

## Cash Working Group MOLDOVA

Meeting Details	
Date	27 October 2022, next meeting 10 November 2022
Time	09.00 to 10.00
Co-Chair	Yigit Anil Gurer, CBI Officer, UNHCR / Alexandru Iacub, Secretary of State, MoLSP
Reporting	Natalia Postaru, Associate Programme CBI Officer
Email	<a href="mailto:mdachcbi@unhcr.org">mdachcbi@unhcr.org</a>
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome &amp; Induction</li> <li>2. Quadripartite Project on Shock-Responsiveness - Cash for Vulnerable Moldovan Families</li> <li>3. Cash Support for Winterization (UNHCR)</li> </ol>	
Information collection and relevant links	
Moldova operational data portal: <a href="https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784">https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784</a>	
Link to operational data portal: <a href="https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784">Situation Ukraine Refugee Situation (unhcr.org)</a>	
Ukraine Situation - Moldova: Rapid Winterization Assessment Presentation: <a href="https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/95981">https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/95981</a>	
Participants	
Alexandru IACUB – Secretary of State, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MoLSP) Adrian PERDIVAR – Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MoLSP) Fadel DOUD – World Food Programme (WFP) Djavid PAKNEHAD – Charity Centre for Refugees (CCR) Doina CRACIUN – Charity Centre for Refugees (CCR) Almothana HASAN – People in Need (PIN) Cristian SLOBODEANU – People in Need (PIN) Ion GRADINARI – HELVETAS Andrij DICHTARUK – Caritas Czech Republic Cristina ROGOJINA – Caritas Czech Republic Stefania MARTELLO – ACTED Daniele PEDRETTI – HELPAGE Constanta CRAVET – Concordia. Proiecte Sociale Irina GUBAN – UN Moldova	Nicolas KARADJIAN – HEKS/EPER Massimo LA ROSA – ECHO Amman Quentin LE GALLO – ECHO Cash Rei DOI – Peace Winds Michel GERGES – World Vision International (WVI) Isidro NAVARRO – World Vision International (WVI) Igor LUCA – Alliance of Active NGOs in the field of Child and Family Social Protection (APSCF) Nurlan DERBISHALIEV – International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) Valentina HAROVSKI – International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) Volkan PIRINCCI – Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe Sorina GUZUN – International Organization for Migration (IOM) Solidarites Moldova Aliona CURDOGLO – local NGO, Comrat

<p>Eirini ALETRA – Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Cristian-Victor BESLIU – Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Katri HOCH – Swiss Cooperation Moldova</p>	<p>Teresa CATERINO</p>
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**Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points**

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements / Actions
<p><b>Agenda Point 1</b></p> <p><b>Quadripartite Project on Shock-Responsiveness - Cash for Vulnerable Moldovan Families</b></p> <p>WFP</p>	<p>WFP presented during the CWG meeting the progress and updates on the Shock Responsive Social Protection on Cash assistance to vulnerable Moldovans – Joint proposal of the UN Agencies: WFP-UNICEF-UNHCR-UNFPA-IOM (the presentation is attached to the minutes).</p> <p>This joint proposal comprises two strands of work:</p> <p>(i) The emergency cash transfers using social protection systems to crisis-affected individuals to mitigate the socio-economic impacts of the Ukraine crisis, energy crisis and inflation on the vulnerable households.</p> <p>(ii) Technical assistance to the government to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and inclusiveness of the national social protection system with an integrated shock responsiveness to current and future crises.</p> <p>The programme has been presented to the CWG Partners in July.</p> <p>Updates from the last presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two UN Agencies – IOM and UNFPA – joint the Shock Responsive Social Protection Programme. Currently, the joint preproposal has 5 UN Agencies part of the Programme: WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA and IOM.</li> <li>• Integrated emergency and development programming is at the heart of this project by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR and IOM, in collaboration with the MoLSP.</li> <li>• The Agencies collaborate with the government's Joint Crisis Management Centre as part of a coordinated response.</li> <li>• The Agencies work towards common objectives, promote sustainable outcomes and generate efficiencies, drawing on agencies' comparative advantage.</li> <li>• This spirit of partnership among UN entities is central to the “new era of collaboration” of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.</li> </ul>	



- The Agencies ensure the project is coherent with national systems and capacity, as well as with other social protection interventions and reforms.
- The objectives of the programme are:
  - (i) Address the immediate food and essential needs of crisis-affected Moldovan households through the provision of direct cash transfers.
  - (ii) Enhance social cohesion and mitigate tensions between host communities and refugees.
  - (iii) Enhance the government social protection system, including its responsiveness to refugee influxes, ensuring no one is left behind.
  - (iv) Operationalize the humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach to comprehensively address the impact of the Ukraine crisis.

- Emergency Cash-Based Transfer Eligibility Criteria (updated):

Old criteria (3 criteria)

1. Households with persons with disabilities
2. Single parent households with child(ren) under 18 year
3. Households with more than 3 dependents (consisting of either children under 18 or elderly above 62)

Transfer Value (old)

MDL 1100 (~60 USD) per HH to align with national systems

Adjusted criteria (5 criteria)

1. Households with persons with disabilities
2. Single parent households with child(ren) under 18 year
3. Households with more than 3 dependents (consisting of either children under 18 or elderly above 62)
4. Pregnant or Lactating Women OR at least 1 child between 0-2 years of age)
5. Elderly of above 60/62 years of age (TBD)

Transfer Value (updated)

MDL 700 (~35 USD) per HH to align with national systems

In collaboration with MoLSP and the UN Agencies part of the programme.

The referral mechanism is set up for households not covered by social protection.

- Pre-implementation activities:

**Training to Social Assistants**

- WFP and partners, in coordination with Ministry and AID.MD developer, will arrange series of training sessions for all social workers/assistants on:



- Intro and scope of the project (including the criteria)
- Process of revalidation
- Using Aid.MD – developed Crisis Model
- A one-off incentive will also be provided to social assistants

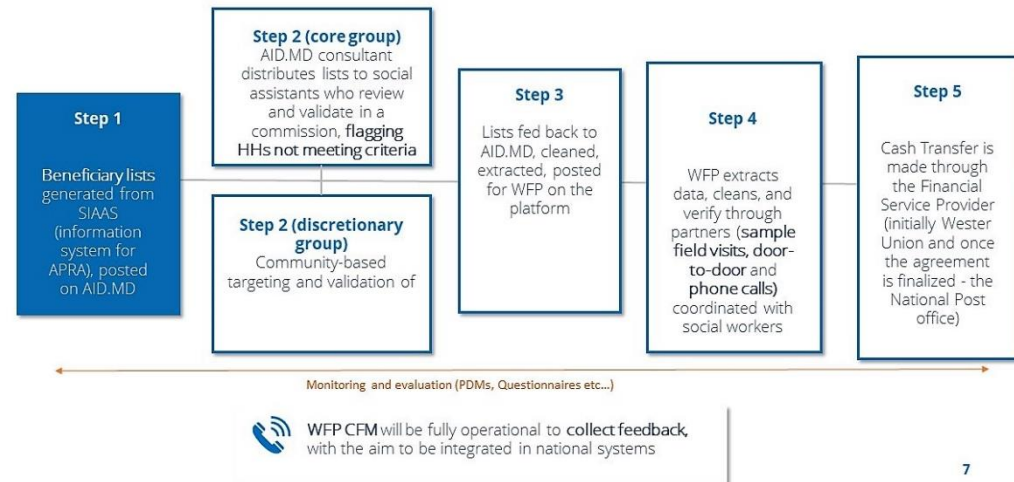
**Sensitization/Media campaign**

- WFP and partners will develop beneficiary sensitization materials, including posters and flyers to be distributed across all the raions
- A campaign will be launched, including series of media publications
- WFP will develop FAQs for stakeholders, including Social Assistants, Greenline and other relevant partners

Implementation details:

**Implementation Details**

Step-by-step of the programme



**Agenda Point 2**

UNHCR presented the cash winter support programme that will be provided to refugees.

- As per 25 October, 29,799 active households (59,908 active refugees) currently are enrolled in UNHCR cash programme:
  - 68% of the beneficiaries are women and children



<p><b>Cash Support for Winterization</b></p> <p>UNHCR</p>	<p>- 21% are elderly people.</p> <p><b>Identified Winter Needs - PDM and Rapid Winterization Assessment (preliminary findings):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Cash assistance is most frequently reported to be used to cover basic needs</b>, such as <i>food</i> (as reported by 92% of the households), <i>health expenses</i> (56%), <i>utilities and bills</i> (52%), <i>clothes/shoes</i> (31%) and <i>rent</i> (25%) – PDM results.</li> <li>▪ <b>Cash</b> winter-related needs, <b>refugees reported</b> most frequently the need for winter clothes is the <b>preferred modality of assistance for refugees</b>.</li> <li>▪ As to additional (up to 63%) followed by winter sleeping items.</li> <li>▪ <b>Needs remain high:</b> as savings are depleting, prices are rising (likely as a result of soaring inflation rate), and more cash is being spent on health costs, the cash assistance is being spent quicker and saved less.</li> <li>▪ <b>Winter season brings additional challenges</b> to refugees <b>to meet their basic needs</b> to participate in the daily life of the communities where they live.</li> <li>▪ <b>Rising energy costs.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Cash Winter assistance:</b></p> <p>Winter Cash Support is designed <b>to cover the additional needs</b> of MPCA beneficiaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Population:</b> Refugee <b>households enroled</b> in the UNHCR Cash Assistance Programme.</li> <li>• <b>Start and ending date:</b> 01 November 2022 – 31 March 2023 (in line with the government's winter support programme 'APRA').</li> <li>• <b>Transfer value:</b> MDL 700 (~ 36 USD) per refugee household will be loaded <b>to the existing card</b> in addition to the regular payment.</li> <li>• <b>Mechanism of transfer:</b> Monthly top-up payments for HH.</li> </ul>	
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