ROMANIA: DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS FOR THE DE-INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF CHILDREN DEPRIVED OF PARENTAL CARE AND THEIR TRANSFER TO COMMUNITY-BASED CARE

Key Dates:

Signed: May 12, 2016 **End Date:** October 11, 2018

Duration: 29 months

Value: RON 12.38 million (US\$ 3.13 million)

Key Partner: National Authority for the Protection of

Children Rights and Adoption

Objectives: To: (a) develop a complex diagnostic of the centers for children deprived of parental care (residential institutions) and of the needs of their beneficiaries, to prioritize the closure of these centers; (b) carry out an inventory of the available alternative care modalities (e.g. foster parents, extended family) and preventive services, as well as the resources available at local, district and national level that could be mobilized to finance the deinstitutionalization process (including here the improvement of services aimed at preventing the separation of the child from his/her family); (c) develop a methodology for the closure of residential institutions for children deprived of parental care; and (d) develop a unitary system to identify and enroll the children and families at risk of separation, to diminish the inflows into the specialized child protection system.

The project has four broad components: a) Prioritization of the process of closing down institutions for child protection, including classic residential units as well as modulated residential units; b) Routes of alternative care for children from classic residential units; c) Methodology for closing down institutions for child protection; and d) Monitoring and evaluation plan of the deinstitutionalization process together with a procedure of identification, registration, referral and support of children at risk of being separated from their family.