

Child Protection Sub-Working Group - Romania 28 April 2022, 11:30-1:00 (hybrid)

Participants: Action Aid, Adra, ANPDCA, CNRR, DRC, FONSS, ICRC, IOM, Plan International, Project Hope, Save the Children, UNHCR and UNICEF

Welcome and Introductions

Overview of Review Situation in Romania

- Since 24 February, **801,350** Ukrainians have arrived in Romania (as of 28 April 2022) – estimated 34% children. **715,070** have departed Romania and **86,280** are presently in the country. **10,894** have applied for temporary protection.
- 2498 unaccompanied children registered, of which 574 registered between 24 Feb and 18 March and 1924 registered between 19 March and 27 April. Of the 574, 254 are in special protection and of the 1924, 1637 transited and have departed Romania, 258 are accommodated in the community with adult relatives and 29 unaccompanied (all alone) children are being followed up on.

Follow-up from last week's meeting

- ANPDCA requested to provide regular updates on data pertaining to children, particularly unaccompanied, arriving in Romania
 - 2498 unaccompanied children registered, of which 574 registered between 24 Feb and 18 March and 1924 registered between 19 March and 27 April. Of the 574, 254 are in special protection and of the 1924, 1637 transited and have departed Romania, 258 are accommodated in the community with adult relatives and 29 unaccompanied (all alone) children are being followed up on.
- Questions were raised on whether there is provision in Romania's legal framework on the provision of cash assistance to children and ANPDCA confirmed there is not, but that the necessary safeguards should be in place and unaccompanied children in the care of the child protection authority should be accompanied by their legal representative when collecting cash assistance.

5W

- UNHCR provide brief review of the recorded CP activities in the respective locations (as of 26 April) through the UNHCR Power BI site. Link will be made available shortly to all members to review areas of gaps and duplication of services. *UNHCR and UNICEF to review how Blue Dots are presented on the 5W to ensure available activities are accurately reflected.*
- Need to identify method to include other organizations, not currently participating in the CP SWG, in the 5W and assess interest in participation in the coordination forum.
- Next step is to link the 5W to referral pathways, which will need to be mapped at county and national level, for both government and organizations' child protection services.

AOB

- Plan International and Care will conduct a rapid gender analysis next week, to identify needs, capacities and priorities, and welcome collaboration with interested organizations.
- In this week's Protection WG, concerns on new birth registration were raised, particularly in the area of need for parents' birth and marriage certificates to be translated into Romanian (and associated costs) and questions on length of time. *Izabella to follow-up and revert back next week.*
- 5W questions addressed and additional details will be shared soon on how to amend and update planned and on-going CP activities through the Kobo link. Members also reminded to update the assessment registry with any completed, planned and on-going CP assessments.
- On the question of implementing the National Action plan with partners, CP SWG members were interested to know whether the government will 1) reach out to specific NGOs or UN agencies 2) solicit organization to submit proposals or 3) coordinate through the CP SWG. None were ruled out during the meeting. *Izabella to follow-up once the National Action plan is endorsed and approved by the Minister and explain to the CP SWG how the government will identify partners for implementing the National Action plan.*

Next steps / action points

- CP SWG TORs were circulated with members requested to share feedback by COB Tuesday ahead of next meeting where TORs will be endorsed. Draft CP SWG action plan will also be shared by next Thursday for review and input.
- UNHCR to follow-up on method to update Kobo link for 5W and share with members.
- UNHCR to send out meeting invites to organizations interested in participating in technical groups on harmonization of cash-based interventions and capacity-building initiatives and training packages.

The next CP SWG meeting (in hybrid format) will be held on 5 May 2022 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.