



## Inter-Agency Refugee Education Working Group (IREWG)

Meeting Details	
Date	4 November 2022
Time	13:00-14:00
Chair	Adriana Cazacu, State Secretary, Ministry of Education and Research (MER),  Co-Chairs: Larisa Virtosu, Education Specialist, UNICEF Katie Lampe, Child Protection Officer, UNHCR
Reporting	Olga Lenta, Programme Associate, UNICEF
Email	<a href="mailto:lvirtosu@unicef.org">lvirtosu@unicef.org</a>
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Welcome. Endorsement of the previous meeting minutes. Agenda (IREWG Coordination, 5 min);</li><li>2. Updates on the refugee children enrolment in the national education system (disaggregated data), Q&amp;A (MER and all, 15 min);</li><li>3. Digital education readiness assessment 2021 -2022 (WB, 10 min);</li><li>4. Proposed new inter-agency RRP Indicators (Ukraine Education Response). Draft Government decision on temporary protection (UNICEF, 10min.)</li><li>5. Reporting on implementing activities (All, 10 min.)</li><li>6. Follow-up and next steps (UNICEF, 10min.)</li></ol>	
Information collection and relevant links	
<a href="#">Education 5W Matrix</a> <a href="#">Winterization strategy template – Education</a>	



<b>Participants</b>
MER, UNICEF, UNCHR, IRC, Plan International, UNDP, World Bank, UNFPA, Lumos, Solidarity International

**Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points**

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
Welcome Endorsement of the previous meeting minutes Agenda	<p><b>Larisa Virtosu, Education Specialist, UNICEF</b> welcomed meeting attendees in her role as co-chair and presented the meeting agenda.</p> <p>Previous meeting minutes were endorsed by <b>IREWG</b> members.</p>	Agenda agreed
Updates on the refugee children enrolment in the national education system (disaggregated data) Q&A	<p><b>MER</b> pointed out that according to the „<b>Instruction regarding the admission of children from refugee families from Ukraine to general education institutions in the Republic of Moldova</b>” approved on 15 March 2022 by the Minister, all applicants benefits from the right to be enrolled in the national education system.</p> <p>According to <b>MER</b>, as per today official data on enrolled children in schools, there are 1158 students (1154 students last week) in 224 schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 559 girls and 599 boys</li> <li>- 155 students go to schools with Romanian language of instruction</li> <li>- 1003 students go to schools with Russian language of instruction</li> <li>- 56% of students are enrolled at primary level (grades 1-4), out of which 206 students are 1<sup>st</sup> grade students, half of them attending classes with Romanian language of instruction</li> </ul> <p>As per today official data on enrolled children in kindergartens, there are 663 children in 226 kindergartens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 52 % of girls (344)</li> <li>• 48% of boys (319)</li> </ul>	<p><b>MER</b> will continue collecting and providing disaggregated data on children enrolled in educational institutions (boys/girls) and statistics on number of refugee children who were enrolled last year who are re-enrolling this year.</p> <p><b>RTF Group</b> will continue collecting and providing disaggregated data on Roma children enrolled in educational institutions, both Moldovan and Ukrainian Roma children</p>



	<p>Also, there are 120 Ukrainian children who attend extracurricular activities in 20 non-formal educational institutions like Art Schools or Sport Schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 58 girls</li><li>▪ 62 boys</li></ul> <p>The number of children enrolled in schools and kindergartens is stable, varying between 1150-1160 for schools, and 650-670 for kindergartens.</p> <p>MER informed that there is collaboration and good discussions with the Ministry of Education and Science from Ukraine. The Ukrainian colleagues informed the MER that there is no information on the number of Ukrainian children that study online and stay connected to their schools, but they are working on the elaboration of such a platform that will help monitor the children and their attending and/or enrollment.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education and Science from Ukraine also suggested that Moldovan Higher Education Institutions offer the enrolled Ukrainian boys the possibility to connect online since they are prohibited to leave the country and cannot attend physically the lectures.</p> <p>All Moldovan HEIs will ensure that all enrolled students from Ukraine have possibilities for attending classes online, and are provided access to educational platforms and are contacted by the teaching staff.</p> <p><b>UNICEF</b> mentioned that representatives of all countries hosting refugees had a meeting with the Ministry of Education and Science from Ukraine. They informed the participants about a curriculum they are working on now, that will be shared for application to all countries that host refugees. Also, Ukrainian colleagues assured that all students attending educational institutions in hosting countries will be enrolled in the next grade/ stage after a formal evaluation. Moreover, the Ministry of Education and Science from Ukraine will inform all parents about it, so that it can encourage parents to enroll children in formal education in hosting countries.</p> <p>UNICEF proposed to invite RTF Group, an active member of IREWG, to help MER identify and monitor Roma children, both nationals and refugee Roma children. A mapping at the national level would be very useful in the context of refugee response.</p>	
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<p>Digital education readiness assessment 2021 -2022</p>	<p><b>World Bank</b> informed about the Digital Education Readiness Assessment 2021-2022 report conducted by the Moldova Education ASA team, World Bank in 2022. This framework was adapted for education and covers five pillars: (a) leadership and governance, (b) enabling infrastructure, (c) human capacity, (d) education service delivery and analytics, and (e) EdTech market and business models. A comprehensive, evidence-based, yet flexible approach was taken to better understand the current state of play. The study shows that Moldova is at level 2 – Emergent of digital readiness, studies having proved that Moldovan education system faces problems at all pillars (digital competencies, monitoring, data provision, resources, access to most vulnerable, assessment etc.)</p> <p>UNICEF informed about the Multiplier Grant Programme implemented by the MER and UNICEF for the next 3 years which has the purpose of digital transformation of the general education sector (policy level, mapping, procurement, curricula development, resilience development, trainings etc). All findings of the above-mentioned report will serve as a basis for the digital transformation of the education sector.</p>	<p><b>WB</b> will disseminate the links with final report, report summary and conclusion.</p>
<p>Proposed new inter-agency RRP Indicators (Ukraine Education Response). Draft Government decision on temporary protection</p>	<p><b>UNICEF</b> informed about 2 new mandatory indicators- number of children enrolled in formal education in host countries and number of children enrolled in non-formal education programmes. The additional indicators shall be agreed by the IREWG.</p> <p>Draft Government decision on temporary protection has been open for discussions and suggestions submitted.</p>	<p><b>UNICEF</b> will share the proposed additional indicators for analysis and further discussion and approval</p>
<p>Reporting on implementing activities</p>	<p><b>UNICEF</b> suggested that all members of the IREWG give brief presentations on the activities performed and the plans for the next year, so that the MER will have a comprehensive understanding of the overall activities. Reporting period, March – November 2022.</p> <p>5 RACs were equipped with 90 laptops from the Japanese Peace Winds grant, based on their needs and following the recommendations of the MER. Connecting refugee children to Ukrainian online education system is also a priority of this project.</p>	<p><b>IREWG</b> members will briefly present the achieved results, issues, and the budget at each meeting (2-3 for each IREWG meeting). Lumos and Concordia will present results, budget, and challenges during the next meeting.</p>



Regional Refugee Response  
for the Ukraine Situation

Follow-up and next steps	The next IREWG meeting will be organized for 18 November 2022, at 1 pm, chaired by UNHCR.	For any questions please contact: <a href="mailto:ebabara@unicef.org">ebabara@unicef.org</a> <a href="mailto:lvirtosu@unicef.org">lvirtosu@unicef.org</a> <a href="mailto:lampe@unhcr.org">lampe@unhcr.org</a>
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