

## Inter-Agency Coordination

### Moldova

<b>Meeting subject:</b>	Moldova Protection Working Group Meeting
<b>Time &amp; location:</b>	30 March 2022, Zoom
<b>Chaired by:</b>	Yasmin Sener, UNHCR, Protection Officer
<b>Participants:</b>	AAR Japan, ACTED, Actionaid, CERI, CWS, Dorcas, DRC, ECHO, HelpAge, HI, IOM, IRC, IsraAid, Keystone, LCA, Mercy Corps, OHCHR, OSCE, OXFAM, SDC, STL, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, USAID, WHO, WVI, Terre des Hommes

### AGENDA

- Border updates
- Update on Regional Refugee Plan extension
- Launch of referral pathways
- Updates from SWGs/Task Forces
  - Child protection SWG
  - Disabilities TF
  - Workplan TF
- Update on the site monitoring tool
- PSS
- Trafficking

### DISCUSSION

#### Border Updates

LCA/CDA presented the latest updates on border monitoring:

#### Palanca border update:

Number of asylum claims: 3888

1500 entering Moldova and 1400 going back to Ukraine.

People with specific needs: Single mothers, old persons, people with disabilities coming to Moldova and leaving for Ukraine.

Generally, the aim is to transit Moldova and reach to EU. The Ukrainians remaining in Moldova usually have relatives in the country. Some are undecided about staying or leaving Moldova.

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Reasons for returning to Ukraine are mainly difficulty in sustaining living in Moldova, return to help their family, end of military operation in the country of origin. Roma persons are observed to commute between Moldova and Ukraine on a daily basis. There are military checkpoints before Palanca BCP. Men who can reach Palanca, claim asylum in Moldova. Guardianship authority is present at the border crossing point (BCP) from 8:00 to 17:00 every day. 3 cases of 16-year-old children have been identified at the Palanca bus station. According to Ukrainian laws children of 16-year-old above are allowed to travel without parents. RM Border guards granted them access to MD, but on the territory of Moldova, they are considered minors.

Otaci border update: 730 pedestrians, including children, enter Moldova, and 629 go back to Ukraine daily. Some have stated that they intend to stay in Moldova until the war ends, others have contacts waiting for them, usually in EU countries. There is small cross-border traffic. People from Mogilev-Podolsk coming for shopping in Moldova and are visiting their relatives here. No request for shelter from those crossing the border.

Other BCPs: 90% women and women with children transiting Moldova to EU. Several military checkpoints before BCP on the Ukrainian side. Only the military checkpoints closer to the BCPs are checking people intensely. Cases of illegal border crossings were identified at Cahul, Caplani, Basarabasca.

#### Update on Regional Refugee Plan extension

UNHCR presented the initial planning figure as 300,000 persons staying in Moldova and updates of the figures will be updated as need be. The RRP timeframe has been extended from August 2022 to December 31, 2022, to be aligned with the HRP inside Ukraine. The budgetary needs are added yet the narrative part and the indicators need some more adjustments. UNFPA suggested using 250,000 as the planning figure.

#### Updates from Task Forces

Child Protection SWG: The Child Protection SWG is currently working on:

1. Unaccompanied and separated children and the draft will be shared this week with the partners.
2. Blue dots concept note which will be presented on Friday.

Disability TF: Keystone announced that the first DTF meeting will be held on 31.03.2022. Keystone had several preparatory meetings with INGOs, Alliance of Organizations for People with Disabilities from Moldova, and counterparts from the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and discussed such issues as:

1. Identification of accessible accommodation centers with adapted utilities,
2. Coordination with the persons with disabilities from Ukraine and preparation for new arrivals,
3. Procurement of a PWD-friendly van by the Ministry for transportation from the border points for persons with disabilities (at the moment only two vans of NGOs are available in Moldova),
4. Problem to identify persons with disabilities, as not all of them are registered at the social protection department.

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Fixed dates for these meetings:

CP SWG - co-chaired by UNICEF & UNHCR, meetings on Wednesdays at 16:00.

DTF – co-chaired by UNHCR & Keystone, meetings on Thursdays at 10:00.

Workplan TF will be established soon.

#### Launch of referral pathways

UNHCR presented the referral pathways services mapping at the meeting. The document contains a mapping of the available services with the relevant focal persons' contact details to enable humanitarian workers and caseworkers to refer cases. The Referral Pathways Task Force will continue to improve the document and complement it with a glossary of terms, a narrative on referral procedures, and an IA referral form.

UNFPA's suggestion to provide training on case management is agreed upon by UNHCR.

The template can be found [here](#). For access requests, please contact [senery@unhcr.org](mailto:senery@unhcr.org)

#### PSS

Psychosocial support will be a standing agenda item of the PWG and WHO will update all the sector members on that topic. WHO's presentation is shared with the meeting minutes. WHO shared the link to the orientation session on MHPSS Minimum Service Package. MHPSS materials are available online yet are not printed.

Moldova MHPSS TF has been established, currently meeting on a bi-weekly basis. If you are planning to implement or already implementing MHPSS activities, please, contact Lidiia Kasianchuk, WHO MHPSS Consultant, [kasianchukl@who.int](mailto:kasianchukl@who.int)

#### Trafficking

La Strada is experienced in the anti-trafficking field working on awareness & prevention, response, and risk reduction areas.

Several improvements took place at Palanca to prevent trafficking including the distribution of 'Stay safe' flyers. Training to the cash enrolment staff has been provided.

IOM agrees on working on prevention and making sure that other actors have anti-trafficking materials with hotlines inside and outside the country. IOM is ready to provide support and train frontline workers at Palanca.

#### Update on the site monitoring tool

UNHCR has presented the site monitoring tool in the previous PWGs and received valuable feedback which will allow improvement of the tool. REACH will be responsible for the IM of the tool, and the tool will be finalized as soon as possible. Some organizations expressed their willingness to join the harmonized protection-sensitive site monitoring exercise, if others are willing to join as well, they can send an email to [senery@unhcr.org](mailto:senery@unhcr.org).