
PSEA Network meeting - Romania
1 September 2022, 10 – 1100 (held in hybrid mode)

Participants: UNHCR, Salvati Copii, TDH, Amurtel, UNICEF, IOM, CNRR, Reach, Clear Global, ActionAid, Project Hope, Step by Step

Introductions and Updates from participants

The new members introduced themselves.

Safeguarding Hub:

- Will be carrying out a needs assessment. The methodology will include conducting key informant interviews.

Action Aid:

- Recruiting SHEA & Safeguarding Officer Ukraine Response - Ukraine | ReliefWeb. Candidates should ideally have a social work/GBV background, language skills, with 3-5 years (not 5-9 as may be in the advertisement) experience. This advertisement is for 2 positions - one based in Ukraine (Lviv) and one most likely in Romania (Iasi), roving Poland/Romania/Moldova.

UNHCR updates:

- Delivery of integrated protection training for cash enrollers and interpreters from RomExpo;
- publication of [new factsheet](#) on protection profiling and monitoring

Inter-Agency Reporting

The Snr Inter-Agency Coordinator made a brief intervention on the importance of timely reporting on indicators in the RRP. Only 4 agencies have provided inputs in the RRP recalibration exercise. Progress against the indicators cannot be demonstrated unless Network members are reporting on their work.

Network members were requested to report their updates at the earliest. Those who do not have access to the Activity Info platform should contact Konstantina. Results will be published regionally. The deadline for reporting is 7th September.

Every month, an inter-agency operational update is published on the data portal. Network members were urged to submit updates by the 26th of the month. Donors have expressed the need to receive timely updates.

Question on whether organisations need to be Network members in order to report on what they are doing: What it means to be a RRP partner is still being clarified, including at regional level, though for now, Network members were encouraged to report on the work of their partners (even if they are not official RRP partners) as the organization would be making contributions towards the refugee response.

Presentation by AMURTEL: Misconduct Investigations - Interviews

This presentation followed the first presentation on investigations which focused on rights and obligations. The presentations will be shared with Network members via email. *They are not to be shared or used for training purposes.*

Key discussion points:

- Interviews with children: interviews with older children, adolescents may be carried out, usually with a third-party present. A management decision needs to be made beforehand – who is actually being interviewed is to be decided by management with legal and protection concerns being taken into consideration. The parameters of the interview, including recording, is something to be decided by management.
Salvati Copii shared that interviewing children requires specific arrangements and management approval, and in many cases, they conduct the interview through an activity and with the assistance of a psychologist.
- Suggestion for PSEA Network: Checklist or more in-depth guidance on legalities on investigations in EU member states in view of GDPR requirements.
- Investigations by NGOs/agencies are for administrative purposes. Any allegation concerning or involving criminal conduct should be referred to the Child Protection authorities or other relevant authorities and the Prosecutor’s Office. Interviews should not be conducted with children in such cases as they child would be interviewed by the authorities. UNICEF are trying to roll out a training on NCHFD with the Ministry for Justice and NGO partner to all prosecutors.
- Question on where interviews should be conducted in the field/when an office is not available: Interviews may be conducted online or in a third-party venue (rented space or premises of a PSEA Network member).

AOB and next steps

- Due to time constraints, and prioritization of the presentation, the agenda item on a tour de table on the implementation of the minimum standards was not covered.
- The next meeting of the Network will be on 15 September from 10:00 to 11:00 am.