

GBV sub-WG meeting - Romania

23 May 2023, 10.00 -11.00 (held in hybrid mode online and at the UN House, Primaverii 48A)

Participants: UNHCR, Save the Children, UNFPA, EEIRH, Plan International, PATRIR, WVI, ANAIS, Seks, CNRR, Sensiblu Foundation

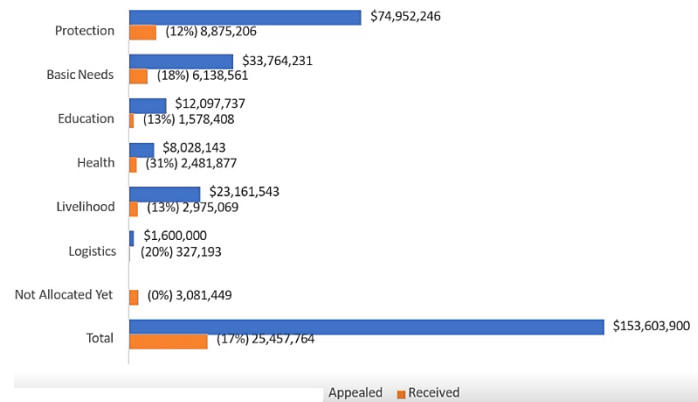
Updates from the GBV SWG members

- UNFPA jointly with ANES, EEIHRH, WHO, UNICEF and UNHCR conducted a Clinical Management of Rape and Intimate Partner Violence (CMR-IPV) 28 training workers to frontline (health, social, legal among others) works from across the country in Bucharest during 15-19 May. The participants will continue receiving coaching post training and a material package¹ will be delivered for their reference. other Trainings of Trainers are envisaged to be conducted. The observation during the training is that apart from technical knowledge to handle cases, soft skills including communication and providing a survivor centered approach are key as the level of understanding varies from participants.
- ANAIS had Self-Defense and GBV related sessions jointly with Romanian and Ukrainian mothers, as well as their children on 5, 6, 13, 26, 27 of May, and 2, 3 June. Having joint workshop has generated social cohesion and a supportive environment that are constructed both by the refugee and host community.
- Patriri have conducted Self Defense training in City Hall with EEIRH on the 26 May in Sighisoara and has also been working on a first draft of the GBV referral pathways for Sighisoara and the co-leads will follow up bilaterally to discuss the way forward.
- Sensiblu Foundation has conducted activities in Cluj, Suceava, Galati and Tulcea. On 19 June, there will be t an online session for women that have returned to Ukraine to inform them about safe spaces and risk mitigation on GBV in their repatriation process, especially with in family dynamics. In Cluj, Sensiblu has conducted GBV training for NGO, Police, Forensic and health workers. Issues such as secondary trauma and burnout have been reported from the participants, which will be also worth develop content for future interventions.

Presentation of the financial tracker (inter-agency IM)

- Out of the GBV RRP partners, 10 partners were reporting. However, the reporting across the months of 2023, have decreased, thus would like to seek the collaboration for partners to be able to report on Activity info the indicators based on their monthly activities. This is imperative as the RRP appeals for funding opportunities to donors at the regional level and enhance the importance and need on GBV long term interventions.

FUNDS RECEIVED in Q1 2023 BY SECTOR



Protection Indicator	Target	Achieved Q1	% Achieved Q1
individuals to be supported in accessing protection services	91K	47K	51.6%
children to be provided with child protection and related services	40K	12K	30%
individuals to be reached through community outreach & prevention activities on GBV	93K	12K	13%
participants trained on child protection and children's rights	5K	144	2.28%

¹ Including the 1993 Study Voices of Romanian Women – covering abortion and sexual violence during the Communist era.

Discussion on challenges relating to funding

- There is a lack of opportunities to implement long-term GBV activities. The funding that are coming through the organizations last for several months, however GBV has a strong behavioral change component which cannot be addressed at one off event. There is a higher need for funding that has a long-term vision as the transition to post emergency phase.
- Due to the news coverage and attention that the connection between GBV and human trafficking has been given by the media, in general, the notion of the importance of GBV activities and funding these activities has declined. While also raising awareness to the public on the importance of GBV related work, it is also increase understanding from donors and advocate for their support on activities with a long-term impact. In parallel, also it is important to advocate for articles 60 and 61 of the Istanbul Convention which is related to the commitment of prevention and protection of GBV in forced migration and nonrefoulement.
- Activities are naturally centered on women and girls in the hosting countries, a key concern is that women in the hosting countries have been introduced to gender equality and empowered; with the change on 2050 program, many will return to Ukraine and reintegrate to their families. However, as the GBV behavioral change activities have been focused on women and not in men, especially for those who are in Ukraine, there are potential risks associated to the change in family dynamics and the trauma that also men face in Ukraine. Members have discussed the importance to continuously assess the needs and how to mitigate the risks of increase violence in the cases that women decide to repatriate and reintegrate into the family and society.

Presentation of their key findings of their Gender Equality and Conflict Sensitivity Analysis by Save the Children

- The analysis and activities have derived from the Global affairs Canada where 30% of the participants are from the Romanian community and 70% are from Ukraine. This has centered on child protection, MHPSS, cash for protection and Gender dynamics; FGD and online platforms were opened for children with the age range 13-17 years old.
- Study objective was to identify gender and power dynamics and the different needs, interests, vulnerabilities and capacities of girls, boys, women, and men in the context of the war based on a sample in the three regions of Ukraine (Zaporizhzhia, Vinnytsia and Lviv regions) and three regions of Romania (Bucharest, Suceava, Iasi)
- Key findings are war increase the burden on women in unpaid care work; gender stereotypes related to norms of hemogenic masculinity can limit men in requesting humanitarian aid; perceptions of the dangers and insecurity associated with war are gender specific; taking care of children's safety creates and additional psychological burden primarily on mothers; the war affects children's roles in family, especially in the involvement in family chores; men are stigmatize outside Ukraine; there is an increase risk on GBV due to MHPSS situation of men in Ukraine among others.
- Within the recommendation of the study key components were the focus to invest in leadership programs for women and girls, promote positive models of masculinity and popularize the use of psychological assistance services among boys and men as an important safeguard against violent forms of behavior.
- There is a livelihoods assessment conducted regarding soft-skills and building confidence on youth is underway where women empowerment component will be emphasized. The study will be shared in the livelihoods working group once completed around August 2023.

AOB

- From June 2023, Shiori Watanabe will be co-leading the GBV-SWG, representing UNHCR together with Mihaela Mangu from Association Anais.