



Inter-Agency Refugee Education Working Group (IREWG) Meeting		Location	Remote – via Zoom
Chairs	Larisa Virtosu (LV), UNICEF, Adriana Cazacu (AC), MER	Date and Time	Friday, 20 May 2022, 13:00 -14:00
ESWG members participating	MER, UNICEF, the World Bank, OHCHR, CCF Moldova, Plan International, International Rescue Committee, UNWOMEN, UNFPA, UNDP, UNCHR, REACH, MFA		
Agenda Items	Main Points Discussed	Actions	Responsible Persons
Endorsement of previous Meeting Minutes Aprobarea procesului-verbal al sedintei anterioare	Previous meeting minutes were endorsed by IREWG members.		
Update on the inclusion of refugee children, including children with disabilities into the national education system, formal and non-formal programmes. Summer plans. Actualizarea informatiei privitor la includerea copiilor refugiati, inclusiv a copiilor cu dizabilitati in sistemul educational national, programe formale si non-formale. Planuri pentru vara. Q & A Intrebari/Raspunsuri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to MER data on refugee children as of 20th May 2022, the number of refugee children is decreasing. Currently, the official number of refugee children in Moldova is 7,087, including 2,588 children of preschool age. 1,717 refugee children are enrolled in the national education system across the country. 675 children are enrolled in 259 kindergartens (up to 2 years – 18 children; up to 3 years – 130 children; up to 4 years – 175 children; up to 5 years – 190 children; up to 6 years – 125 children; up to 7 years – 37 children). 1,042 refugee children are enrolled in 219 schools across the country. Most of them are enrolled in primary schools (547 children), followed by those enrolled in secondary school (456 children) and 39 children enrolled in high school. 102 children requested to attend Romanian speaking classes and 940 children requested to attend Russian speaking classes. 318 refugee children are enrolled in extracurricular educational institutions, including 9 of preschool age). MER mentioned that they presented the list of needs for children’s summer holidays to the Unique crisis management center. The Secretary-General of State Chancellery is organizing a meeting to discuss the organization of summer camps. Among the needs, MER mentioned the procurement of the tickets for the refugee children (the estimative cost of a ticket this year is 3,500 MDL for 10 days). Another concern of MER is the organization of the graduation exams and the admission exams for bachelor’s and master’s degrees for refugee children from Ukraine who are on the territory of the Republic of Moldova. MER is in touch with colleagues from the Ministry of Education of Ukraine. MER is in the process of opening and equipping 10 computer labs within the refugee children’s placement centers (in Universities, and schools from different regions of the country). UNICEF and other partners will open summer camps for recreational activities as well as for activities that will help make up for children’s learning loss after the pandemic and the war in Ukraine. Also, classes will be organized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The list of the needs for children’s summer camps (number of camps that will potentially open this year, sport equipment, games for children) and the breakdown of the cost (3,500 MDL) will be provided by MER. The updates on the sanitary requirements and management of the summer camps will be announced to the IREWG during the next meeting. <p>1,000 computers are expected to be procured by</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MER All IREWG members



	<p>for studying the Romanian language and enhancing social inclusion of the refugee children who will stay in Moldova.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLAN INTERNATIONAL updated the IREWG about a training for Chisinau Municipality with the focus on psychosocial support and social-emotional learning for 100 teachers. The training modules will be soon available in English, Russian and Romanian. • UNICEF started trainings for 900 teachers with the focus on inclusive education, child-centered methodologies, life skills, and social cohesion skills for refugee children. UNICEF Moldova and UNICEF Romania will publish a communication guide in Romanian and Ukrainian for preschool children (3-6 years). • LUMOS informed about the opening of a summer school for both Moldovan and refugee children for which the concept is being examined and developed. More details will follow. Also, activities for June 1st are being planned under the coordination of MER. • UNFPA updated that the existing Orange Safe Spaces (OSS) will be operational during the summer and new ones will be created. OSS are equipped with libraries (books and e-books in Romanian, Ukrainian and Russian), and will offer Romanian learning programs. Also, the “Know the country that hosts you” program will be launched through OSS, which implies organizing trips for Moldovan and refugee children to help them with social inclusion. • Step by Step mentioned that besides the trainings of 900 teachers with UNICEF Moldova, the CSO organized activity centers for refugee children. Step by Step has a successful experience in organizing this kind of centers in the “Licurici” Theatre with mixed activities. 4 Ukrainian teachers are actively involved in helping them with all the activities. • UN Women confirmed its willingness to provide support for improving the teaching modules from the gender perspective. 	<p>UNICEF within one month and delivered to MER.</p>	
<p>Preliminary results of the rapid education needs assessment for refugee children</p> <p>Rezultatele preliminare ale evaluării rapide a necesităților copiilor refugiați în educație</p> <p>Q & A</p> <p>Intrebari/Raspunsuri</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IsraAID presented a preliminary analysis of the findings of the rapid education needs assessment of refugee children, based on the questionnaire collected from 550 mothers and 1% Roma people. Some interesting facts from the preliminary analysis are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 61% of refugees are staying in Chisinau Municipality; o 96% of the interviewees are females; o 13% of the refugees are with teaching background; o 10% of the refugees are children with special needs; o 30% of refugees are staying in Moldova for more than 8 weeks; o 11% are staying in placement centers, the rest stay with host families or in the private rental arrangement. • UNICEF pointed out the importance of having the information on the needs of children with disabilities and the reasons why refugees don’t want to enroll children in the national education system. • The City Hall, together with their international partners, is launching a campaign called “Help me to help you” with the purpose of identifying children exposed to risks, ensuring their protection, and managing and monitoring 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF • ISRA AID, INGO • CBS Research National NGO



	<p>the situation. The Municipality is willing to carry out joint actions with IsraAID and compare the questionnaire they have created to become more efficient in detecting the needs of refugee children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCHR supports the inclusion of refugee children in the national education system for its high quality. UNHCR further pointed out that online schooling is not a substitute for the national education system given a small portion of the children reached.		
Follow-up and next steps Pasii urmatoari	The Refugee Response Plan (RRP) and 5W Matrix are living documents that are continuously updated with the latest activities and indicators. Partners are encouraged to add their activities in the matrix and update it on a regular basis.		IREWG Members