MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI ȘI CERCETĂRII

Regional Refugee Response Plan
For the Ukraine Situation

Education Working Group Monthly Meeting
26 October 2023

Meeting Agenda

Agenda point	Time	Focal Point
1. MER updates regarding the enrollment numbers of Ukrainian children for the school year 2023/2024 in preschools and general education disaggregated by school level, sex, and directorate.	13:00 – 13:15	MER
2. EduTech Labs Guidance Note and mapping.	13:15 – 13:25	UNICEF
3. Presentation of the main findings of the needs assessment for refugee children with disabilities, conducted by UNICEF with the support of Lumos Foundation Moldova.	13:25 – 13:45	Lumos Foundation Moldova.
4. Partners Presentation	13:45 – 14:00	
5. AoB (RRP 2024 project submissions, ActivityInfo reporting)	14:00 – 14:15	UNICEF and UNHCR

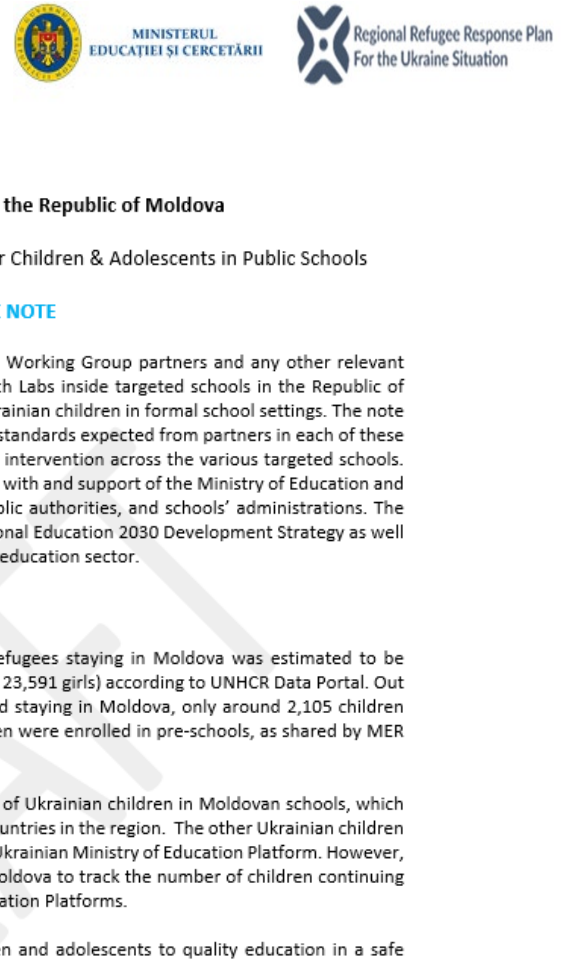
1. MER Updates on Ukrainian children enrollment in Moldovan Schools

MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI ȘI CERCETĂRII

Regional Refugee Response Plan For the Ukraine Situation

2. EduTech Lab Guidelines and Mapping

- Mapping tool updated.
- Any new schools to be covered must be consulted with MER and the Education Working Group co-chairs.
- EduTech labs Guidance Note
- Visibility and Branding



Ukraine Refugee Response in the Republic of Moldova

"EduTech Labs"- Safe Digital Learning Hubs for Children & Adolescents in Public Schools

GUIDANCE NOTE

This note is designed to guide the Refugee Education Working Group partners and any other relevant actors in establishing and operationalizing the EduTech Labs inside targeted schools in the Republic of Moldova, to promote and facilitate the inclusion of Ukrainian children in formal school settings. The note aims to clearly outline a minimum set of activities and standards expected from partners in each of these labs in an effort to ensure uniformity of the proposed intervention across the various targeted schools. The EduTech Labs are established in close coordination with and support of the Ministry of Education and Research (MER) of the Republic of Moldova, local public authorities, and schools' administrations. The EduTech labs intervention is directly linked to the National Education 2030 Development Strategy as well as the government and MER digitalization plans of the education sector.

1. Background:

In September 2023, the total number of Ukrainian refugees staying in Moldova was estimated to be 108,918 of which 48,826 are children (25,235 boys and 23,591 girls) according to UNHCR Data Portal. Out of the total number of refugee children registered and staying in Moldova, only around 2,105 children were officially enrolled in schools, of which 614 children were enrolled in pre-schools, as shared by MER in September 2023.

This amounts to an approximately 4% enrollment rate of Ukrainian children in Moldovan schools, which is the lowest rate in comparison to the other hosting countries in the region. The other Ukrainian children are believed to be at home, connected online with the Ukrainian Ministry of Education Platform. However, there are no monitoring mechanisms set in place in Moldova to track the number of children continuing their learning online via the Ukrainian Ministry of Education Platforms.

In an effort to ensure the access of Ukrainian children and adolescents to quality education in a safe protective learning environment, UNICEF and the Refugee Education Working Group partners are establishing EduTech Labs inside schools across Moldova.

2. What do EduTech Labs offer?

The EduTech Labs are digital hubs where children and adolescents receive:

1. **Online learning:** access to online learning platforms of the Ukrainian Ministry of Education through provision of the needed ICT equipment under the supervision of a dedicated teacher/ facilitator to ensure pupils' monitoring and mentoring whenever needed during or after the online classes.

GENERATE EVIDENCE ON REFUGEE CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO RELEVANT SERVICES BY CONDUCTING MAPPING AND ASSESSMENT OF INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

The goal: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services (education, social, health)

Planned duration:
19 June - 19 October 2023

Geographical coverage:
National

Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Objectives

Output 1 — Mapping of refugee Ukrainian children with disabilities and development of the research methodology

Output 2 — Initial individual assessment of needs of refugee Ukrainian children with disabilities

Output 3 — Complex assessment and identification of individual needs of children with disabilities

Implementation period

June 19 – July 25 → **July 25 – August 30** → **September 1 – October 19**

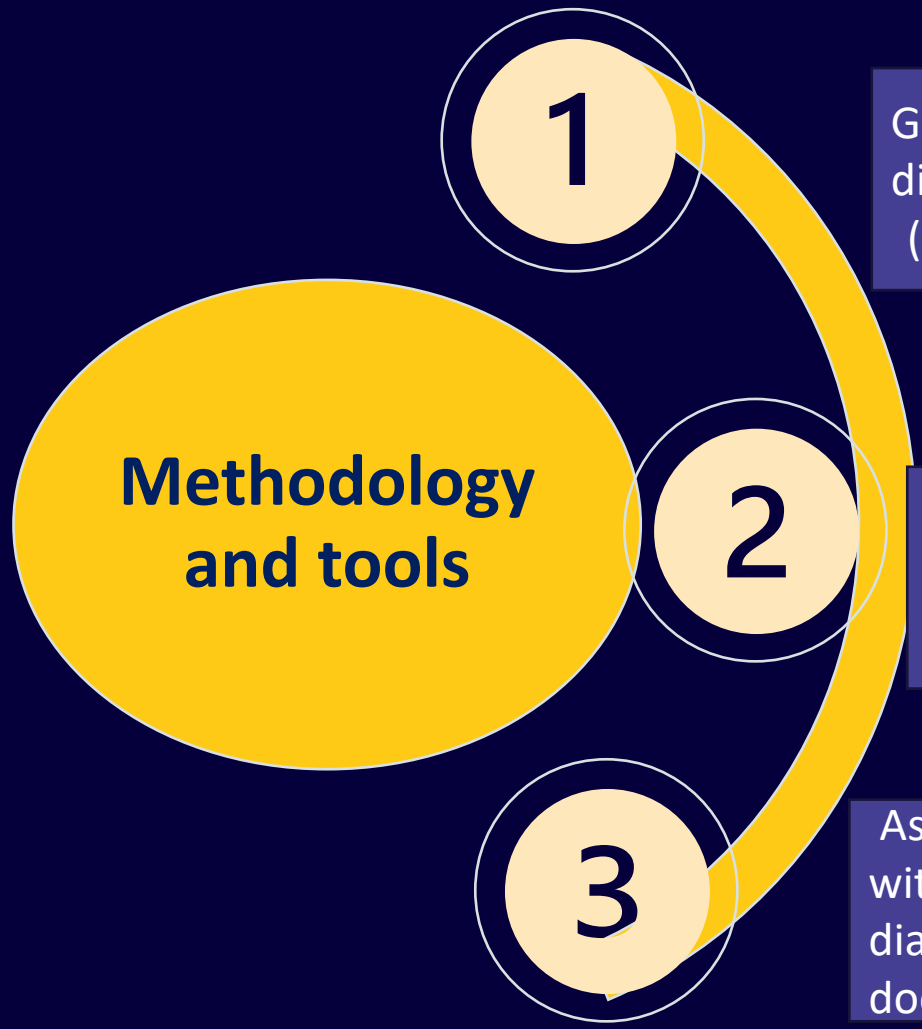
Target Group - Refugee Ukrainian children with disabilities

Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Implementation Partners

	National level		District level
1 2.	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection National Agency for Social Assistance (ANAS)	1.	Territorial structures for social assistance
3. 4.	Ministry of Education and Research Republican Centre for Psychopedagogical Assistance (CRAP)	2. 3.	Departments of education Psychopedagogical assistance services (SAP)
5. 6.	Ministry of Health Republican medical institutions	4.	Medical institutions
	UNHCR, OHCHR, Interagency Refugee Sub-Group on Disability		
	Parents / carers, Host families, Children		

Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs



General data regarding Ukrainian refugee children with disabilities who live on the territory of the Republic of Moldova (name of the child, city, type of disability, adress, caregiver,...) → Social community workers

Assessment of individual needs of the child with disabilities (General data, Health, Child functioning and developmental difficulties, Devices/equipment needed, Housing and income) → Education Specialists (PAS)

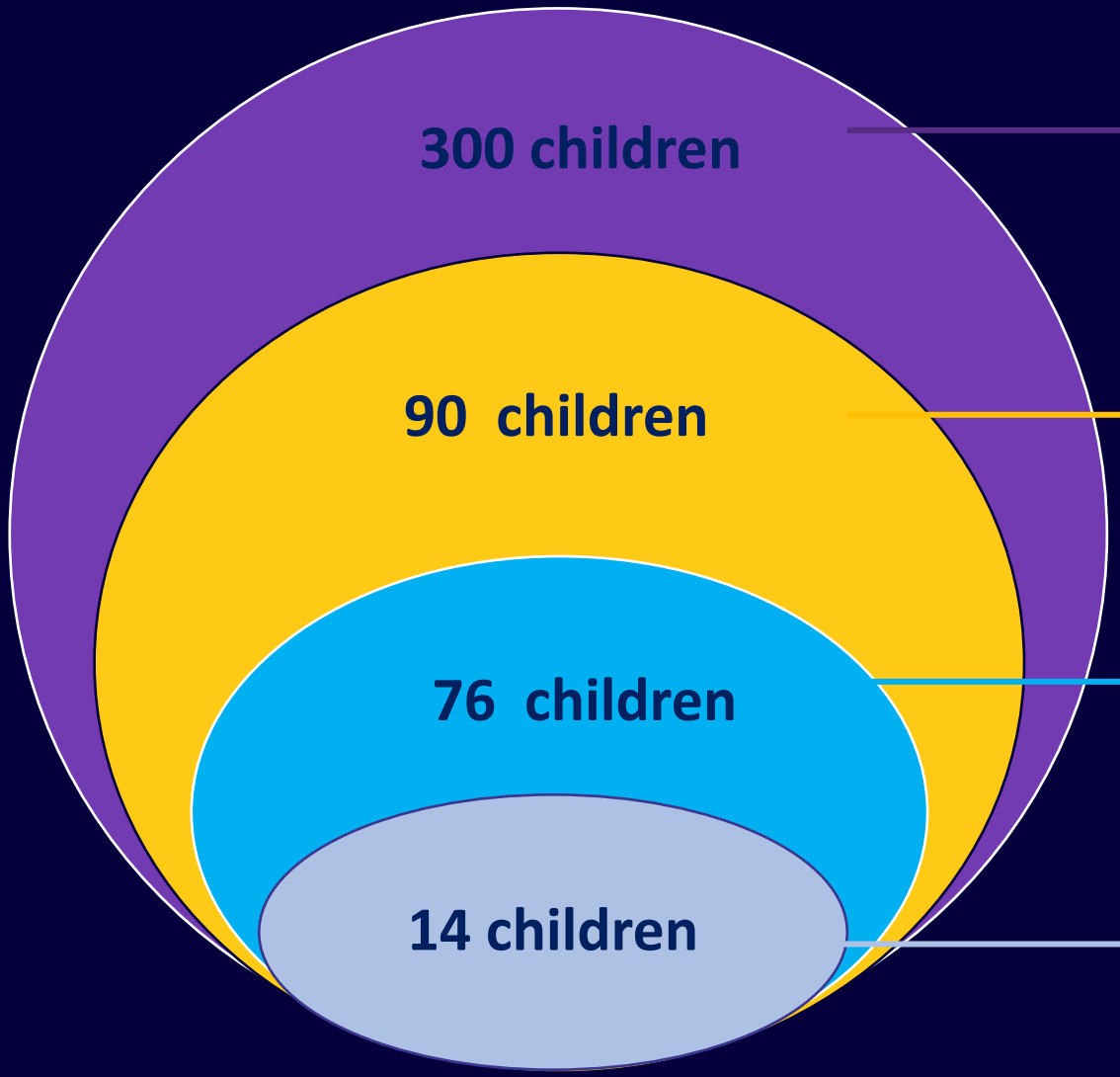
Assessment of individual health situation/ needs of the child with disabilities (general data of the child with disability, diagnosis, conclusions and recommendations of specialized doctors. → Specialized doctors

Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Project:

Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

RESULTS



Refugee Children with Disabilities (RCWD), planned for assessment out of 37 UTA

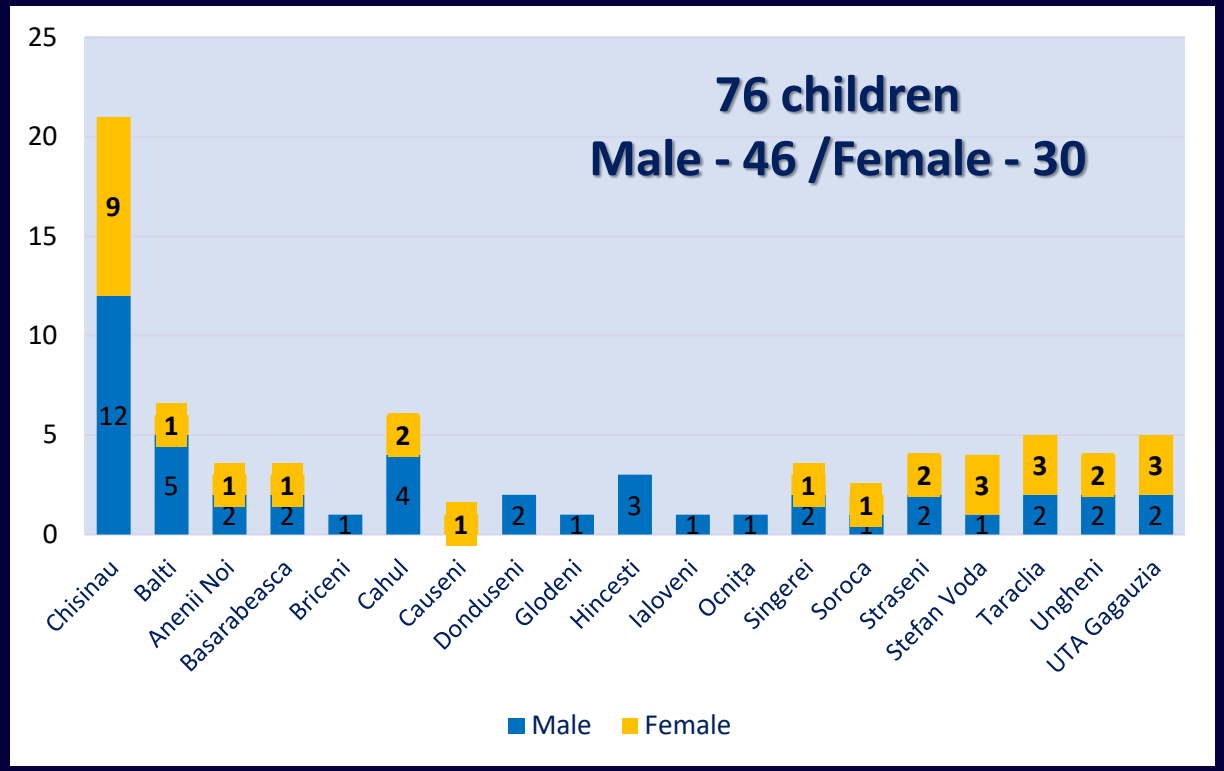
RCWD number, identified in the territory in 20 UTA

Consent for the assessment signed

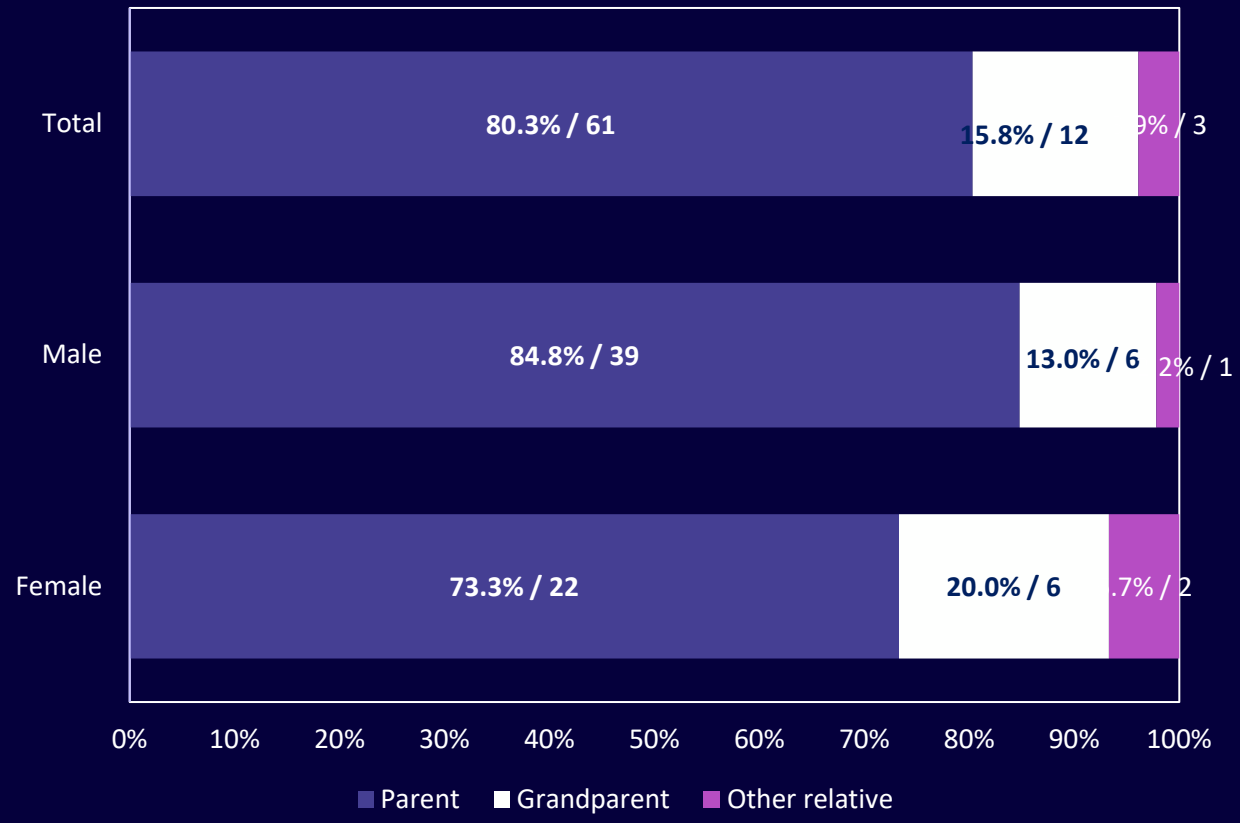
Parents/caregivers did not give the consent to the assessment

Mapping of CWD. General data.

District, where the child lives with the family



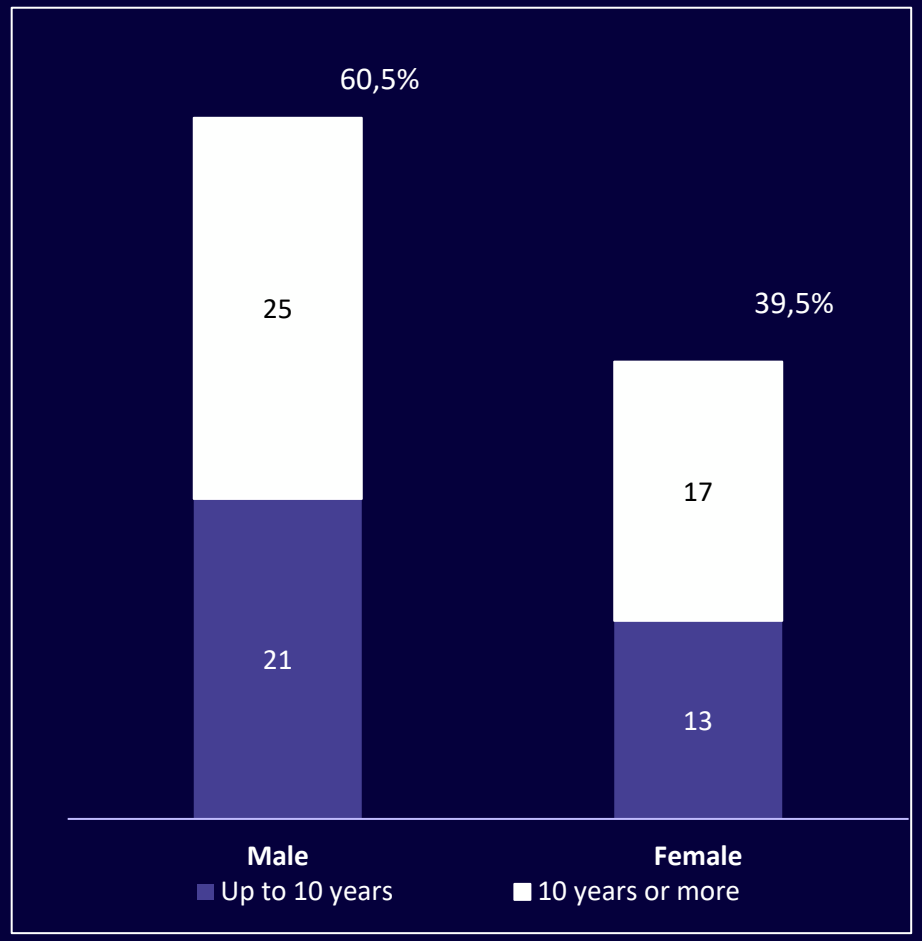
Relation of the caregivers to the child with disability



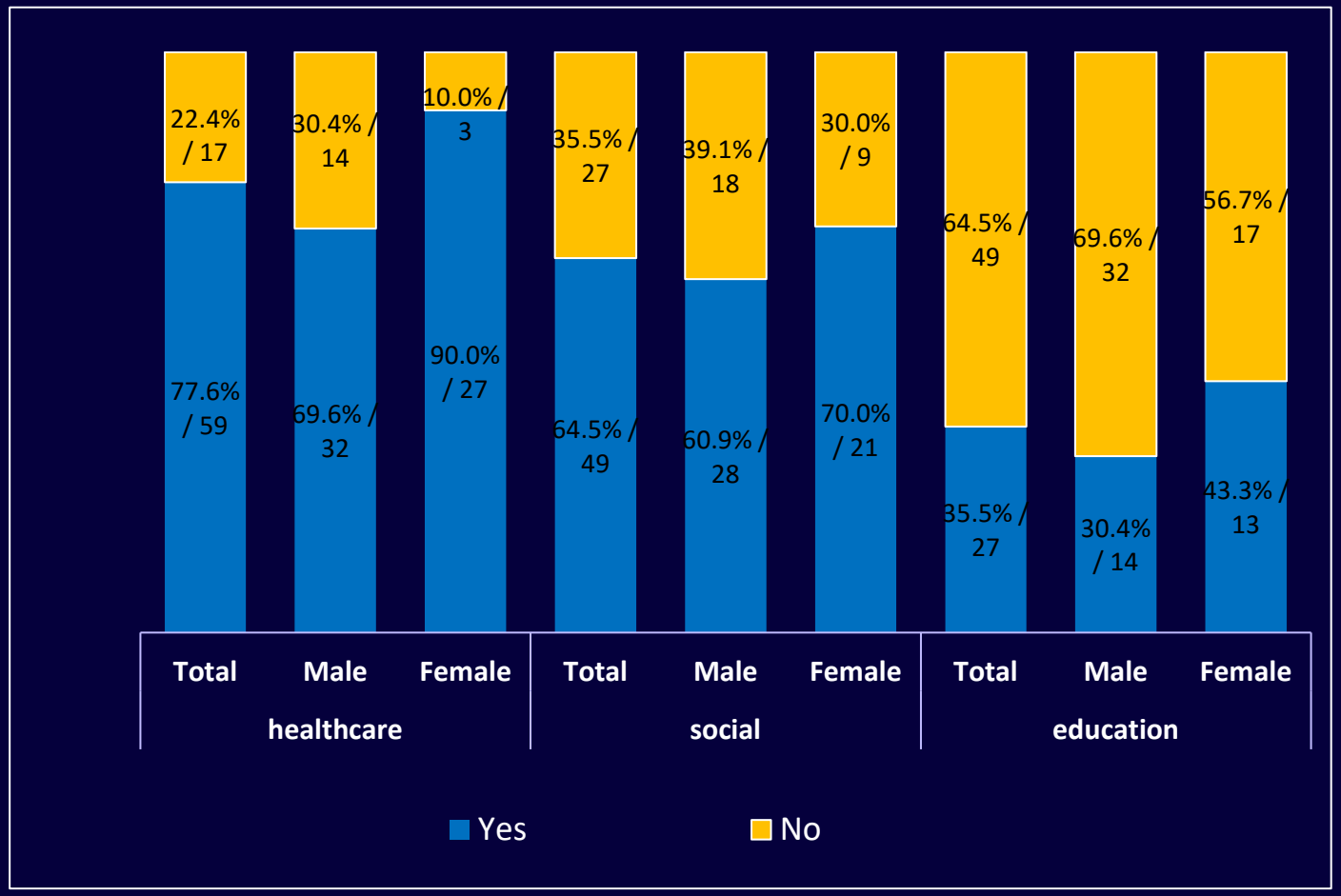
Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Assessment of individual needs of the child. General data.

Children's age

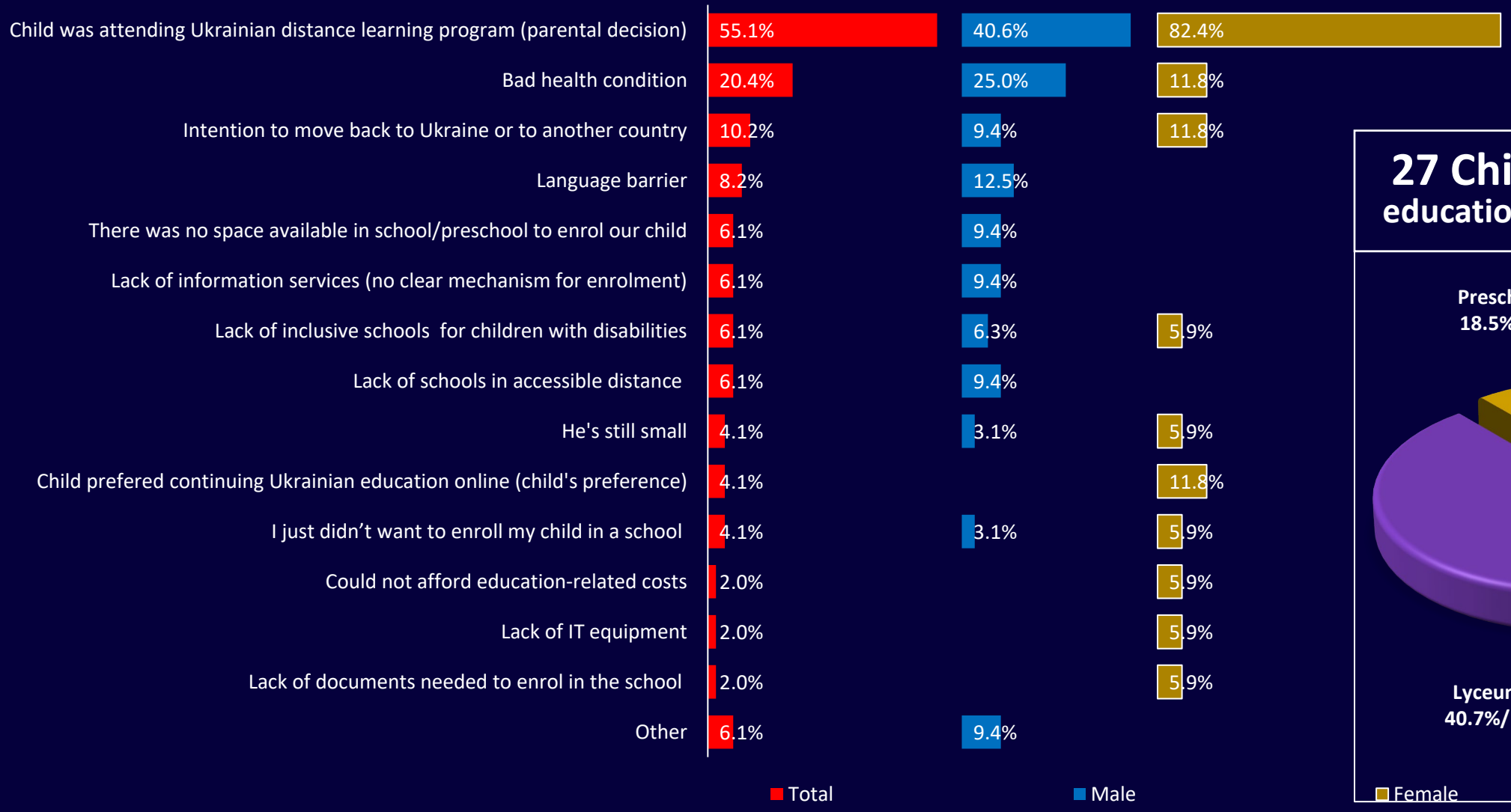


Children registered within the services from Moldova

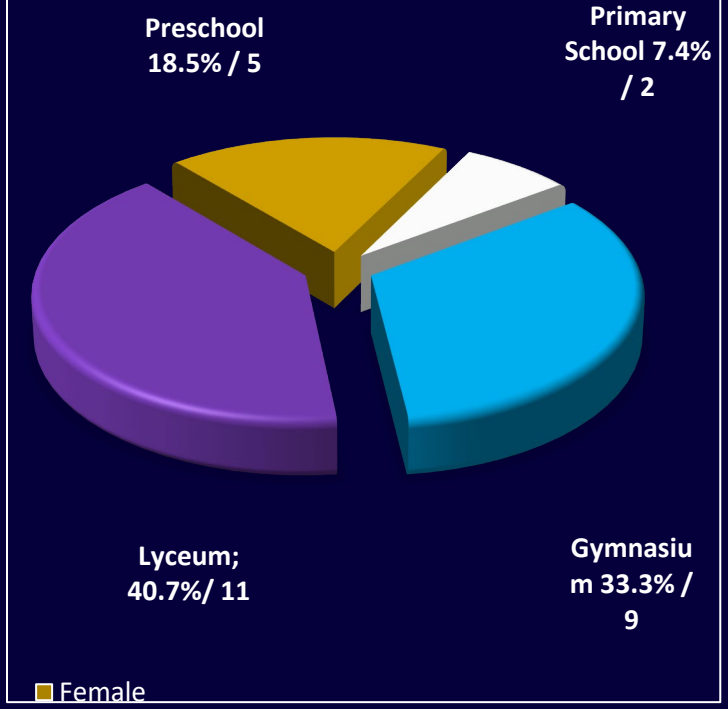


Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

The causes of non-registration of refugee children with disabilities in the education system of the RM



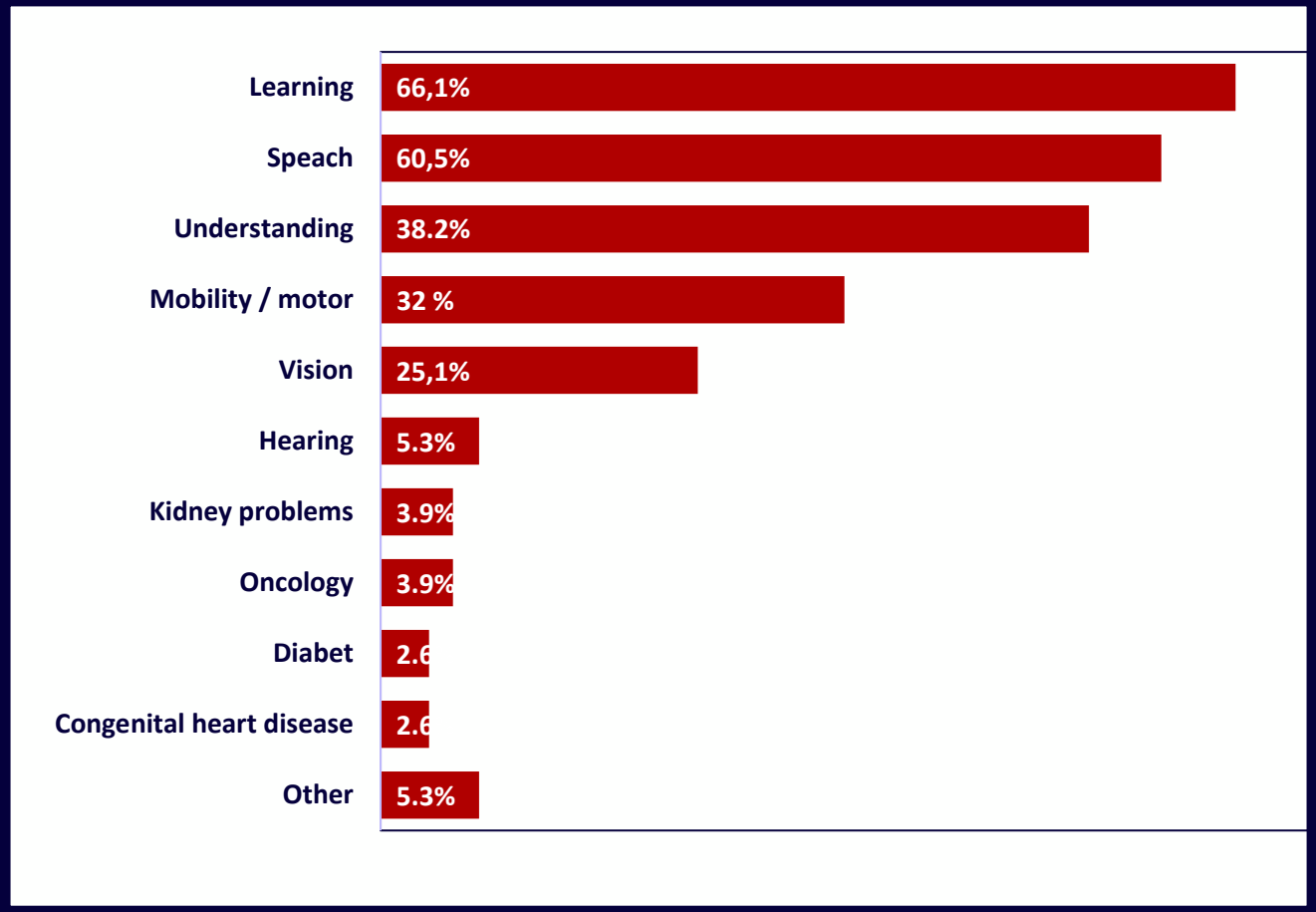
27 Children enrolled in educational institution from RM



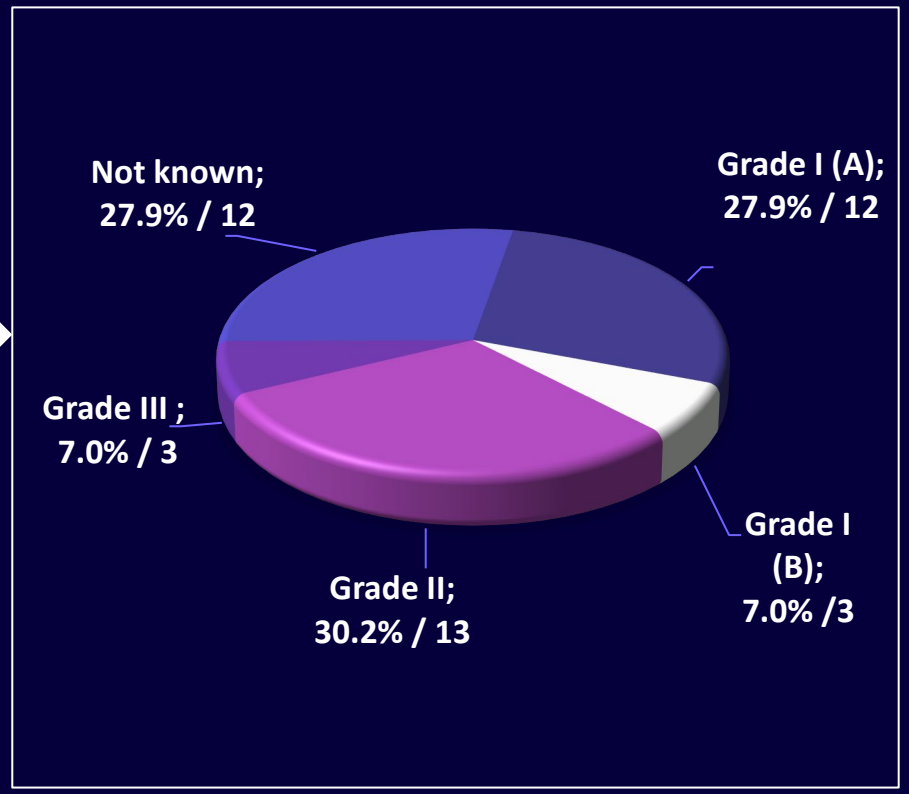
Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Assessment of individual needs of the child. Health.

Health problems of children



Disability grade of children

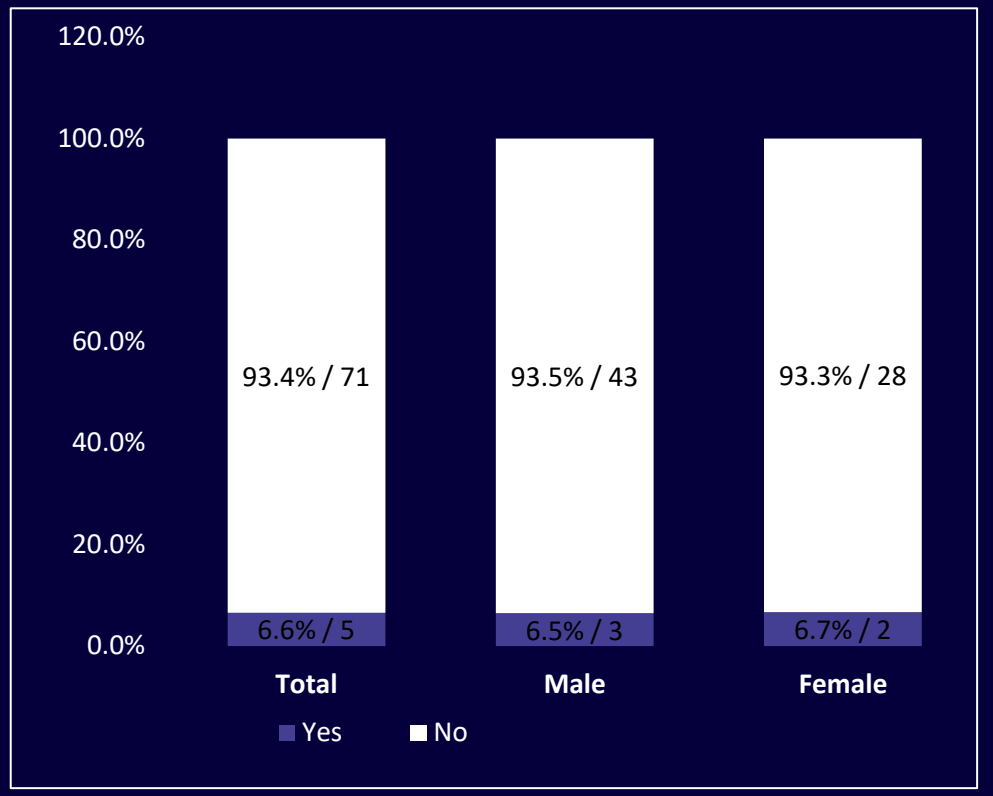


Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Assessment of individual needs of the child. Sensory (vision, hearing).

Vision impairments

Hearing difficulties



Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

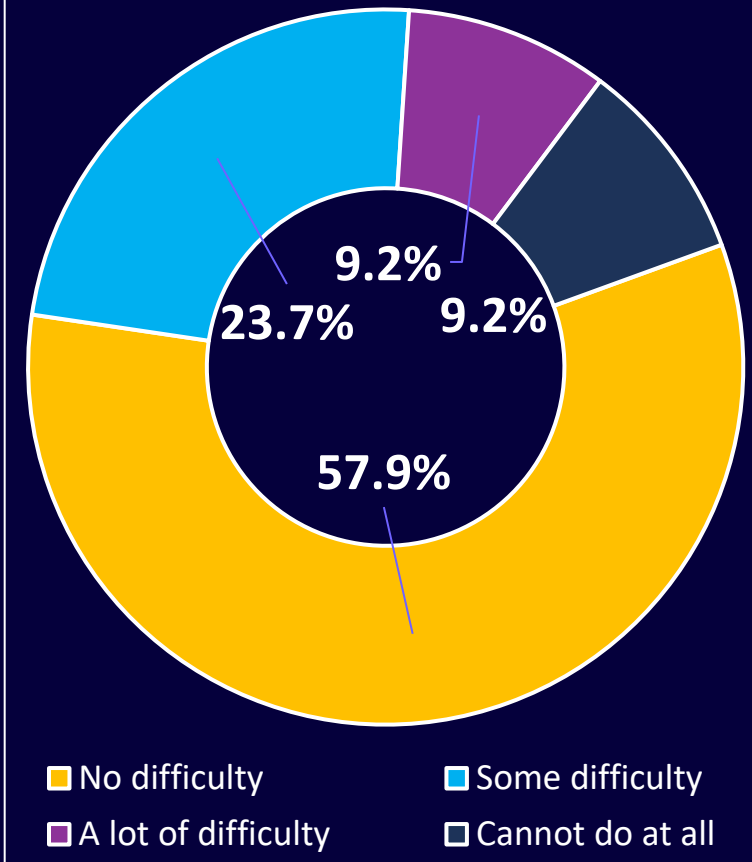
Assessment of individual needs of the child. Mobility/Motor.

Physical difficulty (-ies) mobility/motor

Use any equipment

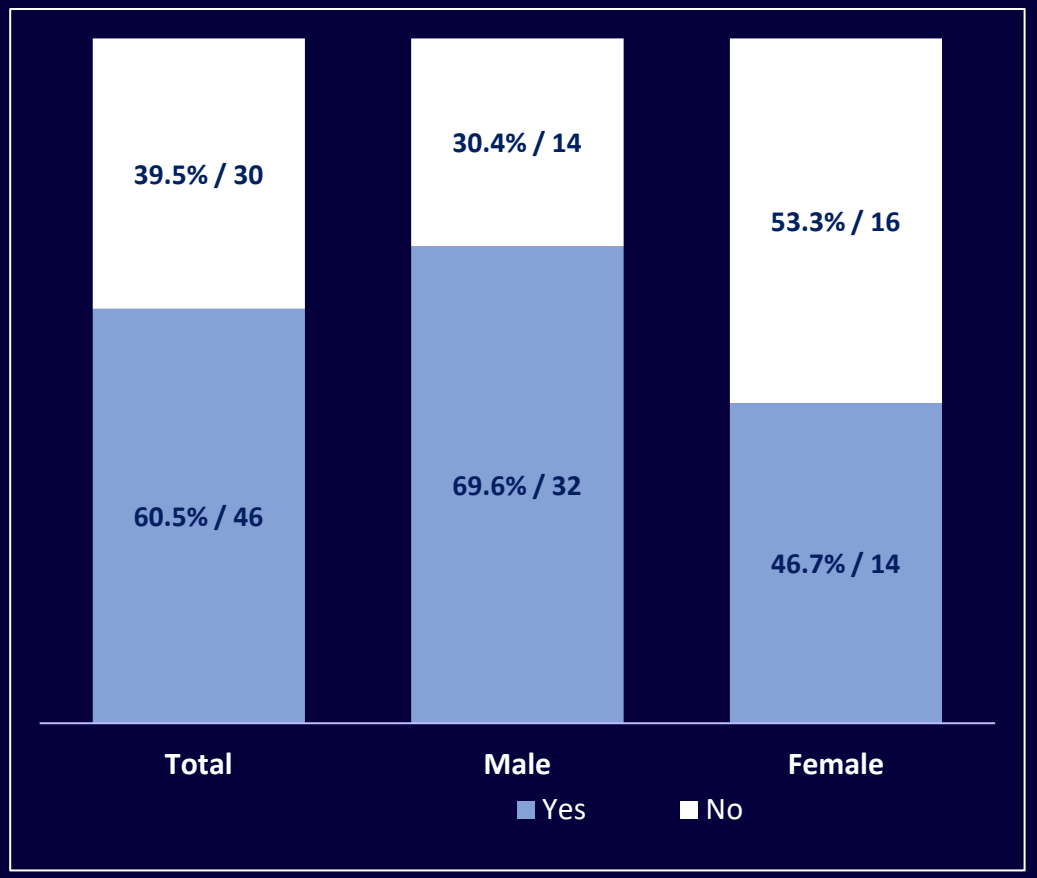
	No	Yes	IF YES: No	IF YES: Yes
Total	67.1% / 51	32.9% / 25	60.0% / 15	40.0% / 10
Male	73.9% / 34	26.1% / 12	58.3% / 7	41.7% / 5
Female	56.7% / 17	43.3% / 13	61.5% / 8	38.5% / 5

have difficulty with self-care such as feeding or dressing him/herself



Assessment of individual needs of the child. Speech&Communication.

Children with speech difficulties

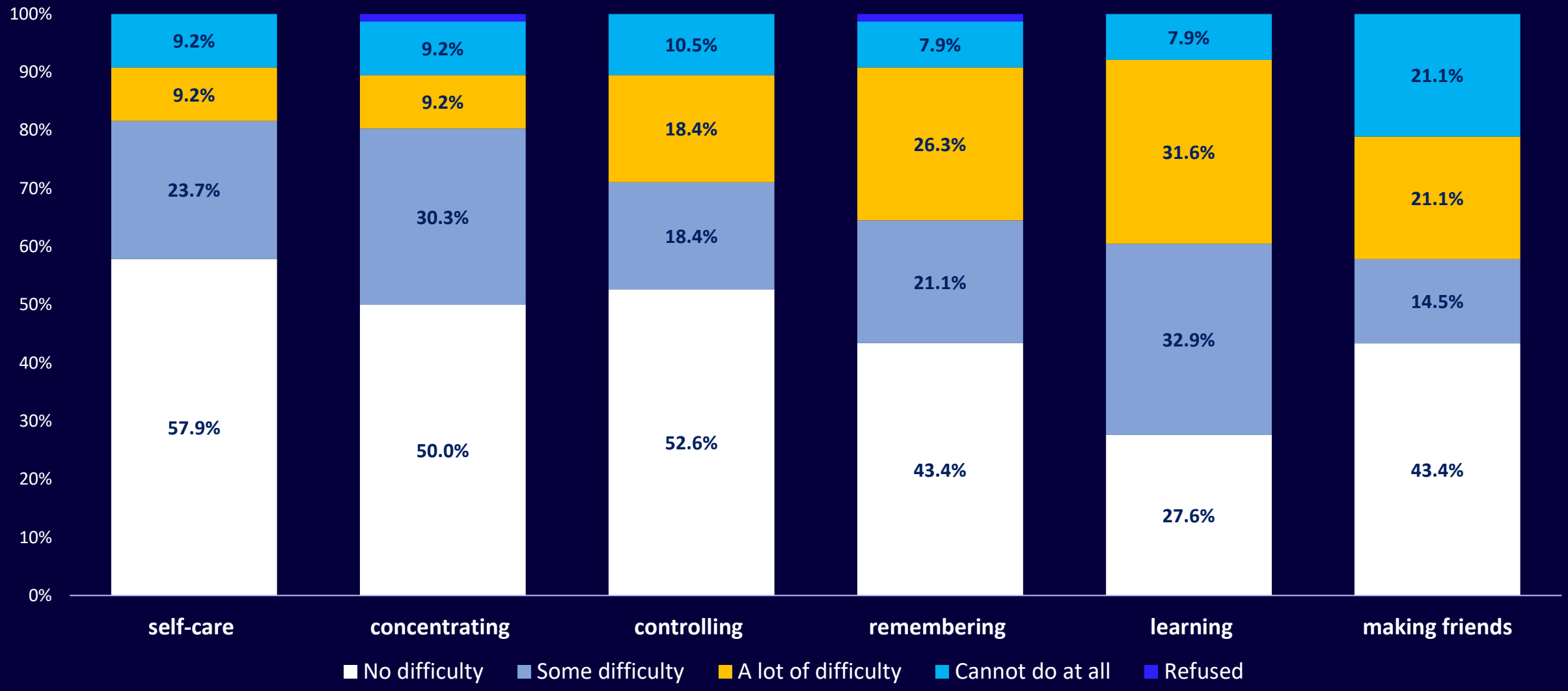


If yes

Children have difficulty being understood by people, when they speak					
		No difficulty	Some difficulty	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all
Total	**nr.**	**7**	**17**	**9**	**13**
	%	**15.20%**	**37.00%**	**19.60%**	**28.30%**
Male	nr.	4	10	7	11
	%	12.50%	31.30%	21.90%	34.40%
Female	nr.	3	7	2	2
	%	21.40%	50.00%	14.30%	14.30%

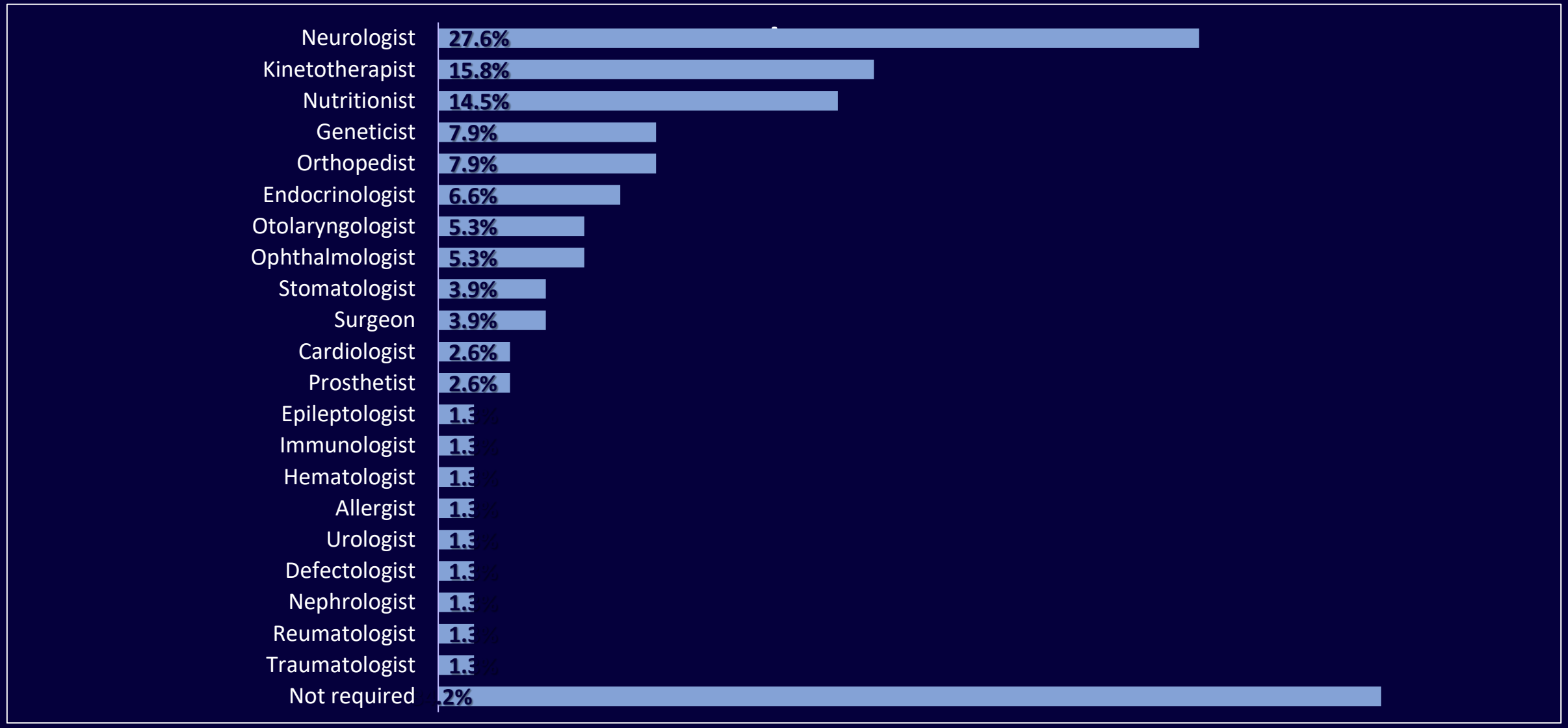
Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Assessment of individual needs of the children



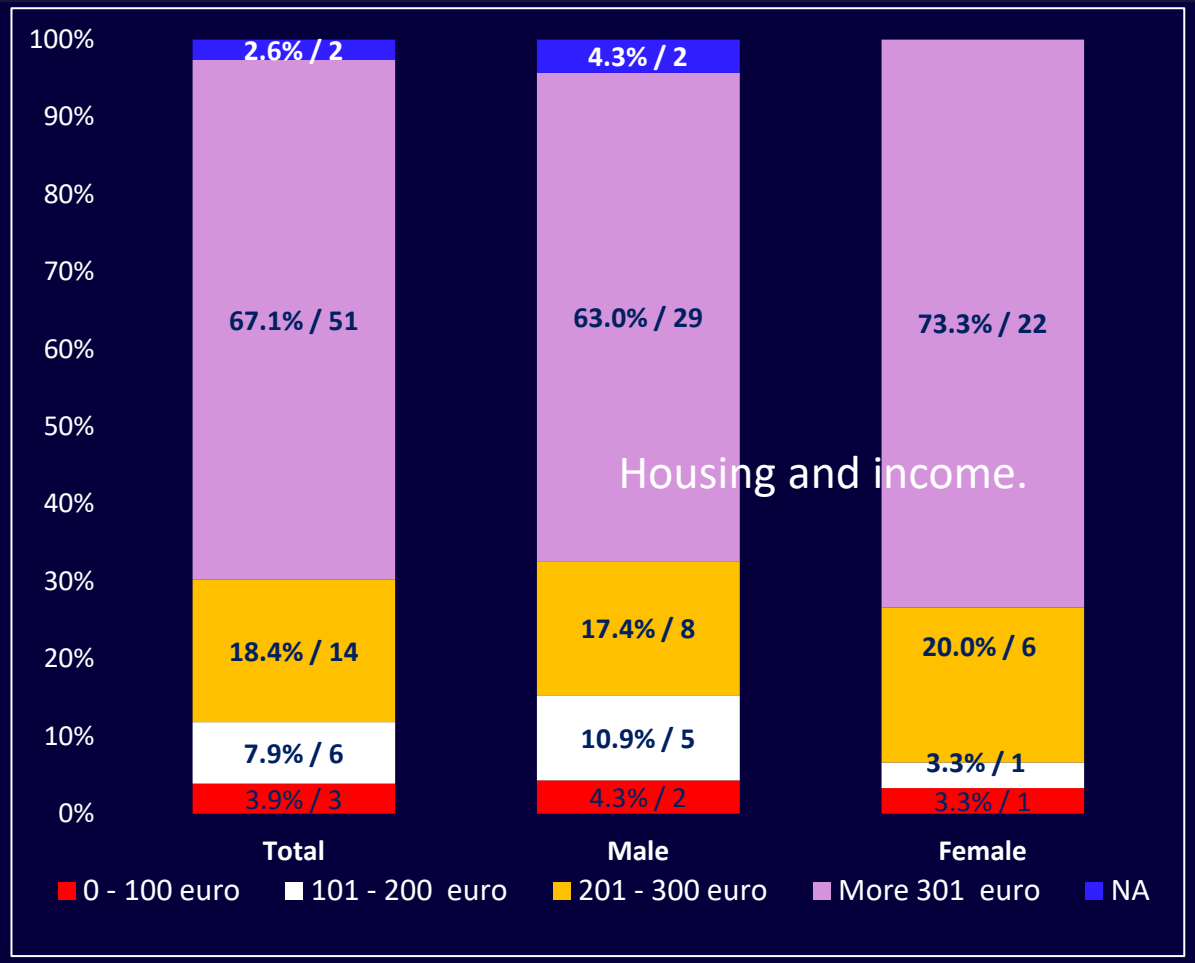
Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

The type of specialists requested for consultation of CWD



Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Assessment of individual needs of the children. Housing and income.

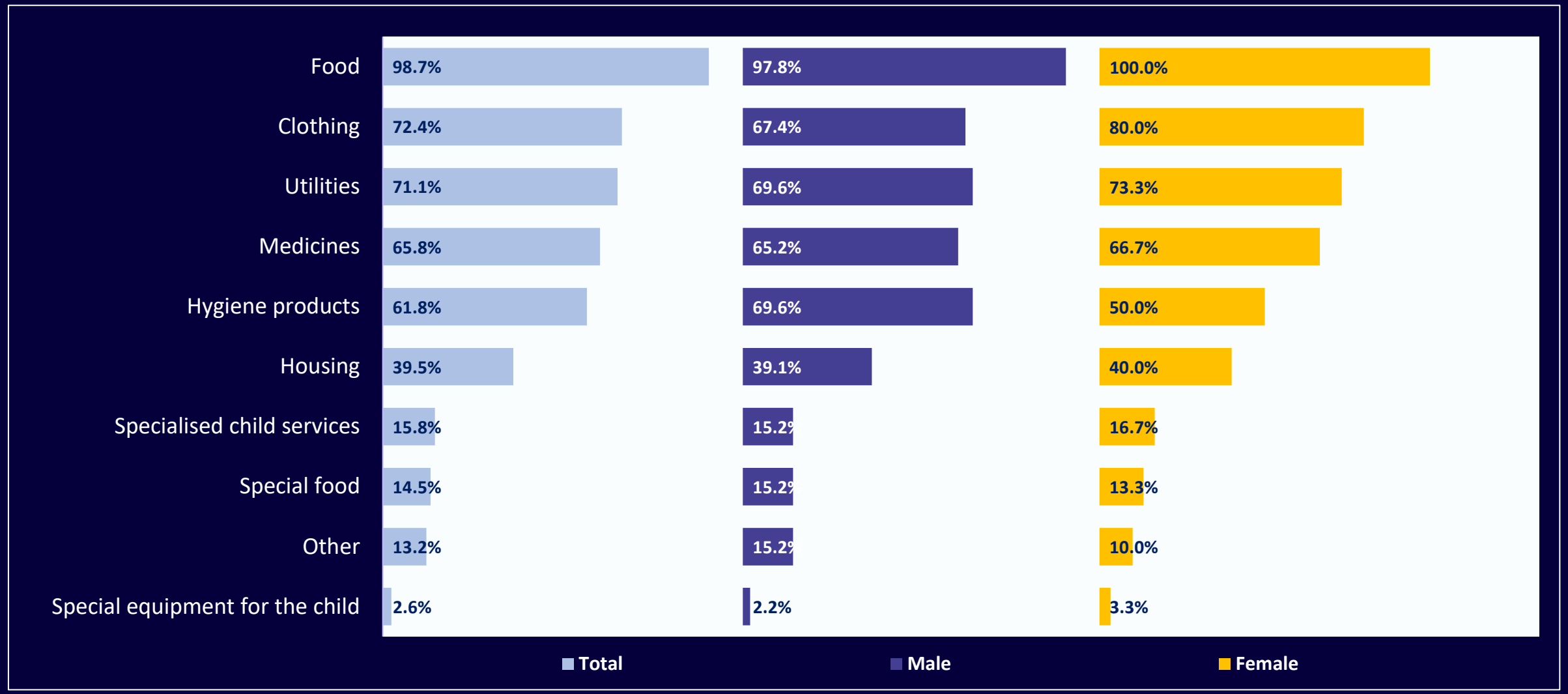


Refugee family income

Source(s) of family income

Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Type of expenses of refugee families



Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Medical examination of RCWD

76 children

5 Caregivers have left the territory of the Republic of Moldova

23 Caregivers refused or didn't come to the medical examination

48 Caregivers accepted the medical examination of CWD

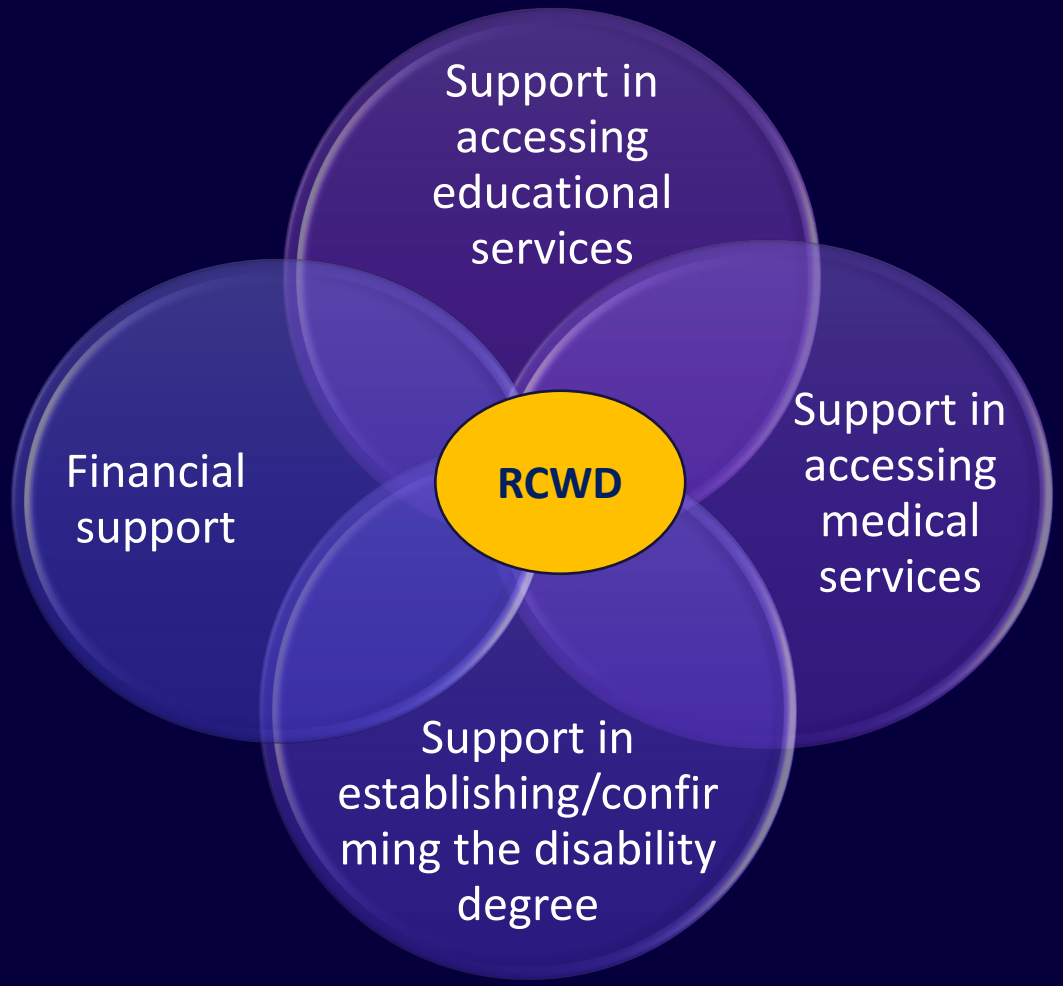
Medical specialists	Number of investigated children
Surgeon	2
Pediatrician	3
Audiologist	1
Speech therapist	18
Neurolgist	16
Dermatologist	4
Endocrinologist	4
Nephrologist	3
Cardiologist	4
Hematologist	2
Pulmonologist	1
Rheumatologist	1
Geneticist	1
Psychologist	12
Eye specialist	6
Pediatrician	48
Gastrologist	1
Neurologist	14
ENT specialist	1
Orthopedist	18
Allergist	2
Dentist	1
Gastrologist	1
Eye Specialist	2

Recommendations

Recommendations as a result of the medical examination

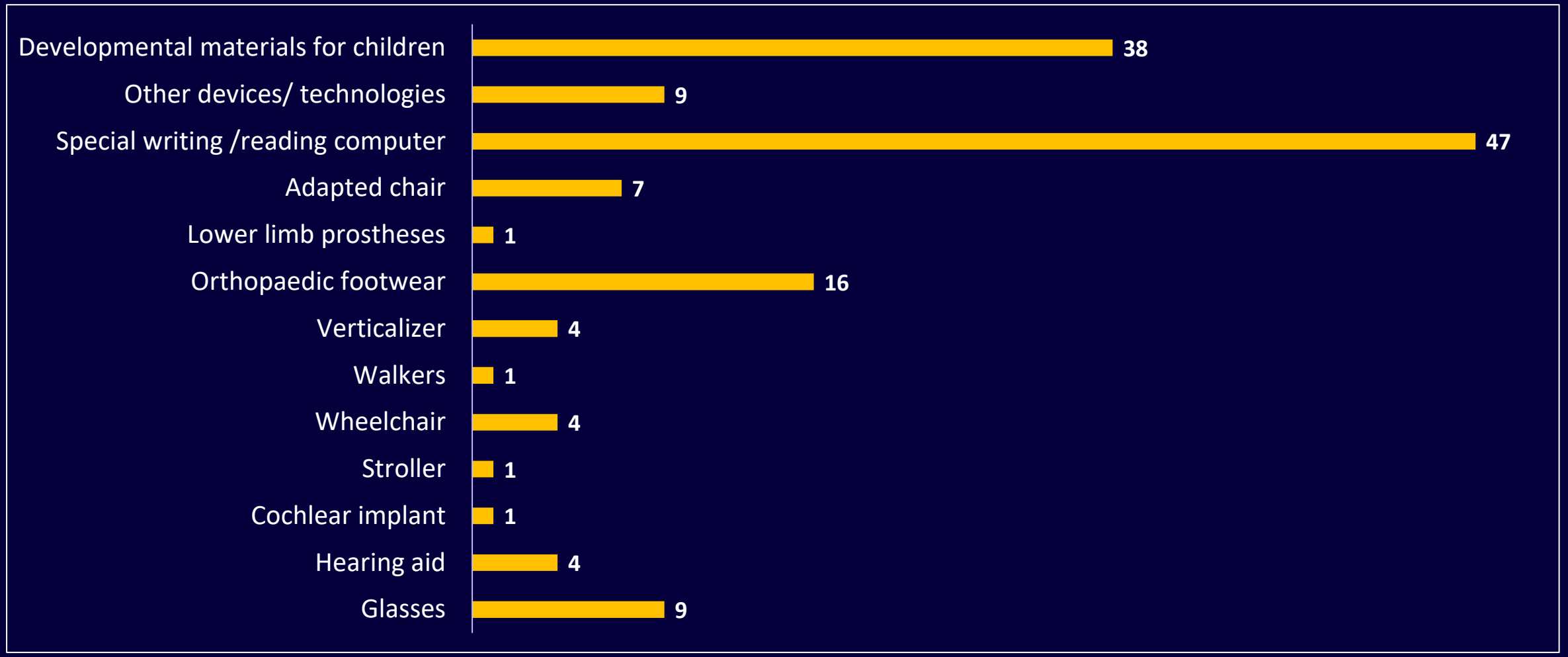
- **35** • Pharmaceutical treatment
- **42** • Recovery services, therapies, trainings
- **36** • Elaboration of an individualized educational plan

Other needs for 76 CWD and caregivers/parents



Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Type of devices/technologies that children with disabilities need (multiple choices) (76 CWD)



Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Conclusions

1. The Mapping of Ukrainian refugee children with disabilities was a very difficult and arduous process.
2. Assessments at all stages have shown that the records of refugees/displaced persons, including of children with disabilities, held by the state / governmental organisations / institutions were not accurate.
3. The Mapping Process found that many families migrate from one district of Moldova to another or even leave the country. This made the data collection process very complicated, and the task of the operators became extremely difficult.
4. Throughout the Mapping process of Ukrainian refugee children with disabilities, it was found that the coordination between social assistance and education structures both at the central level and at the level of territorial administrative units was not strong, particularly in regard to the records of refugee children.
5. The evaluation highlighted the lack of a systemic approach, the lack of a single system for recording, updating, monitoring, and tracking the movement of Ukrainian refugee children within the Republic of Moldova.
6. The causes of limited access to education, social and health services are multiple, the main one being the low involvement of parents in solving these problems and the uncertainty of their situation.
7. The needs identified in the evaluation process were diverse, complex and required a cross-sector approach and the involvement of competent authorities and institutions in prioritizing and solving them.

Recommendations (I)

1. To verify and unify the records of refugees/displaced persons, including of children with disabilities, held by the state / governmental organizations / institutions.
2. To ensure proper monitoring of the movements of refugees/ displaced families that migrates within the Republic of Moldova or leave our country.
3. To inform refugees, especially those who care for children with disabilities, and make them aware of the temporary protection status provisions available for displaced / refugee people.
4. To facilitate access to education, social and health services by stimulating involvement of parents in solving the issues faced by their children and families.

Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Recommendations (II)

5. To support refugee / displaced families with children with disabilities with:
   - Development of the Individual education plans for children based on a complex evaluation by professionals from the PPAS.
   - Accessing inclusive education services within the communities where refugee children with disabilities leave.
   - Referring to rehabilitation services, providers of occupational therapy.
   - Procurement of the equipment / materials required to facilitate the inclusion of children within the community education institutions (pre-schools and schools).
6. To involve authorities and competent structures in :
   - Establishment / confirmation of the disability degree / category for children.
   - Providing family support to families with children at risk.

Project: Generate evidence on refugee children with disabilities to improve access to relevant services by conducting mapping and assessment of individual needs

Education in Emergencies

PIN's Education activities in Moldova

People in Need

Alliance 2015
towards the eradication of poverty

AGENDA

- Introduction
- Projects
- Standards
- Community engagement

People in Need

Alliance 2015
towards the eradication of poverty

INTRODUCTION

- Present in Moldova since 2003 (20th anniversary this year).
- 4 sectors: Sustainability and environment, social protection, civil society and good governance.
- ERR department created in December 2021 with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Emergency response covering Protection, EiE and MPCA and Livelihoods.

PROJECTS

BRICKSS

Building Resilience in Children through Knowledge and Social Skills

- Pilot EiE project in Causeni.
- Digital Learning Center + Child Friendly Space with a partner CSO.
- September 2022 – December 2023.
- 173 beneficiaries.
- Ukrainian and Moldovan facilitators.

ADDI
ASOCIAȚIA PENTRU DEZVOLTARE DURABILĂ INTEGRATĂ

PROJECTS

DLC

CFS

PROJECTS

PLACE

- Consortium with ACTED, NRC and IMPACT.
- December 2022 – January 2024.
- Protection activities through 7 CSO partners.
- 2 CFS (Ocnita and Stefan Voda). Causeni CFS to be added in Jan 2024.
- 75 children attending daily (including one FCwD).
- SEL curriculum.

ASOCIAȚIA DE DEZVOLTARE DURABILĂ Generația PRO

PROJECTS

Caplani

Ocnita

PROJECTS

DEDAL

Delivering Education in Digital Areas for Learning

- Originally proposed as a PIN-funded project, will be potentially funded by EU in 2024.
- 5 public schools in Anenii Noi (1), Balti (1) Gagauzia (2), and Ocnita (1).
- DLC and CFS + Microlibrary in collaboration with BSF.
- Targeting 300 children.
- Social cohesion and Protection activities.

Bibliothèques Sans Frontières
Libraries Without Borders

PROJECT

School	District
Liceul Teoretic “Alexander Puskin”, Anenii Noi	Anenii Noi
Liceul Teoretic “Stefan cel Mare”, Balti	Balti
Liceul Teoretic “Nicolai Tretiakov”, Comrat	Gagauzia
Liceul Teoretic “Mihail Kachir”, Ceadir-Lunga	Gagauzia
Gimnaziul din Calarașeuca	Ocnita

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

- BookFest event: 2-3 September in Chisinau.
- MMU consultations for children in collaboration with CUAMM.
- Mobile CFS events in Causeni (150 participants), Stefan Voda and Ocnita.

STANDARDS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Field staff training

- Social Emotional Learning
- Safeguarding
- Child protection
- Teachers' well-being
- CFRM and safe referrals
- PIN Code of Conduct
- First aid and Psychological First Aid.

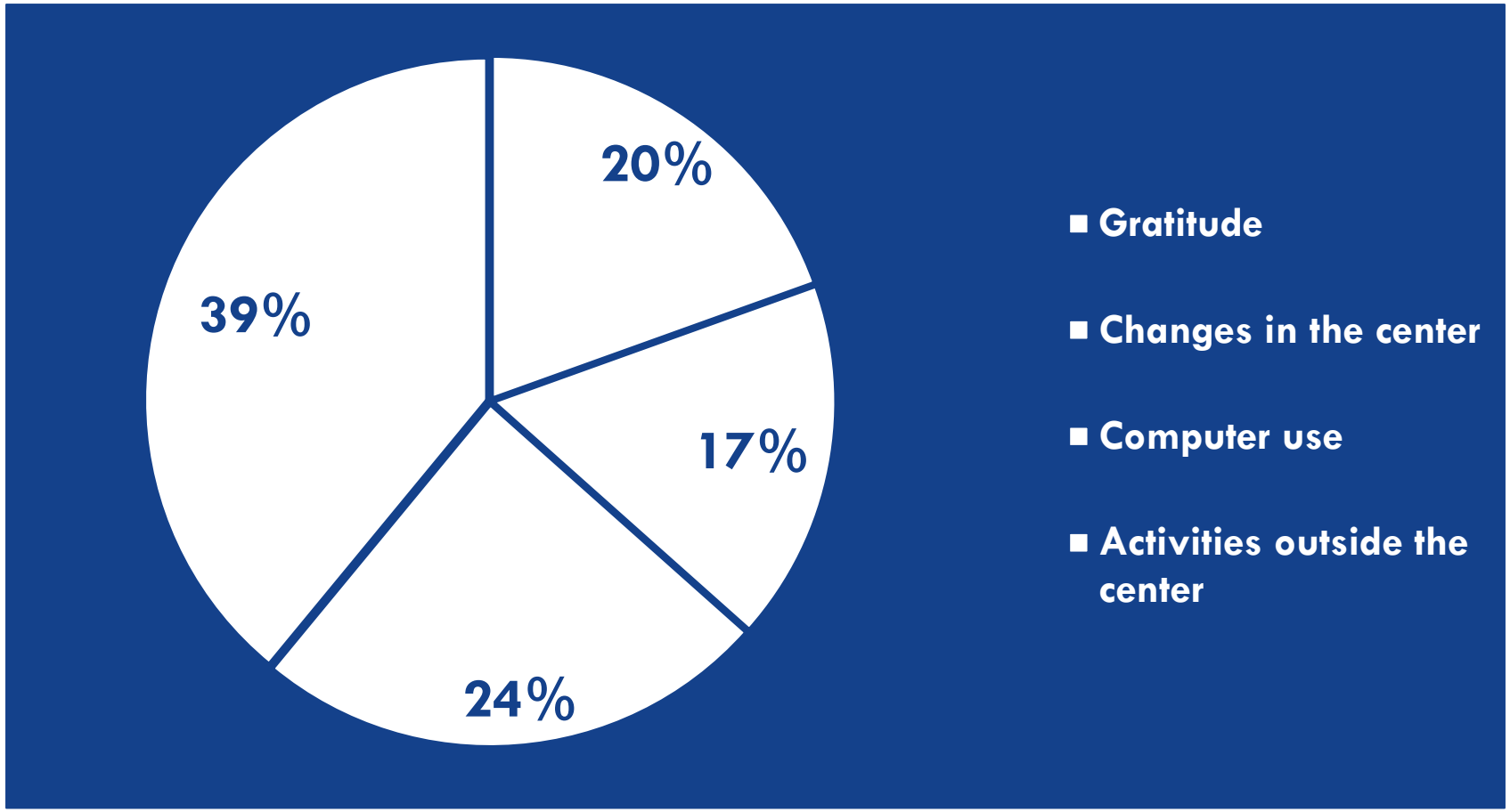
STANDARDS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Feedback channels

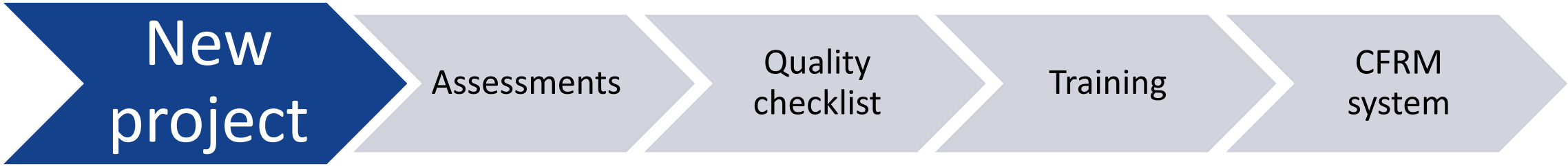
- Monitoring visits with facilitated interactive games and activities
- “Trust Box”
- Observation form and interviews with facilitators

STANDARDS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Trust Box feedback



STANDARDS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Thank you for your attention

People in Need

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5. AoB

RRP 2024:

- Sector response plan developed and shared with all partners based on the MER priorities for RRP 2024 and the sector consultations.
- Project submission completed
- Sector leads to review all project submitted on activity level to ensure no duplication or exceed initially identified targets (until November 15, 2023

ActivityInfo Reporting:

- Reporting for September activities is open between 25 October to 1 November 2023

Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) training :

- 11 workshops organized in different areas in Moldova between 3 and 30 November