



## Protection Working Group

Meeting Details	
Date	15 June 2022
Time	10am – 11am
Chair	Rafika Khelifi, Blue Dot Coordinator, UNHCR, Elena Maria Calix Tejeda, Associate Interagency Coordination Officer, UNHCR
Reporting	Elena Maria Calix Tejeda, Associate Interagency Coordination Officer, UNHCR
Email	<a href="mailto:mdachrcf@unhcr.org">mdachrcf@unhcr.org</a>
Agenda	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome / Announcements</li><li>• Anti-Trafficking Task Force</li><li>• LGBTI refugee protection and PRIDE</li><li>• Roma Task Force updates and priorities</li><li>• Third Country Nationals and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration</li><li>• Standing items: MHPSS</li></ul>	
Information collection and relevant links	
Please use the below link to fill out information <a href="#">Moldova Pride Festival program</a> Link to operational data portal: <a href="https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784">https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784</a>	
Participants	



OHCHR	Humanity and Inclusion,	CUGC	SDC
UNFPA	Global Medics,	Help Age International,	UK FCDO
UNDP	Medical Corps,	IRC Moldova,	CERI
UNICEF	We World,	Plan International	Concordia
UNHCR	INTERSOS,	CDA	
IOM	World Hope International,	CRS	
WHO	Action Aid,	Caritas	
IMC	DRC,	ECHO	
Care International	Help Age	INTERSOS	

### Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
<p><b>Welcome / Announcements</b></p>	<p>Rafika Khelifi welcomed the participants and presented the agenda of the meeting.</p> <p>IOM representative announced the creation on 24 June of an Anti-trafficking Task Force and interested persons are invited to the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting which will take place in a hybrid form on 24 June, at 15:00-16:30 in the premises of the State Chancellery. If interested, please reach for details to: <a href="mailto:ursol@unhcr.org">ursol@unhcr.org</a></p> <p>UNHCR informed that the PSEA Network is currently hosting a high-level mission on PSEA. The visitors are Jane Holl Lute: Special Coordinator on Improving UN Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Diane Goodman: UNHCR's Senior Coordinator on PSEA and Sexual Harassment, Wendy Cue: Senior Coordinator on Protection from SEA from OCHA, Eric Cottenoir: Senior Political Affairs Officer from OSCSEA, and Sofian Mossallam: Special Assistant/Political Affairs Officer from OSCSEA. The aim of the visit is to better understand SEA risks faced by refugees from Ukraine in Moldova and operational challenges.</p>	<p>To sign up frontline specialist to the EPU Roster</p> <p><b>Responsible:</b> All interested actors</p>



	<p>Organizations are encouraged to join the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) network, local NGOs are especially encouraged to promote contextualization within the network. If you are interested in joining you can contact the PSEA Coordinator, Kristin Schmitz <a href="mailto:atschmitzk@unhcr.org">atschmitzk@unhcr.org</a></p> <p>The UNHCR chair of the meeting also announced the creation of 2 new Blue Dots by UNHCR, additional to 6 created in collaboration with UNICEF: the 1st at the community center in Chisinau, run by Moldova for Peace and the 2nd at the Temporary Asylum Centre near the Airport, run by CCR. Dates of the official inauguration will be announced soon and if any details required, to contact: <a href="mailto:khelifi@unhcr.org">khelifi@unhcr.org</a></p> <p>UNHCR GBV Officer informs concerning the Emergency Protection Units (EPU) training, related to the contingency planning in case of an “Odesa scenario” that there is a need to sign for the EPU roster and more trainings will be organized in the coming weeks. Also, thanks for the active participation of sector members in the training.</p>	
<p><b>LGBTI refugee protection and PRIDE</b></p>	<p>UNHCR GBV Officer enhanced on the importance of the correct terminology employed verbally and in written considering LGBTIQ+ community and members, informative materials on this subject were disseminated to the participants.</p> <p>Key protection concerns for LGBTIQ+ refugees are physical and emotional safety, discrimination, access to territory and asylum procedures, access to humanitarian services as cash, accommodation etc., access to health care, access to livelihood.</p> <p>Key recommendations are to engage with LGBTIQ+ organizations and networks, to encourage the active participation of LGBTIQ+ persons in programs, to develop safe spaces, to capacitate staff and partners, recruit staff from different genders and backgrounds, to address barriers to safe and equal access for LGBTIQ+ persons to humanitarian services and support, to raise awareness and advocate, to integrated into core Protection work as referral pathways, legal support, awareness, PSS,</p>	<p>To send updated Terms of Reference for EPU</p> <p><b>Responsible:</b> UNHCR <b>Deadline:</b> 28 June</p>



	<p>accountability. GENDERDOC-M hotline for the support of the LGBTIQ+ refugees is: +37360491200.</p> <p>At the end, she presented <a href="#">Moldova Pride Festival program</a>, ‘Words are a weapon’, Organized with the support of GENDERDOC-M, a series of events between 13th and 19th of June, June 18th, all day Pride Park and on June 19 the Solidarity March.</p>	
<p>Roma Task Force updates and priorities</p>	<p>UNHCR representative, co-chair of the Roma Task Force presented the last updates and the first results of the Roma Task Force.</p> <p><b>Joint meetings and field visits with various stakeholders</b>, which allowed the Roma Local Community to be listened and heard, to reach agreement on several actions and to understand the role of Roma Community Mediators and Community leaders.</p> <p><b>Employment of at least 3Roma Community Mediators and specialists, Women and Men:</b> 1 Roma Community Mediator was employed by the Crisis Centre with the financial support of the UNHCR to consult and assist the activities toward the Roma refugees from Ukraine. He was presented at the Protection Working Group Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> of June.</p> <p><b>At least 2INGOs INTERSOS and Medecins du Monde employed 1Roma Community Mediator and 1 PSS specialist:</b> These INGOs and some other are planning hiring Roma Community mediators and psychologists of a Roma ethnicity. Collaboration and enhanced coordination on solving difficult medical and legal cases.</p> <p><b>Collaboration among the RTF for humanitarian needs:</b> On a regular basis, private fundraising or some INGOs and donors, it allows to establish trust with isolated communities and allows a possibility to refer medical, legal cases and other needs.</p> <p><b>Better coordination of the Child protection partners providing services, esp. in RACs,</b> was obtained a better repartition of CP services in the country, RACs esp., some of</p>	



	<p>them could be like services provided by Blue Dots Roma Community Mediator, representative of the Crisis Centre, Marin Alla, presented the <b>7 Priorities for the short-term of his activity</b>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Management reorganization: clear repartition of responsibilities and liability among the 3 administrators of the RAC Test emiteanu 6. (Including actions for a more transparent and equitable distribution of food and maintaining of order and cleaning)</li> <li>2. Child Safe Space available and number of actions of coordination and list of needs with the services providers and donor</li> <li>3. Medical cases and registration and statistics (including based on the case of the disappeared family with 4 children, as well as observations of number of persons present)</li> <li>4. Measures with the Ministry of Education, Health and Labor and Social Protection on job seekers (not yet discussed the obtaining of a profession measures)</li> <li>5. Letter of information to managers of RACs and other measures concerning discrimination of Roma in RACs.</li> <li>6. Mapping of the Roma refugees</li> <li>7. Restart of the system distribution of donations in a more equitable manner (system is overload by demands addressed to some RACs)</li> </ol> <p>UNICEF representative asked about undocumented children, without birth certificates, UNHCR representative answered based on cases and pointed out that this situation is of a particularly concern for some new-borns and Roma refugees who entered left bank of the river Dniestr.</p> <p>If interested in the Roma Task and Roma Community Mediator activity, contact: <a href="mailto:bitca@unhcr.org">bitca@unhcr.org</a> and <a href="mailto:marinalla444@gmail.com">marinalla444@gmail.com</a></p>	
<b>Third Country Nationals and</b>	IOM representative informed that over 3700 third country nationals are present in Moldova, over 50 %are men. Main countries of origin are Azerbaijan, Russian	



<b>Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration</b>	<p>Federation, Georgia and Turkey. Main countries of destination are Republic of Moldova, Germany, Azerbaijan, Romania and Turkey. He further presented several cases in detail.</p> <p>IOM representative informed that the main assistance provided for the most vulnerable persons: elderly persons, chronicle diseases, persons with disabilities, single parents with 3 and more children, pregnant women. The main assistance is including the following services: (self)referred, initial assessment and counselling, documents, medical examination and prescription of medication, pre-departure accommodation, pre-embarkation health check, escort, medical and other, pocket money, flight tickets, transit and reception assistance, referral to service providers in country of return, reintegration grants, if eligible.</p> <p>Other assistance available for third country nationals: medical, Institute of Oncology, dialysis, accommodation via joint program with Airbnb, PSS, limited cash assistance, facilitation of access to other assistance and facilitation of documents.</p>	
PSS updates	<p>WHO representative attired attention to several points concerning the refugee response. First, acute mental health problems occurrence, which require immediate professional consultation, increased from 3,6 % in March to 6 % in June. If the demand of consultations is increasing, then the response might be adjusted accordingly.</p> <p>Second, she reminded the intervention pyramid with the basement on social considerations in basic services and security and shared her concerns that the national response to the refugee crisis still not included at least 3 major actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activities of scaling-up such as trainings for trainers</li><li>• Social consideration of the basic services and security. As RACs are becoming not a temporary accommodation, but a place for a more long-term living, concerns are raised if not sufficient access of refugees to PSS or WASH services. -Activities for elderly persons.</li></ul>	



	<p>Representative of HelpAge International stated that the organization is developing procedures for safe spaces and activities for older persons and will bilaterally collaborate with the WHO representative for further discussions and actions.</p> <p>UNHCR representative also stated that some activities for elderly persons are deployed by several NGOs. For more information on mental health, trainings, and workshops, please reach to: Lidia Kasianchuk, E-mail: <a href="mailto:kasianchukl@who.int">kasianchukl@who.int</a></p>	
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