Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation

Refugee Response Plan

2025 Year End Report

Republic of Moldova

Cover photo: Republic of Moldova - Anastasia Dobrozjean, a refugee from Ukraine, stands with her family in Chișinău after benefiting from the Cash for Rent programme, which helped them secure safe housing and rebuild stability after fleeing the war in Ukraine.

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List of Acronyms

AAP – Accountability to Affected People
BNWG – Basic Needs Working Group
CP – Child Protection
CSC –Community Service Centers
CSOs – Civil Society Organizations
CWG – Cash Working Group
DATF – Disability and Age Task Force
EduTech – Education Technology Laboratories
GBV – Gender-Based Violence
IQTS – Investigation Qualification Training Scheme
LGBTIQ+ – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer/Questioning and others
LI WG – Livelihoods and Inclusion Working Group
LRCFs – Local Refugee Coordination Forums
MER – Ministry of Education and Research
MHPSS – Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MOI – Ministry of Internal Affairs
MLSP – Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
MoH – Ministry of Health
MPCA – Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance
MSNA – Multi-Sector Needs Assessment
NAPH – National Agency for Public Health
NEA – National Employment Agency
NFIs – Non-Food Items
I\NGOs – International \ Non-Governmental Organizations
NHIC – National Health Insurance Company
OPDs – Organizations of Persons with Disabilities
PDM – Post-Distribution Monitoring
PSEA\SEA – Protection from \ Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
PWG – Protection Working Group
RAIS – Refugee Assistance Information System
RACs – Refugee Accommodation Centers
REWG – Refugee Education Working Group
RRP – Refugee Response Plan
RTF – Roma Task Force
SADD – Sex and Age Disaggregated Data
SEIS – Socio-Economic Insights Survey
SOPs – Standard Operating Procedures
SWG – Sectoral Working Group
TiP – Trafficking in Persons
TP – Temporary Protection
TVET – Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UASC – Unaccompanied and Separated Children
WLOs – Women-Led Organizations

Foreword from the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection

In 2025, the Republic of Moldova continued to uphold a responsible and humane approach to supporting refugees from Ukraine, with particular attention to those facing heightened vulnerability. In a context shaped by the continued war in Ukraine and persistent regional uncertainty, sustained efforts were made to ensure refugees could access protection, assistance, and inclusion opportunities in dignity and safety.

Throughout the year, the response advanced further toward the inclusion of refugees within national systems and services, in line with Moldova's broader policy commitments and reform efforts. This progress was reflected in the continued implementation of Temporary Protection, the approval of the National Program on the Phased Integration of Foreigners, including Displaced Persons, in the Republic of Moldova, and the strengthening of the legislative and policy framework guiding refugee inclusion.

Particularly important was the continued expansion of access to public services and support mechanisms for refugees, especially in areas linked to social protection and community-based assistance. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection played an increasing role in delivering support to refugee children and their caregivers, including through child protection benefits, as well as in ensuring access to prevention and response services for gender-based violence. These efforts contributed not only to addressing urgent needs, but also to reinforce the capacity and responsiveness of national systems in ways that benefit both refugees and Moldovans.

During the year, refugees continued to access a range of services and entitlements through national mechanisms, including social support, family-related benefits, employment support, healthcare, education, and assistance linked to energy vulnerability. At the same time, continued investment in staff training, digital case management, and public service infrastructure helped strengthen the operational capacity of frontline institutions. With the support of United Nations agencies, national and international partners, and civil society organizations, Moldova continued to consolidate a response that is increasingly coherent, predictable, and embedded within public systems.

At the same time, sustaining this progress will require continued engagement and support. Moldova continues to strengthen its systems and capacities, actively addressing challenges related to human resources, service delivery, and housing, while advancing sustainable solutions that foster self-reliance and uphold high protection standards. As the response continues to transition from emergency support toward longer-term inclusion, international cooperation remains essential to preserving achievements and ensuring that inclusion is fully anchored within national systems.

Looking ahead, the Republic of Moldova will continue this course with responsibility and determination, supporting refugees as part of our communities and advancing an approach centred on protection, and social cohesion.

Natalia Plugaru
Minister of Labour and Social Protection

Foreword from UN Refugee Coordinator

Despite continued regional instability, the Republic of Moldova remained firm in its commitment to welcoming, protecting, and including refugees from Ukraine throughout 2025. Four years since the start of the full-scale war, Moldova continued to demonstrate solidarity and responsibility-sharing, while taking practical steps to support refugees and the communities hosting them. Throughout the year, the response increasingly focused not only on addressing urgent needs, but also on advancing inclusion within national systems and services.

At the same time, 2025 was marked by unprecedented reductions in humanitarian funding. The Refugee Response Plan received only 42 per cent of the required funding, at a time when needs remained persistent and the response context remained complex. This placed increasing pressure on humanitarian partners, public institutions, and local service providers, and required tighter prioritization across all sectors. Yet even in this constrained environment, the refugee response in Moldova continued to deliver meaningful support to those most in need.

In 2025, Refugee Response Plan partners collectively supported 74,681 refugees and vulnerable members of the host community across the country. Assistance continued across protection, child protection, gender- based violence prevention and response, education, health, cash, and basic needs, while targeted support was maintained for those facing heightened vulnerabilities. These efforts helped preserve access to essential services, reinforce referral pathways, and support the most vulnerable, while also contributing to inclusion and social cohesion at community level.

Important progress was also made in strengthening the national framework for refugee inclusion. The adoption of the “National Program on the Phased Integration of Foreigners, including Displaced Persons in the Republic of Moldova (2025–2027)” marked a step in anchoring refugee inclusion more firmly within Moldova’s national policy agenda. This was complemented by continued implementation of Temporary Protection and by more actionable sectoral efforts to support inclusion in education, health, social protection, and other public systems. This progress also reflects the sustained commitment and leadership of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, working together with local public authorities, in sustaining an inclusive and nationally grounded refugee response.

Throughout 2025, close cooperation between public institutions, humanitarian partners, civil society, and refugee-led organizations remained central to preserving access to protection, services, and opportunities for refugees and host communities. Taken together, these developments reflect a gradual shift toward greater national ownership, while the response continues to rely on humanitarian support in critical areas.

As the Refugee Response Plan enters its final year in 2026, its role will be to help bridge this transition by continuing to provide humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable, while strengthening state capacity and supporting a more sustainable, nationally led response. Refugees are not only people in need of protection, but also contributors to Moldova’s economy and communities. In this light, refugee inclusion should be understood in full strategic terms, as an investment in Moldova’s resilience and development. Together, we must ensure that displaced people can enjoy their rights, rebuild their lives in dignity, and contribute meaningfully to Moldova’s society and its future.

Katja Saha
UN Refugee Coordinator

2025 Refugee Response Results in Figures

Data as of 31 Dec 2025

74,681 people reached by RRP in 2025

148,995 Ukrainian refugees in Moldova

1,238,234 Arrivals from Ukraine since February 2022

13,788 Third-Country Nationals from Ukraine in Moldova

86,585 Temporary Protection Holders

Funding level

205,5 M total pledged

$ 85,89 M (42%*) funds received*

* As reported in the Refugee Funding Tracker.

	Recieved	Pledged
Basic needs (includes In-kind, Shelter, Wash, Food Security, Multi-purpose Cash)	$ 44,35 M	$ 89,3 M
Education	$ 3,92 M	$ 13,1 M
Protection (Including GBV & CP)	$ 22,91 M	$ 38,4 M
Health & Nutrition (includes MHPSS)	$ 9,18 M	$ 28,8 M
Livelihood & Socio-economic Inclusion	$ 4,23 M	$ 35,9 M
No sectoral split / Others	$ 1,30 M	

Support to the Government

3,762 trained government officials

Support to Host Community

41,500 people from the host community reached

People Reached by Sector

Basic Needs
39,317

Education
30,725

Protection
36,287

Livelihoods & Socioeconomic Inclusion
11,081

Health & Nutrition
29,657

Child Protection
52,528

Gender-based violence
42,337

Executive Summary

National Overview

In 2025, the Republic of Moldova continued its gradual transition toward a more sustainable and nationally anchored model of refugee inclusion, while maintaining protection and essential assistance for refugees from Ukraine amid constrained funding and continued regional volatility. Inter-agency efforts focused on preserving lifesaving and protection support for the most vulnerable, while progressively aligning response interventions with Government-led frameworks and national systems. This shift was closely linked to the growing role of Moldovan public institutions, whose infrastructure, personnel, and technical expertise remained central to delivering protection, services, and inclusion support across the country.

A major milestone during the year was the Government's approval and initial implementation of the National Program for the Integration of Foreigners (2025–2027), aligned with the National Development Plan, establishing a comprehensive policy framework for access to services, language learning, vocational training, housing, and labour market participation, including measures on recognition of qualifications. While resource availability remains a determining factor for full implementation, the program provides a common reference point for coordinating humanitarian and development investments around nationally defined inclusion priorities. In parallel, legal predictability was further reinforced through the initiation of the extension of Temporary Protection until March 2027, ensuring continued access to core services and legal stay for displaced persons from Ukraine.

To translate policy commitments into operational action, coordination mechanisms were adapted to support the transition agenda. The Inclusion and Solutions Working Group, established under the Refugee Coordination Forum and co-chaired by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, strengthened strategic dialogue between humanitarian and development actors, and developed an action plan aligned with the National Program. At local level, Local Refugee Coordination Forums continued to serve as key platforms for engagement between authorities, civil society, and refugee communities, with progressive handover of leadership to national organizations in several rayons. Local public authorities played an increasingly visible role in this process, helping translate national policy commitments into practical community-level engagement, service coordination, and social cohesion efforts.

Sectoral inclusion advanced across key systems. In education, the Ministry of Education and Research, within the framework of the Education Working Group, rolled out the Roadmap for the Integration of Refugee Children into the national education system, addressing enrolment, language support, teacher capacity, and targeted infrastructure needs, alongside improved monitoring through integration of education data into Temporary Protection processes. This progress relied on the national education infrastructure and the daily engagement of school administrations, teachers, and local authorities, whose role remained essential to moving refugee inclusion from parallel support toward participation in the regular education system. In health, access pathways through the national system were strengthened through family doctor registration, dissemination of entitlements under Temporary Protection, targeted service delivery, and vaccination outreach. Hospitals, primary health care facilities, family doctors, and public health services continued to serve as the main platform for refugee access to health care, with international support complementing the capacities maintained through the national system. National policy frameworks were further strengthened to include refugee survivors of gender-based violence and refugee children at risk within access to life-saving protection services, including safe shelter, child protection and GBV case management, social services and prevention and response programs. Across these areas, the contribution of social workers, protection specialists, child protection professionals, medical personnel, teachers, border police, migration officials, and public servants remained a core part of the response.

Despite sustained progress, underfunding constrained assistance, reduced coverage, and accelerated the transition at a pace that available resources could not fully support. Structural barriers to employment, persistent vulnerabilities among specific population groups, and pressure on Refugee Accommodation Centres limited the pace of socio-economic inclusion. Reduced operational capacity at key border entry points also highlighted preparedness risks amid continued volatility in Ukraine.

As Moldova looks ahead, priorities remain focused on consolidating national inclusion policies, strengthening socio-economic participation, and reinforcing social systems through predictable, multi-year financing and strengthened partnerships, to ensure that refugee inclusion progresses in a sustainable, dignified, and nationally led manner.

Key Achievements

In 2025, 62 Refugee Response Plan Partners in Moldova continued to deliver assistance and advance inclusion for refugees and vulnerable host community members, jointly reaching 74,681[1] individuals despite a significantly constrained funding environment.

Protection outcomes remained central to the response. The extension of Temporary Protection status until March 2027 ensured continuity of access to core services for 86,585 refugees from Ukraine. Protection partners provided legal assistance to 4,823 individuals and delivered case management to 16,686 people with specific needs. Protection actors maintained close cooperation with national authorities, particularly in border and access-to-territory monitoring, asylum procedures, and prevention of protection risks. 52,528 children and caregivers have benefitted from child protection services, including strengthened social services for refugees and family support measures. A total of 32,934 children and caregivers accessed MHPSS, while in the Left Bank of the Nistru River 3,079 professionals were trained on child protection case management. At the same time, in line with the priorities of the National GBV Program and in coordination with the National Agency to Prevent and Combat Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence, GBV programs covered refugees across both banks in Moldova through GBV prevention and response services, reaching 42,337 people.

In education, RRP partners supported the Ministry of Education and Research in advancing the integration of refugee children into the education systems. As of December 2025, 3,623 refugee children were enrolled in formal education[2], supported by language classes, teacher capacity-building initiatives reaching 3,694 educators, and targeted infrastructure improvements in 6 schools. Complementary non-formal education activities reached 30,605 children and adolescents through learning support, psychosocial services, and inclusion programs.

Health interventions focused on strengthening access within the national system while maintaining targeted outreach. Under Temporary Protection, 16,100 refugees were supported in registering with family doctors and accessing medical services. Partners facilitated 6,188 medical consultations and specialized referrals, while vaccination campaigns reached 119,184 individuals, including children and high-risk groups. Training programs strengthened the capacity of 8,647 healthcare providers to deliver inclusive and refugee-responsive services.

Socio-economic inclusion efforts remained one of the key pillars of the response. In terms of employment-related activities, 2,016 refugees benefited from employment counselling, vocational training, and skills development initiatives, while 553 individuals accessed entrepreneurship and financial inclusion support. Livelihood programs facilitated 259 job placements and income-generating opportunities, complemented by childcare and social support services enabling women and caregivers to participate in the labour market.

Across sectors, community engagement and localization advanced through strengthened Local Refugee Coordination Forums in 8 regions and expanding leadership of national and local organizations. RCF capacity-building initiatives supported 32 partners to lead coordination, advocacy, and inclusion efforts at sub-national level.

Despite ongoing funding limitations, the collective achievements of the RRP in 2025 demonstrate sustained commitment to protecting refugees while advancing nationally led inclusion and solutions pathways. Continued investment in social systems and community-based structures will remain essential to consolidate progress and support a durable transition in the year ahead.

[1] The total number reached to 87,600 when including 12,000 host community members supported outside the RRP population target, as reflected in the Regional 2025 RRP Year-End Report.
[2] This includes only data from the Right Bank of Moldova. While refugee children also attend education on the Left Bank, there are no official enrollment records.

Gaps and challenges

Despite the progress toward nationally led refugee inclusion and solutions in 2025, the refugee response in Moldova faced structural and financial challenges that constrained the scale, quality, and sustainability of assistance. Underfunding remained the most critical limiting factor across sectors, directly affecting partners' ability to maintain predictable support and sustain integration-oriented programming. While cash-based interventions increasingly served as the most flexible and cost-efficient modality to mitigate immediate risks, this shift was accompanied by tighter prioritization and a gradual reduction in overall coverage, leaving a growing number of vulnerable refugees with reduced or intermittent assistance and facing increased protection risks, including GBV.

Although Government leadership on refugee inclusion strengthened through the adoption of national policy frameworks, progress toward durable solutions remained constrained by limited fiscal space and competing national priorities. The capacity of public systems to absorb additional recurrent costs continued to be restricted, resulting in sustained reliance on shrinking humanitarian resources to bridge essential services during the transition phase. This context has placed increasing pressure on local civil society organizations to fill critical service gaps, often without sustained and predictable funding.

Operational preparedness was also affected by resource constraints. Reduced presence and capacity at key border entry points, including Otaci and Palanca, weakened surge capacity amid continued volatility in Ukraine. Refugee Accommodation Centres continued to face structural challenges despite a reduction in the number of facilities. A remaining cohort of residents with high dependency needs and limited prospects for self-reliance encountered persistent barriers to securing sustainable housing solutions. Funding limitations constrained the ability to maintain adequate service standards and dignified living conditions, particularly for individuals with complex vulnerabilities.

Socio-economic inclusion remained slowed by structural employment barriers, including language requirements, non-recognition of qualifications, care responsibilities, and health-related constraints. Addressing these obstacles at scale requires stronger engagement of development actors and predictable multi-year financing to support Government-led solutions initiatives. Without enhanced responsibility-sharing and sustained investment, vulnerabilities will likely deepen, protection risks will increase, transition gains will stall, and longer-term costs will grow for both humanitarian and national systems.

Local Refugee Coordination Forums

© UNHCR Moldova/ Natalia Stelea
Discussion on disability and inclusion during Local Coordination Forum meeting in Comrat

In 2025, Local Refugee Coordination Forums across Moldova, including on the Left Bank, continued to serve as key platforms for coordination between local authorities, civil society organizations, humanitarian actors, refugee and host community members. While the LRCF was consolidated in Palanca, remaining 7 forums placed stronger emphasis on local ownership by expanding co-chair roles to local organizations alongside UNHCR and national authorities. By the end of the year, local NGOs had been appointed to take lead in 5 forums, marking an important step toward more sustainable and locally anchored coordination structures.

To support this transition dedicated capacity-building was provided to elected co-chairs on inter-agency coordination, protection principles, referral pathways, disability inclusion, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, local advocacy, and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. These efforts strengthened the ability of local actors to lead coordination processes, identify gaps, and support access to protection and services, while laying the groundwork for sustaining refugee response coordination beyond the Refugee Response Plan.

Protection

Working Group Co-Chairs:

UNHCR and Ombudsman Office

Partners reporting activities in 2025

RRP Partners (16 organizations)

- Acted
- ADRA Moldova
- Children's Emergency
- Relief International
- Church World Service
- Female Support Force
- Foundation "Don Bosco"
- HEKS/EPER
- INTERSOS
- International Organization for Migration
- National Congress of Ukrainians in Moldova
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- People In Need
- United Nations Children's Fund
- United Nations Development Programme
- The UN Refugee Agency
- World Food Programme

RRP-aligned Partners (29 organizations)

- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- AO Biaz Gul
- AO Law Center of Advocates
- AO Padurea noastra
- AO Pas cu Pas regiunea Sud
- Center for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Center Resonance
- National Center for Training, Assistance, Counseling, and Education in Moldova
- "Platforma" Center for Policy, Initiatives, and Research
- "OSORC" Rehabilitation Center
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Clinica Juridica Balti
- Diaconia
- Diakonia Katastrophenhilfe
- Dorcas
- Fondation de France
- Gender Center
- HelpAge Moldova
- Humanitarian Aid Center of the Jewish Community of Moldova
- KeyStone Moldova
- Laolalta
- AO Interaction
- MOTIVATIE
- Non-Profit Partnership Center for Social and Legal Innovations "Women's Initiatives"
- RCTV Memoria
- ROMNI
- The Ombudsman Office
- Union for Equity and Health
- Zdorovii Gorod

Key Achievement Indicators

4,823

persons provided with individual legal assistance

16,686

persons with specific needs provided with targeted protection assistance

7,805

individuals participating in activities promoting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host communities

6,334

individuals who have received protection-related trainings and/or capacity building activities

Gaps and challenges

Throughout 2025, the Protection Sector continued to support refugees from Ukraine through information and legal assistance, protection monitoring, case management, and community-based protection interventions. A key achievement was the extension of Temporary Protection until March 2026, alongside sustained advocacy and technical engagement on access to legal status, rights, and pathways toward longer-term solutions. Protection services reached 21,509 individuals through legal counselling, protection case management, and psychosocial support, contributing to the identification, referral, and follow-up of persons with specific needs. Protection actors maintained close cooperation with national authorities, particularly in border monitoring, asylum procedures, and prevention of protection risks. Regular outreach and awareness-raising activities ensured that refugees received timely information on legal status, available services, and protection risks, reaching 149,889 individuals nationwide. Participatory assessments and community consultations were conducted across multiple locations, ensuring that refugee perspectives informed programming and coordination. Progress was also made in supporting the consolidation of Refugee Accommodation Centers, with protection partners contributing to sensitive relocation processes and continuity of services for vulnerable households.

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Irina, a single mother displaced from Odesa, cares for her elderly mother in southern Moldova. To support her household, she received specialized protection assistance, including cash for utilities, hygiene supplies, and legal aid to facilitate essential shelter repairs.

Challenges and Gaps

In 2025, the Protection Sector faced persistent challenges that constrained coverage, continuity, and quality of services. Reduced funding led to scaled-back activities and diminished outreach, particularly in rural areas. Sustaining timely legal counselling, psychosocial support, and case management became increasingly difficult. The absence of a clearly defined pathway toward longer-term legal status for Temporary Protection holders prolonged uncertainty and limited prospects for durable solutions and integration. At the same time, the national asylum system remained under strain due to increasing caseloads, procedural delays, and limited decision-making capacity, affecting both asylum seekers and mixed-profile populations. The gaps remained for refugees with specific needs—including people with disabilities, older people, and Roma people—who encountered persistent barriers to accessible, specialized support. These challenges highlight the urgent need for predictable multi-year funding, strengthened national systems, and more tailored protection interventions to ensure no one is left behind in the transition to longer-term programming.

Government Strengthening and Engagement

Throughout 2025, the Protection Sector supported national and local authorities to strengthen protection-sensitive systems and procedures through targeted training, joint monitoring, and technical engagement. Key capacity-building initiatives focused on border and access-to-territory procedures, referral pathways for persons with specific needs, and protection-sensitive service delivery by frontline actors. Protection partners also supported authorities in adapting to evolving refugee profiles and increased caseloads, including through joint field missions and knowledge exchange. In parallel, technical support was provided to social assistance actors to navigate recent reforms of the national social protection system. In total, 416 government officials participated in protection-related training and capacity-strengthening activities, contributing to improved institutional preparedness and more sustainable, nationally anchored protection responses.

National and Local Civil Society Engagement and Support

In 2025, the Protection Sector prioritized localization by strengthening national CSOs and refugee-led initiatives. Support focused on enhancing the technical capacity of organizations providing legal aid, psychosocial support, outreach, and community-based protection in underserved areas. Specialized mentoring empowered women-led, Roma-led, and refugee-led groups in coordination, advocacy, and referral practices. Amidst funding constraints, these partners remained vital for sustaining service delivery and maintaining community trust. Through these collaborative efforts, the sector ensured more responsive, inclusive protection interventions, leveraging the unique expertise of local actors to reach the most marginalized populations.

Refugee Participation and Social Cohesion

Throughout the year, the Protection Sector promoted meaningful refugee participation through participatory assessments and feedback mechanisms nationwide. Inclusive consultations with women, youth, older people, people with disabilities, Roma, and LGBTQI+ people ensured diverse needs informed strategic planning. Community-based initiatives—including dialogue sessions, cultural activities, and awareness raising events—strengthened social cohesion between refugees and host communities. In total, 7,805 individuals engaged in activities promoting social cohesion. These efforts contributed to improved trust, reduced misinformation, and greater community ownership of the refugee response, reinforcing accountability and social inclusion at the local level.

Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2025, the Protection Sector mainstreamed Age, Gender, and Diversity principles to ensure equitable service access. Targeted efforts addressed barriers for women, older persons, persons with disabilities, Roma, and LGBTQI+ individuals. A milestone achievement was the development of a mapping and assessment of refugees with disabilities through the Disability and Age Task Force, which generated quantitative and qualitative evidence on profiles, needs, and access barriers. This analysis informed more tailored referrals, prioritization, and advocacy. AGD-informed approaches strengthened dignity, participation, and inclusion, while supporting more responsive and needs-based protection interventions across diverse refugee populations.

Spotlight Story

©Norwegian Refugee Council / Anna Celac / 2025 / Republic of Moldova
Praskovia in front of her parental home, holding up a photo of her parents and her when she was a little girl.

Praskovia fled Kharkiv in April 2022 for her father's old house in Moldova after her own was destroyed. "All my things, all my memories...nothing is left," she shared. Seeking to make the house liveable, she faced legal barriers due to missing property documentation. Through the EU-funded PLACE II consortium, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) provided Housing, Land and Property legal assistance, enabling Acted to conduct essential shelter repairs, including new doors and windows. This integrated model—combining legal clarity with technical aid—ensures vulnerable refugees overcome administrative hurdles to secure safe, dignified, and winter-ready housing.

Child Protection

Sub-WorkingGroupCo-Chairs:

UNHCR and UNICEF

Partners reporting activities in 2025

RRP Partners (7 organizations)

- Catholic Relief Services
- Children's Emergency Relief International
- Church World Service
- People In Need
- Terre des hommes Moldova
- United Nations Children's Fund
- The UN Refugee Agency

RRP-aligned Partners (11 organizations)

- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- Law Center of Advocates
- National Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Child and Family Empowerment Association "AVE Copii"
- Diaconia
- Diakonia Katastrophenhilfe
- Dorcas
- Foundation Creștină Titus
- Health for Youth Association
- Union of Young Roma "Tarna Rom"

Key Achievement Indicators

32,934

children and adolescents provided with recreational and/or child friendly MHPSS activities.

52,528

children and caregivers referred and accessed child protection and social services

192

unaccompanied and separated children identified and accessed alternative care and/or reunification assistance

3,079

professionals trained, supervised and technically supported on child protection and/or children’s rights and/or in social services

Key Achievements

Throughout 2025, Child Protection actors prioritized the mental health and psychosocial support and child protection services of refugee and host community children, specifically targeting those at risk and victims of violence or GBV. A total of 32,934 children and caregivers (55% female) accessed MHPSS, including in the Left Bank of the Nistru River. Strategic partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection remained central to strengthen the child protection system and support the implementation of the Social Assistance Reform, RESTART. More than 50,000 vulnerable children including refugees were referred to specialized child protection services.

Capacity-building reached 3,079 professionals including social workers, as well as multidisciplinary team members from health, education, social and justice fields, have been trained on child protection case management. Unaccompanied and separated children border registrations decreased from 306 in 2024 to 5 in 2025 reflecting a stabilized operational context but also less systematic referral processes between Border Police and Guardianship Authorities. Despite this, partners maintained robust assistance for 192 unaccompanied and separated children within Moldova supporting the safe repatriation of 90 children to Ukraine.

Challenges and Gaps

Despite progress toward EU social acquis alignment, Moldova's child protection system remains fragile, constrained by structural poverty, limited investment, and high workforce turnover. Identifying and referring unaccompanied and separated children at the border remains a challenge, although legislative adjustments are ongoing. While refugee children with disabilities are eligible for disability allowances, access to specialized services—such as personal assistance and therapy—remains severely underfunded.

Furthermore, children in the Left Bank encounter heightened protection risks due to underdeveloped localized service frameworks. The decline in humanitarian funding has reduced the available entry points for the identification and referral of children at risk. These challenges highlight the urgent need for sustained predictable investment to bridge the gap between emergency interventions and a resilient, nationally anchored child protection system capable of supporting all vulnerable children.

Government Strengthening and Engagement

Supported by the Child Protection Sector, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection significantly advanced the integration of refugees into national systems. Through the state budget, 150 child protection specialists were hired and trained, with 21 specifically dedicated to monitoring refugee children. Consequently, over 2,500 refugee children received support from community social workers and specialists.

The Ministry actively participated in Child Protection Sub-Working Group meetings, ensuring meaningful civil society consultation during legislative adjustments. These efforts highlight a commitment to institutionalizing child protection and ensuring sustainable, state-led service delivery for both refugee and host community children.

National and Local Civil Society Engagement and Support

The Child Protection Sub-Working Group served as a strategic platform for strengthening civil society capacities through regular training in mental health and psychosocial support and Child Protection case management. Across Moldova, including the Left Bank, civil society organizations reached the most vulnerable, bridging critical gaps in state service delivery. These organizations collaborated closely with social workers to reinforce referral mechanisms and case management, ensuring access to services for children at risk and awareness about the gaps faced by refugee children.

Refugee Participation and Social Cohesion

In 2025, Child Protection partners jointly engaged over 30,000 refugee and host-community children through community service centres, child-friendly spaces, and temporary accommodation centres. Targeted adolescent outreach, including Roma youth, utilized participatory approaches to raise awareness on protection, Sexual and Reproductive Health, and GBV, enhancing rights-based knowledge and service access, including for parents. Through this effort, 1,200 adolescents (65% girls, 35% boys) engaged in Documentary theatre to mitigate violence and strengthen social cohesion.

Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2025, the Sector prioritized AGD-inclusive programming by strengthening Ukrainian women and girl-led associations through peer-to-peer mentorship with Moldovan counterparts. Strategic partnerships with Roma-led organizations specifically targeted Roma youth to mitigate violence and early marriage prevention. Notably, 7,000 Ukrainian women and girls accessed "Laaha," a virtual safe space providing critical information on Sexual and Reproductive Health, healthy relationships, and online safety for adolescent girls. Refugee adolescents collaborated with teachers and parents to develop school-based child protection policies. These initiatives ensured diverse perspectives informed violence prevention and service delivery, fostering a more inclusive, responsive, and accountable protection environment for marginalized populations.

Spotlight Story

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Seven-year-old Myroslav, a refugee with cerebral palsy, fled Ukraine for Taraclia, Moldova. Through integrated support from AVE Copiii, UNICEF, and the European Union, he accessed emergency assistance and long-term social and educational referrals. Today, weekly teacher visits help him learn letters and colors. "Every small step is a victory," his mother shares. Myroslav's journey illustrates how a strengthened national child protection system provides vulnerable families with hope and stability. By ensuring inclusive access to services, the sector empowers displaced children to rebuild their lives and futures with dignity in Moldova.

Gender-Based Violence

Sub-Working Group Co-Chairs:

UNHCR and UNFPA

Partners reporting activities in 2025

RRP Partners (6 organizations)

- HEKS/EPER
- HelpAge Moldova
- International Organization for Migration
- United Nations Children's Fund
- The UN Refugee Agency
- United Nations Population Fund

RRP-aligned Partners (12 organizations)

- AO Artemida
- AO Biaz Gul
- Law Center of Advocates
- Casa Marioarei
- Center Resonance
- National Centre for Training, Assistance, Counselling and Education
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Gender Center
- HIAS
- IFIS
- Pro Didactica
- ROMNI

Key Achievement Indicators

2,076

trained aid workers and government staff on GBV

42,337

individuals reached with specialized GBV prevention programming

6,441

individuals reached with specialized GBV response programming

Key Achievements

Throughout 2025, more than 42,000 refugees and vulnerable Moldovans were reached through specialized GBV programming. GBV response services, including safe shelter, case management, psychological support, legal assistance, and gynaecological care were delivered to 6,441 persons jointly with national and local authorities, alongside risk-mitigation measures, such as cash assistance. In collaboration with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, an achievement was the inauguration of a new safe shelter with 28 spaces, advancing the National GBV Program and Moldova's Istanbul Convention commitments. In coordination with the National Agency to Prevent and Combat Violence, social assistance departments and schools, prevention activities reached 241 adolescents and caregivers across Moldova including the Left Bank. Additionally, over 42,000 individuals were reached with GBV safety information through various platforms. Capacity-sharing remained a cornerstone of the sector's strategy, and 2,076 professionals including social workers, safe shelters' staff, community paralegals, teachers and Women-Led Organizations received specialized training and coaching. These sessions covered GBV risk mitigation, safe disclosures, disability inclusion, and access to funding opportunities ensuring a more localized response and strengthening national systems to effectively prevent and respond to GBV.

Challenges and Gaps

In 2025, funding reductions across Moldova severely strained the GBV sub-sector, placing a significant burden on Women-Led Organizations to maintain life-saving services for refugees. Funding shortage severely increased protection risks, as survivors encountered heightened barriers to leave situations of intimate partner violence. Short-term and strict funding frameworks further exacerbated these challenges, compromising not only sustainable programming, but also investments in organizational development, including internal systems, staff well-being, and capacity-building.

Safe spaces, key for building trust, supporting community cohesion, and fostering refugee integration, were constrained, weakening protective environments for women and girls. Stigma and unprepared service providers continue to hinder safe GBV disclosure, while scaled-back trainings and capacity-building initiatives, combined with service interruptions, risk undermining trust with refugee communities. Sustained and predictable support remains essential, alongside government efforts to align national GBV systems with international standards and its 2023 Global Refugee Forum commitments.

Government Strengthening and Engagement

In 2025, partners supported the National GBV Program implementation, aligning with Istanbul Convention standards and 2023 Global Refugee Forum commitments. In collaboration with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, partners opened a safe shelter and trained over 2,000 social workers, shelter staff, and community paralegals.

Prevention initiatives like "Girl Shine" and "Boys on the Move" targeted refugee and host-community adolescents through schools, libraries, and Refugee Accommodation Centres across Moldova, including in the Left Bank, contributing to long-term, sustainable GBV interventions.

National and Local Civil Society Engagement and Support

GBV Sub-Sector partners empowered Women, Refugee, Roma, and LGBTQI-led organizations to reach survivors and address service gaps, including HIV support. Collaborative interventions with local authorities were scaled up, and 22 civil society members were equipped to implement the "Girl Shine" curricula nationwide.

Through grant funding support, GBV partners piloted a peer-to-peer capacity-building project to strengthen WLOs' technical and organizational skills. Furthermore, coaching and mentoring helped WLOs draft funding packages to mitigate funding cuts and programming impacts, while a workshop on private sector partnerships for 92 organizations strengthened their capacity to diversify funding sources.

Refugee Participation and Social Cohesion

Partners actively engaged refugees in planning and decision-making through inclusive consultations. Building on a WLO study, regional dialogues tackled survivor stigma, while targeted sessions with local authorities, Roma refugees, and host communities addressed discrimination and service barriers. School-based prevention initiatives fostered cohesion among refugee and local adolescent girls.

Additionally, psychosocial and peer-support groups, coordinated with local authorities, established safe spaces and built community trust. These collaborative efforts significantly bolstered social cohesion and mitigated risks of GBV, trafficking, and exploitation, ensuring a protective environment that empowers both displaced and host populations through shared accountability and inclusive programming.

Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2025, local partners helped bridge service gaps through targeted projects, direct service delivery, and mobile outreach in remote areas and Refugee Accommodation Centres. These initiatives reached older women, women with disabilities, adolescent girls and boys, including from Roma communities, and key populations such as LGBTQI+ refugees, sex workers, refugees living with HIV, and people who use drugs.

Accessibility to GBV services for older women and women with limited mobility was enhanced through the Safe @ Home programme. Older women also attended support groups and received sexual and reproductive health information, while Roma adolescents participated in GBV prevention activities and key populations received targeted case management.

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network Co-Chairs

Church World Service, WeWorld and IOM

In 2025, the Moldova PSEA Network continued to strengthen inter-agency prevention, safeguarding, and accountability mechanisms across the refugee response. A key achievement was the rollout of the Misconduct Disclosure Scheme Guidance for Moldova, accompanied by training for more than 20 partner organizations and support for their enrolment in the global scheme, thereby reinforcing due diligence in recruitment and partnership processes. The Network also strengthened its coordination architecture through the election of co-chairs representing United Nations entities, international organizations, and local actors, promoting broader ownership and inclusive leadership. In parallel, the national PSEA Standard Operating Procedures were updated, and preparations were advanced for the 2026 Network Action Plan. Throughout the year, joint monitoring visits with partners assessed progress against institutional safeguarding standards and identified areas requiring further technical support. In line with RRP transition efforts, the Network completed its transition under the Resident Coordinator's Office, further institutionalizing PSEA within the UN Country Team coordination framework in Moldova.

Spotlight Story

After fleeing Ukraine for Fălești, Moldova, Irina rebuilt her confidence through community-based support. Empowered by her recovery, she became a mentor for the "Girl Shine" GBV prevention programme, implemented by Association Casa Marioarei. This initiative gathers Ukrainian and Moldovan adolescent girls in safe environments to cultivate life skills, safety awareness, and decision-making. For Irina, mentoring provides a profound sense of purpose. Her journey illustrates how specialized GBV programming fosters resilience and social cohesion, transforming individual recovery into community leadership and ensuring a more hopeful, connected future for refugee and host community girls alike.

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Inclusion and Solutions

Basic Needs I Cash Assistance

Working Group Co-Chairs:

Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP

Partners reporting activities in 2025

RRP Partners (16 organizations)

- ADRA Moldova
- Acted
- Amici Dei Bambini Moldova
- Caritas Moldova
- Catholic Relief Services
- Children's Emergency Relief International
- Church World Service
- Foundation “Regina Pacis”
- International Organization for Migration
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- People In Need
- Terre des hommes Moldova
- United Nations Children's Fund
- United Nations Development Programme
- The UN Refugee Agency
- World Food Programme

RRP-aligned Partners (9 organizations)

- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- Dorcas
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Communitas AO
- Diaconia
- Diakonia Katastrophenhilfe
- Fundația Creștină Titus
- HelpAge Moldova
- Zdorovii Gorod

Key Achievement Indicators

39,317

vulnerable individuals receiving multipurpose cash assistance

16,871

individuals receiving non-food items

10,636

vulnerable individuals supported with cash assistance for winter needs

8,149

eligible refugees enrolled in national social assistance schemes

Key Achievements

In 2025, the Inclusion and Solutions Sector partners delivered continuous assistance while advancing sustainable inclusion pathways for refugees and host communities. Multipurpose cash enabled 39,317 individuals to meet basic needs, complemented by NFI support for 16,871 and winterization cash for 10,636 individuals, reflecting critical support following the gas cutoff at the Left Bank of the Nistru River. Housing solutions were reinforced through rental subsidies for 1,883 individuals, home-repair grants for 461, and upgrades to Refugee Accommodation Centres that strengthened safety, accessibility, and hygiene. Food assistance ensured continuity for 11,021 vulnerable refugees through hot meals and border-point support.

Economic inclusion progressed via job-matching, Romanian language courses, and vocational training for 2,106 individuals. Entrepreneurship programs provided grants and mentorship to 553 individuals, while expanded childcare increased women's participation in training and employment. Local infrastructure was strengthened through the rehabilitation of 19 collective accommodation structures and improved site management. Area-based inclusion was strengthened through municipal coordination, Local Action Plans, and sustained operationalization of the Community Service Centres. Consistent refugee participation through Local Refugee Coordination Forums and Refugee Councils strengthened referral pathways and local ownership of the response.

© NRC / 2025 / Republic of Moldova
Violetta, Ukrainian refugee, prepares food at her shawarma shop in Tiraspol, which she opened after completing NRC-supported entrepreneurship training.

When Violetta fled Odesa with her three children, she lost her business, income, and sense of direction. In Tiraspol, she joined the Agency for Innovation and Development (AID)'s entrepreneurship school, supported by NRC, which guided her through registration and business planning. She opened a small shawarma kiosk that quickly drew loyal customers. After securing an expansion grant, she launched a bakery to produce fresh lavash for local vendors. Today, she employs four women – three also displaced from Ukraine. "We've become self-sufficient. We don't rely on anyone anymore," Violetta says, proud that her growing business now provides steady income for several families.

Challenges and Gaps

Refugees' socio-economic integration progress was constrained by a widening resource-needs gap and continued reliance on humanitarian cash assistance. Significant 2025 funding cuts resulted in a ~25% reduction in transfer values and an estimated 20–30% caseload decline for Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance. Refugees face heightened financial risks due to continued exclusion from national welfare schemes. At the same time, for many refugees, housing remains a critical challenge driven by inflation, rising rents, and limited social housing solutions during the consolidation of the Refugee Accommodation Centres.

On the Left Bank, energy shortages increased household vulnerability while on the Right Bank, overstretched social services struggled with outreach. Demand for mental health and psychosocial support, long-term care, and childcare continues to exceed capacity. Structural barriers, including language limitations and skill mismatches, further hinder self-reliance. Root causes include limited fiscal space, procedural hurdles for Temporary Protection holders, and incomplete transition frameworks, which together slow the strategic shift toward sustainable, government-led programming and full socio-economic inclusion.

Government Strengthening and Engagement

Government capacity was strengthened through targeted digitalization, institutional support, and technical training. Inclusion and Solution Working Group partners supported digitalisation of the national social assistance systems providing support in UAHelp case management system migration to MCloud, MConnect integration, and development of the automated verification, tracking, and analytics modules that reduced manual refugee case processing.

Ministry of Labour and Social Protection staff, Refugee Accommodation Centres managers, and local authorities received specialized training in refugee protection, case management, alongside a national Training of Trainers on site management. Digital accessibility was expanded through MLearn e-modules and a NEA chatbot that enhances access to labour-market information. Municipal capacities were reinforced through Local Action Plans for the inclusion of refugees informed by socio-economic diagnostics.

National and Local Civil Society Engagement and Support

Inclusion and Solutions Sector has strengthened civil society through consistent joint coordination, grant provision and capacity support. Local and national civil society organizations delivered protection, psychosocial support, and case management, contributing to refugee needs analysis, markets assessments, and cash programs design, especially during winter peaks. A mapping of 725 civil society organizations informed a national capacity-building plan, while organizations supporting refugee accommodation centers participated in joint training with authorities. Local organizations were elected to co-chair seven Local Refugee Coordination Forums, expanding service coverage and improving referrals. These partnerships bridged community-level gaps, ensuring a localized, responsive, and sustainable transition toward long-term inclusion for displaced populations.

Refugee Participation and Social Cohesion

Refugees shaped response decisions through structured participation mechanisms, including four community committees with 40 Ukrainian members in Chișinău, Bălți and Cahul, four Refugee Councils operating in Ungheni, Cahul, Dondușeni and Ocnița, and a national Refugee Councils Forum bringing together 25 representatives from seven regions. Feedback gathered through Post-Distribution Monitoring, the Complaints and Feedback Mechanism and Focus Group Discussions was systematically analysed and used to adjust activities, including the introduction of childcare arrangements and adaptations to shelter and activity space design.

Social cohesion between refugees and host communities was strengthened through Peaceful Coexistence Projects that rehabilitated shared infrastructure such as schools, kindergartens and sports halls, alongside EduTech Labs that created inclusive learning spaces. In parallel, cash assistance provided to 6,826 host households helped ease financial pressures in communities hosting refugees, contributing to reduced tensions and ensuring that the response remained responsive and accountable to both refugee and host populations.

Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2025, AGD mainstreaming ensured equitable access through disaggregated data and vulnerability-based targeting. Prioritizing female-headed households, older persons, and persons with disabilities, the sector expanded mobile outreach and home-based case management. Physical accessibility was improved through refugee accommodation centers upgrades, including ramps and elevators.

Roma inclusion was enhanced by the Roma Refugee Mapping covering 475 households across 24 districts and the Roma Task Force's transition to government leadership. Findings from AGD-sensitive monitoring enabled partners to refine assistance modalities, ensuring interventions remained highly responsive to the diverse protection and accessibility needs of marginalized refugee populations.

Spotlight Story

© IOM / 2025 / Republic of Moldova
Zinaida, 100, embraces her daughter Ludmila in the courtyard of their home in Tiraspol.

At 97, Zinaida fled the war in Ukraine to reunite with her daughter Ludmila, who has lived in Tiraspol for decades. Leaving her home was painful, but worsening bombings and her declining health made the journey unavoidable. "At first she didn't want to leave, but now she has no desire to return," Ludmila says. With support from the IOM cash assistance program, they can cover medicine, food, and essential bills. Now 100, Zinaida spends her days cooking soup, taking short walks, and singing the Ukrainian songs she once taught her students—rediscovering stability beside her daughter.

Education

Working Group Co-Chairs:

Ministry of Education and Research, UNHCR and UNICEF

Partners reporting activities in 2025

RRP Partners (11 organizations)

- Amici Dei Bambini Moldova
- Catholic Relief Services
- Church World Service
- National Congress of Ukranians in Moldova
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- People In Need
- Plan International
- Terre des hommes Moldova
- United Nations Children's Fund
- The UN Refugee Agency
- WeWorld

RRP-aligned Partners (9 organizations)

- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- Centru de reabilitare "OSORC"
- Centrul Național de Prevenire a Abuzului față de Copii
- Child and Family Empowerment Association "AVE Copiii"
- Diaconia
- Diakonia Katastrophenhilfe
- Dorcas
- The Ombudsman Office
- Union of Young Roma "Tarna Rom"

Key Achievement Indicators

30,605

children participating in non-formal catch-up classes and learning support classes

3,694

education personnel trained or receiving support to better respond to the needs of refugee learners

30,725

Moldovan and Ukrainian children and adolescents in schools benefiting from recreational and social cohesion activities organized in schools

29,924

children and adolescents receiving Educational Kits (including inclusive learning materials) adapted to different age groups

3,623

refugee children enrolled in formal education.

Key Achievements

In 2025, the Refugee Education sector partners collectively achieved several milestones in promoting inclusive education. Formal enrolment reached 3,623 refugee children, including 793 in preschools. Interventions prioritized supporting access to formal education, youth leadership, career guidance, and psychosocial support, empowering adolescents to participate in educational decision-making and online learning. 36 EduTech Labs remained operational, providing Ukrainian refugees and 1,212 Moldovan children to access school environments and Romanian language learning.

To facilitate long-term integration, a preparatory framework for Romanian-speaking schools and an Accelerated Learning Program for children with interrupted schooling were established. Monitoring capacity was enhanced through a new education module within the Temporary Protection extension form, developed by MER and the Ministry of Internal Affairs enabling systematic tracking of children in local schools versus those learning remotely. Cross-border cooperation with Ukraine was formalized during a high-level December roundtable in Chișinău, improving data exchange and evidence-based planning for 2026.

Challenges and Gaps

Despite joint efforts, refugee enrolment in Moldovan schools remains low. Primary obstacles include a preference for the Ukrainian remote curriculum, limited Romanian language support, and capacity constraints in urban hubs like Chisinau. Pendular movement and stay uncertainty further deter formal registration, while Roma children and students with disabilities face heightened barriers to inclusive education. Although the amended Temporary Protection framework and education self-declaration are constructive, monitoring remote learning quality necessitates enhanced coordination between the Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Internal Affairs, and local authorities. Humanitarian funding reduction had delayed the implementation of the Education Roadmap for the Inclusion of Refugee Children, leaving the Accelerated Learning Program and inclusive education pillars underfunded. These deficits restrict the scale-up of language support and non-formal education, slowing progress toward a comprehensive, state-led response that bridges the gap between the Ukrainian and Moldovan education systems.

Government Strengthening and Engagement

Close collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Research resulted in a key policy milestone with the approval of the Roadmap for the Inclusion of Refugee Children through a ministerial order, followed by a high-level launch and targeted donor outreach to support its implementation. Institutional support was provided by Refugee Education sector partners by deploying an education officer and communication consultant to the Ministry of Education and Research.

Policy dialogue was deepened through a high-level roundtable with the Ukrainian Ministry of Education, focusing on cross-border cooperation and education pathways. An end-of-year Refugee Education Working Group roundtable allowed to align joint priorities and defined strategic actions for 2026, reinforcing the sustainable integration of refugee children into national systems and ensuring long-term policy continuity.

National and Local Civil Society Engagement and Support

Civil society organizations remained instrumental in Education Sector, delivering services aligned with the Education Roadmap for the Inclusion of Refugee Children, including enrolment support, provision of Romanian language classes, and afterschool catch-up programs. Through EduTech Labs, civil society organizations facilitated online learning and digital skills training. As a part of joint coordination, local and National civil society actors supported shaping sector strategies via Roadmap consultations and mapping exercises, extending support for Roma children and children with disabilities while fostering community engagement for physical school enrolment. By providing teacher training on inclusive education, local organizations bridged capacity gaps, ensuring a responsive, localized approach that facilitates the sustainable integration of refugee children into national systems.

Refugee Participation and Social Cohesion

Throughout 2025, the Ministry of Education and Research together with Education Working Group partners conducted field visits to Refugee Accommodation Centres and schools, engaging caregivers and education staff on school enrolment, language barriers and curriculum adaptation. Policy dialogue was further informed by direct consultations with refugee parents organized at the Ministry, ensuring that the perspectives of affected families contributed to ongoing education policy discussions.

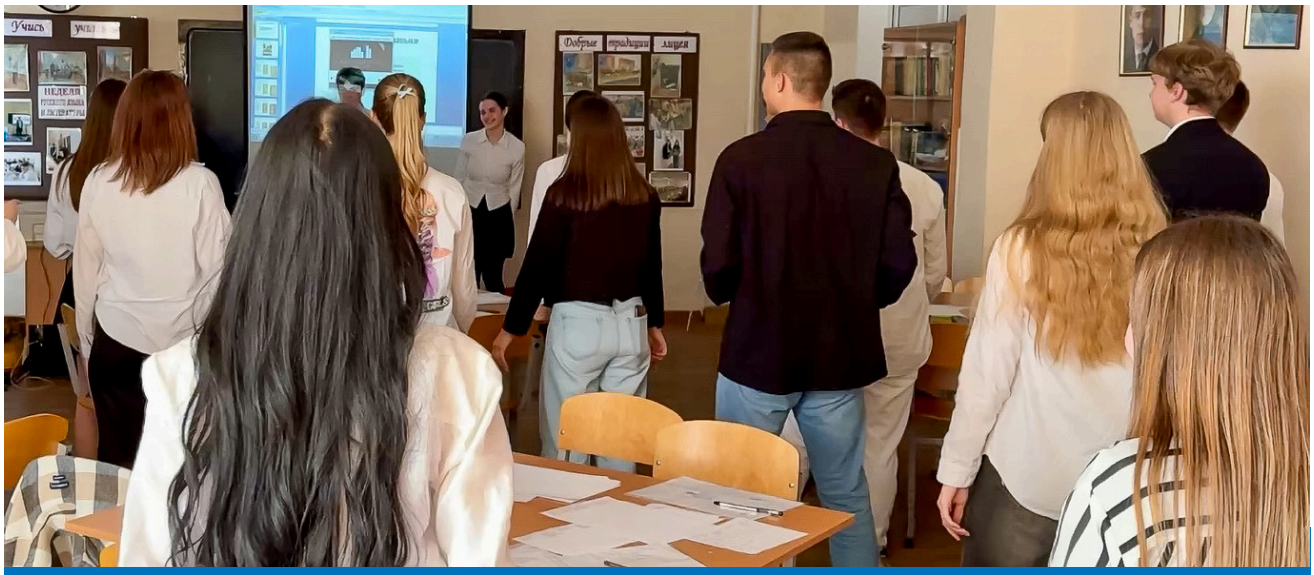
At the same time, social cohesion initiatives including summer camps, sports activities and EduTech Lab sessions reached 30,725 refugee and Moldovan children. These activities created opportunities for meaningful interaction among Ukrainian refugee and local youth within shared learning spaces. By introducing child-friendly feedback mechanisms, the sector ensured that the perspectives of diverse students informed education programming, strengthening a sense of belonging and reinforcing social cohesion within integrated education environments.

Age, Gender and Diversity

Refugee Education sector partners mainstreamed Age, Gender, and Diversity throughout the program cycle, utilizing disaggregated data and consultations to address specific barriers. Interventions were tailored to be age-appropriate and gender-responsive for children, youth, and caregivers, including positive parenting initiatives. By prioritizing safeguarding and child protection, the sector ensured safe, inclusive learning environments.

Programs remained adaptive to beneficiary feedback, while disaggregated monitoring reinforced accountability. These efforts ensured equitable access and meaningful inclusion for the most marginalized, particularly Roma children and vulnerable groups, fostering a protection-centered approach that integrates all learners into the national education system.

Spotlight Story



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For many children in Moldova affected by the war in Ukraine, classrooms have become spaces of stress rather than learning. To respond, NRC supports schools through the Better Learning Program (BLP), helping teachers introduce trauma-sensitive routines that restore calm, focus, and a sense of safety. In a Grade 10 in Chișinău, lessons now begin with breathing exercises. *"They calm down and are ready to learn,"* says Galina, a language teacher trained through BLP. Students report improved concentration, cooperation, and well-being. By integrating psychosocial support into daily teaching, BLP helps both refugee and host-community children learn and feel safe again.

Health and Nutrition

Working Group Co-Chairs:

Ministry of Health and WHO

Partners reporting activities in 2025

RRP Partners (9 organizations)

- ADRA Moldova
- Church World Service
- Fundația “Regina Pacis”
- INTERSOS
- International Organization for Migration
- Project HOPE
- United Nations Children's Fund
- The UN Refugee Agency
- World Health Organization

RRP-aligned Partners (14 organizations)

- AO Biaz Gul
- Alliance of NGOs Active in the field of Child and Family Social Protection
- Charity Centre for Refugees
- Diaconia
- Diakonia Katastrophenhilfe
- HIAS
- Health for Youth Association
- KeyStone Moldova
- Laolalta
- RCTV Memoria
- Speranța Terrei
- Union of Young Roma "Tarna Rom"
- Uniunea pentru Echitate si Sanatate
- Zdorovii Gorod

Key Achievement Indicators

8,647

healthcare workers trained to provide health services, including clinical management IPC and MHPSS to refugees and host population healthcare workers trained to provide health services, including clinical management, IPC and mental health and psychosocial support to refugees and host population

106,968

health items procured, including vaccines, nutrition products and micronutrients

119,184

refugees reached with information on health, available services, and access to health care

6,188

consultations provided for Specialized mental health and psychosocial support services

Key Achievements

In 2025, the Health Sector partners continued facilitating the provision of the essential services while advancing the transition to the sustainable inclusion of refugees into national health systems. Aligned with the 2025–2027 National Development Plan and National Program for the Integration of Foreigners, health partners accelerated the implementation of the refugee health integration plan ensuring refugees' access to essential health services. Following the extension of the Temporary Protection scheme, refugees retained access to the national health benefit package, resulting in over 16,100 refugees registering with family doctors, the delivery of 43,800 medical services, and 16,617 individuals receiving compensated medicines.

Awareness campaigns and health mediators further improved system navigation. Transition efforts were further consolidated through coordination with national authorities and technical assistance to health financing reforms, including a costing exercise and policy dialogue on cost drivers, provider profiles, and data validation. These efforts strengthened financial reporting and results-oriented budgeting, while facility-level support in high-refugee caseload areas improved continuity of care and referral pathways, representing a shift toward a resilient, integrated, and state-led healthcare response.

Challenges and Gaps

In 2025, Health Sector objectives were constrained by low refugee inclusion in national health insurance and critical gaps in rehabilitation and palliative care. While over 80,000 refugees hold Temporary Protection, only 16,100 are registered with family doctors, leaving the majority outside national systems. The decline in funding alongside limited national systems resources jeopardizes service sustainability. Specialized care for persons with disabilities and assistive services remains notably limited. Although health service forecasting for 2026 has been conducted, and policy options have been proposed, state financing constraints threaten to undermine demand fulfilment. Administrative barriers hinder insurance enrolment, while the lack of an integrated IT system necessitates inefficient paper-based reporting and delays provider reimbursements. Continued external support remains vital, as public resources alone cannot sustain healthcare for refugees. These structural and financial gaps emphasize the necessity of sustained multi-sectoral investment to bridge the transition toward a resilient, inclusive national health response.

Government Strengthening and Engagement

In 2025, the Health Sector partners contributed to national systems capacity strengthening through consistent effort. The Multi-Partner Trust Fund supported by Health Sector enabled the National Health Insurance Company to cover service costs, allowing refugees benefitting from health insurance to utilize medical services. Capacity-building remained central, with over 600 healthcare providers trained on refugee access and 1,500 first responders trained in emergency care. The adoption of the National Program for the Integration of Foreigners had further contributed to institutionalizing the equal access to health services for protection-seekers, aligning the national health system objectives with sectoral priorities of ensuring quality care for both displaced and host populations.

Government Strengthening and Engagement

Partners prioritized inclusion through refugee-led models, empowering refugees in the roles of health mediators for the affected communities. These initiatives improved access to primary health care, mental health and psychosocial support, sexual and reproductive health, oncology, and gender-based violence services. Health partnerships supported infant and young child feeding and cancer detection while countering misinformation among refugee communities.

Through community dialogues, joint events and referral pathways utilisation, civil society organizations have contributed to reducing isolation and building trust in public institutions. This localized approach ensured health rights fulfilment, supporting a resilient environment that strengthens the link between displaced populations and the national health system.

Age, Gender and Diversity

The Health Sector partners mainstreamed Age, Gender and Diversity across planning, delivery, and monitoring using disaggregated data and community feedback. Working with health mediators, partners reached marginalized groups including Roma refugees, older persons, women, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQI+ individuals with tailored information on entitlements, family doctor registration, vaccination, maternal health, and chronic disease care. Strategic linkages with protection services ensured safe referrals for GBV survivors and those facing discrimination. By mitigating administrative, linguistic, and stigma-related barriers, these AGD-informed interventions promoted equitable access and dignity, reinforcing agency and continuity of care within the national health system.

Spotlight Story

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Daniil and Tatiana Cebanica, educational psychologist, and head of the Psycho-Verbal Rehabilitation and Social Assistance Section, Republican Rehabilitation Center for Children

Alina Rodina fled Kharkiv with her children, Daniil and Milana. Settled in Drochia, they struggled to support seven-year-old Daniil's neurological difficulties. Through the Republican Rehabilitation Center for Children supported by WHO, Austria, and the EU, Daniil received holistic physical, psycho-verbal, and therapeutic services, gaining vital communication skills. Alina reflects: "In Moldova, we found peace and a welcoming home. I feel fulfilled. I want to build a future here." This partnership illustrates how coordinated health services restore dignity and ensure refugee children with complex needs thrive, bridging the gap between displacement and long-term inclusion.

Accountability to Affected People

Task Force Co-Chairs:

National Congress of Ukrainians of Moldova and Laolalta

Key Achievements

In 2025, the AAP Task Force continued to strengthen accountability to affected people across the refugee response in Moldova by promoting access to verified information, systematic feedback collection, and the integration of community perspectives into response planning. During the first half of the year, partners disseminated verified information on registration, documentation, and access to public services, including social protection, health, and education, through more than 100 digital publications reaching over 82,000 people.

AAP TF partners responded to 7,765 individual inquiries and conducted 15 information sessions engaging 1,502 participants, including 1,000 service providers. Throughout the year, quarterly focus group discussions, social listening, and regular situation reporting supported continuous analysis of community concerns. In the second half of 2025, over 14,000 feedback-related inputs were collected through online engagement, surveys, offline events, and monitoring of 45 community channels. These efforts informed advocacy onto Temporary Protection, legal stay, access to services, and inclusion.

Challenges and Gaps

In 2025, AAP efforts continued to face capacity constraints due to structural underfunding, limiting partners' ability to communicate with communities, collect and analyse feedback, and use findings to inform timely advocacy and response adjustments. Early 2025 funding decline also affected the scale of direct outreach and regular feedback collection. Social listening highlighted persistent confusion around healthcare entitlements under Temporary Protection, school enrolment, disability procedures for children, childbirth-related benefits, and child protection services.

In many cases, this reflected not only limited awareness among refugees, but also inconsistent interpretation of procedures by service providers. Monitoring of communication spaces and community dynamics also pointed to a deterioration in social cohesion between refugees and host communities following Moldova's electoral cycle, including heightened tensions in Bălți and Gagauzia. Stronger referral tracking and follow-up remained needed to support more consistent closure of the accountability loop.

Government Strengthening and Engagement

In 2025, the AAP Task Force supported stronger institutional responsiveness through coordination with national and local authorities. Collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Research enabled webinars on school enrolment procedures for 87 education officials and school leaders, as well as a session on university admissions that allowed refugee families to raise questions directly with education and migration authorities.

Cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection supported online sessions on disability status procedures and related benefits for refugee children, engaging more than 1,000 social workers. These efforts contributed to clearer communication on education, social benefits, documentation, and Temporary Protection procedures, and to better reflection of refugee needs in public service delivery.

National and Local Civil Society Engagement and Support

In 2025, to support refugee response transition and localization, leadership of the Accountability to Affected Populations Task Force was transitioned to two civil society organizations, which jointly co-lead the platform. The Task Force continued to rely on civil society and community-based actors to sustain two-way communication, extend outreach, and provide trusted access points for refugees and host communities. Through Community Service Centres and local engagement spaces across Moldova, refugees accessed information, participated in dialogue, and joined sessions on rights, health, education, protection, and inclusion. Community-based partners maintained direct communication through social media, providing nearly 1,000 responses on rights and available services while disseminating key information materials. Their role remained central to localized feedback collection, inclusive participation, and outreach to marginalized groups.

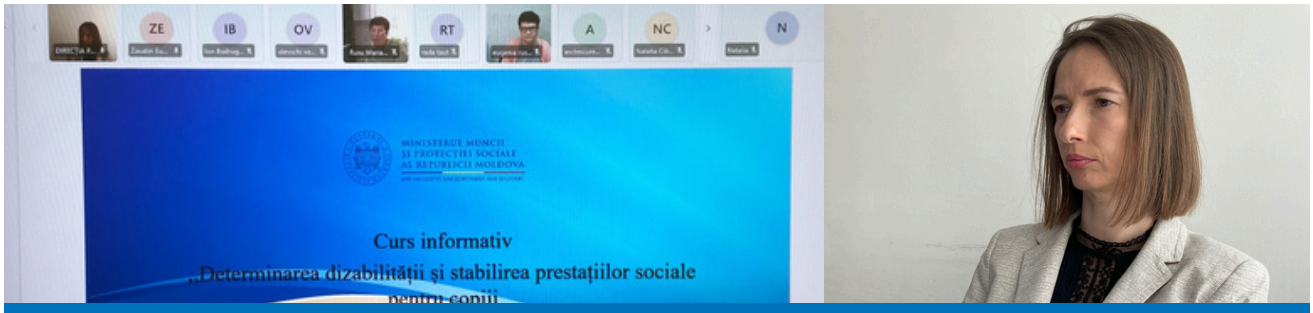
Refugee Participation and Social Cohesion

In 2025, the AAP Task Force promoted meaningful participation through consultations, feedback mechanisms, community dialogue, and inclusive activities bringing refugees and host communities together. In the first half of the year, 15 intercultural events engaged 963 participants, while refugee children contributed to the design and implementation of local activities. In the second half of the year, community-based events and social cohesion initiatives reached more than 3,500 people across Moldova. By combining participation, information-sharing, and community engagement, these efforts helped strengthen trust, reduce isolation, and support more inclusive dialogue at local level.

Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2025, AAP activities integrated age, gender, and diversity considerations across outreach, participation, and feedback analysis. Women remained the primary users of digital feedback channels, particularly on issues linked to caregiving responsibilities, including healthcare, education, childbirth, disability procedures, and child protection. Partners also tailored outreach to children, adolescents, older persons, women, persons with disabilities, LGBTQI+ refugees, Roma communities, and individuals facing language or accessibility barriers. Through multilingual communication, school-based sessions, psychosocial support, peer engagement, and targeted information activities, these efforts helped reduce barriers to participation and support more equitable access to information, services, protection, and inclusion.

Spotlight Story



In June 2025, more than 1,000 social workers from across Moldova strengthened their capacity to support refugee children with disabilities through an online information session on disability status determination procedures. Led by Jana Obuhova, Chief Specialist for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the session provided practical guidance on applicable procedures and addressed questions raised by frontline practitioners. Organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and AAP partners, the initiative helped address knowledge gaps that had affected access to entitlements and related support. By improving the understanding of local service providers, the session contributed to more consistent case handling, strengthened institutional responsiveness, and supported more accessible and accountable assistance for children with disabilities refugee and their families.

Disability and Age

Task Force Co-Chairs:

UNHCR, OHCHR, Keystone Moldova and Help Age

Key Achievements

In 2025, the Disability and Age Task Force delivered specialized support to over 5,860 individuals, including refugees and host community members with disabilities and older persons. Interventions spanned legal aid, psychological counselling, and the provision of assistive devices, medical equipment, and rehabilitation services. During the energy crisis at the Left Bank of the Nistru River, the Task Force conducted rapid assessments, ensuring the refugee response addressed the specific vulnerabilities of older adults and persons with disabilities. In collaboration with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, the sector streamlined access to state allowances and disability assessments for refugee children through targeted information campaigns. Strategic evidence-building included a national mapping of needs and service gaps, while advocacy efforts promoted the inclusion of Washington Group questions in the national census to improve long-term disability data. The Disability Hotline provided guidance to over 250 refugees. Through strengthened partnerships with local authorities, the Task Force contributed to solutions and social inclusion, ensuring that Moldova's protective framework remains responsive to those at heightened risk of exclusion and fulfills the principle of leaving no one behind.

Challenges and Gaps

Moldova's national system remains at limited capacity to provide inclusive and equitable services for older persons and individuals with disabilities, including refugees. Structural barriers persist, including complex certification procedures, specialist shortages, and fragmented coordination of the national service providers. Refugees with disabilities, particularly adults, face significant legal barriers, as current legislation allows access to state disability allowances only for children. The access to national health insurance remains restricted as it is primarily contingent upon formal employment—a significant barrier for older persons and those with disabilities. The decrease in humanitarian funding further exacerbated these challenges, forcing partners to reduce or discontinue essential support programs, deepening critical gaps in rehabilitation services and the provision of assistive technologies. Public rehabilitative care remains significantly underfunded and largely inaccessible for both refugee and host populations. These systemic deficiencies heighten the risk of exclusion and prevent the full access to services for these highly vulnerable groups.

Government Strengthening and Engagement

The Disability and Age Task Force contributed to strengthening national system capacities through collaboration with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection on the provision of information, the conduct of disability assessments, and the introduction of disability allowances for refugee children. Through coordination with national and local authorities, Task Force partners supported outreach and the dissemination of information on available services, including through distribution to refugees with disabilities and older refugees via local coordination forums and community service centers. Feedback collected by Task Force partners informed national institutions, enabling the streamlining of procedures for accessing allowances and improving case management for refugee children with disabilities and specific needs, enhancing protection and support for the most vulnerable displaced children.

National and Local Civil Society Engagement and Support

In 2025, the Disability and Age Task Force strengthened partnerships with civil society, particularly organizations of persons with disabilities, to advance inclusive service delivery. These organizations had a leading role in rapid assessments and service mapping, helping to identify gaps in legal aid, specialized therapies, and humanitarian assistance. Civil society engagement contributed to improved referral pathways, efficient use of resources, and closer collaboration with local authorities. Through the provision of assistive devices, rehabilitation services, and essential information, civil society organizations expanded outreach to hard-to-reach populations. Their sustained involvement in monitoring and advocacy ensured continued access to services while strengthening community-based protection and resilience.

Refugee Participation and Social Cohesion

The Disability and Age Task Force promoted meaningful participation through inclusive group activities and information sessions, engaging more than 40 refugees in discussions on rights and available services. Structured dialogue sessions brought together refugees, families, and local authorities to address discrimination, exclusion risks and improve access to services. Refugee feedback informed programmatic adjustments, while community events fostered trust and reduced social isolation. By integrating the perspectives of older persons and persons with disabilities, these efforts strengthened accountability and responsiveness to the needs of both refugee and host communities.

Age, Gender and Diversity

The Disability and Age Task Force Integrated Age, Gender, and Diversity principles across its programming in 2025, addressing the specific needs of older persons, women with disabilities, and Roma refugees. Partners used disaggregated data and participatory approaches to identify gaps and tailor support. Targeted assistance, including essential item distribution, mental health support, and social activities, promoted inclusion among refugee and host community seniors. These efforts strengthened access to services, dignity, and participation for individuals at heightened risk.

Spotlight Story

Alina*, a refugee child with a severe disability had remained undocumented for years, leaving the family unable to access essential services and support. With guidance from Keystone Moldova's SATGPD Hotline, contracted by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the family received assistance to navigate the complex administrative procedures required to regularize the Alina's status. The hotline supported the preparation of citizenship and disability documentation facilitating engagement with the Public Services Agency. Following a formal request, authorities expedited the application process, enabling Alina to obtain legal identity and recognition of an indefinite disability degree. This intervention allowed Alina to access state-guaranteed rights and services, illustrating how targeted support can help families overcome administrative barriers and ensure protection for children with specific needs.

* The child's name has been changed to protect their identity.

Anti-Trafficking Task Force

Task Force Co-Chairs:

State Chancellery, IOM, La Strada

Key Achievements

In 2025, the Anti-Trafficking Task Force and the inter-ministerial counter-trafficking group convened to align prevention and protection efforts and address emerging risks of exploitation. Awareness-raising activities reached more than 2,900 refugees and vulnerable host community members on trafficking in human beings and gender-based violence. The State Chancellery introduced its first social contracting mechanism, partnering with the International Center "La Strada" to implement national prevention activities that reached 642 children, youth, and professionals, while the "Invizibili" exhibitions engaged 268 participants nationwide. Capacity-building initiatives trained 2,125 specialists, including National Referral Mechanism professionals and law enforcement, on proactive victim identification and protection. Authorities identified 108 victims of trafficking, of whom 51 received specialized assistance. Operational hotlines on both banks of the Nistru handled 11,484 calls, and an online platform registered 15,548 reports of child sexual abuse material. Overall, 10,278 vulnerable individuals, including refugees, received direct assistance, supporting a coordinated, multi-sectoral response to trafficking and exploitation risks.

Challenges and Gaps

In 2025, trafficking trends in Moldova continued to evolve, with the country increasingly functioning as a destination for victims of trafficking despite fewer potential victims being formally identified. Partners observed a rise in internal trafficking, alongside emerging forms of exploitation, including surrogacy-related exploitation, forced involvement in criminal activities, and the exploitation of persons with intellectual disabilities. Increased use of digital platforms for recruitment further complicated prevention and identification efforts. At the same time, reductions in specialized CCTP roles and staff turnover in police and social institutions risk weakening long-term identification and prosecution capacity. Moldova also continued to face significant gaps in long-term reintegration, healthcare access, and compensation for victims, particularly foreign nationals, while reliance on donor-funded services raised sustainability concerns. The February 2025 European Court of Human Rights judgment further underscored systemic protection gaps and the need for stronger procedures, safeguards, and prevention efforts targeting high-risk groups, including in rural communities.

Challenges and Gaps

To strengthen the Government's anti-trafficking response in 2025, Task Force capacity-building efforts targeted key frontline actors across the protection chain. A total of 39 police officers and prosecutors were trained on trafficking in human beings and child trafficking, alongside 335 border police officers and 26 labor inspectors on trafficking indicators and victim identification. In addition, 209 prosecutors, judges, and investigators strengthened capacities on trafficking cases, financial investigations, and asset recovery. Support to the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection included technical assistance from four Victim Protection Coordinators, training for 255 social workers across 11 districts, and broader capacity-building for 708 frontline specialists within the National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Crime. Infrastructure support included refurbishment of 2 accommodation centres for victims and potential victims of trafficking, establishment of a specialized center for refugees with disabilities in Orhei, and renovation of a child-friendly hearing room at the Chișinău Court.

National and Local Civil Society Engagement and Support

The Anti-Trafficking Task Force sustained key partnerships with local civil society organizations to ensure access to specialized victim support in 2025. Two hotlines operating on both banks of the Nistru handled 11,484 calls, while the "SigurOnline" platform received 15,548 reports of child sexual abuse material. Civil society partners provided legal, medical, and psychosocial support, as well as shelter and vocational assistance, to vulnerable refugees and other individuals at risk of exploitation. In parallel, Women-led Initiatives strengthened local capacity by training lawyers on forensic psychological examination, supporting to ensure a coordinated and accessible protection response for the affected populations.

Refugee Participation and Social Cohesion

In 2025, information sessions across the country prioritized the prevention of trafficking in human beings and gender-based violence among refugees, community mediators, and local leaders. Mobile teams and specialized partner organizations provided case-by-case referrals for individuals at risk of exploitation. To strengthen accountability to affected populations, assessments of AAP policies were conducted with local civil society organizations supporting more meaningful refugee participation in prevention and response activities, while ensuring that community feedback informed anti-trafficking strategies. By linking community engagement with protection standards, the Task Force contributed to a more responsive and inclusive environment for those most at risk.

Age, Gender and Diversity

The Anti-Trafficking Task Force Integrated Age, Gender, and Diversity principles across its response in 2025, using disaggregated data collected UN Agencies and civil society partners to identify distinct protection risks and needs. Interventions were tailored to women, older persons, persons with disabilities, and other groups facing heightened exposure to exploitation, including Roma refugees. Targeted awareness-raising and direct assistance helped ensure that marginalized populations were reached with appropriate support. By systematically reflecting diversity considerations in analysis and response, the Task Force strengthened an inclusive, protection-centered approach that upheld dignity and improved responsiveness to the specific risks faced by different groups.

Spotlight Story

On 23 December 2025, the Anti-Trafficking Task Force, led by the State Chancellery's Permanent Secretariat and co-chaired by IOM and La Strada, held its final meeting. As part of the refugee response transition, the Task Force was integrated into the existing Counter-Trafficking Technical Coordination Group, which will now address refugee-specific risks under the 2024–2028 National Action Plan. While the Task Force may be reactivated in an emergency, IOM will continue monitoring developments and reporting to the Refugee Response Plan Protection Working Group. This transition strengthens continuity by embedding the refugee response within Moldova's national anti-trafficking system.