

Notes from Romania Refugee Coordination Forum Health WG

11 May 2022, online 1.30-3 PM (Bucharest time)

Agenda:

1. Information management (Stefan Lorint, UNHCR) – 5W matrix
2. Presentation of activity (WG members in order of response to an invitation Cassandra sent them) – this will likely last for several meetings
3. AOB

Next steps:

1. The meetings have been scheduled biweekly (occurring every two weeks) – next meeting 26 May. NGOs may offer an overview of their activities on an ad-hoc basis. Project Hope to present next meeting.
2. For any comments or suggestions for next topics for discussion, contact Cassandra Butu: 0726785380.

Main points:

1. Fill in the [5W Matrix](#) which helps partners to coordinate their efforts. For any questions on how to fill in the matrix itself / access to the platform, please contact Stefan at lorints@unhcr.org.
2. Email the National Intervention Command and Coordination Centre (Mol)/ dispecerat.cncci@igsu.ro to give you access to data about refugees centers' locations.
3. Aggregated data (period 28 April-10 May) on refugees' hospital admissions and discharges indicate a low service utilization. Inform WHO if you know hospitals / clinics that are refugee friendly / refugee inclusive so we can take it further.
4. Health care coverage and insurance should be the same for Ukrainian refugees and Romanians, regardless of temporary permit status. Doctors can register patients in the system with no ID papers (but sometimes reluctant to do so).
5. Education for UKR children is available in Bucharest but not used due to lack of information and potential reluctance from parent. In Cluj, there is demand but insufficient offer.

Topics:

1. Completion of 5W Matrix for activity mapping – to support partners' coordination

- Stefan Lorint (UNHCR, Snr Information Management Assistant) presented the procedures for completing [5W Matrix](#) which helps partners to coordinate their efforts. Health group was asked to fill in the information on a monthly basis, noting there is no need to fill in all fields at this time. The information can be updated, as needed, and feeds into UNHCR's global operations data portal.
- For any questions on how to fill in the matrix itself / access to the platform, please contact Stefan at lorints@unhcr.org.
- SoPs to be shared soon by UNHCR; the current dashboard will be improved.

2. UNHCR guidance about accessing location of refugees' centers

- NGOs raised the issue of having access to the refugees' center map / locations in order to provide needed services.
- UNHCR colleagues guided upon the procedure to get access to these data: email CNCCI at dispecerat.cncci@igsu.ro with the request to help you with the addresses of the centers in Bucharest (or areas that you need) in which you would like to provide services/ develop interventions. CNCCI = National Intervention Command and Coordination Centre (Mol).

3. WHO presented the aggregated data (period 28 April-10 May) received from MoH on refugees' hospital admissions and discharges. Current figures indicate a low service utilization, with hospital bed occupancy at 1.5% capacity.

- Bucharest, Tulcea, Buzău, Suceava, Cluj counties have the highest occupancy numbers.
- WHO will explore further what are the 'other chronic diseases' as they are topping the charts in non-surgical wards.
- WHO will approach hospitals about supporting them to respond better to refugees' needs. There are field missions in progress in Iasi and Suceava, Brasov planned for next week.
- Please inform us if you know hospitals / clinics that are refugee friendly / refugee inclusive so we can take it further.

4. NGOs activities overview – Youth for Youth; Save the Children

- [Youth for Youth](#) presented their activities which cover health and non-health services for both adults, children and teenagers.

- These meetings have been useful as they provide a needed platform for information sharing between partners and with the target audience.
- Save the Children are present in all PoEs and cities of Bucharest, Iasi, Galati and Baia Mare. They are providing a variety of services to refugees in transit and to those staying longer periods of time. Core services refer to social protection, which include cash transfers, in kind donations and a MHPSS centre. There are 120 persons / day and language is the main barrier. A list / map of GPs who speak RUS or UKR would make a lot of difference.
- 50-60% of the refugees are asking to be referred to UKR or RUS speaking GPs; and they are also seeking immunization for children. Even if they write to GPs in EN, often they are not answered to. Some of them needed hospital care and they were well received and treated in SUUB / Bucharest University Emergency Hospital.
- Noting that NGOs and iNGOs were not eager to present an overview of their activities, we will keep this topic on the agenda for partners to present ad-hoc.

5. Services and entitlements for refugees

- Certificates from Forensic Institute for cases of domestic or sexual violence. Question of cost of certificate for Ukrainian refugees.
- Under Emergency Ordinance 20, which has revised and updated OUG 15, refugees can access same health care and insurance as Romanians regardless of temporary permit status. WHO and partners need to work with hospitals and providers to understand current and new ordinances.
- Health information and how to access services is being requested by refugees. WHO is working on developing a one page leaflet (bilingual) for distribution at Blue Dots, though information keeps changing and will need to be updated.

6. Education for UKR children – available but not used due to lack of information and potential reluctance

- Regina Maria Foundation informed that, in Bucharest area there are schools ready to receive UKR children but they are rather empty. On one hand, the parents are not aware they exist, but also there maybe a reluctance to leave the center. UNITY School for Refugee Children is depicted here <https://fundatiainovatiisociale.ro/proiecte/scoala-pentru-copii-ucraineni-unity-school/>
- Note there are 3 locations: Uruguay School, Baneasa, Corbeanca.
- PEDITEL *Cluj based NGO* informed that the refugees may not know about these schools. In Cluj they are assailed by parents' requests, but places are not available and so they are on waiting lists. Parents / refugees tend to use Telegram, not WhatsApp or web searches.

Participants

1. Cassandra Butu, officer in charge, WHO Romania
2. Heather Jue Wong, WHO/ EURO
3. Celine Roman, WHO/ EURO
4. Jetri Regmi, WHO/ EURO
5. Lucinda Hiam, WHO/ EURO
6. Andreea Popescu, NPO, WHO Romania
7. Sorana Mocanu, WHO Romania
8. Ioana Novac, WHO Romania
9. Stefan Lorint, UNHCR
10. Sandra Harlass, UNHCR
11. Anca Moldovan, Dana Timotin, Alina Myinia, WHO CO interpreters

Refugees

12. Marina Kornilova, medical doctor, infectious disease specialist / HIV, Bucharest based

NGOs

1. Irina Mateescu, independent midwife, director of AIM
2. Adina Manea, Youth for Youth
3. Mihaela Mangu, Asociatia ANAIS
4. Cristina Adam, Save the Children/ Salvati Copii
5. Dorica Dan, Rare Disease, Prader Willi Association Romania
6. Fabiana Faria, Oxfam
7. Cristiana Mateoiu, Fundatia Regina Maria
8. Marina Maslovskya, Médecins du Monde
9. Andreea Constantin, Asociația MAME
10. Marina Maslovskya, Médecins du Monde
11. Alina Comanescu, Asociația Sănătate pentru Comunitate
12. Kis Balázs, Society of Saint Vincent of Saul
13. Fidelie Kalambayi, Fundatia RAA
14. Roland Schwanke, Project HOPE
15. Galyna Gingeoveanu
16. P Mohan, Cnslt