava Romania, OMV Petrom, General Inspectorate of Romanian Police.





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# PROTECTION OF REFUGEE CHILDREN, CHILDREN WHO WERE RESETTLED AND ASYLUM-SEEKING CHILDREN

As the war in Ukraine continued in 2023, Save the Children was particularly focused on providing direct services to children, parents and vulnerable adults, through rapid response actions to respond to emergencies.

Apart from the specific response implemented in order to assist refugees from Ukraine, Save the Children continued to provide assistance to asylum seekers and refugees from other countries affected by internal conflicts who arrive in Romania on a regular basis.



## Ongoing response to support the refugee children in Asylum Centres

In 2023, asylum applications remained on an upward trend, with 10,483 (non-UA) applications registered. Unlike previous years, Bangladesh became in 2023 the main country of origin, followed by Syria, Pakistan and Nepal. Of the total number of applications, 934 were submitted for minors, mainly from Syria, Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan. At the same time, the number of unaccompanied minors decreased as compared to the previous year, when they accounted for 28% of all children, vs 16% in 2023, Syria remaining the main country of origin, followed by Afghanistan and Iraq.

In order to support migrants, Save the Children carried out dedicated activities in the Regional Centres for Procedures and Accommodation for Asylum Seekers, that are under the coordination of the General Inspectorate for Immigration, in Bucharest, Galati, Rădăuți, Șomcuta Mare and Timișoara.

We carried out social assistance activities, with a focus on providing material support to cover basic needs, social counselling and information. We distributed hygiene products, food and clothing. We also provided educational support to children to ensure equal access to education and organized educational and leisure activities in specially designated spaces in refugee centres, including Romanian language courses and after school activities, assistance with homework and to catch up with the lessons. Our work included recreational activities, activities designed to develop cognitive abilities and cultural onboarding. Social cohesion activities were organized together with children from the host community.

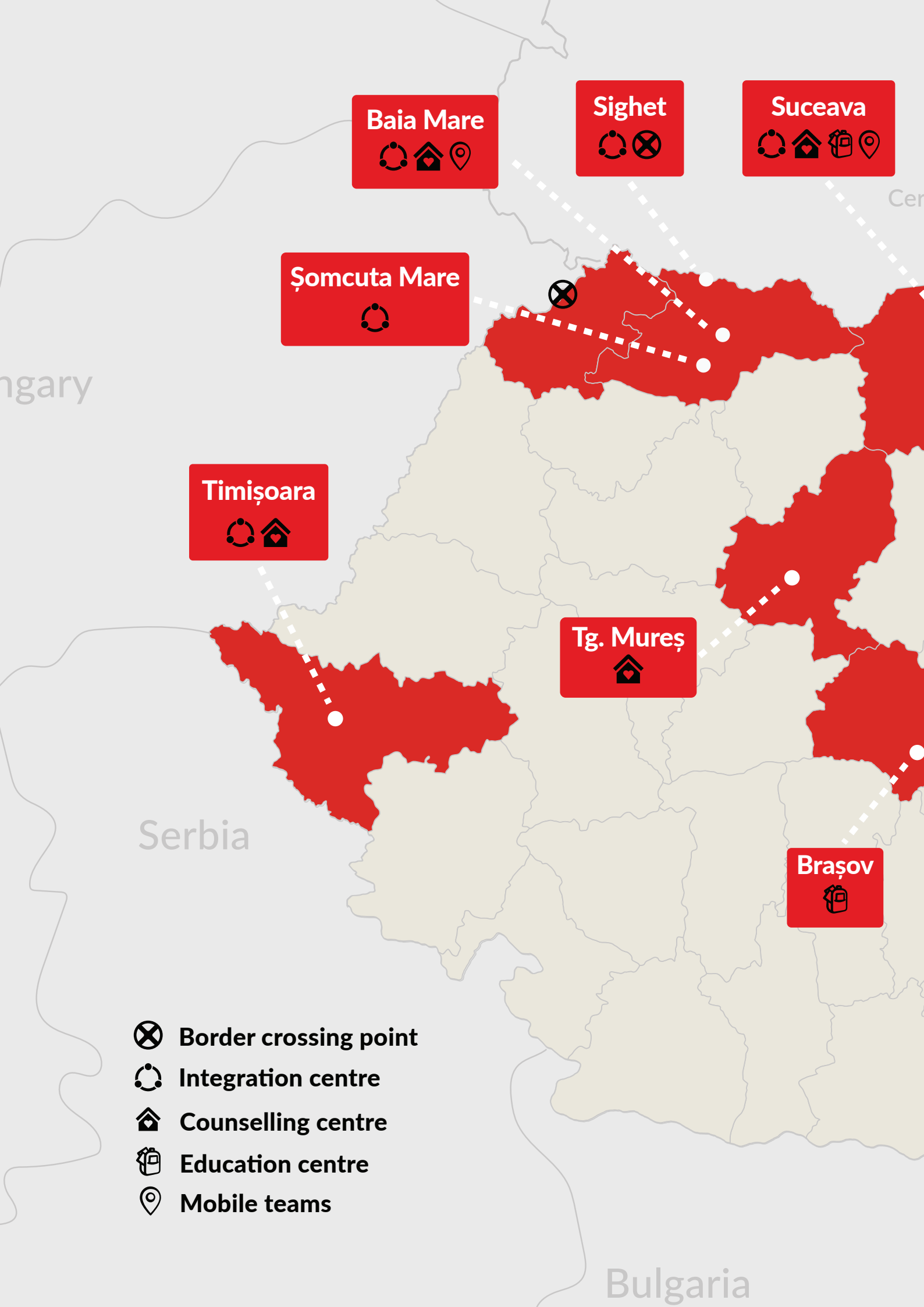
**Results:** In 2023, Save the Children Romania provided educational and social services (material support, counselling, accompanying children, filing documentation etc.) to 907 beneficiaries, of whom 440 children (88 unaccompanied minors).

## Response Programme for refugees from Ukraine

The escalation of the conflict in Ukraine which started on 24 February 2022 spawned a massive humanitarian refugee crisis and continues to have a devastating impact on children. The rapid deterioration of the situation triggered a massive displacement of the civilian population to neighbouring countries. Thus, the war in Ukraine has led to an outflow of over 27,890,980 refugees (UNHCR data, 19 December 2023), mostly children and parents, who chose to leave the country by crossing the borders to Romania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Moldova.

Since the onset of this crisis (24 February 2022), 5,183,459 Ukrainian citizens have entered our country (UNHCR data, 19 December). Of them, 4,456 sought asylum and 150,479 were issued temporary residence permits. By 12 December 2023, there were 83,765 Ukrainian citizens registered in Romania (UNHCR data). It is estimated that 34% of Ukrainian refugees in Romania are children. These children need protection, access to education and healthcare, social and psychological support and leisure and social interaction opportunities.

Save the Children Romania provided assistance to Ukrainian refugees, constantly assessing their needs and providing humanitarian assistance, as needed, at border crossing points with Ukraine and Republic of Moldova, in the Accommodation and Procedures Centres for Asylum Seekers of the General Inspectorate for Immigration, in refugee camps coordinated by the General Department for Emergency Situations (IGSU), in various transit points, as well as within communities where children and their families resided.



**Baia Mare**



**Sighet**



**Suceava**



**Şomcuta Mare**



**Timișoara**



**Tg. Mureș**



**Brașov**



 **Border crossing point**

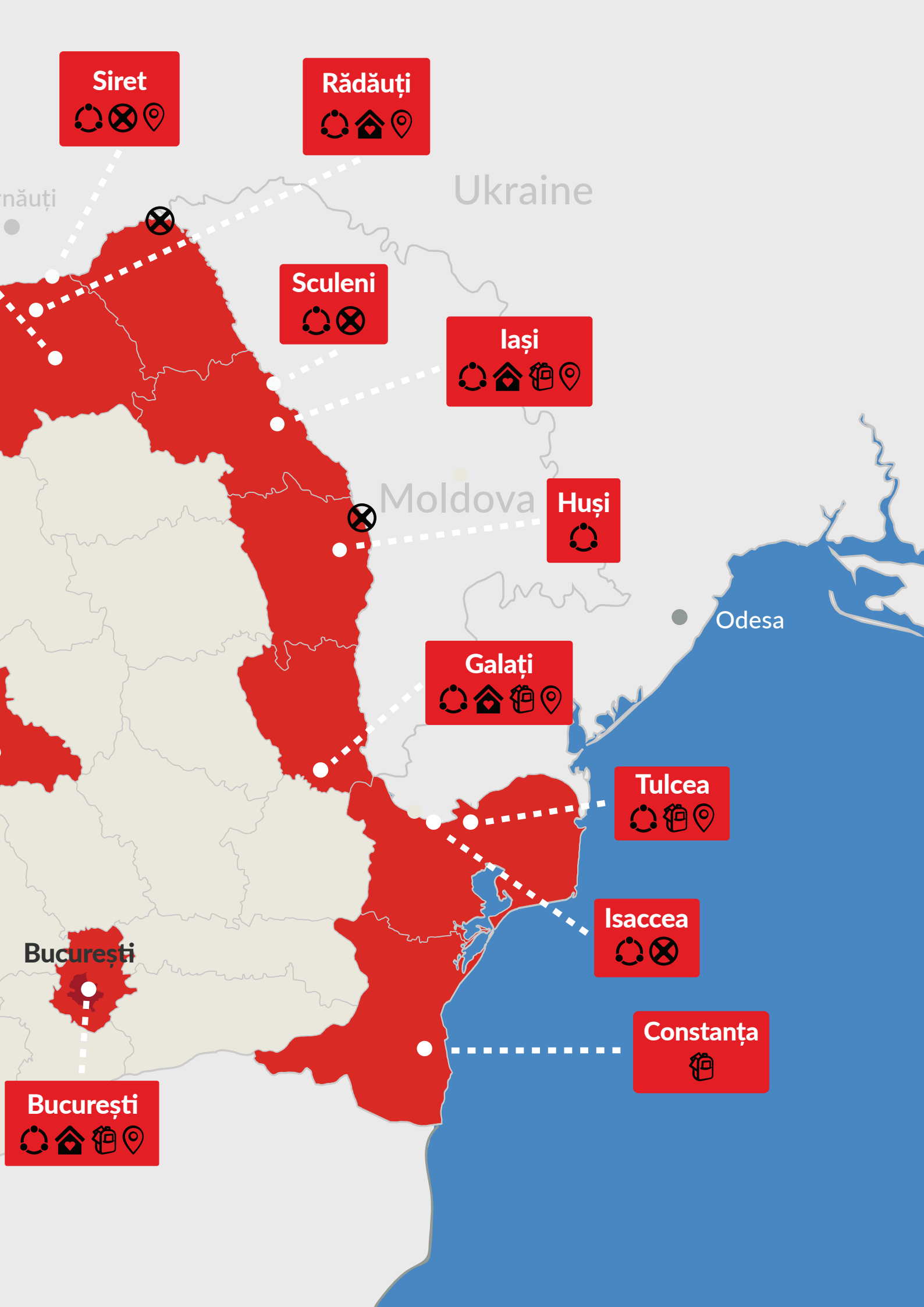
 **Integration centre**

 **Counselling centre**

 **Education centre**

 **Mobile teams**





Siret



Rădăuți



Sculeni



Iași



Huși



Galați



Tulcea



Isaccea



Constanța



București



Ukraine

Moldova

Odesa

năuți

București



Since the onset of this crisis (2022), Save the Children has provided services to **337,806** people, including **173,345** Ukrainian children and **164,461** adults.

## Results

Between January and December 2023, Save the Children provided assistance to 267,447 people, (104,921 newly registered), of whom 138,579 children (47,126 newly registered) and 128,868 adults (57,165 newly registered). We provided material and financial support, translation and counselling, psycho-social support, as well as guidance and advice on how to access available rights and services, such as the education system, medical services, jobs or emotional counselling services.

In 2023, we provided services at:

- 4 border crossing points with Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova (Isaccea, Tulcea county, Siret, Suceava county, Sighetu-Marmației, Maramureș county, Sculeni, Iași county);
- 5 Accommodation and Procedures Centres for Asylum Seekers of the General Inspectorate for Immigration (Bucharest, Galați, Rădăuți, Șomcuta Mare and Timișoara);
- 2 refugee camps coordinated by IGSU: Rădăuți (football court), Huși Vaslui county);
- 3 transit points: North Railway Station - Bucharest, Romexpo - Bucharest, Egros Centre, Iași;
- 2 daycare centres: Bucium Social Services Centre, Iași and Timișoara Welfare Centre, in collaboration with DGASPC Timiș;
- 8 newly created counselling centres: Bucharest, Galați, Tulcea, Iași, Suceava, Baia Mare, Timișoara and Târgu Mureș.

In addition to the help provided by Save the Children in the form of immediate assistance upon arrival in Romania delivered directly at border crossing and transit points, our staff also observed an increased need to support people on their mid- and long-term integration process. To this end, Save the Children provided services in 8 counselling centres located in the main areas where children and families were housed and decided to stay temporarily or on a semi-permanent basis (Bucharest, Galați, Tulcea, Iași, Suceava, Baia Mare, Timișoara and Târgu Mureș). These services were provided to 131,928 people, including 65,798 children (of whom 5,779 were newly registered) and 66,130 adults (of whom 6,033 were newly registered). Social workers provided case management support to 1,180 people.

8,218 people were helped through the financial assistance program, including 5,420 children and 2,798 adults. Financial assistance was provided either through direct bank transfers or social vouchers to cover basic needs, educational needs or medical needs.

Throughout 2023, the Save the Children Romania provided mental health care and psychosocial support to a total of 7,409 people, including 5,984 children and 1,425 adults. Save the Children continued to implement TeamUp activities, an international methodology based on movement and play, aimed at fostering wellbeing and resilience among children, in locations such as Bucharest, Iași, Suceava, Galați, Tulcea and Baia Mare, and was able to expand the program also in Brașov, Constanța and Timișoara. Throughout the year, 1,363 children participated in TeamUp sessions.

2,196 children were supported at national level through our program which facilitated access to education. 1,389 children participated in the special After school and summer

school programs, organized in 18 schools / educational centres. 1,027 children benefited from Romanian language courses. 6 summer camps were organized to the benefit of 277 children. 300 children benefited from educational activities through the Mobile School program (in partnership with Mobile School Belgium), an educational tool dedicated to children forced to migrate due to conflicts or natural disasters affecting their countries and to children from socially and economically vulnerable families.

Through the Mobile kitchen program, Save the Children provided, in 2023, in Vama Isaccea (Isaccea Customs), over 232,400 food servings.

Training sessions were organized for 370 specialists from local authorities and NGOs (DGASPC, county school inspectorates, the Department for Emergency Situations (ISU), General Inspectorate for Immigration (IGI), County Centres of Educational Resources and Assistance (CJRAE), county police inspectorates, Border Police, Public Health Directorates, NGOs), focusing on topics such as child protection in emergency situations, safeguarding, psychological first aid. These sessions were complemented by activities based on the TeamUp methodology, dedicated to teachers.

15 institutions from Bucharest, Galați, Isaccea, Tulcea, Sighetu-Marmației and Iași were also supported to equip and revamp spaces and purchase goods required to assist Ukrainian refugees.

## Our intervention in the Republic of Moldova

At the request of the Institute of Mother and Child from Chișinău, which cares for children who were injured in the conflict zone of Ukraine, Save the Children Romania sent a batch of over 5,300 hospital medical supplies and equipment to be used in the intensive care unit, anaesthesiology and the premature newborns ward within the institution, as well as a humanitarian transport with personal care products for 1,000 newborns, children and mothers consisting of 278,000 essential everyday hygienic and sanitary products.

Medical, social and psychological services were provided to 2,500 refugee pregnant women and children with the help of 2 mobile medical units and that of the integrated teams operating in the refugee centres across the Republic of Moldova.

We also helped 1,600 children from Ukraine get integrated in primary, gymnasium and high schools across the country and supported the work of the Children Advisory Council, which also includes refugee children who advocate for their rights.

### Partners/supporters:

The interventions in support of refugee children and adults from Ukraine were carried out with the help of: Global Affairs Canada (International Humanitarian Assistance), Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), Radiohjälpen (RadioAid), Samenwerkende Hulporganisaties SHO – Giro 555, Humanitarian Fund, Canadian Appeal (Humanitarian Coalition), Realdania and Hempel Foundation, Japan Platform, Mastercard, EBRD, Save the Children Italy, Save the Children Norway, Save the Children Denmark, Save the Children Canada, Save the Children Japan, Save the Children Sweden, Save the Children Netherlands, Save the Children UK, Save the Children International.

**Institutional partners:** General Inspectorate for Immigration (IGI), General Department for Emergency Situations (IGSU), County Welfare and Child Protection Directorates (DGASPC), Bucharest Welfare and Child Protection Directorate (DGASMB), UNHCR, UNICEF, Proiect Voiajor Association.





# LEGAL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO PROTECT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

We provided welfare counselling and legal aid services to 1,070 children and parents (330 children and 740 adults), including:

- 35 people who received legal advice on how to obtain identity documents, welfare benefits, special safeguards, or how to address housing problems, conclude employment contracts etc.
- 705 parents benefited from welfare counselling services and have been informed of their families' rights and the steps to be taken to fulfil them;
- 240 children obtained various benefits/rights, after their parents received counselling;
- 90 children who were facing abuse or neglect received legal assistance. The cases reported vary considerably, from housing and bullying problems to requests for intervention in dealing with public authorities. The main difficulties children faced were related to their legal representation and to abuse.









# CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION

Children's involvement in decision-making processes is enshrined both in the international and European law, as well as in the domestic legislation. Save the Children promotes and supports children's right to participation by developing mechanisms that enable the exercise of this right in accordance with the current legal regulations.

With our actions, we want to convey the message that **children's voice matters** and we aim at ensuring the necessary framework for them to assert their point of view.

**35,000 children** from 250 schools nationwide actively participated in sessions informing them about their rights and responsibilities

## National Children's Forum

When it comes to ensuring children's participation, a good practice example recognized at European level is the National Children's Forum, now at its 13th edition, which brought together 104 children from Bucharest and 14 counties across the country. For two days, they debated on the topic of "Emotional education for healthy relationships", addressing the phenomenon of bullying and cyberbullying, as well as issues such as addictions, peer pressure, and emotional development.

The children presented their recommendations before representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Romanian Senate, the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police, the National Antidrug Agency and the National Authority for Children's Rights Protection and Adoption, who promised to analyse the ideas presented and to seek solutions to the issues raised, as well as to integrate children's opinions.

*National Children's Forum: children presenting their recommendations to the representatives of the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police.*





## We have rights, too!

The main component of the program “Și noi avem drepturi!” (We have rights, too!) focuses on interactive peer-to-peer information sessions on children’s rights and responsibilities. With the support of **800 volunteers** and teachers trained to coordinate the activities, the program registered an impressive number of **35,000** informed children from the **250 partner schools** nationwide. Face-to-face and online sessions were based on interactive tools of non-formal education with an emphasis on open dialog and encouraging children to express their opinions. Another component of the program is the National Children’s Rights Contest “De-a dreptul creativ”, with the participation of 830 pupils from 133 educational units, aimed at stimulating children’s involvement in creating and developing interactive methods appropriate to their age and level of knowledge concerning their rights.

# VOLUNTEERS

**3,000** volunteers were involved in activities for children  
**68,000** hours volunteered in 2023

Every year, our community of volunteers expands with the involvement of children, as well as adults from all over the country. All our programs include a volunteering-based component, through which we intend to create a safe and encouraging space for the multilateral development of volunteers, and also to allow them to exercise their rights.

## Leisure and educational activities with vulnerable children

Children from disadvantaged backgrounds benefited from educational support provided within educational centres by our volunteers, specially trained to work with them. As our approach to achieving goals is based on the small steps technique, we first help children develop key abilities that will help them in their journey of personal development and attain skills to lead an independent life: socio-emotional skills, literacy or math knowledge.

## Interactive information sessions in schools

Through the activities we carry out in collaboration with educational institutions, we provide an alternative learning method and actively promote topics of interest for children. As such, “We have rights, too!”, “Schools without bullying”, “Healthy choices”, “The internet class” are projects that include information sessions which provide valuable opportunities in which volunteers may get involved. In this context, our volunteers were trained to discuss with children on topics such as their rights and responsibilities, health, environmental protection and consumption of dangerous substances, nutrition and physical exercise, as well as on the safe use of the Internet.



## EU Children's Participation Platform

Save the Children has joined EU Children's Participation Platform. This platform enables children from different countries to connect with each other, to talk to decision-makers and policymakers, to discuss about topics and issues that affect their lives and learn about their rights.

The first General Assembly of the EU Children's Participation Platform took place in 2023, in Brussels, and raised awareness on the importance of issues such as mental health, electoral elections and the concept of democracy. Consultations were also organized with children from partner countries to discuss about their safety, and the outcomes of these activities may influence a new EU recommendation on integrated child protection systems. The opinions of the Romanian children consulted during this project had a major impact on EU's perspective on the measures that should be implemented.



## Events and campaigns

The values promoted by Save the Children are the bridge that connects the organization with its volunteers. It is the volunteers' significant contribution what makes the events and campaigns we conduct a real success.

They contributed to the fundraising campaigns for reducing child mortality, such as the one organized during the UNTOLD festival, but also the one to encourage people redirecting 3.5% of the income tax to Save the Children for equipping maternity wards.

They attended volunteering fairs and visited schools to promote volunteering opportunities. They also had the opportunity to exercise their right of expression during events and within consultation groups set up by Save the Children and participated in the Children's Advisory Board and the Global Children's Advisory Body, organized by Save the Children International.

More than 100 volunteers were involved in organizing the Children's Carnival, an event dedicated to children from disadvantaged communities, celebrating winter holidays.



  
**Salvați Copiii**

“I urge every young person to experience volunteering with Save the Children. It is an extraordinary environment, where you have the opportunity to discover who you really are, while contributing to changing our society for the better.”

*Andrei Meiroșu,  
Volunteer of the year 2023*





# ADVOCACY

## Supplementation of the Law on Pre-University Education

Drafting a set of legislative proposals and having them included in the draft law on the pre-university education system:

- definition of the best interest of the child (included);
- improving the process of awarding social scholarships by including the possibility to accumulate scholarships (included), by extending them to students attending part-time education or programs such as second-chance type (included);
- reinserting into the law provisions concerning the resource centres for psycho-pedagogical assistance (included, but under the methodological coordination of the National Centre for Inclusive Education);
- increasing the standard cost for children with SEN (included);
- involving the county general directorates/Directorate of Bucharest for children's welfare and protection or public welfare services (included);
- including independent student associations as advisory bodies for the Ministry of Education and as student representation bodies (included).

Submitting proposals to amend the Procedure on the management of cases of violence against pre-preschoolers/preschoolers/pupils and staff of educational institutions, as well as other related situations occurring at school and of the suspicion of violence against children outside school (adopted by Order no. 6235/06.09.2023). Save the Children's proposals which defined the notions of bullying and cyberbullying and establishing the role of NGOs in the procedure of response in cases of violence and of identification of acts of violence committed by members of the teaching staff on pre-preschoolers/preschoolers/pupils were integrated in the law.

## Amendments to improve Criminal Law

A series of proposals for the amendment of the provisions of the Criminal Law on the protection of minors against sexual exploitation and abuse (Art. 218, 219, 221) were submitted by Save the Children to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice and the President of the Senate. One of the issues raised focused on reconsidering the legal provisions that extended impunity to a 5-year age gap between partners, which increases the risk of sexual abuse against children, and returning to the 3-year gap introduced by Save the Children in 2009. Save the Children also advocated for the protection of children between 16 and 18 years of age in consensual sexual relations that take place under circumstances of risk, such as those involving family members or persons with some form of authority over the child or when the acts were committed for the production of pornographic material or caused harm to children.

## Efforts to block the amendments to the Fiscal law aimed at reducing or eliminating sponsorships from private companies to non-governmental organizations

Through direct discussions with the Prime Minister, the President of the Senate and the Minister of Finance, Save the Children contributed to the efforts of the civil society to eliminate the restrictions set out for non-governmental organizations to access funds from sponsorships provided by enterprises or small and medium-sized companies. After the approval of two successive amendments contrary to the interests of civil society, the Fiscal law was reverted to previous provisions supporting the NGOs.

## Efforts to block the amendments proposed by the Ministry of Education regarding the social scholarships granted to children orphaned by one parent

The framework methodology for granting social scholarships established a series of requirements for granting social scholarships to pupils with a deceased parent based on the average net monthly income per family member which was supposed to be less or equal to the minimum net salary, in the 12 months prior to application, blocking access to this service for many children who did not meet the conditions laid down in the new rules.

## Advocacy for Ukrainian children and parents affected by the war in Ukraine

In the context of the humanitarian crisis triggered by the war in Ukraine, Save the Children Romania plays an active role in the working groups coordinated by UNHCR, within the Response Plan for Ukrainian refugees in Romania. Save the Children is a co-leader in the Cash working group, along with UNHCR and the Red Cross and is also represented in the Intersectoral Working Group, the Working Group on Protection, the Working Group on Child Protection, the Working Group on Gender Violence, the Anti-Trafficking Working Group, the Working Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, the Education Working Group, the Working Group on Intelligence Management, the PSEA (Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse) Working Group and the Working Group on Health.



## Other contributions:

Proposal to amend Ordinance 26/2000 on associations and foundations (rules on providing financial support to public utility organizations), submitted to a working group where Save the Children is a member, to be discussed with representatives of the Ministry of Justice.

Proposals for amending GD no. 368 from 26.04.2023 establishing the amount, requirements and mechanism for granting lump sums according to Government Emergency Ordinance no. 15/2022 setting out the requirements for the Romanian state to provide support and humanitarian assistance to foreign citizens or stateless persons, under particular circumstances, coming from the area affected by the armed conflict in Ukraine.



# RESEARCH

The new European Report on child poverty was launched on 7 March, which attracted great interest at national and European level, and in which our organization participated. It drew the attention of the media and decision-makers, underlining our involvement in acute social issues.

**Study on the importance of knowing and fulfilling children's rights in Romania.** On 4 April, during an event hosted by the Romanian Senate, a new edition of the study on the importance of knowing and fulfilling children's rights in Romania was launched, based on a representative sample at national level. The launch event brought together members of the Romanian Parliament, representatives of the main institutions mandated to ensure the observance of the rights of the child, colleagues from other non-governmental organizations, but first of all, children who confirmed, through their interventions, many of the alarming conclusions of the study.

**National research on the state of children whose parents are working abroad.** The research study was launched on 4 May, during a conference organized in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Palace of the Parliament. The study revealed that a quarter of the children in Romania had one or both parents working abroad, with 13.8% of the children in Romania, approx. 536,000 children, registered as experiencing this situation in the past year. Of them, 184,000 were completely deprived of the direct care of their parents, with both parents or the only provider parent of a single-parent family working abroad.

The qualitative research study part of the **Cross-institutional cooperation and advocacy project for the protection of children victims of sexual abuse and violence.** The research was carried out at national level and targeted the judiciary services provided to children victims of sexual abuse and violence.

Save the Children Romania submitted **two contributions to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child** with a view to drafting the list of questions Romania must answer under the UN mechanism monitoring the fulfilment of the rights of the child. In addition to the contribution based on our own expertise and studies (closely reflected in the questions addressed to the Romanian state), we also facilitated a separate contribution from children, in collaboration with UNICEF.

The survey on **Children's access to gambling and related implications** was initiated and completed. The vast majority of children over the age of 10 say they have seen gambling advertising. Exposure to these types of ads is extremely high, both on TV and online. Outdoor advertising is also highly exposed to children, with 7 out of 10 confirming to have seen such ads. Of concern is that 14% of children say they have gambled money, and the majority of these children had access to specialized agencies.

**A report reviewing the state of pregnant women in rural areas** was launched in November. More than a third of the pregnant women surveyed failed to go through gynaecological examination while pregnant, mainly due to lack of access to medical services; half of the pregnant women who benefitted from medical examination declared that the tests/ultrasounds/consultations were not free. Of the total number of pregnant women, part of the Save the Children study, 18% became pregnant between the ages of 13 and 17 years old.



# DONATIONS FOR CHILDREN

**Direct Debit** – Save the Children had the most active Direct Debit team in 2023, with 36,000 active donors. Direct debit donations are a form of repetitive and continuous donation, by which the donor undertakes to pay a fixed amount monthly, which is automatically charged from their bank account. The significant amount collected thanks to donors who agreed to sign a direct debit contract with our fundraising teams in Bucharest, Cluj Napoca, Braşov and Iaşi was used to equip maternity facilities with high-performance medical equipment.



**3.5% of the income tax** – Every year Save the Children runs a fundraising campaign targeting individuals to convince them to redirect 3.5% of their income tax. All natural persons who, in the previous year, obtained income from wages, pensions, self-employment, copyrights or rental and leasing are able to contribute, by filling in the form 230 found at [www.salvaticopiii.ro/redirectioneaza](http://www.salvaticopiii.ro/redirectioneaza).

**Online** – Regular support, through online donations, for all Save the Children projects is very important, as these donations contribute to the sustainability of the organization's projects. Whether it is education, health or protection, Save the Children is always working on actions with an impact on the community, with a particular focus on children from disadvantaged communities.

**SMS** – SMS 8844 with the text SALVEZ (SAVE) – A simple way to support, on a monthly basis, the Save the Children programme to equip maternity wards with medical equipment, is by sending a text message. This is the simplest way to support a charitable cause, by sending a text message worth €2/month to 8844 with the text SALVEZ (SAVE). The number of donations registered in 2023 was 164,614.

**20% of the corporate income tax** – the mechanism available every year to enterprises and small businesses through which they may support the cause of children born prematurely under a sponsorship contract, as provided for by law.

The Save the Children team of 1,218 runners who participated in the Bucharest Half-Marathon managed to raise funds to equip the Plastic Surgery, Reconstructive Microsurgery and Burns Clinic within the “Grigore Alexandrescu” Emergency Clinical Hospital for Children with vital medical equipment.



# CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

After setting out an ambitious stake for its 23rd edition, the Christmas Tree Festival managed to raise one million Euro in funds, to be used to restore the right to equal education opportunities for children at severe risk of poverty and social exclusion. The 22 trees auctioned in the gala evening of the Christmas Trees Festival, organized in partnership with **the National Museum of Art of Romania**, will thus provide socio-educational support for 16,000 children. The two most coveted trees were auctioned off for the amount of 140,000 Euro. The Save the Children Romania survey shows that 95% of families facing poverty no longer have money to pay for their children's clothing and shoes.

The artists who created this edition's unique trees are:

Doina Levintza • Gheorghe Fikl • Omid Ghannadi & Zoli Tóth • Laura Hîncu • Constantin Alexandru Marinete • Lemon Interior Design • Endorphin Lab - Adonis Enache & Atelier Dual • Dhaniel Nora, with the support of Sephora • Untold Creative Team • Nicu Bocancea & Iris Flower Shop • Simona & Gabriel Gherasim - Gallantique Boutique • Adela Pârveu & Neon Lighting • Mihai Popescu and Tino Mob & Twins Studio • Architectural Christmas - Ana Mohonea Daia & Maria Mohonea • Studium On Space, with the support of Edenholz Residence • Arh. Roxana Dan & Lisa & Co. • Diana Nicolaie & Ela Crăciun • Iulia Totoianu & Libris • Summer Well Creative Lab & Kaustik • Smiley & HaHaHa Production • Ovidiu Buta together with Mara & Tom. They were joined by Save the Children, with the support of Ștefania Mircea.







During the Christmas Tree Festival Gala, the trees designed and donated by famous Romanian designers and artists were auctioned off for amounts between 10,000 and 140,000 euro, to companies taking on the role of key representatives of social responsibility. The total amount raised went up to one million Euro from auctioning the Christmas trees, the sale of raffle tickets and sponsorships.

Two trees ranked first: UNTOLD CREATIVE TEAM – the Metamorphosis tree, which was auctioned for 140,000 Euro by Kaufland Romania and Catena; the Save the Children tree, created with the support of Ștefania Mircea – *Magical Christmas Sounds* - obtained the amount of 140,000 euro, by the joint effort of Kaufland România, Druid, KULTHO Forever Diamonds, Romanian Business Consult, Banca Comercială Română.

### **2023 Edition PARTNERS:**

**Diamond Sponsors:** BCR, Catena, KULTHO Forever Diamonds.

**Platinum Sponsors:** Garanti BBVA, Kaufland România, Mastercard, Oscar Downstream, Romanian Business Consult, OSKAR, Smart Soft Power.

**Gold sponsors:** Banca Transilvania, Beautik Haute Parfumerie, BN BUSINESS, Clifford Chance Badea, GICA Import Export, Hidroelectrica, Medist, MET România Energy, Wienerberger.

**Silver sponsors:** Alumil, Bitdefender, CIT ONE, Giscad, Interbrands Orbico România, Kruk România, Maresi Foodbroker, Maviproduct, Mondial Assistance, ONE UNITED PROPERTIES, PEPCO România, Porsche Finance Group România, Rompetrol, Terapia, Viatrix.

**Special thanks:** TUI, Musette, Malvensky, DENT ESTET, Summer Well, Optimize Body Center, Andreea Raicu, Atra Doftana, BDG, Beciul Domnesc, Biocode Skincare, Burberry, Conacul Secuiesc, Daskalides România, Magmatik, Davidoff, DaVino, Degustaria Francesca, Depozitarul Central, DOUGLAS, Elena Perseil, emagic, Fillerina MagnaPharm, GETT'S, Hedare, Hotel EPOQUE, Hotel IAKI, Hyppo Kids & Kiddo, Ivatherm, KIEHL'S, Lancôme, Lisa & Co., Love Beauty, Maison Le Cygne, Moogu, my Geisha, Maximizer Beauty, NEXT România, Niran, OBSIDIAN, Purple Flowers, Rowenta, SEPHORA România, SHINZŌ Spa, Soho House of Beauty, TOPLINE, Weco Travel, Wild Olive.





# SPONSORS OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2023

## Diamond



## Platinum



## Gold



## Silver



# IMPACT, COLLABORATIONS, AWARDS

## Online Impact

In 2023, the [www.salvaticopiii.ro](http://www.salvaticopiii.ro) website was accessed **739,000 times** and by **477,000 unique visitors**.

Save the Children Facebook page ([facebook.com/SalvatiCopiiiRomania](https://facebook.com/SalvatiCopiiiRomania)) continued to rank first in the Facebook page rankings, on the Nonprofit category, with a reach of **2,800,118 people** and an engagement of **869,265 users**.

The Instagram account ([Instagram.com/SalvatiCopiiiRomania](https://Instagram.com/SalvatiCopiiiRomania)), with **20,300 followers**, holds the first position in the top accounts of NGOs for children.

The YouTube platform ([www.youtube.com/user/SalvatiCopiii](http://www.youtube.com/user/SalvatiCopiii)) has gathered **1,490,263 visitors**.

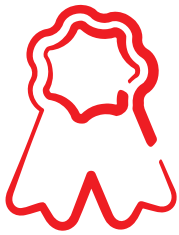
In 2023, Save the Children registered **9,388 online appearances**, accounting for a **27% share of voice of the ONG for children category** nationwide.

## Partners of the General Secretariat

Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities, National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption, Presidential Administration, General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, Ministry of Communications and Information Society, National Authority for Administration and Regulation in Communications, UNICEF, UNHCR, Ombudsman, Bondoc & Associates, Romanian Society of Paediatrics, Bucharest School Inspectorate, County School Inspectorates, General Directorates of Welfare and Child Protection, Public Welfare Services, General Schools, High Schools, General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police, County Police Inspectorates, Romanian Border Police, Bucharest Airports National Company, National Institute for Mother and Child Health "Alessandrescu-Rusescu" Bucharest, Psychiatric Hospital "Al. Obregia" – Psychiatric Clinic for children and adolescents, Bucharest Centre for Educational Resources and Assistance, County Centres for Educational Resources and Assistance, Associations of the teaching staff, National Anti-Human Trafficking Agency, General Inspectorate for Immigration, Caravana cu medici, Terre des Hommes, DIGI Romania, National Students Council, World Vision Romania, SOS Satele Copiilor, Școala de Valori Association, Asociația pentru Formare - Casa Experimentelor, ELSA Association - part of the Law School, Bucharest University, Association of Students of Psychology and Educational Science, Association of Students of Sociology and Welfare.



## Awards



On the occasion of the International Children's Day Save the Children received the **"Order of merit for promoting human rights and social responsibility"** as Commander, offered by the President of Romania, Klaus Iohannis.

In 2023, Save the Children received the **"Badge of honour"** from the **Romanian Department for Emergency Situations** and the **Diploma of Merit** for the direct assistance provided to patients and public healthcare facilities from Romania awarded by the **Ministry of Health**.

During the **Civil Society Gala**, Save the Children received the following awards:

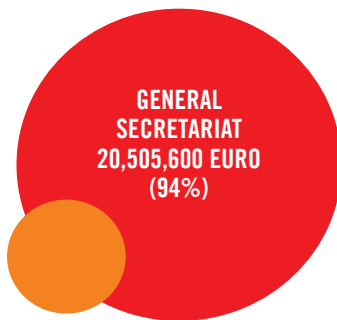
- **First prize** in the category *Protection of individual rights* and **Civil Society Gala Special prize for innovation** for the advocacy project *"No child abusers in elections"*. The draft law was created to amend Law 115/2015 on the election of local public administration authorities and Law 208/2015 on the election of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, by introducing a interdiction: *"persons convicted by final decision of a court of law for crimes against life, against the freedom of a person, on trafficking and exploitation of vulnerable persons, against the sexual freedom and integrity and for the ill-treatment of a minor, if the victims are minors at the time of the crime and the judicial rehabilitation has not occurred or the rehabilitation period has not been reached."* Our endeavour ended with the adoption of the draft law by the Parliament, in an extended form to include all categories of persons with a final prison sentence for crimes committed intentionally. Thus, the draft law created by Save the Children determined certain political parties to come together in an effort to fulfil a general objective to not allow those who received final imprisonment sentences for crimes committed intentionally, hold public office.
- **First prize** in the *Projects for health* category for the project *"Children's right to life"*.
- **Third prize** in the *Defending individual rights* category for the project *"Save the Children Romania's response to help children and refugee families from Ukraine"*.



# 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

**SAVE THE CHILDREN CONDUCTS ITS ACTIVITY THROUGH THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT AND ITS BRANCHES**

**TOTAL REVENUE**  
**22,223,209 Euro**

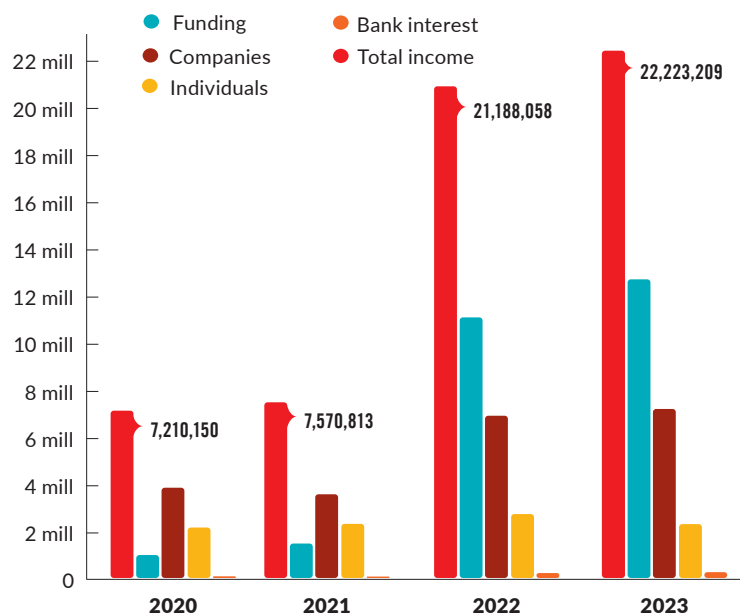


**BRANCHES**  
**1,717,609 EURO**  
**(6%)**

TOTAL REVENUE - EURO		22,223,209	%
1. Contributions, donations, sponsorships		9,443,427	42%
2. Save the Children International - Ukraine response		5,850,597	26%
3. European funds		4,584,190	21%
4. Save the Children Japan - Ukraine response		1,225,471	6%
5. Save the Children Norway - Ukraine response		436,378	2%
6. Save the Children Italy - Ukraine response		200,000	1%
7. Public institutions		238,349	1%
8. Bank interests		244,797	1%

EXPENDITURE - EUR		22,743,765	
<b>A. PROGRAMMES:</b>		<b>21,807,606</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>1. Protection of refugee children - Ukraine response</b>		<b>9,449,118</b>	
<b>2. Promoting and ensuring children's right to education</b>		<b>3,645,099</b>	
• Access to education for children from disadvantaged communities		3,523,717	
• Pre-school education for disadvantaged children		121,382	
<b>3. Child health and nutrition, education for health</b>		<b>5,205,197</b>	
<b>4. Ensuring children's right to protection</b>		<b>3,194,709</b>	
• Protection of children home alone		2,505,537	
• Protection of children against violence and economic exploitation		338,951	
• Online child protection - Sigur.Info Programme		331,856	
• Protecting children against HIV/AIDS		18,365	
<b>5. Promoting and fulfilling children's rights</b>		<b>313,483</b>	
<b>B. Fundraising and communication</b>		<b>375,868</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>C. Management and organisation</b>		<b>446,118</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>D. Contributions to international programmes</b>		<b>114,173</b>	<b>1%</b>

## REVENUE 2020-2023 (EURO)



The financial statements of Save the Children Romania as of 31.12.2023 are audited by the Board of Auditors appointed by the organisation's General Assembly and are externally audited by KPMG.



# PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHILDREN

We want to thank our partners supporting Save the Children causes and who understand the importance of rallying people and joining efforts so that children in Romania can have a better future. We trust you and continue to rely on your support! There is still a lot to be done for children.



**MSD** – Supports the largest public health intervention dedicated to improving access to integrated services (medical, social, educational) for pregnant teenagers, teenage mothers and children under 5 years of age, from disadvantaged rural areas in Romania and the Republic of Moldova.



**Alliance Healthcare Romania** – Contributes to improving maternal and child health in 16 disadvantaged rural communities through locally integrated socio-medical services for mothers, pregnant women and children up to 5 years old.



**OMV Petrom Foundation** – Our partnership with OMV Petrom Foundation includes the revamping of 100 family practices in rural areas, equipping 60 neonatology wards with medical equipment and providing 10,000 “baby boxes” to pregnant and newborn children from disadvantaged areas. It also includes the training of 600 specialists and the provision of educational materials required for the implementation of the anti-bullying program “Let’s be friends” in 60 kindergartens, currently engaging with over 8,800 children and their parents.



**Endava** – Supports child protection activities in the online environment and also Save the Children’s response to the crisis experienced by Ukrainian refugee children and their families.



**GLS General Logistics Systems Romania** – Supports our activities for the protection of children and Save the Children’s intervention in support of children affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.



**Kaufland Romania** – 17,600 children from 22 counties benefited from informative sessions on health education and non-formal educational activities, while 3,970 preschoolers, 5,626 school students, teachers and parents benefited from educational resources and specific activities to prevent bullying. At the same time, since the beginning of the partnership, more than 4,350 socio-economically vulnerable children or whose parents are working abroad have been supported.



**NEPI Rockcastle** – since 2021, has been supporting the education program on children's online safety, through national awareness campaigns, online and offline events, as well as themed classes dedicated to teenagers.



**PENNY Market Romania** – contributed to improving access to welfare and medical services for pregnant women and women from disadvantaged rural areas, as part of the project "Health for every community". The participants benefited from free consultations, breast ultrasounds, abdominal ultrasounds, transvaginal ultrasounds and Papanicolau assay sampling, within their communities provided by the check-up and information caravans, as well as complete care kits for themselves and their children. At the same time 105 children at risk of dropping out of school were supported by being provided a warm meal while attending the educational support program.

**V O L V O**

**Volvo Trucks Romania** – supported access to medical education for vulnerable adolescents in disadvantaged areas in Romania. By attending informal workshops, teenage girls discovered more about their health and how to interact with the healthcare system. They also received free kits with personal care products.



**PEPCO Romania** – Core partner of the programmes for the protection of children with parents working abroad and for the prevention of school dropout among disadvantaged children since 2019, the company has contributed to efforts to improve protection, ensure emotional wellbeing and prevent school dropout among children. In 2023 alone, with the help of this partner, we supported more than 2,118 children and their parents or caretakers in 6 counties.



**LIDL** – Has been a partner for education since 2012. More than 5,100 children from disadvantaged communities have benefited from direct school integration and other services aimed at preventing school dropout, as well as social, psychological and legal counselling, and material support. More than 6,000 children and young people benefited from quality educational services as a result of improved working methods of teachers.



**Banca Comercială Română** – Is one of the oldest and most constant partners, supporting both children's education, by sponsoring the Christmas Tree Festival, as well as prevention of violence against children, ensuring the right to life for children born prematurely and other initiatives launched by the organization. Every year, more than 1,200 children from vulnerable groups are supported to access education. In 2023, the partner also supported Save the Children's activities dedicated to supporting refugee children from Ukraine and their families.





**Salvați Copiii**  
Save the Children Romania



**Catena** – One of the most important and constant supporters of our educational programs, contributing to the Christmas Tree Festival and other programmes with sponsorships and thus helping more than 1,300 children and their families every year, through integrated educational services, social and psychological support, and material support.

**BANCA  
TRANSILVANIA®**



**Banca Transilvania** – Continued to support access to education for children from vulnerable communities, by providing school supplies and social assistance and educational services, as well as a daily warm meal for children attending the School after school program. It also funded the building of playgrounds for children in partner secondary schools.



**essilor**

**Essilor** – Supports the project to identify students with vision problems and refer them to specialists, i.e. covering the costs for glasses for children from socio-economically vulnerable families.

**LIBRIS**

**Libris** – Has been supporting the program aimed at reducing child mortality since 2014. Since then, Save the Children has benefited from donations from over 500,000 Libris.ro customers, who contributed to the acquisition of state-of-the-art medical equipment and devices. Libris and Save the Children are currently carrying out the CarteTeca project, where 1,464 schools were provided with 27,284 books.

**D E DENT ESTET**  
The Leading Dental Centers of Romania

**DENT ESTET** – The collaboration with DENT ESTET has resulted in dental prophylaxis services and free consultations at the clinics in Bucharest and Timisoara. More than 1,720 children from vulnerable groups were helped, throughout the past several years.



**KPMG** – Generously and professionally auditing the organisation since 2010.



center for  
inclusive growth

**Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth** – Supports a program designed specifically to provide assistance to Ukrainian single mothers and vulnerable families in host communities. This program facilitates access to free professional counselling services to help these women find the right jobs and childcare services, thus contributing to their social and economic integration in new communities.

**With such responsible  
partners alongside us,  
we have faith in the future!**

## SPONSORS - GENERAL SECRETARIAT

### Sponsors offering amounts over 100,000 €

Aliance Healthcare Romania  
 • BCR • Catena • OMV Petrom  
 Foundation • Kaufland Romania •  
 LIDL Romania • Mastercard • NEPI  
 Rockcastle • PEPCO Romania

### Sponsors offering amounts between €100,000 and €50,000

Alpha Bank • Banca  
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 Romania • Libris • MSD •  
 PENNY Market Romania •  
 The Charities Aid Foundation

### Sponsors offering amounts between €50,000 and €10,000

B&B Collection • Callpoint  
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 Romanian Business Consult  
 • Romgaz • Soft Intelligence  
 • Transelectrica • United  
 Petfood Romania • Vâlcea  
 Properties • Volvo Romania

### Sponsors offering amounts between €10,000 and €3,000

Alumil • Amy Claire • Andrei  
 Tinca • Catena Racing Team  
 Association • Club Sportiv  
 Bucharest Running Club  
 Association • The Child Factor  
 Association • Avangas Mark •  
 BGP Products • Bitdefender  
 • BN Business • CIT ONE •  
 Create Direct • Digitalya Ops •  
 Energoice • Ensys Renewable  
 Solutions • Fullscreen Digital •  
 Gica Import Export • Giscad  
 • Beautik Haute Parfumerie  
 • Hidroelectrica • Ina  
 International • Interbrands  
 Orbico • KMG Rompetrol  
 Services Center • Luxoft  
 Professional Romania • Maresi  
 Foodbroker • Mavi Prod •  
 Medical Device • Met Romania  
 Energy • Mindit Services •  
 Nhood Services Romania •  
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### Sponsors offering products and services

Din Drag și Dor pentru  
 Comunitate Association •  
 Callpoint New Europe • De  
 Silva Exclusiv • Beautik Haute  
 Parfumerie • Happy Twins •  
 Ikea Romania • Interbrands  
 Orbico • RCS & RDS • Vedis

### Funders

CEuropean Commission  
 – Safer Internet • EUN  
 Partnership Bicnet • Romanian  
 Social Development Fund  
 - EEA and Norway Grants  
 2014- 2021 • Civil Society  
 Development Foundation  
 • Google Benevity • Inhope  
 Asociation • Ministry of  
 Education through the Human  
 Capital Operational Program  
 2014-2020 (POCU)•  
 Ministry of Labor and Social  
 Protection, Subsidies as per  
 Law 34/1998 • Ministry of  
 Investments and European  
 Projects - EEA and Norway  
 Grants 2014-2021  
 • MSD for Mothers •  
 Bucharest District 2 City Hall  
 • Save the Children Europe •  
 Save the Children International  
 • Save the Children Norway  
 • Save the Children Japan  
 • Save the Children Italy •  
 Senate of Romania • Sulle  
 Orme Yoac Project

**We thank all the sponsors**  
 who chose to support  
 Save the Children  
 programs in 2023!



# BRANCH AND LOCAL OFFICE INVOLVEMENT



## Argeș

Continued the educational support and assistance projects for children at risk. As a response to the war in Ukraine, with the help of partners, we sent a food truck to Ukraine. 6,660 children from kindergartens, schools and high schools were informed about children's rights and the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle, while 235 children under 5 and their mothers living in Mălureni and Călinești localities benefited from socio-medical support.

## Caraș-Severin

3,905 students were informed about the risks online. 5,140 children from urban and rural localities received information on the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle and their rights. 115 children from poor areas and 137 children with parents working abroad received educational, psychological and social support, and 99 children under 5 and 78 mothers and pregnant women from Anina and Reșița benefited from integrated socio-medical services.

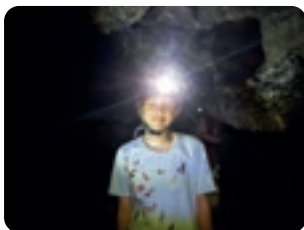


## Constanța

More than 1,000 pupils from 15 school units were informed about children's rights and responsibilities, while 236 children from disadvantaged areas received educational support through *School after School* and Summer Kindergarten activities or material support. 80 mothers and pregnant women from Albești and Negru-Vodă benefited from integrated socio-medical services.

## Dolj

More than 2,000 pupils from 20 school units were informed about children's rights, and 124 vulnerable children and 81 children whose parents are working abroad benefited from educational, psycho-social and material support, while their caretakers benefited from parental education and social counselling.



## Hunedoara

Over 300 children benefited from educational support, a daily warm meal, and educational-recreational and non-formal activities within Petrila Day Centre. The special event, called "The World of 3D objects" gave children the opportunity to get closer to technology and to get information on jobs in various related fields.

## Iași

155 children from Ciurea locality were included in early childhood education programs for preschoolers, after the two nurseries were set up and provided with the necessary equipment and playgrounds, while 327 pupils were engaged in both indoor and outdoor non-formal education activities, through the Mobile School, in order to improve access to education. 132 mothers and teenage pregnant women /young women benefited from innovative social services focused on early intervention, within 3 new community centres created in Șcheia, Ceplenița and Mironeasa.







### Mureş

730 children, 390 parents and legal representatives benefited from the services offered by the branch, totalling 1,776 sessions of social, psychological, individual or group counselling. 138 children and 145 adult refugees from Ukraine received support and counselling within the dedicated Information and Counselling Centre. A pilot program for anonymous online psychological support for adolescents was launched and was well received by the target group. Activities were also created to bring children and parents together.

### Neamţ

More than 200 children, 150 parents and legal representatives, as well as specialists were involved in the branch's programs. Of them, 183 pregnant women, mothers and children under 5 from Săbăoani and Bahna localities benefited from integrated socio-medical services. At the same time, we continued to provide social-educational support services, as well as information sessions in schools on topics such as: children's rights, tackling bullying, education for a healthy lifestyle.



### Timiș

4,598 children and parents benefited from support as part of the branch's programs. Of them, 1,119 children participated in activities focused on emotional development, 1,564 refugee children and parents received psycho-social support, 215 children under 5 were examined by doctors, and 262 mothers and future young mothers benefited from counselling and were accompanied when visiting their doctors, while 135 vulnerable children from Sănnicolau Mare and their families received socio-educational support.



### Vaslui

284 mothers, pregnant women, and children aged 0-5 from the Dragomirești and Oșești areas were supported within the national program for maternal and child health while activities promoting children's rights and a healthy lifestyle took place, with 800 children informed about preventing bullying. At the same time educational and psychosocial support was provided for those in vulnerable situations.



### Braşov

Psychosocial and educational support was provided for 257 children from disadvantaged communities and refugee children from Ukraine, as well as their families. Additionally, information sessions on topics relevant to children were conducted in schools through the involvement of 150 volunteers.



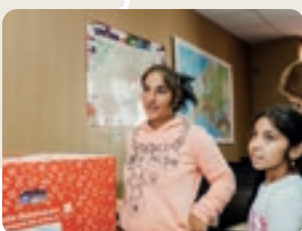
### Cluj

70 children have benefited from educational and social services within the *Day Center for children from vulnerable groups* through after-school activities held at the Tureni Primary School, as well as early education for preschool-age children in the Summer Kindergarten program in the village of Comșești. All children received warm meals, educational materials, and school supplies.



### Dâmbovița

1,017 preschool children participated in the activities of the 'Let's Be Friends - No Bullying' program, an innovative model for preventing bullying. Additionally, over 4,000 students from both urban and rural areas benefited from informative sessions on children's rights, a healthy lifestyle, and online safety. Meanwhile, 514 children received educational support, and 202 mothers, pregnant women, and children aged 0-5 received integrated socio-medical services.





## SAVE THE CHILDREN BRANCH AND LOCAL OFFICE SUPPORTERS

### Argeș

**Partners:** The Argeș County School Inspectorate, Pitești City Hall, Argeș County Council, Argeș General Welfare and Child Protection Directorate, Pitești Welfare Directorate, Argeș Public Health Department, Argeș County Resource Centre for Educational Assistance, Argeș County Department of Sport and Youth, Argeș County Police Inspectorate, Argeș County "Dinicu Golescu" Library, Argeș County Gendarmerie Inspectorate, "Cuvântul vieții" Micești Association, "Broboți" Pitești Association, educational institutions.

**Sponsors:** Bamesa Oțel Topoloveni

education school centres: "Aurora" Reșița and "Christiana" Bocșa, Technological High Schools "Max Ausnit", "Dacia", "Trandafir Cocârlă" Caransebeș, Theological School "Episcop Ioan Popasu" Caransebeș, "Sf. Dimitrie" Teregova, Technological High School Berzovia.

### Constanța

**Partners:** Mangalia City Hall, Negru Vodă City Hall, Albești City Hall, Constanța County Resource Center for Educational Assistance, Constanța County School Inspectorate, "Callatis" Theoretical High School Mangalia, Negru Vodă Theoretical High School, 1 Secondary School Mangalia, educational institutions.

### Dolj

**Partners:** Dolj County School Inspectorate, Dolj Directorate of Welfare and Child Protection, Dolj Public Welfare, Community Police, Dolj County Police Inspectorate, Malu Mare City Hall, Breasta City Hall, Predești City Hall, Alexandru Macedonski Secondary School Craiova, Technical High School of Transport Craiova, Sfântul Mina Special Secondary School, Charles Laugier High School, "Alexandru Macedonski" Secondary School Craiova, "Decebal" Secondary School Craiova, educational institutions across Dolj and Ilt counties.

**Financer:** Rettet das Kind.

**Sponsors:** TERRAFARM, CEZ Vânzare.

### Hunedoara

**Partners:** The County Police Inspectorate Hunedoara, Hunedoara Directorate of Welfare and Child Protection., ITM Deva, Petrila Welfare Department, Petrila Town Police, Constantin Brâncuși Technical College Petrila and structures, I. D. Sirbu Petrila Gymnasium Schools and substructures, Mihai Eminescu National College Petroșani, Carmen Sylva National College of Informatics Petroșani, Dragomir Hurmuzescu Energy Technological College Deva.

**Sponsors:** County Agency for Payments and Social Inspection Hunedoara-Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity, Adi Hădean Association, Petrila City Hall, Zona D Petrosani, Iulian Transfor S.R.L Petrila, Maria Antonia Servicii S.R.L Petroșani, Casalean M. PFA, Dragalina Dolce, Elit S.R.L, AS Techsoup, Brav Consulting, members of the Free Trade Union Insemex Petroșani.

### Iași

**Main partners:** Cristian ABC, Coseli, Borgwarner, Sweet Blanca, Ardealul Pharmacy, Help Flux, Adriana Pharmacy, Fortis, Misavan Trading, Adaconi, Sevenode, Quatro Group Distribution, Panifcom, Patisgal, Misavan, Allmetech, Doterra Healing Hands, Moldova Center, BMW APAN Motors Iași, Prima Car, Fabrica De Print, ESET Romania.

**Media partners:** Europa Fm, Iași TV Life, Radio Hit, TVR Iași, Iașul Nostru.



### Caraș-Severin

**Partners:** Caraș-Severin County School Inspectorate, Caraș-Severin School House, Caraș-Severin County Resource Centre for Educational Assistance, Caraș-Severin Centre for Anti-Drug Evaluation, Prevention and Counselling, Caraș-Severin County Police Inspectorate, Caraș-Severin Public Health Department, Reșița City Hall, full-time kindergartens "Semenicul" Reșița, "Riki Priki", "Floarea Soarelui" Reșița, Full-time Kindergarten 2 Caransebeș, "Marius Șandru" Secondary School, "Mihai Peia" Secondary School, 7 Secondary School Reșița, 8 Secondary School Reșița, 1 Bocșa Secondary School, "Romul Ladea" Oravița, 1 and 3 Oțelu Roșu Secondary Schools, "Dognecea", "Băuțar", "Zăvoi", "Topleț", "Obreja", "Petroșnița" "Trandafir Tămaș" Marga, Ștefan Velovan" Rusca Montană, "Mihai Novac" Sasca Montană, "Traian Lalescu" Cornea, "Constantin Daicoviciu", "Gheorghe Frățilă" Glimboca, Armeniș Secondary School, National Colleges: "Traian Lalescu", "Mircea Eliade", "Diaconovici Tietz" Reșița, "C.D. Loga" Caransebeș; High School: "Traian Vuia" Reșița, "Eftimie Murgu" Bozovici, Inclusive



## Mureş

**Donors/Partners:** Mureş County Council, Târgu Mureş Welfare Directorate, Târgu Mureş City Hall, Mureş County School Inspectorate, Mureş County Police Inspectorate, Mureş Directorate of Welfare and Child Protection, National Agency against Human Trafficking – Regional Centre Tg. Mureş.

**Sponsors:** Darina Retail Network, Teconnex Europe Cluj, CMI Dr. Neagoie Meda, MEDCRIS, Global Partners Network, Salute Vestra Cluj.

## Neamţ

**Partners:** Neamţ General Directorate of Welfare and Child Protection, Roman City Hall, Tg. Neamţ City Hall, Neamţ Public Health Directorate, Neamţ County School Inspectorate, schools across Piatra Neamţ, Roman, Tg. Neamţ.

**Sponsors:** Roman City Hall - Tax Service, Tg. Neamţ City Hall - Tax Service, Tg Neamţ Hospital, Geneza Shop Tg. Neamţ.

## Timiș

**Partners:** Timiș General Welfare and Child Protection Directorate, Timiș County School Inspectorate, Timiș County Police Inspectorate, Timișoara Territorial Inspectorate of Border Police, Timișoara National Anti-Human Trafficking Agency – ANITP, Timișoara Clinical Emergency Hospital for Children “Louis Turcanu”, Timișoara “Speranta” Foundation, LOGS-Group of social initiatives, Identity. Education Association, Timișoara Welfare Department, Community Resilience and Mobility Service, Arad Welfare Department, Association of Social Economy Practitioners and Specialists (APSES), SPERANȚA Resource Centre for Educational Assistance, educational units, family and paediatrics practices, League of Chemistry Students Timișoara, Checea Timiș City Hall, Jimbolia Timiș City Hall.

**Sponsors:** APTIV Electrical Distribution Systems Romania, Linde Gaz Romania, Advantage Hema Innovation Technologies, Virtual7 România, Fert-Tradero, MVT Services, Virtual7 It

Services, Maresi Foodbroker, British School, Stefany Serv Invest, RCW Romania, Flexik Automation, Manufactura Eservicii, Enigma Trading 2000, BENNING Power Electronics România SCS, Granit Parts & Co SCS, Buliga Mirela Violeta Law Office, Rudolf Walther Foundation, Bega Turism.

## Vaslui

**Partners:** Vaslui County School Inspectorate, Vaslui County Police Inspectorate, Vaslui County Resource Centre for Educational Assistance, Vaslui County Council, Vaslui General Welfare and Child Protection Directorate, city halls, local councils, Vaslui County Hospital, schools, Farmacia Balsam Negrești.

**Media partners:** Monitorul de Vaslui, Vremea nouă, Obiectiv de Vaslui, Anonimus.

**Sponsors:** Dem-Dyo-Lux Negrești.

## Braşov

**Partners:** Braşov County School Inspectorate, Braşov County Resource Centre for Educational Assistance, General Directorate of Welfare and Child Protection Braşov, Braşov Welfare Directorate, Braşov County Police Inspectorate, School Safety Office Braşov, Braşov National Anti-Drug Agency, ANITP Braşov, Nicolae Orghidan Primary School No. 9 Braşov, Braşov Sustainable Development Agency, Braşov Children's Palace, SoundBox Music Academy Braşov, George Barițiu County Library Toy Library Braşov.

## Dâmbovița

**Sponsors:** The Child Factor

**Partners:** Dâmbovița County Council, Târgoviște City Hall – Târgoviște Welfare Directorate, Dâmbovița County School Inspectorate, Dâmbovița County Resource Centre for Educational Assistance, General Directorate of Welfare and Child Protection Dâmbovița.





**President:** Mihai Gafencu

**Executive President:** Gabriela Alexandrescu

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RO15RNCB0071011434790005 (lei),  
RO42RNCB0071011434790101 (euro)  
RO69RNCB0071011434790003 (US dollars)  
BCR Bank - Plevnei Branch,  
BIC / SWIFT: RNCBROBU  
Unique code: 3151288

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### Birouri locale

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The photos included in this report were taken by: Bogdan Dincă, Florian Gindilă,  
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For 34 years, Save the Children Romania has been creating social programmes, public policies and sound practices to the benefit of children in Romania. The expertise and complexity of the projects at national level make the organisation an essential social institution whose role is to mediate between society and public authority for the greater benefit of the child. Throughout three decades of activity, Save the Children has actively intervened in society, identifying concrete solutions to protect and support vulnerable children, while at the same time advocating for a viable collaboration with decision-makers to ensure the best interests of the child. Save the Children has taken on the role to carefully oversee public authorities, so that they implement lasting public policies to correct the causes that lead to children's vulnerability. At the same time, the organisation has successfully created active networks of solidarity by encouraging corporate social responsibility and the responsibility of the wide public.

As a member of Save the Children, the world's largest independent children's rights organisation with 30 members and programs in 118 countries, our VISION is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation, with a MISSION to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives. Throughout 34 years of activity, more than 3,800,000 children have been involved in Save the Children programs and campaigns.