



Otaci Local Refugee Coordination Forum Meeting at Municipal Hall

Meeting Details	
Date	19 06 2024 - Next meeting TBC
Time	11.00 – 12.00
Chair	Cuznetova Alexandra, Field Team
Reporting	Cazacu Andrei, Field Team
Email	cuznetov@unhcr.org / cazacu@unhcr.org
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction2. Recent Developments in Otaci BCP3. Activity updates4. A.O.B.	
Information collection and relevant links	
Participants	



Zavrotschii Dimitri – Mayor of Otaci

Iva Vavic – UNHCR

Cuznetova Alexandra – UNHCR

Cazacu Andrei – UNHCR

Covdii Rostislav - LCA (*CDA*)

Pavlenko Marharyta - Right to protection Ukraine

Yuliia Pavlenko - Right to protection Ukraine (online)

Carolina Untila – Helvetas (online)

Natalia Făureanu – BlueDot

Merjievski Serghei – IOM

Summary of discussions and agreements / action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
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<p>1. General updates from all humanitarian actors at OBS.</p>	<p>UNHCR greeted the participants, thanked them for their presence at the meeting, and introduced its new Operations officer. The UN agency informed that a stock of clothing is being distributed to persons in need as part of assistance programs.</p> <p>Dimitri Zavrotschii – Mayor of Otaci, informed that there have not been reported incidents in the past weeks. The flow of people crossing the border has remained unchanged over the past six months, but the number of people attempting to cross the border irregularly has increased. The Mayor greeted the support that UNICEF, CCF, and BlueDot are providing to children, as well as UNHCR and IOM, for launching several infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Natalia Făureanu– BlueDot highlighted that between May 16 and June 18, 178 people were assisted -including 133 adults and 45 children. Two men who had crossed the border irregularly were assisted. In the past month, 75 children participated in the children's activities conducted by the BlueDot -including child rights activities. Due to low attendance, activities designed for small children finished by the end of May. All equipment purchased during this project was handed over to the library.</p> <p>Marharyta Pavlenko - Right to Protection Ukraine informed that following an increase in the flow of arrivals from Kharkiv, Chernihiv, and Sumy, Currently, the numbers have decreased. Cars and buses are mostly observed, and most passengers claim to be going on vacation. The number of citizens crossing the border for the first time is low at the moment. There is an outflow of third-country nationals from Tajikistan, Turkey, and China who work in Ukraine. Some are allowed to cross, while others are refused entry because they have no valid reason to stay in Ukraine.</p> <p>Serghei Merjjevschi - IOM informed that during the reporting period, 12 beneficiaries were transported to Iași, and 108 received medical assistance. IOM receives frequent queries regarding airlifts and TP.</p>	
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Rostislav Covi - LCA(CDA) reported 149 assistances and 169 legal consultations within the past month. The most frequent questions presented to CDA are about temporary protection (TP) and vehicle regulations in Moldova and asylum requests. According to the organization, 38 men who crossed the border irregularly applied for asylum. There are four other cases where individuals refused to seek asylum and have been charged with irregular border crossing.

Detailed verification of individuals from third countries, such as Armenia and Tajikistan, is being maintained. Cooperation with Otaci City Hall and social assistance services continues.

Common questions from asylum seekers include where they can stay while their asylum application is being processed, as the General Inspectorate for Immigration (IGM) currently has no available space for many people, and there is no such facility in the north.